



THE UNITED Summer 2016 BOWHUNTER





Calendar of Events

May

28th - Missouri Squirrel season opens

June

10th-12th - Cloverdale Traditional Archery Nationals, Cloverdale, IN
 17th-19th - Compton Traditional Rendezvous, Berrien Springs, MI
 24th-26th - UBM Rendezvous, Fordland, MO

July

18th-21st - Royal Rangers Camporama, Eagle Rock, MO

August

12th-14th: - Deaf Camp, H. Roe Bartle Boy Scout Ranch, Osceola, MO

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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 envelope with the materials you would like returned. The editors can assume no responsibility for any submitted materials.

The editors reserve the right to edit or reject any material and the right to crop any submitted photographs.

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— On the Cover —

A young archer bears down at the NWTF Jake Days in Herman, MO

deadlines for submitting copy and pictures to The United Bowhunter
Feb. 15th, May 3rd, Sept. 15th, Dec. 10th



SO, ARE WE HAVING FUN YET?
 I know everyone's busy this time of year, but this is ridiculous! Between moving my elderly mom to Missouri so I can better care for her, closing down her house and affairs in Ohio, sneaking into the turkey woods to try to outwit a spring gobbler (yes, I did tag a dandy with the 20ga flintlock), cutting hay, and trying to get a little work done on the side, it seems that I've hardly had a chance to catch my

breath. And yes, I'm still president of this organization, so all you folks out there that don't think you have enough time to serve UBM, take note....

That being said, there are fixin' to be some major changes in the UBM leadership soon. I know Darren is going to turn in his co-Poobah hat after the June elections this year, and I am going to declare 2016-2017 the final year in the BP legacy. We're going to lose 3 board members this year and I only know of one member willing to step up and run so far. Aside from filling general board positions, we desperately need a board member to volunteer to take the Vice-President position this year. As you all know, the VP is essentially the "President in Training", and with no one to mentor, UBM could definitely be in an interesting predicament come June

2017. It's not rocket science, folks, but if you have to figure it out from scratch, it can be a steep learning curve. I'm just sayin...

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FIRST OFF, I ASSUME THAT everyone has noticed that the entire newsletter IS IN COLOR!!! I was becoming more and more disappointed with the print quality of the last few issues so I started shopping around again and found a place that would do the newsletter in color for about 15% over the cost of the issue you're used to. I figured you would think that was club money well spent so here we are with a new look.

I sure hope everyone had an enjoyable turkey season. I saw a few pictures of dead birds taken by members so I know at least some of you enjoyed it. Me? I managed to kill a good tom the last week of the season behind my house with my trusty flintlock smoothbore. I had really wanted to break in my new Wild Horse Creek longbow but the birds just wouldn't cooperate. It's just as well. That bow is too purty to get nasty turkey blood all over it! So now it's all over with but the crying and I can finally sleep in plum up to 6 o'clock or so. I guess I ought to also get caught up on some chores around the house.

By the time you read this, the UBM Rendezvous will be just

around the corner. I know the Orrells are looking forward to having us all out at their place again and the event should be just as much fun as it was last year. I'm not sure if there's anything new scheduled this year but Don always has a surprise or two up his sleeve so you never know.

Other UBM activities on the calendar for the near future include the Royal Rangers Camporama, July 18th-21st and Deaf Camp, August 12th-14th. The Royal Rangers event is a spectacle like you've never seen before and it is held at Camp Eagle Rock near Eagle Rock, MO. There will be thousands of kids from all over the country there and the UBM helps run the archery range. Unfortunately, it also takes place during the week so it's a little hard for some of us to attend. The UBM will be paying for a couple of hotel rooms for all the volunteers to crash in so all we need is volunteers. Please contact Brian Peterson or me for more details or go to <http://nationalcamporama.com>.

