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It is the purpose of The United Bowhunters of Missouri to support and upgrade the sport of bowhunting and foster a spirit of sportsmanship.

The United Bowhunter is published quarterly by The United Bowhunters of Missouri for the membership. This publication is a public forum available to the members to voice their ideas, concerns and to share their experiences.

Written materials, photos and artwork for publication are welcome. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelop with the materials you would like returned. The editors can assume no responsibility for any submitted materials.

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~ On The Cover ~

Larry Husdon with his 2010 Newfoundland bull moose.

**Deadlines for submitting copy and pictures to *The United Bowhunter*.
Feb. 15th — May 5th — Sept. 15th — Dec 5th**



From the Laptop

Brian Peterson,
President UBM

We made it! Another Festival for the record books. Despite twenty-plus inches of snow on the ground in Jeff City as the event started plus another 4" while we partied, the brave (or possibly foolhardy) bowhunters gathered to share stories, swap goods, listen to some good advice, and generally have a good time. I hope you were one of them. Kudos out to all the folks that helped with time, donations and support—it's all good! We're already planning next years Festival—our 25th—so if you have any suggestions or want to help out, feel free to contact one of your Board members or District Representatives.

With last week's crazy weather barely melted from the fields, the old adage "Don't like the weather in Missouri, just wait a few minutes—it'll change" comes to mind. We went from 73° to -12°, then a foot or so of snow; back to -5° and we should hit the upper 60°s by the end of this week. The daffodils don't know if they're coming or going! Be our luck the turkeys will be all bred out before season even starts! Hope you can get out to take advantage of spring in Missouri. If you're especially brave, check out the information for the UBM Texas javelina later in this issue—there's plenty of room and it's a great time.

Aim small, miss small . . .

Brian Peterson

Check the website for more information about the Franklin County **Truth In The Outdoors Show**. The UBM will be in attendance and could always use more volunteers to help with the kids.

To All The Nock Pinchers

I'm one that claims to have either in the past, or present had every bad habit known to archers. Well recently I've found one I haven't had. When nervous or in a quick tight spot (most hunting shots), I pinch the nock causing at best bad arrow flight; often arrows falling off the rest upon release. I just thought I'd pass on my solution in case someone else is suffering the same aggravation.

To glove shooters: Cut small holes in the fingers of the glove where it touches your nock in between your fingers. This helped me feel the nock easily without pinching and could feel how tightly I pinched.

Try on an old glove and shoot for a bit to get used to the feel. I found I like the new feel quite well.

Kevin Pinckney

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Lucky Deer Harvest December 2010



UBM member, Harold Kinder, with his Meramec River deer.

It was December 27, 2010, and I decided to hunt that afternoon. Using my canoe I paddled about a half mile up the Meramec River and walked in at least a quarter of a mile into the Pacific Palisades Conservation Area located 17 miles from my home in Fenton, a suburb of St. Louis. It was a beautiful day. The sun was out and it was about 28 degrees. There wasn't much of a wind either. I put up my portable treestand in a tree next to two intersecting trails in the snow. I was ready to hunt by 2:30 p.m.. At 2:50 p.m.

I watched four does walk and feed out in front of me at about 150 yards. Twenty minutes later, a doe walked out heading toward the other 4 does and a spike buck was trailing her. He wanted that doe but she kept running away from him. I lost site of them until 3:50 p.m. when the doe ran out in front of me at about 80 yards, with the spike buck still dogging her. Finally, she did a fast walk up the bank and toward my treestand and came by me at 17 yards, stopping to look back at the spike buck, giving me a perfect angling forward shot. I let the arrow fly and to my amazement it hit where I aimed. At least half the arrow was hanging out of her side when she ran out of sight. All the deer ran off. I waited 30 minutes, then climbed down and took down my stand. I started checking for blood. Keep in mind there was about 4 inches of snow on the ground, but lots of deer tracks. I walked to where I last saw her and found the fletch end of my cedar arrow. About 12 inches of my arrow was in her. I followed tiny specks of blood in the snow until I couldn't find any more blood. I had gone about 100 yards and no deer. Finally, I found another speck of blood in the snow and the doe had changed directions. I found her within another 30 yards behind a brush pile. The arrow hit perfect on her left side, angled forward and stuck in the other shoulder, so all the blood was inside her. Had there not been snow on the ground I doubt that I would have found that deer.

I didn't think I was going to get a deer this year, but sometimes you get lucky and it just falls in your lap. It wasn't much fun getting the deer back to the canoe because the terrain was steep with lots of blowdowns, dark, and I was by myself, then paddling the half mile downstream in the dark probably wasn't too safe but I wasn't worried about drowning because I figured I would die from hypothermia first anyway if I turned over. I was excited though and didn't mind any of that.

