



"The where to and how to magazine for the outdoor enthusiast."

Vol. 1 Issue 196

April 2010



Turkey

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

TIPS

Bass INFO

DNR Updates

Outdoor Photos



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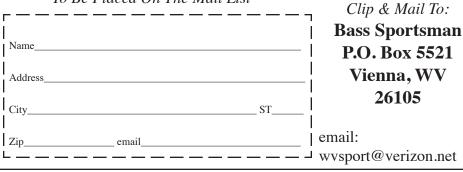
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Magazine

Volume 1 Issue 196

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Mark A. Goudy

Contributing Editors West Virginia Division Of Natural Resources

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Cover Photo

Avery unusual huge largemouth bass was caught out of the New River by Aaron Currey. His fish weighed 7 pounds, 2 oz. and measured 22 1/2 inches. The New River is mainly noted for smallmouth bass. Largemouth this size are rarely reported.

This magazine is online for free each month. Back issues too. Log onto www.wvasportsman. net *Photo courtesy of PC Bait and Tackle in Hinton.*

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By Mark A. Garner

Bass Fishing In 2010

While the snow continues to pile up as I am writing this piece, I know that spring is just around the Why do I feel this way, well its simple! Firstly, I am receiving all of the major fishing catalogs in the mail almost on a daily basis, and 2ndly, the Bass Masters Clas-

sic is starting this Saturday, and if there ever was a surer sign of spring, that is surely it!

The Classic is like the Daytona 500 of the bass fishing world. If you love fishing, then this is the kickoff event of the season, and after that, everyone is talking fishing.

Just last weekend in Charleston at the RV show at the Civic center. Dave Waldron had a booth at the show showcasing the new All Pro EL rods he is stocking at his store. As I ambled around the booth talking to Matt, we had the opportunity to talk to hundreds of bass anglers,



Young Austin Gent got his 1st bow deer - a buck.

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Game Check



John Judy brought in a great buck. Photo courtesy of JBC Archery in Shady Spring.

April 2010 ~ Page 4

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and without fail, everyone was excited about getting out on the water.

One occurrence I was also elated over was the number of youth that was asking about fishing opportunities! With national statistics pointing towards a decline in active outdoor enthusiast, I believe West Virginia belies that trend. With the continiue to the next page

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number of trails that are active in this state, everyone who wishes to fish bass tournaments literally has hundreds of events in which they can participate.

This morning, I downloaded the complete listing of scheduled events from the DNR website, and I was amazed at the number of event that is already posted on the site. As a WVU commentator likes to say, "From Matawan to Welch.....



Robert Buckland landed a 6 pound, 4 oz. golden trout. *Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton*.



and all points in between" there is an event being held close to your neck of the woods.

For a complete listing of these events, go to the DNR website, and on the fishing link, open the tournaments tab, and you can review this information first hand to review the events in your area.

In reviewing the information, I cannot help in noticing the opportunities that we have in our state to test our skills in competitive bass fishing. At a quick glance, you can chose to fish in any number of clubs, or organizations such as the Bass Federation Nation of West Virginia, West Virginia Bass Federation, Fishers of Men trail, and a host of others. In the Charleston area, Bobby Burgess hosts a Trail of Dreams which has a good following, in the central part of the state Nathan Lancaster has the Anglers Choice trail that also is gaining in popularity. Another favorite trail among anglers is the Poormans Trail. The Stover's put on a trail that encompasses the top waters in the state, and has a solid trail that is lots of fun to fish. Also, the Ohio



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River Team Tournaments are enjoyed by Ohio River enthusiasts.

Depending upon your preference, there is a trail for you that will offer an organized format to test your bass fishing skills among your peers. In addition, on the trails that have national affiliations, the top



Young Harley Francis got his first coon. *Photo courtesy of TriLakes in Walkersville*.



anglers are given the opportunity to advance to compete in a regional tournament that can result in a life changing event. Just ask Bob Harkness, or Frank Haught, or any of the anglers who have made it to state teams to compete at a regional, or national level.

Both Frank and Bob advanced through the ranks to compete with the top professional anglers in the country! In Frank's case, he fished in the Bass Masters Classic, and Bob recently fished in the Forest Wood Cup of the FLW, and finished 19th against the top bass anglers in the FLW tour! Both of these two anglers had what it took to become the state representative, and from there, they were given the opportunity to showcase their talent among the best fishermen in the entire country. Not bad for two West Virginia boys!

No matter whether you want to fish at a club level, or go all out and compete on a trail, West Virginia has a host of opportunities for you to become a tournament fisherman. For more information, you can go to the internet, and Google a search or perhaps, you can shorten your search by typing in the following organizations that I have listed below. I know that in becoming a tournament angler, you will become better bass fishermen along



Mike McGuire landed a New River musky. Photo courtesy of Waterfront Sporting Goods in Alderson.

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the way, and perhaps, in become part of an organization that you will enjoy the competition, and camaraderie that comes with it. I would encourage you to become involved in one, or multiple organizations. I know that it has changed my life, and given me many hours of enjoyment along the way! Good luck bass fishing this 2010. MAG

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Flipping And Pitching Casting

These techniques are used on inactive bass so a stealth approach and presentation is essential. They're best suited when fish have a small strike zone and are in off-color or muddy water. Flipping is best suited for murky water and dense cover whereas pitching is the better choice in clear water and cover not as thick. Floating vegetation and heavy cover are ideal targets to flip and pitch.



Derrick Dillon caught 2 citation smallmouth. Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.



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Don't limit yourself to the usual "jig-n-pig" setup. You can also flip and pitch worms and small finesse baits. Rig a tube jig or grub on a 1/4 ounce jig equipped with a weedguard. Sometimes these smaller profile baits are the ticket to putting a limit in the boat.

