



TBoT Newsletter



Vol. 11 Issue VII

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4th Quarter, 2008



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A note from your Secretary,

Hope everyone is enjoying the holiday season. We've been busy with family, friends and hunting.

We have several new Life Members I would like to thank, Larry Harris and Jack Jetton. I sent out renewals to our Hill Country Shootout guests. This will be the last complimentary newsletter for those guests that do not become a regular member. Hope you join!

Preparations are already underway for the 2009 Hill Country Shootout in Vanderpool. Registration forms are included in this issue and will be available to print off the website as well. Please make note the deadline for pre-registration is March 15th.

On a personal note, those of you who know the Stein family, Bryant's grandmother, Peggy Laughlin, recently passed away. Bryant's mother Sandy has been caring for her at their home in Iola. She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Harry Laughlin. On behalf of TboT, I would like to extend our sympathy to the family.

My hunting season has been rewarding. I've not harvested anything with my bow, yet... but I'm out in the field and enjoying every minute. I've been fortunate to have game each time I've been out and the chiggers seem to be gone now. I've seen two nice bucks, one mesmerized me sooo much, I lost my opportunity (or my mind) and the other just didn't give me one. With each experience I learn more. I did make time to go hunting with my Dad and youngest brother on our family property in Centerville. We had a great time and "big sister" did harvest the biggest buck taken off the property so far (not with a bow, oops). No matter the method, the memories will last forever.

Happy Holidays!
Brenda

ON THE COVER

Steve Shedd and his 8 point shot on Monday, Oct. 13th, in McMullen County, TX.

Steve was shooting a Sarrels Superstition take-down longbow, aluminum arrows, and a Magnus 140 grain, 2-blade broadhead with a 100 grain steel insert. He is Steve's best buck to date.



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Butch Gleghorn



*Jerry Bischoffberger
Story page 10*



*Travis Stein with a hog
Harvested in Iola*




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The Arrow

By Butch Gleghorn

I guess every traditional bowhunter has a favorite, special arrow that they have confidence in. I do. One that spins true, shoots well and the broadhead sharpens easy.

I purchased a dozen cedar shafts a few years ago at the Hill Country Shootout. I put them up until needed. 2007 at the shoot I purchased a Bob Sarrels Wildcat 56" 54#. The cedar shafts were spined for what this bow liked. This past summer, I fixed the arrows to shoot orange wraps, purple and green feathers.

Shooting the arrows out of the bow, they all shot good but one just seemed to go where I was looking every time (which for me is pretty amazing).

In August, I put 160 gr Snuffer on this arrow and boy did it fly well. I got it sharpened and ready to hunt hogs.

September 27, 2008 afternoon hunt, pigs showed up about 7:20. I picked one and shot the arrow, it hit and stayed in the 55# pig. As I watched him run off, the arrow pulled through him just before he dropped. The arrow was okay but has to replace the feathers.

October 2, 2008 same stand on a morning hunt, pigs showed up at good shooting light. Shot though this 54# pig, he went about 70 yards. Get pig, get arrow, clean arrow, clean feathers and sharpen. Arrow ready to go again.

I started to put the arrow up but with two pigs with the same cedar arrow still in good shape doesn't happen very often.

On stand one day, took the arrow out of my quiver, held it, looked at it and it told me not to put it on the wall, it was made to hunt with.

October 16, 2008 Afternoon hunt, one pig came in just before dark and gave me a quartering away shot. The arrow cut three ribs, one lung and the bottom of the heart. The arrow stayed in the pig, hearing it slapping several trees as he ran off. I did not have much faith that the arrow would make it this time, but when I found the pig, it was still in good shape. I cleaned it up and sharpened it again.

Well it's in my quiver again; it has made 36 hunts with me so far this year. Some were good, some were not so good but they were all great. Like the morning of Oct. 14th, daylight was just on us, a Sitka bull was bugling to the west, Coyotes were howling to the east and it sounded like 100 turkeys were waking up right behind us to the north. We only saw one cottontail. OH but what a morning. Hopefully I will add more to this story, as I will keep you informed of "the arrow".

October 25, 2008 well it has been a week since I wrote about the arrow. We went out again on Sunday Oct. 19th. No luck, nor Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday morning. A cold front blew in about noon. I put up ground blind down wind of my stand, for that afternoons hunt. Pigs showed up about 6:00. A nice sow gave me a shot and the arrow was on its way.

