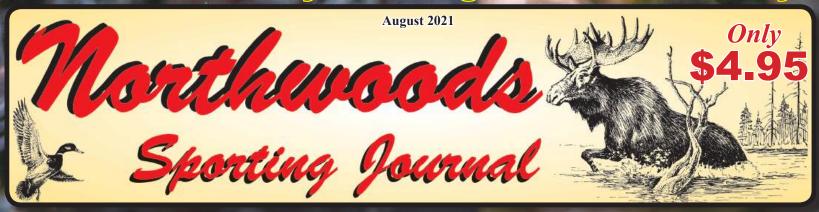
Me & Joe Find Clayton Slaughter's Cast Iron Fry Pan



Tips For Bear Hunters

- John Floyd

- * Early Venison
- * Hunter Survey Results
- * Dog Days Fishing
- Camps, CottagesLand For Sale

Deer Yards Good News (72 Pages



www.sportingjournal.com



Largest Hunting and Fishing Newspaper in the Northeast U.S.

Serving Outdoorsmen in Most States & Online World Wide



SOUTH BRANCH LAKE CAMPS

HUNT THE 2 BEST COUNTIES IN MAINE

Smallmouth Bass Fishing At Its Best Penobscot River Trips Available ~ Family Vacations

1174 Cove Rd. Seboeis, ME 04448

(207) 732-3446



www.southbranchlakecamps.com





Private Registered Maine Guide Training

207.729.6333 www.maineguidesupply.com



HUGE SELECTION! BEST PRICES! THAT'S VARNEY VALUE!





WWW.VARNEYGMC.COM



260 Hogan Rd, Bangor, ME 04401 207-990-1200



Smallmouth Time

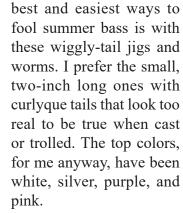
You're missing some great mid-summer fun if smallmouth bass fishing is not on your agenda. Late July and into August means just the right time for some hot lake, pond, and river action.

beat a live shiner, frog, or salamander. Now, you say, "Where in the heck can you find live salamanders?" Easy. If you know of a spring, roll over some rocks. You'll find 'em. I know a couple young Some of my favorite fellas that wouldn't use

to catch a bunch of those little green frogs in Winkumpaugh Cove and use them as bait in the main lake. He would sink them deep into the rocky bass hangouts during the heat of a sultry summer afternoon. According to him, no self-respecting three pounder could resist such a temptation.

Perhaps one of the

Castin' for ol' bronzeback with big and gaudy streamer flies and popping bugs are great sport. But frankly, spinning a Dardevle spoon or topwater Jitterbug is even more fun. and often more productive.



About a half hour before sunset until dark is the best time for fishing bass. Earlier on an overcast day.



Chris Paradis with a smallmouth bass. When it comes to lively action, few fish are any scrappier that the smallmouth bass. (Photo by Bob Leeman)

sites for bassin' include Piscataquis River in the Maxfield-Medford area, Penobscot River above Costigan, Pushaw Stream, Branch and Green Lakes in Ellsworth, and Hatcase Pond in Holden.

Castin' for ol' bronzeback with big and gaudy streamer flies and popping bugs are great sport. But frankly, spinning a Dardevle spoon or topwater Jitterbug is even more fun, and often more productive.

Bait wise, you can't

Subscribe Today!

anything else. They claim the big bass love 'em and gobble 'em up quick. I've seen the rewards of their efforts. They've made me a believer.

I once knew a man at Branch Lake who used

Did you know that you can instantly access current and pastdigital issues of the Northwoods Sporting Journal? It's true. Simply Google:

http://www.sportingjournal.com/digital-issues



"Just Fishing"

by Bob Leeman, Bangor, ME

Morning is good, too, but after 10 a.m., you may as well go in and do camp chores. The bass will have gone into hiding.

Look for those big, sulking, summer bass around sunken rock areas. where shade and food is available. Other good locations might be of weedbeds, lake shoals, points and bars. In rivers, bass lurk in eddies and pools, and usually in the shade of an old stump or dead tree.

Bob Leeman is a Master Maine Guide, outdoor writer, naturalist, book author, and a co-host of the MAINE OUTDOORS radio program on Sunday evenings from 7-8 p.m. His three books are all available, in soft cover, at several bookstores and fly shops, or from him. For info, see ad in this publication or call 207-573-1468.



AMMO • CAMO HUNTING BLINDS & GEAR



On The Cover

Me & Joe Find Clayton Slaughter's Cast Iron Fry Pan - Pg 6 Tips For Bear Hunters - Pg 16 Early Venison - Pg 19 Hunter Survey Results - Pg 24 Dog Days Fishing - Pg 28 Deer Yards: Good News! - Pg 12

Contents

- 3. "Just Fishing" Bob Leeman
- 6. The Adventures Of Me & Joe Bob Cram

Camps, Cottages and Land for Sale - Pg 67

- 10. "A Hiker's Life" Carey Kish
- 12. Outdoors In Maine V. Paul Revnolds
- 13. Maine Tails Jonah Paris
- 15. Native Fish Talk Bob Mallard
- 16. The Gun Cabinet John Floyd
- 18. Outdoor Sporting Library Jeremiah Wood
- 19. The Northwoods Bowhunter Brian Smith
- 20. Aroostook Woods & Water Mike Maynard
- 21. Women In The Woods Erin Merrill
- 24. Question Of The Month V. Paul Reynolds
- 25. Maine Outdoor Adventure Rich Yvon
- 26. Best Bassin' Bill Decoteau
- 28. Fly Fishing Joe Bertolaccini
- 30. Back Shelf V. Paul Reynolds
- 32. The Buck Hunter Hal Blood
- 33. Guns & Ammo: A Guide's Perspective Tom Kelly
- 34. The Maine Woods Matt LaRoche
- 35. Marsh Island Chronicles Matthew Dunlap
- 36. View From The River Laurie Chandler
- 37. Post-Script From Pocasset Josh Reynolds
- 38. Northwoods Sketchbook Mark McCollough
- 39. Old Tales From The Maine Woods Steve Pinkham
- 42. On The Prowl Justin Merrill
- 43. Northwoods Voyager Gil Gilpatrick
- 44. The Fur Shed Blake Dougherty
- 45. The Singing Maine Guide Randy Spencer
- 46. Basics Of Survival Joe Frazier
- 47. SAM News David Trahan
- 48. New Hampshire Outdoors Peter St. James
- 49. The Trail Rider Rod Fraser
- 50. Vermont Ramblings Dennis Jensen
- 54. Outdoors In Vermont Gary W. Moore
- 55. Warden's Words Game Warden Kale O'Leary
- 56. The Bird Perch Karen Holmes
- 58. Cookin' With New England's WildCheff Denny Corriveau
- 60. Against The Current Bob Romano
- 62. South Of The Kennebec Stu Bristol
- 63. Muzzleloading Afield Al Raychard
- 64. The Tyer's Corner Hugh Kelly
- 65. Kineo Currents Suzanne AuClair
- 66. On Point Paul Fuller

Other Great Stories & Information

- 8. Editorial/Letters
- 14. Outdoor News
- 41. Crossword Puzzle
- 41. Trading Post
- 67. Real Estate

Cover Photo:

Maine's 2021 bear season starts on Aug 30th. Youth Day bear hunt is Aug. 28th. Two bears may be taken this year, one by hunting over bait and one by trapping.

The Sportin' Journal

The Outdoor Paper For "Maine Folks"

The Northwoods Sporting Journal is the Northeast's most comprehensive and readable monthly outdoor publication. Published at the trailhead of Maine's sprawling North Woods, the Sporting Journal prides itself on being an independent voice for the region's outdoor community for more than 28 years. Some of our writers are seasoned and specialized outdoors people who will share their know-how and insights; some of our contributors are simply lifelong outdoor people with interesting stories to tell.

Our aim every month is to capture the essence of Northern New England's remarkable outdoor heritage by stirring memories, portraying outdoor humor, and sharing experiences and outdoor knowledge. We also keep our readers up to date with late-breaking outdoor news and hard-hitting editorials about fish and wildlife issues.

Anyone who loves to hunt and fish, or simply finds the Great Outdoors a treasured place, is more than likely to find some special connections amid the pages of the Northwoods Sporting Journal.



Maine Tails - Pg 13 By Jonah Paris



SAM News - Pg 47 By David Trahan



www.sportingjournal.com

Main Office Phone: (207) 732-4880

E-mail: info@sportingjournal.com Fax: (207)732-4970

Vol 28 Issue 8 is published monthly by Northwoods Publications, 57 Old County Rd. North, W. Enfield, ME 04493

Periodical Postage Paid at W. Enfield, ME. and additional mailing offices. The Northwoods Sporting Journal (ISSN#1548-193X) Postmaster:

Send address changes to: Northwoods Sporting Journal, PO Box 195, W. Enfield, ME 04493

Northwoods Publishing Group Victor Morin - Susan Morin - Diane Reynolds - V. Paul Reynolds

Publishers - Victor Morin Jr. - V. Paul Reynolds

Editor - V. Paul Reynolds

Director of Marketing - Victor Morin

Assistant Editor - Josh Reynolds Associate Editor - Donna Veino

Graphic Arts Manager - Gayleen Cummings

Subscription/Distribution Manager - Alicia Cram

Operations Manager - Annette Boobar Webmaster - V. Paul Reynolds

General Sales Manager - Victor Morin Jr.

Sales Department; Thomas Schmidt, Paul Hatin & Michael Georgia

Regional Advertising Manager - Jim Thorne

The Northwoods Sporting Journal invites submissions of photographs and articles about the Maine outdoors.

Manuscripts should be sent with a self-addressed envelope to:

NORTHWOODS SPORTING JOURNAL P.O. BOX 195, W. ENFIELD, MAINE 04493

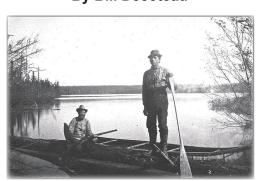
The Northwoods Sporting Journal accepts no responsibility for unsolicited photos or manuscripts. Photos submitted without a stamped, self-addressed envelope will not be returned.

All rights reserved, 2021. Written permission must be obtained from the Northwoods Sporting Journal to reprint any part of this publication. Any errors or omissions in ads or editorial matter will be corrected in the next issue of NWSJ

The views and opinions expressed by our monthly columnists do not necessarily reflect the views of this publication.



Best Bassin' - Pg 26 By Bill Decoteau



Kineo Currents - Pg 65 By Susan AuClair





TRUSTED GEAR. LEGENDARY SERVICE. EXPERT ADVICE. ALL AT OUR HUNTING & FISHING STORE.

Come in and check out our extensive selection of fly and spin fishing gear, waders, lures, sun-blocking fishing apparel and much, much more. We also have an impressive collection of new and used long guns available from over two dozen manufacturers along with ammunition, shooting optics and more.

Check our calendar for free clinics & events at

LLBEAN.COM/FREEPORT



The Adventures of Me and Joe

by Bob Cram, (Alias T.J. Coongate) Medway, ME

"I 'member it from when I were a kid." Elmer Tallow overflowed the chair on Joe's porch. "My daddy an' Clayton Slaughter useter poach together. Sometimes they'd be a half dozen men in that ol' camp on compass Pond, an' that big ol' cast iron fry pan would be loaded full with deer steaks, sittin' on the hottest part o' the top of that Home Clarion cookstove." His nostrils fluttered. "I kin smell the gravy to this day!"

Joe leaned forward in his own chair, a gleam in his eye. "An' you say it was a big one, huh Elmer? Jest how big is big?"

"Biggest cast iron fry pan I ever seen, afore or since. I useter have ter clean it. Never no soap, nor dee-turjints. Jest hot water an' a spatula to scrape the bottom with. Then use salt an' a wet washcloth to scour off any burnt-on stuff. Acted jist like sandpaper. Heat 'er up an' oil 'er with a chunk of salt pork an' set 'er away for the next time. Got curious an' measured the pan one time with that piece of broken yardstick on the camp shelf. She

was 16-inches wide an' a full five inches deep. Musta weighed 20 pound or more"

Joe's eyes widened. "That's a heck of a pan!"

"It were! Thick cast iron, an' it'd hold even heat for a long time. They useter cook ever'thing in that pan. Put a big moose roast in it, with 'taters, onions, an' carrots an' sech, with a little water. Cover the top with a upside-down roastin' pan and cook the whole thing in a slow oven all day..." Elmer wiped a hand across his mouth. "Meat would jest fall apart. Thick gravy from the pan drippin's. Ain't nobody I know eat that good nowadays."

"Whatever happened to that old frying pan?" I said.

"Likely still up there on that knoll above the pond. Camp burnded down. Clayton, he hated mice. Awful phobia fer a man in a log cabin, but there it was. One night a mouse got to clatterin' around 'mongst the tin dishes on a shelf over the stove. My pa said afterward it was jest tap dancin'. Clayton, he couldn't hardly stan' it.

The Frying Pan



Joe took the pan from her and examined it reverently.

Caked with dark earth and showing a layer of rust,

the big frying pan still retained its elegant

contours and heavy weight.

They kept a lamp goin', turned down, so's you could see to git around at night. Clayton swung outa the bunk an' fetched up that ol' '86 Winchester o' his'n .38-72 it was. The mouse, he musta figgered the jig was up, cause he set off acrost the shelves ta git away. Clayton swung on 'im. He allus was a good wing shot. Took that poor mouse dead center. But it was jist when that mouse was crossin' in front of the kerosene can

on the low shelf. Centered the can, too, and it was jist their luck the can set jist above the lamp. Big stream o' kerosene came down on the lamp an' all over the floor. Pa said they was fire ever ware. Barely got theirselves an' their guns out alive. Didn't save nothin' else. Nineteen an' forty-four, that was. "I 'member, cause the German war ended that next spring."

Elmer heaved himself up off the chair and stepped down off the porch. He was a big man, with a big roll of fat around his waist. He hitched up his suspenders and grinned at us. "Got ter git goin' or I won't make Masardis afore dark. Cows gotta be milked."

We walked out to his truck with him.

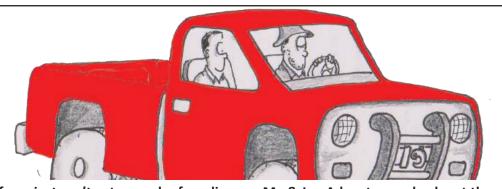
"Wish you could stay fer supper, Elmer," Joe said. "Wish I had the time. Bug," he grinned as he climbed into the cab. "I might have ter stop in Oxbow fer a little bite, jist fer fuel."

"So you think that ol' fryin' pan is still up there above the pond, huh?" Joe said, leaning against the door.

"Prob'ly sunk in the moss after all these years. I heard Mort Filcher went up an' got the ol' cookstove back in the 70s. Had it all rebuilt. Got it in his cabin over on Long Lake. Guess ever'thing else is still there." He winked as he put the truck in gear. "Be nice to have tha tol' pan but I 'spect she'd be pretty hard to find by now."

As we watched the truck rattling off down the road I noticed a pensive look on Joe's face.

(Me & Joe cont. pg 7)



If you just can't get enough of reading our Me & Joe Adventures, check out the All Outdoor section of our new Northwoods Sporting Journal website:www.sportingjournal.com You'll find an ample supply of Me & Joe stories to keep you checking for a long time.

Me & Joe

(Cont. from pg 6)

"That ol' frying pan would be something to have," I said casually, hiding a grin. "Think how many white perch fillets we could cook at one time in a pan that size, with nice even heat."

"Metal detector would be the way to go, but we ain't got one of them." Joe said thoughtfully. "Prob'ly a lot of metal in that ground anyway, what with the nail's an' cookin' pots in that cabin." He looked at me and started to grin himself. "But we know the location and a cabin ain't a very big plot. Maybe if we do a little lookin' an' spadin' up the ground, we kin come up with somethin'."

He stopped smiling. "Jest one thing...if I remember right, they're doin' some kinda archeological dig up at the head of Compass Pond. Some type of early Native American camping area or sech."

"That's right," I said, thinking of what I'd heard in town. "And didn't they have some kind of trouble with vandals or people trying to steal artifacts?"

"Yeah. Charlie Bilge tol' me they'd hired a security outfit from downstate to guard the site. Won't let anybody in."

"If that's the case, how are we going to get to dig for a frying pan?"

"Let's go up to the site an' see if we kin make some kinda arrangement."

A few minutes later we were chugging up the winding dirt road to Compass Pond in Joe's Jeep. Behind the seats lay a couple of spades and a pair of thin steel rods for pushing down into the ground to try and hit buried metal.

As we rounded the

last turn leading to the hill at the head of the pond, we came upon a roadblock. A makeshift metal gate blocked the road and two black SUVs sat to either side of the gate. Large NO TRESSPASSING signs were prominently displayed. A couple of men in camouflage paramilitary uniforms manned the gate. A larger man in the same garb was just crossing to one of the SUVs. Seeing us approach, he stalked to the middle of the road ad held up a hand. Joe pulled to a stop. The big man walked to Joe's door.

"Private property. No admittance. You'll have to turn around," he said in a gravelly voice. A brass name tag on the front of his uniform read Marvin Stonewall.

"Evenin' Mr. Stonewall," Joe said agreeably. "Fact is, we don't wanta disturb nothin'. We're jest lookin' for an ol' fryin' pan that..."

"No admittance. No exceptions. You'll have to leave." Stonewall's scowl deepened.

"Look, if you'll jest listen for a minute..."

"And don't think you can come around through the woods. We have men on patrol constantly around the perimeter. "We've had trouble with interlopers before. We won't have any more." Without another word, Stonewall turned and stalked over to the black SUV. He got in, started the motor, and drove off up the hill in a cloud of dust.

Joe stared for a minute, then slowly turned the Jeep around and headed back toward town.

"Not what you'd call friendly," I ventured.

"No, an' if he's got a bunch of men wanderin' the 'perimeter' it makes things harder. Oh, we could likely sneak through, but we'd have to park the Jeep a long ways away an' hike for a few miles. An those guards was carryin' rifles. I really don't wanna git shot fer a fryin' pan. Too bad we couldn't jest talk to the archeologist in charge an' explain what we want to do, but I hear their all camping right on the site."

"So we just forget about it?"

Joe glanced at me scornfully. "What do you think? Lemme ponder on it for a while."

The next morning, at breakfast, Joe finished a last cup of coffee and looked across the table at me. "Go git yer canoe. I got me an idea."

"But your canoe is right out front."

"Yeah. We're gonna need two."

I came back an hour

later with my Old Town Tripper tied to the racks on my pickup camper shell. "Now what?" I said as I came around the front of the truck.

"Now we wait 'til dark."

An hour after sunset we drove to the landing at the foot of Compass Pond. Unloading both canoes, we put paddles, shovels, rods and a couple of flashlights in Joe's canoe. Then he pulled his old 3-horsepower Evinrude from the back of the Jeep. Taking out a gas can, he opened the cover and set the can on the ground. Removing the cover from the outboard's gas tank, he turned the motor over and poured the gasoline out of it into the can. Then he put the can back in the Jeep and screwed the cover back on the Evinrude.

"Otta be enough gas

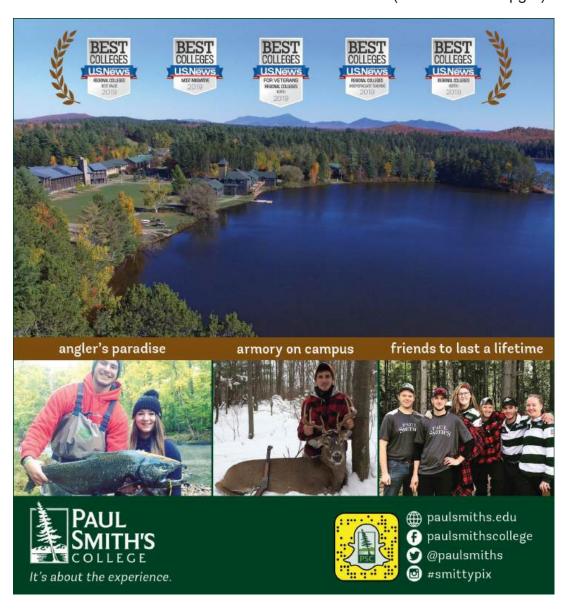
in the line to run it for a minute or two."

He clamped the motor to the mount on my canoe and then took a large rock from the shoreline and set it in the bow for a balancing weight. Tying a lead rope from the bow of my canoe to the stern of his, we shoved both craft into the water.

"Okay," he said softly. "Let's git to it."

We paddled slowly up the length of the pond, towing my canoe behind. A quarter moon gave just enough light to see the dim outline of the shore.

At the mouth of the cove below the cabin site we stopped, and Joe pulled the other canoe alongside. I watched as he untied the tow line and adjusted the motor so it was pointed straight ahead. The old outboard started on the (Me & Joe cont. pg 9)



New Fish and Wildlife Laws

people who hunt and fish don't find out about new hunting and fishing laws until they, or someone they know, gets caught often unwittingly -stepping across the line.

It is the nature of the beast. Too darn many laws, most too complex, and too many other distractions in the hectic pace of daily life to pay much attention to Augusta lawmaking.

State lawmakers are always wellintentioned, but legislative adjournment is always a welcome occurrence, almost as sigh-worthy as the end of the Mills' mask mandate.

When the State Legislature adjourns this summer, it leaves in its wake almost a dozen new laws that affect Maine outdoor folks.

Here are a few that have been signed by the governor and will become the law of the land 90 days following legislative adjournment.

LD 280 is designed to generate more

It's been our experience that most funding for snowmobile trail enhancement. Yes, you pay the bill when you register your sled. The increase is an additionall ten bucks for Maine residents and a \$20.00 hit for non-resident sledders.

> LD 309 requires non-resident big game hunters to hire a Maine guide if their state requires the same, Canadian provinces included.

> LD 361 increases the Fish and Wildlife Advisory council membership from ten to 11. The added member must be a member of the Wabanaki Nation.

> LD 569 prohibits bow hunting within 100 yards of a building or dwelling. Practice shooting on your own property or hunting the expanded archery zones are exempted.

> LD 635 allows hunters to use noise suppression devices (silencers) without a Departmental permit.

> LD 943 requires the Department to establish an electronic tagging option for turkey hunters.

LD 1031, which is a tad tainted with bureaucratic mumbo jumbo seems to be a loophole that allows the commissioner of IF&W to take your hunting license even if you have not been found guilty of civil trespass in court!

LD 1244, I believe, gives ATVers, snowsledders and boaters the option of using electronic devices to show proof of registration to law enforcement.

Sad to say at press time, with legislative adjournment nigh, the landmark deer-yard protection bill pushed hard by the Sportsman's Alliance of Maine, and a most significant and needed measure, was bogged down with the outcome uncertain.

Isn't that always the way? The silly, sometimes frivolous pieces of legislation manage to survive the legislative procedural gauntlet while the measure with truly far-reaching, meaningful potential never gets the nod. The deer yard protection bill passed at the last minute (see page 12)

- VPR





To the Editor:

I am not sure I reinforced Mr. Hartman's comments on lampreys. I agree they can be a problem but to say they destroyed the lake trout, whitefish, and other species in the Great Lakes, is quite a stretch. More re-

cent studies (Cook, 2003) et.al. have determined that contaminate levels of tetrachlorodibenzo-p-Dioxin and similar chemicals were high enough to cause 100% mortality in lake trout eggs and fry from the 40's to the 80's. Some forty years. The lake trout disappeared from Lake Ontario in the 60's. Lampreys don't generally kill their host.



Dr. W.Harry Everhart concluded in his book. Fishes of Maine(1976) there is no evidence that any of our game fish have been harmed by sea lampreys in Maine. Having met Dr. Everhart in the 70's at U Maine I would believe him.

As far as dams, lampreys are one of the best anadromous species at climbing over impediments using their sucker- mouths to inch up over. However low water dams and drought may slow them from returning to the sea. Mr. Hartman should do a little more research. Read "Sea Lamprey" by Fred Kircheis of Hermon 2004.

In my previous letter I should have said the green-house gas measure-

ments were down 17% each day measured, not a 17% decrease everyday. Poor wording. Yes it was because of less fossil fuel consumption, during the pandemic. Climate change happens but we are exacerbating the problem.

Like most climate deniers the excuse is it was cold last year so it doesn't exist. Ask the moose (winter ticks) ask polar species (declining ice packs) look at Greenland (major recession of the glacier). Temperatures are increasing and we are part, not all of the problem. Hiding our heads in sand won't help. But it always comes down to money, anyway.

> Harry Martyn **Ellsworth**



Tape the Ticks

To the Editor:

I enjoy reading your (V. Paul Reynolds) columns and thought I'd share how we deal with ticks that have found their way into our home - on clothes and our hairy dog. We keep adhesive tape next to our most common sitting spots. An inch or 2 of tape folded over the culprit immobilizes them until I can throw them out. Duct tape is over kill and too hard to quickly tear off a piece. Scotch tape works great.

Thank you for your articles and have a good summer.

Ned Claxton Auburn (Letters cont. pg 51)

Me & Joe

(Cont. from pg 7) first pull. It ran roughly for a few seconds, then settled into a rumbling purr. Joe set the lever at "low speed" and pointed the canoe's bow at the sliver of sand beach visible in the moonlight. He let the canoe go. It moved slowly toward shore, the noise of the engine loud in the night stillness.

"Now, let's paddle around the headland an' put in to shore a ways to the west," Joe said softly. We wielded our paddles quietly and in a short time had beached the canoe a quarter mile to the west and tied it securely. Long before we reached shore the outboard had run out of gas, but the momentum had been enough to send my canoe sliding smoothly up onto the beach.

The guards had heard the sound of the outboard, and we could hear shouts as they closed in on the shore below the cabin site. Me and Joe shouldered our tools and picked our way swiftly through the woods to the top of the knoll. In the moonlight, the clearing at the top of the hill took on the aspect of a noman's-land. Trenches and holes led off in all directions. Mounds of dirt lay at evenly spaced intervals. At the far side of the clearing, a row of tents stood just beneath the trees.

"This ain't gonna be as easy as I thought," Joe whispered. "The old cabin was over this way, but it looks like they been diggin' there, too."

"We don't have a lot of time before those guards finish checking the canoe and get done searching the woods down by the beach. In what seemed like a few seconds, a half-dozen guards surrounded us, assault rifles cocked and pointed.

Milton Stonewall came stalking through the trees. "Hands up!" he roared.

Our arms shot immediately skyward. Stonewall walked over and stood before us, arms akimbo, a fierce scowl plastered on his craggy face.

"Couldn't obey a direct order, huh?" he growled loudly over the scream of the siren. "Well, we got ways of dealing with thieves like you. By the time we get through with you, you'll know the inside of the state pen real well. You have the right to remain silent, if you..."

"What's going on?" a voice asked, off to one side.

We looked to see an elderly man clad in sweat pants and a pullover shirt approaching, followed by a half dozen young people, all in various stages of dress.

"Caught these thieves, is what's going on, Dr. Trencher," Stonewall said impatiently. "They tried to infiltrate the place yesterday, but we drove 'um off. Now they've snuck in during the dead of night, using a trick to lure us away. But we've got them now!"

Dr. Trencher peered at us curiously. "Put down your hands," he said. We lowered our arms gratefully. "They don't look like desperate criminals. But, of course, they do seem to be carrying shovels." He frowned. "That certainly looks suspect."

"Darn right they're suspect," Stonewall agreed. "We're gonna chain 'um up and drag 'um over to jail at Presque Isle! We're gonna throw the book at 'um! We're gonna..."

"Sounds somewhat harsh," Dr. Trencher broke in. What did you hope to find?" he asked us. "And somebody turn off that siren!"

"I wouldn't do that, Doctor," Stonewall said ominously. "That's an official siren, under my command."

"Dennis?" Dr. Trencher said. One of the young workers hurried across the clearing to a tent. The siren died, although the glaring white lights stayed on. In the sudden stillness, the sound of one of the guards clearing his throat seemed especially loud. Trencher glared at him, then turned his threatening gaze on Trencher.

"Look, Doctor, this dig is your responsibility. But the security of the site is under my command. I don't report to you. And when I say a siren stays on, it stays on! And when I say I'm going to arrest trespassers, then those thieves are going to get what's

coming to them!"

Trencher ignored him, still staring at Me and Joe.

"What did you hope to find?" he repeated. "Thieves don't usually bring their own shovels. They typically try to steal what we've already found. And so far, what we've found is just a little broken pottery and a few arrowheads, although we're bound to find more the deeper we go."

"What we was after was a frying pan," Joe said.

"A frying pan?" Trencher said in consternation.

That's what they said yesterday. A likely story!" Stonewall chimed in.

"What kind of frying pan?" one of the assistants asked; a thin blonde girl in polka-dotted pajamas.

"A big cast iron frying pan," Joe said. It was in an old cabin here what burnt years ago."

"You expect us to believe that?" Stonewall snorted. "You come all the way in here in the dead of night to steal a frying pan? You was after artyfax, that's what you was after! Artyfax! So's you could sell them for big money. An' you're gonna pay! Oh, yes! You're gonna pay! Hey! Where are you going?"

Paying as little attention as had Dr. Trencher, the girl in the polka-dot pajamas walked over to a pile of metal rubble and began to pick through it. Suddenly, she reached into the pile and pulled out a big chunk of metal. Bringing it over to Joe she asked, "Is this it?"

Joe took the pan from her and examined it reverently. Caked with dark earth and showing a layer of rust, the big frying pan still retained its elegant contours and heavy weight.

"This is it," Joe said softly. "The very pan ol' Clayton Slaughter used for years in that log cabin. It'd take a little work," he said, turning the big pan in his (Me & Joe cont. pg 11)



"A Hiker's Life"

by Carey Kish, Mt. Desert Island, ME



Do you dream of thruhiking the Appalachian Trail, of slipping out of civilization for a while, paring down to only the simple essentials that can be carried in a backpack, and taking on a challenge do it and then map out a plan—are the most difficult. And when you arrange your transportation to the starting point and tell everyone you know that you're going, well, then you're truly committed.

It takes five million steps to hike the AT from end-to-end, and the real first steps—to decide to do it and then map out a plan—are the most difficult.

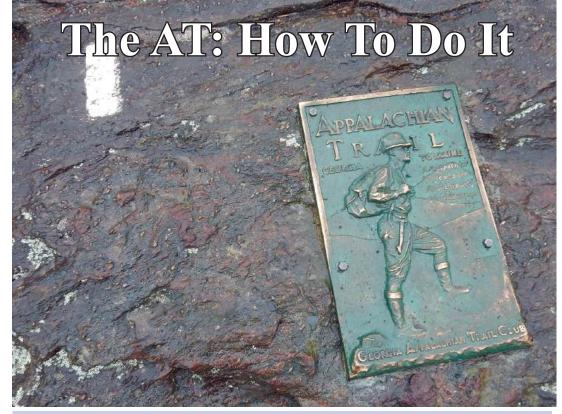
that is bigger than yourself? Perhaps next year is the year to make it happen.

Most hikers opt for the traditional trek from Georgia to Maine, leaving Springer Mountain between mid-March and mid-April and walking north with the seasons to arrive at Katahdin amid the autumn colors. Southbound hikers generally depart Katahdin in late spring or early summer, ending in Georgia sometime between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Increasingly popular are "flip-flop" hikes, which start anywhere in the middle (ATC headquarters in Harper's Ferry, West Virginia is popular) at varying times.

It takes five million steps to hike the AT from end-to-end, and the real first steps—to decide to The Appalachian Trail Conservancy is the go-to resource for getting ready, and their guide, "Step-by-Step: An Introduction to Walking the Appalachian Trail," is a helpful beginning. The ATC online store has guidebooks, map sets, data books and planning workbooks with suggested equipment lists, mail drop schedules, food resupply points, lodging options and such.

Work on getting your home affairs in order—you'll be away for six months—and get outside and walk with a pack to get in shape. But don't fret if the exercise gets pushed aside, as you'll be taking it easy early on and slowly working into the hike.

Create an itinerary that has you covering 8-10 miles a day for the first



Think of the AT as forty 50-mile hikes, not 2,189 miles. (Photo by Carey Kish)

couple weeks, then 10-12 miles for the next two. During the second month you'll be tallying 12-15 miles per day. An average of 15-20 miles a day is common after that.

As you get deep into preparing to go, and even when you're actually on the trail, try not to think about the entire 2,189-mile distance; it can be overwhelming and self-defeating. Instead, consider the hike in small segments, as in forty-four 50-mile hikes.

