

Badger Mining Corporation's 13th Special October Gun Deer Hunt

A lot of misses, some connections and oh what FUN "makin' memories"!!

For the 13th year in a row, Badger Mining Corporation (BMC) has been a company-sponsor of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) 9-day disabled gun deer hunt which kicks off the first Saturday of October. The WDNR created the season in 1990 in order to provide opportunities for individuals with certain disabilities to enjoy deer hunting at a time of year in which temperatures are generally milder and mobility in the woods is easier.

BMC originally started the opportunity in 2001 for Bob Bartol at the St. Marie property, which is located in Green Lake County. Bob Bartol is a member of the Transportation, Distribution & Logistics (TDL) Team and has been with BMC since March 1984. Bob was an avid hunter prior to being injured in a swimming accident in 1974. He is grateful to be back out in the woods.



In 2006, BMC expanded the hunting opportunity to the Fairwater property, which is located in Green Lake and Fond du Lac Counties and in 2008 to the Taylor property, which is located in Jackson and Trempealeau Counties.

This year, BMC accommodated 17 hunters, 11 of which were new and 6 returning hunters including Bob Bartol. Two of the hunters, Gary and Jeff Roth of Manawa, WI, are brothers. Brad Anderson who is originally from Berlin, WI, but currently lives in Phoenix, AZ traveled the distance to hunt with his family. Chris Larsen of Racine, WI was our oldest participant ever at 92 years of age.

Bob hunted opening weekend at Taylor. The WDNR youth hunt happened to coincide with the opening weekend so Bob's grandson Bennett Bartol was invited along for the hunt. Bennett connected on a doe. Grandpa Bob was thrilled to have experienced this opportunity! Bennett's mom, Jill Bartol, was not happy that they were having so much fun at deer camp that they forgot to snap a picture.

Bob also hunted at St. Marie during the week and the last weekend. Bob enjoys hunting out of the custom built Beanstaker from New Height Technology. The portable hydraulic deer stand is the ultimate stand for those with physical limitations. Hunters truly enjoy the opportunity to be elevated; something most of us take for granted!

Unfortunately Bob wasn't able to bag a big buck this year, but as Bob tells everyone, "I am just happy to be out hunting and I don't care if I shoot one."



Pictured to the LEFT are Marty Lehman, BMC Safety and Public Relations Team Leader and Bob Bartol hunting out of the Beanstaker, which is pictured to the RIGHT.



The St. Marie Hunt

The hunters at St. Marie certainly weren't afraid to shoot. Some hunters shot up to SEVERAL times a night.

One of the lucky hunters this year was Gary Roth of Manawa, WI. Gary participated in the hunt at St. Marie in 2011 and 2012 without any luck. Nathan Hess, BMC Hunt Team member took Gary under his guidance and was bound and determined to get him a buck this year...and he did! A fantastic buck indeed! Gary had his misses prior to connecting on this trophy that he finally did take down on Thursday night of the hunt. Not sure who is the happiest in the group picture. Gary is rolling around still smiling today!

Pictured to the RIGHT are Parker LaBuda, Brandon Hess, Nathan Hess, James Crowley, Gary Roth, Tiffany Martin and Mark Hess (L-R).



The other successful hunter at St. Marie was Zachary Reetz of Neshkoro, WI. Zachary enjoyed the hunt with his father, grandfather and James Crowley. James (also known as "Horseshoe") of Omro, WI participated in the hunt several years at St. Marie and a year at Taylor. James's nickname is obvious from the bucks that he has on his walls and some of that luck rubbed off on Zach.

Zach did take his share of shots of as well. We will not tell how many, but it was several. Sitting with "Horseshoe" on Friday night of the hunt, Zach's luck changed. Zach connected with a doe AND a buck. Zach made up for lost shots!

Pictured to the LEFT are James Crowley and Zachary Reetz (L-R).

The other successful hunter at St. Marie was Lavan Radichel of Freemont, WI who hunted with his brother-in-law. Lavan was able to connect with a doe on Tuesday night of the hunt. Lavan and Del are pictured to the RIGHT (L-R).

The BMC Hunt Team was sad to see the season end without getting deer for Brad Anderson of Phoenix, AZ, Ross Kleinschmidt of Oshkosh, WI and Ken Sondalle of Neshkoro, WI, but the hunting stories, laughs, friendships and memories live on. It was great to get the hunters back in the woods with their families and friends. Pictured BELOW are (1) Brad Anderson, Cindy and Gordy Klassa; (2) Ross and Craig Kleinschmidt; and (3) Craig, Chris, Ken, Jim and Dan Sondalle (L-R).



The Fairwater Hunt

Chris Larsen of Racine, WI and Larry Gunderson of Fond du Lac, WI participated in the hunt at Fairwater. Unfortunately, Chris Larsen was unsuccessful but appreciated the opportunity to get out and hunt again with two of his sons. Chris is the oldest hunter to participate at BMC to date at the young age of 92. Chris is pictured to the RIGHT.