The Pitch Cast (Pitchin')

This is best for targets between 10 and 30 feet away and provides a very quiet lure entry. Use a rod 6 1/2 feet or longer and a singlehook lure such as a worm, jig or spinnerbait. Face the target. Let out line until the lure is even with the reel. Hold the lure in your free

continue to the next page

2nd Annual Graft Shawn Stewart CORNHOLEGIVESIC

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hand at waist level. Lower the rod tip toward the water and put tension on the line. In one smooth, quick motion, swing the rod tip forward toward the target and upward, letting go of the lure with your free hand. Use only your wrist, arm movement is not a factor. As the lure moves from beneath the rod tip, release the line and continue raising the rod tip. (On bait casting gear, this cast requires a very light setting on the spool tension control, and you must know how to control the spool with your thumb, or the reel will backlash.) The lure should fly just above the water. Use a combination of line tension and rod movement to guide it to the target and to make it touch down softly. If you stop the bait just before it enters the water you'll almost always get a smooth entry. Immediately place your free hand on the reel and be ready for a strike.

The Flip-Cast (Flippin')

This is intended for pinpoint lure presentation to visible, thick cover between 10 and 20 feet away. Use a heavy-action 6 1/2 to 7 1/2 foot rod. Let out about 15 feet of line. With your free hand, grasp the line between the reel and the first rod guide and straighten your arm to the side. There should now be about 8 feet of line past the front tip. Raise the rod to make the lure swing back close to the body. Lower the rod top to make the lure swing forward. Use only your wrist, roll the butt of the rod to the inside of your arm. As it moves past the rod tip, continue raising the rod as you feed line with your free hand. As the lure nears the target, lower the rod top again and make the bait touch down softly and precisely on target by stopping the bait just before it enters the water. Let go of the line in your free hand and immediately place it on the reel. Make sure you're ready to strike before beginning your retrieve.

Tips

Use your wrist, NOT your arm. Concentrate on the spot you want to hit, not on what you want to miss.

Use plenty of scent when trying to penetrate thick cover - it acts as a lubricant.

Stick to basic jig colors (black/blue, brown/brown, black/chartreuse).

Use a plastic worm with a glass bead between the worm and the weight for inactive fish.

If you think it's a strike, reel down until your rod is in a hookset position before you check. A strike is anything different (something you wouldn't feel in a bathtub!).

Tighten your drag all the way down for better hooksets.

Use 17 to 25 pound test line for bait casting gear, 10 to 14 pound test on spinning.



Anthony Beclcher hooked a catfish at a farm pond.

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Chris Hall landed a nice 27' brown trout at Turkey Run Lake. Nice brood trout like this one are often stocked in larger impoundments. *Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.*

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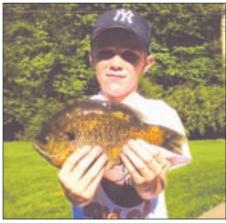
Weather Watch For Crappie

Be aware of the weather. Weather and barometric pressure can have great impact on where the crappie will be, and how they'll bite. Crappie often will bite better just ahead of a cold front. However, if a high front moves through the area after a cold front, the crappie tend to not bite well. They'll generally head for deeper water and hold tight against the brush.

If a cold front moves through during the spawn, look for crappie in 8- to 10- feet of water. Min-



Mark Delligatti landed a big bass on a trip south . *Photo courtesy of MAD Sporting Goods in Boaz*.



Shawn Moran, from Horner, caught a big bluegill.

nows are the best bait to use in this situation, since the minnows will naturally work themselves into the cover where the crappie are holding, rather than you trying to get them there.

Also, try casting a 1/32-ounce jig, and retrieve it slowly with your

spinning reel. As the line on the reel comes back in, gently touch the line with your index finger to cause the jig to twitch just a little. That small, erratic motion makes the jig look more lifelike and often will make tight-lipped crappie bite.

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Don Eppling had success with this nice buck. *Photo courtesy of JBC Archery in Shady Spring*.



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Gerald Matheny hooked a 45" musky that weighed 25 pounds. *Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth*.

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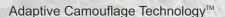
April 2010 ~ Page 11

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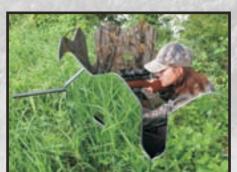
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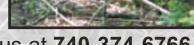












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Advanced Turkey Calling Tips

These 10 tricks will carry your turkey calling to a higher level and help you become a more successful turkey hunter.

1. One fine spring day I threw the kitchen sink at a gobbler. He roared at all my calls, but just stood out there and strutted. "OK old boy, I'll give you something a little radical," I whispered. Pinning a diaphragm to the roof of my mouth, I squealed, uttering sort of a chopped-off keekee. I pulled out a box call, pressed the lid hard against the sounding lip and stroked a couple of long whines amid a series of yelps. The turkey broke strut and body-rocked in! The 30-yard shot was a piece of cake.

Listen closely and you'll notice that many hens mix squeals, squeaks and whines into their clucking and yelping routines. These idiosyncrasies drive some toms wild. Tweaking your diaphragm and friction calling can have the same effect. Those "bad" notes you hit on purpose might bring a stubborn gobbler running.

Place a new diaphragm call halfway between your front teeth and the back of your mouth. If it feels



Mathew Friend took these pics on a trail camera. There is an albino, a piebald and a regular deer shown.

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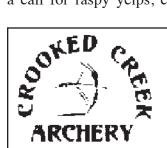
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too big and flat, bend the aluminum frame slightly downward. The call should feel more comfortable against your palate. Better yet, you'll have a better air seal, which will sweeten the sounds of your clucks and yelps.

Get versatile on a slate, glass or aluminum call. Hold a striker loosely and stroke the middle of a call for raspy yelps, clucks and cutts. Squeeze a peg tighter and run it near the edges of a pot for higherpitched calls. Switching between wooden and carbon strikers as you work all over the surface of a pot further diversifies your calling.

