

FULLDRAW

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF NEWYORK BOWHUNTERS, INC.

New York State's Largest Bowhunting Organization Since 1991
www.newyorkbowhunters.org

32nd Annual

SPRING 2023

BANQUET & RENDEZVOUS

IN THIS ISSUE:

32nd Annual
Banquet Details 2

Feedback on NYS'
Holiday Hunt 4

Election Form..... 6

Suffern Outdoor
Show Cancelled...
Permanently!!! 22

South African
Safari Hunt 26

Guest Speaker
Tom Nelson

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2023

SATURDAY REGISTRATION OPENS 9:00 AM

Sunny Hill Resort
352 Sunny Hill Road
Greenville, NY 12083

NEW YORK BOWHUNTERS

32ND ANNUAL

BANQUET & RENDEZVOUS

Saturday, May 20, 2023

Guest Speaker

**Tom
Nelson**

***Host of
American
Archer TV***



Topic: Tales from 50 years of Bowhunting

For early birds: Friday Night BBQ with 50/50 6:00 pm
Saturday Registration opens 9:00 AM

1:00 PM - General Meeting

5:00 PM - Cocktail Hour

6:00 PM - Dinner & silent auction

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From the President's Desk

President's Report by Andrew Cotraccia

Greetings NYB Members,

I hope you had an exciting and fulfilling hunting season and your freezers are filled to the max with nutritious wild game! Hunting in NY was a complete bust for me again this year, however, I had great gun hunts in Montana for Mule Deer and in Iowa for Whitetail.

NYB's leaders are preparing for a busy Spring with our annual banquet and rendezvous on May 20th. I'm excited to announce that our guest speaker this year will be Tom Nelson and will again be at the beautiful Sunny Hill Resort in Greenville, NY. I hope to see you there! Legislatively, we are making preparations for another trip to Albany to meet with the new set of Legislators for 2023. If you are not already aware, there are two new Chairs of the NYS Environmental Conversation Committees. On the Assembly side we have Deborah Glick representing Lower Manhattan. On the Senate side, Pete Harcham represents Districts 40 which includes Westchester and the Hudson Valley.

Contrary to what some of our critics believe, the successes we've had in Albany over the past 30 years has not come from our vast legal fund resources. They are the result of our extremely active membership. So, keep it up! When you are out in your daily travels and encounter another hunter who may not be aware of New York Bowhunters, tell them about all the amazing things we do and have done. Tell them about the thousands of kids we've put through our free youth camps that became certified to bow hunt, the amazing work Ed Gorch and others have done through the Camo-to-Camo program helping men and women serving and who have served in our military, our work truly helping elderly and disabled bowhunters utilizing adaptive equipment and at the annual archery clinics that NYB members held at Helen Hayes Rehab Hospital, our support of the National Archery in Schools Program with the DEC, how we successfully lobbied to lower the legal bowhunting age in NYS to 12 years old, how we helped expand DMP use for bowhunters to include the entire season, how we successfully lobbied to open the Southern Zone Archery season on October 1st, and helped extend the Northern Zone Archery season by 1 week, or how we helped reduce the discharge distance of a bow from 500 feet to 150 feet, to name a few. It's amazing that all the successes we've had as an organization can be attributed to volunteers. NYB is the textbook definition of a grassroots organization.

I can assure you that NYB's leaders don't volunteer because they have an excess of time and energy. We have a passion for bow hunting and for helping each other. If you want a complete listing of what NYB has done for you lately, go to our website and check out our Accomplishments section. It spans 30+ years and is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and commitment of NYB's past and current leaders.

Please stay connected to NYB for more news and alerts via *FullDraw*, our website, Instagram and Facebook.

Sincerely,

Andrew Cotraccia

President, New York Bowhunters Inc.



Feedback on NYS' Holiday Hunt

By John Rybinski

The opinions expressed within the content of this article are solely the author's and as such do not necessarily reflect the opinions and beliefs of NYB as an organization.

Most deer hunters are burned out by the time our long Southern Zone firearm/muzzle loader season has ended. Short sits in cold temperatures can be challenging, as well as early antler shedding, identifying deer under thick winter coats, and hunting survivors that are mostly nocturnal.

Bureaucrats in Albany, ignoring past human dimension studies, state boards, local government, and DEC deer biologists, and despite over 1,500 opposition comments pleading not to lengthen the firearm season for deer, added another week to the Southern Zone hunting season. This additional hunting week is called the Holiday Hunt (December 26 - January 1). New York State has the longest firearm/modern muzzleloading hunting season of any other northern state. The average number of hunting days in northern states is 22, ending around December 10th. New York's firearms season lasts approximately 38 days in the Southern Zone and now extends into January.

Snow-belt regions of the state typically witness some winter mortality even during mild winters. Lengthening the firearm season during a time when deer start yarding, shedding antlers, and entering survival mode has no sound science backing it. Data shows we already overharvest our male deer, leaving a poor buck-to-doe ratio and male age structure in most regions.

Concerns about tradeoffs created by more deer hunting opportunities for a few deer hunters, at the expense of many other outdoor user groups, was a



common theme among public comments received by the DEC. Most private property doesn't open to others until "after the deer season" has ended, as we all know. The negative impact the Holiday Hunt has created on small game hunters, trappers, and houndsmen is unmeasurable as well as for the non-hunter that once enjoyed snowmobiling or other outside recreation that week.

One of the justifications for the Holiday Hunt was the opportunity to recruit young hunters during a week schools are closed. Historically, young hunters have been successfully recruited with small game hunting and trapping. Typically, it's more social, fun and available. I would bet that promoting taking a youth out small game hunting during the holiday week would do far more for recruitment and retention, without shutting down the landscape to everyone else during the holiday week. Few landowners say no to small game hunters after the deer season has ended.

