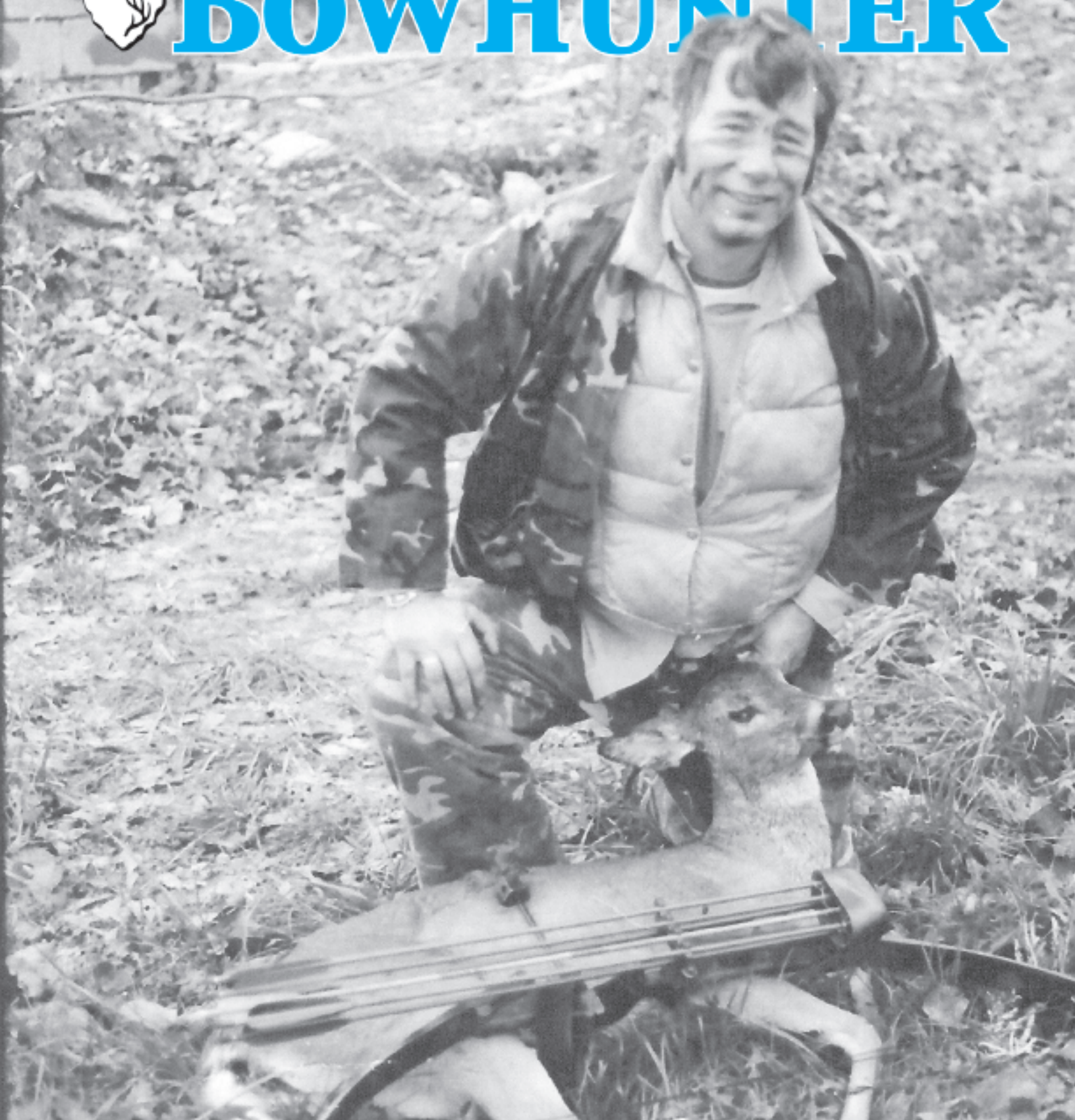




THE UNITED BOWHUNTER

WINTER 2010/2011



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE UNITED BOWHUNTERS OF MISSOURI



From the Laptop

Brian Peterson,
President UBM

The winter chill is finally in the air—

considering the extended Indian Summer this fall, that's not a bad thing. Finally put those heavy wools to use! I hope you're all having a good time in the woods, and that your freezer is full. Of course now is the busiest time of the year for me, and I seem to be bouncing from project to project, balancing work, family and a little extra time in the woods (guess who's winning?). Just finished up the 4th Annual Sheepeater's Greater Ozark Mountain Squirrel Hunt at our place last weekend. I trust that

everyone who made the trip had a good time. At least the fire was warm and our bellies were full. Kevin Pinckney actually shot a squirrel, so the overall outcome was a "thumbs up".

