

THE MAINE BOWHUNTER

JANUARY 2009

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



By Jerome Richard

Well, I hope everyone enjoyed the 2008 deer hunting season and got to at least see a deer, if you did not get to harvest one! I heard from a lot of people it was pretty frustrating. I had over a dozen treestands out since late June and early July in my usual hunting areas. Unfortunately, the deer did not agree to cooperate including three stands set up surrounding an apple orchard! I finally had to give up on the fixed stands and resort to my Lone Wolf self-climber and hit the deep woods to find a "grove" of oak trees. I saw tons of deer, but they stayed about 30+ yards away and made fun of me and my pigmy bow! At this writing it is half way through the firearms season and I have brought out the heavy artillery! This is getting personal now! Actually, I'm having a good time and I'm discovering new hunting areas so it

will not be a total disappointment if I don't harvest a deer this year.

2009 MBA Banquet

Please mark your calendar for Saturday, April 25, 2009 for the Annual MBA Banquet at the Calumet Club in Augusta. I know the economy is looking tough, but I want to encourage everyone to look at this banquet as an opportunity to come together and great fellowship. I don't want people being scared off about expectations of blowing a lot of money like some big fundraisers. Last year we had just over 135 people and it was a very enjoyable time and a great place to trade hunting techniques and ideas, plus help celebrate the lucky people who took a game animal in the 2007 hunting season. That reminds me, PLEASE send in your stat sheets on any game animal no matter how big or small. Anything taken with a bow is a trophy in my book and that comes from a guy like me who put in a stat sheet for an 8 pound turkey harvested in 2007. There are chickens bigger than that

turkey I shot, but I'm still proud of it. So please come join us, if for nothing else but a great meal and great fellowship! We need to celebrate our personal accomplishments and the past years MBA accomplishments.

L.L. Bean

Hopefully everyone remembers the last newsletter where L.L. Bean donated 5% of their gross sales from the two-day Hunting Expo. I would like to say that L.L. Bean was very generous to us and I was personally overwhelmed by the donation to the MBA. Just this week they made us an offer to help us with our membership drive by doing a Nalgene water bottle drive at their Hunting & Fishing Store in Freeport. The next day or two later they offered to help us again with the 29th Annual State of Maine Sportsman's Show at the Augusta Civic Center on March 13th through the 15th, 2009!

(Continued on page 2)

UPCOMING EVENTS

MBA Banquet – April 25, 2009 – Calumet Club, Augusta

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

OCTOBER DAYS	3
FRANKLIN COUNTY REOPRT	4
MY FIRST BOW KILL BUCK	5
MBA HISTORY	6
SUCCESSFUL HUNTING PHOTOS	7
BOW TECH	11



(Continued from page 1)

I really believe when the MBA got into pursuing the youth of Maine by getting involved in the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP), that L.L. Bean believes and shares in the same vision of reaching out to our youth and getting them involved in the outdoors. I really hope other hunting and outdoor organizations can find similar "hands-on" type activities that get the kids involved and off the couch. I know the Safari Club International does a laser gun event at some of the sportsman's shows and sometimes we have seen the trout pond where kids get to actually catch live trout. At Presque Isle, they even had the climbing wall that belongs to the University of Maine opened to the general public. Maine ATV has been to some of the show with their special 50 cc ATV for the kids to ride.

Cash for Christmas Raffle

The MBA did a great job of pulling this raffle off especially when you consider we started this raffle just as the economy went down the tubes. I think the idea of win-

ning \$1,000 was a great attraction plus the MBA member who sold the winning ticket getting \$200 was a really good incentive. We actually made a good profit on this raffle and I promised the great team of MBA members that helped me with this raffle that I would not ask them to do another raffle. I can't express my appreciation to the team of officers, directors, county representatives, and other MBA members that have supported me during the almost past two years of getting the MBA back into a good financial situation. They should all be proud! It was 100% teamwork!

Sappi Fine Paper North America - Corporate Donation

I wanted to thank Sappi Fine Paper North America for again contributing to the Maine Bowhunters Association with a \$500 donation to support our continuing effort with the NASP/Youth Archery Events. I may be a little partial to Sappi because I work for them, but they have been very generous with cash donations and giving me time away from work to put on the

youth archery events at the sportsman's shows and Camp POSTCARD. They support our efforts with the kids 100%!