I was hunting with a takedown recurve bow I made and cedar arrows tipped with the old light green two blade bear razorheads without the bleeder blades. I like those broadheads because they fly good and are easy to sharpen with a file. The doe field dressed around 100 to 110 lbs and wasn't a 10 point buck, but was still a trophy in my book. My hunting partner Ron Mackenberg suggested I share this hunting experience with the other UBM members so I hope all of you enjoyed the story as much as I enjoyed the hunt. Not bad for a guy who will be 70 years old next April.

Good Hunting.

UBM Member
Harold Kinder

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MEET A MEMBER



Brenda Hudson

My name is Brenda Hudson and I have been married to Larry for 38 years. We have two great kids. Our son Kevin is a computer programmer working for Cerner right now, he is married to Michelle, a very sweet daughter in law. Our daughter Karla is a Co-Manager with Wal-Mart.

She is married to a traditional bowhunter, Jon Raney. They have three kids. Our eldest grandson Kaleb, 14 yrs. old has never missed a UBM festival until this year, and yes that means he was at them as a baby, grandmas are like that ya know. Weather was a show stopper for him this year. We also have a granddaughter 12 and a grandson 8 and they are getting in the bowhunting groove along with the rest of us. I have been a stay at home mom helping run our farm. We now farm a little and hunt a lot in our retirement in Central North Missouri near the town of Newtown.

I have been in UBM since the beginning of the organization. I was involved in all the planning and writing of by-laws. I was not on the founding board by choice. My opinion was that it was not fair to have two voting members of same family controlling votes. Larry and I share the same opinions on the matters of UBM and I didn't need to see my name on list of founders to know I was as important to establishment of UBM as any of the rest. I have never taken any time off from UBM. I have been Larry's left arm of Secretary, membership and treasury jobs as long as he was on the board and when he left the board I continued on doing membership at times and the festival in different aspects throughout the years. I have settled in as the Executive Secretary for the last 8 years helping with festival registrations and doing all the membership records. I enjoy being a part of UBM. I am also a lifetime member of National Home Gardening Club. Gardening is my second most favorite thing to do, that is flower gardening. I was a Girl Scout leader for 10 years and I am a member of Compton Traditional Bowhunters and help every year at their Rendezvous as archery instructor for youths.

I have bowhunted game since 1975 and shot recurve bows since 1972, however I did shoot a compound for about 2 years but could never get used to the weight of the thing when hunting and walking all over Colorado. The first animal I took was a

mule deer buck in Colorado. I worked very hard on that hunt being scented and moving and finally proving I was smarter than the average pale face. I think the most memorable hunt I have ever had was Caribou. There is nothing like it as far as I am concerned. I live to elk hunt every year but the Caribou were so much different to hunt and as luck had it with our hunt, so plentiful. The little plane that dropped us on the island was the only time I had been on one and hopefully the last, a little to exciting for me. This year I hunted my dream animal the Moose. My luck not so good but Larry's over the top. Maybe I will try them again some day but for now I am moving on to Bears in Alaska this spring, hopefully my luck will improve. I have a cloud hanging over me for getting the animals in close. We have been fortunate enough to hunt Canada a couple of times and as I said Colorado along with many other states in US. I seem to be attracted to many types of animals to hunt such as Javelina, elk, moose, caribou, mule deer, whitetail, bear, turkey, squirrel along with all small game. My bow of choice is the Black Widow with cedar arrows and STOS heads. I prefer camo when hunting but no particular type. I use very little scents, mostly just taking a shower and making sure I wash my hair with earth scent soap. I do a lot of tree stand hunting in MO but in our out of state hunts, mostly still hunting. My archery hero is Larry. I can't say as anyone has made a bigger influence in my bowhunting than him. Just don't tell him that.

I hope UBM can continue to get support from the membership as you are what your organization becomes. Please help out when possible, with activities in your area and when you are talking to anyone about bowhunting don't forget you are a member and represent us proudly and most of all try to get them to join the organization because if they are not a member they are part of the problem. They do not have to be involved to become part of the voice. Numbers speak at Conservation department meetings and they aren't speaking if they are not a member, they are letting our sport go to the anti hunters. Many people don't want to become a member of anything but they want to complain when things go wrong and by then it is too late. I will be part of UBM until I am placed 6' under.

I sent the standard questions to Brenda and as you can tell she penned the above.

We, the UBM, have many dedicated members none more dedicated than Brenda.

