

UNITED BOWHUNTERS OF NEW JERSEY

TRACKS TRAILS

Spring 2013

*Will Jimeno and his
Zero-Dark-Thirty Buck*





United Bowhunters of New Jersey

Father's Day Shoot & IBO Qualifier

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The United Bowhunters of New Jersey Council

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Makes checks or money order payable to "United Bowhunters of NJ". Paypal payment requests can be sent to pete.planer@ubnj.org

ARTICLES: Please email all articles to magazine@ubnj.org. Only word files are accepted. Your article may be archived for future issues.

Cover Photo: "The Zero Dark Thirty Buck"

Courtesy of Will Jimeno

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COUNTY REPS NEEDED!!!

Contact your Regional VP for more info.

PRESIDENT'S CAMPFIRE

It was shaping up to be a classic fall rut; bucks were starting to roam looking for does early. Bigger bucks had been showing themselves in daylight hours. Many bowhunters were preparing for some awesome hunting during the rut, and then on Oct 29th it all came to a screeching halt.

That is because Hurricane Sandy struck with a vengeance bringing the best laid plans to a halt. The destruction was like none other and many lost everything. Bowhunting quickly was put on the back burner in order to try and get some part of our lives back to a little normalcy.

Working for a municipality I saw the destruction first hand and I also was effected by it on a personal level as well. I feel I was lucky though, I was without power for 12 days had some moderate damage to my house and lost 3 fridge and freezers worth of food, some people lost everything.

Our focus went from wondering if that big buck was going to chase a doe past the stand set we had chosen to I wonder when my electric and heat will come on or how will I get this or that fixed. Then just as we were beginning to get back to normal a little bit we got hit with the 2nd barrel a nor'easter snow storm that was bigger than forecasted. Power was lost again even more trees and limbs came down and all the progress we made was gone along with the rest of the best hunting time of the year. I was supposed to have 13 days off to hunt during that time period, but it was quickly repealed because my boss needed every person he could get. Oh well there is always next season.

One thing I noticed is that hunters everywhere stepped up to help, they put everything aside to help ailing communities clean out and clean up, they gathered and took supplies to shelters.

They also collected tons of food and the ones who could get out to hunt donated many of their kills to HHH so needy people would have great protein with their meals. I give a big tip of my camo hat to everyone that pitched in, Thank You!

So with the storms in the rear view mirror to an extent winter archery season was upon us. The weather overall was not bad and I was able to refill some of my freezer with venison. If you were able to get out I hope you were able to put some late season meat in the freezer.

As we come into 2013 the UBNJ is looking forward to another banner year.

Yesterday I attended the TANJ Cabin Fever shoot, the weather turned out to be nice and the turnout was great. The course was fun and challenging Doc pulled off another great shoot.

Speaking of shoots the UBNJ will have 2 major shoots this year. We will be hosting an IBO World Qualifying Shoot on June 15th and 16th. If you want to shoot the IBO World Championship you must attend a qualifier and finish in the top 20 of your class one of the 2 days. This is the only qualifier in the area so I hope attendance will be great. Next our Jamboree will be August 24th and 25th as always this is a great shoot/event. Watch for more info as we move closer to summer.

The last thing I want to touch upon is the Division of Fish and Wildlife has proposed taking away the ability to shoot a buck in the early season after you have harvested an antlerless deer. This is not based upon biology but rather what some cheats might do. The division is afraid of phantom does being checked in with the new call in check system just so guys can kill a buck. Well last year was the first year for this and talking with my local

CO's they caught very few people doing this.

So I ask, why is the Division treating all bowhunters like criminals. I think it is unfair and wrong to punish all for the sins of a few. Do you think this will stop them? It won't if they are going to break the law they will shoot that buck if it comes by anyway.

All they are going to succeed in doing is to drive hunters out of the woods during the early season without this incentive. I have already sent a letter voicing this to the F&W Council and the UBNJ has a petition asking them not to make this change. If you have not already signed it please go to our website and sign the online version. If we stand strong we can make sure this change that has no merit does not take place.

Better yet you only get one fall buck tag, so do away with EAB all together. Once a hunter uses his buck tag it's used. Do you think he will not hunt at all until permit bow? Of course he will bowhunt and take some antlerless deer until permit opens up. Besides signing the petition email the council and let them know your displeasure and that these decisions should be made solely on biology.

