

North Carolina

Winter 2013

Bowhunter

Magazine

Tom Miranda:
Our Hunting Heritage

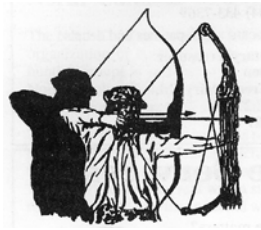
Compound Bow:
Lucky Ladder Buck

Traditional Archery:
My Longbow Buck

Executive Council
Reports



www.ncbowhunter.com



Don't miss: the 27th Annual NC BOWHUNTERS ASSOCIATION BANQUET

Kerr-Scott Building at NC State Fairgrounds, Raleigh, NC
Saturday Night - March 2nd - 6 p.m. until. Meal at 6:30 p.m.

Banquet Tickets-By Reservation ONLY!

COST: Adults: \$25; Under 12: Free; \$10 Cover Charge w/out meal (at door)

NEW CATERER & MENU This Year

Reservations-Contact: Deann Stone (919)477-7184; Email: stoney45@nc.rr.com

Premium Raffle Tickets: \$100 each

Check our website after January 15 for current info on Banquet Hunts

NCBA Awards Banquet - General Information: call: 336-643-4455

FEATURING COLTON JAMES

in a live country music performance at the banquet

Colton James is sponsored by the Guy Harvey Corp., supporting our military, and with the Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation. *Save it for the Kids*, written by Kim Tribble and Colton James, is the foundation's theme song. Colton's family is sponsored by BowTech Archery, a great company that also strongly supports our military. Colton's new single, *Take This Country Back*, was recently used by Mitt Romney in his presidential campaign.

Go to ULTIMATE HUNT TV.COM and click on James edition and watch the show about Colton and his family and how they support the cancer research. His video can be seen on CMT

Pure and CMT.com and TCN (The Country Network). Colton has started a new brand called SALT WATER COWBOY. The mission statement is on the website. The TV show is projected for 2014. Colton's web site is at coltonjamesmusic.com.



See you there.

North Carolina

Bowhunter

Magazine

Official Publication of

The North Carolina Bowhunters Association, Inc.

The North Carolina Bowhunters Association, Inc. is a fraternal, non-profit organization of bow hunters. Its main purpose is to help combat anti-hunting groups in an effort to preserve your hunting heritage, to assist the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, and in general help the cause of bow hunters in North Carolina.

North Carolina Bowhunter Magazine is published four times a year. We invite letters to the editor, comments, pictures, articles, stories, and bow hunting tips. Photographs should be as clean and sharp as possible. When sending photos via e-mail set the resolution as high as you can. Any items that you wish to be returned must be sent with a self-addressed stamped envelope. We reserve the right to refuse material we believe not suitable for publication. (E-mail submissions to kevindancy3@aol.com).

North Carolina Bowhunter Magazine may not be reproduced or utilized in any form without the written permission of the Executive Council.

The N.C. Bowhunters Association, Inc. Membership Policy

NCBA Membership dues are \$30 a year and run from the month paid for one year. Life Memberships are \$450. If you are affiliated with a NCBA Local Chapter Club, your dues will be renewed as a group on their designated month. Add payment for patches, license tags, decals, and other donations, etc. to membership dues.

The North Carolina Bowhunters Association, Inc. is affiliated with or supports the following organizations:

- National Rifle Association**, State Organization
www.nra.org
- National Shooting Sports Foundation**, Life Member
www.nssf.org
- U.S. Sportsmen Alliance, Sponsor
www.ussportsmen.org
- N.C. Wildlife Habitat Foundation**, Corporate Sponsor
www.ncwhfl.org
- N.C. Wildlife Federation**, Affiliate Member
www.ncwf.org

NCBA also supports the ideals of:

- The Pope and Young Club** www.pope-young.org
- The Professional Bowhunters Society** www.bowsite.com/pbs/

Membership Services

New memberships, renewals, change of address, membership applications, credit card sales, patches and decals.

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**Interested in serving as a LCC? Give us a call: 336-643-4455; or E-mail: president@ncbowhunter.com We need more LCC's in all areas, but especially in the Central, Northeastern and Western areas.*



www.huntersafetysystems.com

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**ON THE
COVER**

*Traditional archer
Leon Hinton.*

The loss of bowhunting would be the first step in losing all hunting.
Support the North Carolina Bowhunters Association -- it supports you.

NCBA Local Chapter Clubs

Back Creek Bow Hunters

Efland
336-562-5789

Big Buck Archery Club

Stoneville
336-573-3536

Big Oak Archery

Gold Hill
704-209-3600

Blue Ridge Bowhunters

Leicester
828-683-9545

Broken Arrow Archery Club

Chapel Hill
919-942-2602

Brown Creek Archers

Cameron
910-245-1640

Brushy Mtn. Archery Club

Hiddenite
828-635-6113

Cape Fear Bowhunters

Castle Hayne, NC

910-399-3441

Carolina Traditional Archers

Catawba
704-435-0265

Drake Landing Archery

Fuquay Varina
919-669-8482

Fishing Creek Archery Club

Wilson
252-289-5095

Forsyth Archery Club

Winston-Salem
336-757-2557

Gooch's Mill Archery Club

Oxford
336-364-9788

Guilford Bowhunters

Gibsonville
336-855-6613

Lenoir County Archers

Seven Springs
919-580-8099

Neuse River Bowhunters

Garner
919-553-8712

New River Bowhunters

West Jefferson
336-846-9705

Nock A Round Archery Club

Kinston
252-560-8106

Randolph Bowhunters

Randolph County
336-674-8906

Rockfish Bowhunters

Hope Mills
910-424-8216

Rockingham Bowhunters

Rockingham County
336-498-9155

Sam's Christian Archery

Black Mountain
828-669-8830

Sissipahaw Trad. Archers

Alamance County
919-528-4647

South Mtn. Bowhunters

Forest City
828-980-4030

Stick and Wheel Archery Club

Colfax
336-992-0013

Tar River Archery Club

Bunn
919-556-0082

Western Carolina Bowhunters

Fletcher
828-684-2636

Western NC Sportsman's Club

Canton
828-648-6407

Wanted: NCBA Wildlife District Reps (WDR) and Local Chapter Coordinators (LCC)

We always welcome and are in need of members who are interested in getting involved in our association. We invite members to consider joining our ranks as either a WDR or LCC member.

Being a WDR (or LCC) is a very good way to get involved with your association at the grass roots level. You can do as much or as little as you want to do, or can do. But, there are a few basic things we ask that you try to do as your time and schedule permits. What you do beyond that is up to each individual to make that decision.

On occasion, someone asks what the duties of a NCBA WDR or LCC Rep are. We have written up a brief list of duties and job description for these positions that are listed below. Anyone interested in joining our Legislative Committee in this capacity should give me (Ramon Bell) or Tommy Kimball, NCBA Legislative Chairman, a call. My phones are: 336-643-4455 (Home); 336-402-0691 (Cell). Tommy can be reached at 704-202-6595 (Cell), or 704-636-0488.

*Thank You...for Bowhunting,
Ramon N. Bell*

President/NC Bowhunters Association

Job Description: NCBA Wildlife District Representative (WDR); and Local Chapter Coordinator (LCC)

The NCBA Wildlife District Representative (WDR) position really doesn't involve a lot of time and work. The duties of the Local Chapter Coordinator (LCC), or Local Chapter Rep (LCR) as is often referred to, are much the same, except the LCC deals primarily with members of the local chapter club he/she belongs to, as well as the general hunting public as the occasion arises.

Here's a short list of duties and obligations involved with being a NCBA WDR (or LCC) Representative:

1. Attend the WRC Public Input Meetings in September. There's one in each wildlife district. Take notes on comments made from the audience by other sportsmen/women and send an e-mail report to us that evening or next

day with anything of importance to NCBA.

2. Help monitor bills in the N.C. Legislature. (This can be done "online.") Notify the NCBA Legislative Chairman and President of any new legislation you hear about; or report the current status of existing bills to E.C. officers.
3. On occasion, you may be asked to randomly contact NCBA members in your district and ask them questions about their opinion on various issues. You will be supplied with a roster of NCBA members in your district when necessary, or upon request.
4. Talk to hunters and sportsmen/women about NCBA anytime the occasion arises. Be a good ambassador for bowhunting and NCBA whenever and wherever the occasion and opportunity arises. If someone has a misconception about NCBA and what we stand for and what we are working to accomplish, do your best to explain our position on any issues they may be concerned with.
5. NCBA WDR and LCC members have the same status as "Associate Council" members in the NCBA. Thus, they have voting privileges at our Executive Council meetings on all issues brought before the E.C. in matters of general business. WDR's and LCC's from each local chapter club should make an effort to attend E.C. meetings when possible, especially the January meeting, as this is the most important E.C. meeting each year. If the designated LCC from a local chapter club cannot attend an E.C. meeting, a temporary substitute LCC may attend in his/her place. It is our hope that every club has someone who attends all E.C. meetings to represent them.

