

Bonner County Sportsmen's Association



Winter Newsletter 2018

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**WHO ARE WE?**

The Bonner County Sportsmen Association was formally organized, 84 years ago, in 1934. There is indication that a dedicated group of men began meeting before then, so they may be a bit older. These men first met to show support for the local game warden. The motto later would become "Protector of Woods and Wild Life". Today, they are the oldest Sportsmen Association in the state of Idaho.

Many of you know the Association for the yearly Gun 'n Horn Show in March, or may think they are just a bunch of people who like to shoot things, but they are so much more than that. Yes, their yearly fundraiser is entering its 35th year, and yes, some of the members like to shoot, but they are so much more than that!

In 1936 the group was instrumental in planting 50 elk at Trestle Creek, brought in by train from the Yellowstone area. In 1940 and 1941, they purchased 100,000 Kamloops eggs from Kaslo, BC to be planted in Lake Pend Orielle (LPO), in 1942 it was Lake Rainbow and Cutthroat with many more varieties in future years when there was a need. The Sportsmen ran the LPO fishing derby's in the 1940's and beyond. They worked on planting fingerlings in mountain lakes, supported studies of the effects of dams on the lake, and in 1967 built the outdoor shooting range on Baldy Mountain. They became the first group in Idaho to join the "Adopt a Wetland" program, by adopting the Pack River Delta. They still maintain the goose nest boxes there today. The group was instrumental in saving the fish hatchery on Lake Shore Drive and helped turn it into a learning center (Waterlife Center) visited by all 5<sup>th</sup> graders in the county.

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### 2018 Officers

- President—Bill Moody  
 Vice President—Tom Johnson  
 Treasurer—Gregory Miller  
 Secretary—Lance Forbes

### Directors 2017-2018

- Don Banning  
 Kathy Konek  
 Carl Zmuda

### Directors 2018—2019

- Scott Foster  
 Don Jordan  
 Space to be filled

**Gun 'n Horn Show  
2018**

**March 1st—4 p.m.—Setup**

**March 2nd  
Noon—6 p.m.**

**March 3rd  
9 a.m.—6 p.m.**

**March 4th  
9 a.m.—3 p.m.**

**Bonner County Fairgrounds**



## MEMBERSHIP

2017 ended with a total membership of 479 individuals. That breaks down to 113 families (times 2=226), 226 individuals, 18 life time and 9 youth.

Family and youth membership is up from previous years in part because of our Daughter/Son shoot day. Also increasing membership has been opening the range on Tuesdays and Thursdays for daytime rim fire shooting and season passes at the city outdoor range. The 18 life time members are the clubs past presidents.

Our officers and board members call on all members to become more active in the great programs and activities of the BCSA. We are a volunteer organization and need your involvement, even if it's only 2 hours at the gun show or county fair.

Fill out the enclosed membership application and send it in today. Every member is important to us.

## A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

The Bonner County Sportsman Association is entering it's 84<sup>th</sup> year, and we are doing so with several new people taking the reins. I would like to acknowledge our past officers for their dedication and selflessness that they have given to this organization. They have left some really big shoes to be filled. They have gone above and beyond the call of duty for many years. Thank you all so much for all that you have done.

As the new president I hope to continue in their footsteps. I would like to see us become a 501-C 3 and will work towards that end. I hope to provide needed services for our members such as our open shooting, This was the brain child of Cliff Lanning and myself. Several years ago after the outdoor range closed for the season we decided we needed a place to shoot for the winter. After talking with BCSA we got permission to open the indoor range to 22 rim fire shooting during the day time hours of 10am to 4pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. With help from the Hutters we brought in a number of

very challenging targets. The popularity of this indoor shoot is continuing to grow and we now have 6 volunteer range masters helping out. We have two range masters on duty at all times to ensure everyone's safety and provide instruction to those wishing to get involved in shooting sports. For those members that have not yet acquired a 22 caliber rim fire rifle or pistol, we do have loaners available and ask that you supply the ammunition (22 long rifle). The cost to members is just \$3.00 per day. Our volunteers are all NRA certified Range Safety Officers and dedicated to promoting this sport. Come on in and check it out. It is warm and dry with friendly folks. (though some do claim that there is a rogue cross wind that you have to watch out for). Could it be our new ventilation system ?? We have to share our parking with city employees, so don't be scare off by the number of cars parked out front. The coffee pot is always on. ~~ Bill Moody

## THE OUTDOOR RANGE

Approximately two score and twelve years ago, Elmer Nikkola (representing the Bonner County Sportsmen Association) made a request of the city of Sandpoint.

