

# Michigan Bow Hunters

## NEWS



VOLUME 2 — NO. 5

APRIL 1967

### VP's MESSAGE

Are you planning on attending the annual MBH awards banquet? Let's hope the answer is yes and that you already have your tickets. An evening of fun is being planned for all that attend.

The speaker for the evening will be Mr. John Anguilm, Chief of the Law Enforcement Section, Department of Conservation. Mr. Anguilm will talk about the present legislation on bow and arrow deer hunting which will include our Senate Bill Number 372.

The meal will be a fine swiss steak dinner followed by a dance with the music of "Red" Van Sickles band.

I am looking forward to meeting many of you at the banquet and hope to see you April 15 at 6:00 P.M.

SENATE BILL NO. 372—Have you all written your letters to your Senator? If not let's do so today. Individually expressed public opinion has a great deal of influence on the decisions made by our Senators and Representatives.

It would also help to write your Representative and tell him your interest in Senate Bill No. 372 so when the bill passes the Senate your Representative will know your feelings.

Just a postcard with a brief message is all that is needed.

An example would be:

Senator \_\_\_\_\_  
Michigan State Senate  
The Capitol Building  
Lansing, Michigan 48902

Dear Senator \_\_\_\_\_:

I am definitely in favor of the passage of Senate Bill Number 372 pertaining to an extension of the bow and arrow season in Zone 3 of the State of Michigan, and trust you will give this bill your attention and support.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,  
(Signature)

If you are writing your Representative address it to:

Representative \_\_\_\_\_  
Michigan House of Representatives  
The Capitol Building  
Lansing, Michigan 48902.

Let's all write two (2) letters today—one to our Senator and one to our Representative. Tell all your hunting partners to write also. This bill if passed, will be a milestone in Bowhunting in Michigan. The help everyone can give will be appreciated.

Douglas Bartrem  
Vice-President

### Nockin' 'Round The North

by Liz Gall

Game Biologist Ford Kellum of Gaylord reported the deer in Antrim county tightly yarded and not ranging out of the swamps in search of food. Conservation Officer Roger Wood of Houghton Lake found that the deer in that area were ranging out—he found as many tracks along the oak ridges where the animals had been pawing for acorns as he did in the swamps and heavier cover. The area west of West Branch

deer fed on new poplar and other shoots in an area which had burned over in 1964.

Five thousand bushels of government surplus corn was used to feed deer in northern lower Michigan and in the U.P. The corn was released to game biologists, as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife agents in Michigan determined the time of need. Of this total amount, 4,000 bushels of the feed went to the western U.P. as the starvation rate was severe due to increased snow depth. The remaining 1,000 bushels was released to northern lower peninsula as department game division men saw the need and was okayed by government agents.

Ruff grouse know what to do when temperatures drop—they dive deep in the snow to keep warm over night. Game biologist Dick Moran watched several of them "dive in" one cold afternoon while he was out checking the elk herd in the Pigeon River State Forest east of Vanderbilt.

Do you own hunting land that needs improved game food condition? If so, contact your local MSU extension agent and ask for a list of game habitat planting stock available from the forestry division of the Conservation department. Anyone can get this list from their county extension agent or the forestry division at Lansing. Orders will be accepted until April 16th and shipment will be made up to May 15th. The department has certain recommendations that you may follow up on if you wish. Autumn olive is considered one of the best shrubs for wildlife in much of the northern lower Michigan. This plant bears a fruit which does not drop off and rot but rather stays on the bush to be harvested by animals and birds alike.



## Oldest Member??

by Liz Gall

Carlos Barfield, an enthusiastic bowman and experienced bowhunter is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, active member of MBH. He often attends the annual MBH annual deer silhouette shoot and also participates in regular tournament shooting. Carlos, a resident of Detroit will be 80 his next birthday.