Ron Mackenberg

Ice Storm Buck



Conditions: Northwest wind, overcast, 15 degrees

One season several years ago, I had been trying to get a couple nice bucks but kept thinking about a place I found the year before but never hunted. It was an old homestead that had grown over with brush. Some nice trees were rubbed up around the property and a few scrapes near an old dried up pond. I took some time and even trimmed some cedars for stands to cover most wind conditions however I never hunted the area or even watched it that much after that.

The following season I had been watching it more often for some fresh buck sign. Right before gun season I noticed the area had come alive with rubs and a few scrapes. About 70 yards on the north side of the homestead was a real thick and nasty area. It was real “bucky” looking, a nice place for a big buck to hang out in. After gun season was over the sign quit, for the most part.

I was still trying for a nice buck in another area that made it through the firearms

season but I still kept an eye on the homestead area when I could. During the second rut a couple of scrapes around the dried up pond opened up again. I had put in so much time and effort on two other bucks in other areas that I never hunted the homestead place but I couldn't get it out of my mind.

Late in December, there was a real nasty ice storm predicted to hit the next afternoon. I started thinking about the homestead place yet again. I told my wife I was going to try and hunt that area right before the storm hit. I was terrible cold but I told her I was going to stay out as long as I could.

I got into my cedar tree that I had trimmed out a year earlier. The wind was blowing from my left and was chilling to the bone. There was a picked cornfield that butted up to the old homestead place and a good stand of alfalfa was to my south. If deer were to go to or from the fields they would have to come in front of my tree. I was trying to use a crosswind and get a buck entering the tickets to the north of my location.

By 9:00 a.m. I was pretty cold. I started doing a lot of isometrics in my stand and drawing my recurve back to stay warm and loose. By 9:30 I was telling myself, “just 15 more minutes.” I continued to do that until noon and then about 12:10 I caught movement coming from the thick area north of the homestead. There was a nice buck heading my direction and if he continued on the trail he was on, he would come right past my tree. The wind changed a little and started coming out of the north. My scent was blowing to the open field behind me. The buck continued on his path past my tree as I shot him at 12 yards with a snuffer broadhead. The 12 point buck was on the ground and I was ready to get in out of the cold.

About 3.5 hours later we got an ice storm that lasted all night long. The buck must have planned on filling his belly with corn and alfalfa before the storm hit. I call him my Ice Storm Buck. I had never seen him before that day but I was sure he was responsible for the rubs and scrapes in the area

— Steve North

— CROSSBOW ALERT —

All, We had a real cotton-pincher at the CFM convention this past weekend dealing with the crossbow issue. Pro-crossbow folks introduced the same resolution in three different resource committee meetings to have the CFM propose the legalization of crossbows in archery season to MDC. This resolution passed in two of the three meetings; one of them being the Archery Resource committee that yours truly was chairing this year. It passed by 1 vote in two meetings and failed by 4 in one meeting.

These folks were very well organized, somewhat well-intentioned (I'll get to that in a minute), and even had an ATA crossbow rep with them. Dick Wood and I got very little sleep last night as we worried about the vote that took place today on all the resolutions that passed in the committees. Fortunately, our worries were for nothing as the resolution was handily voted down but it certainly opened up our eyes as to the tactics these guys will be using in the future.

The group that proposed the resolution, in all three meetings, is the Missouri Hunting Heritage Federation. They are based around Kansas City and they have a program that goes a little something like this: In a single weekend, they take 5 kids with no hunting background, teach them how to shoot a gun, get them hunter ed certified, and then take them hunting on Sunday. Their complaint was that they couldn't teach archery to the kids in that limited amount of time so they wanted to have crossbows legalized for archery season so that the kids could then partake in the sport.

Now before you start dusting off your soapboxes, I will say that these people really seem to believe in their line of reasoning and I detected no ulterior motive. I sat at the same banquet table with three of their members last night and they all seemed sincere in their belief that the legalization of crossbows in archery season would get more kids in the field because "it was easier". The presence of the ATA rep, though, does give me a reason to think that this group might have been nudged just a little.

What is scary is how effective this "make it easier" reasoning is at tugging on the heartstrings of people who do not know anything about bowhunting but who do want to see more kids involved in the sport. Yes, I find this line of reasoning flawed in several different ways but it does grab the attention of those who don't know any better.

Fortunately for us at the meeting today, I think this "make it easy for the kids" tactic backfired on them. I would say half of the voting crowd this morning were members of the Conservation Leadership Corps; a group of high school and college kids from all over the state who pretty much do all the behind-the-scenes work at this convention. These are highly motivated individuals and I think the majority of them took offense to the "just make it easy" philosophy because they resoundingly voted to defeat the resolution.

You can be sure that this will come up again next year so I strongly suggest you mark your calendars to attend this convention.