It is a good idea that all NCBA officers/ reps, and NCBA members, read our constitution and bylaws at least once a year so we all will be well versed in it's content. Many people are also interested in our record system and BCRS program as well as the insurance benefits for individual members and clubs. Familiarize yourself with our Bylaws; Record System, BCRS program, NCBA insurance benefits and all NCBA programs, so you can talk about them with confidence. (Remember that we may only give a general overview of the BCRS program and how it works. We cannot disclose the identity of any of our BCRS clients.)

Membership Services



**Maria
Bell**

E-mail: maria_7796@yahoo.com

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL. My wish for all: a year of Peace, Joy and Good Health.

Reminders: Send any changes to your information (address, phone, e-mail, etc) to me so that I can update the NCBA roster. This is also important for the mailing of the NCBA Magazine. Anyone completing an NCBA application --- only one name per application. Also make sure you enter the name of the person who referred you.

Congratulations: Dayne (Shirley) Welborn, Great-granddaughter, born July 2012; Willem Frost, Granddaughter born July 3 2012

Condolences go out to: Seth Hendrix (100), Grandfather of David Hendrix; Ginsin Little, Dec. 13, 2012 (past member of NCBA and Big Oak C/C); Michael DeAngury, death of Mother-in-law September 19, 2012; Jackie & Sie Graham (Mother/sister), death of Sonya Graham June 29, 2012.

Health: Tom White, Nov. tree stand accident; John Haithcox, Dec., back operation; Carl Beal, suffered a stroke July 2012; Ramon Bell, continues to improve from stroke; Mark Dubowski's wife Joan had surgery October 2, 2012; Dennis McClure's wife had gall bladder surgery July 6, 2012; Don Michaels, knee surgery, July 2012; Russell Poole, double bypass surgery July 23, 2012

Deployed Members: Devan Craig Foley; Charles Freeman IV.

Please remember these NCBA members and all of those serving in the Military.

EVENTS

January 26, 2013

NCBA Rabbit Hunt

January 27, 2013

EC Meeting at

Guilford Bowhunters Clubhouse

March 2, 2013

27th Annual Awards Banquet

in Raleigh

April 28, 2013

EC Meeting at

Guilford Bowhunters Clubhouse

June 23, 2013

EC Meeting at

Guilford Bowhunters Clubhouse

Sept 29, 2013

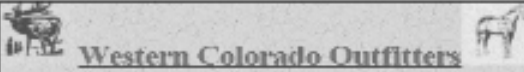
EC Meeting at

Guilford Bowhunters Clubhouse


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Editor



Mark Dubowski
markdubowski@gmail.com

Help others.

According to a recent survey, that's number eight on the list of America's Top Ten New Year's Resolutions. The others are (you've heard 'em or made 'em before) get fit, quit smoking, quit drinking, lose weight, get organized, get out of debt, spend more time with family, enjoy life more, and learn a new skill.

"Help others" stands out because it's a double win. It's a win for you and the recipient. One way you can apply it in 2013 is to *help others get to know and appreciate North Carolina's great outdoors*. That's one New Year's Resolution that would be easy to make, and easy to keep.

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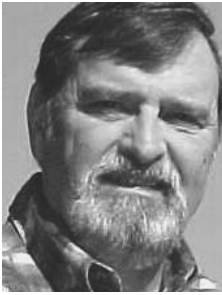
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President's Page



Ramon
Bell

E-mail: president@ncbowhunter.com

This will be my final magazine message to you as president of the NC Bowhunters Association. It is my plan to turn over the office of president to Andy Smith, your Vice President at our 27th Annual Awards Banquet on March 2, 2013. I will remain on the Executive Council as "Past President".

I was Records Chairman for NCBA from 1982 to 2004. Every animal, fish, etc, I ever shot with my bow is a trophy to me. If it qualifies for a listing, I feel I owe it to the animal to list it. I kept a journal of everything I took with my bow. So, even if it doesn't qualify for NCBA, P&Y or any other listing, it went on my personal listing.

I ran for the office of President in NCBA in 2005 on a platform that we would help guide the NCBA to the next level of growth for the organization. This required a plan to identify goals for NCBA and to make sure every dollar was wisely spent for a common need, and with a future goal in mind. There were a number of specific goals our team of officers also wanted to accomplish. Those officers were: Mickey Strader (VP); JR Stone (Sec/Treas) and Cody Reed (Editor). The first goal was to completely review, revise and amend our bylaws into a functional document. It had not been upgraded to keep up with current demands since it was first written in 1975. Many articles in it were vague and not clear enough to be interpreted and enforced in a consistent, efficient and effective manner. Part of this process involved creating five new Executive Council positions which are appointed by the elected EC Officers. These are: Records Chairman; Membership Chairman; Legislative Chairman; Youth Education Chairman and Program Chairman. We also split the

position of Secretary/Treasurer into two separate E.C. positions. Both of these are still elected positions. The bylaws also contain distinct "Job Descriptions" for each E.C. position. The Constitution was not amended, and is not likely to ever be amended. Well-defined procedures for holding elections and amending the bylaws are now clear, easy to follow and cannot be misinterpreted or manipulated to suit individual motives or prerogatives.

Another goal we had was to establish a permanent centralized location to hold our annual banquet and convention that would at the very least break even on the expenses involved with it. We have been successful in establishing what we hope is a long-term working relationship with the Wake County Wildlife Club, which is the organization that operates the annual Dixie Deer Classic in Raleigh, usually the first weekend in March each year. NCBA supplies a team of volunteers that assists the WCWC and the DDC with a number of events and activities at the DDC. We provide about 40 official measurers that help score over 600 deer heads each year. We run the indoor 3-D Archery shoot, Archery Alley, put on scoring and bowhunting seminars, and operate a couple NCBA booths as well. On Saturday night, we hold our Awards Banquet in the Kerr-Scott building.

At an E.C. meeting in October, 2004, I submitted a proposal to the council to establish a special fund to plan for a future facility for NCBA to be used for bowhunter training, NCBA events and activities. It was named the "Land Acquisition Fund." The previous E.C. approved it. In seven years, we have been able to accumulate over \$20,000 in this fund. We are working in partnership with the Tar River Land Conservancy to help us locate a piece of property to

jointly develop with them, a bowhunting and archery training facility that will also serve as a camping facility for use by NCBA members on a year-round basis, and for planned annual bowhunts in the Butner / Falls of the Neuse Gamelands area, which consists of 43,000 acres of prime hunting and fishing habitat.

We formed the BCRS Program in 2004. It has grown into a premier program for NCBA that is helping the general public deal with deer overpopulation and depredation in both urban and rural communities across North Carolina. Hunter liability insurance for this program was instrumental in helping us get the \$100,000 insurance policy that covers each and every NCBA member. The sky is the limit for the BCRS program. It is the ONLY NCBA program that is paying for itself. We can only pay for so much with revenue from dues alone.

We need more money and volunteers to help expand and improve our youth program. Basically, if not for the efforts of a very few dedicated members, most from one local chapter (Guilford Bowhunters) and a few other individual NCBA members, we would have no youth program. People, scout and church groups, wildlife clubs, etc., call us all the time wanting help with youth archery presentations. The same people from the same clubs, like Guilford Bowhunters, Cape Fear Bowhunters and Gooch's Mill Archery Club; and the same members like Mickey & Minette Strader, Russell & Patty Poole, JR Stone, William & Diane Newton, David Whitmire, Connie Tysinger, Jerry Alcon, Jason Patterson, Tonnie Davis, Doug Clayton, Greg Strader, Ramon Bell, Jed Norris, Russell Velvin, Trey Velvin (deceased), Cody Reed, Mike & Kim Shelton, Clair & Joanne Luce, Keith Smith, David Hunter, David Denton, Crystal Smith, Don Henderson, Scott McJunkin, Devin Gentry, Mick Galloway, Heather Whitmire, (Lee Sherrill, Melinda Patterson of the Pisgah Wildlife Center), and others, can always be depended upon to step up and help when needed.

But, is it fair to ask our volunteers to foot the bill too? It costs money to buy and maintain equipment and pay expenses for volunteers. Some groups can't afford to pay a minimum fee for a presentation,

please turn to page 10

The News Page

Eddie Bridges wins Field & Stream Award

Eddie Bridges of Greensboro, director of the N.C. Wildlife Habitat Foundation and a former member of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, has earned Field & Stream magazine's 2012 Conservation Hero of the Year award. The prestigious honor was presented to Bridges, 79, on Oct. 4, 2012 in Washington, D.C.

Bridges was one of six finalists for the Field & Stream award and is the only



American ever to win four awards from private national conservation groups. He previously won the Feinstone Environmental

(1991), Chevron (2000) and Anheuser-Busch's Conservationist of the Year (2004) award.

Anthony Licata, the magazine's editorial director said, "Eddie's ambitious project is a perfect example of the hard work outdoorsmen are willing to put in to protect America's wildlife and wild places. The work he is doing in North Carolina will benefit outdoorsmen for generations, and we're proud to honor him."

