News For The Garden State
Outdoors Enthusiast

Vol. 46, No. 2 February 2013 One Dollar

Recreational fishing is more than just a pleasant getaway for millions of New Jersey residents and Americans in general. As an industry, it provides a living for countless people in businesses ranging from fishing tackle and boating manufacturing, to travel and hospitality, to publications, magazines, and much more.

As reported in Sportfishing in “America: An Economic Force for Conservation,” a new fishing statistics report produced by the American Sportfishing Association (ASA), the trade association that represents the sportfishing industry, the number of anglers increased 11 percent over the past five years and fishing tackle sales grew more than 16 percent when expenditures are multiplied by our nation’s 60 million anglers, their dollars have a significant impact on our nation’s economy.

Fishing “Sportfishing in America: An Economic Force for Conservation” highlights how recreational fishing not only endures as an activity that permeates all social and economic aspects of Americans’ lives, but also plays a significant role in the country’s most successful fisheries conservation efforts.

As an industry, we are keenly aware of the impact that sportfishing has on this nation’s economy,” said ASA President and CEO Mike Nussman. “Just by enjoying a day on the water, men, women and children across the United States pump billions of dollars into this country’s economy.”

Nussman further said, “And it’s not just the economic impact that navigates our nation’s fisheries and waters, investing more than $1 billion dollar each year in fisheries management and conservation through high taxes on fishing equipment and state fishing license sales.

According to the new study, America’s nearly 60 million anglers are estimated to spend $46 billion per year on fishing equipment, transportation, lodging and other expenses associated with their sport. We 2011 annual economic impact of $115 billion, fishing supports more than 828,000 jobs and generates $35 billion in wages and $15 billion in federal and state taxes. Despite the eco-

nomic difficulties facing the U.S. economy over the past five years; the total amount spent on sportfishing, which encompasses tackle, travel and other equipment, grew five percent.

A number of reports strongly indicate that fishing is identified by American families as one of the best ways to spend quality time together. According to the National Sporting Goods Association, fishing as a leisure-time activity ranks higher than playing basketball or softball, skateboarding, jogging, or hiking.

“Despite the uncertain economic conditions that beset all Americas, or because of it, anglers continue to fish and spend even more time outdoors,” said ASA Vice President Gordon Robertson. “A growing interest in the outdoors helped fuel the growth in angler numbers which we believe will create even more momentum in fishing participation and sales in 2013 and beyond.”

Substantially more than any other groups, anglers support the nation’s conservation efforts through the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund Program. Special taxes on fishing gear and motorboat fuel channel more than $1 billion of anglers’ dollars to state fish and wildlife conservation and recreation programs each year.

ASA’s new analysis is based on data from the 2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, conducted every five years on behalf of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies by the Census Bureau and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Sportfishing in America was compiled for ASA by Southwick Associates, Fernandina Beach, FL.

Facts about Recreational Fishing

There are approximately 90 million anglers in the U.S. of which 46 million are estimated to fish in a given year.

One of every four anglers fishes in saltwater.

Fishing tackle sales grew over 16 percent in the past five years.

Since 2006, angler numbers grew 11 percent.

More Americans fish than play golf (21 million) and tennis (13 million) combined.

If fishing were a company, the amount spent by anglers to support fishing-related retail sales would rank number 51 on the Fortune 500™ list.

United States, but there is a very different legislative and political dynamic in New Jersey right now than there is in New York. We are working to keep it that way.

Q. Can my identity as a gun owner be obtained through freedom of informa-

tion, like what just happened in New York?

A. No. New Jersey law is different from New York law and protects the identities of gun owners from disclosure.

Q. What’s your take on the national sit-

uation?

A. We’re in the fight of our lives. Anti-

gun extremists have seized on the Newtown tragedy as their watershed moment, and are going for broke in New York. Their aim is to destroy the Second Amendment, and they are blaming you for what happened in Connecticut. The media are overwhelmingly biased in their favor, and are falsely portrayng gun owners as divided. It is more important than ever that gun owners be united, and support national organizations like NRA. We all need to speak with one voice on a national level and defend freedom.

Q. What can I do in New Jersey?

A. Prepare for battle. That means understanding that in the end this is going to come down to a series of com-

mittee hearings and legislative floor votes. Those are key moments when we need to make ourselves heard with the greatest impact. Those means if you have limited time and energy, you might want to focus on your local lawmakers for those moments. We will alert you as we always do as the threats start to move, and we will make specific action

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 NJ FEDERATED SPORTSMEN NEWS


PARSIPPANY SPORTS SHOW FEBRUARY 9-10

North Jersey’s 14th annual two-day Sportman’s Expo will be a bargain when it opens Saturday February 9 and 10 from 9am to 5 pm at the Parsippany PAL Center in Parsippany, NJ. The Expo is open February 9 and 10 from 9am to 5pm. Despite double-digit admissions at other shows, organizers of this event at the PAL Center on Baldwin Road in Parsippany will let adults in for only $5, and children under 12 will be admitted for free.

Freshwater, saltwater, and fly fishermens will find a wide array of rods, reels, lures, and other tackle exhibited and sold by quality vendors from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and New York. “There’s something for everyone,” said show founder John Punola of Madison. “The Expo has long been popu-

lar for its variety of exhibitors and will be the place to shop for all 2013 fishing needs.”

“Kayak fishing’s enjoying a surge in popularity,” Punola added, “and there will be a wide selection of fishing kayaks on display and for sale, as well as experts to educate anglers in the finer points of kayak fishing.”

Punola also has a knack for adding special exhibitors For instance, the Gold Digger Detectors will be on hand to show how you can find lost treasures, and the show will have an exhibit by who spe-

cializes in Fishermen House parties, that attendees can schedule. Additionally there will be custom-made outdoor furniture that can be bought or ordered.

