

Wyman Lake Fishing Derby—Huge Success

JANUARY 22, 2022

Despite Starting out with a -30 ° F overnight temperature, local supporters of the program came out in droves braving frigid temperatures to make this year’s ice fishing derby a huge success. Trophies were awarded for the largest fish in several categories to include largest fish overall, largest Splake, and largest Landlocked Salmon. There were awards for both adults and kids categories.

All entrants competed for door prizes which included a fishing trip for four in upstate New York, an Ice Auger, a pair of snowshoes, multiple gift certificates, fishing lures, and ice sled, Ruger Knives, Ruger Backpacks, a Fly Fishing Reel, Fishing Rods and other donated prizes.

We thank all the sponsors who donated prizes and food for the event. Likewise, we appreciate all the volunteers who gave of their time to make this event successful.

MODERN WOODMAN PRESENTS CHECK AT DERBY



Patrick Linehan of Modern Woodman Fraternal Financial (on Left) presented a matching funds check for \$2,500.00 at the derby for a fund raising event that was conducted in October of 2021.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Veteran’s Ice Fishing	2
Coyote Night Hunt.....	2
Snowshoe Hare Hunt	3
Spring Wild Turkey Hunt	3
Going beyond The Program	4
Annual Fishing Derby.....	4
PGP Board Position Opening ..	4
Pattern Your Shotgun	5
Schedule of 2022 Events	5
Outreach.....	6

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Spring Wild Turkey Hunt Upcoming in May 2022
- Annual Tribute to Service Fishing Derby in June 2022

VETERANS' ICE FISHING



John Oliveria, a Navy Veteran, had the opportunity to go ice fishing for the first time this winter as a guest of Pine Grove Programs. On his first day he was introduced to ice fishing techniques for Brook Trout and Landlocked Salmon. Neither Trout or Salmon cooperated but he did catch a Chain Pickerel. He learned first hand the techniques to make him a

successful ice fisherman.

On his second foray, he was introduced to ice fishing for Northern Pike. In his own words, "Fishing for Pike is definitely different than fishing for trout or salmon."

These trips were made possible by volunteers who took Veterans out for a day of ice fishing. Our thanks to Tony Cummings and Sons and to Paul Violette for volunteering.

"Fishing for Pike is definitely different than fishing for Trout or Salmon."

WHAT A RUSH

It was dark, cold with wind whispering through the firs. Coyotes could be heard yipping a long ways off. Suddenly, a near long wailing howl shattered the quiet and provided an adrenaline rush. Awhile later, another long howl across the lake. That coyote never left the woods edge to approach the bait. I will never forget that close in spine tingling howl, the adrenaline rush and the challenge of the hunt.

2

COYOTE NIGHT HUNT

Hunting the wily Coyote over bait is not easy. Coyotes have good eye sight, keen hearing and a phenomenal sense of smell. Add their natural intelligence and they are both an adept predator as well as an astute adversary. If they sense anything is not right, they will not come into the bait. Their typical approach is to circle around, and if they detect a smell or sound from the hunter, they will not come into the bait.

So what can you expect from a night coyote hunt? Typically you will move into the hunting shack in the late afternoon while it is still light. Your bait may be lighted or unlighted; the latter requires a good moon and clear skies. If you are fortunate, once the sun sets and it gets dark, you may hear a pack of coyotes howling in the distance, or perhaps one or two close in long howls. In any case you will get an adrenaline rush listening to the eerie howls and barks. Or, more often there is only silence as you watch for the stealthy movements of the coyotes. Sometimes you will see them pass by, out of range in the woods edge, never to come in and offer you a shot. Expect to spend long hours in the dark and cold, you may see birds, fox, fisher, bobcat visit the bait on occasion.

If you are patient and lucky, you may get a shot.



Rabbit Pie Coming Up

SNOWSHOE HARE HUNT

Pine Grove Programs provided multiple hunts for Veterans and First Responders this season. As always, weather conditions did not always cooperate and some days were better than others. A major concern is always the ice and snow conditions and how they affect the dogs' feet. We do not hunt when conditions are likely to tear up the dogs' pads. The dogs for their part love to hunt and are ready to go at any time.



SPRING TURKEY HUNT

One of our Veteran volunteers shows two Turkeys he bagged during a previous season that weighed 22 and 18 pounds respectively. On that hunt, another Veteran bagged a nice 20 pound turkey. A great day was had by all.

SPRING TURKEY HUNT

Pine Grove Programs will offer Spring Wild Turkey hunts during the first week of May. Slots will be allocated by random drawing and the number of slots will be dependent on the number of guides who volunteer to take hunters out. Be sure to register with Andrea if interested.

If selected, you need a Maine Big Game Hunting License with an added Wild Turkey Hunting Permit.

You will need full camo outer garments and your own shotgun and turkey shotshells. Dress in layers as the temperatures can vary throughout the day.

Your guide will provide decoys and turkey calls. Expect to arrive in the afternoon at the lodge. You may pattern your shotgun at 25 and 40 yards that afternoon if desired.

ANNUAL FISHING DERBY

Due to the pandemic, the Annual Tribute To Service Fishing Derby was cancelled last year. It is now planned for June 14, 2022.

