



P. O. Box 493 • Chatfield, MN 55923

## North American Bowhunting Coalition

### Progress Report –January 11, 2008

The Steering Committee of the NABC is pleased to report to its members the progress we've made in advancing the goals and objectives of the Coalition. The year 2007 was a banner year. It was the second year that the Coalition met as a stand-alone organization after its inception in August 2005. Herein is the report of our activities.

#### 2008 Annual Meeting Set for April 19-20

As you should be aware from previous correspondence, the North American Bowhunting Coalition will host its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting on April 19-20, 2008 in Chatfield, Minnesota. NABC member organizations from across North America will convene to discuss bowhunting issues important to their mission of preserving and protecting bowhunting. Plan to attend. It's a great meeting held at the Pope & Young Club/St. Charles Museum of Bowhunting, a showcase of bowhunting's evolution.

The meeting registration form and travel/hotel information will be forwarded to you soon. Please make plans to attend.

#### Call for Agenda Items – Project Ideas

Speaking of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting in April '08, your Steering Committee requests that you forward your wishes/ideas for Agenda Items for this meeting and for Project Ideas that you'd like to see the NABC pursue. Any and all ideas are welcomed. Here is your chance, whether you are able to attend the meeting or not, to voice your pleasure or displeasure with any element of the sport of bowhunting. Send us your suggestions via e-mail.

#### Steering Committee Members

The first election for replacement Steering Committee members occurred in 2007. The two-year terms of regional directors, Gary Socola (NE) and David Tetzlaff (SE), expired in '07 and, as per our agreed to procedures, were replaced by election with new directors (\*).

|                             |                |              |
|-----------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| National Chairman           | Dennis Ballard | Missouri     |
| National Facilitator        | Stan Rauch     | South Dakota |
| West Regional Director      | Steve Link     | Washington   |
| Southeast Regional Director | Shane Crochet* | Louisiana    |
| Midwest Regional Director   | Mike Brust     | Wisconsin    |
| Northeast Regional Director | Mark Scott*    | New York     |

We welcome Shane and Mark and thank Gary and David for their important service during the formative years of the NABC.

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## NABC Contact Data Base

This invaluable resource allows us to communicate directly and immediately with the leaders of every state and provincial bowhunting organization in North America. It's a vital function of the NABC and is only as good as accuracy. That's why each year, Stan Rauch and Jim McFarlane update the listing to replace organization NABC reps' contact names and e-mail addresses with new ones, add any new organizations and update contact mailing addresses.

Please notify your Regional Director or Facilitator Stan Rauch promptly of any rep changes or e-mail address changes so it can be incorporated immediately into the communication network. We want your organization to receive uninterrupted correspondence.

We have added new organizations in New Mexico and in Tennessee as a result of our update exercise. We welcome these organizations into the NABC family.

Communication is the key to strengthening our coalition. Use the network to tighten the ties between you and any other member organization of the NABC or to the coalition as a whole. We want to hear from you!

## Governing Documents

We have added a Trademark Registration to our Governing Documents file. **North American Bowhunting Coalition** is now the registered trademark of the NABC and you'll begin to see that little "R" in a circle with our logo.

Our thanks to Kevin Hisey of the Pope & Young Club for helping us complete this application with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

The NABC's Charter and Mission Statement is published on our web site. Policies and procedures list, considered a living document, is reviewed and updated by the membership at our annual meeting.

## Press Releases

Our latest news release (all of which are published on our website) concerns the Jack Creek Preserve Foundation's bowhunt for disabled Iraq or Afghanistan veterans. A 2008 bear or elk hunt is being offered this year to qualified U.S. vets. See our website for more info or contact the NABC Steering Committee.

Press releases are an important strength of the NABC and its 80+ member state and provincial organizations. We will use them sparingly but we will use them if we believe our position on an issue needs to be publicized.

## The NABC Website

Our website is up and running! It continues to provide a wide variety of valuable information with new articles added regularly. It's state-of-the-art and full of information on our actions, our position statements, on bowhunting education, bowhunting issues, state and national bowhunting news, and much more. Visit the site at [www.nabowhuntingcoalition.com](http://www.nabowhuntingcoalition.com). - it's yours.

