

FREE

On Wisconsin Outdoors

with the
Dick Ellis Experts

■ **Explore Wisconsin**

Trip tips from OWO's tourism partners

■ **Showered with Affection**

Love rains on Bert, the not-right dog

■ **The Nose Knows**

Sense of smell a whitetail miracle

■ **Cold Facts on Daylight Deer Movement**

Frigid temperatures a friend to the hunter

■ **Winter Deer Hunting**

Badger state deep in opportunity

■ **The All Canada Show**

Canada's best fishing and hunting

■ **Late River Reasoning**

Isolation, diverse waterfowl drive hunts

■ **Early Ice Walleyes**

Wisconsin's other November hunt

■ **Tweaking Late Open Water Tactics**

Spinner baits, plastic worms, 3-way rigs

■ **From the OWO Gun Cabinet**

Deer hunting with sabot slugs

A Christmas classic from Henry Repeating Arms

**Kwik
Trip**



COVER PHOTO BY JOHN VOLKMAN

FREE

READ MORE ONLINE AT OnWisconsinOutdoors.com | HUNTING/FISHING REPORTS • TIPS • STORIES FROM THE FIELD

VENISON & DEER PROCESSING

Stop in for in-store specials & sample our wide variety of homemade sausage!

Bucky's
Fine Meats & Sausage LLC

Fresh Homemade Sausage

Fresh & Smoked Sausage

- Cheddar Brat • Chicken Brat • Fajita • Onion
- Chicken Italian Sausage • Country Sausage
- Hot Wing & Bleu Cheese • Jalapeño Brat
- Hungarian Sausage • Italian—Hot or Mild
- Mushroom & Swiss • Polish • Brat • Potato Sausage
- Breakfast Sausage
- Chicken Breakfast Sausage
- Beer Brat • Breakfast Sausage
- Smoked Cheddar • Smoked Polish
- Smoked Hungarian • Smoked Andouille

Beef Sticks

- Mild • Hot
- Bacon Cheddar
- Habanero w/cheese
- Habanero tomato bacon
- ghost pepper cheese sticks

Beef Jerky

- Original • Sweet Peppered
- Sweet Bourbon

Summer Sausage

Bucky's will turn your Venison or any other

Wild Game into any of our varieties of

Fresh or Smoked Sausage

Full Service Butcher Shop

225 BAY VIEW RD. SUITE 100 | MUKWONAGO
(262) 378-4608 | BUCKYSMEATS.COM

PROFESSIONAL BUTCHER DAVE BUCHHOLZ, BUCKY'S FINE MEATS & SAUSAGE

So your Deer Is Down...Now What? Tips for proper venison care

So your deer is down and your tag is filled. Enjoy the moment, but also remember how you care for that deer over the next hour and perhaps days can mean the difference between disappointing table fare and months of fine eating for the entire family.

First, proper gutting can help the flavor and quality of the meat. Make clean cuts from the chest to the tail without going too deep so not to cut the stomach or intestines. It is easier to cut the skin first, but do not peel too much of the skin back off the meat; doing so will dry out the meat. Cutting through the brisket (chest cavity) will make it easier to remove the main organs, but if you plan on having the head mounted, stop at the rib cage. Then cut the diaphragm and pull the organs out. After the organs, stomach and intestines (and anus) are removed, try to find a small hill, turn the deer over on its belly to drain the blood.

After you transport the deer back to camp, hanging will help to drain more of the blood. Depending on when you plan on processing the deer or having it processed, air temperature will determine how long to hang it. If you want bigger tenderloins, pull them immediately or they will dry and you will lose over half the size. If you plan on transporting the deer and the temperature is well below freezing, don't hang it until the carcass is frozen solid or it will be stretched out and make it harder to secure. If the temperature is right, hanging won't hurt it.

You can't always depend on the weather. Temperatures can fluctuate from extremely warm for a Wisconsin fall, to sub-zero, to just right. When holding your deer for processing the temperature plays a major factor. When processing, the meat should be firm, but not mushy or frozen. If the weather is too warm and you have to hold the carcass for a few days, the best way is to pack it with ice, wrap it in a tarp and keep it in the shade. Never skin it before it is ready for processing. Skinning will dry it out, and if the processor can't process the deer quickly, it will dry out more.

The hide works as an insulator. Sometimes when the weather is too warm you can't control the meat being mushy. When the weather is too cold, everything may freeze, making it harder to skin and harder to make all the premium cuts the proper way. The elements



can make the job more difficult on the hunter and processor.

If you don't process your own deer, do you have a respectable processor to do it? To ensure that your deer provides the delicious meals you hope for well after the season, consider a few things when choosing a processor. Are they qualified meat cutters? Do they make all boneless cuts or use a meat saw? With CWD boneless cuts are the best. Does your processor prepare it lean enough for sausage and is he, or does he know quality sausage makers? What is their turn-around time? Finally will your processor guarantee that you get all the meat back from your own deer?

Finally when choosing a processor, find out how the meat is wrapped? Some processors use freezer wrap, and others use plastic wrap. The right wrap depends how long you plan on keeping it in the freezer. Freezer wrap should keep 6 to 8 months, while plastic wrap should keep about 4 to 6 months. How is it labeled? If you can't read the label, you won't know what is in that package, even a day after it is ready in your freezer. Then a great meal sits in the freezer and is never used.

If you are having sausage made, tell the processor and they will "chunk" the meat

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

JOHN CLER

Winter Deer Hunting

Wisconsin is deep in opportunity

Most sportsmen and sports-women switch gears with the close of the traditional nine-day gun deer season. The blaze orange and camouflage clothing is stored away as gear is readied for service in preparation for the ice fishing season. Those with deer tags remaining, however, should not be so hasty, as Wisconsin now offers more late deer seasons than in the past.

The day after the close of the deer gun season is the opening of the 10-day muzzleloader season. All you need to participate is an unused buck or doe tag for your hunting area and a legal muzzleloader (see page 18 of the 2018 Deer Regulations). The muzzleloader hunt is a great chance to enjoy a quiet, solitary hunt, as the gun hunting masses have left the woods. You may even be able to get hunting permission on property that is normally not open during the rifle season. The "one-shot challenge" of muzzleloader hunting can be addictive.

There is a four day antlerless hunt following the muzzleloader season (December 6-9). Any weapon may be used, but only unused antlerless tags may be filled. Hunters must wear blaze orange no matter what their weapon choice.

The "Holiday Hunt" runs from December 24 to January 1. It is part of the season structure in nineteen Wisconsin counties. The ground is usually covered by snow in all of the state by this time of year. The white background makes locating deer somewhat easier, but they can see hunters better, too. This coincides with vacation for children of school age, presenting an opportunity for some family time in the woods. Only antlerless deer may be taken during this hunt, no matter which weapon you choose to hunt with.

Twelve Badger State counties are offering an Extended Archery/Crossbow season for the first time, running through the month of January. Both antlered and antlerless deer are legal game, provided you possess the proper tag/authorization. You can bet the weather will tend to be cold, but avid archers will certainly enjoy one last chance at that buck they have been after since September. Since there is no firearms season open at this time,

the camouflage or snow camouflage can come out of storage.

No matter which of these winter seasons you choose to hunt, remember that deer will be in a different pattern than you observed earlier. Deer live or die depending on how well they can maintain or build fat reserves during the winter. Bucks must re-build fat reserves following the rut, while does try to maintain fat reserves to assist in the development of the fawns they are carrying. If your hunting area has an obvious food source, a plan that involves intercepting deer on their way to or from the food source is a good one.

Extremely cold weather (below zero) can cause deer to remain bedded most of the day. This helps them maintain fat reserves by expending less energy than they may gain from feeding. Slow stalks through likely bedding areas would be a great strategy on days like this. Slow and quiet are the keys to success here. A good rule of thumb: If you think you are moving slow enough, cut your speed in half.

Snow can be an asset or a detriment. A thick blanket of fluffy snow can allow you to move silently. It can make tracking and trailing a wounded deer much easier. A crust on that same snow makes walking a chore and a silent approach to your stand impossible.

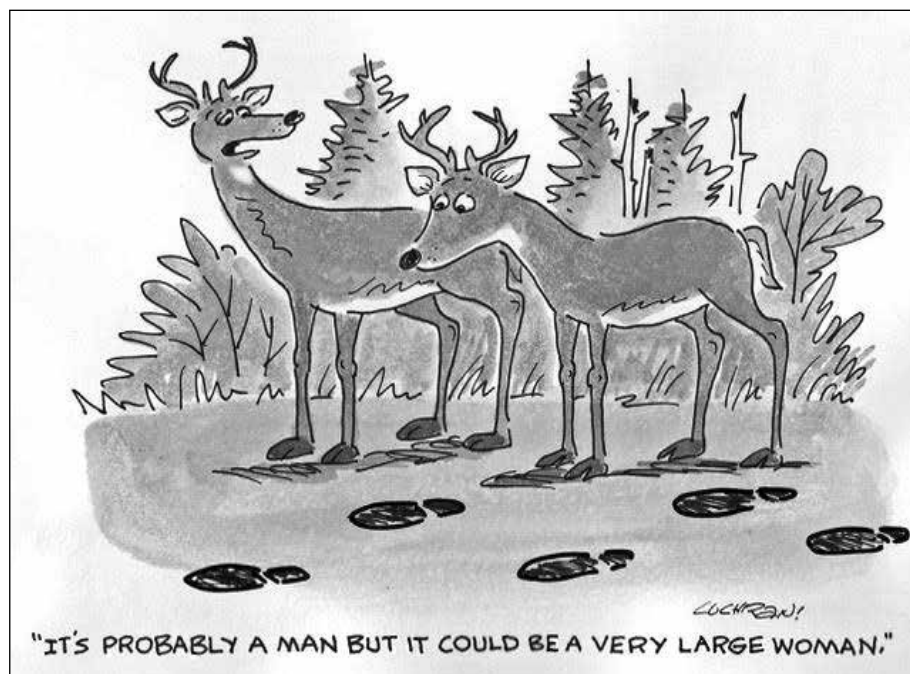
HUNTERS OF ALL AGES

Visit
OnWisconsinOutdoors.com



Watching deer walk through a snowy woods is one of nature's most beautiful sights. Get out this winter and enjoy the experience. 🌿

John Cler is a retired principal and science teacher residing in Richland County. He and his wife, Vickie, have two grown daughters, three grandchildren and a black lab that keeps them on the move.



When your truck is down...
You're out of the field.
Wisconsin sportsmen have
no time for "down and out".
We'll keep you in the game.



- **Engine & Transmission Exchange** is your one-stop shop for all vehicle driveline needs.
- Transfer case and differential repair.
- Quotes provided 24/7 at www.enginetrans.com.
- Two convenient locations; Milwaukee & Waukesha.
- Serving our customers with quality and service since 1984.

Stay in the field reliably with
Engine & Transmission Exchange.

When your inboard boat motor needs an **ETE** expert, we'll keep you on the water too.

1604 S. West Ave.
Waukesha, WI 53189
262-548-0000

2727 S. 27th Street
Milwaukee WI 53215
414-645-7000



LEE GATZKE

The Cold Facts on Daylight Deer Movement

Frigid temperatures a friend to the hunter

I'd put in a lot of time on-stand the last two months of the year. Either my bow, gun or muzzleloader accompanied me during that span, but remained idle. The weather had been warm and the lack of daytime deer movement made me wish for some bone chilling cold to get them on their feet in daylight.

In my experience, cold weather plays a positive factor in getting deer to move while the sun shines. During the early November rut, cold temperatures historically produce more chasing and courting during shooting hours. Come gun season, cold weather gets hunters moving and bumps deer. Once the nine-day gun season ends, deer are loathe to move on their own during daylight. The one exception is a cold snap that gets them actively feeding during daylight. So from muzzleloading season through the end of late bow season, cold temperatures are the best bet for predicting daytime deer activity since there are fewer hunters in the woods to inadvertently bump deer.

This past season, the day after Christmas, I finally got what I'd been wishing for - daytime temps below zero. While other Badgers were heading for warm weather vacation spots, or wishing they could go, I was one of a handful of bowhunters happy to endure what the weatherman was predicting. The extended forecast called for the next 10 days to be frigid. Right on cue, the deer began feeding in a picked cornfield well before dark set in and my expectations for a good hunt soared.

Fresh snow left no doubt that deer were concentrating on this field, opening a window of opportunity. For me to have a chance at success, they needed to be heading toward this food source from their beds during daylight. Cold weather tends to make that happen and I intended to endure it to put myself in a position to get a shot.

Prior non-hunting commitments had my schedule booked until the first of January. That meant I would have the first six days of the month to bowhunt until the season closed. I needed to get in some practice shooting my bow in bulky warm weather clothes - clothes that gave me the appearance of the Pillsbury Doughboy. Wearing all the cloths necessary to stave off hypothermia tends to mess up my shooting. Practice under these conditions showed me I could expect to place an arrow where I needed to out to 25 yards.

Morning hunts would be counter-productive because the deer would either still be in the field - or bedded close to it - and they'd detect me heading to my stand near the field. I chose to hunt evenings when I could get to where I wanted to set up after the deer had moved back into the woods to bed away from the field. The first evening I hunted was a bust, but it did reveal that I wouldn't want to lick the metal riser on my bow.

The second evening the thermometer read three below when I headed out around 2 PM. I set up my portable tree stand 50 yards into the woods and scanned the woods for movement. I saw nothing, not even a nuthatch, until about 4 PM. Three deer became bucks as they closed the distance from 100 yards. I alternately tensed then relaxed every muscle I could, attempting to stay warm, as they drew near. The last buck to come into range was the best one, a nice eight point. He followed the path of the two smaller bucks; at 22 yards and broadside my arrow was released.

The frigid result was a very warm feeling. 🍷

Lee Gatzke is co-owner of NextBukoutdoors, producers of tactical hunting videos. In grade school, he chased rabbits with his homemade bow and arrows, which lead to a passion for hunting bigger game all over the Midwest and western states. In between hunting seasons, Lee is usually scouting for his next buck.



Enduring below zero weather paid off with this nice buck. No blood-trailing this day. He dropped twenty yards out and I sat down and shook uncontrollably. My teeth chattered and my limbs shook, I was glad to be safety harnessed to the tree.

Septic Problems?

Don't Replace it...Rejuvenate it!

Our machine can Rejuvenate your septic system drain field.
Allowing liquids to properly drain away, as they did in the past.
No digging required. Five year transferable warranty.
We have been saving systems since 1996.

Septic Rejuvenating Specialists, LLC
1-855-797-6072

BUCKY'S FINE MEATS & SAUSAGE, FROM PAGE 2

instead of grinding it. Sausage makers prefer grinding the venison with the pork to give it a better mix. Some processors make bulk batches up to 200 pounds or more, making the condition of the collective meat questionable and whether or not you are receiving your own venison back questionable too. Some processors make small batches of 25 pounds.

Ask the sausage maker important questions; what size batches do they make? Do I get my own venison back? Depending how

much venison you take in, it might be mixed but won't necessarily be included in a massive bulk batch. Most sausage makers will go through all venison the make sure it meets their standards. You don't want to trust your venison to one of the few who don't. Ask questions not only to processors and sausage makers you may be considering, but to fellow hunters who will willingly share their post-hunt stories of satisfaction or disappointment. After all, what you learn can mean the difference between a great hunt ending bad, or months of fine eating for your family...and a great memory of one great hunt. 🍷

YOUR ULTIMATE OFF-ROAD EXPERIENCE STARTS HERE!

**THE 2019s
HAVE ARRIVED!**



VISIT ***DONAHUESUPERSPORTS.COM*** FOR PRICING AND INCENTIVES

***DONAHUE
SUPER SPORTS***

6821 Highway 54 East Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.
(715) 424-1762 • donahuesupersports.com

Find us on  @Donahue Super Sports

BOTTOM LINE PRICING. NO HIDDEN FEES. PERIOD.