I hate to tell you this but I lost "the arrow". It stayed in the sow and when she flopped around as she died she broke it.

"The Arrow" did well, 4 hogs with a cedar arrow with a Snuffer head. That is really more than can be expected. I did not put the arrow on the wall. I got the Snuffer and put the shaft in a cedar tree.

It's alright, because I will remember "The Arrow" and it will bring a smile to my heart. I hope all of you find an arrow like that someday because it will just make you feel better.

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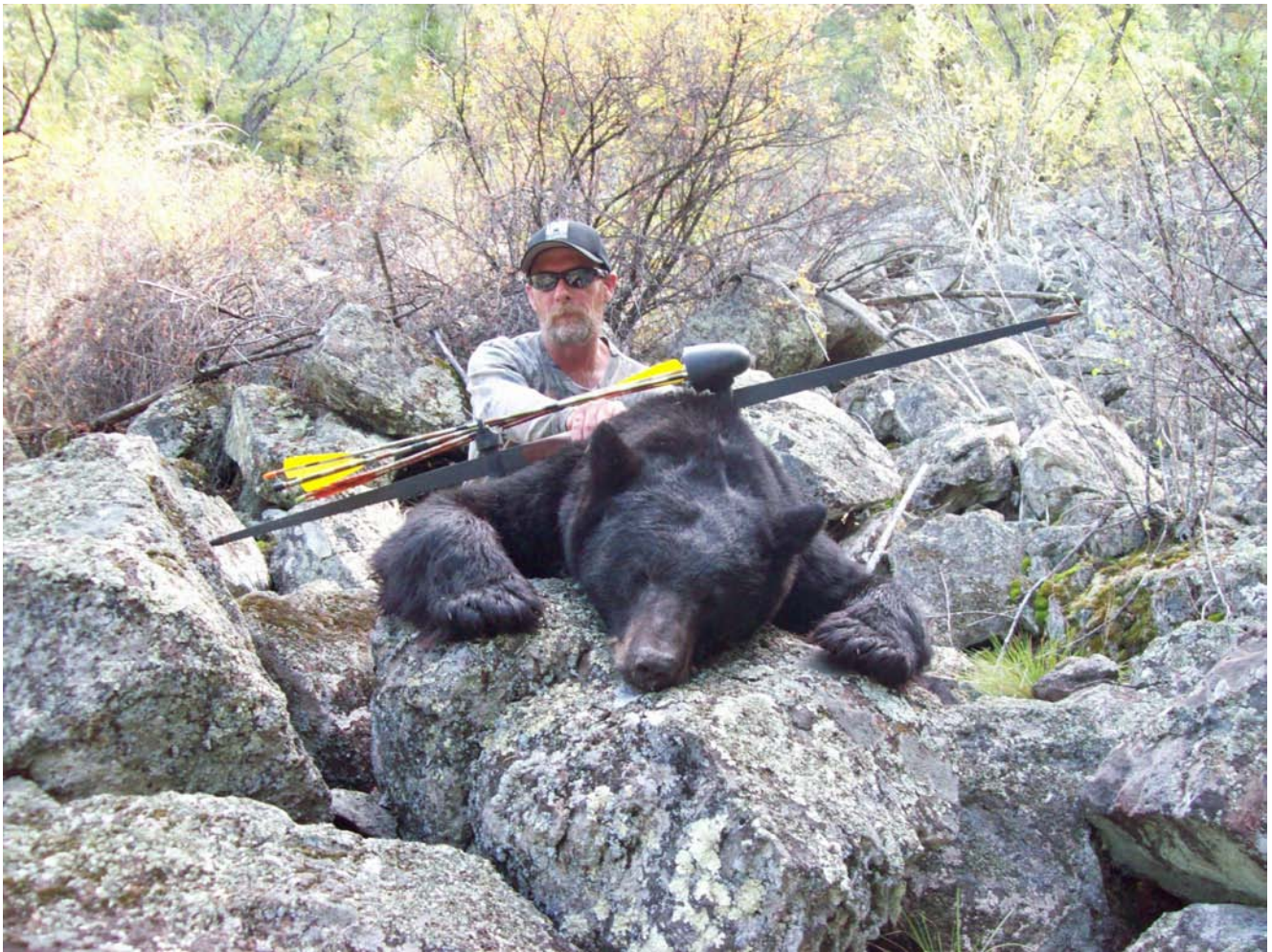
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Todd Smith with his New Mexico bear