Plan to hike from town to town, reveling in the trail experience and your newfound trail friends in between, and celebrate your interim progress with a bed, shower and laundry, a restaurant meal or two, a few cold ones, and a fresh stock of groceries. All too soon, you'll be months into the walk and wishing it would never end.

Buy quality equip-

ment, including a 50 to 60-liter pack, sleeping bag rated to 20 degrees, foam or air mattress, cook stove (canister or alcohol), and a tent or hammock. Good rain gear and a hat, a layered system of clothing (enough but not too much), boots or shoes and a sock combination tested ahead of time (blisters are no fun) are essential. Trekking poles, small first aid kit, hydration system and waterproof stuff sacks for everything round out the more important items. A cell phone (service is better than you'd expect) will keep you in touch and serve as your camera.

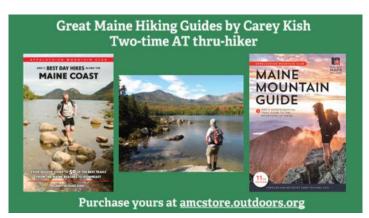
Thru-hikers eat like bears, consuming anywhere from 4,000 to 5,000 calories a day, and once into the hike you'll be wanting to eat constantly. Two pounds of food per day is a good plan. Some hikers mail freeze-dried or

dehydrated food to stops along the way, while most buy groceries as they go. Resupply points are plentiful. The longest stretch between towns is about a week.

Strive to keep your base pack weight (excepting food, water and fuel), somewhere south of 20 pounds, the lighter the better. Keep in mind that you're not on a camping trip, you're hiking miles day after day, and you don't need or want all that much.

Budget \$2-3 dollars per mile on-trail to comfortably complete the hike.

Carey Kish is the author of "AMC's Best Day Hikes Along the Maine Coast" and editor of the "AMC Maine Mountain Guide." Follow more of his outdoor adventures on Facebook @Carey Kish.





Me & Joe

(Cont. from pg 9) hands, "but I think it would come out good as new. I kin almost hear a moose steak sizzlin' in the bottom."

Dr. Trencher smiled. "I've heared about the heating and cooking qualities of cast iron cookware. I've never seen a pan quite that size and depth." He pointed at the pile of rubble. "That mound of metal is all stuff we dug up from where the cabin stood. It's just in the way of our dig. If you'd wanted the pan, all you had to do was ask."

"We tried," Joe said, nodding toward Stonewall. "But the general, here, wouldn't lissen. To busy over-exceeding his authority."

Stonewall choked. "I'll show you who's got the authority! You really expect me to believe you just came here for that

rusted hunk of metal? You might have fooled this glorified school teacher and these wet-behind-theears kids, but you haven't fooled me!"

Trencher and all the assistants glared at Stonewall. Even his men had lowered their rifles, redfaced with embarrassment. But Stonewall kept on, his lips flecked with foam and his voice rising.

"Before I'm done you'll wish you'd never seen that frying pan! I'll drag you out of here at the end of a rope!" He got right up in Joe's face. "I may take two days to get you to Presque Isle. A lot can happen between here and there! I may just..."

Joe swung the big pan in a tight arc. It landed flat on the top of Stonewall's head with a loud "BONG". The big man stiffened, his eyes bulged grotesquely, and then he folded gently into the thick moss of the do jest that. An' you come clearing.

The other guards stared at their fallen leader. A couple started to raise their rifles, but Trencher waved them down.

"I think there's been enough excitement," he said. "Why don't you see to Mr. Stonewall?"

Two of the men knelt beside him. One held up his head while the second opened a canteen and poured a large helping of cold water over the big man's face. Stonewall sputtered, choked, and began to curse.

"I'd be very interested to see how that pan works out," Trencher said, ignoring the drama going on a few feet away. "But if I were you, I'd take the pan and your canoes and tools, and leave as quickly as possible."

Joe smiled slowly. "Thank you doctor. We'll

down to my cabin anytime. I'll show yer jest what a cast iron pan kin do."

A week later Me and Joe sat with Dr. Trencher at the table in Joe's cabin. In the center of the table, the big cast iron pan rested on a thin circle of wood, sawed from the end of a beech log. Inside the pan was a mound of white perch fillets, coated with Joe's special batter and done to a turn.

"I've never eaten white perch before," Dr. Trencher said appreciatively. "I must say they are delectable."

"Plenty more," Joe said. "Help yourself." As the doctor took another helping, I gazed at the pan. Scrubbing and then sandblasting had removed the grime and rust from years in the ground. Now it glistened, its dark surface shining with a coat of oil.

A knock came at the

screen door. Warden Pinch Brody stepped.

"Well," he sighed. "It looks like nothing is going to come of that incident up on Compass Pond. I talked to some people and that letter from Dr. Trencher helped. But it seems that Stonewall had a history of violence. He was cashiered out of the service years ago. The security company is pretty embarrassed about the whole thing." He looked at me and Joe darkly.

"Seems like I'm always getting' you two out of one scrape or another. You owe me for this one."

Joe looked thoughtful. "Would a feed of white perch settle the score?"

The Warden glared at him, then looked at the pan on the table. He hooked a toe around the leg of a chair and pulled it toward him. "Talked me into it," he said, and reached for a plate.



"Coastal Auto Parts your local NAPA Auto Parts dealer since 1981"

"Owned and Operated by a Maine Family That Cares"

All Stores Open Monday - Saturday www.napaonline.com

Ashland

Auburn 786-2220

325 Center Street 636 Hammond Street

Bethel 824-2102 10 Mechanic Street

Ellsworth

667-5322

92 Downeast Hwy

Belfast 338-2930 201 Northport Ave

Farmingdale

582-4470

551 Maine Avenue

Blue Hill 374-2090 82 South Street

Gray

657-4997

4 Portland Road

Bucksport 469-7903

38 Main Street

Caribou 498-2707 16A Access Road

435-6940

11 Main Street

East Millinocket 746-5204 119 Main Street

844 US Route 2

Lisbon

353-4181

Bangor

947-3396

East Wilton

645-3532

Machias **255-8667** 312 Dublin Street

Mexico 364-4517

Milbridge 546-7508

Hampden 862-2200 23 Main Road North

Houlton 532-2100 323 North Street

784-6951 911 Lisbon Street

Lewiston

264 Lisbon Street

236 Maine Street

69 N. Main Street

Oxford 743-5444

Presque Isle 764-5553

Skowhegan 474-8729 9 Commercial Street **611 Main Street**

Southwest Harbor 244-0511 27 Bass Harbor Road

Rockland 596-6554 212 Park Street

Topsham 729-3354 **Waterville** 861-5900

127 Main Street 510 Kennedy Memorial Dr.

1322 Main Street



Outdoors In Maine

by V. Paul Reynolds, Ellsworth, ME

There is very good news for Maine's whitetail deer. LD 404, an Act to Preserve Deer Habitat, a deer-yard protection measure is a done deal! Not in all my years in reporting on the Maine outdoors can I recall a single legislative initiative with such potential to salvage Maine's declining Big Woods deer numbers. This is truly land-

mark legislation that may well shift the deer-survival paradigm in Maine over the long haul.

In a deep-winter state like Maine, deer wintering areas, or yards, are a critical component of deer survival. In fact, according to recent legislative testimony from the Sportsman's Alliance of Maine (SAM), our deer yards have declined

Good News for Deer Yards!

from 12 percent of the forest to just three percent: we have not done a very good job of identifying major deer-wintering areas and protecting them from the logger's ax.

SAM, and its deer biologist Gerry Lavigne, told the legislators recently that lack of deer wintering areas are the main cause in the decline of whitetail deer, particularly in Western, Eastern and Northern Maine. Predation on deer by coyotes and bears is

The key to success of this deer-yard initiative is simply this: IF&W will now receive funds to actually purchase these significant deer wintering areas and protect them in perpetuity.

the number two cause of dwindling deer numbers.

State regulations, along with cooperative management agreements with some big landowners, were supposed to have protected these critical deer wintering areas. But they just have not done the job.

SAM's bill, LD 404, an Act to Preserve Deer Habitat, is ostensibly a deer-yard protection measure. Sponsored by State Rep. Johansen and spearheaded by SAM, this legislation directs the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (IF&W) to identify priority deer yards in specific regions of the state and, based on the Department's priorities, identify these yards for purchase and management as Department- owned



State wildlife biologists will be responsible for identifying these critical deer wintering areas for purchase by the state. Some major yards are already earmarked for purchase.



David Trahan, executive director of SAM. (Photo by V. Paul Reynolds)

deer-wintering areas.

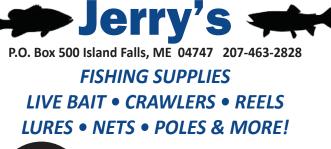
The key to success of this deer-yard initiative is simply this: IF&W will now receive funds to actually purchase these significant deer wintering areas and protect them in perpetuity. The purchased yards will become part of IF&W's land management portfolio. IF&W currently owns and manages 100,000 acres, but only a small percentage of this land contains deer-wintering areas.

This legislation also directs the Fish and Wildlife Department, not only to identify major deer yards, but to explore additional methods of generating revenues to be earmarked for deer yard purchases.

According to SAM's executive director, David Trahan, effective immediately IF&W will have access this year to millions of dollars (state LMF funds and federal matching money) to purchase critical deer yards for protection and management. State wildlife biologists will be responsible for identifying these critical deer wintering areas for purchase by

(Deer Yards cont. pg 17)

Southern Aroostook



COME
VISIT
OUR
LARGE
BEER
CAVE!

Open Mon. - Wed. 7-6, Thurs. - Sat. 7-7, Sun. 9-5 Full Line of Grocery & Meats Deli, Beer, Sandwiches, Chips Liquor Store, Pizza To Go and Hardware



August 2021 The Bluefin Principle - Part II

Last month in Part I, I offered two examples supporting what I have coined, "The Bluefin Principle." The Bluefin Principle is the promise that the strange and unlikely will occur, and the assurance that all

finder and saw "spaghetti" on the screen. "Spaghetti" happens when the machine marks half a dozen or more tuna under the boat and the marks crisscross each other, resembling pixelated noodles. I hustled to the

Slob was 103 inches and weighed 568 pounds.

Last Chance Bite: We were fishing east of Portland last season and had not marked a single fish all day, though we were anchored right on top of a tremendous school of mackerel. With minutes left in the charter, a Gloucesterbased mackerel jigging boat came alongside and asked if we had been see-



"Guys, there's something on that rod. Someone get on it!"

One of our clients began to reel, and everyone, myself included, assumed that based on the fight (or lack of one rather), we had hooked a small shark. Less

Maine **Tails**

By Jonah Paris, Scarborough, ME

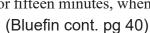
a dog coming for a biscuit. I don't think the fish ever realized that it was hooked.

Friday the 13th: With pleasant weather and no charter booked on Friday, September 13th, 2019, the Teazer headed for the tuna grounds. At 6:00 p.m.,

We had hooked a sea monster - perhaps a thousand pound "grander." I fought the tuna for fifteen minutes, when I felt a sickening "pop," and the rod abruptly unloaded.

ing many mackerel. We offered up our spot on the ledge to the Gloucester boat. The captain started up the Teazer and I began reeling in lines. I brought in the down line first, then the close balloon. As I looked over my shoulder at the far balloon, I noticed the line was taut and the rod was slightly arched, though the drag was not engaged. I shouted to our clients,

than five minutes later, the creature still had not taken any drag. When I peered over the rail, the eye of a giant bluefin tuna was staring back at me. Still in shock, the captain grabbed the harpoon and stuck the fish. The men on the mackerel boat gave us a congratulatory call on the radio. The tuna was 79 inches, weighed 211 pounds, and came right to the boat like after marking thirty-seven fish that all refused to bite, yes thirty-seven, we finally hooked up. Almost immediately the fish stripped off the mono top-shot, then a hundred yards of dacron.. two hundred yards...three hundred yards. We had hooked a sea monster perhaps a thousand pound "grander." I fought the tuna. for fifteen minutes, when I





The "Pea Soup Slob." Capt. Pete Morse on the left and the author on the right. (Photo courtesy of Jonah Paris.)

things that could go wrong, will go wrong. Three additional anecdotes below, "Pea Soup Slob," "Last Chance Bite," and "Friday the 13th," will further illustrate this principle.

Pea Soup Slob: A few years back, we took a group from Bangor out for a day of ground fishing. Like many mornings in the Gulf of Maine, the weather was drizzly, raw, and foggy. The fog was supposed to burn off, but never did. Despite the weather, fishing was phenomenal. Our anglers quickly landed a mixed bag of haddock, pollock, whiting, and cusk. Around 11 o'clock, I glanced at the fish deck with a Penn 130. Within a minute, we were hooked up. The fight lasted over six hours through the dense fog - visibility was barely fifty feet.

The fish thoroughly taxed our clients, but they managed. I ran the controls for the majority of the fight and the stress of that alone was exhausting; I could hear "neutral, port hard, starboard hard, port easy, neutral" in my dreams for the following week. The tuna towed the thirtyfive foot Teazer over four miles south from where it was hooked, and we didn't reach the dock until 8:00 p.m. The Pea Soup



Outdoor News - August 2021

Edited by V. Paul Reynolds

Late summer offers many options in the Maine outdoors. It is also a time to prepare for the coming season. What's available to us now, coupled with the anticipation of what follows in the fall, will keep us very busy if we're to be part of it.

The July Hex hatch is a fading memory. Dog days of August lull us into lazy reverie. We lounge on the porch, waiting until evening to go out on the lake for a bucketful of perch, or to fish past sunset for smallmouth bass. Tomorrow, maybe a daybreak troll for salmon and togue. Sure. There's plenty of fishing left. But it's not too early to sight in a deer rifle or spend some time on the skeet range to get the cobwebs out of our shooting skills.

The anticipation of fall is tinged with a growing sense of urgency. The first August night that you need another blanket snaps you to attention. You drew a moose permit this year? Have you started scouting where you'll hunt? Are you hunting bears? Is your bait supply rounded up? Are your stands in order? Still going to practice with the bow, before deer season, like you promised yourself last year?

When the long overdue September rains come, brookies and landlocks that have sulked in deep water will show up in feeder streams as they migrate to spawn. Then, like their fall spawning colors, they'll be gone. There are fall hatches of small olive mayflies to anticipate, and the woodcock often arrive when the autumn trout fishing is at its peak. How about a New England "Cast 'n Blast" with a partridge hunt in the morning and rising trout in the afternoon?.

You didn't fix that leak in your waders yet? Better get to it. The water's gonna get cold again! Time to oil the guns, maybe tie a few flies, too. But don't take out the hunting vest yet. The dog will go nuts!

No CWD in New Hampshire

New Hampshire's white-tailed deer population once again showed no evidence of chronic wasting disease (CWD), based on monitoring data gathered during the 2019 and 2020 hunting seasons.

The NH Fish and Game Department is asking hunters to do their part in the effort to keep the state CWD-free by not using natural urine-based deer lures and following state restrictions on importing carcasses from CWD-positive jurisdictions.



Chronic wasting disease is a neurological disorder that is always fatal to white-tailed deer, moose, mule deer, elk, and other cervids (members of the deer family). It is not currently believed that CWD is transmissible to humans, however hunters are still advised not to consume animals that may potentially have CWD.

Wildlife Program Supervisor Dan Bergeron recently received results from a federally certified veterinary diagnostic laboratory which indicated that CWD was not detected in any of the deer tissue samples taken during the 2019 and 2020 New Hampshire

fall hunting seasons. Between 2019 and 2020, 735 tissue samples from hunterkilled deer were tested by the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department with significant support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services in Concord. New Hampshire's monitoring program is part of a nationwide effort to stop the spread of CWD. Since the monitoring program began in 2002, some 7,402 deer have been tested in New Hampshire.

"While it is good news that New Hampshire remains CWD-free, we are asking hunters to help our herd by not using natural urine-based deer lures when hunting, because these products can potentially spread CWD," said Bergeron. Fish and Game recommends that hunters instead choose from among the many effective synthetic lures available on the market today.

Help our herd. See a map of CWD-positive jurisdictions, and find new web resources about how you can help keep New Hampshire CWD-free, at www.wildnh.com/wildlife/cwd.

Wardens Recover Missing Oregon Boater

Christopher N. Friedrich, age 41 of Springfield, Oregon was located in approximately 30 feet of water about a half mile north of the Swan Lake boat launch by Maine Warden Service divers who were being towed by the dive boat slowly along the bottom of the lake.

The recovery marked

a culmination of six days of actively searching the lake for the missing man. Game Wardens utilized sonar, divers, aircraft, and Maine Warden Service cadaver scent search dogs in locating Friedrich. The Maine State Police Dive Team also assisted in the search, as well as a Maine Marine Patrol airplane.

Friedrich was first reported missing on Tuesday, June 8 to the Waldo County Sherriff's Department around 4 p.m. yesterday by his girlfriend. Working with Waldo County Sheriff's Office, Maine Game Wardens were able a locate and interview a campowner who had seen a kayak floating upside down on the lake Sunday morning, June 6. The kayak was later traced back to Friedrich, and Friedrich's vehicle was located at the Swanville Boat Launch. Friedrich last contact with family members was Saturday evening June 5.

Wardens focused their search near the area when the kayak was found, and mapped out an area to search based upon the recorded wind direction the day he went missing. Game Wardens searched for six days before finding him today. Friedrich was transported to the Ripasta Funeral Home in Belfast.

The Maine Warden Service was assisted by the Maine State Police dive team, the Waldo County Sheriff's office, and Maine Marine Patrol. Also, numerous lake campowners helped the warden service by allowing them to utilize dock space to moor boats overnight; and the Swan Lake Grocery store was

(News cont. pg 23)

HELP US FIND

The elusive Northwoods Sporting Journal's moose Marty.

He has wandered into the northwoods.

Find Marty somewhere in the Northwoods Sporting Journal (*Hint: he will be located in one of our ads*) Send us the page number he's on and you could be a WIN-NER! Win a FREE Northwoods Sporting Journal Marty Hat. We will draw <u>one winner</u> from all correct entries submitted each month. We will announce the winner in the next issue.

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM TO: Northwoods Sporting Journal P.O. Box 195, West Enfield, ME 04493

Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Phone		_

I found Marty on page

Marty
Shown actual size

found on pg 7&35)

Entries must be postmarked by 8/16/21 to be eligible for this issue.

Ralph Osgood

(Marty was

August 2021 Northwoods Sporting Lawbooks: Print is Not Dead

There are two print media that every vehicle heading into the Maine woods to fish should have: A Delorme Maine Atlas and Gazetteer, and a Maine Fishing Laws book. Between the two, you can figure out where to go and how to get there.

Unfortunately, over the last few years IFW has

potential in regard to the fishing law book is huge. It should be self-funding. The law book could easily reach 100,000 anglers at a time when most other fishingrelated print publications reach tens of thousands, or just thousands. And at one vear, its shelf-life is fourfold that of a quarterly, and twelve times longer than a

free, as it would all be pre-paid and billed only once a year.

We could spotlight our rare Arctic charr, ponddwelling brook trout, large river brook trout, and sea-run brook trout, all of which are popular bucketlist fish that are found only, or primarily in Maine. And of course, our 585 State Heritage Fish waters would be front and center. A piece on Atlantic salmon, found

Native Fish Talk

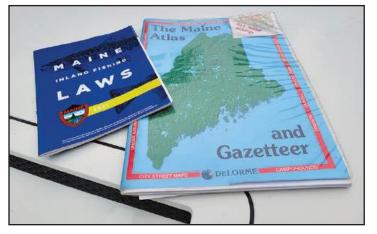
by Bob Mallard, Skowhegan, ME



out by IFW. And with no advertisements, it's likely we sportsmen are paying for it, unless IFW is getting some grants. I personally believe that the content would be much more useful if presented in conjunction with regulations and other

real estate, food, and other tourist related publications.

As for what this has to do with native fish, the impetuous of this column, what better way to get the word out in regard to the wealth of wild native fish resources Maine has than spotlighting them in a free print media that could easily reach a hundred thousand or more readers?



With Maine's complex fishing regulations, a printed lawbook - not a digital download - is still needed.

been moving away from the printed version of the fishing law book in favor of online content and other forms of print media. As someone involved in the fishing industry, I think this is a mistake.

Online media is very popular and growing, especially among younger people. But print is not dead, especially when it's free. And it doesn't have to be one or the other, as a multi-media approach is the best way to reach the broadest audience.

Much of Maine lacks cellular coverage, making online content difficult or impossible to utilize. According to one article, Maine has the third worst cell coverage in the nation. Another rated us second behind only Alaska. More often than not, I can't get a signal while afield.

Advertising revenue

monthly.

As someone who sold advertising for a large fly fishing magazine, I can't imagine that companies like Cabela's, L.L.Bean, Orvis, and Kittery Trading Post wouldn't be interested in ads. Sporting Camps, guides, and fishing retailers would benefit greatly by such a large and welltargeted audience as well. And I suspect there would be others like realters specializing in camps, sporting publications, etc.

And the accounts receivable is easy and risk-

only in Maine, would be prudent as well as they are a big part of our angling heritage.

While I see the value in online media, and fully understand that they can do things that print media can't, like GIS locations, links to additional information like depth maps, species, regulations, etc., there are times when they are just not practical, or even accessible.

And not everyone wants to download a large law book to their phone, and some can't due to technical limitations. And the last thing I want to carry in the woods is a tablet.

I see limited value in some of the generic print fishing publications put pertinent information.

And not everyone wants to download

a large law book to their phone, and

some can't due to technical limitations.

And the last thing I want to carry in the

woods is a tablet.

Call me old fashioned, but I don't want to see the printed fishing law book go away. In fact, I'd like to see it expanded. And if it can be done without any cost to the sportsmen, which I believe it can, what's there to lose? The market for free print media is there, and will be for a long time, as evidenced by the proliferation of free

BOB MALLARD is the former owner of Kennebec River Outfitters, a Registered Maine Fishing Guide, and a commercial fly designer. Bob is a blogger, writer, and author. He is also a native fish advocate and founding member, Executive Director, and Maine Board Member for Native Fish Coalition. Bob can be reached at www. BobMallard.com or info@ bobmallard.com









Native Fish Coalition is looking for volunteers to help post informational signs on Maine's State Heritage Fish Waters.

> www.NativeFishCoalition.org/SHF ME@NativeFishCoalition.org

Let us know your opinion send letters to the **Editor to:**

NWSJ P.O. Box 195

W. Enfield, ME 04493

The Gun Cabinet

by John Floyd, Webster Plantation, ME



Black bear season in Maine is right around the corner. If the pattern holds true this year, we may be in for a tough start to the bear over bait season. Last year, the shortage of natural food sources resulted in some of the hottest bait season ac-

it also helps in determining if some bait sites will need to be moved or modified.

It's been my experience that when we have an abundance of natural food sources and mast crops, bears will always seek those sources first. As those

Bad Bear Hunting Behaviors

beechnuts, I believe hunters taking to their stands in the first couple of weeks of the season will need to be extra prudent in order to fill their tag. Here are a few of the most common mistakes I see when guiding clients who don't connect with a bear

In recent years, the smartphone and social media have by far saved more bears during the bait season than any other factor. No matter how much emphasis I put on this, I still have clients, season after season, getting caught banging away on their phones instead of being still, focused and quiet.

tion we have seen in years. This year however, we may see the flip side of that. Every year as I ready for the coming season, I always take care to pay attention to the status of natural food sources and rainfall history and predictions. This not only helps to determine if I need to modify my bait selection for a particular year,

sources become depleted over the fall, the bait sites usually start to heat up. I've been noticing the berries coming in at a healthy clip and many of the trees on a few of the beech ridges I hunt are displaying a nice crop of beechnuts. Since black bears in Maine are well-known for their appetite for berries and

In recent years, the smartphone and social media have by far saved more bears during the bait season than any other factor. No matter how much emphasis I put on this, I still have clients, season after season, getting caught banging away on their phones instead of being still, focused and quiet. It is magnified when a group of hunting buddies are all out on stand and cannot keep from texting each other about what they are or are not seeing. Trust me on this; the time for social media posts and your smartphone is after the bear is wearing your



The second biggest mistake is a trifecta of bad behaviors on a bear stand – eating, drinking and tobacco use. With snacks and soft drinks, it isn't necessarily the odor that causes trouble; the hunter is sitting 50 yards from barrel full of bait. The problem is the movement involved and the potential for noise. Even the crinkle sound of a plastic water bottle or the foil package of an energy bar being opened can cause

a bear to hang up outside of a site. The hunter would never know how close he came to an opportunity at taking a Maine black bear. I'm well aware of the argument over tobacco use by deer hunters. I've heard the stories about having a cigarette in one's mouth while taking a deer, but bear are not deer. Even the sound of a lighter snicking or the snap of a can of chewing tobacco closing can cause

(Bear cont. pg 17)





Bear

(Cont. from pg 16) the same effect hanging up a bear on its way into a site.

Lastly, hunters seem to believe they need to go on stand with every piece of hunting gear they own. Daypacks full of equipment they don't need, camera mounts for the tree stand, filming equipment, and the list goes on. Again, we are not hunting deer in November where it is possible you'll be out all day in cold and potentially snowy weather. Most bear hunters sit on stand for an average of 6 hours. Bring the necessities like rain gear and gloves but resist the urge to pack like you are going on a back country elk hunt.

Deer Yards

(Cont. from pg 12)

the state. Some major yards are already earmarked for purchase.

SAM's director David Trahan, who skillfully stewarded this bill through the law-making process, along with the bill's sponsor, State Rep. Johansen, and others who supported this bill, deserve the appreciation of all sportsmen and non-hunting citizens as well.

The author is editor of the "Northwoods Sporting Journal." He is also a Maine guide and host of a weekly radio program — "Maine Outdoors" heard Sundays at 7 p.m. on "The Voice of Maine News - Talk Network." He has authored three books; online purchase information is available at www. maineoutdoorpublications. com. or www.sportingjournal.com. Contact email — vpaulr@tds.net

When selecting gear to bring on stand, the old adage 'Less is More' should

be your watch words.

John is a Registered Maine Guide, an NRA Certified Instructor and is the owner of Tucker Ridge Outdoors in Webster Plantation, Maine. He also works as an outdoors writer and can be reached at john@tuckerridge.me or on Facebook @writerjohnflovd

Subscribe Today!

See page 49





Outdoor Sporting Library

by Jeremiah Wood, Ashland, ME

Wild, tough country, vast wilderness, adventurous people, and the opportunity to find unimaginable wealth, if you can be the first to get to it and defend

purchased Alaska from Russia in 1867 (for a cool \$7 million, a couple cents an acre) until 1912, society there was in a bit of flux. With virtually no local

Judge Wickersham: Law of the Yukon

problems that are inevitable whenever people are involved. But when the gold rush took hold, things went nuts. Just a rumor of

During the early days of the fur trade and establishment of trading posts, things were manageable. You had your standard problems that are inevitable whenever people are involved. But when the gold rush took hold, things went nuts.

your right to it. This was turn of the century Alaska during the gold rush. What could possibly go wrong?

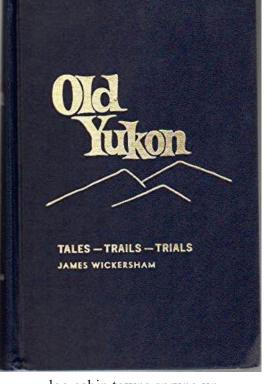
Alaska's been around for a long time, but it only became a state in 1959. For five or so decades prior to statehood it was a territory of the United States government. But in that time between when the U.S.

governments or organizational structure, in many places it was a free for all. Problems were dealt with by frontier justice. But if someone needed the real law? Good luck.

During the early days of the fur trade and establishment of trading posts, things were manageable. You had your standard

a rich placer deposit in some unknown creek in the middle of nowhere would set off a stampede of hundreds, even thousands of would-

be miners and dreamers looking to strike it rich and stake their claims before the next guy did. And if gold was indeed found,



log cabin towns sprung up overnight, complete with saloons and, well, you know.

The development of Alaska ushered in the

necessity for law and order. In 1900, Congress passed an act extending civil government to the wild arctic reaches in Alaska and authorized the appointment of district judges to carry out the law.

James Wickersham, a politician from Washington state, was one of the first to make the voyage from Seattle to the great north. He was appointed as a judge and commissioned to establish the eastern of two districts

spanning the area between Eagle and Nome - about 700 miles.

Starting a justice system up from scratch in a frontier town may seem a bit overwhelming, but it's actually quite simple. You stake out a plot of land, purchase materials, hire someone to construct a building to serve as a courthouse, and another for a jail. You appoint a marshall or two. Then you have to find yourself a place to live (Wickersham built a log cabin for him and his wife) and kill a moose or some caribou for winter groceries. After that, court can be in session.

In such a vast territory, it wasn't feasible for folks to travel to Eagle City every time they had legal troubles. Instead, the law came to them. Wickersham and his colleagues established a travelling court. They journeyed by dog team across the arctic, up and down the Yukon River,

(Yukon cont. pg 25)









Live 6-8" trout for private pond stocking easy pick up or delivery statewide from

our Caribou, Maine hatchery. Now accepting 2020 orders!

Visit our store at 1353 Presque Isle Road, Caribou, Maine www.MicmacFarms.com • (207) 493-1269



www.aroostooktrusses.com

Expanded Archery: Early Venison

Editor's note: We regret an editing in the July Column on bow hunting bear. Smith shot the big bear with a 100 grain 3-blade Muzzy broad head on a 420 grain Easton Arrow, not a 100 grain arrow.

In 1997 the Maine Bowhunters Association partnered with Maine In-

Most folks I encountered were happy to have the deer population reduced due to high car deer accident rates, ravaging of gardens and the increased tick populations carrying Lyme Disease.

land Fisheries and Wildlife to create Expanded Archery Zones in the state. The zones were created around cities and offshore islands where firearms were not allowed to help reduce the deer populations.

The zones are going to expand some in 2021 but the IFW Advisory Council



The author with a buck taken in the Expanded Archery season.

has to vote for the changes. Currently the zones are around the major cities, other high deer density areas and all of WMD 29, the offshore islands from Hancock to Cumberland Counties. The season runs from early September to early December and allows the hunter to harvest an

extra buck and unlimited does after purchasing the Expanded License and the correct tags.

The antlerless tags are \$13 each and the one available buck tag is \$33. A valid Maine Archery License is required and all equipment restrictions apply. The hunts are restricted





The Northwoods Bowhunter

by Brian Smith, Machiasport, ME

to vertical hand drawn bows with the exception on those 65 and older or those with disabilities who may use a crossbow. Check the 2021 hunting laws carefully as some Islands do not allow crossbows. I arrowed my first few expanded zone deer in Bangor city limits. For seven years I hunted an island in Penobscot bay and was able to harvest

many does and a dozen bucks. My uncle owns a home there and secured hunting permission for us on several properties. My brother, father and uncles all hunted there for years.

The expanded zones are often urban environments so landowner permission is a must. Ethical and lawful hunter behavior

(Venison cont. pg 22)



Nature never goes out of style here in Fort Kent. We are at the end of historic US Route 1, across the river from Canada, minutes from Allagash wilderness, walking distance to the Lonesome Pine Downhill Ski Facility. The Tenth Mountain cross country and blathlon facility. The University of Maine at Fort Kent, downtown with it's quaint restaurants and bars. Walking, ATV and snowmobile trails are adjacent to the property and there are many attractions a short drive away.



www.northerndoorinn.com



Aroostook Woods & Water by Mike Maynard, Perham, ME

So there I was, sitting in the barn and sorting through the accumulated dunnage of a well-spent sporting life. I was amazed when I looked at some of the crap lying there, and tried to imagine just what I was thinking when I assigned sentimental value to it in the first place. I was going through the annual 'restock, repair, rearrange' portion of my spring rituals in preparation for another summer of adventure: adventures that probably wouldn't pan out. Oh, we'll get out a couple of times, but life has a way of changing things up on you, especially after a year

like this past one.

Hope for a fastball but watch out for the curve.

Man, there is stuff buried back there that

Going Through the Gear

the Mattawamkeag, below the Red Bridge in Oakfield -great trip. It runs you all the way down to the Haynesville woods. We kept singing the Dick Curless song, 'There's a Tombstone Every Mile', while we paddled along.

their best not to freeze to death in their 40+ degree summer bags all weekend. Ha, ha... I win.

