

THE C.A.S.H. COURIER

THE COMMITTEE TO ABOLISH SPORT HUNTING

A DIVISION OF WILDLIFE WATCH, INC.

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Fall 2015-Winter 2016

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of C.A.S.H. - Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting - is to accomplish what its name says in the shortest possible time. Understanding that abolishing hunting entails a process, a series of steps taken and not a single action that would effect our goal overnight, a time frame cannot be established. We hope for building a succession of wins, and if not wins immediately then at least a succession of stirrings of consciousness. We hope to encourage those who are still silent to speak out, awakening community after community about the heavy hand of state and federal wildlife management agencies. We hope to alter whatever belief still exists that sport hunters are conservationists and champions of the environment to a realization that they are destroyers of wildlife and ecosystems in the narrow and broad sense. Where the natural feeling for wildlife doesn't exist, we strive to engender among citizens outrage that their own rights are violated by legal hunting and their quality-of-life diminished.

Luke A. Dommer was the founder of the Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting. He was its president from 1976 until his passing in August 1992. Mr. Dommer's research and publications served as the foundation for the anti-hunting movement. He remains, through this organization, an invaluable and dedicated warrior in the battle to save wild animals, the environment, and general public from the silent economy that encourages and preys on the passion of a few to kill the wildlife that belongs to all.

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C.A.S.H. COURIER

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FEDERAL DUCK STAMPS - FINANCING THE DESTRUCTION OF WATERFOWL SINCE 1934

Having a thorough understanding of the operations of fish and wildlife agencies helps us be more effective in our opposition to hunting on both the local and national level, and heeding Sun Tzu's advice of "know thy enemy as you know yourself" makes our wildlife protection efforts more effective on every level.

When our opposition to an effort or program is based on facts and knowledge, hunters are less able to write them off as nothing more than emotional reactions - a claim they love to throw at us.

In this article, we'll introduce you to duck stamps and explain what they are, where they came from, and where the money goes when hunters, non-hunting stamp collectors, and wildlife watchers purchase these stamps.

Federal Duck Stamps

Before hunters can legally blast away at ducks and other helpless waterfowl, they must first purchase a duck stamp. In most states, hunters need both a federal and state stamp, and these revenue-raising stamps must be signed by the hunter and affixed to his or her hunting license, to be shown to a conservation officer



upon demand in order to prove that s/he is hunting legally. Duck stamps are at once works of art and licenses to kill.

The formal name of the federal duck stamp is the "Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp." It not only allows a hunter to legally hunt ducks, geese, and other waterfowl, but it may be used to gain free entrance to national wildlife refuges that normally charge admission fees. It is a collectible for those with philatelic (stamp collecting) interests and a significant source of revenue to bolster recreational hunting programs. For each dollar spent on duck stamps, 98 cents are put into the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), which is used to purchase land and enhance habitat favorable to water-

Please see FEDERAL DUCK STAMPS, Page 3

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

“For me, I am driven by two main philosophies: know more today about the world than I knew yesterday and



lessen the suffering of others. You'd be surprised how far that gets you.” - Neil deGrasse Tyson

“The direction in which education starts a man will determine his future in life.” - Plato

As we begin a new year, the thing that stands out to me most is how much we've learned from hunters and hunting agencies by keeping an open mind and being willing to listen to what they are saying. Before your jaw falls open and you start thinking, "Has C.A.S.H. gone bonkers?" let me assure you that what we've learned from hunting agencies has not changed our position at all. In fact, it has strengthened our belief that hunting is detrimental to wildlife, habi-

tats, public safety, and society in general.

Hunting and trapping groups constantly contradict themselves by having their messages fit particular situations. Groups that steadfastly assert that trapping regulations are set through sound scientific principles are saying that California's Fish and Game Commission did not use sound science when voting to ban bobcat trapping. State officials in Minnesota have publicly stated their intentions to increase the deer herd to satisfy the wishes of hunters. New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo has exposed himself as being firmly in the camp of the hunting cartel by signing some of the most pro-hunting/anti-wildlife bills to have come through the state legislature in many years.

When you learn, you understand, and when you understand, you grow. This is especially true when it comes to wildlife and wildlife protection,

because we find that when people educate themselves about wildlife issues they begin to see that oft-spoken sound bites like "there are too few predators left" and "hunting is safer than bowling" have little basis in truth. Education and knowledge are the enemies of sport hunting, and this can be seen in the statistics published by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. As you read through this issue of the Courier you'll see pieces on these very subjects.

Thank you for supporting C.A.S.H. throughout the decades. Your support makes our work possible and we like to think that we've learned as much from you as you've learned from us. Here's to the start of a great year for knowledge and for wildlife.



Joe

SOME OF WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER...