A little breathing room for now, but the Festival will be upon us in no time. Still plenty to do and volunteers are always appreciated. Keep your fingers crossed for good weather, and we'll hope to see you there.

Keep 'em sharp

Brian Peterson

Youth of UBM

Ages carrying a bow through 15 years

It is my opinion that We as UBM need to be more in contact with our young archers.

UBM currently has a youth award at the Festival in February, Any youngster younger than 16 years that has taken game with the bow will be recognized. This includes their first frogs or any small game.

I'd also like to get some number together to see if a youth program would be warranted.

If you have a son daughter or grandkids that qualify for the above award contact Brian Peterson, myself or any board member.

In addition if you would like to see the little guys have something more organized send in their info. Again to me or a board member or to your area representative. . . As of right now I'm volunteering to assemble the info so I'd ask board members and reps. to forward info to me.

As a special enticement We'll be giving away a youth size compound bow to a eligible UBM Youth at the Festival in Feb. (optional is a custom wood bow)

You can send me the information to be added to the drawing. Please include the youngsters name , age, Parents or guardians names address and a phone number.

One entry per youth by email, mail or at the Festival.

Ron Mackenberg

660-287-0197 rmackenberg@hotmail.com if using email please put youth in the subject line.

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Maine Black Bear

by Brad Harriman

Last February at the UBM Festival in Jefferson City, between a good Auctioneer and the Bartender, I got the winning bid on a Maine Black Bear hunt with Squapan Mountain Outfitters! Jim Pyles of JPE Traditional Archery grabbed me after the auction, saying that he was already going, if I wanted to ride along!!!! Jim and I got our plan made during the summer, and finally late August rolled around!!

I headed to Jims house after work on Thursday, and we left his place early that next morning. It is a 27 hr. drive from Jim's place near St. Mary's, MO. That is a long time for Jim to have to put up with me in a vehicle!! We made Utica, NY late that evening, slept 6 hrs, then headed north again!

We made it into camp that next afternoon, and got our choice of bunks. Roger and Toby from Black Widow Bows were already in camp, with Toby's son, Myles. There were folks from Pa, Conn., New York, Michigan . . . A fun bunch of guys and gal, several of which are Tradgangers!!!

Tony and Lynn Boucher, of Squapan Mountain Outfitters, treat you like family from the start! Along with their kids, friends and extended family, it was shaping up to be a good week of hunting! Mine and Jims guide was Dr. Dave, a friend of Tony's, and also a Pulmonary Doctor. I don't know if they hand out a Sense of Humor in Medical School, but I'm telling you, this guy had me laughing all week!!!

Opening day finally arrived, and Dr. Dave, Jim, another hunter and I all jumped in the rig to head to our stands. They run half their

baits every day, so your bait is freshened every other day. I was to be setting over a new bait, in a spot that Dr. Dave had picked out, and hung the stand over. He referred to the spot as the 7th Gate of Haites, as it was so far off the beaten path . . . Sounds like fun to me!!! We dropped Jim off at his bait, then farther down the 2 track road to Kens bait, then on thru that 7th gate to my spot!



You have to pace yourself when you are spending 27 hours in a pickup.

The hang on stand was up about 12 feet, with a climbing stick attached to the tree. The bait barrel was at 10 yds for a good close, low angle shot! I got the safety harness on and climbed on up!

Now is the time where I'll tell you how SMALL the seat is on Dr. Dave's favorite stand . . . You know how big the top of a 3 pound coffee can is?? Well, the seat on this stand is about half that size!!!! And, it almost had that much padding!!! I think Jim's seat was smaller and harder yet, either that, or he sat a lot more than I had to maybe??



A welcome site at the end of a long drive.

