

United Northern Sportmen's News

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.

VOLUME 6

OCTOBER 2022

NUMBER 10

\$12.00

Club Calendar

Ranges Closed on Mondays,
for Maintenance, Reserved Activities

- Oct. 5 UNS Board Meeting
6:00pm, Clubhouse
- Oct. 8 Range Officer Meeting
9am, Clubhouse
- Oct. 9 DNR Firearms Safety Class for Kids
9-12am, Garage
DNR Safety Instructor Training
1-4:30pm, Clubhouse
- Oct. 15,16 Fall Sight-In, Rifle Range
- Oct. 18 UMD Outdoor Skills Class
2:30-4:30, All Ranges Closed
- Oct. 22,23 Fall Sight-In, Rifle Range
- Oct. 25 UMD Outdoor Skills Class
2:30-4:30, All Ranges Closed
- Oct. 27 UMD Outdoor Skills Class
2:30-4:30, All Ranges Closed
- Oct. 29-31 Fall Sight-In, Rifle Range
- Nov. 2 UNS Board Meeting
6:00pm, Clubhouse
- Nov. 1-4 Fall Sight-In, Rifle Range
- Nov. 5 Deer Opening - Firearms
- Dec. 7 UNS Board Meeting
6:00pm, Clubhouse
- Dec. 14 UNS Annual Business Meeting
6:00pm, Clubhouse

All members are encouraged to attend. Please RSVP Eric at gonefishing0101@hotmail.com. If the meeting is via Zoom a connection will be provided when you RSVP.

RANGE USE CALENDAR

may be found on our Website:
www.unitednorthernsportsmen.org

SHOOTING HOURS

Range hours: 8am to 30 minutes before sunset. All ranges are closed on Mondays. Range opening and closing times are posted on the ranges and the bulletin board on the Clubhouse Bldg. Please obey the rules or lose your shooting privileges.

United Northern Sportsmen's Club Fall Sight-In 2022

The Minnesota deer firearms season starts November 5th. We will be having our sight-in dates on October 15,16,22,23,29,30,31, November 1,2,3,4. Our rifle range is open to the public from 8 a.m. to ½ hour before sunset. Check in at the Clubhouse before shooting. The fee is \$5 per gun. There will be range officers present at all times. Any members wishing to become range officers, contact Bob Kuettel at 218-393-2000. There will be a meeting of range officers on Saturday, October 8th at 9am at the Clubhouse. We will be reviewing range rules and sign-up sheets for working on the range during the Sight-In.

United Northern Sportsmen's Club 2022 Fall Fundraiser

It's hard to believe another summer is gone, and the season of autumn is fast approaching. This is the time of year that we hold our Annual Fall Fundraiser and Sight-In. Historically, this is the time of year that supplies our budget with the needed funds to hold kid's events, conversation efforts, and keep up on the maintenance of our facility.

Our 2022 Fall Fundraiser will again consist of raffling off \$1,500 in gift certificates (various amounts) at some of our local businesses that have helped support UNS in the past with their donations to us during our club events over the past years. Donors include Marine General, Chalstrom's, Fisherman's Corner, Outdoor Advantage, RJ's Sport & Cycle, Duluth Lawn & Sport, and more. The Gift Certificates will range between \$25 and \$100 each.

Watch your mailbox, as you will be receiving 5 tickets to buy or sell. Each ticket will be a \$5.00 donation. Please try to sell them to your family, friends, coworkers or by buying them all yourself. If every member committed to buying and selling these tickets, we would be well on our way to funding our events that so many people have come to enjoy, expect, and maintaining our club's facilities. The Ticket chair again this year will be Deanna Dodge. Please reach out to Deanna for more tickets to sell. You can reach her by calling: 218-721-3979, or emailing her at: pddodge2014@hotmail.com.

Our drawings will be held on Friday, November 4th, at the close of the Fall Sight-In. You do not need to be present to win. All winners will be notified by certified letter which will include their winning certificate. Thank you for your continued support in our club.

