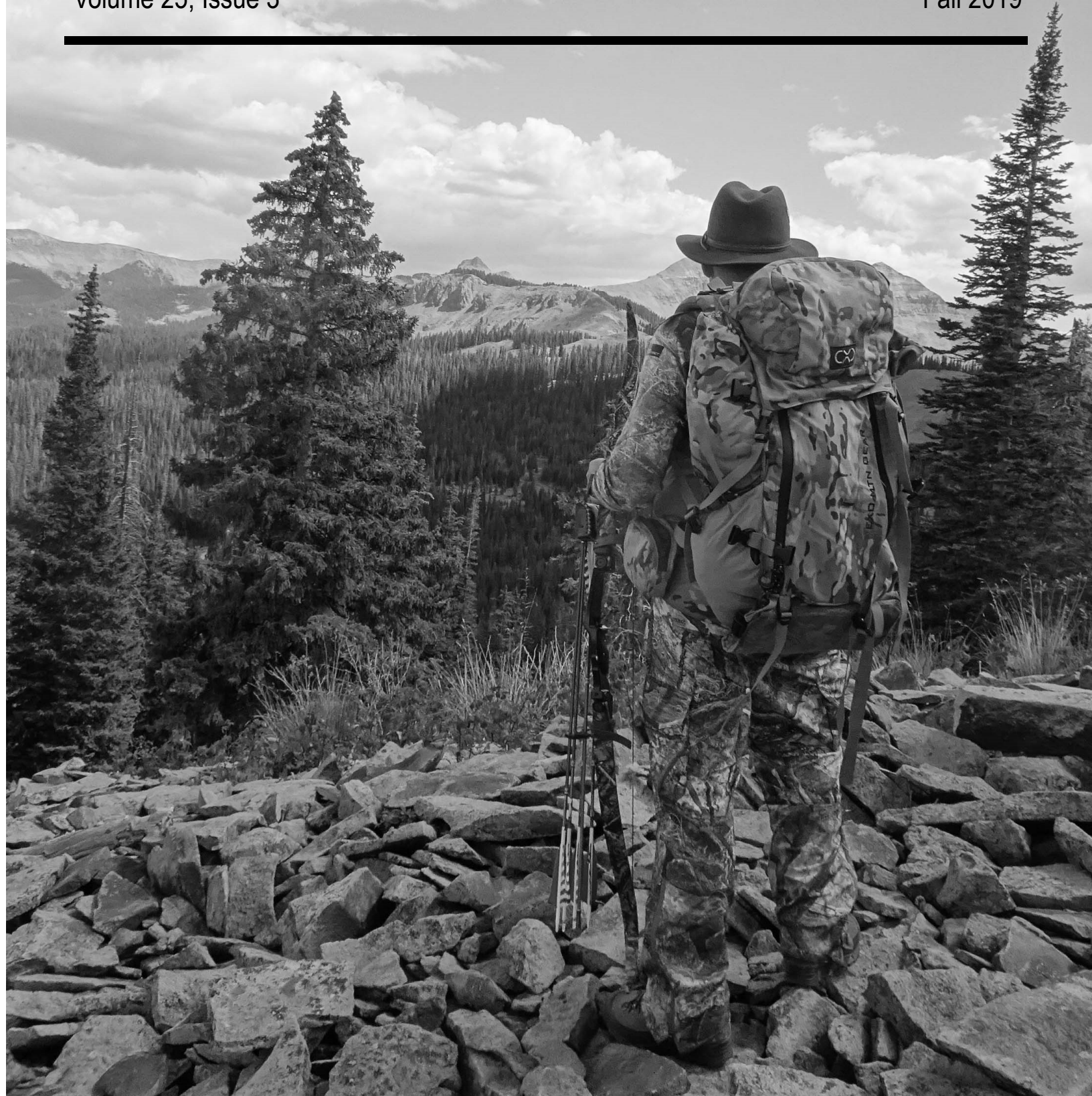


A Traditional Bowhunting Organization

United Bowhunters of Illinois

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United Bowhunters of Illinois Contact Information

President

Tim Nuss, 500 W. Green Street, Roberts Illinois 60962 - 217-379-7555 - tim_nuss@hotmail.com

Vice President

Bob Mayo - PO Box 95, Forrest Illinois 61741 - 815-692-6263 - ace@acearcherytackle.com

Board of Directors

Jason Farr, 12766 N. County Hwy 34, Table Grove Illinois 61482 - 309-221-3352 - jasonfarr@gmail.com

Paul Ladner, 120 Lakeland Drive, Galesburg Illinois 61401 - 309-368-5476 - paultladner@gmail.com

Nancy Norris, 275 Foxrun Road, Goreville Illinois 62939 - 618-363-1646 - gmashooter@gmail.com

Jered Shofner, 7787 Buttercup Drive, Weldon Illinois 61882 - 217-519-4292 - jeredshofner@yahoo.com

Regional Representatives

Region 1 - Denny Hayford, 8700 Primrose Court, Manito Illinois 61546 - 309-840-2327 - stykbow2@yahoo.com

Region 2 - Dan Forystek, 13230 Ave O, Chicago Illinois 60633 - 708-280-5169 - danielforystek@sbcglobal.net

Region 3 - Ron Hayford, 57 Lakeside Villa, Sullivan Illinois 61951 - 217-493-5960 - ronhayford@yahoo.com

