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Vol. 1 Issue 186

Winter 2009



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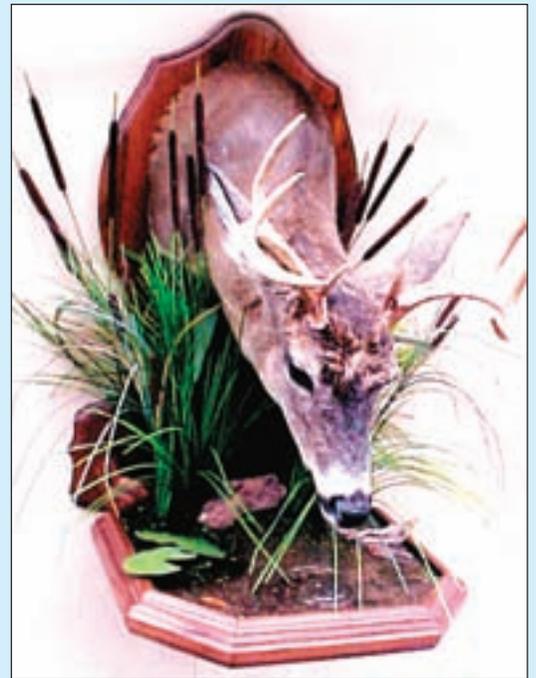
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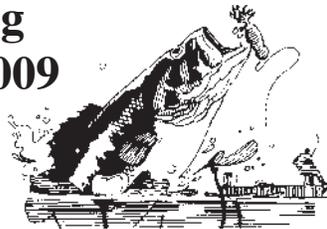
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Cover Photo

A massive McDowell County archery buck was brought in by David Allen. The large ten point has a wide rack and long tines.

Look for ads for upcoming sport shows in West Virginia in this issue. Boat and RV dealers will be offering great values in your outdoor equipment. Financing from numerous banks is still available. This magazine is on line www.wvasportsman.net
Photo courtesy of Cardinal Pawnbrokers in Beckley.

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Bunnies By Bow

Chasing rabbits, either with or without dogs, is a time-honored tradition. Getting out on a crisp winter morning with a friend or two and hitting the fields, briars, and fencerows in search of cottontails is eagerly anticipated by rabbit hunting enthusiasts. Although most hunters prefer the accompaniment of a trusted shotgun, there are a good number of people out there who choose to spike up the challenge meter by go afield with stick and string. That's right – bowhunting for bunnies!

Odds are that a hunter probably isn't going to come home with a limit of rabbits on every trip, but the fun and challenge provides a degree of success which far outweighs the actual number of rabbits bagged.

The great thing about bowhunting for rabbits is that it doesn't

By Paul E. Morris

take a lot of specialized equipment as does many other types of bowhunting. Rabbits can be hunted with compounds, longbows, and recurves. In fact, the bow doesn't even have to be "perfectly fitted" to the archers as with target shooting or big game hunting.

While some archers will actually use compound bows with sights, most people just prefer to shoot instinctively. A lot of shots require snap shooting and there just isn't time to use sights.

Shooting instinctively is a lot of fun and really doesn't take as much practice to become proficient as one might imagine. Whether using a traditional bow or a compound, continue to the next page

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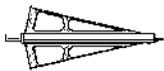
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Stan Seckman, from Alma, used a bow for this 8 point.

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A large 10 point was taken by Cody Davis. Photo courtesy of Bow-Listic Archery in Chelyan.

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a hunter can usually begin hitting rabbit-sized targets at close range within a few practice shots. Of course, shooting "on the fly" and at greater distances requires more practice. Luckily, many of the shots at rabbits are up close and personal.

Arrows can vary too, but they at least have to be somewhat suited to the bow. It's obviously not neces-



DNR Director, Frank Jezioro, hunted in Kansas a buck. *Photo courtesy of Jerry's Sporting Goods in Horner.*



Mike Byrd got a 9 point with a muzzleloader. *Photo courtesy of Reese's Country Store in Deerwalk*

sary to match bow and arrow to the point that one can shoot quarter-size groups at 50 yards, but the arrows need to at least fly reasonably consistent from one shot to the next to gain any proficiency at all.

The arrow point is a point of contention (sorry about the pun) with many folks. Some archers prefer various broadheads while others will use various small game points, blunts, or judo heads. Many hunters will simply use a field point with a flat metal washer behind it for shock and to slow the arrow penetration. Of course, all archers should check and abide by whatever regulations govern the area being hunted.

Another thing to consider is the arrow fletching. Bowhunters use both feathers and plastic vanes with equal success. However, some folks prefer to use flu flu fletching to slow the travel and reduce the amount of lost arrows. Because of the usually thick habitat and the fact that arrows shot low or into brush can skirt beneath grass and other foliage, bright fletching colors such as white, orange, or even fluorescents can help with locating

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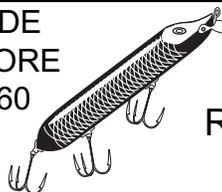
hidden arrows.

Rabbits can be bowhunted in the traditional manner with a good dog or even a pack of dogs. If dogs are used, most bowhunters prefer dogs which work a trail really slow. Shotgunners have much more success shooting at a rabbit being pushed

continue to the next page

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hard by dogs than do arrow-flingers. If the dog or dogs work slowly, the rabbit will often move in shorter increments and stop, thus offering better shot opportunities for bowhunters.