A long-time Greensboro resident, Bridges received \$5,500 and a new Toyota Tundra truck along with his award.

"It was exciting, and although I anticipated having a shot, I really was stunned when they called my name," said Bridges, who helped form the N.C. Wildlife Endowment Fund while a member of the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission from 1977-1989.

Bridges' N.C. Wildlife Habitat Foundation, begun in 1994 and run by volunteers, has raised nearly \$4 million in donations and invested \$1 million on conservation projects, mostly in

Colton James to perform at NCBA Banquet

Country music signer-songwriter Colton James will perform at the 27th annual NCBA Banquet March 2. The event starts at 6 p.m. at the Kerr-Scott building at NC State Fairgrounds.

Asked what motivates him to write and perform, James said "I do it for the love of my family, for the love of my friends, for the love of my country, but mostly for the love of God. Without God, I wouldn't be here."

If this doesn't sum up the roots of a down-to-earth country boy like Colton James, nothing will. Colton's country roots run deep, and were developed at a young age. What started as a truck ride to the fishing hole became a lifestyle. In the front seat of his father's truck, Colton was treated to legends like George Jones, Keith Whitley, George Strait, and Merle Haggard. Both of his grandmothers played piano and organ, and his singing pipes come from his mother. "She has a beautiful voice and always sang with happiness, heart, and sincerity in church," Colton recalls.

Over the years, Colton has perfected his songwriting and guitar playing skills resulting in opening for Toby Keith, Mark Chestnut, Chris Cagle, Joe Nichols, the Dixie Chicks, Lonestar, Keith Anderson, and Trick Pony. His most memorable performance was when he opened for Jason Aldean at Little Creek Amphibious Base, because it was here that 16,000 fans heard him play "Brave Men," a powerful tribute to American troops. Colton's moving lyrics earned him a standing ovation that night. "These men and women do something incredible for us. They deserve being recognized for the sacrifice they make and this is my small way of letting them know how much we appreciate them."

Colton is currently working with producer Steve Sturm (best known for working with Travis Tritt for 12 years) on his new album that will feature "Brave Men" and "What Keeps Her Strong."

Kentucky DFWR Named QDMA Agency of the Year

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR) was just recently named the agency of the year by the Quality Deer Management Association. Kentucky's Wildlife agency has built an exemplary record in service and cooperation with its constituents, which includes licensed hunters as well as a wide variety of hunting and fishing groups and organizations (such as QDMA, small and big game hunters, gun and bow hunters) in management of their wildlife resources, especially the white-tailed deer.

Barely one-third of the bucks killed in KY each year are 1 1/2 year's old. This is well below the national average, and significantly below North Carolina's average. What is so impressive and amazing is that over one in four (26%) of the bucks taken in Kentucky is 3 1/2 years old or older. KY does a great job of protecting their younger bucks so they live to grow and reach the highest possible potential of a 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 year old mature buck. And, this is a statewide phenomenon. It is NOT limited solely to land under private quality deer management. They also do a great job of managing the antlerless (DOE) harvest to help balance the buck-doe ratio to maximize the available habitat for the herd.

Kentucky consistently ranks in the top ten for Boone & Crockett bucks recorded in the U.S., and in the top three for B & C bucks per square mile. Their record of success is directly attributed to a "one-buck" tag limit coupled with progressive antler spread restrictions in certain parts of the state, which is more biologically sound and effective than antler point restrictions.

*Info and data is quoted from November 2012 Issue of Deer & Deer Hunting Magazine, QDMA and the NCWRC.

Vice President



Andy
Smith

E-mail: andy.n.smith@gmail.com

We survived past the end of the Mayan calendar - happens only once.

The New Year has come and gone - happens every year.

Got through US Government fiscal cliff - seems to happen every year now, budget or no budget.

Alas, we made it through another hunting season. Although the taking of an animal is the goal, the pursuit is the time of learning. Hope everyone was able to reflect and learn something from their time in the woods.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who helped out this year.

A special thanks goes to David Whitmire for his work as Program Chairman. He is responsible for the several activities, including the NCBA participation at the DDC and for our NCBA banquet. Joey Thompson and Jamie Brady proved invaluable for the past banquet since Ramon was not able to contribute/coordinate/participate in the banquet planning or activities. Ramon was truly missed.

Thanks to those helping with the DDC in the Archery Alley, the 3d shoot, manning the booths, scoring, and NCBA merchandise sales.

Also those helping with the NCBA picnic, Butner hunt, rabbit and swan hunts, youth activities, legislative activities, and ...

Jamie Brady also is our coordinator for the NCBA Bowfishing Tournament. He selects the location, coordinates the activity, gets merchandise donations for prizes, and mans the measuring booth. This past year, he stayed at the booth for almost 24 hours straight.

The NCBA Bowhunter magazine is the main communications to the members, thanks to Mark Dubowski for getting the articles and ads together, laying the

magazine out, and having the magazine published.

And the list could go on and on...

We have a number of people who contribute regularly who need some help occasionally with NCBA activities.

The NCBA is composed of and relies on its volunteers. This includes the NCBA Local Chapter Clubs, many have their own 3d shoots.

If you have time, even if only once a year, please contribute some of your time.

The NCBA Picnic went over well. We had a decent turnout and wish more people would attend.

The NCBA BCRS program did well again this year. This season was tough with the acorns still falling all the way until the holidays. Corn laid on the ground while the deer continued to eat the abundant acorns. The deer were exceptionally fat during the last few days of the season.

Both the picnic and the BCRS are a good opportunity to share with others who have like interests.

I really appreciated my time in the woods this year since I did not get to hunt as much as I have in the past.

I shot a deer after Christmas that appeared injured. I thought it had been hit by a vehicle and hated to see it suffer. Later on closer inspection, it had obvious signs it had survived EHD. EHD hit several counties hard. I heard that up to 50% of the deer died in a few northern NC counties.

President's Page (continued)

and we try to deal with these folks. But some can, and should be required to pay a standard minimum fee. We really need to formulate a plan and implement it to get our youth program in gear and ensure that it will be self-sufficient in the future. Minimum fees and a schedule of youth events should be created and maintained by the Youth Education Chairman and published on our webpage. All fees should be collected in advance and ran through the NCBA bank account and accounting system to keep a proper paper trail to reimburse volunteers for their expenses, pay for needed equipment and maintenance, and provide documentation to file accurate tax returns each year.

Everything hasn't gone like we hoped and planned for. We lost another week of the "bow only" season to muzzle-loader hunting, but now, we can also bowhunt throughout the entire muzzle-loader season, when before, bowhunting was prohibited during the ML season, which also falls right during the peak of the whitetail rut. So, we really gained a week of bowhunting. We just have to share it with ML hunters. Some of the biggest bucks bowhunters have taken have been harvested during the muzzle loader season. We can now bowhunt uninterrupted straight through from opening day in September to January 1st. And now, we also have an "Urban Archery Season" in cities that have approved it that runs from mid-January to mid-February. Bowhunting in N.C. has never been better.

In 2008, NCBA was instrumental in helping inform N.C. hunters of pending WRC proposals that would have created a so-called "Weapon of Choice" season that would have opened up the gun season on the opening day of bow season in early September on all private lands in N.C. and ran straight through to January 1st. I don't have to tell you what this would have done to the quality of our deer herd and to the bow only season on private properties. Thank the Lord that N.C. hunters responded to this call from NCBA to voice their thoughts about this. They showed up en masse at public hearings and responded with letters, calls and emails to stop this proposal before it came to a vote by the wildlife commissioners.

During this time, we were also able to regain the legal right to attend WRC

committee meetings and participate in OPEN discussions about pending proposals that could affect hunting and fishing regulations and laws. A few commissioners announced that no one could attend these committee meetings, including the media, the general public and ALL N.C. sportsmen. This was in violation of state public meetings laws. They were NOT going to allow NCBA and other sportsman's organizations to attend these public committee meetings and participate in discussions. Fortunately, the governor's office caught wind of this and resolved the situation in our favor. This was handled quickly and quietly so as not to draw too much media attention to those commissioners who were perpetrating this attempt to silence NCBA and other sportsman's groups. It was not a "fun time" to be president of NCBA. But, we won a measure of respect from those who knew what was going on at the time, because we stood up not just for our rights, but for those of all hunters and hunting organizations in N.C. The bad thing is that those who tried to do this are still on the wildlife commission. Our new governor needs to resolve this problem.

Another issue that was settled was the legalization of crossbows during bow season. They had been allowed with the possession of a special permit for disabled hunters. Personally, I am glad this issue is settled. NCBA's forty year old bylaws had dictated that we oppose the use of crossbows by our members. We amended our bylaws again after the WRC legalized them. Now, we view crossbows the same as any other legal weapon to hunt with. Crossbows are still not a bow by definition of NCBA and most state bowhunting organizations in North America, as well as the Pope and Young Club. The NCWRC defines them and all our conventional and traditional bows as "Archery Equipment", an all-inclusive term that includes any weapon that shoots an arrow, or anything that resembles an arrow. Now, NCBA members are not prohibited from hunting with crossbows. In my opinion, we should never have prohibited this in the first place, no more than we should have prohibited anyone from hunting with firearms. But, that was the mentality in 1975 when that bylaw was written. Hunters of all description should not be feuding among one another.