Region 4 - Gilbert Best, 87 Calstrada Drive, Staunton Illinois 62088 - 618-635-2360 - best5@madisontelco.com

Region 5 - Randall Beasley, 322 Northwood Lane, Salem Illinois 62881 - 618-780-4006 - beas322@charter.net

Conservation Committee

Nancy Norris, 275 Foxrun Road, Goreville Illinois 62939 - 618-363-1646 - gmashooter@gmail.com

Education Committee

Paul Ladner, 120 Lakeland Drive, Galesburg Illinois 61401 - 309-368-5476 - paultladner@gmail.com

Legislative Committee

Jason Farr, 12766 N. County Hwy 34, Table Grove Illinois 61482 - 309-221-3352 - jasonfarr@gmail.com

Non-Board Positions

Membership Secretary - Cheryl Best, 87 Calstrada Drive, Staunton Illinois 62088 - 618-635-2360 - gilbertcherylbestbowhunter.com

Newsletter Editor - Michael Wiltse, 615 Fenton Avenue, Romeoville Illinois 60446 - 815-867-8782 - ubieditor@yahoo.com

Secretary - Tom Bartolomucci III, 40 Crater Lake Drive, Springfield Illinois 62712 - 309-241-8873 - hd.barbo@yahoo.com

Treasurer - Jan Mayo, 105 S. Webster Street, Fairbury Illinois 61739 - 815-692-6263 - jan@acearcherytackle.com

Website - Michael Wiltse, 615 Fenton Avenue, Romeoville Illinois 60446 - 815-867-8782 - ubieditor@yahoo.com

The UBI newsletter is published quarterly by the United Bowhunters of Illinois. Opinions expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of the UBI.

If you would like to have an article, letter, photograph or other item published in the newsletter, send it to the editor.

All MS Windows based PC programs/formats can be used. All materials submitted become the property of the United Bowhunters of Illinois and we reserve the right to edit or reject any material submitted.

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Commercial advertising rates: Per Issue Ads, Full Page - \$40, ½ Page - \$30, ¼ Page - \$20, Business Card Special \$10 for 4 issues

We offer FREE classified ads to members. Personal items only no business ads. Contact the editor for more information

If you have a favorite charity you would like the UBI to consider supporting, please contact a board member. All donations to the UBI are tax deductible.

Have You Moved?

Please Keep Your UBI Membership Records Up To Date
Send Address Or Contact Info Changes To Our Membership Chairman

Visit The New UBI Website at -

<http://www.unitedbowhuntersofillinois.org>



President's Report - Tim Nuss

By the time that everyone gets our newsletter the Illinois bow season is well under way. I hope that everyone has a safe and enjoyable season. When you are able, I would like to encourage everyone to keep us in mind and post any pictures and details on our Facebook page or our Instagram account.

This has been a good summer for the U.B.I. We have been involved in quite a few events, having a great time and promoting the U.B.I. and Traditional Archery. I am working on getting several other archery clubs to have an All Traditional Archery Shoot. The East Central Illinois Archers in Urbana Illinois and The Joliet Archers in New Lenox Illinois have really been good for us. We had a great representation at Compton and our Illinois events this year. We were able to sign up several new members. Most of them don't even live in Illinois, but they want to help support for our organization and what we stand for. The volunteer turnout this year at the Illinois State Fair was great. I really think we do a great job in promoting archery and bowhunting at this event. I have had quite a few memorable times at the Archery Tent at the Illinois State Fair. We also owe the Secker Family a great amount of appreciation for all that they do every year at the Illinois State Fair in the Archery Tent. They put in endless hours. They are able to introduce more people each year to Archery than we will ever know. The Archery tent is a highlight for a lot of kids and adults each

year because of all the hard work that the Secker's put into it. Thanks to the volunteers as well I would personally like to thank Marie and Bill Secker for everything.

We are working on the U.B.I. Annual Banquet for 2020. It is coming along very well. I hope that everyone will be putting the banquet on your calendar now March 7th, 2020 (Saturday) at the Northfield Inn, Suites & Conference Center in Springfield Illinois. We will get more detailed information and the event agenda out to everyone as soon as we finalize everything.

If anyone has any questions, suggestions, comments or ideas for the United Bowhunters of Illinois please let me know or contact your U.B.I. Region Representative.

Tim Nuss
500 West Green St.
Roberts, IL 60962

Cell Phone 217-379-7555
Home Phone 217-395-2411
Email tim_nuss@hotmail.com

Director's Report - Bob Mayo

As you read this issue of the UBI newsletter, squirrel season has been open several months and you've already had a month of deer season. I hope some of you UBI members have already had some good luck in the woods. As I write this report, I am looking forward to having a great time at the UBI Region 3 event at Wolf Lake State Park on Lake Shelbyville in mid-October. It will be history by the time you read this, but I hope you didn't miss it because Ron and Karen Hayford always put a lot of time and effort into making this a great event for UBI members and friends.

Jan and I plan to be at Pine Hills Campground in the Shawnee National Forest, November 7-11. Fellow traditional bowhunter Bernie Finch, from Wisconsin, is coming down to join us for some hunting and camping. We always enjoy hunting in the great weather there, right before shotgun season, and sometimes even a few UBI members show up.

