

Outdoors weekend targeting women



OUTDOOR
INSIGHTS
BILL
PARKER

Florence Cobb probably would have been more at home "working in her garden, washing clothes or taking the kids somewhere."

Instead, she was reeling the barrel of a 22-caliber rifle in the palm of her hand and dialing in on a target some 25-yards away.

Sue Ann Lake could have spent her Saturday morning browsing through the specialty shops at the local mall. Instead, she occupied some of her time nocking arrows and taking archery target practice.

Peggy Perry could have relaxed at home or got caught up on some neglected chores. Instead, she spent the day with her husband, Jim, educating people about the French and Indian War as members of a 1750s reenactment group.

These were three of the nearly 1,000 women of all ages who participated in the Women Experiencing the Great Outdoors weekend, Sept. 9-10, at Pontiac Lake Recreation Area.

The objective of the event was to introduce women and single parents and their children to a variety of outdoor activities.

"I think it's a great opportunity for women to get some hands-on opportunities," explained Perry, a Lake Orion resident. "I think it's especially good for the shooting sports."

Sometimes people tend to be afraid of guns, but this gives them an opportunity to experience shooting first-hand."

Cobb had never shot a gun until the WEGO weekend.

"Sometimes you tend to put limitations on yourself, and opportunities like this prove you can do it. I really enjoyed the rifle shooting. I'd like to do it again."

The weekend wasn't just about the shooting sports. There were also presentations and hands-on opportunities in handling reptiles, camping, nature photography, fly tying and fish identification, fishing, horseback riding, mountain biking, in-line skating, water skiing, jet

skiing, crafts, even dog mushing and working with retrievers.

"What we wanted to do is present an opportunity for women to get out and enjoy the outdoors with their kids," explained Jan Salter of Clarkston, a member of the Oakland County Sportsmen's Club Women's Auxiliary and a co-coordinator of the event. "I really think the chief beneficiaries will be the kids. We get a lot of calls from single parents who maybe don't know how to fish or go camping or do some of the things their kids want to do. This gives them an opportunity to get out and experience the outdoors first-hand and learn that it's really not that difficult."

Organizers called the event an overwhelming success, and plans are already in the works for another WEGO weekend, May 18-19, again at the Pontiac Lake Recreation Area.

Angler of the Year
Candace Linda Bennett recently won the 1995 Michigan Bass'n Gals Angler of the Year award. It was her second Angler of the Year title in seven years on the local circuit.

Bennett wrapped up the '95 crown by winning the final event in the five-tournament series, Sept. 6, on the Detroit River. Bennett topped the field on the Detroit River with a limit-catch that tipped the scale at 10.63 pounds. She also had big bass at 2.85 pounds.

Bennett had three firsts, a second and a fourth in the five tournaments in the series for a total weight of 27.05 pounds.

Westland's Patty Thompson placed second in the Angler of the Year standings with a total of 18.89 pounds. Cindy Wiebelhaus of Brownstown was third at 15.02, and Diane Wayne of Dearborn Heights was fourth at 9.92.

Michigan Bass'n Gals meet the second Thursday of each month at the Red Lobster on Telegraph in Dearborn Heights. Tournaments are held in southern Michigan, usually within an hour drive of Metro-Detroit.

For more information on the Michigan Bass'n Gals organization, call president Cindy Wiebelhaus at (313) 373-3710.

Big Bass Jr. Champion
Christopher Owen, of Rochester Hills, will be cheering for Kalamazoo's Mike Downey when the 1995 Quaker State Big Bass World Championship Finals are held, Nov. 10-11, on Lake Marion in Haines City, Florida. This is because if Downey wins the \$100,000 BBWC Finals, Owen will be the recipient of a \$10,000 scholarship.

Owen caught a 5.32-pound largemouth on July 29 on Lake Larn and in the process captured the Michigan state title in the 1995 BBWC Junior Championship. Downey landed a 9.13-pound largemouth on July 8 on Lime Kill Lake and won the Michigan state title in the 1995 BBWC Championship. Downey won a free trip to Florida to compete in the BBWC Finals. Owen won a check for \$250.

Each of the 50 BBWC state champions will compete in the BBWC Finals. The angler who catches the heaviest bass in the two-day competition will receive \$50,000 cash, a new truck, a fully-rigged Astro bass boat with a Mercury outboard and Lowrance electronics. The state winners represent their respective junior winners, so if Downey wins the BBWC Finals, Owen wins the scholarship.

Reminder
Sunday is the deadline to apply for an antlerless deer license. An antlerless deer license allows a hunter to take a deer without antlers or with antlers less than three-inches in length during the regular firearms season (Nov. 15-30), the second archery season (Dec. 1-Jan. 1) or the muzzleloading season (Dec. 1-10 in Zone I and Dec. 8-17 in Zones II and III.)