For obvious reasons, it's generally best to mimic a love-starved hen in the spring. But sometimes gobbler clucking and yelping can be effectiontinue to the next page



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ive. You sound a vagabond tom in the social hierarchy. A subordinate longbeard looking for a buddy may come to check you out. Or a dominant gobbler may strut over to see who dares invade his breeding turf.

It's easy to gobbler yelp on a multireed diaphragm. You can also run a raspy box, or stroke a striker in the low-pitched middle of a slate, glass or aluminum call. Whichever device you use, slow down the length and rhythm of your calls. Deepthroated gobbler yelps are slower than hen yelps. Toss in low-pitched clucks for realism.

After sneaking as close as you dare to a roosted turkey, set up and listen. If the tom booms love tunes and you hear no hens clucking and yelping, don't call too early. Wait until the sky glimmers pink, then float a tree yelp and a few soft clucks to let the bird know you're there.

If the turkey rips a gobble, shut up! He thinks you're a hen, and he knows where you are. If the bird fails to talk, however, cluck and yelp a little louder to focus his attention your way. If still no action, don't sweat it. Sit quietly and listen for thumping wings. Immediately hit the grounded bird with a spirited cackle, flapping a turkey wing or cap to create the illusion of a hen flying down nearby. If the tom

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gobbles and walks your way, you might not have to call again.

When you run across a tom strutting with hens, listen to the dominant girl and mock her. If she yelps, you yelp back, loudly and aggressively. If she clucks, you cluck spiritedly. Rile a boss hen and she may come to check out the sassy new girl in town, towing a gobbler along for a look. Your mocking calls might even lure a satellite tom traveling the fringes of a breeding flock. The turkey won't be the dominant strutter, but he might have a 9-inch beard and 11/4-inch hooks. You'll continue to the next page



Danile McAfee hooked a 25" walleye. *Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth*.

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Ohio River Events

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be more than happy to take him.

Cutting on a diaphragm or friction call is a great way to locate gobblers strutting around during the midmorning hours. But don't get carried away and string together too many loud, aggressive, irregular clucks that can drown out a turkey's shock gobble. Cutt in sharp, 3-second bursts, then listen closely for a tom to roar.

When running a box or pot-andpeg call, hold it well away from your body and point it toward a ridge, hollow or creek bottom where you think a tom might be roosted or strutting. This enhances the volume of your yelps and cutts, and helps to funnel them toward a turkey.

Let's say a tom gobbles in a spot where he cannot see you (i.e. behind a little rise or hidden in foliage 75 yards away). Cup a camouflaged hand to your mouth and turn your head slowly while running a diaphragm. Work a friction call to either side of your body, then move it into your lap and stroke some clucks, yelps and cutts out front. Varying not only the line but also the volume of your calls further enhances their ventriloquistic effects. This keeps a tom on the move and wondering just where the heck is that hen. Pretty soon he's apt to drift into shotgun range.

Now for the final convincer. When a gobbler is close and coming, it's best not to call at all. Let him play the game and strut on in! But if a bird hangs up 45 to 55 steps away, you might need to coax him with discreet calling. Cluck, yelp or purr softly when a tom gobbles or drums, or stirs leaves and snaps sticks with his feet. When a turkey makes noise, his hearing is less acute, and it's tough for him to nail the precise location your calls. The bird will have to inch 10 to 20 yards closer in search of that sweet-talking hen. When you spot his red-and-white brain stem and swinging beard, go ahead and shoot.



Young Dylan Thomas bagged a nice buck.

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Tracking The Trout

While some designated trout streams mandate the use of artificial lures or flies only, many stocked streams permit the use of various forms of natural bait. Obviously, before fishing any body of water, it is a good idea to carefully scrutinize the regulations pertaining to that location. If it is permissible to use live bait, then the selection is almost endless. After feeding on fish pellets for nearly a year, newly stocked trout have two options: switch to natural foods or starve to death. A week or two after stocking, most trout will eat just about anything that comes along, especially if it looks perfectly natural.

Nothing is more appealing to a hungry trout than a fat, pink, juicy garden worm floating with the currents. Even when the weather has



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been too cold for the worms to occur naturally, trout will instinctively pounce on a properly presented worm. The key to success is proper presentation. As with all forms of bait, the hook should be well hidden. Additionally, if a piece of splitshot is required in order to reach bottom, use just enough weight to maintain the correct depth, while still allowing the bait to drift naturally with the currents.

The worm should be cast upstream at a 45-degree angle, preferably well above the head of the pool. Just as soon as the bait hits the water, close the reel's bail and begin a slow, deliberate retrieve. Keep sufficient tension on the line to detect the slightest strike and also to gently lift the bait over the snags.

A few weeks into the season, trout will actively feed on minnows. While many states do not permit the use of native minnows, tiny fathead minnows are a good substitute, particularly when they measure no longer than 2 inches. The minnows can be either lip-hooked or impaled just beneath the dorsal fin, thereby keeping them alive and active as they drift through deep pools.

continue to the next page



Billy Greenlief, from Troy, hooked a 24 pound musky on the Hughes River. It was 40 inches long.

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Some anglers find that attaching a small, clear plastic float aids them in casting the minnow to the most productive locations, such as close to submerged boulders or close to an undercut segment of shoreline. Small crayfish, those measuring just 1 to 2 inches in length, are great trout baits, especially as the season progresses and water temperatures begin to rise. They can be hooked through the tail and scooted across the bottom, or hooked carefully through the nose and walked over the bottom. Both techniques seem to be equally effective. Keep in mind, however, that crayfish reside and often hide beneath flat rocks;

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therefore, unless you keep constant tension on the line, they will quickly scurry under any suitable rock. Hellgrammites, the larvae of dobson flies, are likely among the ugliest creatures that nature could have ever dreamed of. They have a prehensile tail, a soft black body with lots of legs and head that resembles that of a gigantic ant. Unlike a butterfly that becomes a beautiful, winged creature after metamorphosis, the dobson fly just grows wings and remains ugly. You can find them residing on the back side of partly submerged, flat rocks in most free-flowing streams. They're not pretty, but they're irresistible

continue to the next page



Jeremy McCloy, shown with his son Conner & daughter Riley, landed a 41 inch musky at Wells Locks in Elizabeth.