That's all I got to say about that,
Darren



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A Season in Review

by Larry Hudson

I am sure you all remember Mike McDonald's tales of our Kansas Turkey hunt — "9 shot Draw" (summer 2010 issue). Wonderful hunt and story, I took the good-natured ribbing from fellow UBM'rs in stride but down inside missing those shots got to working on me.

Brenda and I had a Newfoundland Moose hunt booked for September, I wanted to do whatever it took to keep 9 shot draw in Kansas! My first objective was to figure out what the heck I did wrong — identify the problem and make it go away. Playing each shot through my little mind I finally realized it was simple, it was the fundamentals of building the shot I was missing. I re-read Asbell's "Instinctive shooting" books and Byron Ferguson's "Become the Arrow". The two authors have differing opinions about what it takes to get an arrow on target but both agree on

the simple part of concentrating on where you want the arrow to hit, draw the bow EXACTLY the same way EVERY time and follow through the shot.

I basically decide I needed to start over, feeling I had fallen into some bad habits that needed to go away. With that thought in mind my practice sessions took on a new meaning, what do I work on this time? I had to stand close and not worry about where the arrow hit (hey I think we teach that to the youngsters!) Gee, this is easy!! Make sure all is well with the bow / arrow combination, I like to use Ken Beck's bare arrow tuning. As Ken says, "If you can get the arrow to fly correct without fletching, just think how good it will fly with fletching"! Wasn't long before I felt good again about my shooting and the daily sessions were ending up at longer yardages, something I also feel helps a guy, not that

we want to shoot at animals out of our comfort range but long range practice brings out the slightest flaws in our shot.

In the end it was basic stuff — proper concentration thinking things through each shot. Simple thing of feet placement, where is your elbow, go to the corner of your mouth every time, that was key for me, getting away from a "floating anchor". Not saying I won't miss again, I have, and will, but hopefully these thoughts keep returning helping me through the few seconds of anguish when a shot is about to present itself. I have been shooting a bow for 40 years and seems we are not too old to learn, or in my case, re-learn. Hope these ramblings help some of you folks, the fledgling traditionalist need to hear that we all at times have trouble but in the end, just as in most any physical sport, don't forget the fundamentals.

The Moose hunt? —below is an excerpt from a story I wrote for Compton's "A Walk in the Woods"

We arrived in Howley, Newfoundland on Sunday morning September 24th, there is no Sunday hunting in NFLD so we spent the day visiting with outgoing hunters and settling in our new home for the next six days. It was a beautiful spacious lodge, a converted old school house; all the rooms are huge, with a great gathering hall to share the day's hunting experiences, complete with pool table and TV. The hunters from the past week had nothing but good to say about our outfitter and great accommodations. Bowhunter Bob Ameen from Alaska ended up staying over a few extra days and was rewarded with a beautiful Woodland Caribou.... Bob said his Bull was the smallest one they had stalked all week, the one he took looked very nice to me.

It was Monday A.M. before we met our guides — Brenda had a young good looking dude about 6'4" and looked real happy as she left the lodge — Hmm, offered to carry her stuff, she looked at me and said, "that's what I'm talking about". I wished them good luck and have fun, I wondered about that a little later! My guide was Peter, eldest son of Ray Broughton, very quiet guy (as were all of them except Ray).

Ray has two units that he has exclusive guiding rights to, each unit approximately 900 square miles so some type of motorized travel must be used to reach the hunt areas.

Peter and I left camp in his pickup, driving for a half hour or so

then off-loaded a huge ATV, riding it another half hour. We crossed a good-sized creek about daylight and jumped a young caribou bull as we started up toward some open looking country locals refer to as the Barrens. We had quite a view from where we ended up hiking too, wasn't long before I spotted some Moose and announced proudly that I had found them, Peter says 4 of them right? He had already located that bunch and was checking out the rest of the valley. The first group appeared to be 4 cows, one good bull and one smaller bull. From our vantage point we could see several miles of the drainage, locating two other smaller bulls, each with one cow.

I was intently watching the first group when Peter turned on his electronic call, a big megaphone affair, scared hell out of me. Peter had a grin on his face when I jumped and looked his way — I thought to myself, I need to watch this guy, he does have a sense of humor. The bull, a good mile or more away reacted immediately to the call, turning and moving towards us. I asked if he was going to try and call him all the way over and he said, "stranger things have happened with Moose"! I was looking in vain for some type of cover but the bull returned to his post just under the cows and would look defiantly towards us each time Peter sounded the call. After about a half hour of this we started back down the hill. I was not sure at this point if we were going to try a stalk or not, still trying to get a "read" on my guide. To my relief when we had gotten out of the bulls sight Peter started glassing the drainage and pointed out our approach route. I thought OK, this guy is going to do his thing, and this is what we came for.

