



Adaptive Sportsmen Inc  
8727 W Coldspring Road  
Greenfield, WI 53228

www.adaptivesportsmen.org

# ADAPTIVE SPORTSMEN INC

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**"Our mission is providing recreational opportunities for physically challenged people."**

Adaptive Sportsmen Inc. is a Non-Stock, Not for Profit 501(c)(3) Foundation organized in Wisconsin



## 2009 BOARD ELECTION

Each year one-third of the Adaptive Sportsmen Board is up for election. The board is responsible for overseeing all of the activities of the foundation. If you would like to nominate someone or become a candidate yourself please call Mary Mitchell at (414) 916-2298. Entry Deadline for current Board positions will end Dec 31.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

ADAPTIVE SPORTSMEN

Check [www.adaptivesportsmen.org](http://www.adaptivesportsmen.org) for info

**The Adaptive Sportsman Newsletter Vol. 17 Nov., 2008 Edited by Allen Neu**

Please contact at [aneu@adaptivesportsman.org](mailto:aneu@adaptivesportsman.org) with questions or comments

We are looking for people to help organize or work in the following events for the coming year; ATV rides, Summer Fishing events, Fall Deer and Waterfowl Hunts.

Ideas for events or activities are welcome. Contact John Mitchell at 8727 W. Coldspring Rd, Greenfield, WI 53228 or [aneu@adaptivesportsman.org](mailto:aneu@adaptivesportsman.org)

**E-mail notices are sent out to all members about special events and opportunities that come up on short notice.** Send us your email address so that you might get a chance to participate in events that might not be in the newsletter or on the web site. Send your email address to [aneu@adaptivesportsman.org](mailto:aneu@adaptivesportsman.org)

### Fundraising

In addition to our annual ATV or Gift Card raffle, most of our events include a silent auction or bucket raffle. If you would help procure items for these we would appreciate it. Just ask your local businesses or suppliers if they can donate any items for our raffles and silent auctions. Remember, the donation is tax deductible. Thank you.

### 2008 GANDER MOUNTAIN GIFT CARD RAFFLE

The Adaptive Sportsmen Gander Mountain gift card raffle was held Oct 4<sup>th</sup> at the Baraboo Deer hunt and we had four winners. The winners were **Kimay Hasheider** for \$2000, **Jim Husel** for \$500, **Bruce Manthey** for \$250, and **Gerald Lorbiecki** for \$250. Congratulations to the winners and we thank everyone who bought tickets, the money raised is used to support our many events.

### Adaptive Sportsman Membership Card Expiration Date 12/31/2009

Include \$ 10 membership fee  
Pay to; Adaptive Sportsmen

Mail to;  
Adaptive Sportsmen Inc.  
8727 W Coldspring Road  
Greenfield, WI 53228

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City State & Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #s \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please Circle One Physically Challenged Able Bodied Volunteer/Sponsor

Interests Hunting Fishing ATV Riding Boating Snowmobiling Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Jan 11, Adaptive Sportsman Semi-annual Board meeting.** Open to all members with current membership and guests with prior permission from Adaptive Sportsmen. Please RSVP to John Mitchell at 414-333-4575 if you wish to attend. Location to be announced.

**Jan 30-Feb 1 Northern Deer Classic.** Eau Claire. Please contact Glen Howell for information or to volunteer to help at 715-456-4619 or email us at [aneu@adaptivesportsmen.org](mailto:aneu@adaptivesportsmen.org)

**March 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Milwaukee Sport Show** Contact Bill Koch at 262-707-0476 if you want to sign up to work the booth

**March 21st. 3-D archery shoot** will be at Wildwood Archery range in Union Grove, WI. For information please contact Dottie Dirksen at 262-886-3078

**April 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Deer & Turkey Expo** in Madison John Martinson will be coordinating this again, call him at 608-846-4518 to sign up or to get more information.

**April 4<sup>th</sup>** (tentative date) **Halter Pheasant Hunt** in Southeast Wisconsin near Kenosha. Call John Mitchell to sign up or volunteer, phone 414-33-4745.

