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Issue 214

Winter 2012



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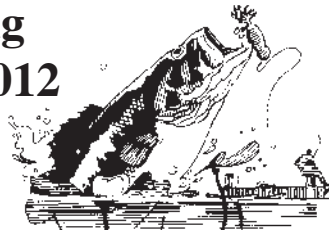
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Cover Photo

An exceptional Randolph County buck was taken on Thanksgiving Day by Amanda Mastrogioseppe. This buck had a gross score of 162 1/8 with 40 inches of mass.

This years racks over the state were larger than normal. Send in your great buck pics to this publication. The form is on page 5.

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Big Buck Season Results

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va. – Preliminary data collected from game checking stations across the state indicate deer hunters in West Virginia harvested 59,835 bucks during the two-week buck firearms season, which ran from November 21 through December 3, according to Frank Jezioro, Director of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR). The 2011 buck harvest was 38 percent more than the 2010 harvest of 43,461. The top 10 counties for buck harvest were as follows: Preston (2,162), Randolph (2,039), Jackson (1,960), Mason (1,931), Greenbrier (1,803), Roane (1,743), Wood (1,703), Hampshire (1,661), Upshur (1,596) and Hardy (1,574).

This year's buck harvest is significantly higher than last year, with

increases occurring across all DNR districts. The largest percentage increases occurred in the western and southern counties. This year's preliminary buck harvest remains 3 percent below the previous five-year average of 61,428.

Wildlife biologists and wildlife managers collected age-specific biological information at checking stations in 12 counties this year. Preliminary analysis indicates antler development was good and many hunters harvested older-aged

continue to the next page



Matt Shingleton shot a nice 10 point buck. Photo courtesy of J&R Sporting Goods in Shinnston.

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Nathan Peck, from Grantsville, used a gun for this 11 point.

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bucks. Other contributing factors such as the exceptional acorn crop in the fall of 2010 and deer densities more in balance with the habitat in many areas combined to make this year's deer season successful for many hunters.

"White-tailed deer are a product of the environment," Jezioro said. "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. Hunters and landowners must continu-



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ally assess their expectations of the proper number of deer sightings versus the visible impacts deer have on vegetation. We need help managing the state's deer herd by participating and encouraging antlerless deer harvests where needed to benefit not only the deer herd, but all wildlife dependent on our state's woodland habitat."

Wildlife Biologists will analyze data from the combined 2011 deer seasons (i.e., buck, antlerless, ar-

continue to the next page



Brandon Moore took a nice 9 point at McClintock Management Area.

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chery 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 12 and 13, 2012 (see current 2011 - 2012 Hunting and Trapping Regulations Summary page 5 or visit the WVDNR website at www.wvdnr.gov for scheduled times and places).

Director Jezioro reminds hunters that the traditional six-day antlerless deer season in selected counties on both public and private land ends Saturday, December 10. Muzzleloader deer season begins December 12 and runs through December 17. The Youth and Class Q/QQ antlerless deer season will be open on Monday and Tuesday, December 26 and 27 in any county

with a firearms deer season, and will be followed by a four-day re-opening of antlerless deer season (December 28 - 31) in 42 counties or portions of counties (see 2011 -

2012 Hunting and Trapping Regulations Summary or visit the DNR Web site at www.wvdnr.gov for county and area listings).

Mail in your pics - form page 5.



Roanld Payne brought in a nice buck Photo courtesy of Old & New Sports in Ravenswood.



This young guy had a nice bow kill buck. Photo courtesy of Jason's Country Corner in Saulsville.

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Specials At North Bend Park

CAIRO, W.Va. – North Bend State Park is encouraging people to visit and enjoy the park in the winter months with special off-season rates. “The hiking trails are open, the lodge, cabins and restaurant are open year-round,” said Kristi Steed, Group Services Coordinator. Steed works with front desk clerks to craft what she calls “better-rates packages” for North Bend. She sees affordability as a service to introduce visitors to West Virginia’s state parks.

The most popular winter rate at North Bend is the Great Getaway. “It isn’t a special event with entertainment, but it is a nice night out with dinner and breakfast for two while staying at the lodge,” Steed said. The package cost is \$99, which includes taxes and gratuities. “It’s an affordable night off

and a getaway. Goodness knows, folks need a little time away these days.”

This rate is even better during the Christmas shopping season. The park staff sells the same package for \$75 when the call for reservations is received before December 24, 2011, and purchasers may stay anytime until February 28. “It’s a way to use even better rates to encourage reservations during slower park use time, after Thanksgiving and the day before Christmas. It’s a good deal if folks will make the reservations during these dates.” The \$75 deal is called the Door Buster.

continue to the next page

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North Bend has several scheduled special weekends upcoming. Those include:

New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance on December 31; Little Princess Ball, January 7 for dads and their daughters ages 5-12; Winter Wonder Weekend, January 20-22; and Sweetheart Weekend, February 10-12. Package rates at North Bend include The \$99 Great Getaway, The Door Buster, and the Leap-In, a leap day offer February 29. Steed has created a variety of seasonal packages that includes History Traveler Packages: The Voyage and The Frontier. Each combines an overnight stay at North Bend State Park lodge and activities at Blennerhassett Island Historical State Park for Voyage and with Prickett's Fort State Park for the Frontier. These summer packages have Steed's favorite package pricing: \$99.

