

Lansing Area Chapter 2010 Safari Wish Hunts

by Jim Leonard

The Lansing Area Chapter was fortunate to be able to help two young people with serious health issues become proud, successful, and happy hunters this fall. We also helped a gentleman battling cancer harvest his first elk and provide needed meat for his family.

For the first two, we teamed up with the Tony Semple Foundation for Hope to cosponsor a hunter in each of their two Outdoor Adventure camps.

The first occurred during the first week in September at Vahalla Ranch located northeast of Grayling. A total of five young people and their parents, all from southern states, enjoyed several days relaxing in beautiful Northern Michigan. Our Chapter's hunter was a spunky, 4' 10" tall, 98 pound, 17 year old, named Addy from Tennessee. Addy had a ball and you can see from the picture she can shoot straight. She harvested a great Whitetail and thanks to The Wildlife Gallery it soon will be proudly displayed in her home.



The next hunt occurred the following week at beautiful Muy Grande Ranch located further north near Millersburg. This time there were

four young folks and our Chapter's hunter was ten-year-old Nathaniel who lives near Muskegon. Nathaniel was the youngest of the group. His innocent, slightly shy demeanor made him a hit with many of the people in camp. When not hunting

he was studying the bugs, birds, frogs and other animals about him. He seemed to know the names of all of them. He also turned out



to be an avid hunter, including getting up before daylight for the first time in his life to get in the blind for the morning hunt. Finally one evening he, his dad Doug, and his guides Tom and Ben came back to the lodge with the truck horn honking and with his great buck in the back. The proud hunter had a big smile on his face as he showed his trophy to all those in camp. Wildlife Gallery will also provide the taxidermy for

Nathaniel's mount.

Our third hunter was Larry Lindquist from Munising. We teamed up with the Southeast Michigan Bowhunters Chapter for this hunt that was held at the 1,100+ acre Paradise Hunt Club near Gladwin. Larry is battling a serious bout with cancer and has always dreamed of hunting elk. Larry's brother George drove him down from the U.P. and they both were excited, thrilled, and thankful to have this hunting opportunity.

Larry was able to make sure his rifle was still sighted in on the evening that we all arrived.

The following morning before daylight Larry, George, and guides Darren and Harry were off looking for his elk.

With lots of luck the elk was spotted late in the morning. Larry was unable to walk very far but again, with more luck, the guides got him ahead of where the elk was headed.



Back in Camp where we had no idea what was going on, the suspense was really growing. Then way off through the woods we heard a shot ring out then another a few seconds later. Now with fingers crossed, we hoped we knew what had happened. The success of the hunt was confirmed when one of the guides arrived in the Kabota to take us to see Larry and his big elk. He was very proud and thankful as you can see in the photo taken where the big elk went down. He was especially glad for all the meat he would be supplying to his family.

As Chapter members, you all can take great pride in putting joy in the lives of these three struggling and deserving people. This could not happen without you and your support, especially at our annual fundraiser. Thank you.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 14, 2010 Chapter Meeting Eagle Eye	February 10, 2011 Chapter Meeting Eagle Eye
November 10, 2010 Board of Directors Meeting	March 18, 2011 OUTFITTERS NIGHT Eagle Eye
December 9, 2010 Whitetail Deer Night Eagle Eye Upper Level	March 19, 2011 FUNDRAISING BANQUET & AUCTION Eagle Eye
January 5, 2011 Board of Directors Meeting	May 18, 2011 Board Meeting
February 2, 2011 Board of Directors Meeting	