I found other sleeping bags that never made the grade for springtime in the County. I'll keep them around anyway; the of the big ones; enough storage for Shackleton to make another push for the Pole. I opened it up and there was the fly box I'd always thought I'd left on the Aroostook River at LaPomkeag all those years ago. I opened it up to see what I was fishing back in the day. I was horrified. Who ties a Slim Jim, wet no less, with a Jack Gartside inspired aftershaft-feather hackle collar?! Nobody! So embarrassing...

The mountain of gear lying there covered in dust, stretched all the way back to High School. I found my very first Primus white gas backpack stove. It was ancient when I found it at a yard sale back in 1980 and it may have actually been manufactured back before Moses had horns. I bought it for my first big winter camping adventure in the Whites and I remember thinking the first time I boiled a cup of soup with it that I was damn near a mountaineering god. Maybe I'll clean it up and see if it still works.

I found enough cast iron to outfit a cattle drive, most of it rusty from years of neglect. But here's where those HS science classes paid off (...and you didn't think I was paying attention, did you, Mr. Elkavitch) I made up an electrolysis tank in the shop and cleaned them all up. Electrolysis is the magic bullet for curing cast iron of what ails it. Get yourself a big plastic tote, fill it with water, sprinkle in a liberal dose of baking soda, find something to use for an anode (rebar works), hang the pot in the water and attach

(Gear cont. pg 22)

I decided almost immediately that I

hated mummy bags. I hated being wrapped up like a cocoon. I felt like a 250 pound can of Pillsbury Pop n' Fresh dough; just whack me with a stick and I would have oozed out all over the ground.

hasn't seen the light of day, let alone the bottom of a canoe in decades. I was pulling out tents I forgot I ever had. You know, I can't remember what I had for breakfast yesterday, but I can recite chapter and verse about every night I spent in that old Kelty or Moss tent. For instance: May

It was 15 degrees at 7 a.m. The bright orange Hillary single was completely covered in a thick layer of frost and the coffee pot was a block of ice. My wading equipment, left to dry on a branch was frozen solid. Luckily, I had picked up an EMS -20 below bag just the week before. The bag was purchased for \$50 (it had a broken zipper), at the annual EMS tent sale. I took it to a sewing shop in town and one of the ladies put a new zipper in it for another \$15.00. I thought for sure it was going to be overkill on this trip. Turns out I was the smart one; the other three were trying

grandkids can sleep out in the backyard with them. One of these bags was a mummy bag. I tried it just the one time, never to be tried again. I decided almost immediately that I hated mummy bags. I hated being wrapped up like a cocoon. I felt like a 250 pound can of Pillsbury Pop n' Fresh dough; just whack me with a stick and I would have oozed out all over the ground. I need a big bag. I need space to roll, to flop around; I want a free-range bag, not a body length compression sock in ripstop nylon.

An old dry bag worked its way to the surface. One

14th, 1991. East Branch of



Aroostook County





Call 207-732-4880 * E-mail: info@sportingjournal.com



The author has her Maine moose tag, and she is seeking advice.

My son's baseball game ended at 1:30p.m. As soon as we got into the car, I clicked the link to watch the names being called for the 2021 moose permits. I had 21 points going into the lottery. I watched Nate Webb, Director of Wildlife, read my brother-inaws's name. I recognized the names of people that I knew. Then, just a few

At the bottom of the page and before he read it, I saw my name. I was headed to Zone 2 in September to find a bull moose!

pages into Deputy Commissioner Tim Peabody's list of names, I saw mine. At the bottom of the page and before he read it, I saw my name. I was headed to Zone 2 in September to find a bull moose!

Celebratory text messages and social media messages started flooding in. I wasn't celebrating though, I went into planning mode. We needed an outfitter. And I started thinking about how I could go for my grand slam; a moose, turkey, deer and bear, all in the same year.

I didn't turkey hunt much this spring so I will need to get out and plan my fall hunt. The season starts on September 20th – a week before my moose hunt.

Bear season starts in August and Staci has offered to help me trap one. As you know, I am also partial to hound hunts, which starts September 13th. I have a couple of calls into folks but have not heard back yet. Hopefully, I can find an outfitter than either has an opening or would be willing to fit me in after

others have tagged out. Theoretically, I could have both my turkey and bear checked off my list before my moose hunt.

The trail cameras have been showing a very healthy deer herd. If I get a doe tag, I will have a decision to make: shoot any deer to get my grand slam (assuming I have



Women In The Woods

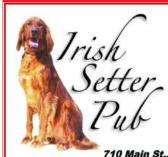
by Erin Merrill, Portland, ME

taken a turkey, moose and bear) or wait for a nice buck... maybe that illusive 8-pointer that I hope for every year. If it comes down to needing a deer, I may take 'working remotely' to a new level and camp out in the Sky Condo until I am lucky enough to punch that tag.

Either way, it will be an exciting fall. What advice would you give us as we prepare for this moose hunt? Or what tips or tricks for either moose hunting or getting your grand slam would you suggest? Is there a piece of gear that is a MUST have? Send me an email and let me know!

Erin is a member of the OWAA and the New England Outdoor Writers Association. She is a senior writer for Drury Outdoors' DeerCast and is the President and co-Founder of the non-profit group Women of the Maine Outdoors. You can read about Erin's adventures and contact her at www.andastrongcupofcoffee.com

Aroostook County



can-am

Good Times... Good Friends... And Good Food...

Weekly Specials Monday - Thursday 11-9 Friday & Saturday 11-11

710 Main St., Presque Isle - Phone 207-764-5400

POLARIS







Mars Hill Tel: 207-425-2411 Fax: 207-429-8871



resque Isle, ME 04769 Tel: 207-762-5151 Fax: 207-764-7034

All Hunters in Zones 1,2,3,4,5,6

We can supply you with all your grocery and beverage needs. We have the finest meats, produce and deli anywhere. 3 licensed agency liquor stores. We have many years of experience

> handling North Maine Woods Sporting Camps and loggers. Call, fax or email orders we will have them ready for your trip. We'll do the shopping for you.

HAVE A GREAT SEASON!



SEARCH: Hillside IGA, Mars Hill IGA Cell#207-768-0930 Email: josh@tweedieiga.com www.tweedieiga.com



377 Caribou Road, Fort Kent, ME

www.harrysmotorsportsonline.com $harrys_motorsports@yahoo.com$ Toll Free 877-353-7635 207-764-7180 Fax: 764-2316

640 Main Street Presque Isle, ME

Star City IGA

Northwoods Sporting Journal

years so I was feeling con-

Venison

(Cont. from pg 19)

is paramount to avoid confrontations or bad perceptions of hunting. Most folks I encountered were happy to have the deer population reduced due to high car deer accident rates, ravaging of gardens and the increased tick populations carrying Lyme Disease.

On Halloween 2008, a store clerk told me to shoot a bunch as she wrecked her car hitting a deer. That night I arrowed a big doe and a 6 pointer with the back ground noise of trickor-treaters within earshot. I often donated 1 or 2 of the deer harvested each year to those less fortunate and all said it was the finest venison they ever tasted. There

were 2 tagging stations on the island but many islands do not have one so harvested deer must be taken to the first available station on the mainland to be registered. The Maine Legislature is working with IFW to create online or phone in tagging like most other states and hopefully that will come to fruition in the near future.

September bucks may still be in velvet though I have only taken hard antlered bucks in expanded zones. The year I shot the 2 on Halloween, I had taken 3 other does but still had my regular license buck tag. On a cold windy evening in mid November, I climbed my Uncle's ladder stand overlooking 2 apple trees and a thick swamp. Four of us had taken deer from that stand over the

fident. Because it was the rut, I put out some Tink's #69 buck lure and in less than an hour a nice 9 point came out of the swamp right to the scent wick 10 vards below me. I drew my Mathews Heli-M and leaned forward relying on my safety harness to hold me steady. Being so close, I aimed low and zipped the Muzzy tipped arrow through his heart. He kicked his hind legs and ran toward the road 60 yards away but only made it half way before crashing into a big spruce. It was all over in less than a minute and made for a very short drag to the pickup.

Hunting the Expanded Zones can be very rewarding and although harvesting does is recommended, some true trophy buck have come from archery only areas in the state. With

207-762-9321

www.aroostooktechnologies.com

thorough research, good scouting and relationship building with landowners you may fill your freezer with delicious venison and help keep the deer population in check in Expanded Zones.

Brian Smith is a Retired Maine State Police Detective and NRA Field Representative. He is a Life Member and 1st Director at Large of The Maine Bowhunters Association. He was chosen MBA Bowhunter of the Year in 2005 and 2008. He has taken 36 deer with Archery Tackle and another 20 with rifle, shotgun and muzzleloader. He is a long time member of the Sportsman's Alliance of Maine and recently was selected to the SAM-ILA Board. He can be reached at bowhunter@mgemaine. <u>com</u>

Gear

(Cont. from pg 20)

an old battery charger to the rebar and the pot. New battery chargers have, they say, circuitry that will see your Rube Goldberg contraption as a fully charged battery and refuse to cooperate. I left the pots in the tank for about 24 hours and came back to find they cleaned up beautifully. We washed them up and then seasoned them again -just like new. I used one of the frying pans to cook supper with the other night; so much fun.

My wife and I are headed to Deboullie this month to float, fish, and wander around. I made a new tripod and I plan on hanging our reclaimed Dutch oven under it. I don't know what we'll cook just yet, but it will taste like memories.

Mike Maynard is a part time farmer, grandfather to several, and an incorrigible water-logged stream rat. He lives in the woods of Perham, Maine and can be reached at perhamtrout@gmail.com





Aroostook County



FREE MOUNTING & BALANCING • FREE FLAT REPAIR FREE SPRING TIRE CHANGEOVER • FREE TIRE ROTATION

257 North St. | 135 Bangor St. | 84 Water St. | 30 Rice Street 249 W. Broadway

Houlton 207-747-0277

Caribou 207-760-4287

FULL SERVICE TIRE AND AUTO CENTER



GAS REFRIGERATORS • UNIQUE, HARD TO FIND ITEMS - AND MORE!

Northwoods Sporting Journal

News

(Cont. from pg 14) also very accommodating to searchers during the six-day search.

Vt. Muzzleloader Permits

20,000 antlerless deer permits will be issued for the 2021 Muzzleloader Hunting Season. You are encouraged to apply early. The drawing for the permits will occur in September and the winners will be posted on our website.

Deadline to apply is: August 4, 2021



Apply for a Permit Online (there will be no paper applications available this year)

Hunters must apply online for an antlerless muzzleloader permit, and will do so through the online license sales system as if they were purchasing a license or a tag using their Conservation ID number, or CID#.

New Fish and Wildlife Laws
When the State Legis-

lature adjourned this summer, it left in its wake almost a dozen new laws that affect Maine outdoor folks.

Here are a few that have been signed by the governor and will become the law of the land 90 days following legislative adjournment.

LD 280 is designed to generate more funding for snowmobile trail enhancement. Yes, you pay the bill when you register your sled. The increase is an additional ten bucks for Maine residents and a \$20.00 hit for non-resident sledders.

LD 309 requires nonresident big game hunters to hire a Maine guide if their state requires the same, Canadian provinces included.

LD 361 increases the Fish and Wildlife Advisory council membership from ten to 11. The added member must be a member of the Wabanaki Nation.

LD 569 prohibits bow hunting within 100 yards of a building or dwelling. Practice shooting on your own property or hunting the expanded archery zones are exempted.

LD 635 allows hunters to use noise suppression devices (silencers) without a Departmental permit.

LD 943 requires the Department to establish an electronic tagging option for turkey hunters.

LD 1031, which is a



tad tainted with bureaucratic mumbo jumbo seems to be a loophole that allows the commissioner of IF&W to take your hunting license even if you have not been found guilty of civil trespass in court!

LD 1244, I believe, gives ATVers, snowsledders and boaters the option

of using electronic devices to show proof of registration to law enforcement.

Vermont Turkey Survey

Wild turkeys are found throughout most of Vermont, but their reproductive success is monitored annually by the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department with help from "citizen scientists." The department had an annual online survey for reporting turkey broods in August, but this year the survey will start July 1 and continue to the end of August.

If you see a flock of turkeys in Vermont during (News cont. pg 52)



Many of our quality buildings are being used for shops, horse barns, playhouses, garden sheds, chicken houses and camps.

Stop by and see us at 748 Houlton Road, Easton, ME 04740

Aroostook County







Scovil Apartments

Locations available: Presque Isle, Mars Hill, Fort Fairfield & Bridgewater

Applications are being accepted for one, two & three bedroom apartments

Rent is 30% of adjusted income for some two bed-room Apts. in Mars Hill only. Income limits may apply

Most Apartments include: Heat, hot water, laundry facilities & 24 hour maintenance. Fort Fairfield apartments include elevator service. For information or an application call 425-3192 X 206 ask for Lisa

**This institution is an equal opportunity provider & employer

Dulton Scovil, owner www.scovilapartments.com



120 Caribou Road, Presque Isle, ME (207) 764-4405 800-439-7761

NEW SIX WAY FRONT BLADE

REAR SPROCKETS WITH REPLACEMENT PADS

PIVOTING WHEELS, 10 PLY TIRES

USED GROOMING EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE

Trail Surfacer by Gilbert



www.theriaultequip.com

Question Of The Month August 2021

What Are the Results of the Deer Hunter Survey?

Edited by V. Paul Reynolds

The Northwoods Sporting Journal received 59 responses to its deer hunter survey. These responses have been collated and are reported below. Although the statistical validity of this survey may not comply with scientific protocols, it does lend some anecdotal insights into what Maine deer hunt-

or uncertainty about the permit applications. any-deer permit system and how it works.

Meat hunters or trophy hunters? Among those who responded to this question, an overwhelming majority indicated that they hunted for the meat, not the antlers. In fact, only 14 of 59 said that they were trophy hunters. I expected a larger portion of the sample

Those who didn't care for the any-deer permit system were invited to offer other ideas, and there were a number of different suggestions, as indicated below.

Finally, responses to the age-old question, "Why do you hunt?" were all indicative of how most Maine deer hunters simissuance of any-deer (doe) permits to control doe population numbers in southern and coastal Maine-has been less precise because of more hunters apparently holding out for a buck and not using their doe permits. Augusta wildlife officials and policymakers are hoping to develop some solutions to this problem at the legislative level. To this end, we are conducting this informal, unscientific deer hunter survey in hopes of generating some insight into deer hunter behavior and decision making.

- have you been deer hunting in Maine? Average 47.5 vears
- year for an Any-Deer (doe) Permit? 46 yes/ 9
- permit, do you still hold out for a buck? Yes 13/No If so, how long
- 4. If deer numbers are down after a tough winter,

- 1. How many years
- 2. Do you apply each
- 3. If you draw a doe Last week

Finally, responses to the age-old question, "Why do you hunt?" were all indicative of how most Maine deer hunters simply "love the hunt," and that the passion runs deep.

ers are thinking and doing when it comes to any-deer permits and the harvesting of does.

For me, the two most striking "takeways" are these: 1) The average time that respondent Maine deer hunters have been hunting is 47.5 years! We are an aging demographic! 2) While almost half of the respondents agree that the anydeer permit system works to control deer numbers, a large percentage of those who don't indicated a lack of knowledge, confusion to be big-buck trophy hunt-

If you look closely there is a contradiction. If the clear majority are selfconfessed meat hunters, why does that same majority indicate that they hold out for a buck until the last week of the hunt?

Interestingly enough, a majority of the respondents indicate that they DON'T apply for second and third choices for hunting zones? Perhaps the Department needs to revisit this option in the any-deer ply "love the hunt," and that the passion runs deep. Common threads are solitude, exercise, camaraderie, and healthy meat.

If you missed a chance to respond to the the survey, or have some thoughts that you'd like to share, please email me at: vpaulr@tds.net.

NWSJ 2021 Quick Deer Hunter Survey

As explained in this month's editorial, Maine wildlife biologists' chief

PB GUIDE SERVICE ----Hunting Lodge & Outfitter----

Located in Zone 4 in the Adaptive Unit North Section and only 13 miles from the South Section. Offering fully guided or bed and meals.





We offer guided bear, moose, semi quided deer hunts, grouse and meals & lodging pkgs.

207-474-2644

info@PBGuideService.com www.PBGuideService.com





doe management tool - the are you more likely to use your doe permit early in the season? Yes 14/ No

> 5. Do you consider yourself a meat hunter or trophy hunter? Meat 41/ **Trophy 8**

> 6. Do you believe that the any-deer permit lottery is the most effective way to manage deer numbers? Yes 31/ No 24* Those not sure counted as "no's"

7. If you answered "no" to the above question, what do you think would be a better system? A number of answers: Point system for bucks/ shoot does during even number years/ have no harvest years by districts/ issue both buck and doe permits, like the moose season/doe permits to landowners/ require harvesting a doe to receive buck permit.

8. When you apply for an any-deer permit, do you fill out the other second and third choices for hunting zones? Yes 25/ No 30

- 9. Would you continue to hunt in Maine if you were required to tag a doe before legally hunting a buck? Yes 49/ No 6
- 10. Why do you hunt? Meat/solitude/exercise/ friendships/ love to hunt/ family
- 11. Optional ques-
- 1) What is your, name, address, telephone, email address and date of birth?
- 2) Would you be willing to be contacted by the Northwoods Sporting Journal for additional information about your hunting practices and views?

basic sonar features. It cer-

tainly served me well, but

as my fishing geograph-

ics expanded as a guide,

I found myself in need of

wanted but necessary.

Finding Those Fish!

Maine is home to sev- expanding your fishing enty three rivers longer than twenty miles, thirty nine rivers which drain at least 200 square miles, fifty one lakes that have an area of at least five miles, thirty two civil divisions that contain at least 5,000 acres of water, and 3,478 miles of coastline. Whether

skill set in catching more fish, then read on...

Just recently, I reached out to an old friend who is a sonar Navy veteran, and who also pro staffs for Lowrance fishing electronics. You may have seen Dale Wyman at Cabela's or Bass Pro shops talking sonar to



"The Lowrance Elite FS 7" by Rich Yvon

you have been fishing your entire life or just new to the sport, this article is for you! In addition, this piece may help you decide if using electronics is right for you. Everyone's perception and methodology of fishing is different and unique. If you embrace learning with

the masses. He is a highly respected fisherman and electronics pro staff expert for Lowrance. For years, I've always used an Garmin Echo 100. The boat came standard several years ago in my G3 CCJ jet boat. This device offered me water temp, depth and

helped establish the justice and legal bounds that allowed trading centers and bustling mining towns to develop into communities.

In his eight years as U.S. District Judge in Alaska, Wickersham had a lot of adventures. In early Alaska it didn't matter who you were, you walked along the trail behind your dog team, shared dinner with the miners, and slept on the floor of the roadhouse with everyone else. Not only did he roll with it, Wickersham thrived. He loved the wilds of Alaska, the excitement of the gold

rush, and the people. As a result, his memoirs include 500 pages documenting the place at a unique time in its history. Learning from Indians, traveling with dog teams, visiting rich gold strikes, mingling with pioneers, exploring Mount McKinley and more, James Wickersham had quite a time in those early days. If you care to join him and catch up on a bit of history, "Old Yukon: Tales, Trails, Trials" is worth the read.

Jeremiah can be reached at jrodwood@ gmail.com



Maine Outdoor Adventure by Rich Yvon, Bradford, ME

would help me simply catch more fish! Talking to Dale and doing a little of my own research, I was convinced to learn that the new technology would not only work finding fish but also help educate me on fish behavior and bottom structure.

Finding fish in new water as well as targeting more species became necessary but rather difficult and time consuming. It became apparent that upgrading to new marine electronics was not only wanted but necessary.

After some consideration of buying a new fish finder, my good friend Dale, generously offered his recommendation as well as helping me install the unit. Knowing where and how I guide, he immediately started offering his much welcomed advice! Dale immediately suggested a unit that was in my price range but offered the technologies that

The unit that was suggested and I chose is the Elite FS7 by Lowrance. The unit installs rather easily with the proper tools and instruction. The biggest concern in my opinion is getting the correct angle mount for the transom. We used an transducer shield and saver which came with the correct angle spring back bracket mount to match my G3 transom angle. The finder was mounted on a 2" RAM ball mount which provided sturdy, yet flexible mounting positions easily viewed from many angles. The unit has an extremely fast processor with 2D and HD graphics. A helpful tool is the C-maps which give exceptional details for all the bottom contours which is extremely important in finding fish and learning fish behavior. It has side imaging which helps identify structure and fish on either side of the boat while moving 5-10 miles per hour. The Fish Reveal feature helps identify those lake trout laying on the bottom of the lake which clears up that empty water column scenario! It has GPS navigation Plotting, storing, and so many other features, it certainly exceeded my expectations!

Regardless of what fish finder you use, learning to find fish will only enhance your fishing experience and bring a better understanding of fish behavior and appreciation. A fish finder will never be a replacement for experience and intuitiveness, but it will help you find and catch more fish!

Yukon

(Cont. from pg 18)

stopping at road houses, cabins or miners' tents to spend nights, visited each town and held court. This put them on the trail and away from home for weeks at a time, sometimes more than a month. They settled disputes over mining claims, tried violent criminals and thieves, and sometimes dealt with matters more amusing than serious. Most importantly, though, they brought law to a land that lacked it, and

more tools. Finding fish in new water as well as targeting more species became necessary but rather difficult and time consuming. It became apparent that upgrading to new marine electronics was not only



Authentic Maine Outdoors

Luxury Lodging - Private and Peaceful

Recreation - Moose Safaris, Hiking, Camping & Paddle Sports

Fishing - Fly and Spin Fishing

•Hunting - Moose, Deer, Turkey, Partridge

Instruction - Fly Fishing, Survival, Firearms

Call to Reserve: 207-907-9151

Web:www.TwinMapleOutdoors.com Email:Info@TwinMapleOutdoors.com

30 minutes from Airport, Fine Dining and Shopping * Centrally Located to Acadia, Moosehead, Mt. Katahdin

Best Bassin'

by Bill Decoteau, Hampden, MA



Some things just were meant to go together! In the world of tournament bass fishing mention the 'Jig' bass fans think Denny Brauer. The 'Pop-R' topwater bait synonymous with Texas Pro angler Zell No doubt any angler who has ever experienced a bass explode on their topwater bait has felt the sudden rush of excitement, witnessed the sound and explosive spray of water as their enticing topwater

Matching the color of the feathers to the bait, he will always include a white feather. "Make certain the white feather is installed on the split ring so it faces down!"

Rowland. In fact, Bassmaster's Ken Duke once quoted, "If you're looking for the greatest topwater angler of all time, look no further than Zell Rowland; just ask Rick Clunn, Roland Martin, Bill Dance, Denny Brauer and Kevin VanDam!" offering suddenly disappeared.

Legendary late bass journalist and longtime Senior Writer for B.A.S.S. Magazine, Tim Tucker once penned, "When bass anglers go to heaven all their bites will be topwater!" There just may very

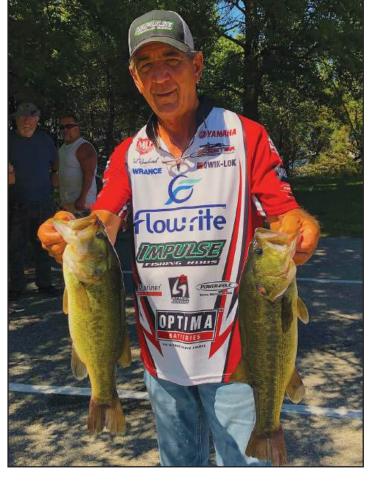
The Topwater King

well have been some divine intervention in Tucker's Topwater statement when it came to a young boy named Zell Rowland?

The year was 1970 when a young thirteenyear-old bass angler entered his first professional B.A.S.S. tournament. (Note: In 1970 B.A.S.S. did not have an age limit for entering its tournaments.) Today fifty-one years later at the age of sixty-four that same enthusiastic bass angler continues the only career he has ever known, competing as a Professional Tournament Bass Angler. "Age is just a number", says Rowland a sixteentime Bassmaster Classic Qualifier with five B.A.S.S. Championship titles.

Zell's infatuation with targeting topwater offerings became a lifelong passion. "As I studied each topwater bite I discovered

WINCHESTER



there were specific movements of my topwater bait that triggered the bass to bite, as well as specific movements that discouraged bass from inhaling my baits", says Rowland.

Comparing his artificial offerings to that of actual baitfish forage, Zell realized the importance of implicating these diminutive actions and sounds with his topwater baits. "This is when I started sanding and shaving the original Pop-R. Tapering the sides allowing for a longer, smoother sliding motion mimicking a baitfish feeding on the surface. However, in order to incorporate a variety of popping, spraying and side-to-side actions, it was imperative to accurately shave the original Pop-R's cupped mouth."

Zell will politely tell you today just about every bait has good hooks. He will pause for a moment and reply, "However, I exchange the hooks on (King cont. pg 27)

GATEWAY UARIETY

"GATEWAY TO THE NORTH MAINE WOODS"

FEDERAL

CC!

AMMINITION

NEBO

Lights

Expinger

OVER 1,000 DIFFERENT LURES IN STOCK!

THERMACELL

111 Garfield Rd Ashland, Maine 04734

435-6890

North Maine Woods

King

(Cont. from pg 26)

my topwater baits to the same size Owner round bend hooks, and tie the rear treble with feathers." Matching the color of the feathers to the bait, he will always include a white feather. "Make certain the white feather is installed on the split ring so it faces down!" Why, "Because every fish that swims has a white belly? And when the feathered rear treble is just sitting still near the surface it looks like a small baitfish feeding."

According to The Topwater King, "A great top water bait must be able to do multiple things...Not just one! To mimic the wide forage base within every body of water, action and speed of your bait matters most. Walking, spitting, chugging or popping must coincide and be retrieved with the correct enticing cadence and speed. And, this is where the correct balanced tackle comes into play!"

Zell Rowland's 'Rule of Thumb' on lure size; smaller baits will get more bites, but usually catch smaller bass. Where larger baits receive fewer bites but usually catch larger bass. Zell's Pro **Tip:** Lighter line size will get twice the amount of action than larger size line. And, always use monofilament line with topwater baits! Example: Use 17-20 lb. monofilament with larger baits like a Devils Horse! Smaller topwater baits work well with 12-14 lb. monofilament.

Zell spools his monofilament line on all the same Diawa High Speed Reels, then saddles his

Diawa reels to his own signature series Impulse Topwater 6'8" moderate action Impulse Rod. (www. ImpulseRods.com) "I personally designed my Signature Series Impulse Rods so they can handle both light and heavy weight topwater baits. This in turn allows you to always have the balance feel and correct action

to work all your topwater

baits including jerkbaits.

Follow Professional Bass Angler Zell Rowland at www.MajorLeagueFishing.com, www.facebook. com/zell.rowland.5 and Twitter.

God Bless and Best Bassin'

Billy "Hawkeye" Decoteau is an outdoor

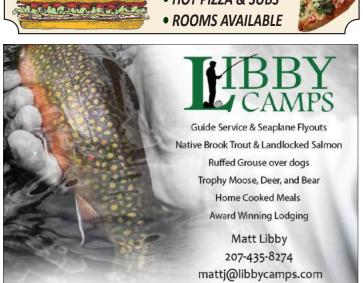
journalist with a strong passion for pursuing the Black Bass. His activities include; emceeing The Bass University weekend educational seminar programs, as well as emceeing benefit tournaments such as Maine's Annual May Special Olympics Team Tournament, Fishing For Freedom, and working with the USO.

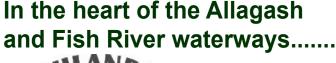
TO **ADVERTISE** IN THIS **SPACE** CALL 207-732-4880 **OR EMAIL:**

info@sportingjournal.com











Fly Fishing and Trolling

WIN THE MOOSE LOTTERY? CONTACT ME FOR

Specializing in Northern Maine Bear Hunts

Email me at highlandingcamps@gmail.com

NOW BOOKING FOR 2021 BEAR HUNTS

(603) 381-0080 or (603) 381-8376 www.highlandingcamps.com

Registered Maine Guide - David Prevost







1-207-307-2115

www.macannamac.com

Fly Fishing

by Joe Bertolaccini, Orrington, ME

With the "dog days"



including slow to fast short of August here and inland and long pulls within each waters warming I'd like to cast until one is found to be throw out several fly fishproductive. Deep trolling ing options for those of us with flies is another of my diehards who are looking favorites. Frequently, sucforward to wetting a line cess can be improved with

Fly Fishing the Dog Days

surface action, another option is fly casting with terrestrials which are born and bred on land as opposed to aquatic insects that emerge from eggs deposited on the bottom of lakes and streams. Those most important to the fly

fisher include grasshoppers, ants, moths, and bees Here in Maine, grasshoppers are one of the most widely used terrestrials for brook trout as well as for other species. With that, let's take a look at a dressing that has proved successful over the years.

this month. Many of these alternatives have been discussed in recent fly fishing columns but my intent here is to provide a number of choices for those of us who enjoy the sport regardless of the time of year.

First and foremost (in my judgment) is deep nymphing for trout. It is essential to use a fast sinking fly line remembering that success will depend upon trying a variety of retrieves from the bottom

the addition of a number four Dodger attached to a 12 pound test leader to which a small Joe's Smelt fly is attached to a ten inch, eight pound test leader. If this rig gets hung up, the fly should break off first saving the expensive Dodger. Additionally, if the wind is in the right direction, drifting through productive areas allowing the fly to sink and retrieving with varying speeds is effective.

For those who prefer

that end up in the water. Here in Maine, grasshoppers are one of the most widely used terrestrials for brook trout as well as for other species. With that, let's take a look at a dressing that has proved successful over the years.

Joe's Hopper

One of the first grasshopper patterns was developed and made famous by the late Joe Brooks, a renowned fly fisher, fly tyer

JOE'S HOPPER FUR ANT FLYING ANT

Joe's Hopper and late season trout flies. Some good ant imitations.

and author from Maryland. Grasshoppers can be fished dry or allowed to sink depending on what may be most suitable for conditions at the time.

Hook – Wet or dry fly, size 6 to 14, 2x long.

Thread – Black 6/0. Tail - Red hackle fi-

Ribbing - Brown hackle tied in by the tip, spiraled forward over the body and clipped short.

Body and egg sac -Yellow wool or floating yarn, tied in so that a loop extends out over the tail and then wound forward about 2/3 of the hook length toward the eye.

Wings – A matched pair of turkey wing quills (concave sides facing inward) tied along the sides of the body with the tips sweeping up and back extending to about the middle of the tail. They should be coated with head cement and allowed to dry prior to tying on the tail.

Collar – Several turns of mixed brown and grizzly hackles.

(Dog Days cont. pg 29)











Northwoods Sporting Journal

Dog Days

(Cont. from pg 28)

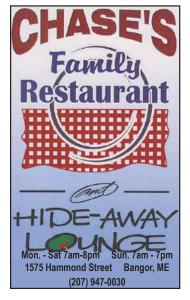
Head - Black thread. Color of bodies on Joe's Hopper can vary from the original using orange rather than yellow but green can also be productive. Regarding the wings, a single section of turkey quill tied on top of the body either tent style or with a rounded tip is equally effective and more durable than the matched pair called for in the original. Even though they are coated with head cement, it doesn't take many hits or sloppy casts to fray the wings and give the fly a ragged appearance. However, don't despair because they will still attract fish.

Ants are another popular terrestrial that are found just about everywhere from April through October. Whenever they are on the water, a few casts with an appropriate pattern can be a killer, however my success has been limited in choppy water with these relatively small flies. They are most effective on small calm ponds when the brookies are actively feeding. Following are two standard dressings.

Flying Ant

Hook - Dry fly, size

Thread – Black 6/0. Abdomen - Black



thread, coated with head are the ticket at Little and cement

Legs - Two turns of black hackle.

Wing – Small bunch of white floating yarn.

Thorax and head -Black thread coated with cement.

Fur Ant

Hook – Dry fly, size 12 to 20.

Thread – Black 6/0. Abdomen – Dubbed black fur.

Legs – Two turns of black hackle.

Thorax - Dubbed black fur.

