

THE MAINE BOWHUNTER

SEPTEMBER 2008

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



By Jerome Richard

Depending on where you live in Maine, this has been a fairly good summer even with all the rain. This summer has given me a chance to scout the woods and to observe the effects from this past winter. Some areas look like the winter deer kill was fairly high, but in central Maine, I don't think the deer kill was too bad. I have seen plenty of fawns in one area including a recent road kill fawn in mid-July. The turkeys seem to be doing great, and the bears got off lucky with sleeping through the whole winter! For a bear it must be nice to eat like a pig, not care about your weight or looks, and then get to sleep through the winter to avoid the hassle of snow!

MBA Advanced Bowhunter Class (BLIP Program)

The Maine Bowhunter's Association will be putting on a Bowhunters/Landowners Information Program (BLIP) class on Sunday, September 21st at Old Town Archery Shop from 8:00am to noon. **This will be the only class available this year, so please make every attempt to attend this course.** 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".

BLIP has been a very successful program for the MBA

and DIF&W to help resolve landowner and wildlife management problems. Successful completion of this course will open up other opportunities for bowhunters to harvest additional game, as well as, help build good working relationships with the landowners, towns, cities, and DIF&W to show how valuable bowhunting is as a wildlife management tool.

For individuals wanting to register for the class please call Jerome Richard at 426-2082. Also, go to the website and at the end of the BLIP article, click on the

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Tina Richard and Jazmine at Camp Post Card.

UPCOMING EVENTS

BLIP CLASS: SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 21ST FROM 8:00AM TO NOON AT OLD TOWN ARCHERY SHOP. FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND PRE-REGISTRATION PLEASE CONTACT JEROME AT 426-2082.

L.L.BEAN HUNTING EXPO
SEPTEMBER 26-28 IN FREEPORT MAINE.

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BLIP application to print out a form which should be filed out and brought to the class on September 21st. We need an accurate pre-registration head count to make sure that we have enough materials on hand at the class.

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 30 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!

National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP)

The Maine Bowhunter's Association has been very active in promoting the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) as a way to draw new people into the sport of archery and bowhunting. Not only does NASP help recruit new archers and bowhunters, but it helps us build relationships with the non-hunters and landowners who might have a misconception about archery equipment and bowhunting in general. This



Tina Richard teaching Jazmine basic archery skills.

program has also helped us to support our valuable archery pro shops because they need new customers to stay in business as well.

The MBA has been involved in over two dozen NASP events since June 2007 and will probably exceed over three dozen events by the end of this year. We have put on events at the sportsman's

shows, youth camps, and other special events throughout the summer and winter.

One of the most memorable events that caught my attention happened this summer at Camp POSTCARD sponsored by the Maine Sheriff's Association, Volunteers of America, and Project DARE.

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MBA AFFILIATES

Blood Finder of NH
396 River Road
Weare, NH 03281
<http://www.bloodfinderofnh.com>

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>

Coalition to Preserve
PO Box 1297
Auburn, ME
(207)345-9503
<http://www.preservegrowme.org>

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

Fins and Furs Adventures,
32 Greenwood
Skowhegan, ME 04976
(207)474-5430
<http://www.finsandfursadventures.com>

Hunter's Golden Retriever
PO Box 1370
Bucksport, ME 04416
<http://huntersgoldenretriever.com>

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!

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I think everyone loves to cheer for the “underdog” and the person who refuses to give up despite the difficulties or handicaps. Pete Lamarre, my wife Tina, and I worked this event for two days on June 11 and 12, 2008. One of the kids at this camp was an amazing 12 year old girl named Jazmine from the Bangor/Brewer area who was blind. This amazing young girl jumped right in and my wife Tina taught her how to shoot a bow exactly like everyone else. Tina provided the guidance to help the young girl hit the target consistently while using all the “11 Steps to Archery Success”. I don’t think I have ever taken so many pictures! This young lady was a true inspiration which I’ll never forget.

I want to thank my employer, **Sappi Fine Paper North America**, for allowing me community service time, as well as, providing the Maine Bowhunter’s Association with financial donations to support the MBA NASP/Youth Archery events. Sappi has been very supportive of our efforts to help the youth of this state.

Maine NWTF Globsterfest

The Maine chapter of the NWTF will be holding a “Globsterfest” in Newport on August 17 at 1:00pm. It will be a great **lobster** feed and the MBA will be there as well doing a NASP/Youth Archery Shoot. For more information contact Rob Cotiaux at 207-926-5392 or check the website at www.mainenwtf.org.

