

A Traditional Bowhunting Organization

United Bowhunters of Illinois

Volume 26, Issue 4

Winter 2021



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

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President's Report - Tim Nuss

"2021" is a new year for all of us! I am truly looking forward to it. 2020 is a year that most of us will never forget. With all the changes in our everyday lives, I hope we will come into the new year ready for the challenges ahead of us. We have endured a lot, but hopefully it has taught us that our world is always changing, and we must pull together and be there for each other.

Most of you are aware that the United Bowhunters of Illinois 2021 Annual Banquet has been CANCELLED. It was a decision that had to be made. None of us on the board made the decision without a lot of thoughtful and informed discussions. For me it was one of the hardest decisions and votes that I have ever had to make. The decision was made to cancel the banquet with the best of intentions for our membership.

We have already started our plan B preparations. It will not surprise me if we implement a plan C and plan D to make up for the loss of our annual banquet. It is going to be a massive team effort. I will get the information out to everyone as soon as we work out the timeline for our plans. We hope to incorporate a live membership meeting at some of these events. You will be notified of this and given an opportunity to have input.

With all the 2020 cancellations of so many key events for us in traditional archery, and already in 2021, we have our work cut out for us. I am going to do everything possible to get as many all-traditional events scheduled around the state as possible. I have gotten 3 events approved already and working on several more. If anyone knows of any archery club that would consider having an all-traditional archery event, please let me know. I will reach out to them and do what I can to set it up. These all-traditional events are a great way for us to get the United Bowhunters of Illinois name out in the archery community. We have benefited from these events and I hope that we will continue to do so. I would encourage you to set aside these dates and try to attend. They are a lot of fun and meeting people that enjoy the same interests is rewarding.



All that being said, I am looking forward to all of the great things that we can accomplish in 2021. This year I will have more time available to do a lot of the things that I have wanted to do for a long time but did not have the time. Please feel free to contact me with any ideas that will improve our club and add to our membership.

In this newsletter you will see me a day or two ago at Cloverdale all traditional shoot. It was a very memorable time for me. The two gentlemen in the picture with me are two people that I have the utmost respect and admiration for. I was able to sit and talk to Mr. Glenn St.Charles and Mr. G. Fred Asbell for quite a while. I would like everyone to think about the times they have had that are memorable to them and submit pictures or articles in our media forums.

If anyone has any comments, questions, or suggestions please let me know.

Tim Nuss

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Director's Report - Bob Mayo

I would like to thank Ron and Karen Hayford for all the effort they put into the October region 3 Rendezvous at Wolf Creek State Park. Quite a few members attended and enjoyed the hunting and socializing, and especially the Saturday night dinner which was catered this year because of Covid. I think everyone there had a great time, especially considering so many traditional archery events were canceled this year.

In November, Jan and I spent a few days down in the Shawnee National Forest, the Pine Hills area. We were joined by several other UBI members and enjoyed the hunting and outdoor experience. While we came home empty-handed, several other hunters in the campground got lucky.

Well, the Kalamazoo Expo was the latest traditional event to get canceled because of Covid. Because of Michigan's Covid restrictions, and since the event is held at a county owned facility, they had no choice but to cancel.

Hopefully most of the traditional archery events will go on as usual this year. A few of the early events scheduled for this year are:

Tennessee Pre-spring Arrow Fling, Feb. 26 - 28

Tennessee Classic, Apr. 30 – May 2

Cloverdale Traditional Nationals, June 11 – 13

I am sure most of you members have already heard, that the 2021 banquet has been cancelled. No one is more disappointed than I am. As I write this in mid-January, Tim Nuss, UBI President, and all the board members are working hard to plan some other

UBI events and shoots throughout the state. You can keep up with the latest news on UBI events on the UBI website, unitedbowhuntersofillinois.com or on Facebook, United Bowhunters of Illinois Campfire. We hope to see you there.

Bob Mayo

Director's Report - Nancy Norris

2020 has been a year with many challenges, however Ron & Karen Hayford came thru with another successful Region 3 event at Lake Shelbyville. Everyone had a wonderful time and it was so nice to see each other again, and safely, even with the pandemic.

