



Adaptive Sportsmen Inc
8727 W Coldspring Road
Greenfield, WI 53228

www.adaptivesportsmen.org



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

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



Do you need to find land for Hunting?

Adaptive has a landowner liaison committee that searches out and catalogs public and private lands available and suitable for the Adaptive membership to use for different uses all over Wisconsin. (Some restrictions may apply) Contact Jeff Pagel at 920-366-5731 or email at jcpagels@att.net to get help finding a place to hunt deer, ducks or pheasants or an accessible place to catch a fish or ride an All-terrain Vehicle. Jeff can put you in touch with the appropriate person to help you find the best place to enjoy activities in the Wisconsin outdoors.

2024 Calendar

- Feb. 17 Kelly Lake Ice Fishing.** TBA if ice conditions allow. Contact Mike Gustin for information at 262-492-8927
- Feb. 23-25 Madison Fish Expo** We will have an information booth at the Madison Fishing Expo again this year. The show is held at the Alliant Center in Madison. Volunteers to man the booth are needed, and they will be supplied with free entry tickets. Please contact John Martinson at 608-628-2633 or johnmartinson@msn.com
- Mar. 7-10 Milwaukee Sports Show,** We will have an information booth at the Milwaukee Sports show again this year. The show is held at the Exposition Building at the Wisconsin State Fairgrounds. Volunteers to man the booth are needed, and they will be supplied with free entry tickets. Please contact John Mitchell at 414-333-4745 or jmitchellwi@prodigy.net
- Mar. 15-17 Wisconsin Sports Expo, Eau Claire** You can check here to find out who will be at the expo <https://www.wisportshow.com/exhibitors>. Please contact Randy Johnston at 715-210-0500 for information.
- March 22-24 Open Season Sportsmen's Expo.** We will have an information booth at the Open Season Sportsmen's Expo again this year. The show is held at the Kahlahari in Wisconsin Dells. Volunteers to man the booth are needed, and they will be supplied with free entry tickets. Please contact John Martinson at 608-628-2633 or johnmartinson@msn.com
- Mar. 30 Halter Pheasant Hunt** We are holding the hunt at Halter this year in Kenosha. Contact Chris Salamone for information and to sign up at 262-914-7155 or csalamone@wi.rr.com
- May 10-12 Barabo Turkey Hunt,** Hunt will be held in the Baraboo area. Our "camp" will be a motel and volunteers help in the field. Check the web page for an application or contact John Mitchell at 414-333-4745 or jmitchellwi@prodigy.net
- May 22, June 13, July 12 McMiller Shooting range \$6 Day** McMiller is opening the range in Eagle to our members, with sporting clays, 25 yd, 50 yd, 100 yd and 300 yd ranges open. Contact John Mitchell at 414-333-4745 or jmitchellwi@prodigy.net
- May- October Madison Fishing Summer** We will have fishing by appointment on Monona or Mendota in Madison. Please contact John Martinson at 608-628-2633 or johnmartinson@msn.com to schedule you outing.
- June 1 3-D Archery shoot in Horicon** We will have our annual fun archery shoot at the Horicon Marsh Bowmens Club in Mayville again this year. Able body and physically challenged shooters should come to use compound, recurve or crossbows. A steak dinner adds to the fun. Please contact John Mitchell at 414-333-4745 or orjmitchellwi@prodigy.net
- June 1-5 Northwoods Adventure (These dates are changed from the calendar sent out to our members in February)** The Northwoods Adventure will be held at Pine Forest Lodge in Mercer. We will have ATV rides, Kayaking, Fishing, Hiking, pontoon boat rides, and other regional activities. Come enjoy the beautiful northwoods at Pine Forest, located on the scenic 360 acre Spider Lake. Contact Al Neu at 414-617-4870 or allenneu@gmail.com for more information
- June 22 Kelly Lake Picnic** We will have our annual fishery at Kelly Lake in Hales Corners. Bring your own gear or borrow some from Adaptive Sportsmen. Fishing can be done from the pier or our pontoon boat. Mary Mitchell will have lunch for you. Call 414-916-2298 or mary.mitchellwi@yahoo.com
- July 19-21 Deer Fest in Oshosh** We will have an information booth at Deer Fest at the Sunnyview Expo Center in Oshkosh this year. Volunteers to man the booth are needed, and they will be supplied with free entry tickets. Deerfest web site is www.deerfest.com. Please contact Cal Popp at 920-517-8027 or lovelympins@att.net
- Aug, 24 Summer Picnic and Shoot** We will have our annual shooting picnic at Schultz Resort Rod and Gun Club in Muskego. The trap, archery, rifle and pistol range will be open. We have crossbows to borrow and trap shells and .22 loads to use or bring your own weapon and ammo. Mary Mitchell will have lunch and her famous bucket raffle. Call 414-916-2298 or mary.mitchellwi@yahoo.com
- September 21 Pheasant Ridge Pheasant Hunt** The Pheasant hunt will be held again this year in Marshal. Contact John Martinson at 608-628-2633 or johnmartinson@msn.com for more information.
- October 11-13 Sandhill Bow hunt** The hunt, meals and lodging will be at Sandhill. Check the web page for an application or call John Mitchell at 414-333-4745 or jmitchellwi@prodigy.net
- Oct. 25-27 Clintonville Bow Hunt** The hunt, meals and lodging will be around Clintonville. Check the web page for an application or call Joe Ehr 920- 244-7737 josephehr@yahoo.com
- Nov. 2 Bong Recreation Area Pheasant Hunt** Our new Pheasant will be held at the Bong Recreation area in Racine. Please Contact Chris Salamone for information and to sign up at 262-914-7155 or csalamone@wi.rr.com