Many bowhunters prefer to simply stalk and still hunt through likely looking cover. Oftentimes, rabbits can be seen sitting in tight cover and a shot can be tried without bumping the rabbit. If the rabbit does bump and isn't pursued by dogs, it will often only run a short distance and stop to look around. Again, this offers the best opportunity for a shot rather than when the rabbit is on the move.

Bowhunting for rabbits is an excellent opportunity for archers to hunt together. Most bowhunting, such as for white-tailed deer or other big game, is a solo adventure.



Chris Seckman, from Alma, hunted for a 9 point buck.



Matt Lynch shot an 8 point. Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in ELizabeth.

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However, chasing bunnies can be great fun as a group effort.

If hunting with dogs, multiple bowhunters can spread out and move along much as do shotgun hunters. As the rabbit is pushed by the dogs, it will usually offer a shot for one of the hunters.

Bowhunters without dogs often continue to the next page

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will form a line and move methodically through the habitat. Some prefer to space out in a straight line while others prefer to stagger the line somewhat.

Regardless of the method used to hunt rabbits, safety should always be first on everyone's minds. Arrows can be deadly and every shot must be taken with care. Not only are inline shots a danger, but arrows can also deflect off the ground or other terrain features and end up in the wrong place.

Rabbit hunting with a bow can be a tremendous amount of fun for a single person or a group. Equipment is relatively inexpensive and easy to obtain and bowhunting for rabbits is legal in most areas. Of course, one should always learn all the regulations, equipment requirements, and bag limits before starting out.



Steve Wilson hunted a big 10 point. Photo courtesy of Jerry's Sporting Goods in Horner & Flatwoods.

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Chris Dean, from Milton, took an 8 point with a bow..



Tom Bishop won the 2008 big crappie award with this 15" fish & \$110. Photo courtesy of River-Side Bait in Hockingport, Ohio.

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Pete Carpenter, from Rock Cave, harvested a nice 8 point buck.



Cody Stover, from Reno, Ohio, bagged this 10 point.



Cory Vales won 1st place in the cat-fish contest and \$435. Photo courtesy of River-Side Bait in Hockingport.

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Tyler McNemar shot a nice 10 point in Gilmer County.



Klye West had success with an 11 point from Ritchie County.

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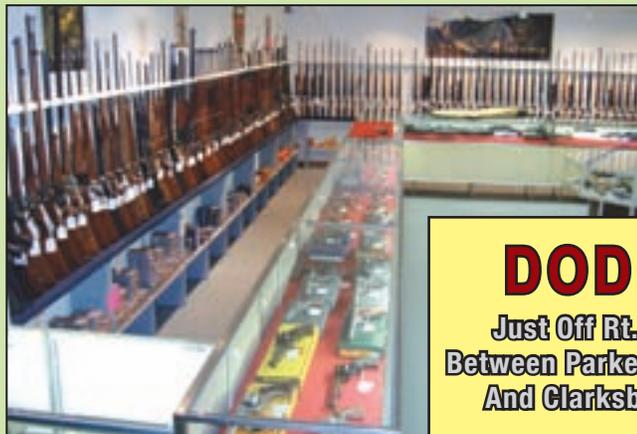
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Matt Groves, from Strange Creek, hunted in Logan County for this 10 point bow buck.



Chuck Moore won the archery contest with this 121 4/8 . Photo courtesy of J & R Sport Shop in Shinnston.



Bobby Smith went to McDowell County for this buck. Photo courtesy of Cardinal Pawnbrokers in Beckley.

Archer's Paradise

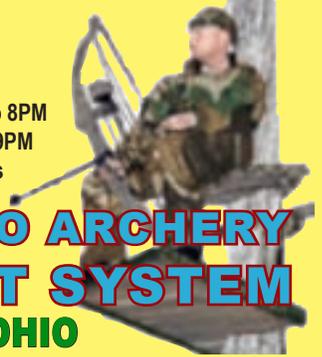
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James Kieffer, from Summersville, bagged a nice buck. Photo courtesy of Jerry's Sporting Goods in Horner and Flatwoods.

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Matt Romine & Daniel Allen brought in a couple of nice bucks. Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.

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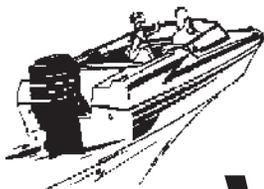
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2008 Fall Turkey Harvest Down

Preliminary figures for the 2008 fall turkey hunting season indicate that 1,128 birds were harvested this fall. This represents a 25 percent decline from last year's fall harvest of 1,511. The largest harvest declines were reported in the western counties of District 6 (down 62 percent) and the southeastern counties of District 4 (down 61 percent). More moderate harvest declines were reported in the central and eastern counties of District 3 (down 20 percent) and the eastern-panhandle counties of District 2 (down 10 percent). District 1, located in the north-central and northern-panhandle regions of the state, reported an overall harvest increase of 15 percent. Mason County, the only county open to fall turkey hunting in District 5, reported a 48 percent harvest increase.

The counties reporting the highest turkey harvests this fall include: Randolph (108), Mason (99), Preston (89), Greenbrier (79) and Pocahontas (74).

