

## Badger Mining Corporation's 16<sup>th</sup> Special October Gun Deer Hunt

Oh what FUN "makin' memories" is with another Special October Gun Deer Hunt!!

Badger Mining Corporation (BMC) recently wrapped up its 16<sup>th</sup> year as a company-sponsor of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resource (WDNR) 9-day disabled gun deer hunt, which kicks off annually the first Saturday in 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 when 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 was a member of the Transportation, Distribution & Logistics (TDL) Team and retired in March 2014. Bob was an avid hunter prior to being injured in a swimming accident in 1974. Bob is always 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 14 hunters, 12 of which were new and 2 returning hunters that included Bob Bartol and one of our associates, Loren Parker. Over the past 16 years, BMC has touched 80 different individuals with this Special October Gun Deer Hunt. The memories are PRICELESS.

### THE FAIRWATER HUNT

Carl Wick of Sheboygan Falls, WI had the most successful opening day of any of our hunters! Opening morning started out slow, as it was "all feathers and no fur!" Lots of ducks and geese on the lake, but the deer didn't want to cooperate with the hunters. Things did change for Carl as he had his nice 10-point buck by 2:30 p.m. and a doe later that afternoon, both from the Old Pit Lake Shack. "The 10 pointer came from the north of the shack and was running straight away" stated Carl. "I steadied my 7mm and settled the cross hairs on the buck and shot." The roar of the 7mm dropped the buck on the run, which what Carl believed was a spine shot. Carl waited for another clear shot at the buck's neck, and a well-placed shot finished him off. A call to Butch Seaman was enough to get everyone excited! Retrieval of the buck didn't take long, and after a few minutes, Carl was able to wrap his hands around the deer's horns. A few high-5's and a bunch of quick photos were taken so Carl could get back to hunting for a doe. Dave Falcus sat with Carl for the remainder of the evening hunt. It didn't take long for doe to appear just a mere 25 feet from the shack. Carl stated, "here comes a doe." Puzzled what Carl was looking at, Dave couldn't find the deer Carl was looking at out the window, until he observed Carl pointing his gun downward. When Dave looked out the window again, the doe was standing on the bottom of the hill that the shack was sitting on. One bellow of the 7mm downed the lone doe. Tracking was easy, as the doe ran about 10 feet in the direction it came from and expired. A text message to Randy Parker confirmed Carl had filled both his tags and was done hunting. Carl enjoyed hunting with the Gov, Butch, Dave and Randy as he indicated the BMC hunt was the 4<sup>th</sup> best thing that ever happened to him, with the 1<sup>st</sup> being: marrying his wife, 2<sup>nd</sup>: having his son and 3<sup>rd</sup>: having his daughter. "Thanks again for the best hunt of my life! God bless you and everyone at Badger Mining for making my dream come true". -- Carl Wick

Carl Wick is picture to the RIGHT with Dave Falcus and Randy Parker, BMC Associates (L-R).



Isaac Kuhls, 16, of Fond du Lac, WI also hunted at Fairwater. Isaac hunted the first evening at the end of the landfill, across from the east pond. Isaac sat with his Grandpa and saw a nice buck come from the north of the shack out of the willows. While Isaac was getting ready to take a shot, however, something spooked the buck and it ran straight at the hunters and disappeared into the tree line in front of them. Next they observed 3 does working their way towards them from the east, and when looking to the north again, the buck reappeared into the field. No shots were taken as the season was closed and too dark for a shot. Isaac hunted again Sunday evening. He saw some doe, but no shooting, as we believe Isaac still had visions of the buck he saw the night before. With school and everything, Isaac wasn't able to return to Fairwater until Friday evening. With all the scouting activities, the deer appeared to be all up front in the bean field by the gate. Mark Strelow set up another shack for Isaac to hunt from in hopes of putting him on a buck, as several were observed from the office building during the week. Isaac was back on Friday, but no shots fired as the deer were just out of Isaac's comfort shooting range of 40-50 yards. He finished up the season by hunting Saturday and Sunday evening with his father. A really nice buck and 5 does came down the hill from the south to a mere 20 yards from the shack. When sliding the window open, the deer spooked, and ran into the bean field, but the shot would have been too difficult for Isaac to make. We believe Isaac had a great hunt even though he didn't fill his tag. He was able to see a lot of deer, and remained true to his shooting skills, not taking a chance of wounding an animal outside his shooting comfort zone. Way to go, Isaac!

