

PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER OF THE QUALITY DEER MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Wildlife Biologist Jeremy Flinn and Buckscore™ to visit the Eastern Sports and Outdoors Show in Harrisburg

This year, Jeremy Flinn, Coinventor and General Manager of Buckscore™ will be teaming up with The Pennsylvania state Chapter of QDMA in their booth at the Eastern Sports and Outdoors Show in Harrisburg. In the booth, Jeremy will be demonstrating how Buckscore™ works using trail camera photograph, and also selling copies of his program to attendees of the show. Jeremy will be in the Pennsylvania QDMA booth from Saturday, February 5th, until Tuesday, February 8th.

Also, on Tuesday night, February 8th, Jeremy will be giving a "Trail Cams and Innovative Camera Surveys" seminar, sponsored by the Mason-Dixon Branch of QDMA. It will be held at the Bass Pro Shops in Harrisburg at 7 o'clock pm.

About Buckscore™

Estimating antler size of a deer "on-the-hoof" has been deemed an art rather than a science. It is a skill desired by many deer enthusiasts. Trail cameras are a favorite scouting tool and they generate pictures of bucks of unknown antler size. Estimating these characteristics from pictures can allow collection of data from pictures as part of a herd monitoring program or entertainment.

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We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.paqdma.com

or the national website at

www.qdma.org

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Buckscore™ is an educational and data collection tool for biologists and deer hunters. Developed by scientists and biologists with Mississippi State University's Deer Ecology and Management Lab the software allows users to estimate antler size of photographed white-tailed deer.

The program uses a unique set of physical features, as well as statistically-derived, models to achieve accurate estimates.

About Buckscore™ Coinventor, Jeremy Flinn

Jeremy is a registered wildlife biologist (AWB®) with The Wildlife Society. Growing up in Western Pennsylvania, Jeremy developed a passion for hunting and wildlife which guided him towards a career in wildlife management. Jeremy received his Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Science from Penn State University. While there, he was employed at the University's White-tailed Deer Research and Breeding Facility for 2 years where he gained knowledge and experience on white-tailed deer biology, management, and breeding.

Jeremy worked as a wildlife ecology intern at the world-renown, Smithsonian Institute in Virginia where he conducted research on deer home range size and movements, urban deer management and deer-vehicle collisions, harvest rates and habitat management for a variety of game species including bear and turkey, and obtained an extensive background in using trail cameras to manage wildlife.

Jeremy earned his Master of Science degree (M.S.) from Mississippi State University's Wildlife and Fisheries Program with a focus on white-tailed deer management under the guidance of famed deer biologist Dr. Steve Demarais.

While there Jeremy excelled in creating some of the most innovative trail camera and whitetail management techniques. His passion to improve deer management led to the development of BuckScore™, a computer program that estimates antler size of a photographed deer to within 2.5% of the actual score!

Now, Jeremy, along with his wife Emily, own and operate Flinn Wildlife Consulting, which is a private consulting company based out of Kentucky. Jeremy and Emily Flinn, both wildlife biologists, developed this science-based, wildlife and habitat management firm to assist landowners, lease holders, and hunt clubs in reaching their wildlife and habitat management and hunting objectives.

For more information on Buckscore™ or to obtain a copy if you are unable to be at the Eastern Sports and Outdoor show in Harrisburg this year, please visit buckscore.com, and for more information about Jeremy and his consulting business, please visit flinnconsulting.com

Student Outdoor Experience "Live Tour" Comes to Harrisburg

Student Outdoor Experience (SOE) will be hosting its Live Tour event at the Bass Pro Shops in Harrisburg on Saturday, March 26th, 2011. SOE welcomes all youth ages 4th to 12th grade.

About Student Outdoor Experience

Student Outdoor Experience (SOE) educates the Next Generation and gives them the life skills they need to be great role models and leaders. We use our passion and the backdrop of fishing, hunting and the outdoors to teach students lessons related to character, integrity and vision. This is done with a focus to preserve our heritage. At SOE we never feel like we "go to work" because our work is our love and passion. That passion is to see students become ALL they were created to be. We want them to become great leaders of homes, families, communities and the outdoors.

