



a non profit Michigan Corporation

P.O. Box 283 • Calumet, MI 49913

SPORTSMAN

Official Newsletter of the Calumet-Keweenaw Sportsmen's Club • Winter 2015

Another Forgettable Winter

As usual in the Keweenaw, the primary topic of conservation is the weather. Last year at this time we complained about the prior year's weather and unfortunately the weather got worse this year by starting winter in November. In April of 2014, Keweenaw got 42 inches of snow. The county was reporting 2 inches of snow on the ground on May 14, 2014 and we received another 2 inches on May 16th bringing the season total to 340.50 inches. Cool and damp weather continued through the summer so that only the brave and hardy souls were swimming in Lake Superior. Got a bit of a reprieve in December 2014 after that 63 inches of snow in November so we are now behind last year's total snow at this time. But November's snow sure made for a disappointing rifle season hunt. The DNR reports that the UP deer harvest is down by 40% This year's 2233 deer counted at the Mackinaw Bridge for the firearm deer season is the lowest tally there since the bridge opened in November 1957. Local counters in the Keweenaw indicate the tally is down more than the 40% UP numbers. Since the arrival of heavy snowfall across Michigan's Upper Peninsula, the DNR has been monitoring accumulated snow depths for potential impacts to wildlife and assessing the possibility of allowing early supplemental feeding of deer. DNR officials have determined that supplemental feeding by permit will be allowed across the entire Upper Peninsula starting Monday December 15, 2014. The normal starting date for supplemental feeding in the counties that border on Lake Superior is the first Monday of January. The severity and length of the 2103/2014 winter pushed more deer than normal into the club's supplemental deer feeding sites. 27 tons of feed were consumed by the hungry deer. The extraordinary dedication of the club's feeders to get out every day and spread feed is truly amazing. When you see Frank Kastelic, Mark Hannula, Jerry Fehrmann, Paul Moilanen, Bruce Harter and Mike Dudenas, please thank them for their efforts to maintain a reasonable deer population in the Keweenaw. Of course none of this would be possible without the generous support of those donating money to purchase the feed. UP Whitetails of the Keweenaw, Gene Arntsen, Paul Lewis, Paul Lehto, Clarence Fisher, Don Piche, UP Whitetails inc, Bootjack Predator Hunt, Northwoods Trading Post, Robert Meyers, Peter McArthur, and an anonymous donor along with hundreds of other donors continued their support.



Keweenaw deer benefitting from feed provided by the club

Clubhouse and Property

Several small projects were completed at the clubhouse this summer—Additional outlets in the kitchen to support electric ovens, installed kitchen door, installed light over entrance ramp, replaced ramp to storage shed and painted picnic tables. Thank you to Tom Kehoe and Mike West for getting these tasks done. Your club is currently looking at proposals for an addition to the clubhouse. This addition would provide a dining area and eliminate the congestion currently in the main room while trying to serve a meal and then set up for a speaker's presentation. Will post updates to the club's website as the details are developed for presentation and approval by club members. Also a special thank you to Cliff Perreault for spending several days last winter clearing the snow from the clubhouse roof.

Gun & Sports Show

After a 10 year run of CKSC gun and sport shows at the Calumet Colosseum, there was no show in 2014. Declining attendance in 2013 and time constraints of prior chairpersons was the reason for the change. However, Jerry Fehrmann volunteered to organize and manage a gun show which was held on October 3 & 4, 2014. This gun show was very successful and the club will again organize the show to be held on October 2 & 3, 2015 at the VFW hall in Chassell. Check the website as details will be posted there.



Gun show shortly after opening on Saturday morning

Major Raffle

The drawing for the 2014 major raffle was held at the clubhouse on August 23. Prize winners were:

- 1st-Weatherby .308 Rifle: Margaret Crawley,
- 2nd-Remington 870 Pump 20 ga: Larry Butala
- 3rd-Jonsered Chain Saw: Larry Butala
- 4th- \$200 ACE Calumet Gift Certificate: Lucas Brandt
- 5th-Electric Smoker donated by Paul Malnar: Mark "Chester" Peterson
- 6th-Twin Pack of trail cams donated by Tom Kehoe: Rod Mishica

Tickets are now available for the 2015 raffle with a change to the drawing date. Prizes will be chosen at the club meeting on January 21, 2016 at the Copper City Community building. Prizes are : 1-Weatherby .308 Win Rifle (Donated by Margaret Crawley) 2-Jonsered Chain saw 3- \$200 Gift Certificate ACE Hardware Calumet 4-Adirondack Chair (Donated by John Hill) 5-Cordless Skill saw (McGann Building Supply) 6- Knife donated by Ron Anderson and \$50 cash 7- Rolling Cooler (Donated by Paul Malnar) Please help with the club's fund raiser by buying raffle rickets and/or taking tickets to sell to your neighbors friends and relatives. Contact Bruce at 906-337-2470 and he will get tickets to you.

