



PIKE LAKE SPORTSMAN'S CLUB NEWSLETTER APRIL 2025

Dedicated to working with the DNR to protect and enhance the water quality of Pike Lake and it's fishing inventory. The Club also encourages the promotion of all water sports and recreational activities.

MEETING: APRIL 7, 2025
PLACE: Hartford Town Hall
START: 5:30/help w/set up – 6:00 Meeting

President: John [redacted]
Vice-Pres: Chris [redacted]
Secretary: Jerry [redacted]
Treasurer: Jason [redacted]

The minutes of the Pike Lake Sportsman's Club meeting that was held on Monday, March 3rd at Hartford Town Hall. There were 17 members present.

TREASURER'S REPORT

CHECKING \$7,516.91

SAVINGS \$6,914.15

GUESTS

ELIAS WILSON – PARK SUP.
&
JUSTIN BLINDERT – PARK RANGER

ADAM [redacted]
(Jim Doubleday's Grandson)

MEETING:

John started meeting by introducing our guests – Elias and Justin from the Park and Adam [redacted] Adam is the Grandson of Jim Doubleday – who the older members remember was one of the founding Club members and also a past President. John said that Adam does a lot of fishing on the lake as did his grandpa and probably learned where the “hot spots” are.

Next John thanked all the members and non-members that helped out at the “Friends of the Park Hike” and made the Booyah/soup tent such a success.

He said it was good to have a Club project again. We will be having more projects coming up like the meat raffle on St Patrick's Day at the “Down Slope” in a couple of weeks. We'll also be having other projects this summer at the Park working with the “Friends” and projects that will benefit the Lake.

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Elias and Justin told the members that one of the projects that we may be able to work on with the “Fish Biologist” was a “fish sticks” or “tree drop” along the shore by the Park. It will take a lot of planning on location and logistics but probably able to do as the Park has plenty of trees to cut down. Elias told the members that the “Hike” was a real success. He said the Booyah tent was really great! Adding the variety of soups and all the extra lights really helped get us noticed. Elias added that our tent really added to the “family like” atmosphere of the “Hike”. He is sure our name really got known and will be remembered. Elias “thanked” the Club for all their work! He also thanked Joe for helping get all those extra lights out on the trail and he received a lot of compliments on the whole event. Elias said that the turn out was less than previous years at both sessions as they noted that the parking lots were not full. (Maybe the people thought that the snow would get worse.) (John said he believes the Booyah/Soup tent will be a Club project for years to come.) (Next year's “Hike” is scheduled for Saturday, Feb.14th!) Justin talked about the Club coming and helping out at the Discovery Days at the Park. (This year's “Days” is scheduled for Saturday, June 7th.) He said that they are planning a bunch of demonstration stations to show different things like kayaking, boating, fishing, camping, bird watching, etc. that are available to do in the Park. Justin is hoping the Club members would help with the learn to fish area! We can teach casting, knot tying and help kids fish on the fishing pier. (Actually, the Club has been doing that for quite a few years! I know Ed and I have helped untangle or bait hooks for many years!) (The Club usually buys 3 or 4 dozen night crawlers. I think Bruce, John and others have taught the casting and knot tying.)

Another item brought up was the Club's Memorial Bench. Elias said that there were a few places available near the boat launch that he could mark off.

John told Elias to place a bench on order as the Club is committed to the project. We can add the plaque latter once we determine what we want to have on it.

HEATERS:

John told the members that the heaters we used in the tent during the "Hike" were way too noisy. He said that he had brought his patio heater and that worked pretty good. John suggested that we order a couple to use instead of the old propane heaters. He said he looked them up on Amazon and they were \$90.00 apiece. Also, they use 20 lb propane tanks in stead of the 100 lb tanks so will be much easier to cart around. A motion was made and seconded that John buy 4 patio heaters. The motion passed unanimously. John said he'd look into trying to exchange the big tanks for smaller ones. Bruce said we could store the heaters at the his place until needed. John said he would also look into some kind of carpeting to put under them as it got muddy around the base of the heaters.

MEAT/BOOZE RAFFLE:

The meat/booze raffle that John mentioned in the earlier part of this Newsletter was held on St. Patrick's Day – Monday Mar.17th at the Down Slope. John and Chris planned the event as a Club money raiser. John purchased a variety of meats – bacon, sausage, etc. He also had a complete barbecue set up that included the meat and all the rubs and condiments in a kit that was donated by Gehring's Meat Market and a \$60 Gift Certificate donated by Dave's Lanes. Chris [redacted] had a bunch of bottles of wine and booze that was donated by Goeman's. The Down Slope had a tent sent up behind the tavern as there was a crowd gathering after the St. Patrick's Day Parade. The party started at 1:00. They also had a band and bar set up. Too bad more members didn't show up to help as Chris, Steven, Dan [redacted] and John did a lot of work trying to sell raffle tickets. (John had done a lot of work the day before getting all the raffles set up. Great job John!) According to John, the ticket sales were a lot slower than the year before as it took longer to raffle off each item. (Good job Steven, Dan and Chris for pushing the tickets!) I believe John said the Club made around \$1000.

CHEFS:

Steven [redacted] served corned beef and cabbage stew w/potatoes & carrots, two kinds of bakery fresh rye bread w/butter and Sue made Creme de Menthe brownies for dessert.

Great job Steven! The corned beef was delicious! Sue the brownies were good too!

UPCOMING CHEFS:

April – Whitey [redacted] and Jim [redacted]

May – Chili Cook Off!!!

John said he like to try some thing a little different so he asked for 5 volunteers to make a pot of chili and the members will try each one and vote for the one they like the most. The two with most votes will when a prize! (I didn't the get volunteer names!)

June: - Dan [redacted] and Brad [redacted]

We need Chefs!!! Please consider taking a turn!!!

Also, Please let us know if you plan to attend!!!

(Please let us know by Saturday or before!!!!)

John– [redacted] or [redacted]

Jerry – [redacted] or [redacted]

DATES TO REMEMBER:

April 7th - Monthly Meeting at the Hartford Town Hall. (5:30 setup and socializing/6:00 meeting start.)

May 3rd – Inland Fishing Season Opens!!!!

May 5th – Monthly Meeting at the Hartford Town Hall (5;30 setup and socializing/6:00 meeting start.)

June 2nd - Monthly Meeting at the Hartford Town Hall (5:30 setup and socializing/6:00 meeting start.)

June 7th – Discovery Day at the Park. Volunteers will be needed to help teach casting and knot tying and catch fish off the fishing pier.

50/50 WINNER

BRUCE [redacted]

\$45 FOR THE CLUB AND \$45 FOR BRUCE

THE CLUB OWES BRUCE A BIG THANK YOU AS BRUCE DONATED HIS SHARE TO THE CLUB!!!!!!

IF ANY ONE IS INTERESTED WE HAVE TWO PULLOVER HOODED SWEAT-SHIRTS – XL – LEFT. LET ME KNOW AND I'LL BRING TO A MEETING.