North Bend State Park is located in Ritchie County close to Harrisville and Cairo. Campgrounds are open mid-spring through mid-autumn. Hiking and biking trails, North Bend Lake and fishing, and the North Bend Rail Trail are available and open to the public. Fishing requires a fishing license. Open year-round the park features a lodge, meeting facilities, cabins and restaurant. For rate information, reservations or to learn more about events and activities at North Bend State Park, call 304-643-2931



Lee Richards, from Parkersburg, brought in an 8 point gun buck.



Bill Fritzman, from Moundsville, caught a 6 - 4 largemouth in Ohio.

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Debra Stephenson used a bow for this big bodied Ohio 11 point. Photo courtesy of Backwater Bait in Newport, Ohio.

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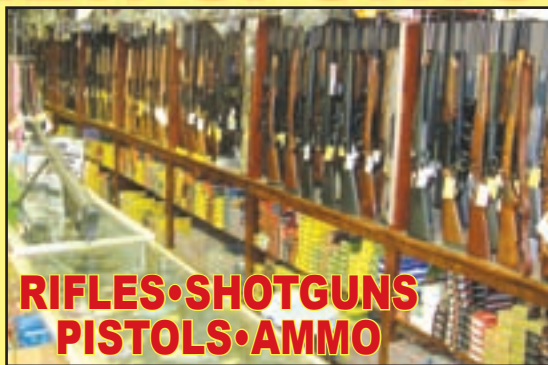
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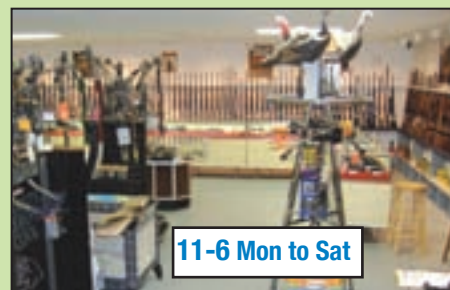
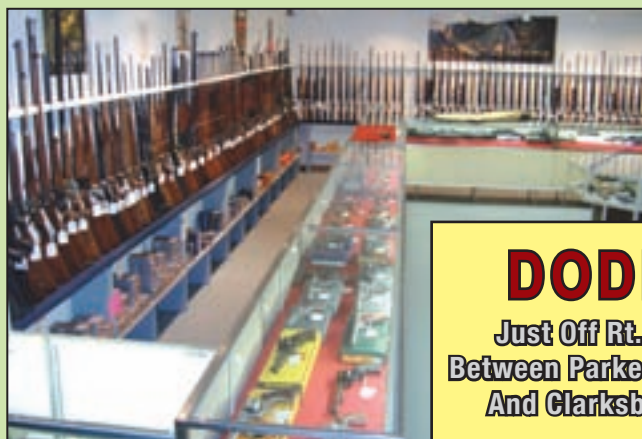
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Mail or Email your BIG BUCK photos. Form is on page 5. If you have sent one in and it is not in this issue, there will be buck photos for the next 2 months. We appreciate all of the photos sent in! 2011 was an outstanding year for HUGE RACKS in WV.



Chuck Poloka used a bow for this nice 11 pointer. *Photo courtesy of Gladly Fork Archery in Weston.*



Jim Asbury shot a quality 8 point buck. *Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.*



Lance Shafer went to Ohio for this bow 10 point. *Photo courtesy of Boone's Bow Shop in Parkersburg.*

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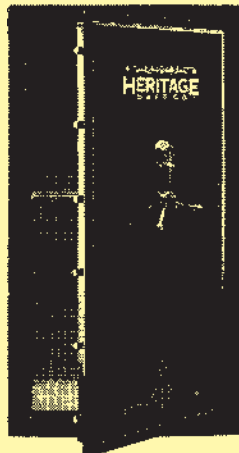
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John Riggins Meets The Elk River

"I'll be back, Daron, you can count on it", said John Riggins, Hall of Fame ex-running back for the Washington Redskins. In the same breath, he expanded his arms to take in his surroundings and said, "What you have here is... amazing! The mountains and Elk River are unbelievable!"

Riggins was saying his "good-byes" to Daron Dean, owner of Elk Springs Resort in Monterville, Randolph County. Riggins was packed up and heading back to his home on the Potomac in Maryland.

The HOF'er had good reason to be expansive. It was Wednesday, Nov. 16th, and on Monday the 14th he had bagged a trophy buck on Dean's Ellie May Outfitters' property in Eastern Kentucky. His entourage loaded up and headed for ESR that same evening.

Riggins spent Tuesday and Wednesday fly fishing the Catch-and-Release section of the Upper



William Cassidy shot a Fayette Co. 11 point. Photo courtesy of WV Wild Outdoors in Hico.

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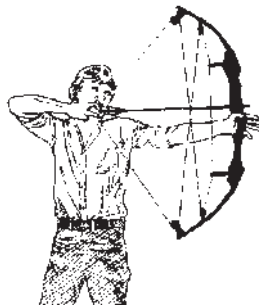
Elk River. On Tuesday evening a meet-and-greet reception was held at the new Elk Springs restaurant continue to the next page

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The hunt and fish adventure was sponsored under the auspices of ESR and hosted by Curtis Fleming of the nationally syndicated outdoor TV program, Fly Rod Chronicles. This segment will be aired in spring of 2012.