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Please contact at allenneu@gmail.com with questions or comments

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

Ideas for events or activities are welcome. Contact John Mitchell at 8727 W. Coldspring Rd, Greenfield, WI 53228 or jmitchellwi@prodigy.net.

E-mail notices are sent out to all members about special events and opportunities that come up on short notice.

Send us your email address so that you might get a chance to participate in events that might not be in the newsletter or on the web site. Send your email address to jmitchellwi@prodigy.net

We Loan ASI Equipment to members

We have blinds, crossbows, gun rests, electric tree stands and fishing gear, including an electric reel available for you to try out and enjoy Wisconsin's outdoors. These items are free to borrow for members of ASI. Call Mary Mitchell at 414-916-2298 to reserve your equipment.

Fundraising

In addition to our annual raffle most of our events include a little silent auction or bucket raffle. If anyone would like to help procure items for these events we would appreciate it. **2024 gun raffle;** We have another Henry Golden Boy .22 For the raffle. Please help us sell tickets on your own or at one of the sport shows to help pay for our events.

Facebook Page - Please Post your pictures and stories

Please remember to check out our Facebook page and **Post your pictures and stories!** We all can share what exciting and fun things that our members are doing. Let's all stay connected!

Adaptive Sportsman Membership Application

Include \$ 10 membership fee
Pay to; Adaptive Sportsmen Inc.
Physically Challenged Veterans Membership is Free

Expiration Date **12/31/2024**

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

Name _____

Address _____

City State & Zip _____

Phone #s _____ e-mail _____

Please Circle One Physically Challenged Able Bodied Volunteer/Sponsor

Interests Hunting Fishing ATV Riding Boating Snowmobiling Other _____

Dates and times may change, updated information will be on the calendar page of our web site in the case of any changes.

2023 Clintonville Bow Hunt

Our 2023 Clintonville bow hunt was an exciting one as the weather was wet and cloudy on the first two days. That did not slow down any of the hunters. We had a record number of hunters this year with two new guys, for a total of 17. Along with some major issues we could not control. Three of the club's bows broke on the first day, one while they were practicing and two while they were out hunting. Not only that, one the fellows broke the cranking mechanism on his own bow. That made four. Very disappointing, however, we were able to get two bows from the guides and a third one from my home.

The weather was off & on rain on Thursday and Friday morning but not enough to keep the hunters in. After that the rain held out for the rest of the weekend and everyone was able to hunt. Unfortunately, no deer were harvested this year. Many guys did see some deer but not close enough for any shots.

We were able to get two UTV's from **Clintonville Motor Sports** and one from **R&S John Deere** dealer in town as well. Both dealers were very happy to help us again this year.

I had four helpers again this year to get everything set up. **Randy Johnston, Dan Egan, Randy Hahn and Ron Lewis**. We brushed out enough areas for 13 blinds including paths to get them in and out without making too much noise. Last but not least, **Alicia Hahn** was there to keep everyone feed with meals and snacks throughout the weekend. What a wonderful lady to have at the camp for all her time in planning and cooking for the group.

