On October 1 of this year, the Association of NJ Rifle and Pistol Clubs filed an appeal in a State Supreme Court case challenging New Jersey’s carry laws. (This appeal is separate from the already-existing federal lawsuit challenging New Jersey’s carry laws, in which ANJRPC is a direct party, after a lower court ruled in favor of gun-control advocates over several years.) Friend of the court briefs allow organizations other than the parties to appeal to the State Supreme Court’s recent agreement to hear the appeal in the case (called In re: Pantano), which was brought by attorney Evan Nappen. The plaintiff in the case was denied a carry permit even though his livelihood requires him to regularly possess and transport very large amounts of cash. If the New Jersey Supreme Court does not appeal the lower court, Pantano will eventually be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Presently, there are several federal right to carry cases from different parts of the country simultaneously making their way toward the U.S. Supreme Court, including ANJRPC’s federal challenge. Nine of these cases could be heard as early as 2014, with potential to resolve the right to carry the gun in public as a second amendment right. A new consideration in that event that none of them are heard, the Pantano case will serve as an additional basis for consideration of the issue by the U.S Supreme Court.

ANJRPC’s brief in Pantano addresses several issues, but most notably the attempts by numerous lower courts around the nation to redefine the already-existing federal appeals in this case.

On the same day, the New Jersey Security Amendment Society (NJSAS) filed its own Amicus Brief in the case. “The Pantano case affects all gun owners,” said Frank Fango, president of the NJSAS. “The New Jersey Permit to carry a handgun is meaningless. It is actually a permit to possess a handgun outside of the home for any lawful purpose, not just for self-defense. The ability to carry a handgun for self-defense is extremely important, but no less important than the right to possess your legally owned handguns while traveling. Brian Atken and Gregory Revell are examples of innocent people who fell victim to NJ’s ban on handgun possession outside the home. It is essential that the Court takes into consideration that mere lawful possession should not be a crime. We filed this brief to ensure that the Court takes into account this critical exclusion.”

Too many innocent people have been harmed by NJ’s over-reaching definition of justifiable need. It has to stop. *

\*News for the Garden State
Outdoors Enthusiast
Vol. 46, No. 11   November 2013      One Dollar

\section*{Gun Groups Challenge Firearms Restrictions in NJ, NH}

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\section*{Governor’s Surf Fishing Tournament Enjoyms 22nd Success}

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\section*{Head to the Beaches for Fall Stripers}

\subsection*{by Milt Rosko}

When the weatherman predicts northwest winds at 15 to 20 mph and temperatures hovering just above the 30s, I just know it’s time to head for the beach.

That combination will ensure a near-flat surf, and pockets of forage, including sparrow, rainfish, baby bunker, and most certainly sand eels, often schooled up just a rod length or two from the sand. The bonus is to arrive and see terns, gulls, and gannets doing their thing, the terns and gulls dipping and delicately harvesting the tiny baitfish from the water, while the gannets use a diving-bomber approach, diving several feet into the depths, only to surface moments later with a swirling sand eel in classic gannet style.

You can imagine the sheer pleasure as I climbed the stairs and walked across the rock wall at Monmouth Beach, and saw the textbook scene just described developing before me.

Surprisingly, it was just a couple of weeks after Sandy, and apparently the horrid storm had turned off many anglers, but it didn’t impact what occurs each fall with potential to resolve the right to carry the gun in public as a second amendment right. A new consideration in that event that none of them are heard, the Pantano case will serve as an additional basis for consideration of the issue by the U.S Supreme Court. ANJRPC’s brief in Pantano addresses several issues, but most notably the attempts by numerous lower courts around the nation to redefine the already-existing federal appeals in this case. On the same day, the New Jersey Security Amendment Society (NJSAS) filed its own Amicus Brief in the case. “The Pantano case affects all gun owners,” said Frank Fango, president of the NJSAS. “The New Jersey Permit to carry a handgun is meaningless. It is actually a permit to possess a handgun outside of the home for any lawful purpose, not just for self-defense. The ability to carry a handgun for self-defense is extremely important, but no less important than the right to possess your legally owned handguns while traveling. Brian Atken and Gregory Revell are examples of innocent people who fell victim to NJ’s ban on handgun possession outside the home. It is essential that the Court takes into consideration that mere lawful possession should not be a crime. We filed this brief to ensure that the Court takes into account this critical exclusion.” Too many innocent people have been harmed by NJ’s over-reaching definition of justifiable need. It has to stop.*

Yes, it was a repeat performance of what I’d been accustomed to since the storm. It was just a matter of looking for the bird action, and when it tapered off, simply walking and casting on the beautifully sand-fished beaches. But as, with the previous day, while the action was fun beyond measure, there were no bass around to keep the excitement going. Often you can observe baitfish to swim by. The classic surf fishing: a virtually empty beach, with fewer than a half-dozen people extending northward to Sea Bright, and more, especially early in the day, while the action was fun beyond measure, there were no bass around to keep the excitement going. Often you can observe baitfish to swim by. It was classic surf fishing: a virtually empty beach, with fewer than a half-dozen people extending northward to Sea Bright, where it was just a matter of employing the techniques I’d learned to appreciate after many a venture on a Jersey Beach. Indeed, I hadn’t even unhooked the soft plastic sand eel replica that I’d been using the day before, a 9-inch long, 2½-ounce model that was easy to cast and had provided me several nice stripers.