Student Outdoor Experience (SOE) is an organization comprised of individuals that are laser focused to educate the Next Generation and give them the tools they need to become all they were created to be. Our staff and volunteers not only have the heart and passion to lead, but the track record that reflects world-class leadership. The heartbeat of SOE is to see students become great leaders of homes, families, communities and the outdoors. In order to see this happen we must have great "partnerships" with individuals that want to

see a significant impact take place among the iPod generation.

About the SOE "Live Tour"

Student Outdoor Experience hosts the "SOE Live Tour" in local venues including Bass Pro Stores. The Live Tour is a power-packed event that is designed to teach students leadership and life skills utilizing the outdoors and our hunting heritage as a backdrop. We use hunting, fishing, camping and the entire outdoors as a tool for teaching at our high energy leadership conferences, expos and retreat weekends.

The students are introduced to well-known Celebrity Pro Staff, Professional Athletes and Leadership Experts that teach them the necessity and privilege of the outdoors based on tested leadership principles. Every student walks away with a bag filled with outdoor items and prizes and will be entered to win an iPod and new Bow to be given away at each event. Hope to see you there!

If you or your child or organization (no matter the size) would like to discuss how to participate in our Live Tour, please contact QDMA president, Rick Watts at (717) 432-3483 or at bowhawk@comcast.net

Academy seeks youth leaders energized about wildlife conservation

The Wildlife Leadership Academy is seeking youth from across the state interested in wildlife and conservation to participate in weeklong field school programs this summer.

Participants study with top wildlife biologists and managers in the state and through the program are empowered to become ambassadors for conservation, completing service and leadership projects in their home communities throughout the year.

John Felix, a principal at Donegal High School, called the program "all encompassing."

"It involves the study of biology, botany and plant science, conservation, game management...It also provides the opportunity for students to learn from authorities in these fields," he said. Instructor and professional ecologist Lisa Smith also commended the program.

"The high caliber and sheer number of conservation professionals who are involved as instructors in this camp is beyond impressive, but more than that is the commitment of time, energy and passion that each of these instructors give to the students," Smith said.

The Academy offers two field schools, each focusing on a single wildlife species.

The *Pennsylvania Bucktails* field school focuses on white-tailed deer, a species of regard in the state for wildlife watchers and hunters alike.

The second offering, *Pennsylvania Drummers* focuses on the state bird, the Ruffed Grouse.

"The Ruffed Grouse is one the most popular upland game birds and also the state bird," noted Mark Banker, regional biologist for The Ruffed Grouse Society. "The Ruffed Grouse represents a large group of wildlife that uses the most imperiled forest habitat in Pennsylvania – young forests."

The field school differs from other weeklong programs in part because students commit to participating in at least three outreach activities in their home communities after the field school experience, said Michele Kittell, the Academy's program coordinator.

"We facilitate these outreach activities, encouraging students to participate in projects beyond their required activities," Kittell said. "The conservation outreach focuses on environmental education, community service, media engagement, and/or participation in the arts. The goal of the Wildlife Leadership Academy field schools is to provide the students with the tools and knowledge to become informed leaders for wildlife conservation now and in the future."

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Graduates of the program have taken the Academy's challenge to heart, having conducted more than 210 conservation education, communication, and service projects; engaged in 846 contact hours with the public; and reached an audience of more than 6,000 people across 40 counties in the state.

Wildlife Leadership Academy is a cooperative initiative involving several state agencies and conservation organizations and is administered by the Pennsylvania Institute for Conservation Education. The program brings the knowledge and expertise of many prominent biologists, including representatives of Audubon PA, Kutztown University, Pennsylvania Game Commission, Pennsylvania State University, Quality Deer Management Association, Ruffed Grouse Society, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers directly to high school students.

Applications are now available for the 2011 field schools. Interested students can download an application by going to www.PICEweb.org and clicking on the youth programs link. This year's application deadline is April 1, 2011. PA Drummers will be held at the Powdermill Nature Reserve in Westmoreland County June 21-25. PA Bucktails will be held at Stone Valley Recreation Area in Huntingdon County July 5-9.

