

# 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)

*Summer*  
2023

## MEADOW GROOM

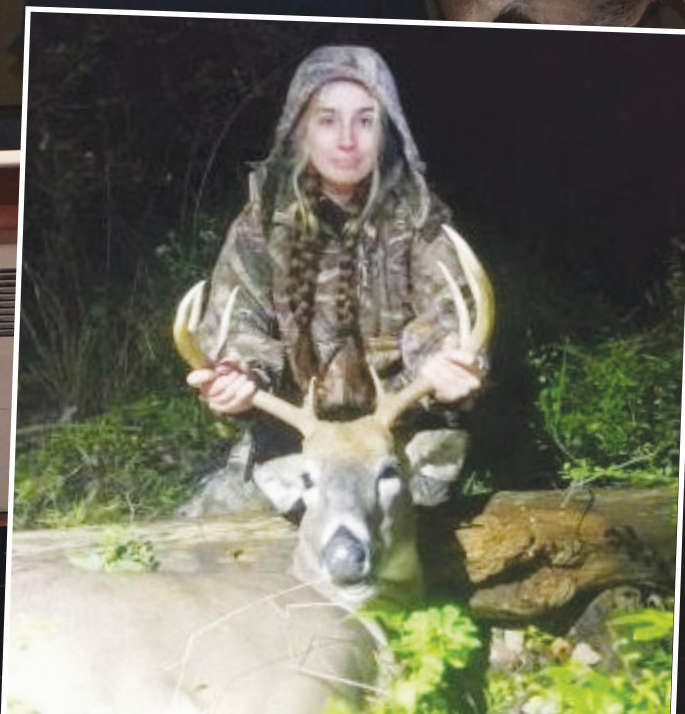
recognized at NYB  
Banquet as Youth  
of the Year

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## New York Bowhunters

*New York State's largest bowhunting organization since 1991*

5937 County Rd. 33, Canandaigua, NY 14424  
(585) 229-7468

e-mail: nyboffice@newyorkbowhunters.com

web: www.newyorkbowhunters.org

www.facebook.com/pages/New-York-Bowhunters-Inc

### OFFICERS:

**Andrew Cotraccia, President**  
acotraccia@gmail.com

**Aaron Barton, Secretary**  
abarton@highpowervtis.com

**Bob Ledrich, Treasurer**  
ledrich@optonline.net

**Annie Jacobs, Administrative Secretary**  
5937 County Rd. 33, Canandaigua NY 14424  
nyboffice@newyorkbowhunters.com  
phone/fax (585) 229-7468

**Cindy Phillips, Editor**  
**NYBFULLDRAW@GMAIL.COM**

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Electronic files may be sent to:  
NYBFULLDRAW@GMAIL.COM

Advertising inquiries:  
Cindy Phillips, Advertising Editor  
NYBFULLDRAW@GMAIL.COM

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## From the President's Desk

Greetings NYB Members,

I want to express my appreciation and gratitude to those that were able to attend NYB's 32nd Banquet and Rendezvous event at the beautiful Sunny Hill Resort. Thank you all for attending. I would also like to thank our Guest Speaker Gene Hopkins for accommodating our last minute speaker change, everyone who donated to our auction and raffle, the Tupper Lake crew who coordinated the Friday Night BBQ event and



helped all weekend, the Browns who made the amazing desserts again this year, the Brewers, the Comptons and everyone who helped out at registration, with ticket sales, those who helped run the novelty shoots, Ed Gorch for countless hours spent this year and past years setting up and coordinating, the entire staff at Sunny Hill and Annie Jacob's who held us all accountable.

Congratulations and thank you to the NYB Leadership Team for carrying the organization another year: Greg Masaitis, Bob Brown, Ed Gorch, Merritt Compton, Bill Snyder, Al Bottari, Kathy Tessier, Richard Kirschner, Randy Kyrk, Mike Farrugia, Cindy Phillips, Sammy Picariello, Aaron Barton, and Annie Jacobs. I can promise you there isn't a more dedicated and selfless group of people I've ever met in my life. Each and every one of our members inspires us to serve the bowhunters of NY. We are all volunteers. I can assure you that we don't serve NYB because we have an excess of time and energy. We have a passion for bowhunting and for helping each other. Some people on the Board probably spend more time with NYB business than they do actually bowhunting and I wish we had more time to spend with each other outside of NYB. I commend all NYB members for taking a stand and preserving the sanctity of our sport. If you don't know what NYB has done for you lately, go to our website and check out our Accomplishments section. It spans 32 years and is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and commitment of NYB's past and current leaders.

Legislatively, we've been active with the precious time we do have. Most recently, there are several bills, S3191 & A2940, among others, in the New York State Environmental Conservation Committee related to expanding crossbow hunting opportunities which include:

1. Further expansion of crossbow hunting in special archery seasons.
2. Allowing hunters to purchase a bowhunting privilege, instead of a muzzle-loading privilege, in order to crossbow hunt.
3. It removes the minimum crossbow limb width restriction.
4. Removes the maximum draw weight restriction.



5. And lowers the dwelling crossbow discharge requirement from 250 feet to 150 feet, to name a few.

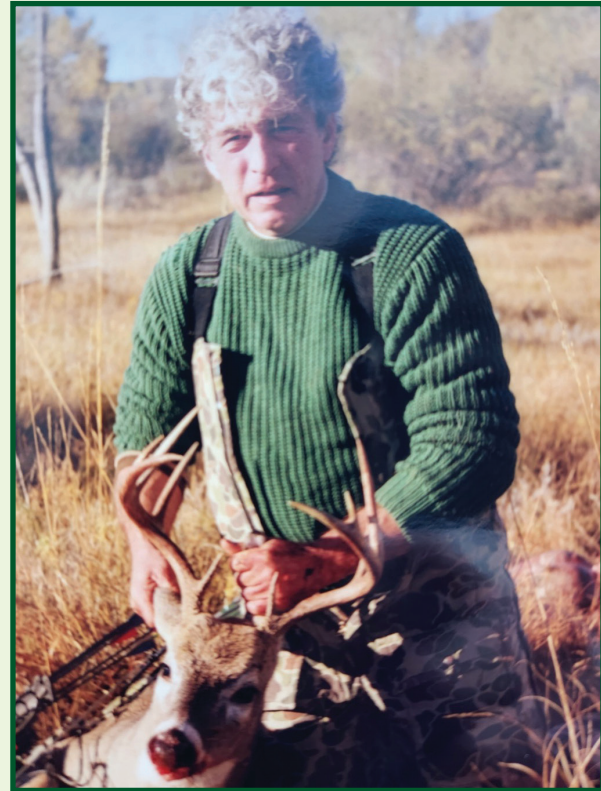
The continued drive to overtake and change the entire bow season shouldn't come as a surprise to anyone! It's special, unique, and challenging, thereby making it valuable. Our opposition exists for one purpose only: they are focused and well-funded by crossbow manufacturers who want to sell into New York. As most of you very well know, crossbow advertisements emphasize superior range, accuracy, ease of use, tactical style scopes, adjustable triggers, etc. and are marketed at gun hunters for multi-season hunting opportunities. The argument that crossbows are comparable to hand held/hand drawn bows holds little weight anymore. As a result, our opposition has started to change their tactics as technology has outpaced their ability to conceal the truth. Now, their only argument is focused on a hunter's right to choose whatever implement they want! This is an effective angle of attack as it appeals mainly to one's emotions about their freedoms or the lack thereof. If you think about this logically, where would this argument end? Why not have one general season where anything can be used to hunt deer? Why not hunt deer all year long? Why not apply it to other areas of life? I could go on and on. Our opposition regularly criticizes us in public as "anti-American, tyrant, elitist, anti-hunters," all because we have a difference of opinion on one thing. It's unfortunate as I would like to think that we probably agree on 95% of other outdoor and political issues. Think of the mindset of an individual who doesn't get their way and has to resort to name calling. It's pretty childish and that is why we typically don't engage with those types of people. NYB doesn't send daily/weekly emails to our membership on purpose. So, if you get an alert from us, take it seriously and act upon it. It only takes several minutes.