He has won sixteen trophies — three of which are state trophies — and twenty-eight medals in organized archery. He has been responsible for bringing three state champions into the sport. But the thing Carlos is most proud of is the fact that he has taken four deer since he was 74 years old and has done so with bow and arrows of his own making. Carlos at once amazes and amuses — his activeness amazes and his quick wit plus the twinkle in his eye are most amusing. And, you are proud that he is a Michigan Bow Hunter.

EDITORS NOTE: If we have any older active MBH members we would be glad to have them send in a picture and a short story about themselves.

## Wild Dogs Attack Fawn In District 7

A Dowagiac man was driving on M-40 when he saw a pack of dogs chasing a fawn. He stopped his car and drove the dogs away with some risk to himself and brought the injured fawn to Bill Rowe the Cass County Conservation Officer. The deer was still alive but badly mangled by the attack and had to be destroyed.

Officer Rowe has appealed to dog

owners, particularly in rural areas, to keep their dogs either tied or inside as heavy snows in Southwestern Michigan has increased the hazard for deer, making them especially susceptible to dog pack attack.

Sharp-hoover deer, which depend on speed for escape, break through the snow cover while dogs can run on the hard crust. Officer Rowe suggested that farmers who have encountered predatory dog problems with their livestock could contact friends who are hunters. Hunting down roving dog packs, many of them wild and driven by hunger, is about the only effective remedy for the attacks.

This is only one case that was witnessed by an alert conservation minded person. We know this happens all over the state and in many cases is not detected.

DEUAINE LAKE  
GOVERNOR DISTRICT 7

## District 4 Carp Shoot MAY 13 & 14

Plans are complete for the carp shoot at the Muskegon Conservation Club property on Lake Street May 13 and 14. The time 9 AM Saturday morning till 12 noon Sunday.

There will be awards for the largest carp, two man team, womens & Junior divisions.

**DIRECTIONS:** From the south; Take U.S.-31 north to the North Muskegon Exit. Go approximately two miles to M-20. Turn left at traffic light. FROM THE NORTH; Take U.S.-31 south to the M-20 exit. Turn right on M-20 and continue to traffic signal.

All members will be responsible for the disposal of their own fish. All fish will also be eligible for the MBH "MAIL CARP CONTEST" and forms will be available and weigher on hand to sign your contest blank.

All MBH members are welcome to participate. You must have an active MBH membership card to participate but don't hesitate to bring along a friend as memberships, Tee Shirts, Emblems and Decals will be available at the shoot. Registration fee is \$1.00.

All awards will be final after a period of one-half hour after closing of the shoot.

Be sure and bring your boat, waders, life jackets, a lantern or similar light for night shooting and anything else you think you might need.

**DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR**

## FISHING LICENSE!

Perhaps the following facts will encourage you to come to the shoot. Last year Bob Greer and Terry Rad-ecki shot approximately 1800 pounds of fish in three times out. Five fish shot in Muskegon Lake placed in the MBH "Mail Carp Contest" last year. The largest carp known to be shot recently was 39½ pounds shot by Bill Logg of Muskegon.

There are a lot of Motels and restaurants within a few minutes from the Lake. There will be coffee rolls and sandwiches available at the fishing sight. You can also bring your trailer or tents.

GOVERNOR, DISTRICT 4  
Bernie Goldsmith

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

District 9 Governor, Rex Holbrook reports the pheasant hunt held at The Fairweather Farms Preserve near near Fenton a success. Twenty members had reservations for the hunt and nineteen hunters attended.

Twenty pheasants were released and sixteen taken. It was a beautiful day for hunting in spite of the deep snow on the ground which made the going a bit rough.

