

FULLDRAW

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF NEW YORK BOWHUNTERS, INC.

New York State's Largest Bowhunting Organization Since 1991

www.newyorkbowhunters.org

Fall
2023



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**A WARM WELCOME
TO OUR NEW REGION
9 REPRESENTATIVE**

Vincent D'Agostino

New York Bowhunters

New York State's largest bowhunting organization since 1991

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From the President's Desk

I hope everyone is having a healthy and safe summer. Early archery season will be here before we know it! My late summer deer hunting chores have begun and I've seen several nice bucks on my trail cameras. It seems to help and motivate me a bit when I see a large amount of deer activity on the properties I hunt, especially when my target buck from last year somehow made it another year. I'm getting ready to head out to Montana in September with my dad and brother-in-law to chase elk. This will be my second time bowhunting for elk and I'm looking forward to time afield and away from work! Speaking of work, my situation at work changed significantly several months ago. I'm trying to stay positive about it and focus on the good things! I am thankful to have a job so I can provide for my family.



Congratulations to Harry Walker and the Region 3 Crew for holding another successful Youth Education Camp! Thank you, Harry, for all that you do for NYB! I would also like to welcome Vinny D'Agostino who has volunteered to become NYB's Region 9 Representative. We haven't had a Representative in Region 9 for several years so thank you for stepping up. I look forward to working with you in the future.

NYB has been a faithful advocate and supporter of the NASP (National Archery in the Schools) program here in NYS over the years in partnership with the NYS DEC. NYB has donated funds in support, members have become certified instructors, and several have helped establish programs in their local school districts. For those not familiar, NASP is one of the safest, most inclusive and popular PE programs kids can participate in. "NASP is an activity that doesn't discriminate based on popularity, athletic skill, gender, size, or academic ability" (<https://www.naspschools.org/what-is-nasp/>). Unfortunately, NASP is now under attack because of its classification by the Biden administration as a "shooting sport." In response to the mass shootings in Uvalde Texas and Buffalo, NY, Congress passed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) which President Biden signed into law in June 2022. The Biden Administration is utilizing parts of this law to remove funding for NASP via the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965, which provides funds for schools with hunting and archery programs to the tune of \$1 billion. This should come as a surprise to no one! Our experience working in Albany has taught us that many of our elected representatives have little to no knowledge of what archery, or hunting in general, really is. Thankfully, there is an effort by more than 70 Republican and Democratic Congresspersons and Senators who have publicly called for the U.S. Department of Education to reverse its guidance on withholding these funds from schools. Please contact your elected representative to voice your opinion on the matter: <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>.

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

Thank you and good luck in the woods this fall!

Sincerely,

Andrew Cotraccia, President, New York Bowhunters Inc.

newyorkbowhunters.com



RANGE REVIEWS

by Art Pellerin

In the past few years, my job has taken me away from home and I don't get to shoot my bow as much as I would like to, need to, should... In a nutshell, I am bow-less for a couple of weeks at a time. In the absence of my bow, I usually bring some training aids with me to replicate shooting and target hold. Some of these I have made, others I have bought, but at least I try to keep my form in somewhat good shape by practicing without my bow.

However, in the event I do get to bring my bow with me, I always do some research of the area to see what is available or try to make it to the local archery shops. In the past months I have visited a few and share below my personal opinion of what I found.

Music City Archery near Nashville, TN

A great family-owned business (on the back side of a strip mall) – they offer your basic archery shop and a great 15 lane 20-yard practice indoor range. They have league shoots or you can rent by the hour.

The Archery Den in Franklin, TN

This is a really neat place to go! I walked in, was greeted by 2 young guys and we started to chat. They were both busy working on bows, talking about everything and nothing at all. In our conversation it came out one of them will be planning a trip to Upstate NY for a black bear hunting trip! I thought

it was funny and just coincidental that he was making plans to come up here at the same time I walked into their shop. They have a small indoor range, many used for sighting bows. All in all, a cool little shop.

Fly Arrow Sports in Carmel Hamlet, NY

This place has it all (in my opinion): a full archery shop. They have everything from bows to targets and great staff who are very knowledgeable. They have 3 different (sometimes 4) indoor ranges. I used all 3. The main indoor range goes to 30 yards for their indoor league, but they also have a side range for practice that goes to 20 yards. They offer private lessons and instructions upon request, always willing to help out or make minor adjustments on the spot.

Whortlekill Rod and Gun Club in Hopewell Junction, NY

I have been wanting to go here for a while. There is nothing like an indoor 3D archery range to shoot at on those cold wintery nights. Like any place, you have to pay for your time, and you won't be disappointed. I shot here a couple of different times, and if you think that an indoor range would be easy, well, you've got another think coming. It's challenging and entertaining at the same time. You are placed on a lane and given a group of targets to shoot at, retrieve your arrows and move on the next spot.

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Eckman Indoor Archery Range located in Wrightstown, NJ

This is a private club but very accommodating. I was allowed to shoot their course as a guest. There is an indoor range on their property used for shoots and gatherings. They have a very good outdoor walking range with some challenging shots, and they have a sasquatch target, which is very cool if you have never shot one before. I was very impressed with this course and the hospitality of the members. If you get a chance, look for them on FB and see if you can get a chance to shoot.

Mathews Archery, Inc located in Sparta, WI

If you find yourself going to WI, pull out your map and see how close you will be to Sparta, and then try to schedule a tour of the Mathews factory. It is very interesting, especially if you shoot a Mathews bow. I had the opportunity to do just that – you don't realize what it takes to make the bow you shoot or what really goes into it. If you don't shoot a Mathews you just might after touring their facilities!

Niantic Sportsman Club in Niantic, CT

I had the pleasure of shooting at their 3D scheduled shoot and got invited back to shoot as a guest. They have a practice staging range with bag targets and 3D deer targets available at 20 – 50 yards. The great thing about this club is that the range uses what the terrain gives them. There are great staging shots in almost realistic settings. The shooting lanes are not a straight shot, rather they are challenging and well placed while giving the archer a clear objective towards the target. They have numerous life size targets, such as the moose, elk, caribou and posturing red stage. You get to shoot off platforms that are anchored onto the natural rock formations on their course. The course is 30 targets of winding trails with a walk through/ walk back placement of targets.

Andover Archery in Hebron, CT

A full-on archery shop and 3D course, this place is like a one-stop shop. They have a full array of archery equipment and a range with large bag targets ranging from 20 yards out to 60 yards. The best thing is that there is also a complete 3D range there as well consisting of 10 stages, with 4 targets at each stage ranging from 20 yards out to 55. The course takes advantage of the unique and challenging terrain New England has to offer. Their hours are posted on their FB page. I highly recommend this place. The course is open to the public for a small range fee.

Pomfret Rod & Gun Club in Pomfret, CT

This is a nice little 3D course available for their members and guests. I shot this course during their scheduled 3D event. It was set on the grounds of the club and runs along the wood line and open fields. The course was set up as 2 targets per station, with the ranges running from 23-45 yards. The course itself was smooth and easy to shoot with target placements just far enough apart not to cause a bottle neck or back log.

