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**Vol. 1 Issue 189**

**July 2009**



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# MOON OVER MOUNTWOOD Fishing & Outdoor Festival

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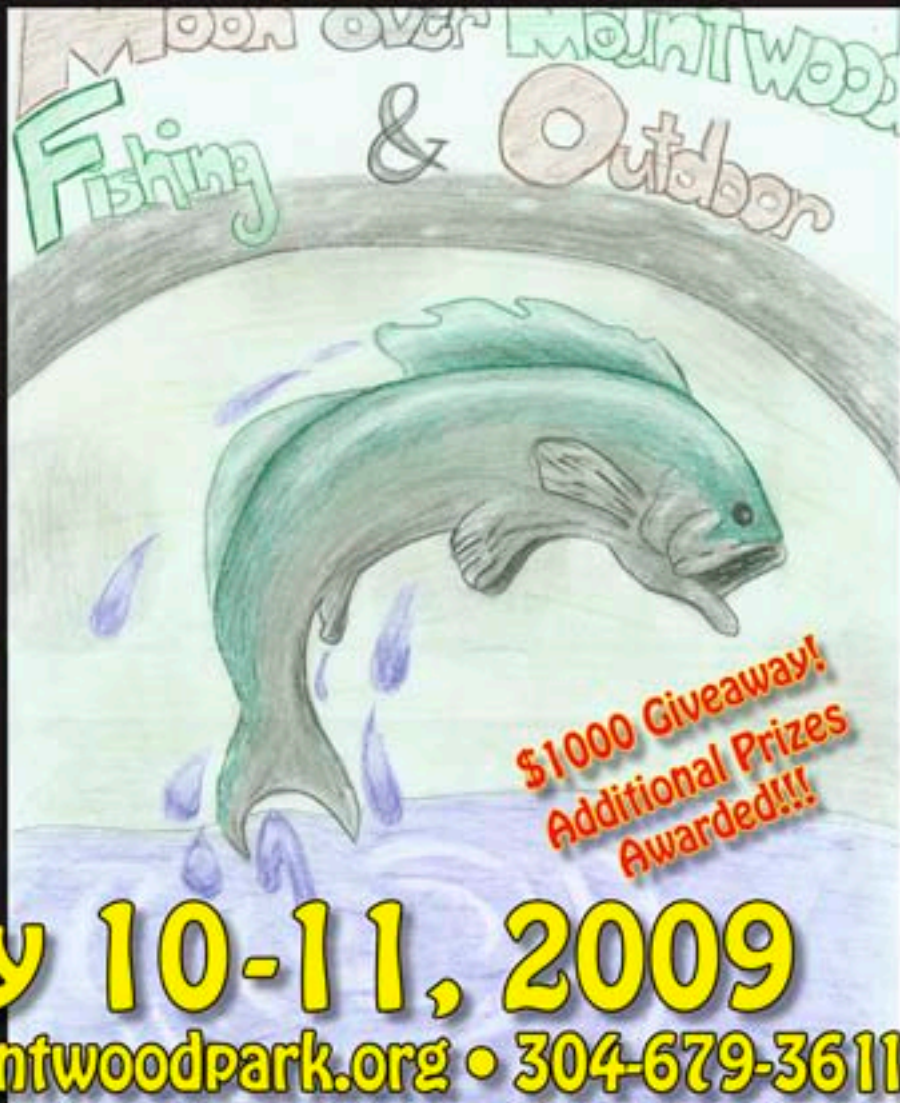
Steve Hussey Band  
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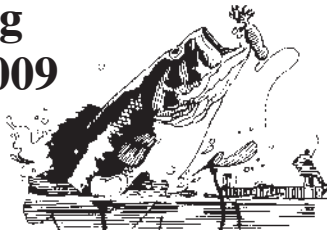
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## Cover Photo

Fishing at a private lake in Wood County, Tim Sprouse hooked an impressive 8 pound, 10 ounce largemouth bass. Bass this size are not often landed in West Virginia. Some of the popular catch and release lakes do give anglers an opportunity to reel in bass of this size.

The rivers in the state have been productive for lots of bass this season. Tournaments have been good. *Photo courtesy of Reese's Country Store in Deerwalk.*

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## Stonewall Jackson Bassin'

Post spawn bass fishing can be very difficult. After breeding near the shoreline, the bass usually suspend in deeper water. We headed to Stonewall Jackson Lake, in Lewis County, to go after these fish. It was late in June and the fishing style would be different.

Stonewall Jackson Lake was dedicated in 1988. It offers 2,650 acres of fishing water at normal pool. In addition, 15,681 acres are available for public hunting. The lake was named after the famed Confederate general, "Stonewall Jackson", a native of Lewis County. Hunters and fishermen have been enjoying this area since its inception.

I called up my fishing friend, Rick Greathouse, for a chance to tackle these hard to catch bass. There are several ramps along the lake and we chose to put his boat in at the Vandalia Ramp. Having fished this

By Mark A. Goudy

lake numerous times with my bass club, I knew that Junebug colored worms would be effective. Rick selected his favorite brand, Zoom, while I decided to experiment with other colors and varieties.

We started fishing around 9am near the ramp area. It wasn't long before Rick got his first bite and landed a keeper sized bass. A keeper sized bass refers to the 12" or longer length that is required in bass fishing tournaments. This lake is actually the first catch-and-release bass fishing lake in the state. All bass must be released.