Hunters may apply for an antlerless permit through the DNR's new Retail Licensing System at any DNR office the sells licenses or at any of the 1,600 license agents throughout the state.

Hunters and anglers are urged to report their success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Fax information to (810) 644-1314 or call Bill Parker evenings at (810) 901-2573.

OUTDOORS CALENDAR

ARCHERY

BROADHEAD SHOOT
Detroit Archers will hold a broad-head shoot beginning at 9 a.m. Sunday on its walk-through course in West Bloomfield. Call (810) 661-9610 or (313) 522-2538 for more information.

3D SHOOT
Royal Oak Archers will hold a 3D shoot beginning at 8 a.m. Sunday on its walk-through range in Lake Orion. Call (810) 693-1369 for more information.

CLASSES

HUNTER EDUCATION
Multi Lakes Conservation Association in Walled Lake will hold a hunter education certification classes Oct. 3, 4, 10, 11 and 14. All weekday classes meet 7-10 p.m. and Saturday classes meet 9 a.m. to noon. Participants must attend all five classes to receive a hunter safety certificate. Participants must be at least 12 years of age by the end of the upcoming hunting season and should bring a copy of their birth certificate, a Social Security number and written parental consent for the course. There is a \$6 fee. Call (810) 363-2294 or (810) 363-7030 for more information.

MORE HUNTER EDUCATION
The Wayne County Sportsmen's Club in Romulus will be the site of three weekend hunter education certification classes. The classes will be held Sept. 23-24, Oct. 21-22 and Nov. 4-5. Cost for each two-day class is \$8.50 and classes run 8 a.m.-4 p.m. each day. Pre registration is available by calling Bill Miller at (313) 532-0285.

SEASONS

ANTLERLESS DEER
The deadline to apply for an antlerless deer permit is Sept. 24.

BEAR
Through Oct. 26 by special permit in designated management units.

BOSCAT
Open Oct. 25-March 1 in Zone I, Jan. 1-March 15 in special areas of Zone II.

COYOTE
Through Nov. 14, and Dec. 1 through April 15 in Zone I. Through April 15 in Zones II and III.

DEER
Archery season is open statewide

Oct. 1-Nov. 14, and Dec. 1-Jan. 1. Firearms season is open Nov. 15-30 statewide. Muzzleloading season is open Dec. 1-10 in Zone I and Dec. 8-17 in Zones II and III.

DUCK
Open Sept. 30-Nov. 18 in the North Zone, Oct. 7-Nov. 25 in the Middle Zone and Oct. 14-Dec. 2 in the South Zone.

ELK
The early hunt ends Sept. 24. The late hunt is Dec. 12-19 by special permit in designated management units.

FOX
Open statewide Oct. 15-March 1.

GESE
Open Sept. 23-Nov. 1 in the North Zone, Oct. 7-Nov. 15 in the Middle Zone, Oct. 14-Nov. 12 and Nov. 23-Dec. 2 in the South Zone west of U.S.-27 and Oct. 14-Nov. 2 and Nov. 23-Dec. 2 in the South Zone east of U.S.-27.

RUFFED GROUSE
Statewide through Nov. 14, and Dec. 1-Jan. 1 in Zones II and III.

SHARP-TAIL GROUSE
Open Oct. 1-Nov. 14 in select areas of Zone I.

PHEASANT
Open Oct. 1-20 in Zone I, Oct. 20-Nov. 14 in Zone II and III.

RABBIT
Statewide through March 31.

RACCOON
Open statewide Oct. 1-Jan. 31.

SQUIRREL
Statewide through Jan. 1.

TURKEY
Open Oct. 2-29 by special permit only in designated management units.

WOODCOCK
Statewide through Nov. 14.

DOG TRAINING TRIAL
Sportsmen's Dog Training Club of Detroit AKC Licensed Obedience Trial will be held Sept. 30 in the Community Arts Building at the Michigan State Fair Grounds. Call (810) 643-7282 for more information.

EVENTS/SHOWS

MUSZLELOADERS RENDEZVOUS
Clinton River Muzzleloaders will hold the Bill Smith Memorial Rendezvous on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 23-24, at the Detroit Sportsmen's Congress in Shelby Twp. Events include muzzleloading rifle, pistol and trade-

gun shoots as well as knife and tomahawk throwing competitions. Camping is available. Admission is \$15 per person or \$20 per family. Call (810) 979-8600 for more information.

FISHING CLUBS

MICHIGAN FLY FISHING
The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Junior High School. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

FOUR SEASONS
The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Maplewood Center in Garden City. Call (313) 477-3818 for more information.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS
Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at Garden City High School. Call (313) 420-2965 for more information.

FISHING TOURNAMENTS

BASS MASTERS
The Oakland Bass Masters of Michigan will hold an open tournament on Lake Orion beginning at 6 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 1. There will be a 60-boat limit. Call (810) 642-5254 for more information.

