

# FULLDRAW

**THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF NEW YORK BOWHUNTERS, INC.**

**New York State's Largest Bowhunting Organization Since 1991**  
[www.newyorkbowhunters.org](http://www.newyorkbowhunters.org)



## WINTER 2020

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## From the President's Desk

Greetings, everyone. I hope that you have all had a successful bowhunting year. Whether big game, small game, or bowfishing, I hope you put some meat away in your freezer. Happy Holidays to everyone as well.

I want everyone to remember that we are now officially recognized by the IRS as a 501c3 organization. We can now up the ante on our fundraising efforts for our various programs, such as Youth Camps, Camo to Camo and Physically Challenged. All donations help fund these programs and make New York Bowhunters who we are. We have touched thousands of lives; young, old, and in between by either exposing them for the first time to archery or giving them a second chance at a sport they once loved, but because of other reasons, they could not pursue it anymore. The look is all the same, smiles, ear to ear. It makes what we do all worth the effort put forth by our members, by YOU!!!!

Do not forget, this is YOUR organization. Embrace it. Get involved, bring in a new member, submit an article for Full Draw, be proud of what we have accomplished since NYB's inception in 1991. We are membership driven, but what we do is for all bowhunters in our state. We want to be "THE" organization that everyone else strives to be. We want to do more and expand our programs, but "we" are not just me and the BOD, "we" are "YOU" too. So take the next step and get involved.

Remember too, that since we are a 501c3 organization, you can select NYB on Amazon Smile. It is very easy to do, and it is of no cost to you when you shop on Amazon.

Continuing with moving NYB into the future and capitalizing on technologies available to us, we held our very first live stream BOD meeting. We always enjoy getting together to "make the sausage" and for the camaraderie, but due to conflicting schedules, it was not feasible. After a few glitches, we got underway, and we were able to successfully complete our inaugural web-hosted meeting. This is a viable option if ever needed, and we were very pleased with the outcome.

Don't forget off-season training. We all slip a bit and over indulge during the Holidays and bulk up for the Winter. Cheat a bit, but remember moderation. Don't keep saying to yourself "tomorrow I will join a gym" or "I am going to start eating better." We die a little each day from when we are born, so we need to cherish each day, and try to extend our time in the mortal realm as much as we can. Someone recently said that sitting is the new smoking. How true those words are. With the advent of newer technology, we are more sedentary than ever before. Get up out of your chair or off of the couch and go for a walk!!!! Put down this issue and get outside; you can continue reading it when you get back. Okay, now that you've taken the first step to better health, make it part of your daily regimen.

One exercise that I do regularly on chest day is a mimicking drawing motion with dumbbells. I mimic the push-pull of drawing a bow, but I use dumbbells. Standing in an archer's stance, I do my normal draw by pushing with my left arm and pulling back with my right, then holding for 10 seconds. I do 10 reps like this, then I switch position, and push with my right arm and pull back with my left. I do 6 sets like this. Start off with very light dumbbells and gradually increase as you get stronger.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for the Banquet. It is on May 2nd, 2020 at Sunny Hill. It is a great weekend and you should not miss it. Hope to see everyone there.

God Bless America and all who defend us both home and abroad. God Bless United States Navy Fleet Forces Command.

All the best, Al.





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## Spikes - NYB Youth Membership

As you probably know, the earlier a youth is involved in archery, the stronger their support for the sport will be. NYB's Youth Membership, "Spikes", is available for only \$10/year and includes a quality quarterly newsletter containing relevant archery and hunting material. Youths up to age 17 qualify for membership. We know the future of NYB is in the hands of our archery youth and a Spikes membership is a great way to keep them involved. A membership to NYB Spikes will encourage archery pursuits all year long. By supplying an interested boy or girl with a membership, you are not only encouraging them, you are helping to support bowhunting in New York.

