

Maine Bowhunters Association

Dedicated to the Preservation of Bowhunting

SEPTEMBER 2011

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MAINE BOWHUNTERS ASSOCIATION



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This Month's Featured MBA Supporter is Peter Brown, owner Extreme Dimension Wildlife Calls.

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Thanks for supporting the Maine Bowhunters Association Peter!



ABOUT THE COVER

This month's cover illustrating a successful Maine bear hunt courtesy of:

MBA Member Peter Netland.

Virginia resident Peter Netland is an experienced big game hunter and with his Maine Guide Scott Abbott accomplished his goal of taking a nice fall black bear at 11 yards with his Mathews bow!

Want to have your picture considered for the cover of The Maine Bowhunter? If you are part of the general membership we wish to thank-you for your support and offer to consider your hunting photo for the next cover! High resolution images only please. E-mail dan.long01@gmail.com.

MAINE BOWHUNTERS ASSOCIATION
WELCOMES OUR TWO NEWEST
COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES!

**AIDAN COFFIN IS YOUR NEW
SAGADAHOC
COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE!**

**VAL MARQUEZ IS YOUR NEW
CUMBERLAND
COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE!**

THANKS TO BOTH OF YOU!

If you are interested in joining Aidan and Val and the rest of the MBA family in helping at an event or as a position-holding member please contact an MBA Representative today!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

BOWHUNTER SAFETY EDUCATION CLASS
 September 3, 8-6pm, Skowhegan Sportsman's Club
 Contact Russell Corson at 474-5361

BOWHUNTER SAFETY EDUCATION CLASS
 September 7, 6-9pm & September 18 8:30am-3:30pm
 Central Maine Archery 207-783-3060

EXPANDED ARCHERY SEASON!
 September 10 - December 10

CABELA'S TREESTAND-GROUND BLIND PROGRAM
 September 10-11, 11am Archery Dept.
 207-883-7400

L.L. BEAN ARCHERY WALK-ON ADVENTURE
 September 10-October 9, 10-11:30am Sat & Sun
 and October 10-11:30am; noon-1:30pm; 2-3:30pm
 1-888-552-3261

BECOMING AN OUTDOORS-WOMAN (BOW)
 September 16-18 Winslow, Camp Caribou. Contact
 Tina Richard at Quartermaster84@hotmail.com

"GUN IN THE HOUSE" CLASS
 September 24 9am-3pm, Gray, ME
 Howell's Gun & Archery Shop 207-657-2324

REGULAR ARCHERY SEASON!

September 29 - October 28

(Continued next column)

UPCOMING EVENTS (CONTINUED)

USSA TRAILBLAZER DAY
 October 1, 2011 Raymond, Camp Hinds Contact Lee
 Smith at elsmith18@gmail.com

BASIC ARCHERY LESSONS
 Portland & Rockland, ME, Call 207-829-6213 for more info

NEW NFAA 14 TARGET FIELD ARCHERY COURSE
 North Yarmouth, Lakeside Archery Pro-Shop, FREE Shooting
 from 20-80 Yards, 207-829-6213 or
 lakesidearchery@gmail.com

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 KEITH DIRAGO~SCOTT ABBOTT~BILL VALLEAU

BOWHUNTER/LANDOWNER INFORMATION PROGRAM

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 SCOTT ABBOTT~MARK CARON, BIOLOGIST IF&W

NATIONAL ARCHERY IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM (NASP)

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



By Dan Long, President
Maine Bowhunters Association

Dan.long01@gmail.com

Fall is almost here –what a great time of year! So many opportunities before us...Opportunities in part due to the efforts of your Maine Bowhunters Association keeping a watchful eye and representing voice in Augusta; Opportunities which stem from the constant attention to efforts which introduce the young people of this State to the great sport of bowhunting; Opportunities due to the many bowhunter safety instructors that this organization offers across the

State to educate and train new bowhunters throughout the year. I need to thank the membership and position-holders in the MBA for their opinions and ideas which are used to guide us in our decision making. My personal THANK-YOU to all of you who are members that give our voice strength and respect in Augusta and in our programs which work to benefit bowhunters State-wide. Thank-you for standing by the MBA as we hit roadblock after roadblock for decades trying to encourage the addition of Marsh Island to the Bangor Expanded Archery Area before using the Bowhunter/Landowner Information Program (BLIP) as a stepping stone to accomplish our goal. We set out on a mission with a well-defined goal and worked as a team to achieve that goal.

MARSH ISLAND UP-

DATE

On August 18 the Commissioner's Advisory Council voted in favor to add the Island to the Bangor Expanded Archery Area. **MARSH ISLAND SUCCESS!** With the exception of the 3-year pilot program, no hunting has been allowed since 1965 on Marsh Island. Your Maine Bowhunters Association successfully teamed with the State to take steps to show the Town of Orono and City of Old Town that bowhunting is a safe and effective means of reducing the deer problems on the island that have caused hundreds of deer-car accidents and property damage.

Bowhunters are a special breed; patient...persistent. –it's the name of the game. We are good team-players and we are respectful of the landowners who grant us permission to use their

lands to practice our skills. As you consider hunting the island and all expanded archery areas, please know that we need to continue to represent ourselves professionally and respectfully towards all landowners and also to each other.