DONAHUESUPERSPORTS.COM FOR LATEST REBATES

©2019 Bombardier Recreational Products Inc. (BRP). All rights reserved. ®, TM and the BRP logo are trademarks of BRP or its affiliates. In the U.S.A., products are distributed by BRP US Inc. BRP highly recommends that all ATV drivers take a training course. For safety and training information, see your dealer or call the ATV Safety Institute at 1-800-887-2887. ATVs can be hazardous to operate. Never carry passengers on any ATV not specifically designed by the manufacturer for such use. All adult model Can-Am ATVs are Category G ATVs (General Use Models) intended for recreational and/or utility use by an operator age 16 or older. For side-by-side vehicles (SxS): Read the BRP side-by-side Operator's Guide and watch the Safety DVD before driving. Fasten lateral net and seat belt at all times. Operator must be at least 16 years old. Passenger must be at least 12 years old and able to hold handgrips and plant feet while seated against the backrest. ATVs and SxS are for off-road use only; never ride on paved surfaces or public roads. For your safety reason, the operator and passenger must wear a helmet, eye protection and other protective clothing. Always remember that riding and alcohol/drugs don't mix. Never engage in stunt driving. Avoid excessive speed and be particularly careful on difficult terrain. Always ride responsibly and safely.

can-am



ON  HUNT

KNOW WHERE YOU STAND.

DICK HENSKE

Archery Deer Hunting Wyoming

New knee enables grandpa to join 3-generation trip

Around our family gatherings we have a motto; “If you rest, you rust.” This year it wasn’t rust threatening my field time heading into my 83rd year. It was the need for a new knee. Pain issues, walking down stairs backwards, limited movement and missed trout fishing opportunities inspired a conclusion I knew was inevitable.

“Enough is enough,” I said.

We found a physician in Wausau relatively near our Manitowish Waters home who specialized in knee replacement surgery and a hospital with a low infection rate. On August 14th, five weeks before our long-planned, three generation archery deer hunting trip to Wyoming, I was in surgery. My hospital inpatient stay was one and a half days followed by scheduled rehab with two goals; bend the knee 120 degrees and to get the knee to straighten.

In spite of the skepticism voiced by “veterans” of knee-replacement surgery that I could be in the field five weeks post-surgery, my experienced surgeon and aggressive rehab accomplished my goals. In fact, on Sept 21st I drove the truck to pick up my son, Steve, in Stevens Point and from there we continued to northeast Wyoming. We met up with my grandson, Brendan, who drove from Fort Irwin, California. He is a career army man and was waiting all year for this trip.

We hunted out of a trailer on private land from a reputable connection I made traveling the Internet. A four-wheeler is a must if it rains, and it did. Everything turns into a muddy slop and you cannot safely drive a truck. The four-wheeler was a life-saver and very soon, a deer-hauler.



Father and son team of Steve and Brendan Henske of Stevens Point joined Grandpa Dick Henske of Manitowish Waters for a three generation hunt during the Wyoming archery deer hunt in October. All three filled tags.

The hunt was great! We saw lots of deer and waited for really nice bucks. Steve and Brendan both shot 8-pointers. I did all my exercises in Wyoming, and my ongoing rehab enabled me to hunt from the ground with my crossbow and even climb a low stand.

Tree stands are a must. The deer are really spooky. The first day in a stand was great; the second day was a bust. The deer were too smart. I passed up too many bucks and ended up shooting a doe the last evening of our hunt. It took us over

four hours to debone and cooler the meat, but temperatures ranged between 30 and 40 degrees so the meat was cold to transport.

Our Wyoming hunt covered five days. We had to draw for an “any” deer license (\$320) last winter, and added a \$74 bow license once we arrived in Wyoming. You could add a doe tag for \$34. If you prefer to hunt public land, I would recommend two to three additional days to scout and add a GPS to your arsenal of equipment. This is big country.



Steve Henske of Stevens Point with his 8-point Wyoming buck taken during the archery season.

On private or public land, first secure a ranch or place to hunt, and be aware that the license is region specific; there are over 100 regions in which to draw a license. Connect with the Wyoming DNR 307-777-4600.

My wife, Mariel and I made Italian Sausage this year using Penzey’s great spices, with directions which included mixing a pork butt into the venison. I am already looking forward to my 84th year and have put a down payment on next year’s hunt. The young guys will help me again. My knee is bending 110 degrees, so I am back in rehab for a few more weeks. The Wisconsin deer are waiting!

Two more notes; Life is good! But if you rest...you rust. 

Dick Henske is a retired Wisconsin elementary school principal who hunts and fishes Wisconsin, the western states and Canada. He winters in St. George Island, Florida, where he pursues many species of ocean fish.

On Wisconsin
Outdoors
With the Dick Ellis Experts

HUNTING • FISHING • TRAVEL
EXPLORE WISCONSIN

PUBLISHER | EDITOR:

Dick Ellis

ellis@onwisconsinoutdoors.com

COPY EDITOR:

Stuart Wilkerson

submissions@onwisconsinoutdoors.com

DESIGN | PRODUCTION:

Ali Garrigan

ali@onwisconsinoutdoors.com

Published bi-monthly by ON WISCONSIN OUTDOORS, LLC. ©Copyright 2018 ON WISCONSIN OUTDOORS, LLC with all rights reserved. Reproduction or use without permission, of editorial, advertising or graphic content in any manner is prohibited by law. **NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS:** All advertising is subject to publisher's approval and acceptance without recourse. Advertisers and their agencies assume responsibility for the condition of the contents of advertising printed, and agree to indemnify the Publishers of OWO for any and all claims and expenses arising there from. **CORPORATE OFFICES LOCATED AT:** 20240 West Rustic Ridge Drive, New Berlin, WI 53146 **PHONE:** 262.549.5550 **WEBSITE:** www.onwisconsinoutdoors.com

Take aim at your goals.



From injury treatment and prevention to therapy and training, we offer a full array of sports health experts, all under one roof. So whatever you need, you can rest assured we'll help you hit your target.

 **Aurora Sports Health**

aurora.org/sports



At Central Services, we strive to meet your expectations and provide you with the results and services you are looking for in your landscape construction, grounds maintenance, and snow clearing.

Our Commitment
to a professional image from the Green Team to make a
"Visual Difference"

CENTRAL SERVICES CO. INC.
(262) 548-0005 | Fax (262) 548-0744
1409 Poplar Drive, Waukesha, WI 53188
centralservicescompany.com

Our goal at Kaestner Auto Electric is to provide you with service that exceeds your expectations.

KAESTNER Auto Electric

SINCE 1919

Full service automotive and light truck mechanical and electrical repairs:

- Wiring/Electrical
- Brakes/Struts
- A/C Repair
- Charging/Starting/Batteries
- Failed Emission Repairs
- General Maintenance

Pick up and drop off service offered in Waukesha area.



VEHICLE LIGHTING & INSTALLATION
Kaestner is the largest local distributor of emergency vehicle lighting to the construction, municipal, security and trucking industry. We carry and install light, strobes, camera systems, back-up alarms, and much more.



FLAGS & POLES
We serve municipalities, schools, banks, car dealers and retail customers with the finest U.S. made flags, poles and components.



CONTACT US TODAY! (262) 547-9600
W222 N757 Cheaney Dr Waukesha, WI 53186
M-F: 7:30 a.m. -5 p.m.
Sat: 8 a.m.-12 p.m. (Parts Only)



STARTER, ALTERNATOR, and GENERATOR REBUILDING

Common Services:

- Auto/Truck
- Marine/Jet Ski
- Tractor/ATV
- Construction Equipment

95% OF THE TIME WE CAN HAVE YOUR UNIT REBUILT OR A REPLACEMENT BY THE NEXT DAY!



LANDSCAPING TOOLS
Representing the best in long handled construction and landscaping tools; the world's best brooms, shovels, rakes, lutes, bars, tampers, forks, shop brooms, squeegees, and utility brushes, Kaestner is your place to go!



PARTS & SUPPLIES

Whether you are working on a small project, landscaping, or running a large shop, walking through Kaestner's door is like entering a grown-up's candy store. From common supplies and tools to electrical items you cannot find anywhere else, your trip to Kaestner will be one sweet experience!

WWW.KAESTNERAUTO.COM

WILLIAM F. KENDY

Staying Sharp Working the angles in knife care

"If I had four hours to chop down a tree, I'd spend the first two hours sharpening the axe." — Abraham Lincoln

With all the hustle and bustle of the hunting season, we sometimes forget about taking care of those all-important basics that makes for a successful season. Having a sharp knife is right at the top of the list. A dull knife can make field dressing and game processing an unnecessarily difficult and time consuming chore. They are also dangerous because they can slide off of a surface resulting in a nasty cut. It's all about control.

Here are some basic things to consider in order to keep your knives in sharp working condition.

Working the "Angles and Edges".

Working the "angles" is not just about making great shots or hustling in a game of pool. Knowing and maintaining the degree of blade angle is the cornerstone of keeping your knife sharp. "The most important things to consider about knife sharpening are the edge angle and the condition of that edge," says Kyle Crawford, Work Sharp Outdoor Brand Manager for Darex, an Ashland, Oregon, based manufacturer of knife sharpening systems. "If you cannot create a consistent angle when sharpening, the knife won't perform up to its potential."

According to Crawford, most pocket and outdoor knives have a 20 - 25° edge angle with fillet and kitchen knives falling in the 12 - 17° range. He also points out that the purposes for which outdoor knives are designed influence things like edge angle and abrasive grit choice, as will the condition of the blade itself.

"For example, a caping knife is intended for precision detail work and benefits from a low angle and high level of edge refinement to optimize sharpness," says Crawford. "On the other hand, a 10-inch fixed blade camp knife that endures a lot of abuse benefits from a wider, more robust edge angle that will hold up to more rigorous chopping tasks."

"The condition of the blade's edge is a major sharpening factor and the difference between repairing a chip in a blade or just touching up an edge," says Crawford. "Start with a grit that fits and can handle the repair needs of the blade."



WorkSharp Guided Sharpening System allows you to follow the curve of the blade while sharpening, putting a sharp edge along its entire length.

Whether you use a whetstone, sharpening rods, an electric sharpener or other type of sharpening system, the basic sharpening steps remain the same. Starting out, the knife is drawn at the appropriate angle an equal number of times on both sides against a coarse surface to remove chips and "burr". The process is repeated with successively finer surfaces until the desired sharpness is achieved. The angle consistency is the key.

"While edge angle is important, consistency is even more important," says Crawford. "Slightly changing the edge angle does not compromise the knife performance, but not creating a consistent edge does."

There are commercial devices that can help maintain angle uniformity. Some people find the slant of a pack of matches laid on the stone helpful.

Buck Knives posted on its website three critical things to remember when hand sharpening a knife and some sharpening advice from company founder Al Buck (1910-1991).

"Always cut into the stone, never drag your knife edge back over the stone and always maintain your angle," said Buck. Buck also advised sharpeners to take a black felt pen and shade in the bevel of the knife and then take two strokes on the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 38

ON  HUNT

#1 HUNTING APP



Download today for a 7 day free trial of the most comprehensive maps available.



For more information visit onxmaps.com/hunt

TOM CARPENTER

River Reasoning

Isolation, diverse waterfowl inspire late-season hunts

Wisconsin's marshes, wetlands, waterfowl production areas, wildlife management areas and other traditional waterfowling zones attract plenty of ducks - and duck hunters.

But there's a place where you can find plenty of birds without the crowds of hunters. What's more, access is open to the public, as long as you can launch a boat, or float a canoe or kayak. Sound too good to be true? It isn't. The answer: Head to a river.

While not usually thought of as productive duck hunting destinations, rivers have everything ducks need, especially in the late season: open water, current-free spots in which to rest, and light to nonexistent hunting pressure.

Here's a waterfowl hunting approach for success on rivers. The keys are understanding where ducks like to be, making a smart setup, and mastering the nuances of river duck hunting.

Four Setups

The ticket to convincing river ducks to set their wings and drop into your setup is finding water that is moving very little or not at all. This is where the birds like to retreat and rest. Here are four places to set up:

Behind a Point. A point or sandbar jutting into the



main flow directs current out and away, forming a relatively calm pool on the structure's backside. Ducks congregate here. The wind won't always blow perfectly at your back, so place your decoys creatively so you're in position for shots at incoming ducks.

Side Channel. Many rivers offer side channels off the main flow - elongated stretches that sometimes harbor moving water but barely move along in autumn's typically

low water conditions. Place decoys upwind of you, inviting the ducks to try and land right in front of your hideout.

Oxbow Lake. When a river meanders so much that it cuts itself off, an oxbow lake forms where the river used to flow. This backwater becomes a duck magnet because there's no current, but often good cover. Hike in with waders and a pothole bag of decoys.

Eddy in a Bend. Not every river has abundant structure to deflect current and form calm holes. In this case your best bet is simply a bend or curve in the riverbed. Somewhere - usually on the inside - there is going to be a pocket of slack water in which to set up.

Five Tips

Hunting river habitat is very different than waterfowling on your favorite marsh. Here's how to adapt successfully:

Mix your decoys. Rivers are famous for potpourri bags of ducks - a mallard here, a wood duck there, pintails and wigeon, some divers. Add variety to your decoy spread. Diver dekes such as bluebills or canvasbacks work well for the extra visibility their white backs and sides provide.

Be ready. Wisconsin's rivers usually don't offer wide-open spaces for watching a flock of ducks work. The birds

CONTINUED ON PAGE 38

Great Truck Caps...And So Much More



- Bedliners
- Sport Lids
- Trailer Hitches
- Tool Boxes
- Tonneau Covers
- Running Boards
- Bug Shields
- Much, much more

Come in and see our huge selection of truck accessories.



"I know personally what it's like to want to protect your equipment...and your best friend...when heading into the field. We've been taking care of Wisconsin hunters and anglers for more than 30 years. We'll take care of you too and that is my promise. We look forward to seeing you soon."
-Gregg Borneman

262-524-8420

1855 E. Moreland Blvd. Waukesha • Just Off I-94, 1 mile west on Hwy. 18

TheCapConnection.com Store Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri 8-6; Tues, Thurs 8-7; Sat 8-4





Est. 1987

JERRY DAVIS

Waste Not...

Home tanning your deer hide for leather products


Harvesting antlerless deer is not considered worth the effort by hunters fearful of ending up with inedible venison tainted with CWD (Chronic Wasting Disease). Such hunters don't want to risk spending money on harvesting a deer whose meat may prove to be worthless. (There are ways around this predicament, such as waiting the 10-14 days for test results.)

Bucks are different. There is something, some hunters believe, to be valued by taking a buck in a CWD-affected area because of the prestige associated with having antlers to mount. Antlers, of course, can be mounted, crafted or displayed in other ways. So can deer skulls. But antlerless deer can have value, lots of it. Deer hides can be sold, traded for gloves, or tanned by a business specializing in tanning hides. They can also be tanned at home without purchasing a lot of chemicals and equipment.

Andrew Trester, 27, has a degree in textile and apparel design from UW-Madison. He is interested in articles made from furs, hides and fibers. "I wanted to see if it would be possible (for me) to treat a hide locally and get a piece of tanned leather from a deer," Trester said. Because he let his archery hunting skills lapse, he acquired a deer hide from a friend in Bayfield County to make his goal a reality.

"A really old oak tree, alive but old, is a great source of bark tannin and I found the perfect tree, one that had been struck by lightning," Trester said. "I even heard it fall!" He used a knife fashioned in Vietnam to remove some of the bark and boiled it to get the tannin out. Trester put the prepared hide in a plastic tub and let it sit for about seven weeks. During that time he worked the hide to break some of the fibers and roughed it up with a piece of wood.

Adding organic oils from bees and paraffin wax and material from animal hooves helped to create a large piece of deer leather suitable for a wallet, watch straps or belts. A knife sheath is another item that could be fashioned from this special deer hide.

