

THE CROOKED SPORTSMAN

Bi-monthly newsletter for Crooked Foot Upland Bird & Game Hunting Club.



THANK YOU VETERANS



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Watch an exclusive video on
the Veterans Hunt from
Michigan Out of Doors TV at:

<https://youtu.be/JHwFH1u6-1L>



DEDICATION

Dear Friends,

It's amazing how, when you stop overthinking and go with the flow, things start to come together. I don't think I've ever seen the theory more accurately put to the test than during my time spent working on the 3rd Annual Veterans Hunt at Crooked Foot. An event for veterans (oh, but it's so much more), the Veterans Hunt is difficult to describe in words. In this issue, you will get a sense of this incredible event and how it comes full circle, the interlocking of organizations, corporations, entrepreneurship, humanitarianism, and patriotism - all wrapped around entertaining, educating and thanking our veterans.

On November 4th, veterans arrived for the third annual fall Veterans Hunt at the collaboration of Safari Club International leaders and Crooked Foot owner, Tony Mazzali. Crooked Foot Hunt Club, built on over 300 acres of farmland in Owosso, Michigan, became home for one day to 64 veterans that included 36 Army/National Guard, 11 Navy, 8 Air Force, 8 Marines and 1 Coast Guard alongside 11 sponsors, 18 dog handlers, 8 staff, 3 media representatives and 19 volunteers. The Veterans Hunt mission: bring together all 5 branches of the military and honor servicemen and servicewomen with an incredible bird hunt, food, competitions and prizes.

This mission would not be possible without volunteers, corporate sponsors and donations. Beneath the Michigan sun, surrounded by pheasants and hunting dogs, these volunteers, sponsors and veterans became a single "tribe", experiencing the joys of outdoor life, while supporting and learning from each other, and inevitably had their own lives transformed. The Veterans Hunt, above all, is an extension of patriotism, service and love of country. The November Crooked Sportsman issue is all about this annual hunt and the people and organizations involved to make this event like no other. This is a dedication to their spirit and helping others!

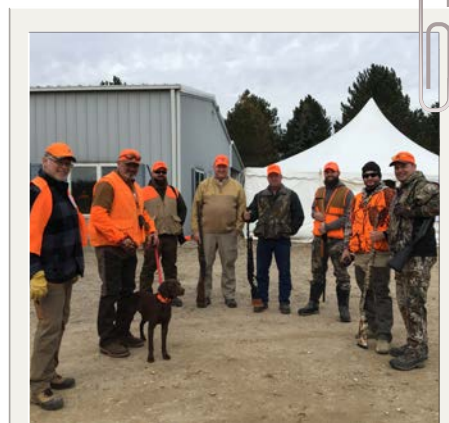
My best,

Kim

Kim Capone
Crooked Foot Hunt Club Assistant

PHOTO SNAPSHOTS

They say a picture is worth a thousand words. That notion may ring especially true to a demographic for whom words don't always come easily - our nation's veterans. Here are some photos of moments that are simple but speak lots of words.....



SPONSORS FOR THE 3RD ANNUAL VETERANS HUNT

This event is possible thanks to the involvement of our sponsors.
We appreciate your support and we want to say THANK YOU!



Barry Olesyk & Mike Hoskins from SCI Lansing Chapter

Safari Club International (SCI) is a not-for-profit organization of hunters whose primary missions are to protect the freedom to hunt and to promote wildlife conservation. In addition to practicing ethical hunting while in the field and around others, SCI members give back by participating in humanitarian efforts. Through three of its Michigan chapters, the Lansing Area Chapter, the Mid-Michigan Chapter and the Detroit Chapter, SCI contributed \$9,500 towards this year's Veterans Hunt and was the co-host for this annual event.

Hunting hats for all the veterans and sponsors were passed out with the SCI logo represented.



The mission of MiOFO is to provide improved outdoor recreation opportunities for wounded veterans and individuals with health challenges; and, to coordinate a support network that facilitates their recovery through connecting with nature.

As one of the premier multi-disciplined environmental and civil engineering consulting firms, the Mannik & Smith Group work with an exclusive collection of some of the best and fastest growing private entities, municipalities and governmental agencies in the Midwest, nation and around the globe. People are the heart of the company. A knowledgeable and technically savvy staff creates the ability to positively impact the value of their projects. MSG offers a full array of civil and environmental consulting services for both the public and private sectors including, but not limited to Civil/Structural Design and Permitting, Construction Engineering, Cultural Resources, Environmental Due Diligence, Investigation and Remediation Design, Geotechnical, Landscape Architecture, Planning/Funding Strategies/Grant Writing, Program Management and Surveying.