I was trying many different colors of tubes, worms and creature baits. After Rick had landed some other

continue to the next page

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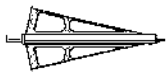
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Mike Mueller hunted in Wood County for this buck.

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Andy Godwin caught a suspended largemouth bass out of the trees.

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bass, I gave up and went to my "old faithful," a junebug Berkley Power Worm. As they say, "fish bite and won't let go." We discovered that the fish were really not related to the shoreline like usual. We had to drag our worm down to around 6 to 10 feet of water before they would contact the lure.

We also fished in the Wolf Run fork of the lake. This area features numerous old trees still submerged in the water. The opening of the channel is over 50' deep. We quit fishing around 5pm and had landed 5 keeper sized bass and numerous smaller "dinks". We had never tried crank baits or spinner baits. These may have worked too.

We left the lake and headed back



Jason Dickerson brought in a turkey. Photo courtesy of PC Bait & Tackle in Hinton.

to Weston to check into the Comfort Inn. This motel is the only one in the area that offers free electric hook-ups for charging your trolling motor battery. It is located on US Highway 33 East heading towards Buckhannon. Our room was very nice and we brought in our personal belongings. Then it was off to the Steer Steakhouse for dinner. It is only about a block away on the same side of the road. They are famous for great steaks or you can choose from their many item "hot bar". It features different selections each day. We both had a great meal and decided to head out for some evening fishing on the lake.

We now had a pattern, basically the style and baits needed to catch bass. We went to the Big Skin section of the lake. I finally switched to a buzz bait around dark and hooked a nice suspended largemouth. We ended up with 8 keepers for the day with the biggest landed by Rick, a 17" bass. We probably reeled in around 25 or 30 fish, total. The fishing was tough but rewarding. We had contacted Andy Godwin, sales manager for Mid-State Mari-

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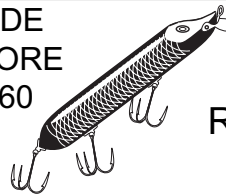
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na in Sutton. Their company offers Ranger and G3 bass boats, along with several brands of ATV's. Andy is well known in this area for his success in bass fishing tournaments at the nearby lakes. He has also fished in numerous national bass fishing events. I hopped in his

continue to the next page

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Ranger Comanche bass boat early the following morning for instructions on catching bass in the tall timber scattered throughout the lake. Rick followed us in his boat.

We started back to the left of the Vandalia Ramp through the bridge. The tall trees are in water depths ranging from 15 to 40 feet. He was flipping tubes and Jewel Bait company jigs directly at the trees. He uses a 7'6" Kistler flipping rod. This rod offers tremendous hook setting power.

It wasn't long before I found out one of the reasons for his fishing success. I was looking the other way and heard a loud whooshing noise. It was Andy rearing back for his hook set. I watched him several times through the day setting the hook. He raises his arms high and generates a tremendous amount of power with his motion. Plus his large #4 Owner wide gap hooks offer a very sharp hook.

Over the course of the day, Andy caught several nice bass in the deep water around the trees. His biggest  
continue to the next page



Buck Bell and Todd Williams brought in 2 nice catfish. Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in ELizabeth.

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Jared Vaughn landed a Mountwood Lake trout.

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went over three pounds. We also saw a musky, that looked to be in the 50 inch class, swimming on the surface. Rick caught several keeper bass, too, following behind us. The conditions were not great for fishing. There were very few clouds and the bright sunlight had driven the fish down. Andy only fishes down around 8 feet or so from the surface. He gets his bite below where the sunlight turns to shade in the water. He explained that the suspended bass also use the trees as a source of shade and as an ambush point for attacking nearby bluegills and crappie. Try this method out sometimes in the area that you fish. Fishermen usually go right by productive trees.

Having fished this lake for two days in difficult conditions, we concluded that post spawn fish were available to be caught. I also spoke with Rick Dunlap, owner of Rick's Taxidermy in Buckhannon. He fishes for bass at Stonewall Jackson Lake often. He related one of his recent late June trips with me. He fished the bay across from the Vandalia Ramp using a small Wiggle Wart crankbait. He made one pass around this bay. He was basically looking for suspended fish too. He stated that he landed several keeper sized fish along with one he estimated that would have weighed around 5 1/2 pounds. He also reeled in a walleye around 9 pounds on this same bait.

Since Stonewall Jackson Lake is a catch-and-release bass fishing lake, he offers replica mounts for bass to his many customers. Carry a bendable tape rule with you on this lake. Measure the length and the girth around the fish at its biggest point. He then uses this information to order the replica which he later paints to provide a lasting memory. He

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Other nearby points of interest in Lewis County include antique stores and the former Weston Mental Hospital tour. Nearby Stonewall Jackson Resort is located at the Roanoke exit off I-79. The famous Arnold Palmer designed golf course is one of the nicest in the state.

Other lodging in the area includes many advertisers from this magazine. The Hillbilly Haven Log-  
 continue to the next page



A big catfish is brought in. Photo courtesy of Riverside Bait & Tackle in Hockingport, OH.

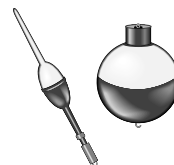


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Cabins are on the Roanoke exit (ad is on page 30). The others nearer to Vandalia include the Relax Inn Bed and Breakfast and Mobile Estate (ad on page 9) and Lake View Cabins (ad on page 20). Lakewood Cabins are close to Stonecoal Lake and Stonewall Jackson Lake (ad on page 21). Motels include the Comfort Inn (ad on page 28).

