

KAMO Newsletter for March, 2018

Hello to all KAMO Members

This is KAMO President Mark Walters with my monthly update, KAMO is currently in it's most active phase of it's eleven year history. Our website is being rebuilt by Mike Brown, AJ and the good folks at Gathering Waters. Please honor these folks hard work by reading and adding to the website.

Linda Brodner has currently become our 2nd Vice President and replaces Dawn Horacek "thank you Dawn". I believe that Linda will do an excellent job as she is extremely active in both her Lake Wisconsin chapter and the Baraboo River chapter and helping with our current Core Member Building Project. Linda and Dawn have also taken over the KAMO Facebook page and are doing a heck of a good job with it. Please have someone participate from your chapter on the Facebook page as it is really getting hit. Linda put our two boats on it and they sold in two days.

Another KAMO booster is the KAMO page on Lake-links. Mike Brown has worked on this for years and since December it has been hit over 30.000 times. Please add to this blog!

We are also working on our bill board project on interstate 90/94 near New Lisbon. This is really going to be fun, productive and a great sense of pride when driving by it. We all owe Rick Miotke a solid thank you for letting us use his property, rent free.

Speaking of Rick Miotke, Rick also was given The President's Award at this years State Members meeting at The Meade Wildlife Center on March 24th.

I could go on and on but I had better stop. Folks we are rocking, now take a kid turkey hunting or for a hike or fishing ect, etc...

As always, thank you for all that you do for KAMO!

Mark

KAMO Outdoor Tip for April:

Over the last few days and the next 30 days, perch, northern pike and walleye will be spawning. It is legal to fish perch year round as they are part of the panfish family. In order for you to fish walleye and northern pike, you have to check with your local regulations to make sure the season is open on the body of water that you wish to fish.

In many cases all three of these species can be fished from shore during the spawn as they generally spawn in shallow water. A very simple tactic is to cast a jig and a minnow. Pink jigs with the weight specific for current and depth are often a deadly combination. A jig is just a hook with some metal to make it sink faster.

Another method that I did just yesterday is to vertical jig from a boat. In other words, your jig is dropped to the bottom and you just bounce it off the bottom and do your best to entice and feel the bite.

Get outside and enjoy winter become spring!

Tip offered by Mark Walters

Third article describing KAMO:

KAMO Through the Eyes of a Youth

Why would any youth want to join KAMO? Why do kids want to join anything? Usually the reasons include: fun, your friends are there, you get to do cool things, it is free and sometimes there is good food! These are exactly the type of things KAMO events have to offer youth and their families. The KAMO outdoor events are fun...like fishing, moonlight hikes where you find cool things to look at with a digital microscope and laptop and Klondike days learning winter survival skills. KAMO events are free and open to everyone, you can bring your friends! KAMO events almost always include cool food like pudgy pies or hot dog roasts and s'mores!

What is expected of a Youth in KAMO? KAMO suggests youth be at least 8 years old or if younger they are accompanied by a parent or guardian. Parents complete KAMO Youth forms with contact, medical and emergency information and a KAMO youth waiver. Youth are welcome to attend all KAMO events as their schedule permits. Family members are always welcome to attend events too. Preferably transportation is provided by the family, however, special arrangements can be made if necessary.

What benefits are there in KAMO for the Youth? KAMO events offer youth and their families an opportunity to experience a wide range of outdoor experiences. KAMO Mentors have taken a parent and child on a first hunting outing for both parent and child! Youth have been taught not only how to catch a fish but how to make their own baits, clean and then cook their fish! Youth have been taught kayaking and canoeing on our famous Flambeau and Chippewa rivers that up until that day, they had only crossed on bridges. Youth have seen planets and learned various constellations on the moonlight hikes. KAMO has hosted the Wisconsin Bird-a-thon for the past several years. Many youth can now identify birds by specie name or bird call. How do youth benefit from KAMO?...youth benefit by introduction to a variety of events that offer a lifetime of adventure in our great outdoors.

How do I get my child involved in KAMO? Rusk County area Indianhead KAMO chapter will be hosting an open house, Tuesday March 27th, at the V.M.A. Center, 508 Summit Ave. in Ladysmith at 6:00 p.m. A 20 minute presentation on KAMO will be given followed by questions. Light snacks will be served. You and your family are welcome to join us. For more information check out www.kamokids.org and research the Indianhead Chapter.

Descriptions of KAMO offered by Donna Wishowski

News from the Baraboo River Chapter:

The Baraboo chapter had its latest core building meeting on March 12 at Rivers Edge Resort. It was well represented again by 4 area chapters from Baraboo, Lake Wisconsin, Meadow Valley, and Lacrosse. The last two meetings have been very good with a lot of input from everyone and some great ideas on how to grow the number of mentors per chapter so that we can teach more kids. One of the biggest and most costly plans is to erect a billboard along I90-94 about 5 miles west of Mauston. As of now we have a size and design figured out, but before we can move forward, we must wait for approval from the local town board. We also ordered 100 18x24 double sided yard signs that will be going out to all the chapters as a way of advertising. The Baraboo chapter is proposing to be more visible in our local communities over the next year. We are having an information table at a local sportsman's banquet. We are going to be a part of more area events such as Earth Days, Reedsburg Party in the Park, the Sauk County Farm Art D Tour. We will be having a camping trip at the Juneau County Park on Castle Rock Lake on June 8,9,10. We are teaming up with the Lake Wisconsin chapter for 3 fishing days at the Fireman's Park. The dates will be June 6, July 11, and August 8 from 4-7pm with food

being provided at each event. With all the things we want to do, it is going to take some extra effort on everyone's part but we believe it is going to pay off in the end.