Wildlife Biologists had forecast a lower fall turkey harvest based upon poor poult production in the spring and abundant food sources this fall which tend to scatter flocks and make them less accessible to hunters. "Prior to the season, it was predicted the fall wild turkey

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harvest might drop as much as 15 percent," noted Paul Johansen, Assistant Chief in Charge of Game Management. "Wet, windy weather during the first week of the season, particularly in our southeastern counties, probably reduced hunter turnout and hampered those who did venture forth, causing a larger than expected decrease in our fall turkey harvest."



Tony Pillo won the gun contest with this 126 4/8 deer. Photo courtesy of J&R Sport Shop in Shinnston.

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Details On Page 3**

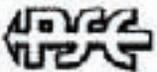


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2008 Deer Harvest

Preliminary data collected from game checking stations across the state indicate deer hunters in West Virginia harvested 66,851 bucks during the two-week buck season, which ran from November 24 through December 6, according to Frank Jezioro, Director of the Division of Natural Resources. The 2008 buck harvest was 362 deer less than the 2007 harvest of 67,213. The top 10 counties for buck harvest were Preston (2,579), Ritchie (2,522), Wetzel (2,195), Randolph (2,104), Hampshire (2,100), Hardy (2,049), Lewis (2,019), Roane (1,981), Mason (1,980) and Greenbrier (1,928).

The 2008 buck kill is essentially the same as 2007, according to Jezioro. The major difference is



Michael Adkins harvested a nice 12 point buck.

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that the areas of the state where the harvest increased this year were the areas that had a decrease last year, and conversely, the areas that had an increased harvest last year are the areas that decreased this year. This resulted in an increased harvest in 22 counties and a decline in 29 counties. Undoubtedly, poor

weather the first two days of the season influenced hunter participation and probably dampened this year's harvest somewhat. Rain fell opening day statewide with temperatures in the low 40s accompanied by gusty winds. Day two was windy with snow falling and temperatures in the mid 30s. Snow-
continue to the next page



Adam Copeland shot a 7 point buck.



Jimmie Taylor used a muzzleloader for this 11 point. Photo courtesy of Reese's Country Store in Derwalk.

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fall accumulations varied across the state, with more than a foot of snow being reported in the higher mountains of eastern West Virginia. Historically, deer harvest these first two days accounts for 55 percent of the season's total.

Wildlife biologists and wildlife managers collected age-specific biological information at checking stations in Hampshire, Upshur, Mason and Tyler counties this year and preliminary analysis indicate little change from last year in antler development and overall body condition of deer in the 1 1/2 year age class.

White-tailed deer are a product of the environment. Too many deer on a given tract of land will result in loss of body weight, reduction in antler development, decrease in reproduction and sometimes death due to starvation during winter months.

"The state's deer management program is designed to be very responsive to changing population conditions," noted Jezioro. "Deer regulations are adjusted annually to offer either more conservative or more liberal opportunities to harvest antlerless deer, depending upon our antlered buck harvest data analysis and management objectives for given counties."

For example, in those counties where the antlered buck harvest was above the objective for the county, liberal antlerless seasons were implemented in 2008. Reduced bag

limits were applied to counties that were below their objective.

Wildlife Biologists will analyze data from the combined 2008 deer seasons (i.e., buck, antlerless, archery and muzzleloader) before making appropriate recommendations for next year's deer seasons. These recommendations will be available for public review at 12 regulations meetings scheduled for March 16 and 17, 2009 (see current 2008-09 Hunting and Trapping Regulations Summary or visit the DNR Web site at www.wvdnr.gov for scheduled times and places).

Jeziro reminds hunters that the traditional six-day antlerless deer season in selected counties on both public and private land ends December 13. Muzzleloader deer season begins December 15 and runs through December 20. The Youth and Class Q antlerless season will be open on Monday and Tuesday December 22 and 23 and be fol-



Young Isaac Bright, from Elkins, shot a nice 8 point buck.

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Gene and Roseanna Hines

lowed by a four-day reopening of antlerless deer season (December 24-27) in 44 counties or portions of counties (see 2008-09 Hunting and Trapping Regulations Summary or visit the DNR Web site at www.wvdnr.gov for county and area listings).



Justin Bartlett shot an 8 point .

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Loose Lines Lose Trout

If you've been fishing a while, you've probably heard the phrase, "Tight Lines" at some point. There's a reason this phrase is so popular. Simply put, loose lines lose fish.

I constantly see inexperienced anglers rest their pole on a rock, chair or stand and ignore the slack line drifting in the water. Unfortunately, chances are high they'll miss subtle nibbles on their line while fish steal their bait.

Another common problem when fishing is thinking you're stuck on the lake or river's bottom and releasing the line to correct the problem. I've lost a couple of fish making this assumption a time or two - especially when fishing from a boat.

Many times, anglers get used to feeling the "take" when a fish is at the other end of their line. But sometimes the pole will bend, and you won't feel the normal "take" (or vibration from nibbles). I've experienced this a lot when fishing from a small row boat on my

favorite lake.

When you don't feel the bites at the end of a pole but the pole bends in half, it's natural to think you may have gotten stuck on the bottom rocks. But don't be fooled into making this assumption. Try and reel in the line the first - and if you can reel in line, chances are you're not stuck, and may have a fish on your hook.