Maine Trappers Rendezvous

The Maine Bowhunter’s Association will be running a NASP/Youth Archery Shoot at the Maine Trapper’s Association’s “Sportsmen’s Rendezvous” in Sidney, ME on September 5, 6, and 7, 2008 at the Silver Spurs Riding Club. It is located right off I-95 at exit 120 and go to the West River Road (Rt. 140). It will be a great opportunity to meet other people and other hunting and trapping organizations and there will be a **pig roast** too! For more information contact David Wilson at 207-458-0590.

Up Coming NASP Youth Shoots

Trapper’s Weekend in Sidney, ME.
Friday through Sunday, September 5th to 7th

L.L. Bean Hunting Expo in Freeport, ME.
Saturday and Sunday, September 27th and 28th

Boy Scouts of America Jamboree in Raymond, ME.
Saturday October 4th Rain or Shine 8am to 4pm. Volunteers needed for Archery and BB Gun instruction, contact Mike Moreau at 782-4777

Legislative Report



By Don Kleiner

I have been appointed a member of the Task Force on the Natural Resource Agencies and as part of my work have been asked to solicit input on what you think is working and what is not. Please take a minute and give some thought to the following request.

Thanks, Don

Dear Interested Citizen:

We are writing you because of direct involvement in, or connection to, Maine’s natural resources and natural resource agencies. The Legislature recently enacted LD 2289, the Supplemental State Budget (PL 2007, Chapter 539). Contained in this law are provisions that require Maine’s natural resource and environmental agencies to work with a task force comprised of diverse interests to “consider all ideas and organizational configurations, eliminate duplication and create greater efficiencies to improve the delivery of services to the citizens of the

State of Maine.” We are the co-chairs of this Task Force that has now met three times and we are seeking as much information as possible in this initial phase of our work.

To this end, we are reaching out on behalf of the Task Force to interested citizens and organizations to obtain initial ideas and input. As we move forward, there will be additional opportunities to obtain your feedback on specific ideas as they emerge from the work of the Task Force. Your initial ideas and responses will be collected and shared in an anonymous format to the Task Force. These responses will serve as helpful guidance to the group during its fall meetings.

Attached is the charge of the Task Force and an initial set of questions. We encourage you to take a few minutes to respond to this questionnaire and to share your views. Please note that you can follow the progress of the Task Force on a web-site located at: www.maine.gov/spo; see **Special Projects** and “Natural Resource Agency Task Force”. After August 3, you can also download a copy of this questionnaire at the web-site.

Thank you in advance for your interest in the Natural Resource Agency Task Force.

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Sincerely,

Representative Wendy Pich
Karin R. Tilberg, Senior Policy Advisor

Your Thoughts Please...
e m a i l t o
sbaez@umext.maine.edu by
August 22

The charge of the Natural Resource Agency Task Force is *to recommend a plan to improve the delivery of services to the citizens of Maine, using existing resources and those created by efficiencies achieved by cooperation, coordination, integration of functions and organizational configurations.*

Successful implementation of such a plan will enable Maine to successfully meet current, emerging, and future resource management challenges and opportunities, for the benefit of Maine people and natural systems. Therefore, the Task Force has agreed that such a plan and associated recommendations:

- improve service to Maine people, businesses and others using public and private natural resources
- ensure efficient, effective use of human resources and agency capacities
- address current, emerging and future natural resource management challenges and opportunities
- assure healthy, sustainable ecosystems into the

future, as well as long-term economic and other benefits to Maine people

- We would very much appreciate your help as we frame our work and consider all ideas. Please respond to the questions below and add any other comments you would like the task force to consider.

As you work with or experience Maine's natural resources or the services provided by the several agencies charged with protecting and managing those resources (Departments of Agriculture, Conservation, Environmental Protection, Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and Marine Resources):

What is working well?

What recommendations do you have for how we can do things differently?

What future challenges should our plan/recommendations anticipate?

What future opportunities should our plan/recommendations anticipate?

Please add any other comments or suggestions that you think would be helpful.

Thank you. Please respond by August 22 (or sooner!) to have your contributions considered.

Please send your responses by e m a i l t o sbaez@umext.maine.edu, or by fax 207 667 2003 or in writing to Natural Resources Agency Task Force, c/o Suzanne Baez, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, 63 Boggy Brook Road, Ellsworth, Maine 04605.

Your responses will be collated and shared, without identifying authorship, with members of the Task Force.

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 to be sent to Director at large Jeff Hopkins.