The hunt was a wonderful time for all who participated this year and hope that they had a great time and are already planning to come again next year. I would like to say THANK YOU for all the help I had including many of the hunters for all their help as well. Anyone that would like to come and participate next year, please contact me at 920-225-9797 or email at josephehr@yahoo.com or you can contact John Mitchell. Joe Ehr

Bong State Park Pheasant Hunt

We had four hunters for our first pheasant hunt at Bong which turned out to be a really nice event. First I would like to thank **Dan Dickinson** from Bong Naturalist Association, **Shanda Hess and Roy Ames from Northern Illinois Chapter of NAVHDA** and **UglyDog Hunting**, and **Bart Tucker** of the Wisconsin DNR and all of their Volunteers and their dogs for all their work and financial support really helped Adaptive Sportsmen putting on a great event for our hunters which I believe we all would like to continue doing next year.

We had a nice sunny day about 50 degrees with a light breeze great weather for our hunt. We had a nice breakfast coffee and donuts and such to get all of us ready for our hunt. **Steve Ward** and **Daryl Hanson** went first and the first bird flew very low to the ground with no safe shot, but there dog was able to find and get the bird so score one for the dog. Then next bird flew high and Steve was able to get a good shot in and dead bird. Daryl was next and his bird flew up toward him and he got in a good shot another dead bird. The next bird flew up and toward Steve so he takes a shot downed their last bird. Next up **Chris Salamone** and **Darrin Malsack** our first bird flew up and away from us and we both took a shot and missed and the bird flew into some cover by the trees but we have a another good dog and he finds and gets the bird so score another for the dogs. The next bird fly's high toward Darrin and He gets off a nice shot and Dead bird. Our next bird after fly's up and away from both of us and Darrin missed and then Chris takes a shot and dead bird. Our last bird flew up and away from Darrin and he takes a shot I believe he winged it but doesn't appear to be going down so Chris takes a shot and pow the bird feathers really go flying in the wind and dead bird.

All in all we had a great hunt and time at Bong we got six birds and the dogs got two birds, eight in total for us. Well it's time for lunch and cleaning birds which our great dog handlers took care of cleaning birds for us so thanks again for that. We had sloppy joe's and lots of other sides and deserts which really hit the spot after our hunt. I believe we all will be looking toward next year to make this a bigger and better event next year.

Chris Salamone

Dutton Grant, Kayak for Erica

I meant to send this to you earlier, but I forgot. Here are pictures of the grant I received from your organization coming in handy. In August I competed in my first ever kayak race in Ojibwa, WI. I placed 12th out of 25 kayaks, and I can't be mad about that. Needing help isn't always bad. Sometimes it can be quite fun. See the photo of the guys carrying me up the hill in my kayak like the princess I am. Lol jk.

Also, the added security of the outriggers gives me peace of mind that I won't flip. The extra drag doesn't help in a race but when people are crashing into you, they sure come in handy. And they also make it easy to pick me out in a crowd. **Erica Ladenthin**

Include Adaptive Sportsmen in Your Will

Estate planning is never a real popular topic to talk about, but it is better to plan now than leave your heirs wondering what you wanted to do. You can also take the time to sort out what you want to leave as a legacy. Adaptive Sportsmen is hoping that you will consider us when you start your planning.

Donation of hunting equipment and adaptive equipment.

Dedicate any amount of money or property for a specific purpose

Donate in the form of a charitable trust.

It can be yours

"The **James E Dutton Foundation** has provided a grant to Adaptive Sportsmen Inc. to start a program helping physically challenged people with the cost of acquiring their own Adaptive Equipment for enjoying the outdoors. Applications are being reviewed and should be sent to 8727 W Coldspring Rd Greenfield, WI 53228. Thank you is an inadequate expression for their generosity. We are eternally grateful

Volunteer of the month

Mary Mitchell contributes time each month tracking our membership list and other behind the scenes tasks. She leads our cook crew and is present at most of our events. She keeps things running.

Kelly Lake Fishing

Another successful fishing season has been concluded on Kelly Lake thanks to our volunteer boat captains. We received a letter from the VA thanking us for the support and advocacy. John Mitchell

Sandhill Bow Hunt

The weather forecast called for rain throughout the scheduled hunt so after much consideration we postponed it to October 2024. John Mitchell

Booth Season

Please lend some time to volunteer at one of the sport shows where we exhibit. In addition to our raffle, we distribute information and acquire new members and volunteers. The schedule of the sports shows and conventions where we have booths will be on the Web page calendar. You can also contact John Mitchell at jmitchellwi@prodigy.net or 414-333-4745 to leave a message.

Board Member Changes

We have had several changes to our Board this year. **Dan Jacoby** and **Steve Heiges** resigned from the board, we wish to thank them for their many years of service to Adaptive Sportsmen.