Taking one bird each were Dennis Castle, Frank Camburn, Darwin Buckhold, Loring Clipfell, Rex and Bruce Holbrook, Henry Mayer, Charles Bailam, Howard DeLar and Clinton Putnam. Dale Putnam and Art Linde each got two birds. Clinton Putnam's was somewhat of a rarity being black. Bob Winans hit the bird Bruce Holbrook got and Bruce gave (continued on page four)



# THEN and NOW

by Liz Gall

Time was when, to express an excess of speed, you would exclaim wide-eyed "so—and—so was going 40 miles an hour"—then the 40 became 60 and now it's 90 or 100. We people have more or less taken this is stride but when it comes to the changes that have taken place in the deer herd and deer behavior we are aghast and alarmed. But why should we be? The deer had to change their ways as civilization and fast pace living constantly pushed them around. Herds have been sadly depleted in numbers as hunters screamed for more privileges, more people moved into wild areas, more violators found more ways to kill and more and more cars traveled at top speed in areas where deer cross. Then on top of all this the poor animals have a food shortage problem.

This brings us to that point where we have to say, "I remember when \_\_\_\_\_" not just about the deer herd and the change in their activities but a drastic change in the ways of hunting them.

Back in '44, when Hewitt and I picked up this "bowhunting" habit, our methods were as crude as our equipment was at that time. We sauntered into the northwoods clad in red and black plaid carrying a couple of lemon wood bows and arrows that were matched in color only. I'm sure we sharpened the broadheads before we left home but doubt if they ever felt a file again. The next year we made our own as those first arrows were very unpredictable as to which way they would dive when shot — so not all were found. In spite of the fact that we probably moved through the woods

too fast and too noisy, we saw a lot of game. There was a lot to see— there was just so much woods even then and they just about filled it.

The hunting seasons passed and the family grew up. Hewitt made osage bows for the whole bunch and we were kept busy makin' arrows for six of us. New methods and materials improved the equipment and we changed our loud colored clothing for olive drab. Our hunting habits did not change much though as we were all roamers. We did learn to move quietly and slowly through the woods and still saw lots of game. Now and then we would "set" for a spell but saw no sense to it for, after you hunted a certain area you knew just where and at what time to see deer — all you had to do was be there at that time. You could depend on it almost to the point of setting your watch by them, so why stick around after you shot and missed. You'd simply gather up your arrows resharpen, and move on over the hill where you would be just about in time to meet that one feeding under the pincherry tree. What little "setting" we did was hardly ever from a blind — we'd just back up to a tree or stand behind some limbs or whatever was handy, keeping in mind which way the wind was blowing. You already knew which way the deer was coming. (those days are gone forever!)

More seasons passed, we bought new bows, acquired camouflage clothing and gained enough patience to be able to set for an hour or two. I won't go into detail about our blinds — they were rough and scanty and usually built just before we intended to use them. They were very conspicuous to the deer so of course they avoided them, coming in sight of but way out of shooting dist-

ance of us hunters. We still preferred staking deer and still see game if we were very careful — but seldom got a shot while hunting in this manner.

Still more seasons passed — and NOW we build a series of very complete and very concealing blinds in different areas before the season opens — and at least one new one every week of the season. These blinds are in scattered areas, north, south, east and west of the Gall Diggins so that we can use the ones near the current feeding area. For example, at the opening of the bow season deer are usually seeking out mushrooms which abound in the fall rains. They are smart enough to know that the acorns will keep and the mushrooms won't.

Morning of opening day Us Galls and Mable and Bob Winans roll out of the sack long before daylight, load our stomachs, the lunch box and thermos and the car in that order and are in the woods as early as the law allows. Each hunter is dropped off near his or her blind with the car parked in a pre-determined spot. By 10:00 AM everyone is generally back to the car to report what they saw on the way in, while there, and on the way back from the blind. We compare notes on kind of game spotted, what time, and where. Also if we found evidence of what the deer are feeding on that day.

During the hours between 10 and 2:00 PM we drive around the other hunting areas seeking game signs, passing the time of day with other hunters, eating lunch, taking short scouting trips in new areas, or perhaps making a trip to town for something we are out of.

At 2:00 PM we again go to our chosen blinds and stay as late as we dare, allotting enough time to get out of the woods with our equipment within the time set on the hunting regulations.