I hope everyone has a great spring and summer and I look forward to seeing you at some of UBNJ events this year!

Until the next campfire be well and safe.

John Erndl

UBNJ President



20B UBNJ BIG BUCK CONTEST

RULES

- 1) There will be 2 categories: Typical and Non Typical bucks.
- 2) Scoring will be done using the P&Y scoring system.
- 3) Scoring will be done by an official UBNJ scorer.
- 4) All bucks must have been harvested during the fall or permit bow season or winter bow season 2014.
- 5) All hunters must be a current UBNJ member when the deer is harvested, as well as when the contest ends and the prize is awarded.
- 6) Contest is open to all UBNJ members and council members.
- 7) Please submit all entries to:

John Erndl
30W Connecticut Concourse
Jackson NJ 08527

- 8) All entries must be accompanied by a field photo which could be used in the UBNJ magazine in the future.
- 9) Please submit all entries by one week after the close of winter bow season in Feb 2014.
- 10) This season we will have the following categories; Men's, Woman's and Youth for compound/traditional bow and crossbow.

*Best of luck
John Erndl*

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UBNJ and Its Membership

As you all know, UBNJ is an organization of bow hunters that are passionate and concerned about the sport. Comprised of over 3000 members with a council of over 30 individuals who volunteer their extra time to make it a success. We have more individuals in the organization that have extra time but can only be occasionally available. Sponsors/co-sponsors assistance is used with dozens of events throughout the state each year. Our council members manage these events diligently but sometimes we are overwhelmed.

If you are a UBNJ member and want to help the organization out once in a while, contact your county rep or region coordinator. Without our membership, we wouldn't be one of the strongest bowhunting organizations in the country. If you're interested in becoming a county rep, we are always looking for more dedicated people so inquire about the process with your county or regional representative.

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FALL 04

WILD-GAME RECIPES

BY KEN OLANDER

Backwoods Lasagna

Ingredients:

- 2 1/2 lbs ground venison
- 1/2 cup chopped onions
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 (14.5 oz) cans diced tomatoes, drained
- 1 cup chopped green pepper
- 1 8 oz can tomato sauce
- 1 (6 oz) can tomato paste
- 1 tbsp snipped fresh parsley
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp dried oregano
- 1/2 tsp dried basil
- 1/2 tsp fresh ground black pepper
- 1 cup ricotta cheese, drained
- 1 cup cottage cheese, drained
- 1 1/2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese

- 1 1/2 cups shredded Swiss cheese
- 12 lasagna noodles, cooked
- 1/2 cup shredded fresh Parmesan cheese




Directions:

Lightly grease a 13X9 baking dish, set aside. In a 12" non-stick skillet cook the ground venison, onion, and garlic over medium heat for 8-10 minutes, or until meat is no longer pink., stirring frequently. Drain the fat off. Add the tomatoes, green

peppers, tomato sauce and paste, parsley, salt, oregano, basil and pepper. bring to a boil. Reduce heat to low. Cover, and simmer for 30 minutes. Remove from heat.

Heat oven to 350f. In a small mixing bowl, combine the mozzarella, and swiss cheese, and in another small bowl mix the ricotta and cottage cheese. Arrange 4 lasagna noodles in a single layer in bottom of baking dish. Top with 1/3 of the meat mixture. Drop half the ricotta cheese mixture by spoonfuls over meat mixture. Sprinkle evenly 1/3 of the mozzarella and swiss mixture. Repeat for 1 more layer. Top with remaining noodle and meat mixture. Sprinkle with mozzarella mixture and the Parmesan cheese.

Bake for 40-50 minutes, or until lasagna is hot, bubbly and golden brown. Let stand 10 minutes before serving. Enjoy!



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PIKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

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Xtreme Hunts will only be offering a very limited number of hunts. **If you want to harvest a World Class Whitetail in 2012, BOOK TODAY.** Call for more details

New for 2012, Xtreme Hunts will be offering professional video hunts, with the hunter as the main focus. When Xtreme Hunts clients book a hunt, the client has the option to have their hunt videoed. Successful hunts will be aired on the Sportsmen Channel. Limited number of video hunts available.

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UBNJ CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE

COMING UP

UBNJ Father's Day & IBO World Qualifier Shoot

Jun 15 & 16; UBNJ Father's Day Shoot & IBO World Qualifier

At Assunpink WMA registration will start at 8am Saturday and 7am Sunday. The top 20 scores in each class, each day, qualify to attend the IBO World Championships.