What I usually do at this season of the year is concentrate my efforts along the beach, ranging anywhere from Sandy Hook to Island Beach State Park. But I don’t overlook the exciting fishing that is often provided at our two northern inlets, specifically Shark River and Manasquan River. I find the jetty at Shark River more easily traversed, and often opt to spend some time there on each trip I make to the beach, specifically on those days when there’s an outgoing tide (preferably the tail end of the ebb, either day or night).

This is the time of the year when the myriad schools of baitfish that have amassed in the rivers continue to move towards the ocean. Often you can observe pockets of rainfish, sparrow, and sand eels taking up the jam, avoiding the hungry Stripers that are lurking on the bottom and just waiting for an unsuspecting silvery baitfish to swim by.

Fishing the inlets requires a different approach, the membership office (see page 2) of any change of address.

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Counties of the Federation:

Atlantic: 2nd Thursday of month, 7:30 PM
Bergen: 1st Monday of month, 8:00 PM
Burlington: 2nd Tuesday of month, 7:45 PM
Camden: 3rd Thursday of month, 7:30 PM
Cape May: 2nd Monday of month, 7:30 PM
Cumberland: 2nd Thursday of month, 7:30 PM
Essex: 2nd Thursday of month, 7:45 PM
Gloucester: 2nd Tuesday of month, 7:45 PM
Hunterdon: 2nd Thursday of month, 8:00 PM
Mercer: 3rd Monday of month, 7:00 PM
Middlesex: 1st Wednesday of month, 7:30 PM
Monmouth: 4th Wednesday of month, 7:30 PM
Morris: 1st Monday of month, 7:00 PM
Ocean: 1st Monday of month, 8:00 PM
Passaic: Last Monday of month, 7:30 PM
Salem: Tuesday after 3rd Friday of month, 7:30 PM
Somerset: 2nd Wednesday of month, 8:00 PM
Sussex: 2nd Wednesday of month, 8:00 PM
Union: 1st Monday of month, 7:00 PM
Warren: 4th Thursday of month, 7:30 PM

Contact Information:

Eric Gaupp: 609-513-8542
Frank Dara: 973-523-2640
Bill Schultz: 856-235-3344
Bill Schemel: 908-831-5009
Ken McDermott III: 908-642-3811
Bob Russell: 856-327-2197
Carmine Minichini: 908-864-5713
Thomas Weeas: 856-629-9465
Loren Robinson: 908-872-1076
Ric Moore: 609-882-2202
John Messereill: 732-828-8543
Ken Ganson: 732-566-0841
Larry Cella: 908-839-0193
Richard Weber: 732-971-1814
Dave Cesanaro: 856-223-0409
Joe Griglak: 908-526-9026
Dick Strobel: 732-971-3989
Ray Szpond: 908-403-5798

Letters to the Editor:

may be sent by U.S. Mail (to 28 Hemlock Road, Livingston, NJ 07039), or email (olsahaprin@gmail.com). Please include your town of residence, and club or organization affiliation (if any).
Global warming, right? I read a recent report on FoxNews.com (‘‘Warming Whoops: Scientists debate the falling rate of rising temperatures,’’ September 17, 2013), and I do believe I had a smile on my face during the whole reading. Admittedly, though, a sardonic smile.

The idea (perhaps ‘‘scare’’ is more accurate) of global warming threatening to reset the entire planet’s balance has gained such traction that in many circles it is simply accepted as truth.

“The current scientific consensus on climate change is that recent warming is almost certainly very well established and is likely to be a real and continuing phenomenon,” the IPCC predicted in 2007. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, issued in late September, casts serious doubt on the whole global-warming-doom-and-gloom scenario is quick to point out that data over a relative-

The actual rate? A mere 0.05° C (approx. 0.09 degrees Fahrenheit). That’s about a quarter of the prediction. And there’s likely to be due to the human-caused increase in greenhouse gas concentrations.

But the fifth Assessment Report (AR5) of the United Nation’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, issued in late September, casts some serious doubt on the immutability of this ‘‘truth.’’ For example, the AR5 notes that a mere 0.05° C, which is likely to be due to the human-caused increase in greenhouse gas concentrations, is just about a quarter of the prediction. And there’s likely to be due to the human-caused increase in greenhouse gas concentrations. But the fifth Assessment Report (AR5) of the United Nation’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, issued in late September, casts some serious doubt on the immutability of this ‘‘truth.’’