Deaf Camp, at the H. Roe Bartle Boy Scout Ranch in Osceola, MO is always a good time and we always need volunteers to help run the field archery range and 3D course. I'm not sure if the air conditioned cabins are fixed up yet for us to stay in but, nevertheless, it's worth a little suffering to help these kids out. Again, contact Brian or me for more information. It will be the weekend of August 12th-14th.

On a more somber note, this will be the last column I write as your vice-president. My daughter, Elise, and I will continue to produce this newsletter but I am stepping down as an UBM officer. I've been a Chief, or co-Chief, for 7 years now and the

only way I know of to get somebody else to take the job is by walking away from it. I will be more than happy to help out in any way that I can but somebody else's name needs to go on the letterhead now. Maybe after my batteries get recharged I'll take another turn in the future but for now, I am really looking forward to becoming just a regular UBM member.

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CHRIS BROWN HAD NEVER turkey hunted before. As a sixth grade boy at Fayette Middle School, that left him in a minority. So when he asked me if I'd take him turkey hunting, I didn't hesitate a second before telling him I'd be proud to. What he didn't know was my plan included more than just hunting.

Governor Jay Nixon has been an incredible advocate for the outdoors during his eight years in office. His list of accomplishments and contributions to conservation, natural resources and state parks is far too long to list in this column. His annual Governor's Youth Turkey Hunt is a perfect example.

To foster a love of hunting and an understanding of conservation in Missouri's youth, Governor Nixon began the tradition of his annual youth turkey hunt during his first year in office. This year's event was the 8th annual.

As executive director of the Conservation Federation of Missouri, I help host the event. The number of hunters is limited, so an application process is necessary. I felt Chris was a perfect candidate so I encouraged him to apply. The committee agreed and he was selected to be my partner.

Our adventure began Friday morning at Bass Pro Shops in Columbia. I outfitted Chris with a camouflage leafy suit and some turkey hunting accessories. We picked up 2-3/4 inch shells, so there wouldn't be as much recoil from my 12-gauge. We also purchased his apprentice license.

The next portion of the experience was spent at the shooting range in Jefferson

City, where Department of Conservation staff and National Wild Turkey Federation volunteers helped instruct the youth hunters in calling, judging distance and shot placement on a turkey. Watching kids overcome their fear of firearms under proper supervision is rewarding. After the first shot, when they realize it doesn't really hurt and a smile stretches across their faces, the kids are ready to shoot some more.

After the range we headed to the Governor's Mansion for dinner. I don't know if the youth hunters or their parents were more wide-eyed as they stepped into the Mansion. It's an impressive home with a rich history. It's a humbling experience to dine with a Governor, as so many others have since the Mansion was completed in 1871.

MDC Director Bob Ziehmer,

DNR Director Sara Parker Pauley, President of the state chapter of NWTFF R.L. Bennett, myself and Governor Nixon all addressed the crowd. Each of us in our own way professed our love of hunting and conservation, while encouraging the youth hunters to enjoy the entire experience, be safe and especially, have fun.

Upon conclusion of the dinner, the hunters and their mentors headed to turkey hunting camps all across the state. Chris and I went to Osage County just west of Linn to hunt with Rudi Roeslein, who generously opened his land to a youth he'd never met before.

At dawn, Chris, Rudi and I were positioned in a ground blind at the base of a ridge overlooking an agricultural field that had yet to be plowed. It didn't take long for the gobbling to start. Before too long

Chris Brown was a successful participant in Governor Nixon's 8th Annual Youth Turkey Hunt. He is pictured with Brenden Sneed, Rudi Roeslein, Chris Brown and Brandon Butler.



there were 40 or so turkeys in the field, with more than a dozen of them dragging beards. Chris was transfixed on watching the gobblers strut, while Rudi and I gave it our all to call one out of the field into our set. We were not successful.

We could tell Chris was a bit dejected, so both Rudi and I kept emphasizing to him the hunt was far from over. Chris and I went back out at noon. I called a gobbler close, but he hung up just inside the woods at 80 yards. Again, Chris' face told the tale of despair.