Antlerless deer are not useless, as Tester demonstrated by learning how to tan deer hide. You can do the same, like many hunters have done for thousands of years. A little research can show you how to make a variety of useful products from harvested deer, antlerless and otherwise. 

Jerry Davis, a Wisconsin native, retired from university biology teaching and now lives in rural Iowa County. He applies arts and sciences to writing and enjoying Wisconsin's outdoors. Contact him at sivadjam@mhtc.net.



Pictured left to right:
#1: One of the initial steps of tanning involves soaking the hide in water containing ample oak bark pieces.
#2: After tanning and treating with organic oils, Andrew Trester's deer hide became more pliable.
#3: Andrew Trester tanned this white-tailed deer hide to make a piece of leather.

On The Cover

Amy Volkman had not tagged a deer in five years but the drought ended in a big way October 21 in Outagamie County. Amy was hunting with husband John on a friend's property when the third buck of the afternoon ventured close enough for a perfect double-lung shot with her Killer Instinct X Bow. The 17.5 spread perfect-eight weighing in at 185 pounds made it only 40 yards.

For *On Wisconsin Outdoors*, Amy's

cover shot makes it a family affair. Three-time Wisconsin goose calling champion John Volkman is a good friend of the publisher and christened the first *OWO* cover in September/October 2007 with a photo taken during a Neenah field hunt. John took his daughter Chloe's cover shot with a great Door County gobbler in March/April, 2016. And now, with this great buck shot also taken by John, mom makes three.



*All tanning is done on site and we guarantee your own hide back. We provide fleshing services – we take your animal from the frozen state, completely turn and salt them so that they are ready for tanning.

Wolf River Taxidermist Tannery

Providing Quality HAIR ON Tanning

OUR MISSION:

To build a strong/positive reputation, unsurpassed customer service and provide high quality tanned hides.

N5558 State Hwy 76
 Shiocton, WI

Phone: 920-986-3898
info@wolfrivertannery.com
www.wolfrivertannery.com



DICK ELLIS

Milford Hills

Hanging the welcome sign out for Wisconsin

Milford Hills wants you. To sight in your rifle or pistol. To take advantage of their 3-D archery range. To utilize the expertise of their gunsmiths, enjoy an excellence in dining experience with your wife, or a cold beer in the pub with friends. Or, maybe the family might just enjoy a drive to the country between Madison and Milwaukee soon to meet Santa. No problem. It's here. And you're welcome.

No new business moves forward from the drawing board without first defining from its inception a target market with a need. That's elementary. According to Director of Operation Taylor Williams when Lloyd Marks founded Milford Hills in 1996, he knew his primary clientele would be a higher-end member looking for an opportunity to hunt gamebirds, and around that, settle into quality environment to conduct business, or just relax in a service-oriented place that a guest would be willing to pay more for.

That has happened, with approximately 500 members from Wisconsin and Illinois and beyond today utilizing almost 500 acres of carefully maintained upland game habitat to hunt pheasant, chucker and quail in a hunting environment that is exclusive to members only... by design. The repetitive message that Williams expressed during an interview and show-around October 23 though, was that Milford Hills is absolutely open to the public, for all of the above except hunting, and much more.

"The bird hunts are exclusive to members," Williams said. "Everything else is open to the public. We're open 363 days a year with the exceptions of Thanksgiving and Christmas. We have pistol and rifle ranges from 10 yards to 100. Whether it's shooting handguns or preparing for the Wisconsin deer season or a hunting trip out west, we're busy seven days a week. We have 50 lanes, so lanes are usually open when anyone wants to get on and shoot. We recently had 210 people at a sporting clays event. That shows what we can do."

Marks built Milford Hills, Williams said, "From the ground up." From a handful of fields, the property now with two main buildings took on a bigger foot print, he said, with the acquisition of surrounding properties as they became available and



Situated on more than 500 acres of picturesque rolling hills in southern Wisconsin, Milford Hills is one of the Midwest's premier upland hand club destinations. Our combination of exceptional hunting, dining, lodging and Midwestern hospitality makes Milford Hills the ideal location for a one-of-a-kind experience.



After an enjoyable day of hunting our exceptional fields, you and your guests can spend a relaxing evening in our North Lodge. Nestled on the perimeter of Milford Hills 500 acre hunt club, the North Lodge offers many amenities including fully stocked wet bar, fireplace, game room, kitchenette, and sleeps up to 8 guests.

"expansion by necessity" initiating growth. New members liked what they had here and, much like today, word of mouth served as an effective tool of promotion in attracting new members and guests.

Nestled among the rolling hills of wooded acres and 13 fields of habitat from switch grass to sorghum holding gamebirds, the Trading Post and The North Lodge serve guests. The Trading Post's pro shop services include rifle and pistol range featuring 50 shooting lanes at 25, 50 & 100 yards, two 10-station sporting clays courses, 3D archery course featuring more than

30 targets, standard archery range with targets from 20 to 80 yards, selection of more than 300 new and used brand name firearms in stock, appraisals, basic and deep gun cleaning, gun repair, troubleshooting and upgrades, scope mounting, rifle zeroing and shotgun patterning, basic and intermediate handgun instruction, sporting clays lessons, rental handgun and shotguns, and manufacturer demo shoots with exclusive products.

"The shotguns in the Trading Post are high-end," Williams said. "We offer Browning, Beretta, Kimber, Fabarm, Ru-

ger, Sig Sauer, Glock and Smith & Wesson Firearms, brands you can't purchase at Dick's. Our gunsmiths are certified and qualified and here for the public. We try to set ourselves apart with everything we do; from the signs leading into the property to the architecture of the buildings. All the guides and their dogs are contracted through us. We guarantee that they will put all the birds in the air. We don't guarantee that the members will hit them."

The North Lodge offers four bedrooms, three bathrooms, and can comfortably sleep eight guests either for members here to hunt, or for example, as the perfect option for people expected from out of town or attending a Milford Hills wedding. The living room and kitchenette, Williams said, include a fireplace and fully stocked wet bar, overlooking a field ready for hunting in the morning.

Milford Hills, he said, also offers corporate outings and picnics, fund-raisers, wine pairing dinners, business meetings, team building events, sporting clay events, retirement and birthday parties, weddings and rehearsal dinners, bridal and bachelor parties, and family celebrations. Five meeting rooms on site accommodate guests ranging in number from 15 to 250.

This writer and his wife, in fact, recently attended a fabulous wedding at Milford Hills, with groomsmen having had enjoyed a bachelor party's "Last Blast" on the shooting range the week before...alcohol free of course. Hit the Milford Hills website and learn more. "Milford Hills bachelor parties are unbelievably fun," the site reads. "What better way to blow off some steam than to get a group of guys together and unload some shotguns or pistols? Our Sporting Clays course offers state of the art equipment and delivers a challenging, yet fun atmosphere."

Williams said that the approach provided by staff to guests coming to Milford Hills for the first time or a longtime member is driven by the same service-oriented approach. They build relationships, and each staff member from support staff, to the field staff planting birds to the kitchen and management knows that a combined, superior and successful team effort will make the guests experience worthy of return.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27



TRADING POST PRO SHOP SERVICES

Rifle & Pistol Range Featuring 50 Shooting Lanes;
Targets at 25, 50 & 100 Yards
Selection of New & Used Brand Name Firearms in Stock
Gun Repair, Troubleshooting, Upgrades & Appraisals
Rental Handguns & Shotguns
Private Firearm Lessons
Sporting Clay Lessons

Basic & Deep Gun Cleaning
Summer Sporting Clay Courses
Shotgun Patterning
Scope Mounting & Rifle Zeroing
Hunter Safety Education Classes
Conceal Carry of Weapon Classes
Basic & Intermediate Handgun Instruction



W5670 FRENCH ROAD | JOHNSON CREEK, WI 53038 | 920.699.2249 | MILFORDHILLS.COM

GARY GREENE

Memories from an Old Hunter

The love of the Hunt

As a young hunter during the mid-1960s, I had a love affair with squirrels. I became consumed with this type of hunting because there were an abundant number of squirrels in surrounding woodlands. There I could pursue them with my bow or pellet gun without the supervision of a parent. Many a time I remember coming home with a kink in my neck from treetop searching for the bushy tail or that apparent growth on the tree that didn't belong.

I was an enemy of the squirrel, and I had some good reasons. One of those reasons occurred at a Milwaukee Brewers game at the old County Stadium. Between innings, as I was sitting in the lower deck, I heard the crowd yelling. They were reacting to a squirrel sailing through the air from the upper deck. That squirrel landed on my left shoulder. I may have overreacted and screamed like a school girl as the squirrel crawled down my back and proceeded to run across the playing field.

Pheasants were my next love. To this day, I never get tired of the "flush." What is even better is a flush with a cackle. I could watch forever as one of my labradors worked a running rooster. Adding to the excitement is seeing the flushing bird burst into the sky as my dog leaps to catch it, sometimes coming back to earth with a mouthful



Our 2018 traditional father/son goose hunt with Jim and Paul Wick, Nate and Gary Greene, Brian and Jesse Jablonski with daughter Harper (4) and our labs.

of tail feathers.

As the pheasant takes flight, I take aim and fire. I watch as that beautifully colored bird crumbles and the dog makes a beeline for it. My dog returns with bird in mouth, having completed the task it was born to do. Every re-

trieve, the dog and owner are as proud as the first. I smile every time. There are few things in this world that make you smile every time. We are very fortunate to have state-stocked pheasants on Wisconsin public hunting grounds. Those birds have kept me a happy hunter for over 50 years.

I fell in love a third time when my son Nate introduced me to waterfowl hunting. I have grown to love waterfowl hunting as much as does. Nate does all the set-up and calling and I supply the money. I have learned that you can never have enough duck hunting equipment; there is always a greener headed mallard decoy out there, as well as mechanical decoys and camouflage articles. Nate, an ex-Army Ranger, states that he was taught you are only as good as your worst camouflage.

I have found there is nothing like ducks circling your decoys, the calling, the birds cupping and my dog retrieving. It would be perfect, if only my pheasant hunting labs would stop that occasional whining in the blind.

I'm still in the wetlands and fields, but with my new, old man diminished hunting skills' slogan: "You can't miss unless you shoot!"

Gary Greene is a lifelong bird hunter and has been a pheasant hunting guide for years. Gary, his veterinarian wife, Chris, and labs live in East Troy.

JOIN THE HUNT!

www.wernvalley.com





WERN VALLEY

Hunting Preserve & Sporting Clays

Conveniently located just minutes west of Milwaukee in Waukesha, Wern Valley offers the finest in upland bird hunting as well as a professional full-time staff dedicated to the avid sportsman and woman. Our nationally recognized sporting clays course is open to the public year round. Bring along your family, shooting buddies, or your four-legged companion and see all that Wern Valley has to offer!

For more information on how to Join the Hunt, give us a call at **262-968-2400.**



PUBLIC SHOOTING RANGE

RIFLE • PISTOL • CLAYS



- 25-50-100-300 yd. Rifle & Pistol Range
- Novice Trap
- Sporting Clays
- Plinking
- Law Enforcement Range
- Pro Shop
- Food Available

Firearms Bought & Sold Try After You Buy!

Operated under lease by



www.mcmillersportcenter.com

100 Walters Rd Eagle, WI 53119 262-594-5900

Your absolute best value in print & online advertising

- Our ads, when compared with the competition, are bigger, and our standard ads come in full color without hidden charges.
- Our ads are also the most affordable. Your cost per week, across all ad sizes, will be substantially lower with On Wisconsin Outdoors.
- Our ads run for eight full weeks or until all 100,000 copies have been picked up by, or delivered to your customers, providing a longer exposure time for your product or service.
- Our unique ability to combine both print and online advertising is unmatched. Think of us as your personal advertising specialists.
- Interested in sponsoring OWO in your community with prominent name recognition for your business? Interested in cost-effectively sponsoring one of our great columnists? Ask for details.
- Ask about our Explore Wisconsin Tourism Program.

- On Wisconsin Outdoors is a bi-monthly publication available in stores by the first of the month.
- 100,000 copies are distributed throughout Wisconsin and northern Illinois.

Find us in 219 Kwik Trip stores, Gander Mountains, hardware stores, groceries, liquor distribution centers, sport shops, and other businesses. OWO is also delivered directly to homes as inserts in local newspapers throughout Wisconsin and in northern Illinois.

- Ads should be submitted by the 15th of the month preceding publication.

Jan/Feb	due Dec 15	July/Aug	due June 15
March/April	due Feb 15	Sept/Oct.	due Aug 15
May/June	due April 15	Nov/Dec.	due Oct 15

- The preferred file format is Adobe Acrobat PDF, fonts to outlines, images converted to CMYK in Press Ready output.
- Resolution should be a minimum of 300 ppi at 100% size.
- Submit ads to ali@onwisconsinoutdoors.com

If ad design assistance is desired we will be happy to help.
Ask us about our current rates.

Web graphics can be provided in a .png or .jpg format.

Ali Garrigan, Design & Layout
Email: ali@onwisconsinoutdoors.com | Phone: 920.472.1292

Dick Ellis, Publisher
Email: ellis@onwisconsinoutdoors.com | Phone: 262.549.5550



facebook.com/onwisconsinoutdoors

Online Advertising Rates for OnWisconsinOutdoors.com

Logo Ad/Link	199 x 250 pixels	\$150	\$18.75
--------------	------------------	-------	---------

Don't see the ad size you're interested in?

Let us know and we can customize a size that fits your needs.

Effective 10/28/18

DAN MOERICKE

An 'Up Nort' Report

Passion to hunt flows like unending well

Over the years, I've probably heard these words uttered by dozens of guys: "I used to hunt." In most cases, they might just as well been telling me that they used to be able to fly. I just can't relate to that statement. What happened?

The inevitable follow-up explanation usually involves career changes, kids, loss of land access or something similar. Somehow, some way, something in their lives had made hunting unimportant, or at least, not important enough to pursue any more.

For some, there are physical excuses that made the continued pursuit too onerous. For those folks, I'd have them do a search on Lloyd Kalfs. I first met Lloyd when he was playing basket-ball at Northland College. A few years later, an auto accident left him a quadriplegic. He's still hunting. Check out his story at www.lakefieldstandard.com/articles/overcoming-inspiring/. Make no mistake, Lloyd is a hunter.

Recently, I had a guy tell me he was selling all of his hunting stuff because he

didn't have any-body to hunt with any more. While I have to agree that being in the woods with a buddy or two makes the hunt more fun, I'd rather go it alone than not at all. Hopefully, I'm never faced with that situation.

As to not having a place to hunt, one doesn't have to look very far in Wisconsin to find some public land. We are blessed with a ton of it.

A hunter is something "I am", as opposed to hunting being something that "I do". That's a distinction that I suspect is hard for non-hunters to grasp. For those who 'used to hunt,' it seems that the opposite was true; hunting was something they did, but it wasn't who they were.

Again, I just have a hard time wrapping my head around the idea of giving up hunting. I grew up hunting. Before I was old enough to carry a gun, I'd get to tag along with my dad as he pursued grouse, squirrels or deer. To be honest, Dad wasn't a real hard-core hunter, but he loved just



The author plans to continue doing what hunters do.

being out in the woods. He infected me with the same passion at a young age.

Probably my single greatest moment in the field came on opening day of archery season my first year of bow hunting. I had turned 12 before the opener and was able to buy a hunting license for the first time. My older brother and his buddies had a tradition of conducting deer drives during the bow season and I was invited along (mostly to be an extra driver, I'm sure).

On the second drive of the morning, a six-point buck walked past me and, thanks to many hours of practice and a lot of luck, my cedar arrow flew true. In my mind, I can still hear the whoops from Jerry, Geno, Newc, Teddy, Scott and the others when

we found that deer less than 80 yards from where I'd hit it. I had become a hunter.