Please consider completing this one-minute deer season survey at the link below. No contact information is being harvested, and there is no follow up of any kind. The first step to being better represented is to have your opinion known. The data gathered from this survey will help to present hunter opinions to the DEC. Now is your chance to have your voice heard.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FK9D8BQ>

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3D SHOOTS



REGION #3

3D SHOOTS

March	12-Highwoods 19-Ti Yogi 26-Northern Dutchess	July	2-Neighbors 9-Wittenburg 16-Highwoods 23-Ti Yogi 30-Northern Dutchess
April	16-Ti Yogi 23-Highwoods 30-Northern Dutchess	August	6-Wittenburg 3-Highwoods 20-Ti Yogi 27-Northern Dutchess
May	7-Wittenburg 14-Ti Yogi TBD-Neighbors 28-Northern Dutchess	September	3-Neighbors 10-Wittenburg 17-Ti Yogi 24-Northern Dutchess
June	4-Wittenburg 11-Highwoods 18-Northern Dutchess 25-Wittenburg	October	8-Ti Yogi (TRADITIONAL ONLY) 28-Ti Yogi (TPM ZOMBIE SHOOT)



REGION #5

3D SHOOTS

March 19	Camo to Camo Shoot
April 23	Colton
April 23	Peru
June 4	Colton
July 1	Norfolk
July 7-9	Spencerville Ontario Ca
July 9	Colton
July 15	Tupper Lake Traditional Day
July 16	Tupper Lake Open Shoot
August 5	Norfolk
August 26-27	Tupper Lake MT Challenge
September 2	Norfolk Traditional Day
September 3	Norfolk Trophy/Fun
September 24	Peru

TRI-COUNTY ARCHERS

3D SHOOTS

April	16-Black Rock Fish & Game Club 23-Monroe Chester Sportsmen Club 30-Bethlehem Rod & Gun Club
May	7-Walden Sportsmen's Club 21-Silver Birch Archery 28-Memorial Day Weekend
June	4-Walden Sportsmen's Club 11-Black Rock Fish & Game Club 18-Monroe Chester Sportsmen Club 25-TBD
July	2-July 4th weekend (Tues) 9-Black Rock Fish & Game Club 16-Monroe Chester Sportsmen Club 23-TBD 30-Bethlehem Rod & Gun Club
August	6-Walden Sportsmen's Club 13-Black Rock Fish & Game Club 20-TBD 27-Bethlehem Rod & Gun Club
September	3-TBD 10-(Saturday) Silver Birch Archery 17-Monroe Chester Sportsmen Club 24-Bethlehem Rod & Gun Club

*Note: Most shoots are Sundays
(Except September 10) starting at 7AM.*

Adults - \$15.00

Juniors (12-17) - \$5.00

Youth (under 12) - Free

TBD – check individual club and Tri-County Archers websites for current information.



WE NEED YOUR VOTE!!

The nominations for the 2023 positions are shown below. Please vote to fill the positions with the candidates you think would be an asset to our organization. You may use this form;

Officers' Positions ★ Vote for 1 candidate for each position

President- Andrew Cotraccia (2 year term) ☐

Treasurer- Bob Ledrich (2 year term) ☐

Board of Director Positions ★ Vote for 3 candidates

Bob Brown (3 year term) ☐

Bill Snyder (3 year term) ☐

Kathy Tessier (3 year term) ☐

**Return ballot no later than April 26, 2023 to:
5937 County Rd. 33, Canandaigua, NY 14424**

Cut Here



NAME: Andrew Cotraccia POSITION SEEKING: President

My name is Andrew Cotraccia and I am seeking my second term as NYB President. I've had the privilege of serving NYB in the past as Ontario County Representative, Advertising Editor and Editor for *FullDraw* Magazine, Secretary and Vice President.

Brief description of my bowhunting career to date: I've been a passionate bowhunter since I was 14 years old and have been fortunate enough to bow hunt in many places throughout North American and South Africa. I've had many great experiences and have enjoyed every second out in the woods with my family and friends!

Why do you feel you would be an asset as an officer or director of NYB? I would like to see younger people getting more involved in leadership positions in NYB. This will be vital to the continued success of our great organization. We can better accomplish this by utilizing more technology like the internet, social networking and media, communicating to mobile devices, etc.

I have taken a lot from the sport of bowhunting, it's only right that I give back and help others enjoy what I have. NYB is the perfect outlet for me to accomplish this!



NAME: Bob Ledrich POSITION SEEKING: Treasurer YEAR BOWHUNTING: 34

My name is Bob Ledrich and I am running for re-election as treasurer of this fine organization. I live in Clinton Corners, NY with my extremely patient and understanding wife, Debbie, and our two dogs, Tank and Dixie. We have two sons, Bob and Michael, who are avid bowhunters and outdoorsman. We have also been blessed with two granddaughters, Amelia and Emma. Both have been introduced to archery and seem to be following our tradition; we will see.

Brief description of my bowhunting career to date: Bowhunting has been a passion of mine since 1988 and has given me the opportunity and good fortune to hunt in several states and Canada. I have also been blessed to have met most of my favorite people through these bowhunting adventures. Hopefully, we will be enjoying this awesome sport for many years to come.

Why do you feel you would be an asset as an officer or director of NYB? I have been involved with NYB since 1991 and have served as the Dutchess County Representative for most of those years. I am also a Life / Benefactor member and serve on the Board of Directors. Obviously, NYB has been a part of my life for a long

time. I am proud to have been a part in many battles over the years to preserve our privileges as bowhunters.

Professionally, I have been a Financial Advisor for the past thirty years and served in law enforcement prior to that.

Again, I am honored to be running for your treasurer and if elected, I look forward to serving NYB as always.

All the best and Keep 'em Sharp, Bob



Name: Bob Brown
POSITION SEEKING: Director

Brief description of my bowhunting career to date: I have bow hunted in New York, Pennsylvania and Quebec for 40+ years. I began hunting with a compound and switched to recurves and longbows about 15 years ago. I enjoy the simplicity of traditional archery as well as making arrows and other equipment. I have taken many deer, squirrels, rabbits and raccoon with bows. I attend many 3D events in New York and Pennsylvania each year.

In fifty words or less, why do you feel you would be an asset as an officer or director of NYB? Bowhunting is my number one passion outside of my family. Almost every day I'm involved with bowhunting whether it is a conversation, internet interaction, reading/thinking of bowhunting or shooting a few arrows. I will stand up to promote and protect bowhunting for all.



NAME: Bill Snyder
POSITION SEEKING: Director

My name is Bill Snyder and I am seeking another term on the Board of Directors. It has been an absolute pleasure to serve on the Board of this fine NYB organization for the past few years. I live in Canastota, NY with my wife of 48 years. We have two sons, TJ and AJ, who are avid bowhunters and outdoorsmen.

Brief description of my bowhunting career to date: My primary reason to begin bowhunting was to simply get outdoors more often. Since there are so many places to hunt in NY State, I've never needed to hunt outside the state. Bowhunting season is now my favorite time to commune with nature.

Why do you feel you would be an asset as an officer or director of NYB? In 2010 I became Region 6 Representative, which came with the title of Youth Camp administrator. Through the years we trained & graduated over 175 students in the fine Sport of Bowhunting. Currently I am Administrator of the NYB webpage, which can also be challenging. Fortunately, we have a team of NYB officers & directors who work very well together to keep the NYB train on track.

As long as I am able, I will be a NY Bowhunter, and continue to support the NYB in any way I can.