This is not good for hunting. The anti-hunters love to see us fighting with one another over anything. The fact is, we are still a bowhunting organization, by our own definition. The only thing we do now to distinguish a bow from any other weapon is that we accept ONLY bowkills into our records system; NO gun kills; NO crossbow kills; NO kills of any other description. If it was killed or died by any other means than with a bow and arrow, we do not recognize it. For those who may not know, the B&C Club accepts any and all animals, no matter how they die, as long as it was not an illegal kill. They accept gun kills, bow and crossbow kills; even road kills; "found" trophies, etc.

As a result of a dog tracking bill that NCBA first asked the WRC to propose in 2007, a law was passed a few years later that legalized the use of a tracking dog on a leash to aid in finding wounded big game animals. We held a dog tracking seminar in February of 2011 in conjunction with an officer with the "United Blood Trackers" (UBT) organization. In September of 2011, we formed the "NCBA Blood Tracking Program" that is chaired by Samantha Allen. Look for her articles and tips in our magazine and on our webpage.

We formed an I.T. Team a few years ago. Don Moore was the first CIO. Lee Matthews is the current CIO and webmaster. Lee single-handedly rebuilt our webpage into the professional communications tool it is today. He is assisted by Ryan Miller, Steve Graf and Dennis McClure in performing various duties in keeping the webpage current. Steve puts our eBulletins together and sends them out to around 1,500 subscribers when necessary. Lee also wrote a custom program for our records system to use in keeping records of all bowkills. This program is fantastic! It saves Joey Thompson a lot of time and work in keeping up with everything that is turned into our records system.

We held our first ever annual NCBA Picnic in 2005. Good food and Great company! It is usually the first Sunday in August. Don't miss it!

I personally and sincerely thank all of you who have supported me, our officers and NCBA over the past seven years since I first was elected president in 2005. I only ask that you to continue to support NCBA and it's officers, who

give their time and sincere efforts to help promote and preserve bowhunting in North Carolina for every bowhunter. And, I want to again thank my wife, Maria, for her dedication and work to NCBA as Membership Services Representative.

I hope to see everyone at our Awards Banquet on March 2nd, 2013. Make your banquet reservations and purchase a "Premium Raffle Ticket" now.

Thank you again.

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Membership Chairman



**Jamie
Brady**
mail: jebradyjr@yahoo.com

As another year comes and goes, If you are like myself, you are seeing that the years are going by faster and faster. It seems like I was just writing the beginning of the year article yesterday. Hopefully many of you were able to accomplish your bowhunting goals this year. I personally did not get to spend near the time this past year with the bow in hand as I wanted to but hopefully, 2013 will hold a different scenario. I have although seen several pics of nice harvests of all sorts that have been taken throughout the year and I am sure Joey is going to have a large stack of scoresheets to sort through. Congratulations to all of you that

had a successful season.

We are already getting things ready for our annual awards banquet as well as the Dixie Deer Classic in March. This event is about time for our members to fellowship with each other, enjoy a good meal, and hopefully take home some awards, if not from the annual contest, maybe from the drawings or door prizes. I hope all you have the opportunity to make it. It is my understanding that there is a special event being planned that is currently in the works, so let's keep our fingers crossed that it works out!! Also coming up later this spring will be our 7th annual bowfishing tournament with the date

and location to be later determined. Once we have this info, we will post it on the webpage as well as send out an ebulletin. We hope to see a good crowd there this year as well and hope and pray for good weather!!

I want to again thank all of you personally that support and belong to our organization. We really try hard to do our best and offer what we are able to our members, and know that we strive to consistently make any improvements that we can. One of the things we have focused on is our Land Acquisition Fund. It continues to grow and God willing, the dream will become reality soon! This will indeed be an asset to all of us; to have a place to camp, a place for future education, and to come and fellowship will absolutely be awesome!!!

As always, we again ask if there are any questions, suggestions, or ideas, please feel free to email or call me. We wish you most of all for the new year, great health, prosperity, and success with your s and strings!! Hope to see you in March!

GROW BIGGER BUCKS...DO IT NOW!

by **Ramon Bell**

Want to grow bigger bucks (and does) on the properties you hunt? NOW is the time to put out minerals for deer. They'll have time to find your minerals, eat them and get these bone and body-builders in their system before they start to grow this years antlers. From my experience, don't spend (waste) your time and money on commercial mineral blocks that are good, but expensive. There's two minerals that are necessary to grow bigger and stronger bodies, bones (and antlers). These are calcium and phosphorous. Go to your nearest feed-farm supply store and buy a 50 pound bag of Di-Calcium Phosphate, or "Di-Cal" as it is also known by. It contains about 18-22% of both calcium and phosphorous. Also buy a 50 lb. bag of regular white granulated salt, and a bag of "Dry Molasses". I mix up batches in about 10 pound batches. Use about 5 lbs. each of salt and Di-Cal. Add a few scoops of dry molasses to it and stir it up. You'll get about

ten batches of the mixture from these two 50 lb. bags. There's enough dry molasses to last several years. You don't need the "Trace-Mineral" salt, as that is all you get, is a "TRACE" of these same minerals, and trace mineral salt is much more expensive than regular plain white salt.

Find a good location to "plant" your minerals. I like a shallow depression in the ground that will hold moisture. Maybe an old rotten stump will work best? Dig it up with a shovel and pour the mixture into it. Stir loose dirt into the mixture and you're set. It helps to pour a gallon or two of water on it to help "activate" the mixture too! The dry molasses and salt acts as a scent and flavor attractant. Deer won't eat the Di-Cal alone. You have to flavor it up to get them to eat it. Check it every few weeks. If they find it and eat it up, add another batch to it. For the money, you can't find a better mineral supplement for deer on your hunting properties. It works!

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Winter issue: January 1

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Summer issue: July 1

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Full page	\$125
Half page	\$ 75
Third page	\$ 50
Business card size	\$ 45

Program Chairman



**David
Whitmire**
E-mail: avery@citcom.net

Winter already! Our deer season here in Dist. 9 is already closed for the year, as I write this. I hope every one of you had an awesome hunting season this past fall. What a pleasure to see the young faces of NC's Bowhunters gracing the cover of our magazine, in the past few issues. Not just the cover, but the magazine as a whole really has come a long way. Thank you, Mark Dubowski and others that work so hard to bring this publication to life, quarterly. Just like our Association, NC Bowhunter Magazine depends on everyone to make it successful. Take a few moments during this long winter, to write and send some photos of some past hunts and share with us. Sometimes we forget how diverse we and our State really are. What a great way to learn and celebrate all NC has to offer the Bowhunters. March 2nd is our annual awards banquet held at the Kerr Scott Building at the State Fair Grounds in Raleigh. We hope you and the family can make plans to attend. Combined with a visit to the Dixie Deer Classic either before or the next day makes for a worthwhile trip to the big city. This year we even have a special musical guest, up and coming country music artist Colton James. So with good food, good friends, great hunt raffles, auction items and

now great music, you won't want to miss this one. See enclosed details for further info. on the Classic and our banquet. Hey don't forget to drop those photos and trail cam photos off by the NCBA booth at the DDC before noon on Sat. 2nd for the annual contest. On top of that bring those bow's along for the indoor 3-d shoot, a class is there for the whole family to shoot in. A goal of mine this next year as Program Chairman is to produce a program/ event that will help fund the land acquisition program. We worked hard on an archery tournament project last year but just couldn't get it off the ground. NCBA's own club house/ education center /camp ground will go a long way in growing our Association. I will be reaching out to our local clubs and wildlife district reps. for ideas and help. I welcome each of you as members to contact me with your thoughts. Something we all can do right now, is each of us sign up one new member this year. Five dollars from the annual dues goes to the L/A program. Let's make this happen, for those young ones coming up and for those who have been working so long to give NCBA a home of its own. Shoot straight and may your blood trails be short.

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My Longbow Buck

by Lee Hinton

My name is Lee Hinton and I have been a traditional bowhunter for around five or six years. I would like to relay some Traditional bowhunting stories to everyone. Traditional bowhunting will bring some of the excitement back to your archery hunts, and a great sense of accomplishment.

This past October I was hunting an acorn ridge which had several large white oaks raining acorns. I had positioned myself 25 foot up in a poplar tree that was at a bend in a wet weather creek bed. This would put me in the middle of the four largest white oaks there. This position would allow for a 30 yard shot at most. I was hoping for 10 yards or so. It was a cool afternoon with the slight breeze blowing in my face most of the time. The action was slow for the first hour or so but I had gotten in the tree around 3:00pm.