On Tuesday, Riggins spent three hours fishing one part of the Elk Springs C&R section and on Wednesday fished a different part of the stretch for about two hours. He was guided by Sean Weir, general manager and guide for ESR. Curtis Fleming was guided both days by Dave Breitmeier, long time Elk River guide and renowned fly-tier for ESR. It is an undisputed fact that Dave and Kanawha Valley Chapter of TU member, Ken Yufer, know the Upper Elk better than anyone alive.

Weir said of John Riggins, "I was amazed at what great shape he was in at age 62. He handled the river and fly rod like a pro.

"But what I liked most about John is that he is a regular guy...no attitude or airs...and very accommodating. Being a pro football fan since I was a kid---I found him no different than anyone else I guide. This is what made my time spent with him so meaningful. Before I met him I was a little intimidated by his celebrity status but he turned out to be a real pleasure to have on

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the water!"

This opinion of Riggins' persona was shared by the 30-40 people who attended the free reception for him and Curtis Fleming on Tuesday evening from 6 to 9 PM. Breitmeier pointed out Fleming is also a regular guy and is a native West Virginian (Bridgeport). Fleming has a natural and obvious affinity for the Elk River. This was the eighth time he has brought his crew to film fly fishing on the river.

The reception was hosted by Daron Dean, his wife Lisa and 11-year-old daughter, Elizabeth. The

continue to the next page



Robert Ranson had great success with this 8 point. *Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.*



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open-ended invitations were posted on the ESR Web and on Zack Pittman's web: wvangler.com. Media-wise, the event was covered by Partick McMurity, for WCHS TV in Charleston and yours truly for WV Sportsman.

The best part is saved for the last: The fishing! The two days (5 hours water time) fishing the Elk netted Riggins and Fleming a dozen or so "would be" keepers a piece.

Brietmeier said with a smile, "It was just one of those times when everything worked. The good fish



Fullback John Riggins and Dave Brietmeier. Photo courtesy of Elk Springs Resort.



Brady Gum brought in a buck. Photo courtesy of Willie's Sport Shop in Glenville.

were feeding! Not a single small trout was caught. They averaged 14-16 inches, except one lunker rainbow."

During a break, Riggins asked Dave what he attributed this fine November fishing to? Dave's answer was, "These waters are limestone enhanced because of the caverns the headwaters flow through.

They provide a near perfect PH factor for trout. But the real credit goes to the West Virginia DNR. WVDNR's aggressive fingerling stocking program has created an amazing trout fishery."

Dave went on to explain that the special regs area at Elk Springs was made possible by cooperation

continue to the next page

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between WVDNR, WV Council of Trout Unlimited and several private land owners. The most recent addition of public land along the section being 80 + acres that then Governor Joe Manchin secured via donation from Bridgeport's Compton family in 2008. The DNR changed the regulations of this stretch, Elk Springs - concrete bridge just above Whittaker Falls, from Catch & Keep to Catch & Release in 1994. The DNR then implemented their aggressive fingerling stocking program and this has proven to be a wise decision indeed!

Riggins was the lucky recipient on the other end of the line of the lunker five-pound rainbow. Weir said, "It was a three-jump, five minute epic fight. John handled the fish perfectly!"

But Riggins was most proud of a 14 inch brown he netted just below the Elk Springs stretch.. "It was the first brownie I've ever caught," he beamed! Fleming net-

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ted a perfect balance of six rainbow and six browns. All Riggins' were rainbow except for his first lovely brown. The trout were all caught on Elk Spring's selection of specialty nymphs.

John Riggins spent 14 years in the NFL. He was elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1992.

A regular guy...and I'll betcha he will return to the Elk again...just like he said he would.

Contact number 1-877-ELK-Springs (toll free) Phone 304-339-2FLY or email to: elkspringswv@aol.com

Article by Jim Wilson



Ally Riley bagged a 147 class buck.
Photo courtesy of Bow Shop In Hepzibah.

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Deer Slaughter Case

FAIRMONT, W.Va. – At least 13 deer were shot, killed and left lying on the ground in the Fairmont area during the month prior to the start of the deer firearms seasons this week, and the Law Enforcement Section of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources is requesting help from the public to solve this case. The deer were found in the Apple Valley / Boothsville area, according to Capt. William Persinger of the WVDNR District 1 Office in Farmington.


Six deer were shot and killed within 25 yards of a residence in Apple Valley. Another seven deer were shot and killed on two additional properties near the same area, near several residences that were within 100 yards of each other.

“It has all the indications of being a copycat thrill killing case similar to others we’ve seen around the country,” Capt. Persinger said. “Some of the deer had small parts removed as if the shooters wanted to keep them as trophies, just like the traits we have seen with some serial killers.”

WVDNR Law Enforcement has been investigating and is asking for assistance from the public. Anyone who has information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of those involved in this crime is asked to

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contact Natural Resources Police Officers James Crawley, Randall Kocsis or Capt. William Persinger at the WVDNR District 1 Office headquarters in Farmington at 304-825-6787.

“Poaching is not just a violation of the law; it also deprives honest sportsmen of the opportunity to legally harvest game,” Capt. Persinger said.



James Hall, from Spencer, used a bow for this 10 point.

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Ten Year Old, Nick Stalnak got a nice 8 point in Gilmer Co.



Donnie Groves shot a wide racked 10 point. Photo courtesy of Jerry's Sporting Goods in Horner.