On the day of the event, registration starts at 7:30 followed by participant assignment to boats. A luncheon is provided middle afternoon with awards presentations.

The Program depends on volunteers to bring a boat and host two participants during the derby. The number of boats volunteered determines the number of participants the derby can support.

If you have a boat and would like to take two Veterans or First responders out

GOING BEYOND THE PROGRAM

I have been fortunate to participate in numerous PGP events. I like to golf, fish, kayak, shoot trap and hunt. More recently, I have volunteered to enjoy my hobbies with Veterans and First Responders, simply by asking Bob Howe if he had anyone who might want to spend a day with me.

He connects me with Veterans who have never done some of these activities. We schedule a day and I get the enjoyment of mentoring someone in an activity I enjoy. In some cases, I gain a new friend and companion for future outings.

Do you have a hobby or skill that you might like to share? Do you find it difficult to find people who enjoy your hobbies with whom

you would like to spend more time?

Perhaps, you might consider volunteering some time to take a Veteran or First Responder out for a day and share your skill and or hobby with them.

You may be surprised just how much fun and how rewarding doing this can be. You may also find that you make some long term friends.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS POSITION OPENING

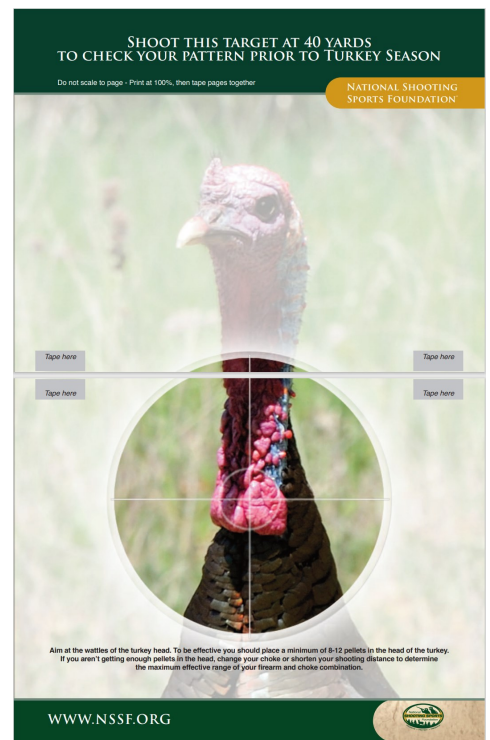
Pine Grove Programs Board of Directors consists of unpaid volunteers. Presently, we are in need of a volunteer to perform in the position of Secretary. The Board meets once a month, normally on the third Monday of each month. The Secretary records the minutes of the meetings and performs other administrative functions as necessary. If you are interested in volunteering to fill this position, please contact our Board President, Tim Corbett by e-mail at tim@pinegroveprograms.org.

PATTERN YOUR SHOTGUN

If you plan to hunt wild turkeys, you should pattern your shotgun at 25 and 40 yards so that you know how the shotshell you use performs with your shotgun. You can download patterning target for free online at:

<https://www.nssf.org/shooting/targets>

In order to ensure a clean kill, aim at the wattle and count the number of shot in the head. At minimum there should be 8-12 shots to be effective. If not, change your choke, shorten your distance or try a different shotshell. Knowing how your shotshell and shotgun performs is vital to success.



“Knowing how your shotshell and shotgun performs is vital to success.”

2022 Schedule of Events

Ice Fishing Derby—January 22, 2022 **

Coyote Night Hunt—January-March

Hare Hunt— February 12—March 12, 2022

Maple Syrup—March 20-21, 2022*

Archery School – April *

Turkey Hunt—May 2-14, 2022

Fly Fishing School—May *

Lake Trolling—May *

Mushroom Foraging *

Tribute to Service Fishing Derby—Jun 14, 2022

Allagash Canoe Trip—Jun 20-27, 2022

LEO Fishing Derby—June *

Patriot Ride—July *

Car Show – August *

Lobster Feed – August * **

Golf Tournament—September 18, 2022 **

Black Bear Hunt—September *

Freiburg Fair – October 1-9, 2022 **

Bow Deer Hunt—October *

Upland Game Bird Hunt—October 18-19, 2022

Deer Hunt—November *

Coyote Night Hunt - January—March 2023

* Date To Be Determined

** Fund Raising Event



A view
From The
June 2021
Allagash
Wilderness
Canoe Trip

Veteran of the Year

Nominations

Each year Pine Grove Programs gives an award for Veteran of the Year. If you have a Veteran you want to nominate, please contact Andrea Howe.

OUTREACH

Pine Grove Programs wants to reach out and provide outdoor experiences to more Veterans, First Responders (EMT's, Firemen and Law Enforcement Officers), and Gold Star Family members. If you know anyone who is in those categories and who is not aware of the program, invite them to register online at www.pinegroveprograms.org or to contact our Outreach Coordinator, Paul Violette at paul@pinegroveprograms.org.

Likewise if you know of a group or organization that would like to learn more about the program, contact Paul and a presentation to the group or organization can be made.

You never know what positive impact you may have on someone's life simply by making a referral.

andrea@pinegroveprograms.org

Pine Grove Programs
P.O. Box 738
Oakland, ME 04901

www.pinegroveprograms.org

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