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to any trout. Hellgrammites have a hard-shell collar that is located directly behind the nasty-looking head and powerful pincers. The collar is a good place not only to hold them, but additionally, it's a great place to insert your hook. In this particular instance, the hook will be exposed, therefore, a small No. 10, short-shanked, bronze hook will be your best bet. The hook's color closely resembles that of the hellgrammite. The only problem trout anglers complain about when using hellgrammites is that everything in the stream seems to enjoy eating them.

As the season progresses, other forms of natural baits will become highly productive. Don't overlook such crickets, grasshoppers, moths and various forms of insect larvae. As each of these becomes available naturally, they also become an integral part of a trout's diet.

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Geese Numbers Up

Wildlife biologists counted 2,868 ducks and 7,789 Canada geese during the annual mid-winter waterfowl survey in early January, according to Steve Wilson, Waterfowl Biologist for the Wildlife Resources Section of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources.

"The numbers of both ducks and geese were higher than 2009, with ducks up 41 percent and geese up 138 percent," Wilson said. "The real value of this survey is analysis of long-term data across broad geographic areas, rather than annual fluctuations within individual states."

Weather conditions during and immediately prior to the survey strongly influences waterfowl movement. When snow cover and frozen waterways force birds to move south and congregate on larger rivers and lakes that are not frozen-over, waterfowl counts in West Virginia usually increase.

Canada geese, mallards and black ducks, as usual, were the most commonly observed species in the 2010 survey. Other observed waterfowl



include: canvasback, scaup, ringnecked duck, gadwall, bufflehead, goldeneye, mergansers and tundra swan. Eleven bald eagles and one golden eagle were also observed.

The survey was conducted on January, 5, 8 and 11, 2010 and included portions of the Kanawha, Ohio, Shenandoah and New rivers as well as Tygart and Bluestone Lakes.



Roger Bumgardner took this 9 point in Mason County.



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April 2010 ~ Page 18

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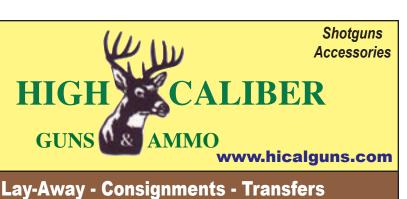
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Nick Stalnaker, from Glenville, bagged an 8 point..



Young Garret Owens got his 1st buck - an 8 point. *Photo courtesy of Backwater Bait in Newport, Oh.*



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Racheal Kirkham went to Summewrs County for this 28" catfish.

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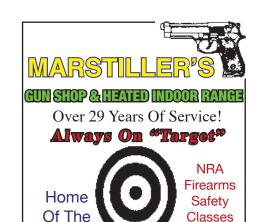
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Rodney Kirkendoll had success during deer season with a 7 point.



Glen Tracewell, from Parkersburg, caught 2, 8 pound bass in Florida.



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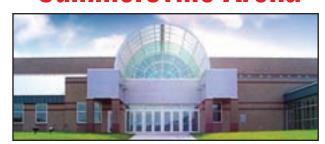
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The Nicholas Chronicle





Richard Goode used a bow for this 245 pound black bear. Photo courtesy of Holmes Market in Moundsville.



Robert Francis, from Parkersburg, went to Ohio for this 13 point buck with a very large drop tine.



Jeremy McCloy, from Ravenswood, caught a 10 pound hybrid bass at the Belleville Dam...

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April 2010 ~ Page 22

Cass Railroad Gift Cards

CASS, W.Va. – From April 1 through 30, a West Virginia State Park Gift Card purchase of \$100 value or greater earns a free train ticket to Whittaker Station at Cass Scenic Railroad State Park. "It is just that simple" says Ken Caplinger, chief of West Virginia's state park system.

West Virginia State Parks gift cards can be redeemed at any state park for lodging, restaurant meals, cabin and cottage rentals, golf play and cart rental and at campgrounds with electronic card terminals.

"The card allows the buyer or gift recipient to pick and choose which parks to visit,"

Caplinger explained. "We started an April "All Aboard" promotion last year that included a train ticket for Cass Scenic Railroad's Whit-



Billy Thompson hooked a musky. *Photo courtesy of jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.*

taker Station Trip and it was so well received we are offering the same in 2010.

"Inclusion of a train ride at Cass as an added value included in a gift card purchase is a simple way to thank our customers for patronage of our state park facilities and for visiting our parks with family, friends and co-workers. Those overnight stays, golf play, enjoyable meals at a restaurant or a gift shop purchase help us keep our entire park system more self-sufficient. This promotion comes at a time of year when the weather is unpredictable and card sales can help stabilize revenues as parks come into the summer and vacation season."

About "All Aboard"

The April gift card promotion is called All Aboard. The state park gift card must be purchased online or by calling 304-558-2764 to receive the All Aboard ticket with your gift card and packet.

Card purchase value must be \$100 or greater. Example: If a card is purchased with a value of \$225, two tickets will be included. If the purchase is for four separate gift cards of \$125 each, there will be



four tickets included. Individual card values less than \$100 are not eligible.

W.Va. State Park Gift Cards do not expire.

The All Aboard ticket is valid for a one time use from June to September 19, 2010.