Spend some time on Stonewall Jackson Lake for an opportunity to land huge bass. Many anglers that I have talked with have had super days on the water. Anglers have a realistic chance to land largemouth bass over 5 pounds. Many try late night fishing on the lake using 7" to 10" worms. Bernie Dowler, formerly the Chief Of Wildlife Resources with the DNR, told me years ago that the lake was offering all anglers the chance at landing a 3 to 5 pound bass on any given day. This catch-and-release formula for bass fishing has since been used on other new lakes in the state.



Ron McCray hooked a 34" catfish. Photo courtesy of Riverside Bait & Tackle in Hockingport, OH.



Dan Frazier caught a smallie. Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.

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David Tenney shot an 8 point buck. Photo courtesy of Rick's Taxidermy in Buckhannon.



Jessica Barten caught a nice 22 pound catfish. Photo courtesy of Riverside Bait & Tackle in Hockingport.



Chris Hall hooked a big hybrid bass. Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.

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Cody Carver landed a real nice flat-head catfish. *Photo courtesy of Amish Country Store in Marmet.*

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The Webster County gang landed two big flathead catfish at Burnsville Lake. *Photo courtesy of Burnsville Docks in Burnsville.*

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## Fatal Accident Update

A suspect has been positively identified in the hunted related fatal shooting of Shawn Craig Stewart, which had occurred on Monday, April 27, 2009, in the Wildlife Management/Public Hunting Area of the Stonewall Jackson Lake State Park.

Robert L. Tobias, age 58, of Millersburg, Pennsylvania, had been identified by law enforcement personnel as being a hunter in this area on the date of this incident. This identification had been made after an article of clothing had been located by searchers near the Charles Run Cove area. During this investigation, this particular article of clothing was determined to have been purchased by TOBIAS from a local sporting goods store. Upon reviewing the exterior video footage from this store, officers learned that TOBIAS had been operating a compact truck with a wooden rack in the bed that was similar to the vehicle that had been described by the hunting companions of the victim as a vehicle they had observed parked at the Vandalia Bay parking lot on Sunday, April 26, 2009 and Monday, April 27, 2009. When contact was made with TOBIAS regarding this article of clothing, he had been unable to produce same and had advised that it had

been lost while recently hunting at the aforementioned State Park. Following this initial contact, TOBIAS had advised officers that he had retained legal counsel in this matter. Authorities had obtained DNA samples from TOBIAS for comparison to evidence that had been discovered at the scene during the initial part of this investigation. The results of this DNA test are pending, but are expected to be returned to this officer within the following days. During a subsequent interview with TOBIAS and his retained legal counsel, TOBIAS confirmed to officers that he had been the person responsible for this shooting incident. Charges against TOBIAS will be forthcoming. Corporal D.L. Cayton, lead investigator, advised that this investigation was a text book multi-agency effort to accomplish one goal. The agencies involved in this investigation included the West Virginia State Police, the WVSP Bureau of Criminal Investigations, the WV



Joe Taylor landed a 43" Hughes River musky. Photo courtesy of Reese's Country Store in Deerwalk.

DNR, Agents from the Clarksburg and Wheeling offices of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, the Clarksburg Police Department Detective Division, the Pennsylvania State Police, and the Pennsylvania Game Commission. All of these agencies played a very significant role in this investigation.



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# Bowfishing 101

By Paul Moore

Bowfishing is an activity that is rapidly increasing in popularity among fishermen and hunters alike. Taking to the backwater with bow in hand, many people spend as much time and effort bowfishing as other anglers do with rod and reel. It is something which lends itself well to newcomers and seasoned shooters alike and is a great transition sport for fall bowhunters.

Getting started in bowfishing is actually quite simple. It is much more accommodating than beginning bowhunting and a lot less expensive also. Equipment can be purchased easily at second-hand stores, pawn shops, or sporting goods stores for a small investment. Precision fit and quality is not as mandatory as with a hunting or target bow, but still must be matched to the individual shooter.

The various setups for bowfishing can be as unique as the individual shooter and choosing a bow is based strictly on personal preference. It may be either recurve, longbow, or compound. The key to choosing the bow is for the draw weight to be light enough to be drawn very swiftly in a smooth



Megan Carnahan, from Moundsville, shot a 20 1/2 pound gobbler.



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motion while taking aim at a rapidly moving shadow.

Some bows are fitted with special reels which allow a conventional retrieve while others have line that is retrieved hand over hand. The line is attached to a special arrow that has a fish point on the business end that anchors into the fish when hit. The arrow must be quite heavy to penetrate through the water and still retain enough energy to impale

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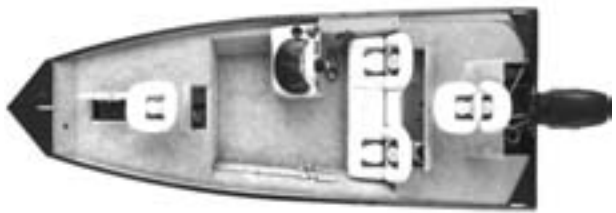



Young Dylan Taylor used a gun for this nice 8 point buck.




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the fish. Usually, the arrow is made of fiberglass.

