

A Traditional Bowhunting Organization

United Bowhunters of Illinois

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Summer 2018



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President's Report - Tim Nuss

I hope everyone has been able to enjoy the summer.

It has been a busy summer with the events that the U.B.I. has taken part in. I am very thankful for the good turnout and support of our membership at these events. First, the All Traditional Only Shoot with the East Central Illinois Archers in Urbana, Illinois on May 20th went very well. I have been informed that they are going to try and make it an annual event. We were able to pick up several new members and to introduce more people to the U.B.I. I hope to see more U.B.I. members and archery vendors at it next year.

Then we set up a U.B.I. information table up at the Compton Traditional Rendezvous on June 14, 15, 16, 17, 2018 in the Berrien County Sportsman's Club, Barrien Springs, MI. Thank you to the Mayo's. They let us set up our table with the Ace Archery Tackle booth. It worked out great. We were able to sign up several new members. The U.B.I. had a very good representation at the rendezvous. It was great to see the several different U.B.I banners on the different camp sites (Randy Beasley and Denny Hayford) just to name a few.

We have one other event that the U.B.I. has worked toward getting an All Traditional Archery 3-D Shoot scheduled. It is with the Joliet Archery Club in New Lenox, IL. on August 18th and 19th, 2018. We have been working with the good people at Sauk Trail Archery to promote this event. We will have an information table set up at this event like we have had at the other events. This shoot looks like a lot of fun and a great opportunity to introduce more people to the U.B.I. Check out the Joliet Archery Club web site for more information.

I am going to continue to do everything that I can to help the U.B.I. get our name and information out to anyone that may be interested. I hope we can encourage more archery clubs to consider having All Traditional Shoots. That will help us grow and to promote Traditional Archery in our state. I hope that everyone will consider attending these events and help us get the word out in any way they can.

This year at the Compton Traditional Rendezvous I was able to get the new DVD out by Mike Mitten / Herdbull Productions titled Chasing Solitude, Passions of a Solo Moose Hunter. Mike Mitten is a UBI member and past keynote speaker at our annual banquet. The video is fantastic! It is very well done. Mike filmed it himself. I would highly recommend it. Check it out on www.HERDBULLPRODUCTIONS.com.

I was also given a great DVD from a friend and past keynote speaker at our annual banquet Barry Wensel. His video collection is named The Crooked Hat Chronicles. It is Over Half a Century of Barry's Personal Bowhunting Footage. If you are a fan of Barry Wensel and traditional archery like I am, it is a must see. It is 4 hours / 2 DVDs of Barry's first filmed hunts to his current adventures. If you are familiar with Barry Wensel, his combination of information and humor, you will really enjoy this DVD set. For more information on this and other great traditional archery related products check out www.BROTHERSOFTHEBOW.COM.

I would like to have everyone review the U.B.I. By-Laws. A copy of them can be found on our web page www.unitedbowhuntersofillinois.org. Please look at Article 4.1 Election of Members. I personally would like to see the U.B.I. amend our by-laws and remove article 4.1 altogether. I would like to ask all members to please contact me or your region representative and let us know how you feel about it.

Whenever anyone is considering making any archery related purchases, I hope that they will check out the vendors that support the U.B.I. through out the year. We are very lucky to have their support. So please see the great products that they have to offer and recommend them to everyone.

In closing I would like to thank the very hard- working people who take time out of their busy schedules to do all that they do to help the U.B.I. organization grow and always be the organization that we can be proud of.

I will be looking forward to seeing all of you at upcoming events this summer. Look for the U.B.I. banner.

Tim Nuss

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tim_nuss@hotmail.com



Director's Report - Bob Mayo

Spring turkey season this year didn't go very well for me. I had selected the first season in Union County. When we arrived at the Pine Hills campground the day before the season opened, it was cold and we got some snow flurries. I thought that's not a good sign. There were more shotgun hunters in the campground than I've ever seen there before. To make matters worse, a rockslide had closed the road about 2 miles past the campground, so there were more hunters concentrated in a smaller area. It's the first time I've had another hunter walk into my set up spot, while hunting in that area. When turkeys gobbled, there were always shotgunners headed that way. I think next year, I'll choose the second season like I usually do; there were always fewer hunters at that time.

