



THE UNITED BOWHUNTER

FALL 2011

Who are the
United Bowhunters
of Missouri?



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE UNITED BOWHUNTERS OF MISSOURI



From the Laptop

Brian Peterson,
President UBM

As I type this, I'm preparing to head to the airport to catch my flight to this years "hunt of a Lifetime". By the time you are reading this, I'll likely be back from my month in Alaska—hopefully with many stories to share (and maybe a little moose meat in the freezer). I know many of you are headed afield yourselves, both near and far, and I wish you all luck and can't wait to share your adventures as well.

This year's Rendezvous was another success. Attendance seemed a little lower—probably due to our history of the event being held on the hottest weekend of the year (looks like we saved the 100's for July this year). We were treated to some milder temperatures in June and I trust that everyone had a great time. I know the kids sure did—best \$20 we ever spent with the helium tank and balloons!

Speaking of hot, Deaf Camp was warm one as well, celebrating their 10th anniversary this year. If you haven't volunteered at this event yet, there's nothing like seeing the face of a kid who has never shot a bow when they break a balloon for the first time.

While this is the time of the year that we all live and breathe for as bowhunters, there is also plenty to do insofar as UBM's 25th Anniversary Festival is concerned. So if you find yourself with a filled tag or some free time on your hands, feel free to contact one of your board members and volunteer some time and effort.

Oh, and before I forget—I would like to officially thank our retiring Board members and welcome the freshmen to the Board. Dennis Harper has stepped down from the Board of Directors this year after many years of service to spend some quality time with Compton Traditional Bowhunters. Robert Skaggs and Scott Hesterly have both graciously served UBM over the past few years and certainly deserve some time off for their great work. We welcome Robert North, Todd Goodman, and Bret Shaw into the mix this year and look forward to their input and fresh perspective. Thanks to all the members who took the time to vote.

All that said, I'm going to finish packing and head north. Aim small and miss small and by all means, keep 'em sharp!

Brian Peterson

The "All Traditional" Debate

Brian Peterson, President

By now, the debate as to whether or not to make the United Bowhunters of Missouri a traditional-only organization has touched all of us in one way or another. I think we all agree that a decision of this magnitude should be made by the entire membership rather than the Board of Directors or a handful of attendees at a meeting. Before we pursue this any further, I would like to submit some information for your perusal. I've been in contact with the surviving founding members and solicited their input as to the original intent in the forming of UBM. I have the following responses to publish. Read them carefully and feel free to e-mail me your thoughts on the matter or take up the discussion on the UBM website forums. This will likely be an issue that will take quite a while to decide, but it will surely be on the agenda at the next Board Meeting. Have an interesting read and talk to you soon.

ARTICLE X

EQUIPMENT POLICIES

Section 1. Purpose. The corporation desires to maintain the quality of the bowhunting experience and willfully accept the challenge of bowhunting by restricting technology which the corporation believes to diminish the bowhunting experience.

Section 2. Equipment Guidelines. To be eligible for entry in the game records, or for the purpose of bowhunting, members shall take game with bows of 40 pounds minimum peak weight and arrows of 400 grains or more. Members shall not use the crossbow, the lineal bow, illuminated sites, either electronic or chemical, the overdraw, or the P.O.D. In addition to the above equipment guidelines, all applicants must adhere to the standards and rules of the Pope and Young Rules of Fair Chase.

A Good Time Between Friends

by Mike Wirt

BEAR HUNTING! The very mention of that statement sends chills down some people's spine, but to this Missouri traditional bow hunter it meant new scenery, new challenges, and a new adventure.

This adventure began at the United Bowhunters of Missouri festival, in Jefferson City, MO when myself, John Banderman, and my brother Tim were invited by Tom Dickerson to go along with him on the fall black bear hunt he just purchased during the silent auction. The hunt would be with Wolf River Bear Baits, (Dorion, Ontario 807-857-2942) a hunt that Tom had been on last August in which he scored on a nice black bear. We accepted the invite (after we thought about it for approximately a tenth of second) and the planning stage began.

Having never been to Canada, or anywhere out of the United States for that matter, we had to get passports (we went the cheaper route and got pass cards instead). With these securely in hand, we began getting equipment lists in order. After practicing all summer, I finally settled on taking a longbow, made for the late Jerry Pierce, and given to me by Lenny Pierce. For arrows, I went with Gold Tip carbon shafts and tipped them with Magus II broadheads. Tom kept the excitement going by sending e-mail updates and trail cam pictures he received from our outfitter/guide, Doug Park. We tried to plan for everything down to the last detail and when our departure date of August 19th, finally arrived the overall excitement was hard to contain.

We drove as far as Duluth, MN the first day and made an early start for the border the next morning. Crossing the border into Canada was neat, but uneventful (thank goodness). The scenery was breathtaking. The birch and pine tree forests, the lakes and rivers. During the drive, the thing that stood out the most to me was the moose crossing signs, instead of the deer crossing signs we see in Missouri. We never saw any moose, but seeing the signs made us alert for them.

We arrived in Dorion and met Doug. He is exactly what I expected, knowledgeable, fun to be around, and an all around great guy. Doug worked hard to make sure we had everything we needed to have a successful hunt. After getting our tags, we went to the cabin we would be staying in.

The cabin was situated along the banks of a beautiful lake. It was fully furnished and had all of kitchen utensils we needed. Bathing was done in the lake and I am here to tell you that lake water in

August in Canada is not like lake water in August in Missouri! It literally took my breath away and I never got used to it. But, you know what they say, "When in Rome".

After storing our gear, we met up with Doug and he took us to the baits we would start the week with. One of the cool aspects of this hunt was that Doug established the baits we hunted, but we were responsible for keeping them baited and active. He supplied the bait and strategies to hunt. I liked this because it let us be part of the whole process, not just dropped off to hunt and picked up at dark.


Doug took me, Tim, Tom, and Mike Calahan out to our bait sites and helped us set our stands. All of the baits had been hit and Doug re-filled each with doughnuts, bread, and fryer grease. Everything a growing bear needs to get fat for the winter. Now all we had to do was wait for the Sunday, day one of our hunt.

We went to our baits about 3pm, Sunday afternoon. That is another cool thing about bear hunting. You do not have to be on stand at the crack of dawn. You can sleep in, have a good breakfast, shoot your bow, or whatever. You could certainly hunt mornings, if you wished, but primarily, bear hunting is an afternoon and evening sport.

My first sit on stand was my most exciting time in the woods. About 5:30pm, I heard brush popping. I thought this was odd, because all I have heard was "bears don't make noise" and "they just appear". Well my first bear encounter involved two bears that did not read the script or was sick when they taught walking the in woods in bear school. They came charging into the bait and took me by complete surprise!

These two little guys messed around with the bait barrel and each other for about forty five minutes. They would fight each other for the barrel and make sounds that I have never heard before. Luckily, when I first heard them coming, I hit "record" on the camcorder and caught all of their antics on video. It was exciting and fun, but as I kept watching these bears, I kept wondering "are they big enough?" When they walked by the barrel, their backs came up to the second ring, one of the indicators of a shootable bear, but something just did not look right to me. I kept watching for momma bear to come in with them, but a sow never showed. I pondered this for sometime until I watched one of them place their entire head into the small opening Doug had cut in the barrel. It was then that I knew I was not going to make one these bears my first and just sit


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continued from previous page

back and watched the show. The rest of the sit was uneventful and I walked to Tom's truck to see how everyone else did.

Well past dark, Tom and Tim rode up and Tim and had a "guess what I just did" look about him. Tim told the story of how he had a bear come in and how he put a good shot on it. His excitement was evident when he explained that after the shot he could not even stand up. He then said that after he calmed down, he watched the shot on video and got shook up again! It meant a lot to me to see Tim be successful.

Now for the realities of bear hunting. Bears do not bleed well, even if they are hit good. The blood soaks up into the fur and the layers of fat can smear over the wound, closing it. Not to mention, the hellish bush these animals call home that makes tracking a nightmare. I am sorry and saddened to say that I did hit two bears that were never recovered, although not because every effort was not taken to find both. The first bear, I hit in the spine, because it immediately went down. It then got up and ran off. We tracked the bear into a swamp/bog area and lost it. The second bear, which I got the hit on video, appeared to have been hit high, but had a downward angle, got good penetration, and we followed a decent blood trail, blood on both sides, for awhile. But, the tragic truth is I lost this bear too. By this time in the hunt, I was sick knowing that could not fulfill my obligation as a hunter, and recover the animal. To say that my confidence took a shot was an understatement. But, Tim and John reminded me that when you bow hunt, these things happen, it is sad and disappointing, but they do happen.

Overall, the hunt was every bit of the adventure I had hoped, and then some. We had a great camp, what camp wouldn't be great with UBM members in it, and an outstanding guide/outfitter in Doug Park. He put in a lot of late nights tracking bears and made sure everyone was getting opportunities at bears. I will be back for another adventure, soon.

Hello from the Southeast corner,

It's been another busy summer for the UBM with members attending many different events, a great Rendezvous and even some time for a little bow fishing.