**2022 UNS ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
TO BE HELD ON DECEMBER 14TH:
Details to follow in the November newsletter.**

UNS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Minutes September 7, 2022

Call to Order: by President Tom Wasbotten at 6:00pm. **Conservation Pledge** was recited.

Roll Call of Officers: Tom Wasbotten, Lance Parthe, Bob Kuettel, Tina Sund, Jeff Jarvela, Vickie Jensen, Lance Haavisto, Eric Hansen, Keith Darsow, John Jones, Ron Cretens, Maggie Cretens.

Excused Officers: Gene Shaw, John Bathke.

Correspondence: Gnesen Township Newsletter, Wildwoods 16 year celebration announcement, Auto Owners letter (UNS Insurance carrier).

Agenda Additions & Approval: Motion to approve the agenda with new additions (M/S/C).

Reading of Minutes: Eric Hansen read the minutes from the August 3rd Board of Directors meeting. Motion made to accept the minutes as read (M/S/C).

Treasurer's Report: Tina Sund as of 8/31/22: Western Sanitation is raising their rates by 25%. She has a proposal from Rick's Tree service to remove blown down trees, received Bernick's contract renewal with 2nd half of lease agreement price. New contract would start 8-31-22. Motion made to approve the Treasurer's report (M/S/C).

Membership Secretary's Report: Tina Sund as of 8/31/22: Current membership is 1526. Individual Membership renewals: 60 and 7 new, Family Membership renewals: 39 and 9 new. 140 renewals are coming up, 62 second notice.

OTHER REPORTS:

Web Master: Eric Hansen: made updates to the UNS website and Facebook page: range reservations, Sight-In Days dates, Fall Fund Raiser, posted UNS newsletter.

Facilities Committee: Lance Parthe reports a storm blew down two red pines which damaged the Big Bore shelter & the brass shack roof. Dead trees were removed; Lance removed all debris & has logs to be split. Has 2 bids to repair canopy, Ron met with adjuster re: the damage, damage areas are roped off, ranges are open. Tom Wasbotten reports we have a \$1000 deductible for insurance that will be taken out of #105 maintenance. Tom made decision to cut down an additional dead tree for \$150. Motion to cut down dead tree (M/S/C). Lance Parthe brought one chain saw home to repair it. Zero Turn Mower needs approx \$400 in repairs. Back stops on pistol range need repair, we need volunteers & a dumpster for big bore range. It may be best to wait until after Sight-In days. Tom reports that the water line still needs to be repaired. He also showed us an example of the Memorial Plaques. We will wait until Spring '23 to mount these.

Range and Grounds Calendar: Bob Kuettel & Lance Parthe report Steven Holt has a range reservation for Mon Sept.19. No word from Mark Zmudy about UMD for classes, yet. Eric Hansen will contact Mark Zmudy.

Incident Report: Lance Parthe said there was nothing to report.

Volunteer Awards: Vickie reported that Mike Hart has 500+ hours.

Communication Committee: John Bathke is chair, members are Lance Parthe, Sara Spindler, Keith Darsow, Eric Hansen, Maggie Cretens, Lance Haavisto. Need to meet to determine how we will work together, Maggie will send msg to all members.

OLD BUSINESS:

Web Site Committee: Lance Parthe reports we need some additional written content.

UNS Youth Outdoor Field Day August 2023 – Maggie Cretens will start working on it.

Annual Deer Rifle Sight-In Update – Bob Kuettel is working on it, it has been posted on the web site, Newsletter & Facebook.

Range Officer Refresher Training – Saturday, 10/8 about 1 ½ hours.

Fall Fund Raiser Update – Tina Sund waiting for proofs to come back, Newsletter article has been submitted, tickets will be sent out, drawing will be the last day of Sight-In.

MN Health Dept Dump Station Variance Update – Lance Parthe got info for variance, will meet with Health Dept. in about 2 weeks.

