

VOLUME 56

JANUARY 2011

NUMBER 1

\$9.00

way of helping.

**New Officers and Board to be sworn in at
January 12th Membership Meeting**

Your new Officers and Board of Trustees for the year 2011 will be as follows:

President: Jim Lemmerman, Vice-President: Kevin Stern, Secretary: Eric Hansen, Sergeant-at-Arms: Kevin Waino. Trustees: Chuck Cieluch, Dan Smestad, Judy Foy, Mike Foy, John Bathke, Jim Jensen, Bob Curtis, Mark Borak, Dan Wollett and Mike Drager. The UNS would like to take this time to thank those members that served on the Board of Trustees for the year 2010 and welcome those coming aboard for 2011. Your dedication does not go un-noticed. You may not realize it but the Officers and Board of this organization is the backbone of it. Keep up the good work.

Club Calendar

58th Annual Ice Fishing Contest

Co-chairpersons Dan Woollett and Cindy Craig have informed us that all is going just great for the January 30th Ice Fishing Contest. There will be some changes this year as to awarding some larger prizes so you'll surely want to be there for your chance at the larger prizes. I'd like to say that I have checked with the weatherman as to the forecast for that day but as you can tell from the past weeks, you'd be lucky if they new what was going to happen at the end of the week let alone a month away. Anyhow, please get out there and try to sell the few tickets that you received in the mail or if you find that selling isn't your strongest trait, buy them yourselves. Just consider it your

Leftovers

Before we get into the New Year there are a few things left over from 2010 and first, in Outdoor News of 4/5/10 Dick Stern of Silver Bay was quoted “Until we are able to change the culture of our deer hunters, Minnesota will never be the mecca for big bucks like it once was”. His premises: 1) everybody wants to shoot a buck - it is somehow ‘unethical’ to shoot a doe, 2) many small bucks are tagged with tags of people who are never in the deer woods – like wives, girlfriends, grandmothers – he claims the practice is extremely common. Maybe so. Logically then, the deer herd becomes imbalanced with too many does, right? I can recall a time way back when some muckety-muck expert said that Minnesota was so far ahead (in numbers of trophy bucks) of all other States in Boone and Crockett records that “even if Minnesota banned the taking of all bucks for 30 years, Minnesota would still be way ahead in the books.” Well the expert was wrong, Stern is right and something has to change.

If we want more big bucks, and restore our bragging rights, we’ve got to quit dragging all those spikes and forks out of the November woods – for it’s a good bet that the chances of any of them ever producing a record-class rack are mighty close to zero. In fact, once they’re tagged it is zero.

Then, even though 2010 elections produced big-time losses for gun-haters and radical greens, this is not the time for relaxing, napping, or celebrating with a New Years Victory Brawl. US Rep. Bobby Rush (D-Ill.) Has introduced HR5820, which would remove the ammo exemption within the TSCA (Toxic Substance Control Act), thereby allowing the EPA (EPA!) to ban all traditional ammo! Now, there’s no chance this will survive the lame duck session, but the fact that rabid eco-dweep Rush brings it up so soon tells us something about early left-wing plans for November 2012. Stovepipe and I both feel that New Years Day 2013 would be a much more appropriate time for a Victory Bash.

Well, the chickens, or rather the DUCKS are coming in to roost. Duck hunters in 2010 bought fewer state duck stamps than ever before.

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|---------------------|---|
| Jan. 1..... | Happy New Year
Lake trout (winter) inside
BWCAW season opens |
| Jan. 2..... | Pheasant, Grouse and partridge
season ends |
| Jan. 9..... | Otter and Bobcat season ends |
| Jan. 12..... | UNS Membership Meeting
Gander Mountain
7:00 PM
2011 Officers installed |
| Jan. 14..... | Spring Turkey Application
deadline |
| Jan. 15..... | Lake Trout inland waters
season opens (all lakes)
Stream Trout (winter) season
opens |
| Jan. 17..... | Martin Luther King Jr. Day |
| Feb. 2..... | UNS Board Meeting
Gander Mountain
7:00 PM |
| Feb. 9..... | UNS Membership Meeting
Gander Mountain
7:00 PM |

Having delved into it before, we’re not going to get into the in’s and out’s of Minnesota’s duck decline now, except that there might be a lesson here for Minnesota hunters in general. State duck stamps were first required in 1977, just about the time I hung up my waders. Kind of like now, as many of us are looking for a change in our deer culture, many of us then were hoping that our DNR would look down the Mississippi a ways and watch how many ducks the Louisiana hunters were shooting, and then raise our bag limits. After all, a dead duck is a dead duck regardless whichever state it was shot in, or what part of the Mississippi it dropped into. Let’s hope for different results with the deer culture.