**NYB is only successful if our members continue to stay involved!**

Thank you and good luck in the woods!

Sincerely,

*Andrew Cotraccia, President, New York Bowhunters Inc.*



Longtime NYB Lifetime member, Benefactor and Lifetime Booster, John Lavelle, passed away suddenly on April 8, 2023. Joining NYB in 1993, John was part of the Suffern Outdoor Show NYB Team for many years. He also assisted the "Rockland" crew at several National Hunting & Fishing Day events. You may have seen John at many of the NYB Banquets in Syracuse, Canandaigua and most recently Sunny Hill along with his lovely wife, Eileen. When my two children were young, they shared many an adventure with John's son, Danny, as they wandered the woods surrounding the hunting cabin in Hancock, NY.

After serving in the US Army during the Vietnam era, John joined the FDNY in 1977. He worked his way up through Lieutenant and retired as a Captain in 2002. I hunted with John for over 30 years along with past BOD member, Jim McSwigin, in his cabin in the Catskills. I along with NYBers Jim Beltrami, Andrew Kirschner, Ed Gorch, John Moylan, Sean McSwigin, Jim Higgins and many others hunted with John not only in NY but in North Dakota, Kansas, Oklahoma, Ohio and Canada for over 20 years. Also accompanying John on many of these hunts were Chris Smith, Brian Sullivan and Mitch Amerbach, all of us not only NYB members, but we also shared the pleasure of serving under Captain Lavelle in Engine 96 and Ladder 54, FDNY. On a bowhunt in North Dakota in 1997, just a few weeks before I was taking a promotion test to Lieutenant, John helped me study in between the hours we were hunting.

I, along with so many others, benefitted from John's professional leadership as firefighters, his hunting companionship in the forests and fields across many states, and mostly his friendship throughout so many years. Goodbye, "Cap".

*Submitted by Richard Kirschner*



## Asian Venison

Serves 6-8

### Ingredients

- 2 lbs ground venison
- 1/2 cup coarsely chopped onion
- 3/4 cup coarsely chopped bell peppers
- 2 cup coarsely chopped bell celery
- 1 lg can chinese vegetables, drained
- 1 small can water chestnuts, drained
- 1/2 cup soy sauce
- Dash crushed red peper
- 1 small can sliced mushrooms or
- 1 cup freshly chopped
- 1 cup non-quick rice
- (long grain, jasmine, etc)
- 2 cups water
- 1 1/2 cups pecan halves (or other nut)
- 2 cubes beef bouillon
- 1 can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 package chow mein noodles

### Preparation

1. Preheat oven to 350°F
2. In a large skillet, brown venison (add butter or sesame oil if needed to keep meat moist).
3. In a large bowl, mix onions, peppers, celery, vegetables, soy sauce, hot petter, mushrooms and uncooked rice.
4. Add mushroom soup, water and bouillon to the venison and heat until well mixed.
5. Add vegetables to the heated mixture, stir well.
6. Pour contents into a 9 x 13 glass baking dish and cover with foil. Bake 45 minutes.
7. Uncover and pour noodles over the dish.
8. Bake uncovered 20-25 minutes or until rice is tender.



# Banquet Photos

Be sure to read the Banquet Report on page 24



Regina Weisenberg 3D Shoot start



Back row from left in to right - Chris Daley, David Kosowski, Gary Socola, Tom Weaver, Kevin Armstrong, Joe Domino, Bill Bonzar  
Front row left to right - Dale Walburger, Ben Dodge, Walt Dixon, Jim Hoffman, Doug Korn



Balloon Shoot



# 3D SHOOTS



## REGION #3

### 3D SHOOTS

<b>July</b>	2-Neighbors 9-Wittenburg 16-Highwoods 23-Ti Yogi 30-Northern Dutchess	<b>September</b>	3-Neighbors 10-Wittenburg 17-Ti Yogi 24-Northern Dutchess
<b>August</b>	6-Wittenburg 3-Highwoods 20-Ti Yogi 27-Northern Dutchess	<b>October</b>	8-Ti Yogi (TRADITIONAL ONLY) 28-Ti Yogi (7PM ZOMBIE SHOOT)



## REGION #5

### 3D SHOOTS

<b>July 1</b>	Norfolk
<b>July 7-9</b>	Spencerville Ontario Ca
<b>July 9</b>	Colton
<b>July 15</b>	Tupper Lake Traditional Day
<b>July 16</b>	Tupper Lake Open Shoot
<b>August 5</b>	Norfolk
<b>August 26-27</b>	Tupper Lake MT Challenge
<b>September 2</b>	Norfolk Traditional Day
<b>September 3</b>	Norfolk Trophy/Fun
<b>September 24</b>	Peru

## REGION #6

### 3D SHOOTS

**August 19 & 20**.... Bear Pac Archery Club  
Hunting Situation Shoot 40 targets shots from elevated platforms, seated positions and hunting blinds" so it is in the same format as the other region's shoots.

## TRI-COUNTY ARCHERS

### 3D SHOOTS

<b>July</b>	2-July 4th weekend (Tues) 9-Black Rock Fish & Game Club 16-Monroe Chester Sportsmen Club 23-TBD 30-Bethlehem Rod & Gun Club
<b>August</b>	6-Walden Sportsmen's Club 13-Black Rock Fish & Game Club 20-TBD 27-Bethlehem Rod & Gun Club
<b>September</b>	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.





# 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.*



**Kristie Leigh Farm**  
182 Maple Avenue  
Goshen, NY 10924  
845-294-8041

**John LaVelle**  
235 County Route 1A  
Warwick, NY 10990  
845-324-8923

**Joel M. Riotto**  
Demarest, NJ 07627  
Andes, NY 13731  
201-768-4447

**Tupper Lake Archers**  
PO Box 752  
Tupper Lake, NY 12986  
Kathy Tessier  
518-359-9715  
www.tupperlakearchers.  
bravehost.com

**Michael Ventre**  
8345 Creekend Rd.  
Colden, NY 14033  
716-941-6339

**West Falls Conservation Society, Inc.**  
Mike Ventre  
PO Box 490  
West Falls, NY 14170  
716-652-4650  
www.westfallscsny.org

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



## Region 1:

### **Mad Dog Plumbing, Steam and Radiant Heat**

36 W. Hitchcock Ave.  
Floral Park, NY 11001

Matt Sweeney  
Serving NY, CT, NJ, VT  
plumbing3c@gmail.com  
516-322-2881

### **Suffolk Archers, Inc.**

86 Pigeon Hill Road  
Huntington Station, NY 11746

## Region 2:

### **John Jasilli, Esq.**

708 3rd Avenue, 6th Floor  
New York, NY 10017  
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**