NAME: Kathy Tessier
POSITION SEEKING: Board of Directors

I have been a member of NYB for almost 20 years. I have been an active member of Tupper Lake Sportsmen's Club since 1992, still serving on the Board of Directors and as Treasurer for Tupper Lake Archers and a co-Instructor for the Youth Archery Program for 17 years. I have met some pretty incredible people over the years while shooting at archery events and made many long-lasting friendships.

Brief description of my bowhunting career to date: I started bowhunting in 2003 with a Compound, graduating to a Recurve a year later. Although it was more challenging, it was more fun and a lot more rewarding! I had an awesome experience bowhunting in North Dakota for Mule Deer even though I came home empty handed, followed by a successful bow hunt with Sportmen's Safaris in South Africa in 2006, hunting with a PSE Kudu. Took home four awesome trophies and even more wonderful memories. Later that fall I took my first Adirondack Buck with the same bow.

Why do you feel you would be an asset as an officer or director of NYB? I had no idea what NYB was all about until I attended my first NYB Banquet over 18 years ago. After learning what a great organization this was, I decided to become a member and offered to help in the "War Room," cataloging items for the Auction and Raffles. This is my way of giving back to NYB after all they have done and continue to do to promote the sport of archery and preserve our rights as bowhunters. I am so very proud of, and to be part of, the NYB Family!



VOTE

Return ballot no later than
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Kathy Tessier
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Huntington Station, NY 11746

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john@jajasilliesq.com

McSwigin, Christopher
78 Sunset Trail
Bronx, NY 10465

Pro Line Archery
95-11 101st Avenue
Ozone Park, NY 11416
718-845-9280
Neil Kucich
info@prolinearchery.com

Region 3:

Backwoods Bass Guide Service
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Putnam Valley, NY 10579
Paul Romanych
914-714-0838
fishnfinaddict@hotmail.com

Bethlehem Rod & Gun Club
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Plattekill, NY 12568
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Bob DiGiacomio
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joeskipp@yahoo.com

Ti Yogi Bowmen
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Hyde Park, NY 12538
Scott Chenevert
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billheinitz@gmail.com

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Steve Barber
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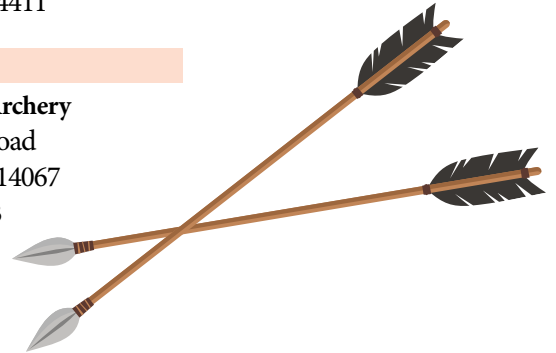
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FULLDRAW

REGION REPORTS

REGION 1 REPORT

Hello fellow archers!

I am hoping we all had an eventful, successful and safe season. Here in Region 1, many of you know we have had an ongoing deer population issue for years now. However, something that is not brought to light too often is our constant interaction with ticks. Unlike other parts of the state, here on Long Island, we are in close quarters, meaning our deer population is in close quarters as well. This leads to our communities in constant contact with ticks and tick bites. For this Region 1 report I have collaborated with Julia Weisenberg, Co-founder of Long Island Babes and Bucks and member of The Deer and Tick Committee of Shelter Island.

With Shelter Island having a long history of bowhunting, Julia has been actively part of informing the local community of their existing deer management and tick education. The following has been written and submitted by Julia:

“Like elsewhere in our country, increased demands on parents and influx of people and new construction has influenced deer habitat and caused a decline in the number of active bowhunters. Tick bites continue to be of top concern for residents as fawning continues to stay slightly ahead of bowhunting culling results.

This past year the committee and I have spearheaded an annual program, inviting an educational coordinator and biologist from Mashomack Preserve (The Nature Conservancy) to come to the local school to teach grades 3-6 about tick life cycles and bite prevention. The program is in its second year, utilizing skits, props, and even costumes to help kids and their parents be prepared in this very outdoor-oriented, tourist community. The committee also launched quarterly social media blasts focused on types of sprays, clothing tips, hunting on trails notices, tick identification and treatment.

Myself and colleague Dr Jim Bevilacqua attended the famous Green Expo in August distributing ‘Tick Key Inc (TM)’ tick removal kits graciously donated to the Committee from its founder, tick identification cards from Stony Brook Univ Hospital, and information on Shelter Island deer management to the public. With the attrition of bowhunters nationwide, the need to attract new hunters is critical. I have helped establish

a moderated panel at the library in Sept 2022 which included a gender and age diversified group of bowhunters and the island’s deer Manager B. Payne with the goal of answering questions about bowhunting. The event was well received both on Zoom and in person.

Shelter Island continues a robust venison donation program annually, providing 2,000 lbs of meat. The committee organized two venison cooking calls for the public with a female chef from Long Island Babes and Bucks in 2020. A poster was designed and made for the venison donation fridge, so residents understand cuts and packaging better. Finally, the big push has come in establishing an archery program for grades 4-12 through National Archery in Schools Program. I have put forward a proposal which was adopted and approved under the Shelter Island Police Dept’s budget, equipment was purchased, and this summer slated to have the first round of residents taking their Basic Archery Instructors (BAI) course to be teachers. Archery will not only be a wonderful self-esteem building sport for the island kids, but the committee hopes it will inspire a few to become regular bowhunters in the town program to cull the deer herd.”

Julia’s commitment to her community and bowhunting has not gone unnoticed, to say the least. Her efforts here in Region 1 have been well appreciated. Hopefully we will have the pleasure of seeing her and her daughter again this year at our annual banquet which is being held May 19th-21st at Sunny Hill Resort in Greenville, NY.

Hope to see you all in May!

Best regards,
Mike Farrugia-Region 1 Rep, BOD
Mfarrugia47@gmail.com
(516)592-7756



FREE ADVERTISING



Did you know one of your membership benefits is **FREE** advertising in the *FullDraw* magazine? If you have an item to advertise send the information to **NYBFULLDRAW@GMAIL.COM**

REGION 2 REPORT

Hello to all, I hope that everyone has had a happy and healthy Winter Season.

In Albany, there are new Chairpersons for the Environmental Conservation Committees in both Houses. Assemblywoman Deborah Glick from Manhattan has taken the reins. Assemblyman Steven Englebright lost his re-election bid in November. We wish him the very best in his future. Senator Pete Harckham from Peekskill will Chair the Senate EnCon. That seat has been open since July 2022, when former Senator Todd Kaminsky resigned to pursue a job in the private sector. We would like to welcome both new Chairpersons and wish them luck in their new leadership roles.