The Saturday seminar schedule includes Fly Fishing Saltwater Style, a Freshwater Fisheries Program, and Berkley Fishing Preview. On Sunday, vis-

itors can check out Fishing Lake Hopatcong, Fishing Raritan Bay, and Finding New Jersey Treasures.

Visitors can avail themselves of the expanded free parking and a newly remodel-

led kitchen that will be serving tasty refreshments to those with an appetite. Clip the ad in last month’s (January) issue to enjoy a discount on admission.

IMPORTANT Q&A
FROM ANJRPC

In light of recent events, the Association of NJ Rifle and Pistol Clubs has received numerous questions from members. We believe the answers are of interest to all members, so we answer these questions below:

Q. ANJRPC has seemed quiet lately. What’s going on?

A. We are deeply engaged preparing for the legislative battles critical to gun owners and we will make specific action

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FROM ANJRPC
MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION & INQUIRIES, Write To: P.O. Box 10173
Trenton, N.J. 08650-0173
609-859-2648

OLIVER SHAPIRO
EDITOR & ADVERTISING MANAGER
28 Hemblock Road, Livingston, N.J. 07039
973-923-1260 olshapiroinnj@gmail.com

Web Page Address - www.njsfs.org
E-Mail Address - njfed@njsfsc.org

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The newspaper is a membership publication. The opinions expressed in the newspaper are those of the contributors and not necessarily of the Federation, unless stated otherwise.

Direct any changes of address to the Sportsmen News, P.O. Box 10173, Trenton, N.J. 08650-0173. In notifying us of a change of address, give both your old and new address. Be sure to give your zip code.

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REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Atlantic
2nd Thursday of month, 8:00 PM except July and August
Germania Gun Club
Moss Mill Rd., Egg Harbor, NJ
Eric Gaupp
609-513-8542

Bergen
3rd Thursday of month, 8:00 PM except July and August
Bergen County Communities Service Bldg., Rm 29, 327 Ridgewood Ave., Paramus, NJ
Frank Dara
973-523-2640

Burlington
2nd Thursday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August
The American Legion
39 Pemberton-Julijston Rd., Pemberton, NJ
Bill Schultz
856-235-3344

Cape May
3rd Wednesday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August
Square Circle Sportsmen Club
97 Clementon Rd., Gibbstown, NJ
Bill Schemel
856-931-5099

Cumberland
2nd Thursday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August
Menantic Gun Club
Union Rd., Maurice River Twp., NJ
Ken McDermott III
869-412-3811

Essex
2nd Thursday of month, 8:15 PM except July and August
Bloomfield Civic Center
84 Broad St., Bloomfield, NJ
Carmine Minichini
908-864-5713

Gloucester
2nd Tuesday of month, 7:45 PM except July and August
George Ruch Building
14 St. and Highland Ave., Williamstown, NJ
Thomas Weeza
856-629-9465

Hunterdon
2nd Thursday of month, 8:00 PM
Northern Region Office of Fish & Wildlife, Clinton WMA, 26 RT 173 W, Hampton, NJ
Loren Robinson
988-702-1076

Mercer
3rd Monday of month, 7:00 PM except July and August
Sportsmen’s Center
US Highway 130 N., Bordentown, NJ
Rick Moore
869-682-2202

Middlesex
1st Wednesday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August
Polish American Citizen’s Club
66 Atraron Rd., Spotswood, NJ
John Messerell
732-828-8543

Monmouth
4th Wednesday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August
4 F’s Gun Club
Burke Rd., Freehold, NJ
Ken Ganson
732-566-0841

Morris
1st Tuesday of month, 8:00 PM
Mine Hill American Legion Post 391
1 Legion Place, Mine Hill, NJ 07803
John Rogalski
732-691-9355

Ocean
(please call for up-to-date information)
Larry Cella
809-839-0193

Passaic
Last Monday of month, 7:30 PM except June and July
The Wayne Civic Center, Room 3
1006 Hamburg Twp., Wayne, NJ
Richard Weber
732-697-1814

Salem
Tuesday after 3rd Friday of month, 7:30 PM except July, Aug., and Dec.
Salem County Sportsmen Clubs
RT 40, Carneys Pt., NJ
Dave Cesarano
856-223-0409

Somerset
2nd Wednesday of month, 8:00 PM except July and August
Somerset Fish & Game Protective Assoc.
445 Milltown Rd., Bridgewater, NJ 08807
Joe Griglak
908-526-9026

Sussex
2nd Wednesday of month, 8:00 PM
Sparta Ambulance Building
14 Sparta Ave., Sparta, NJ
Dick Strobel
732-697-3989

Union
1st Monday of month, 8:00 PM except July and August
Union County Complex Building
300 North Ave. East, Westfield, NJ
Ray Szpond
908-403-5798

Warren
4th Wednesday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August
Pequest Trout hatchery
RT 46, Liberty Twp., NJ
Bill Engelhardt
908-625-9699

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

may be sent by U.S. Mail (to 28 Hemlock Road, Livingston, NJ 07039), or email (olshapiroinnj@gmail.com). Please include your town of residence, and club or organization affiliation (if any).

For Membership Insurance Call 856-881-8347
I admit that sometimes I have an unusual way of marking the passage of time, and of important milestones in my life. Not many people celebrate their 100th wedding anniversary after they’d been married for only eight-plus years: when I surprised my wife on the date of our 100th-month anniversary, the look on her face was well worth it. Years later, I went on to calculate exactly when I would be married for exactly half my life (that date has long come and gone), and subsequently when I would have been a father for at least half my life (still haven’t reached that one yet, although it isn’t very far off).