Each 10-page newsletter is packed with archery and hunting related topics. Here are some of the articles that appeared in past Newsletters:

- Archery Tips
- How to Find Antler Sheds
- Archery Safety
- How to Use Your Watch as a Compass
- Basic Compass Reading
- Archery Challenges to Improve Accuracy
- Double Lung vs Heart Shot
- Treestand Safety
- Take Your best Shot (shot placement)
- How To Age Living Deer in the Field
- How Deer Survive the Winter
- Post Season Scouting
- How To Age Deer by Teeth Wear
- Fun Activities for Junior Spikes

Please consider gifting a boy or girl in your circle of influence with a Spikes membership. You never know, they just may be a future President of NYB!



Send application to: **NYB Spikes**  
5937 County Rd. 33,  
Canandaigua NY 14424

SPIKES NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ PARENT/SPONSOR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

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# Milestone (Of Sorts)


Submitted by Richard Kirschner

For those of you who have been around NYB for a long time, you're familiar with many of our historic milestones and achievements, most of which are centered on legislative action as well as programs which have helped in the advancement and protection of bowhunting in New York State. NYB's success in reducing minimum age requirements, increasing season lengths and harvest limits, reduction in minimum discharge range, etc, etc. are all terms most of you should be familiar with. But this past October NYB had yet another first. Although perhaps not of the same impact as our many other accomplishments, it was nonetheless a very important step forward. For the very first time, members of the Board of Directors (BOD) were able to engage in a video conference call via the internet! Chaired by President Al Bottari and attended by BOD members as well as our Administrative Secretary, we were able to tend to NYB business during one of the busiest bowhunting months on the calendar. This new tool is not intended to replace our periodic board meetings; however, for an organization that is comprised of members from Buffalo to Long Island, and from the Adirondacks to New York City, and all counties in between, this high tech tool will occasionally come in handy and prove cost effective. Although some of you "grey beards" might think, "Who needs to bother with these new-fangled contraptions?" even I found it relatively simple to use and I was using a flip phone only a few months ago! We even got a chance to see into each other's homes and I'll leave it up to you to guess which NYB officer had the rarely observed, western "Jackalope" mounted on their wall!





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under angling*

## Joel Riotto Hits A "Bullseye" On The Radio

Submitted by Richard Kirschner

NYB Life member, Joel Riotto, a longtime Catskill property owner and accomplished bowhunter was recently asked by the Catskill Forest Association to do an interview which was aired on radio station WIOX. Joel joined NYB as it began in 1991. In addition, Joel is a Senior member of Pope & Young, Life member of Professional Bowhunters Society and the NJ Foundation of Sportsmen's Clubs. He is a founding member and past president of Traditional Archers of NJ, and also served as president of the United Bowhunters of NJ as well as the Bergen Bowmen.

Joel had an opportunity to share his thoughts and insights on archery, deer and bear hunting techniques, equipment choices, conservation, etc. Joel uses facts and data to explain how if left unchecked, the ever increasing technology in archery will ultimately have a drastic negative impact on bowhunting as we know it. In addition to covering all the ethical hunter's talking points, Joel had an opportunity to reflect on some of his bowhunting adventures as well. I urge you all to listen and I guarantee you will enjoy Joel's vast

knowledge as well as his enjoyable delivery. You can access the broadcast via [www.catskillforest.org](http://www.catskillforest.org) Scroll down to the WIOX Radio box and select the "Archive" link. The title is "Bowhunting Black Bears with Joel Riotto" or you can access directly at <http://www.catskillforest.org/bowhunting>.





# New York Bowhunter's BOOSTERS

*Tell 'em NYB Inc. sent you!*

The Bowhunter Booster Program was started in 1993. We are proud to list the clubs, businesses and individuals who have become NYB Boosters to date. You can become listed as a Booster for a minimum of \$30 per year by marking the membership application as "Booster" or by calling 585-229-7468.



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718-792-8132

**Michael Ventre**  
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**Kristie Leigh Farm**  
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845-294-8041

**West Falls Conservation Society, Inc.**  
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55 Bridge Street  
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Warwick, NY 10990  
845-324-8923

**Hawkeye Bowman, Inc.**  
13300 Clinton St.  
Alden, NY 14004  
stickbowreed@earthlink.net  
hawkeyebowmen.com  
FaceBook:  
hawkeye bowmen inc.