UBNJ Events & Shows

2013 Events

Aug 24 & 25; UBNJ 3D Bowhunters Jamboree

At Assunpink WMA registration will start at 7am Saturday and 7am Sunday. Free primitive camping on site

Food & Drink available

UBNJ Shoots

June 15 & 16
UBNJ Father's Day Shoot & IBO Qualifier
Additional info TBD

August 24th & 25th
UBNJ 3D Jamboree
at Assunpink WMA
Robbinsville, NJ

Check the UBNJ website for all of our events. Ticket purchasing and membership renewal is also available online.

all dates subject to change



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D WIN13 - FALL13

Norther Region Member's Meeting 2013...

the previous year along with an update on the membership totals, deer management programs and the 2013 events that are coming up. Please check our website and the magazine for events and programs in your area.

After that, we had Greg Hopf, who kicked these meetings off 9 years ago, do a short presentation on the art of videotaping your hunt. He also provided some video clips of actual deer harvest footage and pointed out key components that make a good video.



It was another challenging day of weather for the 9th Annual UBNJ Northern Region Members Meeting with rain forecasted for most of the afternoon and evening. Even so, the night promised to be a good one and believe it or not, it was better than that. We held the meeting again at the Lodge of Ocawasin, West Milford, NJ. Ross, the proprietor and chef, provided the hall and refreshments. UBNJ council reps and members helped setup the room. Thanks to Dennis Steckert, Paul Catania, Paul Campbell, Paul Johnson, Jack Chellev and Gerry DeCaro.

The meeting started off with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by UBNJ general information regarding the UBNJ representatives on the Executive Board and the Northern Region and associate representative introductions. Pete Graziano, UBNJ Northern Region VP, was the host of the meeting and provided a review of the accomplishments from

UBNJ ran a Membership Drive during 2012. The winner of the Membership Drive was Joseph Cucchiaro of Hunterdon County. Joe has been a member of the UBNJ since 1997. He accepted the Primos prize package from Pete Graziano and Joe's continued support of the UBNJ is appreciated. He and his wife enjoyed the meeting.

Now that all the general information

We then took a break and enjoyed the food and beverages provided by Ross. I think everyone had a good meal. If that's not enough, we were also blessed with having Len Cardinale, Archery and Bowhunting Hall of Famer and Master Coach for the NFAA/NAA, give a short presentation on shooting. He gave us some good examples on how to practice smarter and suggestions about creating hunting situations at home that would allow you to build up confidence.

In closing, we had a huge turnout, a great time and a LOT of door prizes that were provided by the Sport Shops and Sponsors. Everyone left with something!

Thanks go out to Ramsey Outdoors, Meltzers Sporting Goods, Simon Peters Sport Shop, Garden State Bow and Reel, YOJ Sports, Strictly Archery, The OWL's Nest, Greg Hopf, Stick Bow, Live to Fish Guide Service and Sahanas Taxidermy for their generous donations year after year.



NJ Bowhunters Hall of Fame Member Len Cardinale speaking to the crowd

was covered, we had the distinct pleasure of having the president and founder of the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP), Roy Grimes talk about the program and gave us a brief overview of what was happening. He was joined by Keith Dixon, the VP of NASP and followed up by Keith Griglak of DFW for a NJ NASP update.



The winner of the UBNJ's "Ultimate Hunter" prize package Joe Cucchiaro

02 19 2013

FOR ALL COMMUNITY BASED DEER MANAGEMENT HUNTS PLEASE VISIT UBNJ.ORG

**Make sure your membership is good through Feb 2014 to participate.*

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One of UBNJ's objectives is to notify members of important information in a timely fashion and the best means for this communication is via email. If you are passionate about bowhunting and keeping our organization strong, please sign up for our email alerts via www.ubnj.org or our Facebook page to be notified when bowhunting issues arise.

All your information is kept confidential and NOT given out to anyone outside the UBNJ council.

If you are using AOL, you may have may or may not receive our emails. We suggest submitting a different email address.

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UBNJ Member Kyle O'Donnel (left) took this nice Winter Bow buck while hunting in Monmouth County

UBNJ Member Mike Origoni (right) took this good looking 10 pointer while hunting in Iowa

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Being a member of the UBNJ is the requirement for purchase of the UBNJ special plates. Below is the UBNJ license plate application. It must be filled out along with a photocopy of your current motor vehicle registration and a check or m.o. for \$50.00 made payable to the UBNJ.