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Pete Piper with a doe taken in Hallettsville

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Spicewood, Texas



Butch Gleghorn with his second turkey



Wesley Adams with his doe

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Dear Fellow Bowhunter:

The Commissioners of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department proposed to open Texas' Special Archery Only Season to youth rifle hunters for the entire month of October through the beginning of General Season. The proposal that is open for public comment is as follows:

" In response to a commission directive to seek additional opportunities for youth participation, the department is looking at extending the early youth only season to include the entire month of October and the late youth-only season by 12 days during January in selected counties to run concurrently with late antlerless and spike seasons. The intent of the proposal is to allow adults and children to hunt together during different special seasons."

The original proposal, which was listed on the Commissioners Meeting agenda and supported by the LSBA was as follows:

"Extend the early youth only season by five days and the late youth-only season by 12 days in selected counties to run concurrently with late antlerless and spike seasons. The intent of the proposal is to allow adults and children to hunt together during different special seasons."

The Lone Star Bowhunters Association fully supports youth hunting as is evidenced by our many youth activities, including our Youth Archery Range, Youth Hunts, 3-D divisions for youth, Ed Foreman Youth Essay Contest, Kids N Kamo Contest, Youth Divisions in the LSBA Photo Contest, and more. Most of these youth activities are provided free of charge. This year alone LSBA has put a bow in the hands of approximately 7,500 children and young adults.

With TPWD eliminating the minimum draw weight last year, ;virtually every child is now able to participate in bowhunting during the Special Archery-Only Season.

Youth are able to hunt with archery equipment during the entire Special Archery-Only Season and with a rifle beginning the last weekend of October and the entire General Season. LSBA supported the initial proposal of allowing Youth Rifle Season to extend through the week after the last weekend of October. **We do not support the new proposal of extending Youth Only Rifle Season during the entire month of October and we need your help in opposing it.**

The LSBA will be sending out further information in the near future. Please be prepared to attend and speak at local TPWD Scoping Meetings and TPWD Commission Public Hearing at TPWD Headquarters in Austin on January 21 and 22, 2009. Dates and locations of Scoping Meetings will be furnished when they become available.

Members should also contact in writing, by telephone and/or email the following TPWD Commissioners and personnel, so your opinions can be heard on this matter. The time is now to unite as bowhunters and keep our Special Archery- Only Season intact.

Governor Rick Perry

Office of the Governor

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My Best Bow Season Ever!

By: Jerry Bischoffberger

The 2008 bow season is one that I will not soon forget. I hunt on a small lease south of San Antonio and this is my 6th season to hunt this piece of property. Until this season it was a 2 man lease with myself and one of my best friends and hunting buds, Steve Shedd. Steve had to get off the lease this year and I rounded up two more great friends, Bob Sarrels and his son-in-law John to hunt with. When Steve told me he could not stay on the lease I considered giving it up too. I am now glad that I did not make that mistake.

Well, opening weekend rolled around and I really was anxious to deer hunt. Bob and John could not go and so I went to the lease myself. I arrived on Friday afternoon and decided to hunt a blind where we typically see a lot of hogs. I did see four hogs that evening but the wind was borderline at best and they did not stay around long. No shot was taken. After my hunt, I went to another stand and retrieved the picture card from my trail camera.

After getting back to my camper I whipped out my laptop and inserted the picture card. I was expecting to see lots of turkeys and a few deer. That card had over 250 pictures on it and almost all of them were of deer. And did I tell you, there were a few really GOOD deer. I ate supper and lay down in bed. I did not sleep well because I was aching to get back out to that stand in the morning.

Saturday morning found me sitting in the tree stand where the trail camera had gotten all the good pictures. I was in the stand well before daylight. I was so glad opening day was finally here. Daylight came and the feeder went off, but no animals were around. About 30 minutes later a small eight point buck came in behind me. He groomed himself about 20 yards from the feeder pen, then walked off. I was getting disappointed. Where were all the deer I had pictures of? About an hour later a small spike came in to the feeder. Finally, I had something to watch. A few minutes later 3 does and two fawns came in. Now were talking! I decided to try to shoot one of the does.

