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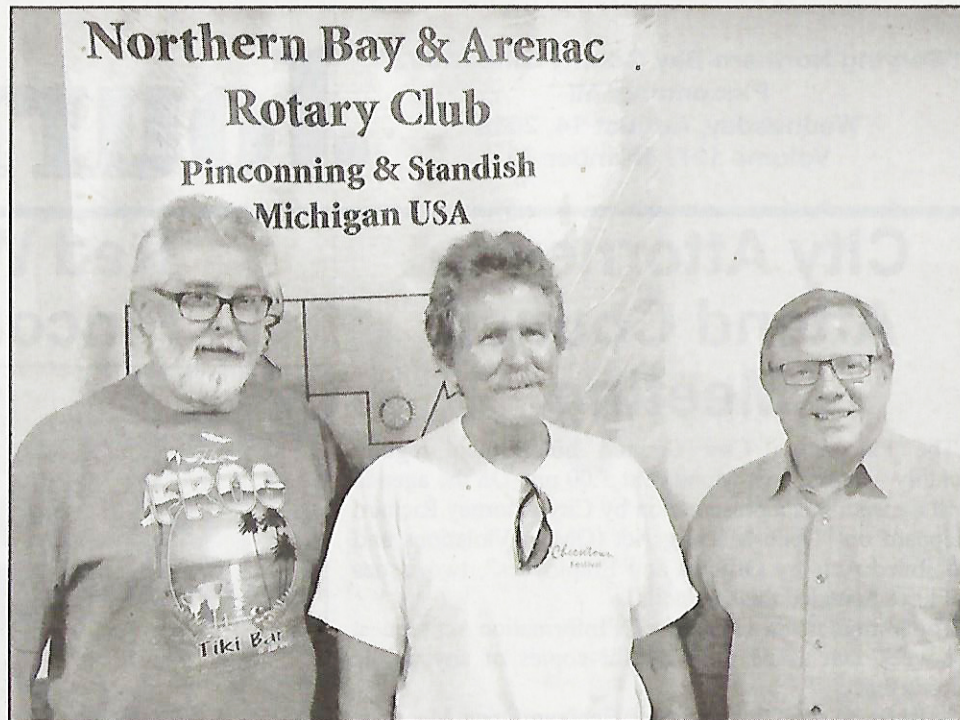
**Rotary Hosts Bob Johns of The Muter Outdoor Fund**

By: Michael Stoner

On August 8, 2019, members of the Rotary Club of Pinconning & Standish received a presentation from Robert Johns, a member of the Muter Outdoor Fund's Board of Directors. Robert said the fund was inspired by the life of his friend, John Muter of Saginaw, who died in 2016. Mr. Muter was a lifetime outdoor enthusiast. Other board members include John's son, Bret Muter, and longtime friend Joe Ruthig. The Fund was incorporated in 2017 and is dedicated to engaging new audiences and generations with Michigan's outdoor heritage. The Fund awarded its first college scholarships in 2018.

Born in Saginaw, John Muter moved to the Standish area later where he established a taxidermy business.

Because of his connection to our area, board members have looked for ways to support outdoor-related programs in our region which led them to the Rotary Club's Nature Festival. Because of the festival's focus on introducing children to nature, Mr. Johns said the Muter Outdoor Fund is interested in partnering with the club to help expand the festival and to find ways to take the idea of the festival to other communities in the region. All three board members (two of whom live out-of-state) participated in the festival this



**ROTARIANS MIKE DURANCZYK, BOB CHARLEBOIS, WITH BOB JOHNS, guest speaker at the Rotary Club on Aug. 9th.**

*--Courtesy Photo*

year, taking part in tours for school children of Pinconning Park. The Fund's goal is to continue to look for high impact ways to introduce people to the rich outdoor opportunities offered by the Great Lakes State. It is interested in partnering with other Rotary clubs on similar projects to the nature festival. More information on the organization can be accessed online at [www.muteroutdoorfund.org](http://www.muteroutdoorfund.org), or by writing to: Muter Outdoor Fund, Inc, P.O. Box 61, Chesaning MI 48616. The fund also maintains a Facebook page.