On the other hand, Larry Gunderson had a lot of success during the hunt. He shot a doe earlier in the season and was successful in getting a nice buck on Wednesday morning. The railcars that were moved in overnight on three sides didn't matter as the sun came up and the buck was feeding in close range of the hunting shack. Pictured to the BELOW is Brad Roehl, Larry Gunderson's BMC Hunt Team guide and Larry (L-R).



The Taylor Hunt

Along with Bob Bartol, 8 additional hunters participated at Taylor. All 8 of the additional hunters were successful in getting a deer.

Jeff Roth of Manawa, WI made the trip. Jeff was successful opening night in getting a nice buck. Jeff also shot a doe the next day. Pictured to the RIGHT with Jeff are his guides, Rohland Parker and Neil Kniseley (L-R).



Jeff and Gary Roth are brothers so Jeff getting this nice buck opening night at Taylor really put the pressure on his brother Gary, who hunted at St. Marie.



Another successful hunter opening night of the hunt was Bruce Huseboe. Bruce later shot a doe as well. Bruce participated in the Taylor Hunt in 2010 and was successful then too. Bruce and his nice buck are pictured to the LEFT with his son, Justin, his brother, Paul and another son, Ryan.

Chuck Kinser of Black River Falls, WI was very thankful to return to Taylor to hunt. Chuck participated in the Taylor hunt in 2011 and 2012 and unfortunately, is still after that buck after this hunting season. Chuck was successful in shooting a doe and he wore the right sweatshirt in an attempt to put horns on the doe that he did shoot. Chuck is pictured to the RIGHT with his doe.



Scott Bever of Sparta, WI made the trip to Taylor and was able to hunt with an old classmate, Tim Zillmer. On Monday evening, Scott finally saw the buck that he wanted to take a shot at and was successful. Scott is pictured LEFT with his guides Tim Zillmer and Neil Kniseley (L-R).

Jerry Hagen of Whitehall, WI was another hunter at Taylor. Jerry enjoyed shooting 2 does. Jerry is pictured with his guides (1) Matt Sedelbauer and Jerry Blazek (L-R) and (2) Paul Huseboe.



Brian Betrang of Strum, WI got his hanger on Friday evening. Brian is pictured with the buck. Brian also got a doe during his hunt.



Darnel Cochran of Osseo, WI hunted at Taylor with his crossbow and was able to get a deer. Darnel is pictured to the RIGHT with Matt Sedelbauer and Sven Fritz (L-R).



The final hunter at Taylor was Kyle Camp of Berlin, WI. Kyle participated in the Taylor hunt in 2008. Kyle was successful again in getting this nice buck. Kyle enjoyed hunting with his guide, Tom Gonyo.

An "After the Hunt Celebration" was held on Thursday, October 17th at the City Inn in Berlin, at which time MANY more hunting stories surfaced.



Back Row L-R - Mark Hess, Neil Kniseley, Bob Bartol, Tiffany Martin, Randy Parker, Zachary Reetz, Dirk Lueck, Matt Hess, Butch Seaman, James Crowley, Nathan Hess, Tom Disterhaft, Brandon Hess, Larry Gunderson, Brad Roehl, Parker Labuda, Tom Gonyo and Paul Huseboe
Front Row L-R - Harold Dallapiazza, Gary Roth, Jeff Roth, Ken Sondalle, Chris Larsen, Bruce Huseboe and Kyle Camp



Special Thanks to the BMC Hunt Team who have been instrumental in starting, promoting and continuing the success of this wonderful opportunity. It truly could not happen without you! You touch lives in ways that you can't imagine!

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| Brandon Hess | Matt Sedelbauer |
| Mark Strelow | Marty Lehman |
| Butch Seaman | Jeff Sniegowski |
| Bob Bartol | Andy Chikowski |
| Chris Halvorson | Neil Kniseley |
| Tom Disterhaft | Todd Morgan |
| Mark Hess | Bob Hulett |
| Heather Horton | Tim Zillmer |
| Jacob Trochinski | Jerry Blazek |
| Jerry Wallace | Crystal Hess |
| Randy Parker | Jason Wuest |
| Paul Huseboe | Parker LaBuda |
| Eric Halvorson | Deanne Bremer |
| Randy Hess | James Crowley |
| Tiffany Martin | Craig LeNoble |
| Nathan Hess | Lynn Burrow |
| Rohland Parker | Kathy Perner |
| Jeff Fritz | Linda Arzt |
| Tom Gonyo | Sven Fritz |
| Brad Roehl | George Davis |
| Matt Hess | Lyndsay Bill |
| | Eric Schwandt |



It has been 13 incredible years of
 "Makin' Memories!!"
 Good luck to the rest of you hunters out there!
 Be Safe & Enjoy!



Badger Mining Corporation also received a dedication plaque from the members of the Voyager Group 738 of the Wisconsin Forty et Eight for our dedication in ensuring an opportunity for disabled hunters to enjoy the sport of deer hunting.

Pictured L-R are Mark Hess, Nathan Hess, Tiffany Martin, Robert Krause, Brandon Hess, Stan Jezeski and Matt Hess