- Taped an interview for a University of Florida. Questions included hunting and trapping to “protect” ranchers; Hunting as population control.
- **Added 2874 additional hunting accidents to the database** www.all-creatures.org/cash/accident-center.html
- Added 46 hunting violations to the website
- Tabled at Southern NM Pride Fall Fest
- LTE to the *Conway Daily Sun* (Conway, NH) responding to a hunter's claiming that hunting is safe and humane.
- LTE to the *Buffalo News* about the dangers of Coyote Trapping
- LTE to the *Buffalo News* to Ban Trapping on Grand Island. (Read the letter in the *Wildlife Watch Binocular*)
- Answered inquiries through our Facebook page on topics ranging from deer breeding farms to humane live-trapping in order to prevent yard and garden damage.
- Provided information to a large animal rights organization on hunting accidents. They wanted C.A.S.H.'s input for an article they are doing.

Teaching the Downside of Hunting



Peter and Anne Muller guest-lectured once again in October at Green Mountain College in Poultney, Vermont. They presented an anti-hunting class within a hunting course.

Peter is giving his PowerPoint program on why wildlife watching is the wave of the future and hunting is a dying sport.

Impartial Advice?

Anne & Peter Muller attended a meeting of the Catskill Forest Association Inc. (an organization that claims to give “impartial forest land advice”). Of course they promote hunting. The meeting was titled, *The Growing Deer Debate*. We'll be writing a longer report in the next issue of the C.A.S.H. Courier.



FEDERAL DUCK STAMPS

Continued from page 1

fowl and the hunters who want to kill them.

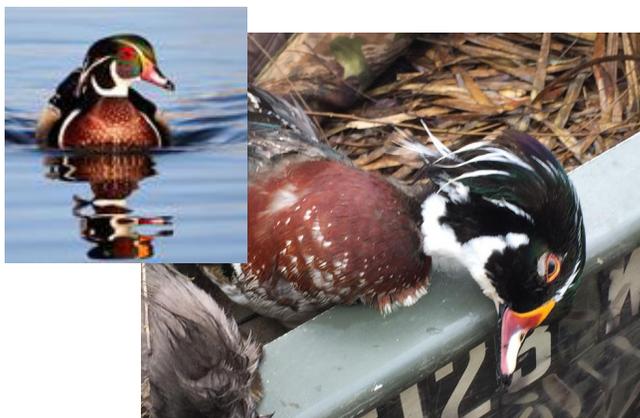
This all started when President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act on March 16, 1934. Before then, hunting waterfowl was largely unregulated and hunters killed millions of birds to sell meat to restaurants and feathers to the fashion industry. With hunting so unregulated, no organized or effective efforts

were made to preserve the areas where wild waterfowl lived, and, as a result, millions of acres of wetlands were drained and converted to farmland and developed for housing or other purposes. Predictably, bird populations couldn't withstand this attack, so waterfowl numbers plummeted significantly. Since President Roosevelt signed the duck stamp act, more than \$800 million dollars have gone into a fund that has been used to buy 5.3 million acres of wetlands for the National Wildlife Refuge System. In addition to being vital habitat for many species, wetlands help purify water, aid in flood control, and reduce soil erosion and sedimentation.

So while many of the national wildlife refuges have been paid for all or in part by duck-stamp money and millions of acres of wildlife habitat have been protected from development, there's always the "catch" that's involved when hunting agencies do anything. In this case, such habitat protection is merely a side effect of an effort that was enacted primarily to enable hunters to kill helpless ducks and other birds in perpetuity. As we've seen countless times, altruism is a foreign concept to hunters and hunting agencies.

Back in 1934 when duck stamps were first issued, 635,000 hunters bought them for only \$1 each. The price of duck stamps has risen gradually over the years, and in 2014 President Obama signed a law that brought the cost of a duck Stamp to \$25. President Obama's \$10 increase in the cost of duck stamps was requested by the FWS to help offset revenue lost by the declining number of hunters nationwide. From a peak of 2.4 million duck stamps sold in 1970, sales have declined to only 1,517,647 for the 2011-2012 killing season. It's important to note that while duck hunters die or remove themselves from the sport, the FWS reports that more than 46 million Americans count themselves as birdwatchers and this clearly shows that the hobby of wildlife watching has the potential to raise significantly more revenue for habitat protection and wildlife preservation than hunting can.

Duck stamps are a good example of how the non-hunt-



<http://www.ducks.org/news-media/photogallery/hunts/page/1>

ing public helps finance the recreational killing promoted by "conservation" agencies and organizations. Wildlife watchers, birders, nature photographers, and stamp collectors buy duck stamps to further their hobbies and investments and in so doing finance the destruction of the very animals they appreciate viewing.

Duck Stamps as Art

Each year, the FWS holds a competition to find the design

for a future stamp, making the federal duck-stamp contest the only federally legislated art competition in the country. Artists submit their original work along with an entry fee (this year's fee was \$125) to the FWS, and their work is viewed by a panel of five judges who will choose the design that ends up on the stamp. The judges chosen by FWS must have the one or more of the following prerequisites: recognized art credentials; knowledge of the anatomical makeup and the natural habitat of waterfowl; an understanding of waterfowl hunting culture; an awareness of philately and the role of duck stamps in stamp collecting; and demonstrated support for waterfowl hunting through active involvement in the conservation community. As you can see, even the judges of an art contest must be apologists for sport hunting if they want to have any involvement in the protection of waterfowl habitat through the FWS. The foxes are clearly guarding the hen house.