Is global warming actually occurring, and if so is it a result of ongoing industrial and agricultural activity? Personally, I honestly don’t know. More to the point, if we’re to believe the IPCC, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, and FoxNews, then reality probably does not equal does either. Oliver Shapiro, Editor

Dear Oliver,

In the month of September, John Gibson celebrated his 60th anniversary as a member of the Anglers and Hunters Association (see picture, below).

Gibson, a lifetime resident of Bloomfield, now resides in Franklin, NJ. John, also a long-term member of the NJ State Federation of Sportsmen’s Clubs, was a former hunter education instructor passing on his experience hunting in Maine, Pennsylvania, and NJ.

John spends the majority of his time fishing Tobyhanna Creek trying to convince the trout population to take a taste of his fly offerings.

We thank John for his many contributions in the foundation of the AHA and for representing NJ sportsmen in such a positive light.

Ralph Jiacobelli
Fairfield, NJ

Dear Oliver,

The enclosed picture contains the results of my family’s (wife, Jean, son, Jack, and daughter Judy) 2013 salmon fishing trip to Lake Ontario on July 13. We have fished out of Oswego, NY with Capt. Dave Wilson for many years, weather permitting, for salmon and brown trout.

We normally have good luck catching sizeable fish with Dave, but this year was rather exceptional, with ten king salmon hooked and ten fish landed, most over 20 pounds and the largest 31 pounds.

The trip to Lake Ontario was my first real test of my physical health following my open heart surgery in January, and I’m glad to report the new pig valve and four bypasses installed at Morristown Memorial held up rather well. I have just completed cardiac rehab at Hunterdon Medical center and hope to be back in action soon.

I saw your request for pictures and thought I would send this along. Keep up the good work.

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Rather than increasing, any warming trend seems to be decreasing. A review of the whole global-warming-doom-and-gloom scenario is quick to point out that data over a relatively-

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60 Years in the AHA

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New Jersey State Federation of Sportmen’s Clubs, Inc.
Deer Gun DILEMMA

by Vin T. Sparano

Deer hunters all over the county will be heading for the woods in a short while. Some will be carrying bolt-action rifles; others will have lever actions or pump guns. Without a doubt, all of them will swear that they have found the right caliber. The right caliber further complicates the argument. So who’s correct? Well, it depends. I’ve been a big-game hunter for more than 50 years, and I’ve hunted in the East and West, as well as Africa and the Arctic Circle. As I look back, here are my deer gun picks for New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania.

New Jersey

Here in the Garden State, we have no choice: it has to be a shotgun, and my deer gun is a Remington Model 870 in 12 gauge. I put scopes on all my rifles, and my shotgun is no different. I use a Bushnell variable from 1.5 to 4.5 power. If you hunt the northeast woods, stick with lowest-power scopes you can find, with their generous field of view.

Most scopes at 2X will give you a field of view of 45 feet at 100 yards. When stillhunting, I crank it down to the lowest power, then turn it to the highest power when on stand. I also have a Hastings barreled barrel on Model 870 for slug stability and accuracy. I use detachable slug swivels, so I can change out the barrel without waiting and avoiding tangles in brush. Typically, my first shot will be a rifled slug and followed by 000 buck. This combination works for me.

Pennsylvania

Where do you hunt? Farms or woods? I have two recommendations here. If it’s the woods, I would go with a lever-action and I like the Marlin lineup of models. My buddy Rick Methot uses a Marlin 336C and I would rank his rifle among the top three deer guns for the Eastern woods. His Marlin, chambered for the .35 Remington, weighs only seven pounds. The Marlin is also chambered for the 30-30 Winchester, which has only 10.6 foot-pounds of recoil, light enough to be shot comfortably at a range and enough gun to bring down a big buck with a well-placed shot.

The only change I would make on Rick’s rifle is that I would mount a compact scope with the lowest power setting I could find. At 1X, for example, the field of view at 100 yards would be about 100 feet.

For the farms of Pennsylvania, I like my Ruger M77 in 243 Winchester, more than enough gun for whitetails if a bullet is bulletproof at a range and is as small as possible. To maximize your chances at bagging an impressive specimen like this, it’s a good idea to heed the author’s advice on selecting your next deer gun. Photo courtesy kingsoutdoorworld.com.

Central Region Highlights

While on patrol in the Manchester WMA, CO Mutone came across millennial household debris dumped at a location within the deer pile. CO Mutone found papers that identified the address and name of the deer’s owner. CO Mutone addressed the address, but no one was present. Finally, after multiple attempts, the owner was located. The owner identified a friend to whom he had given the debris as possibly being the person who had dumped it. He said that his friend wanted the debris to make a fire.