One of the tricks used to get line unstuck is to release the bail hoping the loose line will free the obstruction. But if you've hooked a fish, loose line may help him escape. So this is the last thing you'll want to do.

It's very important to keep the line tight when you've hooked a fish. So even if you think the line may be stuck on the bottom of the lake or river, try and reel in first. As long as you can continue to reel in line, you can rest assured that you're not stuck.

You can also try releasing the drag a bit to double check. If there's a fish on the end of your line, you can

bet he's trying to swim away and you'll hear it in the reel's drag.

Worst case scenario, you can always release the line later if still certain that your line is stuck - but until then, keep those lines tight! Because loose lines lose trout!



Robbie Harvey caught a big trout.
Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.

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Sam Sutton, from Parkersburg, tagged an 8 point in Wood County.



Rick Golden took a 48 pound bobcat Photo courtesy of J & R Sport Shop in Shinnston

**Mail In Your BIG FISH Pictures
From The 2008 Season.
Form Is On Page 38**

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Shirley Fought shot a nice buck. Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.

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Young Brady Linville took a 12 point buck. Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.

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Information is on Page 17.
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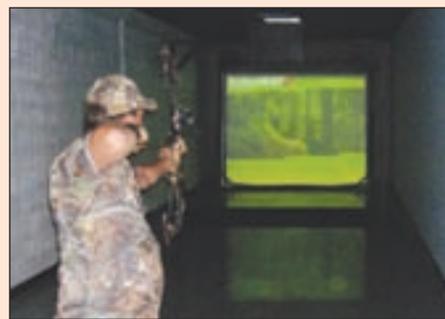
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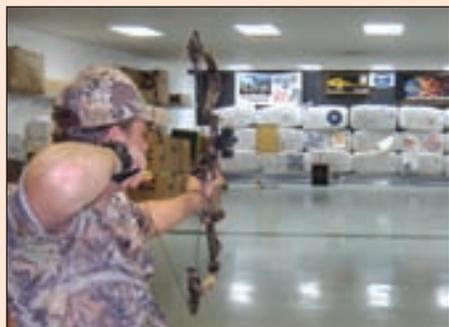
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Rick Cabo and Tom Spittler, from Clarksburg, got an 8 and a 10 point in Lewis County.



Jim Beaver, from New Manchester, shot a 10 point.



Mike Hiles hunted in Wirt County for this 8 point.

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Wheeler's Revisited

Jim Wheeler is a retail guru. An outdoor equipment guru of the first magnitude. He knows that to succeed in the retail business as an owner requires long hours, attention to detail, wise buying and complete knowledge of your product when talking to potential customers.

These are among the reasons he has survived the giant retailers Wal-Mart and K-Mart, located within a mile of his business location on Rte. 33 East in Elkins. Not only survived, but flourished.

In an article I wrote about Wheeler's Sporting Goods, for this magazine, in October, 1996, I called Jim



Jim and Brian Wheeler have years of experience and knowledge.

By Jim Wilson

Wheeler a visionary. This revisit has proven that to be true.

In 1986 he had just recently moved his business into a new 8,000 sq. ft. two story building. Since then he has sold that building and built a new 12,200 sq. ft. two story building right next door.

5, 200 sq. ft. on the main floor is well stocked with hunting and fishing supplies and accessories. Firearms include hand guns, rifles, shotguns and black powder pistols and rifles. Fishing supplies mostly comprise gear and accessories for the number one prey in this area: Trout. Amongst the inventory are 10,000 jars of Power Bait. On the far right corner of the main floor is a beautiful rock crafted waterfall to put the visitors in a mellow mood. The upstairs 5,200 sq. ft. is used for inventory.

This entire enterprise is run by Jim and his youngest son, Brian. Either by genes or osmosis, Brian has the same knack and work eth-

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Details On Page 3**

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ics of the retail business as his dad. While the main business was growing, Brian started dabbling in car audio equipment. First, because he personally wanted some equipment and had a hard time finding it. Then the retail mantra of supply continue to the next page



A hunter checked in a buck. Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.

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and demand took over. At first Brian operated this sideline out of his home, and then in 2000 the business had grown to the point that the Wheelers made a decision to move it into the main store. Now, 1,800 sq. ft. on the main floor is devoted to Wheeler's Audio. The inventory includes products by Rockford, Fosgate and Memphis Car Radio.



With over 1,200 guns in stock, Wheeler's offers a huge selection of pistols, rifles and shotguns.

The first two manufacturers mentioned tell Brian he has the largest inventory in the state.

That Wheeler's has survived the retail giants is just part of the story. Jim Wheeler says, "Eight years ago, Wal-Mart made a corporate decision to stop stocking pistols in its stores. A light bulb went off in my head."

Wheeler purchased a new firearm's license and promptly ordered 87 pistols and rifles. Since that initial order he has bought 8,000 pistols, rifles and shotguns - - and sold over 7,000. The business keeps 1200 firearms in stock at all times. His is an unusual case whereby a decision by a retail giant has had a reverse effect on a smaller business such as Wheeler's.

"We've boomed since then," smiles Wheeler. Wheeler's stock top brand hand guns; S & W, Colt, Reugers, Taurus, Glock and Hi-

continue to the next page



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Ellen Rose shot a nice 8 point.

