

# THE MAINE BOWHUNTER

NOVEMBER 2008

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT



By Jerome Richard

I hope everybody is having a successful hunting season especially if you are pursuing deer and turkey with a bow this fall. I have already received many stat sheets from some successful bear hunters and from deer hunters in the expanded zone. Please don't forget to mail in your stat sheets no matter how big or small the game, it is a trophy when taken with a bow.

This had to be one of the busiest summers I have ever experienced. It seems like the outdoor and hunting community is coming together on a lot of events. It's been an exciting time to work with these different groups. The following is some of the things the MBA has been involved in this past summer.

#### L.L. Bean Hunting Expo

I hope everybody saw the last newsletter or our website about the L.L. Bean Hunting Expo on September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008. I want to personally thank L.L. Bean especially Greg Tucker and Mac McKeever who contacted us about giving the MBA 5% of the sales from the new Hunting & Fishing Store on that weekend event. We also want to thank Rick Tucker, Deb Uecker, Sam Coffin, Scott Higgins, Phil, Mike, and Dan from L.L. Bean who were outstanding in provid-

ing the MBA with a good location inside the store and providing set-up materials. I have lived in Maine for just over 20 years and visited the store on many occasions from the major expansion in the late 80's, to the L.L. Kid's Store, and the recently opened Hunting and Fishing Store. They have always supported the Maine Bowhunters Association, but this event was a tremendous act of support for the MBA. Their sales people have helped me many times over the years from fly fishing to bowhunting turkey tactics

*(Continued on page 2)*



Paul St. John, Pete Lamarre, Tina Richard, Jerome Richard, Rick Tucker and Scott Abbott at the LL Bean Expo.

## L.L.Bean

**Special Thanks to L.L. Bean for their support of the MBA.**

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**71ST ANNUAL EASTERN MAINE SPORTSMAN'S SHOW** IN ORONO, ON MARCH 13TH TO 15TH

**5TH ANNUAL PINE TREE STATE SPORTSMAN & GUN SHOW** IN WILTON, ON MARCH 20TH TO 22ND

**THE PRESQUE ISLE SHOW** IN PRESQUE ISLE, ON MARCH 28TH TO 29TH

**29TH ANNUAL STATE OF MAINE SPORTSMAN'S SHOW** IN AUGUSTA, ON APRIL 3RD TO 5TH

**MBA BANQUET** – APRIL 25, 2009 – CALUMET CLUB, AUGUSTA

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

LEGISLATIVE REPORT	4
BIGGER THAN I THOUGH	5
LIMITED SCOUTING ANTELOPE	6
MBA HISTORY	7
BOW TECH	11

*(Continued from page 1)*

from the pros like Les Peters, who helped me with bowhunting turkeys starting back in 2002. They have the products and the talented people to stand behind it! Anytime I am in the store I also try to contact Les because he always has more tricks to bring home a gobbler.

Some of you may be asking why L.L. Bean made such an outstanding donation to the MBA. I spoke with Greg Tucker of L.L. Bean about this and he said, L.L. Bean was impressed with how the MBA has taken an active roll in reaching out to the youth to get them involved in the outdoors especially with our youth archery events. The MBA has done over 12 youth archery events in 2007 and just over 20 events in 2008 from Wells, ME to Presque Isle, ME to Rumford, ME, and this year we even attended an event in Effington, NH! I agree with Greg we are not a club, but an organization that actively tries to get the next generation into the outdoors with archery and bowhunting. It also helps our

image as bowhunters by reaching out to the non-hunter to introduce them to the sport of archery and getting them to understand what bowhunting is about.

Again, I cannot say it enough that we had a great weekend at the L.L. Bean Hunting Expo, and their generosity was greatly appreciated. I want to thank fellow MBA members Pete Lamarre, Paul St. John, Roy Bickford, and the big man himself, Scott Abbott for working this event with Tina and I.

