

# Michigan Bow Hunters

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## NEWS



VOLUME 2 — NO. 8

JULY 1967

### WHAT MBH DOES FOR YOU

In this series of articles we will cover legislation, tournaments, awards, and the history of The Michigan Bow Hunters.

Probably the most important item is the work done on legislation. We are always trying to achieve better hunting conditions. Some of the major items already passed are:

- (1) the removal of the minimum age requirement for bow & arrow licenses. This permits young archers under 14 years of age to hunt.
- (2) The 36 day separate deer season for bow & arrow hunters. And now with the passage of House Bill No. 2717 we now have 76 days.
- (3) An any deer season for bow-hunters in all counties.
- (4) The right to shoot rough fish.
- (5) Expansion of rough fish shooting to include the Great Lake marshes.

This work is carried on entirely with the small yearly membership fee of \$3.00 from each of its members and many many hours of work from its officers and a few members who are dedicated to the Michigan Bow Hunters and the welfare of its members.

You must realize that the larger our membership roll the more weight our organization carries when talking to the Department of Conservation and the Legislature.

In addition the Michigan Bow Hunters have worked constantly to gain respect for the bowhunter, as both a sportsman and a conservationist, by the general public. The Michigan Bow Hunters strive to promote close obedience of hunting laws by the archer and working closely with the Department of Conservation are trying to eliminate road hunters and poaching by persons trying to violate with the bow and arrow. These few violators are blacklisting all bowhunters.

As you can see in our short 21 years we have come a long way and with your help in selling The Michigan Bow Hunters we will go much further.

Next month more benefits from your Michigan Bow Hunters membership will be covered.

Douglas Bartrem  
Vice-President

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### 'NOCKIN' 'ROUND THE NORTH

by Liz Gall

Northern Bow Hunters got in some broadhead practice last month on the Onaway range. The old standard field range was rebuilt, sand banks replaced hay or straw bales as back stops, and targets were strung on wire as silhouettes are. Heavy paper plates were used for targets, two arrows were shot at each with the 1st arrow hit counting 15 and the 2nd 10. And let me tell you there were no fabulous scores turned in. Those plates were harder to hit than you think—and awful easy to just miss.

The wild fruits missed the frosts

and bloomed gloriously. Then for a time, it looked like they would not survive the drought. The rains came down-state and to neighboring states but for a couple of weeks it got so dry up here you could spit cotton. At last it rained, and then it rained some more—the question now is, "when will it stop?" There should be a plentiful supply of fruit and acorns for birds and animals.

Jordan River Valley residents have a problem. They wish to keep the beautiful Jordan river a brook trout stream, so they keep constant vigil to retain the necessary water conditions. Where much of the stream goes through private property future development is inevitable—this means cottage septic tanks, fishing sites, & roads. If the essential cover is disturbed brook trout fishing will be finished. So the responsibility for save guarding this delicate balance falls on the property owners, local voters, and a tight sanitary code. The Jordan Valley is a beautiful one, with trees and deed a part of it. There are a few good deer yards but none are large enough to support many animals in the winter months. If folks there want more deer, they will have to sacrifice some of the beauty of the area by having yearly cuttings to provide winter food and new growth. The resulting slash from cuttings is not so pretty to see and it could effect the stream itself—which would finish the brook trout. An effort to try both brook trout and more deer may result in having neither. Like we said, they have a problem—trout or deer?

During this summer many of you have used or will be using your camping equipment. Now is a good time to check it over for repairs and

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