L.L.Bean Hunting Expo September 26-28.

Join L.L.Bean for a weekend celebration of Maine's hunting heritage. The weekend will feature demonstrations, clinics, seminars, free gun appraisals, certified antler scoring, free archery, clay shooting and fly casting lessons and plenty of activities just for kids. On Friday, September 26th, bring your lawn chair and enjoy free live performances by Lick-n-Gravey at 4 p.m. and the country music star Tracy Byrd at 6:00pm. During the L.L.Bean Hunting Expo, **5% of any purchase of hunting gear and apparel made at the Hunting and Fishing Store in Freeport between September 27th and 28th will be donated to the Maine Bowhunters Association.**

L.L.Bean

Cash for Christmas

By Robert Cotiaux
Cumberland County Representative

Having been president in the past of my professional organization, I learned very quickly that one of the solid foundations of conducting business is having a good bank account. That, plus members, especially board members that contribute ideas and time (usually free and at the members expense) toward the groups goals help keep the wheels spinning.

Money troubles spell doom for a marriage. That plus parent in law issues, sex, and children (lack of or too many) can cause the marriage to fail. Its no different in a group such as ours, you need money to enjoy life, we need money to function, to conduct business and foster the ideaology of the group. Having a solid bank account, a stream of income, makes life easier for all. Es-pecially the doer's when it comes to raising monies.

Our group is in a constant need of funding. The membership fees you pay, in case

you don't know this, pay for your Maine Sportsman subscription and then whats left goes back to us. It's about half of your dues. About \$12 per member. In order to have fully funded our lobbyist, we would have needed 1,280 members at \$12.50 and not use any membership money for anything else. No NASP, no nothing.

In order to raise funds, we have the banquet, we charge for some activities, and we conduct raffles. I know, I know, everyone does raffles. Its not popular and usually the same folks are the ones selling the tickets. What do you do. Couple this with every group selling raffle tickets....

Last month, I wrote about a Cash for Christmas raffle, winner take \$1000 home, seller of the winning ticket gets \$200. Thankfully, just ONE member (from Wells) sent me \$10. So, I have faith in one of the 600 plus odd members... Now, all I hear about of late is "I have no money for this and that" and I know thats true, things are more expensive and oil is high... what will I do. Usually I hear this at the store nearby,

and the fellow doing all the crying has just bought a \$2.50 cup of Green Mountain Big Bow Brew and 4 quick picks.... well, I have a solution. Instead of buying the quick picks, send me the money, I will mail you the ticket and I will also put your name on the back so you will win \$1,200, as you sold yourself the winning ticket...plus you helped MBA foster its schemes. The money could also get you in the field on an away hunting trip....buy yourself a present.

Just send the cash to me at : Robb Cotiaux, 91 Tufts Road, New Gloucester, Maine, 04260.

You have a 1 in 1000 chance to win \$1200.

By the way, I have a 64 pound Stotler RH longbow for sale made of Canary wood, 64 inches...\$260. If you buy it through the newsletter, I'll donate \$50 to MBA.

The bow has completely been refinished by Stotler two years ago. (926-5392).

“Bumps, Bruises and Broken Bones”

By Deanna Page

On a cool, crisp, October evening, in 1994, I was perched 18 feet up a fir tree in my portable treestand. My stand location was on small knoll with several apple trees around me about 100 yards off the edge of a cornfield. After an hour had passed, I heard the unmistakable sound of a deer walking in the dry leaves. The problem was that the deer was walking in from the cornfield on the same path I had taken previously to get to my stand. The deer stopped at the base of my tree and I'm sure he was trying to figure out where my scent trail went. I looked down between my feet and could see the top of the buck's head and the 4-point rack he had. After an intense couple of minutes, he walked out in front of my stand, at about 6 yards I drew back, settled my pin and released my arrow, only to watch it sail right over his back. Although I didn't get my first bow kill, it sure was exciting just to experience that moment! The rest of the 1994 bow season passed with no other close calls.

On November 12, 1994 I was hunting in another location with my rifle. The rut was on and soon after I climbed into my treestand, I could hear deer headed in my direction. A doe with two lambs came trotting in

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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



Deanna with her 8 point buck

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to about 30 yards from my stand, as they stopped briefly to look over their shoulders I heard a grunt from that direction. My heart was pounding as I imagined what the buck would look like! When he came into view, I realized he was only a three pointer, but with only one other buck to my credit at that point in my hunting career, I decided he was a shooter and dropped him in his tracks at 21 yards.