532 Peekskill Hollow Road  
Putnam Valley, NY 10579  
Paul Romanych  
914-714-0838  
fishnfinaddict@hotmail.com

### **Bethlehem Rod & Gun Club**

372 New Unionville Rd.  
Walkill, NY 12568  
Ed Malle  
845-728-0084  
malle12550@gmail.com

### **Bob DiGiacomio**

23 State Route 299 West  
New Paltz, NY 12561  
shorefisher07@gmail.com

### **Highwoods Sportsmen's Club**

P O Box 93  
Saugerties, NY 12477  
845-246-4717  
highwoodssc@gmail.com

### **North Dutchess Rod & Gun**

PO Box 728  
Rhinebeck, NY 12572  
845-846-3711  
art.pritchard@dovergroup.me

### **Joe M. Skipp**

21 Thorns La.  
Highland, NY 12528  
914-691-5533  
joeskipper@yahoo.com

### **Ti Yogi Bowmen**

57 Mill Rd.  
Hyde Park, NY 12538  
Sean Royster  
845-418-0465  
tiyogibowmenny@gmail.com

### **Wittenberg Sportsmen Club, Inc.**

PO Box 930  
Woodstock, NY 12498  
545-594-5056  
billheinitz@gmail.com

### **Matthew L. Sweeney**

36 W. Hitchcock Ave.  
Floral Park, NY 11001

## Region 4:

### **Burnt Knob Mountain Escape**

303 Bogardus Rd.  
Acra, NY 12405  
Les Armstrong  
Theresa Reinwald  
518-929-2443  
Airbnb.com

### **Green Island Rod & Gun Club**

PO Box 25  
Melrose, NY 12121  
girodandgunclub@wildblue.net

### **Norton Hill Wildlife Club**

PO Box 652  
Greenville, NY 12083

### **Denis Ryder, Sr.**

7 Hollywood Rd.  
Burnt Hills, NY 12027  
518-982-0894  
ryderdenis21@gmail.com

### **Sunny Hill Resort**

352 Sunny Hill Rd.  
Greenville, NY 12083  
518-634-7642  
www.sunnyhill.com



**Rensselaer County  
Conservation Alliance**  
Po Box 179  
West Sand Lake, NY 12196

### Region 6:

**Bear Pac Archery Club**  
18893 Game Farm Road  
Dexter, NY 13634  
315-771-1182

**Ed Collins**  
420 Williams Street  
Oneida, NY 13421  
315-363-1241

### Region 7:

**Legends of Fall Outfitter**  
7205 US Route 11  
Tully, NY 13159  
Jeff Bordwell  
315-696-6766  
jeff@legendsofall.com

**Flashing Feathers Bowhunters**  
258 Jersey Hill Rd.  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
Steve Barber  
607-277-1543

### Region 8:

**Buckskin Bowmen**  
2613 Durling Road  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148-9713  
315-568-5422

**Bill Fox & Son Construction &  
Remodeling**  
9346 South Street Road  
LeRoy, NY 14482  
585-356-4992  
bfsonllc@gmail.com

**Dave Peck**  
6469 Stone Hill Rd.  
Livonia, NY 14487  
585-519-2360

**Ronald Scardetta, DDS**  
632 Ridge Road  
Webster, NY 14580  
585-671-4420

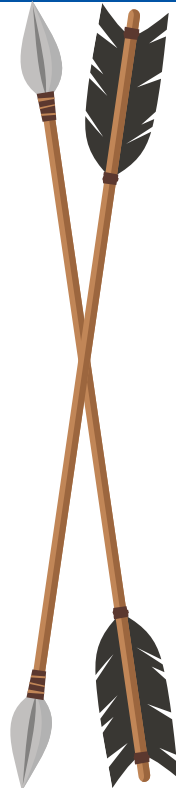
**Sportsman's Archery Club of St.  
Mary's, Inc.**  
PO Box 319  
Albion, NY 14411

### Region 9:

**Little Ridge Archery**  
8862 Ridge Road  
Gasport, NY 14067  
716-772-7753

### Out of State:

**Cos Cob Archers**  
PO Box 351  
Cos Cob, Ct. 06807  
203-625-9421  
jeffcscobarchers@gmail.com



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Down  
Wind



SUNDAYS-11:30 AM  
TUESDAYS-1:00 PM  
WEDNESDAYS-12:00 AM

SATURDAY-11:00 AM  
SUNDAY-9:00 AM



# FULL DRAW

## REGION REPORTS

### REGION 1 REPORT

Greetings Members!

Spring is here and so is turkey hunting! For many of you, this may not be as big of a deal. Here in Region 1, DEC announced our first-ever spring turkey hunting from May 1-May 31.

Long Island is probably not the first place that comes to mind when thinking of turkey hunting, but it actually offers some excellent opportunities. With a mix of public and private lands and a growing turkey population, one of the main reasons Long Island has become a prime destination for turkey hunting is the abundance of public land available for hunting. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) manages several wildlife management areas on Long Island that are open to hunting, including Rocky Point Natural Resources Management Area, Otis Pike Preserve, and David A. Sarnoff Pine Barrens Preserve. These areas offer a mix of forested and open terrain, providing excellent opportunities for turkey hunting.

A notable advantage of turkey hunting on Long Island is the growing population of wild turkeys. According to the DEC, the turkey population on Long Island has been steadily increasing over the past decade, with an estimated 3,500 birds

on the island in 2020. This growth in the population has been attributed to several factors including increased habitat, successful conservation efforts, and limited hunting pressure.

As I write this, our annual banquet is only a few weeks away. As always, this is a great time for us, with our Friday night BBQ, raffles, silent auctions, 3D shooting course, raffles and more. I hope to see our members there! For our turkey hunters, much luck and be safe!

*Mike Farrugia- Region 1 Rep*  
*Mfarrugia47@gmail.com*  
 (516) 592-7756



### REGION 2 REPORT

I must start this report off on a very sad note. Our NYB family has lost yet another member. John LaValle was a long time NYB Life Member, Booster and supporter. He also was a frequent attendee of our Banquets and Camo to Camo hunts. He was a retired Captain of the FDNY, a generous man, and was our Conservative Hippie. He will be sorely missed. May God rest his soul.

We have just wrapped up our Annual Banquet, celebrating our 32nd year. It was another great event. There were plenty of young bowhunters in attendance, which was an awesome sight to see. They were on their own target course, killing foam! Our can raffles, card raffles, and silent auction were all a great success.

My personal highlight was Gene Hopkins, our Guest Speaker. Gene brought just a minute fraction of his collection of archery artifacts. His collection was stunning and gave me goose bumps. My favorite item was the massive broadhead that Bob Swinehart used to kill an elephant. Gene also gave an impressive presentation on the history of archery in the United States. I am certain that Gene could have kept us enthralled for several days with his knowledge and passion.

I hope that everyone was successful in filling their Spring

Turkey tags. Long Island had its inaugural turkey season. Only question is why can you only fill 1 tag in Region 1?

Please introduce and mentor someone in archery and bowhunting. Once they get a feel of the bow in their hand and releasing an arrow into flight, they will be hooked. Spread the word about NYB as well. We are a boots-on-the-ground, grass roots organization fighting the good fight for ALL bowhunters in NYS.

May God Bless America and all who defend us both home and abroad. Every Friday is RED Friday. Wear RED to Remember Everyone Deployed. We are safe because of their and their families sacrifices. Fair winds and prevailing seas for the VCJCS.

*All the best,*

*Al. bluehillhunta@optonline.net*





## REGION 3 REPORT

This report is dedicated to John Lavelle, longtime dedicated NYB Life and Benefactor member. Your wisdom, wit and friendship is missed by so many of us who had the pleasure of knowing you. Rest in Peace, "Cap."

I hope many of you were able to attend the recent Banquet & Rendezvous. Unfortunately, I had to miss it due to personal reasons. I am sorry I didn't get to see you there, but greatly appreciate your participation and representing Region 3. I have enjoyed seeing many of you at local 3D shoots, being held weekly since March. Not only are these shoots fun (scoring an option, not requirement), but many of the host clubs are NYB Boosters and it's important to support those clubs who support NYB. When you attend, let them know you appreciate their support of NYB as a booster.

Speaking of our Booster clubs, Northern Dutchess Rod and Gun Club (in Rhinebeck) asked me to pass along that they are hoping to expand their membership to interested outdoors men and women. They have plenty to offer in all shooting sports, active year-round events, and very reasonable membership fees. Visit their website and check them out.

The same goes for Ti Yogi Bowmen (in Hyde Park, NY). They are currently accepting new memberships. They offer year-round events and leagues, both indoor and outdoor, but limited to archery (no firearms). Youth programs are available as well.