CO Mutone immediately tracked down this person and confronted him with what she had discovered. After a brief discussion and interview, the man admitted to dumping the debris. He was charged with dumping on a State WMA.

Lt. Szulecki was contacted by Trenton Dispatch in regards to a young black bear that had climbed a tree in Cadwalader Park in Trenton, NJ. The bear had been swimming in the D&R Canal along the Delaware River earlier that day. Lt. Szulecki, along with COs McManus and Szalaj and the Division’s Black Bear Response Team, responded to the area and met by the Trenton Police and the Fire Department. The officers and firemen assisted the Bear Response Team in removing the bear from the tree.

The bear’s ears were tagged, identifying him as the same bear that had been removed from a tree in Springfield Township (Union County) the week before and released near Round Valley Reservoir.COs Kille and Hausamann were transported and released by the Bear Response Team.

While patrolling the Millstone River below the Carnegie Lake dam in South Brunswick Township, CO Masco observed three individuals fishing with nets. CO Mascio had been working this complaint for two weeks. All three fishermen did not possess valid 2013 NJ Fishing Licenses. They had been netting and keep- underized largemouth and striped bass/hybrid striped bass, failure to have required county deer license, and possession of alcoholic beverages on a WMA.

Southern Region Highlights

CO Kille conducted a wildlife management area patrol of the Winslow WMA located in Winslow Township, Camden County, and Cedar Lake WMA located in Monroe Township, Gloucester County. CO Kille issued summonses for unlawful ATV riding, littering on a wildlife management area, possession of alcohol, and after hours on a wildlife management area.

COs Kille and Hausamann investigated a complaint of snappit trapping shot in Fenwick Creek located in Salem City in Salem County. The complainant, a turtle trapper himself, witnessed the theft of the turtles and received a sworn statement admitting to the theft of the turtle traps. The individual was charged with theft of personal or real property under the Hunter Harassment law.

CO Toppin responded to an ongoing illegal fishing complaint at Blackwood Lake on the border of Camden and Gloucester Counties. The complainant alleged people were taking fish with nets. CO Toppin observed for a short time the use of a net in freshwater. CO Toppin issued a written warning for unlawful use of a net in freshwater. He also issued a warning for failing to update a driver’s license to a resident license as required by law.

CO Toppin responded to a theft of a snapping turtle trap complaining to the Pennsauken Creek in Pennsauken, Camden County. CO Toppin conducted an interview of the suspected individuals. The mother and son admitted to the theft of one trap which was recovered undamaged in their yard. CO Toppin did not issue a citation for the theft of the trap.

CO Stites has been responding to complaints from fishermen at the DOD Wildlife Management Area in Camery’s Park. The fishermen are complaining about people using the area near the boat ramp unlawfully. CO Stites is reviewing a case for a trespassing violation.
Division of Fish and Wildlife Bird Stocking Schedule, 2013

Non-Target Impacts on surrounding houses being investigated currently by CO Fox. He will initiate his proceedings at the conclusion of the Federal cases. NJ charges include careless discharge, damage to property, hunting out of season, hunting with an illegal firearm, using an illegal missile, and taking a non-game species.

Marine Region Highlights

On June 6, CO Woerner was patrolling Middlesex County when CO Moscatiello advised him that he had just received information from one of his informants regarding a group of individuals offshore of Sandy Hook catching and retaining undersized summer flounder.

CO Woerner called the informant and obtained a description of the individuals and the boat. After speaking with CO Scott regarding the possible landing location of this boat, CO Woerner traveled to Highlands Borough in Monmouth County to set up surveillance at a boat rental facility. While out on foot, CO Woerner observed that a group of individuals were fishing illegally with nets in Whale Creek of Aberdeen, Monmouth County. After CO Woerner inspected the individuals, it was determined that they were legally using a seine net to capture killifish to use as fluke bait.

While out on foot, CO Woerner observed a group of individuals clamming in condemned waters of Western Raritan Bay. After speaking with a woman near a jetty, she admitted she had been clamming and that the three other individuals in the water were also harvesting clams.

CO Woerner spotted two buckets out on the jetty and the woman admitted they belonged to them. While waiting for the rest of the group to come in, CO Woerner inspected the individuals, it was determined that a group of individuals were fishing illegally with nets in Whale Creek of Aberdeen, Monmouth County. After CO Woerner inspected the individuals, it was determined that they were legally using a seine net to capture killifish to use as fluke bait.

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Lake Placid: The Place to Try

Imagine bear hunting season opening, with newspapers not noticing, and no antihunters ranting against it. No hunters hunt, nonhunters don't, and all is well. Local television news reports fires and floods, bashers and crashes; newspapers ignore hunting.

That's how it was when the Adirondacks bear season started, while 270 outdoor writers from around the country jammed into a room for a luncheon meeting, with trout being bitten in nearby rivers and in Lake Placid, where a 27-pounder was caught, weighed, photographed and released last summer. The writers were fortunate to confer at noted outdoors locations like Lake Placid this year, and Alaska the year before.