Sarah Fischer, 11 years old, shot an 8 point in Richie Co.



Buddy Fischer took an 8 point in Ritchie Co.



Mason Deem, from Mineral Wells, shot his 1st buck - 4 point.

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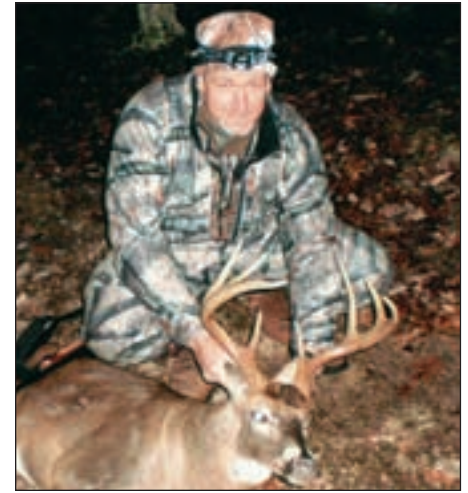
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BACK ISSUES FROM 2006 ON ARE THERE TOO



Jack VanSlyke harvested an 8 point.
Photo courtesy of J & R Sporting Goods in
Shinnston.



Donnie Sergent bagged a great 12
point. Photo courtesy of Tri-County
Sports Shop in Point Pleasant.



Chuck Frye brought in a nice 8
point buck. Photo courtesy of JBC Archery in Shady Spring.



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Rod Hammer's big 12 point had an unusual tall rack. Photo courtesy of Reese's Country Store in Deerwalk.



Jason Miller shot a real fine 15 point in Gilmer County.



Coty Pierson took a wide rack buck from Fayette County.

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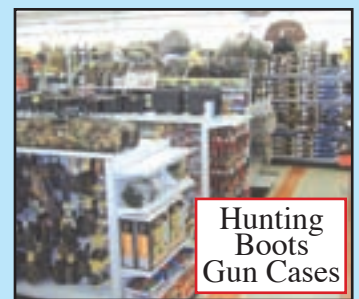
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Lewis Halstead shot a nice buck.
Photo courtesy of Waterfront Sporting Goods in Alderson.



Jason Fort bagged an 8 point buck.
Photo courtesy of Old & New Sports in Ravenswood.

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Form on Page 5

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Mike Allen has an 8 point gun buck.
Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.



Sam Sutton, from Parkersburg, has a nice 8 point bow buck.

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Essential Rabbit Hunting

Hunting for rabbits can be fun and exciting for people of all age groups. If you have never hunted for rabbits before, a few essential tips could make your trip worth while and productive. Knowing when they are most active and where they can be found is a great place to start. Usually rabbits like to come out in early morning, late evening hours, and they are mostly active at night. They will feed on mostly wild edible plants and berries; when surviving in the wilderness. Rabbits nibble on rye grass and also love to eat dried cracked or dried whole corn. Even fresh corn on the cob will work if you choose to bait them up. You can buy dried corn in a sack at any feed store. If you are baiting them up, they will remember where their food is and will return in routine everyday. The

best place to find rabbits is along tree lines, thickets and brushes. They also enjoy coming out after a rainstorm and dislike windy days.

The best time to sneak up on a rabbit is when their head is down eating. They have trouble seeing straight in front of themselves. They will always lift their head and turn it, if they see or hear you. If you should startle a rabbit don't worry. They won't run far. They will continue to stay close to their food source. Most of the time, they will just run until they are behind some kind of covering and will return when they feel that their environment has become safe again.

Don't forget to make sure that you are carrying the right gun with the proper ammunition made for small game. A lot of hunters will see rabbits and forget that their gun is loaded with buckshot. That would be a disaster if the rabbit was killed with buckshot. The meat will be ruined if you still had a rabbit left. The best gun for shooting rabbits continue to the next page

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Login Kinder shot an 8 point. Photo courtesy of Willie's Sport Shop in Glenville.

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rabbits is a 4/10 shotgun. Accuracy is not needed when using a 4/10 shotgun. The insides of the bullet will scatter when the gun is fired, giving you a sure shot.

Try not to kill the first rabbit you see because most likely other rabbits are not far behind. Seeing three or four at a time is not at all uncommon. If there is a more dominant rabbit in view, the other ones are usually in the bushes waiting not to far away. Having a little patience will guarantee that you will end up with more rabbits to kill.

Don't wait to long to skin it out after a kill because once the body gets stiff it's harder to dress out. The best thing to do is to clean them when they are still warm. A smaller rabbit will be more tender when cooked compared to a larger, more older rabbit. Any size of rabbit can be tenderized to perfection

if needed.

Archery In The Schools Training

SOUTH CHARLESTON, W.Va.

– The next training session for instructors of the West Virginia Archery in the Schools (AIS) Program has been scheduled for Feb. 22 - 23 at Cacapon Resort State Park, according to Krista Snodgrass, Program Coordinator. The training will be hosted by the Wildlife Resources Section of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR).

“We are very excited to be holding our next training at Cacapon in West Virginia’s Eastern Panhandle,” said Snodgrass. “When possible, we like to provide trainings at our state parks and Cacapon is a perfect venue for PE teachers, coaches, and others wanting to get their school involved in the AIS Program.”