As we headed into our last set for the day, we bumped three hens out

of the field. I told Chris to hurry up and get in the blind while I set up our decoys. I waited about five minutes before calling. As soon as I did, a hen responded. I called her out to the decoys and she called three gobblers out of the pines. Chris made a perfect shot and our youth hunt ended in success.

There is nothing more fulfilling than passing on the love of a personal passion to a youth who will carry that flame forward. For me, nothing compares to sharing my love of hunting and working to develop tomorrow's conservationists. The Governor's Youth Turkey Hunt

is such an incredible experience for the youth participants. I expect many of them will be hunters for life.

According to preliminary data from the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), young turkey hunters harvested 4,145 birds during the 2016 spring youth season, April 9-10. Of the Governor's Youth Turkey Hunters, 12 out of 16 killed a bird, and they all had turkeys close.

See you down the trail...

➤➤ The Three Stooges ➤➤

AS THIS YEAR'S TURKEY SEASON got closer I was getting excited. I had located three good birds and I was dearly hoping to get a crack at one of them. The first two days of the season I didn't even get a chance to hunt because of work problems but the third day I was out in my ghillie suit sitting in a little brush pile giving couple

soft calls. I don't like to use decoys when I turkey hunt. I just find I have better success if I can get one to come in and have him be looking around.

Anyway, after a couple hours of calling once every half hour or so, all three long beards come right in. I called them the Three Stooges; wherever one was the other

two were close by. They messed around in front of me for 15 minutes but every time I tried to move a little one would stick his head up. Eventually they walked off without me firing a shot. I was a little dejected but still very happy that I had this encounter with them.

The next morning found me in the same area, but a different spot; and

all that came in that day were two hens. Oh well, that's the way it goes sometimes. On Friday I went back to my original spot and had a gobbler answering me all morning long. I knew he was coming in from past years' experience but it was just gonna take time. I didn't know if it was just one bird or all three together.

At about 9:30 I thought I heard something to my left so I glanced over and couldn't believe what I saw! A trespassing hunter was standing 20 feet from me and had no idea I was there. He walked about 10 yards farther up a logging road towards the turkeys I was working. I said "Hello" and he immediately started walking away from me. I figured he had heard me and was getting away from the area when he stopped the second time. I said "Hello" louder this time and he just turned his head slightly and took off on a fast walk. I was happy he was leaving without any confrontation but wasn't happy with the direction he was going. The fellow continued down the logging road where he did not have per-



mission to be and the turkey that I had been calling to all morning was coming down that same road towards him. I saw the guy one more time through the timber about 50 yards ahead of me and then it looked like he dropped off the side of the road. I was a little happier now thinking that he was leaving the area but five minutes later I hear "BOOM" not 60 yards from where I was sitting. I jumped up, dropped my bow and took off on a fast walk towards the hunter, or should I say trespasser. When I got there he had his foot on top of the turkey which is not died yet. The conversation was very ugly for the next three minutes mostly on my part; actually all on my part. It wasn't a very pretty picture. I finally told him, "Get your bird and get out of here and I never want to see you here again! Do you understand me?" He said yes and as I was walking back I saw a decoy set up. I turned and asked, "Is this your decoy?" He answered yes so I picked it up and threw it at him and said get the heck out of here.

Well, the rest of that morning, and the next two days, nothing happened. I wasn't sure if the trespasser had shot one of the three toms or not. If he had, maybe the other two had left? Needless to say, I was very upset at that thought.

The second week of the season, on Tuesday, I went back to the original spot again and called several times softly off and on for a couple of hours. To my surprise, all of a sudden here comes the Three Stooges once again. They must have circled around to get in front of me! I tried to get my bow to where I could draw but even the slightest movement would cause one to pop his head up and look at the brush pile containing me clad in my ghillie suit.