We saw quite a few of our UBI friends at the Tennessee Classic traditional shoot the first weekend in May. The Twin Oaks Bowhunters put on a really great shoot in the hills near Clarksville Tennessee. They have one of the finest 3D courses you'll ever see, and the Saturday night dinner is really outstanding. You don't know what you're missing, if you haven't been to this shoot, but be prepared for a little rain.

We attended the first East Central Illinois Archers traditional shoot in Urbana, on May 20. They had a fine course set up, the weather was good, the food was good, and we saw quite a few of our UBI friends there.

The Cloverdale Traditional Nationals shoot in June was really good, as it usually is. Congratulations to the UBI's very own Nancy Norris, from Goreville, who won first place in the Women's Recurve class, AND congratulations to John White, from Bloomington, who won first place in the Cub Longbow class. With the new rules that went into effect this year at Cloverdale, Nancy had to not only prove herself on the regular course, but had to out-shoot everyone in her class at the Sunday shootout, in front of the judges and everyone else. Great shooting Nancy and John - the UBI is proud of you both.

The weekend after Cloverdale, we attended the Compton Traditional Bowhunters Rendezvous, near Berrien Springs Michigan. There were many UBI members at this outstanding traditional event. Tim Nuss set up a UBI table at our Ace booth, and spread the word about the UBI. He signed up a few new members, and even a new life member.

I am always surprised at the number of Illinois bowhunters we meet at these events that have not heard about the UBI. We all need to help spread the word to our fellow Illinois traditional bowhunters, and to any bowhunters who may be interested in traditional archery.

Squirrel season will be open by the time you read this. I hope to have better luck with the squirrels that I did with the turkeys this past spring. The UBI has a lot of diehard squirrel hunters in its ranks, but if you haven't done much bowhunting for squirrels you should give it a try. It's a lot of fun, more shooting, more action, and the squirrels are a lot easier to drag out of the woods than those huge deer we shoot all the time.

Jan and I are really looking forward to the UBI Region 3 Fall Rendezvous, at Eagle Creek State Park, October 11-13. Ron and Karen Hayford really go out of their way putting on a great event. If you haven't been to this event, you don't know what you're missing. We get to hunt, camp, target practice, BS and enjoy a great Saturday night potluck dinner. What more could you ask for? We hope to see you all there.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish good luck to Greg Bouras in his new position as UBI Newsletter Editor. Let's all help him out by sending him those bowhunting photos and stories.

Bob Mayo
UBI Vice President



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Director's Report - Nancy Norris

As a new director to the United Bowhunters of Illinois, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I was honored that President Tim Nuss asked me to join the board, and I'm very excited about my role.

I've been married to Danny Norris for 45 years. If you don't know him by this name, he is also known as Clydebow on Leatherwall and TAS. I have been shooting for about 10 years, and Danny has been my coach throughout. He takes care of everything for me, and is my biggest supporter. I can tell you the people in traditional archery are the best! The friends we've made are very important to us. Danny and I, along with our grandson Joshua, attend about 9 all traditional 3D shoots every year.

About mid-way through deer season, I begin to miss our friends and can't wait until the first 3D archery shoot of the new year. We attend several local open shoots, the first one is in January. We can see some of our local friends at these shoots, but have to wait for all traditional 3D shoots to see some of our long distance friends.

Bob Mayo mentioned in the Spring Newsletter, that there will be two all traditional shoots the weekend of August 18-19. The Joliet Archery Club at their range in New Lenox, IL, and the Blackhawk Field Archers in Rockton, IL. We hope to attend, and meet with other club members. Will you be there? Comment on our Facebook page.

One of our favorite all traditional shoots will be held September 7-9. This event is sponsored by Muddy Creek Archers and is held at the Farmland Conservation Club, about 10 miles from Winchester, Indiana. The facilities and the club members are fantastic. Free camping along with catch and release fishing (no license required).

I would really like to connect with the ladies who are in our group. Whether you are a hunter, an archer, or if you are neither, please send me an email if you have time and tell me a little about yourself. You guys out there, please show this newsletter to the women (wife and daughters) in your life, there is a lot of information in the newsletter for them to read and enjoy.