The AIS Program has become the DNR’s largest-growing educational program. Since its inception in 2004, nearly 60,000 students have been introduced to archery as part of their physical education (PE) classes in 238 West Virginia schools. The program teaches

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Back Issues From 2006

Olympic-style, target archery in
continue to the next page



Krystle Earl bagged a nice 8 pointer. Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.

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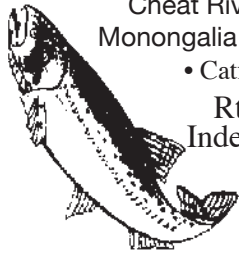
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both public and private schools
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“In order for schools to participate
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have a certified instructor – prefer-
ably a PE instructor or coach who
will introduce as many kids as pos-
sible to the joys of target archery,”
said Snodgrass. “The DNR only
has about four trainings a year and,
because class size is limited to 25,
training slots are highly sought af-
ter. As an added incentive, teachers
taking this training may be eligible
to receive Continuing Education
Hours (CEH’s) provided they sub-
mit their paperwork to their prin-
cipal before the end of the school
year.”

To ensure a training slot, anyone
interested in getting their school
involved in the program is encour-
aged to apply as soon as possible.
The deadline to register is Feb. 1.
This training will cost \$25 for all

school employees and \$50 for non-
school employees. This fee will
be paid to WVDNR – Archery in
the Schools Program (via check,
money order or exact currency
only) during the first morning of
the training.

To register for the AIS train-
ing at Cacapon Resort State Park,

please call Krista Snodgrass at
304-558-2771; email Krista.
R.Snodgrass@wv.gov for infor-
mation on the AIS Program, or vis-
it the DNR’s AIS website at www.wvdnr.gov/archery. For more in-
formation on Cacapon Resort State



Daniel Smith shot a big 14 point
buck. *Photo courtesy of Jerry's Sporting
Goods in Horner.*



Hank Dailey brought in a nice 8
point. *Photo courtesy of Boones Bow
Shop in Parkersburg.*

Mail Pics - Form On Page 5

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Snow Shoe Bassin'

By Frank Scalish

When the snow starts to fly up North, outdoorsmen get excited. With big Ohio bucks fattening up, steelhead heading up the rivers, an unbelievable night bite, and giant Erie walleye within casting distance from shore, it is no wonder.

I, on the other hand, look forward to my second favorite time of year to largemouth fish. Anyone who knows me knows summer is my favorite season to fish, but I must say early winter to ice up is a close second. Some of my absolute best days of largemouth fishing have unfolded as I wondered if I should shovel the snow off of my boat deck. I will get into location, techniques and lures before we need an ice auger.

Sit back and daydream with me: It's one particular day in December. I was set to do a winter bass fishing piece with Darl, a writer friend of mine. The place I originally wanted to go was already iced in at the

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ramp. I could have easily cracked through the ice with my trailer and smashed the ice with my boat to get to the open water; however, broken trailer lights are a very familiar experience with me and winter so I opted to save a little money and chose another location.

I called Darl and gave him the details of our upcoming adventure, and he was in. On the morning of our photo shoot, the snow was flying – those giant flakes that make driving exciting and 1 mile feel like 5. Before I left, I loaded bags of salt, a couple of bags of gravel and a shovel into the bed of my truck, not for better traction on the road but to get up the ramp after the

fishing was done. You see, I have been through this a time or two.

I was almost to the ramp when my cell-phone rang; it was Darl explaining that he was forced to cancel because the snow was so bad

continue to the next page



Trey Lewis Jr. shot a good buck. Photo courtesy of PC Bait & Tackle in Hinton.

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that he could not get out of Pennsylvania. I tried not to let my disappointment show; I fully understood the circumstances. My decision was to fish anyway. Fishing alone on a boat in the winter is a major safety rule violation, and I knew it ... but the bass were calling.

I phoned Rachel to tell her where I was and that I was alone; I told her when I would be home so if anything went wrong she could call for help. Now, mind you, this still is not a smart move. Donning my survival float suit, I launched the boat. And with all the enthusiasm of a child on Christmas morning, I eased into my first spot.

The area I was fishing was a set of three vertical steps: The first break was 2 feet to 4, then a small ledge; the second break went 4 to 8 feet and a small ledge; and the third break went from 8 to 12 feet on the bottom. I was fishing a river system and the place I chose was out of the current, which is a very important factor while winter fishing in a river.

Lure selection was easy. First I rigged two crankbaits, a Fat Free Shad in Tennessee shad and one



Mike Harper used a bow for this bear. *Photo courtesy of Bow Shop in Hepzibah.*

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in Citrus shad, a jig and a Vi-B (a metal vibrating bait). These are great lure choices for the depth I was fishing and offered me the ability to fish horizontally as well as vertically.

Sliding my boat into position for a cast to keep my crankbait in the strike zone as long as possible, I let it fly, s-l-o-w-l-y cranking the Fat Free parallel to the second ledge. I instantly hooked up with a nice 3-pound largemouth. I was pumped because when you find where they winter, you are usually on tons of fish. In winter, most bass occupy 7 to 10% of the water column which means they are stacked in big numbers and in tight small areas.