NEW BUSINESS:

Labor Day Weekend Camping – Ron Cretens: All electric sites were full, lots of families camping, no problems. Ron plans on being here until 10/1/22.

Firearm Safety Instructor Course – Lance Parthe: Mike Hart has about 13 people for safety instructor training, DNR scheduled training on 10/9 from 1 to 4 pm. Lance would like to waive the fees for on-site training. A motion made motion to allow DNR to use facilities with no facility charge & no guest fees (M/S/C).

Deer Hunter's Camping Request – Tom Wasbotten: A group made a request to use facilities during deer hunting from Nov. 4th thru Nov. 20th. They need 3 campsites & power access. Motion to allow facilities use was made (M/S/C).

UNS 2023 Budget Preparation – Tom Wasbotten & Tina Sund: Information and spread sheets with past years' expenses was passed out. Need budgets by the November meeting.

Nominations Committee for 2022 club election – Tom Wasbotten: We have 3 positions open for 3-year terms. Committee will be formed at the October meeting and will consist of 5 members.

Donation request for St Louis Cty Sheriff's Rescue Squad – Tom Wasbotten: Requested that we make a donation. A motion was made motion to donate \$500 (M/S/C).

Members Sick or in Distress: Jon Polecheck's wife injured her knee and it will require surgery.

Next Meeting Date & Adjournment: Next meeting: UNS clubhouse Wed., Oct. 5th, 6 pm. Meeting adjourned 7:42pm (M/S/C). Respectfully submitted by Eric Hansen, Secretary.

STORM DAMAGE AT UNS

Some of you are already aware of this, but on Sunday night, August 28th, the storm that blew through our area knocked down some large trees on our property. Among other damage, one blew down on the canopy that covered the shooting line and benches of the "large bore" rifle range. This created significant damage and made it unsafe to shoot on that range. So we had to close the rifle range in order to clean it up and make it safe. The downed trees are very large. Our insurance company has been notified and an insurance adjuster will be up to look at the damage.

OUTDOOR SKILLS CLASS

For the past few years Mark Zmudy, professor at UMD, has been requesting the use of our facilities for the outdoor skills class that UMD teaches its students. We use our range officers to help teach the students certain skills on our ranges. The students get to shoot clay pigeons, shoot .22s on our pistol range, and shoot arrows on our archery range. Some years they got to shoot black powder on our large bore range. The classes will be held at UNS on Tuesday, Oct. 18th, Tuesday, Oct. 25th and Thursday, Oct. 27th. All ranges will be closed from 2:30 until 4:30 on those dates. This is our way of keeping young people interested in shooting and hunting sports.

FIREARMS SAFETY INSTRUCTOR COURSE

UNS is sponsoring a Firearms Safety Instructor Course given by the DNR. Dave Schottenbauer of the DNR will be presenting the training on Sunday, October 9th from 1 to 4:30pm at the clubhouse. The class will be held indoors.

The class is full with 20 people registered. Those registered are UNS members plus some others. To be an instructor you must be 18, you must pass a background check and you must bring your Firearms Safety Certificate with you to class.

Mike Hart has received dozens of calls looking for a Firearms Safety Instructor. A number of those inquiries have been made by club members. Well, here's your chance to correct that shortage problem. The training is open to both men and women. With enough trained instructors there may be a commitment of a day or two a year to provide training. Thank you Mike for organizing this event.

WHAT DOES A BEAVER'S LODGE LOOK LIKE?

It is more than a lump of mud in a stream. It is a rustic, four-season home built by North America's largest rodent, the beaver. A beaver pair works together to build their lodge. They cut branches off of fallen trees with their teeth; eat the leaves, twigs and bark off the branches; and then carry the sticks to a shallow place in a pond or stream. They then plaster the sticks together with muck they scoop from the bottom and put into place with their feet, tail and body. They then hollow out the structure from below. Beavers may use the same lodge for years, repairing and strengthening it in the fall. Lodges are full of sophisticated design features that, like the dams they build, reflect this mammal's ingenious engineering abilities.