The Mannik & Smith Group, Inc. has 12 offices spread out across Michigan and Ohio with seven offices in Michigan, including Detroit, Lansing, Monroe, Grand Rapids, Traverse City, Canton and Houghton. Each year, every office is allocated a corporate Community Engagement Budget that allows employees to reach out to local charities, events, or other local activities as a way to engage and encourage employees to get involved with local communities. This year, the Lansing (Okemos) office chose to sponsor the Veteran's Hunt as their community engagement activity. MSG employees strongly support military veterans across the country and the Lansing area employees appreciate the opportunity to be able to contribute to this great cause.



Jessica Trainer, Cody Stoddard & Dan Capone from
The Mannik & Smith Group, Inc.

Drone footage and photos were also provided by MSG!



SPONSORS FOR THE 3RD ANNUAL VETERANS HUNT (CONT.)



Roger Courey (left) from MDHA & Jim Trotter from Crooked Foot Hunt Club.



Veteran Tom Prunick wins a sponsored prize from Shaheen Chevrolet.

The Michigan Duck Hunters Association (MDHA) is a group of conservation-minded hunters, who understand the rich history and limitless future of the sport of waterfowling. They are a diverse group with many different backgrounds, stories, and experiences. MDHA promises to cooperate with any sportsmen's organization to conserve and protect the natural environment, and all wildlife. Chapter President, Roger Courey, was there to thank our veterans for their service and along with Shaheen Chevrolet was able to raffle off rifles to some lucky veterans!



"Dean Trailways is proud to sponsor Crooked Foot & SCI's Veterans Hunt. We hope this contribution helped you to provide a great day for veterans in mid-Michigan. We are excited to be involved with an event making such a positive impact on the region. Giving back to the communities we serve is our responsibility because they are our communities too! We believe that the best way to help a community is to be a productive part of it. At Dean Transportation and Dean Trailways, this occurs through volunteerism, community outreach, and supporting organizations like Crooked Foot Hunt Club." Kellie P. Dean, President/CEO

The Lansing Area Veterans Coalition fosters a collaborative network to identify and develop resources to serve the needs of each veteran and his/her family. Veterans Community Action Team (VCAT) memberships is comprised of federal, state, local and faith-based organizations that support veterans in the communities where they live and work. VCAT's focus on identifying solutions for gaps in veteran services, reducing duplication of efforts and simplifying connections with local resources.



Gerry Burke from Towne Mortgage Company.

The Towne Mortgage Family of Companies has more than 35 years of experience in the mortgage industry. Passionate about their customers, their company and the communities they serve, Towne is actively involved with many non-profit organizations. Their community outreach initiatives are not just a side-effect of their business; it is the heart of it.

Special thanks to the following contributors and media broadcast programs!



SHOOTING COMPETITION

A 5 stand shooting competition took place between the military branches. Veterans from each branch took turns shooting clays and the winner was...
Air Force!



It Takes A Village



Tony's Message

In life, every one one of us needs a village (or a team) to turn to, to feel a part of, to have a connection with, and to give and receive support from. These are some of the individuals who provided a lending hand, a dog, a listening ear, a handshake...their time. These are people who stand apart from the crowd; those who feel a special connection to veterans; those who have their interests at heart.

The 3rd Annual Veterans Hunt was a success and it was, in no small measure, due to the hard work of our volunteers that include organizers, sponsors, dog handlers, students, staff, family, and friends. Volunteers play an integral role in ensuring that the proceeds from this event go towards the veterans. Their time, talents and efforts are very much appreciated.

Once again, thank you for your magnificent support to this event, and for everything you are doing to help maintain its excellence.



UPCOMING EVENTS



Black Friday Open Hunt

8:00 am • Friday, November 23, 2018



Paul Bunyon European Hunt

8:00 am • Saturday, January 12, 2019



Michigan Aggregate Assoc. European Hunt

8:00 am • Friday, January 18, 2019



Gulf Midwest Packaging European Hunt

8:00 am • Saturday, January 26, 2019



Open Hunt

8:00 am • Friday, February 1, 2019



Rick Smith Seminar

Friday, March 9, 2019 - Sunday, March 11, 2019