Now, you should refer back to the title of this article, "Bumps, Bruises & Broken Bones." After I shot the buck, the adrenaline was pumping, I lowered my gun down and started to climb out of the tree. I was out of the stand and onto the limbs I used for steps, when one of the limbs broke. Needless to say, I fell 12 feet and the result was crushing a vertebra. I had to have surgery to put

two steel rods in my back and then had to wear a back brace for 5 months.

I was one of the lucky ones, I lived to tell about it and I can still walk. I was someone who never thought it would happen to me, but it did! Are you one of those people? I could have named this article "Treestand Safety" but would you have read it? Take it from me, it can happen to you and if it hasn't yet, there's a good chance it will. The following is some info I gathered from Deer & Deer Hunting Survey on Treestand Safety;

"More than one in three hunters who use treestands will someday fall and about 3 percent of those who fall will suffer permanently crippling injuries. Granted when certain styles of stands are used in specific circumstances, they create situations inherently more dangerous than others. Still, we must accept that our safety ultimately rests with us. The most important factor in staying safe

is knowing that tree stand accidents can happen anywhere at any time to anyone under any circumstance. Therefore, because it's difficult to totally eliminate all the root causes of accidents, we must take the next step: Always use a strong, well-designed safety belt. Many good belts are now available that allow you security the entire time you're off the ground. You might still be one of the unlucky hunters who takes a fall, but if you're wearing a good belt, your tumble will end inches from where it started."

I hope this article encourages you to get a full body harness and actually use it, so you can hunt for years to come. We all like happy endings and mine certainly has one, as most other hunters would have given up and never wanted to hunt again. But to me, there was only one way, the way that had been instilled in me by my father Eben P.W. Page who taught me the love of the woods and gave me the skills of the hunter, also to my mother Charlene Page who taught her children determination and enjoyment of all life. So on November 11th 1995; 364 days after my fall, I shot an 8 point Buck weighing in at 164 lbs. I was one of the lucky ones; I am still able to hunt!

Don't leave your safety up to chance, wear a harness!

Just getting started

By Julie Johnston

As most everyone reading this does, I love to hunt. My interest in bow hunting began while duck hunting back in 1997. My husband and I had found two mega wood duck hunting spots while scouting earlier that fall.

When we do get a chance to hunt, we are both very selective wood duck hunters which is due to another pass time of mine fly-tying. Both of our shotguns have scopes on them and we won't shoot anything that isn't a full colored male. As you may know, if you want to hunt Woodies you need to look for a good mast crop of acorns. Well this particular morning we were sitting under the oaks and the acorns were literally falling on our heads. We kept hearing noises behind us but really didn't pay much attention figuring it was another Gray Squirrel, which I would look for before we left. A short while later we heard feet stamping and a deer blowing. Carefully looking over my left shoulder just about 30 yards away stood a couple of deer. One of the deer was munching acorns while the other was trying to see what it could undoubtedly smell. After a few more minutes of foot stamping and blowing they

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took off. Two days later we were sitting under the same trees and noticed that the deer were back again. Through the course of the fall we caught them several more times. It got to the point that I would turn around and face the woods at 7 am just to watch them come towards us to feed.

While hunting our second spot one morning, I sat on the stream bank and watched a small six pointer go back and forth crossing the brook just above where I was sitting. I have no idea what that young buck was up to he was the only deer I saw that day. There were tons of acorns on both sides of the brook; maybe he couldn't make his mind up as to which he should eat.

This is when I began to really think about taking up hunting with a compound

bow. So that winter I started looking for a bow safety class and a short time later I ended up buying my first compound bow a Teton lite made by Alpine. Ok now I had the bow but was still trying to find a class. My work schedule is weird and it took me over four years before I found a class that worked.

By then I was pretty discouraged. My back was screwed up at the time and seemed to be getting worse. There was no way I could climb a tree stand and so I decided to buy a new hunting rifle and sell the bow.

A year or so later I had my back fixed and it wasn't long before I was thinking about buying another bow. My husband just shook his head and smiled. I was thinking about tree stands again along with the expanded hunting zones and probably what really sold me was the idea of hunting



Two residents of Danforth

turkeys in the fall. I love to hunt turkeys!

Last year I purchased another Bow, this time a Whisper Creek from Old Town Archery, the size appeared to be just what I wanted. I have been practicing regularly and keep bugging my friend several times a day about what I need to bring with me such as what will I need to wear for clothes and what items I'll need to carry in my pack.

watching a buck eating clover about 100 yards off my lawn. I'm hoping that bow hunting will give me another chance to take a break, relax a little, and enjoy some peace and quiet. I have always loved the outdoors, every bit of it, including the smells and the feel of it. So wish me some beginners luck to at least see a deer from my stand. If I come up empty handed my first bow season you can be assured it won't be from the lack of trying.