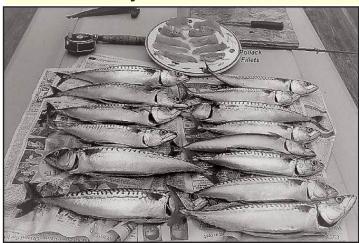
Head – Black thread. Outstanding surface activity also exists just about all season long on the West Branch Penobscot River below Ripogenus Dam due to cold water releases from the bottom. Small caddis and mayfly patterns in sizes 14 to 18

Big Eddys and beyond.

Turning to salt water, Atlantic Mackerel are one of my targeted species since they are very prolific, readily take a fly, and are superior fighters, especially with two or more on at the same time. The smaller tinker mackerel are a common food source for striped bass and bluefish, their average size being anywhere from 10 to 12 inches, but are also known to exceed 20 inches in length. It should be noted that even though there is surface activity, big mackerel tend to stay deep so use of a sinking fly line, allowing it to sink prior to retrieving is the recipe for attracting larger fish. When fishing from a crowded dock with limited room to fly cast, attaching a mackerel jig that provides weight for casting three



Fly for mackerel.



flies on a spinning rod is the answer.

Following is a simple dressing for a mackerel fly that has been successful, although any colorful pattern with flash especially those with red and white or orange can be effective: Hook - size 1 or 1/0 saltwater hook

Thread - white 3/0 Body - silver flash material tied down over

(Dog Days cont. pg 40)

LAND & SEA STORAGE

14 Main Rd South, Hampden, ME

• Container Sales Self Storage

> Container Rental 207-862-5010

www.landandseastorage.com









THE BACK SHELF

From the files of the Northwoods Sporting Journal The best hunting and fishing columns going back 25 years!



By their very nature backshelf articles, resurrected from our archives, may contain information or facts that have been altered or changed by the passage of time.

By V. Paul Reynolds You can't go home again.

In his novel by the same name, author Thomas Wolfe advanced the idea that any attempt to relive our youthful memories will always fail.

Perhaps, but isn't it worth trying once in awhile?

reaches of Maine's North Woods, there is a small remote trout pond that has always held special meaning for me. It's a scenic pond. The trout aren't big but they are plentiful. And you can keep a couple for the pan. It's a helluva drive to get there.

As a young father I tented there with my wife In the most northern and young sons. I taught

Little Rediscoveries

them all to throw a fly line big responsibilities and and handle a canoe. They took to it all, with energy and passion. As my boys grew we made a number of trips to this pond and packed away some razorsharp memories.

The years passed. My boys became men, middle-aged men with

children of their own. We never stopped hunting and fishing together but usually on a catch-as-catch-can basis, a day here a day there. Recently, out of the blue, my sons suggested that the three of us go back to this special pond for a few days of bonafide backwoods

camping and trout fishing - a father and son revisitation, a nostalgic pilgrimage to our coveted Trout Cathedral.

We did just that. We packed two canoes, three bellyboats, fly rods, cribbage board, a jug and some good chow and headed north.

....my sons suggested that the three of us go back to this special pond for a few days of bonafide backwoods camping and trout fishing - a father-and-son revisitation, a nostalgic pilgrimage to our **coveted Trout** Cathedral.

Typically, the first two days were cold and rainy, but the fishing was great! Watching my sons enjoy each other and share the contagious joy of fly fishing over hungry trout stirred in me a father's pride and love just as it did years ago. The

(Back Shelf cont. pg 31)



This part of the North Maine Woods, thanks to enlightened private and public stewardship, is about the same as it was when the author camped and fished there more than 50 years ago. (Photo by V. Paul Reynolds)

Central Maine Region



ERSPORTS

@dysartspowersports like us on facebool

SNOWMOBILE, ATV, TRACTOR, BOAT REPAIR AND SHRINK WRAP







Woody's Guide Service

2021 Deposits Now Being Accepted

Offering Bear, Deer and Moose Hunts. www.woodysguideservice.net



Back Shelf

(Cont. from pg 30)

last night on the water, as a premeditated act of reminiscence, I uncased a delicate 2-3 weight fly rod that had not seen the light of day in 30 years. The late Bangor rafting guide and fly shop entrepreneur Nick Albans sold me the willowy little stick in 1969. It may have been used once, I'm not sure. Once on the water and after a few trout hookups, I kicked myself for letting the rod lay idle all these years. What fun that little rod was with a 10- inch brookie dancing on the tippet. It will get a lot more use in the angling days ahead.

When the unrelenting Aroostook County scud line finally lifted and the sun shone through to brighten things up, it dawned on me: nothing at this pond had changed in almost 50 years! The view was the same. The pond was gin clear and the trout still were feisty and willing to hit an emerger stripped beneath the surface. The picnic table at the campsite was the same one that was there in the 1970s. Son Josh showed me where he had carved his name in the cedar table as a ten-year-old.

What a remarkable thing, especially in this era of accelerated change, and a tribute it is to those whose vision has helped protect this natural heritage, organizations like North Maine Woods and many others.

Wolfe may have been a legendary novelist, but, like the rest of us flawed critters, he had no monopoly on truth when it comes to the human condition. Indeed, last week my sons and I did go back home again.

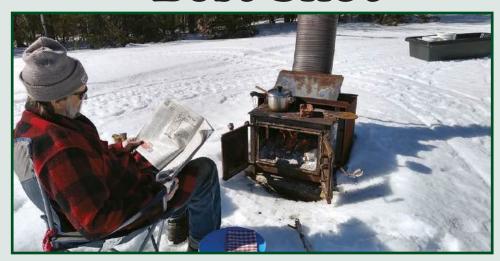
Perhaps you can, too.

It is worth a try,

The author is editor of the Northwoods Sporting Journal. He is also a Maine Guide, co-host of a weekly radio program "Maine Outdoors" heard Sundays at 7 p.m. on The Voice of Maine News-Talk Network (WVOM-FM 103.9, WQVM-FM 101.3) and former information officer for the Maine Dept. of Fish and Wildlife. His e-mail address is vpaulr@tds. net He has three books "A Maine Deer Hunter's Logbook", "Maine Angler's Logbook" and his latest,

"Backtrack."

Best Shot



Sunday lunch in the yard in early March after tapping a few maples trees. Barbara and Chris Adams of Burlington enjoy their **Sporting Journal.**

Central Maine Region

Ask us **how** we can **help** your business grow.

Your trusted banking partner serving you from 16 locations throughout Maine:

GREATER BANGOR

Broadway Shopping Center, Bangor Springer Drive, Bangor Western Avenue, Hampden

GREATER PORTLAND

US Route One. Scarborough

Eagle Lake - Fort Fairfield

NORTHERN MAINE

Fort Kent - Houlton

Island Falls - Mars Hill Oakfield - Patten

Presque Isle - Van Buren

We're ready to help! Call 1-800-221-2542



MEMBER FDIC @ EQUAL HOUSING LENDER



PARTS - SALES - SERVICE











2245 Odlin Road, Hermon, ME 04401 (207) 947-0778 - (800) 649-0778 www.bangortrucks.com "Striving To Exceed Our Customers' Expectations"

BANGOR TRUCK EQUIPMENT



195 Thatcher St. Suite 2 Bangor, ME 04401 (207) 990-3757 Fax (207) 990-1125

www.bangortruckequipment.com

John Fahey Wayne Nason **Dave Therrien**



Hannaford Supplied Store 153 Hinckley Road (adjacent to I-95) Exit 138 I-95 Clinton, Maine **OPEN DAILY: 7am-8pm**

MAINE * SPIRITS

AGENCY LIQUOR STORE





Open 7am-7pm



Tim Hortons

(207) 426-8555 Just 10 miles North of Waterville I-95's Easiest Stop for Groceries, Gas & Coffee

COME IN AND CHECK OUT OUR



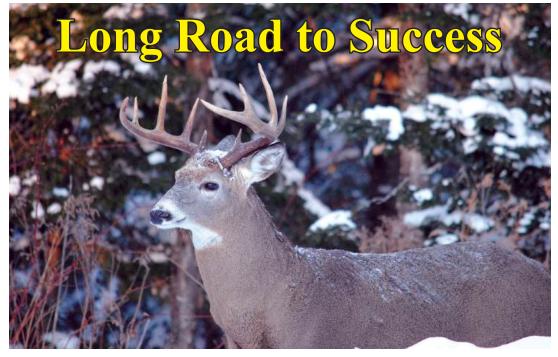
The Buck Hunter

by Hal Blood, **Moose River, ME**



At the halfway point through summer, so far it has been a hot and dry one. While it may be good for the grouse and turkey chicks, it's not so good for the brook trout. We lost a lot of trout last summer as the feeder streams where the small trout take refuge dried up. The brook fishing this spring was poor in most areas of the north. Hopefully the rain will come for the rest of the summer and renew the water table and forest. There are plenty of fawns and moose calves showing up. They are big enough to fol-

success at deer hunting as it is now. Shooting my first buck while tracking was a long and painful process for me. I first started following buck tracks in the Big Woods back in 1980, but it wasn't until 1987 that I shoot that first buck while tracking him. During those seven years, which I call my training years, I found out that I had a lot of learning to do. The bucks I tracked over those years were my teachers. Although during those years, I didn't have a lot of time to hunt on snow. When there was snow, I was follow-



else about these bucks. I learned how they watched their backtracks. I learned that after they fed they would probably lay down. I learned that they would go to water to try and lose me. These were all good

lessons that I kept filing

ning the first week of deer season, because there was too much wind to haul lobster traps. The ground was bare, but as we were eating breakfast the next morning,

it began to spit snow. We drove to a spot I had scouted out a few weeks before. I sent the other guys off and headed up the mountain. The snow was just starting to leave a skiff on the ground. In about an hour, I had made my way up near the top of the mountain. In a ravine I could see a track punched deep into the leaves, that I figured must have been made in the night. I followed it up the ravine until it disappeared on a moss-covered ledge. I dropped back down and began to circle the bluff. About halfway around the bluff, I came to a buck's ing it. I couldn't believe my luck. There was enough snow now to clearly see the

I started along slowly on the track, knowing the buck couldn't be too far ahead of me, he dropped down off the bluff and walked along the base of the ridge. I went along slowly focusing as far ahead as I could see. I don't think I had gone much more than a half a mile, when I caught movement about fifty yards ahead. I could see antlers moving behind a spruce tree. When I saw a leg kicking, I realized that the buck was making a scrape. It was fairly open hardwoods all around, so I knew the buck would have to step into it. A minute later, the buck turned and walked

(Success cont. pg 52)

During those seven years, which I call my training years, I found out that I had a lot of learning to do.

low their mothers around and learn the ways of the woods and how to survive.

Last month I wrote about my first deer. this month I thought that I would write about the first buck I shot tracking. People I talk to, whether during my deer clinics in the spring, at sportsman shows or the people that have seen my films or read my books, see me and my

ing a buck in hot pursuit. I chased bucks up and down the mountains for miles on end, and if I did get a look at the buck, it was a fleeting glimpse at most. The key word is "chase", because that is basically what I did. I didn't know what else to do. I just assumed that eventually I would get a shot at a buck.

Every track I followed taught me something

away in my mind. I think my biggest problem back then was my lack of patience. For the record, I still have that problem but have learned to work around it. Another problem was that I spent too much time looking at the tracks. That is the most common mistake most hunters do as well.

All of those lessons finally paid off on my first day of hunting in 1987. I had drove up to Jackman with two buddies one eve-





bed with a track just leav-

Gun Sales Soar!



It is in gun owners' interests to help show the way to other prospective new gun owners.

The year 2020 was a record year for firearms sales. It was also a record year for first time gun purchases. The reasons are varied. There are, however, a couple of major concerns driving these numbers. The covid pandemic has been a major motivator here. It has given us a glimpse of life in a post-apocalyptic world that has convinced many folks that they need to protect themselves and their families.

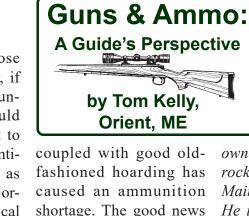
Part of this realization comes from an alarming breakdown in law and order in our communities. Far left city and state governments have yielded to vocal fringe elements calling to defund and abolish police departments. In these areas, crime rates have skyrocketed. Political pressures have also driven purchases. The administration has made

no secrets of wanting to limit or abolish our second amendment rights. Many folks have decided, "I need to buy this gun while I still can"

The 2020 trend has not only carried into 2021, it has accelerated. The first 3 months of 2021 have resulted in sales of 5.5 million firearms. Just for comparison, in the year 2008, considered to be a "normal" year, there were 8.5 million guns sold for the whole year. Wow! That's an eye opener. What does this all mean for the shooting public? Well, there are some bright spots here.

I prefer to be an optimist. So, with all of these new and existing gun owners, we have a big voting block. Our elected officials are also looking at these huge numbers and thinking twice about the anti-gun

legislation they propose and support. Secondly, if you are part of the gunowning public, I would think you would want to vote in 2022 against antigun candidates. If we as citizens can take the majorities away from the radical left and bring a more conservative majority to state and federal legislatures, we can protect our second amendment rights.





coupled with good old-fashioned hoarding has caused an ammunition shortage. The good news is that the ammo manufactures have been working 24/7 making new ammo. There is now more ammo on the shelves. It is not yet

owner/operator of Shamrock Outfitters in Orient Maine with his wife Ellie. He is a retired police officer as well as a retired manager from two major firearms manufacturers. He is an NRA Certified Instructor as well as a Hunter

The 2020 trend has not only carried into 2021, it has accelerated. The first 3 months of 2021 have resulted in sales of 5.5 million firearms.

The other consideration is that we need to welcome these new shooters wholeheartedly into the family. They may be shooting a different gun, but they are still an important part of our community. We should also encourage and facilitate these shooters getting the training and range time they need. The hardware that is being purchased is heavily biased toward personal defense, personal protection type handguns, hunting rifles and modern sporting rifles (known as an assault rifle by those on the left).

A gun owner is a gun owner no matter what they shoot. To keep this trend moving forward, we should all take an active role in recruitment. If someone you know expresses an interest in gun ownership, invite them to shoot with you. Share your knowledge and expertise with them. Each new shooter represents the possibility of another conservative vote.

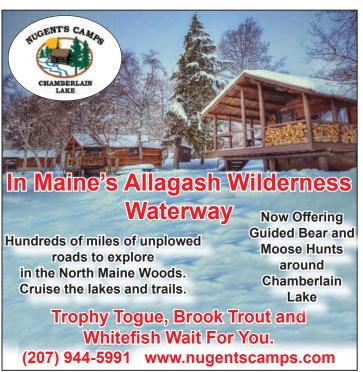
On a final note, the huge influx of firearm purchases as well as great numbers of new shooters plentiful, but it is more available than the recent past.

Shoot straight, take a new shooter with you and come see us at the lake.

Tom is a Registered Maine Guide. He is the

Safety Instructor in Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts. You can reach Tom at Shamrock Outfitters (207) 694-2473. Please visit our Facebook Page: Shamrock Outfitters and Properties and come visit us on East Grand Lake.







The Maine Woods

Matt LaRoche, Shirley, ME

Spring holes that hold trout during the dog days of summer are one of those coveted secrets that anglers hold near and dear to their hearts. These secret spots are a sure bet for catching brookies when the waters ing the location where I had noticed the movement and I saw trout come back into the small pool where the trickle of cold water entered the river.

There were 20 - 30 brookies laying in an area

Those Spring Holes

near Chesuncook Lake. I occasionally begged a retired game warden who lived near Ripogenus Dam to tell me where that spring hole was and he finally told me where to find it. My forest ranger buddy and I tried to find it but were unsuccessful – all we caught were chub!

I went back to talk

backed away from the sandy spot and threw a night crawler on a hook in our newly found spring hole and caught a nice brookie in a matter of seconds.

I hurriedly rigged up my fly rod but I never got a chance to fish with it belocation using some type of underwater looking devise or if you are lucky, you might notice the trout rising in a certain location on a regular basis.

There are two spring holes in the Allagash area that I know about but have



During the dog days of summer, look for the spring holes if you want to snag a brookie like this one. (Photo by Matt LaRoche)

When the water warms to 70 degrees or so, trout will migrate to cooler water. In big deep lakes, trout will seek the cooler water below the thermocline

warm in northern Maine trout ponds.

When the water warms to 70 degrees or so, trout will migrate to cooler water. In big deep lakes, trout will seek the cooler water below the thermocline but in shallower ponds trout are forced to seek refuge in spring holes or the cold water of tributary streams.

When I was the ranger at Churchill Dam, I happened upon a small brook downstream from the ranger station that held trout when the water warmed. I was walking along the river one day when I noticed some movement in the water as I crossed a nearly dried up small brook. I hid behind some bushes watch-

no bigger than my kitchen table. I came back with my fly rod later that evening. I drifted a dry fly over those fish several times without so much as a look at my fly. I finally put on a nymph. When I put it right in front of a trout's nose, I could see the fish's gills open and inhale the nymph. Once a fish was hooked, all the other fish in the pool would spook and leave the area but they would return in a few minutes. This was a great place to catch a few summer brookies during my years as a ranger in the Allagash Wilderness Waterway.

When I was stationed on the West Branch of the Penobscot, I heard about a spring hole at Duck Pond

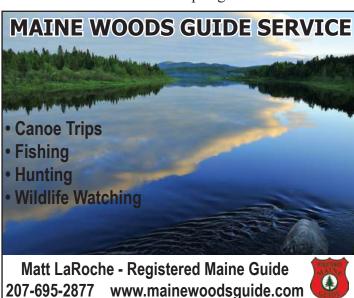
with the retired warden and he assured me that we were in the right place. We went back to the pond again but this time we took an aqua-scope – which is nothing more than a threefoot piece of four-inch plastic pipe with a piece of plexiglass fastened to the bottom. You can see in the water clearly when looking through the scope, it is like looking down in the water on the shady side of a canoe - only better.

I looked through the aqua-scope while my buddy paddled us around looking for the spring hole. When we passed over the spring hole, the muddy bottom of the pond changed to a clean sandy bottom. We cause we couldn't keep the trout off the other line! We left the pond that night with our limit of nice fat native brook trout.

Over the years, I have been fortunate to find or been told where to find several spring holes. The best advise I can offer is to talk with the older fishermen – they might tell you where to find a spring hole if they like you. If they do tell you, you will probably still have to find the exact

never been able to find. I guess that gives me an excuse to go fishing during those dog days of summer.

Matt LaRoche is a retired Superintendent of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway, owner of Maine Woods Guide Service and an avid outdoorsman. He can be reached at 207-695-2877 or at matt.laroche2877@gmail.com. See www.mainewoods-





maineskeptsecret@yahoo.com

www.mainesterlinginn.com



guide.com

Join a Maine B.A.S.S. NATION Club Today!!

- Learn how to catch more & bigger bass
- Help us keep the Maine Bass fishery worldclass
- The most active volunteer sportsman organization in Maine donating thousands of hours and contributions to charity each year

Check us out at www.mebass.com

Bassin' with Top Water Lures

into early summer in southcentral Maine, the smallmouth bass in the Penob-

As spring stretched scot River started coming off their beds to do some serious feeding. For the fisherman, that means it's

time to break out the top water plugs.

In the Penobscot this summer, with rain being scarce, I've avoided taking out my motorboat. The deadhead logs left over from the ancient log drives and the toothy glacial erratics lurking menacingly just



Marsh Island **Chronicles**

by Matthew Dunlap, Old Town, ME

Surface fishing eliminates all the mystery about whether or not you have a strike. Bumping a spider grub or a Carolina or Tex-

when the water explodes from a full-on charge from an angry bass. It produces one of the great adrenaline rushes of the outdoors.

Surface fishing eliminates all the mystery about whether or not you have a strike. Bumping a spider grub or a Carolina or Texas-rigged lizard or worm on the bottom will sometimes yield that subtle tug that can make your heart jump..

below the shallow surface give this cautious mariner pause, so I've been taking my trusted Old Town Canoe Company kayak out. It draws about three inches of water, and even then, I've grounded it plenty of times. With so many subsurface hazards, when it comes to fishing, I've stuck with top water lures.

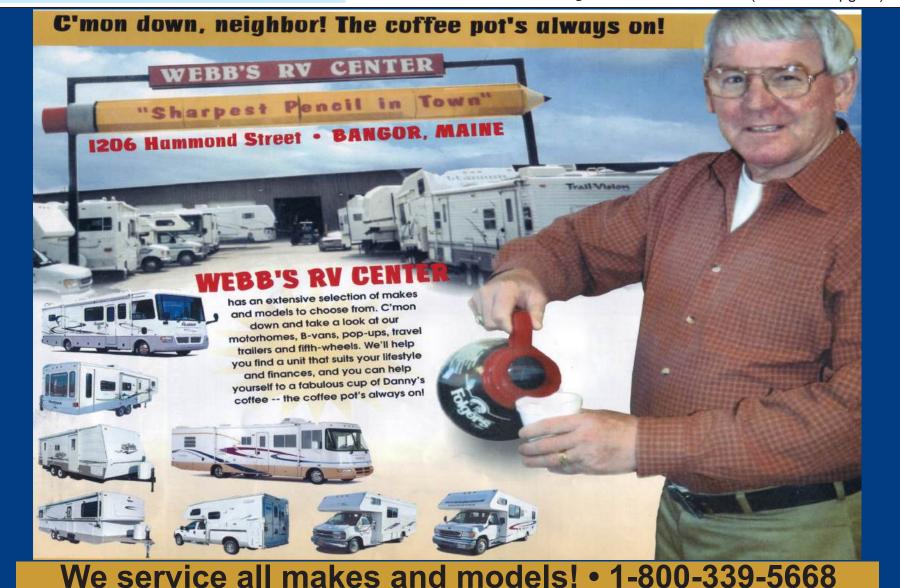
as-rigged lizard or worm on the bottom will sometimes yield that subtle tug that can make your heart jump—only to elicit the low groan from discovering that you've hooked a record-breaking waterlogged branch.

Twitching a floating lure across the surface, though, removes all doubt

I stumbled on the magic of top water almost by accident. A latecomer to bass fishing, in my late twenties I took up the sport using similar gear to what I was used to fishing with in the bays and coves of the coast—something shiny that would spin or tumble through the briny shal-(Lures cont. pg 41)



Twitching a floating lure across the surface, though, removes all doubt when the water explodes from a full-on charge from an angry bass. (Art courtesy of Wild Wings)





View From The River

by Laurie Chandler Bremen, ME

High in Maine's northern forest, a drop of water begins a long journey toward the sea. From Allagash Lake, it will travel all the way to Penobscot Bay. Three summers ago, I, too, went that way. Through rivers and lakes, I meandered and wildest, of the water-

moc Stream, this stretch is charming and rich with wildlife. Tranquil, meadowy Ciss Stream brought me to Round Pond and the start of a long portage over to Allagash Lake.

This is the quietest,

The first ten miles are wild and woolly. Paddlers face four mandatory portages—Haskell Rock Pitch, Pond Pitch, Grand Pitch, and the Hulling Machine. Excellent, well-marked portage trails bypass these, and a few other, difficult rapids.

south, my goal the newly created Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument. Designated by President Obama on August 24, 2016, its 87,563 acres were a gift from Burt's Bees co-founder Roxanne Quimby. This month, the monument celebrates its fifth anniversary.

My trip began at Pittston Farm, on the western end of Seboomook Lake. I continued down the West Branch of the Penobscot River, into Chesuncook Lake, and up through Black Pond. This "back door" into the Allagash was new to me. If you can handle the pull up Caucomgoway's lakes. From the ranger station, I climbed 1,762foot Allagash Mountain. It was a brilliant day. Atop the fire tower, I gazed down in wonder at my map, come to life. Spires of green graced the shores and the deep blue water sparkled and danced. My eyes traced the route I would follow to camp near the Allagash ice caves. That evening, the raucous clamor of nesting gulls lasted for hours. Later, deep in the night, came the haunting back and forth of the loons.

Descending Allagash Stream the next day, I was constantly in and out of the canoe, thanks to low water

A Monumental Anniversary

levels. Past Little Allagash Falls, the eerie, twisted remains of the Eagle Lake & West Branch Railroad trestle marked the entrance to Chamberlain Lake. I resupplied, then continued down Telos Lake. I crossed the northern tier of Baxter State Park—enchanted with Webster Lake and beaten down and humbled by Webster Brook, where I waited out a thunderstorm beneath my overturned canoe. Memories of that afternoon are an exhausted blur of dangerous whitewater and frequent portages.

On the thirteenth day out, I crossed Grand Lake Matagamon to the East Branch of the Penobscot. Matagamon Wilderness Campground, on the river just above the monument, makes an excellent put-in should you decide not to begin 150 miles away. From there, the East Branch flows through the heart of the monument and beyond.

The first ten miles are wild and woolly. Paddlers face four mandatory portages—Haskell Rock Pitch, Pond Pitch, Grand Pitch, and the Hulling Machine. Excellent, well-marked portage trails bypass these, and a few other, difficult rapids.

The rest of the river is quieter. There is an open, airy feeling in the silver maple floodplain forest, where sunlight dapples a carpet of ferns. Arching branches reach out over the water, their flickering leaves a constant dance of green and white. Among the grasses are bright spots of color—red cardinal flower, yellow swamp candle, and the delicate pink of morning glory.

The history of this river valley spans eight thousand years. Camped beside Pond Pitch one evening, I contemplated the fall of water in a thousand tiny cascades, each subtly unique in color and texture. In that moment came the thought of all the others who had been there before, stretching back into the

Waters became an International Dark Sky Sanctuary, one of only fourteen in the world. The night skies above the monument are among the darkest east of the Mississippi. On the Bortle Scale, which measures such things, they score a 2. "The summer Milky Way is highly structured to the unaided eye" at



The magnificent 20-foot drop at Grand Pitch on the East Branch of the Penobscot must be portaged. A campsite and lean-to here can also be reached by hiking the International Appalachian Trail. (Photo by Laurie Chandler)

mists of antiquity.

Thoreau named his "Hemlock Tea" and "Checkerberry Tea" camps for teas brewed by Penobscot guide Joe Polis. 12-year-old Donn Fendler was rescued here, after wandering down Wassataquoik Stream from the summit of Katahdin. Two farms, settled in the early 1830s, hosted scientists, surveyors, and explorers, including Teddy Roosevelt, artist Frederic Edwin Church, and many more. Percival Baxter came from the East Branch on his first trip up Katahdin, the mountain he would one day give to the people of Maine.

As the years go by, there will be more to discover in Maine's new national monument. Last year, Katahdin Woods and such sites, "and its brightest parts look like veined marble when viewed with ordinary binoculars."

All these things and more are what made my journey unforgettable. To plan yours, visit the Friends of Katahdin Woods and Waters website (www. friendsofkww.org) for trail updates, maps, guides, and a schedule of upcoming events.

Laurie Apgar Chandler is the author of Through Woods & Waters: A Solo Journey to Maine's New National Monument and Upwards: The Story of the First Woman to Solo Thru-Paddle the Northern Forest Canoe Trail. For more information or to purchase the books, visit www.laurieachandler.com

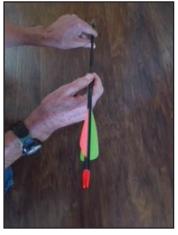


Over the past year,

I've come to know a young

Back into Bow Hunting

When I moved to Vermont in 2004, I took up bow hunting with a passion. In Vermont at that time, there was a rich bowhunting culture which was the result



of hunting laws that made bowhunting attractive to all deer hunters. Basically, you could take a deer early season with a bow and still have a tag for Vermont's short gun season.

Living in the rural east-central part of the state also gave me access to plenty of places to hunt, it was a great place to cut

Crossword Answers

(From pg 41)

Across: 1 Sticky River, 5 Brant, 8 Chute, 9 Irish, 10 Sandpiper, 13 Notre, 14 Keepnet, 15 Sight.

Down: 1 Seboeis Lake, 2 Italiano, 3 Roach, 4 Ruger, 6 Tripp Pond, 7 Muskrat, 11 Pants, 12 Great.

your teeth with a bow. Fast forward to 2007. I moved back to Maine and settled in the town of Wayne – between Augusta and Farmington. Eager to keep on bowhunting, I did the expanded archery hunt thing for a few years. As life got busier with raising young kids, coaching teams, job

guy who, with no hunting experience at all, picked up bowhunting three years ago. To this day, Jake has never shot a gun...ever. Like so many young people in Maine, he just grew up in a family that didn't hunt or shoot. With no Like so many young people in Maine,

he just grew up in a family that didn't hunt or shoot. With no guidance, he just decided that bowhunting was something he wanted to pursue.

changes and not the least of which was competition for hunting spots, my interest in the bow waned. Until the past couple of weeks, I hadn't flung an arrow in years, sad.

guidance, he just decided that bowhunting was something he wanted to pursue. The bug bit him hard. He has successfully harvested multiple deer including a nice buck this past year



Post-Script From Pocasset

by Josh Reynolds, Wayne, ME

during the expanded hunt.

Jake's passion has reignited a lost passion in me. I recently purchased a (new to me) Elite Impulse based on guidance from my old friend Josh Cottrell. The new bow is light years ahead of the old AR 31 I've had for years. I've started shooting again. I haven't lost the skill but there is some dust on the bottle.

I can't remember the last time I was this excited about the upcoming deer season. I've started scouting spots and planning for bow season. I'll revisit some expanded areas I used to hunt and I plan on hunting the regular archery season; something a rarely did in the past because of the one deer problem. At this point, I don't care. I'm convinced that in the semirural areas that I spend most of the fall hunting, I have a better chance at filling my tag with a nice buck in October. If my tag gets punched, so be it, I'll hunt expanded zones with my bow in November!

Josh Reynolds is the Assistant Editor of the Journal, he can be reached at jreyn207@gmail.com





Pellet, Wood, Gas & Coal Stoves • Heat Pumps • Firewood















Joe Pyles 302-542-8434

Nesowadnehunk Guide Service ~ Bear Hunting At Its Best.

www.nesowadnehunk.com



Brandon Hammond 302-853-0583 Rick Hammond 302-934-1700

We may not be the biggest outfitter but we know what a hunter expects and we know how to deliver that expectation. From the moment you arrive to the moment you leave your needs are taken care of. All hunters stay in a private cabin with all meals provided. Each day of your hunt we transport you to and from an active bait site. We take care of your bear from the minute you shoot it. Then it is time to relax and enjoy the rest of your stay with some fishing on our fly-fishing only lake, a boat and motor are provided free of charge. We have many past hunters that would love to share their experience with you, they are our best source of advertisement. Visit our website for a list of references or call for a printed list.

207-458-1551 May 1st December 1st. 30 207-319-6586 December 1st-May 1st

Nesowadnehunk Lake Wilderness Campground Leo Purington P.O. Box 345 ~ Millinocket, ME 04462 Email: info@nesowadnehunk.com



Northwoods **Sketchbook**

by Mark McCollough, Hampden, ME

Walk lightly on this Earth. Take only what you need, and give back more than you received. As my Dad taught us in Scouts, "Leave your campsite better than your found it." Be grateful for all the Earth provides.

It may surprise you to learn that when I was young my brothers and sister spent most our summer outdoors. (OK, we did have this big box in the living room called a TV.) Take off your shoes and run in the grass. Lie on the ground and laugh, feel your roots sink into the earth, and soar among the racing clouds. Splash in a puddle. Skin your knees and get stung by a bee. Giggle. Make forts and vanquish imaginary foes. Feel joy in the rain dripping off your ears. Make snow angels.

The world embraces your one-of-a-kind imagination.

Discover beetles, worms, snakes, and eagles. Don't lose your sense of wonder of the universe. A man who visited Maine a long time ago wrote, "In wildness is the preservation

you believe is right. But also accept that your truths may evolve during your life. A young boy's dreams Never stop playing, it is a great way to learn. Curiosity is a great virtue and the mark of a good scientist. Ask lots of

questions. Question everything, even

the advice I am giving you now.

of the world." When you are older ponder what that means...

Never stop playing, it is a great way to learn. Curiosity is a great virtue and the mark of a good scientist. Ask lots of questions. Question everything, even the advice I am giving you now. Be curious about the world and all its riddles. Why do beetles

are far different than an old man's.

The best advice anyone ever gave me was to practice listening and to be patient – with people and with the natural world. In Maine we have a saying that there's no point in speaking unless you can improve on silence. So, listen more than you speak then speak wisely.