Danny shot a 7 pointer with his Timberhawk Recurve and Ace Broadhead at Giant City State Park. This was an odd year for him, as he saw lots of sign but very few deer. Other public land hunters Danny talked to had commented on the same situation.

Mark your calendar for our annual banquet on March 6. During one of our conference calls, I was introduced to Gene Hopkins who will be our keynote speaker this year. Many of you probably already know Gene, however this was my first opportunity to talk with him. He is very knowledgeable and I'm looking forward to listening to him speak, plus I'm excited to meet him in person.

Danny and I are watching for 3D archery tournaments that are being planned for 2021. So many were cancelled last year, I hope that we are able to get back to our regular schedule and attend more of them.

Nancy Norris

gmashooter@gmail.com



Treasurer's Report - Jan Mayo

Checking Balance Forward 09/30/20 11,880.43

Receipts:

Dues New Memberships & Renewals 55.00

T-Shirt Sales 46.00

Total Receipts 101.00

Disbursements:

Michael Wiltse UBI Fall Newsletter 536.26

Total Disbursements 536.26

Ending Balance as of 12/31/20 11,445.17

The above is a true and accurate accounting of Income and Expenses incurred by the United Bowhunters of Illinois for the Fourth Quarter, 2020, commencing October 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020. Any questions or concerns can be addressed to me at my email address: jan@acearcherytackle.com

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Mayo, Treasurer

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Director's Report - Garrett Feik

This time last year Dad and I were coming off an incredible season of deer hunting here in our home state of Illinois. We were fortunate enough to harvest several deer each including two large, mature bucks. More importantly, we created memories that we will cling to and cherish for the rest of our lives. Now, as we begin to exit the 2020-21 archery season my reflections are much the same.

One of my favorite things about whitetails, of which I have many, is the ability to build history and track individual bucks from year to year. With the use of trail cameras, shed antlers, and personal encounters this is something Dad and I have been able to do for nearly a decade. I should admit, we are fortunate to have multiple decent sized private properties to hunt that afford us the opportunity to keep tabs on these deer through the seasons. Each fall there are specific bucks that we focus on and we do our best to place ourselves in a position for a close encounter. Hunting in this manner builds the experience and extends our time afield with a tag in hand. Many hours are invested pursuing mature bucks which provide ample opportunities for interactions with younger deer. Thus, the experiences of today are an integral piece of the entire story in future years. This proved to be the case for both of us this past fall.

The previous four seasons were largely spent chasing two specific deer on separate properties. One was a whopper of a buck we named Turkey Foot, who has still successfully eluded us to this day. He gifted us with several sightings and three sheds to remember him by which was everything I could hope for from an animal of his magnitude. Although I know he was alive this past spring he has yet to show and I no longer believe he is making tracks. His ultimate outcome may always remain a mystery. A handful of miles north we were in pursuit of another dandy buck we named Unicorn. I believe he was a resident deer on the farm, but even so was scarcely seen. During the 2018 firearm season a fortunate hunter was in the right place at the right time and was able to harvest the 7.5 year old buck.



The 2020 season approached quickly as it always does, and I was eager to get back on stand. Dad and I were busy all spring and summer scouting, searching for sheds, and prepping sets. My confidence was high, and I felt more prepared for this season than any before. Arrows were tuned and flying true, tipped with file sharpened 3 blade VPA broadheads. My agricultural career limits the amount of time I can hunt early season, but by late October harvest was nearing completion and it was time to hit the woods. In a typical year, we do not hunt our best stands until the first week of November. It is no secret that human intrusion has a major negative impact on deer movement in a specific area. This is especially true for the older age class deer in the woodlot. Out of the ten deer we have harvested in the past two seasons, nine were taken on the first or second sit in that particular tree. With that being said, I felt confident I needed to get into the "Weed Patch" stand on the evening of October 25th. It is an interior stand tucked on the downwind side of two intersecting ditches. Those ditches offer

Yesterday afternoon I took advantage of a strong NNE wind to get back into a set I normally save for November. We hunt cautiously early season and poke around the edges until the time is right to get aggressive, which for us is usually around November 5th. But yesterday I had one of those feelings that told me the time is right and



