

A Traditional Bowhunting Organization

# United Bowhunters of Illinois

Volume 23, Issue 1

Spring 2017



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

## **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 - Jim Ellis

The gathering of fellow bowhunters at the 2017 Annual UBI Banquet on March 4 in Springfield was another good time. Special guest speaker Mr. Mike Mitten told stories of solo wilderness hunts, how he prepares, and why he goes alone. He is a very humble and well-spoken ambassador for bowhunting. During the banquet, he shared his upbringing in the Wisconsin woods. Mike's story is a reflection of many that sat in the room that evening. He paid respect to family and friends who shaped his young life and helped him develop into the successful man he is today and to experiences in the Wisconsin woods that served as his apprenticeship for hunting adventures in Colorado, Alaska, and Africa. I cannot thank Mike enough for sharing his time, knowledge, and bowhunting stories with everyone at the UBI banquet.

The hour-long presentation made by Dr. Matt Springer for his deer travel study was barely enough time. While a graduate student at Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Dr. Springer put tracking collars on whitetail deer in the area around Lake Shelbyville. Part of the focus of his research was to study deer contact thru travel to help study the spread CWD. A big take-away was that deer travel much further than thought. Dr. Springer also reinforced that the Illinois Department of Natural Resources is doing everything they can to head off CWD. The non-actions of the Wisconsin DNR to control CWD have led to devastating results with thousands of deer infected.

I would like to thank Mike Davenport for sharing his British Columbia mountain goat hunt with the membership. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed Mike's story of a tough yet satisfying hunt. I also thank Cody Considine, Restoration Ecologist with The Nature Conservancy for his sharing his time and telling us a more about the work of TNC.

A big thank you goes to everyone who donated items for the bucket raffle and the auctions. And thanks to everyone who bought these items. I cannot thank the vendors enough who set up at our banquet. The vendors bring a plus to the banquet, and it is very appreciated.

Our banquet numbers were down again in both members attending and dollar brought in. No matter if we're big or small, the same effort goes into a planning and running the banquet. I want to thank the UBI board for its work to make this possible. Also thank you go to Membership Secretary Tim Nuss and his wife Karen for preparing the mailings and banquet packets. Many thanks UBI magazine editor Mike Wiltse for keeping track of all the banquet donations. We thank Treasurer Tom Bartolomucci for his time selling raffle tickets and recording auction receipts. Thanks to Gilbert & Cheryl Best for all their work to set up and watch over the hospitality room. Jerry Gille was a major help when need with banquet planning and coordination. Bernard Swank is always there to help with the live auction as he has for many years. And a big thank you goes to auctioneer Col. Bernard Bree and his son-in-law Brad Martin for giving there time to UBI. It wouldn't be a banquet without them.

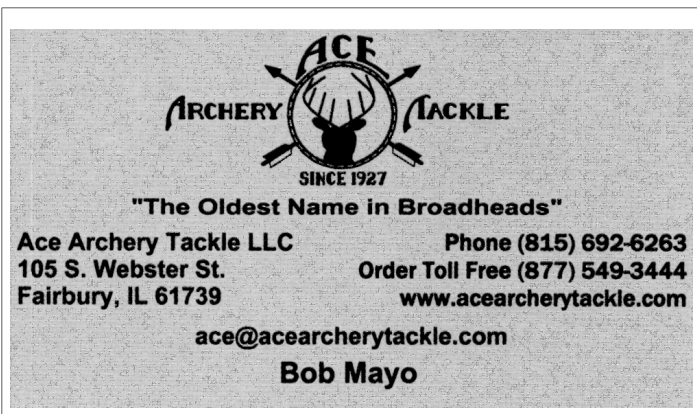
The main topic at our membership meeting was the crossbow. Illinois Federation for Outdoor Resources President Scotty Bryant talked about a number of bills in Springfield trying to include the crossbow in our bowhunting seasons. The NRA, yes the National Rifle Association, lobbyist is the main pusher for the crossbow. It shows the NRA could care less about the Illinois deer herd and bowhunting in Illinois. Their only desire is to boost the archery industries bottom line.

