

President's Corner



Hey, everyone, we hope your Christmas and New Year's holidays turned out well for you and your family.

Marlene has scheduled a wonderful start on January 22nd for our 2015 Program events, and we hope you can be at the Community Center at 2:00 p.m. to find out about the Underwater Warden. A recent addition is the Christmas Dinner/party, which will be December 10th at Fibber's, Cocktails at 6, Dinner at 7. Please mark your calendars. Also, we have the whole year's program agenda on the Club's website, which I encourage you to visit, as it has good information. On the website, there are trail cam photos, and we'd love to add any you would like included. Please send them electronically if you can to our Club's email address.

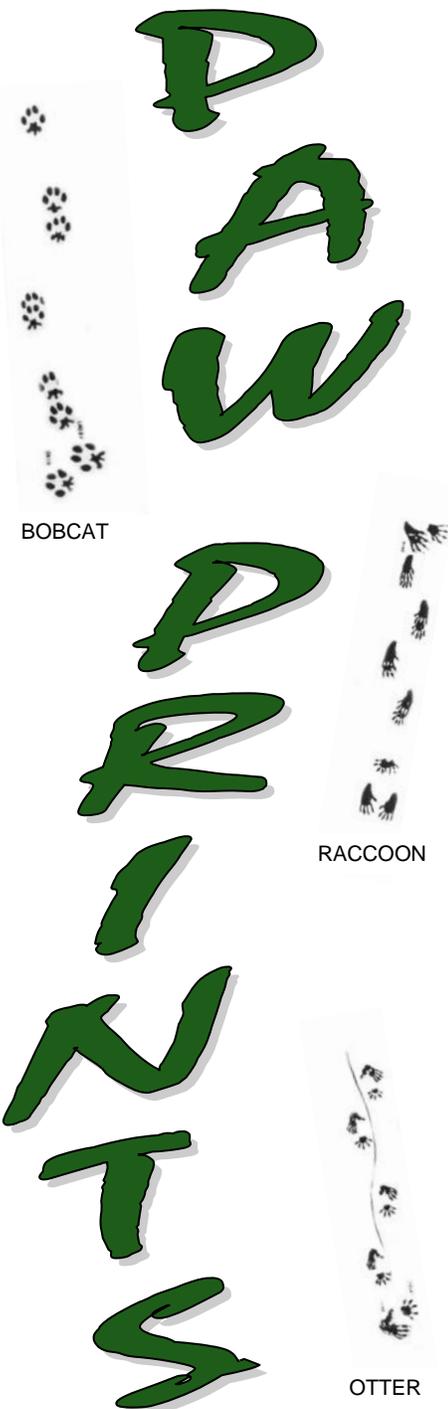
The Board will be meeting soon to discuss the student scholarship award, so if you know of a High School senior planning a college study in the fish/wildlife/nature area, please contact me or any of the Board Members with a recommendation.

Many of us like to continue to receive a "real" book or paper newsletter to read, and as the Board works to minimize expenses, we are still mailing out over 70 newsletters each month, costing about over \$40 each time. Please consider letting us know that you could receive it via email, so that \$500 per year could be put to better use.

We very much welcome any suggestions you have to improve the Club's activities. Sign-up sheets will be available at the January and subsequent meetings for the monthly cash raffle, meeting refreshments, Hiway roadside cleanup, and Monday flea market prize raffle. Thank you very much for your involvement.

~~Marv Anderson

JAN 2015



BOBCAT

RACCOON

OTTER

NEXT MEETING

Thurs, Jan 22nd

2:00 pm

St. Germain Community Center

PROGRAM

“Underwater Warden”

~Presented by Tom Wrasse
WI DNR

50/50 TICKET SALES

Karen Anderson

BOARD MEETING

Thurs, Jan 22nd

1:00 pm

St. Germain Community Center

Free Fishing Weekend

For those of you who are new to fishing or haven't tried it in many years the DNR would like to get you out on the lake this winter with Wisconsin's Free Fishing Weekend, January 17– 18, 2015. You can fish anywhere in the state without a license, including both inland waters and the Wisconsin side of the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River. This opportunity is open to both residents and non-residents.

If you don't have ice fishing equipment, check out the 1st ANNUAL SHISHEBOGAMA/GUNLOCK LAKE ASSOCIATION/DNR Free Fishing Day on these two lakes. There will be a limited supply of loaner fishing gear available for use, as well as free Back Bay Cove chili and hot drinks. New Angler fishing tips as well as fish preparation demonstrations presented by a special guest, Ms. Theresa Stabo of the DNR Angler Education Program from Noon to 3:00 at a Bon Fire at Donahoe's Back Bay Cove. Other activities are listed on their website at shishgunlock.org. For more info check out their website or call Doug & Sue Holle - 715 356 3622.



SUNSHINE REPORT

Our condolences go out to the family of Alan Larsen, a long-time club member who passed away recently.