#### **Maine NWTF Globsterfest**

The Maine chapter of the NWTF held a summer banquet called the "Glosbterfest" in Newport on August 17. Several members of the Maine Bowhunters Association attended this event and enjoyed a great meal of lobster and all the fixings. One of the biggest surprises and honors for the MBA was that Jim Plourde, President of the Maine NWTF, presented the MBA a special award in appreciation for the many years of cooperation between the two or-

ganizations. I believe the MBA has built many good working relationships with several outdoor organizations over the past couple of years. This was another example of building alliances by working together. The MBA ran the youth archery event and the Maine NWTF had a youth BB shoot outside prior to the meal. I want to thank fellow MBA & NWTF members Robb Cotiaux, Julie Johnston, and Deanna Page for getting the MBA an opportunity to be at this event with the youth archery.

#### **Maine Trappers Rendezvous**

The Maine Bowhunters Association participated in the first annual Maine Trapper's Association's "Sportsmen's Rendezvous" in Sidney, ME on September 5, 6, and 7, 2008 at the Silver Spurs Riding Club. My wife Tina even jumped into the "Eel Race" which she had never seen before. Now that's what I call a real woman! As usual the MBA brought the youth archery equipment which attracted kids like flies to honey. I want to thank MBA member Russell Corson for

helping Tina and I manage the range especially on Saturday. Also, I want to thank Bob Walker from Moosehead Trail Trading Post, who came down to do a 1 hour seminar on archery equipment, which I think he may have created a few new bowhunters! David Wilson, Vice President of the Maine Trappers Association, was instrumental in getting the MBA at this event. Thanks David!

#### **Maine Wildlife Park**

I received a request from Lisa Kane at MDIF&W asking the MBA to participate in an "Open House" of the Maine Wildlife Park on Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. Lisa wanted several of the different outdoor groups to attend and bring some hands-on stuff to the park. You guessed it! Tina and I brought down the NASP Youth Archery equipment and ran the event for over 6 hours and had over 150 kids (and some adults) stop in and learn to shoot. One of the most rewarding times of the day came, when we had three mentally handicapped men stop by and we taught them

*(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>

Outdoor Sportsman  
1044 Atlantic Highway  
Northport, ME 04849  
(207)338-4141  
<http://www.maineoutdoorsportsman.com>

Seven Islands Land Company  
PO Box 1168  
Bangor, ME 04402

PLEASE  
SUPPORT  
THE  
AFFILIATES  
THAT  
SUPPORT  
YOUR MBA!



Just one of the many participants at the Maine Wildlife Park.

(Continued from page 2)

to shoot the bows. These three guys were an inspiration! One of the gentlemen was both mentally and physically handicapped and mostly bound to a wheelchair, but his determination is hard to explain. He actually stood up and struggled to the shooting line, refusing to stay in his wheelchair, and shot the bow. The group of three gentlemen later came back to shoot with us again. Tina and I might have taught them how to shoot a bow, but these gentlemen taught us more about life in that short period of time. While we were there at the park we had the chance to meet the new director of Information and Education for MDIF&W, Regis Tremblay, who I hope, the MBA can work with on future projects together, such as Bowhunter Safety Education.

### MBA Advanced Bowhunter Class (BLIP Program)

The MBA held a Bowhunters/Landowners Information Program (BLIP) class on Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at Old Town Archery Shop from 8:00am to noon. For more information on BLIP and the requirements visit the MBA website and click on the side bar on the left titled "Bowhunters/Landowners Information Program". This course was announced in our last newsletter and on our website. At this time we are uncertain of when the next class will be held, but it will probably be next spring or summer when the instructors are available and a site can be determined.

### Cash for Christmas Raffle

The Maine Bowhunter's Association is holding a special raffle to make someone's Christmas a lot more enjoyable this year. It is called "Cash for Christmas" where the lucky person who is drawn will win \$1,000! Also, the person who sold the

winning raffle ticket will win \$200 for their effort. The raffle tickets are \$5 each and only 1,000 individually numbered raffle tickets are available. The drawing will be held on November 30th just after Thanksgiving. Please contact any of the officers or county representatives for raffle tickets. The names and contact information can be found inside the newsletter. A \$5 investment could turn out to be a \$1,000 pay out to someone! If you would like, you can contact me at (207) 426-2082 for tickets.