Expanded archery areas are sensitive areas by nature. They are urban hunting areas in most cases. This requires additional attention to detail when it comes to identifying landowners, gaining permission, and verifying boundaries. Due to the sensitive nature of Marsh Island the City of Old Town has enacted an ordinance that you must be aware of: As the State law is written, you must have landowner written permission to put up a tree stand; the City of Old Town has taken this 2-steps further as follows: 1) You must have written land-

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Audette's Ace Hardware
22 Peck Farm Road
Winthrop, ME 04364
(207)377-2711

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

LL Bean
95 Main Street
Freeport, ME 04032
(207)865-1082
<http://www.llbean.com>

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

PLEASE
SUPPORT
THE
AFFILIATES
THAT
SUPPORT
YOUR MBA!

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owner permission to hunt on Marsh Island –not just to put up a tree stand; 2) the landowner is by this ordinance, burdened with identifying all abutters to their property and making written notice to these abutters of their authorizing bowhunting on their property. I'm hopeful that this will not stay on the books for very long as it comes close to, if not crossing the line to regulating hunting –illegal for municipalities in the State of Maine. As bowhunters the best thing we can do until this is removed, is to offer to the landowner to identify and write the notification to the landowner's satisfaction, and submit it to the abutters for them. This act of "giving" to the landowner should work in your favor (I hope.) Please feel free to contact the City Manager and all Council Members if you disagree with this ordinance and are an Old Town resident. Your MBA has submitted a letter of protest and the City has not budged at the time of this writing.

Landowner relations is such an important issue for



A few of the MBA Members, Directors & Officers in Old Town



Tyler W standing tall as he takes aim at a three-turkey target scenario in Old Town before following the trail into the woods where more than 30 3D targets including caribou, bear, deer, dinosaur, pig, skunk, raccoon, alligator, and many other types of targets are positioned in very cool



Merissa, Jerome, Brad and Tina had an absolute blast hiking the trails in Old Town and around each corner they found an entertaining and challenging set-up of multiple 3D targets!

These courses throughout the State are the perfect way to get kids interested in the outdoors and in archery and bowhunting!

the reputation of bowhunters that I have included in this issue an article which discusses the resources available to you to find areas to hunt, and furthermore, how to identify the landowner and boundaries to allow you to seek permission to hunt.

Keep your eyes open for language and other possible municipal ordinances related to the expansion of the Bangor expanded archery area on Marsh Island.

3D EVENT

With the hunting season just around the corner lots of bowhunters and 3D shooters are visiting the many outdoor archery ranges across the State to practice shooting under realistic conditions. I'm grateful that so many are using the outdoor ranges and supporting the archery shops that provide this opportunity. I attended a Randy Nason Memorial & MBA Special 3D Shoot on August 14 in Old Town. Randy hit the woods permanently in January of

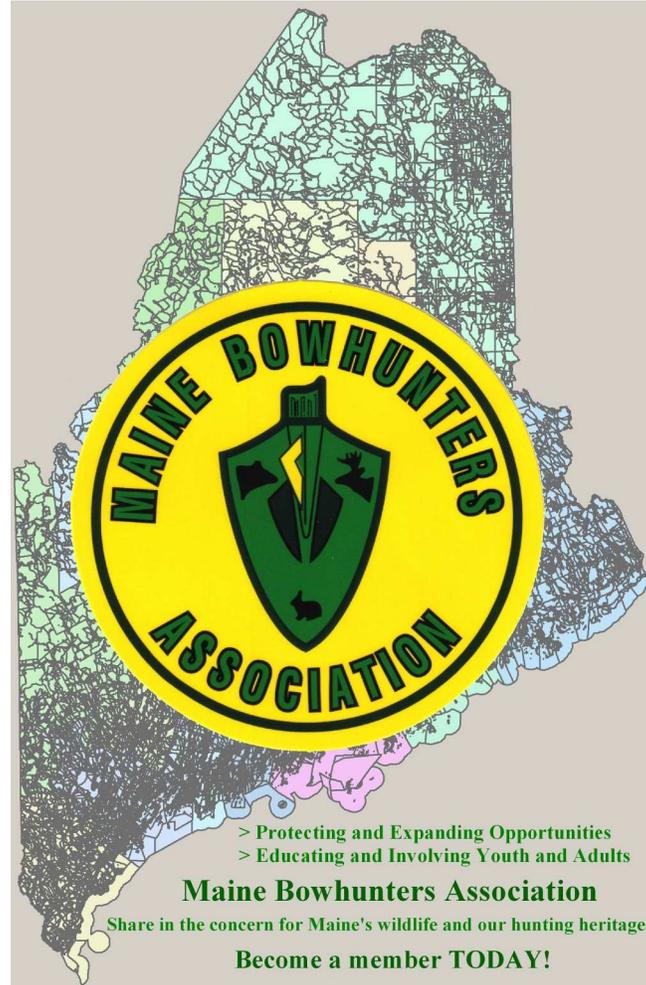
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L.L.Bean