Please call Linda Polaski, 479-4718, if you know of any members who need a card of sympathy, encouragement, cheer, etc.

Don't forget about the community support program at Camp's SuperValu in St. Germain, and at Trigs in Eagle River. 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. At Trigs, use code 69S.

FRANK'S FISHING REPORT

The fish have now slowed down to their winter feeding activity level. Many people are looking at cameras and flashers and saying, “They are down there, but not biting.” Panfish can take a bait without moving a spring bobber. Become a line watcher. Keep your line free of ice. This can be done by sliding it down the hole with your fingers. Try to keep your hole clean, also. Line control and speed are now key to catching winter panfish. You

may have to downsize your line from 4 lb down to 1 or 2 lb test. Set up a a rod with light line and small jig and start to watch your line.

Game fish have also noticed the cold water. The bite has slowed down. Do not be afraid to go to monofilament leaders for northern. Play them out do not horse them.

~Frank Klamik

Birds, Animals & Other Wild Things

The coyote or fox, progress hindered by shoulder deep snow, can only look ahead with disappointment as the Snowshoe Hare they were stalking speeds away across the snow's surface. The Snowshoe Hare, common resident of northern Wisconsin woodlands, has developed enormous, fur-covered hind feet perfect for such escapes and a get-up-and-go power that allows it to move from sitting to flight at amazing speed. An adult can cover 10 feet in a single bound and can travel at a top speed of 25 miles an hour or more. Various quick changes of direction also help avoid capture.

Speed isn't the Hare's only defense against predators. A change of coat color provides camouflage, making the hare hard to detect against the seasonal background. In summer, the coat is a reddish-brown to gray with some blackish tones. During the months of winter, it is a snowy white. Only the eyelids and ear tips are black. This color change or molt takes about 70 days to complete and seems to be related to length of days. The molts gives this Hare its alternative name; Varying Hare.

Snowshoe Hares spend most of the daytime hours concealed in shallow resting places called forms. These are set in areas protected by low-growing branches, thick brush, downed trees and other debris. They may sometimes use a hollow log or abandoned burrow. The hares move out to feed mainly under cover of darkness. They have a sensitive nose and long whiskers that assist in the nighttime search for food. They follow well-beaten paths that they have developed to reach good feeding grounds.

The Snowshoe Hare's front teeth are quite strong and specialized for task of gnawing and their large hind feet allow them to stand upright to reach higher forage. During summer months the hare's diet is varied consisting of a variety of grasses and small leafy plants. Winter life is not easy. Surviving winter months requires finding food available above the

snow line including woody stems of young saplings, shrub twigs, needles of balsam, pine and hemlock and, in desperate times, harder to digest tree bark. For nutrition's sake, the hare also will eat specialized partially digested dropping. The hare's winter survival strategy is very basic: Rest and Eat.

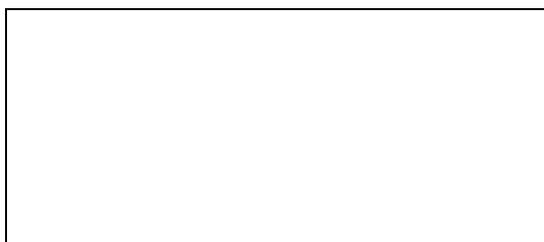
During summer months several litters of three to four young Snowshoe Hares are born in the shelter of a form. Shortly after birth the open-eyed young, sporting a full downy coat of fur, begin hopping



about and in a week's time are very active. They grow quickly and in five months reach adulthood. But harsh conditions and predators take a toll and many of the young do not survive their first year. It's estimated that only about 30 % manage to live beyond that year. Chief wild predators include fox, coyote, wolf, mink and bobcat.

Perhaps, when you take a late evening walk along some trail in our northern snow-covered terrain, you may catch a glimpse of a Snowshoe Hare or two intent on their nightly search for food. And perhaps, if they are alarmed by your intrusion, you'll witness their gift for the super-quick bounding get-away.

Cora Mollen



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Frank Klamik, President Elect	715-892-2772
Melody Kysiak, Secretary	715-542-2634
Dave Zielinski, Treasurer	715-479-1401

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Jane Keithley (1 yr.)	715-542-2078
Stan Rakowski (2 yrs.)	715-542-3201
Gary Walbruck (2 yrs.)	715-356-3902

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

COMMITTEES

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY	Karen Anderson	715-542-3946
BIRDS & ANIMALS	Cora Mollen	715-892-1375
	Anne Small	715-614-3711
HISTORIAN	Cora Mollen	715-892-1375
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	Geri Shambo	715-542-4074
	Dick Banks	715-542-3687
SUNSHINE	Linda Polaski	715-479-4718
CLOTHING	Bob & Judy 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 plant material.
- ✓ I promise to educate future generations so that they may become the caretakers of our water, air, land and wildlife.