Hunting season is now upon us so just maybe we can relax a little. I don't want you to relax very long because our 25th Anniversary Festival will be sneaking up on us.

Joan and I will be taking care of the auction this year so I want to ask all of our talented UBM members to put their creative minds and hands to work and make this a memorable festival.

As always we have a silent auction and a live auction with something that will attract almost everyone. Please consider a donation as it helps the UBM carry out its mission.

I'll quit begging for now, hope everyone has a safe hunting season enjoying God's beautiful creation. I look forward to seeing many of you at the squirrel hunt and Festival.

Donations for the auction can be sent to:
Mike & Joan Calahan
130 Plumwood Drive
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e-mail kcjc.cal@charter.net



2012 UBM Festival Speaker Lineup

Larry and Brenda Hudson will be talking to us on Friday evening about their recent bear hunt in Alaska.

Nathan Anderson - seminar speaker

Bryce Lambley - seminar speaker

TJ Conrads - seminar speaker

Ron Mackenberg - seminar speaker

Monty Browning - banquet speaker

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Input From The UBM Advisory Council

Brian, thank you for your note regarding the current status, issues and mindset of UBM, and your request for input from the Advisory Council. First, let me commend you and any other appropriate parties for seeking such advice, as that was, and is, the sole purpose of the Council which serves to maintain consistency of original purpose in founding. Second, let me state up front that mine is a rather lengthy reply, so be prepared to wade through. Finally, it is my belief that although time often changes perspective on many things, those endeavors which most closely adhere to the original principles and values from start up to present time have the greatest harmony and satisfaction for those involved.

I am sure these sentiments are being repeated by other Council members, but I'll give my rendition of a brief history leading up to founding UBM. The old Grand River Archers was essentially a collection of mostly Harrisonville area hunters whose main bow weapon was traditional. Technical (compound) bows had been moving to the forefront for a while and businesses were quick to not only try to capture the emerging market but also to influence that market for gain. GRA was a particular "thorn in the side" of a certain bowhunt supply and sales company. There was frowning and downlooking going both ways. GRA represented a segment of the hunting community that was least profitable for sales, and was "behind the times" while the "Company" represented a sellout of heritage for profits. From GRA's perspective, certain hardware pieces and methods were well outside the historical method of slinging an arrow. That method had evolved 1X over 2000 years and went 2X in a decade or less. It's the old failed marriage of "Romance in History" and "Progress". They don't fit together very well. The lighted sight issue was a burning fuse that exploded into United Bowhunters of Missouri. As a side note, brother Wayne used to say, somewhat sarcastically, that the "other group" used the phrasing Bow Hunters. "What happened, did they lose their bows or something"? It was truly funny, but I have always believed you will get more respect by giving respect, even when you disagree. I want to emphasize at this point that although UBM came from an almost exclusively traditional group, one which vehemently opposed gadgetry substituted for practice and sweat, the traditional label was only de facto and never officially incorporated into UBM. We all looked alike, talked alike, shot alike and generally shared the same values in hunting. It should also be pointed out that there is a huge, that is a HUGE difference, between the blood sport of hunting and the general area of archery. We were hunters, interested in the "old" way, finding greater joy in making hunting more difficult rather than easier and more certain. You were not competing with an animal for a trophy, you were competing for his life. I have great respect for field archery, but I never lose sight that you are competing in some fashion against another archer for mastery of skills within a hardware range. I won't be lured into the ad nauseum argument of "modern traditional" verses stone age etc. That is only a backward extension of the current "technical" verses "traditional" spat.

For UBM to flourish it is important to understand that it has deep traditional roots, yet it must be willing to embrace the technical era without condemnation of either side. Every hunter, or field archer for that matter, has the "reason" why he/she uses their type bow. How well do the reasons match up? How do the individual's respect for the animal match up? How well does recognition of skill adjusted for equipment match up? The "person" is more important than his "piece". I say, embrace, or at least accept, the future and what technology brings, yet respect, with awe, the past and it's rich heritage. Study closely, with a critical eye, the impact of weaponry on legislation. I have shaken the hand of Glen St Charles and Fred Bear, but what is the point scoring system doing to our blood sport. Has an animal been reduced to a certain value in points? To what extent, if any, does the increase in bowhunter numbers and bowhunter success affect MDC considerations? Traditional can never survive by itself, or more accurately cannot thrive by itself. It needs infusion of new blood (people). Technology will turn cancerous, killing itself, if not checked by the romance of tradition. From these last few thoughts I can sum up my take on the direction necessary for UBM. Work TOGETHER. Be inclusive of the person and work to understand the value system of one another, while shaping the corporate value system of the group. Respect one another. Respect the animal. Recognize a COMMON enemy and fight unified (UNITED). Disown those producers of hardware that serve their interests by lobbying for legislation to enhance sales, or who dope a newby bowhunter into believing if he/she doesn't kill like the videos show then he must have the wrong "stuff"; buy ours!! Withhold your approval of any person who would brag on their "accomplishments" but look disdainfully at another who hasn't "got one in the books". Remember, the only true hero in hunting is the quarry. And lastly, never apologize for hunting. God made animal and God made man. He set man apart to rule over all. I believe He asks us to rule with respect and thankfulness.

I am sure I have left out a few discussion points which may be covered by letters from other Council members. You may wish to publish them in a format viewable by all so we can have a robust email round table. I'm already chuckling at what some of their statements and sentiments may be. We're getting to be an old and crotchety group. Pull back a 60 pound recurve string. Yeah, I can still do it, but it's starting to hurt. Heck, it's starting to hurt to even pull up the string on my pajamas.

Brian, I hope my note is helpful in your continued leadership in UBM. Your job is an elected position. The Board of Directors is challenged to vote the will of the membership. Democracy, in it's purest form, vests the will of the people in the vote of a few. You are trusted by them for your vote. Keep that trust.

Respectfully
Robert E Dyer
Founding Member, United Bowhunters of Missouri

Calendar of Events

October

Rabbit season starts, 10/1/2011
Fall Turjey Season, 10/1-31/2011
Frog season closes, 10/31/2011

November

Crow Season Opens - 11/1/2011
Quail Season Opens - 11/1/2011
Youth Deer Season - 11/5-6/2011
Dove Season Closes - 11/9/2011
Firearms Deer Season Opens - 11/12/2011
Furbearers Season Starts - 11/15/2011

December

Groundhog Season Closes- 12/15/2011
Deer Muzzleloader Season - 12/17-27/2011

January

Archery Season Closes - 1/15/2012
Furbearers Season Closes - 1/31/2012

February

Rabbit Season Closes - 2/15/2012
Squirrel Season Closes - 2/15/2012

March

Crow Season Closes - 3/3/2012

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THIS IS IN RESPONSE TO THE ARTICLE IN UBM TITLED, WHY NOT ALL TRADITIONAL? I SAY, WHY NOT? AFTER ALL THAT IS WHAT IT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE IN THE BEGINNING. TWO LIMBS AND A STRING ARE ALL THAT IS NECESSARY. IT TAKES LONGER TO MASTER, BUT IS MORE FUN TO SHOOT, AND IS JUST AS DEADLEY FOR HUNTING. THIS WAS PROVEN BY GLEN ST. CHARLES IN THE CREATION OF THE POPE AND YOUNG CLUB. THOSE OLD TIMERS USED RECURVE, LONGBOW AND SELF BOWS, MOST OF WHICH THEY MADE THEM SELVES. ALL THE COMPOUND MECHANICAL DEVICE HAS DONE, IS TO MAKE IT ALL EASIER. (THE INSTANT BOWHUNTER.) I ALSO KNOW FROM THE PAST WHEN TEACHING 4H ARCHERY THAT A LOT OF THE NON HUNTING PULPIC THINK OF THE COMPOUNT DEVICE AS CHEATING. YOU MIGHT SAY WELL WHAT ABOUT THE DISABLED? WELL I KNOW A BOWHUNTER THAT HAS HAD A BROKEN NECK, BROCKEN BACK, BROCKEN LEG TWO SHOULDER SURGERYS AND BEEN HIT BY A TRAIN. HE STILL HUNTS WITH A RECURVE AND SOMETIMES A SELF BOW.

TO ANSWER THE QUESTION, YES BY ALL MEANS GO TRADIONAL.

I KINDA LIKE THE SOUND OF THE UNITED TRADIONAL BOWHUNTERS OF MISSOURI.

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June 14, 2011

Dear Brian,

I vote to classify U.B.M. as a traditional organization. That was what I thought it was intended to be. Somehow the original intent has gotten lost.

United Bow Hunters was first conceived with a traditional mind set. We wanted to protect bow hunting from technology that detracted from the hunting experience and from mechanical devices that are unnecessary.

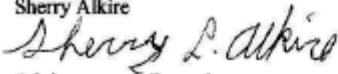
I think that Traditional archery is the use of a bow that is comprised of limbs, handle section and string.

(Roger Rothaar once stated that "A compound bow never assured anyone of a successful hunt just the same as a recurve never prevented it. Any weapon is only as good as the man and certainly as some supposed advantage is gained by technology one place, another is lost somewhere else. I shoot a recurve because it will do all that I ask of it and all that is required for successful bow hunting. No bow, regardless how much it is technologically advanced, can do any more, nor do it as trouble free.")