### North Yarmouth Town Meeting

The Maine Bowhunters Association had a big impact on the town meeting in North Yarmouth where a motion had been made at a previous town meeting to ban any form of firearms hunting on some of the North Yarmouth public lands such as the 62-acre Old Town House Park. MDIF&W biologist Judy Camuso attended the meeting and had a PowerPoint presentation on the relationship of Lyme disease and vehicle accidents, when hunting is eliminated or extremely limited. The MBA had several members at this meeting including Gene Lagomarsino, Jerome Richard, Robb Cotiaux, Keith Dirago, and Maurice Drouin.

Gene did an excellent job of explaining the hunting difficulties that the MBA had to eliminate deer at the Wells Reserve over the past several years and that the problem with overpopulation of deer

and the rate of Lyme disease was caused by towns that banned hunting. Judy Camuso said that the deer tick study done at the Wells Reserve indicated that 87% of the deer ticks at the Wells Reserve carried Lyme disease! After all the discussion the town selectmen voted overwhelmingly to allow shotgun hunting and bowhunting which was currently allowed before the motion to ban firearms hunting in certain areas of North Yarmouth. It was interesting to note that only one firearms hunter from the town came to the Town Meeting, but the MBA had about 6 members from the surrounding area! During a short recess in the town meeting, many of the selectmen approached us to say how impressed they were that the MBA would stand in support of firearms hunting when the subject had nothing to do with eliminating bowhunting. I believe that is a key subject that all hunters must remember is that we have to stand together or we will lose our hunting heritage one step at a time.



## Legislative Report



By Jerome Richard

Two issues have developed this past summer that have both caused some controversy. The first being the 2008 Superpack license and the other is the proposed 2009 Spring Turkey Season. I will start off with the latter because it is still in the comment period at the time of this writing.

The Commissioner of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife has proposed to adopt a rule change to eliminate the split turkey season in 2009 and allow the hunting of bearded turkeys from ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset. The 2009 Spring Turkey Season would run from May 4, 2009 to June 6, 2009 with the Youth Day hunt on May 2, 2009. The deadline for comments was October 10, 2008 with no scheduled public hearings scheduled at the time.

The ending of a split season has worried many people about the safety of the upcoming turkey season if the changes do occur. Also, there have been concerns of disturbing nesting hens with hunters in the field all day.

IF&W states that there will be no fiscal impact of the rule, but that is hard to believe if they are trying to increase license sales because of the rule change.

The largest controversy this year without a doubt is the 2008 Superpack license. Some may remember the same controversy occurred in 2005, but at least IF&W offered a refund that time. I received an unbelievable amount of phone calls and e-mails about this year's Superpack holders from bowhunters and even the firearms hunter. At the beginning of the year the Superpack license was being sold with three expanded zone tags (1 buck and 2 doe tags), but in March 2008 Paul Jacques, representing IF&W, went to the state legislature to request a change to 3 doe tags. This was according to our former MBA lobbyist, Don Kleiner. Some may claim this was a money grab to get another \$34 out of the Superpack holders, but expanded zone bowhunters may have created some of the problem. According to Paul Jacques, last year expanded zone bowhunters took 898 does and 632 bucks. Obviously, bowhunters have a problem remembering that we have to lower the doe population, when in fact a lot of people are trophy hunting bucks only or dragging deer into the expanded zone and tagging them as expanded zone deer. Paul has a point when we used to only be al-

lowed doe tags, only in the expanded zone a few years ago and now we have it forced back to the same situation again.

It was the understanding at that time that the rule change would go into effect for the 2009 hunting Season according to Don Kleiner, but even that got changed. As we now have found out between IF&W and the legislature they made that move for this year despite the fact they had already began selling the Superpack license to everyone believing (rightly or wrongly) they were getting 1 buck and 2 doe tags. From what I understand from the Superpack holders, letters were not received about this change until the expanded zone hunt had already begun and it appears that there will not be a refund offered due to this switch.