Also out of Albany, Governor Kathy Hochul has vetoed the "opt out" option for counties in NYS for the Holiday Hunt.

In CWD news, Priogen, a biological research laboratory based in Minnesota, has developed a portable, in-field test for CWD that produces results in less than 24 hours. Utilizing their nanotechnology, they have been able to identify prions (the highly transmissible proteins which cause CWD) in both biological and environmental samples. They are set to launch their ProSense CWD Muscle Test as this issue goes to print.

Mark your calendars on May 20, 2023 to attend this year's NYB Banquet. It once again kicks off on Friday night May 19th with a BBQ, then continues on. Sunny Hill will be our host facility, with free golf for NYB members staying over, and a 3D course. Tom Nelson is our Guest Speaker; he is the host of *American Archer TV*. I hope to see you all there.

May God Bless America, and all those who defend us both home and abroad. Remember everyone deployed and their families. Heroes never die until they are forgotten, so say their names and think of them often.

All the best, Al
Region 2 Rep, Board of Director
bluehillhunta@optonline.net
 }}}----->

REGION 3 REPORT

Congratulations to all my fellow Region 3 Bowhunters who have meat in their freezer from their success last season. Luckily for me I do, but only because of the bowhunting talent of my son, Andrew, and the generosity of fellow Board of Directors, Ed Gorch who all too often reminds me upon delivery, "It's embarrassing for an NYB past president to not have venison!"

As the hunting seasons wound down and many of you turned to the fun, camaraderie, and practice of indoor archery, we had several local members and affiliated clubs that kept archery thriving at some of our booster clubs during the long cold nights of winter. I would like to thank the following NYB members for their efforts over the past several months. Sean Royster of Ulster who affiliated Ti Yogi Bowmen of Dutchess County with the NFAA, and organized an NFAA Winter League. Thanks also to another NYB member from Ti Yogi, Bob Harring, for organizing two tournaments. The two-day January shoot attracted over 70 shooters! Looking forward to the Mid Hudson Open on March 11 and 12. Thank you Bob, Sean, Tammy and Mary for running the kitchen, Brian on the clock, and all the other members of Ti Yogi who volunteer their time at the many events held throughout the year insuring successful shoots both indoor and out. Another NYB member I'd like to recognize is Ed Malle from Bethlehem Rod & Gun Club in Ulster who has been organizing a youth archery

program for local kids. A very active club in all shooting events. Check them out. If there are other members involved with programs which promote archery and bowhunting, please let me or your county rep know about it so we can mention it.

A personal thank you to Jeff Davis and Marko Cvitkovac for all your help with my continuing journey into the Barebow world!

Westchester Bowhunters Association are managing an outdoor range on the grounds of the Teatown Preserve. For more information about the range or membership in WBA, contact John Lapadura johnlapadura@aol.com.

For those of us in Region 3 and nearby, we are very lucky in that starting at the end of March and running through September, there is a 3D shoot just about every weekend at one of several clubs throughout, Orange, Sullivan, Ulster and Dutchess Counties. A few listings of 3D shoots throughout the Region 3 area appears elsewhere in this edition of *FullDraw*.

REGION 3 REPORT - continued from previous page

Unfortunately the March Outdoor Show at Rockland Community College has been canceled for this year. If you typically wait to renew at the show please go to our website or call our office to renew instead. It looks like the show will be scheduled for January 2024 at Edison, NJ (New Jersey Convention Center) about 1 hour south. This venue has less restrictions, better parking and service facilities.

Within this issue of *FullDraw* are details for the upcoming NYB Rendezvous and banquet. If you have never attended, please put it on your calendar. NYB depends on attendance at this annual event for our continued operation. We are all very lucky that this event is held so close to us. NYB consists of the most passionate, friendly hunters across the entire state. I have made many friends through NYB. Take advantage of this event while it's so close to us before it moves to another location much further away. Bring your family, enjoy the free 3D course, free golf, entertaining guest speaker, etc. Look at the attached information elsewhere within these pages and make your plans now. Hope to see you there.

Richard Kirschner – Region 3 Rep – Board of Director
bowrichny@aol.com
914 330 1419

SULLIVAN COUNTY REPORT

The wildlife in Sullivan County have been pretty lucky with the winter weather so far, just having to cope with some single digit temperatures around Christmas. While shed hunting I have seen where the deer have been feeding on grasses and pawing around for acorns since what little snow we have had has mostly melted off.

Sullivan County Archers hopes to hold our annual Archery Youth Education Days this summer on July 8 and July 9th. We have changed our event to just two days with no sleepover in hopes parents will be more receptive to having their kids attend. Our only problem is the DEC preregistration demands the kids complete the online course before the class can take place. We will just have to see how this plays out.

Annual Banquet/Rendezvous info is contained in this issue of *FullDraw*. Don't miss out this year. Join your fellow bowhunters and their families and have a great weekend. Hope to see you there.

The Lancaster Archery Classic in PA took place over the winter and attracted over 2700 archers! You can see the entire shoot and all styles on Youtube. It is very impressive to see how the top shooters; guys and gals can really shoot. Check it out.

Get out this Spring and chase those "thunder chickens" around! As you have seen on the cover of the Winter *FullDraw*, Merritt Compton got it done last year and harvested a real nice gobbler!

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

DUTCHESS COUNTY REPORT

Greetings All,

The first measurable snowstorm is well underway as I begin writing this report. Our local weather indicated 1 to 3 inches would fall, but as usual, there are at least 5 inches now with no signs of stopping soon. Oh well, it will make scouting easier.

I have seen a few bucks missing their antlers so some shed hunting may be in order soon.

TiYogi Bowmen in Hyde Park held a Past Presidents shoot on January 14 and 15. The event welcomed all shooters and was well-attended. The shooting times were Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning and afternoon. Many thanks to Bob Harring for organizing the event and to Tammy Chenevert for keeping the kitchen rolling with breakfast sandwiches and her famous "Venison Chili" for lunch. Also, thanks to Brian Chapman and others for running the shooting lines. This is an annual event so keep it in mind for next year!

3D season will be starting in March so start planning now. The TiYogi shoots are as follows: 3/19, 4/16, 5/14, 6/18, 7/23, 8/20, 9/17, Trad Only 10/8, Zombie Shoot 10/28. All events are on Sunday from 7am to 12pm with the exception of the Zombie Shoot held in the evening from 7pm – 10pm. A complete list of all other shoots and locations is available on another page of this issue.