Moving along here, since your auld

scribbler is no longer serving on your Board and consequently won't be as close to Club business as before, we'll be spending more time on state, national, and international issues – as they affect us regionally, locally, and right here on the shores of beautiful Island Lake. For one thing, mentioned here last month, the debate over public vs private land ownership has always intrigued me, and lots of others too. In the current issue of “Whitetails” (MDHA quarterly) there's an article titled “MYTHBUSTERS” discussing this very subject from their viewpoint – and that's a good place to start our discussion of this fundamental American proposition, the American Dream, i.e. the sanctity of private property. But we're just about out of space right now, so stay tuned.

Something else we'll be taking a great deal of interest in and spending a lot of time on is exploration and mining of natural resources – as it exists in the world today and as it promises for the future. In fact, all extractive industries and procedures (at least all we can find) are now fair
February Speaker

A number of members have had questions concerning PolyMet and their plans for the Iron Range. Well Eric Hansen has arranged to have a speaker from PolyMet at our February meeting. PolyMet is poised to begin mining in Minnesota's Duluth Complex – which contains one of the world's largest undeveloped non-ferrous metal deposits. PolyMet will mine and process metals used in daily life, including: **copper** - construction, plumbing and electric wiring, **Nickel** - stainless steel and rechargeable batteries, **Cobalt** - household magnets and hybrid vehicles, **Platinum & palladium** - catalytic converters that reduce automobile pollution and **gold** - jewelry, dental and medical applications, computers and electronics. Hopefully we will have a good turnout at our meeting at Gander Mountain and you will all get your questions answered. Remember the date: February 9th at 7:00 PM at Gander Mountain.

Hugo man charged with poaching trophy buck

The story and evidence just didn't add up for a Hugo man who is facing \$10,000 in fines and restitution - and loss of his hunting privileges - for

game for the Stovepipe – and this is because your impatient auld scribe has come to the conclusion that for a lot of reasons, our share (our Arrowhead participation) in the American Dream is in jeopardy. In short, there's no dream without prosperity.

Happy New Year, and don't forget UNS Ice Fishing Contest – Sunday, Jan. 30th – it needs you.
Be There.

UNS Annual Banquet April 8th

Hopefully you all have marked the calendar for April 8th and hopefully again you have been asking you business friends for any donations for our Annual Banquet. It is never too early to start as this event is one of most time consuming fund-raisers your club get involved in. Interested in helping? Call 722-2711.

allegedly poaching a 10-point trophy buck in early November.

After receiving a Turn-in-Poacher (TIP) call, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) conservation officer Robert Haberman of Little Falls recovered a deer from a central Minnesota taxidermist. The deer tag had not been validated, nor had the deer been registered. The buck scored 146 2/8 inches under Boone and Crockett, which records trophy animals.

Christopher C. Mogren, 43, said he had legally taken the buck by archery. However, an inspection of the carcass revealed a clean arrow wound behind the left shoulder and a large wound on the right shoulder consistent with firearm trauma. A forensics analysis found multiple metal fragments similar to those from a bullet fired from a high-powered rifle.

Mogren eventually admitted using a firearm to shoot a “severely injured” deer that had wandered onto his property. Using a skid loader, he transported the deer to his home where he later arrowed the deer. He purchased an archery tag, waited a couple of days and tried to claim the deer was taken by archery.

Mogren said a family member subsequently dropped the deer off at the taxidermist.

State conservation officers seized the skid loader, a Remington model 700 rifle with scope, and 21 packages of deer venison. They also collected photos of Mogren posing with the deer and the arrow used.

Mogren has been charged with a gross misdemeanor for taking big game out of season (\$3,000 fine), taking a big game animal without a license (\$1,000 fine), gross misdemeanor transporting an illegally taken big game animal (\$3,000 fine), failure to validate a deer tag (\$1,000) and failure to register a big game animal (\$1,000 fine). Restitution for a trophy buck is \$1,000.

A trial date has not been set in Washington County. If convicted, Mogren could also lose his hunting privileges for three years.

Anyone witnessing wildlife or fishing code violations is encouraged to contact the nearest conservation officer, law enforcement agency or the toll-free TIP hotline at 800-652-9093. Also, #TIP is available to most cell phone users in Minnesota.

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current totals for volunteer hours. Contact Kevin Stern for corrections or updates.

Old Business:

Campground: Mike Drager – nothing new to report

Document Copier: Joe Roberts – Office Max has the same machine as the one at Best Buy at the same price.