For instance, the Security System consists of only one way in through one or more underwater entrances. This helps protect them from predators like wolves. The Mudroom, just inside the entrance, is a small compartment which provides a place to eat meals and dry off. The Pantry is outside near the entrance. Beavers stick edible branches into the mud before the water freezes. They swim from the lodge to the pantry, grab a meal, and carry it back to the mudroom to eat. The main living area is an Open Floor Plan. Mom, dad, the kits born in spring, and sometimes the previous year's kits sleep and groom themselves and each other here, which they line with bark and other soft material. A Chimney or vent hole found at the top helps keep air fresh in the lodge. For Climate Control, the thick walls keep the lodge cool in the summer and in the winter holds the beavers' body heat inside.

UNS SHOOTING RANGE RULES

Important rules to remember when planning to use the UNS shooting ranges:

- All ranges are operated on a first come first served basis, unless otherwise posted for closures. Please exercise common courtesy, common sense, and good sportsmanship for a safe and enjoyable experience.
- Ranges are open 8:00 am to 1/2 hour before sunset. All ranges are closed on Mondays.
- Children under the age of 18 years of age must be with a parent or legal guardian Member at all times on all shooting ranges and archery areas.
- Shotgun patterning is to be done on the rifle range only.
- Only clay pigeons can be used on the trap range.
- Only UNS authorized metal gongs can be used on the 200- and 300-yard ranges.
- Centerfire rifles, black-powder arms, shotguns, or handguns larger than 45 caliber are prohibited on the pistol range.
- Automatic firearms, and trigger activators, bump stocks, or machine gun conversion kits are prohibited as per State of Minnesota Fully Law MS609.67.

NO ALCOHOL OR FDA CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES shall be used prior to or during range use.

OUTDOOR SKILLS AND STEWARDSHIP

Fall Webinars for October and November

Learn about or sharpen your outdoor skills with DNR's upcoming online webinars in our Minnesota Outdoor Skills and Stewardship series. Topics include:

October 5th	The Secretive Fisher
October 9th	CWD and Deer Hunting
November 2nd	Preserving Your Harvest

Each webinar begins at noon on Wednesdays and last less than an hour. These offerings are shorter than in-person opportunities, require no travel and fit into busy schedules.

To get more information on additional classes see <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fishwildlife/outreach>. Register for this webinar at the same site. Contact Benji Kohn for more information at benjamin.kohn@state.mn.us or 651-259-5178.

CATCH A TROUT (SEMINAR) AT UMD

Gitchie Gume Trout Unlimited are partnering with the Fly Anglers of UMD (@umdfly) and are holding a free public seminar on Thursday, October 13th on Fall Fly Fishing Lake Superior Tributaries in WI and MN.

They are excited to have Carl Haensel with Namebini as the presenter for the night. Please join in to learn more about fishing for migratory species this fall! Steelhead, salmon, and brook trout...oh my!

The meeting will start at 7:00pm and be held on the UMD campus in LiSci room 175.

GUN RANGE ETIQUETTE to KEEP YOU & OTHERS SAFE and ensure you have a great time when you visit the UNS range.

Review and Follow the Range's Rules - [PRESS HERE](#) for UNS range rules.

Respect the Range Safety Officer
Remember That You Can Call a Cease Fire
Always Handle a Firearm Like a Pro
Don't Touch Someone Else's Equipment
Don't Interrupt Another Shooter
Pick Up Any Litter

EMAILS WANTED: Remember, the next time you renew your membership, or even tomorrow, send us your current email address so you may receive our enhanced newsletter electronically and sooner. Emails may be sent to unsclub@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE: Monthly newsletters are sent before the end of the previous month. Articles are due by the 15th of the previous month. If you have an article you would like share or photos please send to sue@b-green.us. It may be shared space permitting.

UNITED NORTHERN SPORTSMEN'S NEWS

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2022 Board of Directors

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