Well, I got my pack tied off to the tree, safety rope on, arrow nocked, and settled in for a long wait. I wasn't there long, maybe 15 minutes, and heard something crack over my left shoulder . . . Then, a few minutes later, another crack over my right shoulder . . . Then, pretty soon shuffling feet were coming in directly behind me. I could see the bear through the shafts of sunlight that cut through the pines. He came in on the main trail, right to the barrel. I let him move on in, and get calmed down with a snack. He wasn't a big bear, but for my first bear and second bear hunt, he was just right!!! I let

him feed, waiting on just the right shot, and finally as he was walking out, I took my shot. Hit a little back, but had good penetration with the Snuffer and weighted Gold Tip! I heard a crash



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after a short run!!! I didn't have good enough service to call Dr. Dave, but could text, so let him know what had happened. I had been in the stand a total of 35 minutes!!!! Now for the fun part, he wanted me to stay in the stand until dark, so he wouldn't spook bears away from Jim or Ken!!! So, I settled in for the 4 hour wait until dark . . . THAT'S when that little seat got even smaller!!! But, in the end, it was all worth the wait! My first bear weighed in at 125 lbs, an average sized 3 yr old boar. I'm having the hide tanned, and will clean and whiten my skull for display.

So, the rest of the week was spent helping Dave and Jim run baits, made trips to town to get ice and cold drinks for those 3 Brothers from out east that sure seemed thirsty, and had a little vacation time. We had fresh Maine Lobster by the campfire one evening, 6 bucks for a pound and a quarter Lobstah! Met some great folks from New Brunswick, that have invited me up for a moose hunt! Myles also got a bear that afternoon, with his Grandfathers rifle. There were 13 in camp, only 3 didn't see bears if I remember correctly. Some passed, some missed!!!

I highly recommend Squapan Mountain Outfitters! Tony, Lynn, Reno and the rest of the family will treat you like one of the family. I had a blast, and will be bidding on that same hunt again in the future, between the Auctioneer and the Bartender, I'll bid one more time! Thanks again to Dr. Dave for an awesome week.

*Brad Harriman
Pilot Grove, MO*

1999 vintage Black Widow 64" MA-II, 53# @ 30"

Gold Tip Trad XT 35/55 with a weight tube, homemade turkey fletching. 125gr Snuffer that had already killed an antelope doe 2 weeks prior!

Mid-Missouri Deer Classic

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Show Hours:

Saturday 9am-6pm
Adults \$6.00

Admission:

Sunday 9am-4pm
Children 9 & Under Free

www.missourideerclassic.com

Photo Contest

to be displayed and judged at the UBM conference in February.

1. Bowhunter with game
2. Bowhunting related
3. Wildlife
4. Outdoor theory
5. Trail cam photo

Rules: All pictures must be 8"x10" with no matte or frame. The prints will not be returned and will become property of the UBM. All photos must be turned in by 1:00 p.m. on Saturday of the banquet. Please keep all entries in good taste with respect for the hunter and game.



UBM Meeting Minutes

Place: UBM Squirrel Hunt, Brushy Mt. Ranch, Cedarcreek, MO
Date: Saturday, December 4, 2010
Time: 12:30 PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Old Business:

Secretary's Report: (Brian Peterson) Minutes approved as published in the Fall Newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: (Dan Novotny) Dan reports that we have \$22,931 in the UBM account as of the meeting. Also that we have an outstanding balance earmarked for Hunt of a Lifetime that they have not picked up. It was suggested that UBM investigate if HOL is still a suitable organization or if we should explore others to support

Rendezvous Recap: (All) Darren Haverstick suggested that we have a standing offer from MDC Agent Chris Ross for suitable programs at the rendezvous. Also need to bring heavy gauge wire to make new target hangers for the Skirmish event.

Urban Bowhunting Specialist Update: (Brian Peterson) Brian reported that the Urban Managed Hunts are tentatively on for 2011 in Springfield, but that MDC will be offering them as a lottery style managed hunt and the UBS training program will likely not be implemented.

New Business:

2011 UBM Festival, February 4, 5, 6.

Banquet Chairs: Brian Peterson, Darren Haverstick

Hospitality Room? Yes, the same arrangement will be made as in past 3 years and the group voted to spend up to \$100 on snacks to supplement the cash bar.

Committee Chairs:

1. Festival Speaker: Gary and Connie Renfro. Darren reported that Gary will speak about elk hunting and that Connie will do a seminar on "Women in Bowhunting". Need to get on the ball to try to get a "Big-name" speaker lined up for the anniversary festival. Suggestions included Monty Browning, G. Fred Asbell, the Wenzell brothers, and Donnal Thomas.

2. Seminar Speakers: (Darren Haverstick) Darren reports that the seminar lineup will include Jim Jarman (MU Extension) on Food Plots without heavy equipment, Mike Yancy on Selfbows, Todd Goodman on his experiences, and Brett Shaw on his 2010 Elk Hunt.

3. Bow, Arrow, and Auction Donations: (Ron and Regina Mackenberg—Mike Callahan 2012) Ron has sent out the request letters to the vendors for donations. Need to post a notice for donations in the newsletter.