I just returned from our annual meeting at the Lafayette Inn in Lafayette, NY, the founding location of NYB way back in 1991. The meeting was well-attended by our officers, directors, regional representatives and some county representatives. We were also visited by two of our founding members, Dale Walburger and Tom Weaver. The meeting went well and we were treated to a nice breakfast and lunch. If you have never been to one of these meetings, you may want to consider attending for the comradeship and to observe the work involved to keep NYB moving.

Please let me know of anything you would like reported for the next issue. Your input is more than welcome. I look forward to hearing from you! That's about it from Dutchess County for now. Stay Healthy and get out there and do some shooting.

"Keep em Sharp"

Bob Ledrich Dutchess County Rep / Treasurer
ledrich@optonline.net
914-475-4190

PUTNAM COUNTY REPORT

Hello again to all of my fellow NY Bowhunters. I hope you all had a fun-filled and great season. It was a tough year here at Fahnstock. It looks like so much of the herd was ravaged with EHD. I spent countless hours in the blind and saw just a handful of deer. All the bucks I saw on my trail cam were nocturnal, never showing up during the day. Still the DEC was handing out excess permits. I can't figure that one out. The increasing number of coyotes doesn't help either.

Just because bow and shotgun season is over doesn't mean that the season is over. This is the time of year when you should be out scouting for next season and there's no better way to start than to go out shed hunting. If you want to know if there are any bucks in your area, find some sheds. That should keep the heart beating until next year. And while you're at it take your young family members with you. It just might turn out to be a great introduction to our wonderful sport as well as a great bonding time between you and the young ones.

Anxious to keep sharp and on target? Contact one of the many indoor and outdoor ranges in the area, especially those that have outdoor shoots. Many of the ranges, such as Ti Togi and Bethlehem rod and gun club, also have great youth programs. Check out their ads in *FullDraw*.

Last but not least, even though I didn't harvest a deer this

year, my grandson, AJ, harvested his second doe with a rifle up in Greene county. What was such a blessing for me was that I was sitting in the stand with him. I think his grandmother heard me all the way back here in Putnam. Those are times that will never be forgotten by either of us. Great job, AJ.

Enjoy your spring and remember to get those spring turkey pictures to me or our editor.

Hope to see you all at the Suffern show. Stop by our booth to say hello.

John Sarlo
Putnam County Rep
Archer2312@aol.com

ORANGE COUNTY REPORT

Greetings all,

The 32nd annual NYB is upon us once again at the Sunny Hill Resort in Greenville, NY on Saturday, May 20th. Guest speaker this year will be Tom Nelson of *American Archer TV*, who has over 50 years of bowhunting experience. Tickets are available for purchase at nyboffice@newyorkbowhunters.com c/o Annie Jacobs and on our website. The event also includes 3D shoot, antler scoring and free golf for NYB members!

Spring turkey season is almost upon us. The DEC is modernizing statewide turkey hunting regulations by changing the minimum shot size from No. 8 to No. 9. The change was necessitated by advances in shotshell technology. Modern shotshells use heavier metals such as tungsten alloy, tungsten-iron, or bismuth, maintain enough energy to humanely harvest a turkey, and perform as well or better than many traditional rounds. However, I still enjoy the challenge of trying to harvest a big old Spring gobbler with my bow.

Tri County Archers will be having their weekly 3D shoots

around the county at several organizations throughout Orange, Ulster and Pike County PA. The targets range from small rabbits to massive elk, and are set along a course that resembles a hiking trail. Each shoot consists of 28 to 30 animal targets. It typically takes an average of two to three hours to complete the entire course, but some offer shorter options. These events usually start up in April. Please go to Tri County Archers website or the 3D Shoot page of this issue for the schedule.

In closing I like to wish everyone a happy and healthy 2023. Be safe and enjoy the rest of the summer. God bless America and our brave men and women of the armed forces.

Christopher Smith
Orange County rep
Bigblue9654@gmail.com

ULSTER COUNTY REPORT

Well, here in Ulster, from those I know who hunted, the deer report was dismal. In the area I hunt I only know of two deer being taken. Not many were seen, either. Seems the EHD last year killed off a lot of deer. Also, near me we have a local farmer who has nuisance permits and does a lot of shooting. Oh well, what can you do? You can't fight city hall!

Coming up on May 20th is our annual Banquet and Rendezvous, once again being held at Sunny Hill in Greenville. Come and enjoy fellowship with the state's best archers. You won't regret attending!

Good luck to all you turkey hunters, shoot straight and be safe.

Bob DiGiacomio
Ulster County Rep
shorefisher07@gmail.com

Hi Guys & Gals,

Hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable hunting season. I just returned from the Northern Challenge ice fishing derby up at Tupper Lake this past weekend, and to say it was cold is an understatement. The thermometer registered 35 below and the wind chill was 46 below. YIKES! NYB was invited by our good friends from the Tupper Lake Archers to take part in the event doing a 50/50 fundraiser. If anyone would like to volunteer for this event and help me out next year, just give me a call when they remove your straight jacket. If you enjoy ice fishing, this is the place to be, with hourly prizes and a grand prize of two 4-wheelers. It's not easy to persuade an NYB member to give up a weekend and spend two twelve-hour days representing NYB, but I did manage to sweet talk my good friend (now ex-friend) Greg Kerns, who lives in Pennsylvania, to attend. We had a good time and would like to thank the Tupper Lake crew for their continued support of NYB. And now some bad news. The Rockland County Sportsmen Show has once again been cancelled after forty years in NY. They are moving the whole operation to Edison, NJ in 2024. Trying to run any event or business in this State is getting harder and harder with the unrelenting laws and rules from our overreaching state government in Albany. Our God-given rights are being eroded day after day. It's easy to see why residents of NY are leaving this state by the thousands.

REGION 4 REPORT

Our Banquet and Rendezvous is quickly approaching, so now is the time to grab the phone or go to our website and order your tickets before they sell out. It takes a ton of work for everything to run smoothly over the Banquet weekend, so if you're a new member and would like to help out, just ask Annie when you check in. Hope to see a few new faces at this year's banquet.

Our new editor, Cindy Phillips, is doing a wonderful job with our *FullDraw* magazine. To do this, she needs input. Every picture sent in to her also has a story. Don't hesitate to jot down a few words describing the hunt. You don't have to be a professional writer. Just tell it as it happened, and she will correct any mistakes.

Take Care,
Ed Gorch
Oldbowman48@gmail.com
518-755-6263



REGION 5 REPORT

Hello from Region 5,

Now that hunting season is over our archery big deer contest was won by Darrell Savage. Several nice deer were weighed in and seems that the deer are doing well in this area. The smaller than usual snow fall so far this winter should continue to help.