What has all this to do with anything? I sat down and calculated that last month – January, 2013 – was the 100th issue of the NJ Federated Sportsmen News for which I have been privileged to serve as Editor.

The realization brought to mind the time and circumstances in September of 2004 that I was called by then-Federation President Larry Lehmann, informing me that the position was open, and that the Federation (of which I’d already been a member since 1992) was offering it to me. A goodly amount of scrambling was involved; the paper was nearly due at press and hadn’t even been begun yet. With the help of some of our stalwart contributors, as well as others including some helpful members of the Lake Hopatcong Knee Deep Club, I was able to assemble enough worthwhile, quality material, as well as wade through some of the then-new (to me) mysteries of QuarkXpress design software, in enough time to get that first issue to readers in a reasonable period of time.

Although eight years isn’t really that long a time in the grander scheme of things, much has changed from October of 2004 and now. There has been a succession of different leaders in the Federation; all of them have left something of their brand on the organization in their wake, and each of them has been a distinct pleasure to work with. The political landscape remains as volatile as ever, with questions relating to hunting and gun ownership as charged as ever… despite the seesaw-like manner in which one side or another seems to gain temporary ascendance.

Advocates of gun control have found a new flag under which to rally, after the terribly tragic events in Newtown, CT. Time will tell if this will provide a “tipping point” for Great Britain-like over-reactions, which not the 2007 Virginia Tech shootings, nor the 2009 Fort Hood shootings, nor the 2012 Aurora shootings, could. (See pages 1 and 8 for information relating to this important topic.) As always, the root causes of these horrific events are completely ignored by mass media and politicians, and we can only hope that persistence of rational discourse will help to make people see and think about things more clearly.

Hunting, although as passionately opposed by some as ever, here in Jersey seems to be on a reasonably even keel, in light of continued opportunities and the relative quiet surrounding the most recent bear hunts.

On a more mundane level, I have been gratified to see an increase in reader response, and responsiveness, from readers over the past few years. We might attribute this to more Internet access and its attendant ease of communication; we might point to a growing sense of involvement. Whatever the reason, I welcome it, and look forward to hearing more from you as we continue to strive for the best publication we can, and the most positive landscape possible for the outdoors sports in the Garden State.

Oliver Shapiro, Editor

Club News Wanted!

Is your club holding a special event? Celebrating a landmark anniversary? Let the rest of the Federation know! Send your news to the Editor of this paper (contact information on Page 2).

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PAUL ELIAS
LUIS MURGIA
LEIGH & TRAVIS CREEKBAUM

THE SPORTSMAN CHANNEL

WORLD FISHING & OUTDOOR EXPOSITION
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Rockland Community College • SUFFERN, NY
Exit 14B off I-87 GPS: 145 College Rd, Suffern, NY 10901

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Proper Release Key to Survival

by Mil Rosko

Having enjoyed countless years of fishing for a wide variety of species, I must admit that some of the most enjoyable fishing experiences involved catching striped bass on fly. But, unfortunately, such is not always the case. High water,43007, 504; www.anjrpc.org; P.O. Box 10173, Trenton, NJ 08650-0173; NEW JERSEY STATE FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS, INC. P.O. BOX 10173, Trenton, NJ 08650-0173; NEW JERSEY FEDERATED SPORTSMEN NEWS February 2013

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the study clearly shows that “the brief period of air exposure which commonly occurs in many catch and release fisheries is an important additional stress in an exhausted fish and may ultimately have a significant impact on the number of released fish that survive.”

*Required Information

Q. Is ANJRPC going to cave or compromise in the upcoming battle for our gun rights?

The study’s authors close their treatise with some very sound advice: keep your fish in the water. If it must be removed, do it quickly and just as quickly return it to the water. While the study is of a freshwater species, its findings are equally applicable to saltwater fish.

As I write this, the sea bass season has reopened, and I shudder when I think of the thousands of undersize bass that will be hauled from the 200- to 300-foot depths with their swim bladders intact and stomachs extending from their mouths. These fish cannot survive if they’re just thrown overboard, as is the current practice on the surface and the sea gulls will enjoy a meal. To survive, the air must be released from the bladder, which is called “venting.”

The study showed that some fish released to the air for 60 seconds initially appeared to be returning to normal when released, but they died between four and 12 hours later. This delayed mortality has been documented by several other studies. All of the studies conclusively prove that when a fish swims away, it doesn’t necessarily survive.

Interestingly, the study showed that “only 28 percent of those fish which were exposed to air for 60 seconds after being caught and landed survived the next 12 hours as compared with 88 percent of those fish which were only caught and landed, but not exposed to air.”

Q. What is the impact of a 5-round magazine limitation in New Jersey?

A. Not a chance. For over a decade, we have fought the trenches and defeated nearly every piece of misguided legislation that has come our way, against impossible odds. Our resolve is stronger than ever, and we will use every resource at our disposal to defend against this latest legislation dump.

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Q. Can legislators really force us to pass a psychological evaluation and have an in-office examination as a condition of exercising my constitutional right to own a firearm?

A. Legislators can write anything they want. If both houses of the legislature and the governor sign it, it becomes “law” even though it might be unconstitutional. We will stay on the books and be enforced by the organs of the state until someone challenges it. That’s why ANJRPC has been aggressively using litigation to challenge some of the worst laws in New Jersey, and we have bigger plans in the works.