Matters only got worse during the drawing for the antlerless deer permits. The Superpack holder thought they were going to receive a great opportunity during this drawing for another special doe permit that allowed them to take a second deer in the regular season outside the expanded zones. This occurred during the antlerless deer drawing. The drawing started with the landowners permits first which I think everyone agrees is right (97% of them got a doe permit), then the resident hunters (78% got permits), and then

the third group was the non-resident hunter (73% got permits), followed by the Superpack holders. What the Superpack holders did not understand, according to Paul Jacques, was that the Superpack holders were only eligible for the special doe permit (additional doe besides their regular tag, i.e. second deer) if the WMD offered more than 5,000 permits which this year there were only a total of 3 WMD's that had more than 5,000 permits available. Also, there could be no more than

*(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)*

2-1/2% of the total available permits from that WMD, that had 5,000 or more, that could go into the Superpack drawing.

Now some people might be upset that a Superpack holder could possibly take **5 DEER** if the holder got the regular buck tag, plus an additional special doe tag, plus three expanded zone tags. Paul explains that IF&W sold approximately 1,800 Superpack licenses, but only 642 special doe tags (the second deer tag) were issued. That means 1/3 of the Superpack license holders got two deer tags (bonus tags). As you can see everyone is starting to realize (or shall we say falsely believe) that if you purchase a \$200 Superpack license you think you get the right to shoot two deer no matter what, but now there are far more licenses (3 times as many) then there are extra deer tags.

The winter kill which is directly related to the decrease in the number of antlerless deer permits this year did not help, when at the same time the number of Superpack licenses sold has rapidly increased. Paul Jacques said that

the Superpack was originally set up to be one stop shopping, but the legislature and IF&W keep trying to “improve” the license offering special incentives and making changes which have lead to a nightmare according to Paul. My take is that the Superpack license is a big risk for \$200 with your chances of any extra deer becoming more limited plus the chance that the state legislature and IF&W could change the rules at any time. The Better Business Bureau has a good saying – “Buyer Beware”, so next time remember what happened in 2005 and 2008 and ask yourself if it is worth it.

One thing I ask all our readers is that we work within the frame work of the Maine Bowhunters Association and Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. The article written above is not to create division, but to help explain the situation. All hunters must work together to resolve the problems that develop. There are much bigger problems facing hunters and the state organization (IF&W) that oversee the hunters such as consolidation of the Natural Resources Agencies. We must be professional and rise above the situation.

## HE WAS BIGGER THAN I THOUGHT!

By Brian Smith, Washington County Rep.

It was 6:30 pm on August 25th, 2008 and I could hear the thunder storm closing behind me from the west. I thought that my opening day bear hunt was about to be washed out. Then I looked left and he was staring right at me so close I could see his nostrils testing the air. The thunder claps were closer and the breeze at my back grew stronger. I prayed that my full scent lock suit would work as advertised.

It all began 30 days earlier, when I set out eight baits near my home in Machiasport. I had the usual mixtures of donuts, glaze, and fryolator grease. Within days, I had over a dozen different bear photos on my Moultrie Game Spy Cameras. As the month of August passed too slowly, more bears visited my sights

including a 300 lb. boar at one and what looked like a 250lb sow at another. On opening day, I sent my friend Dick to go after the boar and I sat at the bait with photos of what I thought was the huge sow. My Brother Dave and Uncle Craig were at baits within a mile of me that had multiple bears coming to them.

When I arrived at my stand at 3:30, I saw that the 40 lb rock was knocked off the bucket and some of the bait had been eaten. My trail camera later confirmed that I had bumped a 150 lb bear while walking in. I replaced the cover and climbed into my very comfortable stand. Within a half hour I was engaged in a lovely nap until I woke myself up snoring. Now it was time to get serious. After two hours of vigilant waiting, I began to hear thun-

*(Continued on page 6)*

### 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



Brian Smith with possible is biggest bear to date.