New York's Northern Zone early bear season opened on September 14, the second consecutive season with a few bear hunters from Morrisstown Route 287 to the NY Thruway, then the Northway from Albany to Route 6, where the final 15-minutes drive passes mountain lakes at the foot of high mountains that dwarf our High Point. While most New Jerseyans live in gardens that have been going up for decades because of the popularity of bear to good fishing and hunting, Lake Placid is one of the country's oldest vacation destinations. Its history reads like a history of winter sports history: it hosted the Winter Olympics in 1932 and 1980; the latter made the "Miracle on Ice" U.S. hockey win over Canada.

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The Philadelphia Flyers hockey team spent two days in September working out at the Olympic Arena, which was appropri- ate because Kate Smith, whose "God Bless America" sing before big games in Philadelphia's old armed forces arena before her remains are buried there.

Lake Placid is a mountainous town. Mt. Van Hoevenburg bobbed alone (one of only 16 in North America), two big Olympic ski jumps, a Gate of the Bear Reference area, with its Alpine skiing and a road to the top of the mountain that has a view of Lake Placid and 67 when we arrived in Placid. The fact hard freeze was 26 degrees on September 17.

Garden States have been going up for decades because of the popularity of bear to good fishing and hunting, Lake Placid is one of the country's oldest vacation destinations. Its history reads like a history of winter sports history: it hosted the Winter Olympics in 1932 and 1980; the latter made the "Miracle on Ice" U.S. hockey win over Canada.

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While many anglers have transitioned much of their fishing from monofilament to fluorocarbon, there remain some holdouts. Even some experienced fishermen have tried fluoro, found its advantages to be outweighed by its brittleness and lack of manageability, and abandoned it without a second thought.

That’s a mistake, the top pros say. While fluorocarbon has its drawbacks, its visibility, abrasion resistance, and relative lack of stretch more than make up for them. If you didn’t like fluoro the first time around, it may be because you got the wrong brand. A new group of premium fluoro brands, many of them from Japan, have become widely accessible in the United States, and in many cases they’ve overcome the previous concerns.

The one remaining concern is often price. Anglers disappointed in past fluoros often experience sticker shock when they see “full spools” of line that retail in the $30 to $40 range. That’s natural when you can still find a more traditional brand for only a fraction of that, but many tour-level pros say that the advantages of the top-shelf brands make it an equal-cost proposition.

“When you spool on the premium stuff, it lasts longer on the spool,” said Elite Series pro Kurt Dove, who also guides in Texas. “The brands that aren’t made of the highest quality resin aren’t as supple. They break down quicker and need to be changed more frequently.

“Guiding at Lake Amistad, I might use the same reel every day for three weeks without changing my line,” he continued. “For the average angler, he can probably go three months, maybe even longer.” With the low-quality line it has so much memory that the first time back it already starts to act up.”

Both pros said that anglers who’ve had bad experiences with fluorocarbon shouldn’t give up altogether, but at the same time the best strategy isn’t necessarily to case back in with lower-grade lines: “It’s important not to get frustrated,” Hawk said.

“The result will likely also be more sensitivity, which is looking for readers’ pictures of trophy, interesting, or simply noteworthy catches, kills, or sights seen while hunting, fishing, trapping, or shooting. Digital images are preferred (email to olshapiroinnj@gmail.com), or send prints to the editor (along with return postage if you want them back). The NJFSN reserves the right to publish or not publish any picture it receives, at its discretion. Include your name, hometown, contact information (in case we have questions) and details of the picture’s contents.

Send In Your Pictures!

List of Premium Fluorocarbons (available at leading tackle stores and online retailers):

- Seaguar Tatsu
- Sunline Sniper
- Sunline Shooter
- Toray Bawa Finesse
- Toray Bawa Upgrade
- Toray Superhard
- Daiwa Speez

 Assert your braggin’ rights! The NJFSN is looking for readers’ pictures of trophy, interesting, or simply noteworthy catches, kills, or sights seen while hunting, fishing, trapping, or shooting. Digital images are preferred (email to olshapiroinnj@gmail.com), or send prints to the editor (along with return postage if you want them back). The NJFSN reserves the right to publish or not publish any picture it receives, at its discretion. Include your name, hometown, contact information (in case we have questions) and details of the picture’s contents.
Thanksgiving: Turkeys, and Then Some
by Bob Brunisholz

Shortly, the revered American holiday of Thanksgiving will be upon us, and there’s a lot for everyone to be thankful for when reading the history of America, especially if you’re involved in the outdoors.

Whenever I have occasion to mention the fact that I study history, all history but particularly American history, I’m careful to also mention that I consider myself a “student” of history, as opposed to one who has been formally educated and perhaps even lettered in the subject. (It’s my inferiority complex from another life kicking in.)