The artist who submits the winning design will receive publicity and media recognition, and will be given a pane of stamps signed by the secretary of the interior. S/he will also travel and be recognized as a guest speaker at national waterfowl festivals and wildlife art events (where hunting is no doubt promoted as the primary form of conservation). The winner can choose to further his/her art career by marketing their works as "by the federal duck stamp artist." Other than these perks, the artist receives no compensation for his/her work. Duck stamps are collectibles, and have increased in value over the years. Original duck stamps from the first years of issue command hundreds of dollars at auction, and selling prices at auction for the original artwork the stamps have been made from has topped \$10,000.

Sources: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Ducks Unlimited; Ebay; Brookman Stamp Company.

Visit FWS' propaganda page at <http://www.fws.gov/birds/get-involved/duck-stamp.php>

Joe Miele is the president of C.A.S.H.

On Witnessing the Florida Bear Hunt

BY SHIRLENE STUCKY

Even weeks after the Florida bear hunt came to a bloody end, animal-protection advocates were having difficulty eating, sleeping, and functioning normally. Opposition to the hunt — the first such massacre in decades, organized by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission — was fierce. We fought it long and hard. We attended meetings, held rallies, and organized statewide protests that were covered by various media outlets and involved hundreds of participants. The volunteer group Speak Up Wekiva, led by Chuck O’Neal, sought an injunction to stop the hunt — a request that was denied by Circuit Judge George Reynolds — and filed a lawsuit against the FWC, which is still pending, to prevent future bear hunts in the state.

An October 2008 *Naples Daily News* article headlined “State report suggests hunting of Florida black bears could resume” was the first that activists at the Animal Rights Foundation of Florida had heard of the possibility of a hunt being planned, according to Carla Wilson, who coordinates ARFF’s efforts in the central part of the state. “We started attending FWC meetings, bear workshops, alerting members to contact FWC and their representatives opposing the hunt, and writing letters to the editor in papers throughout Florida,” Wilson said. “As the hunt



Bryan Wilson, of the Animal Rights Foundation of Florida, with a banner on an overpass in Orlando. Photo by Carla Wilson

got closer, we held peaceful rallies outside every FWC office in Florida, all on one day, rallies outside FWC bear meetings throughout the state, and hung banners over interstates, all getting extensive and positive statewide media [coverage], calling more attention to the issue.”

It was clear early on, however, that the FWC would implement the hunt, beginning on Saturday, Oct. 24, 2015, despite the fact that 75 percent of the calls, emails, and letters the agency received from the general public voiced opposition to the slaughter.

“*Stop The Florida Bear Hunt* was formed on June 24, 2015, which is the day the hunt was approved,” Adam

Sugalski, director of Stop the Florida Bear Hunt, said. “*Our group is dedicated to fighting this hunt in 2016 and beyond. We will not rest until our black bears are safe from hunters.*”

Activists Dan and Nancy Kon coordinated hunt-monitoring efforts, placing people at check stations to take photos of the dead bears and submit hourly corpse counts to ensure that numbers were reported accurately. The Kons did the near impossible, organizing a team of 122 monitors and volunteers, who answered phones. With 3,778 bear-hunt permits issued by the FWC, we expected it to be bad, but we never could have imagined the bloodbath that was to come. On the first day, hunters in the panhandle killed 112 bears — three times the quota of 40 that the FWC had set for that area. Meanwhile, in central Florida, some check stations were so backed up that impatient hunters left without having their trophy kills weighed. The tally for the first day in central Florida was 139 dead bears, a number that far exceeded the FWC’s quota of 100 for that region.

Broken-hearted check-station monitors, who asked that their last names not be published, witnessed firsthand the horrors of the massacre.

A volunteer named Melanie, who answered phones, overheard calls reporting lactating females, cubs, and a nearly blind “grandfather bear,” who’d been something of a local legend, all being killed by hunters. One of the first calls Melanie took, from the Rock Springs Run Wildlife Management Area, was about a woman who had just killed a young, lactating female, leaving her cubs to die alone. “*Another call,*” Melanie said, “*came from a monitor who had just overheard a hunter bragging about ripping the cubs off the mama bear’s teats, while another posted on Facebook that he buried live cubs in a hole.*”

“*The revolting smell of blood, a dead sow, milk spilling from her teats into her blood, a gutted cub — these are the things I vowed to never forget. I cry every time I remember the massacre,*” a check-station monitor named Nikki said.

One dead cub killed during the hunt weighed only 46 pounds.

“*The bear hunt left me with horrid memories that will never disappear,*” a monitor named Astevia said. “*Before that awful day, I had never seen black bears in person. To my surprise, I reported the first bear killed during this massacre. This was a lactating female whose breasts were still dripping milk. When I finished the phone call, I went to the back of the station and cried. I mentioned to the FWC’S law-enforcement employees about how that was a*

Please see **FLORIDA BEAR HUNT** Page 5

Florida Bear Hunt

Continued from page 4



A victim of the Florida bear hunt. Photo by Thomas Allison

lactating mother and that bear was not supposed to be hunted. They ignored what we said, and that girl left with her bear. I still mourn the unnecessary demise of this mama bear.”

