

# Michigan Bow Hunters

## NEWS



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### VP's MESSAGE

Starting in next months issue we are going to publish a series of articles on, "What the Michigan Bow Hunters Can Do For You" and "What You Can Do For The Michigan Bow Hunters". It is hoped this series of articles will be of interest to old as well as new members. Let's hope that these articles will bring back our thoughts as to why we joined the Michigan Bow Hunters.

At the spring board meeting the Officers and Governors agreed to try and work out some kind of program for small game hunting awards with the bow and arrow. More and more of our members are using the bow in the hunting of small game. Rex Holbrook, Governor of District 9, agreed to chair a committee to work out some type of small game award such as an emblem, and also to come up with an appropriate application blank and a set of rules. At this writing work is well underway and it is hoped we can report more on this program in near further issues.

At this writing, Senate Bill No. 372 is still in the House Conservation Committee. If we get any news on this bill before June issue is mailed to members we will include a flyer on it. The Michigan Bow Hunters Officers and Board are very grateful to all of our members who took the time to contact their Senator and Representative on this bill.

Douglas Bartrem  
Vice-President

### 'NOCKIN' 'ROUND THE NORTH

by Liz Gall

Bowmen from Petoskey, Gladwin, and Onaway got together the last Saturday evening in April on the banks of the Pigeon River, in that area designated as spearing and bowfishing waters. Had a roaring big campfire, wiener roast and supper and went after the suckers. Some bowmen used the same method for shooting fish as the fellas using a spear—they lined up four or five abreast across the stream advancing upstream with lantern and bow. Others found a good open shooting spot on the banks of the river, positioned a lantern on the ground in a spot to give them the best light, and "chiseled" away as the fish came upstream past them. Everyone got shooting and most connected at least once—total take a couple of bur-lap bags full of fish and a heap of fun!

These bowmen are all members of a small group known as the Northern Bowhunters. **Most** of them are also MBH members. We hope to make it complete before the summer shooting season ends.

The Northern Bowhunters have set up a schedule of shoots designed to help the bowhunter keep in shape for the bow and arrow deer season. Type of targets used, distances and numbers of same will be decided entirely by the host club—with safety and interest the important factors. Two shoots were held in May with much success. The other dates scheduled are:

June 18—Jordan Valley Archers  
July 9—Host club decided later  
July 30—Host club decided later  
August 20—Onaway Bowhunters  
September 10—Petoskey Bowmen

The last two will be silhouette shoots for certain.

Deer and little creatures made sure that few of the mural mushrooms went to waste last month—in fact us people had to get there early in the day to get any. More and more deer are sighted as spring advances and trees and shrubs leaf out. All seem to be in good shape as fawns are born.

It might interest some of you stick and string hunters to know that those who **FIRST** used the bow in this beautiful country of ours still prize eagle feathers for ceremonial status. The Red Lake Band of the Chippewa Tribe has reserved 400,000 acres in north-central Minnesota as a Bald Eagle Sanctuary. The Chippewa Reservation lands are on an eagle migration route. The eagle, our "National Bird" is on the rare species list and anyone privileged enough to see one of these great birds in flight should consider themselves lucky indeed. Some Indian tribes have a standing order with the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife for feathers of eagles that die in the sanctuary. Donation of the feathers is permissible when they are used only for ceremonial purposes as these are.

From every corner of our north country come reports of park wreckers, litter violations and vandals. This brings to mind some of the camp sites we have seen during bow sea-

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