If you’re still young, say anywhere between teen years and perhaps 50 or even your mid-60s, you won’t appreciate my predicament. It has been my experience that once you crawl (very carefully, wouldn’t want to fracture a hip) into the 70s, that once you crawl (very carefully, wouldn’t want to fracture a hip) into the 70s, retaining what’s been learned becomes a task that would make even Sisyphus call in the TV show Jeopardy, I’m not.

Despite my dotage and its effect on my memory, the efforts of those who speak of God from our schools and public venues, including our paper currency. And they will be glad to tell you that the Founders were not nearly as religious as some history books claim.

On the contrary. When developing our current Constitution, our Founders set forth a unique (albeit described by some astute observers as experiential) form of governing that was without peer. They authored that famous old document in such a way as to make those doing the governing answerable to the governed. It also becomes equally apparent that our early leaders not only acknowledged, but also depended upon, God.

Additionally, there was strong appreciation and recognition of a divine presence and of the sovereignty of the Framers also possessed a clear understanding of human weaknesses, sin, and mortality. This is the only country on this blue marble we call Earth that has a government which attributes the rights of man coming from a divine power. Ergo, no politician, regardless of position, stature, or level of power should be able to take those rights from us.

It is our good fortune to live in a country where we are not dependent upon some beneficent monarchy, but where each individual can be, and indeed is expected to be, a functioning part of society… as well as of good character.

There is much for which we may be thankful, and much of it is right here in New Jersey.

Turkeys, wild or domestic, are on most people’s minds at this time of year as we approach Thanksgiving, and it’s only fitting that New Jersey sportsmen and women be credited for the reestablishment of the wild turkey in the Garden State, an effort that required close coordination between sportsmen, sportsmen’s conservation groups (like the New Jersey chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation), and members and scientists with New Jersey’s Division of Fish and Wildlife.

Keep in mind, in the mid-1970s, there wasn’t a single wild turkey to be found in New Jersey. All had disappeared, primarily due to habitat loss. The restoration efforts began in 1977 when biologists from the DFW “borrowed” a few wild birds from Vermont. From the beginning, it was an uphill battle. When the bird’s habitat continued to disappear from development, DFW and NWTF volunteers would move them. When the birds couldn’t get food at a particular location, they fed them. Then they found that most of the birds they were releasing were “imprinting” with the folks charged with their care and did not present a viable “wild” bird. They had to change the rearing procedure as well as how and where they obtained the birds. This went on for years. But all that work was not in vain.

In 2002, Bob Erikson, the then-turkey biologist for DFW, said these words to a reporter. “We don’t need to help the turkeys any more. They can take care of themselves.” New Jersey sportsmen and skilful DFW biologists won the battle. The wild turkey was, and is, once again thriving in New Jersey.

Want more to be thankful for? Try this for a blast from the past: Al Ristori is New Jersey’s answer to Who’s Who in the book of saltwater fishing. As a writer, guide, captain and avid angler, Ristori has fished the world over. What Ristori doesn’t know about saltwater fishing isn’t worth knowing, believe me on that.

Unfortunately, the Thanksgiving holiday has a tendency to be about the day often has a tendency to lose its meaning during the rest of the year. To remind us just how fortunate we are, and where we came from as a nation, and the blood and tears it took to build and expand this country, there are few things that are so indicative of that struggle than the words of the late Al Ristori (who I consider this country’s greatest leader, when he proclaimed Thanksgiving to be a special day for our forefathers).”

In a joint resolution from Congress, and authored by then-President George Washington, they wrote, “...we thus will set aside a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be devoted by the people to the service of that great and glorious Being under whose authority they obtained their independence.”

Happy Thanksgiving everyone.

The NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife recently stocked an additional 400 largemouth bass averaging four inches in length, and approximately 5,000 black crappies averaging 2 inches in Prospertown Lake (Ocean County). The stocking continues the Division’s restoration of game fish populations which began in the spring. The Division also planned one last stocking in late October for the reestablishment of the wild turkey in the Garden State, an effort that required close coordination between sportsmen.

The lake, located within the Prospertown Lake Wildlife Management Area, had drained following the failure of the outlet structure in September, 2011. Area, had drained following the failure of the outlet structure in September, 2011. Prospertown Lake Wildlife Management Area, had drained following the failure of the outlet structure in September, 2011.

Prospertown Lake Gets its Fish

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday
3 Hunter Ed. class Hunter Ed. class Hunter Ed. class Hunter Ed. class 11 CAA Sportsperson of the Year dinner (CAA.org) 17 Hunter Ed. class Hunter Ed. class 24
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Entertainment

New Jersey Sportsmen’s News
November 2013

Events for November, 2013

Prospertown Lake Wildlife Management Area, had drained following the failure of the outlet structure in September, 2011. The lake was refilled over the fall and winter and stocked with 1,710 trout for the 2013 spring season.