The city recently purchased land adjacent to Baldy Mountain Road for use as a sanitary fill area. The BCSA wanted to establish a shooting range in a portion of the recent purchase. In August, 1967, the Outdoor Range was opened. It represented a cooperative effort between the BCSA, the city of Sandpoint, and local businesses.

Since then the following improvements have been made: (1) there is now a covered shooting area with 14 shooting benches, (2) electricity has been provided, (3) a chemical toilet was installed, (4) an asphalt driveway was created, (5) and shooting equipment (such as spotting scopes, lead sleds, targets, etc.) have also been provided.

A daily pass is \$5. For members of the BCSA a season pass is \$20. The range is open from mid April to mid November depending upon accessibility due to snow. The range has been closed due to fire danger. Steel cored and steel jacketed bullets are prohibited due to fire danger and ricochets.

The range has three sections with maximum ranges of 50 yards, 100 yards, and 200 yards.

Currently Bill Moody is the head Rangemaster with 25 volunteer Rangemasters providing the needed supervision and expertise. Volunteer Jerry Jay donated the most hours this year. This past year the volunteers provided nearly 2,000 hours of service to the community! 1,152 visitors were served. These users made nearly 3,200 visits.

In mid-June the range reserves a weekend for a youth day. This year our youth sponsorship had 102 participants. In addition, a day in July was reserved for 16 4-H shooters.

When April taxes are paid we should be open. Check us out!

Sincerely,

Carl Thomas ZMUDA ~ Volunteer Rangemaster

## *How to volunteer, and why should I?*

### Calendar

Feb 9-11 — KV Gun Show  
Feb 10—F4WM Banquet

Mar 1—BCSA Gun Show Setup  
Mar 2-4—BCSA Gun Show  
Mar 10—Friends of the NRA  
Banquet

Apr 15—Scholarship Apps Due  
Apr 21—RMEF Banquet

May 20—Camp Applications Due

June 9-10— Youth Day at the  
Range

Aug 8-11—Bonner County Fair

The Gem state has a gem in the Bonner County Sportsmen's Association. This is an all volunteer-run club of long standing and dedicated to the service of our environment and community with emphasis on outdoor activities related to our natural surroundings.

Since we are made up of volunteers, there is always a place for you – whether you are new to the area or new to an area of interest, or an experienced hand who just wants to give back or to help a youngster learn to safely participate in enjoying what this area has to offer. The annual Gun & Horn show is a great place to start. It is widely anticipated in the region, with something for everybody and there are lots of places where anyone can volunteer. Selling tickets at the door, helping with the horn and photography entries, selling raffle tickets, watching the doors and even the setup and teardown are great opportunities to get to know the members and volunteers who make this and all our events happen.

This club has existed for a long time. But continued BCSA existence isn't guaranteed, it is only through continuous commitment of citizen participation that it will. If you are interested in sportsman's activities – whatever your circumstances – consider joining with us to help insure that current and future generations will be able to enjoy these opportunities as have past generations.

To sign up as a volunteer you can contact me:

Gregory Miller— 208 263 2669— [gxmiller@sandpoint.net](mailto:gxmiller@sandpoint.net)

You can also find information on our club website or on our Facebook page for Bonner County Sportsmen's Association.

## WHO ARE WE? - CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In 1986 the City offered the Sportsmen the old rifle range on Lake Street for a small fee. The Sportsmen upgraded the building and now it is used as their meeting area and for Hunter's Ed. The Sandpoint Junior and Senior Rifle Clubs actively shoot and hold competitions for area shooters at the indoor range, the Sandpoint Pistol Club calls it home as do the Sandpoint Archers during the winter. With generous grants from the Friends of the NRA and volunteer work by members, upgrades to the range area have taken place in the last few years. The range is open to the public during the winter on certain days. Yet, there is so much more to the Sportsmen than a shooting range.