Don't forget to get your application in early for spring turkey season, so you can get your favorite county and dates. Also don't forget that a 30 pound bow is legal for deer and turkey in Illinois now. The Illinois Hunting Digest no longer has a sunrise/sunset timetable anymore, but they suggest that you get the official sunrise/sunset times for any location at https://aa.usno.navy.mil/data/docs/RS_OneYear.php

I hope all of you UBI members have a good time and lots of luck in the woods this season, and I'll keep this short because I'm ready to grab my bow and go out to shoot some squirrels.

Bob Mayo



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See Inside Cover

Director's Report - Nancy Norris

Here are some of the traditional events we attended in the last 3 months.

The IBO Traditional World was held in Pipestem, West Virginia in July. In 2020 the IBO Traditional World will be returning to Clarksville, TN with the Twin Oaks Bowhunters as the hosting club. This year they added more events, and of course I participated in as many as I could. All of these extra events are free. Here is a list of the sponsors and their event:

Self Bow Challenge sponsored by Arvin Weaver

Last Man Standing sponsored by CD Archery

Champions Showcase Shootdown sponsored by 3 Rivers Archery: (2 divisions for men, 1 division for women)

Bow Up 4 Bucks sponsored by Bob Lee Bows

I'm proud to say I came in 6th at the 2019 IBO Traditional World Championship. I shot with some fantastic ladies who are great shooters.

The Superman Classic was also held in July at Metropolis, Illinois. This event brings in some great traditional shooters. We have fun and enjoy the competition.

The Traditional Archery Society's Great Lakes Regional was held in August in Winchester, Indiana. TAS puts on a great shoot and constantly promotes traditional archery.

Muddy Creek Archery Club held their annual September shoot, also in Winchester, Indiana. Their course and activities are enjoyed by all. They have both a 40 target big game course with 2 stakes for a total of 80 shots, and a 20 target small game course with 2 stakes for a total of 40 shots, a coon shoot with 10 targets, and a 10 target survivor challenge.



South Central Archery Club holds a mixed shoot at Stephen A Forbes State Park in Region 5. We were able to shoot with Randy Beasley in August.

Looking to the future, we are anxious to attend the **Region 3 UBI Rendezvous at Lake Shelbyville** in October. Karen and Ron put a lot of work into this event, and I would love to see it continue to grow each year. Danny will be hunting, while I'll be tending our campfire. While writing my article today, Danny was out checking stands and natural blind locations, and found this set of shred antlers.

So very proud of **TEAM USA** who went to LAC LA BICHE, Canada for the 2019 World Archery 3D Championships. I believe there were over 40 countries represented. For Team Competition, the USA Women's Team came in 3rd, and the USA Men's Team came in 4th. There were individual medals won: Kenneth Rienas 2nd, and Dewayne Martin 3rd. Overall Team USA had 7 individuals who placed 5th or higher.

Nancy
618-363-1646
grandmashoot@gmail.com

Norris



Director's Report - Paul Ladner

The board met in Springfield at the DNR headquarters the second weekend of the State Fair as is our custom. Unfortunately the DNR Director was unable to meet with us as usual. Our primary purpose for being at the Fair was to help man the archery tent. We had adequate UBI participation on Saturday and assume Sunday went well also. We gave Bill Secker, who largely runs the event the entire time of the Fair, \$500 to help supply the tent and also gave him a token thank you.

The UBI has quite a fund available for education including scholarships. If you know a group who would benefit from our funding or a student who wants to apply for the scholarship please contact me.

Get to Know the World Around You

During spring turkey season a few years ago I noticed a blue heron rookery in a big cottonwood tree on the property next to one I hunt. I was fascinated watching the big wading birds come and go from the tree. There were at least a half a dozen large nests that I could see.

I recently met the man who bought the property last year. He seems like a nice guy and a decent neighbor over all. We exchanged phone numbers for the in-case-of events that could arise. In the course of our conversation I asked him if he noticed the rookery tree. I came to realize he not only didn't know what a blue heron was, but he may have seen the rookery tree and thought they were eagles nests.

I find great pleasure in learning about all the things I encounter while hunting, not just the game that I am after, and found his lack of knowledge startling. I like to be able to identify the trees in all seasons and maybe even on a stack of split firewood. I like to know the edible mushrooms I encounter and bring a batch home to cook and savor the flavor. I have harvested hazelnuts and roasted them to share with my family and made gnocchi with nettles. I like to know the birds I encounter and their habits. As a matter of fact if it wasn't for the diverse natural world I encounter while hunting I may not have been drawn to hunting in the first place.

If you don't know some of the natural history and native flora and fauna of the area you hunt you are missing out on a great pleasure.



Take the time to learn a little bit about what our forest dwelling ancestors would have seen as common knowledge. It might not make you a better hunter, but will reward you in ways unimagined.

My son and I had the pleasure of spending a week hunting in Alaska. He managed to show me up with a great close shot on a bear. There is no greater pleasure for me than hunting with my son.

ANNUAL MEETING IS LOOKING FOR VENDORS

Do you have a product or service that will be of interest to other traditional bowhunters?

This is your opportunity to set up a display FREE of CHARGE at our Annual Meeting. Contact any board member for more information.

Emergency Communications - Jered Shofner

Today's generation of emergency communication tools can save your life and give your family peace of mind. I spent the last hunting season with Garmin's In-reach device in my pack. The experience convinced me that more hunters, even traditional bowhunters, should explore this option.

