



# The Maine Bowhunter



The Official Newsletter of Maine Bowhunters Association

SPRING 2016

## Maine Bowhunters Association 2016 Annual Banquet

at JEFF'S CATERING & Event Center, Brewer, ME  
take exit 5 off I-395 in Brewer

Date: Saturday April 16, 2016      Time: Doors Open 5 pm

Get tics by April 10 for Early-Bird Contest:  
1 Night for 2 at Sally Mountain Cabins, Jackman

25% of banquet proceeds donated to **Outdoor Education in Maine**

### 2016 Guest Speakers



Join OLD COPS & authors  
John Ford Sr. and  
Mark Nickerson  
on tour

BLUE LIGHTS &  
FUNNY CIDER



John Ford, Sr.



Mark Nickerson

**MBA banquet sponsored by our many individual and business supporters!**

Visit [www.mainebowhunters.org](http://www.mainebowhunters.org) to get your Tickets now!

Single Ticket \$30 Couples \$55

Captains Table (8 tickets & entry into Special Drawing) \$240

Prizes  
silent & Live Contests Auctions  
Games

To donate auction items please contact Deanna Page at 270-3400 Vendor table space available!



## *President's Report*

*By*

*Deanna Page*



The snow is melting fast, the lakes and streams are opening up and it soon will be turkey season! Happy Spring!

As we head into a new year, we are busy behind the scenes at the MBA attending the Sportsman Shows and preparing for the banquet. We hope to see you at one of the shows, and most of all at the banquet on April 16 at Jeff's Catering. See the ad in this newsletter for more details.

It's never too late to donate items for the banquet, just contact me at [mainebowhunter68@gmail.com](mailto:mainebowhunter68@gmail.com) or call my cell 270-3400.

Again this year we will be donating 25% of our banquet profits to outdoor education in Maine. Last year we donated \$1000 to SAM to help build their archery range, \$500 for a scholarship to a Unity College student going into the wildlife services, and a \$250 check directly to Unity Archers for their amazing help at the Sportsman Shows and our Banquet. They have been a huge help to us for years!

I encourage everyone reading this newsletter to bring a friend to the banquet that hasn't attended before and also to reach out to your bowhunting friends who aren't current members and encourage them to join the MBA. This year is 2016, the 50th anniversary of the Maine Bowhunters Association, let's grow our membership before our official anniversary arrives in October!

After the banquet we will start gathering info to compile a 50th anniversary booklet. Please contact me if you have been an active member in the past 50 years and have something you would like to share.

Thank you,

Deanna L Page

President

Maine Bowhunters Association

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## Maine Seed Company LLC.

Maine Seed Company is very proud to have linked up with Maine Bowhunters Association as an affiliate sponsor. At Maine Seed Company we believe that quality seed and soil conditioners can not only make for a very exciting and unforgettable hunting season, but they also provide year round nutrition and health for our whitetail herd as well as a variety of other animals.

We have two locations in Maine, one in Wales Maine and the other in Presque-isle. We carry Bio-logic and Frigid Forage food plot products. We also have larger quantity bags of forage seeds such as 50 pound bags of forage oats and tillage radishes. We can also make specialty blends of forage seeds upon request.

When planting food plots it is very important to pay attention to the condition of your soil. Probably the most important thing to look at is the PH level. We carry a full line of soil conditioners like Lime, humic acids, sulfur and many different blends of fertilizer.

We look forward to attending the banquet in Brewer on the 16<sup>th</sup> of April. We will have a table set up with Bio-logic and Frigid Forage products. If you are interested in any of the soil conditioners please contact us and we can answer any questions and if you order we can deliver to the banquet.

We are excited to be working with Maine Bowhunters Association, and are looking forward to a long lasting relationship.

Thank You

Maine Seed Company LLC.  
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# Tuning For Turkeys

By

Val Marquez



Turkey hunters are busy scouting for toms, honing their shooting skills, and practicing with their calls, but they often over look a key ingredient for success -- fine tuning their bows. Paper plate accuracy is no longer good enough; turkey have a kill area the size of a tennis ball and require pin-point accuracy.

Bows must be properly set up and tuned to harvest a bird. I suggest you have a archery pro-shop set up and fine tune your bow and also ensure arrows are the proper size. Shooting skills are completely your responsibility. If you can't hit a tennis ball size target at 20 yards, then go fishing or return to the pro shop and get some lessons. The following is a general over view of the tuning process. Many members have these skills -- while, on the other hand, others don't -- consult your local pro shop.

Drop-away arrow rests have made tuning easier. However; they still need attention. Vertical adjustments require moving the string loop up and down or adjusting your rest. Horizontal adjustments are made simply by moving the sight in or out. Less expensive rests lack some adjustment capabilities.

