

President's Corner



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OTTER

I think we set an attendance record, with 76 people packing the Club's Christmas Party at Clearview Supper Club on December 8th. Darrell, Connie and Kris from Clearview did their usual great job, with excellent hors d'oeuvres preceding fine entree's. Bret and Frisk were welcomed by all, and provided a fine array of music, including sing-a-longs throughout the evening. Judy Schell procured a number of local gift certificates, and drew names from those members who volunteered throughout the year to receive them. Frank Klamik received the "grand" door prize, a beautiful, large framed wildlife painting.

Marlene Rakowski handed out 2015's complete Program schedule, beginning with the January 22nd "Underwater Warden" presentation. The attendees provided nearly **115 pounds** of non-perishable food items, which were taken to the Vilas County Food Pantry last week, along with the Club cash donation of \$500. A same cash donation was also presented last week to the Vilas County Warm The Children Organization. Your support of the Club in many ways enables worthy local entities to benefit. Thanks for your participation and support to the Board in 2014, and we look forward to a great 2015. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

~~Marv Anderson

FRANK'S FISHING REPORT

We have early ice this year. Ice formed on November 11 in front of my house. I waited until November 22 to venture out. As in most cases, I had to shake off the rust in order to start catching fish. Having a week of fishing under my belt, not I am starting to increase my catches.

The locations fished last year are still producing. Remember, if you are not catching fish, watch other fisherman that are catching. Things to remember are first speed control, size of bait and last color of bait, in that order. Speed is the most important...a small change

in your line control is often the key to catching fish. Next is size of bait...the more aggressive the fish are, the larger the bait you can use. Last is color...do not get hung up on color when jigging for panfish.

All game fish are being caught on tip-ups now. Do not overlook a jigging Rapala for walleye. Early and late seem to be the best times of day. If you are going to fish walleye this time of year, fish the feeding shelf the first hour of light in the morning and the last hour of light in the afternoon.

~Frank Klamik

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

MIKE & TERI BRADY
ST GERMAIN, WI

GERALD SYKORA
ST GERMAIN, WI



Christmas Bird Count

For all of you bird watchers out there, the Audubon Society's Christmas Bird Count runs from Dec 14 through January 5th. This is a great opportunity to contribute through citizen science. It is the 115th year of the count and can be as simple as watching your own bird feeder. For details check out their website at birds.audubon.org/christmas-bird-count



Looking for photos for the newsletter...you are encouraged to take photos at any club events or programs and submit them for publication in the newsletter. Simply email them to the address on the front of the newsletter. THANK YOU!!

A Note From Jane

Hello Everyone,

We arrived in Florida safely. Living in St Germain for 10 yrs did not prepare us for the traffic we encountered on the trip down. How lucky you are to still live in that environment. The house is delightful and will make a comfy home for us with plenty of room for the dogs. The weather so far has been lovely.

My new address is: 2947 Aldrich St

Eustis, FL 32726

Phone: 352 589 5959

Email: thekeithleys@frontier.com

I want to thank you all for your support in attending the monthly programs. Your input has been so helpful in finding speakers that are both informative and entertaining. The line up for 2015 will be great. I'll miss you and the Wildlife Club and will keep in touch. Thanks to you all for your friendship.

-Jane Keithley

Birds, Animals & Other Wild Things

'Tis the season for us to decorate our homes to bring holiday cheer. The natural world does a wonderful job of providing some subtle, but still spectacular decorations of its own. On an early morning drive last week I was reminded of this when I saw the lovely hoarfrost adorning all of the tree branches and the dried remnants of summer's roadside wildflowers. Frost, like snowflakes, forms unique and intricate crystal patterns. There are a number of different types of frost depending on where and how it forms.

Hoarfrost forms usually on cold nights with high relative humidity when the surface temperature of objects (tree branches, telephone wires, etc) cools quickly, causing the water vapor in the air to convert directly to its solid form on the cold surface. Hoarfrost forms on calm nights and so the frost will usually form on all sides of objects creating a woodland scene completely enveloped in white crystals. You will generally see hoarfrost in the early morning and not late into the day because once the sun warms the surface temperature of the object, the frost melts.