The Garmin In-reach is an emergency SOS beacon, satellite text messaging device, and mapping GPS all rolled into a package no larger than a typical handheld GPS unit. The in-reach does all this by accessing both the Iridium satellite communications network and the GPS satellite network. The devices range in cost from \$350 to \$450.

A monthly subscription is required to activate the devices SOS and text features. Plans are much cheaper than traditional satellite phones, starting at under \$25 per month. You can also opt to turn the subscription off during those months you are not using the SOS or text services. An internet or you tube search will give you plenty of reviews on the In-Reach capabilities.



How does a bowhunter that hunts whitetail and occasional elk benefit from the In-reach? In my case, it changed the way I look at my local whitetail hunts, and helped me return to the Rocky Mountains.

My wife was less than thrilled with the idea of me venturing back into the mountains alone after my heart attack in December of 2016. When I showed her a video of how the in-reach worked, she agreed it was a smart purchase that would make her feel better when I was in the field.

I purchased my in-reach in the spring of 2018 after getting my doctors blessing to return to the thin air of Colorado. I carried the in-reach during the Illinois spring turkey season to learn how it worked. It just so happened that my partner for this hunt, Todd, would also be accompanying me for the September elk season. During that spring turkey hunt, Todd learned that his third child would be arriving in the fall. Soon afterward, he bought his own in-reach device to keep contact with his expectant wife in September. I continued to test the In-reach device during the summer of 2018. It was then that I realized just how many of the deer hunting spots I frequented had unreliable cell phone service. I could not help but think of all those bowhunters that have fallen from tree stands and waited for hours for rescue. An in-reach could have dramatically shorted their wait for help.

Once Todd and I arrived at elk camp in September, we used the in-reach device to let our wives know we had arrived safely. Our wives could even click on a link in our satellite message and see our location on google maps. Even though we sometimes had cell phone service, I learned that leaving my cell phone off kept the rest of the world from invading our hunt.



We could be confident leaving our phones off because we knew the really important people in our life could reach us. Our plan to find elk involved splitting up and covering ground. We agreed to try to stay within a couple miles of each other. Todd and I eventually worked out a system where we would send each other a pre-arranged message on the in-reach every couple hours. This took less than 10 seconds to send, but messages sometimes took 15 minutes are more to receive. The messages also contained the location of the sender.



**Webmaster
Wanted!**

Contact Any UBI Board Member



The most important feature of the Garmin is the SOS button. Once you remove the protective cap and press that button, a global rescue coordination center is notified. They immediately know who you are, where you are, and can review the emergency information you have already put into your Garmin account. The rescue center has the capability of texting you back and forth to provide rescuers with live updates. It is not a quick process, but it can save lives and make sure the right help shows up. Thankfully, I have never needed the SOS button. Garmin's website is full of testimony's from people that did.

The closest thing to an emergency we experienced was a severe mountain windstorm that toppled huge trees around us. Even though we were separated by over a mile, Todd and I were able to confirm that the other survived the storm uninjured.

The value of these tools was highlighted when a hunter sharing our camp didn't return one night. Everyone in camp was worried about his safety until he safely returned early in the morning. A quick message sent on an in-reach device could have helped us all sleep better that night.

We each have to set our own tolerance level for risk, but our families or hunting partners shouldn't have to be anxious about our safety. That is true whatever weapon you carry.

State Fair Archery Tent - Bill & Marie Secker

We had another good year at the Archery Tent with a lot of good help as always. The first weekend we had help from The Panther Creek Archery club and DNR Employees.

During the week days we had DNR employees and a few outside help. The last weekend of the Fair the UBI took over and did a wonderful job. On Saturday we had Tim Nuss, Jason Farr, Jerod Shofner, Keith Griffith, Jim and Debbie Ellis, Paul Ladner, Jim Schultz, and Bernie Swank. On Sunday we had Tim Nuss, Ron and Karen Hayford, Denny and Ann Hayford, Jamie Ellis, Ron Jack, Don Osborn and Chuck Ormsby.

It is nice to see the UBI members as I am gone all winter and only get to see them at the Fair. It is also good when Ann bring her delicious cookies. Thank you Ann for being so kind.

We had a first this year with a blind young man shooting a bow with the help of Tim Nuss. Tim did a wonderful job with this young man and he was very happy with the outcome. Tim also had another young man that had deformed hands and yet was able to shoot..It was amazing watching and seeing this take place. We also had another blind young man during the week that Nathan from DNR helped and it was so emotional to watch these young men and see how they could accomplish such a task.

The weather this year was quite warm and humid and a couple days had a little rain. We seemed to have about the same amount of children this year however with schools starting back up so early we would have some lulls in the crowd and would be able to visit with our help.

Marie and I appreciate everything the UBI does to help us and we want to thank you for the gift card and money that you gave us. This is our 20th year doing this and we hope our health will hold out so that we can continue this venture. If it wasn't for Joe Robinson from DNR who makes sure that we are ok and can withstand the heat we certainly would not be able to continue. He truly is an amazing man. We also appreciate all the help that The UBI continues to give us.

Thank you again for all your help and gift to us.

Have a safe and prosperous hunting season!