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Jim Wheeler goes to the store every morning at 5:00 am, works on the books for a while, then strolls through the store to make sure everything is in its proper place. He says, "I make buying decisions just by looking around. Most times gut decisions."

Well, they may be gut decisions to him, but there is a mental calculator going through his retail head at all times during these decisions. Of that, I have no doubt.

Jim puts in 70 hours a week at the enterprise. Brian works it 62 hours. They are the only employees. Why the long hours? Jim says, "I love it. It's who I am. Besides, it's necessary to be successful, but it is also a family thing."

Brian echoes his dad's feelings, but does concede, "The hard floors do get to you at times. We never sit down or go out to lunch. Lunch hours are when many of our customers come in."

Yes, there is another secret to Wheeler's success. A biggie! Jim says, "Whenever an order comes in, big or small, a check is cut the next day." That's really good way to keep your suppliers happy.

Not to be excluded from the family enterprise, Jim's wife, Marlea, moved her ladies clothing business from the Elkins 5-lane to a building catty-corner to her husbands. She did this in 2005. She had operated off the 5-lane for over 20 years.

It is truly a family thing. Wheeler's is open 6:30 am to 5:00 pm, Monday thru Friday. 6:30 am to 1:00 pm on Saturdays. 6:30 am to noon on Sundays. The phone number is 304-636-3430.



Doug Haskins, from Hannibal, OH, caught a 3 1/2 pound crappie.

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A monster buck was taken by this young fellow. Photo courtesy of Willie's Sport Shop in Glenville.

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10 B.A.S.S. Fishing Resolutions

1. I'm going to read every how-to article I can.

I'm going to read — better make that study — every how-to article in Bassmaster Magazine, BASS Times, on Bassmaster.com and on BASSInsider.com that I can. I'll apply what I've learned to my local fishing waters. The cutting edge, seasonal information those articles contain will not go to waste.

2. I'm going to keep a fishing log. I'm going to keep a fishing log — using the BASSlog on BASS Insider — for every trip I take. That way I'll have a record containing relevant information that'll help



Phillip Morgan caught this 6 pound, 2 oz. smallmouth in the Ohio River. Photo courtesy of Hess Fish & Tackle in Harrisville.

me catch bass another day. And I'll keep records from my failures, too. That way I won't make the same mistakes over and over again.

3. I'm going to attend at least one Elite Series event as a Marshal.

I'm going to spend two or three days in the boat with one of those guys and learn from them. I'll get a good night's rest and pay attention all day long. I'll ask questions and take notes. When it's over, I'll benefit from their years of experience. (Click here to get started.)

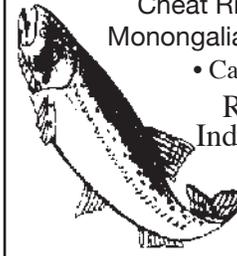
4. I'm going to learn something new every time I go fishing.

It might be the structure on a spot I've never fished, or how far out a drop extends, or maybe how my new bait performs on different sized lines. Regardless, it'll be something I didn't know before I started fishing that day. If I do this my knowledge base about bass fishing will expand on a regular basis. I'll not go fishing another day without learning something new.

5. I'm going to learn at least two

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new techniques this year.

Instead of always fishing the same way with the same lures, I'm going to learn a couple of new tech-
continue to the next page



Tim Payton, from Belleville, shot a coyote.

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iques this year. Maybe I'll learn to drop shot more effectively or maybe how to crank a deep ledge. I'm going to work hard and learn the details, the nuances, that make a difference.

6. I'm going to organize my tackle.

Time on the water is precious. I'm tired of wasting it. I'm going to or-

ganize my tackle so I can find what I want when I want. And I'm going to put things back where they belong so I can find them the next time I need them. I'll not waste my time looking for my favorite lure ever again. (Tips for getting organized)

7. I'm going to think before every cast.

Rather than mindlessly throwing at the bank, I'm going to look at it and try to determine where the bass are hiding and where I should be throwing. That'll make me more
continue to the next page



Bill Looney caught a 48" musky this fall & released it.



Bart Lane landed a 6 1/2 pound smallmouth out of the New River.

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efficient; my lure will spend more time in fish catching water. I'm not going to waste another cast.

8. I'm going to practice casting, skipping, flipping and pitching.

I want to be able to put my lure into places where the other guys can't. The only way to be able to do that is by practicing. When I'm done, I'll be able to skip under a dock or flip into a coffee cup size hole 50 feet away. If I can do that I'll be able to fish freshwater all day even on my highly pressured local lake because I'll be fishing for bass that others miss.

9. I'm going to become more active in my local bass club.

This year I'm going to attend every meeting, volunteer for club projects and maybe run for an office. The more active I am in my club, the more information I'll get from the members. The more information I get from the members, the more bass I'll catch. I'll not spend another year sitting in the back row doing nothing.

10. I'm going to fish all day in every tournament.

This year I intend to fish every tournament until the last minute. There'll be no more slowing down at noon just because I haven't caught anything, just because I'm discouraged, just because I'm

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tired. "The last cast is as good as the first cast" will be my motto for 2009. I'll not waste another minute of tournament time.

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Charles Wagoner shot a big Calhoun County 12 point. Photo courtesy of Holbert's Store in Big Bend.