It is absolutely impossible to fully describe the “stuff” we had to walk through. Called Tuckamore, it’s the dangest brush I have ever experienced. Stuff is only 16 – 20” tall; pretty much every step is a battle, your boot not normally reaching the ground. Fortunately no thorns but tiny extremely close woven branches that make you have to pull each boot free for the next step. Then it would get real bad with basket ball sized rocks hidden underneath and sometimes fist sized conifers 4-6 ft. tall mixed in, add a bit of an uphill grade, and I guarantee you would agree there is nothing harder to walk thru.

We crossed the main creek and went up one of the side drainages, finding a spot to get out we checked on the bull, he was still in the same area. We had to sneak another half mile up the drainage, idea being to at least get on the same level or preferably above him. During the stalk we came up to check his location couple more times but could not locate him, did see the smaller bull once and had to back track to get around him. Never did figure out where the smaller bull went, guess the big guy ran him off during our final approach.

We had just reached an outcropping of rocks we knew was above his last location when Peter slowly went to his knees, I followed suit but couldn’t resist a quick look in the direction of his gaze and broad smile, what I saw was the bull marching up the hill towards us! Once again I started looking for cover and ducked in behind the big rock. We watched as the bull trounced a make believe adversary, Peter commented the smaller bull had him all worked up, a good deal for us! We spent the next hour or so setting up and calling, did get the cows to answer once but didn’t see the bull again until we had climbed higher in the rocks, the bugger had not moved more than 75 yards from his original position of this morning!

Moving back around the hill to get the wind right and on his level we SLOWLY moved closer until we came to a pear shaped opening maybe 30 yards long and 15 yards wide. Peter directed me out in front and down the hill a bit; I hunkered down in the shade of an 8’ tall 6” diameter pine, the biggest tree on the hill. Peter started up the megaphone again, I was going nuts for the first 5 min. or so, knowing we were extremely close to the bull and he could show up any second.

The calling went on intermittently for another 5 min. it was now

11:45 and I began to relax, worried the jig was up once again. I was looking back across the valley thinking about how hard the walk out was going to be when I heard a grunt come from down the hill and to my right. What happened in the next 30 seconds will be etched in my mind forever.



Larry Hudson pictured with his 2010 Newfoundland bull moose. Larry was also awarded the 2010 Fred Bear Award from the UBM. Great job Larry!

Looking towards the grunts I first saw the paddles swaying as he came up the hill. Surveying his most likely course, the best-shot opportunity was a hole in the brush 10 yards to my right and across the clearing. I was on my knees and as low to the ground as possible. Peter, seeing him that close stopped calling. The bull stopped maybe twice coming in, all the while uttering the low grunts and swaying his head. As his shoulder got into the hole I started drawing, he stopped and ran his face into a small tree, I remember looking at his face, (yes I know — wrong thing to do!) he had smushed his nose into the bush, I was

mesmerized by the sight, should have been shooting but got caught up in the moment.

Anyway, when he pulled his face out, his head was diverted in my direction; he saw me and immediately stiffened his front leg on my side, lowered his huge head and turned, moving towards the tiny strange looking bull with shiny black antlers so low to the ground. I should have shot at the instant before he turned towards me, I guess I was paralyzed for a second, not really afraid as I probably should have been but more in awe of this magnificent creature, eyes rolled back and whites showing, what a rush!

At this point Peter moved out of hiding and started waving the piece of plywood he carries to resemble the paddles of moose horns, trying to divert the bull’s attention off me. I knew I had to do something, shot angle was now wrong, at less than 8yds, I looked low in the chest and shot as his leg went forward. The combination of the arrow striking and Peter’s antics caused him to turn, I could see my broadhead sticking out the off side but angling forward — how could that be I thought — he turned around heading back the way he came in, my second arrow was thrown wildly over his back. Retrieving my third arrow, thoughts of past muffed shots (and specifically 9 shot draw) went through my head, come on dude, settle down!

Peter was loudly calling with his voice now, I really thought it was

continued on page 14



2011 Festival

pictures by Mike McDonald



Mike Yancey covering the details of selfbow building in his mid-day seminar.



Brett Shaw shared valuable information about preparing small food plots on a budget.



Gary Reffro talking with his grandson Saxton about how much he likes to shoot his bow.



After the evening meal, Jeff Scott presented Will Carr with the MDC Agent of the Year Award.



The Conservation Federation of Missouri accepted a check from the UBM to support Share the Harvest.



Mike Callahan was awarded the UBM Bowhunter of the Year Award from Brian Peterson.



John Banderman from District 5 was awarded the District Representative of the Year Award from Mike Callahan.