Our next project is the Northern Challenge Ice fishing Derby. Noted for the amazing door prizes as well as the money we give away, this derby is one of the biggest and best in the state. The big draw are the 2 ATVs we give out by random drawing from all who entered the derby. We are also looking forward to seeing our friends from NYB at the 50-50 table.

At the same time Ray and Kathy are getting ready to work on our youth archery program. Each year we provide a free archery program for grades 3 – 6, teaching them the basic safety and fundamentals of archery. We also provide them with a bow and arrows to use for the program, if needed.

Our Camo to Camo shoot will be on March 19th this year. The entire proceeds goes to NYB's

Camo to Camo program to benefit our military. Registration opens at 8 AM and stops at 11 AM. Come and break up the winter with an indoor 3D shoot and support a great cause.

Dave McMahon
davemcmahon97@gmail.com



REGION 6 REPORT

There is not much happening in Region 6 for Bowhunters except the Sports Shows have returned. The Syracuse Sports show was even better than last year. By the time you read this, the CNY Sportsman's Show in Oneida, the Outdoorsman Show in Johnstown, and the Big East Sports Show at the Turning Stone Casino in Verona will have taken place. There are still a few 3D shoots on the schedule. Bear Pac Archery has a good one for those of you in the Watertown area. In fact, it may be the only 3D shoot near Watertown.

Our **23rd Annual Region 6 Youth Education Days** will not be held this year. We have finally overcome the pandemic related obstacles to conducting Youth Bow training only to be hit by the NYS DEC political restrictions to training classes. The NYS DEC online Archery course allows anyone to obtain Bowhunting Certification by pushing buttons on a computer keyboard. There is no more blood tracking through the woods, no more physically climbing a ladder stand. Being able to draw the string and shoot a bow is no longer required. NYS will certify anyone to go into the woods and shoot at animals. Their logic: look at all the money they will make on new license fees. There is no future for in-person Youth Archery Training Classes.

Saturday, May 20th, 2023 ~ The New York Bowhunters 32nd Annual Banquet will be held in Greenville, NY, at the **Sunny Hill Resort**. It all starts with a Friday night Bar-B-Q and campfire, followed by a full day of Rendezvous-like activities including turkey hunting, archery shooting contests, outdoor 3D shoot course, and much more! Our special guest speaker will be the host of *American Archer TV*, Tom Nelson. The

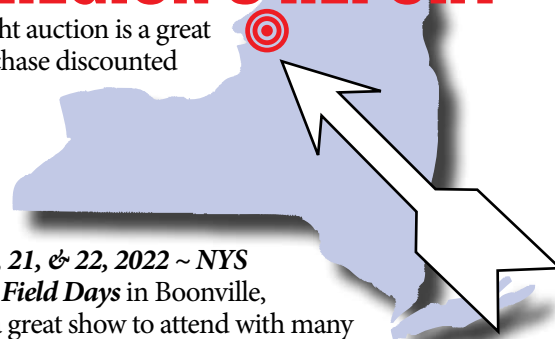
Saturday night auction is a great place to purchase discounted hunting packages. Make your reservations today.

August 20, 21, & 22, 2022 ~ NYS Woodsmen's Field Days in Boonville, NY. This is a great show to attend with many outdoor themed activities going on. The days are filled with Lumberjack and Lumberjill Championships, log rolling, chainsawing, speed chopping, and lots more. It gets better every year! We will not be exhibiting there this year, but it is well worth your time to attend. Put it in your schedule right now.

Social media is a good way to stay in touch with fellow NY Bowhunters. Our Facebook group is still going strong, and we now have over 2,000 followers on Instagram. If you know of any good bowhunting activities in the Region 6 area, post it!

Now get out there and enjoy your summer!

Bill Snyder
Region #6 Rep.
bill4nyb@gmail.com





Spring 2023 Newsletter

ATTENTION ALL SPIKES! WIN FREE NYB MERCHANDISE AND OTHER COOL STUFF!

Send in your hunting memories, drawings, recipes, stories and photos for consideration for the next Spikes newsletter.

Photos should be in "Good Taste" with little or no blood showing, tongues tucked inside mouths, no tailgate shots, etc. Photos taken in a natural outdoor setting are best, otherwise try and position game so that homes, roads, etc. are not showing in the background. All submissions will be entered in our random drawing for the "Submission of the Quarter" prize.

Winners will be notified by mail and announced in the next newsletter.

NY Bowhunters Spikes
5937 County Road 33
Canandaigua, NY 14424
Or email: NYBSpikesEditor@gmail.com

Perfecting Your Grip

Many believe an improper grip is one of the most common archery form flaws and is one of the most important issues that need to be corrected for proper archery form and optimal arrow flight.

If you don't have the proper grip, you will not only have a hard time tuning your bow, but you will also suffer from inconsistent shooting. The bow is most accurate when it bounds forward off the holding hand unaffected from hand torque during the shot.

Hand torque is the result when an archer either squeezes the grip, holds the bow in the crease / crotch of the holding hand and unintentionally twists or torques the bow during the shot.

You want your bow (grip) to bound off the center of the meaty part of your palm which is in line with your thumb. This will allow the bow to bound forward truly from an untorqued position. Your fingers should be limp or positioned in a safe area while not grabbing the bow. Do not "shake hands" with or squeeze the bow's grip. The holding pressure of a fully drawn bow will keep the bow on the meat of the thumb while your other fingers will merely act as a light support.



- Start with your hand perpendicular to the ground.
- Turn your hand clockwise (for right handed archers) about 20-35 degrees.
- Lift your fingers slightly toward the sky.
- Set the bow in your open palm in the pocket against the center of the thumb meat.
- Once your fingers are around the bow you have to let your hand and fingers be as relaxed as possible to let the pocket form.
- With the bow seated properly on your holding hand, you can now assume your shooting position, draw the bow and shoot the arrow.



New York Bowhunters Youth Membership

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Canandaigua, NY 14424

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- ☐ LIFE MEMBERSHIP - \$500.00
- ☐ BENEFACTOR MEMBERSHIP - \$250.00 (MUST BE A LIFE MEMBER)
- ☐ YOUTH MEMBERSHIP - \$10.00 (BIRTH DATE REQUIRED)
- ☐ YOUTH LIFE MEMBERSHIP - \$300.00 (CONVERTS TO ADULT AT 14)

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New York Bowhunters, Inc. Membership Application

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YOUTH PROGRAMS: _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

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REPRESENTATIVES NEEDED

for the three regions below.

Please contact the Main Office at
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REGION 7 REPORT



REGION 8 REPORT



REGION 9 REPORT



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In Memoriam

A tribute to those we have lost...