Groton Sportsman's Club in Groton, CT

When I shot this course, it was a scheduled International Bowhunting Organization (IBO) Qualifier, leg 1 of the triple crown. The club itself is open to its members and guests or open to the public during a scheduled shoot. The course was located on the club's very large parcel of land, the lanes were groomed and open as well as spread out with more than enough distance between lanes, with little to no bottleneck whatsoever. The range was set up to IBO standards and shooter classes. If you have never shot an IBO course, you will be in for a treat. There are no range finders allowed. You need to shoot from and with your IBO class and there is a time limit per shooter at the target. It was a good course and I enjoyed shooting it.

Center Sports in Columbia, CT

This is a one-stop shopping sporting goods store with everything from fishing tackle to an indoor archery range. They have 3 different sections in this store: fishing, firearms, and archery. It's a great place to go on a rainy day when you want to shoot your bow. For \$6 an hour, you can't beat slinging arrows at their 20-yard indoor range. Usually open 6 days a week with very knowledgeable staff, be sure to ask for Bill in the Archery section – he's a great guy with a lot of stories!

Singletary Rod and Gun Club, IBO shoot in Oxford, MA

A nice course in southern Mass, the course was set around the local pond. They also have a trap shooting range there. I shot during the IBO qualifier. It was a great course and used the terrain to its advantage. The targets were strategically placed around the pond, so you definitely got a workout, and of course got to enjoy the challenging target placements. Bring bug spray, water, and wear a hat – enjoy!!





Teriyaki Venison Camp Jerky

- 1 pound of venison cut ¼ inch thick
(use a lean, trimmed cut such as an eyeround)
- Soak venison in marinade, refrigerate 24 – 48 hours
- Remove from marinade and pat dry
- Optional – sprinkle with crusted black pepper
- Dehydrate or smoke 145 degrees until done
(bends without breaking)

Marinade

- 1 ¼ c soy sauce
- 2/3 c. brown sugar
- 1 cup sake (or other rice wine)
- ¼ c rice vinegar
- 2 cloves chopped garlic
- 1 tsp cure

CONGRATULATIONS

to Vincenzo Caragine for being the 2023 recipient of the Doug Kerr Memorial Scholarship award. Vinny has a great love for animals and will be pursuing his goal of becoming a veterinarian. The New York Bowhunters, Inc. Doug Kerr Memorial Scholarship Fund was established to give financial aid to NYB family members enrolled in college. NYB offers up to \$500 to qualified candidates. See our website (www.NewYorkBowhunter.com) for more information and Scholarship application.

3D SHOOTS

REGION #3

3D SHOOTS

September 3-Neighbors
10-Wittenburg
17-Ti Yogi
24-Northern Dutchess

October 8-Ti Yogi
(TRADITIONAL ONLY)
28-Ti Yogi
(7PM ZOMBIE SHOOT)

REGION #5

3D SHOOTS

September 2..... Norfolk Traditional Day
September 3..... Norfolk Trophy/Fun
September 24 Peru

TRI-COUNTY ARCHERS

3D SHOOTS

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.



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
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Bob DiGiacomio

23 State Route 299 West
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shorefisher07@gmail.com

Highwoods Sportsmen's Club

P O Box 93
Saugerties, NY 12477
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highwoodssc@gmail.com

North Dutchess Rod & Gun

PO Box 728
Rhinebeck, NY 12572
845-846-3711
nrdgc-pres@peoplepc.com

Joe M. Skipp

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

Ti Yogi Bowmen

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

Rensselaer County Conservation Alliance

Po Box 179
West Sand Lake, NY 12196

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

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:

Ronald Bush
5908 South Hill Rd.
Truxton, NY 13158

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

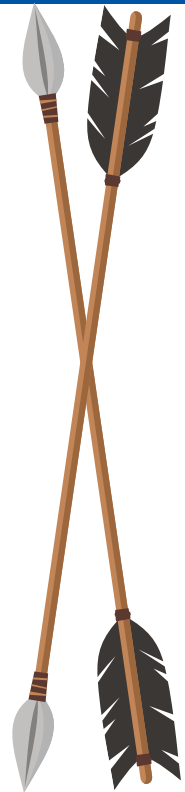
Ronald Scardetta, DDS
632 Ridge Road
Webster, NY 14580
585-671-4420

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
jeffcoscobarchers@gmail.com



JOIN NEW YORK'S OWN GUS CONGEMI, HOST OF DEAD DOWN WIND'S "LIVE THE WILD LIFE"



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

Hello fellow members!

Summer is slowly but surely passing us by and archery season will be here before we know it! If you were lucky enough to visit your taxidermist last season, hopefully you have your mount back and are ready for your next trophy!

It is nice to finally see in-person bowhunter education courses being offered again – we haven't had them since the beginning of the pandemic. Here on Long Island, we have one course scheduled on 9/7 at Suffolk Archers in Huntington Station. However, there are multiple courses being offered throughout the state. Visit the DEC website to find out when courses are available in your area.

As most of you are aware, New York Bowhunters is a non-profit organization. Our members and their support are critical

for us. If you know of a fellow hunter (or youth hunter) who is not part of NYB, please point them to our website to sign up for a membership at www.NewYorkBowhunters.com. In addition, if you are not following us on social media, check out our Facebook and Instagram accounts!

Mike Farrugia- Region 1 Rep
Mfarrugia47@gmail.com
 (516) 615-3029



REGION 2 REPORT

Greetings fellow finders of lost arrows. Really, isn't there no better feeling than finding the arrow that got away? The financial cost and the remorse of losing just one arrow stings.

I am confident that everyone has been practicing diligently over these past months. Zeroing in and getting tuned in if you added or changed anything to your set up is key. This includes clothing, stands, blinds, etc...

Unfortunately I have no updates to report on EHD within NYS. Our DEC issued their last update on September 20, 2022, over 10 months ago, as I write this.

Once a deer is bitten by an infected black fly midge, it will die within 2-10 days, and most likely near a water source (pond, lake, or stream). Notify the DEC if you see a sickly deer; do not approach it. Sick deer may not even move away from you, as a healthy deer would normally do.

The NASP (National Archery in Schools Program) as well as other hunting and shooting sports school programs are under attack from the current administration in Washington DC. The Elementary and Secondary Educational Act (ESEA) of 1965 earmarked federal funding for such programs that would be taught to school children. Not only do these programs stress the importance of safety, but they also build confidence, foster relationships, and also carry on cultural traditions.

In 2022, the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) was passed, eliminating funding for the above mentioned school programs under the guise of making communities safer. This is just another way to criminalize hunting and the shooting sports. Contact your elected officials in Washington DC and let them know that safety starts with education, not with fear.

Stay safe and be well. Mentor a non-hunting friend and welcome them into the brethren.

May God Bless America and all who defend us, both home and abroad.

All the best,

Al Bottari
Region 2 Rep, Board of Director
bluehillhunta@optonline.net



REGION 3 REPORT

Good luck,
be safe and
healthy. 'til next
time,



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

SULLIVAN COUNTY

Sullivan County Archers held their annual Youth Education Days event in July. I had 16 kids signed up and only 8 showed up for the event. It seems that there was a problem getting on the DEC website to do the required “homework” prior to attending the camp. We hope to correct this problem by mailing the course books to the applicants next year. If you have kids ages 11 to 16 that are interested in learning about bowhunting, keep our “hands-on” training in mind. Before Covid we had a three-day event including a two-night sleep over but we have had to abandon that and now have a two-day event. Dates are July 13 and 14, 2024. I will send out applications if you are interested. My contact information is at the end of this column.