4. Hunt Donations: (Entire Board): Both Bear Hunts again—do something nice for outfitters. It was agreed that UBM would provide a gift (knife or similar), a plaque, and a year's membership to UBM as recognition for their donation. Both bear hunts will again be offered this year.

5. Vendor Area: (Dennis Voss): It was suggested to create a file on vendor

information—who attends, contact info, how many tables, etc.. Additional discussion regarding fees and donations was tabled for further review.

6. Photo Contest: (Butch Spears)

7. Trophy Display: (Brian Peterson and Robert Skaggs) Brian will have the 4 new trophy wall covers out for review shortly,

8. Publicity: (Scott Hesterly) It was discussed that we need to saturate the Columbia/Jeff City area with radio and newspaper ads prior to the event to draw the local crowd. We already have the Festival ad in Traditional Bowhunter and we have probably already missed the deadline for statewide publications such as the Rural Missourian. Ron Mackenberg suggested giving away banquet ticket(s) to a local radio station for them to give away.

9. Auctioneers: Mike Clark

10. Awards? Need nominees for the following:

Fred Bear:
Bowhunter of the Year:
Hall of Fame:
Jerry Pierce:
District Rep:
Youth Hunter:
Agent of the Year:

11. Hunt of a Lifetime item(s)/arrows for live auction (Scott Hesterly) Scott has contacted Bryan Simmons to make flint points for this years arrows.

Discussion about a "Trading Blanket" at the Festival—schedule it for Saturday, 11:00-2:00 in the area downstairs where we usually stage the live auction items.

T-Shirts/sweatshirts/hats? It was agreed that we sell the remaining current stock at reduced prices to clear the inventory for next years anniversary items.

Table favors? Flashlights were discussed and the group agreed that they really liked the heavy ceramic mugs (better for the anniversary event).

Registration Rates for Festival: Try to keep the menu in the price range to maintain the \$35/ticket range. Possibly go a higher priced menu item next year for the anniversary, but keep it reasonable. It was suggested that we conduct another survey following this years festival.

Early registration prize? Ron suggested book(s) of Black Widow raffle tickets.

Vendor's fees—tiered rate: \$100/space, \$50 for table 3-4, \$25/table thereafter. After much discussion, it was agreed to revise the rate schedule to: Cash or donation valued at \$50 per single booth/table with \$25 for the second table and the two main large vendors will have \$125 for a maximum of 6 tables. Additional space available depending on vendor turnout.

District Reps: Jim Pyles volunteered to represent District 9, Steve Bostic for District 5, and Kevin Pinckney for District 7

continued on next page

Newsletter Feedback: Mailing list updates—too many returns. Clean up list. Stick to deadlines—December 5th next deadline

North MO Outdoor Classic: Will contact northern MO members again to man this event

Pope & Young 50th Anniversary & NABC meeting: Volunteer(s) for NABC immediately following the P&Y event in Rochester, MN in April. Brian Peterson and Tom Dickerson have volunteered to represent Missouri at the NABC if no one else is interested.

CFM Dates? Attendees? Usually the last weekend of February at Lake of the Ozarks. Brian Peterson will officially represent UBM but walk-in representation is encouraged (strength in numbers).

Truth and the Outdoors Event: March 25-27, 2011, St. Clair. Volunteers? John Banderman and Mike Wirt (scpd753@yahoo.com 636-584-

2649) will head this event. UBM will offer a kids archery shooting booth for ages 12 and under (balloons) on Saturday for approximately 8 hours. Volunteers needed.

UBM Website Update? Contact Darren Haverstick with questions or problems. Need to scan current issues of newsletter for the website.

Other Business? None


Javelina Hunt March 13-17, 2011 Sierra Blanca, TX. \$420/4 days + license. Newly remodeled facility. Contact Brian Peterson for more information.

Squirrel Hunt T-Shirts? Yes—signup sheet posted.


Meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM

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MEET A MEMBER

Dave Schnieder

by Ron Mackenberg



Dave lives in O'fallon Mo. He is a carpenter and works in and around the St. Louis area. He is married. His wife is Ann and they have 3 children. Elija, Vincent and a daughter Mari.

Dave has hunted since he was 12. In 2008 he got into traditional archery thanks to his best friend Glenn McPherson. Since I'm the only one of my family that hunts without Glenn I probably

would not of had the pleasure of bowhunting.

Dave wanted to tell us that Ann got her first deer with a rifle this year.

