

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 68

OCTOBER 2023

NUMBER 10

\$12.00

Club Calendar

Ranges Closed on Mondays,
for Maintenance, Reserved Activities

Oct. 4 UNS Board Meeting
6:00pm, Clubhouse or Zoom

Oct.28,29 Fall Sight-In, Rifle Range

Oct.30,31 Fall Sight-In, Rifle Range

Nov. 1 UNS Board Meeting
6:00pm, Clubhouse or Zoom

Nov.1,2,3 Fall Sight-In, Rifle Range

Nov. 3 Fall Fundraiser Drawing

Dec. 6 UNS Board Meeting
6:00pm, Clubhouse or Zoom

Dec. 13 UNS Annual Business Meeting
6:00pm, Clubhouse or Zoom

All members are encouraged to attend board meetings. 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.

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE:

A monthly newsletter is emailed before the end of the month. A printed newsletter will be mailed quarterly, at the beginnoing of each quarter. 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.

EMAILS WANTED:

Remember, the next time you renew your membership, or even tomorrow, send us your current email address so you can receive our newsletter via email. You will not only receive an enhanced version but you will also get it sooner. And, after all, we are a conservation club!



United Northern Sportsmen Fall Sight-In

will be held and open to the public starting:

Saturday, October 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, November 1st, 2nd, and ending November 3rd. The hours will be between 8 AM – 5 PM.

Thank you to Vickie Jensen for chairing this event, and those of you who have stepped up to be a range officer during the event. If you are interested in helping with the event, please call Vickie at 218-591-5619. Don't forget your ear and eye protection.

United Northern Sportsmen Fall Fundraiser

It's hard to believe another summer is gone, and the season of autumn is here. This is the time of year that we hold our annual Fall Fundraiser.

Historically, this is the time of year that supplies our budget with the needed funds to hold kids' events, conversation efforts, and keep up on the maintenance of our facility.

Our 2023 Fall Fundraiser will again consist of raffling off \$1,500 in various gift certificate denominations of prizes 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 (Marine General, Chalstrom's, Fisherman's Corner, Outdoor Advantage, RJ's Sport & Cycle, Duluth Lawn & Sport, and more). The Gift Certificates will range anywhere between the amount of \$25.00 to \$100.00 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 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 maintain our club's facilities. Thank you, Deanna Dodge, for being our Ticket chair. Please reach out to Deanna for more tickets to sell. You can reach her by calling: 218-721-3979 or emailing her at: djlane88@hotmail.com.

Our drawings will be held on Friday, November 3rd, 2023, at the close of the Fall Sight-In.

You do not need to be present to win. We will notify all winners with a certified letter which will include their winning certificate.

UNS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Minutes September 6th, 2023

Call to Order: by President Tom Wasbotten @ 6:02 pm. **Conservation Pledge** was recited.

Moment of Silence for Steven J. Reno.

Roll Call of Officers: Tom Wasbotten, Lance Parthe, Bob Kuettel, Tina Sund, Duane Lasley, Jeff Jarvela, Vickie Jensen, Lance Haavisto, Keith Darsow, Ron Cretens, and Maggie Cretens.

Excused Officers: John Bathke, Sue Bathke, and Eric Hansen.

Intro of Visitors & New Members: None **Presentations:** None

Correspondence: Wild Woods and Bong Center Donation Requests Forwarded To October Board Meeting.

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

Reading of Minutes: Maggie Cretens read minutes from the August Board of Directors meeting. Motion was made to accept minutes as corrected (M/S/C).

Treasurer's Report: Tina Sund as of August, 2023. Motion made to approve financial report, pay the bills (M/S/C).

Membership Secretary's Report: Tina Sund – as of August, 2023 current membership is 1,414. New Memberships/Renewals: Individual Memberships: 53 (9 new); Family Memberships: 36 (8 new + 3 Individual to Family). 120 Renewals coming up. 43 Second/Expired Notices.

Other Reports:

Webmaster – Eric Hansen was not present.

Facilities Committee: Lance Parthe had nothing to report.

Range and Grounds Calendar: Bob Kuettel discussed the Retired Police Officer qualifying on Monday, September 11th. Event will last all day. Ranges are closed.