About an hour into the hunt I caught movement along the dry creek bed. It was a small 5 pointer and he was headed straight toward me, when he got under some low hanging limbs I got to my feet. He ended up standing directly under me looking at the acorns in front of him on the ground. He would jump every now and then when some more acorns fell. Eventually he fed about 10 to 12 yards in front of me. While I was enjoying the moment he stared back in the direction he came, so like a good hunter I did also.



They appeared like ghosts of the woods, 2 bucks silently picking their way toward the falling acorns. The first one was a nice 8 pointer probably around 95-105 inches and 160 lbs. He was very easy to see with his polished white rack. The 8 pointer came in fast and ended up under my tree also. From there he joined the 5 pointer in an acorn feast. The second buck was moving slower and lagging behind, but he was much larger body wise. His rack was dark and hard to see in the dim light of the underbrush, but I could tell it was past his ears and heavy. Thirty yards out he stopped to rub a small sapling with my binoculars I saw he had 9 short thick points and a heavy body. He slowly but deliberately cut the corner and headed into where the 8 pointer was standing.

This made the 8 pointer move off about 20 yards or so and the big 9 pointer started feeding. I was waiting bow in hand for him to clear the 2 small dogwood trees that screened his chest. All of a sudden the 8 pointer came rushing back in. This made the 9 pointer move quickly towards him about 5 yards and quarter away from me. I was focusing on his last rib when I saw my arrow bury

into the cresting about 3 inches high of where I was looking. All of the bucks left fast and I sat and waited until dark to get down.

When I got down I went to where he had been standing and found good blood almost immediately. The blood trail only went about 40 yards then disappeared. I knew he was dead and it was going to get down to 40 degrees that night so I decided to back out and go home. I was dreading a night of waiting but when I got home my grandson was waiting on me and was spending the night. This made me forget about the buck until morning.

My son went with me to track the buck, he sees blood better than I do plus he is younger and can drag harder. We found him about 80 to 90 yards from the last blood. My broadhead lodged in the off side shoulder so there was no exit hole. I was really glad my son came along the buck was the biggest body wise I have ever shot. It is amazing what a razor sharp broadhead will accomplish.

The buck weighted between 190 and 200 lbs, his rack grossed 116, the net was lower but they are for fishing so we won't talk about that. The backstraps and sausage are delicious.

My gear was a Hummingbird longbow 3 piece takedown model, 56lbs @ 28 in. of draw. My arrows were Beaman MFX's 400 spine and a Simmons Landshark broadhead, and an Eagleflight quiver. I am a member of Guilford Bowhunters and Sissapahaw Traditional Archers. Check out our web sites.

Give traditional archery a try. If you want more info email me at hinton.leon@yahoo.com. I may be able to give some insight or steer you in the right direction.

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Teena and Jackie



Lucky Ladder Buck

by Teena Koury

On October 20th, NCBA member, Teena Koury, of Burlington, arrowed a very symmetrical 10 point buck from a 22 foot high ladder stand overlooking a food plot on her Person County farm. Last year, she shot a 129" buck with her muzzle loader on January 1, 2012, the last day of deer season. She shot a 142" ten point buck from the same stand in 2011 with a 20 ga. Shotgun. She also arrowed a 110" buck last year.

Teena says she was lucky to even hunt that afternoon, and even luckier to find the buck. She attributes that to her 9 year old Jack Russell Terrier, "Jackie."

Teena reached her ladder stand about 5:00 p.m. At 6:45 p.m., a doe walked into the clover patch, followed by a buck. Teena says, "He was chasing her, and she ran right under my stand. I was hoping she wouldn't smell me. I first saw him chasing her behind me. Both deer ran into the clover patch. The buck stopped, facing away from Teena about 30 yards from her stand. She said she didn't want to take that shot, and hoped he would

turn one way or the other and give her a better shot angle. A moment later, he did.

Shooting a Bowtech compound set at 45 pounds draw weight, she released the arrow. The Montec broadhead struck him just behind the right rib cage, quartering forward toward the opposite shoulder. It did not exit, but it proved to be a perfect shot, slicing through the vitals, resulting in a quick kill.

Teena says all the does and the buck ran out of the clover field. She watched where they ran into the woods and waited. She didn't know if she'd hit him or not. In the past, when she missed a shot, the deer would come back into the field. This time, they did not return.

She stayed in her stand until dark, then climbed down and returned to her cabin where a hunting friend, Danny McPherson waited for her to return. They went back and searched with flashlights, but could not find him.

The next day, Teena called a friend, Tammy Richardson, and they returned to look for the buck. After an hour, they still couldn't find him. Tammy said I should go get Jackie, my Jack Russell terrier. The dog found the blood trail and followed it. I saw her stop and sniff the ground. I walked over there and found more blood. I hollered at Tammy, and when I looked back, Jackie was already on top of the buck, pulling at it. It had ran only about 100 yards from where I shot it into the woods.

He weighed 170 pounds on the hoof. He has an inside spread of 16"; one tine measures 10 2/8" and three more that are 9 2/8"; 9 1/8" and 8 5/8". The arrow was still in him. It wasn't a complete pass-thru, but it quartered forward and got all the vitals. I guess that's why he didn't bleed very much and leave a large blood trail.

We probably wouldn't have found the deer without Jackie. She lives to hunt. All I have to say is 'Dead deer, Jackie', and she's ready to go.

Our Hunting Heritage... and You

by Tom Miranda

American hunters are blessed with an amazing hunting heritage. We have come a long way from the early Spanish, French and British adventurers who explored the continent and divided it into New Spain, New France, and New England. Unfortunately, these forefathers exploited America's wildlife resources, thinking its abundance was so overwhelming that no one could ever use it up.

Trees were cut indiscriminately, turning huge forests into prairie. Animals were slaughtered needlessly, as market hunting took advantage of railroads as a way to deliver fresh meat and leather into the hustle and bustle of developing urban areas. It was the mid-1800s and the industrial revolution was in full swing, sending more and more people into the cities.

As time passed, the reality that the abundance of our natural resources was shrinking became apparent to a few influential men. They saw the writing on the wall and had the sense to do something about it. Men like Theodore Roosevelt, Aldo Leopold, George Shiras, William Healy Dall, and a host of others brought hunting and conservation together. They were the new forefathers of our country, who would ensure that our land and our wildlife would be managed for the wisest use.

We all know that the bison herds were wiped out and rebuilt by conservation. But this is just one of a hundred success stories that include elk, bear, deer, sheep and other species across all four corners of our continent.

Today's wildlife management is practiced in all 50 states, as well as in Canada, Mexico, and all of Central America. Wildlife management has expanded around the world because we, as stewards of wildlife, understand that every animal has an intrinsic value. Not just value in or of itself, but value in the economy of the land in which it lives.

Modern hunters, trappers and fisherman not only support wildlife management through "wise use" but as sportsmen who give wildlife an economic value. The huntable population of whitetail deer in North America is

valued at over a billion dollars in income annually. This money comes from hunters who purchase licenses and gear, as well as from wildlife agencies that study the deer and land managers who proliferate them. They are why we have more deer now than when the pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock, and why we will continue to have deer, bear, elk and sheep for generations to come.

It's ironic that today hunters are called murderers and zealots by "animal protection" groups. Even though hunters have been blamed for much of history's animal population demise, the fact is that modern hunters are the conservationists who rebuilt them. In the days of early conservation, men like Theodore Roosevelt, Saxon Pope, Courtney Selous, Jack O'Conner and other hunting icons and conservation heroes were mocked

Today, we are fortunate to have organizations of hunters like the North Carolina Bowhunters Association, which helps promote a healthy perspective on hunting and brings together outdoorsmen of like mind, ambition and cause. While some look upon trophy hunting only in the negative connotation, our perspective is different and rightfully so. To look at the membership rosters of organizations like Pope & Young, Boone & Crockett, Safari Club International, Grand Slam Club/Ovis, Wild Sheep, and yes, the North Carolina Bowhunters Association, is to see the names of hunters who are willing to stand up for their privilege as hunters and to put their hard-earned dollars into supporting wildlife management and our country's hunting heritage. Our dollars give wildlife undeniable real value.



and degraded by groups of activists. Roosevelt hunted in Africa to provide the Smithsonian with specimens, Selous shot over 500 specimens for the Natural History Museum in London. In those days, darting and radio collaring were unknown. Animals were harvested in the name of science, opened and studied as cadavers, then mounted for display in museums.

The hunting we love has never been free. From the time when all of us were young and hunting pheasants or quail with dad, the roosters that flushed from these lands were managed by farmers who invested time and money to maintain wild birds on their property. These landowners left crops for feed and nesting cover. They managed their land for the balance of nature and wildlife at their



Tom Miranda, Grizzly (above) and Desert Mule Deer (opposite page)

own expense and gave us the privilege to hunt and follow our heritage.