I chase just about anything with my bow here in the great state of Mo. I have not been able to travel to hunt yet but a Rocky Mountain trip is being planned.

I have been making my own bows and arrows for about 2 years now. I enjoy the making of the bows almost as much as the hunting. I've been selling Osage staves to support my new addiction as well. I've made 15 bows as of now (As of July 2009) and only broke 3. One thing I've learned about bow making, I'm never satisfied with one for long.

I won't get into talking about hunting clothes, camo and stuff. I don't have any advice that hasn't been given a hundred times over. I will say whatever you do always try your best and it won't fail. Thanks to the UBM for allowing all of us to be able to meet so many great people.

I first met Dave at MOJAM, in Marshall Mo. In 2009.

Dave and his friend pulled in with a truck load of Osage logs and proceeded Split them into staves. I had brought some bamboo for trading and ended up swapping some for a staff.

The next time was at the Festival 2010 at Mike Yancey's seminar.

The next time I spotted Dave was at the Rendezvous, He and his tribe, They were mostly shirtless and barefoot, shooting in the heat He could only stay a shot time but I did get a short talk in with him.

I'm looking forward to flinging arrows with Dave and his family in the future.

Ron

Vice President's Report

by Darren Haverstick



Greetings, fellow members! I will make this short and sweet since I certainly don't have any long-winded tales of hunting success to bore you with. I did finally manage to put some meat in the freezer but I had to resort to the "Stick of Fire" to accomplish the task. There's still plenty of season left, though, so I might arrow something yet. At least your tax dollars won't be spent on feeding me and mine over this long, cold winter.

As you well know, the 2011 UBM Festival is just around the corner and I encourage all of you to attend and bring 20 or 30 of your closest friends with you. We have a great lineup of seminars and speakers for your listening pleasure plus we will be holding a swap meet during the day for you to trade your hides and furs in for trinkets and whiskey. Mike Yancey will be on hand to tell us about the art of building selfbows, our own Todd Goodman will be there to show us how to build footed arrow shafts, my friend, Dr. Bret Shaw, will explain what is really necessary to bring when you backpack in 15 miles for elk; Jim Jarman; from the MU Extension office, is going to try to answer your food plot questions, and Gary and Connie Renfro; the well-known husband-and-wife bowhunting duo, will be our guest speakers at the banquet that evening.

I also encourage each and every one of you to consider donating an item for the silent auction held during the day or the live auction held after the banquet. These auctions are the main source of the UBM's annual revenue and no item donated is considered too small or insignificant. Every year I hear complaints about the lack of quality items to bid on. Please remember, our auction items come directly from members, or from folks that were asked to donate by members. Soooo...if you want better stuff to bid on, you need to either donate it yourself or ask someone to donate something. The greater the number of people who participate in the donation process will ensure a greater number of cool goodies for you to spend your hard-earned cash on. We have a lot of talented artisans and craftsmen in our ranks and I send this appeal out to them to help us make the auctions better. For further information about these auctions, please contact myself or Ron Mackenberg.

Well, that's it boys and girls! I hope you have a great rest of the season and I'll see you in February!



~ RAFFLE TICKET ~

UBM Conference, Jefferson City, MO - February, 2011

Black Widow Bow



Donation: \$1.00 per Ticket or \$5.00 for 6 Tickets
(Need not be present to win.)

**Drawing will be held at the
UNITED BOWHUNTERS CONFERENCE**

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City _____ Zip _____



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**Drawing will be held at the
UNITED BOWHUNTERS CONFERENCE**

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City _____ Zip _____

Make copies of these tickets and sell them to friends, neighbors and fellow hunters. Fill out the tickets completely and cut apart. Mail tickets and money to UBM, 3097 State Hwy KK, Cedarcreek, MO 65627 by January 20th or bring to the conference in Jeff City.

Don't Move Firewood

Most of us wouldn't pick up hitchhikers along the road, but many of us unwittingly take them camping with us. Tree-killing pests such as emerald ash borers, Asian longhorned beetles and gypsy moths can hide in the wood we bring for campfires. It's easy to reduce the spread of these hitchhiking pests. Here's how.