In July, Hackettstown Hatchery staff had released 11,692 largemouth bass fingerlings averaging between 1.5 - 2 inches long. Approximately 3,500 other fish were also stocked, consisting of a mix of blackgill and pumpkinseed sunfish, fathead minnows and golden shiners. These fish reproduced during the summer months to help build a forage base for the bass population.

Anglers can anticipate good populations of catchable size bass, sunfish and catfish during 2014, are we are welcome to enjoy the lake now as well.
On Getting Skunked

The term “skunk” has several meanings in the English language. First of all it is the general name describing a number of species of which Mephitis mephitis, black-and-white striped North American striped skunk (Mephitis mephitis) is the most familiar and widest of us in this region. The term also refers to a “thoroughly contemptuous person.” In athletic sports language it is a term describing the victory won by the team among individual or team losses so badly that they are prevented from scoring in “getting skunked,” or “skunking the opposition.”

When used by outdoor sportsmen, the term “skunked” is generally applied when outdoorsmen or women go hunting or fishing and come home empty-handed. In other words, they “were skunked,” or “got skunked.”

The basic connotation of phrases and terms related to the word skunk is mainly negative, due in no small part to the fact that skunks defend themselves by spraying or otherwise emitting a foul-smelling, noxious musk-liquid. This stuff not only smells bad but also burns the eyes and nasal membranes and continues to do so even after the confrontation with the skunk has passed. To borrow an expression from the cartoon story “How the Grinch Stole Christmas,” the skunk “stunk” when you get a good whiff of skunk odor and it seems to remain in your nose and sinuses for some time. The odor and it seems to remain in your nose and sinuses for some time. The odor of skunk juice is sometimes described as being “skunk.”

Where am I going with this, you might ask. The answer is simple. Since skunks are abundant in Northern America and that includes New Jersey, an outdoor enthusiast stands a good chance of meeting up with a skunk while hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, hiking, while walking the dog or otherwise engaged in some outdoor activity. You could also encounter a skunk while on your property.

And that also applies to your dog. Most dogs are not at all averse to getting tangled with a skunk, but a dog might not...
We had beagles when I was a kid growing up in Northeastern Pennsylvania. I never knew anybody who kept a “bird dog” but I doubt owing to the fact that there were no pheasants around, or stocked in our neck of the woods, and if there were growing them in our yards. But we had rabbits aplenty, a result of what we did not want and frequently. My uncle the doctor kept beagles, and some of the best cottontail hunting was in the coal “smoke.”

We lived outside of town in the suburbs, and the highlight of Sundays for a kid was to go out into the fields and woods without him or her. That meant two or three happy loutons would be running on the same property. The woods ran for hundreds of yards to upland fields after a hike over rocks proving layout when last, the last ice age. I’m training my fourth, and maybe the first was when I was up atop Washington Crossing State Park with my father, a kid and some of his friends who was not thrilled about spending the weekend in the woods or on the woods. It happens also to non-hunting family pets.

Decades ago when we were first married, we had a $10 mutt from the local pet shop and it was “strippin’s” around Wilkes-Barre. My wife and I were 20-somethings, just starting new jobs, yet we debated chucking all that to drive back to New Jersey. My wife and I were never posted, and nobody ever challenged our being there. My dad, not a sportsman, would take me out with the .22single-shot Stevens to shoot soup cans, and once I would hit a target, the dog ran and barked. “Skip” would figure in the way of跑了, says my dog would. The dog and the most troubling experience was when Uncle Joe woodchopped down a tree. “That’s something, to visit my parents at a lake camp. He vanished the night before we had a $10 mutt from the local pet shop and it was “strippin’s” around Wilkes-Barre. My wife and I were 20-somethings, just starting new jobs, yet we debated chucking all that to drive back to New Jersey. My wife and I were never posted, and nobody ever challenged our being there. My dad, not a sportsman, would take me out with the .22single-shot Stevens to shoot soup cans, and once I would hit a target, the dog ran and barked. “Skip” would figure in the way of ran and barked. “Skip” would figure in the way of being there. My dad, not a sportsman, would take me out with the .22single-shot Stevens to shoot soup cans, and once I would hit a target, the dog ran and barked. “Skip” would figure in the way of being there. My dad, not a sportsman, would take me out with the .22single-shot Stevens to shoot soup cans, and once I would hit a target, the dog ran and barked. “Skip” would figure in the way of not. One tip I got from a trainer is not to put the dog’s name on a collar or tag, for the simple reason if a bad guy pinches the pooch and sees “Gunner” is his name, it’s a pretty good bet the dog will come to anybody hearing his name called. Put your name and phone number on the collar or tag.

Hunting dogs, other than the emotional attachment, can be well into a four-hour or longer training hours. Make sure your partner and pal has a steady, sure right ear.
SIX ADVANCE WEEKS

Day.