I have word that Mike at “All Things Accurate” in Liberty still intends on having an indoor range at his shop. Hopefully he will have a Winter league starting in January. More information will be in the next issue of *FullDraw*.

The 3D season will wrap up the end of September so get out there and practice up!!

I usually do about 8 Archery Clinics throughout the Summer and hope I have inspired at least a few people to take up archery. We have a new range here at our private Wolf Lake facility and have some of our members taking advantage of it already. A big “thanks” to the guys who helped put it together! Now if only the bears would leave our targets alone!

Bucks and bears are starting to show themselves locally and I imagine it is the same throughout the state. Unlike some of the upstate areas above Liberty, we have oaks and they are dropping their acorns very early this season. They are small and under developed at this time, maybe from the rains we have had or there are a lot of them and they are pushing some off to let others grow to full size. Good luck; ‘til the next issue,

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

ROCKLAND COUNTY

Hello fellow Rockland County bowhunters,

By the time you receive this, bow season will be only a few weeks away. Summer fluke season was ok for me, but I’ve definitely had better years. I was able to get my boat out, named “BUCKFEVER” a few times but never pulled a limit. I hope that

As you all must realize, when you receive your *FullDraw*, it is approximately 5 weeks after material is submitted to the editor. So, as I put together this report amongst 90-degree days, mosquitos, and an occasional dip in a pool, I know you will be reading it as the days and nights are getting cooler and we’re all stepping a little brisker knowing our favorite time of the year is right around the corner. As the hunting season gets underway, please contact me with any news of interest. Perhaps a first-time bow kill for someone, especially for a young hunter. Maybe something unique happened to you in the woods that others would find interesting. Last year, because we were made aware of the hard work and success of a young bowhunter, we were able to award her with the NYB Youth of the Year Award. Congratulations again to Meadow Groom (from Orange County - Region 3!).

So, until I get some feedback from anyone for the next issue of *FullDraw*, let me share a few of the arrows in my quiver (that’s a metaphor!). After a couple of EHD impacted years, I finally began seeing a few more deer and fawns behind my house. Although I don’t hunt there (not allowed by property owner), it is reassuring that perhaps those areas that were hit hard (as many in the lower Hudson Valley were) are beginning to recover.

You’ve heard me promoting 3D shoots all summer via *FullDraw* and a few emails. By now they are mostly wrapping up (check summer *FullDraw* for any remaining). There are two outdoor events at Ti Yogi in October. On Sunday the 8th is a Traditional only 3D shoot. And on Saturday the 28th at 7PM is the annual Zombie Shoot.

Another item I promoted last year were indoor leagues. Upon moving to Dutchess County a few years ago, I joined Ti Yogi Bowmen (and women) and dipped my toe in the indoor league bathtub (I didn’t actually get wet feet, it’s another metaphor). Although shooting for more decades than I can count, not only have I enjoyed an obvious improvement, but found myself looking forward to the regularity of weekly shooting and with it, the new found friends and shooting buddies that came as a bonus. Yes, I can shoot in my backyard, but it’s a world of difference when practicing in an archery environment amongst your peers. There will be several clubs holding these indoor leagues. Some leagues will be starting soon while some start in the winter. Depending on where you live, there may be a league closer than you are aware of. I have to travel approximately 40 minutes each way to participate (no, it’s not uphill both ways) but well worth the trip. At this time, I am not aware of which other clubs will be holding leagues, but if you are interested in joining several of your fellow NYB members who shoot at Ti Yogi, give me a call.

I am looking forward, as all of you are, to getting out in the autumn woods very soon. It would be nice to see some deer, especially nice to shoot one. But I will be happy just being out there, still enjoying the gift I was lucky enough to receive when my Dad opened the eyes of a little boy from the Bronx to the magic of the mountains. Perhaps you can do the same for a young man or lady. Who knows, in 2053 they might be writing this column!

Continues on next page

REGION 3 REPORT - continued from previous page

you have had enough time to sight in your bows and practice regularly. I always find releasing an arrow or two every day or two serves me best.

I just wanted to touch on something I noticed a few times last season on some local social media pages. Please make sure to be respectful and think before responding to community pages about hunting or a post about a deer with an arrow in it walking the neighborhood. Mistakes happen and if you bow hunt long enough you are going to wound an animal. Anti-hunting and animal rights people go crazy over things they know nothing about. Let's do our best to educate without name calling or aggressive words which is what they normally go to very quickly. If possible, try and take a youth out hunting this season. The joy you will get from this in the future will be worth the few deer they might scare away as they learn. We all started somewhere and you just might be the reason a child goes down the correct path in life. Reach out to me anytime with things regarding Rockland hunters and I will be happy to help where I can.

"Nock 'em dead"

>>>----->

Curt Carney - Rockland County Rep
Ccarney8799@gmail.com

DUTCHESS COUNTY

Greetings All,

As I write my report, our long, awaited bow season is only eight weeks away. In anticipation, I've been shooting as much as possible. In Dutchess County, we are fortunate to have several clubs within a short distance that offer 3D shoots each Sunday morning during the summer. Rich K and I have been attending as many as we can to hone our skills and enjoy the company of many like-minded archers. In Dutchess, there is Ti Yogi Bowmen and Northern Dutchess Sportsmen Club that offer shoots once a month. In Region 3, we have many clubs that provide shoots so one can easily go every Sunday. Most start at 7 or 8 in the morning and will accept shooters until 11 or 12. I'm certain you will gain confidence with your bow and enjoy the process!

Another awesome way to get in shape and join approximately 6000 other bowmen is to attend the Eastern Traditional Archery Rendezvous (ETAR) in Morris, PA. Many of our members attend this event each year. I began three years ago and I plan on going until I am no longer able. There are 8 courses to choose from, including two mountain courses that will test both your skill and stamina. A vendor tent is set up with bowyers and craftsmen from the entire country, offering anything you might need. This year, Monty Browning was the guest speaker. There is also a blanket sale each evening where many bring items to swap or sell. If you are able, I highly recommend attending this event. Mark your calendars for the last weekend of July (Thursday through Sunday).

As this report is being written, early August, I've gotten in a little scouting although I've had to deal with the onslaught of mosquitoes we have been having this year. I can't remember when they were this bad. Trail cameras provide an alternative but there is nothing like "boots on the ground." Early in the morning has been the best time for me to get out to avoid the bugs. I have seen a few more deer this year so hopefully EHD is becoming less of a threat to the population.

Well, that's about it from Dutchess. I wish you all a safe and successful hunting season this year! Thank you to our boosters, especially Northern Dutchess Sportsmen Club and Ti Yogi Bowmen for providing their shoots. As always, I would love to hear from any of you and any pictures would be appreciated as well.