The bear hunt was called off by the FWC on the second day, Sunday, Oct. 25, as the body count climbed to 295, nearing the agency’s quota of 320. That number, however, did not reflect the number of bears reported by hunters to have been injured and left in the woods, slain motherless or unborn cubs, poached bears, or those bears whose



Slain bears arrive at a check station. Photo by Thomas Allison

lifeless bodies were not presented at check stations. While the actual number of bears slaughtered in October 2015 might never be known for sure, the FWC later updated its total of slain bears to 304, including 36 lactating females.

A week after the hunt, on Sunday, Nov. 1, 2015, following memorials in various locales, a ceremony was held at Lake Eola, in Orlando. It was attended by roughly 200 people. After honoring the slaughtered bears and all the activists who protested and monitored the hunt, a group of children led us to a coffin where we left pictures, flowers,



Left to right: Bryan Wilson (Animal Rights Foundation of Florida), Matt Schwartz (South Florida Wildlands Association), Chuck O’Neal (Speak Up Wekiva), Doris O’Neal, Adam Sugalski (Stop the Florida Bear Hunt), Nancy Kon, Dan Kon, and Fred Bohler (former Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission bear-response agent), at a memorial for slaughtered bears. Photo by Barry Vaught

gifts, and pieces of our hearts. We signed wooden bears sculpted by Jim Bronzo that were to be presented at a FWC meeting in Tallahassee.

Later, we received some good news. Speak Up Wekiva Director Chuck O’Neal announced his intention to run for a seat in the Florida House of Representatives. He authored the Florida Black Bear Habitat Restoration Act, which was introduced by state Sen. Darren Soto and is being cosponsored by state Rep. Mark Pafford.

Many of us have been taught by the community-building nonprofit organization 1000 Friends of Florida how to lobby, and we plan to get more one-on-one training in that area. Our work will continue, as the state’s plans for a 2016 bear hunt are already in the works — as is a plan to delist Florida panthers under the Endangered Species Act, so that monsters like FWC Vice Chair Aliese Priddy can add more trophies to their Halls of Dead Things.

And the insanity continues. On Nov. 14, at FWC Commissioner Ron Bergeron’s Green Glades Ranch, in Weston, Florida, Gov. Rick Scott received an award from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Foundation for his *conservation* efforts. We were there to protest that incredible insult.

In the weeks after the bear hunt came to an end, two cubs were hit by cars and one was found floating in the Suwannee River. More such tragedies are expected, as cubs come out of hiding to find food. That reality continues to break our hearts each and every day.

Shirlene Stucky lives near Orlando, Florida, and participates in events organized by the Animal Rights Foundation of Florida and Speak Up Wekiva, among other organizations.

THE MUTE SWAN: THE INTERNATIONAL SYMBOL OF WORLD PEACE UNDER ATTACK

BY SHEILA BOLIN

Mute swans, the international "Symbol of World Peace," are under attack as New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo has once again vetoed bill S1555 protecting this important indicator species in New York.

The mute swan was given the prestigious peace title by both the United States and the world in the early 1960s, but due to hunting interests and blatant misinformation disseminated by wildlife officials, the bird has suddenly become the poster child for the campaign against invasive species in New York and across the United States.

This is the second time both the New York Senate and New York Assembly have overwhelmingly passed a bill to protect the mute swan! What taxpayers aren't being told is that the research justifying this massive eradication campaign by New York's Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and other wildlife agencies was never conducted. This was readily admitted to by wildlife officials during the International Swan Symposium held in Maryland in 2014!

In fact, current scientific research by some of the world's leading swan and wetland habitat specialists, as well as scientists, disputes many of the arguments being used to condemn the mute swans in New York and across the United States. Current scientific research identifies the mute swan as a critical indicator species alerting scientists to changes in the environment including heavy metals and harmful microorganisms.

The New York DEC even admits in its latest plan that the mute swan is indeed a sentinel species but continues to ignore this research in its effort to kill 1,400 wild, healthy mute swans

and mutilate another 800. This is being conducted through taxpayer monies with no scientific research, no National Environmental Policy Act studies, and, most importantly, no real mute swan counts, which according to Atlantic Flyway Commission members, has never been conducted throughout the United States.

The real reason this eradication program is being conducted is to clear mute swans from areas that will be highly conducive for the introduction of the larger trumpeter swan for trophy waterfowl hunting to increase wildlife coffers. Trumpeter swan eggs were transported from Alaska, at taxpayer expense, to the Milwaukee Zoo, where they are incubated, and then the birds, once mature, were released into areas that they have never inhabited. Michigan wildlife officials admitted at the International Swan Symposium that the program was not sustainable and would run out of money soon. The number of trumpeters released in Yellowstone National Park by wildlife officials diminished quickly when they weren't being supplementarily fed by these same wildlife officials. In effect, these hand-raised birds were not able to live in a wild setting. Yet, these programs continue to exist and misinformation regarding the mute swan is perpetrated so that the eradication programs and trumpeter-introduction programs can continue at taxpayer expense.