As I write, Jerry Beverlin is writing language for a bill to define the crossbow. Will this stop the full inclusion of the crossbow in the archery season? I don't know, but we'll try. Tim Nuss has set up a meeting with State Rep. Tom Bennet who is willing to introduce the bill. If the bill gets introduced we will need 100% of UBI members to help get it pushed through. Peter Tarsha and Mike Wiltse have worked on adding a Witness Slip tab to the UBI web page. This will make it easier for members to speak their mind legislation that makes it a committee hearing.

At the membership meeting no one came forward to run for the three board position that will be open. Since the meeting three members have come forward to run as candidates for the president and two board positions. I am proud to see members step up to the plate for this organization. I want to thank out going board members Denny Hayford, Devlin Neuhaus, and out going Treasurer Tom Bartolomucci for his time and dedication to UBI. As out going president, I am very proud to be part of a great group of bowhunters.

Jim Ellis

Maquon



## Director's Report - Peter Tarcha

Cody Considine, from the Illinois Nature Conservancy came to our banquet at our invitation and presented an overview of the Conservancy. He highlighted a tool that the Conservancy feels is the most effective in our arsenal for preserving the native woodlands of Illinois, namely, FIRE. Controlled burning on a prescribed schedule can prevent the continued degradation of our grasslands and woodlands by invasive woody species such as buckthorn, autumn olive, and honeysuckle. Once these invasives become established, the understory becomes matted and nonburnable reducing fire as a useful tool. UBI members, especially those who own acreage, should consider training on the safe use of fire, as a maintenance tool and encourage others, especially government agencies overseeing public land to do so as well. I can provide you with an electronic copy of the Illinois Fire Needs Assessment (31 pages) if you contact me. Chicago Wilderness offered three winter sessions of the Midwest Ecological Prescription Burn Crew Member Training class which unfortunately ended in March 2017. Think about it next year and see what is available for training in your local area.

Cody indicated that the bow hunting opportunities on Conservancy lands depend on the site, since all of their sites have different guidelines. If anyone is interested they can contact the site preserve manager. Let the UBI Board know what you find.

Professor Matt Springer, from the University of Kentucky, gave a talk at our banquet seminar session on the movement of deer in Illinois. His work showed that individual and sometimes multiple deer will make excursions of many miles from their current herd and then return several weeks later. It was not correlated with the rut. This may be a concern with regard to spreading wasting disease to distant herds throughout the State, but much more study is needed to allow definitive conclusions.

Matt also highlighted some attractive elk hunting opportunities in Kentucky.

A Statewide crossbow bill for the entire archery season in Illinois is working its way through the legislature (House Bill 1771). As of late March it was in the House Agriculture and Conservation Committee. Please go to <http://my.ilga.gov/Account/LogOn> and create an account to generate a Witness Slip opposed to this bill if it is still in that committee. I understand that all witness slips are noted during the hearing. Alternatively, go to our UBI website and click on the tab "Legislation" for more guidance on this bill and on creating witness slips. In the future we will create a UBI e-mailed form. You will be able to use the form to generate a witness slip with just a few inputs, directly on the form in the e-mail.

Archery cannot be performed with a crossbow!

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## Director's Report - Paul Ladner

The banquet was well attended in light of our total membership numbers and the live/silent auctions and raffles raised a nice sum of money to support our budget. Thanks to everyone who participated in running, donating to, speaking and attending the event. The speakers were great and make attendance well worthwhile. Thanks to our vendors. I hope they found the event rewarding.

The membership meeting involved much good discussion (minutes as such should be included elsewhere in newsletter). The organization could use members to step up and fill board positions... Just because no one twists your arm doesn't mean you won't be welcome. Much thanks to those who have served or are serving on the board. Special thanks to Jim Ellis who has chaired the board and served the UBI for years.

New members are also welcome. If you know someone who isn't a member, but might find the UBI a group of friendly faces make sure you invite them to join.

Scotty Bryant (IFOR rep) was in attendance and spoke at length about legislative concerns and attacks on hunting privileges by antis. There is a plan is to set up an easy to access link on the UBI website so members can file witness slips in support or opposition to legislation that concerns us. I assume it will be explained elsewhere in this newsletter. Your participation is very important. Our voice as an organization is great, but all of us as individuals can weigh in and influence as well.