I am 66 years old, female. I am a traditional bow hunter. My bow weight is 50 pounds draw weight at 27 inches. I shoot instinctive. I have no trouble with this type of equipment.

Sincerely,

Sherry Alkire

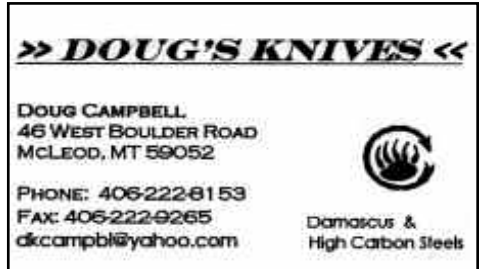


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Members Memories

Larry and Brenda Hudson had a successful trip to Prince of Wales in Alaska this year. They will be sharing the details at the 2012 UBM Festival.



As I See It

Your President has asked some of us old fogies that started UBM to weigh in on the latest discussions about becoming a "Traditional only" organization. I appreciate what Brian is doing, getting input from all involved is the correct way to address this issue. We, (the original founders) are all appointed members of an "advisory council" and have been asked in the past for our opinion on different topics, I feel this topic important enough to say it in writing, my goal is to share with all concerned why UBM was formed in the first place, also how we arrived on how to best represent Bowhunters in the state. Bear with me, everything is mostly from memory and you know how that can go!

Organized archery, in differing forms, has been around quite a while, most of us belonged to the existing state organization, good guys and gals for the most part, but their main interest was in target archery, 3D shoots and the like. When we would start talking about Bowhunting issues and the need for organized representation, we were largely ignored and actually referred to as "a bunch of dumb Bowhunters" out to cause trouble. There were folks of good vision in our group and this unwillingness to listen or help did not set well, knowing there was a strong need for some type of organized communication with the Missouri Dept. of Conservation, the Conservation Federation and the public, we basically said — ok, to heck with that — lets start our own organization.

The issue of "traditional only" for our new organization was an extremely hot topic from the beginning, I personally had shot "modern equipment" and didn't really see the big deal except for the "new" overdraw and talk about lighted sights, you gotta remember, this was the mid 80's, it was an oddity to see anyone shooting traditional equipment, compound bows were the rage. Not that much faster, just easier to shoot with a whopping 30% let off. There was talk about getting all the way to 50% and maybe even higher!! Too make a real long story short, we decided to try and curb the growth in technology by putting some "limits" on what would be accepted for members, we felt we could not truly represent the Bowhunters of the state if we were a traditional only organization. The Pope & Young club's "rules of fair chase" seemed a good start but we added minimum bow / arrow weight, no crossgun, lineal bow or illuminated sights, the overdraw, & the P.O.D. (Pope & Young club later changed their "rules of fair chase" and included no electronics).

Article X section 1 of the constitution & by-laws says it well—"The corporation desires to maintain the quality of the bowhunting experience and willfully accept the challenge of bowhunting by restricting technology which the corporation believes to diminish the bowhunting experience."

Read that again — I think the idea is still good, yes, things have changed, modern equipment today does not even resemble a bow, not even close, but they are legal equipment in the state and I can't see that ever changing. Equipment / technology issues were a part of what started UBM, only a part. I feel there is much much more today, as yesterday, to dwell on other than equipment, besides, all us traditional folks have seen over and over again modern equipment shooters "change over" after seeing all the fun and yes success we have with our simple stick & string! I could go on and on about pro's & con's of this issue but to me it boils down to the same question, are we willing to give up our hard earned reputation of speaking for the Bowhunters of Missouri, would we still be "United Bowhunters of Missouri" if we limit membership to traditional only? I think not.

Larry Hudson

UBM was formed because a handful of traditional shooters refused to allow industry related forces to use the old Missouri Bow Hunters Association to further the objectives of the AMO. The founding core of the UBM were told that discussions were being held to control dissident traditional bowhunters. The MBH would use its perceived political influence to instigate mandatory proficiency testing which would make traditional equipment illegal to hunt with. When four people, Wayne Allen, Dale Dorch, Gene Eakins and myself, went to the B of R Meeting held at the MBH Convention in St. Louis we found PSE Displays of Cross Guns and suddenly faced the reality that an organization for bowhunters was needed. We looked at the traditional vs nontraditional issue and finally agreed that 50% let off compounds without overdraws or electronics of any kind would be permissible. 50% let off compounds were a thing of the past, we knew it and that was the reason they were allowed. We felt that strictly enforced equipment restrictions would provide the nudge that would stimulate the conversion to traditional equipment. It worked and UBM was totally traditional. Fred Bear personally joined and we cashed the check. Can you believe we did that. Fred's wife gave us written permission to use his name for the Fred Bear Award.

Pope and Young followed UBM in the prohibition of electronics on the the bow and arrow, not the other way around. Adherence to Pope and Young Rules of Fair Chase was done in order to streamline things. However when Pope and Young sold out nothing was done to salvage the historical leadership UBM had provided. UBM became like other organizations found themselves under the big tent. As more people felt UBM no longer stood for her founding principles less people were involved. The banquet is less than half of what it once was. Perhaps this is just a sign of the times and it was bound to happen.

Marv Cochran

Thank you for your letter regarding how "officially" labeling the UBM a traditional only organization, has again been brought to the forefront and asking the Founding Board Members for their input. This is a question that we struggled with 25 years ago and I'm sure that it will be debated 25 years from now. I agree with you that the entire membership should be allowed to vote on such a change but no matter what happens, there will be a cost. Just as there was in 1987.

I have read my copies of the United Bowhunter for many years now and I am proud of how the organization has grown and matured. The UBM is not an easy thing to maintain as you and many others know because black and white does not exist in it just as black and white doesn't exist in life. If I had lived then with black and white I would not have spent so many good times with my friend Rick Wakeman

hunting deer and shooting fish. After all, he shot an old Jennings compound that he loved and considered pretty traditional next to some of the more modern equipment. There were other compound shooters that contributed much to the UBM and I see that Jack and Doris Williamson are still involved and doing their thing. They are nice people and I was glad they were included in our group of bowhunters.

Anyway. I won't preach but as I get older I feel a little less militant and set in concrete than I used to. Let the vote happen and live with it. That's what we did. The Founding Board sure didn't agree with everything and we could be a lively bunch at times with many opinions to be aired. The UBM will always be mostly made up of recurve and longbow shooters I imagine no matter what. After all. That is the history of the organization. That's its' roots and those roots run pretty deep.

Some of the "traditionalist" out there once used compound bows. I shot my first deer with a Darton compound and I was very proud of that deer and I still am, but I wouldn't go back. If people are allowed the freedom to choose and made to feel welcome I think most of them will appreciate the beauty and classic form and function of an arching recurve and long bow and even if they ultimately decide it just isn't for them, they will at least be aware of the class and kindness of those that did take the traditional path and still held out a hand of friendship.

My very best to all of you and thanks for all you do to keep the UBM spirit alive and well.

Please give everyone my best wishes.

Wayne Allen,
Founding Board Member

And Why Not Traditional

by Ken Olsen

I have no doubt that after this article is published it will likely offend some. I'm not going to be able to put into words what I mean as well as others who are much better at expressing their hearts and minds. Nothing personal so don't think what follows was meant to be. I will always respect each one of you, regardless what you shoot.

Let's face it. The majority of UBM members (active or not) are Traditional Archers and Bow Hunters. UBM was formed by a group of dedicated archers, most all being traditional archers and bow hunters, who could care less of competing for trophies, having the most expensive bow or all the latest gadgets. They formed UBM to break away from other organizations whose direction and purpose was lacking in the interest of archery or bow hunting. UBM is what it is today (consisting of mainly traditional archers and bow hunters who are family oriented) because of those few who saw a vision of wanting an ethical, dedicated group of

archers who shared the desire and use of and for simpler equipment.

But along with those desires there was also the desire to keep the "old ways" around so they did not fall away into memory only. And what he heck is wrong with the old ways? I guess pretty soon some will want to put us old traditional Bowhunters in a room by ourselves at the UBM Festival each year so we don't embarrass you youngsters! I mean could you stand to listen to your older friend, Dad, Grandfather, Great Grandfather or Uncle talk about nothing but sticks and strings, PO Cedar, leather back quivers, home made arm guards and finger tabs, plaid wool hunting clothes that weren't camouflaged? God forbid! And to hear them bow hunting for deer without thins late clothing, a GPS or deer scent! How did they ever survive and be successful?

Technology can sometimes be good as well as advances in manufactured equipment. However, too much too fast can also result of our own history fading into old

magazines, books or memories only. Imagine if it weren't for those men and women who did not follow their own ethics and desires for keeping traditional archery alive. Fortunately there are many across this country and the world who love a stick and string, love the feel of leather in their hands as they make their own arm guard, finger tab, hip and back quivers. Their love for Port Orford Cedar as they inhale deeply the aroma smelled by millions of traditional archers as they weigh, spine and cull each shaft. Then the tapering of point and nocks ends, staining, sealing, fletching and cresting their deadly dozen for themselves, an injured dear friend, a relative or to donate to some kids.