Thanks to those of you who took part in the recent Cornell University (online) focus group sessions. NYB is sometimes contacted by Cornell's Wildlife Research Team for a variety of reasons. Cornell works with the DEC quite often on research projects including scientific testing, hunter opinion surveys, etc. NYB has assisted the Cornell Wildlife Team on several occasions over the past decade. The objective of the most recent study was to gain feedback from hunters on their thoughts regarding antlerless deer hunting and to gather ideas on encouraging a higher antlerless harvest where warranted. I have been part of several of these group sessions and it always amazes me how knowledgeable (and passionate) NYB members are. These are the reasons NYB was originally contacted by Cornell when they were seeking intelligent input from experienced hunters. The insights obtained at the recent focus groups will help Cornell develop a hunter survey which will go out to a statewide random sampling of deer hunters in the fall of 2023.

Finally, I am sorry to have to say goodbye to Scott and Tammy Chenevert. They have been part of our loyal NYB family for many years. I bumped into them at one of our Banquet/Rendezvous several years back and ended up becoming shooting partners with Scott both at outdoor 3Ds and indoor leagues at Ti Yogi. And anyone who is familiar with Ti Yogi is also familiar with Tammy, not only for her skills with a bow, but with her cooking and management skills. And "ooh" we'll miss her famous chili! Scott and Tammy, thank you both for all you've done, you are both going to be extremely missed, we wish you the best of luck. Thank you to Bill Silta, NYB member from Clinton Corners for taking over

range officer duties from Scott.

That's it for now. Hope to see you over the next few months at a 3D shoot. NYB booster clubs are listed in *FullDraw* and have websites. We also have a 3D link on our website.

Word of the day, "Permethrin" (Hint; see the Putnam Report!)

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

## SULLIVAN COUNTY REPORT

This is it! This is 3D season and time to get out and hone those shooting skills. The schedule for the local shoots is in this issue of *FullDraw*. There is one addition to the schedule and that is a shoot at the Sullivan County Conservation Club on Kortright Rd. on June 11th. This is the only true local shoot we have without traveling to Orange County.

Travis Archery has been sold out to Mike and Ashley Leavitt and is now known as ALL THINGS ACCURACY, located at 15 Sullivan Ave. in Liberty. There is a larger pro shop now and plans for up to a 30 yard indoor range planned for the Fall. I'm sure a Winter league will take place sometime after Christmas either in the new range or at Walters range in Neversink. I will get information on that and include it in the Fall edition of *FullDraw*.

I hope you were able to make it to the annual NYB Banquet and Rendezvous at Sunny Hill Resort in Greenville, NY. It is always a pleasure to participate in the evening BBQ, can raffles, novelty shoots, silent auction, and the banquet each year. There is also a 3D shoot open each day along with the chance to play golf at the course right on site.

Sullivan County Archers is holding a two day Archery Youth Camp July 8, and 9 at the Sullivan County Conservation Club for kids 11 to 16. Contact information is at the end of this column.

Our wild turkey population has seemed to rebound slightly in this area. Hopefully this rainy weather we are having the first week of May will subside and the chicks will have a better survival rate. I heard there were eight gobblers taken during the youth hunt and entered into the Sullivan County Longbeards contest. The largest gobbler taken by NWTF standards was taken by Abbey O'Brien, niece of NYB member Rich Deangelis, proud uncle and guide! Don Mormino acted as sub guide and caller.

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

**Continues on next page**



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

Greetings All,

Another year, another great Banquet and Rendezvous at Sunny Hill Resort. I am always happy to see my NYB friends and share stories and updates over the past year. Thank you to all who participated in the events and raffles to support our great organization. A special thanks to the staff of Sunny Hill for providing us with a wonderful experience, as usual. I would be also like to thank all our NYB members who made this event possible, especially "Trapper Ed Gorch," the Tupper Lake Crew and, of course, our own Annie Jacobs.

In other news, I am sad/happy to report that Scott and Tammy Chenevert will be leaving the area for warmer climates. Of course, I wish them all the best with their new endeavors in the Palmetto State. Start scouting those hogs, Scotty! Gonna miss you guys!!

3D shoots have started all over the state and are an awesome way to sharpen your skills and enjoy the outdoors. Weather and family permitting, I try to make one every week in the Dutchess County area. Rich Kirschner, myself and usually a couple of other TiYogi (and NYB) members travel to various clubs who are hosting that weeks' event. We enjoy shooting, busting chops and getting together with the club's members for a burger afterwards. We have convinced a few to become boosters and new members.

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 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](mailto:ledrich@optonline.net)

914-475-4190

**PUTNAM COUNTY REPORT**

Hello New York Bowhunters!

Here's hoping that you all enjoyed the recently passed turkey season, possibly with a prize gobbler or two! A quick thought about the New York turkey season. As we all know, the turkey season begins on May 1st and continues till May 31st. For the last few seasons, I have noticed that most of the strutting activity is occurring in April with very little happening in May. Now I don't know what is causing this (although I have some theories) but we might, as a group, lobby that the season should start earlier. As I said, April? Also, if you are out there in the woods during the warm months, please be careful of the huge boost in the tick population. To avoid tick bites, remember, ticks live in grassy, brushy or wooded areas or even on your pets. According to the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and prevention) to avoid ticks, treat your clothing and gear with products containing 0.5% permethrin. Or use products containing DEET. When possible, wear light color clothes so they are visible and tuck in your clothes as much as possible. If you find a tick attached to your skin, simply remove the tick as soon as possible. There are several tick removal devices on the market, but a plain set

of fine-tipped tweezers works very well. Here are some tips on how to remove ticks.

1) Use clean, fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin's surface as possible.

2) Pull upward with steady, even pressure. Don't twist or jerk the tick; this can cause the mouth-parts to break off and remain in the skin. If this happens, remove the mouth-parts with tweezers. If you cannot remove the mouth easily with tweezers, leave it alone and let the skin heal.

3) After removing the tick, thoroughly clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol or soap and water.

4) Never crush a tick with your fingers. Dispose of a live tick by

Putting it in alcohol,

Placing it in a sealed bag/container,

Wrapping it tightly in tape, or

Flushing it down the toilet.

And remember: IF A RASH DEVELOPS ..... SEE A DOCTOR.

Hopefully I met you at the recent Banquet/Rendezvous. Remember, it's never too early to start practicing for the upcoming deer season and the best way is to get to some of the many outdoor shoots that are occurring within the state. And get the little ones out there with you.

**John Sarlo - Putnam County Rep.**

[Archer2312@aol.com](mailto:Archer2312@aol.com)

**ORANGE COUNTY REPORT**

Greetings from Orange County,

I hope everyone had a safe and successful turkey season. As I sit here writing this on May 1st, I once again continue to see a decline in turkey numbers in our region. I went out this morning and did not hear a gobble! The key issues include habitat loss and degradation, an increase in predators, and, yes, hunting pressure. Cold temperatures and wet Springs have a negative impact on the survival rate of young poults as well.

Tri county archers has posted their 3D shoots for 2023. All scheduled events are from 7am-12pm. Fees are \$15 for adults and \$5 for juniors. No broadheads or crossbows are allowed. This is a great way to sharpen your archery skills for the upcoming season. Go to [www.tricountyarchers.com](http://www.tricountyarchers.com) for a full schedule (also was included in winter issue of *FullDraw*).

Thank you to all who attended the banquet this year. Kudos to the banquet staff who helped organize this event and make it a huge success every year. Please remember to keep your memberships up to date and try to sign up a friend or maybe even two!!!

*Have a safe and enjoyable summer.*

**Christopher Smith - Orange County Rep.**

[Bigblue9654@gmail.com](mailto:Bigblue9654@gmail.com)

**ULSTER COUNTY REPORT**

Thanking Ulster members for supporting NYB through your memberships, banquet/rendezvous attendance and raffle support. I'd like to thank three NYB Booster clubs located in Ulster County. Bethlehem Rod and Gun Club in Platekill, Highwoods Sportsmen's Club in Saugerties and Wittenberg



Sportsmen Club in Woodstock. Your support is greatly appreciated and we have many members that attend your 3D shoots and report how well run they all are. Folks, if you haven't gone to any of the many Sunday shoots held weekly, look up their schedules and make sure you mention NYB when you register.