Marsh Island BLIP Update

As some of you may have already read in the newspapers or on television, the MBA selected 20 BLIP members to go to Marsh Island (Old Town) to participate in a special deer depredation hunt. I want to first express my appreciation to Mark Caron the Regional Wildlife Biologist from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for his hard work in making this opportunity possible for the MBA and bowhunters in general. I can't even begin to tell you all the ups and downs of how difficult it was to get this event off the ground. I'm surprised Mark even has any hair left after all the meetings and the work required behind the scenes to satisfy the public which actually covers several years! Also, many people probably didn't realize that Mac Dudley, our MBA Franklin County Representative, assisted the MBA at the Advi-

sory Council meeting held up at Rangeley to explain the BLIP program which helped with the acceptance of the special rule-making process for the hunt.

I want to thank Bob Wengrynek of Old Town Archery Center for being very supportive with letting the MBA hold a BLIP Class on September 21st, a BLIP Pre-Hunt Meeting and Proficiency Test with IF&W on November 9th, and using his facility during the actual BLIP Deer Depredation Hunt for two weeks. Bob is one of our MBA life members and has always been there to assist the MBA and promote bowhunting.

A lot of people don't seem to understand or appreciate what the Bowhunters/Landowners Information Program (BLIP) is all about, but it not a team of elitist MBA bowhunters. It is a program opened to any bowhunter who meets the criteria that was established many years ago between the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries

(Continued on page 3)

MBA AFFILIATES

Bowstring Guide Service
248 Berrys Mill Road
West Bath, ME 04530
(207)443-2706

Central Maine Archery, LLC,
PO Box 1297
Auburn, ME 04211-1297
(207)345-9503
<http://www.centralmainearchery.com>

D&G Archery
1412 Tatnic Road
Wells, ME 04090
(207)676-9954

The Old Town Archery Shop, 300
Main St. Old Town, ME 04468
(207)827-9489
<http://www.oldtownarcheryshop.com>

Seven Islands Land Company
PO Box 1168
Bangor, ME 04402

Wicked Whitetail Taxidermy
191 Plymouth Road
Etna, ME 04434
(207)269-4731

PLEASE
SUPPORT
THE
AFFILIATES
THAT
SUPPORT
YOUR MBA!

(Continued from page 2)

and Wildlife, the MBA, and other interested parties such as the towns where these special hunts occur. I have had to meet the same standards as anyone else on this program. Currently we have approximately 120 people on the BLIP membership, but we are always looking for more people.

At this writing the Marsh Island BLIP hunt has not started, but I will give a complete report at the next newsletter after I thaw out. The hunt is being held from December 1st to December 13th which should offer some challenges. If you are interested in this program, please go to the MBA website and click on the "Bowhunters/Landowners Information Program" and read up on the program, but please do not sign up for this class if you can not meet all the criteria because a background check will be done by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Maine State Police, and we can't accept anyone who can't meet the requirements. We hope to have another BLIP class, which is mandatory, sometime in the spring so keep watching the newsletter and the MBA website for updates.

2009 Sportsman's Shows

Please be aware of the 2009 sportsman's shows coming up in the early spring. It is a good way, at least for me, to cope

with the winter. The MBA was extremely active last year at the Orono, Augusta, and Presque Isle sportsman's show with the NASP/Youth Archery Event. I believe it has helped attendance for each of the shows by giving the kids something to do plus it has been a tremendous boost to the MBA's public relations. I want people to look at the Maine Bowhunters Association as a positive influence on bowhunting in Maine and an active partner in creating opportunities for the youth of Maine. The dates for the 2009 Sportsman's Shows are:

- March 13 through 15, 2009 – 71st Annual Eastern Maine Sportsman's Show at the University of Maine in Orono.
- March 20 through 22, 2009 – 5th Annual Pine tree State Sportsman's Show in Wilton.
- March 28 & 29, 2009 – 11th Annual Presque Isle Fish & Game Club Sportsman's Show at the University of Maine at Presque Isle.
- April 3 thru 5, 2009 – 29th Annual State of Maine Sportsman's Show at the Augusta Civic Center.

I really want to encourage you to help us at the Orono, Augusta, and Presque Isle shows if you are available. I personally need your help and it is really rewarding to be a part of a success of the MBA. Please call me and come out to help in 2009.

October Days

By Caleb Kirk

The wind rustled the beautiful foliage in the maple, and birch trees. As I walked by the ragged corn stalks that still stood in early October, I could feel anticipation building. My stand was placed in a large Birch tree on the edge of a corn field, where I sat for the first time with my bow, gazing over the tops of the stalks, waiting.

The night of October 2nd was the first night that I had experienced a real bow hunt. I climbed up into my stand and waited amongst the waving tree limbs and blowing leaves, for it was windy that night. I strapped myself in with a vest harness that I had purchased to keep myself safe, and I waited.