**Joel M. Riotto**  
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Andes, NY 13731  
201-768-4447

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## Region 2:

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jjasilli@gmail.com

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shorefisher07@gmail.com

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**Green Island Rod & Gun Club**  
PO Box 25  
Melrose, NY 12121  
girodandgunclub@wildblue.net

**Norton Hill Wildlife Club**  
PO Box 652  
Greenville, NY 12083

**Tri Village Bowhunter's Club**  
PO Box 22  
Nassau, NY 12123  
518-766-4310  
jmaczek@nycap.rr.com

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585-519-2360

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### Region 9:

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**Hawkeye Bowmen, Inc.**  
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**DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER  
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The New York Bowhunters' "In Memoriam" program offers a unique and meaningful way to honor and remember a friend or family member with a \$400 gift to NYB.

**DONATION INCLUDES:**

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# We Need A Youth Of The Year Nominee!!

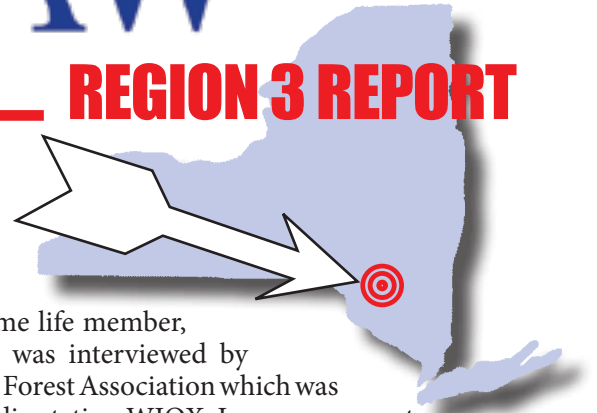
**2020 Youth Award:** Now is the time to keep an eye out for an outstanding youth. If you are aware of a youth with the following characteristics, please forward me his/her information:

*To be considered as a candidate for the NYB Youth Award, a youth must be involved in activities and other endeavors that directly benefit NYB. This can include, but is not limited to, such things as helping with NYB booths at shows, volunteering at NYB youth camps, NYB Banquets and Rendezvous (including doing "background" things like set-up or flyer distribution) and fund raising activities. The more involvement the better as this would tend to point towards the dedication and exemplary character that we should be rewarding.*

# FULL DRAW

## REGION REPORTS

### REGION 3 REPORT



Congratulations are in order for several NYB members on their bowhunting success this past season. Back in September, Sullivan County member, Harry Walker, connected on a fantastic Colorado Mule deer, still in velvet. We have many local members of NYB who are also members of the FDNY and this bow season has been a great year for many of them. The NY bow season was not even a day old when Rockland County member (and fellow retired FDNY Captain) Jimmy Gallagher, sent me a picture of a beautiful mature eight point that made the mistake of coming by his way. Orange County member, Chris Smith and his hunting partner, Dan Foley (both FDNY Rescue 3) each scored on big mature bucks. New bowhunter, Kristofer Caccavale, Engine 88, traveled from his home in Queens up to

Long time life member, Joel Riotto was interviewed by the Catskill Forest Association which was aired on radio station WIOX. I urge everyone to access the archived recording at [www.catskillforest.org/bowhunting](http://www.catskillforest.org/bowhunting)

Congratulations to the newest and youngest Spikes member from the Buring family! Life member Jeff and Annamarie did their best to increase our membership with the birth of Dorathea Melody. Best wishes to all.

The 2020 dates for the Suffern Outdoor Sport Show is Thursday, Feb. 27 through Sunday, March 1. This event is one of NYB's largest new membership sources. NYB has had a booth there for more years than I can remember (fifteen?).