If you are a dedicated angler, you may be having angina at this point in the story. Relax. The only fish which can legally be shot with bow and arrow are rough fish. No game fish are allowed to be taken and, for the most part, are non-existent in the locations in which bowfishing normally takes place. Most bowfishing is done in the brackish backwater of sloughs, rivers, and spring floods.

Rough fish such as carp and gar haunt the murky water throughout various sloughs and backwater. These fish move into the shallows in the spring to spawn. Sometimes, these fish can be found in water only inches deep. But don't get the idea that bowfishing is like the proverbial "shooting fish in a barrel." It is far removed from that notion and predominately quite the contrary.

Fish can be quite difficult to hit with bow and arrow and it generally takes a while for one to get the hang of shooting at them. Not only is the target usually moving, but the water has a profound effect on the way the fish appears to the shooter. The refraction of the water makes it necessary to aim below the fish in order to be on target. It can prove to be a bit frustrating at times. However, shoot an arrow into a 20-pound carp in one foot of

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water and then hang on. It's a heck of a commotion to say the least.

Bowfishing is very accessible as it can be pursued from boat, the bank, or by wading shallow water. Shooting from the bank usually puts the most limits on the angler. Because bowfishing often takes place in shallow water, wading provides access to countless opportunities. Bowfishing enthusiasts who have access to a boat are almost limitless  
continue to the next page



Mitchell Boyce shot a nice 10 point buck. Photo courtesy Rick's Taxidermy in Buckhannon.

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on bowfishing pleasure.

Wading and boat fishing are performed with similar technique. The bow-angler scans the surface of the water looking for activity. When a fish is spotted "working" the angler quietly approaches for the pending shot. Bowfishing dictates that the angler must be quite close to the quarry before a shot is attempted.

Bowfishing is not for everyone. However, some people take it very seriously. Many people build special boats from which to bowfish. Elevated platforms are constructed on the boats from which to give a better vantage point to see fish in the water below.

Contemporary fishing is adorned with all manner of tournaments and prizes. The bowfishing fraternity is not without its tournaments either. The tournaments are very similar to any other fishing tournament. Each person or team pays an entrance fee, must fish following certain guidelines, and must check in the catch at days end. Winners are determined in various categories such as most fish brought in, heaviest fish, and longest fish. Prizes are awarded in the form of trophies and cash.

Getting started in bowfishing is not hard. If one is accustomed to shooting a bow, it is a definite advantage, but not mandatory. It is very important for the shooter to use a bow which fits his or her draw length and strength. High-poundage bows are not necessary and are actually

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a detriment to success. One must shoot quickly when a fish appears, so being "over-bowed" is a definite disadvantage in bowfishing.

It does not have to be an expensive rig either. Simple, inexpensive, and sometimes used equipment will serve nicely for starting out. Most any archery shop can give advice on setting up a bow for bowfishing and much more information is available from local

archery shops or area bowhunting clubs. The Internet is also a good source for reference, tournament schedules, and contact with others who pursue the sport of bowfishing.



Kristin Wallace hooked a smallmouth. *Photo courtesy of Backwater Bait in Newport, OH.*



Darlene Payne, from Newton, shot a nice buck.

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## Moon Over

### Mountwood Event

On July 10 and 11, Mountwood Park will be hosting its Third Annual Moon Over Mountwood Fishing and Outdoor Festival. The event will kickoff with an overnight fishing derby for adults and will continue throughout the day on Saturday with fishing tournaments for children. As an addition to this year's event, vendors and live entertainment will also be present.

The fishing derby begins at 7 pm on Friday, July 10 with an overnight adult fishing tournament for ages 15 and up. This competition will end with an awards ceremony at 7am on Saturday. Prior to the children's tournament, the lake will be stocked with fish including silver channel cats, hybrid bluegills, and specialty sized fish. Tournaments for children ages 1 to 14 will run throughout the day on July 11 and will culminate in the evening with awards. Early bird registration can take place on or before July 7 for a reduced rate. Regular registration is from 5pm to 7pm on Friday, July 10.

An even larger turnout is expected for this year's event. Families, friends and participants can expect live entertainment, prizes, and food. Vendors representing outdoor activities such as hunt-

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ing, fishing, skiing, trapping, boating, and whitewater rafting will be present as well as live bands performing music ranging from Bluegrass, Country and Folk. The following musicians/bands will be at the event: John Radcliff, Todd Burge, No One You Know, The Steve Hussey Band, Don Baker, and Bobby Kirl.

"This festival is for the whole family. It encompasses the joys, thrills, and splendors of the outdoors. We have planned for an even larger and more exciting event for the family than last year," said Jack Mathers, the Moon Over Mountwood Fishing and Outdoor Festival Committee Chair.

Saturday evening activities will close with an auction of prizes and a helicopter "bobber drop." Tickets for the helicopter bobber drop will be sold at local businesses, at the

event, or by contacting Mountwood Park. For more information visit [HYPERLINK "http://www.mountwoodpark.org"](http://www.mountwoodpark.org) www.mountwoodpark.org or call 304-679-3611.



Joel Vaughn hooked a big bluegill.



Young Taylor Starkey shot his first black bear. Photo courtesy of Rick's Taxidermy in Buckhannon.

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## Special September Deer Season

Archery and muzzleloader deer hunters in West Virginia will be able to enjoy additional antlerless deer hunting opportunities this fall, according to Frank Jezioro, Director of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources. The Natural Resources Commission recently approved a special antlerless deer archery season and a special antlerless deer muzzleloader season that will take place on private lands only in selected counties where the harvest of additional antlerless deer is necessary for management purposes. Hunters should be aware of the following details associated with these special antlerless deer seasons.