*Wishing you all a safe summer, see you next issue,*  
**Bob DiGiacomio - Ulster County Rep.**  
*shorefisher07@gmail.com*

## ROCKLAND COUNTY

Just wanted to start by saying thank you to the NY Bowhunters for giving me the opportunity to be the Rockland County Rep. Also thank you to Anthony Picariello for being the Rockland Rep for so many years. I enjoyed reading your reports every issue. Best wishes and enjoy your new home in Texas. To introduce myself, my name is Curt Carney from Tappan, NY. I am 40 years old and have been a Rockland resident my whole life. I started hunting at 16 on my family's property in East Durham, NY. With being limited to only hunting 2 hours from my home and getting frustrated at

Well, another successful Banquet is under our belt. It looked like everyone had a good time over the weekend. The barbecue, can raffle, dinner auction; everything went along smoothly. Thanks to all the volunteers that worked the fun shoots, card raffles and the ladies helping Annie with everything. Our guest speaker Gene Hopkins had a wealth of knowledge covering the history of archery and his collection of broadheads is unbelievable. Members had many questions and enjoyed his presentation. We had a few new members attending the Banquet this year and I can only hope that the attendance keeps increasing. The best advertisement is word of mouth so let others know of the good time you had and bring them next year. I didn't have much time on Sunday morning for goodbyes and to thank everyone because I was off on a ten hour drive to New Brunswick on another Camo To Camo with Army Veteran Chris Moroski and six other NYB members to Betts Kelly Lodge for black bear. We had a fantastic time with everyone seeing bears and almost everyone going home with a trophy. Our next Camo To Camo hunt will



not getting out as much as I desired, I was introduced to bowhunting at 20 by my late brother, Robert. Handing me his old bow and a couple of quick lessons on how to shoot, I was off down the bowhunting path, never once looking back. That meant buying every bowhunting magazine and making friends of fellow bowhunters to learn all I could about this sport I love so much. I have bowhunted New York, New Jersey, Canada, Texas, Vermont, and Maryland. You might recall an article I wrote a few years ago about Sika deer hunting in Maryland's eastern shore. The values and practices of this organization align with my own and those I hunt with. Please reach out to me with any concerns or events in Rockland that I can bring to the attention of the organization and the rest of the members of NYB.

*"Nock 'em dead"*

>>>----->

**Curt Carney - Rockland County Rep**  
*Ccarney8799@gmail.com*

## REGION 4 REPORT

be to Montana this September for Antelope if we draw a tag. With the summer months upon us, if you have a 3D shoot or a club event coming up, contact our editor Cindy and, if possible, she will add it to our website or *FullDraw* magazine. Cindy is also looking for member photos and hunting stories. No new info on EHD this past hunting season anywhere across the southern region. If you come across any news of infected deer, please pass it on to the D.E.C.

*Take Care, Ed Gorch, Region 4, Greene County Rep.*  
*Oldbowman48@gmail.com , 518-755-6263*

## REGION 5 REPORT

Well winter is finally on its way out, I hope, and 3D season is upon us. It is great to be able to get out and shoot some arrows in the warmth. Speaking of 3D shoots, we would like to thank all the shooters that came in March to support our Camo to Camo benefit shoot.

It was nice to see almost as many kids as adults showing up to give their support.

Our Youth Archery program has ended for this year with

**Continues on next page**

**REGION 5 REPORT - continued from previous page**

32 kids showing up to learn the art of archery. Everyone had a great time. Thank you to instructors Kathy Tessier, Mike Savage, Ray McIntosh, Dave McMahon (all NYB members) Bill Cramer, John Boyer and John Hoyt.

Not many Bowhunter activities going on in Region 6 this summer. We are not exhibiting in any Sports Shows. There will be no Region #6 Youth Education event again this summer. The only 3D shoot in Region 6 that I am aware of is in Watertown at the Bear Pac Archery shop. If there are any activities in our Region that you might be going to, send me the details.

So what can we do? Try to get more people involved with recruiting kids, and adults, to Bowhunting. If you know of anyone who is ready to obtain their Bowhunting license and prefers to attend a real class, send me their contact info. There is no future in Bowhunting without Bowhunters.

When you are doing your scouting of that new patch of potential hunting property, bring a youth with you. Mentoring is good for both the mentor and the "mentee." There is nothing better for your psyche than teaching someone how to do

*Representative Needed.*

As always, the Banquet was a great time! My wife and I look forward all year to this event that unfortunately flies by. We get to catch up with friends that are like-minded from all over the state and meet new people that share our passion. Gene Hopkins brought his collection of archery history and knowledge and I, for one, was captivated and learned many things including New York's direct ties to the early days of archery as a sport! I remember getting a phone call from my cousin in the early '90s telling me I had to get to a local club ASAP as this group (NYB) had a rendezvous going on. I could tell by his excitement it was big deal. I grabbed my bow, hurried to the club, and met people that are still friends today and shot my first 3D course. Archery was already something I loved but after that day, and joining NYB, archery has become my lifestyle. I felt a lot of the same this weekend and if you are not a part of it you are truly missing out.

Fall is right around the corner and we should all be practicing and prepping for archery season. It always amazes me the last minute rush local archery shops get each year and how hard they try and get everyone squared away. By getting out and shooting early you can fine tune everything, and if

The Tupper Lake crew are looking forward to yet another great time at this year's NYB Banquet/Convention and will be bringing another member of the club.

*Dave McMahon, Region 5*

**REGION 6 REPORT**

something better. Then take him/her hunting this fall.

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.

*Enjoy your summer.*

*Bill Snyder*

*Region #6 Rep.*

*bill4nyb@gmail.com*

**REGION 7 REPORT****REGION 8 REPORT**

something isn't right you can get it taken care of early, plus you will be supporting local clubs when you shoot 3D at their club.

Lastly, if you are in Region 7 or 8 and looking for a spot to hunt, the Finger Lakes Land Trust has properties that need hunters! You read that right - they are looking for people to manage deer on these properties. If you are interested, reach out to Jason Gorman at the Finger Lakes Land Trust or send me an email. NYB has been a long time partner with the FLLT and our members have been instrumental in helping them manage deer on the properties.

*Bob Brown*

*waptichasr@aol.com*





*Representative Needed.*

## REGION 9 REPORT



## REPRESENTATIVES NEEDED

for the two regions below.

Please contact the Main Office at  
[NYBOffice@NewYorkBowhunters.com](mailto:NYBOffice@NewYorkBowhunters.com)

## REGION 7 REPORT



## REGION 9 REPORT



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## New York Bowhunters, Inc. Membership Application

**MEMBERSHIP DUES ENCLOSED**

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CAMO TO CAMO FUND: \_\_\_\_\_

PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED FUND: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUTH PROGRAMS: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

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SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

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## 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](mailto:NYBSpikesEditor@gmail.com)

# KID'S KORNER

Why did the orange stop rolling down the hill? *Because it ran out of juice.*

What did the traffic light say to the car?  *Don't look now. I'm changing.*

What happens when a duck flies upside down?  *It quacks up.*

When does a cart come before a horse?  *In the dictionary.*

In what kind of school do you learn how to greet people? *"Hi" School.*

How is the letter "A" like a flower? *A "B" (bee) always comes after it.*



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BEACH  
BEACH BAG  
BEACH BALL  
BEACH TOWEL  
BIKING  
CAMPING  
CAPRIS  
DIVING  
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FLIP FLOPS  
FLOWERS  
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HEAT  
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ICE CREAM  
KITE FLYING  
LOTION  
PICNIC  
PLANTING  
POLO  
POPSICLE  
SAILING  
SAND  
SANDCASTLE  
SEA

SHORTS  
SNORKELING  
SUNBURN  
SUNFLOWER  
SUNGLASSES  
SUNSHINE  
SURFING  
SWIMMING POOL  
TANK TOPS  
TANNING  
TRAVEL  
VACATION  
WATER  
WATERMELON  
WATERPARK