I'm sure most of you who are non traditional guys are raising up your blood pressure to argue that most organizations, be they traditional or compound members, do donate their wares, time, etc to many good causes. Lower your blood pressure.

My own personal opinion is this: If you want to belong to a compound organization

then perhaps you should join MBH. If you are mainly interested in (and your heart is in) a traditional organization, then stay with UBM. That's right, United Bow hunters of Missouri. United in archery, bow hunting and keeping traditional archery alive for years to come. No one has or is bad mouthing those of you who shoot a wheely bow and own a stick bow. I will think less of those who go to the field with a stick bow in hand. And when you happen to miss a nice buck or doe or any game you were seeking, tell yourself: If I only had brought my wheely bow! I could have nailed him at 50 yards (or even 60-70 yards depending on their ethics). If this has ever been you then you are not a traditional bow hunter. You're someone who apparently hasn't made your mind up and are still being haunted by whoever gets the biggest and most wins. In a true, die hard traditional bow hunter you will never hear him or her speak these words: If I'd only brought my 65# longbow (or recurve) I probably would have got that one.

I honestly believe most every UBM member wants to keep the old ways (traditional archery) alive for all their kids, grandkids and theirs. How many of us grew up on a farm when your family was pretty much self sufficient? And what's happened to those farms? Will we ever get those times back? No. Highly unlikely. Because the bigger money ran them out. Just like bigger money and the greed for it is costing us today.

NASP? Great bunch of folks. If you don't want your kids shooting or trying a stick bow at school. Wake up! They and others like them do not have the kids in mind. Except to make a buck off them when they become older, have only shot a wheely bow and their young teenager or adult minds see all the gadgets and crap they "think" they have to have on a bow to be successful in the field or woods. Sadly we don't have Fred Bear here with us today. I bet he and Ben Pearson would be quick to donate some of their recurves and longbows to see a youngster try one out in hopes they fall in love with the simpler form of archery.

For those of you who want to argue about

UBM becoming an all Traditional state organization because you own and shoot a compound bow, and those of you who have youngsters old enough to start or get their own bow, did you or are you buying them a wheely bow or a stick bow? I'm guessing, if you aren't all traditional already, you bought them a wheely bow along with all the gadgets. If not then it was likely an older traditional only archer/bow hunter who gave, loaned or found a stick bow for your kid. Seen it happen many times over.

So why is traditional archery better? It's not if you're wanting to take those risky 60-70 yard shots. Or want the biggest and most in game. I've seen this kind of unethical behavior on several TV outdoor shows. I won't argue the fact I've even watched Fred Eichler take some shots many of us wouldn't dream of. But most of his shots end with positive results.

I've never owned a compound bow and never will. Because I have that choice I will always shoot traditional bows and arrows. It doesn't matter to me if it's a self bow, a static recurve made from Osage, a straight longbow made from hickory or ash, or a composite, laminated recurve or longbow with reflex/deflex. I'll always shoot PO cedar shafts, hopefully made myself as long as I can do so. And, I became a Life Member of UBM from believing most of it's members felt the same way as I do. I too want to keep traditional archery alive for many years to come. By passing it on. All of my family members (wife, kids, grandkids, step sons, step daughters & in laws) shoot traditional bows and arrows. My oldest Son is a member of IBA (Indiana Bowhunters Association) and was President of that organization for several years yet remains on their Board of Directors. My Father, who has since passed away, at the age of 75 tried bow hunting for his first time with a lower weight recurve (Bear Kodiak Take Down w/ 45# limbs and PO cedar arrows and back quiver I made him). He didn't harvest anything but he did say he liked being in the woods when it was quiet and everyone wasn't running off the deer with close by rifle shots. I have a picture of him with the bow w/back quiver on with the arrows in my den which I cherish.

Every October we hold our annual Olson Family Traditional Bow Shoot. Balloons to shoot at for the kids and adults.

Being a traditional bow hunter doesn't mean you have to shoot with a self bow and arrows made from river cane or dogwood with a knapped stone point and a self nock. What it doesn't mean is using any bow which uses cables, wheels, pulleys, lasers, rangefinders, any device which locks the arrow once drawn to be released by a mechanical device. It means KISS (Keeping It simple Stupid). Nor use of plastics (vanes on shafts), expandable Brodhead's, tracking strings.

To me traditional archery means using a bow without wheels, cables or technology which reduces the need of an archer to develop and maintain both physical and mental skills to be an ethical bow hunter. This includes the woodsman skills used while bow hunting. No game seeking device which detects heat. No string to follow because one lacks skills in tracking a blood trail or a wounded game animals trail if there's little or no blood for a definite recovery. Using skills in case of injury to you or a fellow bow hunter so you or they don't become a statistic to be used later by anti hunters. To have and use skills to dress the game animal harvested in a way there is no waste from improper or timely dressing and care for the animal. Having and using the skills to use as much as possible parts non edible parts of that animal to make your own equipment be they antlers mounted on your den wall to hang hunting clothes, bows, quivers, hats, etc. Using the wing feathers of your wild turkey to make feather fletching for your own arrows, Using the wing bones to make your own turkey call. And the list goes on. Most of all it's being an ethical hunter who teaches and practices those same ethics to youngsters, fellow bow hunters and friends. One who sets the example others desire to follow. One who chooses to do it the hard way by carrying a stick bow to the woods. One who gets more satisfaction from being in the woods rather than dragging something out of the woods.

Other reasons for traditional archery is

desirable: A stick bow is light. A stick bow is quiet and sometimes needs only two pcs of wool or rubber to silence the string noise. If tuned right it doesn't cost more to tune one to shooting accuracy. Stick bows don't need limb savers. Stick bows do normally require feather fletching on arrows. Stick bow strings can be made by yourself with a little time and effort. Stick bow equipment can be made by yourself using only a little time and patience. Something wheely bow users often lack. That's why they purchase their ready for the woods bows, bow quivers, lighted sights, bow scopes, arrows, etc. Stick bows require physical endurance and strength. Once acquired one can become very accurate. Stick bow users can make their own Brodhead and blunt points. If you drop a stick bow it'll still shoot as it did before unless a limb is cracked or broken. Even if ya bump it. A used stick bow doesn't cost as much as most wheely bows. Most anyone able to draw your stick bow can shoot it fairly accurately. Stick bows have their own character. If you order a custom sick bow it's unlikely anyone else will have one just like it. If you buy a wheely bow chances are 20,000 or more will own one just like it.

And the argument can go on and on. If this and Dennis Voss' article don't cause a lot of articles to follow in future issues I'll be surprised. I only hope that most will take the stand, refrain by being politically correct and not wanting to offend anyone (stand for something).

If you want to argue the word traditional fine. I would like a vote be put to members and we'll see where we stand and what we do stand for. If the outcome of the vote is not to your liking, then I encourage those to either join an organization which you can stand by 100% or form your own organization.

I am a Life Time Member of UBM. I became a Charter Member of Compton's when it was first organized. I've been a traditional archer/bow hunter since the age of 7 when a kind Uncle of mine gave me a youngsters fiberglass longbow and barred wild turkey feathers fletched on my arrows in 1957. Before that I too had a kids bow complete with the rubber tipped arrows. I'd like to see a decent certificate available for those of us

who are Life Time Members, perhaps at a small cost with the members name, a small UBM decal on it fit for framing in an 8x10 frame, signed by President and Vice President and Secretary of UBM showing date they became a LT Member. \$10 would seem right and would likely help raise funds for kids projects and if made attractive enough it may also encourage others to become LT members.

I'd also like to see (was mentioned once but no interest at the time) a 'Fallen Arrow' Board: a 4'x8' pc of plywood covered with black felt material. When a member of UBM passes away a friend or family member or both can donate \$10 to UBM to cover cost of a name plate with the members name and the friend or family donate that deceased members favorite arrow. Be it one the deceased member made his or herself, one a friend made for the deceased but one that deceased member used for field, target or bow hunting. Metal arrow clips (2/arrow can likely be donated by Mike Horton or purchased in large quantities at cost). It can be displayed at each UBM Festival for others to view, pay respects and remember hunts and friendship with those on the Fallen Arrows Board.

I agree with Dennis Voss. We DO need to take a stand. I'd also feel much better if we became a traditional only state organization rather than to regret watching some of our UBM members drift to a new one which is traditional only. I've paid my Life Membership dues so would naturally remain a member of UBM. But if one were to organize a state Traditional Only organization, I would join it in a minute (or less).

We don't have to change our name or logo. We would simply and proudly announce we are a traditional only state organization, supporting the same things we did before only now we're more open and are taking a stand for traditional archery. I'll stand with Dennis and anyone else who would like to see UBM become a State Traditional Archery Organization. Write and send your views to the Editor. Regardless his views I'm sure he'll still print them.

Stand for something and stand together.

Sincerely,
Ken Olson

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Who Are The United Bowhunters?