Q. What is the impact of a 5-round magazine limitation in New Jersey?

A. It’s a stealth gun ban, an assault on the right of self-defense, and would do nothing to prevent another tragedy. It would give criminals tremendous advantage over the law-abiding, and render many of the firearms you own useless.
SIX of the LEAST ADVANCE would wish, combined with a hearty ing the day with as much coffee as one
on how much strain the ol’ wallet can
of a half-day hunt offer only the basics.
serve. Some of these outfits are top flight
field, or hunting, aspect of hunting a pre-
quail, or even a Hungarian pat or perhaps a
result of preserve hunting is simple: It’s a
hedgerows as you, but the cost won’t be
few orange coats kicking the same
inexpensive route, you’ll probably find a
when you choose to part with a few more
such a package are obvious: You’re not
experienced gun dog, but also its handler,
Or did you sign on for the premium pack-
no dog, leaving to chance whether you
in that category in this household will
funds that may laughably find themselves
there is always that nasty problem of what
has been somewhat limited as of late, since
is left to the preserve owner(s), if only
because their particular business is derived
you’re a preferred client, and are to be
where you’re in competition with numer-
the sky is the limit, depending
on your own personal finances.
The final aspect of preserve hunting
it is left to the preserve owner(s), if only
because their particular business is derived
from a satisfied clientele. It matters not
whether you arrived sometime during the
early evening for a hunt slated for the mor-
or, early in the morning. Either way,
you can expect a warm and hearty wel-
com. Remember, you are not a tolerated
intruder at a preserve as you might be con-
sidered at a Wildlife Management Area,
where you’re in competition with numer-
ous other gunners. To the preserve owner,
you’re a preferred client, and are to be
treated as such.
If you’re going to give preserve hunt-
ing a try prior to the end of the semi-wild season this year, here are some questions
that you may want to list when you make that
ever-so-important first call to the preserve:
Does the preserve:
- Provide the required licenses, in the event
you’re calling from out of state or had not
acquired a current hunting license?
- Provide airport pickup? This is important
for those traveling long distances and may
be unfamiliar with local roads or high-
ways.
- Kennel dogs?
- Process game birds?
- Have a clay target shooting facility?
- Have special vehicles in the event one of
your party is handicapped?
- Have a quality clubhouse?
- Serve quality meals? (Some preserves do
not, and the client is on his/her own for
breakfast, lunch, and dinner.)
- Provide comfortable lodging and accom-
modations?
- Offer additional hunting opportunities
such as deer or bear?

Finally, here is where experience out-
performs inexperience, and we’re not talk-
ing trout or bow and arrow abilities. In his January
piece, Methot mentions what a chore it can
be to financially fool our distaff sides,
experience when dealing with firearms. Not to
worry, Mr. M., I have the answer(s).
I believe you see a smoothbore, or even a
rifle, that particularly fits your fancy, 
here’s what you do:
Make arrangements with the seller to offer
free airport pickup to you in pieces. For instance,
I’m walking up to that infamous room
where the guns are stored and wife asks:
What ya’ got wrapped in the brown-paper?

The correct response is: “Oh, it’s just
an action from Jim Whipplesnipe. He said
the extractors aren’t working correctly and
I told him I’d take a look at it for him.”

“Oh,” she says and thinks nothing
more of the matter.

About two weeks later, a similar sce-
nario takes place, but this time you’re
carrying a set of barrels. “What’s with the bar-
rels?” she asks.

Similar reply: “I need them to assem-
ble Jim’s action so it’s working cor-
rectly.”

“Oh,” she replies.

You can see where this is going, but
you need patience, a lot of it. About two or
three weeks later, the stock and fore end make
an appearance. A simple, innocuous rep-
aired, and within little more than a month,
you have your new prize sake. I’ve yet to solve
unfortunately your wife is an aficionado of fine firearms.

There is, however, one minor prob-
lem I’ve yet to solve. Later, in about four to six weeks, how the deuce does one
explain that cavernous void in the AmEx
statement? Any inspirational responses
would be welcome.

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date in question.
It wasn’t the sort of news that I’d hoped to hear after being away for a few days. “I don’t think Jake is going to make it through the night,” said my husband Len, before I even got out of the car. His voice sounded solemn and resigned to Jake’s fate. “This morning he was fine. He ate his lunch, was walking around, playing and alert, and now he can barely move.”

Eight months earlier, Jake had been diagnosed by our veterinarian with lymphoma, after we noticed that his wheezes looked swollen. Years before Jake’s diagnosis, Len and I had decided that, depending on the illness, we would forego any intensive treatments for Jake should he develop a condition which would involve extended and repeated surgeries, or uncomfortable therapies, that required him to go to the vet.

The staff at our vet hospital had always treated Jake with kindness, sensitivity, and patience, but that wasn’t enough to sell him on the idea that it was a pleasant place to be. Going to the vet has always been something that Jake hated. We felt that subjecting him to ongoing treatment would be worse than his quietly succumbing to an incurable disease, so our focus would be to keep him comfortable and happy. When lymphoma entered the picture, the vet prescribed a low dose of prednisone to help manage his condition. Prednisone had its own set of health risks, but was the best option we had for easing his pain.

“How long do you think he has?” we asked.

“Maybe two months,” our vet said. Jake was supposed to turn 13 in two months. We were determined to make those last two months the best they could be for him.

Jake had always been the exact opposite of a couch potato. “Mom, our hounds love to snuggle with us on the couch and be petted, as well as run rabbits, but not Jake. For most of his life if you tried to massage Jake behind his ears, it made him suspicious that you might eventually do something that he hated (like clip his nails), which prompted him to get up from where he was sitting and seek the security of furniture further away.

But as he got older he began to let his guard down, and would actually seek out our company. It was touching to see our little warrior allow himself to explore this feature of life. He was a grand, enthusiastic hunter who had given us much pleasure over the years as we watched him track rabbits across the northern, central, and southern areas of the state. It felt good to be able to help him ease into the final phase of his life in this way.