Letter to My Grandson

have six legs and not ten? Why can't we see the far side of the moon? How do monarchs find each other in the winter? Seek answers to the hardest questions the imponderables and the intangible ones. Learn what history teaches. Know your truth, and stand up for what

stuff. Develop a healthy perspective of what it means to achieve success. In the end, life is a collection of experiences, not materials things. Beware of the lure of technology. Simplicity is best. Some-

Avoid the allure of be fleeting. Whatever you choose for a profession, make a difference, be of service to others, and give something of value back to Nature.

> All of us, every shade of the rainbow, are on this tiny speck of a planet to-



As you grow older, strive to connect to something greater than yourself, greater than humanity. The source we come from and where we will return is the Great Mystery. (Illustration by Mark McCollough)

times taking the steeper trail is better. You come from seven generations of farmers who know that a little sweat, dirt, and effort never hurt anyone. Be idealistic, but avoid obsessions.

Be generous of your time. It is the greatest gift that you can give. There will come a time when it becomes more precious than gold. Discover your passion, the fire in your belly, but realize this may

gether. Each of us are like a songbird adding our voice to the dawn chorus on a golden morning in June. We need to appreciate and cooperate with each other if we are going to survive as a species. Beware of fear. It limits your horizons. Instead, embrace trust and build connection and community. Nature is most resilient when ecosystems are healthy and diverse.

As you grow older, (Grandson cont. pg 40)





Joe Morris And His **West Branch Farm**

Joe Morris, who was born in Ouebec Province in 1823, relocated to Maine by 1850, when he married at Hallowell, Persis Ann Parcher. They resided in Hallowell a few years, then

lumber firm, and built a of Caribou Lake.

The census of 1870 has him residing in T3 R13 (Caribou Lake Township) but when he sold the farm

Joe finally moved his farm on the eastern shore family upriver to Burbank Township (now North East Carry Township) where he built a new farm at the north end of the North East Carry road on the banks of the West Branch, and began toting sportsmen's canoes and baggage over the Carry Road in an old rickety wagon drawn by a horse.

Old Tales from the **Maine Woods**

by Steve Pinkham Quincy, MA

with the jumper and horses after our kit. Our first night we spent at Morris's. "An advertisement placed in John Way's 1874 Guide to Moosehead Lake, states that Morris's farm "lies in a fertile meadow" and that "Mr. Morris is always present, with wagon, on

1885. Morris would open it up in December as the thirsty lumbermen were traveling in to the lumber camps, and take all their money, and would open it again, when they got paid and came out of the woods in February or March.

Joe Morris operated

Here, he would often entertain them for the night, before they embarked down the West Branch on their way to either the Allagash River, Mt. Katahdin, or the Bangor & Aroostook's Norcross Station at South Twin Lake.

Here, he would often entertain them for the night, before they embarked down the West Branch on their way to either the Allagash River, Mt. Katahdin, or the Bangor & Aroostook's Norcross Station at South Twin Lake.

His first wife, mother of eight of his children, died on September 21, 1872 at the farm. He married second, a woman named Mary, and had two more children, and married thirdly, a woman named Louise. His sons Joseph Jr. and Clarence were well known Moosehead Lake guides.

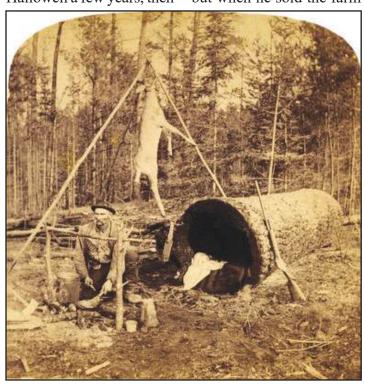
In Sept of 1873 John Thompson of Bangor wrote, "We crossed the carry and sent Morris back

the arrival of the steamer, to haul canoes and luggage over the Carry." John A. Fay wrote in June of 1876, "here you will find "Joe" Morris ready to entertain you over night, and you can start down river in the morning."

Ever the entrepreneur, for several years Morris set up a small tavern in the woods where two major tote roads crossed, just east of the north end of Ripogenus Lake, which appears on Colby's Timberland map of

his farm and carry service until 1885, then he moved to Greenville, where in November of that year it was announced that he "will build a hotel on the lower Wilson Pond." It is not known if he ever followed up on this. He died at Greenville on March 30, 1891, aged 68 years.

Steve is an avid hiker. paddler and historian, having collected over 26,000 Maine Woods articles to



Joe took over as manager of 515 acres on April 15, of the Chesuncook House by 1860 for a short stint.

On April 4, 1862 he purchased the "tavern stand" at Shirley Corner, and operated both a tavern and a small hotel there for two years, selling it on Oct, 24, 1864 to Frost Littlefield. He moved his growing family of six back to the West Branch, where he purchased a farm lot from Hastings & Strickland, a

1871, it is listed on the deed as being in T4 R14 (Lobster Lake Township). This farm was later purchased by Fred Shaw, the president of the Shaw Business School in Portland who opened it in 1902 as Greenwood Camps. An advertisement in Pine Tree Jungles, mentioned it is "Near Chesuncook & Caribou Lakes. No guides required. Farm connected."

Old Tales of the Maine Woods



Steve Pinkham

Maine Woods Historian, Author and Storyteller

617-407-0743

steve@oldtalesofthemainewoods.com

www.oldtalesofthemainewoods.com

Listen to the Maine Outdoors...

...on the Voice of Maine News-Talk Network



V. Paul Reynolds

For more than 20 years, the Maine Outdoors has been talking to outdoor people about hunting and fishing and anything related to the outdoors. Hosts V. Paul Reynolds, Bob Leeman, Matt Dunlap, Jim Thorne and Greg Burr interview studio guests and take your calls. Outdoor trivia questions and prizes!

SUNDAY NIGHTS 7-8 PM

WVOM-FM, 103.9 WVQM-FM 101.3, 1450 AM



Bob Leeman



26 Summer Street Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426 proutyab@psouth.net

Ph: 207-564-8353 1-800-464-8353 Fax: 207-564-3426

Bluefin

(Cont. from pg 13)

felt a sickening "pop," and the rod abruptly unloaded. I soon found that the leader had parted just below the crimp and swivel, an unusual spot for tackle failure. I could feel the abrasion on the fluorocarbon where it had snapped. I reeled in the other two lines and ran my fingers down the leaders. At the exact spot on both leaders, I discovered similar damage. All leaders and lines are meticulously examined prior to use every trip, so how did this happen?...Sharks.

Over the past 100 million years, sharks have developed the ability to detect electricity through the gel-filled pores in their snout, called Ampullae of Lorenzini. These electroreceptors pick up the electric currents of prey...and metals. The crimp attached to a swivel proved to be a great electrical curiosity to what was most likely a juvenile porbeagle shark. Of course, the fishery was closing at midnight, so this would be

24/7 Defense of Your Gun Rights Your Choice of Magazine

ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBER:

E-MAIL ADDRESS:

SELECT MEMBERSHIP:

SELECT ONE MAGAZINE:

SIGNATURE (CREDIT CARD ONLY)_

AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

☐ AMERICA'S 1ST FREEDOM

PAYMENT: CHECK/MONEY ORDER (PAYABLE TO "WRA")

our last trip of the season; no opportunity for redemption. As we steamed in, the September sun set over the bay in a brilliance of orange and pink, and I was left haunted by the one that got away.

Jonah Paris teaches English at a small high school in Southwestern Maine. During the summer, Jonah is first mate aboard the Teazer in South Portland, Maine. A four-season outdoorsman, Jonah lives in Gorham, ME with his girlfriend, Ashley, and beagle, Aurora. Jonah can be reached at jonaheparis@ gmail.com.

Dog Days

(Cont. from pg 29)

the hook with about 1 & 1 /2 inches extending past the hook bend for a tail, and a piece of clear flexible tubing slid over the hook shank and tied down at both ends to make the fly more durable.

The July column provides information on striper fishing for those who enjoy

☐ 5-YEAR \$140 \$100

☐ CREDIT CARD

\$2,500 No-Cost Firearms Insurance* \$5,000 Accidental Death Insurance*

DATE OF BIRTH:

□ PRINT or □ DIGITAL (REQUIRES VALID E-MAIL ADDRESS)

AMERICAN HUNTER

Return your application and payment to: National Rifle Association of America c/o Recruiting Programs 11250 Waples Mill Rd, Fairfax, VA 22030

CONTRIBUTIONS, GIFTS, OR MEMBERSHIP DUES MADE OR PAID TO THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA ARE NOT REFUNDABLE OR TRANSFERABLE AND ARE NOT DEDUCTIBLE AS CHARITABLE

month trial subscription to Northwoods Sporting Journal when you join NRA using this offer You must contact us at 207-732-4880 to activate your subscription.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FEDERAL INCOME TAX PURPOSES. Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for pr

☐ SHOOTING ILLUSTRATED

Join NRA at a special discounted rate and receive these great benefits

☐ 1-YEAR \$40 S30

pursuing the sport. The major consideration being that a substantial rod will be required to cast heavy wind resistant flies in difficult weather conditions, making for a potentially tiring day. Casts of 60 feet or more may be needed to keep from spooking stripers, especially when they are in shallow water.

Hopefully the foregoing will provide sufficient fly fishing options for the "dog days" of summer to satisfy the needs of most anglers. In summary they include deep water nymphing, deep water trolling, casting for terrestrials, fishing West Branch of the Penobscot River, mackerel fishing, and fly fishing for stripers.

There you have it, six ways for us fly fishers to survive the month of August in Maine.

Joe has enjoyed fly fishing for over 65 years. His book, Fundamentals of Fly Fishing, is now available. He can be reached at: brewerberts@aol.com

Grandson

(Cont. from pg 38) strive to connect to something greater than yourself, greater than humanity. The source we come from and where we will return is the Great Mystery. It is an

lenergy that connects all living things. If you listen carefully, you will hear the symphony. It is beyond the din of our civilization, behind the sound of the rain falling through the leaves, greater than thunder and softer than the waves washing through sand. The voices of the animals, wind, and water will guide you. You'll know you are close when the ancestors whisper and the rocks sing. Walk quietly, listen carefully, and find your unique and wild meaning of life.

You will be humiliated and learn humility. You will be cheated and learn honesty. Take the time to walk a mile in another person's moccasins before you pass judgment. Be humble enough to question others only after you have questioned yourself. Put other's needs before yours... that includes the plants and animals.

Find joy in the simpler things of life – watch the moon rise and sparkle over the water, hear the first loon yodel in the spring, listen to the hiss of snow filtering through the pines.

I found great joy, love, and hope in the outdoors, and my wish is that you do as well. I'm afraid that as hard as I tried, my generation left you with a big mess. Whatever you do, help heal this world. Revel in the seasons - build a snowman in winter, plant a garden in the spring and harvest it in the fall. Participate in the seasons and the circle that is life. Plant a tree, or a thousand trees to cool the planet.

When I was a boy, an astronaut sent back an image of Earth from space. Together we watched our flickering television sets as the Earth rose over the gray horizon of a lifeless moon. Earth was a tiny blue ball floating in a great sea of darkness. The countries had no borders - just a fragile speck of life in an inhospitable universe. For a brief moment our species realized that we share a tiny blue boat, under a thin blue sky, and that we are all on the same journey together. Ours may be the only life in this vast universe or life may be scattered across the heavens like dandelion seeds tossed in the wind. Maybe your generation will answer this age-old question. Have hope. Together, your generation will make it work.

Many blessings, Grandpa

Grandchildren are the living messages that we send to a time we do not see (borrowed from Neil Postman). markmccollough25@gmail.com

At long last, revived from the archives of the once-authoritative books on New England streamer flies and how to use them: Trolling Flies for Trout & Salmon, by Dick Stewart and Bob Leeman.



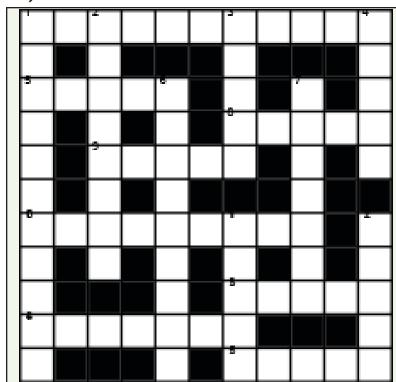
Trolling Flies for Trout and Salmon was first published in 1982 and again in 1992. There were 350 signed Limited Edition hardcover copies and several thousand hard and soft cover copies sold out with the two printings. Many fly tyers view this book as an up-to-date version of new and available streamer fly patterns and crave to have it in their library. Used copies have been selling on AmazonBooks.com for the last few years with a price tag up to \$300.00 for each copy! There are 125 pages with 32 color plates of more than 90 classic streamer flies and tying recipes from a Winnipesaukee Smelt to a Barney Google and a Rangeley Centennial. Leeman and Stewart also share with readers many tips and tactics for trolling streamer flies for trout and salmon throughout New England.

"This wonderful fishing book is the gospel when it comes to streamer flies and trolling tactics. A Classic

- V. Paul Reynolds, Editor, Northwoods Sporting Journal

Send a check for \$24.95 (\$21.95 & \$3.00 postage) along with this ad, to: Bob Leeman, 22 Alan-A-Dale Rd., Brewer, ME 04412. (Price covers shipping and handling).





Across

- 1 Chain pickerel source near Portland sounds gooey
- 5 --- Goose
- 8 Very short Naples river connecting Long Lake and Brandy Pond
- 9 --- Setter, a gundog
- 10 Stilt ---, a small shorebird
- 13 --- Dame Mountains
- 14 Onsite fish store
- 15 Essential equipment on 4 Down's products

Down

- 1 Reservoir source of white perch and smallmouth bass off State Route
- 2 Bracco ---, a hunting dog
- 3 Piscataquis river and pond chain near Shawtown Township
- 4 Sporting gun maker
- **6** Poland source of white perch
- 7 Common ---, which feeds mainly on cattail
- 11 Rain or ski, they should keep your legs warm and dry
- 12 --- Blue Heron

(Crossword answers pg 37)

Lures

(Cont. from pg 35)

lows in quest of mackerel or, deeper down, cod and haddock. I had some luck with buck tail spinners and spoons; but in thumbing through a fishing supply catalog, a surface popper caught my eye, and I thought I'd give it a whirl.

One summer evening while fishing the Stillwater River by the University of Maine, I had hooked and released a pair of small river bass, and feeling a bit bored, decided to try the plug. I clipped it on the swivel, cast it out, tightened the line, and gave it a couple of gentle twitches.

BOOM!

Shocked, I jerked the rod tip to set the hook—but I didn't need to. The footlong bending mass of scaly muscle had hooked himself nicely with the force of the strike. He jumped again and again, trying to shake off the source of his frustration.

He gave me a mighty splash with his tail upon his gentle release.

That scene played itself out another half-dozen

times before it got too dark to see what I was doing, and even then, I only ruefully retreated from the riverbank, the plastic skirt of the plug tattered and torn.

This summer, I've been re-living that hazy evening with reckless abandon. I feel a bit guilty that I tied all those flies over the winter, and when I reach for a weapon of choice, much of the time it's a spinning rod with just one lure—the Storm Rattlin' Chug Bug® or some similar harbinger of fishy doom. Every fisherman has their favorite rod and reel; some prefer sinking fly lines, others can't miss an opportunity to flip a dry fly at the top of a plunge pool. For my own part, there's nothing quite like a bass throwing everything it's got at a surface plug, again and again. Here's hoping they never figure it out.

Matt Dunlap is a sportsman from Old Town and is a periodic co-host on Maine Outdoors, heard statewide every Sunday night at 7:00 pm on WVOM 103.9 FM, WVQM 101.3 FM, and 95.1 FM in Rockland.



The Trading Post



ANIMALS

WASSOOKEAG RETRIEV-ERS. Lowell, Maine. Unique,

specialized, professional. Established in 1991, offering occasional Labrador Retriever puppies and OFA Excellent black, yellow and chocolate stud service. ME LIC #F684/F747. For more information visit www.wassookeagretrievers.com or call 207-732-4092.

QUAIL HOLLOW KEN-NELS: BRITTANY'S. Simply the best personal shooting dogs and family pets. Puppies and starter dogs. Woodcock training November through March. Forty years of excellence. Call after sunset 856-935-3459.

LAND

FOR SALE - ICONIC "PARMACHENEE CLUB" 2 acre island. Gated access to 1,000's of acres of prime hunting, fishing and snowmobiling! 5 furnished cabins w/over \$150K in new roof & pilings on steel beams. Spectacular views & one neighbor. Incls. shared lot at Landing for dock & parking - \$475K. Call 207-491-4771.

SEND US YOUR
CLASSIFIEDS! LET US
HELP YOU SELL YOUR
THINGS!
Call: 207-732-4880
Or E-mail:
info@sportingjournal.com

MISC

FURNISHED CEDAR COT-

TAGE on 2.5 acres in Wesley, ME. One bedroom, 2 lofts, with connecting bridge. New refrigerator, new wood stove, new outhouse, 8x6 shed. Wired for electric/propane. New septic design and soil test. 300 ft. well with hand pump \$75.000 call 207-263-6434.

SPORTING EQUIPMENT

GOLDEN RETRIEVER FLIES. Tied by Jim Finn, originator of the pattern. There are a lot of imitations out there but these flys are the real deal! Website www.JimFinn.ME Phone 610-406-1633.

	Personal Classified Ads up to 30 words \$15.00 per month - \$0.50 A word after 30. Business Advertisers 30 Words \$25.00 per month - \$0.50 A word after 30.
Name:_ Address	VP Code# (if applicable)
Ad Copy	Phone#
 Mail To: Th	ne Northwoods Sporting Journal * P.O. Box 195, West Enfield, Me. 04493 or Phone 207-732-4880 or Fax 207-732-4970 or E-Mail info@sportingjournal.com



On The Prowl

by Justin Merrill, Cherryfield, ME

I believe one of two things could be true here. Either you have never hunted black bears in late August or early September and are willing to give it a try. Or you have already been on an early fall black bear hunt but are willing to give it another shot. That bear hunt can cost \$3,000 to \$4,000 dollars or more. That's just the price tag for the hunt, not the travel cost, tipping of the guide and the taxidermy bill. Be financially set first and foremost before going further into preparation.

You have to be think-

Bear Hunt Preparation

the ten ring out to thirty yards then you will be able to execute closer shots quicker and easier. Solely my opinion but it works for me. The idea here is to simulate the hunt. Almost 99 percent of the time an archer will only have one shot at an animal. Be prepared for that one shot. Also you'll most likely be in a tree stand overlooking a bait unless you're going



The author right (with camera) and his hunt buddy, Chris Cobbett from central Maine.

A black bear hunt during the last week in August or anytime in September means hot days and cool evenings. It's crazy really! The daytime temperature can be 65 or 70 degrees and drop 35 or more degrees putting it into the high 30's or low 40's.

is why you are reading this. One thing for certain though is that getting ready for an upcoming black bear hunt requires lots of commitment if you want to have an enjoyable hunt. It's equally as difficult to be successful if unprepared.

A few things to consider doing before leaving to go on a fall black bear hunt are gear and clothing requirements. Do you have everything you need for a black bear hunt? Be thinking inclement weather and biting flies. Another important detail would be the total cost of this hunt. Will you be able to tip your guide thirty percent or more? In the event you do harvest a black bear will you have taxidermy and butchering bills to take care of? A guided black ing about practicing with all your hunting gear, especially if you plan on using your bow. I highly recommend practice shooting your bow at a 3-D life sized black bear target. Shoot your bow fully dressed in all your hunting clothes. Become comfortable shooting as if you were already on the hunt. Shoot at this target from distances of ten to sixty yards. Once confident your bow sight is all dialed in then every day leading up to departure take one shot at thirty yards from an elevated position.

Why shoot from thirty yards you ask? It's my preference but I highly recommend doing it to make those ten and twenty yard shots seem much easier. If you are consistently hitting

on a special spot and stalk hunt in Alaska. Practice to make those shots from treestands be a breeze.

Perhaps you don't need a lot of practice time if you're using a rifle. If you're going on a rifle black bear hunt at least be certain the scope crosshairs are not out of alignment. If you're using open sights it couldn't hurt to make sure you're a steady shot out to at least fifty yards with open sights. Really what I'm trying to inform you of is to be extra confident with your shooting capabilities.

A black bear hunt during the last week in August or anytime in September means hot days and cool evenings. It's crazy really! The daytime temperature can be 65 or 70 degrees and drop 35 or more degrees putting it into the high 30's or low 40's. A crazy phenomenon. Will you be prepared for this drastic change in temperatures? If you're a hiker then you already know about the layering system commonly used. The first layer of clothing should be a wick

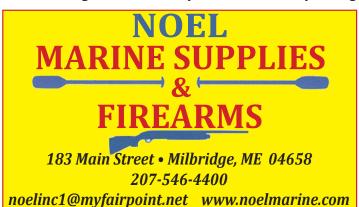
layer made out of synthetic material like polypropylene or merino wool. Make sure this layer is tight to the skin to absorb the moisture properly.

The second layer has to be some insulating material like fleece or wool. The most obvious layer that everyone always thinks to have handy while outdoors is the shell layer. This top outer layer will be made of nylon or a material that can stop wind and rain from penetrating. You will be much better off to have every layer with you during every hunt as it doesn't hurt to shed a layer. However you WILL be hurting if the heavens open or temperature drops and you're stranded without a layer or two until the guide decides to come pick you up. Number one rule – BE PREPARED!

Another not-so-pleasant nuisance that can arise during an early fall black bear hunt is biting flies. How will you control this issue? Do you prefer body sprays, clothing spray insecticides like Permethrin, or dry methods like using a Thermacell? No matter what you choose, bring enough bug control for a whole week. Plan to have enough fly control for eight hours each day. In my opinion the best control is spraying all hunting clothing with Permethrin before leaving home and bringing plenty of butane and blue pads for the Thermacell. No matter what you do, just try not to get eaten alive. You will if unprepared.

Use these few tips to get off on the right foot. Obviously you will have several other things to do before leaving for and during your hunt. I wish you all the best on your upcoming black bear hunt.

Justin has harvested a dozen or more black bears on guided and self-guided hunts with his bow. He is a member of the New England Outdoor Writers Association (NEOWA). He is the owner of the You-Tube channel, SPIKES and GILLS. He has authored two books you can learn about by going to: www. WildMaineOutdoors.com



The 2021 Maine Canoe Northwoods Sporting Journal **Symposium**

There was some good news for canoe enthusiasts this past June. The Maine Canoe Symposium (MCS) was back! I wrote a column a couple of years ago about the symposium's need to find a new venue for future meets. I was not sure then what would hap-

tion ahead of time lining up photos, hand-outs and other things. But, a few years ago I decided I had enough of workshops like that and so bowed out. But they persisted and wanted us there so I agreed that we would be there and just allow folks to bounce quesand asked a lot of questions and I found that I enjoyed doing it, perhaps more than the attendees enjoyed being there. In the past I had done this workshop with my old friend Ray Reitze who is an experienced and knowledgeable Maine guide and naturalist. I wasn't sure if Ray was going to be there so Dot agreed to help out. As it Northwoods Voyager by Gil Gilpatrick, Brunswick, ME



away. In addition Dot, who is good at doing the little extras, had brought along albums of outdoor photos we had accumulated over the years. I didn't think this was necessary and figured that folks would ignore them. I was wrong! They pored over the pictures and asked questions about

this year it was just a one day thing. I don't know if this schedule will persist into the future or not. We'll see next year. Hope all you canoe enthusiasts will plan to be there.

Gil Gilpatrick is a Master Maine Guide, and is the first living recipient



The canoe symposium is a chance to admire these crafts and talk shop. (Photo by V. Paul Reynolds)

pen in that regard. Then Covid happened and the 2020 meeting was canceled all together, like a lot of other things that year. This caused even more doubt in my mind as to whether or not MCS would survive.

Thanks to the hard work of some dedicated individuals MCS was back in 2021 and in a new location. The meeting was held at the University of Maine 4-H Camp and Learning Center at Bryant Pond. Dot and I were invited to attend and do a workshop like we had done before. I was somewhat flattered that they still wanted a couple of old has-beens, so we agreed to go.

I had done a lot of different workshops in the past, most of which required a lot of preparations off us. I never really expected it to go over very big and so just figured this was an easy way to bow out gracefully.

Well, I was wrong! A lot of people showed up

turned out Ray did show up and so the three of us did the workshop together. It went well.

After I had agreed to do the old timer workshop the organizers threw a surprise at me at the last minute and scheduled me to do a workshop they called "The Perfect Allagash Trip" Again, not willing to do a lot of prep work and not having much time anyway I decided we would do it the same way we did the old timers workshop and just allow folks to ask

them. Dot didn't even rub it in how wrong I had been about the albums. She's nice that way.

A lot of people showed up and asked a lot of questions and I found that I enjoyed doing it, perhaps more than the attendees enjoyed being there.

> I learned that the steering committee for the symposium was mostly all new and that combined with the new location made for some snags in the program. These were handled well and probably were not even noticed by most who attended. In the past MCS had been held over the weekend, Friday afternoon to Sunday noon, but

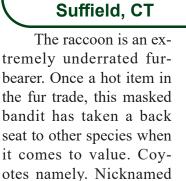
of the Legendary Maine Guide award. He is a life member of the Maine Professional Guides Association, a founding member of the Maine Wilderness Guides Organization, and served as a member of the Advisory Board for the Licensing of Guides from 1996 to 2010. He is a member of the New England Outdoor Writers Association and is the author of seven outdoorrelated books. Contact him at Gil@GilGilpatrick.com





The Fur Shed

by Blake Dougherty,



"trash pandas" for their

deep desire to find a free



when pushed or pulled, triggers the trap to "cuff" the 'coon. These traps can be set quickly using dry cat food as a bait and a trailing scent to pull raccoons close to your set.

It's not how to trap raccoons that I want to talk about in this article but

It's not how to trap raccoons that I want to talk about in this article but rather their fur. And to tout the quality of it. In my opinion their fur is extremely underappreciated.

meal in garbage cans and dumpsters they are actually a very adaptable animal. They thrive virtually anywhere in the United States.

Warm, cold, wet or dry; they can make a home anywhere there is a food source. They are surprisingly easy to trap using coil spring or body gripping traps. My favorite trap to use for raccoons has become the dog proof trap. Essentially a tube with a trigger system inside. Imagine a toilet paper roll with a small rod inside that rather their fur. And to tout the quality of it. In my opinion their fur is extremely underappreciated. Soft, dense, and fluffy, raccoon fur makes gorgeous garments, thanks to its unique coloring and fantastic loft. With long, tipped guard hairs and thick, dense underfur, raccoon fur offers terrific warmth and is quite durable when cared for properly. The trick is to take their fur when prime. At its best raccoon fur is so lush and thick that even in the coldest climates you'd

be served well by it when

used to manufacture hats, mittens, vests, coats, etc.

I personally have had trooper hats and ear muffs made from raccoon fur and while I am a self confessed fur addict and have hats and other garments made from other species like bobcat, coyote, red fox, otter and even opossum, it's raccoon that really impresses me. Although my opossum free trapper hat runs a close second. Raccoon fur makes great hats of many styles. Russian Trooper, Davy Crockett and Danile Boone style come to mind. It is absolutely very much ideal for gauntlet mittens, vests and coats and really shines when used for these types of garments.

There are a few outfits that come to mind when it comes to tanning fur, as well as manufacturing fur garments. Let's start with tanning. Moyles Mink & Tannery in Idaho does a great job with their garment tan. They also have online ordering services and if you use this option they shave at least 30 days off your turnaround time. Speaking of turnaround time, it varies greatly depending on the time of year and volume they are dealing with. Their prices vary by quantity and are very fair. Shipping can be a bit high both ways if shipping form the East Coast but in my opinion the quality of the tan is well worth it. Tubari Ltd. is the other tannery I would highly recommend and the one I use most. They do a fantastic garment tan and have a quick turnaround time. Being from the East Coast shipping charges are a lot less than shipping out West. Their customer service has always exceeded my expectations. I always enjoy speaking to Michael and he makes me feel like he very much values my business. If I had to guess without looking at all my past invoices I've probably had 300 furs tanned at Tubari, Ltd with zero issues. Always a great tan. Z & L in NYC is another tannery I've heard do great work, as well as Sleepy Creek Tannery & Fur Dressing and Keystone Fur Dressing. I'm sure there are countless others.

Raccoon: Awesome Fur

Once you have your fur professionally tanned you need to figure out where to send it to have garments manufactured. I've honestly only used two companies. Glacier Wear in the great state of Maine and R & R Trading Post out of Pennsylvania. Both have done great work for me. In total I've had 10 hats of varying styles, a coyote fur vest and upwards of 30 pairs of ear muffs made. 95% of everything I've had made from fur has

come from Glacier Wear. They are just that good. My understanding is that they made a number of the costumes for the movie "The Revenant" with Leonardo DiCaprio portraying trapper Hugh Glass. There are other outfits that you can research on your own. USA Foxx is a big outfit and there are a number of smaller operations that seem to put out quality products like Wild Things Furs & Fur 'N' Things.

If you are an avid outdoorsman I very much encourage you to consider a raccoon hat or gauntlet mittens. Envision yourself sitting in your deer stand nice and warm wearing your raccoon gauntlet mittens until just before you slide them off to take a shot or fishing early season trout and salmon wearing a raccoon trooper hat from animals you or a friend or family member harveted. It really doesn't get any better. Once you have your first garment made from your own fur I would bet it won't be the last one you have made!

Blake Dougherty is owner of Dougherty & Sons Fur Stretchers and Trapping Supplies located in Suffield, CT. A small family owned business that prides itself on quality products and great service. When he isn't writing articles or selling trapping supplies he is out in the wilds teaching his kids to hunt, fish and trap and enjoying what nature has to offer.



McKUSICK PETROLEUM

We carry Monitor Kerosene Heaters. We also carry RINNAI'S

Energy Saver, Direct Vent Gas Space Heaters



Professional Heating Service Heating Oil Gasoline ~ LP Gas Lubricants P.O. Box 46, 32 Summer St. Dover-Foxcroft, ME 04426 564-3406 1-800-564-3835



Flukey Weather Patterns

We have just seen one of the most unusual, record-setting springs and early summers in memory. On the Fourth of July, townsfolk here awoke to a deluge and then heard warnings about flooding from Newscenter Maine

reached ten to fifteen mph with gusts to 25 or 30. In three months, that rarest of all wind forecasts—light and variable—happened exactly twice.

Rain was not scarce when the season began, but soon enough the word

From one week to the next, it was a challenge to determine where the thermocline was. With the warming that occurred in mid May, those folks using fish finders and down riggers saw that the salmon and togue had already dropped down to roughly fifteen feet below the surface.

and from NOAA (one of the few times Grand Lake Stream has actually been mentioned by the National Weather Service). The temperature at 5 a.m. was 46. It was colder here on the Fourth of July than it was last Christmas when the mercury hit sixty degrees! Five days before the Fourth, the temperature had topped out in Bangor at 96.

Leading up to that point in the season was one endless story of wind. It didn't matter which direction it was coming from, it was always strong and something to deal with while guiding. Five to ten miles per hour seemed to be a given, and often it

"drought" was being tossed around by Maine meteorologists. Fire danger went up. We did receive periodic doses of rain, but apparently not enough to offset the backlog of dryness. Then, the torrents across the state on the Fourth of July gained back some of that deficit.

Meanwhile, the fishing went on as scheduled (and in most cases, scheduled since the previous season). Is it possible that fish become confused by unseasonal weather and temperatures? Fishermen discuss such things all the time. What about when the surface temperature on the lakes is 60 degrees





one week, and 48 the next? The phenomenon of lakes "turning over" doesn't only happen in the fall; it can happen anytime there's a rude change in the weather. And this year, that happened frequently. When the lakes turn over, the thermocline moves, and with it, the bait fish that stay with it and the game fish that forage on them.

From one week to the next, it was a challenge to determine where the thermocline was. With the warming that occurred in mid May, those folks using fish finders and down rig-



The Singing Maine Guide

by Randy Spencer, Grand Lake Stream, ME

gers saw that the salmon and togue had already dropped down to roughly fifteen feet below the surface. With the next cold snap, they came back up. And, almost just as quickly, with the next heat wave, they plummeted once again. If the fish weren't confused, the fishermen certainly were. Whether they were using lead-core line or down riggers, anglers were constantly adjusting to the new reality each day as

the weather and the water and the fish continued to befuddle them.

Very few outings were cancelled or postponed due to weather. With few exceptions, it is the wind, not the rain that will shut down a fishing trip. Rain can be annoying, but with the right gear, good fishing is entirely possible, and sometimes even likely. Wind, on the other hand, carries danger with it.

