

# 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*  
2024

**WILLIAM  
REILLY**

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

a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization

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## From the President's Desk

*President's Report by Andrew Cotraccia*

Greetings NYB Members,

I want to express my appreciation and gratitude to those who were able to attend NYB's 33rd Banquet and Rendezvous event at the beautiful Sunny Hill Resort.

The weather was amazing and the weekend flew by. Thank you also to our Guest Speaker John Gardner. John is an incredible ambassador to bowhunting and his contributions to Colorado bowhunting & the Colorado Bowhunters Association spanned an unbelievable 5 decades. John's presentation during dinner Saturday night was enjoyed by all. Next year's Banquet information will appear in *FullDraw* as we move to finalize the date.

Congratulations and thank you to the NYB Board Directors for their continued support and for carrying the organization another year: Greg Masaitis, Bob Brown, Ed Gorch, Merritt Compton, Bill Snyder, Al Bottari, Kathy Savage, Richard Kirschner, Mike Farrugia, Annie Jacobs, Bob Ledrich, Aaron Barton, Cindy Phillips, and Sammy Divietro. I can promise you there isn't a more dedicated and selfless group of people I've ever met in my entire life. Each and every one of our members inspires us to serve because we are all volunteers. Some of our Directors have been serving NYB for years; others have been for decades. We have a passion for bowhunting and for helping each other, but it's getting harder and harder. We desperately need new people to step up and continue the tradition. I'm concerned for the future of bowhunting in NYS because volunteerism is way down. I read a very interesting article about how high school and college students are less likely to volunteer or give to charity today than they were 15 years ago. The U.S. Surgeon General declared that there is an epidemic of loneliness and isolation with nearly 50% of young adults experiencing loneliness. It's no wonder since our country has never been more divided or polarized. The author makes an interesting correlation between the increase in polarization in society and the decrease in volunteering, saying "volunteering brings people together to solve common problems, whether it's in their community or on a large scale. Working side by side with people [...] helps us see each other's humanity." If we feel we are in the trenches together, it gives us a sense of accomplishment and connection. So, 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 33 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 in the Assembly and Senate Environmental Conservation Committee related to expanding crossbow hunting opportunities. NYB leaders have spoken with our contacts in Albany recently. Thankfully, they do not see any advancement of crossbow legislation coming out of the committee this year. They also mentioned receiving both pro and con phone calls regarding crossbow expansion, and made a point to emphasize that those received against far outnumbered those received that were for. NYB, KEEP IT UP! Ensuring we reach the most influential in Albany has been NYB's focus over the past several years. We are evolving our tactics based on the recommendations of our contacts in Albany but phone calls are still one of the most effective and impactful ways to reach our elected representatives to voice our concerns. Surprisingly, at this point in time, logic and reasoning are ruling this fight. Those on the Encon Committees recognize the advancement of crossbow technology in relation to traditional archery equipment and understand the special nature of our archery season. 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.*





# OUTDOOR FUND GRANT AWARD

The Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's Outdoor Fund is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit charity that supports conservation efforts and outdoor education initiatives. The fund was created to link the generous spirit of hunters and anglers with the wild creatures and wild places that give so much to us all.

The mission of the Outdoor Fund is to support conservation and education initiatives that conserve fish and wildlife habitat, introduce new audiences to the outdoors, and protect our hunting and fishing heritage.

The Outdoor Fund is supported by Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's customers who "round up" their purchases at the register, donating the change to the fund. The fund also accepts one-time donations and grants from partners and organizations.

The Outdoor Fund supports a wide range of conservation projects and initiatives, including:

- Habitat conservation and restoration
- Wildlife conservation and research
- Outdoor education and outreach programs
- Community-based conservation projects

The Outdoor Fund has made a significant impact on conservation efforts across North America, supporting thousands of local, regional, national, and international projects. The Outdoor Fund provides grants to non-profit organizations and community groups that align with its mission and goals. The fund also provides funding for specific conservation projects and initiatives.

Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's are committed to supporting conservation efforts and outdoor education initiatives through the Outdoor Fund. The company's founder, Johnny Morris, is a passionate advocate for conservation and outdoor recreation.



*Bass Pro Shops' HR Coordinator Seana Taylor presenting grant award to NYB's Youth Activities Coordinator Cindy Phillips*

New York Bowhunters, Inc applied for, and was awarded, a \$1,000 grant to use in our youth programs. It is an honor to partner with Bass Pro Shops/Cabela's as together we inspire our youth to enjoy, love, and conserve the great outdoors!



*Some of the youths who will benefit from the Bass Pro Shops/ Cabela's grant*

# ATTENTION HUNTERS!

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If you would like to donate venison to the local food pantries, **Berkshire View Farm Butcher Shop** will process, free of charge, any legally tagged, partial or whole deer to be donated to our local food pantries.

**For more information,  
contact Dana and Bill Garramone  
(518) 731-1316 or (518) 596-4042  
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# 3D SHOOTS

This schedule is posted as a convenience to the subscribers of *FullDraw* magazine. These events are hosted by the individual clubs as shown and not New York Bowhunters. Those clubs below indicated with an asterisk are NYB Boosters and supporters. When you attend those shoots, please let them know you are an NYB member and thank them for their support when you register. Individual clubs' websites (or social media) pages should be checked for details, changes, cancellations, and directions.

## REGION #3

- June** 30-Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club  
30-Walden Sportsmen's Club
- July** 7-Neighbors Gun Club  
7-Monroe Chester Sportsmen Club  
14-Bethlehem Rod & Gun Club  
14-Wittenberg Sportsmen Club  
21-Ti Yogi Bowmen  
21-Black Rock Fish & Game Club  
28-Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club
- Aug.** 4-Bethlehem Rod & Gun Club  
4-Highwoods Sportsmen's Club  
11-Wittenberg Sportsmen Club  
11-Monroe Chester Sportsmen Club  
18-Ti Yogi Bowmen  
18-Walden Sportsmen's Club  
25-Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club  
25-Black Rock Fish & Game Club
- Sept.** 1-Wittenberg Sportsmen Club  
8-Highwoods Sportsmen's Club  
8-Silver Birch  
15-Ti Yogi Bowmen  
22-Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club  
22-Monroe Chester Sportsmen Club  
29-Neighbors Gun Club
- Oct.** 6-Ti Yogi Bowmen (Traditional Only)  
26-Ti Yogi Bowmen (Zombie Shoot-7PM)
- Dec.** 8-Highwoods Sportsmen's Club

## REGION #5

- July 6** ..... Norfolk
- July 14** ..... Tupper Lake
- Aug. 17-18** ..... Bear Pac
- Aug. 24-25** ..... 30 Years of Mt. Challenge
- Aug. 31** ..... Norfolk Traditional Day
- Sept. 1** ..... Norfolk
- Sept. 14** ..... Bear Pac...Night Shoot
- Sept. 22** ..... Peru

## REGION #7

- June** 30-Cortland Field Archers
- July** 7-July 4th weekend (Tues)  
27 & 28-Deerslayer Bowman (ASA)
- Aug.** 4-Deerslayer Bowman  
11-Clay Sportsman  
18-Cortland Field Archers  
25-Mountain Trail Bowhunters