I need to get back into what we call the “weed patch” stand. Shortly after 5pm I had two adult does and a fawn filter though followed by a goofy racked 1.5 year old buck. Half hour later I heard this guy coming from the same direction on the same trail. He tested my patience stopping within 25 yards behind a honeysuckle bush for at least two minutes. Finally he made the move into my lane which I knew to be 21 yards. My arrow flew true and entered the top of the near lung and exited the middle of the offside lung before burying into a rotting log. The deer didn’t know what hit him and ran 20 yards before stopping for a few seconds. He then made his final run an additional 60 yards before going down. Shortly after I had a nice 2 or 3 year old 8 pointer come to within 5 yards of my stand. I took some video of him which I’ll post below. Before recovering the deer I left the farm to pick up my fiancé, Katelyn, and my dad who some of you may recognize. Another close friend, Will, also accompanied us to share the experience and help with pictures/dragging. I feel so incredibly blessed to have the opportunity to do what I love and share it with such great people. I am truly blessed beyond belief. I plan to get some more pictures and put together an article for our newsletter so be on the lookout for that in the near future! For those we are interested I used a 53# @29” Timber Hawk recurve with a carbon arrow and a three blade VPA broadhead.

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Making Memories - John White

Hi, my name is John White and I am 12 years old. I have been shooting archery since I was 5. My bow is a St. Joe River longbow made by Tracy Balowski. Shortly after I began learning archery, my father made a quiver for me. The quiver hangs over my back and is made out of leather and leather string. My first year at Compton Traditional Rendezvous in 2014, I asked Tracey to sign my bow and my quiver. Since then I have been collecting signatures of people well known within the archery community on my quiver.

Over the years, I have been to the Compton Traditional Rendezvous, United Bowhunters of Illinois banquets, Cloverdale Traditional Archery Nationals, Blackhawk Field Archers, Select Archery (our local archery shop), and the IL Deer and Turkey Expo.

In 2014, I also had the chance to meet G. Fred Asbell who I recognized at the Compton Traditional Rendezvous from watching some of his archery videos. Ron La Clair was there also, and I talked with him about tomahawk throwing. Darrel Stienen is the owner of Select Archery, which has an indoor range. I used to shoot archery there during the winter with my Dad and they even helped me build an arrow! One time while I was there Darrell introduced me to an Olympic gold medalist in archery, Rod White. I asked them both to autograph my quiver.

During 2016, I met Gene Wensel at the United Bowhunters of Illinois banquet, he was the keynote speaker for the event. Later that year, I met Byron Ferguson at the Illinois Deer & Turkey Expo. I helped him with one of his trick-shot demonstrations. After that he gave me a DVD of him doing trick shots. We also exchanged lapel pins. He gave me a broadhead pin and I gave him a pin from our local sportsmen's organization, McLean County Sportsmen. I attend those monthly meetings with my Dad.

Mike Mitten was the main speaker at the United Bowhunters of Illinois banquet in 2017, after the speech I asked for his autograph so he signed my quiver which I had brought along. After he signed my quiver, he gave me a poster and a few of his hunting DVD's! From then on, he recognizes me at archery events and takes the time to talk with me. At Compton in 2018, I stopped at his table in the big tent, and he talked with me and introduced me to Barry Wensel, who is Gene Wensel's brother, if you did not already know. I talked with them about archery activities I've been up to and asked about their recent adventures. After we talked, Mike Mitten gave me a framed poster and another video of him hunting! Barry Wensel gave me one of his DVDs too!