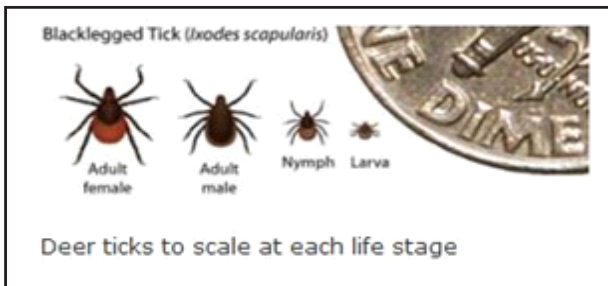
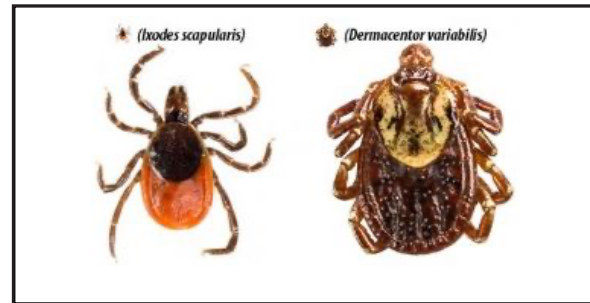
## Deer Tick Awareness

Have you ever felt a little tickle on your arm and without looking to see what it was, instinctively reach to wipe it away? Your eyes follow your hand by a split second – and then it registers – YIKES, it's a TICK!!

In the last decade, the population of ticks of all kinds has ballooned in the United States. The number of ticks that carry Lyme disease has been on the rise in the Mid-Atlantic States and has skyrocketed throughout the Northeast. Despite its teeny-tiny size, the deer tick, a.k.a. the blacklegged tick (scientists call it *Ixodes scapularis*), has gained a reputation as a serious health problem in many areas of the nation.

Deer ticks are small – smaller than Dog Ticks

The female deer tick and nymphs are the ones that can get you sick when they bite. The males do not actually feed. Lyme disease can be transmitted to people and animals when the tick feeds, allowing the bacteria in the tick to pass into the blood stream of the host.



Not all ticks can make you sick. In many areas, 50% of the ticks are carrying the Lyme disease bacteria. Deer ticks are slow feeders. They often do not start feeding until they have been attached 24 – 48 hours. However, an improperly removed tick can force the contents of the tick's midgut to be injected into the blood stream.

Deer ticks crawl. They usually grab onto people or animals that brush up against plants near ground level, and then they crawl upwards to find a quiet place for their blood meal. Ticks do not fly, jump, hop or swim.

To avoid getting bit by a tick, follow the steps below

- Cover up! Create a physical barrier between you and ticks. Wear long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, socks, and a wide-brimmed hat. Tuck your pant legs into your socks/boots. If you wear shorts, cover your skin with insect repellent.
- Avoid brushing up against long grass, undergrowth, saplings, etc.
- Kill them. Spray your clothes (not but your skin!) with Permethrin. This will kill the ticks.
- Get them off before they bite. Check your body for ticks after time in the woods. They like hidden areas like armpits, etc. Shower soon after spending time outdoors to wash off ones you may have missed.
- Run your clothes in the dryer after time outdoors for about 10 minutes to kill any that might be on your clothing.

What if you do get bitten? Proper removal of the tick is key! See your doctor if needed.

- Use fine-point tweezers to get a hold of the tick as close to the skin surface as possible.
- Pull backwards gently but firmly using an even, steady pressure. Do your best not to jerk or twist. Don't squeeze, crush or puncture the tick's body.
- After removing the tick, wash the skin and your hands thoroughly with soap and water.
- If any mouth parts of the tick remain in the skin, leave them alone; they will expel on their own.



New York Bowhunters  
**Youth Membership**

*"Spikes"*

NYB's Youth Membership includes all youth ages 17 and under. Those between the ages of 12 to 17 will be considered Senior Spikes. Those under 12 join as Junior Spikes. All will receive our "Spikes" newsletter, which is geared towards hunting and contains items for the Juniors as well.

Membership Includes:

NYB Membership Sticker, Spikes sticker and the NYB Quarterly Magazine.

**Prizes:**

Members who send in pictures, drawings, stories, etc. will be eligible for prizes.

As the driving force behind preserving bowhunting in New York, it's our responsibility as NYB members to get our children and all young hunters involved in preserving and protecting our hunting heritage for future generations.

Spikes membership is only \$10 per year.



**MAIL APPLICATION TO:**

**NYB SPIKES**

5937 County Road 33  
Canandaigua, NY 14424

SPIKE'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PARENT/SPONSOR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

DOB: \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY/REGION: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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# Banquet Photos

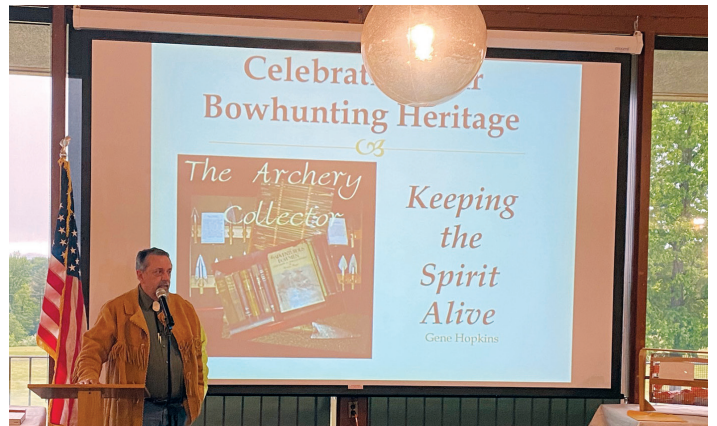
*Be sure to read the Banquet Report on page 24*



*Banquet with Silent Auction*



*President Andrew Cotraccia*



*Guest Speaker Gene Hopkins*



*Browsing the Can Raffle Tables*



# In Memoriam

*A tribute to those we have lost...*

*In Memory of  
Sy Moore*

*Donated by  
His NYB Friends*

*In Memory of  
Harry Lang*

*Donated by  
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*Donated by  
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*In Memory of  
Larry Hilderbrant*

*From your loving family  
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*In Memory of  
Ed Fetherbay*

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

*Donated by Big Brother  
Jim*

*In Memory of  
Charles Giandana*

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NYB family.*

*In Memory of  
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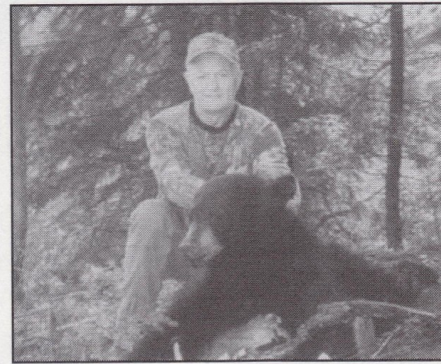
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# DEC Places Revenue Over Education and Safety - **REFUSING TO RE-INSTITUTE MANDATORY IN-PERSON TRAINING TO HUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

*By Richard Kirschner*

The DEC has refused to include the mandatory requirement of live instruction for at least a portion (if not all) of the Bowhunter (and Hunter) Safety Courses. New hunters may purchase hunting licenses with merely an online course. How and why is this still happening?

Several years ago (pre-pandemic), a shortage of volunteer hunter education instructors caused the DEC to research an online option for Hunter and Bowhunter education classes. When the topic came up at instructor refresher classes, existing instructors overwhelmingly expressed their opposition to this idea. NYB on several occasions offered ideas to the DEC, which we felt would have increased instructor numbers, ideas the DEC never followed up with. With the pandemic shutdown in 2020, all in person classes ceased. Eventually the DEC began certifying hunters via an online course. As this resulted in record numbers of new hunters (including non-hunting spouses in many cases for the purpose of gaining an additional tag) the DEC's spin doctors boasted the increase was a result of their diligent promotion of the "wonderful" hunting opportunities in NY.