We are still seeing deer — sometimes not close enough to take a peck at — but hardly ever sight one when we're on the move, and not nearly the number of deer that we used to see. I might even go so far as to say not even half as many as we used to. NOW you must be in your blind, be wide awake at all times, and expect the darn deer from any direction. They are sure cagey critters anymore! Yeah, like the times they have sure changed their habits — and stepped up their pace also.

Use the application blank below to renew your membership or sign up a friend.

## MICHIGAN BOW HUNTERS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION BLANK

Name		Address	
City	State	County	Zip Code
New _____	Renewal _____		
Have You Had A Previous MBH Big Game Award? _____			
MAIL TO—	Michigan Bow Hunters	Individual	.....\$3.00 yr.
	P.O. Box 4		
	Flint, Michigan, 48501	Family	.....\$5.00 yr.

Family membership includes man, wife, and children under 17



# Michigan Bow Hunters

P. O. BOX 4  
FLINT 1, MICHIGAN-48501

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

(Continued from page two)  
the bird to Bob.

THE MEMBERSHIP CONTEST is really gathering steam. Bill Logg of Muskegon leads at this writing with 29 new members and 1 renewal and right behind is G. L. Gifford of Davison with 29 new members. Both have just a short way to go to win a new hunting bow. If you haven't entered the contest yet, why don't you start today. If you have lost your contest blank just drop a note to the secretary requesting one. You can send your new members in on a sheet of paper if you wish, marked "CONTEST" but be sure you give name, complete address along with the county the member lives in and of course his zip code.

CARP FISHING TIME is here again and it is hoped you will participate in the MBH MAIL CARP CONTEST. A contest blank along with rules and prize list is included as an insert sheet in this issue. Don't forget ladies that several women's prizes were not won last year due to the lack of women entries. We know a great many of the ladies hunt carp along with their husbands but we think some hesitate to turn them in, in the contest thinking they are too small. You can turn in as many entries as you wish and the more the better as then you have more chance of

winning a door prize as each entry gets a numbered ticket in the door prize cash drawing. On the regular prize list, the largest of your fish entries would be the only one that is counted. Read over the rules today while it is still fresh in your mind and plan on participating in this contest.

We have a limited supply of booklets, "Tips for Successful Bowhunters" written and prepared by Les Line for MBH. It covers how to field dress a deer with supporting diagrams plus tips on venison cookery and recipes. Members can have a copy by sending along a self addressed stamped envelope to Secretary Mary Taylor, P.O. Box 4, Flint, Michigan 48501 and asking for a copy.

## DISTRICT 7 CARP SHOOT MAY 6 and 7

Plans are nearly complete for District 7's ANNUAL CARP SHOOT at the MUD HOLE just out of Three Rivers. The dates to remember are May 6 & 7. The shoot will begin the morning of May 6th and continue all day and all night Saturday and until noon on Sunday. You can come and go as you wish.

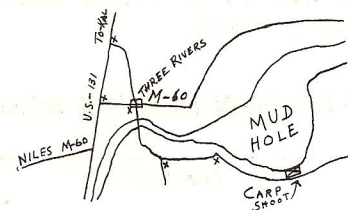
Registration fee will be \$1.00 for MBH members and \$2.00 for non-members. Membership will be avail-

able when you register so bring along your fishing partner. The rules will be the same as last year and there will be cash awards.

Officials will have an official scale on hand and plenty of "Mail Carp Contest Blanks" so you can enter your big carp in the contest with no effort.

Overnight camping will be available. Be sure and bring your FISHING LICENSE, boat, light or lanterns for night shootings and life preservers. Food will be served by the Vicksburg Bowmen at reasonable prices.

A map on how to get to the fishing site is below, so save it for reference. If you want further information you can write to me at Route 2, Box 844, Buchanan, Michigan 49107.



We have chosen a later date than last year, hoping for better weather and better carp movement. Don't forget we will be looking for you on May 6th or 7th or come both days if you can.

DEUAINÉ LAKE  
GOVERNOR, DISTRICT 7