(Patterns cont. pg 57)

Cracker Barrel

by Homer Spit



Renewable Ugly

When I was a kid the ugliest sight I ever saw was a Studebaker. I'd be hard pressed to explain today exactly why this particular car violated my aesthetic senses, but it just did. When seeing something that just ain't pleasing to the eye, you know it. You feel it in the gut. Come to think of it, during my younger years, there weren't that many eyesores, except those butt-ugly Studebakers.

Today is different. Maybe it's my age. Visual pollution abounds.

This spring, during my annual trip down the Airline (Route 9, to Grand Lake Stream, which used to be a lovely drive, I was assaulted somewhere in the vicinity of Beddington. Looming over the pine and hemlock tops, like an alien from Star Trek, were giant wind turbines with their sleek, aerodynamic blades at idle.

Having driven the Airline most of my life, fished the West Branch of the Union River and admired the winding Middle Branch from the Whale's Back, I could never have foreseen in my worst dreams these wind turbines marring the Maine wilderness panorama.

In Wyoming, while driving West, you will see wind turbines populating the High Plains like mushrooms from space. Unrelenting wind is a fact of life on the High Plains. Maybe these high-tech behemoths make economic sense out there in the Big Open.

But do they make sense here in Maine among our conifer forests?

The government, I am told, subsidizes upwards of 80 percent of these wind turbine installations with Production Tax Credits. Maine counties are getting paid off by the turbine investors as well. And when the wind doesn't blow, no blades turn and no power is produced. A pro turbine activist said "They look sleek and come in neutral colors!" Well that's a consolation.

I dunno. We do need a lot of different energy sources.

Personally, though, I'd rather bring Quebec hydro power down the CMP corridor - clear cuts and all - than have to look at any more of those surreal wind turbines looming above the Maine landscape.



Basics Of Survival

by Joe Frazier, Bangor, ME

A survival kit does not have to be expensive. It is always possible to buy better gear, but you can buy all the basics for a kit for about \$10. This will be an overnight kit meant for you to practice with and have fun with, not just for survival.

Duct tape to reinforce the curtain where the rope will tie to it is also a good choice. Windshield sun blockers are very useful as something to sit or lay on. The silver mylar reflects body heat and is basically water proof. Three or four

Tools are next on the list. A small folding knife is a good option, but be sure it is serrated. The teeth on a cheap knife will cut better than a plain edge. A kitchen knife with a plastic sheath is a good second choice.

When you need to spend the bare minimum, the Dollar Store is your friend.

The first need is shelter. Your best option here is a shower curtain. Dollar store tarps are too small and the rain ponchos are too thin. You will also need some rope or twine. taped together would be big enough to sleep on.

Fire is the next item. Butane lighters like Bic or Scripto are the best option. Matches are usually strike on box only. Candles are also a good choice; either plain or in a tin, but not in

Pack marshmallows. Not firewood. The Maine Legislature has banned all out-of-state firewood, which can carry harmful insects and diseases. Buy it where you burn it -don't give bugs a free ride!

for more information, go to:

www.maine.gov/firewood

or call (207) 287-2791

HELP SAVE MAINE FORESTS!

\$10 Survival Kit.

For signaling there are a few options. Flashlights, whistles from the party section, mirror from makeup, and glow sticks from toys.

You can get a number of different sized containers of water or other drinks. You can also get the largest

on as well.

For a backpack to carry all your items, either a cloth pillow case or a long sleeved shirt will work. If you have the shirt, tie the ends of the arms together and use some string to tie the bottom shut. Put your items in through the neck

camp out enough to need high end, high priced gear. You don't need to spend thousands of dollars for 3 or 4 weekend outings a year.

are many options without

This article is just to get you thinking a little differently about gear. There









The second is the modified food can cook pot and long sleeve shirt carryall bag.

size can of food, cut off the top, and use that to boil water in. The tin foil pans crack and leak too easily, but a regular metal bread pan would work as well.

Tools are next on the list. A small folding knife is a good option, but be sure it is serrated. The teeth on a cheap knife will cut better than a plain edge. A kitchen knife with a plastic sheath is a good second choice. Scissors or cutting shears are also a good option. Needle nose pliers are handy for many uses around camp, from making things to moving hot cooking pots on and off the fire. Wire from the craft section is handy for many things as well. You will need wire to make a cook pot from a can. A wire cooling rack from the kitchen section works over a fire to set pots

of the shirt and carry it like a purse over your shoulder.

So, for me, the \$10 list would be: shower curtain, rope, lighter, candles, whistle, cooking tin (or food can), long sleeve shirt, knife, duct tape, a bottle of water.

This is not the best gear available, just the cheapest you can buy new. Second hand stores like Goodwill or Salvation Army store are great places to buy gear. They usually have backpacks, lots of kitchen gear, clothes, sleeping gear, etc. for very little money.

Walmart has some decent gear for a little more money. Some of the best knives I have owned cost less than \$40. They have plenty of camping gear of good quality readily available. Most people do not spending lots of money.

You can buy gear, but you can't buy skills. The more you practice a skill the more comfortable you become. People fear what they don't know, and that can cause panic. You don't want the first time you stay overnight in the woods to be when your life is actually on the line.

There is a great family friendly website which offers step-by-step training in all the outdoor skills you need for free. Bushcraftusa. com is the site, and bushclass is the training. There are videos and you can feel free to ask questions as well. I have been a member of the website for over five years.

Joe is a husband, father, Marine and author. Joefrazier193@gmail.com

Landmark Deer-Yard **Protection Law Passes!**

Starting over a decade ago, I have tried desperately to change state policy to invest in disappearing deer wintering areas in Northern, Eastern and Western Maine. Deer hunting provides over \$200 million in economic spinoff

Bangor and into the big woods knows exactly what I am talking about. Now I do not blame loggers, they are doing their job. I blame policy makers for not using state policy to strike a balance between commercial



Finally, Maine has a law and the funding to protect Maine deer yards in perpetuity. This has never happened before.

that occurs mostly in the southern half of Maine. The reverse was once true. A glimpse into that work can be viewed in this March 18, 2011, Bangor daily News story, titled," Lepage unveils strategy to rebuild Maine Deer herd". LePage unveils strategy to rebuild Maine deer herd (bangordailynews.com). Sadly, this initial effort failed, but it laid the groundwork for what just happened.

In the piece, I suggested the Legislature change the Land for Maine's Future Program, (LMF) to prioritize the purchase of deer wintering areas in Northern, Eastern and Western Maine to reverse the dramatic decline of deer in these regions and the subsequent loss of millions in economic activity deer hunting generated. Thirty five years of working as a professional logger, (two cable skidders and a small pulp truck) gave me an intimate view of the loss of winter forest habitat suitable for deer yards.

logging and white-tailed

deer conservation. On July 1, 2021, the Maine Legislature passed the most sweeping landmark legislation ever proposed to restore deer to all of Maine. SAM/ILA (Institute for Legislative Action) bill, LD 404, An Act to Protect Deer Habitat, sponsored by Rep. Johansen (passed) as an emergency at 1:46 a.m. on the last day of the legislative session. I know because I was awake and awaiting the vote. In addition, the state budget passed just hours before, appropriating \$40 million over the next four years

Anyone traveling north of of which a portion can be used to purchase and manage deer yards in parts of Maine where they are disappearing.

> To understand the magnitude of this investment is to understand how the \$40 will be spent and matched by other funding sources. First, deer wintering areas that are deemed priorities for purchase and protection by IF&W are given LMF Board prefer-



SAM News

by David Trahan, "Executive Director"

Wildlife's existence have they owned deer yards. Yes, they currently own 100,000 acres of Wildlife Management Areas with some limited deer wintering areas, but state managed deer yards are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Conservation, which has a different mission than IFW. It is a misaccount, (protected from being swept into the General Fund) within Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for the purposes of managing deer habitat. That account has accepted a portion of the deer tagging fees for 10 years. It currently has \$450,000 dollars that has remained unspent. LD 404 expanded that protected

On July 1, 2021, the Maine Legislature passed the most sweeping landmark legislation ever proposed to restore deer to all of Maine. SAM/ ILA bill, LD 404, An Act to Protect Deer Habitat, sponsored by Rep. Johansen (passed) as an emergency at 1:46 a.m. on the last day of the legislative session.

ence. All purchases of deer yards using LMF money are matched at least, 1-1 by either federal or private money. The \$40 million in the budget is actually \$80 million with various sources of matching money.

If just 15 percent of the \$80 million is used to buy deer yards, the state will spend \$18.75 million purchasing deer yards, at \$500 per acre. That is an estimated 37,500 acres of deer yards that could be protected. Stunning!

The SAM/ ILA legislation does far more. Never in Inland Fisheries and

sion that includes cutting trees. All deer yards purchased with the new money will be owned by IFW and managed as deer Wildlife Management Areas and deer wintering areas as the highest priority-not harvesting trees. In addition, LD 404 directs the state to build in deed restrictions at the time of purchase to protect the land as a "deer yard".

Ten years ago, as a state senator and as part of my effort to protect deer yards, I was successful in creating a special deer habitat non-lapsing deer habitat account's authority to be used to acquire and manage all aspects of a deer yard.

To understand the magnitude of what just happened at 1:46 a.m. on the last day of the legislature, I will summarize. As of July 1st, 2021, and until July 1st, 2025, at least \$80 million is available to buy and manage an estimated 40,000 acres of deer yards in Northern Eastern and Western Maine. IFW will own and manage these lands 365 days a year as

(Law cont. pg 48)

Washington County Handcrafted By Christopher Augustus REPRODUCTIONS OF ANTIQUE PATENTED WOOD FISH LURES * THE PERFECT GIFT FOR YOUR FAVORITE FISHERMAN* www.HEIRLOOMLURES.COM **SEAL COVE MAINE**

205 b	portsman's Allia MEMBERSHIP APF Church Hill Road, Au- ecky@sportsmansallia www.sportsmansallian 207-623-45	PLICATION gusta, ME 04330 nceofmaine.org ceofmaine.org	Are you a veteran?
Address:			Branch:
City, State, Zip:			Years:
Phone:	Email:		_
Please Mark: Individual -or- F			
□1 Yr \$25 □2 Yr \$40	☐3 Yr \$60	□5 Yr \$100	☐ Yes, I would like to
☐1 Yr Senior (65 & over) \$20	2 Yr Senior \$35	☐3 Yr Senior \$50	receive the SAM NEWS
Annual Business: \$125—ir in one SAM News and 1 year	electronically		
Life Memberships:			Check out
□\$500 Individual □\$2	50 Senior Individual	□\$600 Family	our websit
Total Enclosed: \$	for great		
Visa/MasterCard#	EXP:		member
3 digit code:			benefits!

New Hampshire Outdoors

by Peter St. James, Warner, N.H.



"However, frenzied purchasing and empty shelves often fuels further increases in demand. We do not see demand softening in the near future."

August really is a tough month to figure out. If it's hot and humid, heading to the range or practicing on the 3-D archery range doesn't sound appealing. If we have no rain to speak of, then water levels are low which increases the water temperatures and, depending on the species, shuts things down. Lake temperatures in the bigger lakes will be in the 70s and

the lakers will be deep and the salmon find the thermoclines between thirty and sixty feet down. So, break out the lead core lines.

That's why I use August to get ready for fall activities. This is the perfect month to get your landowner permission slips signed. Fish and Game is offering up to 4,000 hunters the chance to purchase Special Antlerless Deer Permits for Unit M. The permits cost \$36 and come with 2 deer tags. Sales for Unit M permits began in late July so there will still be some available, although they

Ammo Shortages Continue

did sell out last year. The permits may be purchased either online or at Fish and Game headquarters in Concord. August is also a good month to get the trail cams out to see what's out there and when. Especially if the berry and mast crops are reduced due to a continued lack of rain.

The one cloud on the hunting horizon is one that's been with us for a while...is the ammunition shortage. According to Smith & Wesson Brands CEO Mark Smith, ammunition inventories depleted during the pandemic are showing no sign of improving. Jason Hornady, vice president of Hornady Manufacturing Company, was quoted as saying, "I'm looking at two and a half years' worth of demand already on order, So, I'm not seeing a slowdown for two and a half years." "At some point, demand will certainly soften," said Rob Southwick, president of market research firm Southwick Associates. "However, frenzied purchasing and empty shelves often fuels further increas-

did sell out last year. The permits may be purchased either online or at Fish and near future."

Get the picture? Some calibers are arriving at local gun stores in limited amounts. But when they do, they usually fly off the shelf. If you can find it, be prepared to pay a pretty penny.

You've probably seen the stories saying this will be a record year for background checks and firearms sales. But the folks buying firearms aren't you and me and our hunting friends. Those who track those things say that it's being driven by minorities and women concerned about their safety as they see increasing violence. Especially in the urban areas. With that in mind, I saw a story online in Slate magazine, which according to Wikipedia, "has a generally left-wing editorial stance". The headline read, "It's Hard to Make America More Fun When There Are So Many Guns". The story was about a Chicago neighborhood that was trying to open up their streets and parks so that folks could mingle, celebrate and enjoy. All was going well until mid-June when two men opened fire on a group of revelers. So, instead of it being a Chicago story, the author used that incident to cast a blanket indictment of gun ownership over all of us. Chicago? The city with some of the toughest gun laws in the country? I'm betting the two gunman didn't submit to background checks, the guns weren't legally purchased and that they weren't NRA members. So why drag me into it? But I suppose I should be used to the "no accountability, no responsibility, everybody's a victim" mentality that seems to be a hallmark of the 21st Century. But I'm not and I doubt I ever will be. It just ain't in my DNA.

Peter St. James is a member of the New England Outdoor Writers Association, Outdoor Writers Association of America, is a licensed NH Fishing Guide and has a daily radio show on WNTK-99.7FM. Reach him at: stjames.peter@gmail.com

reets him at: stjames.peter@
olks gmail.com

This Game Clubs and organizations that care about deer
to build a powerful politicated cal coalition to protect and

maintain this effort.

Special thanks to Maine Coast Heritage Trust, Jeff Romano, The Nature Conservancy, Sen. Timberlake, Rep. Theriault, Rep. Johansen, Governor Mills, Tom Abello, Bob Humphrey, Gerry Lavigne and all the other people that helped in this effort.

David Trahan is Executive Director, Sportsman's Alliance of Maine (SAM).

New Hampshire

TANGO YANKEE, LLC

•Tango Yankee LLC is the first exclusively internet auction company in the country specializing in firearms, militaria and shooting sports related items.

 Fully licensed and insured, we commonly get our consignors more money than live auction houses, dealers or private sales can and more often than not get greater than book value.

We'll Get You More \$\$\$

For Your Firearms and Related items

 We do this on a commission basis so there is no risk or outlay of funds by you and we handle all the details such as: transport, cleaning, photography, research, writing, public contact, invoicing, packing, shipping and all required legalities.

 We can handle estates, collections, overstocks or just one item, 49% of our consignors are repeat customers and include collectors, dealers, gunsmiths, sportsmen, inheritors and hobbyists.

We'd be happy to send you a packet of information that includes letters of recommendation, examples of our work and details of the process.

Tango Yankee

P.O. Box 583 • Henniker, NH 03242
Tangoyankee_Ilc@yahoo.com • 603-428-3524
Bob Pagano NH Auction Lic. 6041
www.tangoyankee.com

Law

(Cont. from pg 47) Wildlife management Area-Deer Yards. They will have deed restrictions that protect them and IFW will have a protected account to manage them year round.

It is no secret that sportsmen and women fund the Department of inland Fisheries and Wildlife through license sales. There is a Constitutional protection on all fees raised for that department that in essence says, all fees raised by IFW must be matched by an equivalent General

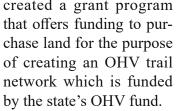
fund Appropriation. This protection ensures our license dollars remain at the Department and are used to support the mission to conserve Maine's Wildlife. Now that mission includes owning and protecting critical deer yards.

In essence, deer hunters just became co-owners of deer yards with IFW. Furthermore, we gained control of the deer's recovery. In the coming months more work will be done to educate the public on this landmark SAM/ ILA legislation. We will begin bringing together Fish and

Northwoods Sporting Journal Riding in Mass!

When we talk about ATV riding in New England, New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine tend to be the focal points because of the large amount of ATV

and good stuff is happen- created a grant program ing. There are roughly 13,500 registered ATVs in Massachusetts and the sport is growing in popularity. The state appointed



The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) hosts designated off-highway vehicle (OHV) riding opportunities on designated trails in select forests between May and November. All vehicles need to be registered. Riders under 18



The Trail Rider

by Rod Fraser, Hyde Park, MA

- Approximately 25 miles of OHV trails suitable for motorcycles or ATVs.

October Mountain State Forest (Lee, Lenox, Washington and Becket) 413-243-1778 - Approximately 30 miles of OHV trails suitable for motorcycles or ATVs.

Pittsfield State Forest

from October Mountain Forest to Beartown Forest. so you can easily hit all 3 in one long weekend stay.

You can easily find information on these 3 parks as well as all of the parks in Massachusetts by visiting them on the web at https://www.mass.gov/ guides/alphabetical-list-of-

The state appointed the first OHV coordinator, Scott Morrill, in 2017. They have since passed a law permitting use on certain town roads for the purpose of connecting trails to other trails, food, fuel, lodging.

trails available to ride. If you enjoy riding new trails in new areas, consider a trip to the Berkshire Mountains region of Massachusetts. The Berkshires is a beautiful region of New England and along with the ATV riding opportunities is great camping, hiking, swimming and fishing.

Please don't ask me for my secret fishing spots out there, I am keeping them close hold!

Massachusetts is working diligently to improve its OHV program the first OHV coordinator, Scott Morrill, in 2017. They have since passed a law permitting use on certain town roads for the purpose of connecting trails to other trails, food, fuel, lodging. They created a grant program that assisted OHV enthusiasts in creating 501(c) clubs.

By the end of 2021, there will be a total of five new clubs. The state is working with the clubs to build a web presence so that they can be easily contacted. They have also

must complete an operator safety and responsibility program before riding and helmets are required.

As of today, Massachusetts has three places where you can ride ATV's. Pittsfield State Forest, October Mountain State Forest, and Beartown State Forest. All are located in the Berkshires (Western Massachusetts). All three parks are undergoing repairs, but Pittsfield has added a new ATV parking area as well as new trail mileage.

Beartown State Forest (Lee, Great Barrington and Monterey) 413-528-0904

(Pittsfield, Lanesboro and Hancock) 413-442-8992 - Approximately 14 miles of OHV trails suitable for motorcycles or ATVs.

If you are unfamiliar with this region, know that all 3 of these parks are close to each other, so if you want to take a vacation in the Berkshires, you can ride in all 3 parks while just staying in one location. October Mountain is basically the midpoint between the 3. From Pittsfield State forest to Beartown Forest is 22 miles. It is 15 miles from October Mountain State Forest to Pittsfield State Forest and 9 Miles

massachusetts-state-parks

In order to ride in Massachusetts, you must have a MA OHV registration. It is currently \$44 for two years for Massachusetts residents, and \$33 annually for out-of-state

Enjoy your rides! Ride safe, ride right!

Rod Fraser is an avid outdoorsman and twentyyear Navy veteran. Originally from Maine and living in Rhode Island, Rod has written extensively about snowmobiling. visit his website at www.roderickfraser.com

SUBSCRIBE TO

Northwoods Sporting Journal

Only \$30.00 for a one year subscription! (12 issues) or \$48.95 for a two year subscription \$91.95 Canadian subscription (due to postage)

> Mail to: Northwoods Sporting Journal P.O. Box 195 West Enfield, ME 04493

Email: info@sportingjournal.com

Call: 207-732-4880 or Fax 207-732-4970

Order with this form or online at: www.sportingjournal.com (please allow 4-6 weeks for your first issue)

New Subscriber	Renewal One year Two year
Name:	
Address:	
1	Zip
Phone:	CC#
Email:	Exp. Date:
Send Che	ck, money order or pay with credit card



Vermont Ramblings

by Dennis Jensen, Vermont

It is our first morning on the beach. But it is pitch black out here. Dawn is two hours away. I have arrived with three surf rods, three sand spikes, four bottles of water, a cooler of bait, two sons and one cigar. 9 a.m. So we are fishing a front, I suppose, and that is a very good thing.

I have two of my three sons along. The third one is a big sleeper and says he will "try to" be at the water's edge around 5 a.m.

I see the striper for the first time as he surfaces about 15 yards out. This will be the biggest of the morning, I say to myself. Then Dan brings the fish to shore, hands the rod to me and lifts a spectacular, 34-inch striped bass.

We like to set up on the beach about two hours before high tide. The forecast predicts that there will be no spectacular sunrise on this August morning. Rain will come, we were informed by the TV weatherman, some time around We all have our doubts about that.

Anyway, with the aid of head lamps, we have all three rods out, supplied with good globs of clam. Now it is waiting time. I tell the boys that this day the fishing is strictly for

Fishing with My Boys

them. My job will be to keep a close watch on our bait supply and, hopefully, to get some photos of the boys holding up goodsized stripers.

We get our first hit about one hour before dawn. Mike reels in a bass that measures 23 inches. The fish fought well and is quickly released. Finally, the first crack of light rises slowly in the east, a dull, overcast light, and we can see clearly 10 minutes later.

I now see Dan down along the shore, coming toward us, and, right then, the rod on the right dips and Matt grabs the pole and sets the hook. I am watching how my youngest son plays the fish when, just to my left, Mike has the rod in his hand and he too has a fish on.

Both boys have their



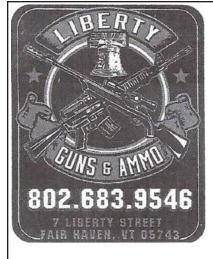
Daniel, left, Michael, with striper, and Matthew Jensen pose for a photo after a morning of fishing from the surf in Saco, Maine. (Photo by Dennis Jensen)

rods up and are slowly reeling in when Dan shows up. Matt lands a striper and it measures 26 inches. Mike

takes a little longer and, a minute later, he has a 29-incher in his hands.

(Fishing cont. pg 53)





ANOTHER REASON TO COME TO LIBERTY STREET DISCOUNT BEVERAGE & DELI

Liberty Street Guns &
Ammo-FFL Dealer
Great selection of rifles, handguns,
and ammunition

Owner Steve Wolk says shop now while the selection is at its greatest

BEER ◆ WINE ◆ LIQUOR FULL SERVICE DELI ◆ GROCERY ◆ GUNS



Liberty Street Discount
Beverage and Deli
7 Liberty Street Fair Haven, Vermont
(802) 265-3820



Vermont Field Sports says there is still plenty of great fishing left!

No matter what type of fishing trip you're planning; an afternoon, a few days, or several weeks, Vermont Field Sports stocks all types of gear for any adventure. They carry rods, combo reels and rods, lures and the top brand of electronics for your fishing needs



from beginners to pros. Whether you're fly fishing for brook trout or down rigging for giant Lakers, Vermont Field Sports will get you off to a great start.



Outfitting You Since 1983
vtfieldsports@comcast.net

VISIT US at 1458 Route 7 South Middlebury, VT 05753 802-388-3572 www.vtfieldsports.com

Letters

(Cont. from pg 8)

Coalition Update

To The Editor:

I am writing on behalf of the Maine chapter of Native Fish Coalition regarding the recent proposal by the state to allocate \$20 million from the American Rescue Plan to update and modernize Maine's fish hatcheries.

Native Fish Coalition (NFC) is a nonpartisan, grassroots, donor funded, all volunteer, 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to the conservation, preservation, and restoration of wild native fish. Founded in Maine, we also have chapters in Alabama, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Vermont and West Virginia with members, partners, volunteers, supporters and followers.

When it was announced that Maine's hatchery system will receive \$20 million from the American Rescue Plan.

it was stated that at the core of Maine's fisheries is Maine's state hatchery system. This is a gross misrepresentation of what Maine's fisheries are, what makes Maine unique, and why people come to Maine to fish.

The true core Maine's fisheries are our unique wild native fish, including our over 580 legally designated State Heritage Waters, representing the largest inventory of legally protected wild native salmonid waters in the nation.

Maine is home to the last Atlantic salmon in the United States, a federally endangered species that both the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife (IFW) and Department of Marine Resources (DMR) have refused to list as endangered, or even threatened, at the state level. Maine is also home to the last Arctic Charr in the contiguous United States, as well as 90% or more of the remaining lake, pond, river, and sea-run brook trout. Our official state fish.

landlocked salmon, are found only in a few waters outside of Maine. Add to this native lake trout, lake whitefish, cusk, and striped bass, and Maine has one of the most robust and diverse wild native fisheries in the east.

Maine's hatchery system is a huge drain on IFW's budget, a distraction from wild native fish management, a source of pollution, and one of the primary drivers behind Maine's nonnative fish introductions. Maine's trout hatcheries are also a form of forced subsidy where hunters, warm water anglers, and wild trout an-

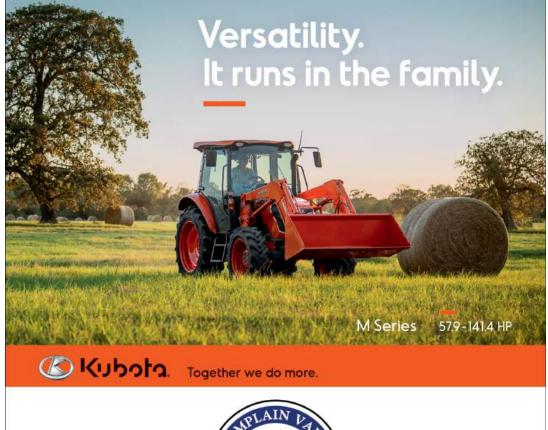
glers who do not utilize the resource are forced to pay for it. Also many anglers who do take advantage of this resource consume more money in stocked fish than their license pays for.

IFW operates 8 hatcheries producing a million fish per year. Their web page states that they stock hatchery fish first and foremost to maintain healthy numbers of native fish. This is contrary to widely accepted science, as stocked fish compete with wild fish for food and space, prey directly on them, and can introduce disease, parasites, and viruses. Stocked fish can also swamp the

genetics of wild fish, with the result of establishing self-sustaining nonnative fish populations.

NFC recognizes the great amount of financial, human, and infrastructure resources required to maintain Maine's hatchery system. As a wild native fish conservation organization, we do not believe that the state should be as reliant on stocking as it is. We believe the hatchery model is not sustainable over the long haul, and that putting money into it that could be used elsewhere is not in our best interest. The American Rescue Plan

(Letters cont. pg 52)





CHAMPLAIN VALLEY EQUIPMENT

Berlin | Derby | Middlebury | St. Albans champlainvalleyequipment.com • 802-388-4951

KubotaUSA.com

© Kubota Tractor Corporation, 2020. This material is for descriptive purposes only. Kubota disclaims all representations and warranties, express or implied, or any liability from the use of this material. For complete warranty, disclaimer, safety, incentive offer and product information, consult your local Dealer or go to KubotaUSA.com.



Success

(Cont. from pg 32) out broadside. One shot to the shoulder put him down. He was a beautiful ten pointer. I couldn't have been more excited. I had finally done it! It was almost as if a weight had been lifted off from my shoulders. I fired a couple of signal shots for my buddies in hopes for some help dragging.

After dressing him out, no help arrived, so I began the long drag off the mountain on my own. I got him down off the mountain to an old logging road and left him there and headed out to get the truck. Along the way I ran into both of my buddies and told them the story. We loaded him up and headed to the tagging station, to get him tagged and weighed. He tipped the scales at 185 pounds, and I couldn't have been happier. That buck set the stage for my streak of shooting a good, buck every year that has never ended.

I hope this story put things into perspective. You don't just pick up a gun and go out and shoot big bucks. You have to practice, learn and go through the process of learning. I hope my stories and teaching can help you shorten that learning curve, but you still are going to have to go through it. Get out in the woods and learn, practice, hone your skills and you'll get there. The key is not to give up!

Good luck on the trail!

Hal is a Master Maine Guide and Author. He lives in Moose River Maine with his wife Deb. Hal can be contacted at hal@bigwoodsbucks.com

Letter

(Cont. from pg 51)

funds could be used much more effectively somewhere other than in support of propagation of hatcheryraised fish for recreational angling. The funds would be more wisely spent if

directed towards the restoration of our sea-run Atlantic salmon, the safety and expansion of our State Heritage Waters, the purchase of lands surrounding wild native fish habitats, and efforts made to join hands with all conservation organizations that share the same passions and objectives for the preservation of our natural resources.

We trust that this information and concern will help inform future decisions as we continue to maintain and elevate our mutual desires to enhance, preserve, and restore Maine's special place as the last bastian of wild native brook trout, Arctic charr, and Atlantic salmon in the nation.

> Sincerely, **Tom Johnson** Chair, Maine **Chapter of Native Fish Coalition**

News

(Cont. from pg 23)

July and August, the department asks you to go to the turkey brood survey on its website (www.vtfishandwildlife.com) and report your observations including where and when you observed the turkeys along with the number of

I adult and young turkeys, or poults.



"Information gathered from this survey helps us monitor long-term trends in the productivity of Vermont's wild turkey population," said Vermont Fish and Wildlife's wild turkey biologist Chris Bernier. "It also helps us assess the impacts of spring weather on the survival of poults and adult turkeys which is an important consideration in the management of turkeys."

"We monitor and manage wild turkey numbers annually in order to maintain a healthy, abundant and sustainable population of these iconic and ecologically significant birds throughout the state," added Bernier. "Beyond providing Vermonters with a local source of protein and an enduring connection to their environment, turkey hunting is the principal mechanism for managing

Thanks for remembering Corse Fuels

for your home heating needs! Think Ahead! Summer is the time to prepare for the coming heating season!

Propane • Heating Oil • Kerosene • Diesel • Motor Oil • Bulk Fuel • Gasoline Pre-Buy Programs • Budget Plans • Automatic Delivery • Service Technicians

Vermont's turkey population. Please help us scientifically manage the turkey population by reporting your Vermont turkey sightings during August."

"We are moving from an August-only survey to a July and August survey this year in order to bring our survey protocol into compliance with the regional protocol. One of the biggest benefits of this survey is being able to compare productivity trends across turkey range and the only way we can do this effectively is if all the Northeast states collect these data in the same way."

Maine Any-Deer Permit ApplicAtions

To apply online, visit mefishwildlife.com. Applications must be completed online by 11:59 pm on August 17, 2021.

It is free to apply for the any-deer permit lottery. The drawing will be held on September 10, 2021 and results will be posted on the Department's website.

Decide which Wildlife Management Districts (WMD) you would like to apply for by viewing the interactive Wildlife Management District Map or Wildlife Management District PDF map and description.





Special orders for all your gun needs!

IACK CORSE INC. 802-644-2749 Route 15, Cambridge, Vermont

www.corsefuels.com



Fishing

(Cont. from pg 50)

The early bird catches the fish, I tell my oldest son and he just smiles at the comment. The next rod that bends toward Saco Bay is yours, I tell Dan.

I take photos of both fish, just taken, and they release one and keep one for a barbecue dinner later that evening of striper filet and venison London broil.

We all talk about how well the morning has gone and, of course, the two younger boys let Dan know that, hey, you should have been out here when we arrived. We've already taken three stripers.

High tide has passed and is now going out. We move all three rods in closer to the surf and laugh at the morning and the fact that all of us are together, here, taking fish. Then, just like that, the middle rod jerks with a violent motion. Dan grabs the rod from the spike and sets the hook. The pole tip is bent wildly, jerking as Dan wisely keeps the rod up and

looks down as the drag on his 15-pound test line is slowly, constantly, going out.

I am excited now as the fish begins to tire and Dan starts to slowly reel in line. I fight the urge to tell my son that, when he gets this big boy close to shore he should wait for a good wave and then easily pull the fish in.

I see the striper for the first time as he surfaces about 15 yards out. This will be the biggest of the morning, I say to myself. Then Dan brings the fish to shore, hands the rod to me and lifts a spectacular, 34-inch striped bass. We take a bunch of photos, quickly, and then Dan marches into the surf, holding the fish under its bottom and, just like that, the striper bolts to freedom.

We stay for a while but with low tide moving away from us, we decide to pack it in, head back to the beach house and a few cups of freshly-perked coffee.

I follow the boys as they carry the bulk of the gear across the sand and ponder the wonder of the morning, watching them as they talk and laugh as they go. I think back to when they were so little that the world they knew surely revolved around their mom and their dad.