Incident Report – Lance Parthe referred this agenda item to Bob Kuettel. He reported Mike Hart was observed in the clubhouse. He had been given Ron's keys by Keith Darsow. The appointment of a camp host was discussed. The president appoints that position with approval of the board.

Volunteer Awards – Vickie Jensen presented Jeff Jarvela with his 100 hour jacket.

Communication Committee – Maggie Cretens and Lance Haavisto discussed how members can volunteer to help the committee with communication.

OLD BUSINESS:

UMD College Field Days- Tom Wasbotten shared that Bob Kuettel is unable to chair the event this year due to personal commitments. No one volunteered to fill in as chair. Tom Wasbotten will contact UMD to cancel.

UNS Fall Sight In- Tom Wasbotten shared that Bob Kuettel is also unable to chair this event. No one volunteered to take on the chair role and, due to time constraints and the need for the public to know, the club will need to cancel this event.

UNS Fall Fundraiser- Tina Sund discussed how she has tickets at the printers that have Bob Kuettel as the primary contact for the event so they will need to be reprinted.

NEW BUSINESS:

Resignation of the Position of UNS Range Safety Officer- Tom Wasbotten read Bob Kuettel's resignation letter. Motion made to accept with regrets (M/S/C).

Resignation of the Position of UNS Camp Host- Tom Wasbotten read Ron Cretens resignation letter. Motion made to accept with regrets (M/S/C).

Board Resolution Regarding August 17, 2023 Special Membership Meeting - Duane Lasley read a statement regarding this meeting and made a motion that states: Therefore; I move that the Board of Directors of the United Northern Sportsmen find that the actions to amend club rules taken at the special membership meeting of August 17, 2023 are null and void in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 317A.433, Subd 4. (M/S/C). See Unanimous Roll Call Vote below: 7 For, 0 Against, 3 Abstain.

Duane Lasley Yes, Ron Cretens Yes, Lance Haavisto Yes, Lance Parthe Yes, Tina Sund Abstain, Vickie Jensen Abstain, Bob Kuettel Yes, Jeff Jarvela Yes, Keith Darsow Abstain, Maggie Cretens Yes.

Informal Member Survey- Tom Wasbotten read informal results collected from a survey taken over the summer by 200 members who used the facilities. The three questions asked were:

- 1) Are you satisfied with using the UNS facility?
- 2) Are you satisfied with the rules currently in place?
- 3) Would you recommend an application to friends and family to join UNS?

All 200 members filling out the survey responded positively to all of these three questions. Results are available to any member wishing to review them.

Discussion followed regarding using member exit surveys. A member asked during what time frame the survey was conducted? Tom had the entire 200 surveys at the meeting with each survey containing the date the survey was completed. It ranged from mid-June to early September. Ex-camp host discussed how members may have left in the past due to lack of rules and regulations, but have recently returned due to the campground now being much more safe and orderly. Further discussion followed.

Proposed Membership Language- Duane Lasley handed out for discussion a proposal with language regarding family memberships.

Request for Legal Opinion - Jeff Jarvela shared a proposal requesting a legal opinion based on questions arising from the August 17th special membership meeting. Questions regarding state statutes regarding minors with firearms on our shooting ranges, liability insurance issues, and minor guardianship definitions needed to be clarified. A motion was made to hire a lawyer to get legal opinions at a cost of up to \$2,000. It was seconded. A motion was made to amend the motion to allow to raise the amount up to \$4,000 if necessary. Carried. See Unanimous Roll Call Vote below: 10 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Tina Sund requested that an attorney attend the meeting.

Duane Lasley Yes, Ron Cretens Yes, Lance Haavisto Yes, Lance Parthe Yes, Tina Sund Yes, Vickie Jensen Yes, Bob Kuettel Yes, Jeff Jarvela Yes, Keith Darsow Yes, Maggie Cretens Yes.

Members Sick or in Distress: John Bathke. Communications Committee will follow up

Date of Next Meeting & Adjournment: Zoom/In Person Meeting Wednesday, October 4th 2023 @ 6 pm at UNS Clubhouse. Motion was made to adjourn at 7:21 pm (M/S/C).

Respectfully submitted by Maggie Cretens, Secretary Pro Tem.