# Hawkeye Bowmen Archery Club Events 2024

13300 Clinton Street, Alden, NY 14004

## YOUTH ARCHERY CLINIC

**July 8th**

**July 15th**

**July 22nd**

**July 29th**

**August 16th-18th**

## 31ST ANNUAL TRADITIONAL SHOOT

Open to the public | Traditional Equipment Only

**September 2nd**

## LABOR DAY SHOOT

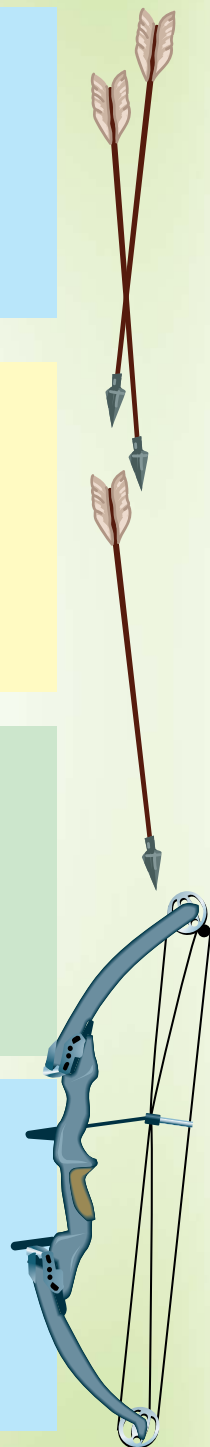
Open to the public | All equipment welcome.  
Registration 7AM-12PM | Courses close at 2PM  
Cost is \$12

**September 7th and 8th**

## FALL FESTIVAL CRAFT & VENDOR SHOW

**Saturday 10AM-4PM & 7:30AM-9:30PM**  
**Sunday 10AM-3PM**

Please visit our website [www.hawkeyebowmen.com](http://www.hawkeyebowmen.com) for more details about each of our events and follow us on Facebook, Instagram and X.



# 2024 BANQUET REPORT

NYB celebrated its 33rd Annual Banquet/Rendezvous at the beautiful and, most accommodating, Sunny Hill Resort. As NYB's primary fundraiser the Banquet offers plenty of opportunities to win items, from 50/50 raffles, novelty games, Elk Shoot-off, card raffles and can raffles to door prizes and Silent Auctions. All funds raised enable us to promote and protect bowhunting in New York.

In addition to a Friday BBQ (always a favorite) a challenging 3D course was available all weekend. The Elk Shoot-off is something many members wait all year for. About 20 people were able to qualify for the shoot-off and Rich Kirschner just squeaked past Mike Savage for the win!

At the Annual Business Meeting President Andrew filled us in 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.



*President Andrew presenting the State of the Organization report.*

A personal favorite for many, our can raffle was once again loaded with great outdoor-related items and more. We are thankful for the donations we received from so many generous individuals and companies and the NYB volunteers who gathered donations and set-up the tables.

Congratulations to Bill Cramer, NYB member from Tupper Lake, as the grand prize winner of the 2023 Spring Raffle. He chose the custom Black Widow recurve. Thank you to all participants and good luck in our fall raffle, coming shortly!

Saturday ended with our Banquet and Silent Auction. After dinner William Reilly from Region 3 was awarded the Youth of the Year Award.



*Region 3 Representative Harry Walker presenting William Reilly's Youth of the Year Award.*

Black Rifle Coffee Company was awarded Vendor of the Year. Their faithful donations of coffee and other items helps make our Can Raffles so attractive.



*President Andrew presenting Vendor of the Year Award to Samantha DiVietro on behalf of Black Rifle Coffee.*



*Tupper Lake Archers once again presented a check to Ed Gorch for NYB's Camo to Camo program.*

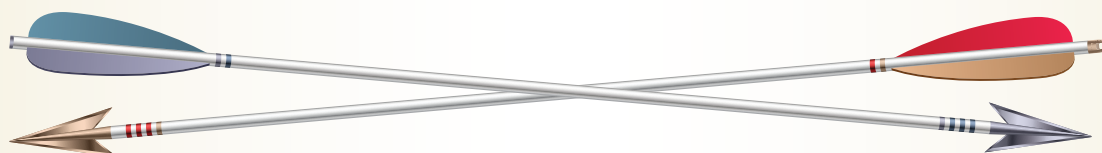


*Guest speaker John Gardner*

Our Banquet speaker was John Gardner from Colorado who is a big game hunter and guide. His presentation was captivating and the photos he shared were breathtaking. John was the second person to complete the Colorado "Big Nine" with a recurve bow and the only one to do it twice!

While it is impossible to thank everyone who made our weekend such a success we'd be remiss to not mention the hard workers at the registration and auction table; Annie Jacobs, Mary Ann Compton and Debbie Ledrich. We are ever so grateful for tireless Kathy Savage who spends countless hours organizing and listing the silent auction items. We are thankful for all those who donated items for the raffles and auction. Thanks also to Heather Cotraccia who took photographs and lastly, Greg Masaitis, our Banquet Chairman. Most importantly thank you to everyone who attended our gathering. Your participation is what makes this organization great!

If you are a member of NYB, and have never been to our Banquet, we guarantee you will have a most enjoyable weekend. Join us next year! Details will appear in future issues of *FullDraw*.



# 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

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

**Tupper Lake Archers**  
PO Box 752  
Tupper Lake, NY 12986  
Dave McMahon  
518-359-9715

**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 Bowmen, Inc.**  
13300 Clinton St.  
Alden, NY 14004  
stickbowdave@gmail.com  
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## Region 1:

**Mad Dog Plumbing, Steam and Radiant Heat**  
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**Suffolk Archers, Inc.**  
86 Pigeon Hill Rd.  
Huntington Station, NY 11746

## Region 2:

**John Jasilli, Esq.**  
708 3rd Avenue, 6th Floor  
New York, NY 10017  
john@jajasilliesq.com

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

**Drago Suster**  
40 Tehama St., 2F  
Brooklyn, NY 11218  
milkeysuster@yahoo.com

## Region 3:

**All Things Accuracy**  
25 Sullivan Ave.  
Liberty, NY 12790  
845-650-1354  
allthingsaccuracy@gmail.com

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

**Bethlehem Rod & Gun Club**  
239 Carter Ave.  
Newburgh, NY 12550  
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**  
PO Box 93  
Saugerties, NY 12477  
845-246-4717  
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

**Sullivan County Archers**  
149 S. Shore Dr.  
Wurtsboro, NY 12790  
Harry Walker  
845-701-6603  
bowbender@hvc.rr.com

**Ti Yogi Bowmen**  
57 Mill Rd.  
Hyde Park, NY 12538  
Sean Royster  
845-418-0465  
tiyogibowmenny@gmail.com  
www.tiyogi.com

**Wittenberg Sportsmen Club, Inc.**  
PO Box 930  
Woodstock, NY 12498  
545-594-5056  
billheinitz@gmail.com

## Region 4:

**Burnt Knob Mountain Escape**  
303 Bogardus Rd.  
Acra, NY 12405  
Les Armstrong  
518-929-2443  
Airbnb.com

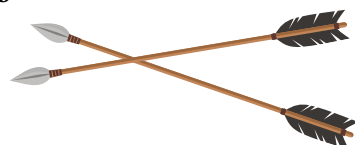
**Green Island Rod & Gun Club**  
PO Box 25  
Melrose, NY 12121  
girodandgunclub@wildblue.net