After reeling in a dozen or so on as many casts, I couldn't help but continue to the next page



Rodney Vandender got a black bear. *Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods.*

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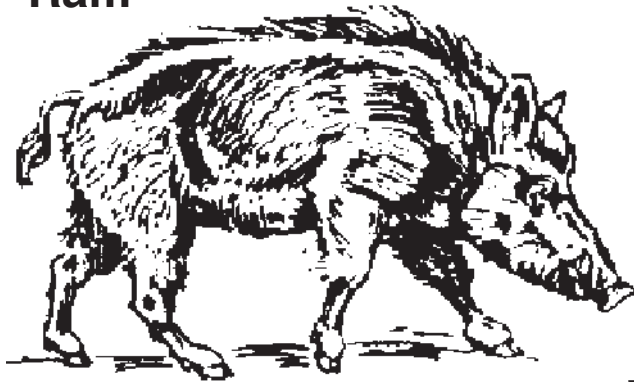
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notice how quiet it was, an eerie quiet. Then I suddenly found myself in a new, 3-D winter world, where the grey sky disappeared into the grey landscape and the bright white snow falling out of a windless sky settling onto the jet black water. It felt surreal.

I was brought back to reality with another nice bass, the colors of which seem to be even more pronounced by the backdrop Mother Nature was providing. God, I love fishing in the winter! This entire day was awesome. I wound up landing 35 to 40 bass in two and a half hours; I moved my boat a total of 20 feet. I think I found where they were wintering.

I have experienced similar bass fishing days every winter up north on our lakes and rivers. But here is what you need to remember: Safety

first! Never go out alone. Always bring a towel and extra cloths. Dress appropriately and in layers; you can always peel but you cannot add layers if you don't have them. A cell phone is a must.

Now let's talk about finding those winter bass and what lures to use. For the sake of this article, I am sticking to Northern lakes and rivers in the snow belts. The time to get on the water is pretty much any time you can. I have had awesome fishing from early morning to just before dark; however, I find the 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. range to be most productive.

Depth is all relative to the system you are fishing; for example, if you are fishing a river, you seldom have to look deeper than 15 feet. The key is little to no current and vertical structure. The break could be

a bank bluff or an offshore ledge; same applies to tidal waters.

Man-made lakes are a little tougher, only because you have more choices in vertical structure and you have to use a process of elimination to locate the bass. Depth in a reservoir is all relative to that particular lake. For example, if it is a deep, clear lake, 20 feet deep is where you might start and then go deeper. If the lake is typically flat and shallow, you may never fish deeper than 10 feet. Grass lakes are the easiest yet! Find the deepest grass and fish the inside and outside swings. Bingo!

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TIME	PRIZE	
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12:10 - Weatherby MKV SPRT		
12:15 - \$2,500.00		
12:20 - Remington 700 BDL	C A R S	
12:25 - \$2,000.00		
12:30 - \$4,000.00		
12:35 - Ruger 77 HAWK		
12:40 - \$2,000.00		
12:45 - \$2,500.00		
12:50 - REM 700 CDL SF		
12:55 - \$2,500.00		
1:00 - 2012 Lincoln MKZ		B O A T S
1:05 - Beretta AL 391		
1:10 - Winchester 70 FW		
1:15 - \$4,000.00		
1:20 - T/C PRO HNTR		
1:25 - \$3,000.00		
1:30 - 2012 800 x P Ranger		
1:35 - Ruger Red Label		
1:40 - Remington S SFII		
1:45 - \$3,000.00		
1:50 - Remington 700 BDL	P L E A S E N O T E N E W W E B S I T E	
1:55 - \$2,500.00		
2:00 - 2012 Jeep Wrangler Sahara SUV		
2:05 - Ruger 77 HAWK		
2:10 - \$2,500.00		
2:15 - \$2,000.00		
2:20 - Browning MAXUS HCS		
2:25 - \$3,000.00		
2:30 - 2012 Harley Davidson Softail		
2:35 - Winchester 70 FW		
2:40 - Beretta 391 XT CAMO	G O O D F O O D	
2:45 - \$2,500.00		
2:50 - Weatherby MKV SPRT		
2:55 - \$2,500.00		
3:00 - 2012 Ford 4x4 RPTR S/Crew-145		
3:05 - Remington S SFII		
3:10 - Browning X-Bolt Medallion		
3:15 - \$3,000.00		
3:20 - Remington 700 CDL		
3:25 - \$2,000.00		
3:30 - 2012 Camper		
3:35 - \$2,500.00		
3:40 - Winchester 70 FW		
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20 Additional Chances of \$500.00 for 2012 Summer Bash ORIGINAL ticket stubs returned to the Ellenboro VFD by Noon on Saturday, March 31, 2012

EARLY BIRD 2
16 Additional Chances of \$500.00 and 2 Chances of \$1,000.00 for 2012 Summer Bash ORIGINAL ticket stubs returned to the Ellenboro VFD by Noon on Saturday, May 26, 2012