Young Will Seese, from Lost Run, used a gun for this 8 point. It was taken in Ritchie County.

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Scott Rupenthal hunted with a bow in Ohio for this large 10 point. Photo courtesy of Boone's Bow Shop in Parkersburg.

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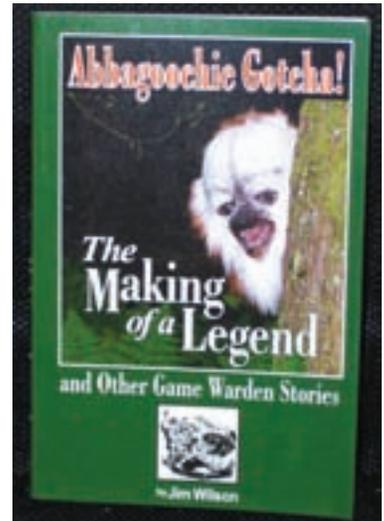
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James Parsons shot this nice 10 point in Kenna. *Photo courtesy of Star Printing in Ravenswood.*

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Helena Marcum brought in a large bodied 10 point buck. *Photo courtesy of Bowlistic-Archery in Chelyan.*

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Argil Jones Jr. went to Ohio for this 145 7/8 scored buck. *Photo courtesy of Holbert's Store in Big Bend.*



Jeanne Hughes brought in a 9 point. *Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.*

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 BIG GAME
 PHOTOS
 Form Is On
 Page 13**



Jamie McGee went to Roane County for this nice 10 point buck.



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Aubra Carpenter used a bow for this huge 11 point. *Photo courtesy of Reese's Country Store in Deerwalk.*



Stacey Mossor - 8 point, Hoy Barker - 8 point, and Dan Greathouse - 8 point, hunted in Ritchie County for these nice deer during gun season.

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Info On Page 13



Cody Griffin went to Ohio for this big buck. *Photo courtesy of Boone's Bow Shop in Parkersburg.*

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Deer Test Positive For CWD

Preliminary test results indicate the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) agent was present in five hunter-harvested deer collected in Hampshire County during the 2008 deer firearms hunting season.

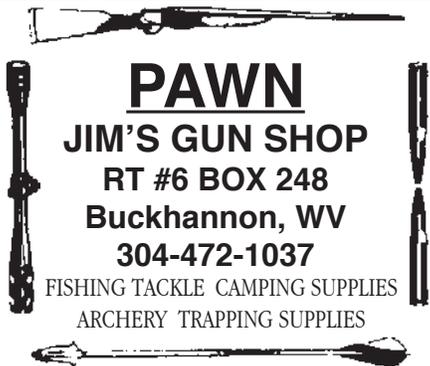
“As part of our agency’s ongoing and intensive CWD monitoring effort, samples were collected from 1,355 hunter-harvested deer brought to game checking stations in Hampshire County and one station near the southern Hampshire County line in Hardy County,” noted Frank Jezioro, director for the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR).

The five CWD positive deer included one 4.5 year-old doe, two 2.5 year-old bucks, one 4.5 year-old buck and one 1.5 year-old buck. All five of the latest positive deer were harvested within the Hampshire County CWD Containment Area (i.e., that portion of Hampshire County located North of U.S. Route 50). However, the CWD agent previously has been detected

outside the containment area but still within Hampshire County. The area in Hampshire County appears to continue to expand as one of the most recent infected deer was approximately five miles northeast of any previous known infected deer location.

CWD has now been detected in a total of 37 deer in Hampshire County (i.e., two road-killed deer - one in 2005 and one in 2008, four deer collected by the DNR in 2005, five deer collected by the DNR in 2006, one hunter-harvest deer taken during the 2006 deer season, three deer collected by the DNR in 2007, six hunter-harvested deer taken during the 2007 deer season, 11 deer collected by the DNR in 2008, and five hunter-harvested deer taken during

continue to the next page



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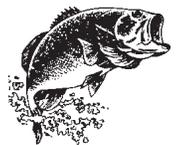
Young Levi Livesay shot a nice 9 point buck. Photo courtesy of Waterfront Sporting Goods in Alderson.



Randall Hall harvested a quality 11 point Wood County buck. Photo courtesy of the Reese's Country Store in Deerwalk.

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the 2008 deer season). The DNR will continue to update management actions designed to control the spread of this disease, prevent further introduction of the disease, and possibly eliminate the disease from the state as information from deer testing within West Virginia is gathered and scientists across the country provide more information on how to combat CWD in white-tailed deer.

Thus far the following disease management actions have been implemented by the DNR within Hampshire County.

- CWD testing efforts designed to determine the prevalence and distribution of the disease.
- Deer population management to reduce the risk of spreading the disease from deer to deer by implementing appropriate antlerless deer hunting regulations designed to increase hunter opportunity to harvest female deer.
- Establish reasonable, responsible and appropriate deer carcass transport restrictions designed to lower the risk of moving the disease to other locations.
- Establish reasonable, responsible and appropriate regulations relating to the feeding and baiting of deer

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within the affected area to reduce the risk of spreading of the disease from deer to deer.

