



Conservation Pledge  
I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully to defend from waste, the natural resources of my country - its' air, soil and minerals, its' forests, waters and wildlife.

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\$9.00

### UNS Annual Awards Banquet

April 20<sup>th</sup> is the date set for this years awards banquet so please mark your calendars now. This event is your clubs largest fund-raiser of the year and we sure could use your help. How can you help you say? Just by taking a few minutes and asking your favorite vendor for a donation. Any and all donations are accepted no matter how large or small. Gift certificates are great and most businesses don't mind donating them as they bring in additional business.

This years event will again be held at Spirit Mountain and if you haven't been to one there you're missing some of the best food this town has to offer. Also, the entire evening is filled with fun and you can visit with old friends and meet some new ones as you are waiting to win some of the hundreds of prizes.

Tickets will be available shortly and you will be notified in this newsletter when that is. In the meantime, if you would like to help on one of the many committees that we need for this event please call any board member on page 4 of this newsletter or myself or Sandy at 218-722-271. Any and all help will be greatly appreciated and remember any hours that you spend in getting prizes for this event will be added to your account toward receiving your UNS Jacket.

### Club Calendar

- Feb. 1**            **UNS Board Meeting**  
**Gander Mountain**  
**7:00 PM**
- Feb. 8**            **UNS Membership Meeting**  
**Gander Mountain**  
**7:00 PM**
- Feb. 10**          **St. Cloud Sportsmen's Show**  
**St. Cloud Civic Center**
- Feb. 14**          **Happy Valentines Day**
- Feb. 15**          **Duluth Boat, Sports,**  
**Travel & RV Show**  
**DECC Duluth, MN**  
**2/15 - 2/19**
- Feb. 18**          **Take a Kid Ice Fishing**  
**Weekend**
- Feb. 20**          **President's Day**
- Feb.22**          **Ash Wednesday**

Next month: Maybe a little more on greed?

### **Earn some volunteer hours**

Many members have asked in the past what they can do to earn hours toward their UNS jacket. Well now it the perfect time to start. Take an hour or two and round up prizes for our Annual Awards Banquet. Keep track of the hours you spent doing this and turn them in to Kevin Stern and before you know it you will be wearing a new jacket free of charge.

### **DNR releases proposal for wolf harvest season this fall**

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is proposing an inaugural gray wolf hunting and trapping season this fall that calls for a conservative harvest quota of 400 animals.

Wolf research indicates Minnesota's wolf population could sustain a higher quota, but DNR officials say they are taking a measured approach to the state's first season.

The proposal sets a quota of 6,000 licenses that will be allocated through a lottery system. Only one license will be allowed per hunter or trapper. Hunting would be allowed with firearms, archery equipment and muzzleloaders. Calls and bait would be allowed with restrictions.

The season is proposed for the end of November and would be closed once the quota is met. Hunters would be required to register animals on the same day they are harvested and data would be collected from carcasses. Other states with harvest seasons for wolves and other big game animals similarly monitor seasons and close them when quotas are met.

DNR will outline its proposals to the Legislature on Thursday, Jan. 26 before the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee and the House Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Policy and Finance Committee.

While the legislatively approved wolf management plan authorizes hunting and trapping seasons, the agency is seeking

additional authorization from the state Legislature this session to offer a wolf license and implement other management strategies. Legislators will have to pass a bill by the end of the session and the governor will have to sign it in order for a season to be held.

The DNR will also take public comments prior to finalizing and implementing a wolf season.

The initial season will allow wolf biologists to collect information on hunter and trapper interest and harvest success and will provide biological information on harvested wolves to help inform future wolf population management and monitoring. The state has an estimated population of 3,000 gray wolves and past surveys indicate the population is stable.

Wolves are prolific, survival of young is generally high and populations can offset effects of mortality caused by hunting and trapping seasons, DNR officials say.

The DNR intends to manage wolves as a prized and high-value fur species by setting the season when pelts are most prime, limiting the take through a lottery and requiring animals be registered.

DNR plans to adjust the framework of future wolf seasons based on information collected during the inaugural season. This adaptive management approach will result in progressive changes as the DNR learns how to best manage a wolf season in Minnesota. The wolf harvest quota does consider other causes of mortality such as removal due to livestock and domestic animal depredation and threats and vehicle collisions.

The agency will also be undertaking a new wolf population survey starting next winter.

Minnesota's population of Great Lakes gray wolves transitions from federal protection to state management on Friday, Jan. 27. That is when the DNR implements its state management plan, which is designed to ensure their long-term survival of wolves in the state.

The agency has three lead conservation officers designated to ensure enforcement of the state's wolf laws by conservation officers throughout the wolf range. The

agency also has a wolf research biologist and management specialist. Information on changes to regulations on taking wolves to protect domestic animals can be found **online**.

### Attention – Attention – Attention

**M**embers wishing to earn hours toward their UNS jacket or a number of other awards should keep track of their hours and turn them in to Kevin Stern monthly.