Maybe our vet was being conserva- tive with his prediction of how long she felt Jake would last, but two months came and went and Jake showed no signs that he was headed for that big briar patch in the sky any time soon. He was as active and upbeat as ever. The prednisone ramped up in a hurry so for the first time in his life, Jake, the pickiest-eater beagle in the histo- ry of human-kind, was actually starting to get a little fat. And although he had slacked up a bit, he still compelled us to give him a hearty helping of food every single mealtime, something we were not used to. We commented on how he never quit, and how amazing it was to him home.

“Let’s see what happens tomorrow morning,” said Len, though clearly he was unsure about his answer.

“Don’t really know if Jake even going to put in an appearance,” I said.

“Oh yeah, it’s time.”

Len and I consoled and stroked Jake’s coat and talked to him about how much we loved him, while our vet assembled the “killed dog” kit. I acknowledged to myself that, however uncomfortable this was for us, now the kindest thing we could do for Jake was let him go.

I braced myself, expecting Jake to shudder or otherwise react to the effects of the drug in some way, but it didn’t happen. He didn’t move. He didn’t twitch, or tense up, and it was hard to tell that he was limp now. He had been ruling in the face of the cold hard facts. Euthanizing a dog is so, well, final. And I guess because it was so sad, we had reached that moment that there always seems to be a touch of regret in the face of the cold hard facts that supported it.

“Let’s go,” said Len as we left the truck and turned away from the house, where he was sitting and seek the security of furniture.

I had the image of our hunting buddy in my mind. “He wanted to go,” said our vet.

He had been a hunting hound. “Let’s see what happens in the morning, buddy.”

In the morning Jake was the same. There was no place else to go. We called our vet to give them the heads-up that we were bringing him in. At the hospital, we checked in at the front desk but went back to the truck to see if Jake would return to his seat. We commented on how he never quit, and how amazing it was that a dog of his size could squeeze himself into the tiniest of briar patches. We commented on how he never quit, and how amazing it was that a dog of his size could squeeze himself into the tiniest of briar patches. We commented on how he never quit, and how amazing it was that a dog of his size could squeeze himself into the tiniest of briar patches.

Our vet came out to the truck and looked at Jake. “He’s seen better days,” she declared. “Let’s bring him in.”

Len cradled Jake in his arms, brought him to the small emergency, and gently placed him on a steel-topped table. Jake’s eyes looked vacant. Our vet picked up Jake’s head to look in his mouth, got a whiff of his breath, and immediately said, “Oh yeah, it’s time.”

Len and I consoled and stroked Jake’s coat and talked to him about how much we loved him, while our vet assembled the “killed dog” kit.

Visitors will also be amazed at the numerous displays of fishing boats, guides, outfitters and lodges, taxidermists, and sporting organizations. All the components for planning that perfect sportmen’s vacation are right here under one roof.

Whether you prefer inshore or offshore saltwater fishing, or you’re a fresh- water enthusiast targeting lakes and rivers, all the bases are covered at the Expo. Each year, major tackle manufacturers target the Expo for introducing their new products. Rods and reels, lines and lures.

Fishing and hunting enthusiasts will have an opportunity to learn from the pros, all folks at the top of their game. Freshwater anglers will learn from celebri- ty fishing guides, outfitters and lodges, taxidermists, and sporting organizations. All the components for planning that perfect sportmen’s vacation are right here under one roof.
How many times have you been on the water, when you’ve been unable to find the line of sight? You search and search throughout your boat’s compartments and many times you come up empty-handed. Or perhaps you know exactly where you keep everything, but the storage container you are looking for is unknown. The answer is misfitting the purpose of any unused space.

New tackle storage items aren’t necessarily space savers. By themselves, they won’t help you find the exact fishing spot that livedwell. Nevertheless, when used prudently they can increase your efficiency on the water and preserve your other tackle items, thus saving you money.

The trend in recent years has been increasingly towards specialized contain- ers, each aimed at a particular type of lure or tackle item. The hottest trend over the past year-and-a-half has been the Alabama Rig (a.k.a. “castable umbrella rig”), a multi-hooked, multi-wire octopus of a rig (be sure to check that it’s legal in your area before fishing with it). Given its unwieldy shape and size, it should be a storage nightmare – they catch everything in range, whether loose in your boat or tangled around your wrist. Angel Innovations (www.angelinnova- tionsusa.com) developed the Rig Jacket, a neoprene sleeve designed specifically to house the Alabama Rig whether it’s in a storage compartment or affixed to your rods.

Longtime tackle box manufac- turer Plano (www.planomolding.com) developed a means of storing multiple Alabama Rigs. They’ve created a standard (3700-sized) flat, clear box that will hold up to four rigs firmly in place by securing both the head and the wires with specially designed adjustable dividers. Either prod- uct will ensure that your rigs, which can cost up to $30 apiece, won’t be compromised before you get a chance to fish them.

Single-sided tackle trays have become more specialized in recent years. Now, instead of or in addition to all version to store crankbaits or terminal tackle or spinnersbaits, you can get something that’ll optimize the storage space for a particular type of item. Falcon (subsequently pur- chased by Plano) started us down this road, and others followed. At the same time, manufac- turers have made increasingly water-tight and unbreakable versions. You can still get a bare-boxes for less than five dollars, but high-end models have also entered the fray. For example, Bass Mafia (www.bass- mafiatacreek.com) has developed the Bass Coffin, a “Cadillac” version of the 3700- size tray that looks like a cross between a tackle box and a crush-proof camera case. It features 48 adjustable compartments.

Once your tackle is in a variety of boxes, you’ll want to be able to access it quickly while you’re on the water. If you have dozens of them in a storage compart- ment, it’s not an easy task. While you can label your boxes with indelible magic marker, that prevents you from using them for other purposes in the future. Accordingly, companies like Line Rite (www.line-rite.com) and Bass Minder (www.bassminder.com) have developed labeled systems that’ll make quick identi- fication a snap.