"Keep em Sharp"

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

ULSTER COUNTY

If any members know a young man or lady interested in learning or improving their archery skills, there is a local program you may want them to take part in. Ed Malle of Bethlehem Rod and Gun Club (NYB Booster Club) will be continuing the S3DA archery program for those between the ages of 8 & 17. Ed utilizes Bethlehem R&G while the weather is still warm and over the winter the program will move indoors to either the Black Rock or Walden clubs. Contact Ed at 845-541-6775 or archerybrgc@gmail.com for more information.

PUTNAM COUNTY

Hello to all you NY Bowhunters,

Can you smell it in the air? It's an exciting time of the year for me and I hope it is for you also. As of the time I am writing this, opening day for bowhunters is only 60 days away and at least by me, it looks like the deer are starting to get a little bit more active. Now is the time when you should be getting ready in hopes of having a successful season. I know for me there is so much to do: setting up my stands and my trail cams and setting out my scent trails. But one of the most important things is to get out and practice. Practice at different yardages (only those you are comfortable with). Practice from different positions - sitting, standing, kneeling, to name a few. If you are shooting from a treestand, make sure you practice from whatever height you are shooting from because, oddly enough, distances can change with varying angles. Also, practice while wearing the same clothes you are going to hunt in. Wouldn't it be terrible that while drawing on a deer with cold weather clothes you find you can't draw because it's too bulky? Also, a safety tip I can't emphasize enough...If you are in a tree stand please remember to wear your safety harness. There are so many good ones on the market. It may just help you from getting seriously injured. I know so many of you are seasoned vets but for you beginners just drop me an email for any questions you might have.

Speaking of beginners, remember, any new hunters/bowhunters must complete a hunter's safety course along with a bowhunters safety course if you would like to bowhunt. If you need a safety course, even though the DEC offers online courses, PLEASE, PLEASE take a live course. They are listed on the DEC website. There is nothing like hands-on training. If you are new to bowhunting and need a new bow and equipment, try to get to one of the many archery pro shops in your area. They are more than well-equipped and very knowledgeable to set you up with all the equipment you need to get you started.

Here's to you all having a successful, and safe, hunting season. And remember, I love to see and hear about any success stories. Just drop me a pic and a good story and maybe that pic just

might show up in our publication. Hope to hear from you all soon. And remember, be safe out there.

*John Sarlo - Putnam County Rep.
Archer2312@aol.com*

ORANGE COUNTY

Greetings from Orange County,

I hope everyone had a great summer. Fall is fast approaching as well as the season opener. Hopefully, archery skills are in tune and trail cameras in place to give you a shot at the buck of a lifetime. I spent last weekend scouting and located a huge community scrape. My trail camera is in place and I am anxiously awaiting my first pictures.

I recently treated myself and picked up the new Matthew's

Hi Guys & Gals

Well, by the time you receive this report, hopefully the crazy summer of smoke, extreme heat and thunderstorms will be behind us. I am not sure how all the rain and stagnant water will affect the small flies carrying the EHD virus. I received information regarding the virus killing deer in the northeast section of Region 4 last year but didn't hear of any in Greene County so far this year. Biologists at Cornell University and across the country are working on this disease. A fly you can hardly see can spread a virus that can kill a deer in a few days. We can only hope that someone can figure this virus out before it mutates and crosses over to humans. I'm not sure how accurate the DEC is with the deer reporting across the state as you would think permits would be drastically reduced in areas with the EHD problem. I'm totally disgusted with N.Y. in general. If I were a young man I would pack up and leave this state and never look back like thousands are doing now.

If any of you are lucky enough to be heading out west on a hunt this year it would be a good idea to purchase the OnX Hunt app for your phone. If you happen to see the Montana Wardens program on T.V. you'll see the biggest problem is not

Phase 4. It features a 33 inch axle to axle and is set at seventy pounds. It is set up with a new Redline Torch 2 pin sight and a Matthew's QAD rest. This thing is a tack driver!

Be sure to wear your safety harness while climbing and getting into your stands. Personally, I know of two people last year with serious injuries from tree stand accidents. Thankfully (and luckily) both will be back in the stand this year. Also be sure to spray for ticks.

If there's anything you'd like to share such as pictures or thoughts, please feel free to contact me. Be safe and shoot straight.

*Christopher Smith - Orange County Rep.
Bigblue9654@gmail.com*

REGION 4 REPORT

knowing the boundary lines or the unit you're hunting in. The last thing you would want is

to make the long trip out there and receive a summons for trespassing and have your trophy confiscated. Units, BLM, State, Federal and Private land is not always marked. It's your job to know where you are hunting. The OnX Hunt app will show you exactly where you're standing and who owns the land around you. I use it in N.Y. and was surprised to see how some landowners exaggerate boundary lines.

Well, good luck this year and make sure you send in your photos and stories to our hard working editor Cindy. She will fix everything and make you look like a Hemingway.

Take Care, Ed Gorch

Region 4, Greene County Rep.

Oldbowman48@gmail.com 518-755-6263

REGION 5 REPORT

Well summer has hit Region 5 and 3D shoots are seeing a slight decline across the north country. Recently, we had our 2nd 3D shoot with Saturday being for traditional shooters and Sunday open for everyone. Although the predicted weather forecast called for rain on Sunday a little shower showed up around 6 AM and was gone by 7 AM. The rest of the day cooperated with no rain. If any of you have been following the news and weather, you know that some areas around us had some roads and bridges washed away with 2 dams being breached. The good news is that we escaped for the most



Taylor Hall learning the ropes at the grill.

Continues on next page

REGION 5 REPORT - continued from previous page

part.

When you come to the Mt Challenge on August 26th and 27th you will see once again we have been at it, adding onto our pavilion from last year. It will be a garage and storage area for our equipment.

From this project and event we will be moving on to the Northern Challenge Ice fishing Derby to be held on Saturday, February 3rd 2024. Hopefully it will be a little warmer than last year (-35°F). We will once again be giving away 2 ATVs and approximately \$40,000 in cash and prizes.

Dave McMahon

**REGION 6 REPORT**

Another hot summer this year! Thank you, Global Warming. Welcome to the The New Normal weather for NY. Thankfully, it doesn't seem to be affecting local wildlife as far as I can tell. We still have a momma deer and baby hanging around our back yard regularly. Lots of rabbits, squirrels, chipmunks, and a couple of foxes to feed on them. Throw in the twin baby raccoons that have been raiding our bird feeders at night and it is not hard to see mother nature is alive and well despite the weather.

Not much is happening in Region 6. There are a few group events scheduled this summer and a couple of sports shows. Some local archery shops, such as Bear Pac Archery up in Watertown, still run their 3D shoots all summer. When you tire of your solo practice, have a go at the 3D shoots. You know it is best to keep your shooting muscles tuned up for using your bow. The trouble is to take the time to do it. A good time

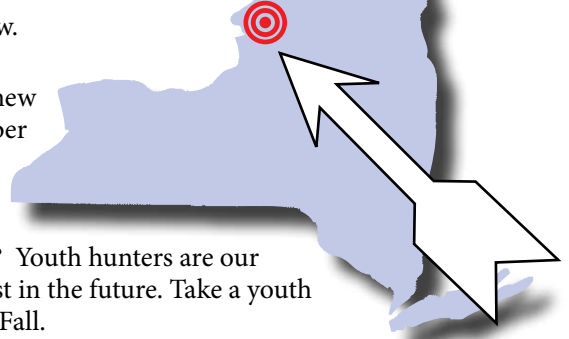
to start is now.