Patrick Schmidt of Port Washington, WI was instilled last year after reading the Milwaukee Journal article by Paul Smith in regards to BMC's Special Deer Gun Hunt opportunity. Patrick hunted opening weekend at Fairwater. Patrick sat in the Rail Loop shack the first evening at Fairwater, but was skunked and didn't see a deer. Scouting proved all the deer were in the beans by the front gate; however, there wasn't a shack to sit there. Still hopeful in seeing deer, Patrick and the gang showed back up on Sunday evening, sitting in the Old Pit Lake shack. Several deer showed themselves on the neighbors' properties, with a spike being the closest. It was standing in the turnaround of the boat landing, not far from the shack. A buck about the size of Carl's was across the lake, and as Patrick stated, just outside his shooting range. Patrick enjoyed hunting at St. Marie out of the beanstalker stand on Tuesday evening, but unfortunately left with no shots. Patrick enjoyed hunting with family and AJ Gall from Legendary Whitetails. AJ was hoping to catch some successful footage of Patrick; however, that is on PAUSE till next year.

AJ Gall of Legendary Whitetails and Patrick Schmidt are pictured to the RIGHT at St. Marie in front of the beanstalker (L-R).



### THE ST. MARIE HUNT

One of our greatest accomplishments this season was getting Bob Bartol back out in the woods after a tough year on his health! Bob got out Monday evening with his hunting partner, Marty Lehman. Marty also took him Thursday evening and the last evening. Bob saw deer, but nothing that he was able to shoot this year. Marty and Bob are pictured BELOW (L-R). Keeping smiling Bob!!





Steve Lang of Waupun, WI had a successful opening evening with a perfect shot on a nice 8-point buck. Steve also was successful in harvesting a doe on Monday evening. Awesome job Steve!!

James Crowley, also known as "Horseshoe," guided Steve. James was one of BMC's 3<sup>rd</sup> hunters to participate in our Special October Gun Deer Hunt. James started hunting with us in 2005 and improved upon the success of his buck for many years hunting at our St. Marie and Taylor properties, which is the reason he has been nicknamed "Horseshoe." James is always eager to help out each year with the hunt, which is greatly appreciated!

James Crowley and Steve Lang are pictured to the RIGHT (L-R).

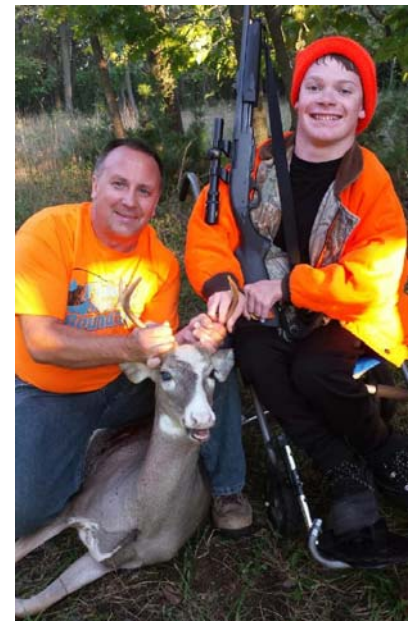


Steve Bloudt of Neenah, WI could not pass up the buck on his 2<sup>nd</sup> evening of hunting, which he enjoyed sitting with his son. Steve also helped the quality deer management by taking 2 does. He had a few misses too, which all good hunters do. Steve enjoyed hunting with Craig LeNoble of BMC and James Crowley. Way to go Steve!

Steve Bloudt and his son, Steve, are pictured to the LEFT (L-R).

One of the luckiest hunters was Kevin Kollmann, 16, of Fond du Lac, WI, who shot a piebald 6-point buck. A piebald is a white-tail deer with patches of white hair caused by a generic defect that affects less than one-percent of the total white-tail deer population. The piebald buck was Kevin's 1<sup>st</sup> deer ever! Kevin asked the first night if he should shoot the first thing that he saw. That night, he ended up passing on a nice buck and came back the following night determined to pull the trigger. That decision got him the buck of a lifetime!! Kevin enjoyed the hunt with his mom, Karen Kollmann, and friend, Jeff Hefter. We might have to start calling Kevin "Horseshoe #2!"

Pictured to the RIGHT in the group photo is Parker LaBuda, Mark Hess, Tiffany Thoma, Kevin Kollmann, Scott Kaufman and Brandon Hess (L-R) and in the second photo Jeff Hefter and Kevin Kollmann (L-R).





Another one of the lucky hunters was Jacob Dudzik of Marion, WI. Jacob enjoyed hunting opening weekend with his dad and Craig LeNoble. Wednesday evening was the night for Jacob; he harvested this terrific 9-point buck while sitting with Parker LaBuda. Fantastic job Jacob!!