After about three minutes, two of them worked their way to my right behind a second brush pile. I knew that if I couldn't see them then they couldn't see me. The third tom was in front of me and he finally turned and started walking straight away from me at 9 yards. It was then that I drew my bow and let the arrow fly. It was a good hit! I saw him go into the timber and lie down. I got another arrow out, just to be sure, when I saw the bird get up. I thought to myself, "Oh crap!" I quickly went over to where I had

seen him last but couldn't find him so I started to panic a little. I was looking all over saying "Where is he?" when I look down and see the tom like 2 feet in front of my feet. I guess I should look at the big picture. Needless to say, I was very excited and happy but still a little upset with having a trespasser. I try to only take two birds a season off this ridge so there's always turkeys for the next year and counting the trespasser's makes two. Oh well, I'll try somewhere else next week.



WONDERS OF THE OZARKS Learning Facility (WOLF) is a year-long educational opportunity for a select group of Springfield fifth-graders. The experience allows students to explore a curriculum of science through the context of nature and conservation. They attend class in a special facility at the Bass Pro Shops Wonders of Wildlife Museum and wherever their next outdoor learning experience takes them. A lot of their actual education comes from hands-on experiences in the field. The 46 annual participants are selected from a pool of applicants through a lottery.

I was recently able to participate in a field day hunting experience for the students at the Andy Dalton Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Center just north of Springfield. As I stomped through a field with Jason Anderson, the Executive Director of Elementary Learning for Springfield Schools, and Warren Rose, the Missouri Department of Conservation Southwest Regional Outreach and Education Regional Supervisor,

Watching fifth-graders develop a passion for conservation before my eyes, I couldn't help but wish my children would have the same opportunity to participate in such an outstanding educational program.

Currently, Springfield is the only school system in Missouri with a program as extensive of a nature based learning program as WOLF. There are two WOLF teachers, Sue Doyle and Courtney Reece, who instruct students in the same core curriculum as other Springfield 5th graders. The difference for WOLF School participants is that all subjects are taught in the context of nature and conservation education.

"These students are immersed in conservation science from the first day they arrive to the last day they leave, so protecting natural resources in their own back yard becomes more than just something they learned about in school. It becomes a lifestyle. Many parents have commented that this experience ultimately set their child on a different path. Because it's early in their education, I believe this experience will dramatically and positively affect their lives in ways we're not even aware of," Doyle said.

The program has incredible support from the Springfield community and the leadership of the school system. Bass Pro Shops has lent a big hand in the school, with the company's founder, Johnny Morris, going above and beyond for conservation, as he so often does.

"WOLF has impacted the greater community in two specific ways. First, it has forged partnerships with organizations such as Bass Pro Shop's Wonders of Wildlife and the Missouri Department of Conservation to provide an opportunity to use nature as a natural classroom setting.

Second, it has provided a platform to develop other choice/magnet programs within our system- including Academy of Exploration, which has a STEM focus (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math), and our Health Sciences Academy, which focuses on health & wellness. These types of programs allow students to gain experiences earlier in the formalized school year to help them develop their interests and passions," Anderson said.

The school helps set students on a path towards a life of conservation. Perhaps that includes a career in conservation, or maybe it just means these students have an overall better appreciation of nature and the outdoors, and simply serve as better citizens throughout their lives. They'll also be able to posi-

Kylyn Luckfield, a WOLF School participant receives proper shooting instruction from MDC resources assistant, Shawn Gamer.



tively impact the decision making of those around them.

“My favorite thing about the program is that it doesn’t just affect students. It brings families together. The students are excited about what they are doing in school and drag their parents out to the places we’ve been to do the things we have done in school. Parents are overjoyed that their almost-teenagers initiate family time because of the program,” Reece said.

Throughout the day, everyone I spoke with; students, parents, volunteers and instructors, repeatedly said how incredible it would be if this nature-based learning experience could be spread to schools statewide or even nationwide.