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

**Rensselaer County Conservation Alliance**  
PO Box 179  
West Sand Lake, NY 12196  
518-821-9372

## Region 6:

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



## 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 Rd.  
Seneca Falls, NY 13148-9713  
315-568-5422

### Bill Fox & Son Construction & Remodeling

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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 Rd.  
Webster, NY 14580  
585-671-4420

## Region 9:

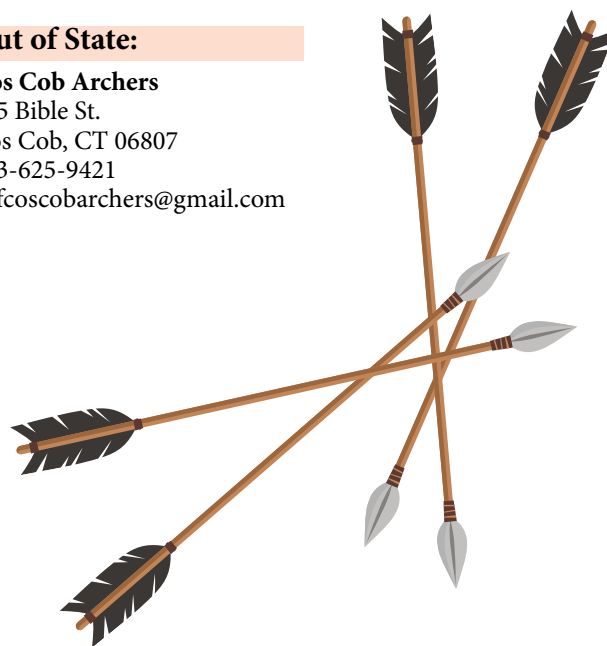
### Little Ridge Archery

8862 Ridge Rd.  
Gasport, NY 14067  
716-772-7753

## Out of State:

### Cos Cob Archers

205 Bible St.  
Cos Cob, CT 06807  
203-625-9421  
jeffcoscobarchers@gmail.com



**If you have any NYB Applications with our old PO Box mailing address, please discard them. Contact the Home Office for new applications.**

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WEDNESDAYS-12:00 AM



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

# FULLDRAW

## REGION REPORTS

### REGION 1 REPORT

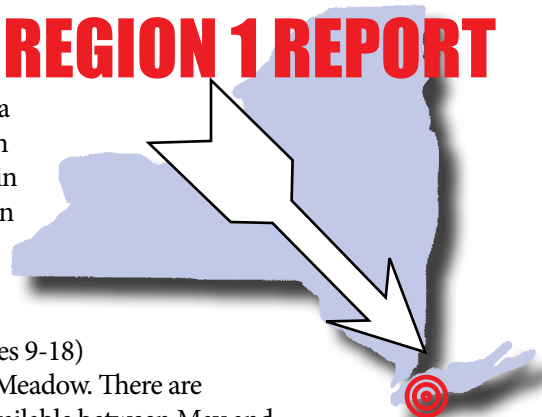
Hello fellow members!

I am sure a bunch of you have been keeping busy, engaging in some off-season shenanigans like scouting for those elusive turkeys, hunting down shed antlers like it's an Easter egg hunt for adults, and, of course, indulging in the culinary delights of last season's harvest. I don't know about anyone else, but venison jerky is like the gourmet snack that disappears quicker than a rabbit down a rabbit hole in my household!

Here in Region 1 we've had some great 3D shoots recently. One of them was at the archery forum out in Medford for the fifth year in a row! New York Bowhunters was generous to contribute some donations, with three yearly memberships and subscriptions to our beloved *FullDraw* magazine. And that isn't all! Smith Point Archery is showing some love to our service folks - you know, the real MVPs like military, police, firefighters, and veterans - by dishing out V.I.P cards. Six months of shooting bliss, plus discounts on bow purchases and merch? Sign me up!

As always, Julia Weisenberg from Shelter Island is in the mix of Region 1 archery! Julia is teaching a free youth archery class (ages 9-18) at the St. Gabe's Meadow. There are multiple dates available between May and June. For more information call (631) 749-0309 or email [bortmann@shelterislandtown.us](mailto:bortmann@shelterislandtown.us).

*Best regards,*  
**Mike Farrugia**  
(516) 615-3029  
[Mfarrugia47@gmail.com](mailto:Mfarrugia47@gmail.com)



### REGION 2 REPORT

Hello fellow bowhunters,

I hope that everyone who ventured out this past May to go after Spring turkeys was successful. They are one of the most difficult of all game to kill with a bow. They can see in color for 300 degrees without turning their heads, they can hear up to 2 miles away, and can see for hundreds of yards. If they had a sense of smell, I think their sightings would be few and far between.

Thanks to everyone who attended our Annual Banquet. My time was cut very short due to a family commitment. I love spending time with everyone and catching up.

A special thanks to the Giandana family for their very generous donation in memory of their son and Region 2 Rep, Charles (Chuck) Giandana. He is missed, but his memory and spirit live on.

Practice, practice, practice. Get out to the range and let those arrows fly, especially if you have a new set up. Consistency is key. Be diligent to the point that it becomes a part of you. When the opportunity presents itself to loosen an arrow, you will be ready.

Good luck to everyone this Fall. Mentor a new hunter into the brethren, especially a young hunter.

May God Bless America and all defend her both home and abroad.

*All the best,*  
**Al Bottari**  
Region 2 Rep, Board of Director  
[bluehillhunta@optonline.net](mailto:bluehillhunta@optonline.net)

}}}}----->



## REGION 3 REPORT

I just got back from the NYB Banquet/Rendezvous celebrating our 33rd year. This was the 9th year it was held at Sunny Hill in Greenville, NY. We were all captivated by Colorado's John Gardner's presentation on Saturday night and so appreciate him making the trip for us. Next year's details are not yet planned, but if you have never attended (or have) I urge you to put it on your calendar as soon as it's announced. Personally, it was great seeing all of you in attendance and spending a little time with old friends and new, from all across the entire state (and beyond). You are friends and family with whom we all share the same bowhunting values. I know so many of you from emails and phone calls. It was nice to get together in person. Thank you all for attending and supporting NYB.

2023 Deer Harvest report is available. The entire state showed a decrease from the year before as well as below the five-year average. This includes overall kill, muzzleloader and archery. A very large drop in the antlerless harvest has the DEC looking at ways to motivate hunters to increase the antlerless rate. The state archery take this past season was down to 39,271 from the previous year's 45,333 and down from the five year average of 52,284 (that's a 25% drop!). And in case you are wondering, the crossbow deer take of 2023 showed an increase from previous year in light of all of this. Although a slight increase, it was the only category to go up in kills. Complete breakdowns of zones, counties, etc. can be found online through the NYS DEC website.

Many NYB members also volunteer their time as NYS Hunting Safety Instructors. I noticed the following Region 3 NYB members were recently acknowledged for various instructor service milestones: 40 Year Award to NYB Life member from Westchester, Andrew Szczesniak; 30 Year Award to NYB Life member from Orange, Elman Groom; 20 Year Award to Alfred Grimaldi (Al, I see you moved down south, it's great to see you sticking with NYB); 15 Year Award to NYB Benefactor member from Westchester, Carmine Marranzino (nice Hancock deer last year pal!); and a 5 Year Award to Joseph Utera of Ulster County. Thanks to all of you as well as all the other instructors out there. If I am made aware of it, I'll mention you as you achieve your various milestones as well.