And What Is The Future Of The United Bowhunters of Missouri.

by Joe Pendergrass

In regards to the exchange of ideas from Dennis Voss and myself in the last issue, the United Bowhunter publication has gotten some feedback from the membership on both sides of that topic. You will find those correspondence in the pages of this issue. This feedback is exactly what this organization needs in order to set a course and stay on target, whatever that target may be. I have been a member for several years now and a large portion of that as a lifetime member, but I have often wondered if I would outlive this organization. With some of the e-mail and letters that have come in to me and through the Board, the debate of "Trad only", seems to have gotten membership talking. I encourage all of you to keep the conversation going. Pros and cons, the good and the bad, what is your idea of what the United Bowhunters are all about. As long as there are people wanting to speak their point, this publication will be your voice.

I love this organization for the stance it has on conservation, sportsmanship, education and community outreach, but is that enough? Does the state of Missouri need a traditional archery only organization to protect the rights of trad guys? What are our rights as trad guys? Twenty five years ago when the UBM was established, there was a legitimate fear the traditional archery was on the way out of not only popularity but maybe even face legality issues. Today, I know that I can go to any Missouri 3D shoot and shoot my traditional equipment if I want. I know that I can use my longbows or recurves to hunt or bowfish without special permits from those already established for archery methods. I wish that there were more opportunities available to get out and show the public the joys of a simple stick and string but that all comes back to us as an organization. We as an organization, need to always be promoting the values that we hold to as a group and through those

conversations we can then talk to potential members about the love of stick and string and a simpler way of enjoying the outdoors.

Missouri has a rich history with archery. Missouri is also blessed to have a wonderful Department of Conservation that supports archery (of all types) and allows hunters to practice our sport through hunting for one of the longest seasons in the U.S. Missouri is also blessed to have two archery organizations, both looking out for sportsmen and educating the public about our sport in different ways. One of the "hot topics" in the past few years (actually several) has been the crossbow debate in Missouri archery season. I know 100% where the UBM stands on that debate. I honestly don't know where MBH stands officially on that issue, however I do know several members of MBH and most of them are against crossbows in the Missouri archery hunting season. Crossbows are a legitimate threat to not only traditional archery but modern as well. This is a point where we should be trying to combine our forces if possible.

In continuing with that open conversation, here are a few more things to think about.

1.) If the UBM membership does take the official stance to establish ourselves as a traditional archery only club, what will be our position on the National Archery in the Schools Program (NSAP). Will we still contribute financially to the program? Will we still send volunteers to the State shoot? Would it be a conflict of interest?

2.) Where is the cutoff going to fall on equipment used by our members? In the early establishment of the UBM, we adopted to use another organization's regulations. Now 25 years later, that organization has modified their rules, which in turn, have adjusted ours. What will another 25 years hold. We have no

idea what the future holds in materials used to make equipment or the technology that will be involved in even making trad bows more marketable to the public. Would we allow members to shoot aluminum and carbon arrows or make them adhere to a strict wood arrow policy. Over 200 years ago the Penobscot Native American tribe developed the "Penobscot Bow", which used a double set of limbs to multiply the force that they could shoot an arrow and give them an advantage. Where they wrong for trying to make a "better bow" . . . was it better? In the late 1960's, Holless Allen developed the first compound bow right here in Missouri, I don't think that he had the ill intentions of destroying traditional archery and I think that most of you would jumped at the opportunity to meet him if he was still around because of the history he started. Would Ishi (pre Pope and Young for those not up to date in your archery history) have looked at the bows that many of our UBM members hold in their hands today and cast us down on use of modern tools, fiberglass laminates and rubber brush buttons. I think if he would have had the chance to pick up one of Mike Dunaway's, Wild Horse Creek bows, he would have marveled at the beauty in it's craftsmanship and it's shooting performance. If Ishi would have gotten to take a tour of Black Widow Bows in Nixa, would he have walked around with his nose in the air in disgust that they could make more bows in a week than he could make in a lifetime? Or would he have studied the tools, methods and designs and tried to make a better bow himself?

Archers on both sides of the debate of traditional archery vs. modern archery can argue until the cows come home about the other side's detriment to the sport. I know modern archery shooters that HATE! the idea of stick and string. They have seen the "trad guys" flinging arrows and they can't hit the broad side of a barn.

They have been teased about training wheels or even given rude looks from the "elites". I also know that we have members in this club that HATE! the idea of modern archery. Some have never owned or even shot a modern bow, yet think they can make a fair comparison. You hear the reasons of; there is too much advantage, or it makes for sloppy hunting or lazy shooters, or even . . . they can't hit the broad side of a barn. I know guys on both sides that should hang up their bows and stick with a rifle. The debate of what is the best method will never be solved but it will continue to be argued for years to come.

I want you to think back to the Rendezvous, the UBM Festivals and events and to the membership of those in attendance. Now take a closer look at who the active members are. In another 25 years, are the ranks of the UBM going to be even thinner than they are now? Will the average member age be in the 60's instead of the 40's? Will there be a UBM? If the UBM changes over to the UTBM, will there be enough trad shooters that are committed to being in a club and continuing to do the things that make this a great organization? This is my concern, that if the UBM separates itself and not support archery as a sport and only as traditional archery, will we have modern or traditional methods available to us in 25 years? Between declining numbers of hunters and busy schedules, the sad but true statement is that we are not gaining a lot of ground in front of the public as hunters. If the right (actually wrong) group of folks continue to gain and hold positions that dictate what we do and how we do it, we may not be enjoying bowhunting period, let alone be needing to classify ourselves into one group or another.

I shoot both traditional and modern archery, as well as my daughter and wife. I love both types for different reason. I also hold them to different standards and I hold myself to different standards when shooting those bows. It's not the bow that makes the shooter. Yes the equipment is an extension of the shooter

but the best bow in the world does not allow crappy shooter hit the mark. And most good shooters can usually pick up most ANY bow and get "in the zone" within a small window of shots. I don't expect to shoot 2 inch groups at 50 yards with my my recurve but I do expect to do that with my compound (if I practice a BUNCH). However, for me, I would never take a shot at a pheasant in flight or rabbit on the run with my compound, that's a job for my longbow. With my traditional or modern equipment, I have never shot at an actual animal further than 29 yards.

The big picture! I will be a supportive lifetime member of the UBM, no matter what avenue the next year has in store. Not because of the equipment that members tend to use, but because I believe that the (current) mission of the UBM is to unite bowhunters, educate the public, protect the sport (and traditions) and most importantly, have fun doing all of those things. I don't think we will have anyone that is going to "jump ship" once something has been established either. The points that I will continue to promote will be the values that this organization stands for, not what most folks tend to use to get that point across.


On a side note: have you ever noticed that Amish and Menonite hunters will use a modern action firearm but then have to load the deer in the back of their wagon. Why don't they only use muzzleloaders? Here in Columbia, at Bass Pro, I see a lot of Amish men buying compond bows and the accesories involved with modern archery. Kind of weird isn't it . . .



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My First Traditional Harvest

By Tim R. Wirt

The story of my first traditional harvest has a bit of a unique beginning. I know that most hunting stories begin either in a hunting camp with buddies or in someone's living room when the idea for an upcoming hunt hits. Mine starts in a hospital room. As many of you know, I missed the Festival in Jefferson City because I was in the hospital with pneumonia. My brother, Mike, and my buddy, John Banderman, came to visit me the day after the festival to try and lift my spirits. They told me that Tom Dickerson had put in the winning bid for the Ontario black bear hunt that he had gone on the previous year and Tom had invited us all along. They then asked if I'd be interested. It took all of two seconds for me to say "Heck Yeah". My spirits were officially lifted, to say the least.

Throughout the rest of winter and all through spring we all went on business as usual. Turkey season came and went (Mike and I were fortunate enough to both score on nice gobblers) and then we all headed down to Mississippi for the Jerry Pierce Traditional shoot where we camped with Tom and his son-in-law, Justin (among others) and before long talk turned to our upcoming bear hunt. Justin showed us the video of the bear he'd taken last year while Tom filmed it and it was, literally, the coolest thing I'd ever seen (for anyone who has not seen it, it's on the UBM Facebook page-check it out. It's AWESOME!!!). That really got us all fired up and, from that point on, our August bear hunt wasn't far from our thoughts.

Not too long after Mississippi, Tom started e-mailing us telling us what we would need to bring and basically what to expect. For anyone who hasn't been lucky enough to go on a hunt with Tom, let me just say, WOW! That man is extremely thorough in his research and had all the information we could possibly need. I mean all we had to do was open e-mails and count the days. He knew how much of what we could bring across the border, he knew the price of tags and where to get them; he even found and reserved our hotel rooms for us to stay in on the way up. Like I said, we just opened e-mails and counted days; he did most everything else. Around late July the e-mails started to include game camera pictures of bears sent to Tom from our outfitter, Doug Park of Wolf River Bear Baits. This, of course, sent our excitement level into the stratosphere.

Finally, after what seemed like years of waiting, we were on the way to Canada. We all caravanned on the way up with John, Mike, and I following Tom, Mike Callahan, and Tom's friend, Todd Burns. We met up with Tom and company in Troy around 7:00am, had a good breakfast and were off. We made it to Duluth, Minnesota around 7:30 pm where we met up with Larry Hesterly and Max Medsker. After a good night's sleep we were up with the sun and back on the road. We hit Dorion, Ontario around 1:00 pm and found out we had to drive 80+ miles back to Thunder Bay to get our bear tags. The place in Dorion decided at the last minute



The first bear that John, Mike, and I saw in Canada.

not to sell them this year. So, after a 160 mile detour and an absolute headache at the sporting goods store where we bought our tags, we were back at Doug's house and ready to go see our home for the next week.