Have you signed up a new Spikes member this year? Or mentor a youth for bowhunting? Youth hunters are our future! Invest in the future. Take a youth hunting this Fall.

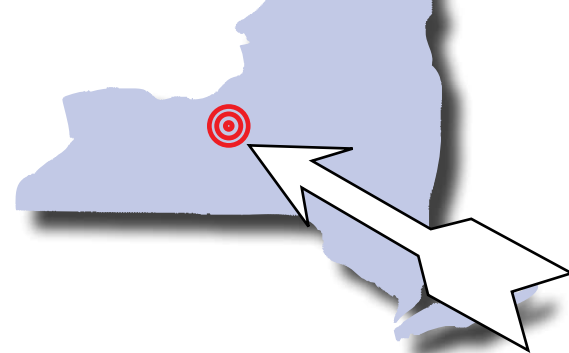
We don't have many Region 6 boosters registered in our area. Sign up your favorite Archery supply shop today or contact me.

Bill Snyder, Region #6 Rep.

bill4nyb@gmail.com



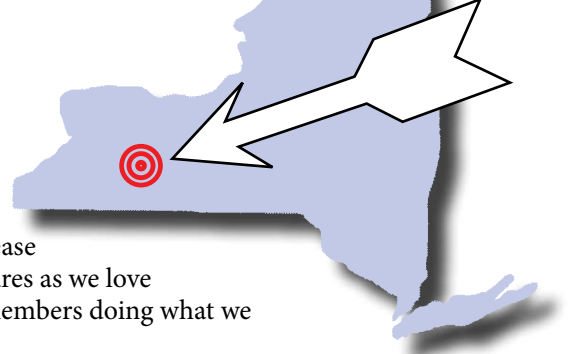
Representative Needed.

REGION 7 REPORT

It's said time flies by faster as we get older and I'm a firm believer! I do love that fall is creeping up on us. Last night was 55 degrees and the sumac is starting to turn red. For Bowhunters this is the busiest time of year for preparing for archery season. Many clubs are having 3D shoots to help sharpen your shooting in different environments. The bucks are really shaping up and it's time to get the cameras out and stands set. By the time this goes to print the time to prepare is over and we will be enjoying our favorite sport. Please use a safety harness. No matter how much we preach this every fall we hear the horror stories. I wear my harness 100% of the time. If I'm ever in a situation that I can't harness in I hunt from the ground. Hopefully you can get some new hunts in the woods this fall. There's nothing that can get a new hunter

hooked quicker than a deer coming into bow range completely unaware you are there. Please send in pictures as we love seeing our members doing what we love.

Bob Brown, Region 8 Representative
waptichasr@aol.com

REGION 8 REPORT

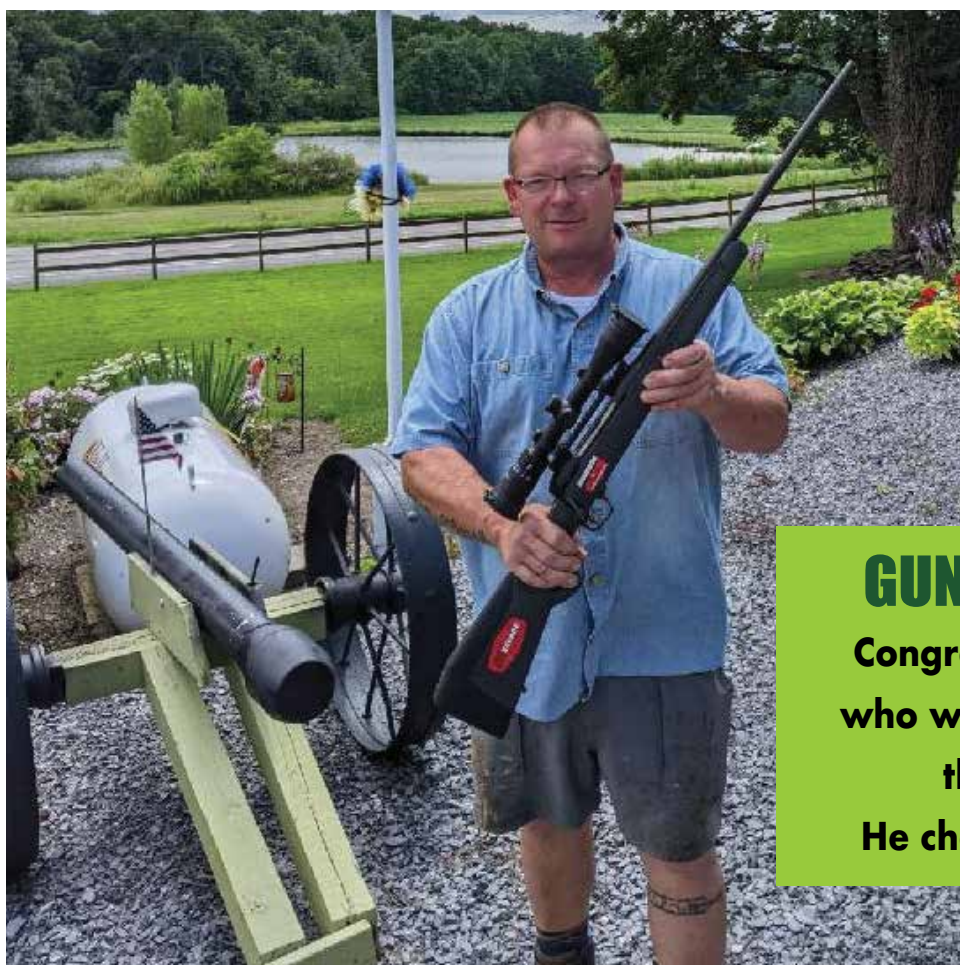
REGION 9 REPORT

Hi everyone, I just wanted to take this time to introduce myself. My name is Vincent D'Agostino. I am the brand new Region 9 representative.

I am from Niagara County and admittedly I don't know much about the rest of the area (my knowledge is in Niagara, Genesee, Orleans, and northern Erie). That being said I'm going to have to rely on the NYB family and friends to inform me about what is going on in your areas of Region 9. I have been an archery hunter since I was 14 years old and the sport has become one of my greatest passions. I live, breathe and surround myself with the outdoors and outdoor knowledge. However, I am no expert and gladly learn more each year and consume the information with an open mind. Now being 30 years old I am a husband and father of two. I've taken my wife hunting with my daughter and soon my son will hit the woods. With the summer ending and fall slipping in and the sheer number of whitetail adults and fawns I have seen, and have survived, I'm sure that this is going to be a great year. The bucks have stopped antler growth and that feeling of anxiousness to be in the treestand or blind is growing heavily in my mind, and I know most of you probably feel the same. However in my area we have the September antlerless season that starts September 9th. I would encourage anybody who's going out during this early season to continue using your archery equipment. I know every legal implement is open,

but the early pressure in the woods, especially in public areas, has had a negative effect for the beginning of regular archery season. I want to wish everyone a safe and prosperous hunting season this year and I hope everyone has success! If anyone wants to message me in Region 9 about what they are seeing, questions, comments, concerns, or anything hunting related please feel free to email me at Vinnydagostino1@gmail.com or find my Facebook page, Cousin Vinny. I hope I can live up to your expectations as your representative and I can't wait to hear about everyone's hunting adventures this year! Take a breath, pick a spot, shoot straight, and remember, never peek. There is plenty of time to look at your animal when your tag is filled out!