The Bonner County Sportsmen actively support the Idaho Fish & Game, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Baldy Mountain Shooting Range, Friends of the NRA, Toys for Tots, Bonner County Food Bank and so many more. They offer yearly scholarships to citizens of the county that are seeking higher education, and sponsor a young person to attend a weekly summer camp offered by the Idaho Conservation Officers. With volunteer work, the Wildlife Center was built at the fairgrounds as an educational center and is maintained and staffed by the Sportsmen. As you can see, they are so much more!

Open your wallet, do you see an orange membership card in there? Are you a current member of the Bonner County Sportsmen? Be more than a card-carrying member, be an active member. Without you, the support this group gives to others, and the rich history of the Sportsmen, will go away. We need all members to be active members, not just a card-carrying member. You are so much more than that.

Meetings are the first Thursday of each month, September through May, at 7:00 pm, at the Leo Hadley Range on Lake St. This time was set in 1960 and has not waived for the past 58 years. Come see what you can do to keep the Association active. We look forward to seeing you soon.

### LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

Moving forward with technology can be difficult at times, but we have taken another step in the right direction!

We have joined Facebook with our own page.

Reminders about meetings and upcoming events are shared. Interesting stories about hunting, fishing and other outdoors topics too! Random tidbits about our history keep you looking for more.

So, move forward with us and "Like" us on Facebook! You will be amazed at what you will find.

## WHO WANTS TO GO TO CAMP?

Every year the Bonner County Sportsmen's Association sponsors a youth age 8 to 12 to go to the Idaho Fish and Game Conservation of-ficers outdoor camp at Trinity Pines Camp in Cascade, Idaho. Camp dates are in mid-August this year. This is a fun, week long camp for youth that like the outdoors, either male or female. It is a week of outdoor activities from learning to shoot rifles, muzzleloaders, and bows to identifying animal-tracks, swimming and rafting, plus getting their hunter safety certificate, and to top it off some of the best food ever [rave

reviews from ALL past participants]. This camp is entirely paid for by the BCSA for the lucky person chosen to go, with transportation furnished by the local Game Wardens. All it takes is a letter to BCSA at PO. Box 1011, Sandpoint, ID. 83864. Stating why you want to go to camp and get it in the mail by May 20<sup>th</sup>. So put down those x-boxes and cell phones and get busy writing and you could be the one of the lucky kids to go to this great week long camp where only 85 kids in all of Idaho get to go.



## LEHMAN WILDLIFE EDUCATION CENTER UPDATE

The last two years have been good at the Center with a few new additions. We now have 6 new mounted fish for people to look at and be able to identify what they caught. We have an awesome mount of two black wolves on loan from the Foundation For Wildlife Management. We also finally got rid of the musk ox and purchased a life sized wolverine mount so you can see what one of them looks like.

The building was used by around 300 kids this spring on field trips from Bonner County Schools plus several outside groups. It is always a big hit at the fair with a steady stream of people going through with many of the newcomers in awe of the life size mounts of local animals. The CAP trailer [citizens against poaching] furnished by IDF&G is always a big hit, also during the fair, as it also has a few Panhandle poached trophy's in it. So if you enjoy the building and want to see more, think about volunteering for a 3 hr. shift at the fair we will be posting a schedule in July and can always use some help.

Don Banning ~ BCSA Wildlife Center Chair

## SCHOLARSHIP'S AVAILABLE TO ANY BONNER COUNTY RESIDENT WHO ARE FURTHERING THEIR EDUCATION

The Bonner County Sportsmen's Association Scholarships are given in honor of Leo Hadley and other outstanding sportsmen and women in Bonner County. The BCSA has expanded the scholarship program, and now award three \$500 scholarships for use during the 2018-2019 academic year. The scholarship winners for 2017 were Thomas Lucky, Priest River Lamanna High School, Geoffrey Collins, Sandpoint High School, and Kent Youngdahl, a freshman at the University of Idaho. Bonner County students who are graduates of, or who are currently enrolled in a public, private, or home school program, and who have successfully completed a Hunter Education program are eligible.