The cabin we stayed in was on the bank of a beautiful lake and had more than enough room for the eight of us. We hurried and got our gear unpacked and then Doug and his buddy, Hans, came by to show us our bait sites and help us hang stands. Doug took Tom, both Mikes, and me to our stands and Hans took Todd, Larry, Max, and John. After setting up our stands, most of the work being done by Tom, we were back at camp for a late supper and then to bed. The next morning, John, Mike, and I followed Doug and Todd to bait a few more sites. On the way back to camp we saw our first bear. A huge bear was sitting in the middle of the road and even stayed put long enough for us snap a few pics. That had us fired up and ready for our first evening on stand.

We left camp in Tom's truck and dropped Mike and Mike off at their stands then we unloaded Tom's four-wheeler and headed to our baits another 6 miles or so away. Tom not only gave me a ride right to my stand, he even baited it for me while I strung my bow and got ready. He then told me he'd be back at dark, wished me luck, and headed to his own spot. I was in bear woods and I was loving it! While in Thunder Bay, buying tags, I used my debit card to pay and was told I'd have to buy something to offset the cost of running my card so I decided to buy a "bear bomb". For those of you who don't know, this is like a bug fogger that dispenses scent. This particular one was cake frosting scent and it smelled just like a bakery. The directions said to spray the brush where you want the bear to stop and then to depress and hold the button down to let the can empty out. I set the can on the bait barrel and climbed into my stand, hooked up my safety belt, and pulled up my bow. Just then, the bomb finished spraying and quiet returned to the woods. Five minutes later, it rained like heck. Great, 6 bucks down the drain!

After being on stand for about an hour and a half I saw some movement in the trees to my left. A few minutes later a bear stepped into the clearing I was watching. To say I was shook up would be a gross understatement. I couldn't have shot that bear if she'd climbed my tree and slapped me across the face. I was a wreck!!!

The bear would approach the bait then run back into the woods only to come back out again and repeat the whole thing, turning my heart into a thudding jackhammer in my chest. This went on for about 15 minutes then the bear drifted off and stayed gone for a while. The bear came back in after about 45 minutes and finally knocked over the barrel and began to feed; on the other side of the barrel from me, of course. Then the rain really started to fall and the bear melted off into the brush again leaving me wondering if I'd missed my only opportunity.

About an hour and a half later, at around 7:35 (Canadian time) I caught movement off to my left. The bear enters the clearing again and walks right past the barrel and stands broadside at about 25 yards. I consider taking the shot even though it's a little farther than I'd like but it's a wide open shot and I feel confident I could've made it. As I'm getting ready to start my draw, the bear turns and goes right to the barrel and lays down to eat; on the other side of the barrel again, ARGHH!!! This goes on for what seems like two years (but is really only 2 or 3 minutes) then the bear stands up and takes a few steps putting it quartering away at about 15 yards. I've heard a lot of people say that they don't remember drawing their bow or the shot. Not me; I remember everything. I remember starting my draw and stopping when the bear turned its head. I remember hitting my anchor and holding it for a second to be absolutely sure I was focusing on the spot, and I remember releasing the arrow and watching it fly through the air like a dart and disappearing right where I was looking. I remember all of that and will until ten years after they put me in the ground. The bear ran off into the woods and I could see all but the feathers on my arrow hanging out the other side. Then the shakes start and they don't stop for an hour. When I calm down enough, I check the shot on camera and start to shake all over again.

Tom showed up at about 9:40 (he was trapped in his stand by a cub and was worried momma was around) and didn't even have to ask if I'd seen anything; he could tell by my face. We then road back and got the two Mikes and Doug and started the tracking job. A couple of things about blood trailing a bear: First, they don't bleed for crap. Second, the vegetation up there is like nothing this Missouri boy has ever seen. Talk about THICK!!! After a nerve-wracking couple of hours and traveling less than 100 yards, Doug calls me over to over to look at the last blood found and tells me that we'll have to try to find the bear tomorrow and blah, blah, blah. He was standing just 10 feet from my bear but just had to mess with me. I let out the world's loudest victory yell and put my hands on my bear for the first time. What a feeling! Words can't describe it, so I won't even try other than to say it was like nothing I've ever felt before.



We had to go back to the truck to get the sled to drag her out and on the way up the hill my lungs all but gave out on me. At that point, Mike and Tom decided that I was not going back down to my bear and that they'd drag her out for me (Tom made the comment about not wanting to have to drag me out too). I owe a huge debt to Tom, both Mikes, and of course Doug for all the help with tracking and getting my bear out. I don't know if they'll ever know how much I appreciate it. Thanks Guys!!! You're the best!!!

For anyone who's considering a Canadian bear hunt, you should contact Doug Park at Wolf River Bear Baits. His operation is top-shelf. He had plenty of baits for all of us, with a few extra in case anyone wanted to change spots. He arranged for us to stay in our cabin on the lake and he was relentless in helping us find our bears after the shot. Doug's a real class act, from top to bottom, and I look forward to hunting with him again.

Great hunting, good friends (both old and new), and of course taking my first big game animal with a traditional bow, not to mention that the bow was made by John and me, all of this combined to make for an unforgettable trip and a whole bunch of memories that will last a life time.

For information on an amazing hunt be sure to contact Doug Park.

His contact information is:

Doug Park-Wolf River Bear Baits
RR #1, Dorion, ON P0T 1K0, Canada
(807) 857-2942 - dpark4@msn.com

www.unitedbowhunters.com

5th Annual Sheepeater's Greater Ozark Mountain Squirrel Hunt

***When: December 2-4, 2011
(open Board meeting on Saturday the 3rd @ noon.)***

***Where: Brian & Jo Ann Peterson's
Brushy Mountain Ranch***

Activities: Good Food, Drink, and Camaraderie around the Campfire.

100's of Acres of Squirrel Hunting Woods

(Assuming the Bushytails Cooperate).

Mini-3D Course with Aerials

Pot-Luck Meal Saturday Night

(Roast Lamb, Squirrel Stew, Home Brew Provided).

Primitive Camping/Camper Trailers Welcome

Port-O-Potty on Site (Remember, it is December!)

***Google 2933 State Hwy KK, Cedar creek, Missouri for directions,
or Contact Brian Peterson (417) 794-3417, bpeterson007@centurytel.net***

***Check the UBM Website for Details Closer to the Event
(www.unitedbowhunters.com)***

Discovering Archery

by Joe Pendergrass

With the combined effort of several archery-based groups here in Missouri, the first annual Discover Archery Day, held in Columbia was a huge success.

Members from the United Bowhunters of Missouri, Mike Callahan, Tom Dickerson, Ron Mackenberg and Jay Faherty, lent a helping hand on August 13, 2011 to promote the UBM and archery, as a family friendly activity. With the UBM members help, forty kids went home with PVC bows that day and many more with the plans and material list to build them at home on their own. I have had several reports from attendees of the event that their children are hooked on shooting those bows that they received and that they are looking for more equipment to purchase so they can enjoy archery together as a family.

The other archery related groups included NASP, 4H, Missouri Bow Hunters, National Field Archery Association, the Missouri Atlatl Association, the Columbia Area Archers, the Millersburg Archery Club, American Legion Post 202 Shooting Team and the Conservation Federation of Missouri. The event also included a couple archery manufacturers demonstrating new products as well as Lanham Bows and two self-bow builders.

The main reason for the event was to show the City of Columbia that archery is a popular sport and it's growing in mid-Missouri. With the growing interest, Columbia needs to make plans to accommodate the increase in participation that the National Archery in the School Program (NASP) will draw. Increased facilities here in Columbia for practice locations and opening more public parks for hunting is our goal as a local club. The event was free and open to the public and the citizens of Boone County came out in a great wave. Over the day, we estimated about 350 people attended and participated in some way. In addition to the information that was available about different types of archery opportunities in the state, the day included a full 3D course, bowfishing demo on the lake and kids balloon shoot. The city was very pleased with not only the turnout for the event but the professionalism of everyone in attendance and the vendors. The event coordinators are all ready looking to hold the event again next summer and make the Discover Archery Day event a yearly project.

The host club, the Columbia Area Archers, were able to put this event together in about 3 months and for a budget of less than \$200 due to sponsor contributions. With more time to plan for next year and a slightly increased budget, the Columbia Area Archers hope to TRIPLE attendance.

If your local club or UBM district would like to know more about how to put an event like this on in your area, give me a call and I would love to share in more detail with you what we did and what we will do in the future.



Thanks again to the UBM for helping make this event a HUGE success. Working together as ARCHERS, we can continue to protect the sport that we all enjoy and share it with future generations.