The special antlerless deer archery season will open on September 14, 2009, and close on September 19, 2009, and allow for the taking of one additional deer that must be checked on a Class RB or Class RRB Stamp.

The special antlerless deer muzzleloader season will open on September 21, 2009, and close on Sep-

tember 26, 2009, and allow for the taking of one additional deer that must be checked on a Class RM or Class RRM Stamp.

Both the special antlerless deer archery season and the special antlerless deer muzzleloader season will take place on private lands only in the following counties or portions thereof: Barbour, Berkeley, Brooke, Cabell, Calhoun, Doddridge, Gilmer, Grant, Greenbrier (S of Rt. 60, S of I-64, S&E of Rt. 9, E of Rt. 219 at Renick, S of Rt. 11, W of Greenbrier R., S of I-64, W of Rt. 60/14), Hampshire, Hancock, Hardy, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Kanawha (N or Elk R. & W of Corridor G), Lewis, Marion, Marshall, Mason, Mercer (E of I-77), Mineral, Monongalia, Monroe, Morgan, Ohio, Pendleton, Pleasants, Preston, Putnam, Ritchie, Taylor, Tyler, Wetzel, Wirt and Wood.

“These special antlerless deer seasons will afford archery and muzzleloader hunters an excellent opportunity to hunt deer earlier in

the year and during a time when weather conditions are generally milder,” Jezioro said. “These seasons have the added advantage of allowing hunters and landowners to harvest additional antlerless deer from private lands where needed for management purposes.”



Kevin Harris, from Ravenswood, landed his 1st musky, a 46” one.

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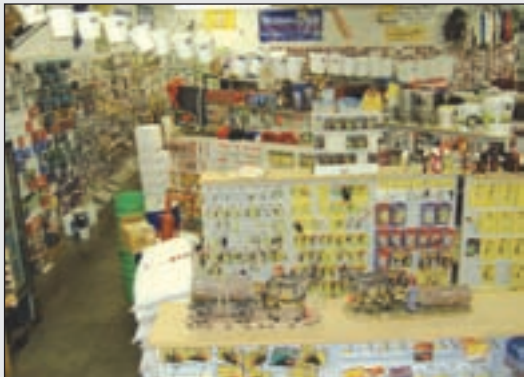
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A big 45 pound catfish was brought in. *Photo courtesy of Outdoor Specialties in Winfield.*



Pat O'Conner hooked a big rainbow trout.. *Photo courtesy of Amish Country Store in Marmet.*

**Mail In Your BIG FISH Pictures  
From The 2009 Season.  
Form Is On Page 38**



Josh Murray used a bow on these geese. *Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.*

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Andy Williams shot a nice buck with a bow. Photo courtesy of Broken Wheel Cmapground in Weston.



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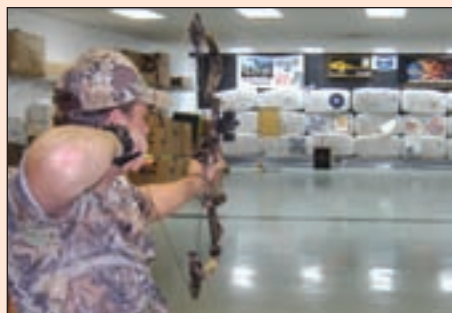
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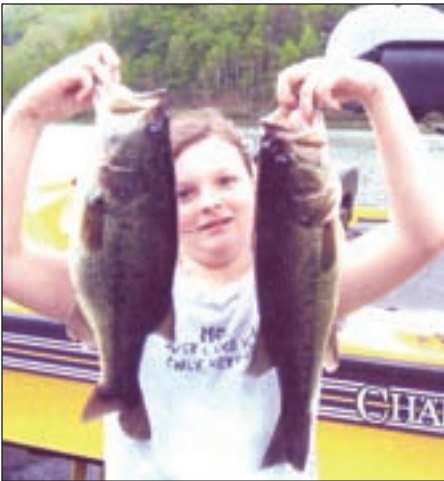
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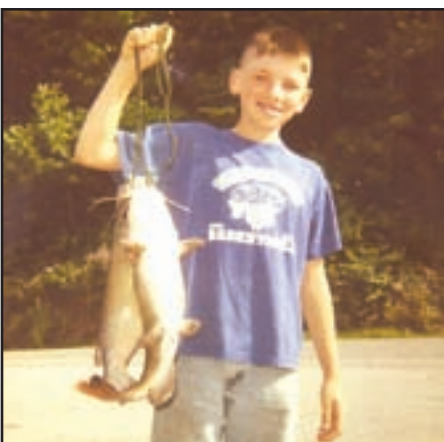




Katie Via is shown with a couple of big largemouth. Photo courtesy of PC Bait & Tackle in Hinton.



John Needham bagged a 20 pound bird. Photo courtesy of Reese's Country Store in Deerwalk.



Dalton Bell caught some fish. Photo courtesy of Crossroads general Store near Newark.