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this year after battling cancer. A Great guy with an incredible number of friends and family and he loved the outdoors and everything it has to offer. Old Town Archery did a fantastic job with the shoot and the food was AWE-SOME! I'd say about 30 bowhunters ranging from kids to retirees participated. There isn't enough room here to list the folks that worked so hard to make this a success. There were a lot of MBA officers, directors and County Representatives participating and I was fortunate to be able to meet Bob England as well. Bob, is one of the founding fathers of the MBA! Pretty cool to see the roots of the MBA from 1965 still at it, and yes, still developing archery programs! —the latest in "The Villages" in Florida. Way to go Bob! After lunch, the day ended with a few raffles, and new MBA member Christopher McKeller won the Meyerco Game Processing Set! Chris traveled from Appleton with his buddy Rick Wilshire from Warren to enjoy Old Town Archery's range and support the MBA. I'm psyched to have had 11 individu-



als and families added to the MBA member list as a result of the August 14 shoot in Old Town! Welcome to all of you and all of the other new MBA members joining the family this month! Please consider corresponding with your County Representative to voice your opinion on issues or to offer ideas for the organization. We want to hear from you! As folks continue to see the incredible efforts that the MBA goes to in Augusta and to involve youth in the sport on behalf of all bowhunters we shall continue

to expand.

Lastly I want to welcome Aidan Coffin and Val Marquez to leadership roles in the organization. Aidan will be representing those of you living in Sagadahoc County, and Val in Cumberland County. If any County residents have questions related to bowhunting activities please contact these Reps. Aidan can be reached at aidancoffin@gmail.com and Val at val-doris@metrocst.net. If they can't answer your

questions, they have an experienced team to consult with and will get back to you.

OBTAINING LAND-OWNER PERMISSION

As a hunter, fisherman, or wildlife enthusiast you require the use of Maine's public and private lands to enjoy the sports you love. We must realize the importance of landowner respect and be conscious of the results when property is disrespected. Landowners have the option of gating or posting their lands to prevent dumping of trash and rutting of roads if their property is abused—a worst nightmare for somebody looking to find property for recreational purposes. Private ownership is key to preserving our ability to use lands for recreation and respecting those lands becomes paramount to our success in continuing to do so. *"Meet the landowner to ask permission and thank them if you are fortunate enough to be granted authorization."* We've all heard this and know it's the right thing to do however; some of us may not be all that well informed on the process to find land for a particular use or the benefits to landowner relations.

In order to provide you

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with information that will help you successfully identify potential property and gain permission for recreational use I would like to first refer you to the MDIF&W website <http://www.maine.gov/or/index.htm> to read, "Welcome to the Recreational Access and Landowner Relations Program" for a good foundation of information.

Where do I find ownership information? There exists an incredible amount of information at your fingertips to research a piece of property. A good place to begin is to locate or investigate a parcel of land by going to one of the on-line

map servers that offer aerial imagery or satellite imagery. These websites can be searched by address or town name. Some examples of these sites are www.mapquest.com/ and <http://maps.google.com/>. You simply select whether you would like to view a Map (a "drawing"), a Hybrid (a combination of a map and photography), or Satellite/Aerial Imagery. Next, you type in the address of the parcel or town in question and you will be taken to the location specified. Be sure to look at the aerial imagery or satellite info to see what is actually on the ground. Access to this information is free.

Before you put your boots on the ground I recom-

mend checking these websites to locate the most recent imagery available of your area of interest, and note they each may have different dates so look for the most current. You will be able to see drainages, roads, buildings, "funnels" that direct where wildlife may travel, potential parking locations, and an unlimited amount of information.

Think you have found an area that you'd like to investigate to hunt? Don't be so quick to jump in your car with your GPS receiver in hand thinking that you will be locking in your fall tree stand location by mid-afternoon! There are some very important steps to take first. These steps will not only ensure that you don't waste your time; they will also create an opportunity to possibly build a relationship that could result in benefits to the landowner as well as you.

From an aerial view, you have a parcel that you want to consider for requesting access so you can get into the woods and do some investigating; For rural or unorganized townships and for some towns, you may have to visit the town office; for communities that are hosting their town data on the web, instant access to property information

will likely be available!

For unorganized territory or towns with no data publically available on the web, you will have to visit the town office. Ask to see the Assessor's parcel index map. On this index, find the tax map showing the parcel you are interested in. Now ask to see that particular tax map. The tax map will show the tax map number, the block number (this is a group of parcels and is used to help with assessing tasks at the town), and parcel number. You need these pieces of information so write them down. Consider adjacent parcels too as those may also be of interest for relationship purposes. Now, ask the clerk or assessor for the owner's name and address for that particular parcel, or look it up in their tax roll -that's the big thick book on the counter containing every parcel in town organized by map-block-lot # and will show you the owner's name and mailing address where the tax bill is sent. Ask the Assessor or Clerk if you can obtain a copy of the tax map or of your parcel and surrounding parcels. You will want a copy to reference while in the field to help you to locate boundaries and ensure you

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are never crossing onto property where you don't have permission to be.

Now that you have the name and address of the parcel owner you can decide if you want to look up this person's phone number in the phone book, or mail them a letter or stop by and talk to them face to face. Be professional and courteous either way. Hint: You may want to ask the town clerk if they can identify town-owned property as that is usually open for public use and you may be free to investigate any of that land in an urban setting. By the way, don't feel like you are imposition on these folks at the town office as all of this is within their job description and all of this data is public information!

