

President's Report



SAYNER-ST. GERMAIN FISH & WILDLIFE CLUB, INC.

Paw Prints

The Club had a fine turnout of 65 people for a festive night on December 3rd at Clearview for the Christmas Dinner, music by Bret and Frisk, and door prizes. We drew names of the Club's Volunteers for each of the 10-\$20 and 5-\$10 St Germain Chamber checks, which are good at a large number of businesses in the area. There was also a grand prize of a beautiful large framed wildlife print donated by Don and Marie Baumann. Many thanks to them for their generosity.



Above: Marv and Ellyn presenting the grand prize wildlife print at the Christmas dinner.

Fred and Laura Locher have the 2016 Program schedule set, and the list was handed out at the Dinner. It is also available on our website. Please note that ALL of our meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. If anyone needs a ride to any meeting, please contact one of the Board Members, and we will make it happen.

With just over \$19,000 as of December 2015 in our treasury, the Board has identified the organizations for which to donate, and will review details at our January meeting. Thanks to all who have donated their time and talents to make this process happen.

White winter has apparently arrived here, so we wish everyone a joyous Christmas and New Year, and hope to see many of you in January.

Marv Anderson

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Meetings held YEAR-ROUND 4th Thurs. of the month.
Newsletter published monthly.
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NEXT MEETING

Thurs., Jan 28

7:00 PM

St. Germain Community Ctr

PROGRAM

**Planting native vegetation to
support wildlife**

With Bart Kotarba, NWC

50/50 RAFFLE

Anne Small

REFRESHMENTS

Marv & Karen Anderson

BOARD MEETING

Thurs., Jan 28

6:00 PM

St. Germain Community Ctr

Frank's Fishing Report

First ice is near! This is the time of year that is hard to predict. Normally we are on the ice by Thanksgiving. Be careful as you venture out. Northerns, bass and panfish will be in the weeds or near them. Walleye will make moves into the weeds during low light. Look for other fishermen to show the good locations. Back water bays, channels and lagoons are a good place to start.

Remember speed control, size of bait and last color are often the key to success at this time of year.

Frank Klamik

Don't forget about the community support program at Camp's SuperValu in St. Germain. Every time that you shop at Camp's, write our club's code (CD14) on the back of your receipt and deposit in the bin on the service counter. Camp's donates a portion of those sales to our club.



Welcome New Members!

Walt & Marie Maciag

Eagle River, WI



Bret & Frisk at Christmas Party

Donation from Twilight Bar & Grill

The Twilight Bar and Grill in St. Germain presented a check for \$500 to the Sayner St. Germain Fish and Wildlife Club. The funds were the result of a donation from each Sunday chicken dinner the Twilight served this past summer. In the photo to the right, presenting the check to Frank Klamik of the Club are (l-r) Kelly Pulec, Tara Pulec, (Frank), Sheila Pulec. The Twilight has been a major supporter of our club for many years. A big THANK YOU TO THE TWILIGHT.



Birds, Animals & Other Wild Things

Much of the forested land in our region is occupied by aspen trees, in particular quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides*). WDNR publications indicate that over 30% of the Northern Highland American Legion State Forest is occupied by aspen stands. Quaking aspen is the most widespread tree species in North America. It also plays an important role in the pulpwood industry because it is a relatively fast growing species which can grow very close together. Aspens are sun-lovers and do very well in areas that have been clear-cut or burned, but once other tree species become mature in the stand, the aspens can not regenerate in the resulting shade.

The aspens are so successful partly because of their asexual method of reproduction. Often times, the hundreds or thousands of trees within a stand are all growing off of the same root system, called a clone. While the lifespan of most aspen trees is 50 to 60 years, this underground clone can live for thousands of years. This phenomenon is why researchers believe that one particular aspen clone stand in Utah is the largest living thing on the planet covering over 100 acres.

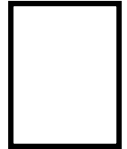
Aspens provide habitat for a variety of wildlife.

Ruffed grouse use aspen stands at all stages of growth. Young thick stands provide for brood and breeding cover, as well as a safe place for overwintering. Whitetail deer utilize aspen stands and the vegetation that grows in them as a primary food source, especially during the harsh winter season. Aspen is also a preferred food source for beaver and young aspen provide a food source for snowshoe hare. The trees attract a variety of insects during pollination and the tiny seeds are consumed by birds and small rodents. Dead standing aspen which have lived to maturity are an important habitat for many different woodpeckers. The dead aspens on our own woodlot has hosted many generations of pileated woodpeckers and yellow-bellied sapsuckers, and the many insects living in the wood provide ample food for them.

Quaking aspen is so-named because of the way its leaves quake and rustle in the wind. The stem of the leaf is flattened where it attaches to the branch, causing it to easily catch the slightest wind and "tremble". Another interesting fact about quaking aspen is that its bark contains chlorophyll which allows for photosynthesis during the winter months after it has dropped its leaves.

Anne Small

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COMMITTEES

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SCHOLARSHIP	Clyde Owens ch	715-479-7032
	Geri Shambo	715-542-4074
	Bob Schell	715-542-2321

CLUB PLEDGE

- ✓ I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of the state of Wisconsin—especially of the Sayner-St. Germain area.
- ✓ I promise to obey all rules and regulations governing the harvest of wildlife and plants.
- ✓ I promise to educate future generations so they may become care-takers of our water, air, land and wildlife.

Phone numbers are included so that you may pass along any information, questions and concerns you may have regarding the club.