All the best, Vincent D'Agostino
Region 9 Representative
Vinnydagostino1@gmail.com



GUN RAFFLE WINNER
Congratulations to Jeff Englin
who was the second winner of
the Banquet Raffle.
He chose the Savage .30-06.



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- ☐ 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 18)

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PHONE: () _____

COUNTY: _____

EMAIL: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

New York Bowhunters, Inc. Membership Application

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PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED FUND: _____

YOUTH PROGRAMS: _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

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A NYB MEMBERSHIP WOULD MAKE A GREAT GIFT!



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

KID'S KORNER



Fall Word Search

C	U	W	V	B	F	K	S	Q	S	W	H	A	R	V	E	S	T	H	G
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APPLE CIDER

PUMPKIN
FOOTBALL
SWEATER
NOVEMBER
SEPTEMBER
SUNFLOWER



The Basics of Treestand Safety

Wear your full-body harness

Hunters must wear their harnesses for them to work. A recent survey of gun deer hunters showed that two-thirds of hunters who hunted from treestands owned a harness but less than one-third of them reported actually using the harness. Another third did not own a full-body harness.

Take a free online tree stand safety course

A 15-minute investment of your time in taking an online safety course could save your life. The Tree Stand Manufacturers Association provides a free, interactive course that you can finish in minutes.

<http://www.huntercourse.com/treestandsafety/>

Basic rules of tree stand safety

No matter what type of treestand you use, the basic rules apply to all of them:

- Always wear a full-body harness also known as a fall-arrest system. Connect to your tether line and keep your tether line short. The tether is designed to keep you in the seat, not to catch you after you fall.
- Always have three points of contact while climbing into and out of the treestand: This means two hands and one foot or two feet and one hand at all times.
- Always use a haul line to raise and lower your unloaded firearm or bow into and out of the stand. You can also use the haul for other things like a heavy backpack.
- Use a lifeline when climbing up and down. This keeps you connected from the time you leave the ground to the time you get back down.

Take these other steps to stay safe

- Be aware of suspension trauma: Suspension trauma can happen in less than 20 minutes and can be fatal. Attaching an additional foot strap to the body harness will take pressure off your upper legs should you fall.
- Select a tree that is substantial enough to support your weight.
- Read, understand and follow all of the manufacturer's recommended procedures.
- Do not alter your equipment.
- Use a short tether between you and the tree when seated in the treestand (there should be no slack in the tether when you are sitting).
- Let people know where you'll be hunting and when you intend to return.
- Carry a cell phone with you so you can call for help if you need assistance when afield.



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: _____

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CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

SPONSOR ADDRESS (if different): _____

In Memoriam

A tribute to those we have lost...

In Memory of
Ty Moore

Donated by
His NYB Friends

In Memory of
Harry Lang

Donated by
Family

In Memory of
Jim McSwigin

Donated by
his NYB family

In Memory of
Larry Hilderbrant

From your loving family
and NYB friends

In Memory of
Ed Fetherbay

Donated by the
Flashing Feathers
Bowhunters

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

1950 – 2014

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.

BETTS KELLY LODGE

SPRING BEAR HUNT



At Betts Kelly Lodge they've found just the right balance between adventure and relaxation. Explore on your own or join one of their experienced guides. The surroundings are beautiful in any season and the log cabins are nestled on the banks of the beautiful Miramichi River in New Brunswick, Canada. Their cabins are equipped with a kitchen with fridge, stove, coffee maker, etc., a dining area, TV/DVD, clean, well-appointed bathrooms and a gas BBQ. Relax in the cozy interior or enjoy the view from the deck.

Betts Kelly Lodge's Spring Bear Hunt begins mid-May and goes to mid-to-late June. Hunters have their choice of bow, rifle or muzzleloader. There are over 85 well-baited sites in three hunting zones. The owners are woodsmen and trappers so they know all the best sites for bear. Three home-cooked meals daily from Monday to Friday are included as well as a licensed guide and transportation to and from bait sites. License is extra.

New York Bowhunters has been sending hunters to Betts Kelly Lodge for several years and everybody sees bear! Buy a chance for this great hunt with the raffle tickets enclosed in this issue. You can also purchase tickets from our website www.NewYorkBowhunters.com.

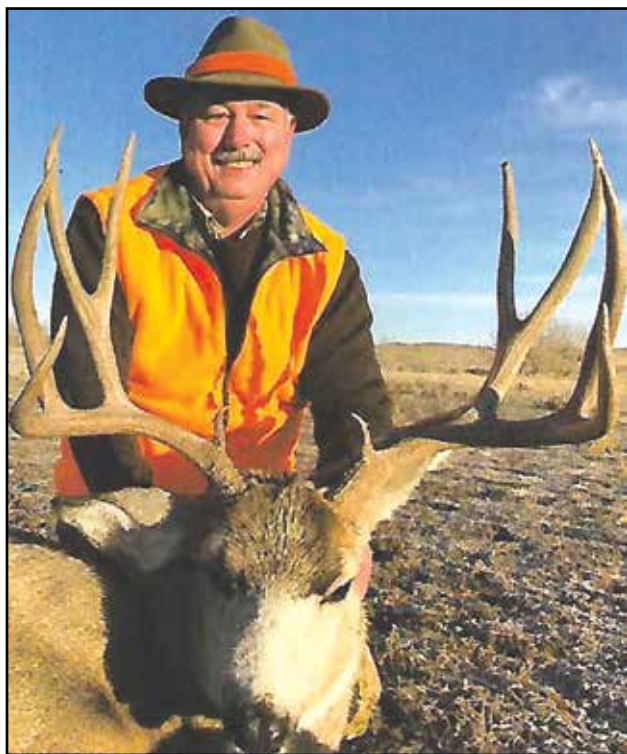


Meal time at Betts Kelly Lodge



*Longtime Member John Moylan presents Betts Kelly Lodge
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E.T.A.R. 2023

(EASTERN TRADITIONAL ARCHERY RENDEZVOUS)

Submitted by Richard Kirschner



(L-R) Jeff Vinson (1991 Charter member), Dale Walburger (1991 Charter member, past Treasurer), Richard Kirschner (Past President 2012-2017), Walt Dixon (1991 Charter member & Past President 1993-1995), Bob Ledrich (Current treasurer), Bob Brown (Current Board of Director) and Tom Weaver (1991 Charter member and Past President 1997-1999)

Once again, dozens of members of NYB converged on ETAR during the last week of July. They joined over 5,000 other archers, all toting recurves, longbows and self-bows for this 5-day event. Participants enjoyed eight different 3D courses (including two mountain courses - peak 2,215 ft.) spread out over the Ski Sawmill Center in Morris, PA. Over 700 campsites were used on location and the area motels were full. The on-premise vendor tents were loaded with bows, arrows, leather goods, art work, arrow building materials, clothing, etc. It was a great opportunity to "test-shoot" a variety of bows on the adjacent practice range. Attendees got to meet and hear Rose Anna Moore's (Finalist from Season 8 "Alone") fascinating story of survival and her encounters with several different Grizzly bears. Monty Browning was on-hand to share his experiences at this year's event as well.