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# Director's Report - Denny Hayford

## Education Committee request for assistance

The education committee has received a request for assistance from Ken White on behalf of the W D Dubois Council of the Cub Scouts. We are looking into purchasing recurve bows for their archery program. The committee is reviewing this request and will likely be able to provide some assistance in the next couple months. I am also waiting to hear back from another member that contacted me last month about a donation for another program.

I am glad to see that more of the requests we are getting come from UBI members involved with these archery programs. We have to get involved and promote traditional archery. If we just leave it to the NASP programs and don't challenge what has become the status quo the kids are only going to be introduced to mechanized archery.

## The Banquet

The attendance was down again this year but I believe the donations might have been up. As directors we are struggling to come up with auction items that will have more appeal to the members. Most of us already have too many bows, etc. (now I can't let my wife read this because I've always told her you can't have too many bows). We are open to suggestions as to the types of items members would be interested in aside from the typical trad related archery gear. Please don't hesitate to contact one of us to bounce around ideas. We are always looking for appropriate avenues to help fund the organization. We are becoming fewer and need to look at drawing revenue from outside the organization as well as from the members if our numbers continue to decline.



*Phil Caywod's arrows*

With that being said I would like to once again thank the membership for their generosity both those that donated and those that spend their hard earned cash. Without it we would have to cut down or cut out some of the support we are giving to either education or conservation. In the near future we may have to make some of these tough decisions about which areas we want to continue to support.

As a thank you I built Phil Caywood a dozen Port Orford Cedar arrows, 6 target and 6 flu flus using turkey tail feathers for the flu flus. All had silver/white reflective raps for easy find in the dark. Thanks again Phil for another beautiful bow.

## Region 1 Spring Stump Shoot

The Spring Stump shoot will be over by the time this goes to print but from conversations with many members I expect to break attendance records.

## UBI Dress Shirts and T-shirts

There are still T-Shirts both long and short sleeve and all sizes available. I can't thank Raymond Koehler enough for creating this work of art just for our organization. I have the t-shirts so if anyone wishes to purchase one please contact me and I will try to work it out to get you one. Remember that Ray donated this to the UBI and all the proceeds go to the club. S-XL \$14.00, 2XL \$16.00, long sleeve S-XL \$16.00, long sleeve 2XL \$18.00. Denny Hayford (309-840-2327)

You may have seen the directors and regional reps walking around wearing UBI dress shirts. These are also available for purchase. You may contact EmbroidMe (Bill Carrigan) 815-485-4155 or email [newlenox@embroidme.com](mailto:newlenox@embroidme.com) , website [www.embroidme-newlenox.com](http://www.embroidme-newlenox.com) . I spoke with Bill and he will take individual orders.

## Farewell

I have enjoyed representing you on the board for the last 4 years. Everyone of your board members works very hard to fulfill their assigned duties throughout the year. I am proud to be part of this great organization. The UBI is a very respected organization in Illinois. I know that having served on the board I feel much more a part of the UBI and have closer ties with its' members. You are some of the best Illinois bowhunting has to offer. I'm sure down the road I will probably serve on the board again but for now I am asking to serve as the Region 1 Representative.

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

Best Regards,

Denny Hayford

# Director's Report - Jason Farr

From The "Farr Side of Fulton County"

Dear Fellow Traditional Bowhunters,

Another successful banquet has passed and I'd like to thank all who donated or helped out over the last several months to make it happen. This isn't the first time you've heard this request but we are continuously looking for people to step forward and assume rolls on our board. If you or if you know of someone who would be a good fit please encourage them to raise their hand. I promise, you can handle the small responsibility and you'll never be alone.