If you've never helped out NYB, this is a great local opportunity. If you think you might be able to assist us for a day or just a few hours, drop me a line. When the time gets closer I'll send an email to the "regular team" as we formulate a schedule.

My personal injury update; Thanks to all the well wishes in phone calls, emails and

postcards. They were truly appreciated as I sat out my first bowseason ever in 40 years. As of this writing, I am six weeks post-surgery and starting mobility work with a physical therapist. Full thickness tears in two of my rotator cuff tendons as well as a tear in one of the bicep tendons required three anchors. The rehab process will take at least a year to regain most of the range of motion and strength I lost. Thanks to all of you who shared your similar shoulder operation experiences with me (Joel R, Joe S, Jeff S, Dave C, etc). And I really appreciated my many friends across the state who sent



*Kristofer Caccavale*

Chenango County, NY to get his first deer, a nice six pointer. And fellow Engine 88 Firefighter, Chris Murray traveled out west to OK to score his first deer, a seven pointer. Chris and Kris only recently began their archery career but they both put in months of diligent practice and it paid off in their shot placement for quick ethical kills. And yet another FDNY member, Steve Caglione, from Ladder 54, got a nice six point buck in Putnam County near his home but it took over two days of diligent tracking to find it. I was on the phone and texting him several times throughout his ordeal, and his perseverance, just like so many of you, is yet another example of the high caliber of bowhunters across the state (and beyond) that make up the membership of NYB. This is also a reminder to me as to why I chose to serve you all as an NYB representative and BOD member. I know many others of you had memorable moments this season, but I can only mention those of you who tell me about it. Please drop me an email or give me a call.



*Chris Murray*





*Steve Caglione*

me daily pictures and reports from their hunting adventures all season. You all kept me feeling like I was hunting alongside you. Thank you.

Best wishes to all for a holiday season filled with family, friends and long lasting memories. From the Kirschner and Lake families to all of you,

**Richard Kirschner**  
bowrichny@aol.com  
914-330-1419

## SULLIVAN COUNTY REPORT

Not too much to report this time of the year. In actual time, a month or so back in October, the chase phase of the rut is really kicking in. The bucks have been running the does around the house here relentlessly for the past few days. The real deal is soon to follow. Pictures of some nice bucks should be showing up in the Sullivan County Democrat soon for their annual big buck contest.



*Jim Gallagher*

The Winter league should start at Travis Archery soon after the new year, and the compound and traditional leagues at Silver Birch Archery are both under way.

Before you know it the Winter show schedule will be here. Don't forget to stop by at the "Suffern Show " (2/27 to 3/1) to say hi and fill us in on the archery happenings in your area.

Hope you have had a successful and safe hunting season! Enjoy the Holidays and Happy New Year !!



**Harry Walker, Region 3 and Sullivan County Representative**  
149 South Shore Drive - Wolf Lake  
Wurtsboro, NY 12790  
bowbender@hvc.rr.com  
845-794-6752

## ORANGE COUNTY REPORT

Greetings from Orange County...

I would like to start off by congratulating NYB member and FDNY Captain, Richard Kirschner, of Engine 88 on an incredible 41 year career. I had the honor of working alongside Rich throughout my career in the Bronx. In 1995 I was assigned to Story Avenue, Engine 96 as a probationary firefighter and was blessed to meet Rich. He "broke me in" and taught me always how to "do the right thing" as my senior man on the backstep. I will always be grateful to him for helping me shape my career and be the best that I could be. Enjoy your retirement pal....WELL DESERVED and you will be missed!!!!

Also a big shout out to his son and NYB member Andrew on his recent graduation of the FDNY academy and his being assigned to Engine 48 in the Bronx....See you on the fire floor Andrew...Best of luck for a great career!!!!!!

My season got off to a great start....I travelled to our lease in Ohio for an early season trip with fellow NYB



*Dan Foley*

**Continues on next page**

**REGION 3 REPORT - continued from previous page**

member Dan Foley. He shot a beautiful main frame 8 point with a triple brow tine on one side. One heck of a buck!!!! I then returned home and the next day I arrowed an NJ brute to kick off the season... A main frame 8 point with a 4 inch kicker off his base... Making memories!!!!!!