Attention New Jersey members: I know NYB has several members who reside in our neighboring state (big thank you for your support). If you enjoy shooting for its own sake, or just want to practice your hunting skills year-round, there are many active archery clubs in NJ. If you contact Gene Grodzki at ggrodzki@optonline.net and let him know you're interested, he will add you to his Central Jersey Archery News (CJAN) contact list for upcoming events.

Thank you to longtime Ulster County Representative, Bob Di Giacomo, who will be hanging up his pen. More about that in the Ulster section. And welcome aboard the Region 3 Team to

Matt Sweeney who is the new Westchester County representative.

Matt, great to finally get together at Sunny Hill!

The remaining 3D shoots for the year in Region 3 (which I am aware of) are posted elsewhere in this issue. They're always fun. If you choose to score it is for your own use, not collected. It is never too soon to keep your shooting skills sharp. And ETAR (Eastern Traditional Archery Rendezvous) is just around the corner (July 24-28). I don't care if you shoot a compound (many of us shoot both), grab a recurve and some arrows and enjoy the eight courses and thousands of passionate archers whom will be gathered at Sawmill Family Ski Center in Morris, PA.

Locally, there is an NYFAB Triple Crown Qualifying event being held at Ti Yogi Bowmen on June 22. Check social media for more details.

A great wrap up to the summer and start to the fall is the annual Tupper Lake Archers - Mountain Challenge on August 24 & 25. A great bunch of NYB members up there will have two full 3D courses set up in the scenic Adirondacks. All styles of shooting and all ages are welcome. A few of us will be heading up a day or two early as we fish, canoe, etc. before the weekend. Let me know if you're interested.

Feel free to contact me about any of the above or for any bowhunting or NYB related thoughts or ideas. Don't wait till August to start shooting as there is plenty of local opportunity going on right now. Have a safe, enjoyable summer.

**Richard Kirschmer**  
Region 3 Rep/Board of Director  
bowrichny@aol.com  
(914) 330-1419

## SULLIVAN COUNTY

Sullivan County Archers Youth Education Days will be held on July 13th and 14th at the Sullivan County Conservation Club in Bethel, NY. We cover all the things needed to instruct hunting bear and deer with a bow, along with the usual archery instruction. On Sunday we give the DEC test so the kids can get their archery certificate well before the archery season. There is mandatory homework to be done before the class so get in touch with me as soon as possible so we can mail out the booklets. As of now we take Region 3 youths 11 to 16 years old. We may have to open that weekend to other adjoining Regions because this will be the only one held in the entire state this year. My contact information is at the end of this column.

**Continues on next page**

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

Archery leagues State-wide for the Spring and Summer 3D season is well under way. They are a great way to get together with other archers and hone those shooting skills. Please see Tri County Archers and other 3D schedules elsewhere in this issue. The Winter and Spring leagues at "All Things Accuracy" in Liberty were great. Mike is looking to increase the shooting distance, especially for the indoor 3D, so look for some changes in the future.

If you didn't attend this year's NYB Banquet & Rendezvous in Greenville, NY at Sunny Hill Resort you missed another great NYB gathering. I was pleased to give out an award to a local youth from Bethel, NY for the NYB Youth of the Year. William Reilly is an avid sportsman and enjoys hunting, fishing, and archery. He shoots trap on the Monticello High School trap team, and shoots in both archery leagues at the Liberty range. He has attended the SCA youth camp twice and I hope to get him as an assistant this year. Congratulations, Will!

*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 bowhunters. As I write this from my Turkey blind, I hope you are enjoying the outdoors as much as possible also. With AC season starting, my free time is about to get very limited. This season started out very memorable for myself. I was able to accompany my 11-year-old son on his first hunt behind the trigger. NJ allows youths to start hunting at 10 years of age. Special thanks to my cousin Shamus for his calling skills and congratulations to my son, Matthew, on his first Turkey.

I had an opportunity to attend the new outdoor show at RCC. Although the number of vendors was not as plentiful as in the past, my personal opinion is it should get better. We will look into having a booth next year for NYB.

The Office for People with Disabilities invites the public to the County's first Accessible Family Fun Day, Sunday, June 23, 2024. The FREE event will cater to ages 12 and up with special needs featuring adaptive sports for all abilities and an array of interactive arts, music, and other activities. NYB members will be assisting in the archery event. It's a great way to give back some time to wonderful people in our community and to share our passion for archery. If you have some time to help please reach out to me as we could use a few extra hands.

I hope you had a chance to come to the Banquet & Rendezvous this year. My family was able to attend with me for the first time and what a blast we all had. I had the chance to meet with many members, both old friends and new. The can raffle tables were full of gear and many members left with great prizes. The evening auction saw many good deals on hunts, wildlife art, gear, etc.

As always, I ask you to please reach out to me with anything related to Rockland bowhunting, or anything I can address with the organization.

*"Nock 'em dead" >>>----->*  
*Curt Carney*  
*Rockland County Rep*  
*Ccarney8799@gmail.com*

**DUTCHESS COUNTY**

Greetings All,

Another year, another great Banquet and Rendezvous at Sunny Hill Resort. I never get tired of seeing my NYB friends and sharing 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 also like to thank all our NYB members who made this event possible, especially Ed Gorch, The Tupper Lake Crew, as well as Rich and Andrew Kirschner for setting up the 3D course this year! Of course, we cannot forget our "tireless" Annie Jacobs and her crew, Mary Ann Compton and Debbie Ledrich. I would be remiss if I did not congratulate Rich Kirschner on winning his third Elk shoot off after a hard-fought battle with Tupper Lake's Mike Savage. (Due to injury, Mike was shooting left-handed and still made it to the final.)

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 and Lower Hudson Valley area. However, due to back surgery in March, my shooting has been extremely limited. Usually, Rich Kirschner and I, along with a few Ti Yogi members (also NYB members), travel to whatever club is hosting that week's event. We enjoy shooting, busting chops and getting together with the club's members for a burger afterwards. We have also made many contacts who have become NYB members and Boosters. My goal now is to make the Eastern Traditional Archery Rendezvous (ETAR) near Wellsboro, PA.