As I got situated, first getting my harness on and tied to the tree, I sat down. The first thing I did was put on my arm guard and zipped up my jacket so the cold couldn't get to my neck. Reaching into my pocket, looking for my release, I suddenly realized that it wasn't with me, and could only be one place. I had left my release on the top of my car which sat just on the other side of the corn field I was in. I got down out of my stand and walked as fast as I could to the car. As soon as I turned the corner of the field, I looked, and there sat my release waiting on the top of the car. I just about ran back to my stand for I only had about an hour left of daylight and

the sun was slowly creeping down amongst the tree tops.

Beads of sweat were rolling down my face as I took my seat in the tree stand, knowing I had everything that I needed. I was the most uncomfortable I had ever been while hunting, and I could only think of one thing, "this better be worth it". As the sun was falling and dark began to creep into the field, the temperature dropped and I finally began to feel comfortable.

I waited and waited, each minute ticking by. I remember thinking that time was going to fast and that I hadn't seen a deer yet. The spot I was in looked as promising as could be, corn surrounding me with a few apple trees to my right and left. With the daylight hours almost gone, I heard a familiar snap to my right. I turned my head quickly to the right, and there under one of the apple trees was a nice eight point buck. I only watched the buck for a second, it seemed, before I stood up and turned to my right. Just before the buck was about to go into the corn, I pulled my Parker Legend XP bow back, put the twenty yard pinon him, and hit the trigger on my release.

I watched the buck trot off. I wasn't exactly sure of my hit because of the excitement pulsating through my body. I just sat down and said to myself, "I just shot a deer with

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

my bow, I just shot a deer with my bow". Shaking as much as I was I was timid about standing up. Waiting for about 15 minutes I walked out of the corn field and stood, leaning on my car waiting for my dad to come down and out of his stand. I could see my dad walking towards me, his head down, I prepared myself to look as sly and cool as possible. As soon as he picked his head up and looked at me, I was ready to give him a big grin and tell him what happened.

"Are you serious? You're not joking?" my dad said to me as I told him that I had just shot a nice buck. We drove up to the house where the land owner lives to tell her what had just happened. As soon as we got to the house we gathered up lanterns and flashlights for we had to go and look for the deer.

Our hunt for the deer started slow with only a few drops of blood here and there. I felt nervous and just kept telling myself that I had

hit the deer well. "That deer has got to be down somewhere", I kept saying to myself. Walking farther into the woods brought us onto a better and thicker blood trail. We could finally stop breaking our backs over drops of blood and start following the thick trail of blood that lay before us. Getting ahead of my dad, pushing through a thicket of fur trees, I saw, laying just on the other side, my nice eight point buck. We later found out that it weighed 157 pounds.

A slow sigh of relief came out of me, and a jump of excitement burst out of my dad for I had harvested my first deer with a bow. And as we stood there for a second, the reality of what I had just accomplished had a chance to sink in. As the wind died down and the cool night air engulfed us, I stood there, on the edge of the field where we dressed the deer, and looked up to the clear sky with a smile and a deep breath.



Caleb Kirk with his first buck.

Franklin County Report



By Mac Dudley

Franklin County Rep., NAA & NFAA Level II Instructor/Coach

It's been another busy fall and Ol' Man Winter is on his way.

Hope you have had better luck with your bow hunting this year than I. It seems that our Regular Archery (prior to this referred to as a Special Archery) season in the North was shorter than ever this year. With bad weather, bird season, moose season and youth hunting day, along with a two week turkey season in some zones, all combined in the 26 days bow season, unless you are working, then it only gives you 3 Saturdays, if you are lucky enough to get out on those days.... Phew! I only had the opportunity to get out 3 of those 26 days and I saw a couple of does with fawns but no bucks. In my years hunting in Maine, this was the first year our northern bow season was a bucks only season. In the rifle sea-

son, I was seeing very little movement with the warmer than usual weather we had rain, rain and more rain. It definitely seemed like a later rut this season. I may have to brush up on muzzle loading next year.

My fall was also busy with organizing volunteers to participate in the Deer Recruitment Survey. This is the second year the Wintering Deer Yard Committee, I chair, has helped with the Deer Recruitment pilot survey. This sur-

(Continued on page 5)

MOVING?

Don't forget to notify us if your address changes. We get mail back from too many of our members' former addresses with a "no forwarding address" stamp on it. We have lost a few life members this year because they haven't notified us of the change.

BLIP members please check your information in the BLIP listing on our website. Updates to spelling errors, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses should be sent to Director at large Jeff Hopkins.

(Continued from page 4)

vey was designed to provide a count of adult female deer and fawns to estimate recruitment of young of the year (fawns) into the herd prior to the fall hunting season. Bucks were also noted. Estimates of these population parameters are considered essential to regulating antlerless harvest. Per Lee Kantar, who designed the pilot survey for our area, these ratios will be used in the State's deer management system to:

1. Estimate pre-hunt and post-hunt population densities.
2. Estimate productivity and recruitment and
3. Estimate survival and mortality rates.