Young buck from Haynesville

I work two jobs, so I'm constantly looking at the calendar to figure when and where I can go hunting. I've also bought several tree stands which I need to get together and placed as the seasons are getting closer. Will I be ready to shoot my first deer with a bow this fall? I hope so; it will be a new experience for me of which I'm really looking forward to.



As I'm writing this I am looking out my window and

THE OLD ADAGE



By Dan Long
Secretary

You no doubt have read many stories praising the benefits of practice. Some readings lead you to believe it is more of a chore instead of great fun. We are hunters because we love the outdoors and the chance to test our skills of shooting a bow with stealth against the wits and defenses of the wild. Being good with a bow in the face of fluorescent lights and wide open shooting lanes does in fact take practice and persistence. It also teaches focus and attention to detail – some reasons why we push archery for our youth. Learning that the old adage, “Practice makes perfect” needs modification to include, “Perfect practice makes perfect” is an important lesson. The time we put in at the local archery shop is necessary to hone the skills which allow our subconscious to take over as we draw, anchor, aim, and release. These repeated acts will also earn you confidence in your equipment and your ability.

Hitting the target at the indoor archery range or in your back yard is simply not enough. Are you of the mind-

set that, “hitting a pie plate at thirty-yards is all I need to be successful”? It takes practice shooting from an elevated stand, shooting from your tippy toes, in a half-squatted position, or from your knees after having hiked some distance, to begin to cover the situations you will encounter while hunting. Your game is likely not going to be 20 yards away on level ground with the sun at your back and no obstacles such as sticks in the way. If it were only that –boring! Challenge yourself. At the 3D range in the woods, move slightly off from the open path to the target and practice shooting over and under limbs and from uneven ground. Be mindful of safety, these lanes are cleared for a reason. An opportunity to take an animal may not come at the time that you have your correct foot forward, or weight is shifted to your front and you are standing up straight. Are you going to be ready, or are

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Scott Robinson shooting from uneven ground.

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.long@roadrunner.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



Dan Long an his gator.

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you going home with a great tail of an awesome opportunity that, “just didn’t present its self”?

Think back to last hunting season, is there someone who comes to mind that took you hunting, or gave you some great tips while shooting at the local archery shop? Do you have a parent that has, for a lifetime selflessly offered you choices of which path to travel? Do you have a child who could use some time connecting with the outdoors or is excited for the season to start? Buy two passes to the local archery outdoor 3D range, call this friend or parent or child, and go have some fun. Perhaps this is a good time to discuss hunting plans for this fall. Chances are if you practice together you can create opportunities to hunt together. Coordinate your hunts to benefit each other; movement and scent will cause game to move and often times to the benefit of another. This benefit will likely spread to you if it is your hunting buddy who is success-

ful, and he or she is willing to share a back strap!

Whether you choose to hunt with a long bow, compound bow, or a crossbow you will need to practice. None of these weapons can be simply sighted in, put in its case or in the closet and retrieved two days before the season and be expected to perform. The weapon will not be ready and neither will you. You must be familiar with your equipment and you have to practice to have the skill and confidence necessary to be successful.

Fall hunting is here. Have you been nourishing your shooting skills? I know there will be a lot of great stories written in the woods of Maine this year. How about putting them on paper and giving us all the benefit of your adventure? Send your story and picture to the MBA newsletter. Have a great time and make every shot count!

ArcheryTechTalk : GET THE PICTURE!

By Chas Laversa

You may have noticed that all the newer sights have round pin guards. Just a few years ago almost all of them were tall rectangles. Ever wonder why? Well, I'll tell you anyway!

This is not just about style, although the new gear is nicer looking and tougher than ever. This represents a better sighting system for archers, especially those using multiple pin sights. Most people are familiar with sighting through a peep sight and letting their eye center the appropriate pin in the peep aperture. The smaller the peep holes the better, right!?! That is the way we do it with a gun, of course, and if you are going to stand at a shooting line with your bow at the indoor range,

exactly 20 yards away from the target, and try to make 60 Xs in a row, then that sighting system will work perfectly well. You have a controlled circumstance with nice bright lighting and a known yardage. You only really need one pin then, and very tight tolerances improve accuracy. However, if you are going to go outside and shoot at various distances with multiple pins and various lighting conditions, as in 3D, or real life hunting, then there is a much better way, large peeps and round pin guards!

