

THE JOURNEY

An E-Newsletter Brought To You By The Sporting Lands Alliance
Family • Fun • Outdoors

JANUARY 2009

WWW.SPORTINGLANDSALLIANCE.ORG

ISSUE #10

2ND ANNUAL KURT KURTENBACH DISABLED PHEASANT HUNT

On Saturday, December 13, 2008, disabled hunters, their families, and supporters met for a great day of pheasant hunting, food, and fellowship on the property of Kurt Kurtenbach in Marlette, Michigan. Members of the Wheelin' Team 457 from Marlette, Michigan were taken out by guides on several hundred acres of private farmland.

Roger McCarville, executive producer of "Disabilities Today", brought his film crew and captured what was an amazing day for all who dared to challenge the Michigan winter wind

and deep snow. The program aired on January 20th, 2009 in the Detroit area. The event was also covered by the Detroit Free Press in an article that appeared on January 12th, 2009.

If you missed it, plan on attending at the 3rd Annual Kurt Kurtenbach Pheasant Hunt for Disabled Hunters in December 2009!



FAR LEFT: Hunters from the Wheelin' Team 457 ready their weapons for the next pheasant release.

LEFT: Hunter Kevin McCarty reloads while a cameraman takes footage for the "Disabilities Today" program. The show aired on channel 56 January 20, 2009.



4TH ANNUAL MEETING AND AWARDS DINNER

Thursday, March 19th, 2009

The Royal Park Hotel, 600 E University, Rochester, MI 6:30pm

The Sporting Lands Alliance, a proud supporter of disabled sportsmen, is pleased to present Mike Utley as the speaker at the 4th Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner.

In 1991, Detroit Lions' offensive guard Mike Utley (#60) was paralyzed during an NFL game at the Silverdome in Detroit, Michigan. Mike's courageous "Thumbs Up" gesture as he was carried from the field has come to symbolize his fighting spirit. Today, his goal is to help and encourage others living with spinal cord injuries. The Mike Utley Foundation was consequently established to provide financial support for research, rehabilitation, and education for SCI related injuries.

Cost for attendance and dinner is \$35 a person. The event will include door prizes, a silent auction, laser shot, exhibits, and an award presentation.

Please RSVP no later than March 10th.

For more information on this event, please check our website, sportinglandsalliance.org, or call our office at 248.601.1241.

GREAT WEBSITES

Michigan United Conservation Clubs
www.mucc.org

MUCC Camp For Kids
www.mucc.org/campforkids.html

Michigan Department of Natural Resources
www.michigan.gov/dnr

Michigan Travel
www.michigan.org/travel

Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
www.trcp.org

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Mike Utley, former offensive guard for the Detroit Lions and founder of the Mike Utley Foundation.

IN THE NEWS

A Night of Luxury at the Royal Park Hotel Thursday, March 19, 2009

Always wanted to stay at the Royal Park Hotel in downtown Rochester? Now is your chance. As a special for Sporting Lands Alliance Members, you and a guest may reserve a room the night of Thursday, March 19th for only \$129. Contact us to learn how you can enjoy a night at Michigan's finest hotel!

Attention Members: Save at Bass Pro Shop

SLA members receive 10% off their total purchase at Bass Pro Shop! Take advantage of your membership today!

520 Acre Recreation Site Preserved

On 1/15/09, The Scotts Company transferred ownership of 520 acres of land to Flynn Township in Sanilac County. This project was completed with the assistance of the SLA and their past director, Bill Vandercook. The property was purchased with MDNR trust funds monies and a large donation from The Scotts Company. The land is designated for public recreational use. According to Gene Burgess, Flynn Twp. supervisor, plans for the land include hiking and horseback riding trails, camping sites, and managed hunting. For more information or to volunteer, contact Gene Burgess at 810.404.2917.

Send Your Photos

The SLA would like you as its members to send in your outdoor recreation photos. They can be pictures of hunting, fishing, skiing, biking, etc. We will be including them in the newsletter for other members to see.



GET YOUR OFFICIAL SLA OUTDOOR APPAREL!



SLA SPORTING JACKET - \$25
AVAILABLE IN XL, 2XL, 3XL

SLA GOLF POLO - \$10
AVAILABLE IN S, L, XL

UPCOMING SLA EVENTS

4th Annual Meeting and Awards Dinner - Thursday, March 19, 2009

The Royal Park Hotel - 600 E University, Rochester, MI 6:30 p.m.

Join us for dinner, fun, and our featured speaker Mike Utley, formerly of the Detroit Lions!

Family Fun Day - Saturday, June 6, 2009

Hunter's Creek Club - Metamora, MI 9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Join us for a fun-filled day of great prizes, trap shooting, fishing, and a picnic lunch at Hunters Creek Club. The Club is situated on 1,400 acres of beautiful, preserved land with its own 60-acre lake stocked large quantities of bass, pike, bluegill, and crappie. The Club also features a state-of-the-art, fully automated 12 station sporting clays course, as well as trap shooting. For more information about the Hunter's Creek Club, visit www.hunterscreekclub.com.

Participants can choose to participate in one of three options at great discount prices. Children under 15 must be accompanied by an adult. Visit the SLA website at sportinglandsalliance.org or call our office at 248.601.1241 for more information.

Hunter's Safety/Outdoor Education Camp

Saturday-Sunday, August 29-30, 2009

D-Bar-A Scout Ranch - 880 E. Sutton Road, Metamora, MI

Outdoor Education/Hunter's Safety Camp - August 29-30, 2009 (Saturday and Sunday)
D-Bar-A Scout Ranch, 880 E. Sutton Rd, Metamora, MI 48455

The SLA is hosting its annual educational Hunter's Safety camp at D-Bar-A-Scout Ranch. Located a little over an hour's drive from Detroit, the Ranch is situated on over 1,700 acres of wilderness. The accommodations provided by the Ranch and the experience and dedication of volunteer staff continue to make this educational camp a fun and successful event. Youth from ages 10 and up are invited to participate. Certified instructors teach campers survival skills, gun safety and shooting basics, archery techniques, and much more.

\$35 a person covers overnight accommodations and four meals. Registrations are accepted on a first come, first served basis. Space is limited, so register today! For more information or to register, visit www.sportinglandsalliance.org or contact Jennifer Gunderson at (734) 878-0852.

3rd Annual Kurt Kurtenbach Pheasant Hunt for Disabled Hunters

Date to be announced - Marlette, MI

Join us for food, trap shooting, and, most importantly, supporting our disabled hunters! There is no cost to attend! Kurt Kurtenbach, SLA member, hosts this special pheasant hunt for the members of the Wheelin' Team 457 in Marlette, Michigan. Guides will take groups of disabled hunters into several hundred acres of private farmland for pheasant hunting. Hunters, their families, and participants like you will enjoy a meal at the barn. This opportunity is made possible by the generosity and hard work of Kurt, his family, friends, and the SLA. If you are interested in attending, helping, or donating, please contact Jon Hodges at 248.364.3315.

CALL US OR CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS.

PLEASE GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK ON WHAT EVENTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN OR HELP WITH!

SPREAD THE WORD! • WE NEED MEMBERS! • GET INVOLVED!

Questions, comments, or to
become a member...

e-mail us at:

info@sportinglandsalliance.org



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