Working with our Regional Biologist, we mapped out routes locally around the Rangeley Region in WMD 7. This survey required volunteers to drive these routes conducting an AM, Mid-Day Casual or PM survey, recording route number, date and time of sighting. They also record the town where deer were observed, total group size, number of adult does, bucks and fawns, mile marker where seen and total miles driven. The volunteers also filled out a Turkey and Wildlife Sighting Report. I collected all the surveys from the 17 volunteers and sent them off to IF&W. We hope to get Lee Kantar back

to Rangeley to share the data he has analyzed for the two year period.

During the November deer harvest we had four volunteers working a couple of local tagging stations helping to collect biological data and helping to collect deer heads for the regional biologist for CWD testing. We are also checking the deer that come into the tagging stations for ticks to send off to Maine Medical /CDC for lyme disease testing. During last years deer harvest, we found no ticks. We can only hope to get the same results this year. If any one is interested in these kinds of programs don't hesitate to give me a call @ 864-5919 or call your regional biologist to see how you can help in your area.

I do want to take this time to give a big THANK YOU to the volunteers that helped with these programs. They spent many hours and drove many miles to help collect these data. This was all to help IF&W's efforts to get a more accurate picture of the health of our herd and to help with conservation, protection and restoration of wildlife. Thank you all.

My First Bow Kill Buck

By Deanna Page

As the 2008 bow season rolled around, I was really looking forward to the chance to take a deer with my new bow. Unfortunately, my bow was already a year old and I had not christened it yet. The 2007 season was not a good season for me. My second time out in the expanded season, I tore the meniscus in my right knee. The remainder of the season I spent hunting from the ground. I did have a couple encounters, but nothing to show for it.

By the time opening day of the '08 season got here, I had several stands already in place to hopefully ambush a deer. I really enjoy the expanded season because it gives you the opportunity to harvest deer with bow & arrow and not compromise your rifle tag. I bow hunted many years without taking a deer because I didn't want to miss the rifle season with my family. My first bow kill was in 2005, I took a nice doe while my sister-in-law videotaped the

whole thing! The footage was included on a Maine hunting video, it was special to be able to share the hunt with everyone who was not there. That rifle season I was lucky enough to take an 8 point buck as well. My 2006 season started off fast, I took another nice doe at 8:20 am on opening day in a spot I had scouted in March. After my quick success that season, my luck went downhill from there. I was not able to harvest another deer that year. At the end of the 2006 season, I was already scouting out new areas to get permission to hunt.

One place I was invited to hunt was the land of a fellow bow hunter. There are several other bow hunters who also hunt there. This land is the ideal place to bow hunt. One great advantage is the ability to leave portable stands and ladders up and not have to carry a climber everytime you want to hunt. The landowner and the other hunters have become good friends. That is one of the best things I like

(Continued on page 6)



Days prior to September 28th

MBA Online

Don't Forget to check out our website for all the latest news. To enter our Members Only section use the following:

Username: maillist

Password: mbaonline

(Continued from page 5)

about bow hunting, sharing experiences with people who enjoy to bow hunt as much as I do. That is also why we really need the MBA, and the great people involved in it. We all need to step and help out the few that keep things going. That will be one of my New Year's resolutions, how about yours?

Back to the hunt... opening morning of this year's hunt I missed a doe, not a good start. I misjudged the distance and shot right under her, am I the only one that did that this year? After a couple weeks of the season had passed, I decided to put up another stand. The deer were coming in after dark so I wanted to put a stand closer to the bedding area to catch them moving during daylight hours. On September 28th I packed in my stand and ladder sticks and met up with a couple of friends who helped me put

up my stand in the pouring rain. I put some yardage markers (I didn't want to misjudge the distance again). The next day after work I headed to my new stand location. A few minutes after 6:00pm I heard movement in the direction I expected the deer to come from. I was already standing up with bow in hand. As I scanned the brush, I saw antlers coming down the trail. Right away I knew which deer this was based on trail camera photos from the area. The buck was the smallest of several bucks in the area. I determined he was alone and headed to a local apple tree for supper. As he entered the clearing he was facing me at 30 yards, he paused a minute to make sure no one was around. He made two mistakes; the first was not looking up at the camo clad bow hunter in the tree. His second mistake was turning broadside and stopping in front of me at 26 yards. As he nibbled on some leaves on a bush, I came to full draw and settled my pin on his lungs.

