

United Northern Sportsmen'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 70

October 2024

Number 10

\$12.00

Club Calendar

Check First as Ranges May Be Closed for Maintenance, Reserved Activities & Holidays

November 2nd-8th

Second weekend for fall sight in

**At the rifle range
8 AM – 5 PM**

November 6th

Board meeting at club at 6 pm

All members welcome.

November 9th

Minnesota Deer hunting Rifle season opener

The board has decided to not publish the monthly meeting minutes in the newsletter going forward. If you want to see the minutes you can get them on the website. **PLEASE** make sure we have your correct email information so you can receive the newsletter every month. Going forward starting in 2025 we are no longer going to do the mailed newsletters due to the high cost of postage. If you do not have email, please let Tina Sund know so we can work with you in this matter. I look forward to any suggestions you would like to see in the newsletter.

Minnesota's Deer Hunting opener is getting close. Come on up to the club to sight in your rifle, just remember to have your eye and ear protection with you for it. The hours are noted below.

Also please remember that Minnesota Power sold their lease lots. This means roads that used to be public are private roads. Access to hunting areas may no longer be available from roads that once were. Please be respectful of this update.

United Northern Sportsmen

7229 Rice Lake Rd, Duluth, MN 55803

2024 Fall Fundraiser & Sight-In

**October 26th- 27th, &
November 2nd – 8th**

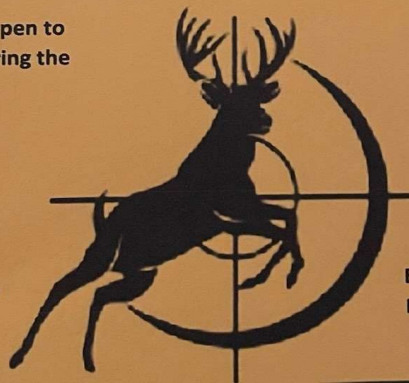
8 AM – 5 PM

Rifle Range open to the public during the event.

Range Officers will be on staff to help sight in your rifle.

\$5.00 donation per gun.

Ear & Eye Protection Required



United Northern Sportsmen is a private conservation club and we have opened the rifle range doors up to the public for this event only. Our range officers are here to help site in your gun(s) and hope for you to have a successful hunt! If you are interested in becoming a member: an annual Individual Membership is \$35.00, and an annual Family Membership is \$62.00. Membership information can be found on our website www.unitednorthernsportsmen.org. Print and mail in your application today or sign up at the event. Membership benefits include the use of our ranges, boating launch, and campground.

EVENTS AT THE CLUB

- As of October 1, 2024, the campground officially closed. Picnic tables were put away, fire rings were moved, and docks were taken out of the water. Another camping season came to an end, and now on to other events.
- As you have read, the fall fundraiser rifle sight in is going on until November 8th. Please have your tickets or money to Deanna Dodge prior to that.
- The next board meeting is on Wednesday November 6th at 6pm at the clubhouse, all members are welcome to attend.
- Elections for board members are coming soon. If you are interested in becoming a board member, please contact either Mike Hart or Tina Sund and let them know. There will be a few various spots to be filled.
- Our big event for 2025 will be here before you know it! Mark your calendars for the Annual Ice Fishing Contest to be held on January 25th, 2025.

We need to get a committee started for this undertaking. It is the largest fundraiser for the club and does require a lot of work. Without help it will be difficult to get this to the level that we would like to see achieved. So PLEASE take a little of your time to join in and make this another unforgettable fishing contest!

ICELAND



They call it the land of fire and ice, which of course refers to the many volcanoes and glaciers that make up this island. For a country that is the size of Ohio, Iceland boasts a diverse topography that includes enormous mountain ranges, massive glaciers, ice caves, geothermal baths, stark alpine deserts, waterfalls, plateaus, and fjords.

There is a seam in the north Atlantic ocean known as the Mid-Atlantic ridge. These plates slowly move apart which allows molten rock from underground to surface as lava creates Iceland's many volcanoes. There are many places on earth where the continental plates drift apart, but most of them are under water. Iceland is

just one of the few places in the world where it is visible above sea level. This also makes Iceland one of the world's most volcanically active regions.