Keeping in stride with my last several articles, my personal meanderings got me to thinking one cold winter day about all the ladies in my life. NO, I know what you're thinking, now get your mind out of the gutter. You see once every year I detail all of my European and Shoulder mounts in my house. I wipe the eyes and horns down with Windex and use a small can of compressed air to blow off any dust that has settled on them. Lastly I wipe the capes down with a product called Cowboy Magic. I believe its main function is to put a shine on the coat of your horse or show animal before a competition show event. I compare it to an automotive spray wax for animals. Anyway, while working away I couldn't help but notice almost all of my mounts are male. Obviously we can't mount every animal we harvest but why do we always mount horns? If you think a matriarch doe in December leading a string of underlings to a food source isn't a trophy you're sadly mistaken. Old does have stood the test of time. She has dodged cars, trucks,

dogs, arrows, bullets, insects, and disease all while keeping track of one two or maybe even three mischievous fawns. She has probably seen one of her own fawns fall victim to the jaws of a coyote or dog, or human predator. While admiring and petting the hair of a freshly killed doe I can't help but think of what Phil Robertson said about killing ducks and "Relieving them of their worries". I shall forever have the greatest respect for our does.

In 2015 a group of us traveled to Northern Quebec each carrying two caribou tags one bull tag and one either sex tag. It was an adventure of a lifetime and I made it clear the first animal that gave me the opportunity regardless of sex was going to be a trophy. On the first full day of hunting I watched from afar two different herds of caribou led by a mature cow make their way through the tundra on the same trail system. Once they crest the ridge and were out of site I made my way down to where they were, checked the wind and made a ground blind in one of the spruce bushes. Within an hour I made a perfect twelve yard shot on a cow caribou. Did I wait to see if a big bull was coming? No, I didn't care. When I returned to camp later that night I told another hunter of my great fortune, the look on his face priceless. He said "a cow?" He then curled his nose and made a face as if I'd stabbed him in the gut. Yes, I did shoot a bull later in the trip, but he is of no more trophy value to me than my cow. And yes, that other hunter got his two bulls. On the last day of the hunt he put his compound down grabbed a rifle and killed two bulls at 300 yards. Obviously his need or obsession for success outweighed his desire to be a true



bowhunter. We all may define trophies differently, but in my mind the trophy experience of taking a cow caribou with traditional equipment at 12 yards trumps any bull at 300 yards with a gun.

Old does and cows have led to some of my greatest hunting adventures and memories. I can tell you every little detail about my first bow killed deer. It was a doe killed at ten yards while standing on a tree limb in a light snow. I will never forget my first turkey kill with a recurve. It was a hen and the arrow struck it perfectly in the wing joint. I once shot a cow elk in southern Colorado on the last day of my hunt. In total darkness I thought I was packing the elk back to camp. However, after an hour and a half engulfed by the thickest fog ever, I stumbled across the same animal's boned out carcass. I realized I had made a big circle and the trek back to camp started over.

Every October does are on the menu and I intentionally target our doe population. For one I feed my family the entire year with venison. Secondly after I get a couple does under my belt I get in a "rhythm". There is no better practice than shooting deer. You are practicing all the skills it takes to harvest a deer not just the act of shooting your bow. It's a great confidence builder, so when a mature buck passes by in November I can successfully execute the shot. I attribute that success from having done it a couple times earlier in the season. Speaking of family I have two very special ladies at home. My wife Jenny who supports my passion without

ever a complaint, and my two year daughter Ella who is everything in the world to me. She loves Mommy but she is a daddy's girl too. She loves to ride in the truck and spot deer and other critters on evening drives. I'm also fortunate to have a loving mother and even one living grandmother full of life and doing well.

How important are the ladies in our life? When a child gets hurt or scared they normally want Mommy not Daddy. But do our mothers impact our lives forever? Let me answer that with another question. When a 300 pound linebacker gets a camera shoved in his face, have you ever heard "Hi dad"?

So never take the Lady's in your life for granted. They play an extremely important part in the balance of nature. After all it's called "Mother" Nature!

A Bowhunter,

Jason Farr

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## Illinois Federation for Outdoor Resources - Rick Stillman

FOR held its quarterly meeting on March 26 at Scheels in Springfield. On the legislative front, there are some new bills recently introduced. Also, the crossbow bill is moving and will require action if we don't want to see it pass.

HB3583 and amendment 1 will allow "supplemental feeding of deer on private property" outside of the active hunting season. It also sets a mandatory fine of not less than \$500 and loss of hunting privileges for one year for baiting during the active hunting season. IFOR opposes this bill on CWD concerns

HB3204: This bill provides that the IDNR shall establish a deer season for disabled hunters and defines "disabled".