When I released my arrow with a Montec 100 grain broadhead, I watched the Lumenok and saw the arrow hit the mark. The biggest shock for me was the buck dropped in his tracks! When the broadhead went through the ribs, it was deflected up into his spine, putting him down. I got down from my stand within three minutes and he had expired.

I knew as I left work that day that I would get a deer because I was driving my Cadillac SLS, good thing it has a big trunk! My truck was in the shop, but I just HAD to go hunting and I'm glad I did! If you are a women bow hunter and you stuff your buck in the trunk of your Cadillac, does that make you a redneck??

I would like to say Thank You to the landowner, and all the landowners that let me hunt their land. Also to all my bow hunting friends for sharing their experiences with me to help me be a better bowhunter! A little side note to my buck story, as we cut up the meat, I found a rubber o-ring and the blade of an expandable broadhead in his left shoulder. Come to find out, one of my bow hunting friends had hit this deer last year and I helped him track him! I guess I would have to say sorry he didn't get his deer, but I glad he didn't! The deer turned out to be my first bow kill buck, a 6 point, 157lb buck!

MBA History Corner



By Jerome Richard

Pardon me if I seem to be jumping around on MBA history since the last issue, but this newsletter I would like to discuss one of our past MBA Presidents, Ralph Sprague, who was our president for a couple of terms during the mid-90's. Ralph and I recently met at the last spring '08 IF&W Workshop for Volunteer Hunter Safety Instructors at the Penobscot County Conservation Association and had a short chat, but on Thanksgiving Day 2008 we talked several hours about the "good 'ol days". Ralph shared how things had developed when he was president and also how things changed and grew later. I will be honored with his presence again this year at the Marsh Island BLIP Deer Reduction Hunt in December and I'm sure I will learn a lot more about the MBA and who to tackle for my next article too!

(Continued on page 7)



Deanna and her 6point 157lb buck.



(Continued from page 6)

A lot people may not realize, but Ralph was instrumental in getting the MBA established as a non-profit, tax-exempt organization with the federal government. We had been running as a non-profit since the organization began, but until we are officially accepted and recognized by the federal government and issued a tax-exempt number, the MBA was still subject to being taxed for any income. That's a scary situation to be in when your president of an organization! Ralph spent about 1-1/2 years without the aid of attorneys to get the MBA recognized as a non-profit, tax-exempt organization and get the feds to accept our By-Laws and Constitution for the MBA. As long as we abide by the By-Laws and Constitution of our organization, we get to remain tax-exempt.

Many of you may know that Ralph has been heavily involved in Hunter Safety Education, as a Junior Olympic Archery Development (JOAD) Instructor, a Lifetime Member of the MBA, graduate of the PSE Archery School in Arizona, and at one point owned and operated his own archery shop, Fieldstone Archery, for several years. I can definitely say that Ralph gave a lot to the Maine Bowhunters Association with his time and money.

When Ralph became our president the membership was about 200 and when he stepped down as president our membership had grown to about 400 members. Not too bad! He worked to pull a lot of the local 3-D archery clubs together to participate in the MBA and try to tie us together to become a larger state-wide organization.

We had a great conversation on how during his time the MBA was really trying to reach the youth and other people by teaching them to shoot using the National Field Archery Association (NFAA) program called JOAD which in a lot of respects is similar to what the MBA is doing now with the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP). Ralph and I agreed we must have a way to reach out to people who have never been exposed to archery and bowhunting, and provide a tool to win the general public over to us. This educational experience will buy us a lot of good public relations even if they do not become bowhunters or MBA members. Remember these people grow up and some day vote, so we want them to be successful shooting a bow and realizing the truth about bowhunting before anti-hunting groups twist the facts around.

Ralph, and Terri & Berta Estes traveled all around the state putting on youth archery shoots and a few 3-D shoots during his presidency includ-

ing attending the Presque Isle Sportsman's Show sponsored by the Presque Isle Fish & Game Club and Camp Caribou in Benton, ME. Recently, the MBA started returning to the Presque Isle Sportsman's Show after several years' absence from the show. I know my wife Tina and I really share many of the same visions of the MBA as Ralph, Terri, and Berta as a way to promote the MBA. Even after Ralph was president of the MBA, he continued to support the MBA by becoming the Penobscot County Area Representative for awhile.

I really appreciated Ralph's wealth of knowledge and wisdom about how the MBA had some changes with the newsletter, the membership list, and even the location of the annual MBA Banquet. I guess there is a lot of truth about the statement, "the only thing constant is change". I believe the MBA does the best it can to meet the expectations of the majority of our membership and we will continue to strive to do better.