Gift cards purchased at state parks are not eligible for this ticket promotional offer. However, parks do sell gift cards throughout the year.

The All Aboard ticket is a stand alone offer that is part of the W.Va. Gift Card promotion occurring April 1-30, 2010.

All Aboard tickets are automatically included with all eligible purchases.

Holders of the All Aboard ticket my apply the ticket value to a Bald Knob or Spruce run by paying the difference of the Whittaker Station continue to the next page





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Holders of the All Aboard ticket my apply the ticket value to a Bald Knob or Spruce run by paying the difference of the Whittaker Station ticket cost.

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All Aboard tickets may be upgraded to reserved seat status with payment of the additional fare.

The complimentary ticket is not available for use with dinner/special train cost.

The ticket is transferable.

The ticket must be surrendered upon use.

New State Record Deer In Ohio

IT'S OFFICIAL— HIGHLAND COUNTY DEER IS A NEW STATE RECORD

Southwest Ohio buck largest nontypical deer ever taken with a muzzleloader

DAYTON, OHIO – The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Wildlife announced that another record-setting deer has been harvested in southwestern Ohio. On Saturday, January 30, the 18-point non-typical (non-symmetrical antlered) deer, taken by Brian Stephens on November 30, 2009 with a muzzle-loader in Highland County, was officially scored.

Brian Stephens, with friends and family by his side, excitedly awaited the official score Saturday morning in Xenia. The buck was scored by Mike Wendel, David Haney and Ron Perrine, certified scorers with Buckeye Big Bucks Club (BBBC). Gary Trent, BBBC president, announced the score as 232 5/8, which certified it as the new state record.

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Official Score Details:

Number of points: 18 total – twelve (12) on the right and six (6) on left.

Greatest spread: 26 2/8 Inside spread: 24 3/8 Total gross: 250 1/8 Longest tine: 17 7/8

Side to side symmetry deductions:

17 4/8

Total of abnormal points: 32 0/8

Net score: 232 5/8

The Highland County deer is the largest non-typical rack ever taken with a muzzleloader in Ohio hiscontinue to the next page



Brian Stephens took the new state record for muzzleloaders in Ohio.



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ory, beating out the 2004 record of 225. The 35 1/8 inch left main beam is a Boone and Crockett largest ever recorded and the right main bean measured an impressive 34 1/8 inches. Marty Murphy of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association said the score will be recognized as the largest ever in Ohio according to the association's Longhunter Big Game Record Book.

This magnificent animal will also be a record for World Classics in the men's muzzleloading category, according to Dan Stapleton. The World Classics scoring system does not include deductions and the main beam outside spread measurement is added. Under these scoring criteria Stephens' buck scores 252 0/8. "Deer hunting in Ohio continues to prove to be world-class," said Todd Haines, ODNR Division of Wildlife District Five manager. "We are seeing the benefits of a successful whitetail deer management program." Brian Stephens' deer is one more to add to Ohio's record books. In the last decade, southwest Ohio has been the setting for numerous records including:

The Beatty buck, harvested in Greene County in the fall of 2000 by Mike Beatty, holds the record for non-typical at 304 6/8 and currently ranks as the number one non-typical buck in Ohio, the largest non-typical whitetail deer ever

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A typical white-tailed deer killed by Brad Jerman in 2004 in Warren County, known as the Jerman buck, became an Ohio record with a score of 201 1/8. In 2006 a world-class buck was harvested by Jonathan Schmucker in Adams County. The deer was scored at 34-point nontypical, 291 2/8 Boone and Crockett and 305 7/8 World Classics. Also in 2006 the Metzner buck, harvested by Justin Metzner, scored 196 6/8 which positioned it to be the second largest deer harvested with a compound bow in Ohio; the fifth largest typical deer taken in the world in the Pope and Young record book; and Buckmaster's seventh all-time typical white-tailed deer harvested with a compound bow. "When we are continually in the record books with large non-typical and typical whitetails harvested Ohio, we attract the attention of hunters that might have hunted in another state," said Haines. "The hunters

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Ohio's first modern day deer-gun season opened in 1943 in three counties; hunters harvested 168 deer. By 1956, deer hunting was allowed in all 88 counties; hunters killed 3,911 deer during that oneweek season. A detailed listing of deer-hunting rules is contained in the 2009-2010 Ohio Hunting Regulations, available where licenses are sold. It may also be viewed online at www.wildohio.com. Hunters who wish to share their success can submit a photo of themselves and their deer as well. The Department of Natural Resources ensures a balance between wise use and protection of our natural resources for the benefit of all. Visit the ODNR web site at www.ohiodnr.com

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Spring Fishing And Camping At State Parks in WV

BARBOURSVILLE, W.Va. – Beech Fork State Park is inviting campers and anglers of all ages to enjoy spring weather and fishing opportunities. "Camping starts in earnest in May at Beech Fork, but April often has great weather as well," said Beech Fork Supt. Matt Yeager. "Our hook with this promotion is to encourage anglers and families to camp."

Any camper presenting a valid fishing license upon registering for a campsite at Beech Fork State Park will get 10 percent off standard camping rates in April. "It can be for one night or up to 14 days," according to Yeager, "and the fishing is optional." West Virginia's senior discount is also offered in for camping at all state park campgrounds that are open in April.

Beech Fork State Park is located near Barboursville in Wayne County. Its campground is the largest in the state park system with 275 sites. The Beech Fork Lake project has several managing agencies that oversee various recreational opportunities.