Missouri has always had its share of forest pests. Historically, these native insects and diseases posed little threat to our healthy forests because for thousands of years our native trees and other plants have evolved alongside them. Whenever a native pest developed a new method to attack, our forests responded by evolving new defense mechanisms. Non-native pests throw off this natural balance by bringing with them new methods of attack unfamiliar to our native trees and plants. Because our forests have not had time to evolve adequate defenses, they can become easy prey for exotic invaders. Take for instance the emerald ash borer. This metallic green beetle probably entered southeast Michigan as an unwanted hitchhiker in wooden packing materials used to ship goods from its native home in China and eastern Asia. The wormlike larvae of this tiny but destructive insect tunnel through native ash trees, eventually killing each tree they infest. To date, emerald ash borers have killed more than 25 million ash trees in Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland and Virginia. These tree-killing pests turned up in southeast Missouri in July 2008.

Don't bring firewood—use local wood. One way to keep emerald ash borers and other destructive pests from spreading is to avoid transporting firewood from one site to another. The best policy is to obtain firewood from a local source. If you have firewood that you didn't get locally, burn all of it as soon as possible. This kills any pests that could be hiding in the wood.

Watch for exotic pests. Another thing we can do to keep Missouri's forests healthy is to watch out for exotic hitchhikers. Keep in mind that Missouri has its share of native pests, so finding a bug tunneling through your firewood isn't necessarily cause for alarm. Learning to separate the benign native bugs from the destructive exotic bugs is key to early detection of a potential problem. Below are signs and symptoms you can use to identify several of Missouri's least wanted visitors.

- * Emerald Ash Borer
- * Asian Longhorned Beetle
- * Gypsy Moth
- * Sirex Wood Wasp

If you find one of these pests, let us know. Early detection is useful only when the problem is contained and eradicated. To help with this effort contact the Missouri Departments of Conservation or Agriculture should you find a suspect insect. Collect a sample by trapping the insect in a zippered plastic bag. Place the bag in the freezer for several days to kill the insect then mail the sample in a sturdy container (35mm film canisters work well) to one of the addresses below. Be sure to include your contact information and the date and location where you captured the sample.

Rob Lawrence
Forest Entomologist, Missouri Department of Conservation
1110 S. College Ave., Columbia, MO 65201
Phone: 573/882-9909 ext. 3303
Email: robert.lawrence@mdc.mo.gov

Two Bear Hunts To Be Auctioned At The UBM Festival

6 DAY CANADIAN BEAR HUNT

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Dates Available **Aug 15 to 21, AUG 22 TO 28, AUG 29 TO SEPT 4, or SEPT 5 TO SEPT 11**

Passport required to enter Canada.

Expenses: Ontario Alien Non-Resident Bear License (\$193.25) and Export Permit (\$35.00)

THIS IS A DONATED HUNT WITH ONE PAID HUNTER (regular price \$1,200 US), so find your hunting buddy and bid on this one for sure.

Questions? Contact Brian Peterson, 417-794-3417; bpeterson007@centurytel.net or Doug Park, 807-857-2942; dpark4@msn.com

MAINE BEAR HUNT

**Squapan Mountain Outfitters,
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Included in this auction are lodging, meals, baits, transportation to and from bait sites, and game recovery.

Not included are license fees (approximately \$150) and transportation to Maine.

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"These guides not only work hard for you, but are good guys to get along with".

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UBM Picture Journal of the Sheepeater's Greater Ozark Mountain Squirrel Hunt



Discussing the age old question . . . longbow or recurve!



People in funny hats shouldn't point fingers.



John Banderman filling his bowl on a cold Missouri day.



A little grill preparation to make sure last years critters where all chased off.



That's a dead chunk of foam right there!



. . . and even more food getting passed around.



The host of the Sheepster's Greater Ozark Mountain Squirrel Hunt, Brian Peterson manning the grill.



Sure Jim, I can put polka-dots on those for ya.



Darrin Haverstick is ALWAYS on the cutting edge of fashion.



Warm food next to a hot fire on a cold night with good friends.



Kevin Pinckney with the only squirrel of the weekend. Kevin is on the right.

Musings in the Stand

By Brian Peterson

(The 2010 Fall Season of an Incurable Bowhunter)

We all strive for it—heck, some of us even manage to do it: the perfect shot and recovery. We're on top of the world; king of bowhunters; unstoppable; can't miss! You know the feeling... Cockey! At some point, karma enters the picture and knocks us down a peg or two. A pulled shot, a miss, or worse yet, a marginal hit due to poor shot placement, poor judgment, or sometimes just plain bad luck. What then, oh great one?