Bill and Marie Secker

Treasurer's Report - Jan Mayo

Checking Balance Forward	06/30/19	7,640.86
Receipts:		
There were no receipts for this period		0.00
Total Receipts		0.00
Disbursements:		
Philadelphia Insurance Companies Insurance		774.00
Michael Wiltse	UBI Summer Newsletter	519.77
Bill Secker	State Fair Archery Tent & Gift	575.00
Triopia District #27	NASP Grant	500.00
Total Disbursements		2,368.77
Pierce Memorial Scholarship Fund		965.00
UBI Savings Account Balance		1,002.95
Ending Balance as of 09/30/19		7,240.04

The above is a true and accurate accounting of Income and Expenses incurred by the United Bowhunters of Illinois for the Third Quarter, 2019, commencing July 1 through September 30, 2019. Any questions or concerns can be addressed to me at my email address: jan@acearcherytackle.com

Respectfully submitted, - Jan Mayo, Treasurer

Director's Report - Jason Farr

Dear Fellow Traditional Bowhunters,

With the state fair tent and the majority of 3D shoots behind us I have to say Happy Autumn. By the time you read this the mornings will be frosty and the leaves may be at their peak. Good times are well under way and hopefully a few of us will have a deer or two in the freezer. One thing I can assure is that the corn will be standing later than usual this fall. In fact, due to the late planting this spring I'll unfortunately be spending more time in a combine than a treestand the first half of the November.

Random Thoughts.

I do love sitting in a treestand on the edge of a standing corn field. Especially where the corn dwindles along the edges due to a combination of the lack of sunlight and fertilizer. The deer can just appear out of nowhere and often already in bow range. In my opinion the days are gone when you can do the Otis "Toad" Smith. He was a traditional bowhunter from Iowa who's claim to fame was stalking and killing whitetails in standing corn in the 1980's. Well, that and using a piece of his own heart after a heart valve surgery to catch a six pound channel cat. In the 70's and 80's corn rows were

thirty-six inches wide. Now they're thirty and sometimes twenty inches wide and the seed planting population has increased from 20,000 to 35,000 seeds per acre. Long story short, there's a lot more out there making visibility and a shot opportunity often impossible.

Speaking of visibility or rather the desire to be invisible, I recently had a conversation with a seasoned bowhunter and hunting from the ground came up. I've always said that the best camouflage in the world is "Don't move". He brought up the point that breaking up the outline of the human head and neck is absolutely the most critical asset to staying undetected. When he's not wearing a full Ghillie suit he's at least wearing the head ware. Last fall he killed a mature doe from the ground at spitting distance. That in my opinion is more impressive to me than any big buck killed out of a treestand. Anyway, it's deer season. I wish you the best of luck in whichever way you prefer to do it with your stickbow.

For the last several years I've participated in a program called The Dream Hunt Foundation. Meaning I guide a child during the firearm youth season who has some form of extreme handicap. Most unfortunately have a type of cancer or sometimes they have been in

a horrible accident leaving them wheel chair bound. The young man I'm guiding this fall has a brain tumor which affects everything from his feet to his eyesight. The tumor has also left him blind in one eye and in the other eye he has the vision as if you were looking through a straw. With help from others the plan is to mount a computer tablet to the scope of my slug gun. What the scope sees the tablet sees allowing him to aim and shoot. Also, to add to the challenge I try to capture all of this on video. What could go wrong, right? The amount of work and preparation that goes into a hunt like this is enormous but well worth it when you see the child's face after a well executed shot. I think I get more excited than the youngster I'm guiding especially when the deer folds in plain sight. No questioning the shot on that one.



With no luck drawing a bear permit in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan I'm instead heading to Kansas around the late December time frame to try to target turkeys between their roost and feeding grounds. My cousin lives in Junction City and the area has a turkey population that is astounding. We've done this before with much success especially when there is snow on the ground. The birds got to eat and they're easy to pattern by just driving the back roads looking where they're coming from and going to. I'm usually confident enough to spend all day in the blind knowing that if not bothered they'll show up eventually. Experience has taught me that these birds aren't like a lust filled spring gobbler. They are focused on food and the ground blind I'm in has to be closed up as possible to the point where even getting off a shot is difficult. Add to the fact that it won't be one bird it will most likely be twenty birds.



As I sit here writing this a day before our archery season opens I got to thinking. Is it in reality the archery season or should it be renamed the archery, mechanical arrow fling device and cross gun season? I don't care enough about what others do to start a debate I guess I'd just rather not be lumped in with the masses. I have and will state that the population of those that take every mechanical advantage/short cut are not doing what we are! Period. My lord, have you been to Bass Pro lately?

Scent containment has been a priority of mine throughout my bowhunting career. I do everything common scents allows (get it?) and still am amazed at how I can get detected. One year I brushed my teeth with baking soda for an entire deer season. Did it make a difference? I don't know but man does it make you thirsty half way through an evening sit. As I age I just do what I can and except the outcome for what it is. I'm just not the type to invest in a plastic box, I think they're called Ozonics that sit in the stand or blind with you and put off magic scent masking vapors. Again, I don't care enough about what others do to start a debate. I'm literally hours from climbing into a treestand to start the 2019/2020 archery/mechanical arrow fling device/cross gun season and man I'm telling you, I can't wait!

Good luck,

Jason Farr

"A Bowhunter"

Lawton Field Bowmen - Rashid H. Khan

Part 1. A Brief History.