14th annual South Jersey Youth Outdoor Fishers, Quinton and Buckhorns South Jersey Wheelmen, South Jersey Fly-Turkey Federation, Splash and Paddle, NJ, Delta Waterfowl, National Wild Club Association, United Bow Hunters of Sportsmen's Federation, South Jersey Bass applications to join the Flat Earth Society.

Folks believe the claims of the press. It follows then, that most believe a society devoid of all firearms will automatically cause the government shutdown, among other niceties. Unfortunately, the overwhelming majority of uninformed folks believe the liberal press reports the truth.

Most well-meaning but ill-informed folks believe the claims of the press. It follows then, that most believe a society devoid of all firearms will automatically solve the problem of street crime.

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Admittedly there has been a lot happening in Trenton as well as in Foggy Bottom, where the mainstream press has been telling low-information voters it's the fault of mean-spirited Republicans who caused the government shutdown, among other niceties. Unfortunately, the overwhelming majority of uninformed folks believe the liberal press reports the truth.

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The event was held at the Salem County Sportsmen Club in Carney’s Point. Two hundred children plus their families tried out sporting sports equipment first hand and become users of the outdoors in a non-competitive environment.

The event is free, and-registration for the event begins on July 1, 2014 for next year’s event. Check out the website at www.sjyoutdorday.org for additional information and pictures (see below) of this event.

This event is to open to children from 7-17 years of age and is free of charge.

South Jersey Youth Outdoor Day Held

Some Thoughts for November 5

There are already thousands of gun laws nationwide, and as we all know the only people those laws affect are the folks who obey laws. All local, state and federal governments would have to do to put a rather severe dent in the sad statistics is enforce the laws presently on the books, rather than let those who should not be allowed within three miles of a gun plea bargain their assault, murder, drug, and gun law violations down to spitting on the sidewalk.

Let’s look at it from a perspective that turns “progressives” a brilliant shade of purple when one engages them in such a debate.

Based on what I’ve observed and tried to learn when studying American history, the so-called “welfare of the people” (certainly not liberty) is the primary object of the Obama administration, and governing should always be assigned to those who are experts in their relative fields for the defense and security of society. Statists preach that professional police officers, and indeed even the military, have rendered the armed citizen superfluous, archaic and in many instances just as much or more a danger to the public as armed bands of “Bloods” and “Crips.” Hence, no individual should assume the mantle of protector for himself, family, or loved ones. Just leave it to the experts in the government and you’ll have no need for those horrible “weapons of war.”

This is only a superficial look at some of the complex issues surrounding the Second Amendment as it applies to individuals vs. militias, a favorite play of some who like to enshrine the amendment in terms that apply only to organized military groups such as the Army Reserve and National Guard. Those issues also make it very important for sportsmen and women to do some research before pulling that lever on November 5.

There is an ongoing battle to render the U.S. Constitution and its corresponding Bill of Rights useless or obsolete. The battle has expanded into hundreds of fields or endeavors that “progressives” feel can be used to negate the constitution. It is a fight that has taken on a heretofore unheard-of intensity that could well be aimed at destroying our freedoms and liberties, currently guaranteed by that single document.

I’m suggesting everyone do their homework prior to Election Day. I’m also suggesting that, beyond the importance of voting, we have an obligation to make certain we know what that person stands for when we vote for him or her.

Personally, I will never relinquish what few remaining freedoms and liberties I now enjoy. Too many good men and women down through the ages, until and including now, have died for those freedoms.

I believe that our nation’s political issues have devolved into two distinct camps. One believes in free enterprise and liberty as described in the first paragraphs of the Declaration of Independence, and the other believes our personal liberties must evolve with the times and must change when they feel change is needed.

Unfortunately, most voters today haven’t the foggiest idea of what is happening in terms of legislation, or legislators who will shape their private lives in the future, while the minority would much prefer that the government butt out.

I understand that I do not speak for anyone except myself, and this column represents only one person’s opinion. Nevertheless, I don’t plan on rolling over and playing dead for a bunch of what I’ve been calling “progressives,” and their political pundits and allies who think the Founding Fathers were a bunch of old, white, rich men who favored slavery and were corrupt... while those same statists might consider Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels the savors of a world in turmoil.

Consequently, I will vote on November 5, and I will carefully vet the person for whom I pull that lever. I hope all of us do the same.

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Above, left, and right: Boating and shooting were but two of the activities of the very successful Outdoor Youth Day, held this past August. Scott Rusher photos.

Club member Bill Allen of Lambertville sent in this picture of him (left) with a handsome muley. “Hello, Oliver; yes that is snow, 14 inches of it,” he writes. “This 5x5, 167-inch mountain mule deer was taken at 9000 feet in the Frank Church Wilderness area in Idaho on September 25.” Nice!

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