Connie Renfro and Mike Yancey bring presented with knives in appreciation for the service at the UBM Festival seminars.



A beautiful painting by Joe Todd being giving to the Renfros.



Thanks to the donors in the UBM that allowed us to present a check to Hunt of a Lifetime.



Jay Faherty receiving his Area Rep award after the festival. Jay wasn't able to attend this year.



Steve North presenting a new youth bow to Jake Morgan.



Larry Hudson was awarded the 2010 Fred Bear Award. Great job Larry.



Two of the young men that were awarded Youth Hunter Awards this year.

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March 20-24, 2011

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Sierra Blanca, TX

Sunday Noon Through Thursday Noon,
March 20-24, 2011

Cost is \$420 for the trespass fee, \$45 for the over-the-counter non-resident Texas Small Game tag (\$55 if online); I estimate \$35+ per person for group food – I will coordinate food and a menu once we get a committed list together, and of course your own hotels and transportation to and from Texas (buddying up is encouraged). The group can meet in Sierra Blanca at the local motel Sunday morning for breakfast in town and then caravan in to the ranch.

The Ranch is approximately 26 Sections if I remember correctly (Google "Sierra Blanca" then southwest about 8 miles across I-10 to see the ranch). It is a high desert environment (~5,000'-8,000' elevation) nestled in the Quitman Mts., open mesquite and cactus terrain (you can actually see and move through the vegetation) perfect for spot & stalk or coming opportunities. Javies run big in this area – averaging 50+ pounds on the ranch with the record being 66lb – with NO fleas on the critters. You might see a rattlesnake if it's warm – we've seen 1 in 4 years. Foxes, coyotes, and rabbits (jacks and cottontails) available on your small game license but are not super plentiful. There are Mt. Lions on the ranch which require coordination with the landowner and a minimal trophy fee to shoot. There is also a wild band of Aoudad that runs the area – these have a \$1,200 trophy fee. Temperatures in March may reach the mid 70's but we've had it as cold as the low 30's. Rain is possible but unlikely.

The landowners have completely redone the facility. It is no longer a machine shed with amenities, but has now been insulated and dry-walled, with full bathroom, laundry and kitchen, big screen TV, walk-in cooler and a chest freezer (nice enough that the family stays there in the hot summer months). Kent says they've gotten rid of the older saggy bedsprings, but the bedding situation is essentially the same (single mattresses on bedspring frames – bring your own sleeping bag/pillow/bedding).

Last year was extremely wet so the hunting was tough – for all the groups. This means lots of healthy, fat, and happy javelinas and plenty of them as the breeding undoubtedly followed suit with the excess forage. Also, the number of hunters on the ranch before our group is down this year – Kent estimates only about 24 hunters will be on the ranch prior to our scheduled hunt, so there won't be much pressure on them before our group.

Please pass this along to any potential hunters you might know – hunt is limited to 15 hunters, bowhunting only. Questions, commitments, and \$200 deposits (checks payable to Kent Ostrem) can be directed to me or Kent Ostrem of Mahaska Custom Bows. Please copy me if you commit to Kent so I can keep the list current.

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Moose continued from page 8

over and I had blown it. Stepping a bit to my right, Peter had indeed stopped the bull, he was standing perfect, turned quartering away. I remember seeing the path the arrow needed to take, I picked a hair on his side and loosed again. The unmistakable sound of a heavy broadhead striking home was music to my ears, and as he turned to leave I could see my turkey-fletched shaft embedded just behind the shoulder.

Was I ever elated over that sight, I started jumping up & down, spinning with my bow held over my head; I knew that was one dead Moose! I looked up the hill and Peter gave me the most quizzical stare, as he had not seen any of the shots. Peter still had his Binocs to his eyes looking down in the valley as I approached saying he had watched the bull go 80 yards or so over the ridge but not emerge. He asked if and where I had hit him; I poked him in the ribs and said, "yes, right there". His next words were unbelievable; "I think I saw him go down right beside that tree, that tree, the one right there"!