When the DEC finally allowed live classes to resume, they left the online class option. This resulted in very poor attendance at live classes, some actually being dropped due to lack of registrants. To date, most instructors still barely scrape together enough students to run a class.

In 2022, there were 7,064 Online Bowhunting Safety Certifications given out, while only 725 new bowhunters obtained their instruction in a live class!

In fall 2022, the DEC began seeking instructors to teach a new course called "Next Step." This course was for those who completed an online bowhunter education (or hunter, trapping ed) class and would like hands-on experience. The course consists of four hours focusing on safety, hunting techniques, etc. Sound familiar? It's exactly what we taught in our live classes! These Next Step classes are voluntary for hunters and there is no certification attached to them. Although you will never see the DEC acknowledge there is validity to requiring mandatory live instruction, this is their attempt to affix a band-aid to the issue.

Upon seeing this, NYB sent the DEC Hunter Education





Department a request to either eliminate the online courses or at the minimum require at least part of the certification process to have mandatory in-person training. The response did not address the point we were making, which was an online course cannot replace the quality of instruction in a live experience. They actually stated the Next Step course would "...provide valuable experience for students who complete an in-person or online course..." To our point, why is it not mandatory? To our accusation that the DEC was placing revenue over quality and safety, they responded, "...increased license sales...a good thing as all that money goes toward wildlife and DEC/land management..." To this, I again say more revenue may be a good thing but not if acquired by watering down entrance level instruction and certification.

And here is one more piece to the puzzle: All state Fish and Game Departments receive federal funding through the Pittman-Robertson act. This is money collected through additional federal taxes on firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment. These funds are distributed to each state by the feds based on the number of licensed hunters. Yes, more money for conservation projects, etc. is a good thing, but this double dip reward has caused the DEC to increase license sales by eliminating mandatory in-person training. And not all P-R funded conservation projects necessarily go directly towards increasing hunting opportunities.

When the hunter education statistics for 2022 came out and revealed over 90% of the approximately 7,800 new bowhunters obtained their certifications via an online course, NYB once again contacted the DEC. They ignored our offer to meet to discuss the issue. There was a time when the DEC looked for input from the hunting community. They seem to only do this now if it fits their agenda. We expressed concern over inadequate safety training. To this they responded that

since the online course began in 2020, there have been 40 HRSI (Hunting Related Shooting Incidents). Thirty-eight of the forty (including 4 fatal) were certified at in-person courses. This is a ridiculous use of a statistic for justifying online courses. Currently, the overwhelming majority of hunters are those who were certified in-person. It stands to reason the majority of HRSI will match this statistically. And although we all agree there should be no HRSI, the fact is there will always be some. Going forward, assuming we never return to in-person classes, eventually the overwhelming majority of hunters will become those certified online and HRSI will reflect that as well.

Proudly, the Bowhunting Safety course that has been taught for the last five decades and currently accepted by all states originated in NY! In the early 1970s, a group of dedicated bowhunters from NY created the first course that eventually spread across the country and led to the creation of the National Bowhunting Education Foundation (NBEF). This is the very (updated) course the DEC still uses. The NBEF still advocates for at least some part of the course be held in-person. So the organization that provides the curriculum and material the DEC uses is being ignored by the same!!!

The sad fact remains that new hunters are not required to attend at least a portion of hunter education in-person. Firearm and bow handling, blood trailing, anatomy training, safe tree stand use, along with the benefits gained from the knowledge of qualified experienced hunters are all impossible to obtain online. The DEC knows this and is trying to get people to voluntarily attend additional live training. As long as there is an option to certify 100% from the comfort of one's home, the DEC is doing a disservice to new hunters and placing all hunters' safety in jeopardy.



# Banquet Report

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NYB held its 32nd Annual Banquet at the beautiful and most accommodating Sunny Hill Resort. As NYB's primary fundraiser, the Banquet offers plenty of opportunities to win items, with 50/50 raffles, dart games, Elk Shoot-off, card raffles (we had two this year; one for a Go-Pro and one for a PSE bow!) and can raffles, door prizes, and silent auctions. All funds raised enable us to promote and protect bowhunting in New York.

It is always an honor to have some of the original charter members in attendance at the Banquet, and once again, Tom Weaver and Dale Walburger and their families were on hand and continue their lifetime support of NYB.

The weekend started off with a BBQ Friday evening. We had live music with Ed Gorch Jr. topped off with Michelle Brown's wonderful homemade desserts! The weather that evening could not have been better.

Available all weekend, 17 challenging targets made up our 3D course. It was great to see so many people risk losing an arrow or two as they made their way through the wooded course.

Once again, our can raffle was a huge success! Every year we receive donations from so many generous individuals and companies, and this year was no exception. We thank Black Rifle Coffee again for their huge contribution. Thanks to Ed Gorch's time and effort gathering donations, the can raffle tables were stuffed with great outdoor-related items and more.

Our By-laws call for the organization to hold one annual meeting per year. President Andrew gave a great talk on the current state of our organization and the issues we face. The rest of the board updated the membership on the various committees they represent.

**Congratulations to Sean Walp who won the Elk Shoot-off!**

**Meadow Groom was awarded the Youth of the Year Award.**

**Continues on page 26**



*Founding members Dale Walburger and Tom Weaver*



## FREE ADVERTISING



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**Continued from page 24**

Congratulations to Dan Blankenberg, NYB member from Rushville, NY, as the grand prize winner of the 2023 Spring Raffle. He chose the Black Widow. Thank you to all participants and good luck in our fall raffle, coming shortly!

The silent auction went very well as did the card raffles for the Go Pro and PSE Stinger Bow. "Check your pocket Anthony!" Kristin Masaitis yelled out when no one claimed the Go Pro. Anthony, who had helped sell the cards, forgot he had one in his pocket and it was the winner!

Our speaker, Gene Hopkins, Archery Hall of Fame Historian, gave a talk on Keeping the Spirit Alive - Celebration of our Bowhunting Heritage. Gene took us on a fantastic journey tracing archery's roots in America. He could've kept us captivated for days. He also had a great display of items for guests to browse throughout the weekend. Gene Hopkins' display was truly amazing and just a small sliver of what he has in his collection. Items he brought were an arrow made by Ishi himself, Bob Swinehart's massive elephant broadhead, pizza cutter broadheads, hundreds of arrows, Bear and Easton memorabilia, etc. He was gifted a fur quiver by Ed Gorch.

If you are a member of NYB and have never been to our Banquet, we guarantee you will have a most enjoyable weekend, and it helps support NYB. Join us next year! Next year's Banquet will be May 18th. Save the date!

*Harry Walker awarding Meadow Groom Youth of the Year*



*Ed Gorch presenting Gene Hopkins with fur quiver*





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Did you know New York Bowhunters supports the Feeding New York State initiative?

Did you know because NYB supports donating venison we become eligible for more grant monies?

Venison Donation Coalition and Feeding New York State help provide food for those in need. Through a cooperative relationship involving the New York State Department of Health, non-profit organizations like Feeding New York State's regional food banks and deer processors, hunters contribute nearly 40 tons of venison each year to needy families across the state!

There are many ways a hunter can help feed those less fortunate. You can donate your deer or part of it at a cooperating processor, support your regional food bank monetarily, or make a cash donation to the Venison Donation Coalition when you purchase your hunting license to help offset the cost of processing donated venison.

**After you make a donation, please call the NYB Office at 585-229-7468 or e-mail [nyboffice@newyorkbowhunters.com](mailto:nyboffice@newyorkbowhunters.com) and provide your name, how many deer you donated and the name of the deer processor who accepted your harvest.**

If you'd like to learn how you can support these programs or donate venison to help feed local families, visit the Venison Donation Coalition (<http://venisondonation.com/>) and follow the "Find a Processor Link" or call 866-862-3337 (DEER) or Feeding New York State (<https://feedingnys.org/hunters/>).