2009 MBA Banquet

Date: Saturday, April 25, 2009

Time: 5:00pm Social, 6:30 Dinner

Location: Le Calumet Club in Augusta

Cost: \$25 Individual, \$45 Couple

Contact for Tickets: Jerome Richard at 426-2082 or any MBA Officer or County Representative.

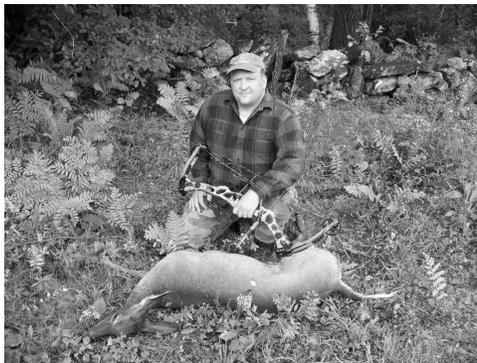
Come and enjoy an evening of celebration and fellowship with other

MBA members. Awards, prizes, and auctions throughout the evening.

Successful Hunters



Brian Smith with his Halloween buck.



Kevin Pratt, with his 125 lb. doe taken on opening day



You know when you got a good wife is when you shoot the deer and she drags it out for you – She a Keeper! Tina Richard in photo.



Pete Lamarre with his 125lb spike.

MBA COUNTY REPS

REMEMBER, THESE NAMES AND THE CONTACT INFORMATION IS LISTED FOR YOU. SEND YOUR COUNTY REP YOUR THOUGHTS AND QUESTIONS ABOUT ANYTHING BOWHUNTING RELATED. YOUR COUNTY REP IS RESPONSIBLE FOR RESPONDING TO YOU AND/OR BRINGING YOUR QUESTIONS/ISSUES UP AT THE NEXT MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING.

Androscoggin

Mike Moreau
(207) 782-4777
micamo@hotmail.com

Aroostook

Lou Provost
(207)532-3569
aloisprovost@msn.com

Julie Johnston

731-7070
bjj@pwless.net

Cumberland

Robert Cotiaux
91 Tufts Road
New Gloucester, ME 04260
(207) 926-5392
dedbird@live.com

Franklin

Mac Dudley
PO Box 407
Oquossoc, ME 04964-0407
(207)864-5919
fletchdudley@core.com

Hancock

Dan Long
13 Beech Ridge Drive
Hermon, ME 04401
(207)991-0810
Dan.long@roadrunner.com

Kennebec

Jerome Richard
995 Hinckley Road
Clinton, ME 04927
(207) 426-2082
Jerome.Richard@sappi.com

Oxford

Lori Weaver
14 Dam Rd
Errol, NH 03579
(207)486-3254
bowhantt@yahoo.com

Penobscot

Dan Long
13 Beech Ridge Drive
Hermon, ME 04401
(207)991-0810
dan.long01@gmail.com

Piscataquis

Deanna Page
184 Cambridge Road
Dexter, ME 04930
(207)924-3400
dlpage@midmaine.com

Sagadahoc

Bryan R. Champagne
1185 Maine Rd
Phippsburg, ME 04562
(207)389-2120
btbc@suscom.maine.net

Somerset

Bob Walker
rawalk@acadia.net

Waldo

Lee Smith
Brooks, ME 04921
leesmith@hughes.net

Washington

Brian Smith
P.O. Box 444
East Machias, ME 04630
(207) 255-4508
bowhunter@mgmaine.com

York

Steven P Gray
18 Elm Drive
York, ME 03909
(207)363-6863
spgray853@verizon.net

Knox and Lincoln

Mark Peeler
(207) 832-7225
sparkysss@acadia.net

MBA BIG GAME STATISTICS SHEET

To be eligible for MBA big game awards you Must, complete this form, have paid membership 30 days prior to harvest, submit a certified weight slip (heart and liver included), submit photo of harvested animal and \$5 if you wish to receive the patch to MBA, P.O Box 5026, Augusta, ME 04332 before January 31.

The following categories are eligible for a certificate and a patch:

- In state---- Buck, Doe, Bear, Moose and Turkey
Out of state----Buck, Doe, Bear, Moose and Turkey
Plus out of state -- Caribou and Pronghorn

Miscellaneous categories receive a certificate only.