A good mature doe finally positioned herself at about 12 yards and I decided it was time. I drew back and let the arrow fly. THWACK! Whoops, I shot right over her back. They all spooked, but only ran about 10 yards. They turned around walked right back in. I grabbed another arrow from my quiver and nocked it up. The second shot was true and 60 yards away laid my first deer of the season. She was a mature 103 pound doe. I went back to camp happy with the doe but frustrated that none of the bucks had shown up.

That afternoon I again hunted the same stand, hoping Mr. Big would show himself. Shortly after climbing into the stand the deer started to filter in. First was a doe, then a small 6 point, then 2 fawns, then a spike. The fawns were getting pushed off the corn by the 6 point and they moved behind me to my left side. I turned to see where the fawns were and all I saw was velvet through the tree limbs. I could tell the buck was a good one, but could not get a clear view of him. After what seemed like forever, he walked out into plain view. Oh, my god! Standing in front of me was a huge 8 point in full velvet. I immediately decided I was going to try to take him. Mr. Big made his way in front of me until he finally got positioned, quartering away, at 12 yards. I took the shot and knew it was right where it needed to be. He jumped and ran through the brush out of sight. He only made it about 35 yards. When I walked up to Mr. Big I was thoroughly impressed with what I saw. It was a beautiful 135" 8 point in full velvet. He was about 200 pounds live weight and the taxidermist told me a few days later he was 5 ½ years old. I was pumped. This was definitely the best opening day of deer season I have ever experienced.

I did not get to go back to the lease again until the first week of November. I hunted for three days and only saw five deer. I started moving around to try other stands and on the last day of this trip I took a nice Javelina boar. On this trip I again checked my trail camera but it was not working properly and I thought I had no pictures on it. When I got home I put the memory card in my computer just to see if I had any pictures. I again had over 200 pictures. In this group of pictures were 5 pictures of a 10 point that I guessed to be around 140". I was again anxious to get back to the lease. My third trip to the lease turned out to be another one for great memories. I was by myself again as Bob and John both had other commitments which kept them from accompanying me. The first afternoon I saw twelve different deer but nothing I wanted to shoot at. The next morning was great too. There was a lot of deer activity. One of those was a 7 point that was HUGE. I know he was well over 200 pounds but after studying him for quite a while I decided to let him walk (I knew the big 10 point could still be out there). At about 7:30am my phone rang and spooked all the deer off. I could not believe that I left that thing turned on.

After the phone incident, I was thinking it was over for the morning. I decided to stay in the stand for a little while longer. About 30 minutes later a lone doe came in and I decided I would try to take her. She had a piece of string hanging out of her mouth about 3-4 feet long. I thought it was one of the strings from a feed bag which had accidentally been left on the ground when we filled the feeder. She finally was in the right position at about 10-12 yards and I let her have it. She ran about 60 yards and piled up. When I found her, the string turned out to be a fish hook hooked in her mouth with about 4 feet of fishing line attached to it. I have hunted for many years and have never seen anything like that before. This was my third deer of the season. I was having a great time!

That afternoon I decided to visit my mother in San Antonio. She is not in good health and I wanted to check up on her. We visited for most of the day and she seemed to be doing OK. I returned to the lease for the night.

The next morning it was VERY windy. There were 20-30 mile an hour wind with higher gusts. The tree stand I was hunting in is kind of scary in high winds so I decided to hunt the "Astroblind" (so named because it is covered in Astroturf carpet). It was an uneventful morning. I saw nothing from daylight until about 9:30, when a flock of turkey hens came in. I searched every one of them for a beard and couldn't find one. They all got a pass.