I recently spent 12 days in Iceland and drove around the entire country. We started in Reykjavik and went to the West Fjords; from there we got onto the Ring Road which took us around the rest of the island. We traveled 1,936 miles total, or about 161 miles a day.

It is difficult to remain unmoved by the amazing diversity of Iceland's landscape. You can see everything from lunar like terrain of lava flows, towering volcanoes with ice caps, steep sided fjords, waterfalls and flat desert treeless like terrain for miles. It reminded me of a combination of Hawaii, Colorado, and South Dakota.

One of the many things that stuck in my mind was a sweatshirt that read: Iceland Established in 874. That is when Vikings first settled the island.

Driving was relatively easy in a foreign country. The speed limit is 90 KM; which is 55 MPH. However, there are NO shoulders on any of the roads and most of the roads do not have any guardrails and the lanes are very narrow. Going down steep mountain side roads can be a bit unnerving at times. I am sure we saw at least 500 waterfalls (it is said that there are 10,000 there) all of which were amazingly different in size and looks. In addition to the waterfalls, we saw what seemed like a million sheep,

Icelandic horses, wild reindeer, seals, swans, geysers, canyons, glaciers, salmon farms, volcanoes, northern lights, black sand beaches and even dandelions.

There are only 390,000 residents in Iceland, of which approximately 150,000 live in the capital of Reykjavik. More amazing is the fact that 2.2 million visitors come to Iceland every year. I felt that Iceland did an incredible job of keeping up everything



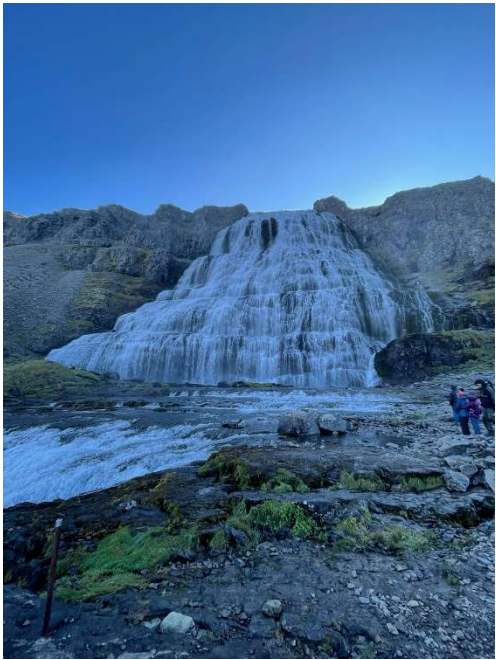
with this kind of influx annually, considering that it is an island and almost everything has to be imported. It was also amazing to hear all the different languages that were spoken daily. Fortunately, English is spoken everywhere in Iceland making the trip that much easier.

You take so many things for granted when you travel outside the USA. For instance, the entire time there I saw only 2 Subway restaurants, 2 Dominos Pizzas and 2 Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurants. Not that we were looking for fast foods, but those amenities just are not there. Also, I never saw a UPS truck, FEDEX truck, school bus or mail trucks. Another aspect I noticed is that you must really

check out the kind of hotel you want to stay at. That was an area that seemed to vary the most. What we are used to in the USA is not the same in Iceland. The variety ranges from guesthouses to hostels to budget hotels and luxury hotels with a range of prices also.

In many the pictures I took, I tried to show perspective and scale; the waterfalls with people in them to show the magnitude of the waterfall. Or a vehicle on the road to show the enormous mountains and just how steep the mountains are or how narrow the roads are, a boat or people looking at the icebergs in a lagoon to show the sheer size of the iceberg. Everything just seems so incredibly massive and always has you in complete awe of it.

There are so many things to do and see in what seems such a small area, you can try to do it all but end up finding out/feeling there is so much more. I originally thought I would do a one and done trip to Iceland, however there is just an allure that captures you and has you wanting for more. So, I would have to say to be continued another time for me.



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