

On this page & the next are copies of letter received from Royal Oak High School and two of the many special needs students that attended the event.



**ROYAL OAK SCHOOLS**  
A COMMUNITY OF EXCELLENCE

**Royal Oak High School**  
1500 Lexington Boulevard  
Royal Oak, MI 48073

**Michael Giromini**, Principal  
**Caroline Krynak**, Assistant Principal  
**Karen Powell**, Assistant Principal  
**Donald Watchowski**, Athletic Director  
Assistant Principal

(248) 435-8500  
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November 30, 2016

Mr. Barry Anderson, Manager  
Multi Lakes Conservation Association  
3860 Newton Road  
Commerce Township, Michigan 48382

Mr. Bernard "Toby" Tobianski, President  
Beard & Spurs Chapter, NWTF  
4880 Lenomar Court  
Sterling Heights, Michigan 48310

Dear Barry and Toby:

During this "Thanksgiving" season, I wish to express our thanks to both organizations and all those individual members that participated and helped at the recent Special Needs JAKES event. This was truly a special event for 30 physically and mentally handicapped kids as well as members of the Beard & Spurs Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) and the Multi Lakes Conservation Association. The children got their taste of the outdoors and members got a full day of memories that will last a lifetime.

Over the years, the Beard & Spurs Chapter has felt it was important to let these special kids experience the outdoor activities because they don't get many opportunities like this. Many of these children will never be able to enjoy and appreciate what the outdoors has to offer. All Chapter volunteers had as much fun as the kids did and got a great feeling knowing they provided these children with an experience that so many of us take for granted.

This was the 20<sup>th</sup> consecutive year for this event and it could not have been a success without your help. Both organizations have been with us from the beginning. As you know, many of these students are battling disabilities like Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome and Autism. Many have limited mobility and vision impairments. The students participated in target shooting with slingshots and archery. They also experienced the thrill of catching fish off the Multi Lakes' dock. Unfortunately, this year the weather did not cooperate (it rained all day), but a total of 12 fish were caught as the students were decked out in ponchos provided by the Royal Oak Charging Knights. Our activities were capped off with a barbeque lunch.

All of us that have participated in the event over the last 20 years are proud to have been involved. At an average of 25 participating students per year, we have given nearly 500 special needs students an experience of a lifetime. Over the years, nearly 500 adult volunteers have been instrumental in helping with this event. This included volunteers and staff from the Royal Oak Schools, Beard & Spurs Chapter, Multi Lakes Conservation Association and Wayne State University. These volunteers have been instrumental in giving individual care and general direction and instruction. Multi Lakes has also provided their great facilities for each of these 20 years. The Beard & Spurs Chapter provided the bus transportation, barbeque lunch and special entertainment.

Many may not be aware that this event is part of the NWTF Juniors Acquiring Knowledge, Ethics and Sportsmanship (JAKES) Program and has been modified by the Beard & Spurs Chapter to accommodate the special needs students. The NWTF is a national nonprofit conservation and education organization.

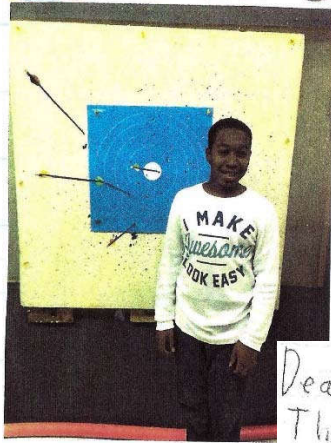
Please find enclosed the special "thanks" that is extended by this year's participants. It is awesome what your group and individuals have helped these kids achieve and enjoy over these past 20 years. Please pass on our special thanks to your membership.

Sincerely,

David P. Potter  
Adaptive Physical Education Instructor  
Royal Oak Schools

Dear Sponsors,  
 Thank you for OUR class trip to  
 Multilakes. It was good!  
 WE had a great time shooting arrows.  
 IT was also fun to fish. You  
 ARE the best! It was the best day EVER.  
 Sincerely,

CAMREN



Dear Sponsors,  
 Thank you for LETTING me And  
 my freinds come TO Multilakes.  
 IT was Super fun, I had  
 A rainy And wet Time there.  
 I had LOTS of fun walking And  
 playing in The rain. You guys  
 Are Awesome!!!!!!!!!!!! IT was  
 The best day ever!!!!  
 Your best friend  
 Hailey



# Behind The Berm

## Winter Woods Walk Shoots & League\*

Shotgun start at 10am. (Come a bit early for coffee and a donut.) For lunch we will have a variety of great soups, chili, and often some other goodies in between the woods-walk and the novelty shoot - where there is a chance to win your shooting fee back.

Two steaks to the top shooter of the day, and prizes for 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> place too!

All that for just \$8.00

\* Anyone who comes to 3 or more shoots is automatically in the League, and eligible for prizes at the April shoot.

Remaining  
 Season Dates:  
 Jan 7, 2017  
 Feb 4, 2017 Mar 4, 2017  
 April 1, 2017

Traditional  
 Muzzleloaders using  
 patch and round ball  
 only. Traditional  
 clothing is encouraged,  
 but not required.

Dave Mercieca  
 248-318-6053  
 or  
 Clint Double  
 248 363-2139