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His NYB Friends*

*In Memory of
Harry Lang*

*Donated by
Family*

*In Memory of
Jim McSwigin*

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*In Memory of
Larry Hilderbrant*

*From your loving family
and NYB friends*

*In Memory of
Ed Fetherbay*

*Donated by the
Flashing Feathers
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*In Memory of
the Terry McSwigin
Family*

*Donated by Big Brother
Jim*

*In Memory of
Charles Giandana*

*From your
NYB family*

*In Memory of
Philip Guarnuccio*

*Donated by
David Klein*

*In Memory of
Karl Lockwood*

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DO YOU HAVE A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER WHO HAS PASSED ON?

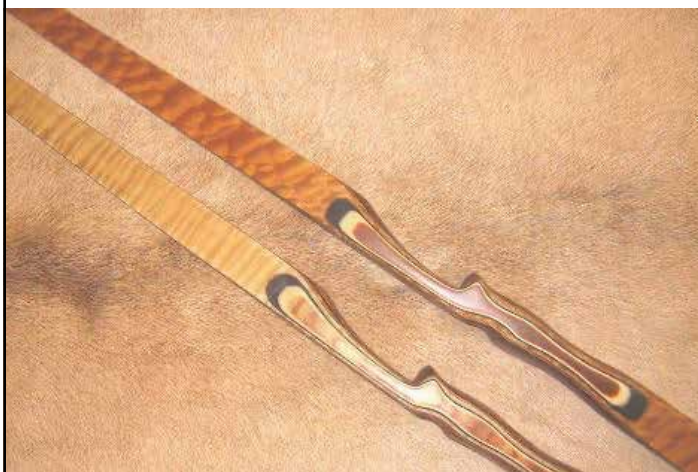
The New York Bowhunters' "In Memoriam" program offers a unique and meaningful way to honor and remember a friend or family member with a \$400 gift to NYB.

DONATION INCLUDES:

Custom plaque applied to an NYB Youth Camp Genesis bow with the name of the individual who passed, the deceased's name is registered in the "In Memoriam" section of *FullDraw*, and the person purchasing the memorial will receive an appreciation plaque.

REQUEST FOR HELP

I would appreciate knowing if any NYB member owns, or knows someone who owns, a one piece Schafer silvertip bow I can look at. Would prefer LH, but mostly interested in seeing design, construction, etc. I'm seriously considering having one made but I can't find a "sample" anywhere to take a look at. Thank you, Joel M. Riotto, cell phone 201-314-2866.



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kirby@chesapeakehunting.com
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Suffern Outdoor Show Cancelled... **PERMANENTLY!!!**

Just as members from NYB were starting to plan our booth schedule for the “Suffern” show after two years of postponements, we were notified that the show was once again cancelled... this time permanently!

Reasons cited: Rockland County Community College (RCCC) raised the rent of its facility by 35%, plus added additional box office fees. RCCC increased restricted categories. The support contractors that set up and work the show have all increased their fees substantially. The largest fishing tackle retailers either would not commit, went out of business, two no longer attend events, two still had covid concerns, another does better in NJ, and the amount of effort for this four day event is not worth it. Between manufacturers and retailer booths, there would have been a loss of 6,000 square feet of exhibit space (30% of total). Besides the financial impact to the World Fishing & Outdoor Expo, the attendees would have been disappointed at the reduction in exhibits and size, and may not have attended the WF&O Expo in 2024, which will then be located in Edison, NJ.

The “Suffern” Show had been a great resource for NYB. In addition to obtaining many new members, it served to provide a convenient place for existing members to renew. New York Bowhunters first set up a booth at the Suffern Show in 2004, where over 300 new members joined! This was repeated the following year. Each year, all the way through 2020, between 100 and 200 members signed up at this event! Although the majority may have been from within those regions in close proximity, we annually signed up bowhunters from Eastern Long Island, NYC, northern and western NY, NJ, and occasionally PA.

We know many of you reading this used RCCC to annually renew your membership. Those of us who have manned the booth at RCCC for many years have always looked forward to the few moments we could share with you. We will miss this opportunity to meet with you, exchange thoughts and hear your stories. With this loss of venue, we ask that you please renew when you receive your notice. We always had a current roster at the show which assisted members in confirming their expiration dates. You

can call the office (or myself) to find out that information now. You may at any time go online or call the office to renew your membership regardless of expiration date, as it will be added onto your current status. All of us are sorry we will no longer be seeing you at RCCC. Hopefully we'll see you at the Banquet / Rendezvous in May, or on one of the many 3D courses throughout the coming outdoor season.

Richard Kirschner
Membership Chair
Board of Director
bowrichny@aol.com
914-330-1419

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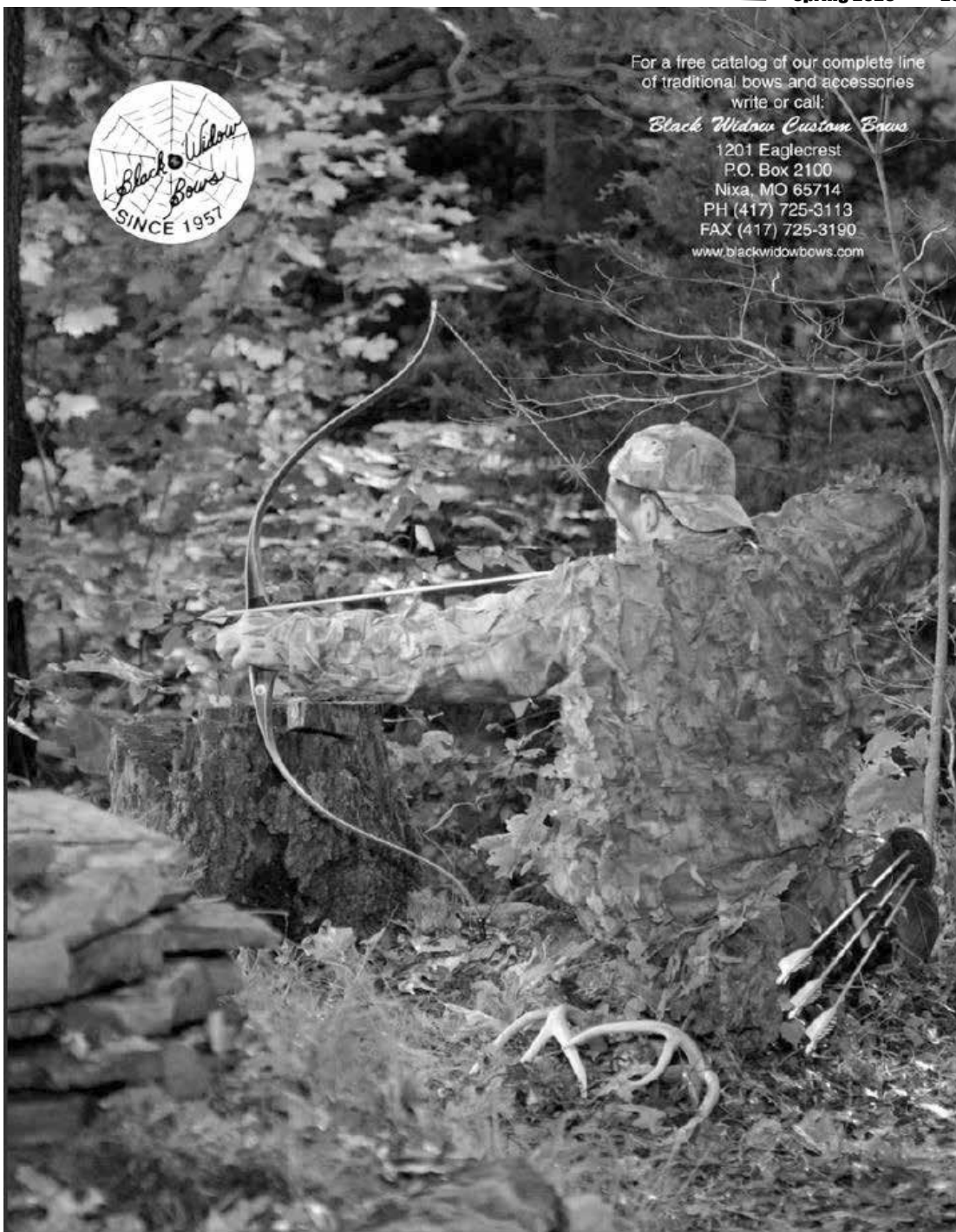
PHOTOS & ARTICLES FOR UPCOMING ISSUES OF FULLDRAW