Instant retrieval of parcel maps where on-line parcel data is available:

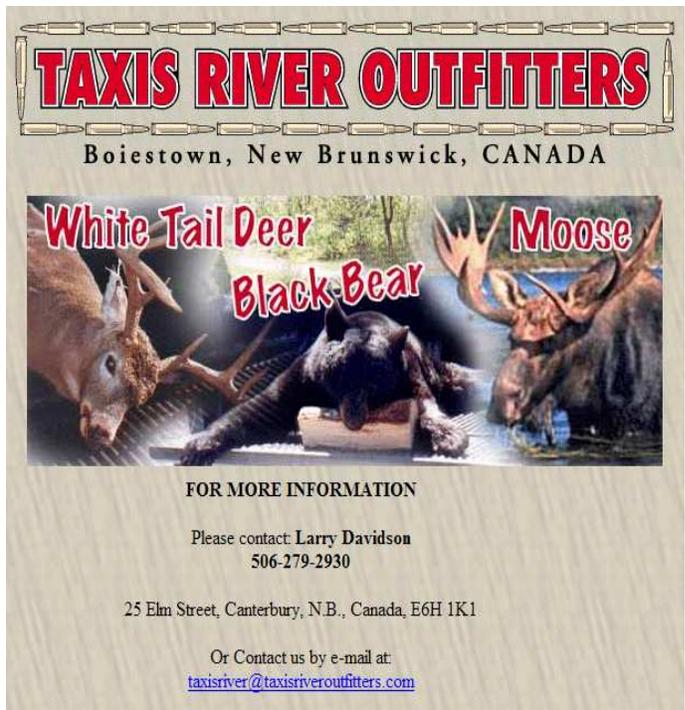
digital images of official parcel maps (tax maps) drawn to scale reflecting the legal boundaries and dimensions of a real property are commonly available over the web. To find out if this exists or to locate this information open Google or Yahoo, or your search engine of choice on the web and type in, "Town of Orono" for ex-

ample. Now go to that municipal website, and look for the Town Departments, and click on "Assessor's Office." Now you need to look for the town's property tax maps. Click on this and go to the tax map index. This will give an overview of the town and allow you to identify the tax map containing the parcel you are investigating. Once you have identified the tax map you need, you can go back to the previous page and click on that tax map to view, download, or print the tax map. You may want to pay special attention to easements that are potential access ways to your property. Just as identified in the process for visiting the town office, you need to write down the map-block-lot number of the parcel. Now go back to the previous screen and find the property tax database. This will give you the option of searching for a particular "record", in this case, the record for the parcel for which you need the ownership information. Be careful how you enter the number. There are requirements such as having three-numbers for the tax map number, block number, and parcel number. Ex: "map 6, block 2, lot 6" will have to be entered 006-002-006. If entered successfully, you will

be shown the owner name, address, and sometimes additional information. If the parcel goes across several maps, all of the maps containing that parcel will be listed. From this same screen, you usually can do a "search by owner" if you know the owner's name and are looking for acreage or dimension information. This can save you a lot of the steps above.

With either method of finding the tax map and parcel information you will want to print out the tax map or at least the parcel with surrounding parcels. The tax map will show important boundary information, the distance and bearing between survey corners, and at times topographic, hydrographic, and

vegetation information. You can take this printed copy to the landowner and to the field to write on. If the owner is willing, he/she may tell you information on food and water sources, bedding areas, travel ways, drainage information, and adjacent landowner information if you are searching for the purpose of hunting. Now that you have successfully completed your "Detective Merit Badge" you are ready to contact the landowner. If writing a landowner for permission, find a friend who has had success and ask for their letter to use as a template. (contact me if you want a sample that I have used.) If calling, introduce yourself and state why you are calling and ask if they would be willing to allow or meet to discuss



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Or Contact us by e-mail at:
taxisriver@taxisriveroutfitters.com

your accessing the property for... If driving to the landowner's residence, do not approach on a hunting day while you are dressed in camouflage and are ready to go hunting. That just shows poor planning and can give bowhunters a bad name. You are trying to encourage a person you do not know to give you something –for nothing! Be respectful and if you get shut-down, thank them for their time and move on to the next possible parcel. If the landowner is willing or seems willing, it is wise to offer to meet and discuss your qualifications, access points, places to park, and additionally if you are successful, if they would like you to share your harvest with them if you are successful. Offer to pick up any trash you find on their property and to report any suspicious activity. Building this relationship may open other doors for you after you have proved yourself including the use of additional parcels this person may own, and adjacent landowners the person may know and be willing to refer you to, and even at times, giving you sole permission to use their property because of the trust you have built.

I suggest that this research be done in the "off-season" to avoid seeming anxious,

and if you are successful in obtaining permission, it will benefit you for the next year to send a Christmas card or thank-you card in the post-season.

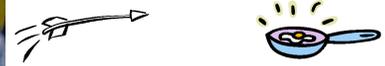
If you have any trouble or questions in your search, feel free to contact me and I will provide suggestions to help you determine other ways to locate residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, town-owned and other types of property for recreational use. Happy hunting!

Some areas of the State, particularly those in expanded archery areas, are highly sensitive. These areas are usually in the middle of urban sprawl and will include some folks that are pro-hunting and some that are opposed. As responsible bowhunters we must work to respect all opinions and operate in stealth-mode when hunting in these sensitive areas. Unseen and unheard is best. Please share your success stories with others and help to teach a friend how to identify, investigate and obtain permission for recreational use. Please contact me and let me know if this information is helpful or if you have questions that I can help you with.