After 40 years of shooting a compound, giving "Trad" a try has giving me great joy, an addictive new challenge and new friends. If you have never shot a traditional bow, I'm not suggesting you switch, but at least give it a try as an additional style. Yes, you will not have the pinpoint accuracy you now possess, but the reward will be the simplicity and freedom this style of archery has to offer. And I promise your compound shooting will not in any way suffer.

With all the goings on and everyone so spread out all day it was impossible to get a group picture with all the NYB members in attendance. If you attend in 2024, please send in some pictures (with captions) to *FullDraw*. The above picture captured several members who "bumped" into each other after the Friday night swap meet.



First Tick Center to Open in NYS

On August 14, the first Tick center opened in Hampton Bays, on Long Island, in Region 1. The Stonybrook South Hampton Hospital's Tick-Borne Disease Center, located in the Hampton Bays Atrium, will serve people who have been bitten by, infected by or still have a tick imbedded in them.

It will be open by appointment only, and will assist in education on tick prevention. It will also distribute tick removal tools and literature.

The immediate **HELP**
line number is
631-726-8425

To make an appointment for
an **ADULT**, the number is
631-725-2112

To make an appointment for
a **CHILD**, the number is
631-444-5437



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 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**

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.

PREPARING FOR OPENING DAY

WHERE WILL YOU HUNT?

As bowhunting season draws closer, an archer's every thought is on that first day on the stand. Regardless of your experience, now is the perfect time to get started. Here are some things you can do now so that you get the most out of your bowhunting this year.

Before fall hunting season begins, find a place to hunt. If you are looking to hunt on public land in New York, check out the DEC's website <http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7844.html#Public>.

Here are some tips on how to get permission to hunt on private land.

- 1.** Ask permission well in advance of the season. Don't show up the week before opening day and expect a positive response. It may happen, but increase your odds by asking weeks or months in advance.
- 2.** Make a good first impression. Don't show up dirty from work or in hunting attire. A shower and clean (non-camo) clothes can go a long way toward receiving permission.
- 3.** Be polite and respectable. Your language and behavior can be the deciding factor, so don't blow it before you even ask. Continue being polite and respectable even if the answer is no. Thank the landowner for his/her time and leave on good terms. Doing so can turn a "no" today into a "yes" in the future. Being impolite or disrespectful is a guaranteed continual "no."
- 4.** Offer to help the landowner. Let them know you're willing to help them for the opportunity to hunt. You can offer to help cut wood, fix fences, pick up trash, or anything else they may need help with. You can also offer to help plant trees, pick rocks, and mark or paint boundary lines. If you're not willing to help the landowner, don't expect them to be willing to help you.
- 5.** Give them your information. Hand them a business card or note card with your name and contact information. Landowners like to know who is on their property and how to contact them if necessary. This is also important if the landowner initially declines your request but reconsiders at a later time or knows another landowner that he/she can pass your information to.
- 6.** Get details on where, when and how. Be sure to ask the landowner where you can and cannot park, when you can and cannot hunt, etc.
- 7.** Give back. Hunting on someone's land is a big privilege, so give something back to the landowner to show your appreciation. A shared turkey, some venison, thank-you cards, Christmas cards, and other tokens of appreciation go a long way toward receiving permission again in the future.



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TIPS TO INCREASE KINETIC ENERGY ON LOW POUNDAGE BOWS

by Cindy Phillips

You don't need a heavy-poundage bow to consistently be a successful bowhunter.

Today's bows are easier to draw, require less poundage to hold at full draw, and are vastly more efficient than bows of even a few years ago. Here are some tips for getting more punch out of your shots.

TIP #1 USE CUT-ON-CONTACT BROADHEADS

The force required to punch a wide or expandable head through an animal's hide is fairly substantial. While a higher-poundage bow launches an arrow with plenty of energy to penetrate the hide and continue cutting its way through internal organs, low-energy arrows can't afford to lose the momentum needed to punch that style of head through hide. A narrow, cut-on-contact head starts slicing the second it contacts the animal. These heads slip more easily through the hide, leaving more energy in the arrow to push deeply into the animal.



TIP #2 USE A FALL-AWAY ARROW REST

While it is true that contact style arrow rests only slow an arrow a fraction, every little bit counts when you are dealing with a low-Kenetic energy arrow to begin with. Since drop-away rests eliminate all contact with the arrow at the moment of release, no speed is scrubbed.



TIP #3 USE A HEAVY, LOW DIAMETER ARROW

All other things being equal, a heavier arrow at a slightly lower speed will out-penetrate a lighter arrow at a slightly faster speed. Along those same lines, pick the skinniest shaft available. The thinner the diameter of the arrow, the less drag put on it as it passes through an animal. Another advantage is narrow diameter shafts cut down on wind drift.

TIP #4 KEEP YOUR BOW TUNED

Arrows need to fly perfectly straight to hit the target with maximum momentum. Any wobble vertically (porpoising), or horizontally (fishtailing), will bleed speed and energy from the arrow. A broadhead that strikes the target perfectly straight will also penetrate much better than the same head hitting the target at a slight angle. You can check arrow flight by shooting through a sheet of paper suspended several feet in front of your target. A perfectly tuned bow will leave a small, round hole in the paper with the fletching tears centered perfectly over the arrow hole. If your paper is torn in any direction, adjust the rest or nock point to eliminate wobble.

TIP #5 PICK YOUR SHOT

With any archery equipment, shot placement is crucial. But with heavier, faster equipment, there is more margin for error. Shots with low-poundage equipment should be limited to broadside or quartering-away deer. While low-energy arrows might completely penetrate a deer's lungs on a broadside shot, they probably won't blast through heavy bone or muscle. Stay away from the shoulder blade and avoid quartering-to shots. Spend plenty of time studying the anatomy of the game you intend to hunt so that you will know exactly where to aim your arrow for maximum penetration.

TIP #6 GET CLOSE!

Probably the most effective way to get maximum penetration from a low-poundage bow is to keep the shots close (20 yards and under). Besides maintaining near-maximum KE at those distances, close shots also cut down on the chance that a deer might jump or move before the arrow arrives, leaving the archer with a less-than-perfect hit on a shoulder blade or through heavy shoulder muscle. Treestands should be positioned fairly low in the tree when hunting with low-poundage equipment. A stand over 15 feet high narrows the kill zone and increases the amount of distance the broadhead has to travel inside the deer for complete penetration.