Mute swans are constantly mislabeled by wildlife officials as a detriment to native species, as being highly aggressive, and as a species that produces high nitrogen levels to the environment. Yet, when wildlife officials are asked to specifically produce the scientific evidence used to make these assumptions, these same offi-

cial can only quote anecdotal data.

What New York DEC officials and others aren't telling taxpayers is that while mute swans are being classified as invasive and non-native, New York's DEC and other U.S. wildlife agencies continue to introduce and release Asian pheasants and brown trout into the environment on an annual basis. In New York alone, approximately 30,000 Asian pheasants and 1.8 million brown trout are released annually. These two species have been shown through current scientific research to be highly detrimental to the environment and native species. The European trout has been labeled by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as one of the world's top 100 most invasive species.

Yet, the New York DEC continues to introduce these highly invasive and non-native species so that monies can be generated through hunting permits and licenses. The looming question for New York taxpayers and Gov. Cuomo is: Why is New York's DEC allowed to ignore current scientific research and kill mute swans while violating its own non-native and invasive species laws by introducing Asian pheasants and European trout? More important, how are the New York DEC and other wildlife agencies allowed to capriciously label any type of wildlife as invasive or non-native simply to benefit their needs at any given time?

How does New York's DEC justify the killing of an entire species, the mute swan, in the name of conservation, when it economically impacts the citizens and the state of New York? According to the New York DEC's 2013-2014 "Environmental

Please see **MUTE SWAN**
Story, Page 7

MUTE SWAN

Continued from page 6

Conservation" Executive Budget, "hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses generate approximately \$47 million per year that is deposited into the Conservation Fund." The New York DEC's own website touts its implementation of New York's Watchable Wildlife Program with wildlife-related events across the state, because, "birds are big business in New York," contributing approximately \$4.2 billion in tourism through bird watching and photography.

With this in mind, how can New York's DEC continue to justify the killing of mute swans without any scientific research, while going against the wishes of both the taxpayers and politicians in New York? More important, why didn't Gov. Cuomo sign this bill into law to protect the international "Symbol of World Peace?"

Sheila A. Bolin, CEO, The Regal Swan Foundation, Inc.



Sheila Bolin

Sheila Bolin's Credentials

- Sheila Bolin is the CEO/president and cofounder of The Regal Swan® Foundation, Inc., based in Orlando, Florida. Bolin serves on the RSF's education/research/veterinary team, has coauthored two swan-care and habitat-related books, conducted numerous swan-education workshops, co-published veterinary care and habitat-related articles for numerous journals and magazines, and has appeared on television, radio, and other media for her work with swans. Since 2005, she has served as an Ask the Swan Specialist for the Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada-based website www.stanley-park-swans.com.

- Bolin was named one of the top 28 conservationists in the world by the prestigious 2016 Indianapolis Prize for her work with the world's species of swans.

- In 2014, Bolin spoke at the International Swan Symposium held in Easton, Maryland. This symposium hosted some of the world's leading swan experts.

- In 2014, Bolin was named one of the top 39 conservationists in the world by the Indianapolis Prize.

- In 2013, the Regal Swan Foundation, Inc., was named the recipient of the prestigious international John Muir Non-Profit for Conservation Award for its research work with swans.

- In 2010, Bolin was named Scientist of The Month by the Gland, Switzerland-based International Union for the Conservation of Nature for her swan research work. Bolin also serves as a member of the UCN's Swan Specialists Group.

Visit their FB page at:

www.facebook.com/The-Regal-Swan-Foundation-Inc-128553688262/

REINTRODUCTION OR INTRODUCTION OF TRUMPETERS?

We do need legislators to understand that within the game bureau's distorted view that animals have been put on this earth to be mere recipients of bullets and arrows, their need to introduce wildlife is of high importance. It allows them to receive more Pittman-Robertson funds. The introduction of trumpeters has been a long time in the making. I recall being at the Flyway meeting in the mid-1990s at which they were gloating over an obscure citation that showed that a trumpeter had been discovered in the 1800s in NYS. It was the pathetically flimsy "proof" upon which they could justify managing wildlife for a reintroduction of a species allegedly native to New York State, rather than introducing a non-native species to NYS. One of the possible areas for this introduction is Savannah Dhu, a canned hunt area privately owned by a mall developer, and large political contributor, in the Syracuse area of central NYS.



Governor Cuomo at Savannah Dhu.

ELECTED OFFICIALS ILL-EQUIPPED FOR DEER DISCUSSION

BY TAFFY WILLIAMS

ORIGINAL SUBMITTED AS AN OP-ED:

This is from a letter to public officials of Mamaroneck and Rye, New York, in response to a proposal to slaughter a local population of deer:



I attended the deer-management meeting in Mamaroneck on Sept. 25, 2015, which in many ways, except for trying to halt — or make sense of — the madness of a deer cull, was a complete waste of taxpayers' and my time.