You’ll also be sure to want that errant drop of moisture don’t ruin the contents of each individual box. If you put away a jig wet, it’s still wet. If it’s wet and out- side, you risk corroding every hook in that box. So if you’re confronteth with hav- ing to throw away a few dozen jigs, at great expense. One inexpensive way to combat this is to put small packets of silica gel in your boxes. Some anglers put rice in their boxes for the same effect. It may be more effective, though it isn’t specifically aimed at tackle that are kept for this purpose. Companies like Inhibitor (www.theinhibitor.com) and Bullfrog (www.bullfrog.com) have developed both adhesive strips and small chips that will serve to prevent rust from forming. Tackle box manufacturer Flambeau (www.flam- beau.com) has even developed molded trays with “Zerust” built into them, there- by accomplishing the same effect.

Finally, rod sleeves made of neo- prene or tightly-woven mesh are an inexpens- ible and increasingly popular means of protecting expensive fishing rods. They’ll protect guide and rod seats from the salt that’s splashed into a tangled in a rod locker. Even if your boat has a rod organizer installed, this will allow you to store two or three rods below, and exactly the one you want in a hurry. You can even color-code them by purpose to make it easier to find what you need.

Most of us have limited time on the water. Efficient tackle storage will effec- tively extend that time by allowing you to maximize the value of every moment.

The show runs February 28-March 3 at the Rockland Community College Field House in Suffern, NY. Show hours are Thursday, 2:00 to 9:00 pm; Friday, 1:00 to 9:00 pm; Saturday, 9:30 am to 7:00 pm.
When I began this column over 30 years ago, my goal was to make it a comprehensive outdoor column, written to present news and information related to the outdoor sports for the benefit and enjoyment of sportmen. That is why I called it “The Sporting View.” Since then I have never aimed to attempt to state the fact that what I write here is from, for, and about the outdoors—rather the reverse. I... and I intend to continue that way.

One problem associated with writing about what the media report is that many writings and comments in a monthly column is the fact that there is an unavoidable delay of some weeks between the dates of the event and the time of publication and distribution. New developments related to firearms and other matters involved in the media, so phrases like “as of this writing” are frequently used to explain what might be erroneously understood by individuals.

This is certainly true with regard to the tragic situation that occurred at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut on December 14, when a demented individual, Adam Lanza, murdered 26 children, 6 adults, and after killing his own mother, used one weapon to massacre 20 children and six teachers before killing himself.

Immediately after the incident, the usual refrain from the pro-gun crowd began issuing statements about the need for more gun control, background checks, and other measures. The media focused on various aspects of the killings—such as the number of killers, the use of prohibited firearms, and the role of the media, often quoting phrases like “as of this writing” frequently used to explain what might be erroneously understood by individuals.

Several public officials were quoted as stating that something needs to be done. Another way to look at the matter is that some politicians will say and do anything in support of “feel-good legislation” in order to scrounge up votes, while continuing to fail miserably in any efforts to enhance public safety, instead targeting law-abiding sportsmen and others while having little or no predictable positive outcome to their actions.

Procured as a result of writing this column, since the time of the shooting, is the realization that how we define a “disability” under N.J.S. 2C:58-3f. states:

> "assault weapons," "assault firearms," "military-style assault rifles," "modern military-type rifles" and “black guns.”

Although Second Amendment foes have demonized handguns for years, assault rifles have become their new paradigm in their war against the Second Amendment demanding that such carnage be stopped by implementing “ban this and ban that” legislation that would infringe on the rights of law-abiding, gun-owning sportsmen and others while having little or no predictable positive outcome to their actions.

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Time to Enjoy the Harvesters’ Harvest

May I have one of your little meat pies?” the wife asked me this when hun-kered in the den under a quilt, mystery novel propped on her lap, fire dancing in the hearth, and the firelight dancing on the walls. “I’ve been up to the roof of the spirit of the season coursing through my veins... more like the last of a fifteen-year-old brownie than my bodily conduct, but what the heck. I was feeling positively cheery, just having bought a dozen venison “pocket pies” and packaging them with my spiffy new vacuum sealer that Santa brought.

The little pies, dough carved out with the rim of a coffee cup, were a slight departure from my usual meatloaf. It is owing to the fact that my brother, a retired restaurateur and excellent cook, raved in several emails how he was making a tradi- tional French Canadian pork tourtiere the size of a manhole cover for the holidays.

He’s in Vermont and we are of Canuck heritage, so I bit and tried his recipe.

I’ve had tastier hot dogs. The pie is bland, even with a bunch of herbs and spices, and not nearly as good as my pot pies of pheasant, rabbit, squirrel, or veni- son with peas, carrots, mushrooms, corn, and so on.

This is not to say I’m a great cook, but I do know my way around the kitchen stove, and my venison meatballs and sausage rigatoni with homemade (last summer’s) tomato (plum tomatoes) sauce have won praise from my 100-percent Italian guests.

Bonnie Parker’s Gun

Not exactly in the black powder age, but close to it, the gangster years of the 1920s-1930s have become an integral part of American historical folklore. If you are of a certain age, you will no doubt recall when New York Penn’s 1967 effort to make two outlaws of that era, Clyde Barrow and Bonnie Parker, into counterculture heroes was put to the test by reality TV. The show fea- tures details of this world-record hunt, along with coastal brown bear action featuring West, Phillips, and some of West’s out- fitter clients. More details on the airing can be found at www.stevestoneoutdooradven- ture.com.