Times have changed, yet some things have stayed the same. Hunters still love the land and the wild creatures they pursue. Hunters still cherish their heritage and look upon hunting with a respect to animals and wildlife. There was a time when land was valued only for its ability to grow crops or trees; now it is also appreciated as habitat for wild animals. This added value is the direct result of hunting and conservation efforts.

As a hunter, you are a steward, not only of wildlife, but of our hunting heritage. Think about ways you can pass it on. Consider attending a school and doing a talk with youngsters on hunting, and take a few mounts or pelts along with you.

More bowhunters need to attend conventions like the Dixie Deer Classic, and get more deeply involved in hunting organizations like NCBA. When you make plans to attend a show, or renew your membership in your hunting organization, invite a friend to join you. Where auctions and raffles are held, consider bidding on these hunts, or selling raffle tickets to help the organization make the most of its efforts. Remember that sportsmen's organizations, outfitters and state Game and Fish departments are providing these auction items and opportunities for the sole purpose of continuing the legacy of our hunting heritage and wildlife conservation efforts.

I'm proud to be a hunter and take every available chance to support any and all hunting organizations. The future

of hunting lies with our youth and it's up to us to bring more youngsters into the sport, and to educate as many new hunters as we can. I sincerely hope I get the chance to meet you at this year's Dixie Deer Classic in Raleigh March 1-3 2013.

Thanks in advance for continuing to promote our hunting heritage.

Editors Note: *Tom Miranda was the first to complete the Super Slam of North American Big Game on video/ DVD. Tom has just released a companion book entitled Adventure Bowhunter, Tom Miranda's Quest for the North American Super Slam. The book is full color, 365 pages and will serve as an inspiration to you or, as a gift, to a young hunter of tomorrow. Tom Miranda's Adventure Bowhunter book and DVD set are available at www.tommiranda.com*

Miss my Partner

by: **Richard Dyer**

When I first met this guy the first thought to cross my mind was, boy this guy may be more of a bow hunting nut than me.

A friend of mine, Bill Pace, called one day and said he had met a man that outfitted bear hunts in Saskatchewan, CA. His name was Ramon Bell with "Old South Adventures" Outfitting Services.

Bill and I have been friends since we were kids and as older guys, we now were business and hunting partners. We have hunted together all over the west and mid-west but now we were looking for a new adventure, bear hunting.

The following day I called and was able to talk to Ramon on the possibility of going on the spring bear hunt in Saskatchewan. He was very nice and seemed to be very knowledgeable about bow hunting for bears. After much discussion with my partner Bill, we booked the hunt.

After several months of anticipation and preparation, Bill and I were finally entering the Greensboro airport to meet Ramon

and another hunter, O. T. Fowler, from King, N.C. Little did I know that this would turn out to be the first of many bear hunts north with O. T., Bill, Ramon and myself. As the years and hunts went by, Ramon and I became closer as friends and hunting partners.

Not only did we make many more trips to Canada but also to Kansas, Illinois, Kentucky, and Virginia to shoot gar. I found out one thing about Ramon, that if he tells you something, you can count on it. If you start a conversation about politics you better hang on cause he can lay it on those politicians, especially the liberal ones. Talk about hunting and he can go on forever. All of this is good because he knows what he is talking about.

When I got a call from his wife Maria, the morning after he had his stroke, I was

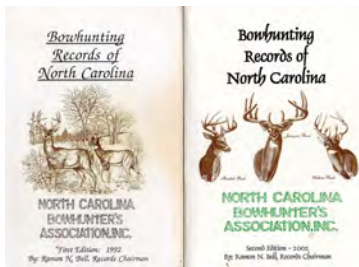


just in shock. He had just been to my house a few days before and measured a few things for me and everything seemed as good as ever. We messed around doing things and talking about the next hunting trip we may take.

If you know Ramon you know that he is aggressive in everything he does and that he will fight this thing as hard as he can and continue to progress as he already has. I have lost a hunting buddy for right now but I feel confident with his effort and the many prayers he will be back. Get well soon partner

The attached photo is from the November 2011 of the deer hunt to Kentucky with Richard Dyer and Ramon Bell. I shot a nice 8 point buck on this trip with George Cummins of Salt River Outfitters. I won this hunt in the NCBA Premium Hunts Raffle at the 2011 NCBA Banquet.

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NCBA LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

We solicit requests from YOU, our members, to submit your thoughts on what should be considered for our legislative agenda. We continue to solicit your comments and input about these, or other issues.

NOTE: The items listed below have been approved for our Legislative Agenda. This is the list of issues based upon YOUR input. (*NOTE: ALL items are subject to discussion and revision as time and circumstances change.) NCBA Executive Council members will continue to review any further comments from YOU, the NCBA membership. Any issues that cannot be fully agreed upon will remain on the “tentative” list for further and future discussion.

It is the Legislative Chairman, Committee, and all EC Officers duty to represent NCBA with this list, as approved by the majority of the NCBA Executive Council.

We Oppose: NCBA “Constitution & Bylaws” sets forth our position on these two issues.

1. OPPOSE legalization of “Crossbows” and “string-locking” devices or any apparatus that will HOLD a bow at partial or full draw, during any “Archery Only” deer seasons, except for truly legitimate handicapped, physically challenged hunters.
2. OPPOSE legalization of the POD, or any “Poison-Type Arrow.”

We Recommend, Support or Oppose:

1. RECOMMEND and SUPPORT establishing a uniform schedule for opening dates of firearms deer seasons. In order to preserve, protect and proliferate the quality of our buck population, and the quality of deer hunting itself, firearms seasons (including muzzleloaders), deer firearms seasons should not open earlier than the second Saturday in November in and west of Granville, Durham, Chatham, Lee Moore, Montgomery Stanly and Anson counties; and, not earlier than the third Saturday in October in counties in and east of Vance, Franklin, Wake, Harnett, Hoke and Richmond. (Exception being the existing one week October muzzleloader season in the Western Deer Season.) We have no opposition to extending deer firearms seasons later into the winter months.
2. RECOMMEND and SUPPORT the adoption of a “Quality Deer Management Program.” We favor adopting a regulation that would place antler restrictions based upon “Greatest Antler Width.” Antlers must appear to be at least as wide as the outside “ear-to-ear” spread. Hunters would be allowed to harvest ONE buck each year that did not meet this minimum requirement. Minimum “points” per side is not desirable because: (1) It can be difficult or impossible to count points under varying light and other hunting conditions; (2) Many immature “yearling” bucks can have 3 or 4 points on one side. Antler spread is the best indicator of the age of a buck and can better be determined under most hunting conditions. (1/17/2010)
3. SUPPORT (and Recommend) that the NCWRC create a “Wildlife Anti-Poacher” program. Many other state wildlife agencies have created and support monetarily their own “Anti-Poacher” and “Operation Game Thief” type programs. (This program has grown to the proportions that it will be only a matter of time before NCBA can no longer afford to support it.)
4. SUPPORT establishment of an archery season for black bear in eastern N.C. to run concurrent with archery deer season; or, allow “Incidental Opportunity” harvest of ONE black bear by bowhunters during any archery season.
5. SUPPORT a “Post-Season” bowhunting season for whitetail deer, especially does, in all sections of the state to help better control and manage deer populations; and to help achieve a lower “buck to doe” ratio in the whitetail deer population.
6. WE ENCOURAGE better deer management on gamelands in the Western area of the state (District 9). Our members there suggest establishment of a 2 DEER limit, one of which must be a “Trophy” buck. Antler restrictions should be implemented to define “Trophy Buck” qualifications. (See SUPPORT No. 3 above.)
7. SUPPORT creation of “Hunter Recognition Program” similar to WRC’s “Angler Recognition Program” to recognize hunter successes. (NOTE: NCBA already has a statewide network of official measurers willing to assist with this program. Also, most WRC biologists are already B&C and P&Y certified.)
8. SUPPORT legislation or WRC programs designed to help recruit more youths, women and hunters of all ages into the sport of hunting, and bowhunting in particular.
9. SUPPORT the implementation of a “Draw System” for all “Draw Hunts”, with “Preference Points” given to unsuccessful applicants each year. This will assure that everyone who applies for “Draw Hunts” will be drawn for the hunt in a fair and equitable manner. *Rev: 7/23/2011*

Blood Tracking Program



Samantha Allen

E-mail: timberidgetracker@gmail.com

Don't let the Winter blues get you down; Spring is just around the corner! In the meantime Deer Season has ended for 2012 and it is now time for your Tracking Dog to go on vacation, just kidding! It is just as important now as it ever has been to keep your dog in shape and on his game for the 2013 Season. The following are a few tips for keeping your best hunting buddy happy and healthy for his next adventure.

Be sure your dog is fed a high quality food to help build his muscles and keep a healthy weight on him/her. Very active dogs will require a higher protein food to keep them in tip-top shape. Always keep a good, clean supply of water out. Even in the cold months a dog can dehydrate while working.