HB2410: Amends the Wildlife Code. Provides that a person may take deer with a .45 caliber or larger air-powered gun. Defines "air-powered gun" as any implement, designed as a gun that will expel a BB or pellet by spring, gas, or air charged from an external high compression power source.

HB1771 & 2893: These bills are moving and require action or will pass. Provides that any person may use a crossbow to take wildlife during the appropriate archery season. Repeals crossbow provisions limiting the use of crossbows to specified conditions, together with a related definition. Effective immediately.

SB1981: Amends the Wildlife Code. Provides that it shall be unlawful for any person to trap bobcat in this State at any time. Provides that no person shall knowingly sell, offer for sale, or purchase a bobcat pelt of a bobcat taken in this State. Makes conforming changes. Effective immediately.

IFOR will be holding its annual banquet dinner Saturday, May 6, in East Alton, IL. The cost is \$40 per single or \$65 per couple. It would be great if the UBI could show their support for IFOR by filling a table or two at the banquet. If you would like to attend, let me know ASAP and I will get information to you.

At the UBI Banquet Member Meeting, it was announced that I would send legislative alert info to members who provided me with their email address. This offer still stands. Waiting for the newsletter to send information out is often too late. I won't share your address or send it out to others, but I will keep you up to date on legislation affecting bow hunting as best I can. Witness slips can now be filed on line and this can go a long way in supporting or opposing legislation at the early committee level. Please, send me those addresses! [2longbow@comcast.net](mailto:2longbow@comcast.net)

Rick Stillman, UBI IFOR Rep

# Membership Meeting - Banquet 3/4/17

**Attendance:** Devlin Neuhaus, Jason Farr, Peter Tarcha, Denny Hayford, Paul Ladner, Jim Ellis, Tom Bartolomucci, and membership.

**Minutes from last meeting:** Minutes approved.

**Treasurers Report:** Jim gave quick update indicating the balance in the savings account was up from last year. Numbers not offered. Assume report will be finalized after the banquet. Tom would like to pass on the treasurer's job.

**Membership Status:** Membership 159, but a sizeable portion of those are past due for dues (up to one full year). 95 tickets sold for the banquet. 3 new life members.

**2018 Banquet:** It was suggested to have a self bow competition. About 10 showed interest at the membership meeting. Bernard may hold a bow building weekend over summer 2017. Some instructional books that Peter had printed were available for interested parties. Suggestions to enhance the banquet were solicited. Everyone brings a guest and the attendance doubles.

**T-shirts/button down shirts:** T-shirts were available for purchase at the banquet. They looked very nice. Also button downs produced looked very nice on the board members. I understand they could be available for all members by special order.

**Conservation Committee:** Peter reviewed the UBI donation of robo-deer and CPO award recipient. The Nature Conservancy will have a speaker at the banquet tonight.

**Education Committee:** Denny Hayford reported on Cuba School District donation made by the UBI (arrows and tabs). Also Boy Scout Rendezvous was given 2 bows and 4 dozen arrows. There have been no applications for the Jerry Pierce Memorial Scholarship (\$1000 available). #350 was raised from the sale of otherwise unused archery tackle.

**Legislative Committee:** Jerry Beverlin reported on committee and Scotty Bryant, president of IFOR spoke quite a while on issues that might concern us. There is a bill for full inclusion of crossbows in full archery season. Seems DNR is neutral. UBI and IROR remain opposed. Deer baiting bill also being floated. The DNR does oppose this. Scotty was most alarmed by the anti-hunting movement. He was pessimistic about our chances fighting them in the future as hunter numbers drop and the antis grow. He cited other reasons for concern also. Rick Stillman is to develop an email list so he can forward any legislative issues to us for opposition/support as indicated. Placing a link for filling out a witness slip should be added to the web sight and attached to any emails for ease of completion by the members.

**Regional Reps:** 4/22 Stump Shoot (Denny Hayford) 15 or so regularly attend. Make Eagle creek event a PBS odd year gathering? We should be getting event info to IFOR newsletter person (Bob Becker) for inclusion.