Due to the conservation congress meetings being held on April 9, the Baraboo chapter meeting is moved to April 16 at Rivers Edge Resort? Come if you can!

News submitted by Rick Miotke

News from the Coulee Chapter:

Coulee and the BBBS held a combined gymnasium activity event at the La Crosse Wellness Center on February 24th. There were 18 adults and 18 kids there. Four first time families, one new mentor. On Sunday, March 4th, we attended the Kids Fishing Tournament with a small group. Fishing was slow, but the kids did learn the basics and enjoyed the game events and food.

We are going to attend the Friends of the Mississippi (FUM) meeting on the 28th of March to see about their interest in partnering on some larger scale volunteer recruitment and activity events.

We have a rod and gun club outing and the Youth Turkey Hunt coming up in April.

News submitted by Mike Brown

News from the Indianhead Chapter:

At our March and February meetings we discussed the billboard idea to advertise KAMO and have great expectations for it. Also the KAMO member of the month idea on Facebook (see the minutes from the 2018 members meeting). We are looking forward to receiving some of the KAMO yard signs. Donna, Flyd, Greg, and Jim attended the Members Meeting near Stevens Point where Jim took notes, Floyd recounted some of our activities, and Donna presented State money matters involving the NDR grant and state expenses and donations received.

The cold weather and then the slushy warmup prevented ice fishing and then snowshoeing activities. We are looking forward to a lot of warm weather fishing off of our gifted pontoon boat.

Donna and Charmaine met with WLDY for the Talkline program March 21 to discuss KAMO. Flambeau Valley Arts is giving us tickets for 8 kids and 2 adults for their April 20 Illusionist presentation.

Corwyn, Donna, and Charmaine organized our open house at the Veterans Memorial Association to meet with other youth groups. The attendance was small but intense with some real planning with Rusk County Social Services and the local Boy and Cub Scout leader. Also some good discussion with 3 or 4 veterans. We are rethinking how we want to spend our limited time and energy.

Sadly, our chapter president, Ray Jay, lost his battle with cancer this month. We continue to plan for the Ray Jay Birdathon on May 26.

News submitted by Jim Kurz

News from the Lake Wisconsin Chapter:

Hi All

Spring has sprung!! Got some late season Ice fishing in with a few kids. Picked up aluminum cans from a local establishment, had a good turnout to help get the job done. We also have another establishment that donates all their aluminum cans to us which helps to raise funds for our chapter. Looking to fill the calendar for the summer activities. Have a few kids getting ready for Turkey season. Set summer fishing with the Baraboo River chapter in June, July and August. Still trying to recruit some core mentors.

Submitted by Bob and Linda Brodeur

News from the MarshPoint Chapter:

We welcomed a daughter Della Ann Gruber today. Everyone is doing well.

Submitted by Papa Ben Gruber. (MarshPoint also hosted our 2018 Members Meeting in the fine fashion to which we are accustomed.)

News from the Meadow Valley Chapter:

At the March 14 meeting members present were Aaron, Janine, Brian O., Bill D., Jim, Jody and Tom. Visitors: Bob and Ben St.Clair.

There were 11 kids at ice fishing.

10 kids were at maple syrup outing at Bob Nicksic's. Kid's and adults had a great time.

Baraboo meeting: Discussed billboard, Rick had a design from Garonski signs in Reedsburg. We will discuss at state meeting. Still need approval from town of Lisbon.

Discussed ordering some yard signs. It was approved to order 100 yard signs. Cost is about \$212.00. Hope to have them by the state meeting.

Baraboo is having there camping weekend on June 8th and 9th at Castle Rock park on G. Possible opportunity to join them for camping weekend. Will discuss next meeting.

Youth turkey training on April 7th.

Mentors with kids:

Bob and Keenan, Aaron and Chris Hart, Brian and Krystin. Jason, Tredon and Jeremiah would like to hunt also. They all did learn to hunt last year.

Possible opportunities for mentoring kids. Morel mushroom hunting and black berry picking. Possible opportunity to take some youth bow fishing on Mason Lake in Adams county. The lake is 845 acres. Residents would like to get rid of the carp.

Possible opportunity to collar deer in SW Wisconsin.

State meeting: Tom, Bob, Dan going. We discussed the alcohol policy. We don't think there should be a policy, because that could cause more problems.

Submitted by Bob Nicksic's

News from the Northwoods Chapter:

No meeting because of the State Members Meeting which Jeff, Dwaine, and Mick attended. From their report at that meeting, they certainly have been busy. Because of his active public life and with KAMO, Dwaine is involved with improving the ski hill and building an archery range. The chapter also offers a \$500 scholarship to anyone studying environmental studies of any kind.

Newsletter news received and edited by Jim Kurz, KAMO State Secretary