The following article is a brief background for one of the oldest field archery clubs in England that I would find myself chairing for 10 years (which follows in Part 3). Credit for this article must also go to Mr David Bailey (past Secretary/Chairman) and Mr John Smith (past Member). Part 2 will focus on the pre-National Field Archery Society years.

The formation of Lawton Bowmen must have been an exciting experience for the archery enthusiasts who met for their first Annual General Meeting at Lawton Manor on March 20th 1952. Nine people were present at the meeting which officers for the club were elected and subscription rates, rules and a variety of subjects all concerned with archery were discussed.

For the convenience of members, it was decided that Sunday



would be the most suitable day for the club to meet for shooting. It was proposed that Easter Sunday be the official date for the start of the season and the club met for their first practice on that date. The proposed name of the club was The Lawton Bowmen, and it was decided that the club become affiliated to the Lancashire and Cheshire Archery Association. For the fairness of all those concerned with the club's activities it was suggested at the meeting that an insurance scheme be provided. At this suggestion the club applied for a scheme to cover them against the damage of livestock and property.

The original shoots were on the lawn in front of Lawton Hall, but due to the erection of a school there the club ceased shooting in mid-1952. Because of the difficulties encountered, the club moved to new ground between Lawton Manor and the Trent and Mersey Canal, this gave a 100-yard range. Due to the severity of the weather during the winter months, the club shot inside a Scout Hut, which was also used to store equipment. Unsuitability of the ground the Lawton Bowmen were shooting on at this time upset some of the members, two or three of them decided to join other clubs and take advantage of better facilities.

Members of the club had discovered a few grounds which may have helped their progress, but after close inspection, it was decided that all the grounds with the exception of one near Kidsgrove, were unsuitable. The President of the club Mr. Ron Pearson along with officials, decided to investigate this one ground.

It was not long after the formation of the Bowmen that the committee decided to enter archery tournaments. Many were advertised by archery clubs and associations. Members of the Stafford Archers and Dane Valley Archers were invited to a New Year shoot at the Scout Hut in Kidsgrove. Five prizes were offered at the shoot, Lawton Bowmen Championship Trophy being for the highest score in the club, and a Target Trophy for the highest score by the visitors. Archery Leagues inspire better shooting among archers; the Lawton Bowmen being a fine example of this, finishing fourth place in the short International League table. During the same year 1955-56, five members of the Lawton Bowmen took part in the County of London Championships.

Gordon Worthington won 2nd visitors prize and it was at their meeting where Gordon Worthington and Roy Hancock won their Master Bowmen scores.

Several shooting exhibitions were held at St. Lukes, Hanley, Birches Head and Bignall End by members of the club, the onlookers finding great interest in the sport.

For the second year in succession the club won the Valentine Cup by 113 points at the shoot at Lymm, which was organized by the North Cheshire Bowmen.

Although the club was very happy with the summer shooting, members were still looking for better winter indoor shooting accommodation, and finally were able to hire a hall at Sneyd Green.

The year 1956 brought many successes, Gordon Worthington achieved the highest score for a British archer at the International meeting of archers at Windsor, and for this he was awarded the Silver Cross Medal.

The size of the club was rapidly increasing, and it was thought that a split in the club would be a good idea, but it was decided that the business should be left until those members wishing to leave had found another ground.

After further lengthy discussion, it was decided that the official ground of the Lawton Bowmen was to be at Butterton. The Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary were not in agreement with the decision and preferred to stay at Kidsgrove; they resigned their positions with the club. At the new ground in Butterton hunting facili-



ties were provided, the landowner said the shooting of anything that moved was allowed except his cows and people, of course nothing that moved was harvested as it was illegal. Officers were elected for the New Lawton Bowmen and the club furthered its sport. The shooting ability of the club members improved thanks to the excellent facilities at Butterton and in tournaments they carried success to success. The club was becoming wealthier and was able to organize carnivals and parties for the good name of archery.

Three or four years later, for reasons unknown, the club did not seem too certain of its standing in the sport. The club did not have so many members and target shooting was losing its popularity. No championship meetings were attended during 1962-63 and only one member attended the popular shoot at Much Wenlock.

It was in September 1966, when those who were still interested in target archery left Butterton and formed their own club. The Lawton Bowmen now being field archery only decided to change the name of the club to Lawton Field Bowmen and also acquired a more interesting ground for their type of shooting at Sheepwash wood near Weston Coyney. The first recorded shoot that took place on 11th June 1967 14 archers shot a course of 28 forester targets. This venue was held until 1969 when negotiations led to the club moving to Beechcliffe Farm near Tittensor by kind permission of its owner Mr. F. Wood. Lawton is still there to this day.

The ground was more secluded and less accessible to the public which was a marked advantage, but on the 26th April 1980 tragedy struck in the form of a fire that burned down the pavilion and the target hut. This was a serious blow to Lawton Field Bowmen but like the Phoenix from the ashes a new hut rose by the toil and sweat of its members. Over 360 hours of work was put in by the members led by the then acting Chairman Ken Vincent. Like most clubs Lawton Field Bowmen has had its highs and lows and reading through the journals of the club it must have been a big low on the 8th of July 1973 when an open shoot was put on and only 5 archers turned up.

On the other hand the first Crecy shoot was held on the 25th August 1974 and the turnout was increased by 25% above normal.

By now Lawton Field Bowmen would normally put on two open shoots a year. "The Golden Arrow" which is based on the nationals course and the prize is indeed a golden arrow awarded to the best archer which can be won by a Gentlemen or a Lady, Longbow or Unlimited and were very well attended shoots.



