

SANDS May 2007

Sportsmen Assisting Nebraska Disabled Sportsmen



SANDS Spring Classic

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Spring is here and that means fishing!

SANDS is hosting its Second Annual SANDS Spring Classic fishing tournament. This year's event will be held at Walnut Creek just southwest of Papillion on Hwy 370 and 96th Street on May 26th from 8 am to 12 pm with weigh-in from 12 pm to 1 pm followed by an awards luncheon.

This is an open tournament so anything you legally catch you can weigh. C.A.T. (Catfishermen Are Tops) club and the Bass Federation will assist with the weigh-in. There are size and catch limits on some fish so be sure you know what restrictions are in place.

The winner will be decided by the heaviest stringer. Trophies will go to the top ten teams. Awards will also be given for the Big Fish and Little Fish (picture of littlest fish is allowed). Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams. There will be free donuts and coffee for all the participants in the morning, and hot dogs and pop will be served after the tournament weigh-in.

This event is sponsored in part by Pheasants Forever, Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's. If you would like more information or to sign up for the SANDS Spring Classic, contact Dave Burgess at 402-559-3743. Monday through Friday 8 am to 3:30 pm, cell phone at 402-650-0211 or e-mail him at sandsnebraska@yahoo.com. This promises to be a great time for all, so come out, have some fun and catch some fish!

Send Us Your Pictures!

Do you have pictures of yourself while you're out on your fishing or hunting trip?

We need your photos for the newsletter, if you have some pictures of hunting or fishing events send them to me at sandsnebraska@yahoo.com or you can send them to Mike Freel at freel@tconl.com

We really want to show off your smiling faces to all the participants, so send us your best.

Spring Turkey Hunt Winners

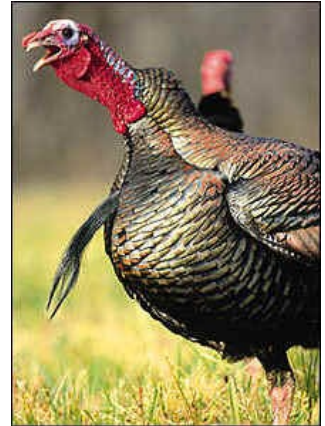
The SANDS program hosted three Spring Turkey Hunts. The first one was held at the Rocky Oaks Hunting in Nehawka, Nebraska. This hunt was won by Robert Koop.

The Second hunt was offered by Don Mentzer on his property near Arlington, Nebraska. The winners of this hunt were Lonnie Haynes and Don Rydberg.

And last but not least was the winner of the Kearney NWTf hunt offered by Tony Morrow. The winner of this hunt was Aleah Beranek.

Congratulations to all the winners and good luck on your hunts.

Pictures of the hunts would be great!



SANDS Events

There are a lot of things to do in the SANDS program. Events range from fishing to hunting to spending an evening at Mahoney State Park to star gazing with local astronomy clubs.

Here is a list of SANDS activities for the upcoming months.

May

- 4th & 5th Spring Turkey Hunt with the National Wild Turkey Federation
- 7th & 8th Millard Special Education Class Fishing Event
- 11th & 12th Nebraska Outdoor Expo in Kearney
- 26th SANDS Spring Classic Fishing Tournament at Walnut Creek

June

- 2nd Desoto Bend Fest Fishing Tournament
- 2nd IMC Run, Walk & Roll Expo at Immanuel Hospital
- 15th Mahoney Star Party
- 17th Eastern Platte Muzzleloader Black Powder Shoot and Lunch

For more information, contact Dave Burgess at 402-559-3743 Monday through Friday 8 am to 3:30 pm, cell phone at 402-650-0211 or e-mail him at sandsnebraska@yahoo.com.

Don't let the spring pass you by, get out and enjoy some of what Nebraska has to offer.

Wheelchair Accessible Lakes

Spring is here and it's time to get out and go fishing. Nebraska has a long list of lakes that are ADA wheelchair accessible. Some of them include:

- Two Rivers Recreation Area
- Carter Lake
- Zorinsky Lake
- Branched Oak Lake
- Holmes Lake
- Stagecoach Lake and Recreation Area
- Swan Creek (Lake 5A)
- Wehrspann Lake
- Czechland Lake
- Benson Park Lake
- Walnut Creek Lake
- Bowling Lake

All of these lakes are in the Omaha/Lincoln area. Get out and do some fishing.