Let's look at the drawbacks of a small peep hole, multiple pin sighting system. First, a small hole lets less light in to your eye, which makes life really tough in the

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CMD Powersystems, Inc. is Maine's first choice for generator sales, service and installations. At CMD Powersystems, Inc. we offer our customers a large selection of generators by top manufactures along with installation and service plans. With our trained office staff and technicians we are able to service residential, commercial, Marine, RV and portable accounts.

We're conveniently located on 42 Dave's Way, off the Coldbrook Road in Hermon. If you have any questions, or want to see the generators we carry, don't hesitate to call, stop by, or send us an email.

Phone (207)848-7702 Toll Free (866)848-7702 Fax (207)848-7705 E-mail bill@cmdpowersystems.com

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

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Newsletter Issue	Submissions Due
January	December 1
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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) 693-8233
membership@mainebowhunters.org

Webmaster

Paul St. John
(207) 693-8233
webmaster@mainebowhunters.org

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low light of prime hunting times. This is especially true for those of us with more mature eyes! Many guys now use peep sights with larger holes to improve that. A good idea, as this allows more light to get through to your eye, but we lose a little accuracy because that pin is now swimming around inside this large hole and doesn't always center quite so precisely. You can use a real large pin to compensate for that a little but now you have much of your target hidden behind this softball sized pin.

An even bigger detriment to accuracy, though little known, is the fact that we must change our anchor point for every pin! Most people don't realize it and many will have a tough time visualizing it, but it's true. Grab your bow and follow along. When you draw back and settle in to your anchor, sighting in with your top pin centered, where is your next pin? It's obviously not in the middle where your top pin is. Move it into the center and be aware of what you did to bring that next pin up. Push your trigger hand down a smidge; tilt your head up a little? Now wiggle the bottom pin into the center of your peep. You can't help but notice you are anchored differently from when your top pin is centered! Two pins can't occupy the same center of the peep opening

at the same time so some adjustment to the way you anchor must be made so your eye can center other pins. This goes against everything we think about archery accuracy. We are supposed to use the exact same anchor religiously aren't we! But almost everybody makes this same unrecognized mistake and gets less accuracy than they are really capable of! You may still be a pretty good shot, but you are not getting everything you could from that equipment or yourself.

Here is how I fix this. Center the pin guard in the peep. DON'T center the pin, center the pin GUARD! Change over to a 1/4" diameter peep for maximum light into your eye and center that round pin guard in the peep! That is why it is made round and has a bright white or orange ring! Some sights even use a short section of fiber optic tube sticking towards the shooter as the ring for max visibility in low light.

Now what you see in the sight picture is all your pins in the peep hole at once. This is a much better sighting system. As long as you use the exact same anchor every time you will see all your pins at once and the pin guard will be centered in the peep aperture. You don't have to wiggle your anchor around to see a dif-

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MBA

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ferent pin. You can move your sight in or out a little to get a close fit of the guard to the peep hole. There are at least two sets of mounting holes on every good sight just for this purpose. You can fit the size of your peep hole to the size of the pin guard to make sure they are good match. (DON'T drill them out while they are still in the string!) Other size peeps may fit certain sight housings better but most 2" pin guards will fit pretty good inside a 1/4" peep at most draw lengths. This gives you the advantage of getting lots of light to your eye, with whatever sized pins you want, and maximizes the accuracy potential of your sighting system.

Now you will use the very

same anchor for any distance. the closer the pin guard fits the peep hole the better the accuracy! Keeping your form intact and the guard centered, rock your whole upper body so the correct pin is on the target and you are maximizing the new sight designs for better shooting in real hunting situations! Lets more light to your eye AND precision aiming!

You may also notice that you can check your form all through the shot. If you are at full draw and a section of the ring starts to disappear from view then you know you are collapsing on the shot. Some call it creeping. Other form flaws may become evident in a similar fashion. This gives the conscientious shooter an opportunity to work on those things and improve their overall accuracy as well.

Now you have the picture!

Chas LaVersa is an advanced archery instructor, coach, and veteran bow technician with the Old Town Archery Center in Old Town, Maine.

He is an expert with bow and arrow tuning techniques from simple paper and powder to high tech computer and

video. Using the Easton Bow Force Mapper and Chrono system as well as the Hooter Shooter shooting machine and Ram Spin and Spine tester. Stop in to find out how they can supertune you and your equipment for a perfect match!

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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.