For more information, contact Program Coordinator Michele Kittell, at mkittell@piceweb.org or (570)245-8518.

WHITE-TAILED DEER ANTLER MEASURING AND JAWBONE AGING DISPLAY and EVENT At the 56th Annual EASTERN SPORTS & OUTDOOR SHOW

State Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg PA -
February 5-13, 2011

Co-Sponsored by: PA State Chapter-
QUALITY DEER MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION
and TRUPES QUALITY HUNTING and
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: Any legally obtained White-tailed Deer Mounted Head or Antlers (Including shed antlers) may be submitted for scoring (B & C, P & Y, PGC, NEBBC, NASHC, NMLRA) and display at the Feature Display Area of the Show. (Any North American big game species can be officially scored, as time permits, but will not be entered in prize drawing.) Entries may be left for the day, a few days or the duration of the Show. Additional chances to win prizes will be available for those entries displayed for more than the day of scoring (one ticket for each day displayed) and also for white-tailed deer lower jawbones brought in for aging (3 tickets for each jawbone.)

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ENTRY FEE/DONATION: \$15 for an Official Score, \$10 for non-official score. \$2 for each jawbone submitted for aging. Entries will be accepted every day of the show from opening until 2 hours before closing. All entrants who leave an entry for more than 1 day will be granted a half-day pass to pick up their entry at the event area on the agreed upon day at no charge. Anyone leaving an entry for display, to be picked up the last day of the Show will be admitted to the Show free of charge after noon.

Entries will be scored and aged in the order received; some delays may result based on number of measurers available and number of heads received for scoring. Every attempt will be made to score all heads received on a given day by show closing at the end of that day.

ENTRIES and JUDGING: All entries will be scored and aged according to the appropriate scoring system. (Boone and Crockett, Pope and Young, PA Game Commission, North East Big Buck Club, National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association, North American Shed Hunters Club)

Official measurers representing those organizations will be available each day of the show.

Extra fees, forms and procedures may be required for trophy entry into record books of those organizations, forms and procedures will be available from official measurers at the event.

Trained and experienced "unofficial measurers", certified by PA QDMA, will be available to measure antlers for those not requiring an "official measurement".

WINNERS OF PRIZES WILL BE DRAWN FROM A POOL OF ALL ENTRANTS- SCORE WILL NOT INFLUENCE YOUR CHANCE TO WIN.

The number of chances each entry has to win will be increased by leaving the head on display for more than the day that it is scored:

- 1 chance for entering head/antlers to be scored. (\$10 or \$15 donation)
- 1 extra chance for each full day left for display.
- 3 chances for each jawbone entered for aging. (\$2 donation)

This is so we can build a database on the age of harvested deer in PA and especially to be able to correlate the age of Bucks with Antler Size.

PRIZES: Gift certificates and various outdoor gear will be awarded to the winners. (Prizes still being solicited.)

DRAWING: Drawing for prizes will be held at 5:00 PM Sunday 2/13/11. Winners will be announced and prizes may be picked up after 5:30 PM. Winners not present Sunday will be notified by telephone and small prizes will be mailed. Winners of large items will be required to make arrangements for pick up or have it delivered at cost.

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RECOGNITION: The Highest Scoring entries in all categories will be recognized on posters at the Display Area, in the News Media, in Magazine/Newsletter articles of the sponsoring organizations and announced at the end of the Show. The display categories will be:

PA DEER: Typical and non-typical; OPEN: (Deer from other areas): Typical and non-typical;

YOUTH: Typical and non-typical; for entrants under 17 years old (when the deer was harvested); and **SHED ANTLERS .**

The results will be sent to numerous outdoor writers throughout PA and surrounding states and could show up in a number of different publications. Also, the information gained from scoring and aging and particularly correlating age with the size of a buck's antler could benefit future deer management strategies and/or programs.

