



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



## Elections

Anyone interested in running for the Adaptive Sportsmen board of directors please call **Kristy Richardson** at (414) 254-9894 or **John Mitchell** at (414) 333-4745 by December 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Business Meeting

The Annual Meeting & Board Meeting will take place at Camp Gray from 10 am to 2 pm on January 21st. Please call **Mary Mitchell** at (414) 916-2298 if you will attend.

## The Adaptive Sportsman Newsletter Vol. 8 Nov, 2005 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 or Allen Neu 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)

## Thanks to our 2005 Sponsors (companies, organizations & individuals)

Sysco Foods, West Allis Bowmen, Whitetails Unlimited, Safari Club, Wilderness Fish & Game, Kwik Trip, Burgess, Mid-State Equipment, Wings Over Wisconsin, Artisan Taxidermy, Landmark Title, Spiegelhoff's Pick 'N Save, Solofra Plumbing, Pishtaka Wildlife Soc., Tom Robers, Bill Paulson, Hillcrest Farms, Reinman's True Value & Sporting Goods, Fifield Dirt Devils, Bay Lake ATV Club, Tri City Trailblazers, Chipewa Valley ATV Club, State Farm Insurance, Wisconsin Deer Hunters, American Packaging & Endres Manufacturing. Thanks to all and to any other sponsors and donors not mentioned here.

## 2005 HDTV RAFFLE TV Raffle

**Gerard Adler** from Richland Center was the happy winner of our raffle. He purchased the winning ticket at Cabelas in Prairie Du Chien from Les Werner.

## Adaptive Sportsman Membership Card

Include \$ 10 membership fee  
Pay to; Adaptive Sportsmen

**Expiration Date 12/31/2005**

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 \_\_\_\_\_



## Springfield Pheasant Hunt

An even larger group of hunters and volunteers assembled for the 2005 annual pheasant hunt at Tom's Pheasant farm in Springfield, WI. The sourgum was taller too. We had the use of pointers and retrievers this year. Yellow and black labs, German short hairs, setters, spaniels and a Chesapeake. It was very interesting seeing the guides work their dogs and discuss the virtues of the various breeds. Some hunters were positioned as blockers at the end of the field. Some pheasants went into the game bag and many more were seen. After the hunt we had lunch consisting of Elk barbecue sandwiches and delicious pheasant that was deep-fried. It was a great time on a beautiful day. Hunters and volunteers included: **Joel Chic, Tyler Chic, Cody Chic, Mark Chic, Bill Paulson, Don Owsiany, Mike Procto, Steve Walley, Robert Sobbe, Dylan Hanson, Mike Gustin, Briana Krowlek, John Mitchell, Jeff Smith, Pat O'Neill, Mark Robinson, Jim Sarchet, Carl Clementi, Mark Tegtmeier, Paul Berris, Ken Houser, Lyle Robers, Michael Peterson, Rick Schaefer, Cathey Schaefer, Les Werner, Jim Rutledge, Catherine Chic, Richard Duntz, Steve Bechig, Bob Dignan, Steve Solofra, Mile Lietke, Thomas Solofra, Jon Muellenbach, Joshua Muellenbach, Michael Skewes, Chris Such, Jackie Solofra, Claire Solofra, Jeff Solofra, Harley Kartz, Patrick Smith, Steve Remington, and Adam Barnard.**

## Smith's Pheasant Crest 2nd Annual Pheasant hunt,

It was unbelievable all the great effort and time Wayne and Robyn Smith spent organizing and running another super pheasant hunt for physically challenged people. All the volunteers were awesome and I would like to thank them all and the sponsors, including **Columbia County Sportsmen Alliance, Total Concrete, M&H erectors, Davis Const.,S.C.I., Trappers Assoc., G-Bow, Royal Bank, Smith's Pheasant Crest, Mary Karrow, Arnie Olsen, Statz Imp., Schultz Power Supply, Hanley's, Johnson Sausage, Badgerland Archery, Adaptive Sportsmen, Culvers, Dawn Foods, Kwik Trip, Neenah Springs, Oxford Fuel and Food, Cardinal Glass, Two Rivers Sign, Source One, DM Menswear, Tractor Supply, and Pheasants Forever.** Fifteen hunters had a great time and many of them harvested a couple of birds on a pleasant day in October. The large tent set up in the field provided plenty of shelter for the excited hunters to eat and talk about their adventures. Each hunter had the opportunity to shoot some clay pigeons before they went out after their birds. These hunts really mean a lot to all of the participants because without these special events most would never have the opportunity to enjoy the great outdoors! Thanks to all of you, **John Martinson**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### ADAPTIVE SPORTSMEN

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

**January 27<sup>th</sup>- 29<sup>th</sup>** Northern Deer Expo in Eau Claire call **Glen Howell** at (715) 456-4619 to help out.

**February 4<sup>th</sup>** Fund raising banquet at the Comfort Inn in Wittenberg Wi. put on by Whitetail Unlimited Inc.

**February 3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup>** Safari Club Show-Madison. Call **AI Neu** (262) 542-6001 to help out.