That afternoon, it was back to the tree stand where I knew the big 10 point had been. I hand threw some corn and climbed into the stand. Within 15 minutes I had a small 6 point come in. Behind him was another 6 point, a spike, 3 does, and 3 fawns. I was busy watching all the deer eat up all my corn. They ate enough to get full and started to filter off. As I was watching the small 6 point leave I caught movement in front of me. When I looked in that direction, I saw the big 10 point jumping into the feeder pen. My heart immediately started to race and I began to get the shakes. He looked as big in real life as he had in the pictures. He pushed the only deer that was left away from the corn and began to eat. I picked a spot, and let the arrow fly. The arrow hit him, he jumped and ran. I lost him in the brush and was straining to see him again when, through a small hole, I could see wobbly legs. He was down! I was sitting in my chair, shaking like a leaf. Only three or four minutes had passed from the time I first laid eyes on him until I had shot him. After collecting my wits I climbed down out of the stand and found the buck a short 50 yards away. He looked as good up close as he did from the stand and in the trail camera pictures. I measured his antlers and he did not make the 140" I thought he would, but it does not matter. He is a beautiful and majestic animal that I am proud to have harvested. Number 4 was on the ground and I was in deer hunters heaven.

This has been the best season of my 25 or so years of hunting. It is November 22nd and I only have one whitetail tag left on my license. I guess deer season is not over yet. I will return to the woods to see if I can fill the last one. I have only taken 3 Pope&Young deer in my life and two of them were this season in under a two month span. The only thing that could have made this season better would have been to have my lease partners there with me to share in the experience.



Steve Kelley

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David Adams with his "unicorn" taken with a 45# Hickory selfbow that he crafted



Pete Piper with his turkey



*Gary Stein with his doe
Taken in Iola*



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*Pre-Registration Deadline March 15, 2009

Registration Form

Primary Shooter Name _____ T-shirt Size _____

Address: _____

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Phone: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Members:	1 Class \$20.00	\$10.00 each additional class
Non-Members	1 Class \$25.00	\$15.00 each additional class
Youth:	1 Class \$10.00	2 Classes \$15.00
Cubs (9-11) and Mini Cubs (8 & under)	Shoot Free	
Family (includes children under 18):	\$40.00 for 1 class / \$10 per person	Mulligan \$1.00 per class
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Ladies Recurve Open	Ladies Longbow Open	
Boy's Recurve (12-14)	Boy's Longbow (12-14)	Girls (12-14)
Boy's Recurve (15-17)	Boy's Longbow (15-17)	Girls (15-17)
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Additional Shooters (If additional space is needed, please copy and be sure family name/address is included.)

Name: _____ T-shirt Size _____

Class: _____ Youth indicate Age _____

Name: _____ T-shirt Size _____

Class: _____ Youth indicate Age _____


Name: _____ T-shirt Size _____

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Name: _____ T-shirt Size _____

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Pete Piper



Wesley Adams first turkey



Ron Foley



The Legislative Column, Winter 08

The purpose of this column is to provide information on hunting legislation in general and archery regulations in particular.

Changes now in effect:

Draw Weight: The minimum draw weight of 40 pounds has been removed. Big game animals may be hunted with low draw weight bows. Public comment to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department were five to three in favor of eliminating the minimum draw weight.

Catfish: It is no longer legal to bow fish for catfish. The Texas Inland Fisheries staff recommended that the commission not adopt a proposal that would extend an experimental rule allowing bow fishing for catfish.

Hunter Education: The TPW Commission also adopted a proposal reducing the minimum age for students to be certified through the state's Hunter Education Program from 12 years old to 9 years old. Texas currently sets 9 as the minimum age for participation in TPWD-sponsored hunts. And lowering the minimum age for Hunter Education Program certification would give young hunters a way to participate in hunts in states where certification is required.

Hogs: The Texas Animal Health Commission (800) 550-8242 <http://www.tahc.state.tx.us> has implemented an extensive set of regulations on how feral swine can be held, transported, trapped and released. If you are planning to move live wild hogs you might want to check it out. One of the proposals is a prohibition on release of any live feral hog except into a TAHC-permitted holding facility or a state-permitted "hunting preserve", both of which will have to be enclosed by "swine-proof" fencing meeting TAHC requirements. And only male feral hogs - boars or barrows - would be allowed to be released onto the permitted hunting preserves. Any female feral hog live-trapped and transported, alive, off a property would have to be headed to a TAHC-approved holding facility or to slaughter at a permitted processing facility. The Texas Animal Health Commission has had authority to regulate movement of live feral hogs to prevent spread of diseases to domestic livestock. The main diseases of concern are brucellosis and pseudo rabies. Swine brucellosis can also be transmitted to humans..