Director's Report - Paul Ladner

As a follow up to the last newsletter report the Farm Bill is now being written. It looks like there could be an increase of 5 million acres from the current 24 million acres. There may be some reduction in rental rates and cost shares however.

Thank you Greg Bouras for taking over the newsletter editor duty. Having a quality newsletter helps unify the organization and keeps everyone informed and engaged. I wish you luck.

Material for the newsletter is always needed. An article or pictures from an event would add content and value to the publication. Contribute what you can. Unfortunately I have not been able to attend any of the UBI activities this summer, but have enjoyed seeing the Facebook posts from our members. It is great to see the good times had and social media really helps us reach people. Feel free to share these posts and if you haven't already follow UBI on Facebook.

The board hasn't met since the banquet, so there is nothing to report there. There is \$2000 in the budget for use by the education committee (I chair). No requests for funding or scholarships have been received. If you know of a youth bow hunting education effort that could use our support please speak up. If you care to apply for a scholarship, also please let me know.

We are asking for help at the State Fair archery tent again this year. The DNR really appreciates our help at this event. We typically help staff the tent the second weekend of the fair. We have traditionally held a board meeting Saturday morning and the board then staffs Saturday. I assume we will do that again. Anyone is welcome to help Saturday as well. We also staff Sunday by general membership volunteers. The dates will be August 18 & 19. Please let me know if you can help so I can be assured of adequate manpower.

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Director's Report - Jason Farr

The Farr Side of Fulton County,

Dear Traditional Bowhunters,

Summer is upon us. The local forecast is calling for the mid 90's this weekend and we're just getting started. The summer solstice is my least favorite of times. However, the UBI does have an opportunity to meet with the DNR this August for a brief meeting to go over any current concerns as well as participate in the youth archery tent at the State fair. If any of you have anything I can relay to director Rosenthal please let me know. This is an opportunity for us as an organization to be heard.

As summer slowly passes I'm starting to see our fresh crop of fawns bouncing around which in turn makes me realize another hunting season will soon be upon us. It will soon be time to hang or rehang stands, trim shooting lanes and continue to prepare for the autumn challenge we all love so much. I think the preparation to me is as much fun as the hunt.



Speaking of the hunt, I came up one point shy trying to draw for a Michigan black bear permit in the U.P. so on to plan B, a Louisiana alligator hunt this September. Planning for this trip is as much like preparing for any other hunting trip. The anticipation for adventure of chasing a new animal in an unfamiliar setting is exhilarating. Every January I hunt feral hogs with my friends from that area so they know this hunt would have to be done with traditional archery gear. When I told them that I wanted to do it without the advantage of a boat, the phone conversation went silent. It was silent for so long that I had to ask, "Are you still there?" I've seen the look on their faces several times in my life and so have you if you've ever been on a guided hunt and had the privilege to watch a guide find out he's been paired up with the client who shoots a stick bow. I guess it's just as comical as when you roll back into camp with a quartered animal in tow and get to see the enthusiasm in the same guides voice as he tells the rest of the staff how the hunt took place.

This will be the first time my Louisiana friends will have guided a bowhunter, let alone a traditional bowhunter for alligators but because I've hog hunted with them for 5 or 6 years they agreed to give it a try. Their words were, "For you we'll do it". Now the funny part. Have you ever made a shot that was well above your skill level? Have you ever done it in front of a couple friends? Lastly, have you ever done it consecutively with those same friends as a witness? I would never encourage anyone to take a shot beyond their capabilities and I even take pride in executing close and accurate shots. However, three years in a row I made such shots. One on a charging hog, one on a crippled hog where I knew I had nothing to lose and last year I made a perfect shot on a hog running broadside at 20 yards. I have no idea why I tried the last shot. As the young boar busted from its nest I instinctively pulled up and shot in one fluent motion. Without thought, I knew the shot was going to be true and the arrow hit exactly behind the shoulder half way up the body. I watched as the arrow sunk up the blaze orange fletching and after several short lunges forward the hog tumbled head over heels in the cattle pasture. When I turned around, my Louisiana friends who had seen the whole stalk kind of looked at each other in amazement. Now let me be the first to say I am certainly not a gifted archer and if you ever see me shoot I'll prove it to you. It's amusing to think that shots like I described could be done skillfully and consistently by myself. It's to the point now that even though I expressed to them that what they saw is not the norm, I don't think they believe me. I'm also a believer in what goes up must come down and my luck will eventually change so between now and the time I point my truck south, ample preparation and lots of practice with a heavy fishing arrow and barbed point is a must. If any of you have any tips on anything related to hunting these predators of the swamp, please feel free the reach out to me. It's just a couple months away.