“As someone who has worked with schools in southwest Missouri for the last 14 years, I know most of them don’t have all of the resources to build a WOLF school, but the great thing I tell school administrators is they don’t have to. The Missouri Department of Conservation offers a wide array of teacher trainings, conservation education curriculum and outdoor skills activities that can provide their students many of the same exposures to nature the WOLF students have. The key is getting the students exposed to nature and getting them multiple touches. The rest will take care of itself,” Rose said.

Imagine being a fifth-grader who spends a year experiencing nature hands on. Learning in an outdoors classroom about science and the importance of protecting our natural resources. For these WOLF students, fields and streams replace the traditional classroom.

“Reading and mathematics is applied to outdoors rather than to a worksheet. It meets a specific niche for students that are drawn to the outdoors and makes conservation

education relevant, personal and engaging,” Anderson said.

The WOLF School is a program that needs to be implemented at more schools across Missouri, so we can reconnect youth to nature. For more information about this incredible program, visit <http://www.wondersofwildlife.org>.

See you down the trail...



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From the Designer

Elise Haverstick



HELLO AGAIN READERS! The time has come again for the newest issue of “From the Designer”. Not much has changed from the last time i wrote this column, with the exception of one thing. I am now a 100% USDA approved adult! I just moved into my new apartment and am loving it so far. It’s bittersweet to leave home for good, and iIm sure that Mom and Dad are experiencing a bit of empty nest syndrome, but they know I love

them and will come back on a semi frequent basis. After all, they have a washer and dryer, good homemade food, fluffy puppies, and love.

My new place is sort of a disaster zone, as to be expected, but I am slowly getting it organized and in some semblance of order. I still need to get a table and a TV, two things I now realized were things that the various past roommates brought to the party.

The table thing isn’t that huge of a deal as I usually eat on the couch, but it would be nice if I ever have people over and they want a place to sit. The TV, however, is becoming a thing that I desperately want, as I have become accustomed to being able to channel surf, or watch *Supernatural* or *Once Upon A Time* without finding a less than stellar livestream of it. I am aware that

these are first world problems, but what functioning adult doesn’t have a TV these days?

On to more useful elements of my life, my job is still going well, and despite a few screw ups they seem to want to keep me around. I am still laying out *Undercar Digest*, but I have since been trusted with other side projects like logo design for a frequent client, and on a less ofical note, head salsa and cookie maker on food days. I

I am not below making coworkers and bosses like me by bringing them homemade baked goods and salsa. It worked at my last few jobs and based on the response, it worked at my current one.

I don’t know much else, so I will let you finish reading the newsletter and prepare for whatever your next hunting adventure may be.

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- Bright and easy-to-find fletching. Not so good if the shooters following your shot can see your bright fletching. Hopefully, you'll have colors that the other shooters can't see well.

- Judo and blunt tips reduce your penetration into logs and stumps, often flipping arrows upright as opposed to hiding them in the leaves and grass. The downside; this exposes the arrow to the next shooter. Judos also assist in stripping the fletching from a buddy's

arrow, or even better, shortening its length. It's not always good to be the first shooter. Your arrow often becomes the target.

- Arrow rake. Usually made from an old shaft with a hook attached to the end. Used to rake leaves, grass and sticks away while looking for those elusive ricochets and not-so-perfect shots. Sky Archery is now selling arrow rakes.

- Flu-flu arrows with blunt tips for the high-in-the-tree knothole targets. Also used for those arrows previously



Stump shooters extraordinaire - Earl Hoyt and Paul Jeffries

shot that continue to cling to a limb or trunk. Listening for and watching flu-flu arrows fly reminds me of shooting at brother Jerry's kite in the hay field next to our house. Some things you never forget.