**Chairman:** Any interested persons are encouraged to run for chairman or other board positions which will be open.

## Special Board Meeting 3/12/17:

Held via phone conference call per Jim's concern. All board members "attended".

HB 1771 re: full inclusion of crossbows will be discussed 3/14 in Springfield. Get witness statements in.

The banquet was down @\$900 from last year. I assume a full report will be included elsewhere (in treasurers' report?)

Board positions: There are essentially 2 posts needing filled, Chairman and board member. Personal contact to be made to encourage participation.

 <p><b>IFOR</b> Illinois Federation for Outdoor Resources <i>Please Print</i></p>	<b>MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION</b>		Date _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal		<i>Please Check the Appropriate Category</i>
Name, Mr. Mrs. Ms. _____			<b>Annual Membership Dues:</b> Adult 1 year \$20 <input type="checkbox"/>
Parent or Sponsor (if Youth): _____ Age: _____			Adult 2 years \$36 <input type="checkbox"/> Adult 3 years \$50 <input type="checkbox"/>
Mailing Address: _____ County: _____			Youth (under 16) 1 year \$5 <input type="checkbox"/>
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____			<b>Life Membership Dues:</b> (16-39) \$295 <input type="checkbox"/>
Phone: ( ) _____ Email: _____			(40-59) \$225 <input type="checkbox"/>
Signed by: _____			(60+) \$175 <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Please Make Checks Payable to: IFOR</b>			<b>Amount Enclosed</b> _____
<b>P.O. Box 5, Godfrey, IL 62035</b>			<b>Pay By Credit Card:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/> VISA
<b>Phone: 618-535-0151    Email: skycarp@aol.com    www.if-or.org</b>			<b>Card #</b> _____ <b>Exp. Date</b> _____
			<b>Signature</b> _____



# Banquet Earnings - Tom Bartolomucci III

T-Shirts	Bucket Raffle	Pick of litter	Silent Auction	Live Auction	Card Raffle	Banquet Tickets
\$ 14.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 465.00	\$ 2,650.00
\$ 14.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 37.00		
\$ 14.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 30.00		
\$ 32.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 450.00		
\$ 16.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 100.00		
\$ 14.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 75.00		
\$ 44.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 60.00		
\$ 18.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 350.00		
\$ 14.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 12.00	\$ 30.00		
\$ 14.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 23.00	\$ 90.00		
\$ 14.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 20.00		
\$ 16.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 210.00		
\$ 14.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 18.00	\$ 90.00		
\$ 16.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 35.00		
\$ 14.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 65.00		
\$ 16.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 25.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 75.00		
\$ 16.00	\$ 20.00		\$ 30.00	\$ 225.00		
\$ 16.00			\$ 30.00	\$ 65.00		
\$ 14.00			\$ 16.00	\$ 25.00		
\$ 14.00			\$ 55.00	\$ 375.00		
\$ 14.00			\$ 30.00	\$ 70.00		
\$ 28.00			\$ 20.00	\$ 15.00		
\$ 14.00			\$ 20.00	\$ 95.00		
\$ 16.00			\$ 15.00	\$ 25.00		
\$ 28.00			\$ 15.00	\$ 35.00		
\$ 14.00			\$ 9.00	\$ 40.00		
\$ 14.00			\$ 20.00	\$ 225.00		
\$ 28.00			\$ 10.00	\$ 120.00		
\$ 28.00			\$ 5.00	\$ 45.00		
			\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00		
			\$ 15.00	\$ 20.00		
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			\$ 37.00			
			\$ 28.00			
<b>\$ 528.00</b>	<b>\$ 340.00</b>	<b>\$ 355.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,090.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,567.00</b>	<b>\$ 465.00</b>	<b>\$ 2,650.00</b>
						<b>\$ 8,995.00</b>

## Region 4 Report - Gilbert Best

My preparations for heading up to Brown County for my annual turkey hunt is in the process as I write this quarterly report. I love the prep as much as I love the hunt...well almost. I hope you all have a wonderful and gratifying spring turkey hunt as I am hoping to have a successful score too.