Fifty deer seasons have slipped down the trail since then. Seems hard to believe, but that's the number. To this day, I get excited when I hear a twig snap and the crunch, crunch, crunch of a deer walking through the fall leaves. I just can't imagine that will change. And I can't imagine giving that up.

From time to time, we all say things that we regret. Hopefully, the words 'I used to hunt' never cross my lips. Just sayin'. 🍀

Dan Moericke is an avid and successful Wisconsin fisherman from Wausau and an occasional guest on outdoor fishing programs. On the water, he always tells some version of the truth.

Dog Tired and Limit Filled
It's about time spent with family, friends, and dogs.
We've also got the best pheasant hunting in ND.

Call 800-279-7391 for your free hunting packet

DICKINSON
NORTH DAKOTA

Hunt THE Western Edge

visitdickinson.com

f t i y

Fox Valley Retriever Club

*Hunters Helping Hunters
To Train Their Retrievers*

Training for Hunting Hunt Tests Shed Hunts

FOXVALLEYRETRIEVERCLUB.COM

onwisconsinoutdoors.com

ON  HUNT

THE #1 HUNTING MAPS.

RON STRESING

A Wing-Shooting Alternative
4 Reasons to pigeon hunt year-round

The flock of seven pigeons were focused on landing in the decoys like an airliner coming into General Mitchell Field. My cousin Ken and I crouched a little lower, as the birds cut the distance. When they were committed and about four feet off the ground, we jumped up, and educated them in the ways of decoys and shotguns. Seven birds flew in, only three flew out.

Feral (barn) pigeons make their homes on farms all-over the Badger State, living in silos, barns, machine sheds and out buildings. They seem to have a particular love for dairy farms. All the loose corn, soy beans and other animal food attracts the birds, and therein lies the problem. Pigeons tend to wear out their welcome by leaving their waste on farm machinery and silage. Bacteria in their droppings contains e-coli that contaminates silage, hay, or oth-

er feed that can cause disease in cattle. The waste will also destroy the paint on farm equipment. Farmers often want them gone, or at least their numbers reduced.

The garden variety wild pigeon is just a domesticated dove gone wild. Both doves and pigeons belong to the *Columbidae* family of birds, and a quick look at the two will show a lot of similarities. Brought over by European settlers, these birds quickly made themselves at home. I've killed feral pigeons on mourning dove hunts, and vice versa. In fact, I often set a pair of pigeon decoys off the side of my dove decoys. The larger size decoys are more easily seen by doves. I'd be wary of eating city pigeons you see picking in trash cans, but fat dairy farm birds are excellent eating. If you like dove, you will love wild pigeon!

Where to hunt: The premier place to hunt pigeons are working dairy farms,

hands down. Farms will attract birds from all over. I've watched pigeons on farms where I had permission to hunt, and they tended to fly from farm-to-farm in the neighborhood, feeding as they went. If you can locate the "hub" farm the different flocks seem to stop at, you can pretty much enjoy pigeon shooting all morning. Remember, that farm is how the farmer earns a living. Ask where you can and can't drive, where you should park and remember to close gates and respect his property. Many will not want you shooting close to his cattle, silos, overhead wires or sheds. Freshly harvested fields are pigeon magnets Pick up any litter, your empty shells and dead birds. Fresh fish fillets or deer sausage is a nice way to say thanks.

Decoys and related gear: Pigeon decoys are available from Wing Kings and Soar-No-More decoys. We use a half-dozen



minimum, but the more the better. For motion decoys, just use the same "spinners" you use for duck hunting. I've killed dozens of pigeons over my teal and wood duck Mojos. Set the decoys at 25 yards in an X pattern, with the spinner in the middle. Seeing as you are shooting birds over decoys, use your favorite waterfowl gun, with low-cost trap loads. This is also excellent gun dog and retriever training.

We start hunting at the end of summer when pigeons are no longer sitting on nests. Thinning out the pigeon flocks helps

CONTINUED ON PAGE 38

TOM CARPENTER

Badger Birds
Ring-Necked Pheasant

Every bird-lover's heart beats pitter-pat at the sight of a big rooster pheasant, strutting proudly along in his feathered finery. This multi-colored fowl is notable for its bold red eye patch, iridescent purple-green head, white "necklace" and burgundy breast to powder-blue lower back and that long, elegant tail. Every hunter's heart stops at the cackling flush of that same resplendent bird into an autumn sky.

Fortunately, with a few grasslands, wetlands and odd corners of wildlife-friendly habitat intermixed with farmland, both bird-lovers and hunters (and those two terms are not mutually exclusive) can enjoy ring-necked pheasants on the Wisconsin landscape.

Originally imported to North America from China in the 1880s, these adaptable gamebirds inhabit grasslands, wetlands and farmland across the southern half to two-thirds of Wisconsin. Although some introductions to Wisconsin may have taken place before the 1900s, it seems the first successful stocking of wild birds occurred



in Waukesha County in 1916, according to wisconsin-hunter.com. Wisconsin's first pheasant hunting season was in 1927.

Look for hen pheasants on the landscape – subtly beautiful birds cloaked in mottled feathers of sandy brown, cream and gray, with gentle accents of blue and green.

Travel back roads early in the morning to spot pheasants out on the gravel. They go there to escape dewy

grass, dry off, and pick up some grit.

Listen for the rooster's loud, raspy *kyik-kuk* mating call in spring. He'll also cackle on frosty fall mornings.

Let a few corners of your property go wild. Ring-necked pheasants need brush and grass for hiding, but come out to feed in open areas on sunny mornings and late afternoons.

Feed pheasants shelled corn spread on the ground. In winter, keep snow off the grain with a simple "lean-to" built from plywood and 2x4s.

Did you know that pheasants, while primarily seed eaters, also love fruits and berries? Crabapple, dogwood, viburnum, highbush blueberries, Russian olive, mulberries and raspberries will all attract pheasants to your land or backyard. These small trees and shrubs also provide important wintering habitat. 🍷

Native son Tom Carpenter writes about the outdoors for a variety of national and regional publications.

ON  HUNT

TRY TODAY

ANDROID APP ON
Google PlayDownload on the
App Store

MIKE FOSS

Reaping what Nature Sows

Successful bear hunt brings special payoff for hunter, friend

As the 2018 Wisconsin bear season crept in I prayed that the prevailing southeast wind would stay the same as it has all summer long. Mother Nature had other plans. In 2017, the heat was the enemy. Now, the autumn winds had come early and decided to stay all week. They couldn't have been worse.

Handing the reigns of Northern Wisconsin Outfitters to my longtime guide Robert Haas several years ago was one of the most difficult and emotional things I ever had to do. For many years, I had built a reputable bear guide service based on an intimate knowledge of the animal earned in the Bayfield County fields, and pure, hard work. Our hunters know they will have shot opportunity. Maybe, based on

our client harvest records, on an animal that could push 400, 500 or even more than 600 pounds. Those animals are in Wisconsin. We find them, or more accurately, they find us.

In 2008, I was asked to join a team of outdoor writers for *On Wisconsin Outdoors*, and will continue to feed my bear and deer addiction as a columnist covering north-central Wisconsin. As always, I will continue to assist family and friends in baiting and stand placement in Bayfield County when they are fortunate enough to draw the coveted harvest tag.

Long-time family friend Michael Augsburger of Oshkosh received his tag in 2018. Years ago I told Mike to call when news of a tag came through and we would plan his

hunt. When the phone rang I could immediately tell by the excitement in his voice that it was time to honor that promise.

Throughout the summer of baiting, Mike made three trips to Bayfield County to help and experience as much of his pre-hunt as possible. With multiple bear stands in place and being hit with active bears and the September season drawing near, Mike had choose which location he would hunt first. By sending Mike trail camera photos and videos capturing many bears visiting each stand, his choice was easy. Three enormous bears, including one long-time visitor over many years who had earned our nickname, "Ghost", visited a stand. Ghost, estimated to weigh well over 500

Mike Augsburger's 324 pound dry sow was estimated to be 15 years old.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

 **QUIETKAT**
ALL TERRAIN | ALL ELECTRIC

**Greater access into
the Backcountry**

Hunt more successfully

**Low-impact, stealth
movement**

QuietKat is a Game-Changer



*"Quietkat takes me further off
the beaten path to pursue
my passion of hunting
big game animals"*

Jim Shockey,
*Shockey Hunting
Adventures*
on the
Outdoor Channel

(970) 328-2399

www.QuietKat.com



FOSS, FROM PAGE 18

pounds, is known for making an August appearance for two weeks before mysteriously disappearing.

Opening morning, Mike was nestled in the stand by 7:00 am for what might be a long wait, and a long wait it was. Mike had set the alarm on his phone for the end of evening shooting hours at 7:56. Over a day on stand, his only visitors had been a family of raccoons, and two beautiful coyotes boasting reddish pelts. At 7:35, probably with more anxiety waiting to hear from Mike than he had waiting for a very large bear, I received a text message. A rifle report very close to the north had Mike concluding that his hunt for the day was over. I encouraged him to stay vigilant on stand until the end of shooting time.

With the unwelcome northeast wind calming down to nothing, Mike caught movement from his right and the big bear circled wide, scent-checking every few steps for danger. Mike lost sight of the visitor for what seemed like an eternity before a huge black figure appeared behind the bait. Finally, when the big bear was satisfied that all was safe, it stepped from the shadows to commit to the bait station and offered the hunter a well-placed shot.

Dropping the bear in its tracks, Mike immediately knew the animal was big.



QuietKat Bike retrieving a bear.

While standing alone and with admiration over the sow that would tip the scale at 324 pounds, Mike looked up into the darkening sky and gave thanks. Minutes later, the alarm that had mistakenly not been set on silence sounded to make his heart pound once again.

Miles away, I gave thanks with the news too. When I was a bear guide, I often said that I would pursue these bears for no pay. Now that I do just that for family and friends, the payoff still makes me a very rich man. 🍷

Mike Foss was born and raised in Washburn, Wisconsin (Bayfield County) and spent years as a professional bear and deer guide. He now assists Robert Haas Northern and Northern Wisconsin Outfitters. Connect with NWO at 715.373.0127 or northwiout@att.net.

You are Invited

to visit the country's
premiere log &
timber home
facility



Lakehouse 3352AL



South Carolina 2310AR



Lakehouse 4166AL

We have a lot to show you and it is worth a trip from anywhere...
An experience you will not find anywhere else.

See why it is easier to build with us. Our "One-Stop-Shopping" design showroom will help you visualize your log or timber home dream.

You can select and compare cabinetry, fireplaces, doors, windows, roofing, plumbing fixtures, stain colors, etc. We can also show you the different log and timber textures, sizes and shapes. Along with the variety of corners such as saddle notch, butt & pass, vertical, dovetail, etc.

Then tour our beautiful and professionally decorated model home for lots of ideas and, if you want, we can show you our state of the art manufacturing plant and dry kiln. You will be surprised with just how much care and quality goes into every Golden Eagle Log & Timber Home.



Golden Eagle
LOG & TIMBER HOMES
www.GoldenEagleLogAndTimberHomes.com
1-800-270-5025

Simple Fundamentals

Teaching, and learning, builds on simple fundamentals.

To teach reading and writing, we first teach A B C.

To teach adding and subtracting, we first teach 1 2 3.

Are these the simple fundamentals upon which we are to learn how to love our neighbor as ourselves, or put into practice doing unto others as we would have done unto us?

I Am the Lord God...

You will have no gods before Me.

Do not make unto Me any graven image.

Do not take My name in vain.

Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy.

Honor your father and mother.

Do not commit murder.

Do not commit adultery.

Do not steal.

Do not bear false witness against your neighbor.

Do not covet anything that is your neighbors.

November Fuel Discounts

BUY 1
Chex Mix or Bugles
3 - 3.75 oz • Assorted Varieties



SAVE
3¢
/GAL.
UP TO 30 GALLONS

BUY 2
Kellogg's Boxed Cereals
8.7 - 18 oz • Assorted Varieties



SAVE
10¢
/GAL.
UP TO 30 GALLONS

BUY 2
Bubly Sparkling Water
20 fl oz • Assorted Varieties



SAVE
3¢
/GAL.
UP TO 30 GALLONS

BUY 2
Purple Power
Premium Windshield Wash



SAVE
5¢
/GAL.
UP TO 30 GALLONS

BUY 1 EACH
Sprite 20 fl oz and Roller Grill Tornado
Assorted Varieties



SAVE
5¢
/GAL.
UP TO 30 GALLONS

BUY 1
Jack Link's Bagged Jerky
2.85 - 3.25 oz • Assorted Varieties



SAVE
10¢
/GAL.
UP TO 30 GALLONS

BUY 3
PowerBar Protein Bars
2.12 - 2.5 oz • Assorted Varieties



SAVE
3¢
/GAL.
UP TO 30 GALLONS

BUY 1
Sports Mug
\$3.99-\$5.99 Varieties
Availability varies by state



SAVE
5¢
/GAL.
UP TO 30 GALLONS

BUY 2
Blistex
.15 oz



SAVE
2¢
/GAL.
UP TO 30 GALLONS

BUY 1 EACH
Core Power and Banana
11.5 - 14 fl oz • Assorted Varieties



SAVE
3¢
/GAL.
UP TO 30 GALLONS

BUY 1 EACH
Red Bull & Hot Case Sandwich
8.4 fl oz • Assorted Varieties



SAVE
3¢
/GAL.
UP TO 30 GALLONS

Buy any gift card from a participating partner, earn 10¢/gal fuel discount.

SAVE
10¢
/GAL.
UP TO 30 GALLONS

Offer available to Kwik Rewards members who purchase a qualifying card at participating Kwik Trip locations between 11/18-12/31/18 and scan their Kwik Rewards card or enter phone number at time of purchase. Qualifying cards include purchases of Amazon.com, Applebee's, Bass Pro Shops, Buffalo Wild Wings®, Cabela's, Darden, eBay, Google Play, Home Depot, Lowe's, Netflix, Sony PlayStation, Uber, and Xbox. Vanilla® Visa® Gift Cards are not eligible for rewards. Gift card partners are not sponsors of this promotion. All logos are copyrights of their respective owners. Offer valid while supplies last. Restrictions may apply. Cents off rewards expire 30 days from the day earned and may not exceed 30 gallons. Limit one use, valid on a future fuel offer.

Unless noted, offers valid through 11/30/18. Cents off rewards expire 30 days from the day earned and may not exceed 30 gallons. Limit 1 use. Valid on a future fuel purchase.

Kwik **REWARDS**
by **Kwik Trip**

Explore Wisconsin



No Need to Hibernate in La Crosse County, WI

La Crosse County has plenty of activities to keep you warm! Ski, fish, snowmobile, snowshoe and more—bundle up for some serious winter fun.

Skiing & Snowboarding

Hit the slopes at Mount La Crosse, a popular downhill skiing and snowboarding destination. With 18 runs designed for every experience level, you can bring the whole family.

Cross-Country Skiing

Try out your cross-country skis on the region's numerous trails, including Veteran's Memorial Park, Hixon Forest, and the La Crosse River State Trail. Got a dog? Try skijoring!

Snowmobiling

The La Crosse area features over 650 miles of interconnected, well-groomed trails. Seven different snowmobiling clubs welcome visitors to the area.

Snowshoeing

Take a walk through the winter landscape via snowshoe. Explore the trails of Goose Island Park, Hixon Forest, and the La Crosse River State Trail.

Rotary Lights

The Rotary Lights display turns Riverside Park into a magical winter wonderland. With over three million Christmas lights, this La Crosse tradition is truly a spectacle. Check out the ice rink!

Summer is over, but the fishing isn't.