CLUB RULES ENACTED IN MAY 2022 STILL IN EFFECT **NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS: UNS BOARD RESOLUTION** **REGARDING SPECIAL MEMBER MEETING**

This is a notification to all members that at the September 6, 2023 board meeting, your board passed a resolution regarding the actions at the special membership meeting held on August 17, 2023. Details of that meeting were shared in last month's newsletter.

By a 7 For, 0 Against, 3 Abstain vote, the board passed a resolution stating that the actions to amend club rules at the special membership meeting held on August 17, 2023 are null and void in accordance with Minnesota Statutes 317A.433, Subd4. Members were not informed of and given advance copies, for review, of the proposed changes. A majority of members had no idea that attempts were being made to change the rules and what those changes were.

This means, in simple terms, that the current rules dated May 5, 2022 are still the club rules. Please continue to follow them.

Thank You, The UNS Board of Directors.

SATISFACTION SURVEY DONE THIS SUMMER OF MEMBERS USING UNS FACILITIES

You might have been approached this summer by the camp host while you were up at UNS. He was doing an informal survey of members on our grounds, some camping, some shooting, some using the waterfront. Below see the three questions asked of 200 members between June and September. Although informal and unscientific, the board was excited by an overwhelmingly positive response to the questions. The survey was entirely voluntary although each person filling out a survey was asked to print their name, sign and date the survey. This was done to ensure that all surveys were filled out by an actual member in case questions about authenticity arose. One hundred ninety-nine of the 200 members did sign the survey. One likely forgot as he did print his name and dated the form.

The questions asked were short, basic and straightforward. We wanted to get a basic sense of how our members were experiencing their use of UNS facilities. Below are the questions and responses:

Question #1: Are you satisfied using the UNS Facility?

200 Yes and 0 No Responses

Question #2: Are you satisfied with the UNS rules in place?

200 Yes and 0 No Responses

Question #3: Would you recommend a membership application to a friend or family member?

200 Yes and 0 No Responses

We were surprised the camp host found that no one he asked refused to fill out a survey. We did question the high Yes response rate. Nonetheless we were happy to see so many club members satisfied with how the board is running the facilities given, in the past, how members have never been shy about letting us know when they don't like something. Also the camp host observed this summer many of the campers were newer, younger members with children. That might have been a factor. Despite it being a basic survey, the receptiveness of members to fill it out suggests to the board that a more involved and sophisticated survey might be developed in the future.

If any member would like to see the names of the respondents who filled out a survey, a complete list is available. Contact an officer or board member. Also the actual 200 paper surveys with comments are available for review by appointment.

HOW TO PICK THE RIGHT HUNTING SPOT

There's a scene in just about every murder-mystery show where the detective is locked in his office with pictures, note cards, and maps tacked to a wall with strings connecting one thing to the other. A pattern, a clue, a connection—the investigator is searching for anything that can help him solve the riddle at hand. This is exactly how it feels most days during the whitetail season for a deer hunter as he or she tries to figure out where to hunt next.

Do you spend an uncountable number of hours lying in bed at night awake, debating, pondering, and stressing over this very question? With a million always-changing variables to consider, picking the right spot is without a doubt one of the hardest but most important decisions a deer hunter will make on a daily basis.

Here's a beginner's guide to making that call. Outlined is a simple process you can follow to ensure your stand selections are appropriate for the time, conditions, and circumstances you face on any given day.

[FIND OUT MORE HERE](#)



WHEN WILL THE FALL COLORS PEAK NEAR ME?

Planning a leaf-peeping trip to coincide perfectly with peak fall colors is a difficult task. If you go too early, you'll see more green than orange and red. Too late? You might risk being greeted by a forest full of brown leaves.

To help avoid these disappointing scenarios, SmokyMountains.com just released its 2023 fall foliage prediction map, which uses historical data and forecast information from the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration to predict the timing of peak fall foliage for the continental United States each year.

While no weather prediction tool can be 100 percent accurate, this interactive fall color map shows you the best opportunities for when and where leaves will be near peak, at peak, and past peak in 2023, as you move the slider at the bottom of the map between weeks throughout the season. This may also be found online at <https://smokymountains.com/fall-foliage-map/>

[FIND OUT MORE HERE](#)

UNITED NORTHERN SPORTSMEN'S NEWS

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2023 Board of Directors

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