Dan.long01@gmail.com



SOUTHERN FRIED VENISON RECIPE



By Bill Valleau
MBA General Secretary

1 ½ pounds venison cube steak

Mix in a shallow bowl:

1 cup all-purpose flour

1 ½ teaspoons salt

2 teaspoons garlic powder

Whisk together in a second shallow bowl:

2 large eggs

1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

In a third shallow container:

2 Cups Seasoned Panko Breadcrumbs

Coat each steak with the seasoned flour, dip into the egg mixture, coat with the seasoned panko breadcrumbs, and shake off any excess. Let stand for 5-10 minutes. Heat in a large heavy skillet over medium-high heat:

½ inch vegetable oil, vegetable shortening, or lard

Add the steaks and fry, turning once, until golden brown, about 2-3 minutes each side.

At CMA, archery is not a department, it's at our center!

Tom Hartford
Jess Hartford



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LEGISLATIVE REPORT



By Jerome Richard
Legislative Director

I may have been too optimistic in the last newsletter about the Maine state constitutional amendment about allowing 1/8 of 1% of the existing sales tax to be dedicated to the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. This approach has worked in other states and helps fund the department by non-consumptive users who use the outdoors, but do not contribute to MDIF&W. Just as it appeared that it was going to be successful, five state senators who originally supported the amendment suddenly changed their mind and withdrew their support which effectively killed the bill.

Be aware there are several new hunting laws on the books after this last legislative session. Some will be transparent and will not affect law-abiding hunters, but other new laws changed the way we use to hunt from last season. One

of the biggest changes is directed towards poachers all across the United States. Maine has signed on to a Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact with 37 or 38 other states. Basically, if someone violates a game law in Maine or any of the other compact states that results in the loss of that hunter's license, that individual will not be allowed to obtain a hunting and fishing license in any of the other compact states until that individual settles all fines and penalties. This law should put more teeth into stopping poaching.

Another new law is if someone illegally harvests a doe without an any-deer permit that individual will lose their hunting license, pay a \$1,000.00 fine, and spend 3 days in jail, where as before, the penalty was something like just a \$200.00 fine only. This will be the fourth year that 18 of the 29 Wildlife Management Districts will not issue any-deer permits. Just a reminder, during the October Special Archery Season, this means no bowhunters can harvest a doe in those same 18 WMD that the November firearms hunters are restricted to abide to no hunting of does.

For anyone placing bait for any purpose that individual must obtain written permission from the landowner. This includes place bait for bears and coyotes even if it is considered a wildlife observation stand with no hunting. Many landowners, large and small, are upset because of the past practices by some hunters not obtaining permission and/or not cleaning up bait sites after the season.

Another law related to trespassing involves the use of purple paint which has been used in other states and appears to be more visible than the current 2 silver paint stripes to indicate "No Trespassing". There are also some changes with the moose lottery that will be happening with future drawings.

I would suggest that everyone save the website www.mefishwildlife.com to their "favorites" on their Internet browser to keep current with these new hunting laws. The new Hunting and Trapping Regulations will be coming out sometime hopefully by October 2011. However, a friend of mine has already been given a warning about the placement of bear bait on the property of his

friend that he has been using for years, but did not have written permission in accordance with the new law, so please take the time to review the MDIF&W website to make sure you stay up-to-date. Go to the website and on the center of the web page click on "Laws and Rules" and the next page click on "News Laws for 2011".

Remember, stay safe and



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.

COMMITTEE ON MEMBERSHIP

By John Hunt, Vice President &
Chair of Committee on Membership

The Maine Bowhunters Association has formed a newly appointed membership committee. The committee has been charged with evaluating ideas to increase membership, and developing formulations to put those ideas into action. The first meeting was held in early August, at which time more than a dozen ideas were discussed. Recommendations will be made at the next general meeting of the Maine Bowhunters Association, at which time members can vote on how they choose to go forward with these recommendations. We are choosing to wait until MBA membership votes on the ideas before releasing the final product of this effort, as changes/modifications, and even deletions may occur. However, it is noteworthy to announce that we agreed upon a general philosophy that places top priority on the "quality" of membership, and secondary priority on the "quantity" of membership. So, if you have any bow hunting buddies who are highly ethical hunters, and impassioned by the sport, then be sure to get them signed up as mem-

bers. The process for membership sign up has been made easier now, due to the ability to simply go to our website and join online at www.mainebowhunters.org.

Speaking of high quality members: The membership committee is made up of Robert Walker, Deanna Page, and William Valleau. As Vice President, it's my responsibility to be in charge of membership, and I'm fortunate to have people like this to work with. We would also like to thank everyone who submitted ideas to help us with this project thus far.



**DON'T FORGET
YOUR SAFETY
HARNESS BOYS
AND GIRLS!**

YORK COUNTY REPORT



By Steve Gray
York County Report

I am happy to report that the Chickadee hatchlings have vacated the nest (in the deer's neck) and practice has resumed. My target deer and woodchuck have been relocated to allow multiple shooting angles and distances. I am very comfortable with my shooting at 20-25 yards and was very pleased with a group that I recently shot from an elevated position at 25 yards.

By the time you read this, many clubs will have had their 3D shoots. I hope you had the opportunity to at-

tend one or more. York County has a very active group of bow hunters and they're serious about it. 3D shoots and back yard practice prepares us for the upcoming season.