Lawton Field Bowmen's other shoot of the year that was proving to be as popular as the "Golden Arrow" is "Kens Great Safari Shoot" held in honour of Ken Vincent, the then Chairman, who has over the years done yeoman service for the club and for field archery in general. The Great Safari Shoot consisted of at least 40 3D targets, half McKenzie's the other half were home made by the members of the club. Both of these shoots were attended by around 200 archers and the numbers are growing each year.

As past Chairman of Lawton Field Bowmen I would like to thank those past secretary's for keeping excellent records that filled two very large journals. My thanks also to all the past and present members for all their hard work they have put in to keep Lawton Field Bowmen going for the last 67 years. Without their efforts I would not have been able to walk around our grounds with a bow in my hand when I want to and enjoy the pleasures of Field Archery, they are the un-praised backbone volunteers of our society.

Rashid H Khan (Dutch)

Chairman 2008-2018.



Region 4 Report - Gilbert Best

August 20, 2019 I proudly purchased a new left knee. Four weeks into the purchase, my knee still needs some pressure to conform to this old body. "Everything is fine", all the experts tell me. I do hope so because my hunting trip is coming up in November and I have hills to climb and deer to stalk. This knee will need to come to grips with that. I expected things to be further along, but I am older than when I received my right knee.

In September I applied for a Bobcat permit again. I know the nocturnal cat is out there but, I have just a few friends that have actually seen one. I have never seen one on my land, but I still don't have those deer cams out to capture the beautiful cat.

As usual, the season will be a third of the way over when this newsletter comes out. Don't forget that safety in the woods comes first. This should go without saying but know your limitations. I

have now come to grips with the fact, that my tree stand days have become a tool of my past. This doesn't mean that my joy of hunting will become a thing of the past, it just means I will need to rethink my strategies...on the ground.

I do hope to see you all at the banquet in March 7, 2020. Please consider donating a books, videos, tools, bow, arrows, and or a basket of____, to help move our sport into the future. The funds that are raised during our banquet will build up our sport for future generations. Let us all help make the banquet our mission to be the best for the Traditional Bow Hunting Community.

gilbert best

best5@madisontelco.com

Region 3 Report - Ron Hayford

Thanks to all who helped at the archery tent in Conservation World at the State Fair this year. The directors helped on Saturday and Region 3 provided the manpower on Sunday. We had several good volunteers and pretty decent weather. The volunteers were Ron Jack, Don Osborne, Chuck Ormsby, Tim Nuss, Jamie Ellis, Denny and Anne Hayford, and Karen Hayford. Thanks to these volunteers we are able to expose hundreds of young people to the thrill of shooting the bow and arrow.

August 10 and 11 Randy Beasley set up a UBI promotional booth at the monthly 30 target 3D archery shoot at Stephen A Forbes State Park. This was a new place for us, so Ron Jack and I went down to Forbes which is northeast of Salem Illinois. We enjoyed shooting the 30 target course and visiting with Randy and some of the other UBI members that came to the shoot. I hope this evolves into the Region 5 event because it is a good course with nice people running it and a great state park setting.

Also in August Dan Forystek and Tim Nuss set up a UBI booth at the Joliet archers monthly shoot in Region 2. Several UBI members gathered there to shoot the course and support Region 2. A gain, Ron Jack, Karen and I went north to visit and fling some arrows.

Deer season is almost here. I have some stands out but the weather will need to cool down before I get too excited. We are looking forward to the Wolf/Eagle Creek Rendezvous and some cool fall campfire weather. Several people have called to ask about this year's Rendezvous and I think it will be well attended.

Good luck to all who hunt this fall. Be safe! Have fun!



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Region 1 Report - Denny Hayford

Deer Season Preparations

Is it just me or does it seem that every September our plans to wrap up the summer activities and concentrate on the final preparations for deer season never seems to go the way we envisioned. Well, this was another one of those years. After an amazing 15 days in Glacier NP and Yellowstone, Anne and I returned in great shape and high spirits. I couldn't wait to finish up the numerous project that were postponed due to the very warm August and counting on cooler weather to get out to the property and set a couple new stands as well as move a couple others.

The day after we got home we drove to Springfield to help with the archery tent, returning early to head to Peoria for the Happy Together tour at the Civic Center. Life is good right! I was Tuesday evening that I first notice a little tickle and cough in my throat. Within a week the doctor confirmed my diagnosis of pneumonia. Even then I really was not expecting 3 more weeks of down time. The walk up a flight of stairs was followed by a few minutes effort to catch my breath. By week five I was finally able to replace one stand and hang two new ones. The effort took everything out of me, having to stop and catch my breath repeatedly during each one. The following week we were able to make repairs on one stand, move another, and finish trimming shooting lanes for one of the earlier stand placements.

It was good to see the winter rye coming up in the lower food plot we had prepared and planted the week before. When we headed for home we had finished a 10.5 hour day by setting some massive concrete stepping stone by tractor headlights at one of the creek crossing. As a side note, my wife is considering going back to work to get some rest.

Did you notice that I have not once mentioned shooting my bow during all of this. That's because I'm still hoping for the shoulder pain and tennis elbow to subside in my right arm before inflicting more torment on them. It's now September 29th and I am hoping to take a few shots today. I know season must be close because a friend is stopping by for a couple new bow strings and is bringing another friend's broadheads that need sharpening.