TIME	PRIZE
3:50 - Remington 700 BDL	G U N S
3:55 - Ruger Red Label	
4:00 - 2012 GMC Sierra 1500 SLE 4 x 4	
4:05 - Weatherby MKV SPRT	
4:10 - Ruger #1 A	
4:15 - \$3,500.00	
4:20 - Ruger 77 HAWK	
4:25 - \$2,500.00	
4:30 - 2012 RZR 4-Seat L/E P/S	
4:35 - Remington Seven CDL	
4:40 - Browning X-Bolt Medallion	M U S I C
4:45 - \$2,500.00	
4:50 - Browning MAXUS HCS	
4:55 - \$2,000.00	
5:00 - 2012 Ford Taurus Limited AWD	
5:05 - Ruger #1 A	
5:10 - Remington Seven CDL	
5:15 - \$3,500.00	
5:20 - Winchester 70 FW	
5:25 - \$2,000.00	
5:30 - 2012 Stratos 176 XT Bass Boat	C A S H
5:35 - \$2,500.00	
5:40 - T/C PRO HNTR SHT	
5:45 - \$2,500.00	
5:50 - Remington 700 CDL	
5:55 - Ruger Red Label	
6:00 - 2012 Cadillac SRX FWD	
6:05 - Remington 700 BDL	
6:10 - Ruger 77 HAWK	
6:15 - \$2,500.00	
6:20 - Remington S SFII	
6:25 - \$3,000.00	
6:30 - 2012 Harley Davidson Road King	
6:35 - \$3,000.00	
6:40 - \$3,500.00	
6:45 - \$4,000.00	
6:50 - \$4,500.00	
6:55 - \$5,000.00	
7:00 - Ten (10) - \$1,000.00 Winners (Match WV Daily 3 - Last 3 #'s of Ticket #)	
7:00 - \$100,000.00 (Match WV Daily 4 Exactly)	
Ticket #s 0000-1111-2222-3333-4444-5555-6666-7777-8888-9999 (Instant Winners of \$1,000.00)	



Featuring Mustang Sally, opening for LoCash Cowboys (who are back by popular demand) on Friday, July 27, 2012, beginning around 7 PM. You must be a \$100.00 - 2012 Summer Bash ticket holder in order to attend Friday's entertainment. Ticket guest payment ONLY applies to Saturday's Summer Bash and Saturday's entertainment, NOT Friday's entertainment.



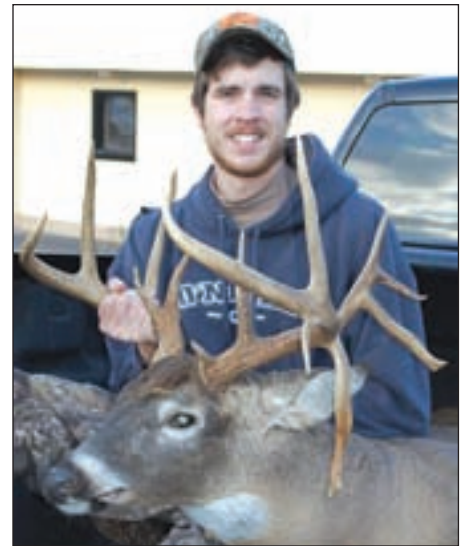
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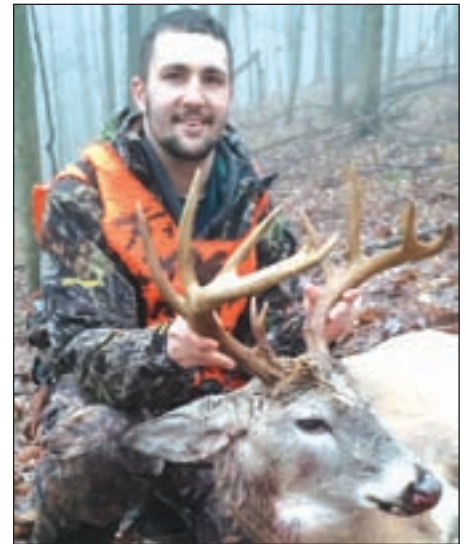
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W. Va. Sportsman
Low Ad Rates - Details on Page 3



WV buck? Nope. Kevin Bennington, from Bridgeport, went to a game ranch in Ohio for this 23 point (224 P&Y) that weighed 268 pounds.



This unusual Cabell Co. buck has a main beam issue. Tyler Daniel used a bow for this 15 pointer.



Nathaniel Morrison went to Braxton Co. for this great 12 point.



Robin Sears used a bow for this 8 point. Photo courtesy of Cardinal Pawnbrokers in Beckley.

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Kevin Smith used a bow for this buck. Photo courtesy of Middle Mountain Sporting Goods in Elkins.



Jeremy Bruffey bagged a big buck. Photo courtesy of Tri-Lakes in Walkersville.

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Cam Payne, from Buckhannon, shot a nice 11 point.

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Julie Kerns, from Glen Easton, harvested a big 9 point buck.

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Kevin Moore brought in a quality buck. Photo courtesy of Crooked Creek Archery in Williamstown.



Patrick Frymier shot a huge 10 point in Gilmer County.

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Where fish live

A city park, a pay-per-catch pond or a heavily stocked lake is a good bet. Rivers, streams, lakes, ponds and man-made reservoirs also hold fish. If you don't know where to fish near your community, call an official from your state fisheries department or ask someone working at a local bait shop.

Where fish swim

Fish love to swim off sandbars, in deep edges, in weed beds and around sunken islands. They also swim near artificial structures such as boat docks or piers and around



Joe Michael landed a huge main stem Ohio River largemouth in November.

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GAME CHECKING

natural cover such as fallen trees. Get a map of the lake if possible. It will help you locate some of these popular fish locations.

FISHING TIPS: FISH LOVE LIVE BAIT!

Not all people like the same foods.



Young Wyatt Burns shot a nice buck. *Photo courtesy of Jerry's Sporting Goods in Horner.*

Fish are no different. Choosing the right kind of live bait can depend on the kind of fish you're trying to catch. Here are some commonly used live baits, some listed with tips on where to find them outside of a bait shop. Click on the links to learn how to get them on your hook:

Corn (it's not alive, of course, but it works for some kinds of fish) - In a can from the kitchen.