Deaf Camp 2011

“It was the hottest of times, it was the driest of times”; that’s how the weather is normally during the Family Outdoor Skills Camp for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Children. And since it is held on the first weekend in August at the H. Roe Bartle Boy Scout Reservation near Osceola, MO, one should expect nothing different. The 2011 version, however, treated the participants to a mostly-cloudy sky and the occasional brief rain shower. This meteorological combination kept the temperatures in the balmy 90’s instead of the 100 degrees plus that had been predicted. Regardless of the weather conditions, the UBM volunteers for this event always have a good time and come home feeling like they helped make a difference in a child’s life.

For those of you who don’t know much about what we call “Deaf Camp”, it’s an event put together by the Missouri Department of Conservation for the children who attend the Missouri School for the Deaf and their families. The camp goes from a Friday evening to Sunday afternoon and campers can participate in a wide range of outdoor activities including canoeing, spelunking, rock wall climbing, trap shooting, and our favorite; archery. Volunteers make up the entire staff at the camp and for many of the kids who come, it’s the only special thing that they get to do all summer. All meals are provided for everyone and the staff gets to stay in comfy cabins that have a kitchen, a bathroom, and most importantly...AIR CONDITIONING!

UBM board member, Dennis Voss, has been a champion of this cause since its inception ten years ago and he is the guy who organizes our participation in the camp every summer. I guess the reason Dennis loves this camp so much is because he can easily relate to the children who attend it. No, Mr. Voss has no hearing impairment. But his wife and friends will all tell you that he certainly does not listen to a thing they say.

The first wave of kids shows up at the archery station after we have lunch on Saturday. That gives the UBM folks time to set up the field archery range, and the 3D course that encircles it, that morning. It also gives us time to shoot a few arrows of our own just to make sure that the equipment is in proper working order. Because once the

campers and their parents start arriving, it’s work, work, work until supper is served that evening. Well, I guess you can say that, if you define messing with kids, bows, and arrows as “work”. Judging by all the grins and laughter on display, I would say that our archery instructors don’t think that way.

One of the coolest things that I get out of Deaf Camp is seeing the same children year after year. You remember them and they remember you and you get to catch up on what they’ve been doing for the past year. For instance, there’s a little girl I met three years ago named



Riley who really impressed me with her shooting skill. But why I really remember her is because of what she told me after a comment was made about her “just being a girl” by some boys that were shooting. Come to find out, Miss Riley is a second degree blackbelt in karate and was, at that time, the reigning state champion in her division. Fortunately, for those boys, she is also a forgiving soul and no bones were broken during our tour of the 3D course. Since then, I always make a point to visit with her and find out what she has been up to.

Another neat thing I have experienced is helping a parent shoot a bow for the first time. Most of the kids are repeat customers but their mom or dad may have not have ever partaken because of embarrassment or because they thought they weren’t allowed. It’s always a treat to get one of these folks out on the range, allay their fears, and show them how much fun archery can be. More than once, after a positive shooting experience, have I heard a parent say that they need to get some equipment now so they and their children can shoot at home. It’s that kind of thinking that brings more hunters into our ranks and it makes me feel good that I might have played a small part in that decision.

Sunday morning of the camp starts with a good breakfast and then more arrow flinging until mid-day. Then it’s time to break down the range and head over to the mess hall for lunch. It’s a festive atmosphere there with door prizes given away and kids and staff



saying goodbye. UBM members all wish each other good luck on their upcoming hunts and then everyone goes back to their personal Ponderosa. You're usually dirty and tired and smell like the hindquarters of a dead skunk but you have a smile on your face that takes a while to wear off and you are already planning for next year's camp.

So mark it on your calendar, dear reader; August 2012 – Deaf Camp. If you've never attended, I promise you that you won't be disappointed. It's a good cause, with good people, and you get to pass on our passion for archery to the next generation.



MEET A MEMBER

Rod Sharpe

by Ron Mackenberg

Home is Desoto, Mo.

He and his wife Sandy have no children.

Retired after 30 years as a science teacher.

I caught up with Rod while he was attempting to shoot each of Mike Dunaway's bows from his Wild Horse Creek booth during our Rendezvous in Herman, Mo.

Rod has been a member of UBM for 10 years. He has been bowhunting since 1961. Rod credits his start in archery to Phil Amsler in Brownsville, Texas. Phil had an archery shop Rod worked for him after Phil got him started shooting.

Rod started out hunting Javelina and Jack Rabbits there.

He started hunting deer after he moved to Arkansas and Missouri.

Even though he enjoys deer hunting squirrel hunting the most. You get lots of action.

Rod's first kill was a ground squirrel, The local archery club in TX. Had organized a hunt on the golf course to help them eradicate some of the pests.

One of Rod's most memorable hunts was on Ft. Leonard Wood. He shot a deer early and thought it was a poor hit. It turned out it wasn't a bad shot and found the deer within fifty yards of the shot.

Rod has taken 5 deer with his bow. As mentioned earlier he has hunted Texas, Arkansas, and Missouri. Rod has not hunted any other big game.

Rod shoots a 45 to 50 pound bow. He has made several a couple



of selfbows with Osage and Bamboo. He makes some of his wood arrows. Rod prefers a single blade broadhead and arrows weighing 9 to 10 grains per pound of bow weight.

People in archery that Rod looks up to are Phil Amsler, and Ben Pearson. Rod was able to attend an exhibition by Ben at his Pine Bluff Arkansas factory.

Rod doesn't rely on camo clothes too much, mostly just plaids and green clothes. He uses no scents. Rod hunts from the ground.

Advice: Keep encouraging the kids to shoot. We need more young people involved. Give equipment away to get them involved.

UBM: Good organization, especially like that it serves the needs of us traditional archers.

I enjoyed talking to Rod. The interview started just before the clouds built. We moved to my camper as a few drops of rain fell. Then scrambled to the building when the wind picked up and the clouds were rotating. Luckily we finished just in time for the UBM meeting.

To Move or Not To Move

Brian Peterson, President and Darren Haverstick, Vice-President

This summer, Darren and I traveled to the Lake of the Ozarks to be wooed by the Inn at Grand Glaize who is anxious to be the future host of the UBM Festival and Banquet. UBM has held their annual Festival in Jeff City at the Truman Hotel (formerly the Ramada Inn) for as long as I can remember and they have certainly treated us well. The question is, after 25 years, is it time for a change; stir things up a bit; get some fresh perspective, etc.? UBM, like other groups is constantly trying to adapt to the needs of its membership. While we are admittedly a traditional-minded bunch not necessarily predisposed to change, would this be a good move for the club? Would it bring in more or fewer attendees? There are obviously as many cons to the argument as pros, but like all major decisions that affect UBM, this requires some input from the membership. Here's a quick overview of what we saw:



First, the Inn at Grand Glaize is a smaller facility than the Truman, situated on the shores of Lake of the Ozarks. It is 35 minutes south of Jeff City on Hwy 54. At first glance, the facility is more modern

and intimate than the Truman and the layout is very "user-friendly". All of our events can be easily accommodated on one floor and while it could be considered a little more "cozy", the main concern is that the banquet room can only handle a maximum of 200 diners. Typically this is not an issue, but there have been a year or two in the past that I can remember a banquet of over 200 guests. The I@GG assures us that they can offer creative solutions should that situation arise. Otherwise, the spaces suggested for each activity seem quite satisfactory if not perfectly suited.

We also toured the entire facility, including the guest rooms (which were quite nice and modern) and restaurant which was reasonably priced and quite tasty. They offer a breakfast buffet for around \$10



both Saturday and Sunday and there is a bar located inside that is open when the restaurant is. Parking is tiered as would be expected in Lake Country, but we are assured that the lot is plowed in the winter and there is plenty of parking for trailers and larger vehicles. Access to the Vendors Room for loading is tight and involves either a small freight elevator or one flight of stairs, but guests enter the main floor at the lobby/restaurant and would go down one floor to the event area. We would have the entire event floor dedicated to UBM.

Cost is comparable to what we are currently paying—the guest rooms only \$1 more at \$58, and when you break down the meal/menu costs, the I@GG actually comes in slightly less. They have our traditional first weekend of February available as well as the third weekend of February if UBM really wants to stir things up.

As to whether this is a change the UBM is up for or even needs, again it would be most helpful to have some input from the membership. Surveys are all fine and dandy, but a good old fashioned call or e-mail to one of us to express your opinion would be helpful. Should we decide we want to pursue the move, we need to vote on the issue at the December meeting (at the Greater Ozark Mountain Squirrel Hunt in Cedar creek; first weekend of December) and commit one way or the other to both hotels shortly after. Think hard and let us know.

Vice President's Report

by Darren Haverstick



Fall 2011

Now is the time of year that we have all been waiting for! Bugs, heat and mowing grass will all soon be a distant, bitter

memory. A lot of you have already been to someplace cooler and tried your hand at killing something. Me? No, I have stayed put in the Show-Me State and tried my best to keep my personal debt ceiling as low as possible. I am planning a trip to Tennessee later this fall, however, to chase their whitetails around for a few days on a friend's farm in the eastern part of the state. With a little luck, I will bring home some fresh meat and, once again, be the big hero at the Haverstick Home.