**February 24<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>** Safari Club Show-Green Bay. Call **Mary Mitchell** (414) 916-2298 to help out.

**February 25<sup>th</sup>** Web's Wildwood Archery indoor archery 3D shoot in Burlington. Call **Dottie Dirksen** (262) 886-3078 for information.

**March 10<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>** Milwaukee Sport Show. Call **Mike Little** (414) 545-9738 to help out.

**March 31<sup>st</sup> - April 2<sup>nd</sup>** Deer & Turkey Expo-Madison. Call **John Martinson** to help out (608) 846-4518.

### Baraboo & Clintonville Bow Hunts

Pulling out of Camp Gray to head down to Badger Army Ammunition Plant (BAAP) for the first day of the 2005 hunt the shadow of the earth could be seen on the moon to the east. The thermometer registered in the 40s. It looked like a good day to hunt. A six-point buck was taken the first morning and then the temperature began to soar. When we obtained the souvenir T-shirts we had not realized people would be able to sit outside in October and actually wear them while they ate and visited with friends. The weather continued to be more like August for the balance of the weekend. It was great for being together with wonderful people admiring the fall colors and listening to stories of hunts past and plans for the future. For the hunt at BAAP **WILDERNESS FISH & GAME** of Sauk Prairie provided supplies. **MID-STATE EQUIPMENT** provided the use of gators for transportation and **BURGESS SEPTIC TANK & PORTABLE TOILET SERVICE** brought an accessible toilet to the grounds. Deer harvested could be hung at **THE MEAT MARKET** in Baraboo.

The weather cooled during the following week and another buck and two more does were taken in Clintonville.

Planning for these hunts occurs throughout the year. We have countless people to thank, including the people at BAAP and other landowners for hosting us, the guides because without them it would not be a hunt, the cooks and grounds crew that spend countless hours helping everyone to gain weight, the people that obtain the silent auction items, and the crew that loads and unloads all of the equipment and supplies. Thanks to you all

### Bear Hunt of John Mitchell

Once upon a time, I decided to apply for a Wisconsin bear hunting tag. It sounded like another great adventure but it seemed like it was a long way off because of the need to accumulate enough preference points. Well, having six points made 2005 the year to ask for a license instead of just a point. Garth applied for a license too with his five points and we were both drawn. That was a blessing because I found out later some people with five points were not drawn.

Two years earlier our buddy **Cal Popp** had hunted with **Whisky Ridge Guide Service** and scored the first night on a 325 pound bear. He did it with his crossbow sitting in a recliner that was brushed in at the base of a tree. We decided to use the same guide and I found myself in September sitting in my tree stand (it is more like a short stair case that Garth built). It was set up on the same bait where Cal got his.

The first night all I saw was a fox and the second night we had a cub that was acting like an unruly child, sitting in our bait after dark eating cookies. Now we did not want the cub in our bait and neither did mama bear. Our guide Brandon was high above me in another tree. He threw his hat, his facemask, a scent bottle and yelled @#\$. To tell you the truth it was not scary to climb down at all, after Brandon had already climbed down and went to get the ATV to give me a ride back out to the truck. The decision was made to move to different bait the next day. There I saw a bear in the distance and one of three wolves that I heard catching dinner. Two days later we moved to another active bait where I saw my first fishers. They look like a cross between a fox and a weasel.

The final weekend came and my chance arrived. It was twenty minutes before closing, my crossbow was on my shoulder with the safety off and the bear was broadside. I am still not sure if I decided to pass or if I was called off. Brandon was giving me the do not shoot sign, it was about the size of a Labrador retriever.

In any case, I had a terrific time, nothing is guaranteed when you hunt. We had great food at the shop after the hunt and a nice cabin on the river to stay in. I also saw a bald eagle soaring above that river and Garth is sharing some of his bear's meat with me. If you are interested in hunting unit A let Cal, Garth or I know and we can put you in touch with Brandon. He has experience setting up hunters that use either a chair or crutches. Fully accessible accommodations are available in Ladysmith 30 minutes away.



**Chris Oken** poses with the bear he shot this fall

### Youth Bear Hunt Experience

**Chris Oken** was chosen this fall to use a bear kill tag donated by **Wayne Krueger** of Wausau. He shot the 250 lb bear shown in the picture to the left, and he shot it on the last day of the season, with 10 minutes to spare. Chris had been sitting on baits set up by **Kevin Oldham** west of Wausau and was hunting each weekend with his father and Kevin. Chris, a paraplegic injured in an ATV accident, is an avid hunter and wheelchair basketball player. He hunts deer and turkey with his father each year, and was very happy to get this chance to hunt for a bear. Thanks to Wayne and Adaptive Sportsmen for setting him up with this chance.