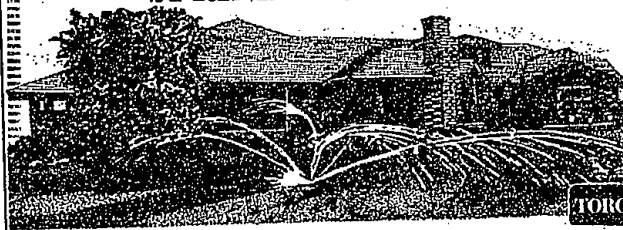
METROPARKS

METROPARK REQUIREMENTS
Most Metropark programs are free, while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks, toll free: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7765; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178.

BOAT SHOW
Boat Show USA, featuring more than 1,200 power boats and sailboats runs through Sunday at Metro Beach in Mt. Clemens.

FALL FESTIVAL
A weekend of family activities including pioneer life activities, traditional crafts, blacksmithing, Raccoon the Clown, fireworks and much more, will be held Saturday and Sunday at Kensington.

TORO SPRINKLER SYSTEM SALE!



Buy Now, Pay Later!

Get Your Toro Automatic Sprinkler System Installed this Fall with NO PAYMENTS & NO INTEREST UNTIL APRIL 1, 1996

Call Today for your FREE ESTIMATE
800-822-2216
SPARTAN DISTRIBUTORS

State's supply of wild game is plentiful

The following previews were omitted from the article which appeared in the Great Outdoors section on Thursday, Sept. 14, previewing the upcoming fall hunting seasons.

RACCOON
Season: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, statewide. Bag Limit: There is no bag limit on raccoons.

Overview: Last year, hunters took better than 150,000 raccoons and can expect similar success in 1995.

"Raccoons are abundant throughout the state and are found in every county," said Reid. "Hunters can expect another banner year and should have the same success as last year."

Raccoons are a diverse animal found everywhere from lakeshores to inland forests. They tend to prefer hardwoods near waterways. Ninety percent of the raccoon harvest comes at night, behind bounds. Raccoons may be taken year-round on private land if they are doing damage.

SQUIRREL
Season: Sept. 15-Jan. 1, statewide. Bag Limit: Five per day. Overview: Squirrels are abundant throughout the state and hunters can expect another fantastic season. Last year, 150,000 hunters took 920,000 squirrels.

"We've got moderate to high numbers throughout the range, especially in the Lower Peninsula," said Reid. "I expect hunters can anticipate another really good year."

TURKEY
Season: Oct. 2-Oct. 29 in designated management units by special permit only. Bag Limit: One turkey per hunter. Overview: A limited fall turkey hunt returns after being canceled in 1994. There tend to prefer hardwoods near waterways. Ninety percent of the raccoon harvest comes at night, behind bounds. Raccoons may be taken year-round on private land if they are doing damage.

"We only have a few areas open, but hunters should find plenty of birds in these areas," said Urbain. "Overall, we've got good densities in the northern Lower and the flocks are growing in southern Michigan."

WOODCOCK
Season: Sept. 15-Nov. 14, statewide. Bag Limit: Five per day. Overview: Woodcock numbers are still up the low side, but are beginning to pick up. Hunters should see a better season than in 1994 when they harvested approximately 67,000 woodcock, well below the record harvest of 298,000 birds taken in 1989.

"I think we're looking at a better season. If we have a pretty good fall and not too much nasty weather," said Urbain. "Our staging route indicated an 8 percent increase over last year. The numbers are still at a low level, but I certainly think we'll have a better season than last year."

The highest densities of woodcock are found in the northern Lower, primarily near moist soil areas.

Get up-to-the minute Open House Information!

Used by city, on our easy to use voice telephone directory, just call from any touch tone telephone and hear the latest real estate information - it's as easy as 1-2-3.

1 Call 953-2020 from any touch tone telephone

2 To hear listings in Oakland County PRESS 1, in Wayne County PRESS 2 and for Additional Areas PRESS 3, or press the number following the city you are interested in:

3 Choose your price range and listen to the listings for the city you've chosen.

• To back up, PRESS 1
• To pause, PRESS 2
• To jump ahead, PRESS 3
• To exit at anytime press*

OAKLAND COUNTY
Birmingham 4280
Bloomfield 4280
Farmington 4282
Farmington Hills 4282
Millard 4288
Novi 4286
Rochester 4285
Royal Oak 4287
Southfield 4283
South Lyon 4288
Troy 4284

Walled Lake 4286
Lakes Area 4281
WAYNE COUNTY
Canton 4261
Garden City 4264
Livonia 4260
Northville 4263
Plymouth 4262
Redford 4265
Westland 4264
Dearborn 4315

ADDITIONAL AREAS
Livingston County 4342
Washtenaw 4345
Other Suburban Homes 4348

THE
Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS

HOME LINE
953-2020