## Bow Sight Set Up

An often overlooked adjustment is your bow sight, in particular how the pins line up. I prefer my 20- yard pin in the center of the sight's ring, this makes it easier to line up the pin and string peep sight quickly. The human eye automatically orientates to the centered pin this helps during hunting condition.

I went from a single sight pin to multiple pins (20, 30, 40 and 50) for a recent antelope hunt where long shots are the norm. But for Maine, shot average is within 20 yards, generally, so one sight pin will work quite well. A long sight rail will allow you to line your sight ring perfectly within the peep which increases accuracy.

## Release Aid Adjustments

A majority of bowhunters use a trigger activated release aid. For target archers the proper method to shoot a release is with back tension. I don't think that using back tension to trigger a release is a good bowhunting method. I much prefer placing slight pressure on the trigger while floating the pin on the vitals slowly increasing pressure on the trigger until it releases, providing more control to hold longer or even let down if needed.

Most archers, including myself, develop a common problem with accuracy robing punching the trigger, in the same manner as firearms shooters. Swapping to a T-handle release that's activated with the thumb may help, but it's only a band aid not a cure.

I set my triggers very light (hair trigger) because I shoot every day and also shoot indoor targets and 3-D, a sport that requires pin-point accuracy. Most Maine bowhunters should use heavier trigger pressure settings.

While bowhunting it's often the little details that make the difference between success and failed hunts. Details that are under an archers control need to be improved on. I'm sure following these methods will improve your bowhunting success.

Paper tuning will determine the adjustments needed. Consider paper tuning from 4 to 20 yards. Other tuning methods can be used, as well. For nerds with no mechanical skills then an archery pro shop will do this for you.

Unfortunately, "Central Maine Archery" in Auburn has closed, leaving a "black hole" for the archery community in that area. Tom and Jess Hartford have supported us over the years and we thank them for that, also wish them luck with their new endeavors.



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# *Stolen*

by

Bill Valleau

(Continued from Last Issue)



When the warden arrived we discussed the night's events and we walked to where the big doe lay. I explained where I was when I heard the shot and that I spotted a pickup creeping by and that a truck stopped along the road. The warden determined that the doe was shot from the road and probably from a vehicle. We dragged the big doe over our rock wall and pulled her onto my lawn. We sat in my driveway and waited see if the shooter would come back to get the deer. After an hour of waiting, we saw no traffic on the road it appeared that the people or person would not be back. I thought, this person was long gone by now as must have realized they would not be getting this deer. I told the game warden that I had probably watched this doe feeding many afternoons back in October while I was bow hunting but I had decided to pass on shooting.

The warden provided his contact information and told me to call him directly, if I saw anything he would come back. He asked me if I would like the deer and that he would provide me with a tag so the deer would legally be mine.

After the warden drove out of the driveway, I walked to the edge of my yard and fastened the tag around a hind leg of my deer. I remember thinking, this is a terrible way to get a deer, but it would be nice to have meat in the freezer. I went inside to call my brother, who lives ten minutes away, to ask him to help me clean and hang the doe.

When my brother and I walked to the edge of my yard the doe was gone. I called the warden and told him the deer was taken. He paused and repeated back to me "your deer was stolen off your lawn?" The next morning the warden came back, took photos of the area and said that he would run out of ink writing down all the charges these criminals would be facing when caught.

I thought about giving up hunting after that night as I did not want to be associated with people that treated animals so cruelly or with people that did not own up to their responsibility of ensuring the animals they shoot do not suffer. This night was a changing point in my hunting career. I have a greater respect for the animals I hunt and realized there are different types of people that pursue deer. There are hunters and game thieves. Game thieves who are unable to shoot animals legally would rather steal from an honest law abiding sportsman. A recurring thought that came to mind after the night the doe was Stolen, "the World would be a better place if everyone Bow Hunted".

## **MBA OFFICERS & DIRECTORS**

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**For information check our web site at:  
[www.mainebowhunters.org](http://www.mainebowhunters.org)**

**MBA Membership Application or join online at [www.mainebowhunters.org](http://www.mainebowhunters.org)**

New     Renewal

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Names of Family/Household Members: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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E-mail: Very important. Print clearly: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Dues:     Family/household \$30     Affiliate Club/business \$95

**Mail to: Maine Bowhunters Association, PO Box 5026, Augusta, ME 04332**



**To all our Armed Forces  
THANK YOU!  
From everyone at the  
Maine Bowhunters Association**



**Maine Bowhunters Association  
PO Box 5026  
Augusta, ME 04332**