Today, their world is theirs, of course, but having them here, on this beach, on this cloudy July morning, is having my boys back in my world, if only for a few hours.

Dennis Jensen is the outdoor editor for the Rutland Herald and the Barre Times Argus and a freelance writer. Contact him at d.jensen62@yahoo.com

Green Mountain Conservation Camp Teen Conservation Weekend

A weekend camp teaching conservation and outdoor skills to boys and girls ages 15-17





learn more and register at vtfishandwildlife.com

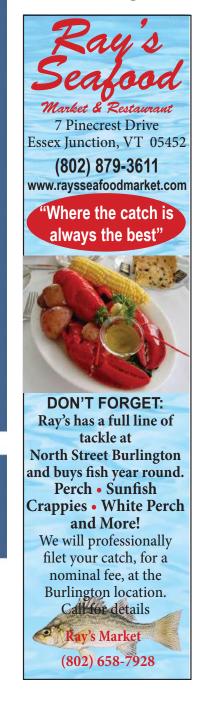


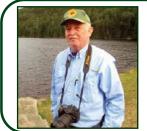
Girls Weekend August 14–15 Boys Weekend August 21–22

Location: GMCC: Edward F. Kehoe, 636 Point of Pines Road, Castleton, VT

Jolley Convenience Stores are a proud sponsor of GMCC

Subscribe Today!





Outdoors In Vermont

by Gary W. Moore, Bradford, VT

A float down the Connecticut River which forms the border between Vermont and New Hampshire and an overnight on its shores makes for a very pleasant experience and some excellent fishing. It may be a cliché, but memories are made on the river and I encourage you to make your own.

Since 2009, regional partners have been working together to develop and manage the Paddlers' Trail, a series of primitive campsites and river access points from its headwaters in New Hampshire's Great North Woods south to Long Island Sound.

There are hundreds of access points and over 50 primitive campsites spaced at regular intervals along the river. To learn the locations of the campsites

or information on the Connecticut River Paddlers' Trail go to, www.connecticutriverpaddlerstrail.org

Most of the campsites and access points are made available to river users because of the generosity of farmers and landowners. It is important that users respect the property, restrict activity to the des-

Canoe, Fish and Camp On The Connecticut River

the river flows through a long-settled valley where villages and towns are never far off. Stopping for supplies if needed is seldom difficult.

Much more about the river can be found at the Vermont River Conservancy site, www.vermontriverconservancy.org and the Connecticut River Conservancy www.ctriver.

than any other body of water in New Hampshire or Vermont.

Don't overlook the Connecticut River when thinking trout. The upper river, from Guildhall north, is prime trout water and there is even a catch and release section above the Bloomfield/ North Stratford bridge.

The tailrace fisheries

ing so that I can try for a brookie when I come across a remote beaver pond or some mountain stream that seldom sees an angler.

The Fish and Wildlife Board has set antlerless deer permit numbers for the fall deer hunting sea-

Hunting for antlerless deer will be allowed statewide during the archery season. One deer of either sex will be allowed during the October 23-24 youth and novice weekend hunt.

The muzzleloader seasons on October 28-31 and December 4-12 will have antlerless permits available for 19 of Vermont's 21 Wildlife Management Units.

There are hundreds of access points and over 50 primitive campsites spaced at regular intervals along the river.

ignated areas and carry out org web site. all trash.

The campsites are called remote because they generally have no access from land so that those who use them can enjoy being "away" from roads and traffic. I have visited several along the river and found each offered a unique experience for those who like a bit of solitude. That said,

The mighty Connecticut River is my favorite place to be on a hot August day. Generally, there is a cool breeze on the river and fishing along the shorelines offers shade and a respite from the hot sun. Not only is the river the coolest place to be, but the big river offers excellent fishing and a greater variety of species

at Moore, Comerford and McIndoes dams are excellent and produce some big browns and rainbows.

Anglers need to check the special sections on the Connecticut River in the back of the Vermont Digest of Fish & Wildlife Laws or the New Hampshire Freshwater Fishing Digest.

When not fishing, sportsmen should be preparing for the fall hunting seasons. The cooler evenings are a good time to get out and scout for deer, bear and small game.

I like to carry a small pack rod when I am scout-

Gary W. Moore is a life long resident of Vermont and a former Commissioner of Fish and Game. He may be reached by e-mail at gwmoore1946@ icloud.com or at Box 454, Bradford, VT 05033. copyright 2021 Gary W. Moore

Syndicated columnist

Vermont Outdoor Guide Association hosts Vermont's most complete directory of outdoor recreation services, guided tours and adventure travel resources. https://www.voga.org/



TIME TO SELL SOME OF THAT SPORTING **EQUIPMENT OR ANYTHING THAT YOU'VE GOT COLLECTING DUST!**

ONE MAN'S GARBAGE IS ANOTHER MAN'S TREASURE! SEND US YOUR CLASSIFIEDS! **LET US HELP YOU SELL YOUR STUFF!**



New and Pre-Owned Rifles, Handguns & Shotguns 300 +/- Firearms In Stock

We sell scopes, reloading supplies, leather, knives, ammo and much, much, more! *We buy old and antique firearms • Appraisals 1402 Gallup Rd. Franklin, VT

The Midnight Dipper

I'm sure everyone has heard the term "the early bird gets the worm". A common saying in the English language usually used to "rub in" the fact that you missed out on a meaningful event by having poor timing. As a Maine Game

took county with the temperatures hovering around 50 degrees. Warden Kayle Hamilton and I had been working smelt runs, both in open and closed brooks over the last few weeks and I was exhausted. It was a Saturday night when

from our efforts over the previous week, but like any deer hunter can sympathize with, even though the past week has not provided any success, it only takes that one moment when the trophy buck could emerge from the cedar thicket. Patience and persistence to a deer hunter is critical, and it is not any different from the effort needed to be a successful Game Warden.



Ashland, ME texted him back and said I bright glow of the moon, I made out the shape of a man standing near the edge of the brook.

I could hear my heart pumping in my throat, not so much from the thrill of watching someone dipping in a closed area, but more so from that fact that I had

Warden's

Words

by Game Warden

Kale O'Leary,

was about a half hour away and would be right along. I soon arrived at the location and parked my truck. I gathered my gear into my backpack and began the several hundred-yard walk to meet with Warden Hamilton.

"STOP STOP STOP. Guy dipping right in front of me!" I suddenly felt like a deer in the headlights as I crouched

A photo of the author with a togue caught on Eagle Lake during the winter of 2021.

Warden, timing is a key component of almost everything we do, and this is a story of how the early bird got the worm.

Late April for a Warden in southern Maine means brook fishing and ATV enforcement is in full effect, but for a Warden in northern Maine, springtime is just beginning to emerge from the doldrums of the long winter. Most years, northern lakes are still solid with ice cover until the end of April. For Wardens like myself, April is a waiting game as we begin watching brooks for smelt runs and waiting for anglers to take to the waters.

It was a beautiful, clear, starlit, late April night in northern Aroos-

Warden Hamilton texted me, asking if I was coming up to spend another lonely night sitting on a closed smelt run that was running black with smelt. I had a considerable amount of travel time to this location and was feeling worn out

behind the only tree I could find. The "stars" have to align in the form of the resource

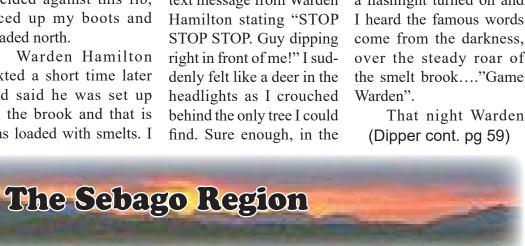
yourself! I begrudgingly texted him back and stated that I would be up, but that I was going to eat supper with my wife first, who I had not spent much time with over the last week. I ate my supper, contemplated telling Warden Hamilton I wasn't feeling so well, decided against this fib, laced up my boots and headed north.

being there, along with

Warden Hamilton texted a short time later and said he was set up on the brook and that is was loaded with smelts. I

As I strolled along nonchalantly listening to the peepers in a nearby vernal pool, looking up at the constellations and in truth, completely forgetting the fact that I was supposed to be covert in my approach, I heard my phone buzz as I was only yards from the brook now and standing out in the bright moon light. I pulled the phone out of my pocket and saw a text message from Warden

nearly cost us our opportunity to catch this violator. I kept trying to focus my eyes on the shape of the man near the brook, but was not able to make out a net, typically used for dipping smelts. I began to wonder if I was looking at Warden Hamilton or the man he said was dipping. I stayed put in my location, wary to blow Warden Hamilton's efforts. Soon, a flashlight turned on and I heard the famous words come from the darkness, over the steady roar of the smelt brook...."Game Warden".







them. There was no sign of

the birds, so why did they

go to such effort and then

abandon their hard work?

I think what happened was

that a vernal pool in the

woods beside the bank con-

tained lots of tadpoles and

salamander larvae. They

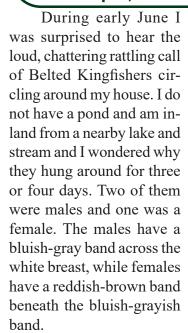
had been finding an easy

source of food there. But

the pool had dried up dur-

The Bird Perch

by Karen Holmes, Cooper, ME



Perhaps the female was deciding which male to mate with. But why were they hanging around my place as Belted Kingfishers usually hang around along the shorelines of streams, lakes, ponds, and rivers? This was their nesting season too. I decided to do some research using my bird reference books and found out that they will sometimes nest in manmade road banks and gravel pits.

Right next door to me is a man-made and steep road bank. I went investigating and found what I was looking for. Six



round holes of about six inches in diameter had been dug into the bank. One of them could have become an entrance hole of nine to twelve inches in diameter for a nest site. One or both male Kingfishers had tried

But why were they hanging around my place as Belted Kingfishers usually hang around along the shorelines of streams, lakes, ponds, and rivers? This was their nesting season too.

to entice the female to nest there. I found it remarkable that a bird a little larger than a robin can do such excavation.

They use their long, heavy pointed bills to dig out tunnels three to six feet long. And at the end there would be the actual nesting chamber with a ceiling six to eight inches high. Kingfishers have syndactyly feet which means two toes are partially joined. These feet are small and at the end of rather short legs. But Kingfishers can use them to kick away the dirt quite effectively. This particular bank had many rocks and this must have caused quite a struggle to remove

ing the days of excavation and so the possible nest site at the bank had been abandoned. The Kingfishers had realized they could find a better site closer to a more reliable food source in a constant waterway. One male would be chosen by the female while the other was out of luck.

This year I had many other interesting experiences with nesting birds. While visiting friends at their house at Cathance Lake, I looked out one of the ground floor windows and there were two Pileated Woodpeckers looking for insects on the ground only inches away. They were so very close! One was a

male with a red forehead and mustache while the female had red only on the forehead, They had a nest in a hollow tree next to the house and from all the noise, you could tell they had to feed quite a

hungry brood of babies.

Belted Kingfishers

ducklings were tiny and obviously just hatched. She kept calling to them while they followed her across the road in a straight line. It was like watching and listening to a drill sergeant! I was ready to stop any oncoming cars if they



The Belted Kingfisher.

There were three heads able to stick out of the hole at a time to accept food from both parents. What a wonderful opportunity to see these birds and their behavior up close!

One day I was driving my car on Route 1 in Calais and had to stop to let a female Wood Duck with fourteen ducklings cross the road in front of me. She had white tear-dropped shaped eye patches typical of Wood Ducks. During the later stage of incubation this mother would have softly called to them to enable the babies to recognize her voice after they hatched. And these

were too slow in crossing the road. But they all made it to a pond I could see nearby.

In my last column I wrote about Cliff Swallows. For the first time at my Cooper home I saw a pair getting mud from my driveway to build a gourdlike nest nearby. A pair of Tree Swallows successfully raised a brood in a new nest box my husband Ken and I put up in our field. American Robins tried to build a nest atop our deer antlers under our front porch, but then they moved to one of our containers. We had two nests of East-(Kingfishers cont. pg 57)

NORTH AMERICA'S OUTDOOR ADVENTURES





P.O. BOX 44, SCOTLAND NECK, NC 27874



- 12,000 Private AcresFair Chase
- New Metal Stands, Towers and Tripods



Call for more information (252) 341-9804 powell@huntcarolina.com POWELL KEMP

www.huntcarolina.com





Northwoods Sporting Journal

Kingfishers

(Cont. from pg 56)

ern Phoebes again under that porch. Using a hole atop a tree nearby, a pair of Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers hatched out a brood. They were quite noisy and it was easy to understand why that species has the nickname "the Squealer". The parents constantly came to my feeding station to get suet and peanuts for them.

This past May and June were very dry months. The birds needed help and I constantly filled my water baths for them. I had to put certain feeders away at night or the raccoons, flying squirrels and other night creatures would knock them down and ruin them. When I came out early in the morning to put those out again, I was always sort of "welcomed" by Red-breasted Nuthatches, Mourning Doves, Blackcapped Chickadees, Purple Finches, Chipping Sparrows, Juncos and Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers. They were not afraid to land close by me knowing I would not harm them and help themselves to the food I was providing. I think as long as I live I will always appreciate how wild birds can be so trusting and enjoyable.

Karen Holmes lives in Cooper, Maine. She is a retired educator and now is a free-lance writer. She volunteers to do many wildlife programs and research. One is being the coordinator for the Washington County, Maine Annual Loon Count. She believes that we should all be stewards of the land and waters and is co-chair of the Cathance Lake Association.

Patterns

(Cont. from pg 45)

In our trade in this part of the state, most of us use Grand Laker Canoes most of the time. They are surprisingly seaworthy, and they usually have a drain plug in the transom so that excess rainwater can be periodically let out. The danger in a big blow, comes less from the design of the canoe, than from motor failure. It's the outboard that enables us to "quarter" the wind and ride out most any sea these lakes can deliver. A motor failure prevents us from controlling the canoe, which can then turn downwind and take a following sea over the stern. Tragedies have resulted from this very scenario, not only in Grand Lakers, but in larger boats as well.

In speaking with experienced outboard technicians, the number one cause of your outboard not being able to take you home is the water pump impeller. Both Yamaha and Honda recommend changing it every two to three

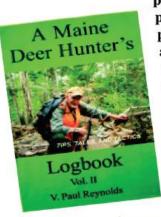
seasons.

With more and more unusual weather rapidly becoming commonplace, we may be seeing new paradigms that may force us to change up old, tried and true practices. In addition, a keen weather eye, and a heightened sensitivity to safety are becoming more and more important. My own average of rescues, or rescue assists performed annually is one to two. These have risen with the dramatic changes in weather mentioned above.

The one thing we can pretty much be assured of, is that the weather is not going to keep anglers away, for, as Vincent Van Gogh famously said, "The fishermen know that the sea is dangerous and the storm terrible, but they have never found these dangers sufficient reason for remaining ashore."

Randy Spencer is a working Maine guide and author. His new book, "Written on Water," will be out in October. Reach him at randy31@ earthlink.net or via www. randyspencer.com

Just released...Volume II of A Maine Deer Hunter's Logbook. This is a vastly expanded version of the first book, which has been a big seller. A full 181



\$16.95

For the diehard deer hunter: An authentic Maine hunting book. A keepsake edtion.

pages, this new volume is packed with many more photos, practical tips, tales, and tactics on how to outwit the wary Maine Whitetail.

"We hunters need more books like this. In clear, good-humored prose, Reynolds entertains, informs and captures the essence of the whitetail experience."

-Dan Aadland, The Best of All Seasons: Fifty Years as a Montana Deer Hunter.

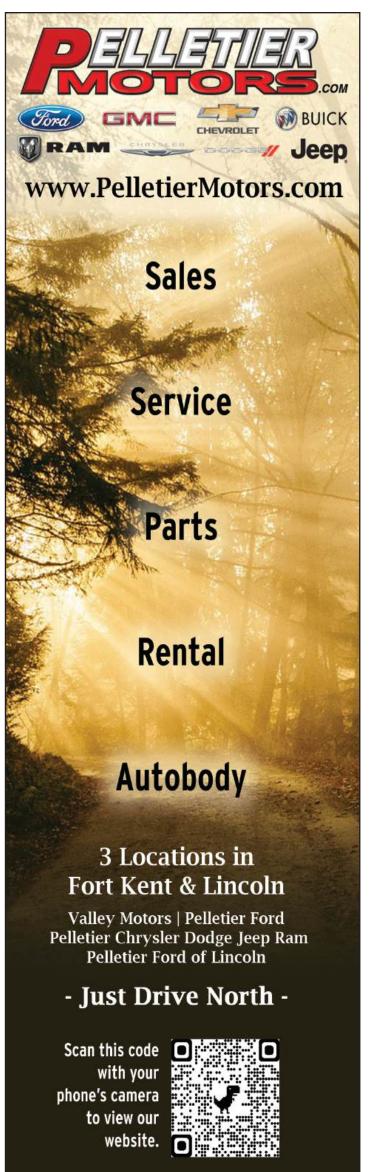
"This book has enough tips to keep new hunters interested and enough tales...to appeal to those who have spent years in the woods."

- John Holyoke, Bangor Daily

Send a check for \$16.95, along with this ad and add \$2. for postage and handling, to: Maine Outdoor Publications, 51 Branchview N., Ellsworth, ME 04605.

Maine Outdoor Publications





Cookin' With New England's WildCheff

by Denny Corriveau, Kennebunkport, ME



One of the things that I have always admired about wild game is not only the versatility of how to be cooked, but I also appreciate its ability to embrace a variety of flavor profiles.

I recommend that your marinade starts with a quality oil. I like a light olive oil. The oil will act as a natural emulsifier that helps penetrate your meat.

Summer Marinading is a wonderful way to enjoy tasty, juicy, and tender wild game.

One of the great things that grilling offers, is that you can simply throw some pre-marinaded game onto a hot grill and be eating a flavorful meal in just a matter of minutes.

A good wild game marinade can work in as little as 30 minutes, a few hours or up to a full day.

While it takes no effort to grab a bottle of marinade of the supermarket shelf, it is much healthier and rewarding to make your own marinade.

So where do you start? It starts with choosing the right flavorings, herbs and spices.

The most delicious marinades I have created over the years use flavors that complement the wild protein that I want to cook.

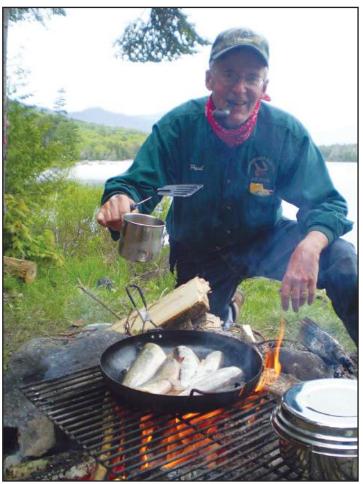
I recommend that your marinade starts with a quality oil. I like a light olive oil. The oil will act as a natural emulsifier that helps penetrates your meat. I must admit that I am a bit spoiled, as my WildCheff product line has a series

Grilling Marinades For Game Cooking

of uniquely flavored artisan olive oils that range from Rosemary to Wild Mushroom & Sage, Bacon, Lemon, Sundried Tomato, Basil, Blood Orange, Lime and numerous others. When combined with WildCheff flavored balsamic vinegars, preservative-free herbs and craft sea salts; to include smoked—the result is a creative marinade that is more signature in flavor than a bottle of Italian dressing.

Another benefit to the oil is that it helps to hold in moisture on your game meat, thereby reducing moisture loss during the cooking process. I'm sure you'd agree that is important, knowing the lean nature of game.

Acid is also instrumental in making your marinade. Acid breaks down the protein chain in meat, helping to make it more tender. There are numerous options for acid, and in choosing your vinegar; this is where your creativity also comes into play. Red or white Wine vinegar, plain and flavored



Cooking your game or fish outdoors is the cat's meow! (Photo by Diane Reynolds)

balsamic are all great options. Citrus juice and beer can also be used as your acid ingredient.

One important factor that I will mention is that you need to pay attention to the amount of time that you marinate your meat. The thicker the piece of game, the longer you marinate – the thinner the piece of meat, the less time it requires.

Don't overcomplicate it; making a wild game marinade is very easy. In (Marinade cont. pg 59)



Grand Lake Stream

CANAL SIDE CABINS

Fully Equipped Housekeeping Cabins

Grand Lake Stream, Maine
4 Wheeling ~ Ice Fishing ~ Snowmobiling

Welcome Home

Open Year-Round for Fishing, Hunting,
Family Vacations or Just need to Get Away
Walk to West Grand Lake and Grand Lake Stream
Known for some of the best fly fishing in New England.
Owned & Operated by John & Mary Arcaro

Owned & Operated by John & Mary Arcaro
Traditional Maine Guides Available

1-207-796-2796 or 1-888-796-2796 31 Canal St., Grand Lake Stream, ME 04668-4071

Email: Canalside@midmaine.com or visit our website: www.canalsidecabins.com

Northwoods Sporting Journal

Marinade

August 2021

(Cont. from pg 58) fact, its as easy as putting oil and vinegar into a bowl, adding your herbs, spices and then whisking it up until it emulsifies. Pour the marinade over your game in a freezer zip lock bag and you are off and running. Refrigerate it until you are ready to cook.

Red game meat such as moose, deer, bear, goose and duck should be marinaded anywhere between an hour up to 10 hours. Light fleshed game like wild turkey, grouse or pheasant should average between 30 minutes and 3-4 hours.

You only need enough marinade to fully cover the meat. When marinating, always be sure to remove from the refrigerator and place onto a hot grill as soon as possible.

Enjoy the summer this year by pulling that wild game out of the freezer and creating your own signature marinade for your game!

Here are a couple of recipes to get you marinating:

Greek Venison Marinade

Tasty marinade for grilled moose, deer, bear steaks or steak tips.

Ingredients

1/4 C of olive oil 1/4 C of red wine vinegar 1 tsp. of WildCheff Roasted Garlic Powder

1 T of WildCheff Mediterranean Blend seasoning (rosemary, oregano, thyme) ½ tsp. of black pepper

Directions

Combine all ingredients into a bowl. Whisk to combine.

Pour over game and marinate for 4 hours.

Cook over medium

high heat on grill, leaving meat pink in the middle.

Lemon Herb Wild Turkey Marinade

Great for using breasts or breaking down breasts into wild turkey tips.

Ingredients

1/3 C of olive oil
Juice of 3 large lemons
1 tsp. of WildCheff Roasted Garlic Powder
2 tsp. of WildCheff's Applewood Smoked Sea Salt
2 T of WildCheff Tuscan
Blend seasoning (rosemary, oregano, lemon)
1/2 Tsp. of pepper

Directions

Combine all ingredients into a bowl. Whisk to combine.

Pour over game and marinate for 2 hours.

Grill over medium to medium high heat on grill until cooked.

WildCheff - Denny Corriveau is Award-Winning Game Chef, TenPoint Crossbow's National Game Chef, and the Founder of the Free Range Culinary Institute, the only national wild game cooking school in the country. As a Wild Game Evangelist and trendsetter for wild game - Denny is a nationally recognized for his "best practice" methodology regarding the culinary side of wild game. You can learn more @ www.wildcheff.com or visit him on Instagram @ #thewildcheff

Dipper

(Cont. from pg 55)

Hamilton was the early bird arriving first to keep watch over the closed smelt run

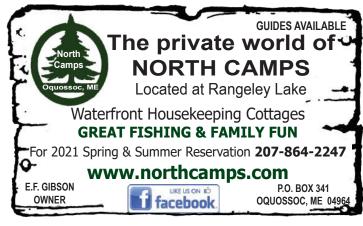
and I was late to the show. The gentlemen who lived near the brook, knew it was closed but tested his luck with a spin casting rod and had hooked and landed many smelt, which he was taking back to his residence. It was a great case involving patience and persistence to ensure a vulnerable resource is protected.

Kale O'Leary is a Maine Game Warden that covers the Oxbow District. He lives in Ashland.















Against The Current

by Bob Romano, Rangeley, ME

I first met Master Maine Guide, Tom Rideout when he owned and operated Bosebuck Mountain Camps located on the most western of the Rangeley Lakes—Aziscohos Lake. That was back in the nine-

grow to size, it must grab what the current sweeps down in front of its maw. Those who hesitate may lose a meal.

What better way to grab a fish's attention than to cast a pattern large

Three Classic Flies

with a Wooley Bugger. This good-old-boy streamer is usually the first pattern that every fly-tier learns to create. It's nothing more than a bit of hackle feather palmered over a body of wool or chenille, with a marabou feather for a tail. You can vary the color and weight, but the recipe for this tried-and-true streamer has remained pretty much

their eggs. This is one of the few times when big fish will leave their hidey-holes to take a fly on the surface. Skitter a Stimulator over the surface and be prepared for what comes next!

During late summer, you can also cast a Stimulator along the edge of a bank and jerk the rod tip to imitate the struggles of a grasshopper during late summer when these insects can be abundant in the tall grass and Joe Pye weed alongside most streams.

Now, when I was younger, I'd carry every conceivable fly-dry and wet; dun and emerger, nymph and streamer, but growing older, I've reduce my load. As most things go, this brings us back to the beginning. For, when Tom Rideout gave me his sage advice, it was a Hornberg that he placed in the palm of my hand. This venerable pattern was first tied in 1920 by Wisconsin Conservation Warden, Frank Hornberg and made popular by the Weber Tackle Company. Joseph Bates touted the pattern in his book, Streamer Fly Tying and Fishing, listing its recipe and including a photograph of what he referred to as the Hornberg Special.

Joe Bates cut his teeth on western Maine's brook trout and landlocked salmon before the United States entered World War II and he found himself fighting under the command of Douglas MacArthur. As a young angler, he learned his craft at Upper Dam under the watchful eyes of Wallace Stevens and Shang Wheeler. So, it's no wonder that the pattern was soon adopted by Northern New Englanders, especially



The fabled Hornberg is a must-have fly for any trout angler

those throughout western Maine, as their go-to fly.

For me, it combines all of the attributes of the Wooley Bugger and Stimulator in its body of tinsel and wing of natural feathers. This one fly can be fished wet or dry. Skitter it across the surface to imitate a stonefly or along the edge of a bank like a grasshopper grabbed by the current. Fished under the surface, it can be mistaken for a sculpin, minnow or larger aquatic insect. Cast in smaller sizes it can match caddis on or under the surface.

Two of my largest fish were taken on a Hornberg a brook trout that grabbed the fly in mid-air as I dappled it over the surface of a wind-swept pool on an evening in late August. The other, a salmon that took the fly when I stripped it against the current on a pleasant afternoon in early June. The fish measured from my finger tips to my elbow after tail-dancing across Warden's Pool on the lower stretch of the Magalloway River. Is it any wonder that I carry this fly in sizes #6 to #16?

Next time you're on the water, consider carrying these patterns in your fly box, and maybe, just maybe, you too will release the fish of your dreams.

What better way to grab a fish's attention than to cast a pattern large enough to imitate a tasty morsel that one of the region's sixteen-inch-plus native brook trout or wild landlocked salmon cannot resist?

teen eighties. For more than forty years Tom has been providing advice to anglers traveling to his neck of the woods. "Meat and potatoes, bub, that's what the fish up here like," was a bit of advice he gave me when we first met.

Tom knew that the hatches in most rivers and streams flowing through the western part of the state are sparse. If a western-Maine brook trout is to enough to imitate a tasty morsel that one of the region's sixteen-inch-plus native brook trout or wild landlocked salmon cannot resist? Although there are countless imitations to choose from, there are three tried-and-true patterns that every angler should consider carrying when venturing onto a northern New England stream or river.

If fishing under the surface, you can't go wrong

the same throughout the years. Don't let this pattern's simplicity fool you. It catches fish! Big fish! One of its benefits—for the price of one fly you can imitate a smelt, sculpin, large stonefly or any of the many larger aquatic beasties that inhabit the waters of northern New Hampshire and western Maine. Most guides add weight to either the body or the nose of the Wooley Bugger to get it down deep.

> Leeches require clean water to survive. This is why they are found throughout many of western Maine's rivers and streams. Work an olive Wooley Bugger along the bottom of The Kennebago or upper Magalloway Rivers to imitate the undulating quality of these aquatic worms and you may hook a fish of the lifetime.

> Another fly that I would not go without is a Stimulator. This modern pattern is more complicated to tie, but is the perfect fly to imitate the large stoneflies that fly up the lower Magalloway or Rapid Rivers, in late summer and early fall to lay

THE RIVER KING - A FLY FISHING NOVEL by Robert J. Romano, Jr.



Follow the characters of Bob's latest novel as they fish the rivers, lakes, and streams of western Maine while struggling to find meaning in an increasingly troubling world.

"A lyricist casts a jeweler's eye across the <u>Rangeleys</u> and speaks the truth..." - Graydon Hilyard, Historian and Writer.

Send a check for \$23.00 to Bob Romano, 62 Mt. Vernon Rd., Columbia N.J. 07832 Be sure to provide name and return address for an autographed copy with bookmark. Email Bob at magalloway@mac.com for more information.



Got enough storage?



We have what you need Storage Containers

Headed upta camp?

Need a new trailer?

Free inspection and 5 year plate

with purchase!

- **Dump Trailers**
- **Utility Trailers**
- **Equipment Trailers**

Come Try the Maine Trailer Difference



Custom Screen Printing and Embroidery 1-800-242-2374



LOW LOW PRICES -LOW LOW PRICES

DO YOU WANT TO SHOW YOUR SCHOOL SPIRIT?

If your a STUDENT in SPORTS or just want to show your School Colors, You tell us what you would like to see on your CUSTOM garments...



www.bergactivewear.com

info@bergactivewear.com



South Of the Kennebec



It is common for readers to ask how columnists like me come up with material month after month, year after year. This column got its beginning when a friend stopped by to show me a new air rifle he purchased at our nearby Cabelas store

Eager to give it a try I set up a few soda cans in the back yard at a distance of around 50 feet. Then I commenced to loading the weapon. I felt like Popeye the sailor man without his spinach. It took all my strength and several tries

rifles. What I found online and what I learned from the sales staff and supervisors at Cabelas left me amazed and confused.

The Gamo model I tested with a friend retailed at just over \$300.00 and the Cabelas sales clerk refused to allow my friend to open the box before purchase and repeated to me the same policy when I went back to the store

It gets worse. While I was looking down the aisles to find other, more user friendly models, my friend went to customer service to return this way

Air Gun Loopholes

too powerful air rifle. Customer service promptly, withhassle, credited bank card. h i s

Modern air rifle courtesy Gamo **Adult**

Precision Airguns

Back at the gun counter two separate sales personnel and one supervisor insisted that with air guns there is a no open-to-view policy and no return once you leave the store. HUH! REALLY! I can return a shirt, a fishing rod, anything that doesn't need repackaging but I can't look at an air gun or return it?

My friend took another chance, bought the gun and it turned out to be powerful enough for his shooting needs for onethird the price.

Back on the computer, looking at the ballistics of these modern air guns. Gamo was up first with the model I tested with a friend and the muzzle velocity it listed at 1,600 feet per second. The common .22 rimfire cartridge only leaves the muzzle at just over 900 feet per second. My model 94 Winchester 30-30 has a muzzle velocity of 2,300 feet per second.

Crosman had similar ballistic stats and both companies market their products as hunting rifles. Emphasis on youth shooters somewhere fell by the wayside. They want adult specialty shooters to buy their products, but their advertising shows youth shooters using the prod-(Loopholes cont. pg 68)

Then I commenced to loading the weapon. I felt like Popeye the sailor man without his spinach. It took all my strength and several tries to pull the cocking lever to full position, ready to insert a pellet.

in Scarborough.

One look and I knew it was far removed from Ralphies shoot-your-eye out Red Ryder BB gun. It had all the characteristics of what most people would tag as a sniper rifle. Muzzle break, high quality scope, thumb hole stock and rated to shoot a .22 caliber pellet up to 350 yards.

to pull the cocking lever to full position, ready to insert a pellet.

"Wow," I blurted out, "How is a kid supposed to load this thing?" Obviously this can't be marketed to youth shooters. After struggling to fire off a few rounds I headed for the computer to take a closer look at these air

to exchange the gun for a lesser model. "It's against store policy to open this product." He repeated to me. Then I asked why any customer can ask to see any of the firearms on the back shelf, hold it to check out the stock fit, then be given a mandatory firearms safety lecture before heading to the checkout.