Parker LaBuda and Jacob Dudzik are pictured to the RIGHT (L-R).



### THE TAYLOR HUNT

We assisted 3 hunters on Saturday, Sunday & Monday, then another group of 3 hunters on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday.

With the first group, 4 deer were harvested and all 3 hunters were able to connect on a buck!

Amber Schmidt of Merrill, WI started us out on Saturday evening with her first deer ever to break the ice! Amber was fortunate to be able to share the hunt with her father and a few of her family members. With very limited mobility, Amber and guide Chris Halvorson utilized the Adaptive hunting aid and she was able to perform like a pro, connecting on a 4-point buck! Amber is quoted as saying "Thanks BMC for being so generous. I had an awesome time hunting for the first time." Outstanding job, Amber!

Amber Schmidt's dad, Chris Halvorson, and Amber are pictured to the RIGHT (L-R).



John Fritz of Kendall, WI kept the momentum rolling on Sunday evening when he laid down his largest buck to date and quickly followed up with a mature doe only minutes later. Guides Rolland Parker and Parker Hess were very impressed as this was no small feat for an avid hunter, let alone one who is blind! Excellent job, John!

Parker Hess, Rohland Parker and John Fritz are pictured BELOW (L-R).



Ethan Nelson, 17, of Holmen, WI took the team down to the wire after choosing to pass on several deer earlier in the hunt. Then Monday evening Ethan was able to fill his first deer tag with a beautiful 10-point buck. Being the true sportsman that he is, Ethan even gave the buck a "warning shot" before putting one through the heart! Perfect job, Ethan!

Andy Chikowski, Ethan Nelson, and Ethan's sister Lexi are picture BELOW (L-R).



The second Group was faced with tougher conditions as the hunt began slowly with unusually lower deer sightings. But the hunters fought through and connected in a big way on Wednesday with three deer.

Loren Parker, BMC Associate, was able to redeem himself from a tough shot that missed its mark on Tuesday evening. He helped out the herd management by taking a mature doe on Wednesday morning, then followed it up with a mature 10-point buck on Wednesday evening. Way to go, Loren!

Loren Parker is pictured with his dad, Rohland Parker, and Brule Werlein to the RIGHT (L-R).



Keith Pamperin of Green Bay, WI was enjoying every hunt with plenty of deer, and good camaraderie. He even had a few jokes to tell the team! After sitting with few opportunities at a buck, Keith decided to fill the freezer with a nice 4-point buck! Excellent job, Keith!

Andy Chikowski and Keith Pamperin are pictured to the LEFT (L-R).



Cal Popp of Fond du Lac, WI was having a tough time with deer sightings, seeing very few deer each outing. The team made a move to better position Cal the last night of hunting. After the move, Cal saw a good number of bucks, but none big enough for him to shoot. Way to stick with it, Cal and even pass on shooting to let them grow!

Cal Popp is pictured to the RIGHT.



The "After the Hunt" Celebration was held on Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in which hunting stories were told by 9 of 14 hunters, who attended. To all of our surprise, Karen Kollmann, Kevin's mom, presented 4 handicap Green Bay Packer tickets to the December 4<sup>th</sup> game that were raffled off. Isaac Kuhls and Ethan Nelson were the lucky winners. Neither of them have ever been to a Green Bay Packers game. The tickets were donated by Dale of Rauwerdink, Travel Leaders - Fond du Lac & Sheboygan offices.

What a SPECIAL celebration it was!!



Pictured ABOVE in the front row (L-R) is Kevin Kollmann, Issac Kuhls, Jacob Dudzik, Steve Lang, Loren Parker, Cal Popp and Keith Pamperin; 2<sup>nd</sup> row (L-R) Tiffany Thoma, Brandon Hess, Parker LaBuda, Scott Kaufman, James Crowley, Steve Blount, Craig LeNoble, Ethan Nelson, Andy Chikowski, Rohland Parker, Matt Hess, Butch Seaman, Mark Hess and Mindy Chandler.

Pictured BELOW (L-R) is Isaac Kuhls and Ethan Nelson proudly displaying their winning Green Bay Packers game tickets.



THANK YOU to all of the BMC Associates, family and friends that helped make this hunt a positive experience for each of these hunters. The memories live on forever!!



It has been 16  
incredible years of  
"Makin' Memories!!"

Good luck to the rest  
of you hunters out  
there!

Be Safe & Enjoy!