As always, I wish you the best and look forward to hearing from you. Please email me with any questions, noteworthy events or local news. Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and have a Healthy New Year, as well.

**Chris Smith**

Orange County Rep  
hosehead54@optonline.net

## ROCKLAND COUNTY REPORT

Hello, members. By now your hunting seasons should have been in full swing and hoping you have some great memories to share. Critters are a plus. It is all the memories that last forever.

Unable to climb anymore, due to my knee issues, I was able to get in a few hunts from the ground with the recurve. Had many deer out of range, but would have been in the freezer had I been using the Matthews. Was able to get off a shot at a non-typical 7pt and the arrow went right over his back. A swing and a miss, but the events that led up to the shot were great and even though I did not kill that buck, it was a win for me because of the many things I was able to do before that shot was made. Like sneak up on him, figure out his path and get ahead of him and get a shot off. The recurve has really changed the game for me. I hope one day that bug bites you also to pick up the stick and string.

On Sept 7th NYB was at Helen Hayes Hospital working with the adaptive sports folks there to help some of the people recovering, fling some sticks. The hand eye coordination that archery demands is a big help to get these folks get back to normal from their severe injuries or illness. A very rewarding day helping these people. Many thanks to Samantha DiVietro, her Dad, Peter, and Stan Pascoo for their help that day. We will be doing this at least two times a year. So if you feel inclined to come help out, give me a shout. Helen Hayes appreciates our presence.

Sept 28th was national Hunting and Fishing Day here in Rockland County and across the nation. Since 2012 NYB has

been handling the archery duty at the range there. I know I have said this a thousand times...I mean it too. NYB needs help that day. Think about getting bows in the hands of many inexperienced archers( oh...about 300 or so), having them shoot 5 arrows and keep doing it for 6 hours...in the sun. Well, we did it, once again with the smallest crew ever and this crew was busier than a one legged man in an ass kicking contest. Many Many Thanks to Samantha DiVietro and her Dad Peter, Rafael Bueno and a special Thanks to John Parvis. John is great working with the kids and has the patience of a saint. Thanks for your help, John. I really appreciate it. You want hunters and hunting to be looked at in a good light? It is up to YOU to get out there and be that face. This event needs help EVERY year. So step up next year and help will ya? The day was a success and we had a great flow of people coming to shoot. This hunting "Thing" of ours is dying. If we/us/you don't get out there and spread the word, what do you think will happen? Hunters and hunters will go extinct and we have no one to blame but ourselves. I hope most of you are taking a kid or someone who knows nothing about the outdoors and YOU are teaching the right lessons about being a steward of the outdoors and about wild life and biology. If we don't do it, who will? That is why days like National Hunting and Fishing day are so important.

I hope you have been able to get out and hunt a bit and enjoy what we all love. Bringing back a harvested animal is a plus. Remember, the best thing you can spend on kids...is time.

God Bless our men and women of the armed forces and our first responders. Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to all.

**Anthony Picariello**  
ADjam5@verizon.net

## DUTCHESS COUNTY REPORT

Hello, fellow Dutchessonians (a new word??). By the time you read this, most of our seasons will have winded down. Once you get through the holidays and the cold winter months begin to take hold, you can keep cabin fever away by keeping your archery skills active in events and leagues at the following clubs; Ti Yogi, Flying Arrow and Northern Dutchess Archery as well as Northern Dutchess Rod and Gun.

Our Dutchess membership has increased over the last few years due in part to NYB's presence at the Northeast Outdoor Sport show, held each year in May at the Fairgrounds in Rhinebeck, NY. For those of you who have joined in the last few years at that show, as well as other members that I have not yet had the pleasure of meeting, I welcome you to drop me an email or call me to say hello and introduce yourself. I welcome your input as not only your County representative but as a member of the Board of Directors as well. I want to do the best I can to represent the opinions of the bowhunters of my county and region. Also remember, Full Draw is your magazine, so please feel free to contribute stories, pictures or any items which may be of interest to the local bowhunting community.