Crayfish - Under rocks or other
continue to the next page

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shelter in lots of cold-water ponds, lakes, streams and rivers.

Crickets - Outside under rocks or maybe even in your house!

Frogs - In swamps, ponds and other areas with still, shallow water.

Grasshoppers - In fields of tall grass.

Grubs (insect larvae) - Sometimes they live in your lawn.

Hellgrammites (dobsonfly larvae)

Leeches

Mealworms (insect larvae)

Minnnows (including different species like chubs, dace and shiners)

- They can be tough to catch, but you'll probably find them in the

continue to the next page



Jason Lobban got a buck. Photo courtesy of Waterfront Sporting Goods in Alderson.

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Jason Barton went to New Mexico for this big bull elk. Photo courtesy of Crooked Creek Archery in Williamstown.

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same bodies of water you fish.
Night crawlers and earthworms -
Down in the dirt, probably in your
yard or garden.
Salamanders - In swamps, ponds
and other areas with still, shallow
water. Sometimes you can find
them on marshy land underneath
logs.
Salmon eggs
Wax worms (moth larvae)
FISHING IS FUN! BUT REMEM-



Wendall Flowers, from St. Marys
shot a nice 8 point.

BER TO STAY SAFE!

Tips for a safe fishing trip
Always wear your life jacket when
fishing and keep it fastened. Safety
should be your main focus, so the
life jacket should be the right size
(not too big) so that it won't slide
over your head.

Have plenty of cold drinks and
snacks in the boat.

Avoid getting sunburned while
fishing. You should apply sun-
screen to any part of your body that
isn't covered by clothing.



Paul Hayes Jr, from Elizabeth,
brought in an 8 point buck.

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Sunscreen should be applied at
least 30 minutes before going out-
doors, even on a cloudy day, and
reapplied every two hours.
Keep hooks, sharp knives and fish-
ing line in a tackle box. You don't
want to get hurt.
Fins are sharp. Always handle fish
carefully and under the supervision
of an adult.

It is important to be aware of
weather conditions before setting
continue to the next page

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on a fishing trip. Also, weather can change quickly so it is a good idea to take a radio along to stay tuned in to changing conditions.

Wearing the right clothing for a fishing trip is important and it can help to keep you dry. Footwear should be appropriate for the occasion, and wearing multiple layers of thin clothes allows you to adjust to changing temperatures.

The right clothes and repellents can

help keep the bugs away.

If fishing from shore, pick an area free of debris and large enough to allow casting space for all of the anglers in your group.

Never fish from bridges or roadways.

FISHING EQUIPMENT

Rod, reel and line

Start with a spincasting reel (the one with the push button on the back) rigged with 10-pound-test monofilament and a 5- to 5 1/2-foot, two-



Keith Webb has a nice buck. Photo courtesy of Cardinal Pawnbrokers in Beckley.



Don Legg shot a good buck. Photo courtesy of WV Wild Outdoors in Hico.

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GAME CHECKING



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Tackle

No. 2 straight shank hooks, 1/16-continue to the next page

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ounce clamp-on weights and floaters. This live-bait outfit works great with earthworms, minnows or PowerBait eggs and is highly effective for anything that swims. The most important factor to an enjoyable day of fishing is catching fish.

Spinner baits, 1/4- and 3/8-ounce willow-leaf blades in both white and chartreuse. These baits have plenty of flash, are easy to cast and retrieve, and are relatively snag-proof.

8-inch purple plastic worms, wire guard No. 3 hooks, and 1/8-ounce bullet-shaped slip sinkers.

Shad colored Pop-R top-water bait. Top-water baits are exciting to fish; this one can't be fished too fast or too slow. Be sure to purchase treble-hook covers to cover the hooks when not in use.

Bait bucket

If you're fishing with minnows or other types of baitfish, you'll need a bait bucket. It should be tethered to land or your boat whether it is the kind that floats or sinks. This

container will have small holes to allow fresh water inside.

Other items for a pleasant fishing trip

Cold drinks

Lots of snacks

Sunscreen

Sunscreen should be applied at

least 30 minutes prior to going outdoors, even on a cloudy day, and reapplied every two hours.

Camera

Flashlight

Batteries

Fishing cap

Sunglasses



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Mark Downey shot this wide racked buck. Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Walker.

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T	S	R	R	E	B	R	O	N	S	M	G	E	O	S	A	A	O	W	A
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S	V	N	O	E	T	C	H	E	M	R	G	E	C	L	R	C	Y	H	D
O	A	E	R	U	A	U	S	R	Y	A	W	S	U	U	N	H	E	U	R
R	I	G	B	R	T	O	E	B	R	O	W	O	B	N	G	I	L	N	R
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U	E	U	E	E	O	A	M	T	D	T	C	F	R	O	Z	E	N	E	H
B	P	R	A	H	D	A	C	M	H	E	G	D	L	R	R	S	W	R	S
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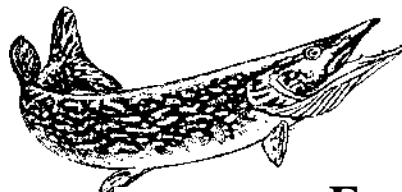
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