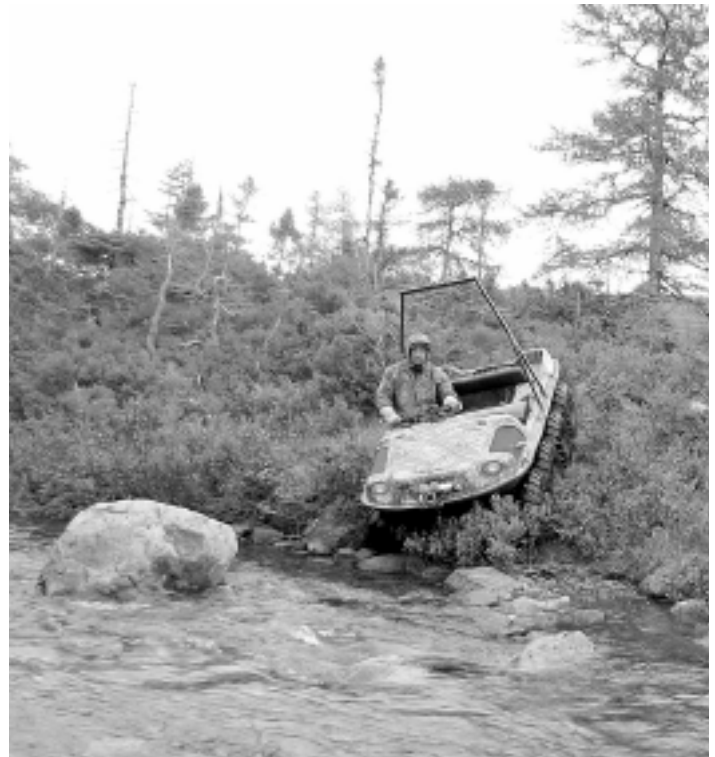
The excitement was intense and we didn't wait long before starting to unravel what had just happened. I found the entire first arrow blood soaked and then 30yds or so farther the fletched end of the last arrow hung up about chest high in the brush. The area was thick with Tuckamore, hard to negotiate or find blood. I was about ready to go back to the site of the arrow when Peter hollered out to come his direction. "You mean you can see him"?

Peter wasn't more than 20 yards from me but hidden by brush. In my excitement to get to Peter's location I got my feet tangled up and fell face first into a small ditch, bleeding my nose in process! The bull was there, didn't make it 100 yards. After the backslapping and picture taking we started the huge task of readying the beast for transport.

Autopsy revealed the first arrow did absolutely nothing, somehow staying just under the hide, never entering cavity — I still don't completely understand that, perhaps "archers paradox" at work? Final arrow centered a rib going in, penetrating to hide on the off side. Love those Woody Weights and STOS broadheads!

Earlier in the day I had asked if there were any trails or roads on that side of the valley, answer was no but we would try to get the ARGO in there. I shot the Moose at 11:45; we were not back to the truck until 5:00, no time for recovery that night so we were back at first light the next day. The ARGO is an amphibious 8 wheel ATV that can literally go anywhere; no way my Moose could have been recovered whole without it or a helicopter. The trip in for recovery was almost as good as the hunt! We used a chain saw to clear one especially tough spot but within 24 hrs. of the shot my Moose was hanging in the cooling shed.

This was supposed to be Brenda's dream hunt, things didn't work out as well for her. She got close on several occasions, best opportunity at 15 yards but the shot wasn't right so she wisely passed. If things don't feel or look right then it ain't right! The hunt was a wonderful adventure for both of us, maybe it will be Brenda's turn next time, besides, I remember a Caribou hunt not too long ago



If it wasn't for the 8 wheel Argo, we would still be packing that moose out of the tuckamore.

where the tables were definitely turned!

Ray Broughton, in first conversations about the hunt referred to hunting or fishing in Newfoundland as a well-kept secret, "a mini Alaska with no Grizzly Bears or Sara Palin", never hunted Alaska, might be a thought to do a comparison!

Sidebar info about Ray's Hunting & Fishing as well as Bowhunting Safari Consultants.

Moose Compton score 142 7/8

Equipment used — 65#, 1970's vintage Rosewood Super Diablo recurve, G.F.A. side quiver, self-made cedar arrows, 165gr. STOS 2 blade with 100 gr. Woody Weight.

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Product Review

by Joe Pendergrass

Shimano Xtreme Fishing for Wii.

I am going to take a guess and say that there has never been a video game review on the pages of *The United Bowhunter* publication. Well, there is a first time for everything . . .

I had heard about Shimano Xtreme Fishing about two years ago from some of the bowfishing web-circles and started to look for it at retailers with no luck. It seems that the game was already out of production by the time I had heard about it and most copies were bought up and in the hands of bowfishing fans not willing to put it up for sale at the local used gaming outlets. I finally found a few copies at the Bowfishing Extreme booth at the Deer Classic and made the purchase.

The "review" . . . I'll start by saying, it's not a replacement for bowfishing and I knew it wouldn't be. However, when it's mid-winter and there is four inches of ice on the pond, it makes the day go by a little faster. Embracing the wilder side of sport fishing, Shimano Xtreme Fishing lets players take the fight to the fish with bow and speargun in addition to the traditional rod and reel. I have explored all of the features of the game but mostly I play the bowfishing portion. Like all fishing games (and a lot of sports games, generally), Xtreme Fishing is pretty heavily branded in the game with "sponsor" logos. Once you get into the game you get to view maps of the area you picked from unlocked areas. As you progress in the game, you unlock more opportunities to explore more areas and get better equipment.