*(Continued from page 5)*

der in the distance. I thought that the storm would pass to the north as usual but it kept getting closer. I had been looking to the right when I heard a sniff and slowly looked left to the trail I had walked in on. There he was and he was no fat sow. He turned to face me and I gasped at how wide he was across the front. He took a step then looked at me and sniffed again and repeated that with every slow step. He moved ever so slowly toward the bait and all the while the crashes of thunder were closing. After what seemed like an eternity he flipped the 10 lb square of steel off the bucket and the camera snapped his photo. The sky was darkening by the minute and the flash of the camera went off again. When he stuck his head in the bucket while sitting flat on the ground I drew my Mathews Z-max and placed the TruGlo pin behind his left shoulder for a hard quartering away shot. It didn't take long for the Muzzy tipped Beman Hunter to travel 12 yds through the bear and bury in the soft earth. He grunted, and dashed straight away from me then disappeared over an embankment 25 yds away. I thought I heard him crash between claps of thunder, then the heavens opened up and it poured hard and steady. I thanked

God for such an exciting hunt then lightning hit the ground nearby. I could not hear over the downpour and was getting soaked so I elected to climb down with an over hour of daylight left. I am not sure which caused more shaking, the cool rain or knowing that I had just arrowed another really big bear.

After waiting for Brother Dave and Uncle Craig to finish their hunts, the three of us went back to find a little splash of blood on the bucket and all other blood washed away. After a short search, we finally found him piled up in a depression only 30 yds from the bait. We all marveled at the size of him

and when we tried to drag him, suspected that he was heavier than our first estimates. After finally loading him onto to my tailgate with aid of my Honda ATV, we met my friend Steve Pineo and his boys Nick and Colin at his store and tagging station in Machias. To our surprise he tipped the certified scales at 340 lbs on the nose and measured 7' from his nose to back feet.

Dave had retrieved the SD card from the camera and after looking at the photos realized it was the same bear that I thought was a big sow. His head looked small compared to his body and I was duped into thinking it was a smaller bear. I am still look-

ing for the right taxidermist to do a half mount and clean the skull for measurement after 60 days of drying. This boar's head looks as big as my 1995 Pope & Young bruin but only the ruler will tell.

I have been hunting over my own baits for 16 years and I can truly say that my 12th archery bear was as exciting as my first. Fellow baiters and tagging stations have reported that fewer bears are being seen and tagged this year, thus I feel blessed to have killed such a trophy on opening day. A few weeks later, I was blessed again with two deer in the expanded zone. Life couldn't be better.

## Limited Scouting Antelope

By Paul St. John

Because this was my first year ever hunting Antelope without being able to pre-scout the unit, I was somewhat concerned. Normally, I'm out scouting the first weekend that I've drawn a tag, months before the season opens. However, this year was going to be different. I no longer live in Colorado, so it wasn't possible to just jump in the truck and drive out to my favorite watering holes that I usually claimed for the upcoming season. This year, I had to wait mere days before the season and hope that at least one or two of my favorite locations were still available. I also spent countless

hours looking over public land maps and making sure I identified every watering hole that might contain water.

That first morning I arrived into Craig, Colorado, I found out fairly quickly that every water hole visible by county roads was taken (including my favorite). My next approach was to locate the secondary locations that were not visible by any county road. There were very few locations, which fell into this category, but lucky for me, the first few I checked were available.

Seeing that the season was opening in just days, I didn't

wish to disturb the area too much, building a pit blind would have taken hours and there wasn't enough time for the Antelope to become comfortable with a high profiled popup blind. Instead, I chose to go with just a \$25 burlap camo fabric. By sticking 6 sticks into the ground, I was able to build a 5-foot circle about 4 feet high. Only leaving a 6-inch slit which to enter, exit, and shoot through. By doubling up on the backside of the blind, I was able to eliminate any possibility of silhouetting my outline, and leaving the front side only one layer, I was able to easily see through the blind. This made it virtually impossible for any

*(Continued on page 7)*



Paul St. John with his Colorado Antelope.

*(Continued from page 6)*

Antelope to sneak into the watering hole. I also positioned the blind so that my only shooting lane was facing the highest trafficked area at the water hole. This would allow me a broadside shot, between 17 to 25 yards. To finish up the blind, I placed a handful of sagebrush in front and behind the blind, just so that it would blend into the terrain better. The whole process of building the blind took less than 15 minutes. I also felt very comfortable that none of the Antelope in the area were disturbed by my activity.

Prior to any hunt, I always set some type of standard of what I'm expecting to harvest. I also will not lower my expectation until the last day of the hunt; knowing quite well I may go home empty, which has happened more often than not. Fortunately, for me that first afternoon a group of 6 bucks came into the watering hole, 5 of the

bucks appeared to be fairly young, but one met my standards. Less than 6 hours into the hunt, I was done. This left my entire skepticism about scouting so close to opening day behind me.