CONTACTS: For Further information about the above event or sponsoring organizations contact:

Event Coordinators: Steve Trupe, 814-697-7723 or stroupe@frontiernet.net, or Tim Smail; PA QDMA; 610-269-5004 or tsmail00@aol.com

North Central PA Branch Quality Deer Management Association

"Deer Photo Raffle"

Win a FREE Muzzleloader

**Traditions Buckstalker 50cal. In-Line
Muzzleloader**

Send us a photo of your successful deer hunt and you will be entered into the free drawing for a Traditions Buckstalker 50 cal. In-Line Muzzleloader.

Photos will be posted on the NCPB website at www.ncpbqdma.org

Rules:

- a. You must be a QDMA member when photo is received by NCPB.(QDMA member's family also eligible/Spouse & Junior Hunters) (To join QDMA go to www.qdma.com).
- b. Photos must be of whitetail deer, either buck or doe.
- c. All deer must be harvested in PA during the 2010-2011 seasons.
- d. All hunts must be free range and according to game laws.
- e. Limit one photo entry per deer.
- f. The photo of you and your deer should include name, address and hunt information

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(Weapon, date, WMU, township, county, weight, antler measurements and tag number)

g. Winner will be chosen by random drawing at the North Central PA Branch's 10th Annual QDMA REACH Banquet, February, 12th, 2011. (Need not be present to win)

h. Entry deadline for drawing is February, 11th, 2011 (Must be received by date)

Please send photo, name and contact information to ncpbqdma@hotmail.com, or mail to Doug Garrison, 9676 Rt. 235, Beavertown PA, 17813.

By entering you give NCPB QDMA permission to use your photos and information.

PA QDMA "WHITETAIL FIRE POT TALKS at Eastern Sports and Outdoor Show

Come to the booth for location information

time **Saturday 2/5/2010**

11am Tim Smail

Managing Hunters and Harvest

2pm Steve Trupe

Advanced Food Plots & Habitat Improvement

5pm Jeremy Flinn

Trail Cams-getting the most from your photos

time **Sunday 2/6/2010**

11am Steve Trupe

Advanced Food Plots & Habitat Improvement

2pm Jeremy Flinn

Trail Cams-getting the most from your photos

NO SCHEDULED TALKS

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY

time **Monday 2/7/2010**

11am Jack Sorber

Hunting bobcats & coyotes w/ hounds

2:00

PM Jack Sorber

Basic food plots - 1,2,3

5pm Steve Trupe

Successful QDM Hunting Tactics

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time **Tuesday 2/8/2010**

11 Steve Trupe
Advanced Food Plots & Habitat
Improvement

2 Jack Sorber
Hunting bobcats & coyotes w/
hounds

5 Jeremy Flinn
Trail Cams-getting the most from
your photos

time **Wednesday 2/9/2010**

11am Kip Adams
Whitetail Deer Breeding Biology
2:00
PM Scott Rushe
Choosing food plot seed varieties
5:00
PM Kip Adams

6 Aging Live Whitetail Deer

time **Thursday 2/10/2010**

11am Kip Adams
Whitetail Deer Breeding Biology
2:00
PM Kip Adams
Aging Live Whitetail Deer
5:00
PM Scott Rushe
Choosing food plot seed varieties

time **Friday 2/11/2010**

11am Bob Wagner - USDA, NRCS
Gov't. funded Habitat Imp.
Programs
2:00
PM Bob Wagner - USDA, NRCS
Gov't. funded Habitat Imp.
Programs
5pm Steve Trupe
Advanced Food Plots & Habitat
Improvement

time **Saturday 2/12/2010**

11pm Gary Lewis - Patterning Individual
Bucks with Trail Cameras
2:00
PM Gary Lewis - Introduction to the 4
cornerstones of Quality Deer
Management
5:00
PM Barry Buhay
Aging Whitetails by Tooth Wear

time **Sunday 2/13/2010**

11pm Gary Lewis - Patterning Individual
Bucks with Trail Cameras
2pm Gary Lewis - Introduction to the 4
cornerstones of Quality Deer
Management



Visit the State Chapter Website at:

www.paqdma.com

Visit the National Website at:

www.QDMA.org

For information regarding this Newsletter or to
advertise in future issues, please contact the
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