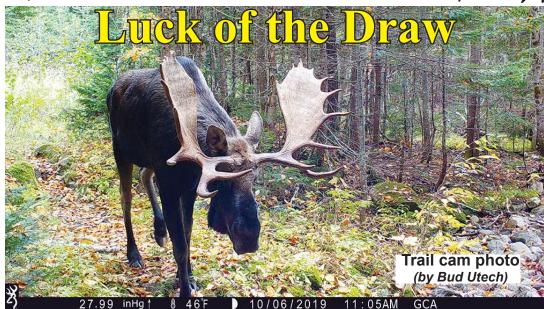


Northwoods Sporting Journal Available to All Active Duty Military Personnel Worldwide!

In these troubled and divisive times for our country, we at the **Northwoods Sporting Journal** remain proud to be Americans. We still stand for the National Anthem and thank our lucky stars that we live in the land of the free.

And we still salute our military men and women, who have served and continue to serve their country, here at home and in faraway lands. To them we owe our gratitude and appreciation for what they do, and for safeguarding our American way of life, which we value deeply.

As a way of saying thank you, we make the digital versions of the Northwoods Sporting Journal past and current - available online to service people around the world. If you have a loved one or friend now serving on active duty in Iraq or Afghanistan, or anywhere else, please let them know that they have free access to our digital magazines at: www.sportingjournal.com



Well, after I don't know how many years of trying, I finally got lucky. I got picked for the Maine's 2021 moose hunt. The permit is for a cow only but that's fine with me. I've hunted and killed several bulls before, in Newfoundland and I learned then as impressive as they are you can't eat bone. In fact a respectable Newfie European mount currently hangs high over the mantle in our living room. Thank goodness for cathedral ceilings!

Not that the other hunts weren't, this hunt will be special. This hunt is here in Maine and my decades-long hopes of getting drawn just once before I leave this part of the journey have come true. Another thing is, although I hate to admit it, mentally my body tells me I'm getting on in years and every time I look up at that mount I'm reminded how much of a task hunting moose is, or can be.

Although my Newfoundland guides did 99.9 percent of the work once my moose was down just watching them was an education. Basically, the fun and excitement ends and the work begins once the trigger is pulled. This time my co-hunter and friends that have agreed to tag along will be doing it all. I got picked for the western portion WMD 4A, more specifically the northern half of that zone that is included in the Adaptive Moose Hunt. To help

through at least 2024 in the 2,000 square mile zone that has been divided into similarly sized north and south zones.

Phase I of the study

I got picked for the western portion WMD 4A, more specifically the northern half of that zone that is included in the Adaptive Moose Hunt.

determine if moose density reduction can break or lessen winter tick impacts the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife decided to conduct a multi-phase adaptive management study. Started in 2019 the study will run

included an aerial survey to access the moose population and composition. Phase 2 included an increase in the number of hunting permits. Considering the increase in hunting permits I thought my chances of getting drawn





Wireless Internet
Air Conditioning
Cable TV • Private Decks
Hot Tub Suites
Efficiencies
2 & 3 Bdr. Apts.
In-room Coffee Makers
Tanning Bed • Private Beach
Coin-up Laundry
Large Parking Lot
Vehicle Plug-Ins





Muzzleloading Afield

by Al Raychard, Lyman, ME

were better than normal. As it turns out I wasn't wrong. I also put in for that area because I've hunted grouse and bear in the area several times over the years and was a co-hunter on a previous moose hunt and am familiar with the area. Hopefully it will help.

At any rate I've rented a camp at Russell Pond for the week of October 24 and October 30, the week of my hunt. The camps are well south of the northern section that extends north of the Saint Aurelie at the end of the Baker Lake Road so we'll have to travel some to start hunting but that's okay. You never know what you might see in that country. I'm looking at this at more than an opportunity to kill a moose. Grouse season will still be open and they are always a treat with a pot of baked beans at the end of the day.

Whatever happens the hunt will be an adventure, something to look back on, hopefully with fondness and good memories. One way of the other I have no doubt this will prove successful. Killing a moose will be the primary goal but in many ways an added bonus. I'm just delighted I got lucky and have the opportunity to try.

Al Raychard and his wife Diane live on 43 +/-acres in Lyman, Maine that provides deer and turkey hunting opportunities, which they both enjoy. If the property had a small trout stream it would be a true paradise. Al can be reached at alraychard@sacoriver.net



YOUR HEAVY EQUIPMENT SPECIALISTS

Tigercat LIUGONG KOBELCO PALFINGER HITACHI





The Tyer's Corner

by Hugh Kelly, Detroit, ME



This month's fly is the Buzzball. This fly was developed by Gary LaFontaine and is a favorite out west. It's known in some Maine circles but it's not common in fly boxes. If you've ever fished with it, you'll never be without one. Gary claimed that it was meant to imitate dead midges in their shuck and stuck together. On the small ponds where I fish, I think the trout mistake it for a caddis struggling in its shuck.

This fly has several advantages: it is inexpensive to tie, it is simple to tie and it works in a lot of situations. I'll start with

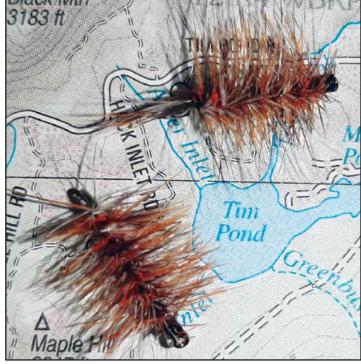
simple. All you need is a standard dry fly hook and two hackle feathers. The hackles can be oversized; you're going to trim them anyway.

Recipe for the Buzzball Thread - Brown or Black size 10-16 Hook dry fly hook **Body** – **Orange dyed** grizzly-palmered Hackle - Natural grizzly-palmered

Start by winding a thread base. I use brown or tan thread because I have every color known to man on my tying desk. If all you have is black, I don't think

The Buzzball

the fish carry a color chart. I have used orange thread and it worked. Tie in both hackles at the bend of the hook. Wind the orange grizzly hackle to a point just behind the hook eye, tie off with a whip finish as if you were finished. Cut the thread and give the palmered hackle a haircut. Use scissors to trim the hackle tips all around the hook shank so that the hackle fibers are about the length of the hook gap. Once that is done, start your thread again, and palmer wind the natural grizzly forward from the tie in point, all the way to the hook eye. Tie off the hackle and whip finish. Now trim the top and the bottom only of the natural grizzly to the same length



of the first hackle. Don't trim the sides of this second feather, leave the sides to extend out like small legs or feelers

This is not an attractive fly, don't worry about that. Gary's original recipe was dun, brown and natural grizzly feathers. The color choices have evolved over the years, you can tie the original shades if you like, I'm sure they work.

This fly will float low on the surface and dry out with a few false casts. It is a great "go to" fly, and it's often my first evening fly. It is inexpensive to tie and you can teach your kids how to tie it in one lesson. Now there's a thought.

Hugh Kelly has fly fished and tied his own flies for over 40 years. He and his family live in Detroit where he ties flies, drinks Moxie and plans fishing trips. He can be reached at hkellymaine@gmail.com and writes a fly tying blog at puckerbrushflies.com





General Store

We're more than your local grocery store, check out our list of products and services than stop in for a pleasant shopping experience.

Groceries • Hardware • Hunting & Fishing Supplies • Licenses Atv & Snowmobile Registrations • Agency Liquor Store • Propane

3 Woodbridge Corner Sherman, Maine 207-365-4538



shermanthriftway.com

Find us on





Northern Maine's Fishing Headquarters

Designed by Two Rivers Canoe • Built by Professionals



CAMP RENTALS

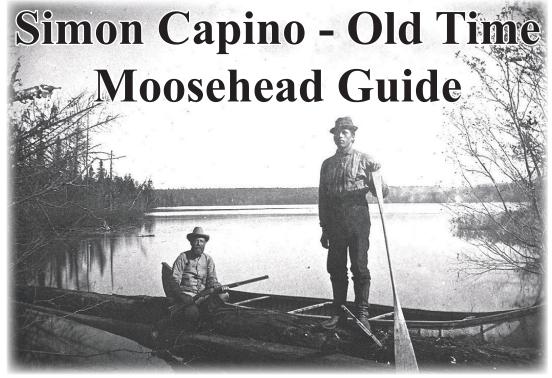


207-944-3551 207-794-5934

38 Swift Brook Road, Stacyville, Maine 04777

Katahdin View Camps

Weekend & Weekly Rentals



1930) was one of the many guides working the Moosehead Lake region during the early years when sportsmen began discovering the North Woods. During this time, it was called the wildlands, where still no roads were carved into it until the 1930s. So. most navigation was done by water. Simon grew up on the water and in the woods, so he knew the area like the back of his hand. His outdoor expertise and knowledge of the area was invaluable to the sportsmen coming here for the first time, seeking to find a true experience in the treasured places, but without a lot of time to spare. Simon was just one of many of the old-time guides who took people, some famous, some not, and showed them the old ways, and good places.

Simon worked where he could. By 1910, many guides were employed for the summer by the Mt. Kineo Hotel near Rockwood. Day, short, and long canoe trips were launched from Kineo, which was also an important summering ground for Native Americans. Some Natives.

Simon Capino (1851- like the Tomer family, 2) was one of the camped there every year, then when the hotel for urban rusticators was built in the late 1800s, they were

of his connections Thoreau almost single-handedly introduced the broader world to the North Woods in his now (too) often-quoted



Kineo Currents



by Suzanne AuClair, Rockwood, ME

Simon's brothers also did some guiding as a way to earn some income. According to a 1926 article that ran in The Northern, a popular long-running periodical published by Great Northern Paper Company, the Lily Bay House was a stopover for river driving crews, noting that "there were always three or four Indians in every crew that went up-river, most of them Penobscots from Old Town. They were especially valuable on the drives."

Mohawk of Old Town; and Frank, Gabe, and Noel Francis.

Some in the large Capino family did not live to old age. One brother died young in an accident. Of note, two members of the Capino family fought in the Civil War. Simon's father was killed in action. Another brother died of disease in 1866 at Brandy Station, Virginia. Simon lived to a good age, to 79.

Simon was just one of many of the old-time guides who took people, some famous, some not, and showed them the old ways, and good places.

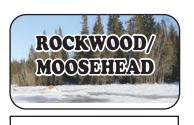
employed as guides and sold baskets and sweet grass souvenirs to hotel guests. Simon was one of the guides there, too, but he also worked out of the Lily Bay House, an early boarding and supply stop for lumbermen and sports.

From about 1876 on, sportsmen began arriving at the Lily Bay House in good numbers, especially for the fishing season. Simon was joined by other locals to take care of people from as far away as Texas, Missouri, Colorado, Nebraska, and California. Registers show visitors from Europe, including London and Paris. One of the earliest visitors, guided by Penobscots Joe Polis and Joseph Attean on different trips, and launched from Moosehead Lake into long canoe trips, was naturalist writer Henry David Thoreau. Because

narrative The Maine Woods and in his journals. He undoubtedly could not have done or seen what he did without his Native guides, though it is his words that caught the imaginations of the urbanites uneducated, yet entranced, about the wildlands.

Some of those recalled included still familiar names like Joe and Francis Sockalexis; Black Hawk Palmer (listed as from Danforth); Ed Annance, a grandson of Greenville's Louis Annance, another well-known guide; Andrew Nicholas, also from Greenville; Frank

Suzanne AuClair lives near Rockwood. She has been writing about the Moosehead Lake region for 26 years and produced "The Origins, Formation & History of Maine's Inland Fisheries Division." She is an award-winning member of the New England Outdoor Writers Assn.



Greenville



Lawrence's Lakeside Cabins & Guide Service



Open Year Round On
Moosehead Lake In Rockwood
Modern well maintained
housekeeping cabins on quiet dead end
road equipped with therm. heat, linens,
towels, shower, kitchen w/microwave,
gas grill, direct TV/flat screen.
Fishing ~ Hunting
Summer Vacation

207-534-7709

Box 101 Rockwood, ME 04478 www.lawrencescabins.com Email: cabins101@aol.com



Point

by Paul Fuller, Durham, N.H.

Ideas for writing this column often come from emails or Facebook friends. For the 12 plus years I've been writing the column, content has always been either gun dog training or upland hunting. This month will be a diversion from those two topics. I received an email asking me how and when I clean my shotguns.

I'm not a gun expert. I suspect many of my readers are more knowledgeable. However, I have been cleaning guns since I was nine years old so I have some experience.

My wife, Susan, and I use our shotguns for two purposes...clay bird shooting and upland hunting. I'll address both activities.

Let's begin with clay bird shooting (skeet). In the month of August, we shoot about four rounds of

skeet at a local gun club. We don't shoot in the rain so that's not an issue. After each round, I break down the guns (Susan shoots an over/under and I shoot a side x side). I run an Otis cleaning patch through each barrel to pick-up the heaviest powder residue. I then run a Hoppes bore snake twice through each barrel. Next I wipe down all metal parts with a silicone cloth. Finally, I insert shotgun snap-caps, pull the trigger and put away the gun.

Next is actual hunting. We have a gun cleaning kit that we prepare for most occasions while in the field. In that kit is a bore snake, Rem Wipes and a small cotton cloth and a silicone cloth. Before we leave for a hunt, I rub Birchwood Casey gunstock wax on the stocks of each gun. This **Gun Care**

really helps if we hunt in rag with gun oil. the rain.

After each hunt and after unloading, I look down the barrels to make sure no debris has become lodged. I then wipe down all metal parts with a silicone cloth. Depending upon how many hunts

At the end of the day, back at camp, I spread a blanket across the eating table and completely disassemble the guns. For side x side and over/under guns, that's a fairly easy process. Simply remove the foreend and remove the barI run a patch soaked with bore cleaner through each barrel. I then run the bore snake twice through each barrel.

Next is the exterior. I carefully wipe down all metal parts with either the cotton cloth with oil applied or a with a silicone cloth...your choice. I then

My wife, Susan, and I use our shotguns for two purposes...clay bird shooting and upland hunting.

put the guns in the corner of the cabin and look forward to the next day of hunting.

I mentioned above that I've been cleaning guns since I was nine years old. My father had a hunting friend who used to tell me that it was only the inside of the gun that counted; don't fuss over the outside. I never bought into that argument. At nine years old, I had never heard of a London best so fancy guns weren't anything with which I was familiar. However, I appreciated a nice looking gun. At ten or eleven, I took an old .22 rifle my father used for rats and completely refurbished it. Sanded and stained the stock and used an inexpensive bluing agent on the barrel. I was so proud of that gun after finishing the refurbishing. Ever since, I've tried to keep my guns looking good both inside and out.



I carefully wipe down all metal parts with either the cotton cloth with oil applied or a with a silicone cloth...your choice. I then put the guns in the corner of the cabin and look forward to the next day of hunting. (Photo by Paul Fuller)

we make in a day, I may go through that process five or six times throughout the day. If we encounter rain, I don't use the silicone cloth...I use a small cotton rels from the receiver and stock. If the guns were shot during the day or we had rain, or both, I begin with the barrels. As with cleaning after clay bird shooting,



Paul and his wife, Susan, host Bird Dogs Afield TV. All past episodes are available on his website at www.birddogsafield. com. Contact: paul@birddogsafield.com





P.O. Box 628 Main Street Machias, ME 04654
Office Tel. & Fax: (207) 255-3039
Email: elguptill@gmail.com
Website: www.sunlist.com Erin Guptill





MACHIAS RIVER CAMP

One room camp fully equipped. One mile up river from Smith's Landing in Northfield. From this camp you can travel up river to Holmes Falls and down river to Great Falls. Great hunting and fishing river. Where are you playing this summer? Leased land \$40,000. MLS1486609



REAL ESTATE



BUILD ONE IN YOUR FAVORITE PLACE. AFFORDABLE, EASY-TO-BUILD CAMP & CABIN KITS

Discover the versatility and convenience of Northeastern's Camp and Cabin kits. Perfect for vacation homes or retirement retreats, these log cabin kits are easy to build and very affordable. They feature simple, open designs and come complete with pre-cut



www.northeasternlog.com



Eastern White Pine Logs, insulated doors, windows, rafters, roof sheathing and sub-flooring plus step-by-step instructions. Just imagine relaxing in your very own Northeastern log retreat!

Give us a call today.

1-800-624-2797

Our Cumberland model with wrap-around porch and loft.



Penobscot - 105 acre 4th generation farm with 1850's farm house & barn with updated barn along with guest/rental home close to Castine & Blue Hill. \$549.000.



Roxbury - 89 acres. Rugged, incredible mountain views, steep terrain and good road frontage on Route 120. Recently harvested. Elevations reach approx. 1,680'. \$79,900.



Caratunk - 1,064 acres. Views of the Kennebec River - Wyman Lake, Moxie Mountain - east & Bigelow Mountainswest. Interior gravel roads and groomed snowmobile trail. \$625,000.



Pembroke - 25+/- acres. Coastal Maine property with over 2,000' of tidal shore front along Hardscrabble River. Year round access. Amazing views. \$150,000.



Wilton - 55+/- acres. Waterviews & access to Varnum Pond. Mature timber on lower half. Potential Sugarbush with 4,000 to 5,000 taps. Seasonal access. \$99k



Rumford/Peru - 321 acres. View from Lovejoy Hill/Burgess Hill, South Peak are simply amazing. Recently harvested. Snowmobile trail (17N) passes thru lot. Good access. \$295,000.



Temple - 5,391 acres. Over 8 miles of improved gravel roads, several brooks, elevations of 2,500' bordering Mt. Blue State Park. Great distant views. Miles of maintained ATV & snowmobile trails. \$2,900,000.



Hancock County - Over 800 acres with 5,400 sq. ft log cabin completely surrounding Fox Pond. Miles of maintained trails. Adjacent to 20k acres of conservation lands. FOXPONDESTATE. COM \$4.3mm

Dallas Pit - 3,911 acres. Property ponsists of remote ponds, frontage on S. Branch of Dead River, 3 miles inter**\$500.000**, 6 miles frontage on Rt. 16 and timber. Close to Rangeley. \$2,650,000.



Beauty runs deep. So does our land sales expertise.

John Colannino - Broker & Forester
AFM Real Estate

40 Champion Lane • Milford, Maine 04461 O: 207-817-9079 • C: 207-266-7355 John.Colannino@afmforest.com

For more information on available properties please visit:

AmericanForestmanagement.com

Northwoods Sporting Journal check requirements. I can't with the price of even .22 staff

Loopholes

(Cont. from pg 62) ucts. The Gamo website proclaims "Game Adult Precision Airguns."

Now, for the kicker, these air guns, almost equal to a rimfire and centerfire guns, have not background find a minimum age requirement and other stores allow pre-buyer inspection provided no re-packaging is needed.

Testimonials from adult shooter rave about the quality and ballistics of these modern air guns but

caliber ammo these days and availability of ammo, I will not be buying one anytime soon.

Is the lack of regulation for these weapons a mistake that needs attention? Some think so but at the very least the sales

staff should be required to alert potential buyers of the dangers of their use and the difficulty the user may encounter in loading the guns.

Stu Bristol is Hall of Fame wild turkey hunter, Master Maine Guide

(Orion Guide Service) and Outdoor writer. His books, newspaper and magazine articles have been published nationwide for more than 50 years. He operates Deadly Imposter Game Calls in southern Maine. www.deadlyimpostergame-

calls.com

August 2021

www.edssheds-cabins.com Email: edwardl@edssheds-cabins.com Bangor/Lincoln 207-738-5315/Dexter 207-270-2312





Ed's Sheds

SUPERIOR Construction!!

Lincoln *** Bangor *** Dexter





AFRAMES ~ CABINS ~ GAMBRELS ~ GARAGES **HORSEBARNS** ~ **SALTBOXES**

Become a dealer/distributor

ESTATE



"Tate" Aylward - 207-794-2460 Peter Phinney - 207-794-5466 Kirk Ritchie - 207-290-1554

5 Lake Street, P.O. Box 66, Lincoln, ME 207-794-2460



Burlington- Cute camp has electricity already and with a nice, sandy swimming area on Saponac Pond. Both lofts have 2 single

beds in them and the BR has a double. It's just a matter of coming to take a look. \$99,000



Prentiss TWP Sitting on 43 acres in a nice wildlife area. the cabin has been lived in, year round, the past few years right on Rosewood

Haven. Put the work into removing the mold, hunting cabin. \$49.900



Lee- A traditional northern Maine hunting camp. Located along an ATV and Snowmobile trail. Private location and

hidden from view on Ames Rd. This is a wonderful hunting location and is priced fairly. \$29,900

cwalakestreet.com

Email: cwa@cwalakestreet.com



Prentiss TWP- Cozy cabin with 46 acres off year-round state road, **Averill Road**. Camp has lots of new features and additions large

shed has plenty of room to keep your toys & tools. Peaceful days & starry nights await you! \$99,000



Lakeville- Spacious inside with a covered porch & large back deck. Two sheds. Solar & generated power. Two driveway

entrances for your convenience on Birch Hill Rd. Extremely low taxes & access to dozens of lakes. \$129,000



Grand Falls- This cabin was landed on this lot two years ago and ready to finish off and use. This 41 acre lot sits high on a hill with great views

on Lord Brook Rd ATV and snowsled from this location. Take a look. \$79,000

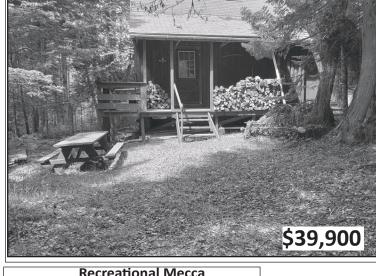
Lincoln- This large private lot with 500 feet on Egg Pond is a must see. The lot has a new driveway and gravel pad. With 6.5 acres enjoy the privacy. \$109,900 **Lakeville**- Gorgeous waterfront lot with a nice, wide driveway in place. Some clearing has been

done. Electricity is nearby. Nice frontage on **Duck Lake**. LOW TAXES. A wonderful location to build your dream home or a seasonal getaway. \$110,000

Springfield-Looking to purchase a small piece of northern Maine? This 2+/- acre parcel would be perfect. Priced to move. Ready for your camper or getaway cabin right on Route 6. Call today to come see your little slice of the north woods. \$18,900

Lincoln- Grab this lot now if you want to own one of the few locations left on Transalpine Rd. This large lot feels out in the woods but is only 1.1 miles from the hospital & one more to downtown. Come look today!! \$18,900

800-675-2460



Fish for wild native trout and salmon in the North Maine Woods.

Recreational Mecca

Alittle slice of heaven far from the beaten path..but close to town



- 90-plus acres of woodland 25' x 25' log-end cabin overlooking a 7-acre pond, with a 32' aluminum dock
- Just 7 miles from downtow Presaue Isle
- Abundant wildlife including moose, bear, deer, partridge, rab bit, ducks, and geese
- Immediate access to over 2,300 miles of ground omed snowmobile and ATV trails Property abuts Aroostook State Park 1,200' road frontage on dead-end road offers possibilites for development



CHUCK JOHNSTON 207-227-2305

CAMPS - LAND RESIDENTIAL - COMMERCIAL



KIMBERLY SMITH 207-227-8125



- 113 Acres
- View of Mt. Washington
- Meandering **Brook**
- Hunt/Fish on your own land \$199,000

REAL ESTATE C 515 Main Street • Presque Isle, Maine 04769

Quality. Performance. Lasting Value.





- "Green" EPS foam 100% virgin material
- · Energy efficient
- Strong 3mil. film on each side
- 4'x24' Fanfold sheets; easy shipping and installation
- Ideal for below concrete and around foundation walls
- Superior R-value retention won't waterlog.

When it comes to below grade insulation, EPS foam has established itself as the definite choice for quality, performance and lasting value.

Hitz Halter takes that to the next level with its performance based enhancements. With its strong 3mil film on each side, & Preventol termiticide, Hitz Halter brings added value to your building's foundation, where the quality of your building begins. And the fanfold design with rebar and PEX spacing marked out for you, makes it a breeze to install! Unlimited LLC

'Hitz' your bottom line!

414 Thorndike Rd. Unity ME 04988

Leased land

www.stjohnvalleyrealty.com



REAL ESTATE





P.O. Box 616 Long Lake, NY 12847 518-265-9198

Adirondack Land For Sale

"Build Your Dream Cabin and Explore this Pristine Mountain Wilderness" www.adirondackmtland.com



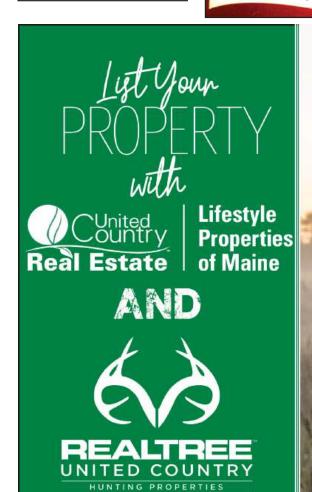
207-265-4000 259 Main Street, Kingfield, ME www.csmrealestate.com

Enjoy Maine's Vacation-land!

LOOKING FOR LAND?

We have everything from tiny, in town to 200+ acres of wilderness! We are in Franklin and Somerset counties

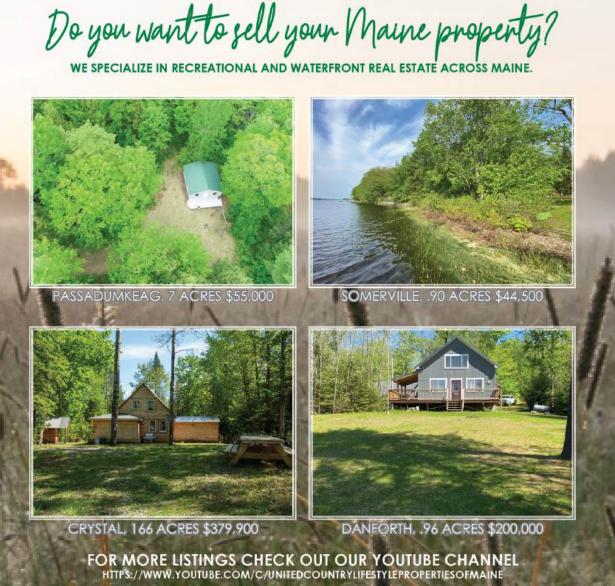
janet@csmrealestate.com



(207) 794-6164 (800) 286-6164 LIFESTYLEMAINE@GMAIL.COM

WWW.LIFESTYLEPROPERTIESOFMAINE.COM

044 320 Bowles Rd, Caribou www.overheaddoorofbangor.com





REAL ESTATE





DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN INSTANTLY ACCESS CURRENT AND PAST DIGITAL ISSUES OF THE NORTHWOODS SPORTING JOURNAL? IT'S TRUE. SIMPLY GOOGLE:http://www.sportingjournal.com/digital-issues.

CALL TODAY TO ADVERTISE IN THIS SPOT 207-732-4880







soapstone woodstove, beautiful ceramic floor in bathroom with custom modernized clawfoot tub and roomy shower, daylight basement, large covered porch, garden area and very private. Close to ski esort \$250.000



8426 Lexington; Mountain views and over 1600' of water frontage A rare find, Complete the subdivision for

an investment or have all 23 acres for your own private waterfront building site for your new home or camp. Must see for serious buyer who wants

(207) 696-4247

www.HearthAndHomeRealty.com 274 Main Street Madison, ME 04950







8432 Anson Lovely property with power/ telephone at road. Driveway field and couple of sheds, one

was used as a small camp. Would make a beautiful homestead or hunting/sporting camp site. Come and see. Short walk down driveway to field. With some cutting you may have some mountain views 5 acres. \$45,000.



8421 Madison: Nice location. This 2.44 acre parcel is in tow but has some privacy on a less traveled road

562' frontage on Jones Brook, Acreage and brook frontage are estimated. Lot to be surveyed \$25,000.



Office Tel. & Fax: (207) 255-3039 Email: anitaj@midmaine.com Website: www.sunlist.com Anita Johnson MACHIASPORT: Lot 101 is in a gated community

but 102 right next to this one is also for sale. There

are covenants to protect your invest and also for peace and quiet. With both lots there is around 7

+/- acres and it is not far to the public lots Hooper's

Ledge and Clam Cove where you can go to the

shore. Also not far to Jasper Beach where you can

hear the rocks rolling when the waves come in. Both





PERRY: You go off South Meadow Road onto Roy's way to get to this beautiful water front lot. There is a well and septic on the lot and a nice driveway in also there is power to the lot. Now all you need is a nice cottage where you can sit and look out the windows to see and enjoy the beautiful view of the water. Lot is located at the end of the road so you will have peace and quiet. Great price at only \$140,000.

Overhead Door Company of Bangor Residentia 24-Hour Emergency Repair 2235 56 Liberty Drive, Herm www.overheaddoorofbangor.com

www.sportingjournal.com





Judd Goodwin Well Co "We Do It Right The First Time" **Complete Well & Pump** Installation, Service and Repair **Residential • Commercial**

Camps • Cottages

P.O. Box 17 Greenville, ME 04441



goodwinjudd@yahoo.com www.juddgoodwinwell.com

Member Maine Groundwater Association





B&L knows instant parts availability is key to earning your business which is why B&L maintains one of the largest in store inventories in the state in addition to 18 delivery vehicles as well as employing extremely experienced and willing to help counter-men. B&L Auto Parts & Paint is locally owned and the only totally independent parts store in the state allowing us to serve you better with greater parts availability, selection and experience than any other parts store which is why we have worked hard for over 46 years to earn and maintain your trust!



B&L Auto Parts & Paint, 1292 Hammond St., Bangor, Maine 207-989-6515





FLUID FILM



Professional application equipment

BLACK NOW AVAIL	ABL	EIL
12 oz aero	\$	9.93
NEW 12oz aero BLACK	\$	10.99
Gallon	\$	39.93
NEW Gallon BLACK	S	45.99
5 gallon	\$	166.99
NEW 5 gallon BLACK	\$	178.99
55 gallon	5	1,199.99
WOOL WA	X	
12 oz aerosol- Straw Color	5	10.99
12 oz aerosol- Black	\$	11.99
quart-straw color	5	18.99
quart-black	5	20.99
gallon-straw color	5	48.99
gallon-Black	5	52.99
5 gallon-straw color	5	179,99
5 gallon-black	\$	189.99
55 gallon-straw color	\$	1,499.99
55 gallon-black	\$	1,599.99
WAXOYL		
16 oz Cavity Fogging Wax	5	19.99
1.3 gal Cavity Fogging Wax	5	158.99
15. 2 and Cavita Engales Mari	- 40	000 00

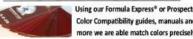


powerful RUST BLOCK, SEALING off old rust and preventing new rust Waxoyl protects your car by simply spraying it on to the metal. The Waxovl solution will then instantly LOCK out moisture and create a WATERPROOF skin that doesn't crack, dry out or wash off in the rain and snow!!



aerosol • Black Beauty

can !! • Glass Beads



color you

into an

want put

Color Compatibility guides, manuals and more we are able match colors precisely

SAND

CALL FOR PRICE

QUANTITY BREAKS



ior color match and blending qualities. OEM approvals and quick flash time between coats make the ULTRA 7000°





1 qt Hardener \$39.99 5 qts sprayable \$126.97

\$25.39 cleaners, undercoats, factory package acrylic nels, clearcoats, Finish 1™ products are eas

Per quart! to sell and use with the majority of the product

HYDRA OIL 5 GAL \$35.99



Plus many more hydraulic oils, gear oils, and transmission fluids at great pricing!!

When you just need a good battery made by EXIDE without the big name & warranty cost





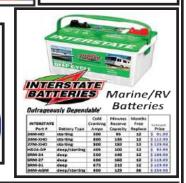
\$79-\$129

HUGE SELECTION LOW PRICE ATV, MOTORCYCLE, SIDE BY SIDE, UTV BATTERIES

TRANSTAR SEM EVERCOAT'S



\$38-\$179





















COYOTE-CREEK-OUTFITTERS.COM / COYOTE-CREEK-ARCHERY.COM

603-332-3270 / 603-335-2222

(EXIT 15 OFF THE SPAULDING TURNPIKE/ROUTE 11)
22 FARMINGTON ROAD, ROCHESTER, NH / 26 FARMINGTON ROAD, ROCHESTER, NH











QUALITY PRODUCTS FOR OUTDOORSMEN AND WOMEN OUTSTANDING CUSTOMER SERVICE, AT COMPETITIVE PRICES