**May (TBA) Baraboo Turkey Hunt** at the Badger Army Ammo Plant. John Mitchell is taking care of this again, contact him at 414-333-4745 or keep an eye in the next newsletter or on the web for a sign up sheet and further information.

### Accessible Deer Stand

Adaptive Sportsmen has purchased an accessible deer stand from Vasquez Metal Products for use by our members.

Adaptive Sportsmen is offering a sign up sheet for people who are interested in using the Accessible Deer stand. Contact **John Martinson** at 1-608-846-4518 to see which dates are available. The deer stand will be at most of the hunting events and if you want to use it at other times you will be responsible for making arrangements to pick it up and return it. There will be a time limit on how long you can use it depending on demand.

The Accessible Deer stand is all aluminum and lightweight. It folds up for storage and transport into the woods. It has wheels to help move it through the woods. The entire stand is powder coated with an olive drab color. The seat capacity is 400#. The seat is rises 164" (over 13 ft) and is run up and down by a cordless drill. Ken Berg has donated a drill for use with the stand.

This model has a swivel seat where a person on a wheelchair can roll next to the seat and transfer from the wheelchair to the seat. We will have pictures and a video of the stand in operation on the web site shortly.

You can get more information about the stand at their web site. <http://www.vasquezmetal.com>

### Found

A knife was found after the deer hunt at Camp Grey (Baraboo). If you think it might be yours, please call 414-333-4745 to identify it and make arrangements for its' return.

### Cross Bow/Gun Stands

Thanks to Cliff Pfeifer for the donation of four crossbow/gun rest to Adaptive Sportsmen. They are works of art that will help many people to have a steady aim.

### Gypsy Trail (by Dan Jacoby)

The Northern Highland- American Legion State Forest has a gated disabled access trail. The Gypsy Lake Trail is open to the general public by foot traffic only. The trail was originally for hunting but can be used for wildlife viewing or related activities. The trails, like most in the area, are logging roads. The area still is occasionally logged.

To access the trail you need to stop by the DNR at Woodruff (call first for hours they are open). They will give the 4 number code for the lock on the gate. You can bring a helper with you. I have worked on this trail the last three years and in that time have

built three blinds, improved the road system to accommodate vans, cleared trees and cut brush, and this year mowed the trail. The trail is rocky but firm so slow speed while driving is necessary. The pictures of the blinds start with a view of the path followed by

pictures of the lanes which I tried to take panoramically. Of the three blinds, number one is small, that would require sitting in the open air as it is too small of an area for a tent. There is a large rock there and overlooks a small unnamed lake. See JPG 255, 256, 257. This is one quarter mile from Gypsy lake road. This is more of a bow blind as the

longest shot would be 25 yards. The second blind is at the top of an oak ridge overlooking a marsh and lake. This is large enough for a tent. Each blind has at least three shooting lanes brushed. 258,259,260, and 261 are the pictures of blind number two. This blind is one mile from the paved road. This could be a bow blind or rifle/muzzleloader. There is a deer trail 15 yards down the hill from the blind and another at the bottom of the hill about 50 yards from the blind. The number three blind is also in the hardwoods but overlooks a black spruce swamp and lake. There is enough room for a tent here. Number three is more of a rifle/muzzleloader type blind as it is on a strip of

land between the lake and the swamp. 262,263,264, and 265 show number three blind. This blind is about 1.5 miles off the paved Gypsy Lake road. I would like to offer assistance to anyone from our group who wants to try this type of hunting. I would be willing to put out a small amount of bait prior to your trip or hunt deer without bait. You would need to bring a helper as I can not guarantee I would be able to commit that

much time. This is northern Wisconsin big woods hunting behind a locked gate so only foot traffic and other mobility impaired persons share the area with you. I can adjust my work schedule to show you the area personally or try to provide a map if I can not make it. All three blinds are on the only road that is mowed so they are not hard to find. Any two of the three blinds can be hunted regardless of wind direction but all three on

the same day would not work. This area is six miles east of Lake Tomahawk and a half mile south of Gypsy Lake boat landing. My personal e-mail address is danjacoby@hotmail.com if you have any questions. The Chamber of Commerce in Minocqua said for accessible accommodations includes The Waters, the Best Western Concord Inn, the Comfort Inn and the AmericInn.

