



President's Corner

Meetings held YEAR-ROUND
4th Thursday of the month.
Newsletter published year-round
Editor: Anne Small
Telephone: 715-614-3711

NOVEMBER 2012

PAW



I want to start off this month on a serious note. As I mentioned last month, Steve Pulec of the New Twilight Bar and Grill has been a long time and generous supporter of our club. Last month he presented the club with a check for \$1000, which was the Twilight's donation of \$1 for each Sunday chicken dinner they sold last summer as well as part of the raffle proceeds from their Customer Appreciation Day in September. Sadly, Steve has been diagnosed with lung cancer and is now undergoing intensive treatment. He is commuting to the Milwaukee VA Hospital for the next 5 weeks for treatment four days each of those weeks. We ask you keep Steve in your thoughts and prayers during this time. If you wish to send a card, his address is 1175 Old Hwy 70, St. Germain, WI 54558. And yes Steve, the Club will "Save a Duck".

On Thursday October 25th, 2012 we had 34 members attend our monthly General meeting. The presenter for the evening was Licia Johnson from The Discovery Center. Licia prepared a special program just for our group on Hummingbirds. Here are some of the highlights of the talk. Wisconsin has only the Ruby-Throated Hummingbird, which is so named because of the red color of the male's throat feathers. They flap their wings 80 times a second and can fly backward, hover or fly forward as fast as 26mph but usually average 9mph. They eat around every 10 minutes during the day and feed on tree sap, nectar and small insects. They consume one half of their body weight each day but weigh less than a nickel. Ruby-throated Hummingbirds migrate south to Mexico and Central America starting in Mid September and return around March/April. Licia advised feeding them only sugar water with a ratio of 1 part sugar to 4 parts water and not to use red food color (the red part of the feeder is enough to attract them). As always, Licia provided us with an informative and entertaining program.

BOBCAT

DR



In other club news, the board agreed to again donate the budgeted amount of \$500 to the Vilas County Warm the Children fund. This fund allows less fortunate children to have practical but nice coats, hats and scarves to weather the cold Wisconsin winters.



Steve Pulec (right) and Shelia Boland from the Twilight Bar & Grill presenting Bob Schell with a \$1000 donation to the Fish & Wildlife Club

RACCOON

The board also approved the budgeted donation of \$500 to the Vilas County Food Pantry. We would like to make this money donation along with food donations at the same time. To accomplish this we are asking members to bring non-perishable food items to the Christmas party on December 6st. We will then make a combined donation to the Pantry in early December. (Details of the meeting and Christmas party are below.)

Due to space constraints there will no Lakes Improvement Committee report this month. We have had an active fall with lots of fish stocking going on that I will report on next month.

Bake Sale Our annual bake sale will be held on Saturday November 10th at the St. Germain Community Center from 9 AM until all baked items are sold. Your baked pies, cakes, bars, breads, torts, or fudge will be appreciated. We will not be selling cookies because the St. Germain Women's Service Club does the cookies. Please bring your baked goods to the Community

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PRINTS



OTTER

NEXT MEETING

Thurs., November 15th
(Remember this meeting is one week
earlier than normal!)
7:00 pm
St Germain Community Center

PROGRAM

November is Members' Night!

Our own Dave Zielinski will be sharing with us his latest hobby, Bees. This buzz around town is that this will be an interesting talk. As lover of honey, I have lots of questions. See you on November 15th. ~Jane Keithly

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

Terrie Beier & Carol Radtke

50/50 TICKET SALES

Fred Radtke

BOARD MEETING

Thurs., November 15th
6:00 pm
St. Germain Community Center

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Center between 8 AM and 9 AM on the 10th. Our coordinator for the event is Lori Pergolski – please give her a call at 715-542-3648 if you can bake or help out at the sale.