Best wishes for the holiday season from my family to yours,

"Keep em sharp"

**Bob Ledrich**

**Dutchess County Representative NYB**

ledrich@optonline.net, 845-266-0615 / 914-475-4190

## PUTNAM COUNTY REPORT

Greetings from Putnam County. Hopefully everyone had a safe and successful season. This was definitely an interesting bow season, at least from a weather perspective. It was warm and wet, not the best conditions for deer movement. In addition to the weather conditions there were more acorns this year than I can ever remember. My favorite area in the county was very good early with the deer coming to the piles of acorns that littered the ground around my tree stand. Unfortunately a bear moved in and the deer disappeared.

I recently heard a story about a hunter returning from PA with a very large trophy deer that he harvested with his bow. When he crossed into NY he was stopped by a DEC officer. He was issued a fine and the deer was confiscated due to the laws pertaining to importation of deer from states outside of NY affected by CWD. Please know the laws so this does not happen to you. Ignorance of the law is not an excuse.

I still have a few remaining raffle tickets for a 2020 five day Kansas hunt. I will be more than happy to deliver them, just let me know. If anyone from the county has anything they would like to contribute to the next issue of Full Draw reach out to me. I am sure there are some pictures of deer or hopefully a bear taken locally.

Be safe and shoot straight.

**Richard Chizzik, Putnam County Rep**

richietix@aol.com

## ULSTER COUNTY REPORT

Well, by this time I hope all of you have gotten your deer! As I write this report at the end of October, so far I've only seen one small buck, couldn't tell how many points he was. He was very skittish. Oh, well it's early, there is a big acorn crop and I still have time! Have you guys seen the newest assault on our sport and passion? It's called the Crackshot XBR Rifle. It looks exactly like a rifle with scope but has a quiver on the side that holds 3 bolts. You know that the ultimate objective will be to place it in Archery season. Wow! Shame it seems only NYB objects to contraptions like this and the eventual effect it will have on bowseason as we know it. Anyway, hope all of you are staying warm & dry and getting ready for the holidays. Stay safe out there and good luck.

**Bob DiGiacomio, Ulster Co Rep**

shorefisher07@gmail.com

## WESTCHESTER COUNTY REPORT

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. Hope all had an enjoyable hunting season. About three years ago I began printing requests in this column for someone to start working with me to make quarterly contributions to this report. There are over one hundred NYB members residing in Westchester, and I am no longer one of them, nor have I hunted in Westchester recently. As the county with one of the largest memberships in NYB our members deserve to be represented by someone who lives or hunts (or both) here. I am hoping at least one of you, please, contact me to discuss. It's not Shakespeare and a degree in English (or anything else!) is not needed!! Please give it some thought. I look forward to hearing from some of you.

**Richard Kirschner**

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## REGION 5 REPORT

### Hello from Region 5

With bow season well under way here in the north country, reports are coming in of some nice bucks being harvested. One such buck was a nice 6 point, 150 lb. taken by Al Imlach with his father-in-law's bow who was a great person and a strong member in the Tupper Lake Archers.



*Al Imlach*

Also Blake Young harvested his first deer. Blake is a member of the Norfolk youth archery program.

Good luck to all the hunters out there and be safe.

At this house things are getting under way for one of the state's biggest Ice Fishing derbies in the state. The Northern Challenge is held the first Saturday in February. With \$35,000+ in prizes and cash and drawing 1,100 entrants, it truly is a sight to see and an event to be in. Just ask any of the NYB staff who have manned their 50-50 raffles. A word of advice: if you are interested in attending and need a room, contact the hotels now. They fill fast. One of the biggest draws is the 2 ATVs we give away by random drawings.

Dave McMahon



*Blake Young*

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## REGION 6 REPORT

By now, you have venison in the freezer, and your bow is all cleaned up and primed for the upcoming winter league shoots next year. Did you write down notes for next season of what to do, or not to do? Your preparation for next year's hunt starts now.