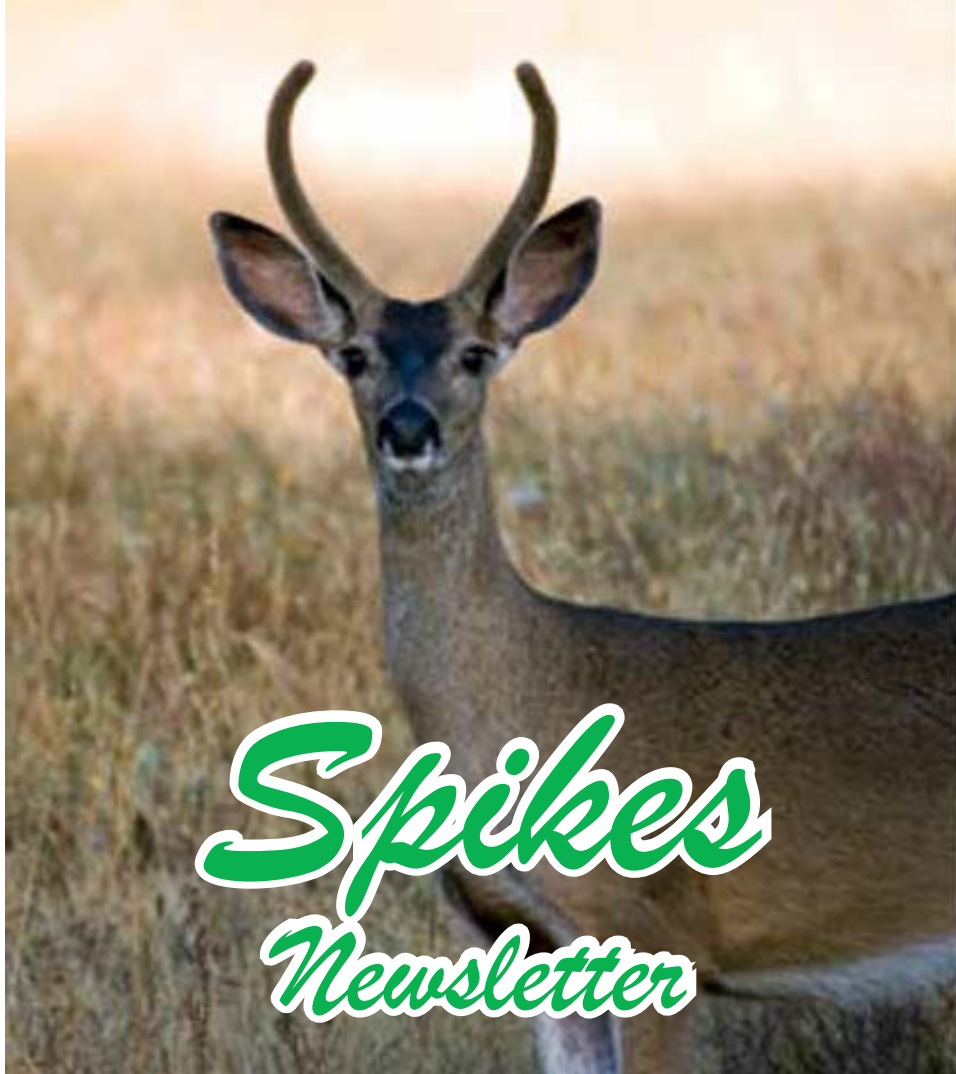
Please let me know of anything you would like reported for the next issue. Your input is more than welcome. I look forward to hearing from you! That's about it from Dutchess County for now. Stay Healthy and get out there and do some shooting.

*"Keep em Sharp"*  
*Bob Ledrich*  
*Dutchess County Rep/Treasurer*  
*ledrich@optonline.net*  
*(914) 475-4190*

**PUTNAM COUNTY**

Hello again NY Bowhunters,

With opening day here in NY being just a little over 5 months away, we should all be thinking about getting our bows



## Summer 2024

### 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

# KIDS KORNER



## WELCOME SUMMER



Can you  
spot the 10  
differences  
between these  
two sets of five  
spotted cows?

C	X	A	G	N	B	H	R	C	I	Y	J	D	L	M	K	R	A	P	E	M	E	H	T
A	A	T	E	P	A	R	T	I	E	S	V	F	R	U	G	A	D	H	B	T	I	J	N
M	L	R	H	J	W	K	K	E	Y	S	E	I	L	F	E	R	I	F	B	L	E	U	K
P	B	M	N	T	K	E	O	Y	F	P	O	U	Q	I	W	X	R	I	H	F	S	M	O
I	L	D	V	I	C	E	C	R	E	A	M	R	X	S	D	W	Y	R	G	L	Y	P	Z
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AUGUST  
BEACH  
BIKES  
CAMPING  
CARNIVAL  
COOKOUTS  
FIREFLIES  
FIREWORKS

FISHING  
FLIPFLOPS  
FUN  
HULA HOOPS  
ICE CREAM  
JULY  
JUMPROPE  
JUNE

MOVIES  
PARADES  
PARTIES  
PICNICS  
POOL  
POPSICLES  
ROLLERCOASTER  
SANDALS

SPRINKLER  
SNOWCONES  
SUNGLASSES  
SUNSCREEN  
SWIMMING  
THEME PARK  
VACATION

## Aim Small, Miss Small – What does this mean to Archers?

**Aim small, miss small** is a popular phrase often used in the context of archery, shooting, and other precision sports. (*Interesting fact - legendary golf instructor Harvey Penick coined the phrase back in the 1930s. American snipers have adopted it and use it as a mantra for better accuracy.*) The idea behind this mantra is to aim at a small target within a larger one, with the goal of hitting the small target with any near miss still being effective. This means when you focus on a tiny spot, if you miss, your arrow will be closer to the target than if you had aimed for a general, larger area. This approach is believed to improve accuracy and precision, as it requires the archer to focus on a specific point and ignore the surrounding area.

In archery, aiming small resulting in “miss small” can be achieved by focusing on a specific spot on the target, such as the center of the bullseye, a small ring within the target or the “magic marble” in a game animal. This approach helps to reduce the margin of error and increase the chances of hitting the desired spot. By aiming at a small target, archers can develop a more precise and controlled shot, which can lead to improved score, more kills and better overall performance.

As bowhunters our goal is a quick kill with a fast recovery. If we can practice for this scenario and accomplish it afield we would consider our hunt “successful.” So how exactly do we accomplish this?

**First we need to understand deer anatomy and shot angle** to aim for the small spot on the game animal. While there is more to this than can fit in this article, the main point is to imagine a marble on the inside of the deer located about halfway down the body, in line with the front leg (a.k.a. The “magic marble”).



**Secondly we need to practice shooting at a marble-sized point within our target.** It might be the center of the bullseye, the inner ring on a target or the kill-zone on a 3D target.

**Finally focus on the target rather than the sight.** The sight is just a reference point to help you aim, but the target is the ultimate goal. By focusing on the target, you can maintain a steady and consistent aim, which is essential for accuracy.



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 insert, which is geared towards hunting and contains items for the "Juniors" as well.

Membership Includes:  
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 \_\_\_\_\_

SPONSOR ADDRESS (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

## REGION 3 REPORT - continued from page 14

tuned up and ready to go. Importantly, check those bow strings and cables for wear. If they seem a little bit worn, have them replaced. A broken string or cable can be extremely dangerous. And, while you're at it, check your limbs for any cracks or wear.

On another note, I don't know if it's just me, but I have hardly seen any deer in my neck of the woods and my backyard is Fahnestock State Park. Whether it is in my backyard or driving up and down Peekskill Hollow Road, I have not seen a single deer in approximately one year. In speaking with Mike at Flying Arrow Sports in Carmel he is telling me that everyone is complaining of the same thing. Most are saying that EHD is playing a big part. In walking around Fahnestock I have not come across a single carcass. However, almost every night I hear the coyotes howling right in back of my house, which leads me to believe that the coyotes are having a big impact on our Putnam deer herd. And just remember, coyote season runs from October right up until the end of March.

Be safe out there and also take your son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandchild out into the woods with you. The time spent with them will not be forgotten by you or them.