We have added three new board members, **Breck Dokken** (608-571-8080 bdokken29@gmail.com), **Travis Rayala**, (trayala1683@gmail.com 608-215-5417), and **Darrenin Malsack** (darrinmal7@hotmail.com 414-736-4083)

The Wheel Turns.

I believe we all have stories about teaching our kids and younger relatives to learn the joys of the outdoors and the reasons we find hunting so rewarding. I had this experience with my nephew when he was growing up. I never expected that it would turn out to be such a lasting bond between us.

Gavin, my nephew, was 10 years old when he began spending summers with my wife and me. He lived in Oklahoma with his single-parent mother. We offered to have him come up and spend the summer to give her a break from parenting, school, and work. It was inevitable that we would spend time talking about hunting and shooting sports, and we decided together that he would go hunting with me and my friends when he was old enough. For the next 15 years he came up from Oklahoma every summer and every November to hunt with us during the gun deer season. Some years the November logistics were tough, I am not sure his mother really appreciated the importance that Wisconsin hunters put on "Opening Day", but somehow we made it happen.

The first year was frigid, with temperatures near zero on opening weekend. I never saw a kid shiver so much and still refuse to stop hunting with his "Uncle Al". He was rewarded later in the week when the weather got warmer and a doe and nubby buck ran past him. He wasn't fast enough for the doe but he got a shot at the nubby and he had his first deer!

Fast forward 2002. I had leased a Quality Deer Management plot near Lacrosse and Gavin took off early from his freshman year in college to help set up. I was now in a wheelchair from a hunting accident in 1998 and our hunting was more of a mutual effort. Opening day that year was mild, with little snow cover. He had a tree stand about 150 yards from the ground stand I set up for my ATV. About 7:15 that morning a big buck came through the woods and I could tell he was going to pass in front of me about 60 yards away. I got my gun ready to shoot as he walked towards an opening where I would have a good shot. But then I heard a Bang, sure enough, Gavin had seen the same deer and shot it before it could get to me. It was a nice 8 pointer that scored about 130 points, his first trophy buck. I always teased him after that about shooting "my buck".

Time passed, Gavin graduated, got married, has a young son, but we always talked about going hunting together again, Last year he invited me to go down to Texas and hunt at his deer camp, just like old times. Of course this time he was in charge, it was his friend's deer camp and I was the guest. He made a Texas style deer stand in an area called the "Interstate" because of the numbers of deer that would pass the stand. A couple of days of hunting later I saw a buck that I thought was big enough, took my shot and he fell after running about 75 yards. My first Texas buck and second trophy in my hunting career. When Gavin came told me he had shot a big one too. Mine was about 120 points, but it was a baby compared to his, which scored over 140.

I went down again this year hoping to get another chance at one of those big deer Gavin kept talking about. I had the same stand at the Interstate, and got in early on Friday of the Texas gun deer opener so we decided we would go out that night. I was there about 90 minutes when deer started coming in. There was about six deer around the feeder in the field when my big buck showed up across the field. He slowly walked across the uneven ground crossing from my left towards the feeder that was 140 yards in front of me. It was the longest walk, it seemed like it took forever. I got several good looks at him through my binoculars and I knew he was one of the big ones that Gavin was talking about. He got to the feeder and kept walking around the does, never giving me a clean shot that wouldn't hit a doe also. Then I was suprised as a horse wandered in and made it harder to get an open shot. Finally he stepped out from the crowd, I had a clean shot and took it. He jumped, turned to my right and ran about 70 yards and stopped. He stood there, kind of hunched up, I knew I had hit him good but he wouldn't go down. After about 5 minutes I took another shot and he went down. I waited for Gavin to come get me, knowing he would be proud that he was able to help his Uncle Al get the trophy deer he always talked about. Gavin finally came and we picked up the deer, it was an 11 pointer.

My deer was the talk of deer camp, several people had seen him during bow hunting and he was on the trail cams, but no one had gotten a shot at him. We guessed he was about 160 points. The taxidermist measured him at 156 about a week later. So I guess I can never tease Gavin about taking my buck anymore, since he has returned the favor may times over since then. I find that when you give freely you always get more back, and my experience with my nephew Gavin proves that to me. I hope that all of us can experience the joys of the outdoors, hunting, and the true joy of giving our help and friendship to friends, family, and all those we meet along the way.