Most of us would like to admit that this never happens, but for even the most seasoned bowhunters, it does occur—and sometimes with alarming frequency. I've always maintained that I'd rather be lucky than good any day, but man, I'm doing my best to be good! Take my year for example: my season started off with a bang. Not 20 minutes into my first morning, I had two bucks within range and ended up passing on multiple opportunities at the larger. With thoughts of keeping my buck tag open for later rut activity fueling my decision to pass on the shot, it suddenly dawned on me that I was holding an Osage self bow, cane arrows and homemade broadheads. What was I thinking? Too late for a chance at this buck, but at least I could keep hunting.

The next milestone of my season came in the block of woods behind my hay field. While hunting a new stand location that had always looked appealing, I caught a movement out of the corner of my eye. It was a coyote, prowling through a brushy draw behind me. A couple of kisses to the back of my hand, and lo and behold, the dog was headed my way. Another squeak and he crossed under the fence and headed towards my shooting lane at a trot. At 10 yards, I let fly and caught the 'yote a little far back, not compensating well for his gait. Blood appeared at impact, and the coyote struggled to make it back to the grassy edge where he lay down within sight and expired. Dude—I had just pulled off the impossible, taking a wily coyote with a full compliment of homemade equipment, at close range, wearing a simple plaid shirt and army wools. I am king of bowhunting for the day—long live the king!

But soon my reign began to falter—only a mere week later. First missing a second coyote at 15 yards (yes, they are fast, but...) then taking a mediocre shot (judgment- and placement-wise) at a doe an hour later. I was lucky this time (remember the old adage—"I'd rather be lucky than good any day"?") as the alert doe turned directly into my errant arrow at the shot and what could have been a heartbreaking scenario turned into a brow-wiping "Phheww" as the

doe crumpled in her tracks; my homemade broadhead completely shattering her C-3 vertebrae. A conscientious, ethical bowhunter would have probably passed on the shot on this piqued doe, but I was King, remember? Confident in my abilities and infallible. I sheepishly collected my prize feeling more suited for the lower house of parliament than the crown.

My house of cards quickly crumbled in Illinois when a beautiful mature doe walked in front of me at 12 yards at first gray light. I'd successfully made this shot many times, so there was no hesitation in drawing my bow, and the hit felt good though it sounded a little too solid. I was shooting the homemade setup with turkey-fletched arrows, so the visual of exactly where I hit here just wasn't there, but I felt confident. A minute later, a wall-worthy Illinois river-



bottom buck came past hot on the trail of the doe (and me with only a doe tag in my pocket....). Next thing I see is the wounded doe emerge from the cover behind me into the stubble field followed quickly by the amorous buck. After several maneuvers that would make a cutting horse proud, the doe opted for the cover at the far side of the field and ran out of sight. After an agonizing hour of looking at a piece of my shattered arrow through my binoculars, I climbed down to assess the damage. The fragment of arrow showed potentially enough penetration and a decent blood trail through the cover gave me hope for a fatal hit. That afternoon, I scoured the block of cover where I saw the doe head earlier that morning with no luck. Heading back to the stand to gather my thoughts, I stumbled upon the remaining piece of

arrow shaft. My heart sank even lower when the evidence showed the un-bloodied shaft had broken off cleanly at the taper, leaving the broadhead likely firmly embedded in her shoulder without sufficient penetration to cause permanent harm. An unfortunate day for both of us, but I guess we'll both live (and learn).

Heading back to the Missouri woods, pride bruised and head hung low, I prepared for our rifle season. With some venison already in the freezer, I chose to take the bow to our woods, but opting for the more powerful Black Widow over the lighter weight Osage self bow. I like to think that I learn from my experiences and hoped to increase my odds by using the heavier bow. 5 days into season, I was privy to "The Show": two decent bucks pushing a young doe right past my stand. The larger stood broadside at 20 yards watching the doe crow-hopping between the two bucks and my arrow was on its way. The buck ducked at the shot, which would have been OK, except that with the "rock", came the "roll". The



A true trophy with stick and string.

high entrance wound was followed by an even higher exit, and the buck thundered away with the broadhead pointing skyward. Not good. An hour later, I was on the trail figuring either he already was dead due to a fluke arterial hit or not mortally wounded. The sign was surprisingly encouraging, but after a half mile, my hopes dried up along with the spoor. Two days of looking yielded notta, so I can only hope this warrior will live to rut another day.