Year round scouting will put you in a much better position to have a successful hunt. Getting out there at o dark thirty is just as important. Being settled in your stand or blind before first light will also help. At this point, you should have a pretty good idea of the number and gender of the deer that frequent your hunting area. A combination of gamecam pictures and personal observations should give you a pretty good picture of when and where you are likely to see the animal that you want to take.

Alright then, make your contacts, get your permissions and stay safe. Good Luck and don't forget to send pictures and stat sheets. Did anyone else have trouble with woodchucks this year?



GOING WEST PART II



By Perry Hatch
Lincoln County Representative

Hopefully in the first article, Going West Part I got you to think about the possibility of taking a hunt in the West. Let's look at steps you will need to take to make that hunt happen.

STEP ONE

Do you want to go with a guide? This isn't a bad thing if you have limited knowledge of hiking, camping, and meat care once an animal is down. There are no guarantees on success. You will have to do your part and arrive in shape and well-practiced with your equipment. A little research will show numerous guides in every state. There is no better way to locate the "right" guide than from a friend who has been there. That isn't always possible

so shop wisely!! This is also the most expensive way to go.

Many guides also offer "drop camp" hunts. They will pack you and your equipment or use their equipment into hunting areas and leave you for a predetermined length of time. Some will also point you in the right direction and check on you during the hunt to see if you have animals that need to be packed out.

I prefer to hunt by myself or with a friend or family member. I was lucky and many years ago I first met a man from New Mexico via email who has now become a great friend. We have had several hunts together and I have been blessed with his

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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 a web-based newsletter provided 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: Paul St. John 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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Quarter Page	3 ¾ X 4 ½	\$80	\$75	\$450
Eighth Page	1 7/8 X 2 ¼	\$60	\$50	\$300

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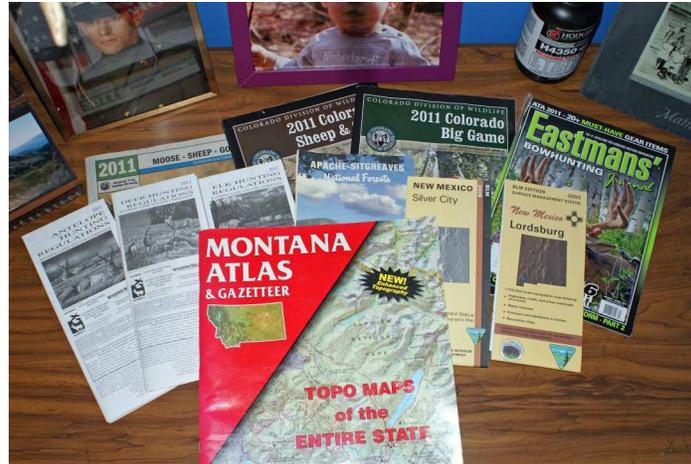
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Newsletter Issue	Submissions Due
January	December 1
March	February 1
May	April 1
July	June 1
September	August 1
November	October 1

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knowledge of how to hunt the west. You might be surprised at how you may be able to locate someone to become a mentor for you. A long lost cousin, someone from the same field of work, or state and national bow hunting clubs like Pope and Young are great places to start.

So how much does it cost? The most expensive part of the hunt will be getting there and back. I am going to figure that you have now convinced your hunting partner to take two weeks of vacation next year and take a hunt out west. You probably already have the camping gear you will need. I drive and have many people ask me why I don't fly. To me it is pretty simple.... If you fly you will save a little money but then have to rent a 4X4 vehicle when you arrive and have a place to rent camping gear lined up. There goes the savings in a hurry. If you drive you will put on 5,000 plus miles. Driving the average pickup or SUV you will get 18 or more mpg or use about 280 gallons of gas at \$3.50 per gallon or just under \$1000. Split this with your partner and each of you have invested \$500 to travel out west and back. I



drive alone and don't use a motel on the way out but sleep in a rest area. (Use common sense). I will stop at a "cheap" motel the second night to get a good night sleep and a shower. From that point on it is camping in the tent. You could spend money on a campground but there are thousands and thousands of acres out west that belongs to you that is open to free camping and hunting. I have used everything from a tent with a woodstove to a single person tent packed miles into the back country.

STEP TWO

So you and your partner have invested \$500 each and 2-3 days after leaving Maine have arrived in the west ready to camp and hunt, but hunt what? There are endless possibilities but here is my thought. Elk are big animals and tend to live in more remote country. Save them until you have

made a couple of trips. Mule or Whitetail deer are plentiful but I would offer that another great option for your first hunt should be for antelope. You will see hundreds and have a blast. They can be easy to hunt if weather conditions are right for waterholes but if not you will be in for a long frustrating week. As a non-resident a tag will cost you either side of \$300. (And people think Maine has high prices) Deer tags are about the same price and can be a lot of fun as well. The cost has now

risen to about \$800.

STEP THREE

PLAN, PLAN, and then PLAN more! With the internet today this has never been easier. Have you and your partner agreed on what will happen if one of you tags out on the morning of the first day of a ten day hunt? If he gets bored by day three and wants to go back home and has the keys to the truck..... What are you going to do with the meat? Even a deer or antelope two miles from the nearest road would make one heck of a drag. Are you physically prepared and have the butchering skills to backpack the animal out? I will offer that a game cart can be worth their weight in gold at times. Have you located a meat processor nearby who can cut and

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freeze the meat and have it ready for the return trip? I have never had any problems getting frozen meat back home after adding some dry ice and then sealing it into a cooler.