Fall's cool temperatures brings some of the year's best fishing. Walleye begin to move again and while the fall Walleye run tends to be less lively than in the spring, they tend to be more predictable and can provide steady action right up until the freeze. The first areas to catch the attention of ice anglers are the backwaters. Then, as ice creeps out from the shores of Lake Onalaska, so do intrepid ice anglers looking for some of the best pan fishing of the year.

2019 Fishing Events

Atomic Ice Fishing Derby - Jan 26, 2019

Brice Prairie Winter Fishing Derby - Feb 2, 2019 

Visit www.explorelacrosse.com for details or call 800-658-9424



WIN A TRIP TO YOUR FAVORITE FEST!

Photo / @bobgood

text **RIVERFESTIVALS**
to 31996 to enter!

explore
LA CROSSE
.com

Everyone knows La Crosse has one of the nation's premier Oktoberfest festivals. Well, on top of that we also have Holmen's Kornfest, West Salem's June Dairy Days, and Celebrate Onalaska... the festivals go on and on. What can we say? **WE'RE FESTIVE.**


Port Washington

Explore Wisconsin 

For Lake Michigan fishing, there is no off season in Port Washington. Come drop your line from our shore!



Make Port Your Lakeside Playground!



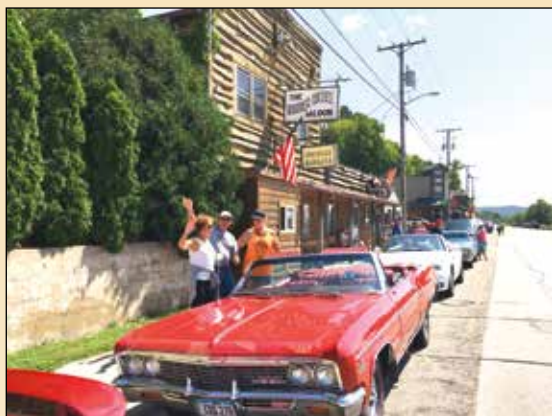
PORT WASHINGTON
WISCONSIN

www.visitportwashington.com | 800-719-4881



Clayton Schultz, 16, took this great 9-point buck with his bow in Waukesha County the first week on November, 2017. Photo by his best friend, Augie.

Explore Wisconsin



Great Time had by all on the WI Great River Road

SHERRY QUAMME

Make Your Day a Great One Destination- Mississippi River Coast

What happens when you decide to spend the day exploring? Where do you go? What trips your trigger? Sunshine is a great advantage but even if the weather doesn't give you a perfect day, find the route to the WI Great River Road National Scenic Byway Hwy 35. Once on the Mississippi River Coast of Wisconsin, you will sense your blood pressure drop and the calm talk over as you enjoy the views of the river, bluffs, soaring eagles and rafts of canvasback ducks.

Pack your binoculars so you can see the wildlife first hand. You have entered the Upper Mississippi River Wildlife Refuge; the Mississippi River Flyway for hundreds of raptors, swans, pelicans, ducks, and many other birds heading south for the winter. Dress warm. Pack snacks. Check out www.wigreatriverroad.org and learn about the 33 communities that dot the WI Great River Road. Pick out your route.

Want to stop and have some great food, beverages and company? Want to explore wineries? They are all listed in the 2018 WI Great River Road Visitor Guide. You can see it online at the wigreatriverroad.org website or simply request a copy via "contact us" on the website as well.

Ferryville holds a special place in our hearts because it is at the widest place on the river and the home of Former Governor Patrick J. Lucey. Look for the historical marker in Ferryville honoring Governor Lucey and between two observation decks at River View Park in the center of town. (You will never get lost in Ferryville! There is no way to go "around the block"! Hwy 35 is the Main Street and that is it!) Stop in for home-made soup at the Swing Inn and see if the "resident ghost" Blue Moon makes a visit. Have a burger and brew at the Wooden Nickel Saloon and see what is the cooking at Kit's Sportsman's – Friday Night Fish is a specialty. Above all else, enjoy the hospitality and warm welcome that you will receive anywhere on the West Coast of Wisconsin.

When you head home, there will be a smile on your face and a glow in your heart. Come back anytime and remember...

"The porch light is always on here for our visitors".



visitferryville.com

WINTER 2018

November 10, 2018 - Bird Migration
Day 9 A.M. River View Park
downtown

December 3, 2018 - Holiday Tree
Lighting and Community Night
with Santa & Music .6 p.m.

SUZETTE CURTIS

Recipes with Suzette Comfort Food with Venison



I had my meat grinder out last weekend as I was making Venison chili for a group of about 20 people. It reminded me of all the ways I have used ground Venison over the years, and why I love having packages of what I consider "scraps" in my freezer. When my husband butchers a deer, he knows to keep small pieces as well as somewhat fatty pieces for me to use for grinding. They are packaged accordingly, and I thaw and grind them as needed. Here are a few "comfort food" recipes that have been in our family for years. Enjoy!

Texas Hash

3 T Fat (your choice)	½ Cup uncooked Rice
3 large Onions, sliced	1 teaspoon Chili powder
1 large Green Pepper, diced	2 teaspoons Salt
1 pound Ground Venison	1/8 teaspoon pepper
1 can Diced Tomatoes**	

Preheat oven to 350°.

Heat fat in large pan over medium heat. Saute onions and peppers until vegetables are soft, and onions are translucent. Add ground Venison and cook, stirring continuously, until meat is browned. Add remaining ingredients and mix well. Pour into greased 2 quart baking dish. Cover and bake for 45 minutes; remove cover and bake additional 15 minutes.

This recipe is from a time when cans of diced tomatoes were 16 ounces. Since most cans are now about 14.5 ounces, you may want to add a quarter cup of water or tomato juice as well.

Lasagna

2 T Fat (your choice)	1 teaspoon Salt
1 pound Ground Venison	¾ teaspoon Pepper
2 cloves Garlic, minced	1 teaspoon Oregano
1 can Whole Tomatoes, broken up	8 ounce package Lasagna Noodles
1 can Tomato Paste	8 ounces Swiss Cheese
12 ounces Cottage Cheese	

Preheat oven to 350°

Heat fat in large skillet over medium heat. Brown beef; then add garlic and sauté for one minute. Add tomatoes and spices. Cover and simmer on low for 20 minutes.

Cook noodles as directed on package. Drain but do not rinse.

In 9 x 12 greased baking dish, place alternating layers of noodles, meat mixture, and cheeses. Finish with noodles and a very thin layer of the meat mixture on top. Bake, uncovered, for 30 minutes.

Porcupines

2 T fat (your choice)	½ teaspoon Celery Salt
1 pound Ground Venison	1/5 teaspoon Garlic Powder
½ cup uncooked Rice	¼ teaspoon Pepper
½ cup Water	1 15 ounce can Tomato Sauce
1/3 cup Onion, chopped	1 cup Water
½ teaspoon Salt	2 teaspoons Worcestershire Sauce

Mix ground Venison, rice, ½ cup water, onion, salt, celery salt, garlic and pepper. Shape mixture into rounded balls (about 10 – 12). Heat fat in large skillet and cook meatballs until brown on all sides.

Mix tomato sauce, ½ cup water and Worcestershire sauce; pour over meatballs in pan. Heat to boiling. Reduce heat, cover, and simmer for 45 minutes.

Suzette Curtis, of Oshkosh, cooks for a family of hunters and anglers and tries to fill their menu with recipes for meals made with venison, upland birds, and fish. She does just that with great expertise. Contact her at recipesbysuzette@onwisconsinoutdoors.com.

Suzette Curtis, of Oshkosh, cooks for a family of hunters and fishermen and tries to fill their menu with recipes for meals made with venison, upland birds and fish. She does just that with great expertise. recipesbysuzette@onwisconsinoutdoors.com.

ASHLAND COUNTY

Heaven Captured

Chequamegon Bay's late autumn, early winter paradise

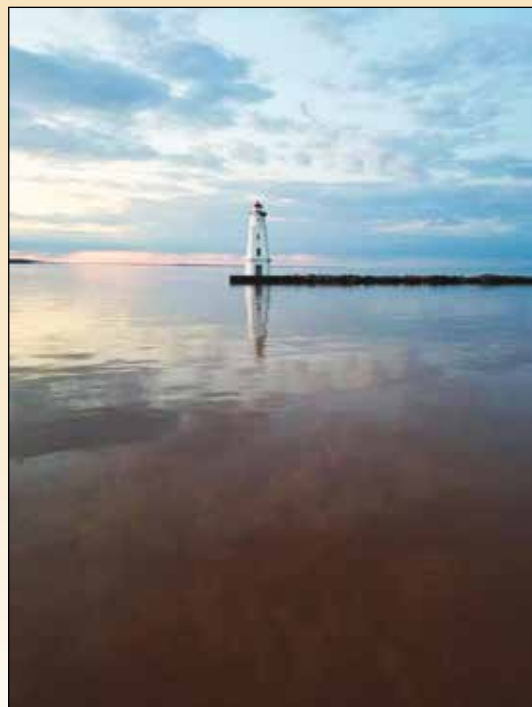
November and December offer an exciting time for outdoor enthusiasts who love nature and the great outdoors with fishing, boating, hiking, hunting and, of course, the sensational sunsets over Chequamegon Bay and the Greatest of the Great Lakes; Lake Superior. There is a distinct chill in the air right now which means "autumn is here" and winter is not far from our thoughts. The amazing color shining from the trees in the Chequamegon Bay area is a tempting reason for a road trip in the fall, when fiery color from the maples and bright yellow aspens span the Midwest, creating a memorable autumn sight. Autumn leaf color is a phenomenon that lasts a few weeks in the fall, showcasing various shades of red, yellow, purple, black, orange, pink, magenta, blue and brown in the trees and foliage. Before that "white fluffy" stuff of winter covers the ground you will still see the remains of the fallen leaves.

Along with autumn comes fall hunting, fishing Lake Superior and Chequamegon Bay and Stream Fishing. Always be cautious of the gale winds of November and December but when winds are calm, Chequamegon Bay presents anglers with some nice Smallmouth Bass and shows true to life why Chequamegon Bay is known as the state of Wis-

consin's top Smallmouth Bass fishery and Wisconsin's premier Smallmouth 4-season fishing destination!




Many anglers still try their hand at fishing on the lake even in the weather which sports very cool temps. Bird Hunting is plentiful in the Ashland County Area and it won't be long before deer hunters take to the woods for a trophy deer. The Ashland Area, including Chequamegon National Forest, Lake Superior, streams, rivers, and inland lakes is a hunter and angler's paradise.


Ashland, Wisconsin offers numerous lodging opportunities for the outdoor sportsmen, a huge array of choices in shopping and dining, two well versed, veteran bait shops, fishing and hunting guides, and of course the friendly people. Bring the entire family for a memorable visit. When you are not in the field, head to the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center just two miles west of Ashland on US Hwy. 2 for indoor and outdoor things to see and do including an exhibit hall and a tower overlooking adjoining counties where you will often site many bald eagles. There is also a gift shop with regional items for sale and a board-walk in the back of the center which has many plants from our region.



Ashland Lighthouse in late autumn.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25



ASHLAND



WISCONSIN

ON CHEQUAMEGON BAY

HISTORICAL MURAL CAPITAL OF WISCONSIN

Take the Self-guided Mural Tour or
Hop on the Guided Mural Trolley Tour
Mondays at 1:30 pm,
Fridays & Saturdays 10:00 am & 1:30 pm
For cost and other info go to www.visitashland.com

ASHLAND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
800-284-9484
www.visitashland.com

ASHLAND, FROM PAGE 24

Fill your water jugs at the artesian wells with natural spring water that bubbles up and flows all year long just west in Ashland at Maslowski Beach and Prentice Park. Artesian well water never freezes and is a favorite of both visitors and locals. Check out the 19 Murals all painted by two artists depicting Ashland's rich history. 2018 marks the 20th Anniversary of Historic Murals in Ashland; "The Historic Mural Capital of Wisconsin". For an Ashland County Map and more information on hunting and fishing guides in the area, call the Ashland Chamber at 800-284-9484.

Happy late autumn and early winter! 🍂

Late Season Smallie



**MANITOWISH WATERS
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE**

**HIT PLAY
WITHOUT THE REMOTE**

MANITOWISHWATERS.ORG • 715-543-8488

Sharing Your Passion for the Great Outdoors

We've got everything you need to pursue
your passion for your outdoor adventure.

Hunting • Shooting • Fishing • Camping • Boating • Hiking • ATVing & Beyond



All Roads Lead to Marinette County ... The Real North

There's no hurry...with over 600 miles of ATV/UTV &
Snowmobile trails we're always open for an adventure!

Your Outdoor Connection

1905 Hall Ave • Marinette, Wisconsin 54143 • 715-732-5162 • www.therealnorth.com

DAVID DUWE

Fall Spinnerbait Bites

Capitalizing on the feeding frenzy

In fall, many species of game fish are actively feeding to get ready for the lean winter months. The largemouth bass, northern pike and musky all tend to move back into the shallow weeds. One of my favorite methods for cashing in on the bite is the spinnerbait. With a spinnerbait, there are many presentations available, so it may be necessary to try several methods to get the right one. This can mean trolling with larger baits to cover a lot of water fast or slowly rolling them in deeper water. A slow rolling crankbait means that you are reeling the bait very slowly so that the baits barely spin at all.

When figuring out what spinnerbait to use, the best place to start is with the weight of the bait itself. I don't tend to go lighter than one-half oz; anything lighter makes it very difficult to slow roll it. My preferred one-half ounce bait is the Booyah spinnerbait by Pradco Outdoor Brands. When trolling is the preferred method, I'll go a bit heavier with a 1 - 2 ounce weight. I like the Booyah Tandem Willow in white or chrome. I typically troll at 1.3 - 1.5 mph. With the heavier weight and at that speed, it's easier to get the bait into 8 - 12 feet of water.

The blade is the next consideration. I

rarely use anything besides Willow or Colorado blades. The weeds being fished will further determine which blade to use. In thick weeds, like milfoil, I like the Willow blade due to its tighter vibration and can be pulled through the thicker weeds. The Colorado blade works best in scattered weeds; my favorite is the single #4 Colorado. When I'm trolling, I almost always use a tandem Willow. I start with a size 5 blade and go up from there as needed.

Color also plays a significant role in the spinnerbait. For very clear water, which is somewhat typical in the lakes I fish in southeastern Wisconsin, I like more natural colors like gold, chrome or fire tiger. If the water is darker, I use a darker blade like black or orange. I also choose a pattern depending on species. For example, for northern pike and musky, I like a fire tiger pattern or any pattern that closely resembles a crappie.

As mentioned earlier, the shallow weed flats are where the fish congregate in fall. As the season progresses, it's important to search for the greenest color weeds you can find. The green color means more bait fish and game fish follow the bait fish. The reason the bait fish head toward the greener color is for the increased oxygen



Steve Hauge with a nice Weedflat Musky.

level; as the weeds die out, the oxygen level decreases.

A spinnerbait is designed to replicate a bait fish and most often a strike is a reaction strike. The game fish will see the action or flash of the bait and react with a bite. Matching the size and color of the bait to the size and color of the bait fish population is a good idea. For instance, I use a plain white skirt with a chrome blade to emulate a sucker or large minnow.

I like to use a long cast when using a spinner bait. The speed of the retrieve will depend on the density of the weeds and the depth of water. In thick weeds, it's

necessary to retrieve faster; for scattered weeds, I reel in slower and add a pause to my retrieve.

There are many spinner bait choices. When starting out, make sure you try several different sizes in both plain white and chrome colors. Spinnerbaits are one of the easiest methods to fish and a favorite for the fall season. 🐟

Captain David Duwe is owner of Dave Duwe's Guide Service and guides the lakes of southeastern Wisconsin. He specializes in Delevan Lake and Lake Geneva. Find him at fishlakegeneva.com or fishdelevanlake.com or call him at 262-728-8063.



"WHAT DO YOU MEAN 'COME HOME', DEAR?
I **AM** HOME. COME ON OUT AND JOIN ME."