UNITED NORTHERN SPORTSMEN'S NEWS  
2012 EXECUTIVE BOARD  
Editor: Joe Roberts  
234 E. Orange St., Duluth, MN 55811, 722-2711  
www.uns-duluth.com  
Webmaster: Eric Hansen  
4182 Ridge Circle, Hermantown, MN 55811, 831-8646  
OFFICERS:  
President: Jim Lemmerman  
6316 Nashua St., Duluth, MN 55807, 624-3847  
Vice-President: Kevin Stern  
5158 LaVaque Jct. Rd., Duluth, MN 55811, 729-7496  
Secretary: Eric Hansen  
4182 Ridge Circle, Hermantown, MN 55811, 831-8646  
Treasurer: Cindy Craig  
2805 Wellington St., Duluth, MN 55806, 624-0069  
Sgt-at-Arms: Kevin Waino  
2130 Water St., Duluth, MN 55812, 728-0196  
Membership Secretary: Sandy Roberts  
234 E. Orange St., Duluth, MN 55811, 722-2711  
TRUSTEES:  
Matt Opack  
4234 Turner Road, Duluth, MN 55803, 721-4125  
Chuck Cieluch  
4801 Oakley St., Duluth, MN 55804, 525-5547  
John Bathke  
P.O. Box 86, Two Harbors, MN 55616, 218-834-7075  
Bob Krepps  
2017 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St., Duluth, MN 55812, 724-3403  
Dan Smestad  
6226 E. Superior St., Duluth, MN 55804, 525-3669  
Dan Woollett  
314 Agete St., Cloquet, MN 55720, 590-7076  
Mike Drager  
6657 Brookmere Road, Duluth, MN 55803, 721-2314  
Judy Foy  
5 W. 8<sup>th</sup> St., Duluth, MN 55806, 727-9833  
Mike Foy  
5 W. 8<sup>th</sup> St., Duluth, MN 55806, 727-9833  
Bob Curtis  
2238 Nanticoke St., Duluth, MN 55811, 727-3645

United Northern Sports  
Editor: Joe Roberts  
234 E. Orange St.  
Duluth, MN 55811-29

### RETURN SERVICE REQUIRED

dates to the Activities  
were no Range Page

reports that we are  
get busy making more.  
made a profit but not as  
in an additional \$10.00.

**Incident Reports:** Bob Curtis and Eric Hansen – no new incidents reported. We briefly discussed the incident turned in

### Club Notes

**Call to Order:** by President Jim Lemmerman who led us in the conservation pledge @ 7.00 PM.

**Roll call of Officers:** Jim Lemmerman, Kevin Stern, Joe Roberts, Sandy Roberts, Eric Hansen, Cindy Craig, Kevin Waino, Chuck Ceiluch, Judy Foy, Mike Foy, John Bathke, Bob Curtis, Dan Woollett.

**Introduction of visitors and new members:** Bob Kettle, Steve Shaner & Brian\_(missed his last name)\_

**Installation of 2012 Officers:** Sandy Roberts led the installation of new officers for year 2012.

**Roll call of 2012 Officers:** Jim Lemmerman, Kevin Stern, Joe Roberts, Sandy Roberts, Eric Hansen, Cindy Craig, Kevin Waino, Chuck Ceiluch, Judy Foy, Mike Foy, John Bathke, Bob Curtis, Dan Woollett.

**Reading of minutes:** Eric Hansen – read minutes from December 14, 2011 Membership meeting and January 4, 2012 Board meeting, motion to accept Board minutes (as corrected) by Joe Roberts and 2nd by Howard Tullgren; carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Cindy Craig as of 12/31/2011

Checkbook balance: \$ 1558.06

Regular Savings Account: \$ 5.00 Money

Market Acct: \$ 3030.38

Building Fund: \$ 6906.19

Total Funds: \$ 11,499.63

John Bathke made motion to accept and pay bills,

2nd by Judy Foy; carried.

**Membership Secretary's Report:** Sandy Roberts – current membership is 1701.

**Committee Reports:**

by Jim Jensen. Incident Committee will report to the board in March re: actions to take.

**Grants Committee:** Kevin Stern & Mike Drager –Kevin spoke to Friends of the NRA and was informed that our request was turned down this year but is still being discussed.

**Ice Fishing Contest:** Cindy Craig deposited \$3320.00 and has still has approximately \$500 to deposit. Bob Curtis checked the ice thickness, reports there is 12 – 13". Dan Woollett says we still need more volunteers & the work party will meet Saturday morning at 10:00. Mark Wierda is talking to RJ's regarding the use of ATVs.

**Volunteer Hours:** Kevin Stern – nothing new to report

**Banquet:** Joe Roberts started writing instructions on setting up and running the banquet for future banquet planners. Banquet committee should meet.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Campground Permit:** Jim Lemmerman spoke to Cara Peterson about setting up a trailer with toilets and showers. She thought it might be OK but her supervisor was not in so

she could not make a commitment. Jim has a list of installers, designers & inspectors we could use for the project.

**Forest Management Plan:** Bob Krepps was not here to provide us with an update.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Speakers for 2012:** Eric Hansen has the list and will bring it up in the next two months again.

**Audits:** Sandy Roberts needs volunteers to audit the membership books.

**IRS:** Cindy Craig says we owe nothing for the '990 form bill' from the IRS.

**Correspondence:** shared

**Members sick or in distress:** Joe's Brother Bill is in for additional surgery, Ken Norenberg had a heart valve replacement, and Doug Eichanger had some additional health issues.

**Attendance Drawing:** Kevin Waino won the \$20.00