Even for archery hunting almost all tags out west have to be drawn by non-residents. If you want to hunt next year get planning this year as some of the deadlines are in January. I find the planning stage almost as much fun as the actual hunting.

In the next part I will take a look at the more popular options in the western states. In the meantime I can be reached at perry-hatch@dishmail.net if you have the itch to head west and need a little help getting started.

PENOBSCOT/ HANCOCK COUNTY REPORT



Mike Fitzpatrick
Penobscot and Hancock County
Representative

The Randy Nason Memorial 3D & MBA Bowhunter Shoot was held Sunday, August 14th, and it was a huge success! Thank you to all the participants, volunteers and Bob and the crew from Old Town Archery. A special thanks from all of us for the upgrades made to the course! This made for a very challenging and entertaining shoot. Also having

the options for lunch was a big benefit. Everyone enjoyed themselves tremendously.

The MBA gained 11 new members at the shoot and I was able to meet many new archers. I was pleased with the turn out this year and maybe next year we can reach for doubling these numbers, as this was a great shoot and the word is out about what a nice event this was.

With September approaching, I would assume everyone is getting tuned up for the upcoming season and I wish everyone a successful and safe bow hunting season. Please feel free to contact me with any County concerns.

I would like to invite anyone with questions or concerns about MBA related business in Penobscot or Hancock counties to contact me. I can be reached at 745-2979 or at mike-jfitz@roadrunner.com.

*Go afield with a good attitude, with respect for the wildlife you hunt and for the forest and fields in which you walk.
Immerse yourself in the outdoor experience.
It will cleanse your soul and make you a better person.*

-Fred Bear.



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SAGADAHOC COUNTY REPORT



Aidan Coffin
Sagadahoc County
Representative

First of all, I'd like to thank the MBA for giving me the opportunity of serving as the Sagadahoc County Representative. I am looking forward to helping and teaching kids and adults about bow hunting and getting more people involved with such a great sport that involves nature and the outdoors.

Second, I'd like to tell you a little about myself. I am 30 years old and recently became a Registered Maine Guide. I have been bow hunting for about 8 years

and became addicted to the challenge and skill of the sport after my first experience.

Hopefully in the near future I can schedule bow shoots in Sagadahoc County which will provide great opportunities for families in the Sagadahoc county area to experience something new and fun and hopefully gain lifetime bow hunters and MBA members along the way.

If you have any questions or comments for me, please don't hesitate to contact me via email: aidancoffin@gmail.com or phone #837-8055.



MBA EDUCATION EFFORTS



By Jerome Richard
MBA Education Directory

The MBA is accepting a leading roll with Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (MDIF&W) with the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP). MDIF&W has hired a contract employee to a new position of Outreach Coordinator to help develop relationships between MDIF&W and other outdoor groups. That person will be Ben Tucker. Jerome Richard will be acting as the NASP Coordinator for MDIF&W in a volunteer capacity and the NASP effort will be run by the MBA.

Currently, we are trying to re-establish contact with schools that MDIF&W has already trained and incorporate those schools with the schools that the MBA has previously trained and developed. The MBA has had a working relationship with NASP over the past 4-1/2 years. We will be working to recruit more schools and educate more archery instructors in the very near future and welcome any phone calls seeking information on how to get involved with National Archery in the Schools Program from schools, potential instructors and Instructors.

NASP has recently announced a funding source directly thru NASP that will offer six \$1,000.00 grants for schools in Maine. Also, the MBA has stepped up to provide the training to each of these schools for up to 4 teachers per school at no cost to become Basic Archery Instructors (BAI). The training for the new teachers consists of a one day, 8-hour training session with the new equipment from NASP. We are also looking into other funding sources for schools such as grants from Pope & Young that go up to \$1,500.00 per school. If anyone knows of a school that



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would like to get involved, please contact Jerome Richard at (207) 314-2885.



This past Saturday, August 20 the MBA was invited back to the Maine Wildlife Park in Gray by MDIF&W for the fourth year in a row to put on a NASP event for all their visitors at the park. The visitor 5 years old and older were given an opportunity to be taught the “11 Steps to Archery Success” using the Mathews Genesis bows. This year was by far the largest group to stop by including visitors from France, Germany, Canada, and many other states from around the United States. Fred Otto who turned 77 years old on Wednesday, August 17th spent time with us learning to shoot the bows. These events are not limited to the very young as we had teenagers, married couples, parents, and grandparents experiencing the fun of shooting the archery equipment.

On Saturday, June 18th at the IF&W Moose Drawing held at Cabela’s, the MBA had an indoor NASP event

in the archery department. Thanks to Greg Sirpis of Cabela’s for making this event possible so that we could introduce people to the experience of archery. The only way that event could have been better was if my name had gotten drawn for a moose permit! In case you were not aware Cabela’s does sell the Mathews Genesis bow individually and as a kit that includes arrows, hip quiver, and arm guard.



Nina from Germany and her instructor Tina Richard at the Maine Wildlife Park in Gray –a tight group!