Overall, the game is enjoyable. A few of elements of the game are a little off in my opinion. As good as the graphics are and accurate in the details in the appearance of the fish, it seems like the designers have made every fish jump out of the water in the way that a Silver Carp does when frightened or injured. Another issue that seems odd to me is that if you miss your shot, you are able to take a follow-up shot immediately. That is not very realistic, but I'm not sure if I would actually change that feature if I would have been in charge of the game design. As I think about it, it would be awesome to only have to wait a half second to take a follow up shot. Those two "issues" are not big deals and I look past them and accept it for what it is . . . a video game.

I don't spend much time playing the gaming systems in our house but when I do, it's Shimano Xtreme Fishing. One thing that I also like about the game is that it's pretty easy to catch on to. My nine year old daughter and I play together quite often and she can hold her own because I don't take it easy on her.

If you come across a copy of this game I do recommend picking it up and giving it a try. It is back into production now and is not too hard to find. It is only available for the Nintendo Wii. Muzzy carries it new for about \$40 but I have been seeing it at used retail locations for a less than \$20. Have fun!

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Calendar of Events

March

Coyote Season Closes 03/31/2011

April

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

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May

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Vice President's Report

by Darren Haverstick



Spring 2011

Gosh, it seems like it was just a month or so ago that I wrote my last report. My how time flies when you are preparing for the Festival! I hope

that all of you who attended the event had a good time. Mother Nature was not the most cooperative so I applaud those who braved the nasty weather to join in the fun. I also want to shout out an especially big "THANK YOU" to our vendors and speakers; without you the Festival would be just a bunch of folks visiting with each other until someone rang the dinner bell.

Gary and Connie Renfro made the long trek from Colorado to be our banquet speakers and they certainly did not disappoint us with their tales of adventure in the high backcountry. On a personal note, I thought they were just about as fine a couple as a man could meet and if you did not get a chance to chat with them then you missed out. The Renfros are just plain folks and it seems that they never see a stranger. As far as I'm concerned, they have a standing invitation to come and see us whenever they like.

If you did attend the Festival, you probably noticed the little survey sheets laying about the hotel that had a few questions on them concerning next year's 25th anniversary celebration. Thanks to all of you who took the time to fill them out and turn them in. While I won't bore you with all the results, I do want to mention some of the highlights. First off, the notion of paying \$10 more for a banquet ticket in exchange for better chow and a big-name speaker won by a 4-1 margin. A lot of you wanted embroidered UBM dress shirts and polo shirts in our clothing selection and those big ceramic coffee mugs were the #1 item suggested for table favors. Another hot issue was whether the UBM should provide a meal at the Rendezvous or not. This was a pretty close vote but it looks like Pigs Gone Wild will be serving us up some

barbequed vittles in Hermann this summer.

As I look at the calendar, I see that we've had right at a month off since the closing of archery season. That's enough rest for any person so now it's time to start thinking about javelinas, turkeys, and carp. In between all that shooting, plucking, and skinning you'll be doing; don't forget that there are a lot of outdoor community activities this time of year that might need your help. The UBM is involved in several of these events around the state and we are always looking for volunteers to help run archery ranges and teach participants how to shoot. Since most of these participants are young'ns, volunteering at these events is an especially worthwhile use of your time. One that comes to mind quickly is the "Truth in the Outdoors" event that will be held March 25th-27th in St. Clair, MO. If you would like more information about what's going on there or want to step up and help out, please contact Mike Wirt at 636-584-2649 or email him at scpd753@yahoo.com.

Take care and shoot straight!

We would like to thank the UBM for inviting us to be the guest speakers at your annual Festival in Jefferson City. We had a fantastic time meeting and talking to many of your members and enjoying the camaraderie of the event. One thing we find while traveling across the country to these events is that we are all the same no matter where we choose to live. We all have the same passion for archery and bowhunting. We were fortunate to have our kids and one of our grandkids (Saxton) attend the Festival - UBM made all of us feel like we were among old friends right from the get-go and we hope everyone enjoyed the Festival as much as we did.

We would like to say a special thank you to Joe & Sharon for the amazing painting they did for us (our daughter says when we're dead and gone she gets the painting!) and also to Jim Pyles - J.P. Enterprises - for the beautiful custom knife - hopefully we can put that knife to good use on our next elk hunt!

Thanks again,
Gary & Connie Renfro (and Saxton,
Dereck & Delaina)

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