New Berm between Large Bore and Small Bore Range: Kevin Stern made a motion to extend membership for one year for the two employees from St. Joseph's Equipment who volunteered their time to work on the berm, 2nd by Mike Foy, passed. Kevin will send a thank you letter.

New Business:

Flags: Joe Roberts will get a new 3x5 red flag and pole, 2nd by Dan Woollett, passed. Nadine Meyer from the DNR left a message regarding a DNR sponsored ice fishing contest for kids and wondered if we had a heated shelter they could use and someone who would drill holes for the kids.

Members sick or in distress: Ashley Fletcher was out with pregnancy complications, Bert Cieluch's Sister passed away, Sandy Roberts is ailing with a broken neck.

Attendance Drawing: Ted Johnson won the \$20.00

Progressive Drawing: Charles Eplin not present to win \$60.00

Adjournment: Motion by Mike Foy, 2nd by John Bathke, passed

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UNS Member meeting minutes for December 8, 2010

Call to Order by President Jim Lemmerman

Conservation Pledge: President Jim Lemmerman

Roll call of Officers: Jim Lemmerman, Kevin Stern, Cindy Craig, Sandy Roberts, Dan Smestad, Mike Drager, Judy Foy, Bob Curtis, Mike Foy, Eric Hansen, Joe Roberts, Kevin Waino, Chuck Cieluch, Dan Woollett,

Introduction of visitors and new members: Mark Borak

Approve agenda: Motion to accept by Dan Smestad and 2nd by Mike Drager, passed.

Reading of minutes: Eric Hansen - motion to accept by Joe Roberts and 2nd by Dan Smestad, passed.

Jim Lemmerman suspended the order of business to have election of officers and requested three volunteers who were not running for an office to count ballots. The floor was open for nominations.

Elections 2011: The call for nominations has been announced twice before this final time.

Motion was made by Joe Roberts to close

nominations for President and the secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for Jim Lemmerman as President, 2nd by Mike Drager.

Motion was made by Joe Roberts to close nominations for Vice President and the secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for Kevin Stern as Vice President, 2nd by John Bathke.

Motion was made by Joe Roberts to close nominations for Secretary and the secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for Eric Hansen as Secretary, 2nd by John Bathke.

Motion was made by Joe Roberts to close nominations for Sergeant at Arms and the secretary to cast a unanimous ballot for Kevin Waino as Sergeant at Arms, 2nd by Jim K.

Motion was made by Joe Roberts to close nominations for Board of Trustee positions, 2nd by Sandy Roberts. Motion to distribute ballots was made by Joe Roberts, 2nd by John Bathke, passed. Ballots were passed out and all members were instructed to vote for ten Board of Trustee positions from the following list of nominations: Chuck Ceiluch, Dan Smestad, Judy Foy, Mike Foy, John Bathke, Jim Jensen, Bob Curtis, Mark Borak, Dan Woollett, Mike

Drager and Bob Krepps. Elected were: Chuck Ceiluch, Dan Smestad, Judy Foy, Mike Foy, John Bathke, Jim Jensen, Bob Curtis, Mark Borak, Dan Woollett, Mike Drager. **Treasurer's Report:** Cindy Craig – Checkbook balance: \$4968.47, Regular Savings Account: \$5.00, Money Market Acct: \$14,497.10, Building Fund: \$2486.89. Dan Smestad made motion to accept and pay bills, 2nd by Kevin Waino, passed.

Membership Secretary Report: Sandy Roberts – current membership is 1739.

Committee Reports:

Web Master: Eric Hansen – Made updates to the Activities page and other parts of the web site for the upcoming events.

Retreat Improvements: Bob Curtis – Lots of snow was blown away and shoveled. Walks and drives were sanded. The flagpole light does not work and the Clubhouse outside lights are also out. Bob C will check out the photoelectric cell, it may need to be replaced.

Incident Reports: Bob Curtis and Eric Hansen – no incidents reported.

Grants Committee: Kevin Stern & Mike Drager – Grant from the Friends of the NRA will cover most or all of the planned work; the concrete work may not be completely covered.

Ice Fishing Contest: Dan Woollett – We need to decide if we want to give away the augers from previous years or offer a 'private label' Ice Fishing House from Marine General. Joe Roberts made motion to offer the Ice Fishing House as a prize, 2nd by Chuck Cieluch, passed. We are still in need of a master of Ceremonies, Dan Woollett will contact Paul Harkness. Bob Curtis will make two new brackets to hold the outside speakers.

Volunteer Awards: Kevin Stern distributed a

spreadsheet with

(Cont. on page 3)