If you are not a current member or your membership has expired, please fill out the UBNJ membership application provided in this magazine, and remit the application along with a separate check or m.o. for an additional \$20.00.

Please return this form, payment, and a copy of your registration to:

Bob Shultz, 12 Utica Rd, Marlton NJ 08053, (609) 206-1379

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Signature X _____ Date _____

INSTRUCTIONS: To the Organization's Members: Answer the questions below.

1. Have you ever been convicted of:
 - a. R.S.39:4-50 "Operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs," or while "impaired" from the use of alcohol? YES NO
 - b. R.S.39:4-96 "Reckless Driving?" YES NO
 - c. R.S.2A:113-9 "Killing by driving vehicle carelessly and heedlessly?" YES NO
2. Has your driving privilege been revoked or suspended for any reason within the past two years? YES NO

**IF YOU ANSWERED YES TO ANY PART OF QUESTION 1, DO NOT APPLY.
 Please Print Clearly and Legibly - This form may be photocopied!**



THE ZERO DARK THIRTY BUCK...

By Will Jimeno

December of 2012 was a busy one, as it is for most of us with Christmas and New Years and all the shopping and planning on where everyone will spend each holiday and with which side of the family. Even with all that going on my wife Allison and I wanted to go see the film *Zero Dark Thirty*. Allison asked me, "Why did they title the film *Zero Dark Thirty*?" I shrugged my shoulders and said because that mission happened at or near darkness? Sounded good to me as I chuckled.

One mission I was trying to get in myself, was to get out in the woods and enjoy a late season bowhunt and maybe even get a chance at a nice NJ buck. The one issue I had at this time was that the bucks had become scarce and those that I did see on trail camera had become nocturnal, which would make the hunting tougher than it was a few weeks

earlier. Still, I was looking forward to getting out there with my bow and giving it a go, if only could find time.

Christmas came and went and that week between Christmas and New Year's found my calendar full of fun family activities, with the exception of bowhunting, which I was hoping to squeeze in somehow. That somehow came in the form of me having two daughters, my wife and yes, even my dog, is a woman. So there is more estrogen than testosterone in my household. This was a good thing since all my girls wanted to do a "ladies night out" the Thursday before New Years. My girls were all going to get their nails done and spend some time with some of their close girlfriends.

This gave me the opportunity I had been looking for, to hit the woods and jump into one of my blinds. The one blind I had in mind had a couple nice bucks that would frequent my set up.

Again, the issue would be the bucks showing up near dark or just after dark

but I was going to try anyway now having the chance to get out there.

As the girls planned their day with their friends, I thought I would do the same and reached out for my fellow hunting buddy Greg Hanna. Greg is always eager to get out into the woods. Greg has shared many hunts with me, either as the shooter or as the cameraman. This evening he was kind enough to run the camera in hopes of capturing me arrowing a buck.

It was now Thursday, December 27th. Greg arrived at my house around 1:30pm and we were off to my hunting area with high hopes.

It was a crisp cold afternoon as we arrived at the blind and there was snow on the ground. This was going to make the hunt even more special since hunting in the snow has always been special for me. The woods became a breathtaking view as I sat and hoped for a chance to pull back on a nice buck.

I am very fortunate to hunt areas that

hold a large number of deer and for the most part I always see deer on every hunt even if only a doe or two. But this evening was turning into a lesson on how to sit and enjoy the birds, squirrels and the view, as there was absolutely no deer movement.



As the evening shadows cast down upon us, Greg looked over at me and said, "This is the first time Will, I have ever been with you on a hunt and not seen a deer?" I responded with a smile, "That's bowhunting" but even with that said, I was still hoping and holding out for some action.

But reality began settling as did the darkness, that soon the hunt was to be over.

I looked over to Greg and told him let's pack it up. Greg began to shut the camera down and just as I was starting to take my arrow off my rest, I looked to the right of the blind and about 35 yards out, stood a buck, a nice buck at that. I left the arrow on the rest and then grabbed Greg's arm and whispered, "There's a buck over there" and pointed to the buck, which he could not see from his angle. Immediately, Greg thought I was joking, as I often do while hunting, but not this time. I was serious and the buck began making his way towards the blind ever so slowly. It was one of the bucks I knew was in the area and one I would arrow if given the chance.