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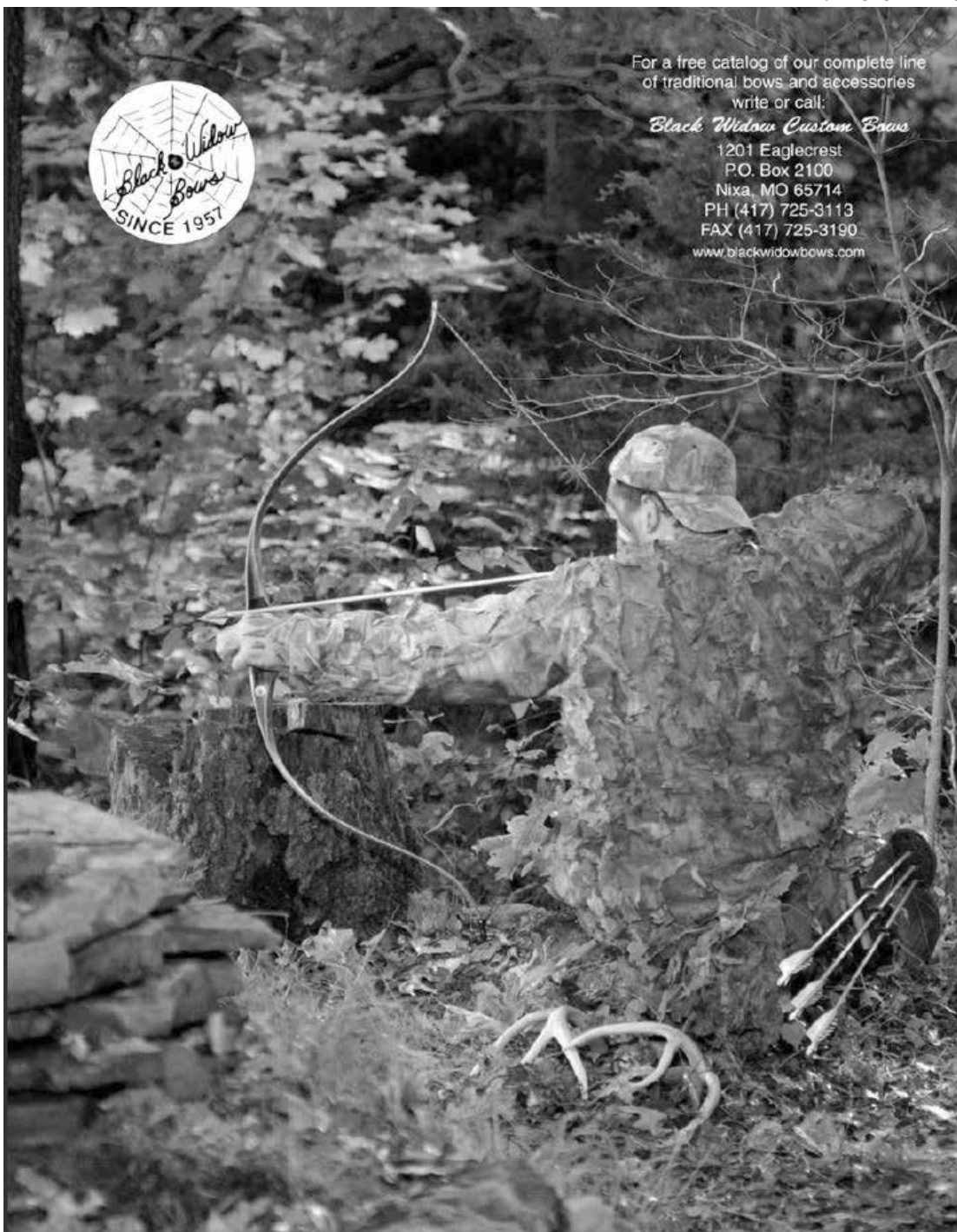
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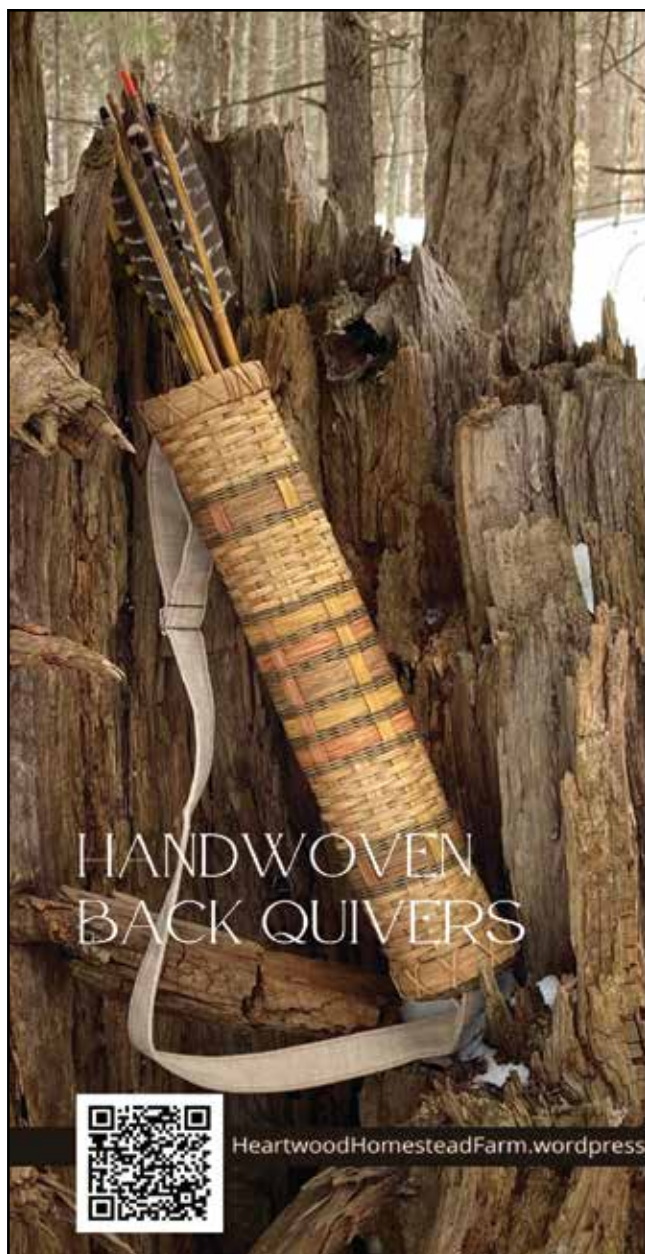


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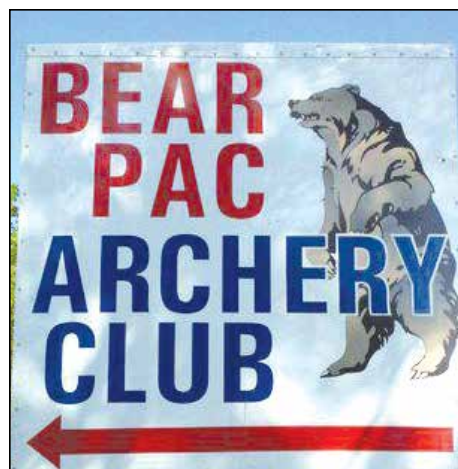
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NATURE'S GRACE

BY Donald Plant



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MEMBER PHOTOS

D'Andre Clayton Gets a Bullseye



Major Chris Morosai, Camo to Camo Vet hunt recipient, with his Betts Kelly Lodge Bear



Members of the Flashing Feathers Bowhunters (NYB Boosters) recently had the opportunity to teach archery to physically challenged individuals at Camp Badger in the Danby State Forest. Once a week, for 5 weeks, these individuals gave of their time for this very rewarding program.

