



U.P. WHITETAILS OF DICKINSON COUNTY NEWSLETTER

Election of Officers: At the U.P. Whitetails meeting on June 13, Election of Officers was held. The Officers for 2018-2019 are as follows: President – Randy Trudgeon, Vice President – Frank Opolka, Secretary – Terrie Rugg, Treasurer – Bob Usitalo. Two new Trustees were appointed to the Board: Robert Doepker and Corey Roell. At the May meeting, Bob Menza who was our long time treasurer resigned from the board. We thanked him for his many years of service.

Membership Dues: At the Board of Trustees meeting on June 13, a discussion took place regarding an increase in the annual membership dues. The board voted to increase the annual membership dues to \$75.00. This will still include a \$5.00 annual raffle ticket. The increase is necessary to offset the raising prices of firearms, prizes and the buffet at the casino. We are receiving less donations of prizes which increases our costs. We are committed to continue to sponsor a high quality banquet and maintain the number of prizes for our membership.

Annual Banquet: We would like to thank all of our 400 members, visiting officers, staff and donators that helped make this year's banquet a success. The banquet planning and organizing is an all year task that we couldn't do without the support and hard work of everyone involved. Next year's banquet will mark our 30th Anniversary and will be held on Saturday, April 6, 2019 at the Island Resort and Casino.

Baiting Ban Proposal: At the present time all recommendations to the Natural Resources Commission are being directed to the Lower Peninsula regarding the baiting ban proposal. No restrictions on the Upper Peninsula will be considered because as of yet, there have been no reports of CWD. We are well represented at the state level by the Upper Peninsula Sportsmen's Alliance and the U.P. Whitetail organizations.

Hunters Safety: U.P. Whitetails of Dickinson County will be holding a Hunters Safety Class at the Kingsford Middle School July 30-August 2 from 8:00-12:00 and the Field Day will be held on August 4 at the United Sportsman Club from 9:00-2:00. Our organization has been sponsoring the Hunters Safety Class for over 20 years. We are in need of instructors to keep the program going. If you are interested in becoming a DNR Certified Hunters Safety Instructor and would like to help our organization, please contact Randy Trudgeon at Dunham's or call him at 906-774-9343, or you can contact any officer or Trustee to obtain information.

Scholarships: We have given out over \$50,000 in scholarships to local students since 1995. This year's recipients were Bruce Bilgreen of Kingsford, Lily Segerdahl of North Dickinson, Cassidy Juntunen of Norway and Riley St. Johns of Iron Mountain. Each student was awarded \$2,000 to continue their education in fields related to wildlife conservation, biology, and criminal justice.

Walking Trails: We have worked with the DNR to fund, develop, and maintain walking/hunting trails in Dickinson County. Currently our club is maintaining six walking trails that are groomed and seeded continually; to provide local residents access to walking trails that are hotspots for deer, birds, and other wildlife. These trails include: Brown Lake Road, Hodgkins Creek, Carney Lake, Rock Lake, and the Norway Truck Trail. Volunteers and assistance in maintaining these trails are always appreciated. For more information on how you can become involved, please contact Randy Trudgeon at 906-774-9343.

For up to date information on what is going on in your U.P. Whitetails Chapter, visit our website at www.kingsford.org/upwhitetails or [google U.P. Whitetails of Dickinson County](#).