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# A Little Slice Of Heaven

By Mark A. Garner


In 1980, a group of guys graduated from High school, and vowed to keep in touch, and never drift apart like so many of the classes that proceeded us. We felt that we were a "band of brothers" so to speak, and neither time, distance or future developments yet to surface would interfere with our closely knit group. Well, some thirty years later, we are, for the most part still a close group, and other than a few individuals, we still keep in touch with

each other, and try to get together several times a year to catch up on current events. One of those gatherings happened last weekend at a camp in the Parsons area. We have deemed the rustic setting "Camp Skip", and last weekend, the camp founder, AK Michael told his story of how he acquired the camp for \$75 dollars, and a drink of whiskey from a local farmer who owned the

continue to the next page

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Young Derek Kemp hooked a nice Ohio River hybrid striped bass. Photo courtesy of Starcher's Sport Shop in Lubeck.



A 34 pound catfish was caught. Photo courtesy of Outdoor Specialties in Winfield.

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the lot. As we sat around a warm fire watching the Cheat River reflect the opposite hillside, he told the story of after the bargain was sealed; the camp was built in the typical hunting camp fashion of the 50's complete with indoor plumbing, and sleeping for 12 campers. Initially, the camp was meant for a hunting camp, but as time passed by, the camp became a home away from home. Since that time, the camp has withstood multiple floods, high winds and the other tests of time that is the usual demise of camps of this sort. However, this camp is special, and in large part to the people who frequented the camp. Much like a dog, it is said that the pet will adopt the disposition of its owner, and I can state for the record that this camp has also adopted the warmth of the people who has stayed here over the years. What makes a camp special is the memories of past trips, and the an-

icipation of new experiences yet to unfold!

Over time, all dwelling need repairs, and this camp also requires lots of work to keep it in shape. Over the years, subtle improvements were made to the camp mainly out of necessity; however, last year, Jeff and John decided that the camp was in need of a complete facelift. They, together with help from others camp hands completely renovated the camp to a level that would rival most homes, let alone a "camp". They outdid themselves during the renovation, but boy, the camp shines! The camp is, simply put "grand", but they left some of the traditional characteristics intact to maintain the original character of the camp that AK built. It is the perfect setting for a casual weekend for a family, or sturdy and rugged enough to house 15, or so guys looking for a relaxing weekend. For example, last weekend, eight



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guys called camp home for the weekend, and plenty of relaxation was on tap. We fished for trout on the Horseshoe, and latter shot skeet in the back yard. Latter on in the evening, after a hearty meal, we watched the Mountaineers play Louisville on the satellite TV, one of those recent luxury items added to the camp for convenience! All in all, the camp, over the years, the camp has served its purpose well. The walls of the camp are decorated with mementos of past trips, and I'm sure the next time I visit the camp, new items will be added. It provides a comfortable, relaxing setting for folks to get away for a while, and enjoy each other's company. I'm sure that all of you have

continue to the next page

## OHIO RIVER TEAMS 2009

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Roger Goff shot a 10 point. Photo courtesy of Jarrett's Bait in Elizabeth.



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some special 'camp' memories. They may be deer camps, or week-end camping trip, but if not, I encourage you to try to get away and enjoy the camp lifestyle. I know that I have enjoyed the many week-ends that I have spent watching a fire while telling stories, or awaking to the sound of nature outside of our tent! Over the years, this camp has provided many a week-end of relaxation, and I'd dare say, if I asks AK, he'd say it was worth every dollar of the original cost, and the sip of whiskey too!

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W. Va. Sportsman  
Details On page 3**

**Now On The Internet  
www.wvasportsman.net**



Corey Carver shot a nice spring gobbler. Photo courtesy of Willie's Sport Shop in Glenville.

## Spring Gobbler Hunting Results

Preliminary figures indicate West Virginia hunters harvested 9,485 bearded turkeys statewide during the recently completed 2009 spring gobbler season. This year's spring harvest is approximately four percent below the 9,929 birds taken in 2008.

The top five counties in 2009 were Mason (422), Preston (378), Harrison (310), Upshur (296) and Wood (273). Thirty of the state's 55 counties had lower harvests this spring when compared to 2008. District 6 showed the greatest percentage decline (down 12 percent), followed by District 4 (down nine percent), District 5 (down three percent) and District 1 (down three percent). Higher harvests were reported in District 2 (up three percent) and District 3 (up three percent). District 1 reported the largest kill (2,130 birds), followed by District 4 (1,737), District 6 (1,700), District 5 (1,650), District 3 (1,426) and District 2 (842).

"Just as we saw last year, the 2009 spring turkey season experienced many days of rain," said Curtis I.

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Taylor, Chief of the Wildlife Resources Section of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources. "This wet weather dampened hunter turnout, reduced gobbling activity and resulted in a lower than expected harvest."

Biologists had forecast a spring harvest of more than 10,000 gobblers for 2009, based on improved brood counts the past two years. "Reports from field personnel during this spring season indicated hunting pressure was lower than normal," said Taylor. "Much of this decrease in hunting can be attributed to the very foul weather conditions."

There should be a good amount of carryover birds for 2010.

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# Stonewall WMA Hunting Permits

Applications are being accepted for the controlled deer hunt scheduled for November 16, 17 and 18, 2009, at Stonewall Resort State Park, located in Lewis County near Weston, W.Va.

“Monitoring of the deer population and subsequent surveys conducted by the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR) revealed a high deer density on the state park property at Stonewall,” according to Sam England, Park Superintendent. “The excessive whitetail deer population damages vegetation, creates environmental imbalance within the park and subjects the herd to increasingly poor browse and health conditions.”