A Bowhunter,

Jason Farr
309-221-3352

Treasurer's Report - Jan Mayo

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Dues	New Memberships & Renewals	800.00
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Revenue	T-Shirt Sale	<u>14.00</u>
Total Receipts		854.00
<u>Disbursements:</u>		
4/03/18 Ray Koehler	Art Print for Banquet Auction	125.00
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5/09/18 Michael Wiltse	Spring Newsletter	600.48
5/23/18 Cusack, Gilfillan & O'Day	Preparation of Annual Report	75.00
6/06/18 Dennis Hayford	Porta-Potty Rental – Spring Stump Shoot	<u>110.00</u>
Total Disbursements		1510.72
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Respectfully submitted,

Jan Mayo, Treasurer

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Region 3 Report - Ron Hayford

Once again UBI helped direct the archery activities at the Links to the Future-IDNR/Boy Scout Rendezvous at Wolf Creek State Park. The UBI has provided the bows and arrows for this event, so it has become a mostly traditional opportunity for the hundreds of young people that we work with. Its always a long day, but we had so much good help this year that we were not as worn out. Thank you to all the members who came to help this year. The volunteers were Tim Nuss, Denny and Anne Hayford, Mike and Amanda Barbee, Ron Jack, Don Osborne, Chuck Ormsby, Joe Atherton, Terry and Diane Bell, and Karen Hayford. Many thanks to all who helped. The kids love it and its a good way to promote our traditional way.



That was on Saturday, then on Sunday most of us traveled to Urbana to a traditional shoot put on by the East Central Illinois Archers (ECIArchers.com) at Judge Weber Park in Urbana. This is a well-run and organized club. They set up a 30 to 40 3-D target range at reasonable yardages. It is a rather level course with plenty of shade and easy walking trails. About 24 shooters turned out for the event, and the club leaders felt it was a good enough showing to justify doing it again next year. Bob and Jan Mayo set up the Ace Archery booth. Tim Nuss manned a UBI informational table, and Dave Jarvis and Kenny Davenport set up a Compton informational table. Randy Beasley was there to represent region 5. Denny Hayford was there from region 1, and Ron Jack and I were there from region 3. While at this event I was pleased to meet a region 5 member that I had not met before. His name is Greg Bouras from Ozark, Illinois. Ozark sounded familiar, so when I got home I looked at a map. Sure enough Ozark is close to Lake of Egypt where we spend a lot of our free time. The next weekend I was at Lake of Egypt, so I looked up Greg's address, and just showed up at his front door. He has a neat place on 8 acres at the edge of Ozark. The property has a pond, horse barn with horses, a garden, plenty of shade, and many archery targets. What a place! He says UBI members are always welcome. I think I'll stop there again this next weekend. Maybe he'll show me some good places to deer hunt around Ozark. Or maybe he'll sick his dogs on me.



Region 1 Report - Denny Hayford

Things are starting to slow down here with the Urbana shoot, Cloverdale, and Compton behind us for another year. I've been blessed with the flu I somehow avoided all winter so I'm writing this at 3:40 AM. Gonna take awhile to get the sleep schedule back on track. We did our part to get the younger generation involved in archery this summer. My daughter and my two granddaughters Rori and Lexi were at Cloverdale with us and Anne's granddaughters Hailey and Harper were at both Cloverdale and Compton. What a difference a year makes in their ability to shoot at this age. All showed marked improvement from last year. One or two are even listening to instructions! It is absolutely great to hear those words, "Grandpa, can we go out and shoot again?" We had a good laugh when my daughter told us that Rori had asked if she could arrange a shooting for them. An archery practice is what she meant.