Greg, turned the camera back on even though all he could see was a silhouette of the buck in the viewfinder. I could see it was a nice eight-point buck with the

little precious light left. The buck was 25 yards from the blind and in a quartering to angle so there was no shot. I needed him to come closer and turn for a perfect broadside shot. I literally was biting my lip as I urged the buck with my mind to take 5 extra yards and turn. He was just

standing there staring at the blind as if thinking, I am going to wait till total darkness here before I move, and I swear that was what he was thinking!

It seemed like an eternity before the buck took those much needed and anticipated steps as I continued biting my lip! All of a sudden he did what I had been

Two trailcam pictures of Will's Zero Dark Thirty Buck



trying to make him do with my mind, he took those steps and turned. I pulled my PSE Dream Season back to full draw and settled my pin right behind the buck's left shoulder and took a deep breath and touched my release. My arrow was off!

The arrow flew straight and true and it

hit its mark right behind the bucks shoulder! I watched as the bucks rear legs kick straight up in the air telling me right away, I had just placed a textbook shot on this nice eight-point buck.

I was in disbelief that I had just shot a great buck on a hunt that was about to end just moments before. Greg and I gave each other some high fives and waited about five minutes before exiting the blind to pick up the blood trail. During that time, Greg told me he was not able to get the shot nor could he see anything through the camera. I was all right with that because all that mattered was that I could see the buck and I got the shot.

As we walked over to look for the blood, the snow on the ground made it as easy as pie to see the hit was a lethal one. The red bubbles sitting on top of the snow and my arrow painted in all bright red blood confirmed my buck would not be far off in the dark. Greg and I followed a short but copious blood trail courtesy of my Grim Reaper Razor tip broad head right to a beautiful Garden State eight pointer any bowbender would be proud of, I sure was!

As Greg and I admired the buck, I looked over at Greg and said with a chuckle, "This for sure was my zero dark

thirty buck". I thanked Greg for sharing in the hunt and I knelt down as I placed my hands on my buck and I gave thanks to God for allowing me to harvest this great animal and hope that many more future generations will experience the gift of bowhunting as I had on this special evening.

Authors note:

On this hunt I used, a PSE Dream Season compound set at 60 pounds, Grim Reaper 100 grain Razor Tops broadheads, Mossy Oak Break up camo and Carbon Express Arimid arrows.

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The Art of Persuasion

by Kendall Bauer

I don't know how exactly, but somehow I can always get my Dad to take me hunting.

It started at a young age when I begged and begged my Dad for my first bow, daughters can get away with that kind of stuff and without any brothers...it was easy. I always enjoyed watching him shoot but he kept on telling me to wait just another year. Finally, I did get my first bow but I wasn't quite ready to hunt yet. I took the written hunting test in New Jersey when I was

ten and achieved my shotgun license. Later I practiced and practiced under the very close scrutiny of my Dad and finally acquired my bow license. My Dad was a one man cheerleading squad

(without the pom-poms) when I took my field test. I smoked all the boys, Dad was proud and Mom started to worry.

When I was nine, Dad took me on my first hunt to Alma, New Brunswick, Canada. Even though I was not old

home, Dad felt I was ready to go on my very own big game hunt.

When I was twelve, I decided that he should take me caribou hunting however it did take some serious convincing. After persuading him with how much,

money it would cost for both of us to hunt he reluctantly fell for my trick. He knew just as well as I did that taxidermy and tags for two people cost double and that's a lot of money. I did have a passport so Quebec was calling. One argument that I did not initially win was the one about bowhunting. I had my license and felt ready but Dad didn't feel so ready because my bow

was new and set at only 42 pounds. He told me that the slug gun was a much better choice but we could bring the bows anyway.

Cont'd on page 18...



enough to pull the trigger on the release, I did get to sit with Dad in the tree stand and watch him harvest a nice black bear. After several years of going bear hunting, and also deer hunting at

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Cont'd from page 7...

It's a good thing we did because, a few days into the trip after a lot of bad weather, my red dot scope fogged up. I



ended up harvesting a beautiful double shovel caribou in velvet only a few inches shy from Pope and Young with my bow. I was instantly in love with bowhunting!