The Editors of *FullDraw* want your submissions for upcoming issues. Send us your hunt pictures and stories!

Send submissions to:

Cindy Phillips

Or via e-mail:
NYBFULLDRAW@GMAIL.COM



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South African Safari Hunt



This past August, my wife, Jennifer, and I had the pleasure of visiting South Africa on a safari hunt with Warthog Safaris. I had purchased the hunt a few years back at our annual banquet silent auction. This trip has been on my mind every single day since returning home. From the hunting, lodging, sights, wildlife and, of course, the bowhunting, this was undoubtedly a trip of a lifetime.

After months of preparing, bow tuning, religiously shooting and much anticipation, Jenn and I had arrived late night in Johannesburg to be picked up by a few guides from Warthog Safaris. Anyone who has traveled with their equipment knows that tremendous sigh of relief when they see their belongings at the airport safe and sound (take my clothes and toiletries, but leave my bow!) The lodge is set up with a main seating area for meals, a gigantic trophy room filled with local trophies (including a full bar) and individual cottages for the hunters, not to mention the hospitality and outstanding service.

After shooting a few arrows the following day, we set out separately for an afternoon hunt. Leading up to this trip, my wife and I had decided

on what animals we would like to hunt, a Kudu being my number one choice. The first afternoon out, we set up in a brick and mortar constructed blind in front of a watering hole. Two hours into our sit, two cows appeared, followed by a mature bull kudu. To see such a large majestic animal within 13 yards was jaw-dropping to say the least. After about 20 minutes of grazing around (and my heart pounding out of my chest), I was offered a shot at the bull. I let an arrow fly to watch him dart off 40 yards and go down in a bed of high grass. With plenty of

daylight left, we headed back into the blind, leaving behind the bull until we were picked up that evening. Around 30 minutes later, out comes a group of impalas. I couldn't help but think, "THIS WAS LIKE HUNTING IN THE MIDDLE OF A ZOO!" A mature Impala buck eventually made his way to the watering hole at 17 yards, a pass-through shot made our tracking an easy task, allowing us to remain in the blind. Shortly after, a group of warthogs





came out just before sundown. With 5 days of hunting remaining, I passed on this opportunity.

That same first afternoon, my wife had taken a beautiful Sable, another majestic-looking creature. You cannot help but to stand back and just admire this animal. We went back to camp that night, exchanging stories with the other hunters around a giant campfire with a few beers while the guides prepared dinner, often cooking the meat being harvested over the open fire. A word of caution - if you plan on hunting a bull Kudu, it's tradition there to eat at least one of its testicles. Over the next several days, I was fortunate enough to harvest a Nyala and a wildebeest, while Jenn had also taken a warthog, in addition to her Sable.

The two of us returned home with many stories, laughs, memories and an overwhelming feeling of being blessed to have had the opportunity to experience this trip. Along with the hunting, scenery, trying different game meat and experiences, you couldn't ask for more from a guiding service. This place is top notch and reasonably priced. Owned and operated by husband and wife, Tienie and Ananja, these two made sure every guest was satisfied and genuinely care that you have enjoyed your stay. A common term I've heard referring to South African hunting is that it's a "bowhunters paradise." I can tell you first hand, there is no better way to describe South Africa from a bowhunter's perspective.

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EMAIL CORRECTIONS REQUESTED

The following members' emails bounced back as undeliverable. The Administrative Secretary did attempt to contact the members listed below, and it is possible these emails have already been corrected. If not, please email the NYB Office with your name and the new email you would like to use. NYB does not sell, trade or in any other way share our email list with any other entities, commercial or otherwise, and is strictly used for (limited) NYB business. nyboffice@newyorkbowhunters.com

Kevin Barrington member since 2018

Jim Pierce member since 2015

Steven Principe Benefactor since 2015

Gregory Seeley member since 2016

Ryan Schrader member since 2022

Chris Tarricone member since 2014

Troy Thompson member since 2008

ATTENTION LIFE MEMBERS

Back in December, an email Holiday Greeting was sent out to all NYB Life Members. Surprisingly, this communication brought to light that we have over 100 Life Members that do not have emails listed with us (and therefore never received that message).

We realize that several of our Life Members have been part of the organization for most of the 32 years of NYB's existence, and may have never originally had an email. Or their email has changed and NYB does not have a correct one on file.

NYB does not sell, trade or in any other way share our email list with any other entities, commercial or otherwise, and is strictly used for (limited) NYB business. Although NYB cannot completely stop using the US Postal system, the cost to send out mailings is very prohibitive, and therefore we have relied on emails on occasion.

If you did not receive that December message via email, this means NYB does not have a correct email for you on file. Please email the NYB Office with your name and the new email you would like to use. nyboffice@newyorkbowhunters.com

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MEMBER PHOTOS