Captain Dave Duwe
with a weedflat
spinnerbait Musky

SPONSORED BY...

Amherst Marine

amherstmarine.com

RECREATIONAL BOATING SALES & SERVICE FOR MORE THAN 25 YEARS

GIVE JERRY A CALL AT 715.824.5635

PHIL SCHWEIK

Early Ice Walleyes

Wisconsin's other fabulous November hunt

When most people think of November and Wisconsin they think of deer hunting. Count me in that group. But with the first hint of ice on our area lakes, hunting immediately takes a back seat. Wisconsin's other fabulous November hunt is just a deep freeze or two away.

First ice in November means walleyes, big walleyes, eager, aggressive fish that are ready and willing to take a bait that is dangling below two or three inches of ice. Typically this occurs around the third week of November, or just about the time deer season is in full swing. If you don't hunt or are lucky enough to bag your buck right away, this is when you can cash in on some of the most fantastic fishing of the year.

Safety first! Always use your common sense. When traveling out on first ice always remember to use the buddy system. Never venture alone, always carry ice picks and bring along a rope. I know several guys who will take a life vest. Fishing at this time of the year can be great but use caution.

Let's get into the action. Early ice in Central Wisconsin usually involves the backwaters of the Wisconsin River or a body of water associated with the Wisconsin River system. Lake Dubay, Lake Wausau, Halfmoon Lake, and the Big Eau Pleine reservoir are great bets for early ice walleyes.

When targeting early ice walleyes I typically look for shallow mud flats associated with stumps or downed tim-

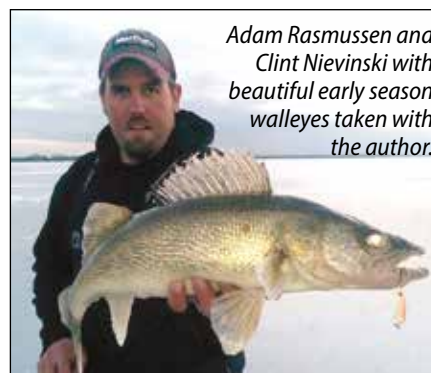
ber in two to six feet of water. These are the areas that are going to have the largest concentrations of fish. With the root beer-colored water that we have a person doesn't need to fish any deeper. I usually get out on the ice about 2:00 pm to ensure setting up with plenty of daylight.

I will then proceed into a stump filled flat or sandy shoreline with auger in hand in search of any depth change I can find. These depth changes or contours, are the key to targeting active fish that habitually use them as corridors traveling from one area to another in search of food. As little as 6 inches is enough to create a passageway.

To set the trap, start from the shoreline and work out drilling holes about every 20 to 30 feet. I will drill holes for several hundred feet, then return to check the depths and mark areas where the depth changes. When all of the holes are checked I go back again and mark the holes with the most significant depth changes while still trying to cover as much water as possible.

The key is keeping distance between my tip-ups while still creating a straight line barricade out from the shoreline. This increases the chances of catching any walleye traveling along the different depth breaks. The tip-ups, Beaver Dams with a heavy backing and 14-pound fluorocarbon leader, are generally 50 to 100 feet apart.

The set-up is tough enough to handle being dragged across stumps and



Adam Rasmussen and Clint Nievinski with beautiful early season walleyes taken with the author.

downed trees without breaking yet thin enough for the minnows to still work effectively. If I notice an area that is getting more action I will move the other tip-ups into one of the holes already previously drilled in order to take advantage of the situation.

When rigging my baits I like to set them about 6 to 8 inches off of the bottom. Small sucker minnows or medium golden shiners have been the best bait for early season walleyes in central Wisconsin. Simply hook them with a number 6 or 8 red treble hook right behind the dorsal fin and just lightly under the skin.

Like our group, consider creating a base camp approximately 25 to 50 yards from the fishing area. This is done well before dark to keep disturbance near the tip-ups to a minimum prior to the evening feed. Then sit back and wait for the action to start.

Expect the best flurries of action about one hour before dark until dark with a second wave of action kicking in



an hour after dark for another hour. We often also get periodic flags throughout the night.

For fishing after-dark I have my tip-ups hooked up with lights specially designed for night fishing. Many ice anglers make their own but several manufacturers including Frabill have excellent products on the market.

Veteran hard-water enthusiasts waiting for a new season and beginners alike can work with the fishing associates at the local sporting goods store to find every bit of gear needed to jump right in this game. Early ice fishing, and Wisconsin's other fabulous November hunt, is here. 🐟

Phil is the owner of Hooksetters Guide Service in central Wisconsin and Hookset Adventures in Eagle River, which keeps him on the water more than 200 days a year. Phil lives in Mosinee, Wisconsin, and can be reached at pschweik@dwave.net and on his website at hooksetters.biz or hooksetadventures.com, at 715.693.5843 or on Facebook at Phil Schweik.

MILFORD HILLS, FROM PAGE 12

It helps that the property is beautiful, and changes with the seasons, from blossoming summer flowers to the gourds and pumpkins of autumn, and on. Williams, who mocks disappointment when he confesses that his job can take him from the office to the field when a member extends an occasional invitation to hunt, smiles and opens a freezer door to Thanksgiving turkeys raised on the property and butcher-ready for pick-up by guests. He compares

this staff with the expertise and respect found from golf caddies and staffs at a country club.

"We're no different than any other club. We want them to leave happy and satisfied," William said. "We're building relationships year after year. Word of mouth has been important to getting people here for the first time. Once they find us, once they're here....the property sells itself."

First time guests, for any event at Milford Hills, will have a genuine thank you for staff when they leave. The staff has

something to say to you before you even arrive.

"You're welcome." 🐟

Milford Hills is located at W5670 French Road, Johnson Creek, WI 53038. For all details from dining to shooting sports opportunities call 920-699-2249 or connect with www.milfordhills.com. For membership information, connect with Taylor Williams at taylor@milfordhills.com or 920-699-2249.



Presents... — FISHING GUIDES — Dan Diedrich & Clay Heller



TOM LUBA

Big Baits, Big Bass

The proven case for super-sizing plastic worms

Nick Creme created the first plastic worm in 1949. To this day, no one knows who's fertile mind was responsible for the first Texas-rigged (weedless) version. But it handed fishermen a snag-free weapon for extracting bass from cover.

Most Wisconsin bass fishermen fish six or seven-inch worms. But now more anglers than ever are taking a cue from their southern com padres and throwing bigger worms. Why? Because they work.

My introduction to oversized plastic worms came on a shallow, weedy lake formed by a river. We were fishing a channel as a man walked out to the end of the dock where a pontoon boat was parked. His plaid shorts, black socks and black shoes made me think he wasn't a fisherman. But, after we confessed that we hadn't caught anything, he asked "Do you have any ten-inch Power Worms? They've been working."

Nope. Just my trusty seven-inchers.

We didn't score in the channel, and headed upriver, where we found fish number one, a tube jig smallmouth on an outside bend. As we kept fishing, we heard an outboard and soon a bass boat slipped by, headed further upriver.



See the difference in the seven inch Berkley Power Worm (third from left) and the ten inch Power Worm (fourth from left). The ten incher still has a fairly small diameter which is appealing to mid-size and even smaller bass as well as big ones. Always match the hook size with the bait you are fishing.

We also pointed upstream, and two bends later saw the Ranger tight to shoreline trees. The fisherman stood up as we idled past, holding about a three-and-one half pound largemouth. When we asked what he caught it on, he sim-

ply said "A ten-inch black Power Worm."

I quickly rigged my seven-inch worm weightless and started pitching it at any shallow cover I saw and was finally rewarded with a three-pounder that attacked from the shaded side of a log.

Since then, I've found more reasons to tote the bigger worms. They also work at night. Because a worm by nature is long and narrow, it isn't just a bait for big fish. The thinner diameter makes it easier to mouth for smaller bass, so you'll get bites from fish of all sizes. The bigger worm moves more water and creates more vibration when dragged along bottom, making it easier for the fish to zero in.

Make no mistake, bigger worms will catch bigger bass. Last season, my brother Bob Luba boated a pile of large-mouth between four and six pounds. They all came once he dialed in the ten-inch Power Worm pattern along a deeper weedline. These were daylight fish.

Fish the big worms in weeds, brush, laydowns, breaks where there is quick access from deep to shallow and any good-looking cover. Just upsize to a 4/0 or 5/0 wide gap

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30

JOHN LUTHENS

Fishing for Feathers and Flies.

Collecting certain feathers for the tying vise in violation of century-old law

Grouse feathers and mallard wings disappeared piece by piece along the hook shanks of winter until the last of my fly-tying provisions finally froze out. I became desperate, and desperation drove me to commit a criminal act.

Amidst the swirls of Wisconsin's finest snow and ice, entrenched in cabin fever and waiting with crazed eyes for the open water of spring, I crept into the forest and broke into Mother Nature's house to see if she might have left something lying around that could be tied onto a hook.

I was still walking the straight and narrow when I scooped a handful of turkey feathers from beneath a snowy pine – but when I plucked a blue jay feather from the brush and gathered the downy leavings from a scattered flock of mourning doves in the branches



The feather of an evening grosbeak may or may not be enticing for the wings on a fishing fly, but it is certainly against the law.

above – I unwittingly broke a storied law that was inked into our country's legal books a century ago.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 was written to protect birds from being illegally harvested to the point of extinction for the use of fashionable hats and decorative art. According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, over 1000 species are on the no-fly list. The law includes fallen feathers plucked from the ground, as it would be difficult for conservation officers to prove one way or another whether a person had picked up naturally-dropped feathers or killed the bird illegally.

Not taking flight from migratory species, grouse, pheasant and turkey hackle is perfectly legal, even if it is found naturally preened along the seasonal trails. Non-native species such as house sparrows and Euro-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31

Weekend Freedom Machines



There is a certain buyer's comfort in a name. Old friends like John Deere and Princecraft mean years of experience, sound engineering, quality products, and people who stand behind it all.

There's another name in Wisconsin that has earned that same kind of respect by standing

behind what they sell for more than five decades. Before you buy, say hello to Dave and Leni Kahler of Watertown.

Dave's Turf & Marine. Quality boats, lawn equipment and utility vehicles. No-excuses family service.



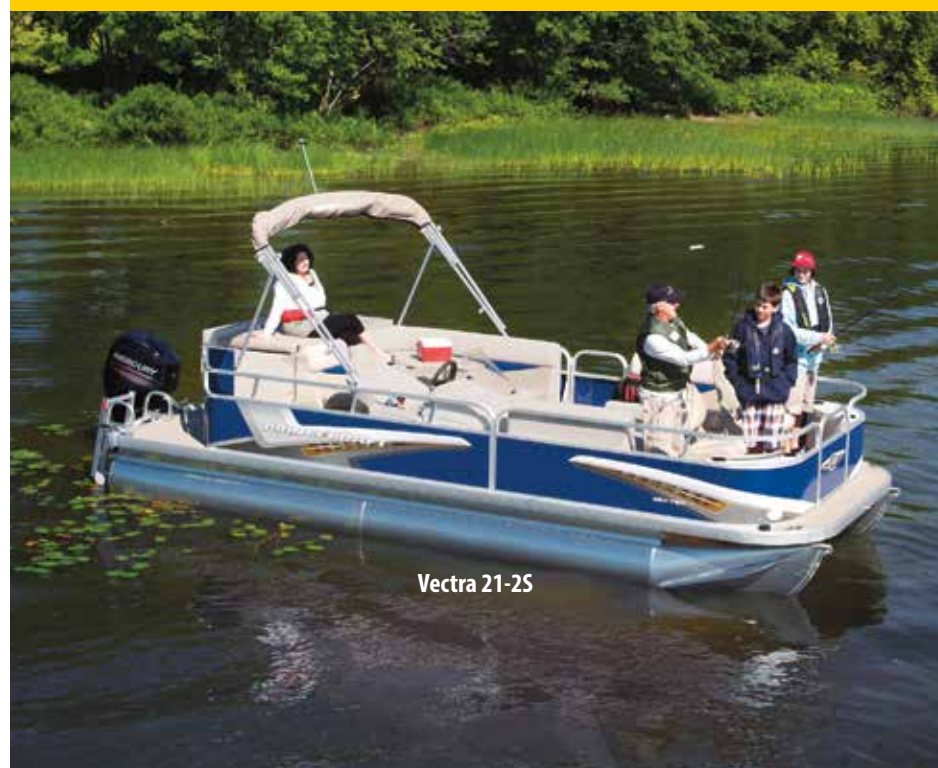
JOHN DEERE

Dave's Turf and Marine

Highway 16 East & Eastgate Drive • Watertown • 920-261-6802 davesturf.net

1
SERVES
DAVE'S

Over 60 Years
of Service



Vectra 21-25



Platinum SE 207



PRINCECRAFT



RAY'S HANDY WIPES

Ray's Handy Wipes are great for hunting, fishing, shop, dairy, and household toweling. If your work or recreational cleaning needs come with fins, feathers or fur, our strong, soft absorbent toweling will handle the job in superior fashion. Lint free material is outstanding for cleaning glass, firearms and other equipment.

AVAILABLE IN ROLLS OR SHEETS. AFFORDABLE PRICES. TWO SIZES OF DISPENSERS TO CHOOSE FROM.

Free delivery. Or, visit us 7 days a week 12 miles north of Fond du Lac.

Call Ray Jurgensmier: **920-795-4765** (office) **920-579-9978** (mobile)
N10759 Hwy 151, Malone, WI 53049 (Calumetville)

MIKE YURK

Successful Innovations 3-way rig alternatives

The Wolf River Rig, named after Wisconsin's own Wolf River, is one of the oldest and most effective bait rigs. During the 1960s, my grandfather taught me how to fish for walleyes and white bass with it on the Wolf River. In fact, I never saw him fish with anything else.

Since I moved to western Wisconsin over twenty years ago, I began to revisit my Wolf River Rig roots. The original begins with a three-way swivel. One eye of the swivel is, of course, tied to the fishing line. The second eye has a foot to a foot-and-a-half leader with a bell shaped sinker. The third eye has a two to three foot long leader with a hook. The sinker takes the rig to bottom and keeps it there.

Changes to the Wolf

I made a couple of changes to this simple rig and found that they increase its effectiveness. I replace the sinker with a three-quarters to one-ounce chartreuse jig and on the other line I put on three chartreuse beads and a chartreuse number six hook. In my experience, chartreuse is an essential color for river fishing. Although I have experimented with other colors, I keep coming back to chartreuse because it is so productive, especially in stained water painting the Mississippi and other Wisconsin rivers.

It is interesting to see if the jig or the hook is the most effective on any given



Mike Yurk shows off a Mississippi River walleye taken with a modified three-way bait rig. Placing a three-to-four inch plastic bait on the jig catches more and bigger fish.

day. Sometimes the jig catches more fish and other days the hook is more productive. By using a rig with both baits, it significantly increases the chances of catching more fish.

Adding Plastics

The last few years I have been experimenting with more changes to my modification of the three-way rig. One of the most productive I found is placing a three- to four- inch plastic bait on the jig. I stumbled upon this a few years back when my fishing partner and I were running out

of minnows on a fall day while fishing the Mississippi River. To get our minnows to stretch a little further, I used them only on the hook and hooked a four-inch chartreuse plastic bait to the jig. In the next hour I caught more and larger fish on the jig with the plastic bait than I was before with just a minnow on the jig. One of the other advantages I found with a plastic bait on the jig is it eliminates catching many smaller, undersized fish.

Any number of plastic baits will work well with the jig. A few of my favorites


are Ring Worms or Paddletails by B Fish N Tackle Company and G Tails or Curly Tail Flukes by the Prescott Bait Company. Again the key color is chartreuse.

More Innovations

I have discovered some other variations of the three-way rig that I will be working with this fall. One is to add a two-inch curly tail plastic grub to the hook while using either a plastic bait or a minnow with the jig.