“Landowner and hunter cooperation throughout this entire CWD monitoring and management effort in Hampshire County has been fantastic,” Jezioro noted. “As we strive to meet this wildlife disease challenge and implement appropriate management strategies, the continued support and involvement of



Mike Anderson took a nice 8 point buck. *Photo courtesy of Jarrett's BAIT in Elizabeth.*

landowners and hunters will be essential. The DNR remains committed to keeping the public informed and involved in these wildlife disease management actions.”

continue to the next page



Karen Belcher got her 1st deer.. *Photo courtesy of Bow-Listic Archery in Chelyan.*

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CWD is a neurological disease found in deer and elk, and it belongs to a family of diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies. The disease is thought to be caused by abnormal, proteinaceous particles called prions that slowly attack the brain of infected deer and elk, causing the animals to progressively become emaciated, display abnormal behavior and invariably results in the death of the infected animal. There is no known treatment for CWD, and it is fatal for the infected deer or elk. It is important to note that currently there is no evidence to suggest CWD poses a risk for humans or domestic animals.

“Our well trained and professional wildlife biologists, wildlife managers and conservation officers are working diligently to effectively address this wildlife disease threat, and we are collaborating with nationally recognized wildlife disease experts at the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study in Athens, GA” Jezioro said.

WVDNR Seeks Paintings For 2010 Calendar

The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Section is requesting original wildlife art and related outdoor scenes for the 2010 edition of the award-winning DNR Wildlife Calendar, according to Curtis I. Taylor, Chief of the Wildlife Resources Section of the Division of Natural Resources. The deadline for submission of artwork is February 13, 2009. A 35-mm color slide or a high resolution electronic image of each entry must be submitted by this date. Artists may send in multiple entries.

“This is our 25th calendar and it

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offers a wonderful opportunity for artists to feature their work. Besides distribution in West Virginia, our calendars are enjoyed by people all over the United States and are sent to countries around the world,” Taylor said.

Artists are encouraged to submit paintings of a wide variety of

continue to the next page

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Tom Bishop, Keith Harris, Larry Harris & Billy Barber had a productive hunting camp. Photo courtesy of River-Side Bait in Hockingport, Ohio.

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wildlife topics. These may depict hunting, fishing, landscapes, or feature the state's diverse array of wildlife and plants. Paintings depicting lesser-known animals such as snakes, frogs, turtles, salamanders, bats, songbirds, insects, small mammals (including mice, shrews and moles) as well as nongame fish are all encouraged. Practically any rendering of some aspect of West Virginia's natural resources – animals, plants, landscapes, waterways, hunting, fishing and or nature study experiences can qualify.

Artists are reminded that the calendar format is horizontal with measurements of 14 inches by 11 inches and should keep this ratio in mind when creating paintings. Paintings not chosen in previous years may be resubmitted. "Just because the artwork is not selected one year doesn't mean it will not

be selected in the future," Taylor said. "Often, there are several submissions of a particular species or season and only one can be used in a given year.

"We encourage all artists, especially those from West Virginia, to submit their work," said Taylor. "Since this is our Silver Anniversary Calendar, 25th edition, monthly awarded prizes have increased to \$100 for every month's



Josh Compton, from Ellenboro, shot a 10 point Ritchie County buck.



Mike Campbell went to Wirt County for this 10 point.

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painting and \$500 for the selected cover. Paintings are chosen based on overall composition and quality, along with anatomical and contextual accuracy. The quality of the submitted slide and electronic im-
continue to the next page



Bob Hought from Grafton, went to Webster County for this 8 point.

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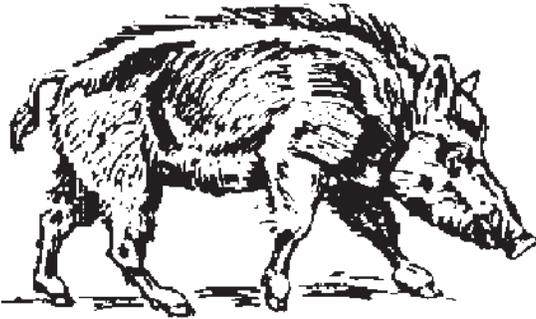
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age is very important for judging the artwork.”

The 2009 West Virginia Wildlife Calendar, featuring a perched great horned owl, is available at WVDNR District Offices, newsstands, convenience marts and retail food stores throughout the state. To obtain 2010 calendar art rules or to purchase a 2009 calendar, please contact the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, Wildlife Calendar Art, P.O. Box 67, Elkins, WV 26241, phone (304) 637-0245. Make checks payable to WVDNR in the amount of \$9 for each calendar, which includes shipping and handling (W.Va. residents add \$.48 for tax). Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Discover are also accepted.



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Roy Hammond, from Pennsboro, shot a massive 8 point that scored 142.
Photo courtesy of Reese's Country Store in Deerwalk.