Bonnie Parker’s Gun, Newly Federally Compliant

The two-part episode of the hunt aired on the Outdoor Channel and WILD TV, and can be viewed at YouTube.com/OMontain. The show fea- tures details of this world-record hunt, along with coastal black bear action featuring West, Phillips, and some of West’s out- fitter clients. Details on the airing can be found at www.stevestoneoutdooradven- ture.com.

Last I suggest I’m a graduate of le coq marron bleu, but I have just tried to cook a chicken over an open fire on my Pennsylvania field that the dog wouldn’t even look at... something about being black on the outside and red in the middle... the中国人 (Chinese) call it that.

The much-ballyhooed tourtiere I will leave to lovers of peasant food. Thus I dis- assembled the pie, scooping out the cooked pork, and tossing the crust.

Using the old Marine Corps maxim of “improvise, adapt and overcome,” I put the pork in the mini food processor, added onions, vension, and sweet sausage, and ground and chopped. The results were placed in the aforementioned little pocket pie. The dough was brushed with egg, and baked until brown.

They turned out great.

Meanwhile, since several guests pan- icked over two inches of snow on the road for a planned gathering in late December, we will reconnect at a resurrection of my annual game dinner that has been an on- and-off enterprise since 1954. It has lately been a lot of “off” but with a deer in the freezer, as well as pheasant, squirrel, and rabbit, it’s on for another year.

For those of you who were some- where else when you told your wife you were going to hire a sniper to shoot, order some game on the Internet. You can buy anything from quail to yak meat.

Three years ago, my game dinner menu included pheasant parmesan and pork roast, deer liver pate, and maybe some Pennsylvania deep-fried bass bites for this year’s game dinner. But one of the main delights will be venison meatballs, which the gang of wags and republites of mine of course label “Bambi Balls.”

As this is written on New Year’s Eve, my holiday gift to you is the meatball recipe. Again from 100-percent Italians, with a twist or two. I know you are the bee’s knees (ever try them in a salad?) when you get to cook, but I give it a try. Done right, guests will swoon. Here goes:

Two pounds of meatloaf mix, that pow’d a quarter pound each of ground ve- nison, pork, veal, and regular ground beef.

8 slices of white bread, crusts, chopped, in a food processor.

1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tib. pepper
1/4 tsp. garlic powder
dash of oil

The key to the primo taste is to let the meatballs soak in a pasture of your choice in the fridge for at least two days before reheating to serve.

If these aren’t the best venison meat- balls ever, well damn it all, you messed up butchering your deer and tainted the meat.

Black Powder Notes

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Big Bear, Gangster Guns, New Powder

This past season, Steve West, founder and host of Steve’s Outdoor Adventures TV, officially secured the Muzzleloader World Record grizzly bear, eclipsing the previous score by a full three inches. The Boone & Crockett measurement was 26 1/4 inches in length. This past season, Steve West, founder of Steve’s Outdoor Adventures TV, officially secured the Muzzleloader World Record grizzly bear, eclipsing the previous score by a full three inches. The Boone & Crockett measurement was 26 1/4 inches in length. This past season, Steve West, founder of Steve’s Outdoor Adventures TV, officially secured the Muzzleloader World Record grizzly bear, eclipsing the previous score by a full three inches. The Boone & Crockett measurement was 26 1/4 inches in length. This past season, Steve West, founder of Steve’s Outdoor Adventures TV, officially secured the Muzzleloader World Record grizzly bear, eclipsing the previous score by a full three inches. The Boone & Crockett measurement was 26 1/4 inches in length. This past season, Steve West, founder of Steve’s Outdoor Adventures TV, officially secured the Muzzleloader World Record grizzly bear, eclipsing the previous score by a full three inches. The Boone & Crockett measurement was 26 1/4 inches in length. This past season, Steve West, founder of Steve’s Outdoor Adventures TV, officially secured the Muzzleloader World Record grizzly bear, eclipsing the previous score by a full three inches. The Boone & Crockett measurement was 26 1/4 inches in length. This past season, Steve West, founder of Steve’s Outdoor Adventures TV, officially secured the Muzzleloader World Record grizzly bear, eclipsing the previous score by a full three inches. The Boone & Crockett measurement was 26 1/4 inches in length. This past season, Steve West, founder of Steve’s Outdoor Adventures TV, officially secured the Muzzleloader World Record grizzly bear, eclipsing the previous score by a full three inches. The Boone & Crockett measurement was 26 1/4 inches in length. This past season, Steve West, founder of Steve’s Outdoor Adventures TV, officially secured the Muzzleloader World Record grizzly bear, eclipsing the previous score by a full three inches. The Boone & Crockett measurement was 26 1/4 inches in length. This past season, Steve West, founder of Steve’s Outdoor Adventures TV, officially secured the Muzzleloader World Record grizzly bear, eclipsing the previous score by a full three inches. The Boone & Crockett measurement was 26 1/4 inches in length. This past season, Steve West, founder of Steve’s Outdoor Adventures TV, officially secured the Muzzleloader World Record grizzly bear, eclipsing the previous score by a full three inches. The Boone & Crockett measurement was 26 1/4 inches in length. This past season, Steve West, founder of Steve’s Outdoor Adventures TV, officially secured the Muzzleloader World Record grizzly bear, eclipsing the previous score by a full three inches. The Boone & Crockett measurement was 26 1/4 inches in length. This past season, Steve West, founder of Steve’s Outdoor Adventures TV, officially secured the Muzzleloader World Record grizzly bear, eclipsing the previous score by a full three inches. The Boone & Crockett measurement was 26 1/4 inches in length.

We used a CVA 50-balucher ACCU- RA V2 to make the 49-yard shot on the big bear. The grizzly was wounded during a ten- day hunt in British Columbia with long- time friend and hunting celebrity Phil Phillips. West’s muley-lowered was topped with the Batts FireSight sight, and he was shooting a 450-grain CVA bullet propelled by 150 grains of IMR whitehot pellets.