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

## WESTCHESTER COUNTY

Helloooo there New York Bowhunters! Allow me to introduce myself. I have been a member for about 7 years and have been to the Sunny Hill Banquet/Rendezvous for the last two years. I am the brand-new NYB Representative for Westchester, this bucolic treasure I call "My Vermont." I have hunted Westchester County on and off since 1992, my first year of bowhunting, with the greatest father-in-law a man could have, Don Spiess, showing me the ropes. I keep a row boat on Cross River 'Rezzie' if anyone ever wants to go out for Brownies. Being on the Nassau/Queens border, a Westchester hunt is a 45 minute ride, compared to my other regular spots in Suffolk County which can be a one and a half hour ride.

2023 Deer Harvest Report is available online. Westchester experienced a slight drop from previous year but not a big difference. Across the rest of the state was a significant drop. Details and breakdowns can be seen through NYS DEC links.

I will be joining Westchester Bowhunters and look forward to attending their meetings. Doug Erickson tells me the next one should be in June. Going forward with my "boots on the ground," and new contacts, friends and bowhunting memories, I hope to be able to provide you with informative and interesting reports. I am a shameless promoter and recruiter for NYB. I know NYB's future survival is based on our ability to impress, coax, cajole, twist arms, and get new members... NOW! As I've seen in my own industry, Plumbing and Heating for over 40 years, it can take years to bring over a promising new employee or client. Every bowhunter currently enjoys benefits that NYB is responsible for gaining. And only NYB has

as its mission the protection of bowhunting as well as thwarting future attempts to water down and dissolve threats to the sport we all love. Folks need to be made aware of that!

For Christmas 2023, Santa brought me two awesome puppies, Stella, the fawn French Bulldog and Tillman (in Honor of Pat, Army Ranger KIA 2004 Afghanistan) the German Short Hair Pointer. My lovely, long-suffering bride, Barbara Ann, has just started talking to me again! Ha Ha. Tillman is training hard on Upland game birds, duck retrieval and blood tracking for wounded deer. The plan is to do what we can to help our American Patriots, men and women who have served or are serving on active duty by getting them out hunting.

I had a great time at the recent NYB Banquet. I spent a lot of time with the guest speaker, John Gardner from Colorado. And my new "Cigar & Rugby" buddy, Mike Ciavolino, convinced me to join Ti - Yogi Bowmen. I met several TYB members at Sunny Hill. I really enjoyed the time spent with Richie Kirschner, Greg Masaitis, Bill Campbell, Bob Ledrich, Ed Gorch and his son, Ed, Al Bottari, Andrew "The Prez," Dave Mc Mahon and all the Tupper Lake "kids." And I saw firsthand how hard Annie, our Admin Secretary works, not to mention many others whose names I am still learning.

Finally, we're now into Bowfishing season...the Carp are spawning...aim low...lower! Till next time...Faithfully yours,

*Matt "Mad Dog" Sweeney  
Westchester County Rep  
plumbing3c@gmail.com  
(516) 322-2881 (call anytime)*

## ORANGE COUNTY

Hello fellow Orange County friends,

As I write this Turkey season has been underway for weeks. I hope those of you who were out there had as much action as I did. Congratulations are in order for Orange County member, Jeff Davis for his "Recurve Bow - Opening Hour Bird." Rich says I should refer to you as the "Turkey Whisperer!" Many members reported they felt the turkey activity was a little better than recent years...we'll see.

Switching gears to deer hunting, the 2023 Harvest report came out. Orange County fared as follows and as compared to previous year: Total deer taken was 4,237 which was down approximately 500 from previous year. Adult male, 2,181 (down from 2,217). Male fawn, 198 (down from 249). Adult female, 1,654 (down from 2,057), female fawn, 204 (down from 215). As you can see the biggest drop was in adult female which corresponds with the entire state. The trend of the antlerless take decrease is something the DEC would like to change. Several NYB members were asked to be part of an online discussion with a researcher from Cornell Wildlife in an attempt to better understand hunter's attitudes toward the taking of antlerless deer. The takeaway from that meeting as reported to me was that bowhunters are more likely to take a doe early in season, but once the rut starts to approach, they are

**Continues on next page**

## REGION 3 REPORT - continued from previous page

more likely to pass up, hoping she will attract a roaming buck.

I wish everyone a safe and healthy summer. Please, if you receive a renewal notice or realize you have expired membership, keep supporting NYB. Without you, there will be no us! If not sure, call the office or contact Rich K to find out your expiration date.

*Till next time,  
Christopher Smith  
Orange County Rep.  
Bigblue9654@gmail.com*

## ULSTER COUNTY

Longtime Ulster County Representative, Bob Di Giacomio, has decided to leave the position after a very long run. I don't remember Bob not being the rep! Bob was a regular fixture for over a decade at our booth at the Suffern Outdoor Show before it's demise. He was always a member we could count on at our Banquet/Rendezvous. You would find him running a novelty shoot or a raffle, always offering to help make those

events successful. Bob D loyally contributed to this Region 3 Report every quarter, year after year. Bob, thank you so much for all your years of service as a county rep and for being such a supporter and promoter of NYB and an important member of our Region 3 Team. I hope to bump into you at one of the Ulster 3D shoots or at indoor league next winter.

NYB needs an Ulster County member to contribute material to this quarterly Region 3 Report. This is an easy task considering we have several booster clubs located in Ulster County which hold 3D shoots and other archery programs. Following their schedules and reporting upcoming events for them here would be helpful. Please, if you have the slightest interest in being part of the very proud members of NYB's Region 3 Team whom you see contribute to this report, give me a call or email to discuss.

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

Well, another Banquet has come and gone. Attendance was a little down this year, but everyone had a good time, especially at the Elk shoot. The final shoot-off came down to Rich Kirschner, Mike Savage and myself. They both have won in the past and I just could not find it in my heart to beat them. The smiles on their faces when they win are the same as when they find the TV remote (the little things that make old people happy). I would like to thank my son Ed and everyone who worked the games, helped with the cooking and volunteered their time to make the weekend a success.

On Sunday morning seven NYB members and Army Sergeant Johnny Red Walker were off to Betts Kelly Lodge on another Camo to Camo hunt. We had a wonderful time in Canada. The first couple of days were hot, around 80 degrees, and not much action other than a few young bears. As the weather cooled off a bit the bears became more active. We had 8 hunters from NYB and we met a young active Navy bowhunter in camp from Virginia named Preston Holt who rounded out our group nicely. By the end of the week seven bears were taken with two misses and a few guys holding off shooting, waiting for the big boars that come in at last light. We saw a few 350-400 pounders but it was too dark for a shot. There is always next year. I'd like to thank Tupper Lake Archers, the Irish Rovers and everyone who takes part in supporting NYB's Camo to Camo program and makes a Wounded Veteran hunt possible.

I see that Norton Hill Wildlife Club is having its first 3D shoot on July 20th. I hope they have a good turn out. If possible I will set up an NYB table. There will also be a 3D shoot at Ti Yogi Bowmen Club on Father's Day, June 16th, in Hyde

Park, NY. I would like to thank Club member Mike Ciavolino for the invite to set up a table with Camo to Camo information and a chance to increase membership. If you have a shoot planned and would like to get the word out, contact the NYB office.

The deer take this past year was down a bit, but that's understandable with the EHD outbreak in the southern zone a couple of years ago. Some southern zones were hit very hard. I spoke with a friend of mine who is a tugboat captain and he told me deer carcasses were floating all the way down the Hudson River. As I run into fellow bowhunters throughout the year many tell me about their hunting adventures. I enjoy listening to them and seeing trophy pictures but it would be nicer still to see them in print where everyone can enjoy them. Our editor, Cindy, is always looking for items to enter in our *FullDraw* magazine. You don't even have to be a good writer! Our editor will make the story jump off the page. And who knows? Maybe you will make the cover.