I started asking Dad for even bigger trips; a black bear hunt to Eureka Alaska, because bears make great rugs for a girl's room. Mine sure looks great! We went on Georgia deer hunts. And, I even persuaded him into sending me across the country alone to a youth hunting camp in Del Rio, Texas two years in a row. There I first harvested a "full curl and a half" Corsican ram and then a trophy Axis deer.

However the one thing I really, really

wanted to do was to stop drooling over those TV hunting shows and get Dad to finance a safari to South Africa.

Dad kept asking me if I knew what animals I wanted to try to harvest. I replied of course and told him repeatedly; I really, really wanted to harvest a Kudu and an Impala. Then we started to put the plan into action. It took two years and many hunting shows to find a PH we wanted to hunt with and would have a young female bow hunter.

It was only by chance that we found Tsala Safaris. Tsala means friend and their slogan is "Come as a stranger, leave as a friend". And that's just what we did. I can honestly say even if I did not harvest my animals I would still recommend them. The family atmosphere and accommodations is what made our trip so memorable.

While the Impala, Warthog and 58" Kudu I harvested made the trip even better; it was the family style cooking, and the time with the whole family around the fire that made the trip great.

I am so glad I learned how to persuade my Dad to take me hunting. He could have said he wanted to hunt but he never once did. It was a once in a

lifetime experience that I would not give up for anything. Dad keeps telling me just how lucky I am. I keep telling him that someday I will pick out a nice nursing home for him.

Somewhere in this story is some love, the love of hunting and the adventures of outdoors. Dad and I share a respect for the sport and a very special understanding of what should be. People always say that parents should take their



children hunting. However, I believe that children should take their parents hunting. Take your mentor hunting and then you have also mastered the art of persuasion.



Hunters Helping the Hungry Needs Help with Meat-Processing Costs

Hunters Helping the Hungry, an organization that has enabled hunters to donate thousands of pounds of venison since 1997, now needs some help from the public to cover the costs of professional meat processing. The program, which donated more than 8,000 pounds of venison to food banks and charitable organizations last year alone, operates with limited funding. Butchers who participate in the Hunters Helping the Hungry program receive \$65 to process the donated deer. Currently, hunters who donate deer to feed the hungry must contribute at least \$25 toward that processing fee. If the program's funding runs out, hunters who donate deer will have to cover the entire cost for meat processing. Anyone interested in making a charitable contribution to offset the program's meat-processing costs may send a check payable to: Hunters Helping the Hungry, P.O. Box 587, Lebanon, NJ 08833.

www.HuntersHelpingTheHungry.Org

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Third Bear's A Charm

By: Mark Kronyak

Dean had just started to whisper Bear! ...and before he could get the entire word out my eyes were focused on it. The bear was standing close enough to shoot but was standing behind brush. I was sitting in the same tree with Dean with plans of videotaping him shooting his bear. The only problem was my video camera was hanging in the tree next to me and I had my cell phone in my hands and was in the middle of a poker game.... I would have to use my phone to record the hunt.

The funny thing is just 10 minutes earlier I jokingly asked Dean if he wanted to go home, he replied let's wait 15 minutes till I shoot my bear. As bears often do this one came in silently and was standing 20 yards away before we

even knew he was around. It was a big boar and Dean commented on its size, I told him it was just an average bear 175# or so hoping it would keep him calm enough to pull off the shot.

The bear came right in and started eating donut scraps lying on the ground for a few minutes but before he ever offered a shot the hot sow this boar was rutting walked in and chased him off. She plopped right at the bait barrel and started eating as the boar circled the bait site never offering a shot.

This was the third trip hunting this year. The initial baiting run was done in April. Phil Muller and a friend from work came up with me to bait and 2 weeks later I was back up hunting with Frank Mangano and Chris from work...The baits were all crushed and trail cam photos showed us all the baits had giant bears on them. The only problem was I spent opening day of bear season in the hospital with kidney stones which in turn cut this week's hunt short. Even with the hunt cut short both Chris and Frank had action.