This key to the primo taste is to let the meatballs soak in a pasture of your choice in the fridge for at least two days before reheating to serve.

If these aren’t the best venison meat- balls ever, well damn it all, you messed up butchering your deer and tainted the meat.
HARRISBURG, PA - Everything you love about the Eastern Sports & Outdoor Show will be on display March 14-17, 2013 at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg. PA.

More than 200 new exhibitors showcases the most cutting-edge hunting, fishing, and outdoor products, along with many new products, show specials, and a new Tactical Gun & Accessories Display Area in one of the march events of the year. In addition, the show has made it easier to access the show with expanded code-free, on-site parking, an on-site golf cart shed, an on-site show guide and program map, and an easy-to-use mobile app available for smartphones and tablets.

The Expo will be one of the few opportunities this year for anglers to review and compare the new 2013 equipment. Also on hand are many more. Be the first to touch and try Shimano, Daiwa, Quantum, St. Croix, Paul Fuller, show manager.

For more information on the complete schedule of seminar speakers, contests and family entertainment offered at the 2013 Eastern Sports & Outdoor Show, visit www.easternsports.com. Online ticket sales for the Show are open and discount tickets are purchased as well.

Key Exhibitors & Pull Out

An Associated Press report indicated that gunmaker Smith & Wesson and Cabela’s Inc. said it wouldn’t participate in what has been billed as Pennsylvania’s largest gun and hunting show because of the following decision to ban display and sale of “assault weapons” and “high-capacity ammunition.”


Cabela’s posted on its Facebook page that after careful consideration of its business practices and “the feelings of our customers” it won’t have a presence at the event.

Trop Gun in Elizabethtown, Kinsey’s Outdoors from Montedour, and Lancaster Archery Supply won’t participate because of the ban.

The show also incorporates the feature of a world of variety of firearms.

"However, it would be unfair to penalize 200,000 sportsmen and women who will attend the show by discouraging participating businesses, or attendees who come on a time when firearms, gun accessories, and shooting sportswomen’s needs are needed.

For more information, visit www.easternsports.com.
Sportsmen Bill Needs More Support

This was supposed to be a so-called “done deal.” Frank!

I’m addressing the supposed federal Sportsmen’s Bill which, according to the Washington DC pundits, would (or should) have been approved more than a month ago. And, why would it not?

There wasn’t even a price tag attached to it… with the exception of laying the payment onus on the Department of the Interior, and the Department of Agriculture in which the measure indicates “not less than 1.5 percent of the amounts will be available for projects identified on the priority list developed under paragraph 2,” whatever that means in terms of legality.

Paragraph 2 goes on to address public access to public lands for hunters, shooters, and anglers. True to form, none of these guys who either sponsored the bill or signed onto it had the courage to address trapping, or for that matter, even acknowledge that it existed. If they did, I couldn’t find it and I read what was labeled the “entire” bill, listed on the Library of Congress website.

Despite the sirens that go off in my aging grey cells whenever a “general” sportsmen’s bill fails to include trappers, this one tagged S-3525 and sponsored by Senator Jon Tester (D-Montana) is, indeed, a smorgasbord for everyone (except trap-

and his wife Janice. Each of them was presented an award for his dedicated service to the sportsmen and women of New Jersey. The presentation of these awards kept our club informed with what’s happening in the division and listening to the sportsmen on things of concern in our hunting and fishing activities.

The awards were presented by Co-Founder of the Riverside Rod and Gun Club and Senior Executive Officer, Edward J. Karecki Sr.

President for 25 years Joseph Szymanski; Secretary for 25 years Joseph Markiewicz; Treasurer for 10 years James Coffey; and Vice President 5 years Jerry Marino.

And for their behind-the-scenes support of the club, awards were presented to Larry Karecki for 50 years and Cookie Markiewicz for 25 years.

The first meeting to start the Riverside club was held on January 14, 1963 at the old Riverside Tavern in Old Bridge, New Jersey. Ed Karecki and a number of his friends and neighbors felt that if we did not get together and organize a formal hunting and fishing club in time, we would not have a place to hunt or fish due to continued developing and the loss of places to go and enjoy our sport.

The club has been a member of the Middlesex County Federation of Hunting and Fishing Clubs for almost 50 years, and continues to have members of the Division of Fish and Wildlife periodically attend club meetings to keep our members up to date on things like the deer population, bear and turkey, fresh and salt water populations, and research.

These visitors provide updates on rules and regulations, and the opportunity to give back to the Division the club’s opinions on what they would like added or changed.

One of the things the Riverside Rod and Gun Club would like to see changed is the fees charged by the Division for the various hunting permits for Senior Citizens. Most of the states in the US have either a free or a minimum fee for Seniors, after the age of 70 years. In New Jersey we only have a reduced fee for Seniors on the initial hunting license, but the costs of things like turkey and deer permits are at full price.

We feel these fees should be reduced or be given at no fee. We also feel that if you hunt on wildlife management lands and hunt pheasant and quail, you should pay for that privilege.

The Riverside Rod and Gun Club Inc. celebrated their 50th anniversary on January 19, 2013 at Pheasants Lading In Hillsborough.

Invited guests of honor were Assistant Director of the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, Larry Herrity and his wife Debbie; recently retired after serving over 12 years as Fish and Wildlife Councilman John Messeroll and his wife Joan; and New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife Conservation Officer Shannon Martinuk.

Mr. and Mrs. John and Joan Messeroll at the Riverside Rod and Gun 50-year anniversary. Ed Karecki photo.
MUSKY TROUT HATCHERIES L.L.C.

279 Bloomsbury Road
(Warren Cty. Rte. 632)
Asbury, New Jersey 08802

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