Kids Fishing Derby

As noted in the thank you letter printed in the Daily Mining Gazette on August 14, 2014, it is hard to say who had the most fun at the Kids Fishing derby sponsored by CKSC in conjunction with Calumet Township and Supervisor Paul Lehto. Seeing kids (155 registered) with big smiles on their faces after catching a fish or winning a prize is priceless to the parents, grandparents



Jim Wachowski and Tom Hall help kids set up their rods

and club volunteers. The letter listed everyone donating to the kids derby but we especially recognize the Copper Country Elks Lodge #404 for their generous donation again this year. And thanks also to Mark Butke and Dan Dube for bringing their professional fishing boat for the kids to experience. They also brought the worms. Isaac Bennetts and Chad Pietila were the grand prize winners catching the largest fish. The derby this year will be held on July 25, 2015 at the Swedetown



Winners of the bicycles donated by Paul Malnar

pond. If you would like to donate a prize for the kids contact Mike at 906-281-1557 or email at mdude@pasty.com. More information will be on the club's website and local newspaper and radio announcements will be published. The usual derby date has been a week earlier in past years but due to the Calumet-Sacred Heart All School reunion scheduled for July 17 & 18, 2015 was moved.

Wildlife Management

Thank you to everyone signing the petition leading to the Michigan Legislature passing the Scientific Fish and Wildlife Act. The Act gives the Michigan Natural Resources Commission the exclusive right to determine game animals in Michigan. However, U.S. District Judge Beryl Howell in Washington D.C. decided to return Great Lakes wolves to the endangered species list. Under endangered species status, wolves may be killed only in the immediate defense of human life. Two state laws allowing life stock or dog owners to kill wolves in the act of deprecation are suspended by the ruling. The return to federal endangered species status also means DNR wildlife and law enforcement officials no longer have the authority to use lethal control methods to manage wolf conflicts. "The Federal Court decision is surprising and disappointing" said Russ Mason, DNR Wildlife Division chief. "Wolves in Michigan have exceeded recovery goals for 15 years and have no business being on the endangered species list, which is designed to help fragile population recovery, not to halt the use of effective wildlife management techniques."

Officers & Directors

The following are the nominations for Officers and Directors for 2015 that will be presented for approval at the January 15, 2015 Annual Meeting: President—Jerry Fehrmann, Vice President—Bruce Harter, Treasurer—Greg Nakkula, Secretary— Need Nomination Director nominations through 2015 to fill vacancies are Tom Kehoe and Dr Phil Barry. Director nominations through 2017 are Mike West, Bruce Harter, Vince Niemala and Bob Rinne. Directors already previously approved through 2015 are Cliff Perreault, Greg Nakkula and Jim Junttila. Directors already previously approved through 2016 are Mike Dudenas, Ron Lahti, Roy Keranen, Tom Hall and Jerry Fehrmann.

Club Meetings

Our Executive chef, Mike West, continues to prepare outstanding meals for the club's membership meetings on the third Thursday of the month. Thank you Mike. Thanks also to Mike's kitchen help—Tom Kehoe, Tom Hall, Richard Schaefer and Dan Glinn. For our October meeting at the clubhouse, Ned Huwatek again did his magic and produced a fantastic fish boil. Ron Lahti joined the kitchen assistants for this membership favorite meal. We have been fortunate to feature great speakers at club meetings with topics of conservation, hunting, fishing, wildlife and local history. One of those special meetings was February 2014 when Buck LaVasseur was our special guest. CKSC presented Buck with a plaque recognizing his years of directing the TV program "Discovering" which featured the people and places of the UP. Buck is also remembered for his support of CKSC programs.



Please renew your 2015 membership promptly. Complete and mail the renewal form with your check or money order to:

**Calumet-Keweenaw Sportsmen's Club
P.O. Box 283
Calumet, MI 49913**

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Please check preferred annual membership category:

- Individual or Gift \$ 15
- Student/Senior (65+) 10
- Family (Husband & Wife) 25
- Deer Feeding Friend (Includes Membership & Club T-shirt) 40
- Habitat Helper (Includes Membership & Cap) 75
- Conservationist (Includes Membership & Golf Shirt) 100

Annual Membership Dues \$ _____

Deer Feed Donation \$ _____

General Club Donation \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

In Memoriam

We lost members in the past year: **Frank Stubenrauch's** membership goes back to the club's formation days and he remained a supporter through the years **Bill Darnell Sr.** truly loved deer hunting and worked tirelessly behind the scenes to encourage efforts to improve conditions for Keweenaw deer. **Howard Hosking** really enjoyed coming to monthly meetings and getting a ride from his friend and neighbor "Scotty" Sibbald. **Paul "Kirby" Frantti** was a regular meeting attendee after his retirement and move back to the Copper Country. Long term illness and caring for his wife restricted his participation in meetings the past few years. **Myles "Jud" Gregorich**, longtime resident of the Phoenix and Eagle River was everybody's favorite bar owner. Jud not only loved the Keweenaw but thoroughly enjoyed sharing its historical significance. We will miss him as we will miss all of our departed members. Julia Simila, wife of Art Simila who passed away a few years ago, commissioned a painting of Art's favorite passion—fly fishing. The painting will be presented to the CKSC membership at the January 15, 2015 meeting.

Community Activities

Our major community outreach program continues to be the Kids fishing derby. In the past year the club contributed to the Keweenaw Sheriff's "No kid without Christmas", Copper Harbor ice fishing tournament and a Hunter Safety Class. Club members also assist in road side clean up near Copper Harbor. CKSC had floats in the Pasty Fest parade in Calumet and the Gay 4th of July parade. We distributed candy donated by Mike Bausano from Calumet Mercantile in Calumet.



Roy Keranen with the club float for the 4th of July parade in Gay



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