Wildlife biologist Kevin Clark repeated the idea that deer are “overpopulated” in Mamaroneck and that bow-and-arrow hunting is the preferred cull method, but he failed to consider that deer are transient, wide-ranging foragers, and travel a specific habitual route around their home range through the night and, infrequently, during the day. Clark failed to consider or discuss that this could be and is most likely a small population of no more than 20-30 deer roaming through Mamaroneck and Rye on their constant quest for food and thus survival, and being RECOUNTED CONTINUALLY, thus INFLATING THE NUMBERS. One person sees a handful of deer in the Rye Marshlands, and they believe there are a dozen deer there. In the course of the evening or day, the deer move to the Read Conservancy, and someone sees them and claims there

are a dozen more deer there. The deer move to another wooded area and are seen and counted as another dozen deer. This goes on and on 24/7. Thus people erroneously believe there are “hundreds of deer” roaming through Mamaroneck. Clark failed to discuss this basic deer behavior in connection with population assessment, instead hammering home his biased belief that there is a serious overpopulation, and that the “deer problem” must and should be solved by slaughtering them.

THERE IS NO PROOF THAT THERE ARE MORE THAN 20-30 DEER IN MAMARONECK! Without an accurate population assessment there is no point in having this debate, or even speculating on the “final solution” to the deer problem. In fact, unlike in Hitler’s Germany, there is no “final solution” for the deer. If you eradicate this small herd, others outside will reproduce and move in to take its place. It is a small herd being recounted over and over again. A CULL IS UNJUSTIFIED. The only benefit to this cull is to the HUNTERS who have a fun, sporting day while harming the sensitivities of this entire

village who LOVE WILDLIFE, WANT TO SEE ANIMALS PROTECTED, AND OBJECT STRENUOUSLY TO ANY KILL-MANAGEMENT PLAN.

Westchester County’s “deer management specialist,” John Baker, is a non-credible member of the pro-hunting faction and has shown that such a group cannot be counted on to give accurate assessments of any deer population. The numbers presented by Baker of Westchester County in February 2015, are grossly exaggerated to justify kill permits: 74 deer per one-quarter square mile, or roughly 300 deer per square mile in Mamaroneck! This would be like deer rush hour at Grand Central Terminal, with 1,800 deer roaming the little six-square-mile village! This is absurd and cannot be believed. Even Clark, a wildlife biologist, agreed! Later, after the public ridicule of these outrageous hunting-skewed inflated numbers emerged, Westchester County officials admitted that the counting method was invalid! Westchester County and Baker’s team should be banned from any counting of wildlife due to their pro-hunting bias and record of inaccuracies. Whether they lied to deliberately mislead the public and increase the fear-mongering call for deer-slaughter or not, when it comes to population assessment of wildlife, Westchester County gets an F for FAILURE, and should be completely and permanently banned from the process.

Please see DEER DISCUSSION Story, Page 9

DEER DISCUSSION

Continued from page 8

In fact, as a New York State Department of Environmental Conservation wildlife rehabilitator, I am herewith requesting to participate in the “deer count” process by whatever method is used. Each deer should have an unmistakable photographic identification, which is a very simple and easy process to accurately assess the small herd that is struggling to survive in Mamaroneck. If I am prevented from participating, I and my colleagues will conduct our own population identity assessment and publish this information widely, door to door if necessary.

NO CULL SHOULD BE APPROVED UNTIL AN ACCURATE POPULATION ASSESSMENT IS PROVIDED, INCLUDING CARRYING CAPACITY ANALYSIS — NOT BY WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOWHUNTERS ASSOCIATION, OR ANY FIREARM OR BOWHUNTING-ASSOCIATED ORGANIZATION, AND NOT WITHOUT COMPLETE OVERSIGHT BY A TEAM OF SHARPEYED AND CREDIBLE LICENSED WILDLIFE REHABILITATORS.

For this reason, the Sept. 25, 2015, meeting that discussed “deer management” falls short of having any value at all, simply because WE DON'T HAVE AN ACCURATE COUNT of how many deer are actually trying to survive in Mamaroneck! Until that assessment is made, any cull is a waste of taxpayers' money and threatens to exterminate a small, rare and perhaps still viable local population of these ruminants.

The unfortunate appellation “deer tick” is the term for the black-legged tick, or *Ixodes scapularis*. Sadly, the victims of this disease blame deer, but deer are only a small part of the



vector that carries infected ticks. I have pulled ticks from small mammals and even birds! Clark failed to point out that the black-legged tick is found on mice, squirrels, birds, raptors, fox, raccoon, possum, in fact any warm-blooded land-based species. To blame deer for someone's Lyme disease is giving credibility to an old wives' tale that grew out of misnaming this tick the “deer tick” because a black-legged tick was once found on a deer. Blaming deer is misleading. **We can't exterminate all birds and mammals. But we can be honest with the public.**

There are many factors that determine the “carrying capacity” of a suburban landscape such as Mamaroneck. The overwhelming factors are the presence of suitable vegetation for food, and relative safety (cover). Busy, vehicle-congested Mamaroneck provides little of either. Mayor Norman Rosenblum stated at the meeting that people have complained about deer all throughout Mamaroneck. Is that supposed to include the heavy commercial districts of Mamaroneck Avenue, Route 1, and the train station?