### BACK TAG

**Brad Suter**-bow-antelope  
**Randy Ashland**-bow-buck  
**Pheifer**-gun-10 point buck  
**Bill Raimer**-gun- pheasant  
**Carl Clementi**-gun-pheasant  
**Charlie Ande** -gun- 2 bucks

**AI Neu**-bow- antelope  
**Larry Drake** bow-buck & doe  
**Mark Testmeier**- gun-pheasant  
**Pat Sullivan** -gun-pheasant  
**AI Neu** -gun- 3 does  
**Charlie Ande**-gun-pheasant

**Mike Little**-bow-2 does  
**Robert Woeful**-bow-doe **Cliff Rick Schaefer**-gun-pheasant  
**Les Werner**-gun-pheasant  
**Charlie Ande**-gun-2 does  
**Chris Oken**-gun-bear

### A BUCK FOR A HERO

We all appreciate the men and women in our military for their commitment and sacrifice that enables us in this great country to enjoy the rights and freedoms that we all too often take for granted. This is a short story about one of these brave young men.

I first contacted the Veteran's Administration in Washington D.C. back in May of this year. I told them I wanted to personally thank a deserving veteran who came back from the Iraq war after having been rendered permanently disabled. My intention was to seek out a soldier with a serious disability who liked to hunt, and offer him a trip to Wisconsin to enjoy a whitetail hunt on our hunting ranch. While this sounded simple it was not. It is easy to understand why these brave young men and women's privacy is so well protected. It took over a month and numerous calls just to get a name and phone number.

I finally made contact with Sgt. **Mike Meinen** (retired) in Security, Colorado. When I reached him by phone he at first was quite skeptical about what I was offering him. He kept asking why I was doing this. I simply told him that what he and all the rest of our military people do for us every day, allows all of us here at home to do the things we do and live the lives we live in a free country and I as one American very much appreciated his service. I was just saying thank you. His next question was "Why me?" I told him he was picked by the Veteran's Administration and as far as I was concerned he represented all of those who have served, fought, were wounded, and have died in defense of our freedoms. I finally was able to convince Mike to accept our offer.

We sent Mike an airline ticket to arrive in Minneapolis on October 20<sup>th</sup> and we also sent his wife a ticket to fly in from Colorado to be with Mike for a few days. When I first met this young couple in the airport I knew right away we did the right thing.

Over the next few days while we were sitting in hunting blinds on the ranch we talked a lot about Iraq and the war. Mike very much believes in our mission and the justification for being there. He frequently mentioned the Iraqi children and a tear formed in his eyes at times when he talked about them. It was clear that he was troubled when he recalled their faces.

In August of 2003 as part of a three vehicle convoy to secure a stretch of road near Fallujah they came under attack from a large number of insurgents. Mike recalls the day as the most intense fire-fight he had experienced thus far. There were six soldiers in each of the three armored personnel carriers. Mike knew they were seriously outnumbered but he still felt that they had the advantage. Suddenly amidst all the explosions and firing Mike said he felt a strange tugging at his right leg. He continued firing at the enemy until someone grabbed him and told him to lie down because he had been seriously wounded. He first noticed two of his buddies lying on the floor of the armored personnel carrier. He quickly realized that both men had lost a leg and were in serious trouble and then became aware that he too had lost his right leg at the knee.

Three men, three amputations all in the same vehicle at the same time and they were still under heavy fire. A rocket propelled penetrating device had slammed into the rear of the APC with a five foot long titanium rod striking Mike and his buddies and passing through the APC lodging in the engine block. With assistance the APC was able to retreat and stayed running without oil for over an hour while the wounded soldiers were rushed to aid. Miraculously all three survived. Mike has a prosthetic leg now and is learning to get along quite well. At 26 years old this is a young man who has left a big impression on all of us.

Now about the hunt. We passed on a few nice bucks the first couple days and then things kind of went from not too good to worse as far as seeing the kind of deer I wanted to find for Mike. On Sunday morning the last full day of the hunt we left the blind about 10 a.m. and traveled by ATV to the bottom of a brushy draw where I knew some nice bucks were likely to be bedded. One nice buck busted out but another stayed put. I could see the left antler in the brush and it was huge. The problem was the right side had only a long main beam with no points coming off of it. Mike glassed the huge deer and I could tell he was excited. I told him he could take the deer if he liked it. The shot was perfect. The deer went 30 yards and dropped. When we approached it we found it was even bigger than we thought. Seven perfect heavy tines on the left side but the right beam with no points showed a large area where something had broken off at the base. We knew that a large portion of antler was missing from this massive whitetail. The buck had a dressed weight of 240 lbs and the left antler grossed an amazing 98 5/8".

Mike had to return to Washington on Monday and he left his deer with us where we will mount the trophy and have the meat processed and return both to him when completed. My nephew Jon and I returned to the ranch to search for the part of Mike's rack that had broken off. After 3 days of searching we found the missing antler. It was a second main beam sporting 5 typical points and 3 drop tines. It wrapped around the outside of the unusual main beam and when put in place the entire rack scored over 230". I couldn't think of a better person to take this tremendous whitetail. An additional "Thank you" to the **Rock Creek Disabled Hunters Association** for their contribution towards the incidental expenses of this hunt.

All of us here at **Buck Hollow** appreciate our men and women in uniform who serve our country.

**Bill Vyvyan**  
**Buck Hollow Ranch**