Methods and Results

Locate a group of not-so-smart bowhunters (that should be easy to do) that are willing to risk their arrows, shoot unusual shots over and under logs, between trees, hard stumps, among rock and at distances you would never consider while hunting. I have heard some shots referred to as a "par two". The size of the group will vary depending on

A variety of stump shooting heads: shell casing, judo point, steel blunt, rubber blunt. The arrow hook on the right is used for finding those rare missed shots



personal schedules. Some newcomers will only shoot once and never come back. They must run into schedule conflicts or something. Trophies, awards, recognition, as well as scoring are not required. A sharp holler regarding your heritage when hitting a buddy's arrow provides all the acknowledgement needed. You'll know if you are having a good day by the yells from the group after a great shot or the laughter after shooting a foot wide. This cast of characters must be willing to release that kid we all have inside us.



Top: Concentration is the key when shooting stumps
Bottom: A mature stump taken with several arrows



2016 Instinctive Shooting Clinic Jeff Blystone

I WAS ABLE TO ATTEND the 2016 Instinctive Shooting Clinic held at Black Widow Custom Bows in early May. Instinctive shooting is shooting an arrow where you are looking without the use of sights, the point of the arrow or any other kind of reference. Accuracy is accomplished by concentrating on what you want to hit, isolating that from everything else around it, and allowing your hand, eye, and brain to coordinate and direct the bow hand and the arrow at the target. It just like throwing a baseball, you simply look at where you want to throw the ball and let it fly. You brain's hand and eye coordination takes care of the rest.

Every spring since the year 2000, the man that actually wrote the book on instinctive shooting, G. Fred Asbell, has been conducting the clinic. Fred has written many books on hunting with the bow and arrow. He also started the Big Horn Bow Company and was the president of the Pope & Young Club for 18 years. Ken Beck, who is the former owner of Black Widow Custom Bows also joined in to help

us learn. These two archers have been around the world bow-hunting using traditional gear and instinctive shooting. The 3-day clinic included individual instruction on form, technique, concentration, and bow set up. Fred would talk and show us what to do and then we would go to the range and shoot. I shot lots and lots of arrows. Ninety-five percent of that shooting took place with the target only 5 yards away. Why you ask? Because just like throwing a baseball the proper form, rhythm, and sequence is critical to accuracy. Once your mechanics become automatic then you start learning with the mind where to point your bow arm for different distances. On day two of the clinic we were all video recorded while shooting and then after dinner we sat down to watch our videos and critique what we were doing wrong



Fred Asbell gives a little classroom instruction

as well as right. We also got to tour the Custom Bow Factory and learn what Black Widow does to make a custom bow.

It was great to learn from the best and to spend time with the "Brothers of the Bow" as Ken Beck says. The clinic I attended included



Top: The class critiquing a student's form
Left: The shooting range for the course



folks from Delaware, Iowa, Illinois, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, New Jersey, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas, Wisconsin, and Stuttgart, Germany. A diverse group of archers I must say. We had a doctor, veterinarian, truck driver, utility worker, accountant, oil and gas well guy, data processor, and a Ducks Unlimited land manager. So if traditional archery is something you might be interested in, be sure to give Black Widow Custom Bows in Nixa a look. They have a great demo bow program and you can stop by the shop to try out any of about 100 different bows right there in the showroom. You can visit their website at www.blackwidowbows.com to see the true works of art these folks build in Nixa, Missouri.