Add to this helping to remove an old sidewalk at the church parsonage, framing up the new patio and sidewalk, and then pouring 3 yards of concrete. Did I mention that we hauled away the 3' x 3' slabs of concrete and reset them in my creek crossings at the property....

Now if that wasn't enough of a distraction for that task of preparing for deer season, there was the issue of the leaking roof on our small shed at the house. Of course a new roof would not be a big deal if it didn't involve the 10x16 addition to cover the concrete pad next to the shed. I'm sure this is beginning to sound really familiar to a lot of you. I really don't know why I thought this year would be different from any other. I know, Life Happens, quit whining and be thankful you can still do all this.

Next year will be different!

2020 Region 1 Stump Shoot

We plan to host the 2020 UBI Stump Shoot on the weekend of April 18. Mark your calendars! We will have the long distance shoot again and a trade blanket area. Stop by our table and the banquet for more information.

Be safe, hunt hard, shoot straight.....

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Region 2 Report - Dan Forystek

Do you want to shoot better? Maybe a better question would be, "Is there anybody out there that doesn't want to shoot better? I know I do. It's a good thing I enjoy shooting because in order to shoot, okay or about average I need to shoot a lot. Recently one of our states best shooters stated that if you want to shoot better may need to be willing to change what you are doing, and that can be hard to do after doing something a certain way for a long time. At times I forget the basics. Teaching kids and others reminds me to adhere to the simple basics. Being off from shooting for a while I found myself going through the motions and not paying attention to details. Then, I went to our region two shoot last August.

For the second year now The Joliet Archery club has held a Trad shoot that we like to call the region 2 shoot. They are fantastic and do it all. Thanks to Bob and his brother Drew for taking us in. What a nice place. A great forest setting and a lot of targets.

AS far as shooting better, two years in row this old dog learned a new trick at that range.

This year a lady showed up with a 3 piece recurve wearing a shirt that looked like a Nascar champ. I heard someone say "I sure don't want to shoot with her." She looked, and come to find out, was very serious about shooting. She walked over to a novelty shoot where I was shooting at a 55 yard target and shot like I thought she would, remember the shirt with all the pro sponsors? Then I watched her shoot at 20, 30 ,35 yards and it was impressive as expected. When she began to pack up to leave, I saw Tim Nuss talking to her and I walked overtook say goodbye. In conversation she mentioned that she had been shooting for four months. I know people that have shot all their lives and don't shoot that well. FOUR MONTHS. It takes a lot for me to be at a loss for

words. Fear not I soon overcame that lapse of speechlessness and dug in like Walter Cronkite...Almost.

What Vicky explained to us was an approach that could be applied to a lot of things that a smart person would use in a new endeavor. She started out on the right foot. Before picking up any bad habits she found good instructors and dissected every aspect of proper form. Then one by one perfected every one, one at a time and did not move on to the next until that one was correct until she mastered them all. As I fought the urge to ask "Why didn't I think that?" She explained very logically that she was a musician and that is how she learned to play many instruments perfecting one thing at a time before moving to the next. Her form was impeccable. While watching her shoot It occurred to me that my release form had become sloppy and now corrected helped me get back to shooting, well, okay.

Again, thanks to Joliet Archery for everything and thanks to all who came out and all who drove so far to attend. AND,

Thanks Vicky.

Dan Forystek



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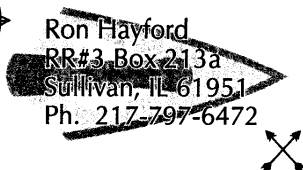



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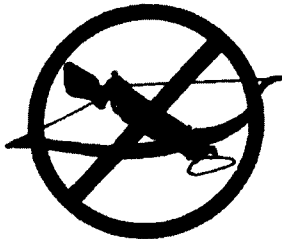
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UBI Crossbow Position Statement

The United Bowhunters of Illinois is adamantly opposed to the inclusion of any weapon that is not hand drawn and hand held in Illinois' archery season. Specifically, we are opposed to the use of the crossbow and the drawlock device, as well as any other weapon that does not require the shooter to draw by hand, hold by hand, and release by hand. Such weapons have the potential to negatively alter the primitive weapon status originally designated for archery seasons in Illinois

We are not opposed to the use of such devices by the truly handicapped, but we do question the legitimacy of some of these cases. Therefore we support all efforts by the IDNR to maintain the integrity in issuing handicap permits so as to minimize abuse in this practice

UBI Archery Season Position Statement

The United Bowhunters of Illinois is opposed to the creation of any new hunting season, or the extension of any existing hunting season which will decrease the length of the archery only season or displace the season into less favorable dates. While the United Bowhunters of Illinois recognizes the rights of hunters who choose to use other weapons in separate hunting seasons, we will oppose all efforts to include such users in Illinois' archery season

UBI Big Game Shooting Enclosure Position Statement

The United Bowhunters of Illinois opposes any big game hunting where the animal is within the confines of game proof enclosures. We oppose this despicable practice on the grounds of fair chase hunting, the threat of disease spreading from captive cervids to our wild deer populations, and the fact that privatizing wildlife is contrary to the North American model of game management. It is our position that the selling of hunts for big game animals that have been raised within an enclosure, or animals that currently are confined within an enclosure should be illegal in Illinois