WE ARE DEMANDING A FULL DISCLOSURE OF COMPLAINTS: how many, contact information for verification, location of complaint, due to the proven erroneously inflated numbers of deer purported by the pro-kill faction of the panel at this meeting. We simply don't believe it. **FOR EVERY ONE COMPLAINT,** there are 1,000

PRO-LIFE WILDLIFE SUPPORTERS who are screaming, “DON'T TOUCH OUR DEER!”

I strongly protest the following:

1. Members of the panel were bowhunters and promoted the sport of bowhunting and the “pro-kill” faction. There were no “pro-life” wildlife biologists, a rejection that reflects the intensely pro-kill bias of the bowhunters on the panel.

2. Wildlife Biologist Kevin Clark stated, “Bow and arrows kills deer within 30 seconds. I know, because I've done it. It is the most humane method of controlling deer.” As he spoke I held up an enlarged poster/photo showing a deer with a long time festering wound from an arrow that had gone through her head. The deer is surviving with this arrow still embedded in her head, and is at ground-level feeding. The use of bow-and-arrow hunting is neither accurate, quick, nor humane. Yet this completely erroneous attitude is blared out to the public as though with absolute authority. This clear deception is **MOST OBJECTIONABLE.**

3. Options other than “kill” were explored only briefly and dismissed! Only public commentators elaborated on the success of non-lethal deer management, a sad reflection of the

Please see **DEER DISCUSSION** Story, Page 10

DEER DISCUSSION

Continued from page 9

goals of the panel!

4. On this biased panel, there were no wildlife rehabilitators who work closely with deer and have "hands-on" knowledge of their behaviors and population trends.

5. Pro-life members of the audience were continually cut off while pro-kill commenters were allowed to speak without restriction. **This meeting was conducted unfairly.** (Video: <http://Imctv.org/>)

6. Bowhunters promoted bowhunting as the best method of management. This panel should not be promoting a special interest, in this case, bowhunting.

7. There were no women on the panel.

8. The high incidence of hunting accidents from bow-and-arrow and firearm hunting was not addressed. Hunting in small Mamaroneck

threatens public health and safety and greatly increases risk of death and injury to either hunters themselves, or the innocent public or their pets and property. The major issue of liability coverage for the proposed spree of deer killing was not even addressed until I brought it up during my comments which were improperly and unjustly halted by Mayor Rosenblum.

Proposing the hunting of deer in densely human-populated Mamaroneck is both inconsiderate of the consequences with respect to public health and safety and dismissive of the thousands of people who derive some small infrequent pleasure from seeing deer! Observing deer is a thrill, especially to children, and a comfort. The proof that deer are still surviving here "comforts" hopeful people into believing that humans haven't "destroyed everything" after all,

despite whether that is true or not!

I was a WRITE-IN candidate (G), (R), for Westchester County Legislator, District 15, currently held by incumbent Gordon Burrows, on Nov. 3, 2015.

[Although Taffy lost this election, she will be back and we trust that her political future is bright.]

Taffy Williams is a Class One Wildlife Rehabilitator in New York State; president, **New York Whale and Dolphin Action League** (www.ny4whales.org) a 501(c)3 non-profit for whales; member, board of directors, **Cetacean Society International**; and a member of the **New York Whale and Dolphin Action League**. She may be contacted at: tlwilliams@optonline.net

BIG BORE AIR-RIFLE HUNTING

BY GOOSEWATCHNYC

According to New York Department of Environmental Conservation Acting Commissioner Basil Seggos, "The popularity of air-powered firearms is growing, largely because of technological advancements ... These modern firearms produce the force necessary to efficiently harvest big game animals. In addition, because big bore air rifles are not as loud as conventional rifles or shotguns, allowing their use may make hunting more acceptable in locations with higher human densities, including areas where deer are overabundant."

We oppose this proposal, in part because:

- The big-bore air rifle is so powerful that the bullets go right through their victims, causing wildlife to slowly bleed to death rather than being killed instantly.

- According to the DEC, "One of the advantages of using air-powered rifles is that they're not as loud as conventional rifles or shotguns, making them more acceptable in locations with



Hunter uses bore air-rifle to kill a boar.

higher human densities and overpopulations of deer." Last year, New York State reduced setback distances from 500 feet to 150 feet for vertical bows and 250 feet for crossbows. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services program is currently considering environmental assessment, which allows for and encourages lethal deer management, including hunting, across New York State. Do you want big-bore rifles being used to hunt deer near your home? This is the direction the DEC seems to be taking us.

