



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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Election of Officers December 11

At our December Membership Meeting we will be having our Annual Election of Officers. A number of you have stated over the years that you would like to get more involved but just don't have the time. Well there is no more important job than voting for your next years officers. I'm sure we can all take some time off for one meeting just to vote. It is really important to the success of our club. Some of you may want to see some changes made; well now is the time to come to the meeting and get the views of the different candidates and make your wishes known. We all would appreciate your support. Coffee and Christmas cookies will be served during the meeting and the Pot Luck dinner will be a ham dinner and whatever any of you bring to go with it. Candidates for offices are: Pres. _____, V. Pres. _____, Secretary- Eric Hansen, Sgt. at Arms-Bob Kuettle, Board of Trustees: Kevin Schrader, Tom Wasbotten, Jim Jensen, Judy Foy, Mike Foy, Dan Smestad, Kevin Waino, Mike Drager, Brian DeRoche, Bert Cieluch and Dan Woollett. Nominations will be called for at the meeting so you can nominate who you would like to see run at that time. We still need to get some extra persons to run for the above offices as you can see.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM YOUR UNS BOARD AND OFFICERS!!!!!!

Club Calendar

- Dec. 6** Ice Fishing, Snowmobile and Winter Sport Show River Center, St. Paul, MN 12/6-12/8
- Dec. 11** UNS Membership Meeting Sportsmen's Retreat Pot Luck 6:00 PM Meeting 7:00 PM Election of Officers
- Dec. 24** Christmas Eve
- Dec. 25** Merry Christmas
- Jan. 1** Happy New Year
- Jan. 2** UNS Board Meeting Gander Mountain 7:00 PM
- Jan. 8** UNS Membership Meeting Gander Mountain 7:00 PM

Minnesota Conservation Federation

Due to recent changes made by the Minnesota Conservation Federation (MCF), as of January 1, 2014 all UNS members will also be members of the MCF at no cost to them. This means you will no longer need to check the box on your membership registration card. The UNS will be paying the dues for the entire club. For the Minnesota Out of Doors magazine you will need to go to the UNS website and find it there also at no cost. The Walk on the Wildside magazine that the UNS had sponsored for 15 of the area schools will no longer be sent to the schools. Instead the teachers will be notified to go to the MCF website to download it for their respective classes.

To view the MCF website go to WWW.MNCF.org or you can contact them at 1-651-690-3077.

UNS Meetings

The Board Meetings and Membership meetings for January through March will be held at Gander Mountain. This is just for the winter months due to the possible chances of snow storms and unsafe driving conditions. Hope to see you all at Gander Mountain.

Snowbirds

For those of you who are snowbirds, going South for the winter, please contact us with your new mailing address so we can send the Newsletter to you. The post office will not forward 3rd class mail and some months it has cost us as much as \$9 for returned Newsletters. Thank you in advance for helping your club save a few bucks.

DNR Questions of the week

Q:It seems like you see more and more wild turkeys these days near urban areas. Is this just cyclical, or has their population shifted?

A:Turkeys are another species of wildlife that have adapted to living close to people. Prohibitions on hunting, the relative lack of predators, and the abundant food sources found in urban and suburban areas contribute to high reproduction and low mortality for turkeys and other wildlife in urban areas.

The preservation of natural areas, including river corridors, wetlands parks, and backyards provide habitat for many wildlife species that many people feel contribute to a higher urban quality of life.

Q: What does the DNR do with animals that are taken illegally (poached)?

A:For those animals that are taken illegally, the DNR tries to ensure that the animal poached is not wasted. Meat from illegally harvested wild game such as deer is often donated to food shelves and other groups that serve those less fortunate. However, sometimes meat must be thrown away or destroyed. This has been especially true for fish. The DNR has an agreement with the Minnesota Department of Health to dispose of meat, such as pre-packaged fish fillets, because it is often hard to tell whether or not the packaging was done properly. In some cases, the animal or bird, or parts of the animal, such as deer antlers, are turned over to schools and other educational institutions for study.

Q:With nesting season over, what is the best method for cleaning out a bluebird house?

A:After birds are finished using the box remove all of the nesting materials. If the box has a door, open it and leave it opened until spring. This way, rodents won't chew on the door or the entrance hole to try to get in. If the box is soiled. Spray a 10 percent bleach solution inside, wipe it out and let it dry. This should remove parasites and disinfect the box so it is ready for next year.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You

Bob Kuettel would like to thank the many, many helpers that helped make this year's Big Game Shoot Site-in such a success. He says that it could not have been done without your help. He has big plans for next year to make it easier for all of his volunteers. Again he would like to thank you and wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

UNS MEMBERSHIP MEETING Minutes 11/13/2013

Call to order: by President Jim Lemmerman @ 7:03 PM. **Roll call of officers:** Jim Lemmerman, Joe Roberts, Sandy Roberts, Eric Hansen, Cindy Craig,

Dan Smestad, Judy Foy, Mike Foy, Mike Drager, Tom Wasbotten, Bob Kuettel, Dave Shrader. **Excused Officers:** Dan Woollett, Bob Curtis.

Reading of Minutes: Eric Hansen read minutes from the Oct 9 Membership meeting. Motion to accept minutes as corrected was made by Cindy Craig, 2nd by Sandy Roberts; carried. Boards of Directors minutes from Nov 6 were also read.

Agenda additions: Cindy Craig - \$150 from State, Jim Jensen – new ideas for Big Game Shoot, Dave Shrader – accident on Big Bore Range, Cindy Craig made a motion to approve the agenda with the new additions, 2nd by Ted Johnson carried. Mike Drager made a motion to accept and pay our bills, 2nd by Howard Tullgren carried.

2013 Fall Fund Raiser Drawing: 1st prize: Barb Comeau, 2nd prize: Alan Mackenzie, 3rd prize: Kris Meyer

Sight-In days – Bob Kuettel: we had fewer participants than last year, 468 people sighted-in 548 guns, next year Bob would like a co-chair. Dave Shrader gave a report on the accident on the big bore range which was a result of a 'hang-fire'. Bob has a list of items for a safety orientation for sight-in days.

Nomination committee: Sandy Roberts gave a report of those who are running for office.

Boat ramp repair: Mike Drager made a motion to send a \$500.00 deposit to Gary Grew Construction so work can begin, 2nd by Joe Roberts; carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Donation: Col. Ronald L Hein, ARNG (ret) would like to donate a fish display in memory of his son to Hartley Nature Center. Jon Polecheck will build a case for the mount.

Ideas for Sight-In Days improvements – get all ideas to Bob Kuettel.

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Membership secretary's report: Sandy Roberts – current membership is 1489.

Committee reports:

Web master – Eric Hansen: made updates to the sight-in days, events page, range page and Face Book page.

Retreat improvements – Bob Kuettel: large bore range needs repair and pistol range backstop needs to be redone.

Incident reports – Mike Foy and Eric Hansen had nothing new to report

Grants committee – Mike Drager: request has been submitted and we are waiting for a response.

School of Fish on Ice: We do not have a location; Sandy Roberts will follow up with Hartley Nature Center.

OLD BUSINESS:

Correspondence: was shared, we received a bill for campground renewal fee; Joe Roberts made a motion to pay campground fee, seconded by Mike Drager, carried.

Attendance Drawing: Jim Jensen won the \$20.00.

Progressive Drawing: John Henrickson was not present to win \$60.00.

Members sick or in distress: Sandy gave a report on Bob Curtis' condition. He will be home soon.

Adjournment: motion was made by Howard Tullgren 2nd by Mike Drager at 8:14 pm; carried. Respectfully submitted by Eric Hansen, Secretary.