**Editor's note; this came in to me, I thought I would pass it along for any of our members who might be thinking about going to Africa to hunt.**

### ACCESS2AFRICA SAFARIS

We are a South African based Safari Tour Operator specializing in the mobility impaired in the region of KwazuluNatal from Durban along the Elephant Coast to the Hluhluwe Game Reserve, The second largest and world-renowned Game Reserve. There are very few operators that cater for the disabled to this part of South Africa in Kwazulu Natal

Our safaris and tours have been born from our own personal experiences and excellent understanding of the mobility impaired. (JJ Bezuidenhout my husband is a c4 quadriplegic himself)

We offer accessible hunting and photographic safaris. All safaris are assisted by highly experienced professional hunters and guides.

We also offer special needs travelers from cruise ships at the ports of Richardsbay and Durban, South Africa accessible day safaris and tours.

Please find below a general overview of what we do and about us.

We also assist with travel tips and advice for disabled travelers who wish to visit our special slice of Africa and our The Zulu Kingdom.

If there is any additional information you may need please contact me at jennae@vodamail.co.za.

### Contact Details

[www.access2africasafaris.co.za](http://www.access2africasafaris.co.za) [jennae@vodamail.co.za](mailto:jennae@vodamail.co.za)

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PO Box 159  
Hluhluwe  
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South Africa

### Paul Smith Milwaukee Journal Sentinel Article about Adaptive Sportsmen

Here is the reprint of the beginning of an article that Paul Smith did for the Sunday Journal Sentinel. You can read it at <http://www.jsonline.com/sports/outdoors/34116759.html>

**Baraboo** - Ken Berg of Greenfield raised his bow and pointed it out the window of his ground blind. A white-tailed deer was moving toward him as the early evening light began to soften across the Sauk County landscape.

Berg barely breathed and tried not to even blink. Hunting deer with archery equipment is challenging enough; to do it from the ground requires special stealth and patience.

. . . The deer, a doe, grazed slowly forward, approaching Berg's shooting range of about 25 yards. He waited

In the foreground, mixed brown grasses and some sumac brushed with early October red. In the background, a dozen buildings and a storage tank, crumbling and ready for demolition.

An unusual hunting environment? Absolutely. But not nearly as unique as the hunters.

Berg was one of 26 members of Adaptive Sportsmen, Inc. taking part in the group's annual bow hunt at Badger Army Ammunition Plant near Baraboo. Held the first weekend in October, the event brings together a spirited group of physically-challenged hunters in a celebration of their abilities and the Wisconsin outdoors.

"Best weekend of the year," said Berg, 63, who has had diabetes for 20 years and requires walking aids.

Adaptive Sportsmen, Inc. is a not-for-profit foundation based in Greenfield. Founded in 2003 by John Mitchell of Greenfield, the group has 200 members.

The organization strives to provide recreational opportunities for the disabled. Hunting, fishing, archery, snowmobiling, trapshooting, ATV riding, you name it.

Its members bear the broadest possible range of disabilities, resulting from birth conditions to diseases to automobile accidents and more. (cont.)

Adaptive Sportsmen is in the planning stage of a Fish Outing on Lake Michigan in June 2009, If all works out it will run along with Disabled Veterans Outing Wednesday, June 17th 2009. We will meet with committee of this in Feb. 2009 to get O.K.and details will be coming out after the meeting.In order for us to us to sway the commute it would be a benefit to know how many of our members are Veterans. Send an e-mail or contact myself with this info. Bill Koch [wkoch@att.net](mailto:wkoch@att.net) or call 262-707-0476. This is a very large event with 50 or more boats, a dinner , a band, and prizes.

Mark your calendar

### Alaska by Steve Prieve

The trip of a life time; I wanted to go to Alaska, go deep sea fishing and see whales. I wanted to go on this thirty years. Living on a fix income I did not think it was really possible. I had a unseen windfall of money. Pay bills or do something I may never get to do, This was a no brainer.