Our **23rd Annual Region 6 Youth Bowhunting Camp** has been scheduled for July 24th - 26th, 2020. If you have any family or friends who are interested in Bowhunting, sign them up for our Youth camp. Only youths between 11 - 18 yrs old are eligible to attend the training. In fact, sign yourself up as a chaperone—we need all the help we can get.

As you visit local sports shops, and outdoor sporting events, spread the good word of NYB. Sign up your favorite sports shop as a Booster. Tell them of our **Region 6 Youth Camp**, and the **Physically Challenged** hunt we host in Edmeston. Then tell them how we have been helping American troops serving in the middle-east with our **Camo to Camo** program. Not only do we send gift boxes regularly, we send wounded veterans on free hunts. If you would like to help with gift box donations, or if you know someone who might qualify for the hunt, contact the NYB office.

The **New York Bowhunters Facebook Page** still posts up-to-the-minute updates on what is happening around the state. Facebook also streams on our NYB home web page. Go to: [www.newyorkbowhunters.com](http://www.newyorkbowhunters.com).

Have you signed up a new **Spikes** member this year? Youth hunters are our future! Start grooming every child in your extended family over 10 yrs old, and take one hunting this Fall.

I wish all you bowhunters not only a successful hunting season, but most enjoyable and SAFE Holidays!

Bill Snyder  
bill4nyb@gmail.com  
Region #6 Rep.  
3012 Pine Ridge Road  
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# Tree Stand Incidents and Safety



Tree stand incidents are becoming a major cause of hunting-related injuries and fatalities in New York. The proper use of tree stands and full-body harnesses will help prevent injuries and fatalities. Follow these safety guidelines to ensure a safe, enjoyable hunt:

- Check your stands (including straps and chains) every season and before every use and replace any worn or missing pieces.
- Use a full-body harness with a lifeline, and stay connected from the time you leave the ground until the time you get back down.
- Never carry your gun, bow, crossbow, or gear as you climb to your stand. Secure all your hunting equipment to a haul line, such as a strong rope. Do not tie the haul line around the trigger or trigger guard on a firearm, and raise a firearm with the muzzle pointing toward the ground. Once you are safely in your stand, and your tether is attached to the tree, raise your equipment into your stand. Use the same haul line to lower your equipment to the ground before climbing down.
- Let a reliable person know where you will be hunting and when you will return. A map showing your stand location makes it easier for others to find you if you do not return on time.
- Carry emergency equipment, such as a knife, cell phone, flashlight and whistle in your pockets at all times (not in your pack).



## Deep-Dish Wild Game Casserole

1.5 lbs. potatoes peeled and cubed  
3 minced garlic cloves  
1/4 cup milk  
2 tablespoons butter, divided  
1 cup sliced fresh mushrooms  
1 cup sliced carrots  
1/2 cup chopped onion  
1/4 cup chopped green pepper

2 cups cubed wild meat (squirrel, venison, etc.)  
1-1/2 cups beef broth  
1/4 teaspoon dried thyme  
1/8 teaspoon ground nutmeg  
3 tablespoons all-purpose flour  
3 tablespoons cold water  
1/3 cup shredded cheddar cheese  
2 tablespoons minced parsley

Cook potatoes in boiling water until tender; drain and mash. Add the garlic, milk, and salt and pepper; set aside.

In a large skillet, sauté mushrooms, carrots, onion and green pepper in butter until tender. Add the meat, broth, thyme and nutmeg. Bring to a boil.

Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 25-30 minutes or until meat and vegetables are tender.

Combine the flour and water until smooth; stir into skillet. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened. Transfer to a greased 2-qt. baking dish. Spread mashed potatoes over the top.

Bake, uncovered, at 350° for 30-40 minutes or until bubbly. Sprinkle with cheese.

Bake 5 minutes longer or until cheese is melted. Sprinkle with parsley.