Cooperative efforts between the Parks and Recreation, Wildlife, and Law Enforcement sections of DNR and Benchmark Management Company, which operates the facilities for the state, were successful in conducting a controlled hunt in 2008.

“We were able to successfully use a controlled hunt as a method of deer management in a public setting last year; however, history has shown that multiple successive hunts are necessary to reduce the population to appropriate levels,” according to

Frank Jezioro, Director of the Division of Natural Resources. “The result will be good and responsible wildlife management that a controlled deer hunt can produce.”

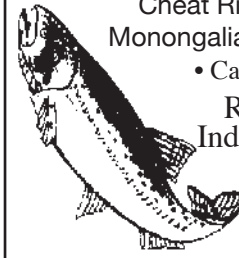
The application and instructions for the Stonewall controlled hunt are posted on the DNR Web page at [www.wvdnr.gov](http://www.wvdnr.gov) under Hunting, Stonewall Controlled Hunt.



Mike VanRipper hooked a 14” brown trout. *Photo courtesy of Cheat Trout Trips in Independence.*

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Applications also are available at all DNR district offices; DNR Operations Center in Elkins; DNR Of-  
continue to the next page



Ron Cunningham landed a 20” rainbow on the Cheat River. *Photo courtesy of Cheat Trout Trips in Independence.*

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ices in Building 74 Capitol Complex in South Charleston; WV State Park and Forest offices; the WV Wildlife Center at French Creek and at Stonewall Resort state park office. Applications are two-sided with the application on one side and information on the reverse. Hunters also may complete the application online; however, applications must be printed, then signed and dated and mailed. Completed applications must be mailed to the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 67, Elkins, WV, prior to August 28, 2009. A random selection of approximately 50 hunters for each day will be made from applications received. Successful applicants will be notified after October 1, 2009. For additional information contact Stonewall Resort State Park at (304) 269-0524, or District 3 DNR Office at (304) 924-6211. Controlled Hunt Application Information

The controlled hunt at Stonewall Resort is open to West Virginia residents and holders of West Virginia Lifetime Licenses. Hunters may apply for a permit to participate in the Stonewall Resort State Park Controlled Deer Hunt to be conducted November 16, 17 and

18, 2009.

Hunters may apply individually or as part of a two-person party and may use any weapon legal for deer hunting in West Virginia. One (1) deer may be taken by each hunter. Only antlerless deer may be taken

continue to the next page



Waylon Kincaid caught a 44" musky on the Gauley River in March.

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during this hunt, except that each day of the hunt an on-site lottery will be held which will allow up to four (4) hunters to hunt a deer of either sex. Instructions on the application must be followed. Applications must be signed, legible, complete, and postmarked by August 28, 2009.

All applicants must designate the type of weapon (firearm or bow) and hunting method (free roaming or fixed stand) to be used on the application. All persons applying as a party must hunt with the same type of weapon (firearm or bow) and use the same method of hunting (free roaming or fixed stand). Party hunters which include a Class Q hunter must hunt from the same Class Q stand.

Each hunter must possess a valid West Virginia Hunting License (or be legally exempt from purchasing a license) on the day of the hunt.

The hunt area is divided into two zones; a Fixed Stand Zone and a Free Roaming Zone. In the Fixed Stand Zone hunters must hunt

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from elevated tree stands (ladder or self-climbing) which they must provide, placed in designated trees. In the Free Roaming Zone hunters may hunt from the ground or from portable tree stands and they are not limited to stationary location. A safety belt is required to be worn while hunting from an elevated stand. Scopes are allowed on all legal firearms.

There will be no waiting list or walk-ons. There will be approximately 55 applications for each hunt day randomly drawn in advance. Successful applicants will be contacted with more detailed information regarding this controlled hunt. Deer harvested do not count against a hunter's annual deer season bag limit.

West Virginia Division of Natural Resources hunting regulations will apply to this hunt. Hunting contributes to wildlife conservation while

maintaining a healthy deer herd population.



Lee Wolverton and Justin Whited fished in the Little Kanwah River for a 40 and 33 pound catfish. *Photo courtesy of Holbert's Store in Big Bend.*



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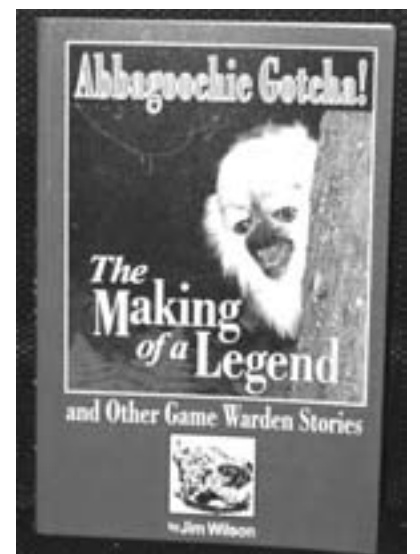
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Bobcat trapping has become very popular in West Virginia. Seth Banhart brought in a 30 pounder.



A nice golden trout was caught at Mountwood Lake. Photo courtesy of Reese' Country Store in Deerwalk.



Levore Rider hooked a crappie. Photo courtesy of Riverside Bait & Tackle in Hockingport, Oh.

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Scott Doss was fishing at this popular pay lake for this nice flathead catfish. Photo courtesy of Catfish Cove in Hurricane.

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 Page 38**

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Two citation rainbow trout were hooked. Photo courtesy of Broken Wheel Campground in Weston.