I flew into Anchorage, stayed over night. Next morning I took the train to Fairbanks. I loved the train ride, a twelve hour trip. There is really nothing to see in Fairbanks. Spent a day in Fairbanks, went to a home grown theater that was great. Took the train back to Anchorage, spent the night. In the morning off to Seward, by the train. I got off the train and then caught a half day wildlife tour. On the tour we saw Mew Gulls, Puffins, Dolphins, Sea Otters, Big Horn Sheep, Humpback Whales and Sea Loins. The trip included lunch the food was great. Seward is between mountains and ocean, four blocks wide and a mile and half long. The Big Horn Sheep were calving so they came to the low altitudes to get away form the bears. You would see a white on the mountain. Looking through binoculars you could tell they were sheep.

Spent the night got up very early to go halibut fishing. I sat on the bow of the boat for seven hours fishing and watching whales. Then I hooked into 86 pound halibut. That was the time of my life. Back to Anchorage, for a day and then back home with halibut.

June 1st the prices of every thing goes up by 40%. The train are accesible for wheel chairs. You can all so rent a accesabile van. In Alaska there is one road that goes north and one train track. To get any where else you need to fly in on a small plane. The whole state is vast wilderness, what beautiful place. It is worth the cost.

For the hotels a double occupancy is the same as a single occupancy. I stayed in Comfort Inn's as much as possible they were very god to me and cheaper. You can revese every thing on line and pay for everthing in advance. I dealt with Alaska Travel and Tour, they are a state organation.

Steve Prieve

### Editor's note

John Mitchell sent me an email, from some friends of Tom Zimmer, who he said that he had shot a black bear with a live weight of approximately 500 pounds! He shot it near Park Falls in the town of Winter. People were taking his picture and I guess he is the new celebrity in the area. Tom is gleaming. Just thought you would like to know.....

Congratulations Tom!! Hopefully we can get a full story and pictures from him for the next newsletter



**Dale Petkovsek's Bear 2008**

Five years ago I drew a bear kill tag but was unsuccessful. I did see six shoot-able bear but nothing ever worked out right. After it was over, I thought, Man that was fun and a successful season, even though I never connected. I can't wait to draw again. Well five years passed and I was pumped for this fall to try it again.

With the help of my cousin and his son, we set up a few bait stations and started baiting bear in late July. Things were going good and two out of the three spots being worked consistently. The spot we choose to start was a honey-hole. Couldn't look better and it was the most active spot.

On Labor Day, I had my sister Mary go bait with me since she would be sitting with me the first day for sure and maybe more. We trekked down the path that the landowners had cleared for my wheelchair and re-baited the station while dropping of a few items to make our load lighter on Wednesday. When we started the bait station we placed some camouflage panels to conceal my wheelchair, so that was ready to go.

Opening day arrived, September 3, 2008. We opted for a late morning beginner and sat from 10:30a.m. - 1:00p.m. nothing except Red Squirrels, darn noisy things. Time for lunch and do a few chores before heading back out for the evening. At 3:45p.m. we headed back to the woods. Sneak in and set-up by 4:10p.m. After a few catnaps and prayers the moment arrived at 5:20p.m. Through the dense ferns I suddenly noticed two black ears and the top of a bear head. I whispered to Mary, who was my back-up with a shotgun just in case anything went wrong, being we were sitting on the ground 18 yards from an active bear dining room. Mary had noticed the head at the same time as me and our hearts were racing. As the bear stepped into the shooting lane directly behind the bait stump, it looked huge. "Oh My God" was all I could whisper.

Sitting on the ground and staring at a black bear at 18 yards that was staring back at you is a thrill of a lifetime. As the bear sniffed the air and the bait, time stood still. Finally, it decided to turn it's head to the right and sniff the trail camera we had placed near the stump. As it turned its head, it pulled its front leg forward, opening up the vitals area. I knew this was my time and pulled the trigger on my Ten Point Crossbow. Watching the lightednock on the back of my arrow disappear into the black body of this trophy was an indescribable sense of accomplishment and joy. The bear turned and crashed through the thick brush for about 40 yards and became silent. Then the "death groan", as the trophy gave up its life for good, it let out three low groans that neither Mary nor I will ever forget.