Proposed changes:

To comment directly to the TPWD the web address is. <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/> Then click on "Regulations" then "Public Comment." The online public comment period is **12:00 p.m. November 17, 2008, through 05:00 p.m. January 14, 2009**

Antler restrictions added to 52 more counties: Counties which would fall under the antler restrictions for the first time beginning with the 2009-10 season are: Anderson, Angelina, Archer, Atascosa, Brazos, Brown, Chambers, Clay, Cooke, Denton, Ellis, Falls, Freestone, Grayson, Grimes, Hardin, Harris, Henderson, Hill, Hood, Hunt, Jack, Jasper, Jefferson, Johnson, Kaufman, Liberty, Limestone, Madison, McLennan, Milam, Mills, Montague, Montgomery, Navarro, Newton, Orange, Palo Pinto, Parker, Polk, Robertson, San Jacinto, Smith, Stephens, Tarrant, Trinity, Tyler, Van Zandt, Walker, Wichita, Wise and Young.

Extend Youth (firearm) Season into archery season: Extend the "early" youth-only deer season from the two days (the Saturday and Sunday immediately prior to opening of the general deer season) to the entire month of October. **This effectively eliminates archery only season.**

General open season (firearms) in Grayson County: For those of you not familiar with Grayson County, it is located on the red river north of Dallas. Grayson is currently archery only and has a small but extremely high quality (*we can make a lot of money off this*) deer herd. The deer herd centers around Hagerman wildlife refuge. The TPWD has responded to and possibly even encouraged a request by a non resident hunter to open the county to gun hunting. The TPWD website comments "TPWD staff has determined that there is no biological necessity for retaining the current rule" **Editorial comment to follow:** So what, there is no biological necessity to change the current rule. Why ruin a herd that is the envy of the state just to have consistent regulations and to appease a few who think they must hunt in Grayson County but want to change the rules to suit themselves?

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department will hold a "Public Scoping Meeting" on this issue in Grayson County on Thursday, January 8, 2009, at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held on the main campus of Grayson County College, at 6101 Grayson Drive (Highway 691), Denison, Texas, in the Center for Workplace Learning on the South End of the college's main campus. Please make your voice heard by commenting at the Texas Parks and Wildlife web site <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/> look for Public Comment

Until next time, good luck and good shooting.

Chuck Menton



Wild Bill Norman with his turkey daily double



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SHOOT SCHEDULE

February 21 and 22, TBoT Shoot and the first
in Texas , Denton County archers

March 29 Turkey Shoot
Denton County Archers

April 18, 19 Hill Country Shootout
Bugscuffle

May 9 Longbow Warmup Shoot
Denton County Archers

September 12 Whitetail Shoot
Denton County Archers

November 14 Thanksgiving Charity Shoot bene-
fitting the Denton Food Bank
Denton County Archers

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WHO ARE THE TRADITIONAL BOWHUNTERS OF TEXAS?

If you are reading this, chances are that you are a Traditional Bowhunter of Texas.

Traditional Bowhunters of Texas is a statewide organization of people who prefer to use recurves, longbows, and selfbows as their primary choice of archery equipment. TBoT provides the opportunity for these people to get together and compare equipment, techniques, and hunting philosophies.

TBoT does this by sponsoring gatherings and shoots during the year and through the quarterly newsletter that is sent to all members. TboT sponsors the Texas Hill Country Shootout each spring. This event is a leisurely weekend of hog and exotic hunting and 3-D shooting. TBoT also holds shoots across the state to offer the membership the opportunity to participate without traveling great distances. TBoT members pay a reduced entry fee at TBoT shoots. At all 3-D type events, children 12 and under shoot free, even if their parents are not members. Also, all children receive trophies, medals, or some other type of award for participation.

The quarterly newsletter contains information about activities within the organization, news of other traditional events across Texas, hunting and tournament photos, and stories—both factual and fictitious—submitted by members. There is a free classified ad section for use by the membership. If a member has a question about equipment or hunting situations, there are a number of bowyers, arrow crafters, and outfitters in the membership to answer questions.

So, if you are still wondering who or what the Traditional Bowhunters of Texas are, chances are, you are one. Why not take time and join today?

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