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Young Colt Corder bagged his 1st rabbit. Photo courtesy of Old & New Sports in Ravenswood.

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John Vannoy shot a nice buck. Photo courtesy of Sears Grocery in Smptown.

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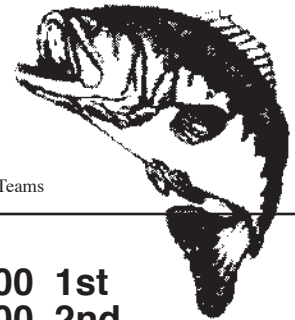
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## DNR Hosts Women In The Outdoors Program

There is still time to register for the sixth annual Women in the Outdoors Event to be held at Kanawha State Forest on July 25, according to Frank Jezioro, Director of the Division of Natural Resources.

"The focus of the event is to provide women an opportunity to learn outdoor activities with a hands-on experience," Jezioro said. "Although women make up half the population in West Virginia, they make up a much smaller percentage of those who enjoy outdoor activities."

During this one-day event, which is being co-sponsored by the National Wild Turkey Federation's Women in the Outdoors program, women will have the opportunity to participate in four 90 minute classes throughout the day: archery, birding, biking, camping, first aid, fishing, fly tying, outdoor cooking, outdoor crafts, outdoor survival, shooting, stream ecology, "talkin' turkey," and "what's in the woods."

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an outdoor skill, but were unsure of the equipment needed or what's all involved, this field day is a wonderful opportunity to explore these areas," said event coordinator Billie Shearer.

Experienced volunteer instructors will provide hands-on training throughout the day. In addition, women participating in the event will be eligible for door prizes, various raffles, and a silent auction that will include various items such



Travis Sexton trapped his first raccoon. *Picture courtesy of Starcher's Sport SHop in Lubeck.*

as wildlife prints, sculptures, and quilts.

A small registration fee of \$50 is required to cover the cost of training, materials, lunch, one year subscription to the Women in the Outdoors Magazine, and a gift. Ages 14-17 must attend with a parent or legal guardian.

For more information concerning this event or to register, visit the DNR's Web site at [www.wvdnr.gov](http://www.wvdnr.gov), call 304-558-2771 or email [billieshearer@wvdnr.gov](mailto:billieshearer@wvdnr.gov).



Larry Withrow landed a 21 pound catfish. *Photo courtesy of Catfish Cove in Hurricane.*



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# More Deer Test Positive For CWD

Test results have detected the Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) agent in a total of seven white-tailed deer sampled during the 2009 spring collections in Hampshire County, according to the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources (DNR).

These most recent deer testing positive for CWD were collected by Wildlife Resources Section personnel working in cooperation with local landowners, and they were all located within the Hamp-

shire County CWD Containment Area (i.e., that portion of Hampshire County located North of U.S. Route 50). The CWD agent previously has been detected outside the containment area in the adjacent portion of Hampshire County, and the area of known infected deer does continue to slowly expand.

These collections have been designed to investigate and determine the prevalence and distribution of the disease in Hampshire County. In addition, wildlife biologists are

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Bob Whetzel  
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carefully monitoring changes in the structure of the deer herd within the CWD containment area.

The first case of CWD in West Vir-  
continue to the next page



Tim Tucker caught this big freshwater drum in the Little Kanawha river. It weighed 13 pounds. *Photo courtesy of Crossroads General Store near Newark.*



Lamont Smith hooked a big smallmouth. *Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.*

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inia was confirmed on September 2, 2005. Since then, DNR has been fully engaged in activities guided by its CWD Incident Response Plan, which is designed to accomplish the following objectives.

Determine the distribution and prevalence of CWD through enhanced surveillance efforts.

Communicate and coordinate with the public and other appropriate agencies on issues relating to CWD and the steps being taken to respond to this disease.

Initiate appropriate management actions necessary to control the spread of this disease and prevent further introduction of the disease.

To date, CWD surveillance efforts conducted by the DNR have resulted in a total of 45 deer being confirmed positive for CWD in Hampshire County. Ongoing and extensive surveillance efforts being conducted by Wildlife Resources Section personnel throughout West Virginia have not detected CWD outside of Hampshire County.

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.

“Landowner and hunter cooperation throughout this entire CWD surveillance effort in Hampshire County continues to be excellent,” noted DNR Director Frank Jezioro. “As we strive to meet this wildlife disease challenge and implement appropriate management strategies, the support and involvement of landowners and hunters remains essential. DNR is committed to keeping the public informed and involved in these wildlife disease



Ray Meador caught an 8 1/4 pound largemouth bass at Bluestone Lake. Photo courtesy of Three Rivers Edge in Hinton.

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management actions.

“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, Georgia,” said Jezioro.



Cody Carver got a nice buck.. Photo courtesy of Bowlistic Archery in Chelyan.

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Patrick Burns hooked a 4 1/2 pound smallmouth. *Photo courtesy of Waterfront Sporting Goods in Aldreson.*



Jay Nesbitt & Rick Davis landed a big tuna in NC. *Photo courtesy of Mad Sporting Goods in Boaz.*



Danny Schofield and daughter Bailey are shown with a gobbler.

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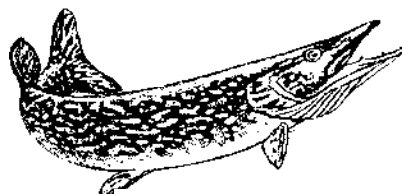
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