Our next meeting will be on November 15th at 7 PM, at the St. Germain Community Center. This is one week earlier than normal because of Thanksgiving. Our Program committee team of Jane Keithley and Marlene Rakowski has set aside the November meeting for “Membership Night”. This is where members present their hobby or special interest to the group. This month we will be honored to have our long time treasurer, Dave Zielinski talk about his hobby of beekeeping.

Christmas Party. Our Annual Christmas Party will be held on Thursday, December 6th at Clearview Supper Club. Cocktails will be at 5:30 PM and Dinner at 6:30 PM. The evening will begin with a full table of appetizers and snack goodies. We will have live dinner music as well as our traditional Christmas sing-along with Bret and Frisk. The main menu selections are as follows:

Chicken Oscar, Coconut Shrimp, or A 10 oz. Rib-eye Steak

The cost is \$18, which includes hors d'oeuvres, salad, dinner, coffee, tax and tip. Please call Bob or Judy Schell at 715-542-2321 to make your reservation by Saturday, December 1st. The club has already purchased some door prizes but please feel free to bring another gift to further the spirit of the season. We will also be a drawing for the volunteer award print donated by Don Baumann. One further thing, please bring a non-perishable food item(s) for the Food Pantry to help others eat well during the holidays. This party has become a special treat for all our members and our way of saying thanks for a job well done.

Bob Schell, President

RAFFLE REPORT

As we mentioned last month our annual raffle is over and was a great success thanks to all the great people donating their time and effort. We held the drawing on October 7, 2012 at Cranberry Fest in Eagle River. All the winners named in last month's newsletter have been notified or have happily claimed their prizes. For the first time in years a club member and volunteer, Dennis Seegers, won the Kayak. Despite really bad weather and bad booth placement during Cranberry Fest we sold over 3000 printed tickets and had total sales of \$4838. with net proceeds of over \$4200. As you know these funds will go back into the community in the form of wildlife projects or assisting various charitable groups.

First we want to thank our main supporters: Ken Jackson for providing the fishing guide services as a 2nd prize, Tom and Kim Christensen of the St Germain Sport Marine for paying for the printing of the tickets and inviting us to set up our booth to sell tickets during the 4th of July parade, Steve and Tara Pulec and Sheila of the Twilight Bar and Grill for sponsoring us at their Customer Appreciation day. Also, thanks to Bernie's Birds for the third prize carving, the St. Germain Fire Department for providing the space at the Flea Market and the Chamber of Commerce for letting us set up at Community events.

Finally, a BIG THANKS to the following member volunteers that sold tickets at our booth or helped out with the raffle this summer: Lynn Alexander, Ken Beier, Terrie Beier, Jim Carlton, Trudy Carlton, Ellen Dahnke and granddaughter Lydia, Ken Dahnke, Cody Drees, Ellen Finch, Jim Finch, Lois Gardner, Gary Groff, Frank Klamik, Dick Kleopfer, Lolly Kleopfer, Phyllis Likens, Pauline Loos, Betty Mc Cormick, Mac McCormick, Mary Miller, Dave Miller, Clyde Owens, Lori Pergolski, Linda Polaski, Rick Polaski, Arlene Rieckenberg, Donna Rollman, Marlene Rakowski, Stan Rakowski, Bob Schell, Judy Schell, John Schell, Bill Schmidt, Kathy Schmidt, Kay Schultz, Mike Schramm, Carol Seegers, Brenda Veeder, Chuck Thier, Pat Thier, Gary Walbruck, Karen Walbruck.

Most of all, everyone can feel good knowing several hours of their effort will help better our wildlife and lakes, provide some food at the County food pantry, funds for a local scholarship, some books at the library or a wildlife rehabilitation project.



Above: Dennis Seegers, winner of kayak raffle.



Birds, Animals & Other Wild Things



Anyone who has an oak tree in their yard knows that this year we had a bumper crop of acorns. While we all know that acorns make walking treacherous and are a nuisance when picking up your fall leaves, many of us don't consider the implications of the acorn crop for the ecology of the forest. The number of acorns produced in any given year can impact many different species.