Surface hoar is the frost that often causes the snow to sparkle in the morning. When temps cool at night, the surface of the snow is colder than underneath. If there is any warmer snow that evaporates and reaches the surface, it will refreeze there as faceted crystals which catch the light easily in the morning. Once the sun warms the air, they generally melt, so they are best seen in the morning.

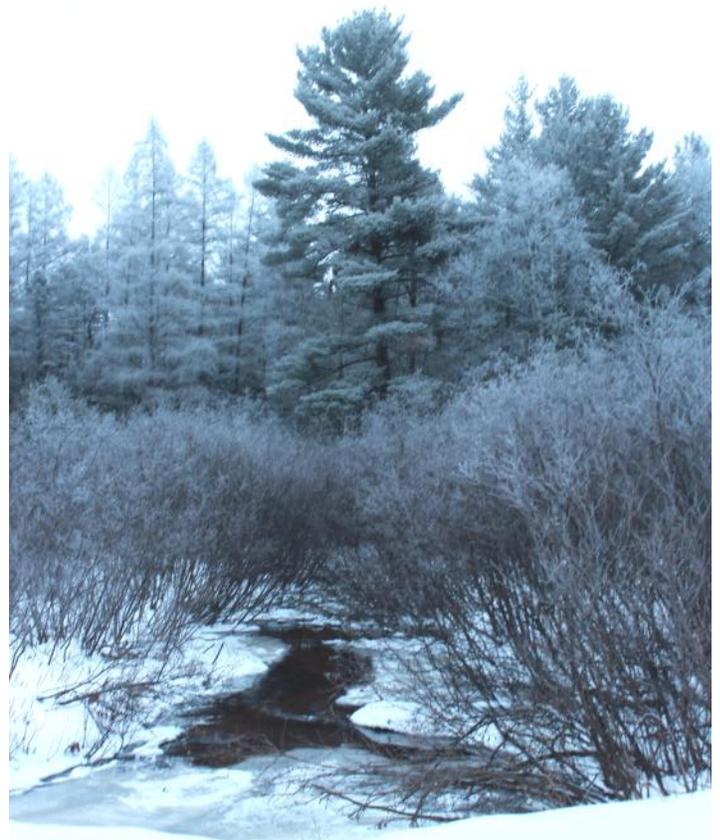
Another type of frost that occurs in very wet and cold regions is rime. This frost is formed as fog comes in contact with cool objects and creates harder crystals than those seen in hoarfrost. You will see the frost usually formed on one side of the object because it generally occurs when there is a wind

blowing the moist air past the object. If you have ever been on a snowy mountaintop, you may have seen some of the fabulous crystals formed by this type of frost.

One final type of frost that is familiar to many of us who park their cars outside in the winter is surface frost. This is also common on single-pane windows in older homes. When the moist, warm air inside comes in contact with the cold surface of the window, the crystals form. The often intricate, curving patterns result from variations in the surface on which they develop. If there is dirt, streaks or cracks, this will direct the crystal formation. As kids we loved seeing the patterns that 'Jack Frost' painted on our windows in the morning.

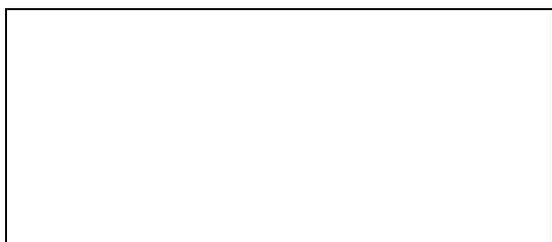
Take some time this holiday season to marvel in these and other decorations that Mother Nature provides. The gifts you find outdoors are many and magnificent!

Anne Small



Above: Hoarfrost on the trees and shrubs along Mud Creek.

**SPECIAL THANKS TO
MIKE & TERI BRADY
FOR THEIR DONATION**



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

COMMITTEES

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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 plant material.
- ✓ I promise to educate future generations so that they may become the caretakers of our water, air, land and wildlife.