Another innovation would be changing the hook on the longer leader, replacing it with a floating lure such as the Original Floating Rapala, the Crystal Minnow by Yo-Zuri, or the Rebel Minnow. Firetiger or anything with chartreuse would be a favorite, but also any of the silver or minnow like colors should work as well.

A fishing buddy who was the amateur on a pro-am walleye tournament on the Saint Croix River, told me that rig was the favorite bait of the professional angler he was fishing with.

The basic Wolf River Rig has spawned a number of innovative options. What you can do with the Wolf River Rig is only limited by your imagination. 

Mike Yurk has published more than 600 articles in national and regional outdoor publications. He has published five books on outdoor subjects. He is a retired Army officer and lives in Hudson, Wisconsin. Contact him at bassinmajor@yahoo.com.

RAY'S HANDY WIPES

Ray's Handy Wipes are great for hunting, fishing, shop, dairy, and household toweling. If your work or recreational cleaning needs come with fins, feathers or fur, our strong, soft absorbent toweling will handle the job in superior fashion. Lint free material is outstanding for cleaning glass, firearms and other equipment.

AVAILABLE IN ROLLS OR SHEETS.

AFFORDABLE PRICES.

TWO SIZES OF DISPENSERS TO CHOOSE FROM.

FREE DELIVERY.

OR, VISIT US 7 DAYS A WEEK 12 MILES NORTH OF FOND DU LAC.


Call Ray Jurgensmier: **920-795-4765** (office) **920-579-9978** (mobile)

N10759 Hwy 151, Malone, WI 53049 (Calumetville)



LUBA, FROM PAGE 28

hook. Since you will have a slightly thicker body on the big worm, I'd suggest super sharp hooks, like TroKar or Gamakatsu, for better penetration. Consider no weight when fishing shallower water.

A lot of times plastic worms get shifted aside for the new and fashionable. But they never quit working, day or night. Black and Green Pumpkin are good starting colors. Now's a great time to put them in your upcoming plans. And next season, when you start getting bit, you'll be happy you did. 

Tom Luba is a freelance outdoor writer and bass fishing fan from New London, Wisconsin. Tom fishes as much as he can and never gets tired of setting the hook.

JIM SERVI

Product 6-Pack

New ideas to think about this archery season



DREAMY DOE

The buck you've been waiting for finally makes an appearance, but he's on the prowl and won't slow down. Glancing at your doe decoy, he suddenly changes directions and heads right towards you. If you haven't tried it yet – decoying works, especially during the peak of the rut. This decoy allows you to set it in multiple positions including bedded. Only 30 ounces and folds up for easy carrying. (\$69.99)

montanadecoy.com



QUIETKAT RANGER 750

Here's a fun product that'll let you sneak into the deepest woods. Or just ride it for pleasure. Operate either in motorized mode for up to 20 miles or use as a standard bike. Available in black or camouflage. Designed for rugged, off-road travel with front spring coil hydraulic suspension and Shimano Altus 7-speed gear complete with stainless steel chain. 26-inch x 4.5-inch tire. Mechanical disk brakes. (\$2,499.00)

quietkat.com



SKB HS300 SEMI-AUTOMATIC SHOTGUN

Hybrid operating system has inertia bolt and self-regulating gas valve, reducing recoil. Receiver is made from high strength aluminum with finely crafted CNC machines for precision. Available in 12-gauge and 20-gauge models. 3-inch chamber. Comes with 6 different stock shims to optimize your shooting comfort. Beautifully etched receivers. Smooth shooting. (\$625.00)

skbshotguns.com



STABILICERS WALK

You may not want to think about it yet, but winter is coming. Don't let it catch you off guard and slow down your outdoor activities. These multi-directional, full-sole cleats will help keep you upright and off your back side in icy conditions. Slides off and on with no problems. Easily fits over your shoes and boots for natural walking. Superb traction on ice and slippery snow to beat any winter conditions. (\$21.95)

stabilgear.com



EXCEL-OUTDOORS BUCKET CADDY

Transport all your ice fishing gear with this bucket system. Use it year-round for all your other outdoor tinkering. Holds two buckets. Excellent for transporting your bait bucket with wobble stop hardware. Fits on any 2-inch receiver hitch, making it perfect for ATV/UTVs. (\$149.98)

amazon.com



SPLASH BUCKET BUDDY CHAIR

Fits on most 5-gallon buckets. Seat ring connects the chair to the top of the bucket. Warm, comfortable, and has great back support for on-the-go rifle hunting, sitting next to your ice-fishing hole, camping, you name it. Insulated with a shoulder carrying strap. Oh yeah, and it even floats. While you're here, check out other great products at this new website. They have everything for the outdoor enthusiast. (\$40.61)

thenortherntundra.org


LUTHENS, FROM PAGE 28

pean starlings are not protected, and hunters legally harvesting migratory waterfowl such as a geese or ducks are able to keep the feathers, and as long as they aren't being sold, are legally able to give them away to someone else for personal use such as fly tying.

Blue jay tails, mallard wings and the feathered leavings of songbirds aside, the gray area for fly-tying enthusiasts and naturalist collectors comes from migratory birds such as mourning doves and crows, found in abundance in our local fields and forests, and for which hunting seasons in Wisconsin currently exist.

While it's within the letter of the law to accept a handful of gray mourning dove feathers or the black wings from a crow from a legally-licensed hunting partner, a mid-winter wanderer picking the same feathers from the snowy ground could be subject to a hefty fine.

Fly-tiers are creative when it comes to the use of feathers, constantly inventing new patterns and improving on old standards in the pursuit of their chosen sport. Indeed, pushing the boundary limits between the known and unknown is half the fun of fly fishing.

As for my own zest for the sport, it was no excuse for breaking a 100-year-old, feathered law. My only defense is temporary insanity brought on by the cabin-fever depths of Wisconsin winter. Lesson learned. I promise not to do it again. 

John Luthens is a freelance, outdoor journalist with decades of Brule River canoeing experience. Feel free to contact him at Luthens@hotmail.com with any questions on planning a northern Wisconsin paddling adventure of your own.



Wisconsin Fishing Reports.

OnWisconsinOutdoors.com
[WisconsinFishing](http://WisconsinFishing.com)

WASHBURN COUNTY TOURISM ASSOCIATION

Planning your Winter Adventure Up North

As the leaves begin to drop and the first flurries of snow start to arrive, it's easy to get excited about walking across a frozen lake to get to your ice shack or starting up the engine of your snowmobile to hit the trail for a day of enjoying the northwood's winter beauty. Winter in Washburn County is an absolutely incredible time to visit with hundreds of miles of recreational trails and nearly a thousand lakes offering a variety of fish species.

For those of you planning to get out on the lake for some fishing, you'll want to check out our Fishing & Outdoor report on our website. Experienced anglers and several of our bait & tackle shops offer regular updates on where the fish are biting and what they're successfully using to catch them. Plentiful lake-side cabins offer the perfect opportunity to walk out your cabin door and be steps away from your ice shack.

If you'd rather hit the trail, you're sure to fall in love with the Washburn County snowmobile trail system. Over 240 miles of trails are expertly groomed by local volunteers to provide riders with the best possible trail riding experience. While all of Washburn County's trails are stunning, a few of our favorites include the northwest loop which includes trail 7 (also known as the Casey Loop), the northeast loop just east of Minong offering a stunning view of Washburn County's dense county forest land, and you'll definitely want to check out the southeast loop which leads you to beautiful Long Lake. Washburn County's trails connect seamlessly to surrounding counties and offer direct access to the area's restaurants, lodging establishments and more. A variety of lodging options are available including trail-side cabins and hotels.

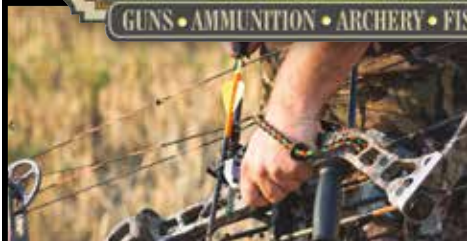
While snowmobiling and fishing are two of Washburn County's most popular winter pastimes, the area is also home to excellent snowshoeing, cross country skiing and offers the perfect backdrop for the winter photographer. Start planning your winter adventure at washburncounty.org or by calling 1-800-367-3306. 📞

Explore Wisconsin



SPORTSMEN'S DEALER OF CHOICE FOR OVER 25 YEARS

LARGE INVENTORY AT LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES
20 YEARS OF GUNSMITHING EXPERIENCE
SHOOTING RANGE & TRAINING



Hunters' dealer of choice for all their firearms, ammunition, reloading, sports optics, and accessory needs. Midwest provides a friendly atmosphere and the right advice to help their customers make the correct decisions.

Lowest possible prices from major suppliers including: Beretta, Bob Allen, Bore Snake, Benelli, Beretta, Boyt, Browning, Butler Creek, Case-Gard, Caesar Guernini, CCI, ClayBuster, Colt, Federal, Fabarms, Glock, H&R, Hoyt, Hornady, Kimber, Leupold, Marlin, MEC, Mossberg, MTM, Nosler, PSE, RCBS, Remington, Ruger, Savage, Stoeger, SKB, Swarovski, Sig Sauer, Smith & Wesson, Weaver, Weatherby, and Winchester.

Gunsmithing services include repairs and cleaning. If you have a special request or your gun is in need of repair, their staff can assist you at (920)269-4995 or toll-free at 1-866-269-4995.

Open hours: Mon - Fri,
9am-8pm, Sat 9am-6pm,
and Sun 10am-5pm



WWW.MWSHOOTERS.COM

191 CHURCH ST. LOMIRA, WI (INTERSECTION OF 41 & 67) | 920.269.4995 | 866.269.4995

Enter to win **Free fuel** for a year!

**Log into your Kwik
Rewards account &
check the sweepstakes
page for more details!**

www.kwikrewards.com



**Kwik
TRIP**

Prize includes free fuel for one year (\$2,000 Kwik Trip/Kwik Star Gift Card). No purchase necessary to enter or claim prize. Purchase does not improve odds of winning. Open to legal residents of U.S. residing in the state of WI, MN or IA throughout the sweepstakes period and who are 18 years of age or older at the time of entry. Entry period begins at 12:00:00 am CT on 10/1/18 and ends at 11:59:59 pm CT on 12/31/2018. For official rules and free means of entry, visit www.kwiktrip.com/contestrules.



Here at MJ's, we take pride in our team. Our team is full of experts in everything guns and more. Stop by to meet with one of our team members to get all the help you need.



- BUY/SELL/TRADE
- CONSIGNMENT
- SPECIAL ORDER
- REPAIRS
- CUSTOM BUILDS
- CUSTOM MOLDED EAR PLUGS
- APPRAISALS
- RELOADING SUPPLIES
- ESTATE HANDLING
- CERAKOTE

262.628.4200
WWW.MJGUNSHOP.COM

1292 STATE ROAD 175
HUBERTUS, WI 53033



STUART WILKE

An Affordable Classic *Who wouldn't want to find a Henry Rimfire under the tree?*

There is no better introduction to the shooting sports than a .22 caliber rimfire rifle and Christmas is a great time to present one as a gift. Choose your rifle wisely; it can make the difference between making a new shooting pal or getting an insincere smile and unenthusiastic "thank you" that comes from a present gone bad.

Presentation is everything when it comes to a present. Sure, form should follow function, but why choose one or the other when you can have both, and at a reasonable price? Few .22 caliber rifles fit the bill better than the Henry H001 Lever Action .22. Take a look at the picture accompanying this article and you can see why more than a million of this "American Classic" have been sold. They are a great value. Henry's are renowned for their gorgeous American Walnut stocks and this least expensive of their lever action rifles is no exception. Wood-to-metal fit is exceptional and the blued finish is bright, durable and evenly applied.

Unlike many firearms which need a few hundred rounds fired before they function reliably and their actions smooth out, the H001 works and works well right out of the box. The lever action throw is short and quick. As an added bonus, the lever loop is large to accommodate a gloved hand during winter shooting. Cool and classic in appearance, too, especially if you're familiar with Chuck Connors shooting his large-loop lever in "The Rifleman" TV series of old.


The H001 carbine is a compact package, with an overall length of 34" and a 16 1/8" barrel. This makes it especially handy for younger folks or those of smaller stature. A rifle version is also available with a barrel length of 18 1/4" and an overall length is 36 1/4". Rifle and carbine are svelte, weighing in at just a tad over five pounds.

Original lever action Henry Repeating Rifles of the Civil War era had tubular magazines and were known as the gun that you loaded on Sunday and could shoot all week. Today's Henry Lever Action also has a tubular magazine and can fire quite a bit of ammunition before reloading: 15 rounds of .22 Long Rifle, 17 rounds of .22 Long and as many as 21 rounds of .22 Short.

Henry's H001 is a highly functional and practical firearm de-



signed for target shooting and small game hunting. Spent cases are ejected from the side of the receiver and the rear sight is adjustable for elevation and windage. The front sight is protected by a hood. For those interested in more accuracy, the H001 has a 3/8 grooved receiver for mounting a scope. The barrel is machined with state-of-the-art multiple groove rifling. The result is a highly accurate firearm.

All Henry Repeating Arms are "Made in America or Not Made at All" and feature a lifetime warranty. Manufacturer's suggested retail price of the H001 is \$378. Check one out at your local sporting goods store and consider putting it on your own Christmas present list. 

Stuart Wilke is a long-time OWO contributor, award-winning Wisconsin journalist and firearms expert specializing in historical firearms and collecting.

MJ Gunsmithing

Matt Bagues, owner of MJ Gunsmithing in Hubertus, has no intention of selling you anything you might later regret buying. "We want your business now and in the future," he explained. "We're here for the long haul, not to make a quick buck. Unlike way too many big box sporting good stores, we're here to listen to your needs, not give you a line of BS just to make a sale."

If you pose Matt or one of his staff members with a question that they can't answer, they will do the research necessary to provide you with a correct answer, as opposed to making up something from thin air. "We're here to educate and be educated," Matt said. "We don't sell junk and we don't want anyone leaving this shop unhappy and mad at us. We want your repeat business. We

will tell you the truth, not what we think you want to hear."

The MJ Gunsmithing philosophy extends to every product it sells and service it provides - and that covers a lot of ground. MJ sells a wide variety of firearms and can build one for you to your specifications. They repair all makes and models of firearms and cerakote firearms, as well. MJ makes custom-fitted ear plugs and sponsors a number of events and a high school trap team.

In future editions of *On Wisconsin Outdoors*, Matt will explore the many facets of MJ Gunsmithing. In the meantime, visit them at 1292 Hwy 175 in Hubertus and take a look at their website at WWW.MJGUNSHOP.COM. They are there for your firearms and accessories needs.

PUT A HENRY UNDER THE TREE

Find the Perfect Gift For
Everyone On Your List at
www.HenryUSA.com



HENRY

Made In America, Or Not Made At All

SHERRY BECKMAN

Not a Worry in the World

600 miles of Sawyer County trails call visitors

Wisconsin is notable for many things such as cheese, dairy farms, and some would even add beer to the list. However, if you were to snowmobile in Sawyer County, Wisconsin these things are unparalleled to the lure of why individuals travel to Wisconsin. Snowmobiling in Sawyer County is like none other, giving visitors and locals exquisite adventures while exploring over hundreds of miles of pure enjoyment.

The Sawyer County Snowmobile & ATV Alliance is an organization made up of 10 clubs, both snowmobile and ATV, located throughout Sawyer County with a primary purpose of developing and maintaining safe trails. With over 600 miles of well-groomed and marked trails, the Sawyer County Snowmobile & ATC Alliance is the largest organization of this type in the country and is the world's largest single, private owner of trail grooming equipment. This, combined with the natural beauty our area has to offer,

makes Sawyer County a favorite for snowmobiling enthusiasts.