# Member Photos



*Scott Lalonde*



*Aaron Barton*



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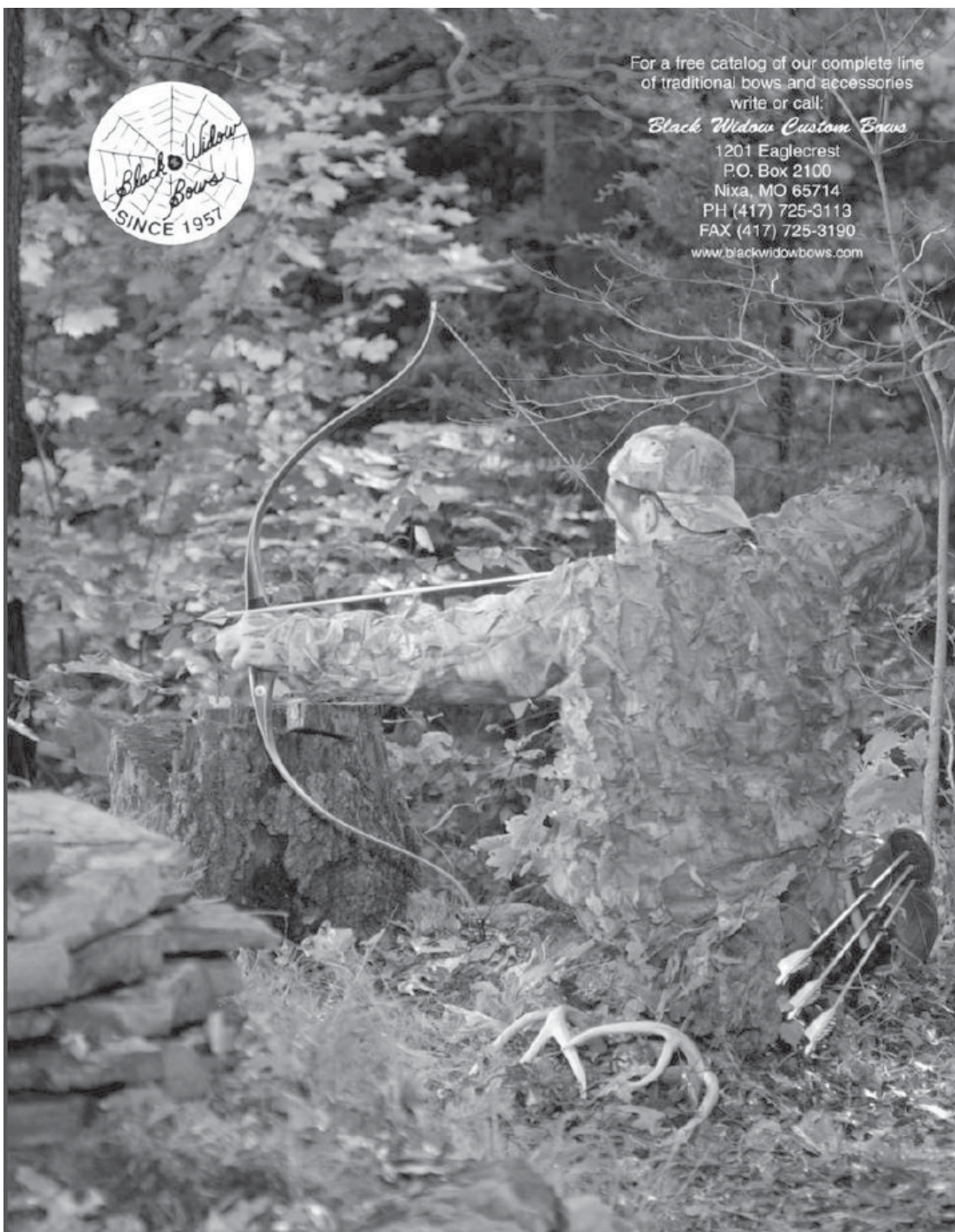
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