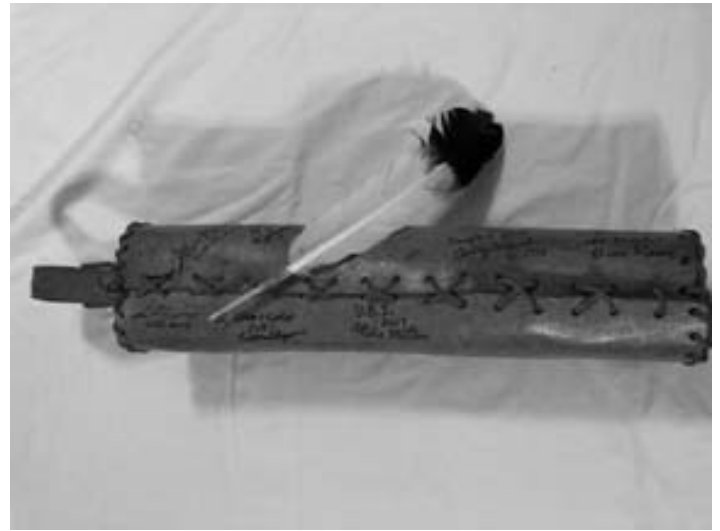
While there at Compton, I got the autograph of the man who founded the Christian Bowhunters Association, of which I am a member. His name is David Roose. I have enjoyed talking with him each year, and attending the services he leads on Sunday mornings.

I got to meet T.J. Conrads, the owner of Traditional Bowhunter Magazine. He's also been a speaker for the United Bowhunters of Illinois banquet. He has some fun stories of his hunting trips. I've ordered archery supplies for myself from 3 Rivers Archery and so when I met Dale Karch, the owner, I asked for his signature as well.



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I'd especially like to mention Tom Colstad, the owner of TradArchers' World Magazine. After he signed my quiver, he suggested to my dad that I write an article about my quiver. Thanks for the idea!


One summer, my family attended a traditional shoot at the Blackhawk Field Archers near Joliet, IL. While there, Bob Mayo of Ace Archery Tackle introduced me to Jason Westbrook, a national champion at traditional archery shoots.

All the people I have mentioned have signed my quiver. They are really nice people who are willing to take the time to talk about archery interests with me. Since 2018 I have seen all these people at other events and Compton, but I have not met any new people to get an autograph from. I have been collecting autographs on my quiver because later on down the road I can look back and remember all the places I've been and all the famous archery people I've met. I hope I'll be able to collect more autographs down the road. And I hope I'll be able to go to archery events again.



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Region 4 Report - Ryan Duffy

As many of our keen-eyed members will have noticed, there is a new name on the region 4 report. Hello, my name is Ryan Duffy and I am your new region 4 representative. I will introduce myself in more detail shortly but first I would ask everyone to join me in thanking Mr. Gilbert Best for his years of service to the UBI as the region 4 representative. In this capacity Gilbert has not only provided information pertinent to the UBI but his knowledge, experiences and passions as well. I look forward to working with Gilbert in the future and having that great knowledge pool to draw from. I believe that Gilbert's input, along with many others and my own ideas, will continue to grow the UBI in the direction we all want. Mr. Best, I thank you for your service and wish you good luck.

I have had the pleasure of meeting several of you at the UBI Region 3 Rendezvous this past October and look forward to meeting everyone else in the future. My name is Ryan Duffy and I am from the very small town of Renault, Illinois pop. 43. I am 40 years old and by the time this Newsletter arrives I will be married to my wonderful fiancé Danielle. We have four children between us ranging from 6 years of age to 20 and we spend most of our time as a family in nature. I am an electrician by trade and for the past 10 years I have been the Electrical Supervisor for the St. Louis VA Medical Center at Jefferson Barracks. I enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1998 and I am an Iraqi Freedom veteran. Thank you to those who have served as well.



I have grown up in the outdoors and enjoyed all it has to offer my entire life. Traditional archery has always been a big part of that life and is something we center around as a family. In my youth I started out hunting with a BB gun and working my way up to a .22 before moving on to shotguns. It wasn't long before the archery bug bit me and I was now able to spend more time outdoors pursuing my passion for hunting. I looked at bowhunting as a new challenge that would make me a better hunter and it did. As I spent more time in nature I started to reflect more on, amongst other things, how could I continue to challenge myself as a hunter. My inevitable conclusion was going traditional. It made sense on so many levels. I hold traditional values. I live a traditional lifestyle. So, I jumped in headfirst and have never looked back. Today I consider myself a longbowman and I prefer a straight grip "Hill style" longbow. However, I do own a few recurves. I hunt everything from squirrels and rabbits to whitetails and hogs. You can even find bowfishing, pheasant hunting or maybe just stump shooting to get out and about.