Allen Neu

Darwin's Bear

I was lucky to get a 183 lb black bear this year. I did not have a tag for the area, but received one with help from Adaptive Sportsmen, the DNR and a gentleman giving up his tag so a person with a disability's could have a chance to get a bear. This hunt started out by contacting the person with the tag and had it transferred to me. Could not of met a nicer gentleman. He then contacted a person who had 8 bear dogs to see if he would take me out for a chance of a lifetime. He said yes. I was grateful.

My brother Randy assisted me in the hunt. The first day we did not have any luck. But the 2nd day we found a fresh track. The dogs got on it quickly the bear went thru several river bottoms, hardwoods, and a swamp before they had it up a tree. This took 3 hours maybe a little more. During the chase I saw the bear cross the road with the dogs 300 yards behind. Got back to the tree it was only 40 to 50 yards from a road. Someone up there must have been looking out for me. The bear was up, and I say again up this very big, tall tree in thick branches. It took 30 minutes to keep going around the tree so the bear would move to get a shot. Good thing it did not come down. Everything came out smoothly. I shot twice and the bear fell out of the tree. The gentleman with the dogs handled the chore of gutting it and dragging it out to the car. This sounds like a dream, but it was a dream that came true. I again thanks to everyone for making this possible. Sincerely Darwin Swille

Buffalo county hunt

The latter part of September, Randy Johnson invited five other Adaptive Sportsmen, **Dan Egan, Bob Castellion, Joe Ehr, Ron Lewis** and myself to hunt and lodge at his cabin, The Tin Shack III, in Buffalo County. For those not familiar with Buffalo County, the DNR estimates there are over 40 deer per square mile in deer habitat areas. It didn't take long for any of us to start planning.

Last year most of us made the trek and we harvested a couple does. This year the six of us together saw at least forty deer and believe it or not, a cougar passed by Joe Ehr's blind. He was so surprised, he couldn't snap a photo with his phone fast enough. Rumor has it, but they have been seen passing through the area, on a mission of love.

We had a great time and spent the better part of a week at The Tin Shack III, but no deer were harvested. When you are with the Rabbi (Randy), you better be ready to stay up late because the stories keep coming and coming. Sincerely, Gregg Edgerle



Darwin Swille poses with the bear he shot this fall



My grand-nephew, Asher, has to help me hold up the trophy deer I shot this fall in Texas (upper left) We were hunting on a ranch in northwest Texas. The picture on the right is from one of th trail cams set up in the area. Allen Neu



From left to right (above) Terrance Green, Joe Westra, John Martinson and Derrick Trentin pose with birds shot at the Pheasant Ridge Shoot.



Darrin Malsack in the trak chair takes a shot at a pheasant (above right) during the pheasant hunt at Bong Recreation Area this fall. Darrin Malsack and Chris Salamone pose with a pheasant shot during the Bong pheasant unt (above left)



Darrin Malsack was on a disabled waterfowl hunt at the Trempealeau Wildlife Refuge offered by the Wisconsin DNR and the US Fish & Wildlife Service. this fall. He is in a comfortable blind (above left) with a beautiful view of the refuge. He poses with one of the birds after a successful hunt (above right).

Kansas Deer Hunt

I had the opportunity to join some great friends on a December whitetail hunt on a lease near Stanford, Kansas. This was my third year trying to bag a trophy Kansas whitetail where the first year I did not draw a tag and last year tagged a doe after not getting a chance on any mature bucks. This year was different for me as I have accepted and adapted to hunting differently due to my progressing ALS. Using my Action Trackchair with a gun rest, I was able to comfortably drive into and hunt out of my Barronett Pentagon hub blind with garage door entry. By the evening of day 3, we had seen many deer and passed on 13 younger bucks before pulling the trigger on a nice doe. Thirty minutes later a mature 8 pointer stepped out and I took the shot. After trailing a short distance, we lost the trail and decided to resume in the morning with a tracking dog. The dog made quick work of the 394 yard trail to find what remained after the coyotes enjoyed their meal. Fortunately, I was able to salvage the head for a European mount of my new personal best. It was an awesome experience that created great memories with my best friends. Scored 139 inches with 16 inch spread. Other friend harvested a nice 9 pointer as well. Steve Berg



One of the successful hunters poses with a pheasant at Pine Ridge this fall as a guide looks on (above). Steve Ward takes a shot at a pheasant at Pheasant Ridge (below)



The guys carrying me up the hill in my kayak like the princess I am. Lol (above left) I competed in my first ever kayak race in Ojibwa, WI. I placed 12th out of 25 kayakers, and I can't be mad about that. I am in the orange kayak in the lower left of this picture (above right) Erica Landethin