At that moment we knew we accomplished something few people ever get the chance to experience. We harvested a 235# black bear from the ground with a crossbow at 18 yards. Through my thirty years in a wheelchair, I have harvested a small whitetail buck and several doe and fawns with my crossbow. But next to my turkey in 1999, this is by far my proudest trophy. Mainly because of the work and effort put into it, the five-year wait for a tag, the limited odds of success and mostly that my family was there with me and to help. That's what it's all about!



Hunters and Guides stop for lunch at the area 5 tent in Baraboo



**Cal Popp's buck at Baraboo 2008**

After several hour of intense scouting and the confidence that my guide, Jason Popp had put his time in scouting me out a monster Badger Bruiser. I took a night stand on Saturday with anticipation and assurance from Jason that this was where the big guys hide. I sat patiently and waited for the deer. I watched a doe and two yearlings playing for an hour when all of the sudden i caught movement to my left, my heart raced as the deer approached, knowing all the long that Jasons last words as he left my stand was be patient, this is where the big guy lives. As the deer stepped into sight, and gave me a clean broadside shot, i let my arrow fly and made a clean kill. We lost blood that night only to retrieve a 6 point buck the next morning. I had a great weekend, saw several deer, and got to see some old friends. Thanks again to Mary, Greg, and all the kitchen staff for there hard work and great food. Cal P.S. Oh, and of course my Faithful Guides Jason Popp and Bill Stuber for there Team Realtree ability to put me on my beast.



The Guides take a break



Brian Graham, Heather Degehardt, Jerry Long



Richard Weight, and his guide with his 9-point buck from the Baraboo hunt, 2008

**Baraboo Hunt**

The weather was made to order for our Baraboo bow hunt. The temperature was around freezing at dawn and rising into the 60s with nice sunny days. Twenty-six bow hunters participated at Badger Army Ammunition Plant and Camp Gray. Again we accomplished some first. One hunter was able to hunt from our new adaptive tree stand for the first time since his injury. Another hunter entered the woods again after a long absence. Richard Weight brought in the first buck that was a 9 pointer. Cal Popp took the second one that was a 6 pointer. They each received an arrow-head plaque supplied by our member Mike Little to mount the antlers. Ken Berg and John Hammen took does and received gutting gloves for their achievement. Many other deer were seen and three missed shots occurred (check the calendar for our 3D archery shoots). Dottie Dirksen made a special quilt that was raffled and won by Tim Richardson. Mitchell Schmit won first place in the 14 and under drawing while Luke Richardson took second. There are many, many people to thank for making this a wonderful event to enjoy the outdoors. The guides for making this a real hunt, the cook crew for their outstanding cuisine, **McFarlands**, and **Mid-States Equipment** for mules and gators to get the hunters out into the field, to **Wilderness Fish and Game** for the door prizes given at our Saturday night banquet and thanks to the support from **Sysco Foods** for the great food our cook crew prepared to make my belt a little tighter.



Al Neu with his Wyoming Antelope Buck, 2008

### Wyoming Antelope Hunt, 2008

I think that most of our members have heard about the PCBA Antelope hunt in Gillette, WY. Many of our members have gone out there and enjoyed a great hunt. I know I have (several times). This year I was not able to make it for the PCBA hunt, but was able to arrange for a rifle hunt with one of the landowners who organize the hunt. I was very fortunate to shoot this nice 12-7/8" Antelope Buck, along with a doe. But the best part of the hunt is the chance to sit down and talk with the great people who offer up their time and property to let disabled people enjoy outdoor hunting experiences. Thank You to Landowner Steve Bricker and his wife Linda for their hospitality and friendship, may it bless them many times to come.