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

## REGION 4 REPORT



## REGION 5 REPORT



Finally, spring has showed her face here in the Adirondacks. It's time to get outside and shot some arrows. As our league night comes to a close it's time to get our Muzzy shoot going. Our Muzzy night started Wednesday, May 1st at 6 PM at the club. Come join the guys and gals for a fun night.

Speaking of league night, 20 shooters showed up on a regular basis to have a great and entertaining night thanks to John Hoyt and a few others who set up the targets. He made it an entertaining night for sure.

As we head into the summer months area clubs will be hosting 3D shoots. Please support them. It takes a lot of planning and work to set them up and most of the workers (if not all) are volunteers. Our Camo to Camo shoot was down slightly this year but everyone had a great time and we were honored to present Ed Gorch with another check.

Speaking of 3D shoots, this is the Tupper Lake Archers 35th year of being an archery club and the 30th year of the infamous Mt. Challenge. We are looking forward to doing it up big this year.

Tupper Lake Archers completed another 7-week youth archery program at the end of March. Two 1-hour classes were held each Monday and consisted of 38 kids from grades 3-6. Kids were taught basic archery skills, safety and good sportsmanship. During their final class, one dollar bills were put on the targets. If they hit it, they won it. Afterwards, both

classes were treated to pizza, wings and cake. In addition, each participant received a Tupper Lake Youth Archer T shirt. On the back of each shirt was an image of "Camo to Camo," which is the program through NY Bowhunters that supports our troops, sending them care packages and taking vets on hunts throughout the US. We are very proud to say that our very own young archers brought in items to donate to the program's care packages. Special thanks to the following instructors and coaches for making this year's class another successful one: Ray McIntosh, Kathy Savage, Dave McMahan, Mike Savage, Marty Brown, Don Mauer, Bill Cramer, John Boyer, John Hoyt, Jim Gray, Dave Rodney, Sylvia Trudeau and Jr Archery Coach Chelsea Kohan.

Mentor a youth in archery this summer. After all, they are the future of our sport!

**Dave McMahan**

**Region 5 Representative**

[davemcmahan97@gmail.com](mailto:davemcmahan97@gmail.com)



## REGION 6 REPORT

Summertime Bowhunter activities focus more on shooting practice. There are a couple of 3D shoots in Region 6, and a few more in Region 5. Later in the summer you might prefer to travel to PA, or MA, to attend special bowshooting events.

We are still not exhibiting in any Sports Shows. There will be no Region #6 Youth Camp again this year. However, we will be conducting archery classes for 13-17 yr olds this summer.

The local Nature Center, Great Swamp Conservancy in Canastota, has asked NYB to conduct Archery instruction for up to 25 kids during July & August. The kids will be attending an Outdoor Pursuits & Sports Program 3 days a week over the 2 months. Our sessions will be 90 minutes long, tentatively 4:00PM to 5:30PM Tuesdays or Thursdays. Currently, 4 sessions are scheduled: July 9th & 23rd, and August 5th & 20th.

If anyone would like to join us for the classroom or the shoot range instructions, please contact me. We're still not

sure if we will be training the same kids each week, or a mixture of new and trained. Either way, it promises to be challenging and fun. There is no future in Bowhunting without young bowhunters.

Mentoring is good for both the mentor and the "mentee." There is nothing better for your psyche than teaching someone how to do something better. Take him/her hunting this fall. Enjoy your summer.

**Bill Snyder**

**Region #6 Rep.**

[bill4nyb@gmail.com](mailto:bill4nyb@gmail.com)

# REPRESENTATIVES NEEDED

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

*No Report received.*

Hello everyone,

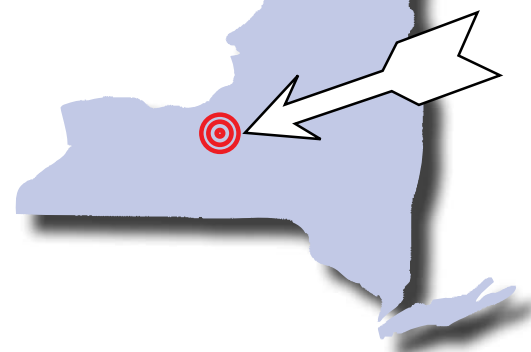
I'm so happy to say that summer is finally here! I hope that everyone has been doing well and getting out and about and enjoying the nice weather. This past week I had the pleasure of getting out and shooting a 3D course that I have never been to. It was at the archery only club Hawkeye Bowmen. I will definitely shoot that course again. The trails were well maintained and it was great being able to walk through the different terrain and shoot various distances at some targets I've never even seen in person. If you live anywhere near the area, or want to make a trip out of it, I definitely recommend doing so. That being said now is the time of year to make those kind of things possible. Maybe take a weekend trip to an archery club or get together with some friends and enjoy some nice weather practicing doing the thing we all love to do. Fling some arrows and enjoy every second of it! Another great way to practice and keep the muscle memory is one of my other favorite archery activities, bow fishing. The season starts May 15th and goes all the way until September 30th. You can use longbow, recurve, and compound and there is no limit on carp. I started bow fishing when I was a young man and have been hooked ever since. It is by far one of my favorite summer activities. As I am writing this I have also been informed of a very awesome idea that is being built in West Falls, NY. West Falls Conservation Society is constructing a 10 target, Universally Accessible Archery Course. This is a wheelchair

accessible 3D archery course and if you have a chance I believe everyone should look them up and check out what they are doing. It's not every day that you hear of something like this being built and I believe that it is very special and unique.

I hope everyone gets out and enjoys the summer as much as they can, and while you're soaking up all the sun and summer fun, remember October will be here before you know it! Keep your muscle memory and try and shoot some arrows as often as you can. As always, I can't wait to write to you all again and I'm always free to chat.

*Vinny D'Agostino*  
*Region 9 Representative*  
*[Vinnydagostino1@gmail.com](mailto:Vinnydagostino1@gmail.com)*  
*(716) 930-4009*

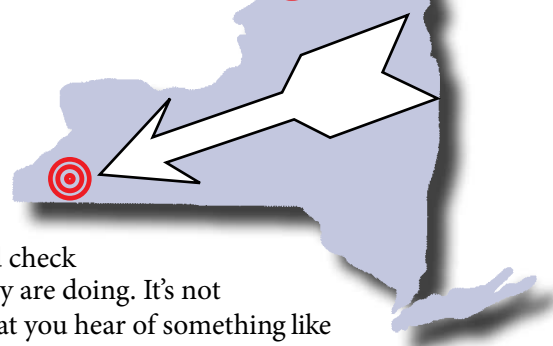
## REGION 7 REPORT



## REGION 8 REPORT



## REGION 9 REPORT





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# Squatting Doe

## Mystery

by Rich Kirschner



This photo was sent in by NYB member Bill McCoy. It was taken on January 31st in Orange County, NY, one of many photos of this doe recorded on his game camera. According to the time stamps, this doe was in this same position, in the same spot for between two and three minutes. When Bill reviewed the photos from his camera he examined the area and could see there were no fluids, substance or other evidence in the area to suggest what might have been occurring.