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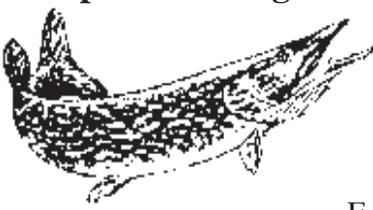
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- 2:15 - \$2,000.00
- 2:20 - Browning X-Bolt Medallion
- 2:25 - \$2,500.00
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- 2:35 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter
- 2:40 - Remington 11-87 Premier Sup
- 2:45 - \$2,000.00
- 2:50 - Thompson Center Encore Shotgun 12 ga
- 2:55 - Ruger #1 B
- 3:00 - 2009 Toyota Tundra 4 x 4
- 3:05 - Remington 700 CDL SF
- 3:10 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter
- 3:15 - \$2,000.00
- 3:20 - Tikka T-3 Hunter
- 3:25 - Remington Seven CDL
- 3:30 - 2009 G-3 Pontoon Boat
- 3:35 - \$2,500.00
- 3:40 - Ruger Hawkeye



**Grand Prize
\$100,000.00**

BOATS

VEHICLES

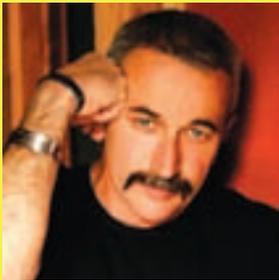
Great Food & Drinks served from Noon thru 5 PM on Saturday, July 25, 2009 at no charge to Ticket Holder & **One** Paid Guest. Guests not eligible to attend Friday entertainment.

Visit www.ellenborowv.com for downloadable flyers with complete rules & order forms...and more. Or call to request a flyer by mail.
 (304) 869-3244

Make checks payable to EVFD and send to:
 Ellenboro VFD
 P O Box 244
 Ellenboro, WV 26346

EARLY BIRD 1:
 20 Additional Chances of \$500.00 for 2009 Summer Bash **ORIGINAL** ticket stubs returned to the Ellenboro VFD by Noon on Saturday, March 28, 2009

EARLY BIRD 2:
 16 Additional Chances of \$500.00 & 2 Chances of \$1,000.00 for 2009 Summer Bash **ORIGINAL** ticket stubs returned to the Ellenboro VFD by Noon on Saturday, May 30, 2009



Featuring **AARON TIPPIN** on Friday, July 24, 2009 at 9 PM. See our flyer for complete details.

TIME PRIZE

- 3:45 - \$1,500.00
- 3:50 - Ruger Red Label
- 3:55 - Browning X-Bolt Medallion
- 4:00 - 2009 GMC Acadia AWD
- 4:05 - Remington 700 BDL
- 4:10 - Remington Sendero SFII
- 4:15 - \$2,000.00
- 4:20 - Weatherby Orion D'Italia I
- 4:25 - \$2,000.00
- 4:30 - 2009 Ranger Bass Boat
- 4:35 - Ruger Hawkeye
- 4:40 - Tikka T-3 Hunter
- 4:45 - \$1,500.00
- 4:50 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter
- 4:55 - \$2,000.00
- 5:00 - 2009 Dodge Challenger SRT 8
- 5:05 - Remington 700 CDL
- 5:10 - Remington 870 12 ga
- 5:15 - \$2,500.00
- 5:20 - Browning X-Bolt Medallion
- 5:25 - \$1,500.00
- 5:30 - 2009 Harley Davidson Softail
- 5:35 - \$2,000.00
- 5:40 - Remington Seven CDL
- 5:45 - \$2,000.00
- 5:50 - Ruger Hawkeye
- 5:55 - Remington 700 CDL
- 6:00 - 2010 Chevy Camaro
- 6:05 - Browning X-Bolt Medallion
- 6:10 - Weatherby MARK V Sporter
- 6:15 - \$2,500.00
- 6:20 - Remington 700 CDL
- 6:25 - \$1,500.00
- 6:30 - \$5,000.00
- 6:35 - \$2,500.00
- 6:40 - \$3,000.00
- 6:45 - \$3,500.00
- 6:50 - \$2,500.00 Cabelas Gift Certificate
- 6:55 - \$4,500.00
- 7:00 - 10-\$1,000.00 Winners (Match WV Daily 3 - Last 3 Numbers)
- 7:00 - \$100,000.00 (Match WV Daily 4 Exactly)

GUNS



CASH

& MORE

GUN WINNERS May Elect To Receive Cash Of Equal Value! - UNLIMITED CHANCES TO WIN ON EACH TICKET!

SMOKE HOLE

SENECA ROCKS

RESORT

WEST VIRGINIA

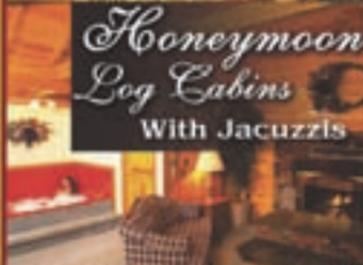
LODGING

Kitchen, Pool, Sleeps 6,
Color TV, Free HBO, Phone,
Fireplace,
Homestyle Restaurant!

*Family
Log Cabins*



*Honeymoon
Log Cabins*
With Jacuzzis



CAVERNS

WORLD'S LARGEST
RIBBON STALACTITE!

OPEN YEAR-ROUND!

TOURS DAILY!

Washington DC	3 Hrs.
Harrisonburg, VA	1.5 hrs.
Morgantown, WV	2 hrs.
Canaan Valley, WV	30 min.
Parkersburg, WV	3 hrs.
Columbus, OH	5 hrs.
Harrisburg, PA	4 hrs.
Charleston, WV	0.5 hrs.



Nearby Adventures!

- Seneca Rocks/Spruce Knob
National Recreation Areas
- Blackwater Falls • Dolly Sods Wilderness
- Canaan Valley & Timberline Resorts

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