Applications are available on the BCSA website at [www.bonnercountysportsmen.org](http://www.bonnercountysportsmen.org), or by writing a letter of request to the BCSA. Students planning to advance their education, and who are interested in outdoor and conservation activities, have completed a Hunter Education program, and may have personal or family participation in local sportsman and civic organizations are encouraged to apply. The scholarship is open to adults as well as youth, and the scholarship recipients will be selected by June 1, 2018

Postmark deadline for application is April 15, 2018.

The scholarship was originally started in 1998 as a memorial to sportsman and community leader Leo Hadley. Leo was well-known for his community service. His love for Lake Pend Oreille and hunting and fishing activities led to his long involvement and service to Hunter Education, Bonner County Sportsman's Association, Lake Pend Oreille Idaho Club, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and many other organizations. The scholarship has been expanded to honor and memorialize other outstanding sportsmen.

Contributions to the scholarship fund can be made by sending your donation to the BCSA Scholarship Fund, PO Box 1011, Sandpoint, ID 83864.



## Brownells/NRA Daughter's and Son's Day at the Range

June 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018, from 9:30 am -4 pm are the dates and hours for the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Day at the Range for area youth. The program will be held at the Sandpoint Outdoor Range, just off of Baldy Mountain Road. The City of Sandpoint Recreation Department donates the range use for the day. The National Rifle Association, Brownells, North 40 Outfitters, Idaho Fish and Game, the Co-Op Country Store, local gun shops, and many other local businesses and individuals contribute to this program. BCSA members and range masters serve as volunteers to help the weekend go smoothly.

Gun safety, and an opportunity to learn to shoot in a fun and safe environment, with plenty of certified volunteer instructors and range officers on hand to assist, makes the event educational and fun. This free family event will focus on youth between the ages of eight and eighteen. Participants will be able to try their hand at shooting a .22 rifle. Firearms, targets, ammunition, and safety equipment are all supplied free of charge.

The day will be divided into two hour sections, so that individual instruction can be provided to all participants. Signing up for a two hour session in advance is necessary, as each session is limited to 14 participants. Registration may be done using the application available on the Bonner County Sportsmen's Association website, e-mailing a request to [jcmalison@gmail.com](mailto:jcmalison@gmail.com), or calling 208-266-0141. Applications will also be available at local sporting goods stores, and the BCSA Gun 'n Horn Show. In 2017 over 100 youth participated, so sign up early.

**2018 BONNER COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

**LEO HADLEY INDOOR RANGE SCHEDULE**

**SPORTSMEN'S CLUB**

Meeting 1st Thur. each month Sept. – May  
President - Bill Moody 208-290-6846  
Vice-President - Tom Johnson 208-263-9117

**BOW HUNTER ED.**

At the Fairgrounds  
April 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend  
Mike Emerson 208-255-8392

**HUNTER ED.**

Last full week of month Feb. – Sept  
Tom Johnson 208-263-9117  
Al Phillips 208-263-8698  
IDF&G 208-769-1414

**RIFLE CLUB (NRA Gallery shoot)**

Jr.—Monday 4PM-8PM Nov - April  
Sr.—Thur. 6PM-8PM Nov - April  
Ron Shadel 208-255-9800  
John Holbert 208-290-6843

**OPEN SHOOT—22 rifle or pistol only**

Tue. and Thur. 10AM-4PM Dec. – March  
Bill Moody 208-290-6846

**PISTOL CLUB (NRA Gallery shoot)**

Tue. 6:30PM-8PM Mid. Nov. - March  
Sunday 3PM-4:30PM Nov. – March  
Tom Johnson 208-263-9117

**ARCHERY CLUB**

Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. each month Dec. - Aug.  
Wed. 6PM-8PM Nov - April  
Sr. League—Fri. 6PM-8PM Jan. - March  
Youth Class— Sat. 4PM-5PM Jan. – May as use allows  
Mike Emerson 208-255-8392  
Bill Samms 208-263-9944 (Youth)



PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

[www.bonnercountysportsmen.org](http://www.bonnercountysportsmen.org)  
[bonnercountysportsmen@gmail.com](mailto:bonnercountysportsmen@gmail.com)

Bonner County Sportsmen's Association  
PO Box 1011  
Sandpoint ID 83864