Practice on other areas of work such as retrieving. This will give the dog a break from Tracking but keeping his mind sharp

by learning new skills and his body in shape from the workout of the retrieves. Any breed of dog can learn to retrieve. Don't just focus on training for Tracking; you can burn your dog out, be creative!

Tune up your dog's obedience skills. (I find this one VERY important) A well trained dog is the best kind of dog. Work on the following for increments of 10-30 minutes per day for approx. 5 days a week.

- Sit
- Down
- Stay
- Heel
- Come
- Kennel
(Teaches the dog to enter an object on command)

During your dog's Tracking Training sessions try to focus on areas of work that will challenge your dog (but not too hard) so that he/she is benefiting from the lesson. Plan out your objective for each lesson you do and record what worked and what did not. This will help you polish your skills over the next several months. For a new pup I would recommend training 2 times per week starting out and for a more experienced dog once every two weeks or so based on how the dog is performing. Each dog is different and will learn at different paces, find out what works best for your dog.

Best wishes to you and your dog for a Happy, Healthy 2013!



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Associate Council's Corner



Hillbilly
Jim Jordan

Black Bear Stew

a poem by Jeff Eberbaugh

submitted by

Jim "Old Hillbilly" Jordan

Drivin' home one night from the Wirt County Fair
I kicked on my brights and saw a big black bear
When standing up straight he was eight foot tall
The biggest and the meanest bear I ever did saw.
I looked over at Jon, he said Man you better stop
I said no Joke cuz the brakes are all locked.
We both closed our eyes and slammed into the bear
And the front of my truck got covered with hair.
I said looky here we got some road kill meat
But 'twas the bear not us who was ready to eat.
I thought that we had killed him but we only made him mad
The bear ate my cousin, the whole family was sad.
I scrambled for the bank and cut a hickory switch
I whipped him and switched him till he was dead in the ditch.
So the moral of the story about Black Bear Stew
is sometimes you get the bear and sometimes he gets you.

Legislative Chairman



Tommy
Kimball

E-mail: bowkimball@aol.com

As I sit here at the computer writing my article for our winter issue for the magazine, it is raining like crazy, and I get that terrible feeling you get when you just missed that buck of a life time. I think back how fast this deer season has gone by. I think about the days I did not go sit in a tree and did other things instead. Now I wish I had those days back. Oh well I am still looking forward to doing some small game hunting and scouting for old long beard.

On the legislative side of news it has been fairly quiet. The biggest change is the use of lights to hunt

coyotes at night. The affected counties are Dare, Tyrell, Hyde, Washington and Beaufort. This has been halted pending the outcome of a law suit questioning the temporary rule made by the Wildlife Commission. The order was issued in response to a complaint filed by the Southern Environmental Law Center on behalf of the Red Wolf Coalition, Defenders of Wildlife and the Animal Welfare Institute.

This preliminary injunction issued by the Superior Court only applies to hunting coyotes at night in these five counties Dare, Tyrell,

Hyde, Washington and Beaufort counties. This does not effect the hunting at night for feral swine with a light. This injunction only effects these five counties.

This injunction will remain in effect pending the final ruling by the Superior Court on this issue.

The 2013 Wildlife Resources Commission Meeting Schedule for 2013 is as follows

JANUARY- Thursday 17th

MARCH - Thursday 14th

MAY - Thursday 9th

JULY - Thursday 11th

AUGUST - Thursday 29th

OCTOBER- NO MEETING

NOVEMBER- Thursday 7th

Anyone interested in attending any of these meetings please contact me.

Wishing everyone a happy and prosperous new year.



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Records Chairman



Joey Thompson

E-mail:ncbawhitetail@yahoo.com

Remembering 2012

Memories from the past year are more numerous than any year I can remember. It shows every time I open the Data Base and see the name changes at the top of so many pages. Unfortunately not all the memories were welcomed ones for the NCBA. Looking back at 2012 for the NCBA brings so many thoughts to mind. Bow Hunts with friends, many nights of bowfishing on different lakes, and tons of pictures. We recorded several State Records in 2012 from the Woods to the Water, a new Turkey, and Southern Rays for Youth and Adults, Tammy Tucker harvested a New Velvet Female Record at 137 0/8. Cole Miller has taken a Beaver that will be a New Youth State Record in the cold of New Years Eve and many others. We are blessed to have our President Ramon Bell and NCBA/P&Y measurer Carl Beal still with us after suffering strokes this year. A fatal Osprey Aircraft crashed leaving only 2 survivors, a Camp Lejeune Marine, NCBA measurer and friend Richard "TrainWreck"Burkett continues to recover from the horrible accident and we are thankful to have him with us. Measurer Tom White broke his legs and back as he stepped into the stand and fell to the ground before getting a chance to hook his safety harness but is healing well. Please keep them all in your thoughts and prayers as we move forward into 2013.

Dixie Deer Classic and NCBA Awards Banquet

March 2, 2013 we have our Awards Banquet at the Kerr Scott Building for an Awesome show. **Country Music Star and Bow Hunter, Colton James** will perform for us this year during the banquet. If you want to see him don't wait to reserve your tickets. We anticipate all seats being filled so please don't wait. Our

Awards Banquet will be a full evening of hunt raffles, a silent auction, bows, great food, door prizes, honoring our member's accomplishments over the last year, and awesome music. March 1-3, 2013 at the Raleigh State Fair Grounds will be here fast, with 120+ NCBA members volunteering to pull together every year and make this event a success, please come and support us during this weekend.

Measurers

Our measurers list is almost complete for the DDC this year, if you plan to attend please call me soon as my list has to be turned in by Feb 15. I'm currently working on the award list for 2012 and entering score sheets and I need more information on many of them. Please remember to record the hunters WRC # and confirmation # on all big game animals at the right bottom corner. Only the score sheets received by January 31 will be eligible for the annual contest. I want to thank each of you for your help in 2012 and I look forward to working with you in the years to come.

As the year closed I had the chance to measure several deer taken by our members. Michael Sprinkle harvested a Forsyth County Non-Typical netting 155 2/8 as a main frame 7 point. Phillip Ring, a retired North Stokes Biology teacher arrowed a beautiful 8 point that also made Pope& Young. As a student of North Stokes High School I had the privilege of having Mr. Ring and his wife as teachers. Mr. Ring spoke of bow hunting all the time in class and had a personal hand in getting many of my friends involved in hunting with the & string. I want to say Thanks to Phil Ring and everyone else that helped get a bow in the hands of another hunter.

See you in the woods,

We'll say it
again.

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Treasurer's Report



JR Stone

E-mail: stoney45@nc.rr.com

BBB&T Checking as of: Nov. 30, 2012: \$23,549.89

Wells Fargo as of:	Oct.. 31, 2012	Nov. 30, 2012	Change:
J.R. Wright Fund:	\$2,269.59	\$2,288.84	+ \$19.25
BH Defense Fund	\$61,583.95	\$62,000.45	+ \$416.50
Gen Savings	\$37,979.17	\$38,356.51	+ \$377.34
Land Acquisition Fund	\$21,648.27	\$21,792.77	+ \$144.50
NCBA Endow. Fund	\$2,606.87	\$2,606.60	+ \$19.73

Why have hunter liability insurance?

by **Ramon Bell**

Every hunter should be covered by a hunter liability insurance policy, no matter where they hunt. Here's why. Our (NCBA's) insurance representative told me that the most common claim they receive results from damage (or injury) resulting from a deer being shot, then running across a road and being struck by a motor vehicle. Were you aware that the hunter can be held civilly liable in these instances? Any damage done by a deer after you shoot it, or even shoot at it, can be the basis for a civil claim or law suit against you. We are not so much concerned with the accidental shooting of another hunter or livestock with a bow and arrow. It just doesn't happen at the close ranges of a bowhunter. But it does happen on occasion with firearms at longer ranges through

mistaken identity. We had a case a few years ago where a NCBA member shot a neighbor's dog, mistaking it for a coyote. He was not sued, but the neighbor did sign a criminal warrant on him for some minor violation. Hunter liability insurance does not cover violations of the law. Another NCBA member shot a doe with his muzzle loader and the deer ran over 300 yards before expiring. He trailed and found it dead, lying on the centerline of a two-lane paved rural highway. The point is that incidents happen that can put **any** hunter in a position to be the defendant in a civil suit.

NCBA annual membership (\$30) carries \$100,000 in hunter liability insurance that covers bow and gun hunting civil claims as long as your membership is active at the time the incident occurs. If you place your

hunting properties in the BCRS program, you and the landowner are also covered for up to \$2 million for bowhunting only. The only requirement is that all hunters on that property must be NCBA & BCRS certified members. You retain complete control of who hunts the property and when, and the terms and details of the BCRS agreement are strictly confidential.

Questions? Contact me at president@ncbowhunter.com or Dennis McClure at bcrs@ncbowhunter.com. For more information on joining NCBA and the BCRS program, go to our website at www.ncbowhunter.com, and click on the BCRS link in the left margin or the "Join the NCBA" link in the top right margin.