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I hope everyone had a great hunting season and holidays as well. Illinois deer archery harvest is up from last year by close to 1000 and is poised to reach 69,000. Fall turkey archery harvest however, is down slightly at just over 700. Moving forward from this report you will find more traditional information like you are used to but I felt we should get acquainted first. So, what's in store? While we don't yet know how COVID will affect this year, I will be planning on some events in Region 4. I would like to see a traditional shoot and a campout at a minimum. West-Central Illinois has a lot to offer and it's time to showcase ourselves to the rest of the state. Get out and use those public hunting areas. Make new friends, enjoy nature and spread the gift of traditional archery. I am looking forward to meeting more of you at the UBI banquet on March 6, 2021. If there is anything, I can do for you or if you have any questions, concerns or ideas please call or email me. I would love to hear from you. Fair warning, I can ramble on about hunting for hours.

Respectfully,

Ryan Duffy

Region 4 Representative

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I believe people like Tim Nuss and Garrett Feik are on the right track. The world is ever changing, and traditional archery is no exception. When it comes to change we have three options, we can let it happen, we can oppose it, or we can help steer that change in the direction we choose? One of the areas traditional archery is growing is within our youth. Archery programs like NASP and movies like "The Hunger Games" are causing a rise in interest. Now we need to find a way of sustaining that growth and even build upon it. With your help I believe we can find a way to make traditional archery and traditional bowhunting a part of young people's lives again. Each person we reach is another chance to grow a passion we all share. I agree with the ideals and beliefs of the UBI and find they mirror my own. I also believe many others do as well and it is just a matter of reaching out to them. I am excited about the future of the UBI and I am looking forward to creating new events, not only for Region 4, but for all the UBI as well.

Tom Colstad
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Region 5 Report - Randall Beasley

December 16, 2020

While hunting deer this morning with a dusting of snow on the ground, I began thinking about the Covid-19 virus and the 300,000 people we have lost in the United States. We are fortunate that a vaccine has been approved, and maybe we will not have a repeat in 2021 of what happened in 2020. My memory went to some of my late friends and how I had enjoyed hunting with them. One friend just passed last Sunday. Larry was 79. When I was much younger, we hunted deer and coyotes together. He once used his father's tractor to lift my 1969 Ford Bronco out of a snow embankment during a late season hunt. Larry and I frequently hunted with Ed. I wish I had taken more time learning about mature bucks from Ed. He was always harvesting mature bucks; while even today, I still cannot put that puzzle together. How I wish I had asked him more questions and followed him a bit deeper into the woods. Once, he told me about finding an old barn during a rainstorm. To avoid the rain, Ed got on one end with his brother at the other. They watched buck after buck walk by before shooting. Ed was also captain of the boat that capsized on Dutchman's lake in Johnson County some 30 plus years ago. He had overloaded the boat with deer and people. When he took off, water poured into the back of the boat. He dropped the thrust causing the front of the boat to submerge. Luckily, everyone returned to shore, but the boat, the gear, and all the deer sank to the bottom. It was a cold and difficult journey walking out from the lake to the trucks that night. A diver recovered the lost items.

When thinking about past hunting partners, my thoughts most frequently dwell on Landon (Lanny). My older brother and I began hunting with him as he entered high school. Our first hunts were to rid local barns of rodents such as mice or starlings. On one such hunt, just as Lanny was reaching for a starling, my brother shot the BB gun hitting Lanny in the little finger. We hunted on until midnight. The next weekend, we were ready for more rodents and pests when Lanny told us he had been to the doctor to get the BB out of his little finger. None of us realized that it was in his finger, but after a few days, the bump became noticeable and sore. After our initial pest control hunts, we began deer hunting with Lanny. This was before compounds, so we were all using re-curses. One thing you could count on from Lanny on any hunt was laughs. Too often during the hunt, he had us laughing so hard we knew we were scaring deer but could not help it. On one such hunt, we were meeting for a snack and rest in the middle of the woods. Over the last few days, Lanny had noticed that the deer were traveling just on the outer edges of this woods, so he set up an ambush and waited. When we had finished hunting, we all arrived back at the meeting spot. Since the deer were bedded close, we kept as quiet as possible. When we began telling stories about the morning's hunt, neither my brother nor I had any significant story to tell, but Lanny began telling us this whopper story about how he had seen the deer just outside the woods and had maneuvered into position for a shot. While drawing his bow, the deer noticed and began to run parallel. Swinging his bow to align a shot on the running deer, he released his arrow. The arrow or more appropriately, the broadhead severed off the deer's tail. Well as I stated, it was a whopper and both my brother, and I told Lanny that we would not