The two things that allowed me to become successful this year were that there was plenty of water in Craig. I think if last winter and this summer were dry, there wouldn't have been any open water holes to hunt from. And, taking the time to look over public land maps to identify every possible watering hole. I think next time I might try my hand at spot and stalk, but before I'll need to bring plenty of sunscreen.



## MBA History Corner

By Jerome Richard

Many times over the years I have been asked about the history of the Maine Bowhunters Association, how it began and grew into the organization that it is today. So I thought I would have a section of the newsletter with articles about the history of the MBA and some of past officers that contributed to our success.

The original six founders of the MBA were Lewis Beckim (the first MBA president), David Plummer (the first vice president), Bob Lamphier (the first secretary/treasurer), Bob England (the second vice president), Merlon Cole, and Bob Harter. These six gentlemen used to get together in 1965 to shoot their stick bows and recurves at bales of hay and bags of wood shavings. The group decided to form an organization for bowhunters and archers in the state, and they came up with the name "Maine Bowhunters Association". As the organization grew they developed the first constitution and by-laws and accepted them on October 5, 1966. By 1967 the group had grown to 21 members.

Recently, I had two opportunities to sit down with Bob England at the Old Town Archery Shop to discuss what it was like in the beginning of the MBA and also how things have grown to where it is

today. Bob spends his summers in Old Town on Marsh Island and spends the winters in Florida at a well-known place called "The Villages". He is 70+ years young and still spends time shooting his bow on a regular basis with many retired championship archers in Florida. Bob says that "The Villages" has retired people from all over the United States and other countries, and the really good thing is that some of these people bring a lot of different archery skills to share amongst the group to help some sharpen their skills ever more.

One thing that Bob said was that the Maine Bowhunters Association had grown far beyond anything that the original group had ever imagined, in scope and in membership. When the group first formed they were just trying to pull together a group of people who shot bows and tried to get together as a group to shoot hay bales and bags of wood shavings in someone's backyard. No one made 3-D "foam" targets or compound bows like today. Mr. England said they started advertising in the Belfast Journal in the beginning for membership and on archery shoots. In the beginning there were only the six of them and by the mid-70's the membership had grown to about 50 people. He never imagined the MBA would peak at around 700 members!

*(Continued on page 8)*

(Continued from page 7)

Lobbying and legislative efforts were never thought of during the early years. Of course times were different and hunting played a bigger part in the typical life of people in Maine. Now with computers, video games, cable/satellite television, and the ever increasing single parent household, the number of total hunters has been decreasing and public opinion towards hunting is under attack. In the past few years we have had to face the bear referendum, crossbow issues, Roxanne Quimby's land purchase issues, and even issues surrounding the Superpack license. The MBA has been pushed into the political spotlight to protect bowhunting in Maine.

One of the major contributions that the early MBA did to promote archery was getting involved in teaching archery in Maine public schools, the University of Maine, and even summer camps. The Maine public schools system approached the MBA and several members went to Springfield College for 3 days to learn about "lifetime sports", which archery was one of these sports. Their job was to learn how to teach the sport of archery to students in our school systems. Bob England and his wife were already school teachers and he really jumped on the idea. He ended up traveling all around the state from different public schools, Gorham Teachers College (now

called the University of Southern Maine), University of Maine in Orono, and in the summer he taught archery at places like the University of Maine Conservation Camp. Bob also was heavily involved in Hunter Safety Education in Maine for over 25 years as an instructor. The more I listened to Bob it became apparent that the MBA had come full circle with promoting archery because the MBA purchased a complete package of National Archery in the Schools Program equipment in 2007 and began traveling from Presque Isle to Wells to Rumford teaching people to shoot a bow. Several of our current members are Volunteer Bowhunter Safety Instructors for MDIF&W too.