"The state park operates the swim-

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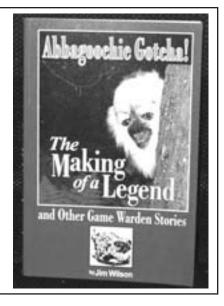
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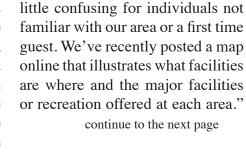
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Include Your Payment
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ming pool and overnight facilities on the Barboursville side of the lake, the wildlife management area has hunting potential in specified areas, the Army Corps of Engineers operates the beach and full-service marina areas on the Lavalette side of the lake, and we all enjoy the lake," Yeager said. "It can be a





A 21 inch smallmouth was caught. *Photo courtesy of Waterfront Sporting Goods in Alderson*.



Blen Tennant, from Waverly, killed this black bar in Webster County.



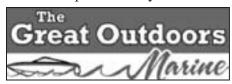
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Burnsville Lake - Day



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375 4th 300 5th

200 6th 125 7th **Big Bass**

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140

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StZipPhone#		
City		
One Address		_
Partner		_
Boater		-
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April 2010 ~ Page 27

Rewards For Turkey Poaching Information

With the start of the 2010 spring gobbler season approaching, the West Virginia State Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF) will pay \$200 cash rewards for information leading to the arrest and conviction of persons who illegally kill or possess a wild turkey. "This cooperative effort between the NWTF and the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources is designed to curtail illegal activities associated with the state's wild turkey resource," said Curtis I. Taylor, Chief of the Division of Natural Resources (DNR) Wildlife Resources Section.

The public is urged to contact their local conservation officer or their local DNR District Office if they see someone illegally killing a turkey or know of a person possessing an illegally killed turkey. The informant's identity will remain confidential.

"By reporting poaching incidents, the public can make a significant contribution to West Virginia's wild turkey management program," Taylor said.

The West Virginia statewide spring gobbler season runs from April 26 through May 22. In addition, the one-day youth spring turkey season will be held on Saturday, April 24.

Hunters are reminded that it is illegal to bait wild turkey in West



Bucky Martin, from Roanoke, went to Nebraska for this big 18 point.

Virginia. The West Virginia State Chapter of the NWTF pays a reward of \$100 for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of persons attempting to kill wild turkeys through the use of bait or who willfully destroy the nest or eggs of wild turkey.

"Unfortunately, baiting and trespassing continue to be the most

common hunting violations reported in the Wildlife Resources Section's Annual Spring Gobbler Survey," according to Taylor. "Baiting turkeys is illegal, unethical and creates disrespect for the great sport of spring gobbler hunting. I encourage turkey hunters to report any such activity to their local conservation officer."



A 45" musky was hooked in the New River. *Photo courtesy of PC Bait & Tackle in Hinton*.

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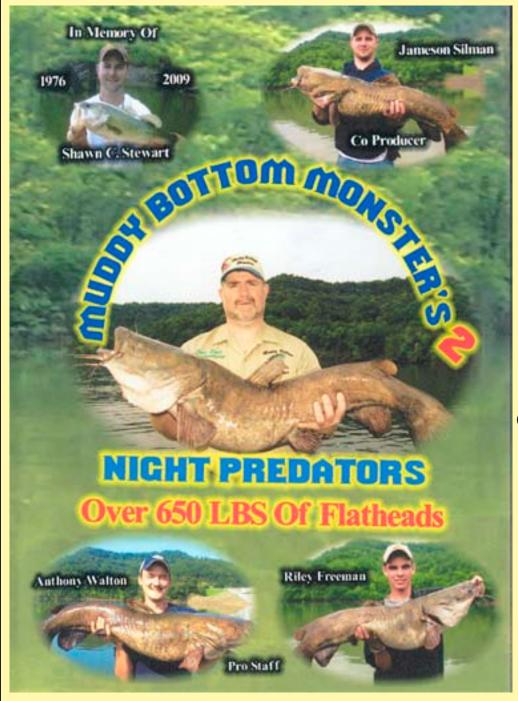
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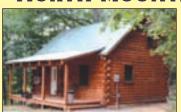
Craig Kirkham went to Monroe County for this rainbow trout.



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Eric Biddle went to Cave Run Lake for this 47" musky.



Mike McGuire hooked a nice citation smallmouth. *Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton*.



Dale Brady, from Frametown, caught a 40'musky.

MAIL OR EMAIL BIG FISH PHOTOS FORM ON PAGE 38



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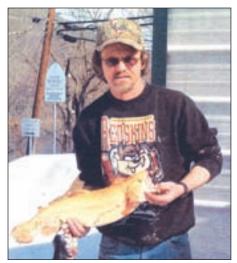
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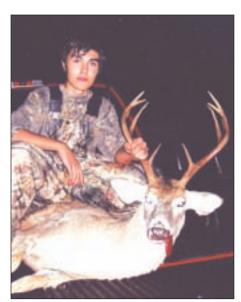
RT. 33 East Just Before The 4 Lane **ELKINS, WV** 304-636-5569



A nice golden trout was landed. *Photo courtesy of PC Bait & Tackle in Hinton*.



Young Hunter Reed caught a nice largemouth. *Photo courtesy of Riverside Bait & Tackle in Hockingport.*



Cody Wood brought in a nice buck. *Photo courtesy of JBC Archery in Shady Spring*.

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Spring Fishing At State Parks

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Trout stockings and the spring weather always call anglers to streams.

"Visitors and residents are discovering state parks and forests are great for fishing retreats," said Brad Reed, district administrator with the W.Va. State Parks System. "The Wildlife Resources Section of the Division of Natural Resources does an outstanding job stocking fish and managing our streams and waters to maintain good fishing opportunities in the state."

Trout stocking began in January and runs through May. Information about the stocking program is available online at www.wvdnr. gov. "What folks may not realize is the closeness of our park and forest cabins to great fishing waters. Cabins and lodges are good places to stay during a spring fishing adventure," according to Reed.

For information about outdoor packages, events and activities at West Virginia State Parks and Forests, visit www.wvstateparks.com or phone, 800 CALL WVA and ask the call center to transfer your call to the area by name.