believe anything else he ever told us. Then, Lanny pulled out a very bloody tail that had been freshly cut from a deer. At that point, my brother and I both lost it and began laughing so hard, I know those deer wanted to come over and see what the fuss was all about. Besides making us laugh so hard, Lanny always knew the location of deer. He scouted constantly. Most of the time, he would say something similar like "Go over to that tree, and the deer will be walking by before 8 am." He was never wrong about these deer, and therefore, I was able to harvest several because of my late friend Lanny. Lanny never killed very many deer. He was not able to sit still long enough for those 8 AM deer to get to him. Before Lanny quit hunting with us, he got even with my brother for shooting him in the little finger with that BB gun. We were camping in a cabin on Little Grassy Lake when we found the Utopia of deer trails. We knew we would all kill a deer if only the wind was from the correct direction. That night, Lanny began sharpening one of his Bear Razor heads. He spent two hours honing this head and was just about ready to place the arrow back into the quiver, when my brother knocked the hat partially off Lanny's head. Without thinking, Lanny jabbed my brother in the leg with that broadhead. It went broadhead deep, but was so sharp, Lanny did not realize he had touched my brother with that broadhead. My brother grabbed his leg and let out a very loud ouch. Lanny said, "You big baby, I didn't even touch you." We were fortunate the Razor head only struck muscle and not a vein or artery. I was still in high school and am certain, if a vein or artery had been hit, he would have bled out before we determined what to do. It bled some, and we put a compress on it which eventually stopped the bleeding. My brother was not able to hunt the next morning, so the hunt was postponed, and we returned home. We never made it back to that cabin to finish the hunt. I will always miss Lanny and so will everyone else that truly knew him.

These are just a few of the ones that I think about. I would not have room in my mind for another 300,000 such as we have lost in 2020 to Covid-19. Be safe.

Remember: Pick a spot to make your shot!!!

Randall Beasley

UBI Region 5 representative

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Region 2 Report - Dan Forystek

New residents have arrived on the land that we hunt up North here and some old ones have left. In the early 70's if someone saw a deer track there were many raised eye brows. Pheasants were as common as Bluejays. In the 80's Red Fox if not seen were heard on most evening deer stand sits. Now we only hear an occasional rooster and never see a Fox Red or Grey. Early on this season we were seeing 15 or more turkey at a time until a couple of different Bobcats showed up and now no big birds. We never saw Bobcats in the past or Turkeys either.

On the way to a predawn stand with my son I was bouncing a white deer sent rag on a string at the end of a stick as if jigging for Walleye when he grabbed my arm and said, "What the heck is that?". When I turned my head with the green headlamp on I said, "Oh a family of coons are coming. "Then I realized the five pair of bouncing green eyes were a posse, (actually called a romp), of Otters in single file on the prowl for a meal. The largest one in the lead bounced along right up to my feet and raised up as if he was going to climb my leg with the rest of the crew following close behind. As I raised my knee and hollered, "Hey! ", My son leaned forward and poked at it with the tip of his recurve. They took a left turn never to be seen again. You can't make this stuff up. I can only guess that they thought the white bouncing cloth was an easy meal of a small bird or fish and the green headlamp really does work. If anyone has had an encounter with an Otter like this I would really like to hear about it.