Somewhere in the mid to late 70's, Bob England began guiding. He owned and operated "Wilderness Vacations" in the Allagash for several years. By 1994 he retired from teaching and not too soon afterwards, bought a home in "The Villages" in Florida. He still regularly shoots target archery where the seniors normally shoot from 20 yards to 80 yards with their own equipment. Back in 1991, Terri Estes of Benton, one of our past MBA directors, held a special 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Maine Bowhunters Association in Waterville and they were able to get three gentlemen to attend the celebration. I think Bob England proved a point – archery is a "lifetime sport"!

## 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  
140 Veazie Street  
Old Town, ME 04468  
(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  
bowhuntut@yahoo.com

### Penobscot

Dan Long  
140 Veazie Street  
Old Town, ME 04468  
(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@mgemaine.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](mailto: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](mailto:editor@mainebowhunters.org)

[WWW.MAINEBOWHUNTERS.ORG](http://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 Sportsman, 183 State Street, Suite 101, 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

**BowTech Talk**

By Chas LaVersa

The Heart of your bow is the rest. The function of all rest systems is to hold the arrow in place until it is released without interfering with the launch. Since its inception people have tried to find ways to minimize the influence of the rest on the arrow. Rest evolution closely follows the move from finger shooting to release shooting.

Not too many decades ago, early cut away risers had a threaded hole installed in them to hold a spring loaded button called a Berger Button named after the fellow who invented it. This hole is still known as a Berger Button hole even though they are not commonly used anymore. The hole is now used to mount the rest itself. The function of this button was to alleviate side loads between the arrow and the riser from an arrow's sideways flexing as it rolled off the shooters fingers. This button was used in conjunction with a plastic finger, or spring, or flipper arm, all of which supported the arrow underneath. Together they formed what was known as a shoot around rest.

Next we developed the shoot through rest. Common ones have two fingers

which support the arrow from underneath with a slot between them for the cock vane to ride through. Rest contact consists of two tiny fingertips running the length of the arrow as it passes along on its way off the bow. This rest allowed less contact with plenty of support and became more sophisticated with the addition of spring cushioning and Teflon finger covers.

Then came the advent of the drop away rest. This rest is attached to and activated by the working parts of the bow. Some attach to the cables, some to the cable slide, some even to the limbs! When these parts move during the draw cycle, the rest moves up to support the arrow, and drops out of the way as the arrow comes by the riser. It seems a perfect way! However, they must be properly adjusted to control the position, dwell, and descent, to get proper function. Many believe that just because it is a drop away that they are getting zero interference. In reality, these rests have been known to bounce back up and hit arrows, not get out of the way on time, and many other malfunctions. To operate correctly they must rise to the correct position, dwell there just long enough to stabilize the arrow as it starts its jour-

*(Continued on page 12)*

**MBA**

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(Continued from page 11)

ney, and then descend far enough and fast enough to allow the fletchings to clear.

About the same time, full containment rests came into being. Instead of no contact they exert equal contact. The strength of this design is in the way it completely controls the arrow all the time. It cannot fall off or clank against anything. Early ones were made of a circle of stiff bristles all pointing inward toward the arrow. They were not very user friendly, slowed the arrow down some, and worked OK. Just as all equipment does, they evolved to today's top style, the Whisker Biscuit, which has softer bristles all around and stiff ones right under the arrow. They work very well, are highly accurate and reduce arrow

speeds only a few feet per second if at all.

Many rests in each category and many that bridge between two or three categories are popularly used today. The rest is responsible for the clean flight of the arrow. Whenever you attach fixed blade broadheads to the front of your arrows the rest performance becomes critical. Those little blades act as fins and steer the arrow similar to the way a canard aircraft design works. They must be perfectly aligned with the center line of the arrow shaft to minimize this effect. It is also necessary to have the rest at the center shot of the bow both vertically and more importantly, horizontally. The Berger button hole marks the vertical center position. The horizontal position can be more elusive! We commonly

set these with lasers, and levels and that produces a perfect "static" tune. The acid test is how your broadheads fly in relation to where your field tips land. This will lead you to a perfect "dynamic" tune and assure you that your

rest is indeed in the correct position!

*Chas LaVersa is a bow technician for the Old Town Archery Center and can be contacted there or at [chaslaversa@yahoo.com](mailto:chaslaversa@yahoo.com)*

## Visit the Old Town Archery Center and Pro Shop

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## 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.