Winter views are breath taking, as individuals travel along the scenic Chippewa River Valley, discover the beauty of the Blue Hills, wind through farmland, state and national forests, cross any one of our numerous lakes or just stop and gaze at the large population of wildlife our trails are home to. Some of the more common winter wildlife seen is deer, grouse, birds, fox and rabbits.

For miles, individuals can ride the Tussock Trail, an old railroad bed that stretches from Rice Lake to Park Falls, without a worry in the world. As the journey continues, individuals will find our area has worked hard to provide lodging, food and drink, gas, shopping and restroom facilities that are conveniently located just off, or on the trail, for all your traveling needs. 📍

For additional information on the Hayward Lakes Area: 715-634-4801 or 800-724-2992
www.haywardlakes.com

Explore Wisconsin



A lone rider relaxes on another Sawyer County trail.

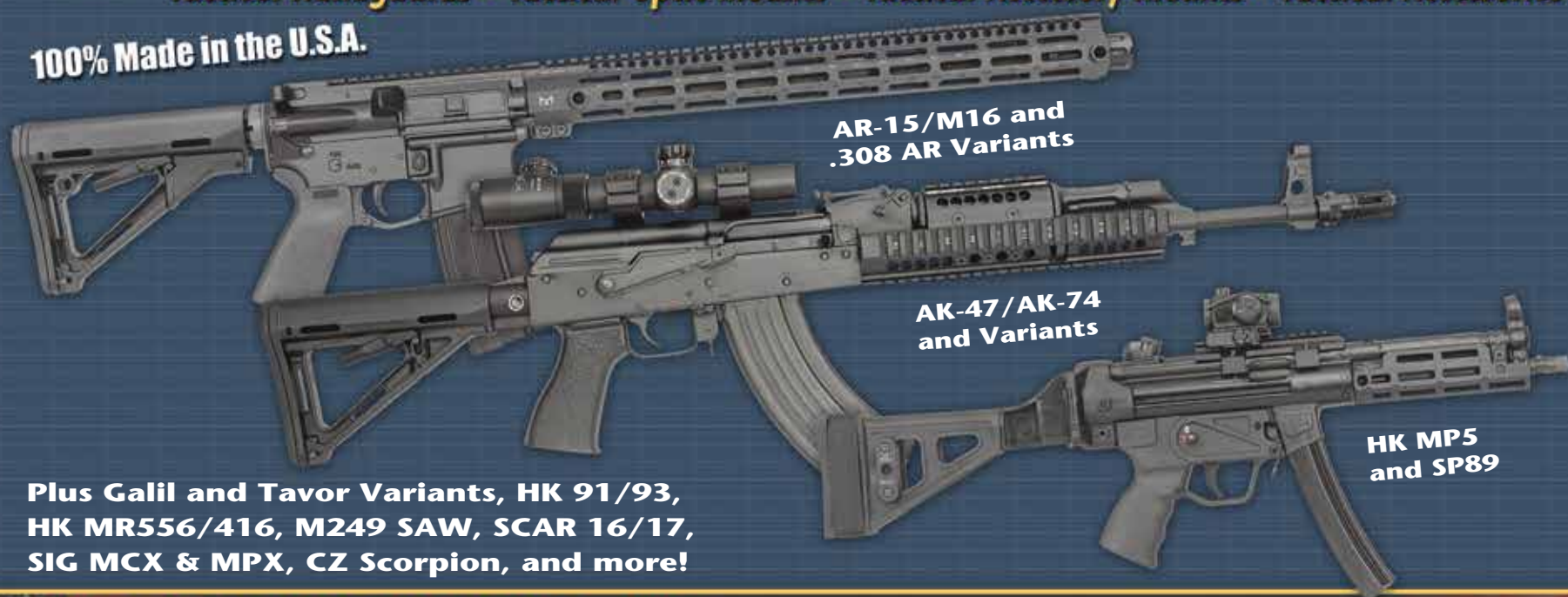


MIDWEST
INDUSTRIES INC.

Your Solution for Black Rifle Accessories

Tactical Handguards • Tactical Optic Mounts • Tactical Accessory Mounts • Tactical Accessories

100% Made in the U.S.A.



AR-15/M16 and
.308 AR Variants

AK-47/AK-74
and Variants

HK MP5
and SP89

Plus Galil and Tavor Variants, HK 91/93,
HK MR556/416, M249 SAW, SCAR 16/17,
SIG MCX & MPX, CZ Scorpion, and more!

MIDWEST INDUSTRIES, INC.

W292S4498 Hillside Road, Waukesha, WI 53189 / Tel: 262-896-6780
Fax: 262-896-6756 / www.midwestindustriesinc.com



For your hunting and shooting needs

2192 South 60th Street | West Allis, WI 53219 | One Block North of Lincoln Ave

414.545.3323 | www.shortysshootingsports.com

STUART WILKE

Responsible Deer Hunting

Striving for clean harvest separates true hunters from something less

Every responsible hunter strives for quick, clean kills. Many factors go into this equation, but the most important is a rifle up to the task. One can debate all day and well into next week the attributes - real and imagined - of particular brands, actions and calibers. A rifle that is truly up to the task is one that works because it is clean, properly sighted in, and familiar to its owner.

"It's really sad how many guys buy a deer hunting rifle at the last minute and then regret their purchase," Mike "Shorty" Govas, owner of Shorty's Shooting Sports in West Allis said. "They take their new rifle to the range, or worse, take it out in the field without going to the range first, and realize it doesn't fit their needs. Those factors are a recipe for a bad deer hunting experience and wounded deer lost in the field. If you don't do everything possible to ensure a humane harvest, you don't belong in the woods and you have no business hunting. Clean kills are what separates responsible hunters from stock yards."

A humane harvest starts with a rifle (or pistol) that the hunter is comfortable with. Shorty can help you figure that out, along with the action and caliber that best suits your specific hunting needs. His shop has a vast array of new and used hunting rifles from which to make your selection. If he doesn't have exactly what suits you best on hand, he can order it.

What he can't do is provide you with the

attitude, dedication and practice necessary to keep your gun in good working order and ready for the hunting season. Just about everything you need to know about your firearm can be found in its manual. Some of those things are pretty important, like where the safety is, how to load and unload the magazine, adjust the sights, and operate the action. Pretty obvious, right? Right, but not always put into action. "It's amazing how many people go into the field without a working familiarity of their gun or hunt without touching the sights or knowing where on a target the bullets are hitting," Shorty explained. "You need to get the 'feel' of your rifle, and you can only do that by shooting it."

You also need to exercise some common sense. Shorty noted that virtually every deer hunting season, hunters die because they did not properly strap themselves in to their tree stands and fell to their deaths. Another too common occurrence is someone handing a loaded rifle to a fellow hunter in a tree stand. A finger accidentally pulls the trigger and the person in the stand dies. A loaded rifle leaned against a motor vehicle can go off when it falls over and kill someone.

"There is no reason to load your gun until you are at your stand," Shorty said.

Finding a place to shoot and sight-in your gun is not difficult. There are quite a few gun clubs in the area that host sight-in events for a nominal fee prior to the deer



hunting season. More often than not, there will also be someone on hand to provide sight adjustment advice. "You should know where your gun is shooting at 25, 50 and 100 yards," Shorty said. "Don't forget to bring the right ammunition. You should be sighting your gun in with the same ammunition you will be hunting with. The point of impact can differ wildly from one manufacturer and one bullet weight to the next."

After a day of shooting or hunting, make sure your gun is unloaded. As the old saying goes, more people are killed by "unloaded" guns than any other kind. Whether or not your firearm needs to be field stripped and every nook and cran-

ny cleaned after each outing is arguable, but it wouldn't be a bad idea to clean the bore. Old standbys like RemOil and Hop-pes will work just fine. "A gun will rust in New York minute," Shorty noted. "Metal touched by a sweaty, salty hand on a gun that's put in an enclosed gun case without being cleaned is guaranteed to rust. Once a gun is rusted and pitted, there's nothing you can do to fix it."

A little practice and effort will go a long way to help ensure a successful deer hunt.



Stuart Wilke is a long-time OWO contributor, award-winning Wisconsin journalist and firearms expert specializing in historical firearms and collecting.

Wisconsin Hunting News
OnWisconsinOutdoors.com/WisconsinOutdoorNews

- All major brands available at Shorty's
- Glock. Colt. Smith & Wesson.
- Concealed Carry Classes.
- No charge for background check with this ad.

For your hunting and shooting needs
 2192 South 60th Street | West Allis, WI 53219 | One Block North of Lincoln Ave
 414.545.3323 | www.shortysshootingsports.com



Presents Firearms Info from Ron Stresing

RON STRESING

Deer Hunting with Shotguns

Taking full advantage of sabot slugs

It was Opening Day of the 2015 deer season. I was watching a trail that lead from a woodlot down hill into a large creek bottom. The creek bottom was a tangle of multiflora rose and thick brush. I caught a flash of antlers and movement on the hillside. Unfortunately for me, the buck must have also caught my movement as I raised the shotgun. He hung up in some trees, 70 yards away. All I could see of the deer through the scope was a small triangular patch of his ribs. The rest was blocked by trees. I centered the cross-hairs, and sent a 1 1/8th ounce slug his way. The shot felt good, and the buck ran off, only to crash into a nearby ditch. The combination of a scoped 12 gauge Mossberg 500 with a rifled barrel and the right slug had cleanly harvested the buck. I would have never attempted that shot with open sights or a smooth bore shotgun.

The term “sabot” comes from the French word for shoe. It refers to the plastic that encases the projectile and engages the rifling on a rifled shotgun barrel. When rifled barrels were first marketed, people who tried using regular pure lead Foster style slugs quickly found the lead fouled the rifling. A firm called BRI marketed the first hour-glass shaped slugs that rode in a hard plastic sabot. They were acquired by Winchester, and now all of the “big three” ammunition manufacturers market



several types of sabot slugs. A number of good brands are also imported. The buck I harvested was taken with a “hybrid” slug imported from Latvia.

The big advantage of sabot slugs are the increased accuracy and range when paired with a rifled shotgun barrel. The only drawback is the cost. They generally cost three times the price of standard Foster-type slugs used in smooth bore barreled shotguns. Sabot slugs do have one trait very much in common with Foster-type lead slugs: every gun will have its own “favorite” brand for best accuracy.

Rates of twist in the rifling, the depth that the rifling is engraved in the barrel, and even the thickness of the barrel will all effect how one brand or style of slug will group out of your gun. As with so many other things in ballistics, “there is no free lunch.” The only way to discover the brand and type of slug that will wring the best accuracy out of your shotgun is range time. Buy a box of several different brands and benchrest test them all. I bought \$80 worth of various brands to test in my son’s shotgun. Several trips to the range and sore shoulders later, we had a winner. I

had to repeat the process all over again when I bought my H&R single shot with a rifled barrel. Both shotguns favor different brands of sabot slug. Do not shoot sabot slugs out of a smooth bore barrel. It’s not dangerous, but the accuracy is somewhere between horrible and abysmal.

When you do find the magic combination of slug and barrel, sight-in your shotgun two inches high at 50 yards. This will put you about four inches low at 100 yards. I’ve killed several deer at 100 yards and several out to about 125 yards. I held high on the back of 125-yard deer, and the slugs dropped in perfectly.

Another option are so called “hybrid” slugs that work in either a smooth bore or rifled barrel. Brenneke markets the K.O. and M&P (military and police) slugs that will work in either rifled or smooth bores with passable accuracy. These slugs use oversize plastic base wads like sabots. D Duplex slugs from Latvia use attached polymer plastic driving bands on the slug, instead of a plastic sabot. I suggest having some hybrids on hand if you carry both types of shotgun. 🐾

Ron Stresing has been an outdoor writer since 1996 and has had articles published in Midwest Outdoors, Fur-Fish-Game, and Badger Sportsman magazines. He lives in South Milwaukee with his wife, Donna.

KENDY, FROM PAGE 8

stone and examine the edge. If you had maintained the proper angle, then all of the black will be gone. If you see black at the top of the edge, it means you are holding the back of the knife too far from the stone. If there is black on the bottom of the edge, but the top is clean, then you are laying the knife too flat on the stone and you need to raise it a bit. Repaint the edge and try it again. Once you discover what the right angle looks like, then just maintain that.”

What is a “Good Edge?” According to Crawford, “A good edge is a consistent edge from heel to tip and one that is free of nicks or chips. I consider this a working edge. A great edge is when the right edge angle is added and a range of grit progressions are applied so the edge is honed and highly refined.”

That is the coveted edge you can shave with. 🐾

Bill Kendy is a professional freelance business writer, consultant and speaker who is heavily involved in the firearm and outdoor industries. His is a lifelong hunter, shooter, angler and camper.

CARPENTER, FROM PAGE 10

scream on in, cup their wings and drop right in if they like what they see. Stay alert and ready to shoot.

Don’t give up. Some of the best river duck hunting happens toward midmorning as birds come in from feeding in fields and other places (such as wild rice or celery beds) where food is more abundant.

Keep a vessel ready for retrievers. Have a boat ready to rev up, or a canoe or kayak close at hand, in case a duck falls in fast moving water and you need to get after it before it’s gone. 🐾

Native son Tom Carpenter writes about the outdoor for a variety of national and regional publications.

STRESTING, FROM PAGE 17

farmers, improves your wingshooting skills, and trains your dog. Try a hunt and you may add “barn duck” or “farm ptarmigan” to your list of game birds. 🐾

Ron Stresing has been an outdoor writer since 1996 and has had articles published in Midwest Outdoors, Fur-Fish-Game, and Badger Sportsman magazines. He lives in South Milwaukee with his wife, Donna.



County Teasers

Ashland

NOVEMBER

3: Chick-uamegon Women's 1 mile/5K/10K Run/Walk & Garland City Women's Expo
www.chick-uamegon.com

23: Day after Thanksgiving Sales

24: Small Business Saturday Promotion, "Shop Small...Win Big"

DECEMBER

1-31: Christmas Cash Raffle. Daily Drawing for Chamber Dollars!

1: Garland City of the North Christmas Parade, 4:30 p.m., Historic Main Street.
www.visitashland.com

Port Washington

If you have been to Port Washington, you know that fishing season never ends here. The marina may close, but people cast their lines from shore all year round. And with the newly opened Shermers, you can find all of your outdoor gear needs.

Visit www.visitportwashington.com, for all the activities we have to offer!

Price County

Hunting opportunities abound in Price County. The county holds some of the best public hunting lands in the state with approximately 150,000 acres of Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, 30,000 acres of state owned property, and 90,000 acres of Price County Forest. In fact, with acres of managed habitat developed in conjunction with the Ruffed Grouse Society, there's no better place to hunt ruffed grouse than Price County. In addition to grouse, you'll find deer, bear, turkey, small game, and waterfowl. Contact the Price County Tourism Department to order a free county map and visitor information, 715-339-4505.



SKB

COMPETITION GUNS DESIGNED TO FIT YOU

90TSS



CENTURY III



RS300



For a current catalog go to
www.skbshotguns.com



CANADA'S *Best* fishing & hunting



MILWAUKEE

January 3 - 6

Milwaukee County Sports Complex
Franklin, WI

CHICAGO

January 10 - 13

Pheasant Run Mega Center
St. Charles, IL

GREEN BAY

January 17 - 20

Radisson Conference Center
(Oneida Casino)
Green Bay, WI

YOU
book it
WE
buy it!

On Wisconsin Outdoors

\$2 off

Present to ticket counter.
Receive \$2 off the
purchase of one All-Canada
Show admission ticket.

AllCanada.com

Valid Jan 2019 at All-Canada Show - Milwaukee, Chicago, or
Green Bay. Limit one per person, coupon has no cash value.

2019 Grand Prize



WILDERNESS
NORTH

For discounted tickets and show information visit:

AllCanada.com