On the way to a predawn stand with my son while bouncing a deer sent rag on a string at the end of a stick as if jigging for Walleye he grabbed my arm and said, "What the heck is Many people think that if you want to kill a large racked buck you have to go to the South or West part of Illinois but while dropping off a doe at the butcher shop I was reminded that some really nice bucks live out this way too. There were a couple big bucks and a true monster in the meat locker. Iroquois county seems to have more than most but Kankakee county grows some nice ones thanks to the Kankakee and Iroquois rivers that come together near by giving deer many places to live without too much disturbance due to flooding and back waters.

While talking to another bow hunter who shoots a vertical bow, I'll get to that later, he told me another guy that butcher's deer out this way, had deer stacked up in his driveway like cordwood and could hardly handle any more. The butcher said almost every one of them was killed with a crossbow. I guess you could call that a horizontal bow.

I am fascinated with deer and enjoy reading about them so I read North American Whitetail mag. Seeing a picture of this huge buck I wanted to read the story of how this hunter was so successful. That is when the air came out of the tires for me in this hunt. The guy drove from North Carolina to Pike co. Illinois, climbed in to a stand in the dark that he had never seen before and was handed a crossbow that the outfitter offered him, no mention of him ever shooting the thing before, and soon after the sun came up he shot this record book buck at close range.

In the following story a young fella climbed 40 feet, FORTY FEET, into a tree and killed another great buck. It was stated with some pride that this task was accomplished with a vertical bow. You're not in touch if you call it a compound anymore. I guess the vertical bow is kind of old school now that so many people are shooting crossbows. I respect the fact that we all have choices in what we shoot. I think of Mike Mitten at times like these and his assessment of gauging accomplishments by the amount of effort you spent to get to where you are. If I want to just kill a deer I will drag out the gun and harvest the meat, the bow kill with traditional gear on the other hand has more meaning, for me anyway. It's not for everyone. It is a commitment that not everyone is willing to make. Not everyone is all that interested in that much work and time. Harvest rates put traditional archers at around 1% in Illinois.

We as a group choose to accept the challenge of using traditional gear that limits our chances of success. I have had one fleeting chance for a shot this season with my long bow. I missed. It means nothing to anyone but me. I get enough personal gratitude from killing a doe, if that happens, to satisfy me to last a season of time well spent in the woods.

My son killed a nice doe with his recurve this season with wood arrows that we made and broadheads sharpened by hand and the look on his face told me there is much more personal satisfaction shooting a diagonal bow. Throw that term out there next time you hear someone mention the use of a vertical bow, and have some fun.

Dan Forystek

Visit The New UBI Website at;

<http://www.unitedbowhuntersofillinois.org>

Region 1 Report - Denny Hayford

2021 Region 1 Stump Shoot

We are already looking forward to the 2021 Stump Shoot. There are some ideas we are kicking around like a night coon shoot and the floating balloon (see Jered's post on The UBI Campfire). We are planning for April 17 for this event. Please stop by our table at the banquet March 6th for more information or if you have questions.

Deer John

In my last report I was tuning arrows that I had sold to John Krohn and had purchased back from his wife after he passed away Nov 30, 2019. My goal this season was to take a deer with these arrows in John's memory. After passing 8 to 10 opportunities at yearlings and with gun season nearing, I connected on a young 8 pt. on Nov 17. John was a traditional archer through and through. Not many of us ever considered pulling a 111 lb. Howard Hill Big 5 but John hunted with one when he wasn't practicing with his 115 lb. bow. He said he thought the hunting bow would feel lighter if he practiced with the heavy one. It was a privilege knowing John and an honor to take this deer in his memory. Thanks John for being a loyal supporter of the UBI.

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

Best Regards,

Denny Hayford

Region 1 Representative





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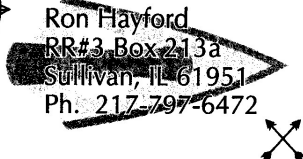



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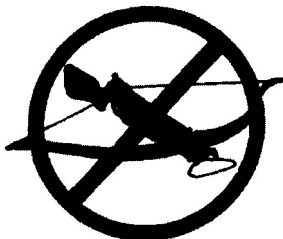
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UBI Crossbow Position Statement

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

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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