Please Print

Hunter Information

Name:
Address:
City/State:
Zip: Phone:
Age: Sex: Yrs Bowhunted:

Harvest Information:

Date: Time:

At time of first shot the animal was:

Laying Standing Walking Running

Animals position relative to the hunter:

Qtr. Towards Broadside Qtr. Away Heading Away

Distance of First Shot:

Total of shots Taken: Total Hits:

Position of Hits:

Penetration:

Time Waited Before Tracking:

Recovery Distance:

Time From First Hit To Recovery:

Misc.infoHunting Information:

Town/Country:

State/Providence:

Method: Stand Blind Still Stalk

Lure: Bait Decoy Rattle Call None

Cover Scent: Fox Skunk Other None

Weather:

Equipment Information:

Type of Bow: Long Recurve Compound

Brand of

Bow:

Draw Weight: Sights: YES/NO

Type of Arrow: Wood Aluminum Glass Carbon

Arrow Length: Overdraw: YES/NO

Fletching: Feathers Vanes

If Stand Used, Type: Ladder Strap on Climber Sling Permanent

Type of Camo Used: Forest Mossy Oak Advantage Snow Treebark Fluorescent

Other

Turkey Scoring Formula:

Weight Beard L.Spur R.Spur

Weight (in pounds) +2 x Beard Length +10 x Length of Each Spur Total

Game Information:

Animal

Taken:

Sex: Weight:

Weight Verified:

(signature of Witness)

If Antlers Present, Total Points:

HOW TO SUBMIT ARTICLES AND ADS

The Maine Bowhunter welcomes submissions from all MBA members. If you've got something you would like to share with the MBA membership, send it along. We want to hear from you. Stories, photos, hot topics, even gripes are welcome. Try to keep stories to 500 words or less. Please note the following dates for submission of material.

The Maine Bowhunter is inserted into the Maine Sportsman and sent to the committed members of the Maine Bowhunters Association every other month, six times per year.

Ad rates are for camera-ready copy; some assistance in designing ads can also be provided at our discretion. Submissions by e-mail or on disk are preferred in either MS Word or Adobe .pdf format.

Send material to: Lori Weaver editor@mainebowhunters.org

Ad Size	Dimensions	Single Issue	6 Issues Per Issue Price	6 issue Price Paid in Advance
Full Page	7 ½ X 9	\$275	\$200	\$1200
Half Page	7 ½ X 4 ½	\$150	\$120	\$720
Quarter Page	3 ¾ X 4 ½	\$80	\$75	\$450
Eighth Page	1 7/8 X 2 ¼	\$60	\$50	\$300

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MAINE BOWHUNTERS ASSOCIATION

Lori Weaver/Paul St. John Editor
Phone: 207-486-3254
E-mail: editor@mainebowhunters.org

WWW.MAINEBOWHUNTERS.ORG

Newsletter Issue	Submissions Due
January	December 1
March	February 1
May	April 1
July	June 1
September	August 1
November	October 1

MBA Membership Application

New Renewal

Date: _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Membership Type: Individual \$25 Family \$35 Individual Life \$350

Individual 65+ with proof of age \$20 Couple 65+ with proof of age \$30

Club or Business Affiliation \$95 Corporate Membership \$250 Patron \$250 V.I.P. \$1000

Mail to: **Maine Bowhunters Association, PO Box 5026, Augusta, ME 04330**

MBA DIRECTORS

President

Jerome Richard
(207) 426-2082
president@mainebowhunters.org

Vice President

Pete LaMarre
(207) 443-2706
vicepresident@mainebowhunters.org

Treasurer

Tina Richard
(207)426-2082
treasurer@mainebowhunters.org

Secretary:

Dan Long
(207) 991-0810
secretary@mainebowhunters.org

1st Director at Large

Jeff Hopkins
(207) 525-3240
director1@mainebowhunters.org

2nd Director at Large

Nate Fenderson
(207)632-0823
director2@mainebowhunters.org

Legislative Representative

Vacant
legislative@mainebowhunters.org

Social Director:

Scott Abbott
(207)947-4597
social@mainebowhunters.org

Donations

Keith Dirago
(207) 751-7942
donations@mainebowhunters.org

Statistics:

John Wardwell
(207) 445-2908
statistics@mainebowhunters.org

Education

Bryan Champagne
(207) 386-2120
education@mainebowhunters.org

**Membership/Supplies/
Affiliations**

Paul St. John
(207) 310-8303
membership@mainebowhunters.org

Webmaster

Paul St. John
(207) 310-8303
webmaster@mainebowhunters.org

BowTechTalk

By Chas LaVersa

SIZE MATTERS! As we enter the post hunting season and then lead up to the indoor league season, we are inundated with a plethora of new 2009 equipment. For those of you considering new equipment, this is the time to make sure you have it fit correctly.

Draw length is the single most important measurement that must be fit correctly. Contrary to popular opinion, a draw length is not a draw length is not a draw length! The bow at full draw, with correct posture and form, must match certain points on the body. This is directly related to how the string fits your face at full draw. NO making faces! With your head erect and the release right against the side of your jaw, the string should cross the corner of your lips and touch the tip of your nose. Obviously this depends on string angle, which is a direct result of draw length and axle to axle (AtoA) length. Typically, this position puts the nock of your arrow directly under your aiming eye but not necessarily. A long AtoA makes a wider string angle, bringing the nock under your eye, and a shorter AtoA length results in a steeper string angle which may require that the anchor be further back to cross the key points on your face. This will actually only

be possible with a longer draw length!