Bow Tuning

Had I not missed Jason's program at the banquet I might have learned this tip in March but I thought it was worth going over again for those of you who also were unable to attend his seminar. I was purchasing a bow from Big Jim Babcock up at Compton and while he was setting up the nock point he asked me if the new owner shot three fingers under. I said yes that it pretty much all I recommend to new archers anymore. He agreed with that and then asked if I set the bow up with the nock above or below the arrow. I said always above. He then asked if I ever used two nocks, one above and one below. I said sometimes but not usually. He recommended that I try it. His experience with it was that with a single nock point above the arrow could slide down the string upon release if the nocks were not very tight. He said that it would cause erratic flight and I agreed that it probably would.

Last week I set up a bow that I had just radius the shelf on. I grabbed some arrows and headed to the backyard to see if there was any improvement in the way it shot. A couple dozen arrows later I was not happy as I couldn't get any kind of consistent arrow flight. I had noted that the nocks were looser than normal and that I had only put an upper nock set on the string. Remembering Jim's comment I returned to the shop and served an adjustable string nock below the upper one. My grouping went from a random spray pattern to a nice tight 6 inch group. I went and got the above mentioned bow and began setting it up. First testing it with a single nock set (with poor results) and then with a double nock set, and greatly improved results.

I still have about 150 bows to add the second nock set to, but I am planning on setting them all up with a nock above and below my arrow. I will also be changing over to using the adjustable nock sets. If you haven't tried this method it is worth a look. You can twist the sets one way to raise the nock and the other to lower it. This saves a lot of time with the nock pliers taking them off and putting them back on again. If you haven't tried this just look for it on You Tube, There are a lot of videos on how to do it.

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

Best Regards,

Denny Hayford

Region 1 Representative

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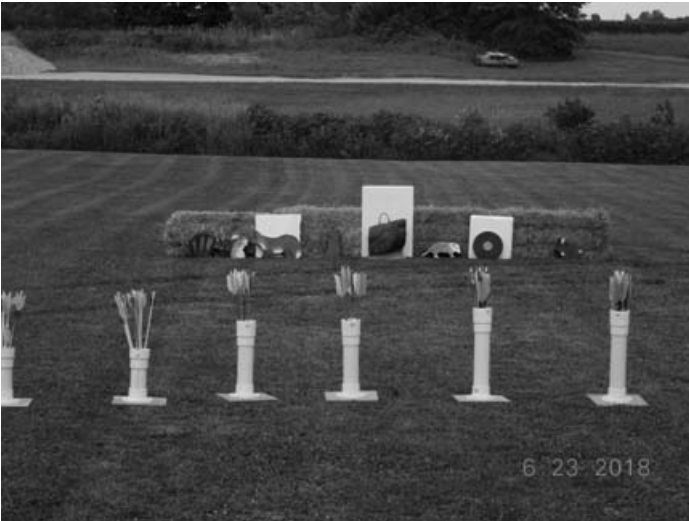
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Region 5 Report - Randall Beasley

Many UBI members look forward to specific times of the year like spring turkey season or fall deer season. Some even venture off to include a spring bear or a wild boar hunt. I too look forward to such hunts and events. However, I have found that the month of June might just be as enjoyable for me as any month. Each June, three important events take place in my life. The Cloverdale Traditional Archery National tournament takes place the second weekend, the Compton Rendezvous is the third weekend, and the Beasley family reunion is the final weekend. Whenever I can, I attend all three and am fully involved with the shooting, seminars, and comradery. Many members have been to both Cloverdale and Compton, but few know about my family reunion.



We have a two day affair with one day devoted to gathering and games and the next day with gathering and food. On Saturday evening, family members play games such as badminton, beanbag toss, washers, and of course my favorite archery. As some of you know, I have about 20 Black Rhino long bows ranging from nine pounds up to twenty-five pounds as well as several Bear recurves. With a few dozen arrows and four or five bales of straw, an archery range is created. While the number and age of family members varies from year to year, archery is always the big hit with young and old. On most years, the comments are “I had the best time shooting bows and arrows.” This year, two family members drove from North Carolina just to participate with the archery equipment. The highlight was two young brothers from Texas who discovered archery is fun. They shot so many arrows, they had to resort to Band-Aids to continue shooting, even with No-Gloves installed on the bow strings. Later, their mother stated that she was grateful for the archery lessons. She wanted to send the boys to a summer camp, but they couldn’t decide which camp would interest both boys. The boys didn’t seem interested in the archery camp. After Saturday, they were eager to attend archery camp.