2010 fishing packages and related events available at W.Va. State Parks:

Sportsmen's Package at Tygart Lake

Anglers showing a current W.Va. fishing license receive 50 percent

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Distributed & Also Free On The Internet Details On Page 3 off each night's stay after their second night at regular rates and 30 percent off all restaurant services at Tygart Lake State Park April 16 – May 27 and again October 1 – 31. Tygart Lake State Park, near the city of Grafton, is minutes away from the Tygart Lake Tailwaters, where anglers may fish along the river or put their boat in to navigate the Tygart River in search of the big one.

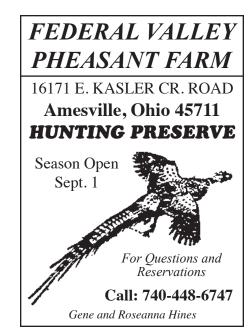
Rooms at Tygart Lake Lodge are large and overlook Tygart Lake. The lodge features a full service restaurant, gift shop and offers wireless access throughout the facility.

"Trout fishing in the Tygart River can be an exhilarating experience," according to Brennon O'Sullivan, assistant superintendent at Tygart Lake State Park.

The Tygart Lake tailwaters are stocked by the W.Va. Division of Natural Resources monthly in February, March, April and May. The river is stocked once a week during the second and third week of October. Stocking is generally done below the dam from the old Grafton City Park. For information, call 304-265-6144 or visit www.tygartlake.com.

continue to the next page

www.wvasportsman.net It's FREE





Chris Phillips, from Spencer, landed a 44" musky.





rout Wrangler Package at Pipestem Resort

Pipestem Resort State Park offers a fly-fishing package designed much like trips anglers find offered in western states, says Ed Wooton, sales representative at Pipestem Resort.

"It is a wonderful fishing experience."

The Trout Wrangler package is available April through May 13. It includes an overnight stay, two days fishing for rainbow trout, four meals that includes steak and dinner, refreshments, guide service, and horseback transportation to the Bluestone River. "It is an angler's



Grover Rooker landed a 20' trout. *Photo courtesy of Waterfront Sporting Goods in Alderson.*

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dream and a trout's nightmare," Wooton claims.

Trout Wrangler is by reservation and has limited availability. "We plan meals and determine the number of horses needed to pack in." The maximum number the package can accommodate is 10 people.

Wooton says the package has been popular the past two years with

small groups and individual anglers looking for a true fly-fishing experience. "The sheer beauty on the Bluestone River during this time of year combines with the catchand-release aspect of the stream, the ride in and out of the canyon on horseback and the excellent meals, making this an exceptional adven-

continue to the next page



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Complete details are on Pipestem's Web site at www.pipestemresort.com, click Packages/Deals or call 304-466-1800. Ed Wooton is the package coordinator.

In the House - Trout Special at Cass Scenic Railroad State Park

Twenty of the two-story company houses are restored at the town of Cass and are rented year-round for vacations to skiers and, in April and May, for anglers' retreats," says Andy Bennett, who oversees town operations for Cass Scenic Rail-



nice smallmouth bass was brought in. Photo courtesy of PC Bait & Tackle in Hinton.

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road State Park. The state park also offers train rides starting May 28 - October 31, special events, restaurant, museum, company store, and lodging packages.

Deer Creek and Knapps Creek are both near Cass. Deer Creek is stocked once each month from February - May, Knapps Creek is stocked each week March-May, and nearby Seneca State Forest Lake is stocked every two weeks, March - May. For a list of stocked waters, visit www.wvdnr.gov/Fishing/Fishing regs.shtm.

If you are planning a fishing trip, guests at Cass will have rates reduced 20 percent from April 1-May 15. A bonus for those taking a weekly rental during this time can earn two free tickets to Whittaker Station for the upcoming train season. Individuals must stay a minimum of two consecutive nights for the rate discount. This special rate offer cannot be combined with other discounts. Houses, like all cabins and cottages in the state park system, are fully furnished and include linens, dinnerware and other



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amenities. For information about house rentals and fishing opportunities at Cass, call 304-456-4300 or visit online www.cassrailroad. com.

Fly-tying at Cathedral State Park

Cathedral State Park in Preston County preserves an ancient hemlock forest of majestic proportions and is one of the last living examples of the vast virgin hemlock forest which once flourished in the Appalachian highlands.Trees up to 90 feet in height and 21 feet in circumference form cloisters in the park. There are beautiful hiking

continue to the next page

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trails and picnicking. There isn't a fish on site, but Superintendent Eric Risinger ties flies.

Risinger is conducting an outdoor classroom and hands-on workshop on fly-tying June 19 with lure craft and June 20 with fly tying and fly-fishing. An avid fisherman, Risinger encourages anyone interested in the activities to call for times and workshop information. Rhine Creek along the park boundary is stocked monthly. The park Web site is www. cathedralstatepark.com or call 304-



Terry Bolyard, from Morgantown, took a 9 point buck.



735-3771 during office hours.

Fishing for a Deal at North Bend State Park

The 305-acre lake at North Bend State Park calls to bass anglers. "It's one of the hottest lakes in West Virginia for smallmouth bass," according to Park Superintendent Steve Jones. "Our fishing package includes a one night stay at the park lodge, breakfast for two in our dining room, taxes, a lure and lot of lake information. You don't have to buy a package to fish at the lake, but we think for \$99, folks will find the 'bait' price a good value."

"Fishing for a Deal" at North Bend State Park is available March 15 – May 27 and again from Sept. 13 – Oct. 31. In addition to lodging, breakfast and lure, you'll get information about the underwater structures such as the original river channel in the lake, boat ramp locations, canoe/john boat launch sites, bank fishing opportunities and current water conditions (temperature and clarity). Fishing tips specific to North Bend Lake, species, bait

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suggestions and where and how to throw it are part of the informa-

The lure or bait included in the package is picked up at the Hess Fish and Tackle Shop with presentation of a package voucher. "When anglers stop to get their Crane or Jones Bait lure, Hess is sure to talk about fishing patterns on the lake and other tips," Jones advises. Hess is small business owner in Ritchie County and a local fisherman.