#### HOW TO DONATE YOUR DEER

You can help feed your hungry neighbors throughout New York by taking the following simple steps:

1. Donate any legally harvested deer by dropping it off at a participating processor.
2. It is suggested you call one of the participating processors before dropping off your deer to ensure they can accept your deer.
3. Please handle the carcass as you would for your own family.
4. When dropping your deer off at a processor, please complete the log sheet indicating your desire to donate the deer. The donated deer will be processed and the venison will be distributed to food pantries and food banks to help feed hungry New Yorkers.

**5. Contact the NYB Office at 585-229-7468 or e-mail [NYBOffice@newyorkbowhunters.com](mailto:NYBOffice@newyorkbowhunters.com) MAKE A FINANCIAL DONATION TO THE DEER DONATION PROGRAM**

If you don't have a deer to donate, but want to help with this effort, please consider giving a few dollars to support this program. Your contribution will help process more venison than would otherwise be possible. You can donate online or mail a check to:

**Feeding New York State**  
25 Elk St., Suite 201, Albany, NY 12207

Please make your check payable to "Feeding New York State" and add "Venison donation" in the memo field so we can apply your gift to the venison program.

Contact NYB so we can have record of NYB members' contributions to this program.

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Send submissions to:

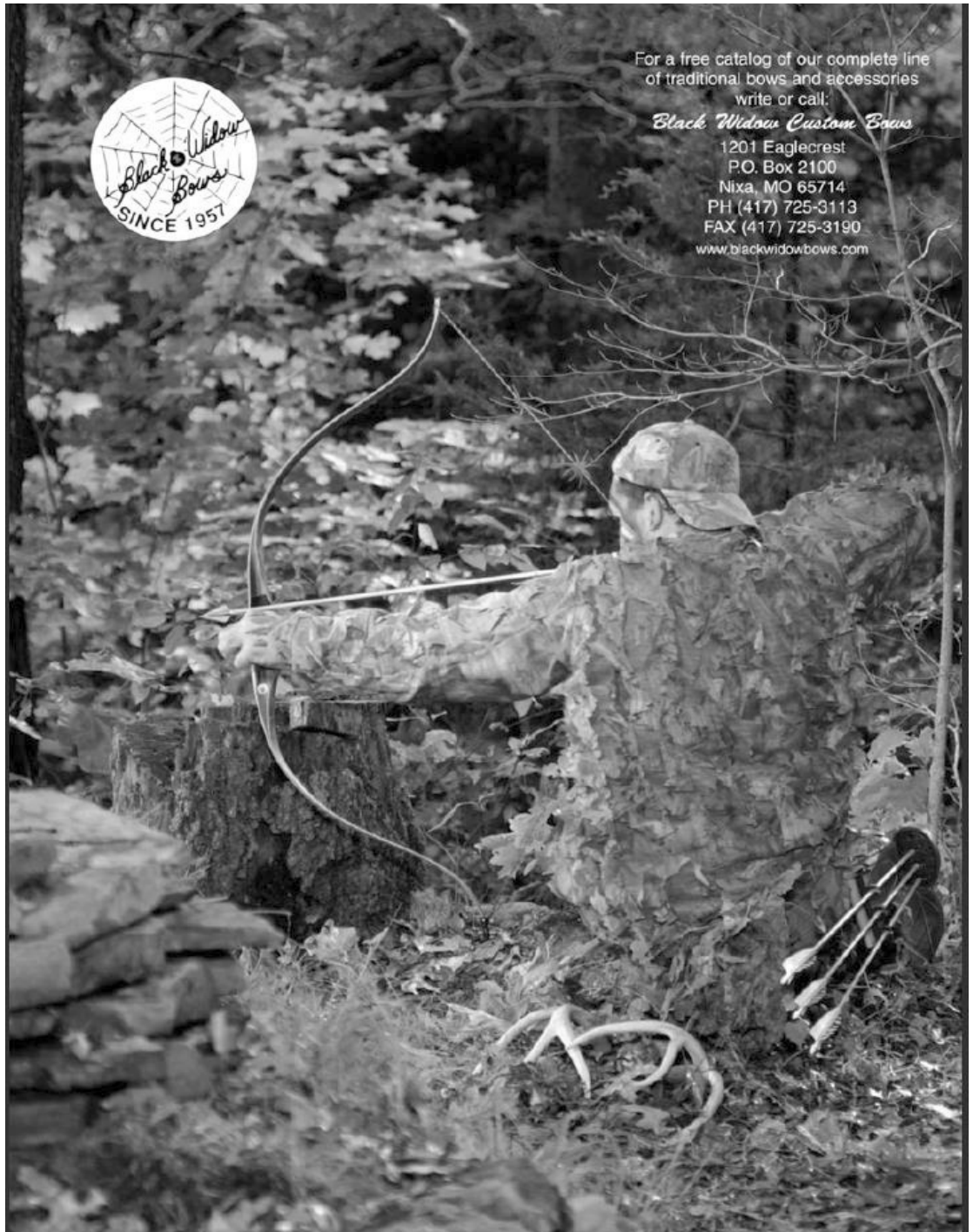
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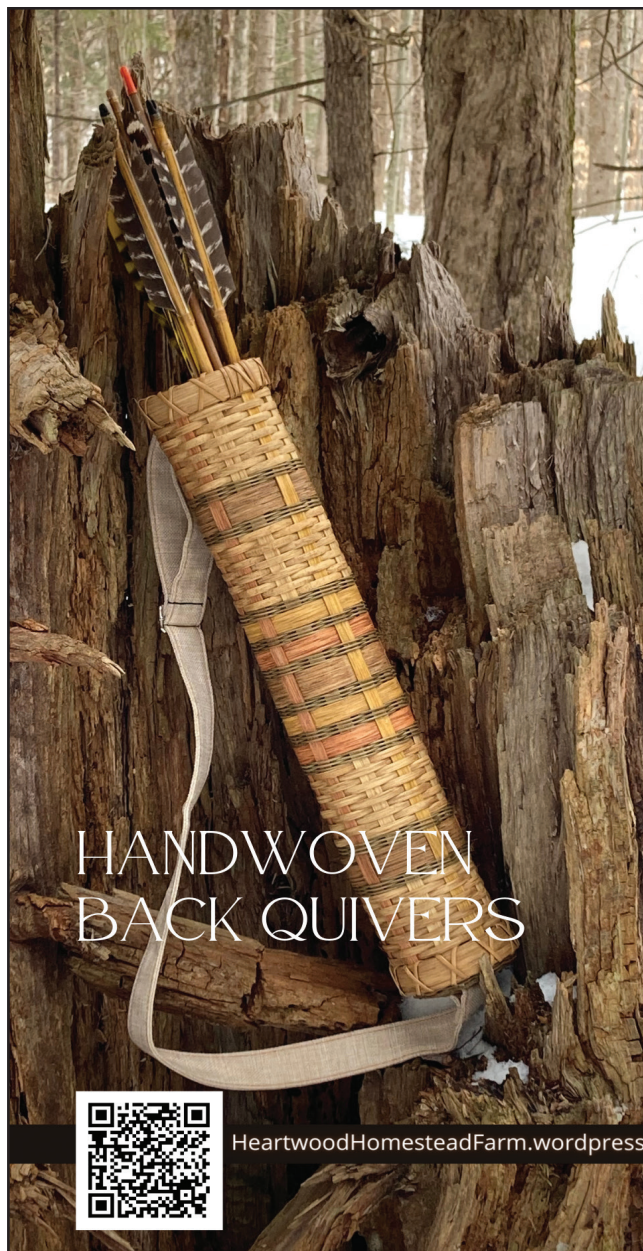


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For more information, find us on Facebook under Bear Pac Archery or contact Issac Thomas, bowfreak19@yahoo.com or Art Pellerin, ajpellerin@hotmail.com



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*Ken Anderson, newbie NYB member, lifetime bowhunter*



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*BY Donald Plant*



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# MEMBER PHOTOS

***Bear at Betts Kelly Lodge  
camo to camo hunt***



***Ed Gorch with his  
Betts Kelly Lodge bear***