

March 2016

President's Report



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

Paw Prints

Brendan from Evergood Farms in Sugar Camp responded to a number of Club members questions at our last meeting about his operation, that included a number of tips to control "critters" causing problems for residents. You may have seen the article in last week's Vilas County News about Brendan's farm operation. A number of members asked for more information about obtaining the farm's vegetable products as well.

A reminder that March is the month for membership renewal. You will find a copy of the renewal form in this newsletter. Staying current with your membership will keep the newsletters coming and will also go a long ways to help the club to continue their support of fish and wildlife causes in our area. If you haven't already, please consider switching from a paper

copy to an emailed newsletter, as postage and printing costs continue to rise. As always, we are grateful for your continued support.

The Club's Board is evaluating several items to put into the annual fund raising raffle, with a decision to be made by the next meeting. It was decided to continue conducting a raffle at the Community Center's Monday Flea Market during the summer.

A Nominating Committee will present a slate of Board Members on which to vote at the April meeting. Please contact Ellyn Dahnke or Anne Small if you're interested to serve on the Board. Your involvement is appreciated.

Thanks,

Maru Anderson, President

PO Box 214
St. Germain, WI 54558

Meetings held YEAR-ROUND 4th Thurs. of the month.
Newsletter published monthly.
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Birds, Animals & Other Wild Things

That great song “You Must Believe in Spring” offers needed encouragement when our Northwoods March comes with its unpredictable weather, gifting us with warm sunny days, then cutting in with cold blustery winds, chilling rains, even late snows. But in the midst of these changes, the Black-Capped Chickadee holds steady to daily visits at the feeder and suet offerings. Winter groupings of chickadees and their companion birds have thinned out now. But, mornings continue to bring the calls and quick flutter of the chickadees, who, being both curious and bold, may even take seed from hand.

By late April, pairing off will begin for chickadees. Male and female work together to hollow out a nesting place. The work can take from seven to ten days. Wood debris from this work is carefully carried away, making the nest site location less obvious to predators. (Natural cavities, abandoned

woodpecker holes and nesting boxes are sometimes used.) The chickadee nest consists of layered tufts of fur, mosses, and feathers. Once nesting begins, the male plays the role of super provider, feeding the female and eventually the young. From six to eight eggs are laid. These are white with fine reddish-brown speckling. Once hatched, the young are brooded by the female and fed with food provided by the male. They mature and are ready to leave the nest in twelve to sixteen days. Parents cleverly encourage the fledging by placing food outside the nest hole. Survival of these young birds is likely to be two or three years. Some individuals have been known to survive 12 years.

Though the chickadees accept seed from our feeders during warm months, insects, particularly caterpillars, form the bulk of their diet. You may catch a glimpse their acrobatic feeding habits, as they hang upside down clinging to low twigs and branches, and even perform summersaults to catch a last bit of food. Many of the seeds and insects will be stored singly in various sites; under tree bark or dead leaves, in clusters of pine needles, or in knot holes. The chickadee has an excellent memory of these hiding places.

Chickadee calls are varied. There are chirps, sharp scolding whistles, their softer *fee-bee* song and that most familiar, *chick-a-dee-dee*. Although this particular call is simple sounding, scientists have discovered it to be astonishingly complex and language-like. It can consist of up to four distinct units arranged in different patterns. These can announce discovery of a food source, call in companions or warn about threatening predators that include owls, hawks and shrikes.

While we can affirm our belief in Spring as we see the mercury rise, witness snowmelt, put aside the heavy jackets and watch for buds to swell. We can also be happily grateful for the company and antics of our small black-capped neighbor, the chickadee.

Cora Mollen

NEXT MEETING

**Thurs., March 24
7:00 PM**

St. Germain Community Center

**PROGRAM
DNR Regulations
David Walz**

**REFRESHMENTS
Frank Klamik**

**CASH RAFFLE
Fred & Laura Locher**

**BOARD MEETING
Thurs., March 24
6:00 PM
St. Germain Community Center**

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Mail to: SAYNER-ST. GERMAIN FISH & WILDLIFE CLUB, INC
PO BOX 214
ST. GERMAIN, WI 54558-0214



In an effort to reduce the annual cost to print/mail the Newsletter, The Club is moving as close as possible to full electronic distribution of our Newsletter, using the US Postal Service only if necessary. Your help is greatly appreciated by including your email address in the space below. Thanks very much!

Please print carefully:

Name _____ Phone # _____

Spouse's Name _____

Email Address _____ Spouse Email Address _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Please indicate an alternate address if you have mail delivery for the time you are there?

Rec'd by _____

Which months of the year? _____

Date Pd _____

Frank's Fishing Report

March has arrived. With a warm winter and early snow, watch for ice conditions to change rapidly in March. We have much less ice than we normally do at this time of year.

Fishing will pick up as the water warms under the ice. At this time of year the bite will often change during the day. As the water warms under the ice, fish will move up in the water. Sometimes they may be right under the ice. If you start to catch small perch you may be fishing too deep. You can also use bigger baits and fish a bit faster now.



Frank Klamik

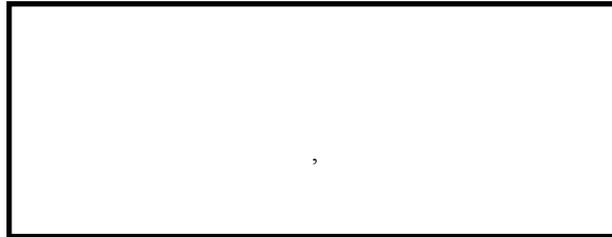
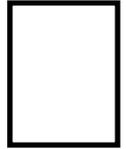


Sunshine Report

Wishes of a speedy recovery go to Elyn Dahnke who had hip replacement surgery.

If you know of a club member who is ill or needs words of cheer, please contact Judy Schell at 715-542-2321 or judithschell@hotmail.com

SAYNER-ST. GERMAIN FISH & WILDLIFE CLUB, INC.
 PO BOX 214
 SAINT GERMAIN WI 54558-0214



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 Ken Dahnke, Treasurer 715-542-3939

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Fred Locher 715-542-3658
 Laura Locher 715-542-3658
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COMMITTEES

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PROGRAMS	Clyde Owens ch	715-479-7032
SCHOLARSHIP	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.