In other words, with a long AtoA bow, you will use a shorter draw length and with a shorter AtoA bow, you will use a longer draw length. So there is NO one set draw length that a person is! To make things even more interesting, many of today's bows change draw length when you adjust the draw weight! Turn a 60 pound bow down to 50 pounds and the draw length can grow as much as an inch on some models! That means that you have to know approximately what weight you want to end up at before we decide on a draw length.

The other important consideration is the system by which the draw length is changed. Many bows use a module or even a sliding cam piece which makes adjustments easy. However, others must have the cam itself replaced by a pro shop, which may run \$120 dollars if the bow is not new from that shop, while another manufacturer's bows must have both cams and all the strings changed out to adjust the draw! This can cost as much as \$200 and sometimes takes up to 6 weeks to get the parts! It is very important to ask how long and how much if you don't get the draw length correct at first. Good pro

(Continued on page 12)

MBA

National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) Sponsors

Sappi Fine Paper North America
Stanley Elevator
Knowles Industrial Services
G&E Roofing

(Continued from page 11)

shops will change out modules and make adjustments for free for a reasonable time period after you buy, but don't expect them to replace cams and strings for free! Be sure you have the correct draw length and ask how they will help with that after the sale!

Often when we fit a shooter, especially a new shooter, they have poor muscle tone in the critical areas and tense up many unnecessary muscles in an effort to help the key ones. This makes it difficult to get the draw length correct the first time. As the shooter builds strength and learns which muscles to use and which ones to relax, we have to readjust their draw length. It is much more comfortable for the pro shop to sell some brands over others because of

this.

What is the big deal? Well, most people are drawing too much length and this causes poor accuracy. People can and do learn to shoot well with incorrect draw length but will never shoot as well as they are capable of. Often people with excessive draw length will shoot to the left of where they intend. (Right handed shooters) Also consistency is poor. If you can shoot the eyes out of a black fly in your back yard after a few hours but can't get a good group right at the start, there is something wrong. I would bet, nine times out of ten, the problem is excessive draw length.

When that Pope and Young buck steps into your shooting lane for the first shot of your day, when that 200+ pounder gives you a good shot, again your first of the day, you will

want that arrow to go to the same place as your 60th arrow in the back yard!

in Old Town, Maine and can be reached there at 207-827-9489 or at chaslaversa@yahoo.com

Chas LaVersa is a bow technician for Old Town Archery Center

Visit the Old Town Archery Center and Pro Shop

300 Main St. Old Town, ME. 04468
1-888-827-9489
www.oldtownarcheryshop.com

Your Archery Pro-Shop
12 20 30 yard indoor shooting lanes
3-D Course and TECHNO-VIDEO HUNTING

Call or Visit **Today**
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday Noon til 8:00 PM,
Sat. 10:00-5:00, Sun. Noon-5:00 (8:00 am-6:00pm on tournament days)

The Maine Bowhunters Association is organized and shall be operated:

- To provide a State-wide organization within which people through individual memberships, with a common interest in bow-hunting, may recognize and have means of furthering their interests.
- The Maine Bowhunters Association shall recognize ALL vertical bows as acceptable under the definition of bows provided by the International Bowhunter Education Program, which reads: "one that is hand held, hand drawn, and released with nothing attached to the bow that will allow the bow to be mechanically held in a drawn or cocked position." The Maine Bowhunters Association shall not recognize the crossbow under this definition and shall oppose attempts to make the crossbow acceptable for use in bow hunting only seasons.
- To foster a spirit of sportsman-like fellowship among all bowhunters.
- To initiate or support selected activities and programs intended, or expected, to emphasize the responsibilities inherent in any proper use of the bow and arrow and to protect such continued use and possession on the part of citizens of good repute.
- To strive toward upgrading the sport of bowhunting through education, training, demonstration, dissemination of information, and related activities.
- To encourage by education, training, and demonstration, the support of appropriate legislation or other activities, a high level of sportsmanship and ethics in any use of the bow and arrow in activities related to the interests of the association.
- To educate archers to the fact that bowhunting is a sport of separate from and not to be confused with the sport of target/field archery.
- To further the purpose of this association by means of education, demonstration, or other appropriate activities directed to the recognition and protection of the rights of others, insofar as they relate to property rights, and enjoyment and use of property, and the enforcement of laws and regulations.