I thought it would be interesting to poll the membership to see if any of our readers might have a theory or guess as to what is happening here. Please send me an email with your thoughts. In the next issue of *FullDraw*, we'll include some of your theories as to this mystery of the "squatting doe" as well as what a wildlife biologist/deer researcher thinks about it.

*Rich Kirschner*  
*Bowrichny@aol.com*



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*BY Donald Plant*



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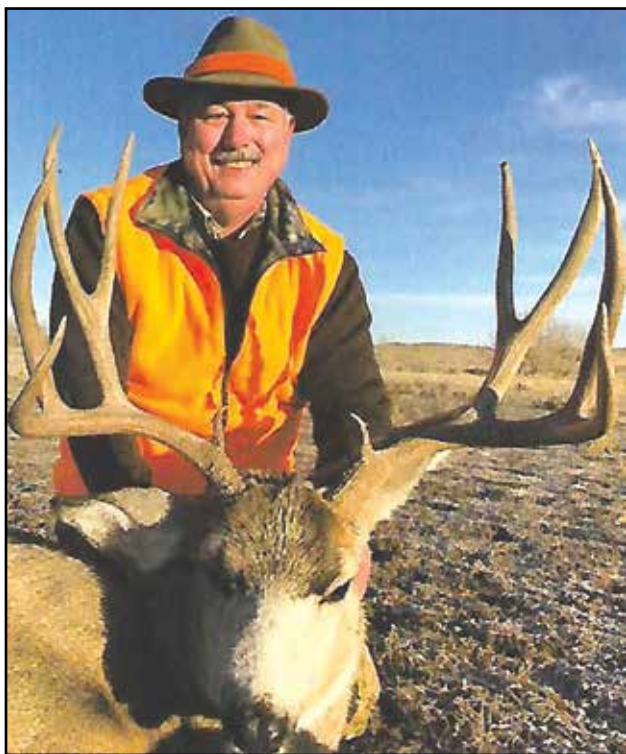


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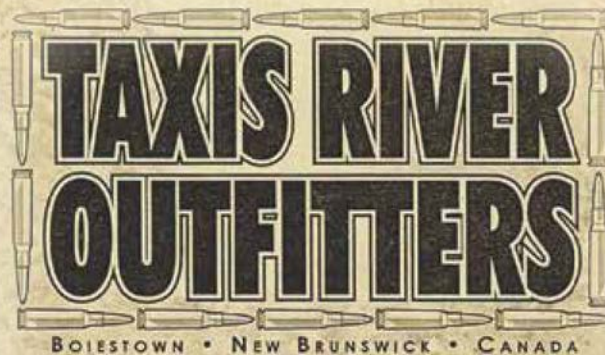
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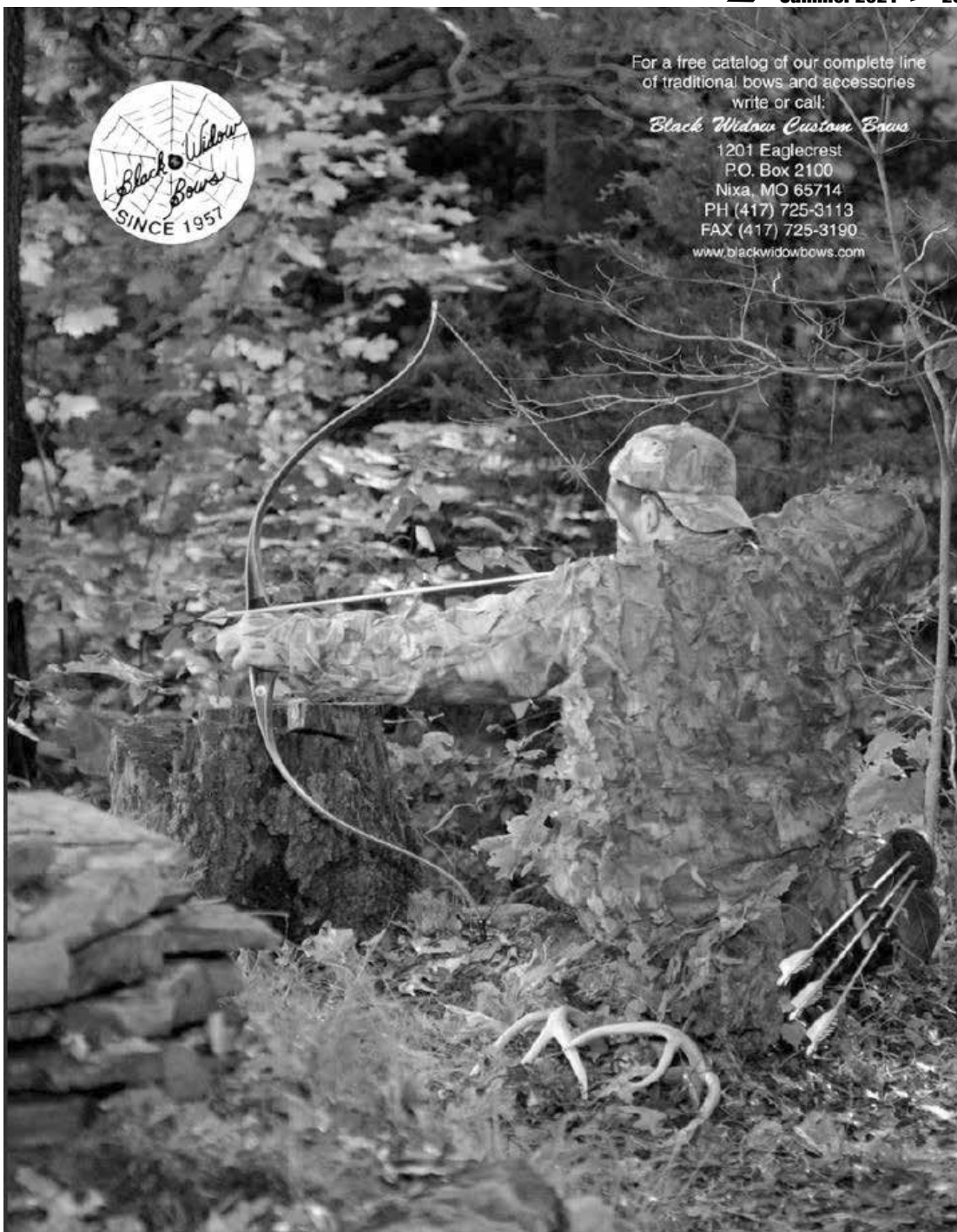
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The Editors of *FullDraw* want your submissions for upcoming issues. Send us your hunt pictures and stories!

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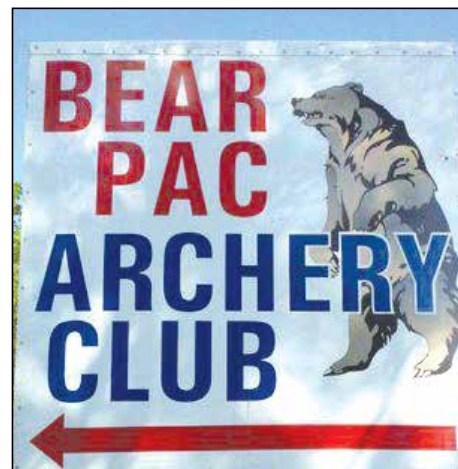


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