Note; the signup for the PCBA antelope hunt is the middle of January, so if you want to go out there you should check out the PCBA web page for registration info. <http://www.pcba-inc.org/>



Wendy Allen and her son Travis enjoy lunch in the shade



John Mitchell, Steve Prieve, Lenny, and Ken Berg at the trap range

This is picture of my buck I got during the October Disabled hunt in Willard, WI; It's an 8 point with a spread of 19.5 inches outside; having him mounted. On this hunt I was very successful, with 4 deer. I shot 3 with rifle, and also shot a small doe with my crossbow.

Duane Johnson



### October Pheasant Hunt

**Smith's Pheasant Crest** game farm hosted the fifth annual physically challenged pheasant hunt in Oxford on October 25th with fourteen participants gunning for four birds each along with some trap shooting before the hunt. Hunters included **Les Werner, Ashley and James Cullen, Nolan Nehmer, Gerald Scheick, Mike Little, John Martinson, JR Wynn, Charlie Ande, and William Carter**. Nearly everyone bagged a bird, with some getting several, even though the wind picked up later in the afternoon, which caused the birds to run a little more and fly faster. First time hunters like Ashley and Nolan were all smiles after the hunt with harvesting their first birds ever! The food was excellent and the best part was that it was free! They also had an in-ground ramp that allowed our hunters to transfer onto the beds of the John Deere gators, which made for a safer and easier transfer for everyone.

Thanks to all the volunteers and sponsors which made the event a fun and enjoyable day. A special thank you to Pheasant Crest owners **Wayne and Robin Smith** for their many hours of labor of love to put this great event together and it really means a lot to the participants.

Adaptive Sportsman also had their new Accessible Deer Stand set up for display. This is a portable deer stand for physically challenged hunters, made by Vasquez metal. ASI purchased this stand for the use of our members and for the hunts we put on.

We hope to see you next year, so contact **John Martinson** at 1-608-846-4518 in September to sign up.



### Madison Fishery

The Adaptive Sportsmen Annual Madison fishery had to be rescheduled three times this year because of high spring flooding, but we finally got'er done on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

Fifteen ASI members including **Les Werner, Joe Kunz, Debbie Kunz, Cliff Pfeifer, Larry Drake, Todd Jones, Kurt Christensen, John Mitchell, John Martinson, Monica Kama / Rossa, Steve Prieve, Jim LaMache, Randy Ashland, Ken** from MSCR, **Nancy** from MSCR, and **Dave Coon**, enjoyed a delicious lunch and some great door prizes before loading up on one of the thirty-foot MSCR pontoon boats or a regular fishing boats to brave the damp and cloudy over-cast day on Lake Mendota. Despite the weather, some of our anglers caught sheepshead, smallmouth bass and bluegill, and everyone enjoyed a great day of fishing and boating.

Thanks to everyone who came out, especially the volunteers **Bruce Gehrke, Ann Gehrke, Lloyd Soter, Dawn Soter, Steve Prieve, Anthony Plevak, Laurin Plevak, Steve Martinson, Jeremy Martinson, Chris Martinson, Scott Hogland, and Todd Jones**, and a special thanks to our sponsors **American Packaging, D&S Bait, Pan of Gold bakery, Bavaria Sausage, Ace Hardware of Sauk Prairie and Okuma**.



Mary Mitchell, Tom Maciosek, and others, at the trap range

### Shootin' Picnic

Schultz's Rod and Gun Club hosted Adaptive Sportsmen on Saturday August 16<sup>th</sup> for our Shootin' picnic. It was a beautiful day to enjoy the outdoors and get in some practice at the range or even site in that new weapon. Several individuals came to try out some of the Adaptive Sportsmen equipment. Thanks to the many volunteers that made the event possible including **Brian Graham** and **Al Jeske** at the archery range, **Mike Kelly** at the rifle range, **Mike Williams** at the pistol range and **Lenny** at the trap range. Thanks to **Duane Borgwardt** for putting up the tent. Of course the picnic would not have been complete without **Garth Dirksen** at the grill while **Dottie Dirksen** and **Mary Mitchell** handled the food inside the club house, the silent auction and the prizes for the shooters that were obtained by **Ken Berg**.