Eastern Platte Muzzleloader Club Shoot

The Eastern Platte Muzzleloader Club is hosting a Get-To-Know-Muzzleloader shoot at their range for people in the SANDS program that have a disability.

The event is going to run from 11 am to 4 pm on June 17th. If you have ever wanted to shoot a muzzleloader, now is your chance.

To sign up for the event please contact Dave Burgess at 402-559-3743 Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4 pm or on via cell phone 402-650-0211. This will be a great chance to try out something new or if you already shoot black-powder, here is an opportunity to get some practice or pointers.

Hope to see you there. **Lunch will be provided at no cost!!!**

Safari Club International Winner Announced

This year the lucky winner of the all expense paid deer hunt donated by the Safari Club International is David Duncan of Lincoln. David will go on a weekend hunt in the Elkhorn area with **Dr. Buzz Madson of the Safari Club**. David's deer tags were paid for by **Whitetails Unlimited** and a shoulder mount of the trophy was donated by Steve Evers of **Wildlife Creations**.

This is a guided hunt with meals thrown in just to round off the day and the event.

Thank you to all of our sponsors whose generous donations made this opportunity possible!



Wildlife Creations
www.wildlifecreations.com

Drawing: Trophy Deer Mounts

Would you like to preserve that hunt of a lifetime? Then get your deer mounted. **Wildlife Creations** and **Countryside Taxidermy** have each donated a mount to the SANDS program.

To get the chance at a free mount, enter your name and contact information with Dave at 402-559-3743. The drawing for these mounts will be August 15, 2007. Don't be late or let this deal pass you by! Get your name in now because you never know when that big buck will come along!



Drawing: Pheasant Hunts



This year SANDS will be holding 3 pheasant hunts! One in Eastern Nebraska and one in Western Nebraska. If you are disabled and would like a chance to win a free pheasant hunt, please get your name in. There will be one pheasant hunt in Tekamah, Nebraska, one in McCook, Nebraska and one in Eustis, Nebraska. Contact Dave Burgess at 402-559-3743 to register for these events.

Welcome our Newest Field Director

Everyone meet Craig Chamberlin! Craig is the newest Field Director and he will be covering the South Central Region. Craig lives in the Grand Island, Nebraska area, and for the last two years has helped out with organizing a dove hunts in his area for the SANDS participants.

Still needing Field Directors

Do you like helping people? Do you have the time to help others get out and enjoy all that Nebraska has to offer in outdoor activities? If the answer is yes, then have we got a deal for you. **Become a SANDS Field Director.** We are still looking for Field Directors for the North Central, Northwest and Southwest Regions.

If you would like to be a SANDS Field Director and help with scheduling events or putting together hunting and fishing events in your area, give me a call. You will be working with Jeff Rawlinson of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission in Lincoln, Nebraska and Dave Burgess. This is a great chance to help the SANDS program get off the ground in your area. You can e-mail me at sandsnebraska@yahoo.com or you can call me at my office 402-559-3743 or my cell 402-650-0211.

1st Turkey Hunt Made Possible with SANDS

Jeff Stone wanted his son to have the same chances that every other kid has, like being able to go hunting or fishing or to just be a kid playing outdoors. A few months ago Jeff Stone met and talked with Paul Milone of Glenwood, Iowa. Jeff wanted to take his son turkey hunting but this was something Jeff had never done. Together, Jeff and Paul worked out all the details of Blainne's first hunt.

Blainne had gone out with dad on numerous pheasant hunts but he had never been out on his own. This was going to be Blainne's first hunt and first turkey hunt wrapped up in one! Jeff signed up with the SANDS program to get help with taking his son out on different types of hunts. Blainne does not have the use of his right arm and his right leg is very weak, but today these are nothing more than inconveniences, and they won't keep Blainne from what he wants to do.

Jeff had not done much deer or turkey hunting and knew that he needed help if he was going to be able to give this gift of the outdoors to his son. According to Paul, Blainne did a great job and with a little help from Paul in the blind, Blainne was able to bag that turkey in the Iowa Youth Turkey Season.

"I helped him hold the shotgun and also with his aim," said Paul. "A 17 yard shot with his 20 gauge and it's turkey dinner." Paul Milone and Paul Blake acted as guides for Blainne and as you can see from the mile wide smile on this young man's face, this was much more than just another turkey hunt. Jeff made the statement that none of this would have been possible without the SANDS program. Jeff, I am glad we were able to be there for you and Blainne, and I hope we can do it again.

Thanks Paul Milone, Paul Blake, Jeff Stone and Blainne, job well done.