The 2017 UBI banquet was as always, a wonderful time. Thanks to both Mikes for sharing their experiences with us. Mike Mitten's adventure in Africa and hunting alone in various locations was exciting, but not something I would even attempt. Mike Davenport's stories of his monumental goat hunt in British Columbia, the preparations and training that he put into the hunt, was something I will never forget. I officially took goat hunting off my "bucket list" of things I want to try. Thank you again for giving this old bow hunter the thrill of listening to both of your stories and adventures. I am glad I was able to experience their hunts through both of these fine bow hunters eyes.

There was a box of extra magazines left over after the banquet. I brought some past issues of the magazine home to pass out, to entice new members as well as reconnect old members. One guy who some of you may remember, Tom Mussato lives just about three miles from me, the way a crow flies. I dropped by to say hello and share a bit about what the UBI has have been up to since he left the organization. He was so glad that I did. He wanted anyone that remembers him, to say hello and that he is doing fine. I guess those left over magazines weren't wasted after all. Thank you Mike Wiltse for putting together our great UBI publication and for those of you who take the time to write articles. I appreciate your time and effort.

As usual contact me for any ideas or questions you may have. I am always available to talk and help in any way. Be careful in your summer travels and remember 2017 Fall Season is just around the corner.

Happy Hunting

Gilbert  
best5@madisontelco.com  
618-635-2360

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## Region 2 Report - Dan Forystek

About the time this report gets to you we should all be looking forward to seeing carp showing up in the shallows to test our skills. Our small group has been back from our annual Texas wild hog hunt long enough for all of the thorns to work their way out of my hide and I look forward to doing it again. The action was not as good as in the past but there were some very good opportunities that did not pan out. Only one 35-40 pounder was killed and after six hours on the smoker it proved to be about the perfect size for eating. My ego says, "I want to kill a monster," and as far as bragging rights and memorable photos go, the big ones are great. That being said I will gladly take all the 50 pounders and under hogs I can get without any regrets. They are all very exciting to hunt.

Hunting for me as it is for all of UBI members is thrilling. It's the hunt not the kill that the non-hunter does not understand. That part of hunting did not become clear until many seasons were behind me. Ironically I bowhunted for twelve years before killing my first deer. In my defense you were lucky to see a deer let alone get a shot at one back then. So after twelve years of hunting for hunting property I found 62 acres an hour from home. Now similar to hunting, after the kill the real work begins. The hunt for property is over and there is an incredible amount of work to be done. I look forward to getting after it, after all those years of dreaming about what I could do if only I had my own land.

Best of luck to all you turkey hunters and don't forget your camera so we can all share in the joy your success. Get those photos in to Michael, a picture is worth a thousand words.

Dan Forystek

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## Region 3 Report - Ron Hayford