NCBA ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET ANNOUNCEMENT

Hunts, Crafts and Volunteers Needed

The *NCBA* will hold its 27th annual Convention and Banquet in Raleigh, NC this year at the NC State Fairgrounds in the Kerr-Scott Building on March 2, 2013. This is the same weekend as the Dixie Deer Classic. Like last year, it will run the entire weekend concurrently with the DDC. We expect a larger turnout at the banquet because many of our volunteers will already be there. Many of you will also be there attending the DDC and can take in the banquet on Saturday night with no added expense for fuel and lodging. This is an opportunity for you to get involved with NCBA and bowhunting in North Carolina. You can do so in a number of ways.

Banquet Tickets: Contact: Deann Stone to reserve your banquet tickets (919-477-7184). This year, they are \$25 per person. Children under 12 “Free”; \$10 cover charge for anyone who wants to attend the banquet/raffle. This does **not** include meal.

NOTE: All banquet tickets are by advance reservation ONLY!

Premium Raffle Tickets: Each package costs \$100 and includes TEN chances (“BLUE” ticket) at winning one of our “Premium Hunts.” See the website for details on the hunts, www.ncbowhunter.com. Additional chances may be available for an additional cost per ticket. The process for dispensing the “Premium” hunts has been revised this year to expedite the process and to give ticket holders the opportunity to select which “Premium” hunts they want to win, similar to the Commercial and Member hunts. Package also includes 30 “RED” raffle tickets that can be placed in other boxes for “Commercial Hunts” and “Member Hunts.” Contact Ramon Bell

(336-643-4455) or Deann Stone (919-477-7184) to purchase “Premium Raffle Ticket Packages. (NOTE: We will **not** use the ping-pong ball system this year.)

Volunteers: We will need volunteers. If you plan to attend and are willing to volunteer some time during the weekend to help with various activities, you should respond to this message before Feb. 15th. We can use people in a number of places to help with a variety of duties throughout the weekend. If you have already volunteered, thanks! If you told us you’d be willing to help, but have not yet been contacted and assigned to something, please contact us now by email or phone, and we will add your name to our list of volunteers. Call or email David Whitmire at: 828-553-0083 (Email: avery@citcom.net.) Official Measurers, call Joey Thompson at: 336-972-1486 (Email: ncbawhitetail@yahoo.com). 3-D Shoot volunteers, call Ron Hayes at: 336-364-9788 (Email: rongailhayes@embarqmail.com.)

Hunts: We need hunts and other trips to raffle off at the banquet. We can use hunts from professional guides, and hunts from YOU, our members. Commercial outfitters who donate hunts for our “Hunts Raffle” will receive free ad space and articles in our magazine, links and ads on our website, and free annual membership in NCBA. Members who donate hunts are contributing to the association by reaching out to other members across the state and helping establish bowhunting friendship and camaraderie. Please call me if you can help with either soliciting or donating any type of hunt or outdoor adventure.

Crafts: We need items to place in our “Silent Auction” that will appeal to a

variety of people. If you have a special talent or craft, please consider making up something “special” for our “27th Annual NCBA Awards Banquet” and donating it for this event. Archery/hunting related items, or any special handmade item is desired and most welcome. Again, contact us at the phone numbers/email addresses listed above ahead of time if you have items to donate. If you can’t attend the banquet, but would still like to donate something, let us know and we will make arrangements for someone to pick it up and deliver it to the banquet.

Miscellaneous Items: Anything you would like to donate for our door prizes would also be welcome. Either bring items to the banquet or give them to someone who is coming so they can bring them along. Be sure to put your name on these items so we will know who donated them.

Annual NCBA Raffle at the DDC: The proceeds from our annual raffle go into the NCBA “Land Acquisition Fund.” We will be conducting a raffle during the DDC weekend. Prizes yet to be announced. The drawing will be held at the NCBA booth in Dorton Arena at 3 pm on Sunday afternoon.

As with all items, hunts, etc., please contact us in advance and make us aware of anything you are able to solicit or donate that will be raffled or auctioned off at the banquet.

Thank you for your cooperation and help,

**Ramon Bell
President/NCBA**



North Carolina Bowhunters Association

4th
Annual

Annual Trail Cam Photo, Video, and Photo Contest ****March 1, 2, & 3 at the Dixie Deer Classic

Categories:

- ✦ Trail Cam Pictures – Wildlife and Most Unique ..Judging will be on quality of picture, animals, and scenery. Deadline on entry is noon March 2, 2013 at the Classic. Winners to be announced March 3rd
- ✦ Videos – Largest deer taken on Film. Best video/story. Must be a bow hunt. Judging will be on video quality, deer size, story and uniqueness. Five minutes max on entry. Content may be edited for quality, etc. Deadline on entry is Feb 15, 2013 (postmarked). Winners announced March 1, 2013. All video entries must be mailed in - no exceptions.
- ✦ Photos – Wildlife Photo (Bow Hunting Related photos taken in NC) and Trophy Photo (animal and bowhunter).. Judging will be on picture quality. Deadline on entry is noon March 2, 2013 at the Classic. Winners to be announced March 3, 2013

People's Choice award will be given in the trail cam & photo contest

Rules:

- All pictures and video must be shot in North Carolina.
- All pictures and video may be shown at the Dixie Deer Classic, NCBA reserves the right to not show material deemed unsuitable for public viewing.
- All pictures and videos shall have the category written on the back and the proper box checked on the "entry application" where applicable
- Pictures and Video can be cross entered in categories but must have all categories listed on entry form and picture/DVD.
- All pictures need to be a minimum of 5"x7" max 16" x 20".
- Pictures must be mounted on a stiff backing/matting prepared for hanging and display. All pictures should have name, address, and phone number printed on back. A copy of picture is recommended. NCBA will attempt to return picture if desired. Self addressed envelope with adequate postage must be included/ provided with any entries the contestant wants returned.
- All video should be in DVD format with name, address and phone number on printed on DVD. A copy of DVD is recommended. NCBA will attempt to return picture if desired. Self addressed envelope with adequate postage must be included/ provided with any entries the contestant wants returned.
- Judging will be done by an impartial panel of judges. The judge's decision is final.
- All photos must be brought to the NCBA booth and entered for judging no later than noon on March 2, 2013. Booth will be located next to the 3-D Archery Tournament in the Dorton Arena. Or mailed in postmarked no later than Feb 15, 2013.
- NCBA executive officers are not eligible to participate in the contest.

Prizes:

Ribbons will be given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. A first place People's Choice Award will be given in the trail cam & photo contests. Ribbons will be available for pickup at the NCBA booth on March 3rd or mailed to winners.



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PLATINUM

Wake County Wildlife Club 2010, 2011, 2012
Hummingbird Bows (Ben & Linda Graham) 2010, 2011
Anonymous Donor (1) 2010
Deer Run Archery 2011, 2012

GOLD

Hummingbird Bows (Ben & Linda Graham) 2012

SILVER

Bear Archery 2010
Southern Trophy Hunters 2010, 2011, 2012
Chapman's Taxidermy, 2012

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AMS Bowfishing 2010, 2011
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NCBA recognizes both individual and corporate entities who have contributed to various funds that help sponsor and support ongoing NCBA programs. These programs are: Land Acquisition Fund, Membership Endowment Fund, JR Wright Membership Endowment Fund, Youth Education Fund, Records System, Bowhunter Defense Fund, NCBA General Fund (Contributions are distributed to other funds as needed).

Legend
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BDF- Bowhunter Defense Fund
RS - Records System
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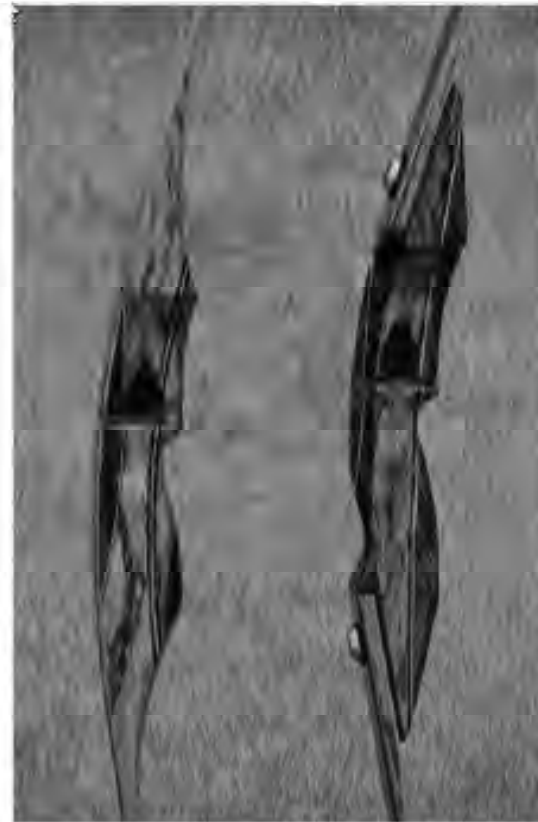
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(Story on page 16.)**



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