This summer found the UBM involved in several different archery-related events around the state. I helped out at Deaf Camp in August and it was a blast as always. Thanks to all of you who volunteer to bear the UBM standard at these different activities and I strongly encourage all our members to give it a try sometime. I promise you that you will get waaay more out of it than what you put in. We are involved in camps, clinics, etc. just about year-round so contact your favorite board member or area representative to find out what you can do.

This past July, Brian Peterson and I visited the Inn of the Grand Glaize on the beautiful Lake of the Ozarks to see what they had to offer as a possible venue for the UBM Festival. They had been pestering Brian for a while so we thought we should at least hear and see what they had to offer. I admit that I approached the meeting with a great deal of skepticism and reluctance. However, after a tour of the facility and a bunch of questions, I started to come around to their way of thinking.

The place was nice, the food was good, everything was all in one place, and the cost was comparable to what we are currently paying the Truman Hotel. It's on the lake, with all it has to offer, and that might draw more people. Plus, it's still somewhat centrally located in the state. Don't get your hackles up yet, though, no decision has been made one way or the other about moving the festival and the 2012 event will still be in Jefferson City at the Truman.

Speaking of the festival, I have already gotten the seminar and speaker lineup taken care of and it is a dandy! For seminars, we will have our own Larry and Brenda Hudson share their Alaska bear hunt with us on Friday night. For Saturday, I have Traditional Bowhunting magazine founder, T.J. Conrads giving a seminar, along with TBM contributors Nathan Andersohn and Bryce Lambley. Rounding out the day will be Ron Mackenberg showing us some tips on building bamboo-backed bows. And for the finale, we have the wildly entertaining Monty Browning as our banquet speaker. It's our 25th anniversary this year so I tried to pull out all the stops. We want to break attendance records so make sure and drag 20 or 30 of your closest friends along with you. Also, we are always looking for new vendors so if you know of anyone who might be interested in setting up a booth, PLEASE contact me or Dennis Voss about it.

Well, folks, that's all the news that's fit to print or that I can think of. I hope each of you has to buy a new chest freeze just to hold all the game you kill this season. Make sure and post your stories and photos on our website (www.unitedbowhunters.com) and do not hesitate to give me a holler about anything UBM or hunting related. Our operators are standing by!

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Web: taxidermy-services.com/CuttingEdge.htm

Southeast Taxidermy
Mike Goodwin
Owner
1019 County Road 335
Jackson, MO 63755
573-243-7368
Fax: 573-243-6967

Thunder Mountain Longbows
Rich Haffner
573 760 1070
Rich@TMBows.com www.TMBows.com

Relentless Pursuit

by Robert North

?15 years ago my dad set out on a quest to kill an elk with a Recurve. It was simple enough said that there was no reason it should not be a quest he could not complete. 15 years later we sit here and he still has the same goal. Most people do not understand what it takes to kill an elk, let alone try to kill one with a Recurve. We have elk hunted the same place in Glenwood Springs, CO for 4 years now and every year we get into elk, we just can't seem to close the deal. For 3 years now we have watched elk feed in the same meadow and last year we finally found a way to it. We built a ground blind and I unfortunately missed a cow out of it. This year we had the intentions of building our ground blind as soon as possible so we could hunt it opening day. After spending an hour gathering all our necessary material, we put it all together and it was ready to be hunted.

?Opening day came and my dad was up first and I was behind the camera. I knew he had dreamed of killing an elk with his Recurve so I really wanted to see him get it done. He hunted the first day and a half with no luck. So I was up and ready to hunt. We got setup about 4:30 and anticipated everything happening close to dark. With about an hour left till dark, a huge black bear strolled through our meadow and I was convinced that evening would be a bust. We stayed on the lookout for the bear the rest of the evening and as the light faded so did our hopes of killing an elk on this day. We began doing our closing interview, but still had enough light to film and shoot. As I was just finishing up my interview my dad, saw two bulls walking down the hill behind us and headed right for the upwind side of our blind. I grabbed my bow and waited for the bigger bull to walk behind a tree. I came to half draw and waited for him to step out. All the years my dad had chased those elk for this one moment was coming to life before my eyes. Almost in slow motion the bull takes two more steps and I knew right at then all of his hard work and the knowledge was about to pay off for me. I waited for his leg to move



forward and I came to full draw, picked my spot and the arrow was gone. It all was so instinctive that I had no doubt when I drew back the arrow would be perfect and it was. The bull ran 45 yards and stood for two minutes getting weaker every second. He finally bedded down and that was it. A quest my dad had set out to do so long ago actually happened for me. But you may be wondering "Why it is so important that this was what my dad had set out to do and the story is about my elk?" Well here is the reason. Over the past 15 years my dad has gained an abundance of knowledge and has put himself in the right spots but due to other factors has not got it done. Without my dad setting out on the journey, I never kill this amazing elk. He has passed down his knowledge to me and without that knowledge of how elk act, where to setup, and when or when not to call; we do not kill this elk. I am always one to give credit was due, but this time I really don't deserve the credit. I drew back and made the shot,

but it is the hidden hero in the story that made this really happen.

?We walked up on my bull and I think it was at that moment when I realized how amazing an elk is. As I put my hands on him for the first time a sense of accomplishment rushed over me, but also an overwhelming amount of respect for that bull. I think today many people really look at an animal as just something to kill, but to most hunters it is so much more than that. As I sat over him I thought of everything that led up to this and everything that brought this elk to this point. And then I bowed my head, put my hand on his chest and said a prayer....

2011 UBM Rendezvous in Hermann, MO



Board of Directors

Brian Peterson, President (2012)
3097 State Hwy KK
Cedar creek, MO 65627
(417) 794-3422
bpeterson007@centurytel.net

Darren Haverstick, Vice-President (2012)
10276 N. Farm Rd. 183,
Fair Grove, MO 65648
(417) 759-6522
dhaverstick@hughes.net

Dan Novotny, Treasurer (2013)
4658 Novotny Hill
Imperial, MO 63052
(636) 296-3876
dnovo@sbcglobal.net

Dennis Voss, Secretary (2012)
680 Becky Thatcher Dr
Union, MO 63084
(636) 583-4096
dennisjvoss1014@hotmail.com

Mike Calahan (2013)
130 Plumwood
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 335-3994
kcjc.cal@charter.net

Bret Shaw (2013)
1365 Hillsboro Rd.
High Ridge, MO 63049
(314) 703-3329
brsdvm@live.com

Robert North (2014)
2449 Sunset Drive
Barnhart, MO 63012
(314) 420-5439
hunter4life455@yahoo.com

Todd Goodman (2014)
504 Willow Grove Ct.
Troy, MO 63379
(636) 528-2278
tgoodman@centurytel.net

Jeff Scott, MDC Rep. (2011)
HC66 Box 370
Marble Hill, MO 63764
(573) 238-6561
scottspass@dishmail.net

Tom Dickerson, Bowhunter Ed
226 County Road 436
Jackson, MO 63755
(573) 243-7113
TRAD_5558@yahoo.com

Joe Pendergrass, Publication Editor
411 Purdy Lane
Columbia, MO 65201
(573) 368-1402
mrjgrass@hotmail.com

Brenda Hudson, Executive Secretary
Rt. 1 Box 196
Newtown, MO 64667
(660) 794-2591
larrydeanhudson@hotmail.com

UBM Contact Information



- 1. John Marriott**, 24435 State Hwy JJ, Clearmont, MO 64431 • (660) 778-3514 • marriott@unitedwb.coop
Max Medsker, 22363 State Hwy A, Graham, MO 64455 • 660-939-2257 • mjrmrmeds@grm.net
- 2. Duane Carroll**, 6091 Hwy 168, Palmyra, MO 63461 • (573) 769-3331
- 3. Jay Faherty**, 5734 N. Clinton Lane, Gladstone, MO 64119 • (816) 455-0617
- 4. Joe Pendergrass**, 411 N. Purdy Lane, Columbia, MO 65201 • (573) 368-1402 • mrjgrass@hotmail.com
- 5. John Banderman**, 1427 Ramey Road, St. Clair, MO 63077 • (636) 629-0161
Todd Goodman, 504 Willow Grove Ct., Troy, MO 63379 • (636) 528-2278
Steve Bostic, 4234 Dogwood Lake Ct., Wentzville, MO 63385 • (636) 828-4923 • stevenbostic@yahoo.com
Jim Pyles, 22815 Coffelt Rd., St. Mary, MO 63673 • (573) 543-5357 • jpetraditional@aol.com
- 6. To Be Announced**
- 7. Darren Haverstick**, 10276 N. Farm Rd 183, Fair Grove, MO 65648 • (417) 759-6522 • dhaverstick@hughes.net
Kevin Pinckney, 4017 S. Fairway, Springfield, MO 65804 • (417) 882-8590 • kparchery@yahoo.com
- 8. Bob Roach**, 19927 Bearclaw Rd., Eunice, MO 65468 • (417) 457-6248 • roachw@wildblue.net
Charles Jetel, RR 1 Box 439, Ellington, MO 63638, (573) 663-7244 • jetelfarm@hotmail.com
- 9. Mike Calahan**, 130 Plumwood, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701 • (573) 335-3994 • kcjc.cal@charter.net
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