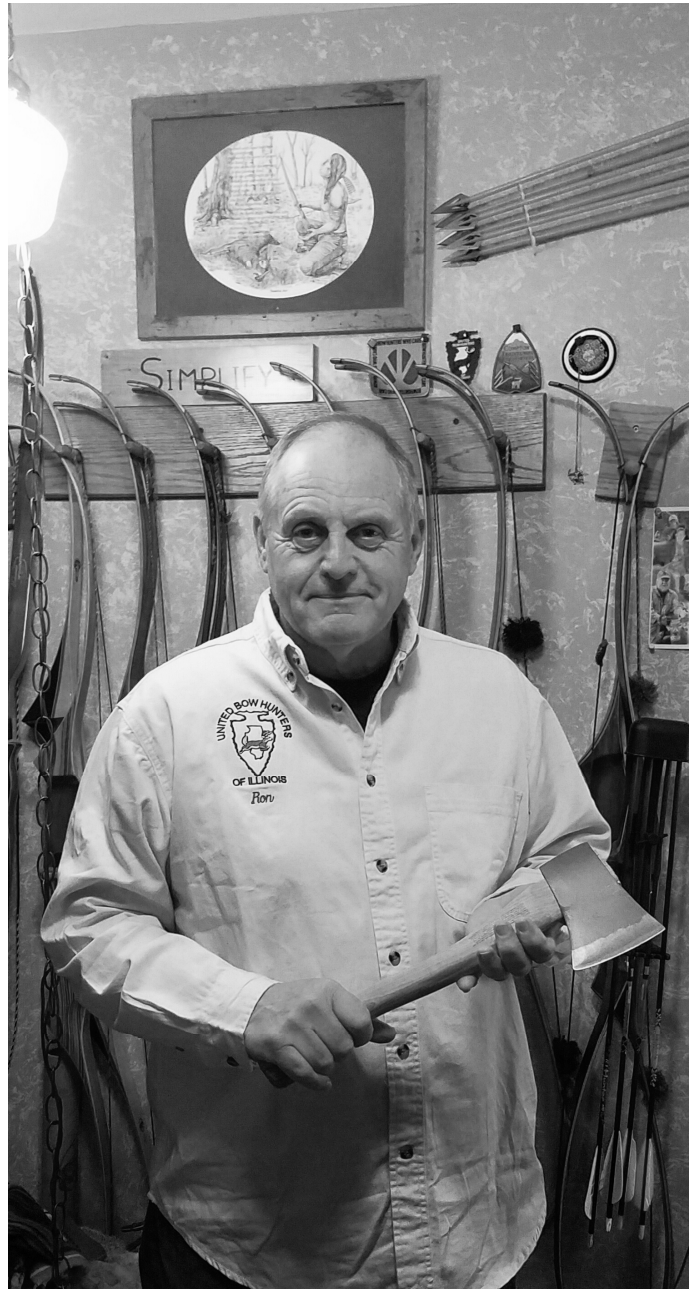
The annual banquet has come and gone too quickly. It was great to see and visit with so many traditional archers from around the state. The U.B.I Board of Directors and President Jim Ellis did a terrific job of organizing the event, and getting donations for the auction and raffles. We all appreciate the time you all put into making the banquet a success. You did your job well. Now the membership needs to do their job by attending the banquet. It is one day a year, and it's the best way to show your appreciation for the work the board and president have done to promote our organization.

I was honored and very surprised to be given a Hulds Bruk axe in recognition of my contribution to and promotion of the U.B.I. There are many others in this club deserving of this recognition. Thank you.

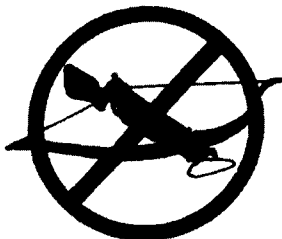
Spring activities are about to get underway. Turkey season will begin in April as well as the Region1 stump shoot at brother Denny's Deer Park on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. This is a fun gathering. He usually arranges for good weather, and sets up a nice roving 3D course through the woods, and even feeds you at the end of the day. For more information, see page 7 of the winter 2017 issue of the newsletter.

Then May starts off with the Tennessee Classic on the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, and 7<sup>th</sup>. This is a fun gathering of traditional archers, knappers, and vendors in the hills and hollows of Tennessee. Also in May is the Wolf Creek Boy Scout Rendezvous. We (the U.B.I.) will run the archery event in which several hundred scouts from Central Illinois will get to try mostly traditional archery. We can always use help with this, so if you have the urge to get the younger generation involved in archery, come on out and help us. This year's event takes place on May 20<sup>th</sup> at Wolf Creek State Park. Towards the end of May bow fishing will begin to get underway. Then June will arrive, and it will be time for the Cloverdale Traditional Nationals on June 9, 10, 11 followed the next weekend by Compton Traditional Rendezvous. At Compton, I am always amazed to see how many U.B.I members are at the Compton Rendezvous. I can usually count 25 to 30 members, some as vendors (J.P., Bob and Jan Mayo, Joe Furlong, and Ray Kohler) some are elected members of Compton (President Dave Jarvis and Director Richard Dewey), and many people are just camping and enjoying it all.

Finally, if you haven't been to the Eagle Creek Rendezvous in October, it's time to treat yourself to a great weekend. We eat well, hunt deer or turkey, shoot 3D targets, visit around the campfire; and fishing, hiking, biking and shopping are always available options. It is always the first weekend after Columbus Day or October 12, 13, 14, and 15. I hope to see you at some of these events.



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St. Mary, MO 63673		



#### **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**

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#### **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**

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#### **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**