Investigate the new website entry entitled "Urban Bowhunting Specialist Program". This article, an outgrowth of our 2007 Annual Meeting, provides state organizations with information on how to help your state game agency reduce nuisance deer numbers, especially inside the city limits. Information like this can only be found on the NABC website – it's a compilation of practices and procedures used successfully by a number of different states to reduce deer numbers in urban areas. Check it out!

Notice that we have an extensive "links" page where you can access state game agency sites and other affiliate addresses. We've added the Montana Wildlife Federation link lately, for example, and ask that our state NABC members send the addresses of other bowhunting or conservation sites that might be of interest to our members. If the suggested site is appropriate, we'll list it. Let us know your wishes.

We're indebted to Rose Brust, our webmaster, for the fine work she does in keeping the site fresh and updated. Thank You, Rose!

## Donations

We're indebted, indeed, to our state, provincial and national organizational members for their generous donations to the NABC coffers. Thank You All!! We're all volunteers working for the cause of bowhunting but there are costs for running the organization. Your donations make it work. We are very careful where we spend these important assets and will, from time to time, ask member organizations for their opinion on how these monies can best be invested or obligated. Financial planning is just another reason why we plead with you to always attend the annual meeting.

## U. S. Sportsmen's Alliance

Following a vote of the organizational members of the NABC, we have officially affiliated with the U. S. Sportsmen's Alliance. We're now a Sustaining Member of the Bowhunting Rights Coalition. Each of the state organizations receives the U.S.S.A. "Bowhunter Rights Newsletter" via the NABC communications network; Steering Committee members also receive "Alerts". Notice that we're also publishing news releases from the U.S.S. A. on the website.

## The Crossbow Debate

Year 2007 was the first year that the NABC was able to completely engage all of our assets on the crossbow issue. Many of our state members have contacted the NABC for help and assistance on carrying the arguments against allowing crossbows in archery-only seasons and areas to their game agencies and legislatures. We won some and lost some but fought the good fight. It's not over by a long shot, however, so we forwarded to all of the state organization members our listing of Crossbow Talking Points, with some references, so our members can work on preventive measures.

## Adaptive Equipment CD

The CD put together by Gary Socola (New York Bowhunters) and his subcommittee on adapting conventional archery equipment for the physically challenged and aging bowhunter has been receiving rave reviews. If your organization doesn't have a copy, send Kevin Hisey an e-mail at [Kevin@pope-young.org](mailto:Kevin@pope-young.org) for as many copies as you need or write to Gary at [gsocola@spsmedical.com](mailto:gsocola@spsmedical.com).

## Annual Meeting 2007

If you missed the 2007 Annual Meeting, you missed a great one! Twenty-four states and three national bowhunting groups sent 34 veteran bowhunters to the council meeting. The NABC put together eight presentations for the members including talks from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NASP, CenterShot Ministries, Kicking Bear Foundation, The Outdoors Insurance Company, The Hunter's Institute and a panel of Urban Bowhunting Specialists. Discussions were comprehensive and energized the members to seek more information on issues of interest. Conservation historian, Shane Mahoney, via recorded format, presented an illustrated review of the North American Conservation Model following a wonderful dinner and fellowship.

The Minutes of the meeting have been e-mailed to our members. Included with those minutes is a transcript of Ms. Pam Matthes presentation on the archery excise tax as she responded to member questions.

## ATA Meeting

NABC Steering Committee Regional Director (West) and President, Washington State Bowhunters, Steve Link, represented the NABC at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Archery and Bowhunting Summit Meeting held in Columbus, Ohio in December. The meeting is hosted by the Archery Trade Association and includes game agency staffers, ATA members and archery/bowhunting organizational representatives from across the U.S. This is the second ATA Summit the NABC has attended. Mike Brust represented the NABC in 2006.

Steve made a presentation on why state bowhunting organizations are vital to preserving and expanding bowhunting opportunities. Part of his talk included history and accomplishments of state bowhunting groups. His draft report is being reviewed by the Steering Committee at this writing and will be made available to the membership soon.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis R. Ballard, Steering Committee Chairman  
North American Bowhunting Coalition