Two weeks later I was back in Canada with Phil Muller, Brian Peters and Kevin Steimetz for another week of hunting. Even with a full week of crappy weather (rain and wind) we all managed to take bears ranging from 250# to 125# but the giants that were on each bait eluded us again. I have to give props to Kevin...he has gone from being afraid to sit alone on stand the first year he came up to not only hunting alone but also tracking his own bear after he shot it...I

remember telling Phil "our little boy is all grown up"

I ended up shooting my bear on the last night, it was a bear I had passed a couple of times earlier in the week. It was another rainy night, just as the rain let up the cloud cover opened up and the sun broke through the clouds. It never ceases to amaze me how some bears are "JUST THERE". Water dripping from branches made me look to my right thinking I heard something. I hadn't glanced away for 15 seconds and when I looked back the bear was standing in front of me at the barrel. I



knew it was good bear but not one of the giants I knew was hitting this bait. I would be back in a week with Dean, Phil and Zach Muller and my buddy Mike. Should I shoot? I figured let me take the bird in hand.... so I could concentrate on getting Dean a good one on the next trip. I waited for the right angle and the boar

only made it 30 yards after my arrow struck. My bear tipped the scales at 250# and ended up making Pope and Young with a score of 18 3/16.

A week later we were back at it again. Dean, Mike Montelli and I drove up and Phil and Zach would come the following day. We checked and refilled all the baits deciding where to sit that night was a tough decision. Every bait site was crushed so I let Dean decide.

He chose the test bait, it was a new bait we put out this year and was the bait Brian took his bear on.

And as you can tell from the opening paragraphs it was a good choice.

Deans big boar worked his way back in as the sow fed at the bait barrel again he was standing 10 yards away picking up scraps of donuts lying on the ground. As the boar fed he finally turned offering a good shot. Dean's arrow flashed through the bear and in an instant both bears were gone. Dean's bear was visible through the trees 25 yards away. I whispered to Dean that he just killed a Pope and Young bear. His eyes showed his excitement and opened even wider as a death moan floated thru the timber telling us the bear was down for good. We wasted little time getting over to see Deans bear.

The bear ended up weighing 325# and had a skull that made Pope and Young with a score of 18 10/16. To say I was proud would be an understatement.

Safety and Education Update:

The NASP program has grown significantly in the past year. Federal funds have provided NJ enough to hire two full time instructors and a coordinator for the NASP program. With these new hires, they've grown significantly since last spring. Here are some details.

A year-end review of NASP determined that thirty-seven Basic Archery Instructor trainings were conducted in 2012, resulting in the addition of two hundred twenty one new instructors, forty six new schools, eight new camps, and six new after-school/recreational programs. Enrollment in NASP more than doubled in NJ in 2012, we now have one hundred and seven organizations trained throughout the state.

So far in 2013, we have conducted eight Basic Archery Instructor trainings, adding sixteen new schools, one new camp, and sixty eight new Basic Archery Instructors to the above totals.

In addition, UBNJ has provided multiple introductions to archery programs at 4H Fairs, wellness events, schools, and special occasions throughout the year.

Northern Region Hunter Safety Classes Announced:

- Sunday April 7 – Black River all discipline 8:00 AM
- Saturday April 13 – Appalachian Bowmen all discipline 8:00 AM
- Sunday April 14 – Cherry Ridge all discipline 8:00 AM
- Saturday April 20 – NRO all discipline 8:00 AM
- Saturday April 27 – SCF&GPA archery only 10:00 AM
- Sunday April 28 – Black River all discipline 8:00 AM
- Sunday May 5 – Appalachian Bowmen all discipline 8:00 AM
- Saturday May 11 – Cherry Ridge all discipline 8:00 AM
- Saturday May 18 – SCF&GPA archery only 10:00 AM
- Sunday May 19 – NRO all discipline 8:00 AM

THE CRAB CLAW BUCK

by Courtney Erndl

In January of 2012 my Father and I acquired a new piece of property to hunt. The piece was over populated with does and young small bucks, but nothing too big. In the final weeks of hunting winter bow I had glimpsed a monster buck that would come in at last light but would not come in close enough to get a good look, let alone a shot at. My dad thought I was exaggerating because we had several trail cameras high up in trees throughout the property but we never got a picture of the buck.

The first night I hunted the Riley stand this year I saw the biggest buck I had ever seen while hunting; but he stayed out of range and offered no shot. When the buck turned to leave I realized it was the monster buck from last hunting season. From that night on all the other bucks that came in I passed on. Weeks went by and I never saw that monster buck again.