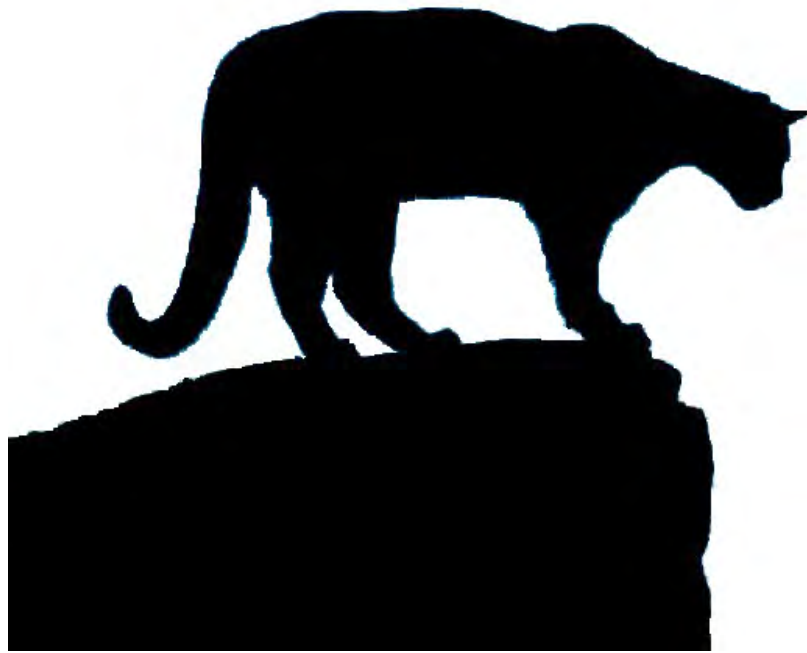
Top: Ken Beck demonstrates proper shooting form
Bottom: The Class of 2016



THIS PAST MARCH the National Wild Turkey Federation held a Jake Days program in Hermann, MO and The UBM was there in full force to help teach the youngsters about the joys of archery. I am proud to be part of an organization that is so passionate about this sport and is willing to pass on that passion to the next generation. Here are a few photos from the event. You might notice that all the instructors have the same maroon hats with the Compton Traditional Bowhunters logo on it. These were provided by Dennis Harper, past UBM president and now vice-president of that organization. A large percentage of UBM members are also members of that club so you could say that both organizations were well represented that day.







2016

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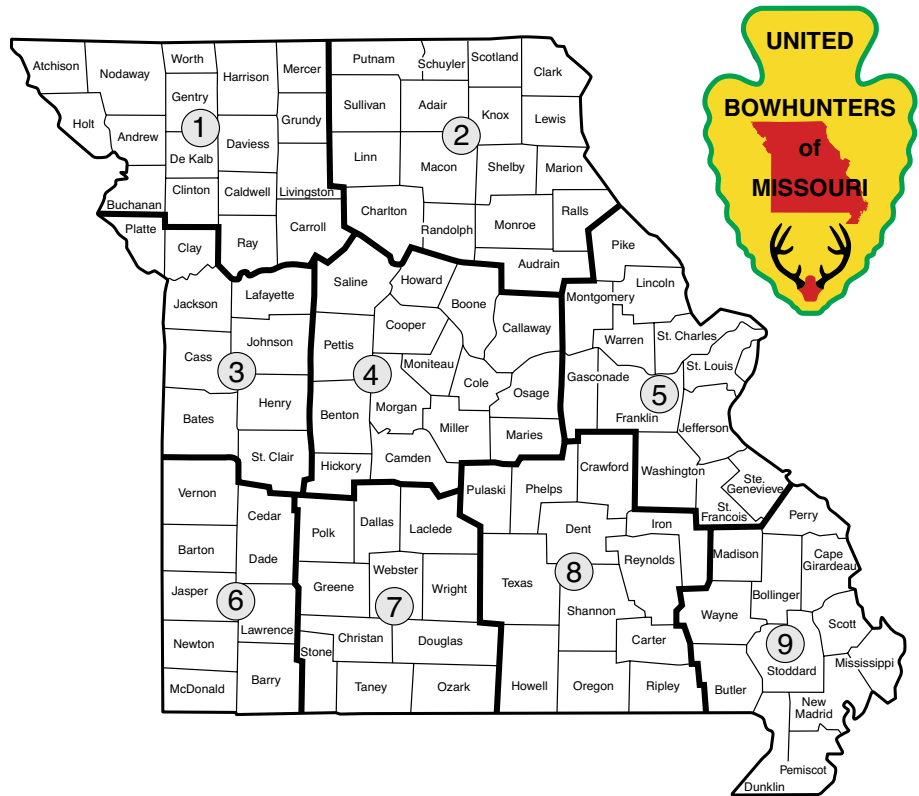
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