Acorns on our red oak trees take two years to mature. Therefore, the acorns that we find this year began their development back in the spring of 2010. It is not known what causes a mast (boom) year for acorn production, but researchers do know that drought, late frosts in the spring, excessive wind and gypsy moth infestations can cause poor acorn crops. Mast acorn crops do not occur two years in a row, leading to a seesaw effect from year to year.

Long-term studies have demonstrated the complex web of interactions between acorns and other forest dwellers. Many birds and mammals depend on acorns as a late fall food source, including black bear, white-tailed deer, white-footed deer-mice, squirrels, turkeys, red-headed woodpeckers, blue jays, and ruffed grouse.

Black bear depend heavily on acorn consumption before their winter hibernation. Generally a mast year for acorns allows females to generate more fat, which leads to better survival rate of the cubs born over the winter. Deer populations also show a boost in numbers in the year following a good acorn crop. Deer tend to move into oak-dominated woods during mast acorn years and disperse from these areas during lean years.

An interesting interaction which has implications for humans is that a year of plentiful acorns leads to a large population of white-footed deermice. A large crop of acorns allows the mice to begin producing litters earlier in the year, leading to an increased number of litters in that year. Because a mast year of acorns is generally followed by a slim year, the deermice survival the following fall and winter will not be as great, causing the population to decline.

White-footed deermice are carriers of the bacterium that causes Lyme disease. When deer ticks are in their larval stage, they do not yet have the Lyme bacterium in their system. The larvae will often feed on deermice as their first blood meal, thus picking up the bacterium. It will be another year before the nymph stage of the deer tick looks for its blood meal. During the spring and summer following a mast year for acorns, many more larval deer ticks will be successful due to the large deermouse population. Unfortunately, when the deermouse population drops in the second year, the large population of deer tick nymphs will have to look for alternate hosts...often times humans. If the predictions hold, we are in for a heavy tick season in the spring of 2014.

The deermice also are known to be predators of gypsy moth pupae. Studies have found that when deermouse populations spike, the severity of gypsy moth outbreaks declines due to this predation.

These are just some of the interesting relationships between acorns and wildlife populations in our forests. Ponder that next time you are out raking up all of those acorns!

~ Anne Small

WELCOME NEW CLUB MEMBERS!!

Marv & Karen Anderson
St. Germain, WI

Melody & Rich Kysiak
Sayner, WI



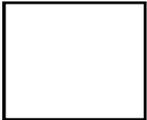
DON'T MISS THE CHRISTMAS PARTY!
Dec 6th at Clearview Supper Club
 RSVP by Dec. 1st
 Call Bob or Judy Schell at 715-542-2321
 (See Presidents Corner for details.)

 **FRANK'S FISHING REPORT**

Cool water has arrived and the bite has become lighter as a result of that. Ice fishing will begin around Thanksgiving. Remember slow and light is now the answer. When you think you are going slow, cut your speed in half. Don't forget the use of slip bobbers in your bag of tricks. They are the closest thing we have to a tipup this time of year. Pick your locations carefully and fish the warm part of the day. All the way until dark.

FRANK KLAMIK

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



November Bazaar BAKE SALE



Saturday, November 10, 2012
St. Germain Community Center
9 a.m. to sell out

COORDINATOR: Lori Pergolski

Give her a call if you can bake or help out at the sale.

715-542-3648

*Please take time to contribute pies, cakes, breads, rolls, bars, muffin or fudge, etc. to make our bake sale a success. Deliver to the Community Center **between 8 and 9 a.m.***

- ⌘ **Please, no cookies** as the Women's Service Club will be selling them.
- ⌘ **Package with plastic wrap, bags or containers** so baked goods are visible to customers.
- ⌘ **Price and label** before bringing them in.

Your contribution, whether baked goods or monetary, is appreciated more than you know.

Our thanks in advance.



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.