Fred Otto, 77, at Maine Wildlife Park in Gray giving the Genesis bows a workout!



Bear Baiting 101

By Tina Richard

I have been bear baiting with my husband Jerome for the past several years and I wanted to share a few good tips we have been using. The top of the list has to be what real estate people call “location, location, location”. We go to the most remote locations way beyond the paved road and well-graded dirt roads so that hunting pressure isn’t an issue. Most guide services are looking for the easy in and out travel distance from the lodge and not too far off the road. Whatever property you select, please make sure you have **written land-owner permission** which is now required by state law to place any form of bear bait.

We have used Google Earth to help locate some good areas of dark growth and bogs with remote access. Once we are on the

ground scouting new locations we check the area for marker trees where the bears might have marked their territory, look for bear scat, possible foot prints in muddy areas, and sometimes we have come across an animal carcass that a bear has been feeding on. A lot of this scouting is done throughout the month of May when bears are really actively feeding after coming out of their winter dens.

Jerome really likes to set up bait sites in the darkest, spookiest places located near a water source especially a brook. He says that supplies the bear with water to drink and it also helps with producing some cover noise in case you happen to make noise in your stand when getting ready to make the shot. Since we like to bowhunt bears, we set the treestands between 15 to 20 yards, and about 10 feet off the ground in a Hemlock or similar evergreen.

Usually we like to set the treestand first and never go near the tree until opening day of bear season. After the treestand is set, then we place bait barrels at a tree 15 to 20 yards away. Some of our key ingredients have been plenty of marshmallows, raspberry Zingers, assorted cream

filled donuts, and cinnamon raisin bread. Despite what some people may think, bears are like humans. Bears want the best and freshest in sweets, not a bunch of stale junk. Put yourself in their “shoes”, if you were walking thru the woods and came across a tossed salad you might stop and eat it if you were hungry. If you came across a really nice steak dinner I would bet you would come back again to check that spot in the woods again. If the steak dinner kept coming in the same spot, I would bet you would never venture too far away from that spot and keep everybody else away too.

To get an old or new bait site active, we like to pour a lot of fryer grease and “feed” molasses all over the bait barrel, on the surrounding ground, and even “paint” the trunks of nearby trees with this mixture to make a giant scent wick to attract bears and other animals. At first you may think you don’t want other animals such as raccoons, skunks, fisher, etc. to visit your bait site, but if you protected the bait barrel with plenty of large logs these small animals can’t access the real bait. However, these small animals get the grease and molasses on them and they

help distribute the scent throughout the woods to help draw a bear to your bait site!

Every time we revisit the site to resupply the bait we have another trick we like to use to let the bears know we have brought new bait. We like to spray the surrounding evergreen with anise oil spray. It will last for a very long time and the bears in the area will know that you have refreshed the bait. Usually the site is resupplied every other day and loaded up with plenty of bait prior to the actual bear hunt. About a few days before the season begins, we cut back hard of the volume of the bait, but continue to bait every other day. This seems to help pull the bears out earlier in the evening during legal hunting time.

The new digital infra red trail cameras have been a great asset to help take the guess work out of which bait site has the most potential for good sized bears coming out during legal hunting time and also to let us know if a sow with cubs might be at the site. If sows with cubs are at a bait site we don’t hunt that site, but continue to feed the bears. Jerome never goes over to the treestand during the

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baiting of bears until he is ready to hunt. He also never goes to the trail camera to change out SD cards unless he has on clean latex gloves to prevent bears from finding and possibly damaging the camera. He places the cameras way up high off the ground and pointed down towards the bait barrel to help prevent the bears from finding them and making them part of the free meal. We only access the bait site from one direction and never wander around the site so that it doesn't disturb the bear's nature travel route.

Jerome and I have a little advantage on our bait sites because the bears get accustomed to our human scent and get very familiar with our morning routine. We realize that after a month of bear baiting, many of our sites probably have a resident bear living very close by and the bear may actually be watching us from a comfortable distance until we leave.

The day we start our hunt we do everything the same with the exception that we have started cutting back on the amount of bait and we bait a little later than

normal. Our sure fired way to fool the bear(s) is to have both of us come into a bait site. One dressed in regular civilian clothes and the other "dressed to kill" in camo who heads directly over to the treestand as quite as possible and gets into position. The person placing the bait stays at the bait barrel making some noise like it is the dinner bell and does not leave the bait barrel until the shooter is in place. Another trick we use is that we both have a spray bottle of anise oil that we both spray into the evergreens. The shooter sprays down from the treestand and the baiter

sprays at the bait.

Whoever is the shooter, we make sure they have taken every precaution to wash in scent killing soap and all their clothing and equipment is de-scented. The bears may be use to our human scent, but we want to them to feel like we left and be invisible and making sure we don't move or make any noise once the person doing the baiting has left.

For those of you hunting bear this year, good luck and happy hunting.



**TO ALL OUR ARMED FORCES
THANK YOU!
FROM EVERYONE AT THE
MAINE BOWHUNTERS ASSOCIATION**



The Bald Eagle in Blue Hill, ME: Our National Emblem

Photo by Jim Murray

The Maine Bowhunters Association thanks all men and woman that have served in our Armed Forces. We thank the Soldiers who are serving in the War on Terrorism who selflessly risk their lives each day to make the world a safer place.