North Bend Lake is limited to trolling motors only. To recharge trolling motor batteries there are putlets at North Bend Lodge parking areas. For reservations or more information call North Bend State Park at 304-643-2931 or visit www.northbendsp.com and click Event/Deals.

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Tommy Casto caught a 5 pound, 12 oz. largemouth bass in a pond.



93 year old Roy Mace hooked a nice musky. *Photo courtesy of Cross-roads General Store near Newark*.



Scott Stevens, from Summersville, landed a 9 pound, 8 oz. walleye.

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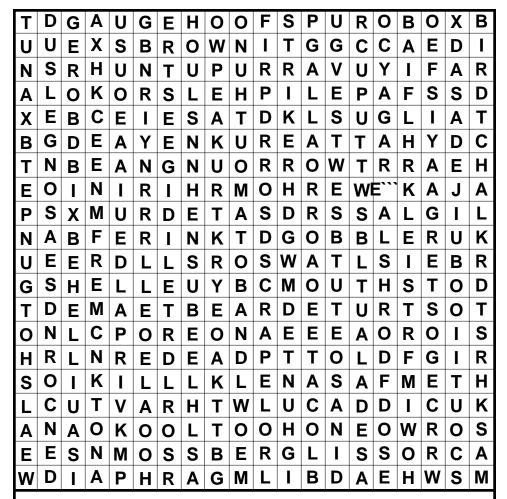
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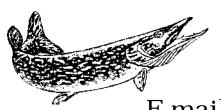
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Drawings to be held on Saturday, July 24, 2010 - Gates open on Wednesday, July 21, 2010 \$100.00 Per Ticket -**Prizes Valued at \$650.000.00**

TIME - PRIZE

NOON - 2010 Harley Davidson Softail

12:05 - \$3,000.00

12:10 - Ruger Red Label

12:15 - \$2,000.00

12:20 - Browning X-Bolt Medallion

12:25 - \$2,000.00

12:30 - 2010 Pontoon Boat

12:35 - Remington 700 CDL SF

12:40 - \$2,500.00

12:45 - \$2,000.00

12:50 - Winchester 70 Feather Weight

12:55 - \$2,000.00

1:00 - 2010 Ford F150 Super Cab 4 x 4

2:00 - 2010 Jeep Wrangler Rubicon 4 x 4

2:05 - Winchester 70 Feather Weight

2:20 - Browning X-Bolt Medallion

2:35 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter

2:40 - Remington 11-87 Premier Sup

2:50 - Thompson Center Encore Shotgun 12 ga

3:00 - 2010 Toyota 4 Runner Limited 4×4

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1:05 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter

1:10 - Ruger Hawkeye

1:15 - 2010 Yamaha Rhino

1:20 - Browning X-Bolt Medallion

1:25 - \$2,000.00

1:30 - \$10,000.00

1:35 - Weatherby Orion D'Italia I

1:40 - Remington 700 CDL

1:45 - \$2,000.00

1:50 - Ruger Red Label

1:55 - \$2,500.00

2:10 - **\$2,000.00**

2:15 - \$2,500.00

2:25 - \$2,000.00

2:45 - \$2,000.00

2:55 - Ruger #1 B

3:15 - \$3,000.00

2:30 - 2010 Camper

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EARLY BIRD 2:

16 Additional Chances of \$500.00 & 2 Chances of \$1,000.00 for 2010 Summer Bash ORIGINAL ticket stubs returned to the Ellenboro VFD by Noon on Saturday, May 29, 2010



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TIME - PRIZE

4:00 - 2010 Ford Taurus SHO AWD

4:05 - Remington 700 BDL

4:10 - Remington Sendero SFII

4:15 - \$2,500.00

4:20 - Weatherby Orion D'Italia I

4:25 - \$2,000.00

4:30 - 2010 Harley Davidson Fatboy

4:35 - Ruger Hawkeye

4:40 - Tikka T-3 Hunter

4:45 - \$2,000.00

4:50 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter

4:55 - \$2,000.00

5:00 - 2010 Lincoln MKX AWD

5:05 - Remington 700 CDL

5:10 - Reminaton 870 12 ga

5:15 - \$2,500.00

5:20 - Winchester 70 Feather Weight

5:25 - \$2,000.00

5:30 - 2010 Polaris Ranger

5:35 - \$2,000,00

5:40 - Remington Seven CDL

5:45 - \$2,500.00

5:50 - Ruger Hawkeye

5:55 - Remington 700 CDL



6:00 - 2010 Corvette

6:05 - Browning X-Bolt Medallion

6:10 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter

6:15 - \$2,500.00

6:20 - Remington 700 CDL

6:25 - \$2,000.00

6:30 - \$5,000.00

6:35 - \$3,000.00

6:40 - \$3,500.00

6:45 - \$4,000.00

6:50 - \$3,000.00 Cabelas Gift Certificate

6:55 - \$5,000.00

7:00 - Ten (10) - \$1,000.00 Winners (Match WV Daily 3 - Last 3 Ticket #s)

7:00 - \$100,000.00 (Match WV Daily 4 Exactly)

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3:35 - \$2,500.00 3:40 - Ruger Hawkeye 3:45 - \$2,000.00

3:50 - Ruger Red Label

3:55 - Browning X-Bolt Medallion

3:05 - Remington 700 CDL SF

3:25 - Remington Seven CDL

3:30 - 2010 Bass Boat

3:10 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter

3:20 - Winchester 70 Feather Weight

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