The ninth of October was a chilly overcast day; it was the ideal day for deer to be on their feet. I got into my stand around 2pm. Usually when I hunt that particular stand I am barely in the tree and the deer are already moving through, but not that day. It was after 4:30pm and I still hadn't seen a

single deer. Around 5pm it started to drizzle, and I saw a line of young bucks slowly crossing the creek behind my stand and coming down the trail by my stand. After five or six bucks came I looked up at the rest that were still filing in



Courtney Erndl and her Crab Claw Buck!

and that's when I saw him, standing on the other side of the creek. Instantly my adrenaline was rushing and I was praying he would come within range, and he did. He crossed the creek and came into range at twenty yards, but he was on edge and there were too many sets of eyes to draw back. Ten minutes later I finally had my chance at eight yards and I drew back my Matthew's Jewel. I had to hold at full draw for what felt like an eternity, all I needed was for him to take one step to so his shoulder blade wouldn't be in the way. Finally he did and I shot; he ran thirty-five yards and died within sight.

I called my dad and he came with some friends. When I got down we all walked over to the deer and I saw for the first time just how enormous he was. He was an eleven point beauty with an amazing amount of mass, and well over two hundred pounds, it took the four of them to drag him out.

I owe my success in hunting to my father, for not only teaching me how to hunt, but ensuring I had a place to hunt and that I had all the right equipment. My Mathews Jewel performed flawlessly. My father also sacrificed his hunting time so I could be in that Riley stand every chance possible. It is the buck of a lifetime and a season I will always remember.

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Busted in Illinois...

By Pete Graziano

This was my 5th year hunting in Illinois. I had been very excited about going this year since I was hunting my friend's property that had done a tremendous job of putting in food plots and teasing me with trail cam pictures of some nice Pope and Young bucks.

I arrived on a Friday afternoon, unpacked and went to a known stand sight. I busted a few does walking in so I was very optimistic. The next few days were challenging due to the wind and rain with temperatures in the 60s. I was seeing deer but nothing that I considered a trophy. On Sunday night, the temps dropped in the

low 30s but the wind was in the 20s. I saw more movement but again had no opportunities.

After a few days of high winds



and high temperatures, Tuesday morning, the 14th of November the wind was calm and the temps were just right. I had a broken up 8 point come in on a grunt, some

does under my tree at 8:00AM and then this guy came in around 9:00AM. I got him to follow the trail into my stand area with a low grunt and a can call. I stood ready as he walked directly at me. There was no shot angle yet. At 10 yards he looked up and busted me. As I've seen this happen before, he whirled around back from where he came and stopped at 30 yards quartering away.

I don't remember drawing back my Hoyt Carbon Element. All I remember is seeing the shaft disappear right where it needed to be. Recovery was simple. The buck went about 50 yards and there was no tracking needed. It green scored 137 and had 11 points.

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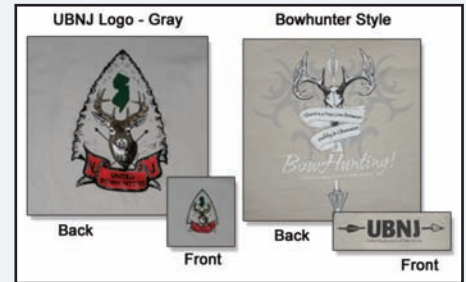
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 UBNJ Merchandise, PO Box 11, Ringwood NJ 07456

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - UNITED BOWHUNTERS OF NEW JERSEY

Dedicated to uniting the bowhunters of New Jersey in order to present a strong and forceful voice in maintaining the rights accorded to those sportsmen and women who choose to hunt and become proficient with the archery equipment.

Name _____ Address _____ Date _____
Please Print Legibly City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email _____

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP - \$25.00 YR
 Includes membership card, 4 magazine issues, decal, eligibility for contests, trophies, prizes

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP- \$15.00
 (Up to 16 years of age)

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP -\$40.00 YR
 Includes all items listed in individual membership, for member, spouse and children up to 16.

SPONSORING MEMBERSHIP - \$100.00 YR
 For clubs and Organizations; contact the UBNJ

SENIOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP (Age 65) - \$250.00
 Includes all items listed under reg. membership

List names of Family Members:

LIFE MEMBERSHIP -\$400.00
 Includes all items listed under reg. membership

*If under insurance (ex: Deer Based Community Hunts) individual membership is required.

CHECK ONE: NEW RENEWAL Signature _____

Enclose a check or money order and mail to:
 UBNJ Membership
 PO Box 11, Ringwood NJ 07456

I wish to contribute to the UBNJ Protect our Bowhunting Rights Fund \$ _____

Spring 13

All prices subject to change