Which brings me to the present day—sitting in a ladder stand in eastern Kansas watching over a CRP edge. The weather’s been unseasonably warm and windy, and deer movement has been slow at best. Spikes and fork-horns seem to be the only participants in the rut this year; nothing befitting the reputation of the area. I find myself engrossed in the cathartic exercise of pontificating in my field notebook, glancing up at each sentence looking for that telltale flash of antler or the classic body shape cruising through the CRP grass (in other words, getting in a lot of undisturbed writing this morning). What started this exercise was the wide range of emotions I’d felt the previous evening when I passed a shot at a nice cull buck in essentially the same scenario as my latest Missouri rifle experience—once bitten, twice shy! I hate to admit it, to myself much less to anyone who might be listening, but there are times sitting long hours on stand staring at an empty field that I just don’t want to leave with an unfilled license again and feel the urge to fill my tag with a deer. ANY deer! I know, it’s contrary to our code —“It’s not about the getting, it’s all about the doing”, but the desire was there nonetheless. I found myself imagining scenarios where I would take the first deer that offered me a decent shot. I snapped back to reality when a young spike with some serious potential came in close enough to get my blood pumping and my knees knocking. Reality check! He needed to grow if there were going to be future wall-hangers from this property, and I barely overcame the urge to try for him.

I like to think I learned a little something about myself in the past few months and that killing a deer just for the sake of killing a deer, or filling an expensive tag at all costs isn’t what bowhunting is all about. I’m constantly redefining the parameters in which I live and

pursue the greatest of creatures, and regret should be a word erased from my vocabulary—always move forward. Take the good with the bad, learn from everything you experience, and you’ll know when it’s right. For now, that little buck is safe. Fire up the stew pot honey, we’re fixing tag soup again this year . . .

Post script: Not an hour after putting the pad and pencil back in my pack, I missed a 15 yard chip shot at a perfect cull buck. Holding low expecting the “duck”, he didn’t even flinch at the shot and I shot just under his chest. Can’t win for losing sometimes . . .

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Brenda's Squirrel Dish

Bake at 350 degrees until fall apart tender (1 to 2 hrs.):

6 squirrels (I usually use my old squirrels) in 6 cups of water and season with Morton's Nature seasoning salt and onions sliced or diced.

Next cool and bone the squirrels. Take 1 cup of juice and set aside to cool to room temp. while you are boning squirrel.

You will need to have about 8 cups of liquid so add enough chicken broth to your squirrel broth to make it in the ball park of 8 cups. Add your squirrel boned back into broth, I usually break it up into bite size pieces with my fingers.

The noodles you are going to make are a little touchy so pay attention: Take 2 cups of flour dump into medium size glass bowl or stainless. Add 1 teaspoon of salt and 1 teaspoon of baking powder and mix in well, then you add very slowly the broth you set aside to cool, but not all of it, add half of broth and mix add little more until the dough is a little sticky (so you might need more broth or not all you reserved) then put on a floured surface and turn once then roll out to about 1/4 inch thick and cut strips you may need to add a little more flour but be careful only add what you need to keep from sticking to rolling pen. Have the broth with squirrel in it boiling slowly and pick up strips and pull apart pieces about 2" long and drop into liquid, try not to drop them directly on top each other until they are soaked with broth. Add strips of dough until you think you have enough or use it all. Boil slowly for approximately 15 to 20 minutes stirring quite often it will stick to bottom of pan easily. Your next step is to pour all this into a baking dish and top with homemade biscuits from bisquick or your own recipe, do not make bread biscuits with yeast make baking soda biscuits ALSO DO NOT USE STORE BOUGHT BISCUITS, THEY DO NOT WORK. Roll out your biscuits and cut into rounds and lay on top the squirrel broth mixture and bake uncovered at 350 degrees until your biscuits are nicely browned. Serve with mashed potatoes and veggie. ENJOY!!!!

BRENDA HUDSON



Calendar of Events

January

Archery Closes 01/15/2011

Furbearers Season Closes 01/31/2011

February

UBM Festival & Banquet 02/4,5,6/2011

Jefferson City, MO - Truman Hotel

Rabbit Season Closes 02/15/2011

Squirrel Season Closes 02/15/2011

March

Trout Parks Open 03/01/2011

Crow Season Closes 03/03/2011

Coyote Season Closes 03/31/2011

April

Spring Turkey - Youth 04/09/2011 – 04/10/2011

Spring Turkey Opens 04/18/2011

May

Spring Turkey - Closes 05/08/2011

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February 4th, 5th, & 6th 2011

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*Check the website for details closer to the Event
(www.unitedbowhunters.com)*

Featured speakers **Gary & Connie Renfro, Mike Yancy, Todd Goodman and Brett Shaw** at the Truman Hotel in Jefferson City,
MO on Saturday, February 5th, 2011

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