While the Beasley reunion has been going on for many many years, I have been bringing my bows and arrows for just over ten years. This effort has paid off by enhancing the enjoyment for several members of the family. While few have gone on to become traditional bowhunters, some have taken up target archery.



The importance is exposure to traditional equipment. Even the family members that currently use compounds are impressed with how someone can hit any target without the use of sights. We have been blessed to have locations that allow us to use the bows and arrows safely at our family reunions. I am hopeful that my June tradition with traditional archery continues for years to come.

Randall Beasley

UBI Region 5 Representative

Beas322@charter.net

(618) 780-4006



Region 2 Report - Dan Forystek

First off I'd like to thank Michael Wiltse for all the work he has done for so long as editor for the UBI. You deserve a break. Best of luck to Greg Bouras who will be filing the editor's daunting job. I had the pleasure of meeting Greg and he seems like a very good man for the job plus he has a true appreciation for traditional archery and bow hunting.

On a sad note my good friend Mel Johnson has passed away last month. His world record Whitetail stood for 50 years all the way up to his passing. He was a pleasure to hunt with and a wealth of knowledge. As humble as could be with clever subtle humor that would have me grinning for hours later sitting in a tree stand all alone. He and his dear wife Pauline's hospitality and friendship has enriched many lives.

Anticipation at this time of the year is at it's peak. The task of preparing our land has taken a while and put me in my place as far as kidding only myself about how much one old guy can get done in a day. For a month and a half every spare moment was spent on blazing a trail to the north end of our property with a chain saw and brush hog. Four hours of chainsaw and brush hogging was getting only 15 yards at one point. When I got to the end I felt like Lewis and Clark getting to the Pacific Ocean. Now to get to some of the best hunting there is no reason to disturb the bedding area, so I'm nearly out of excuses for not having a shot this coming season.

I say nearly you see, my wife Linda came along with me one day and brought our three dogs. The six month old Black Lab pup loves to bring us sticks. For some reason he also has a fondness for Garter snakes which my wife does not share. While I was on ladder pruning an old apple tree I over heard her say, "Blue, bring it here boy." Thinking the pup had a stick. When she bent down to take his prize and saw that he was carrying a snake. Her screams nearly blasted me off the precariously balanced ladder that I was clinging to. For a woman in her mid sixtys who was never much of an athlete I have to admit she could have put Jessie Ownes to shame. The pup enjoying the game was in hot pursuit. As they streaked past the ladder and I realized there was no murder about to take place I regained my composure. I waited a moment as my pulse returned almost to normal and screams faded in the distance I whistled for the pup and came down the ladder for him to deliver his catch. That was in late May and with some luck the deer just might return by Oct. 1

Anyone running out of excuses for not bagging a great buck this coming season feel free to contact me, I have several unused ones that will fit most situations. By the way if you call in a long bearded Tom Turkey with daggers for spurs calm down and wait for him to get a few steps away from the blind. Do not stand up in a pop up blind and try shooting your long bow at him. That does not work well.

May you all have a safe and gratifying season.

Dan Forystek



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Contact Any UBI Board Member

PRESS RELEASE:

Many might remember Barry Wensel as "the guy in the crooked hat" in the early pioneering days of the first hunting videos. He's been credited with shooting the first two deer with a bow in a production hunting video in the early 1980s (Bowhunting October Whitetails." Today, there have literally been tens of thousands of them filmed. What people don't know is Barry started filming his bow hunts right after high school (Class of '62 RULZ.)

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Thank you for your consideration. For better bowhunting always, sincerely,

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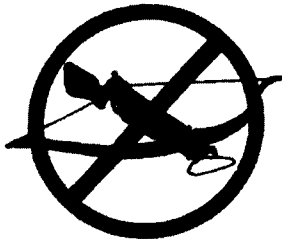


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UBI Crossbow Position Statement

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