- Gun sales fund the DEC Bureau of Wildlife's budget, and so the agency promotes sport hunting and other policies that enable and encourage the destruction rather than the protection of wildlife (like the recent proposal to eliminate mute swans in New York). Across the country, government agencies in charge of protecting wildlife are profiting off their slaughter.

If you care about wildlife in New York State and oppose sport hunting, please speak out. Public comments will be accepted through Feb. 8, 2016, by email to WildlifeRegs@dec.ny.gov (include "air rifle regulations" in the subject line) or by writing to: Bryan L. Swift, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Bureau of Wildlife, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4754.

Big Bore Air Rifle (Source: *New York Daily News*)

Thank you to **GooseWatchNYC** for sounding the alarm visit: www.goosewatchnyc.com

IT'S THE "BUREAU OF WILDLIFE" (BOW) NOT THE "DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION"!

BY ANNE MULLER

Through their elected representatives, the public made it clear that mute swans were not to be crippled and killed, not at least before public hearings were to be convened, allowing for unbiased experts and other individuals to provide input. The will of the New York State Legislature was on the side of giving the swans a fair hearing. Gov. Cuomo's second veto blocked that democratic process and allows for the annihilation and crippling of the mute swans. It serves only a tiny minority that wanted to introduce a wilder and thus more huntable swan species to New York State.

The governor once again expressed his allegiance to what is essentially a rogue bureau operating within the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

In C.A.S.H.'s opinion, it's important to tease apart the Bureau of Wildlife (using their cynical acronym "BOW") from the larger more diverse agency it is exploiting for both credibility and financial support. We urge wildlife protectors to stop calling the Bureau of Wildlife "the DEC," and isolate it (at least linguistically) for its unique and narrow purpose, financing, and public perception. If we continue to refer to BOW as the DEC, we will never be able to do that. We are now conflating two entities: the umbrella agency that operates with general-fund monies on behalf of the general public, and the Bureau of Wildlife that operates parasitically within the larger department and operates with firearms excise taxes, hunting-permit fees, and overhead paid for with general funds. For every three dollars of federal Pittman-Robertson tax given to the state, \$1 of state money has to match it. That can come from hunting permits "or wherever." The "wherever" is quite vague

and needs investigation.

BOW collects license fees from hunters, trappers, and anglers. The agency is tasked with making weapons available for use against animals for the excise taxes on firearms and bows and arrows that are distributed to states by the federal government. They are apportioned according to the number of hunting permits sold relative to the land mass and total population of hunters in the state. That's why Alaska and Texas always top the list of recipients of the Pittman-Robertson (P-R) tax: they have lots of land and a high population of hunters within the overall population.

While the anti-gun groups and politicians rant against crimes committed with firearms, they give hunting a pass, showing no understanding (possibly intentionally) of the inextricable relationship between gun use and the Conservation Fund whose money can only be used to promote more use of firearms.

In New York State, the larger department is called the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Other state environmental departments may be called the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). But in every state, the P-R tax goes to their respective bureaus of wildlife. Since the excise taxes are paid at the point of manufacture or import, and end up in the Conservation Fund, the taxes could be not only from legal hunting and culls in forests and parks, but from guns used in drug-related crimes in cities as well.

Whether gun users are licensed or unlicensed, whether victims are human or non-human animals, it is irrelevant to the funding of all state bureaus of wildlife.

In 1987, in the classic publication by the Department of Interior, *Restoring America's Wildlife*, it says, "To divert the special funds ... to other purposes, no matter how noble, would betray their valuable contribution to a public resource." The book, which is really an expose of the machinations of the original linking of wildlife management to the success of the firearms industry, gloats that "the crimes bill passed, but the provision that would have removed the handgun tax from P-R was deleted beforehand."

To spare our wild animals and ecology, and remove the dependency on firearms money, several things need to be done:

1. The public needs to DEMAND (it will take an act of Congress) that to the extent that crime has paid into the Conservation Fund, those funds must be used for the victims of gun crime, their medical expenses, funeral expenses, and families left behind with loss of income.

2. The public needs to demand that bureaus of wildlife manage wildlife watching and derive income from such products as cameras, birdseed, binoculars, tents, etc. Considering the huge numbers of those items, even a 50 cent tax could yield millions or billions of dollars. Careful oversight is needed to be sure the funds are not diverted to the old guard.

Those are simple changes, but not simple to get, given our slow-as-molasses system and the battle that will take place.

First, the public has to understand, then elected representatives need to understand and carry out the public's will.

For starters, let's stop referring to BOW as the DEC.

THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS AGAINST ILLEGAL GUNS SAYS, IN EFFECT, HUNTERS ARE ANGELS

C.A.S.H. has listened incredulously over the years as alleged "anti-gun" proponents constantly support hunting while they try to split allegiance to the NRA. Yet, hunters are the smaller part of the NRA and they will solidly stick with the NRA on any legislation that tries to inject any sanity into the present gun laws (or lack thereof).

Once again, we have to point out the why and wherefore of hunting's connection to crime and other gun use, and reiterate that until hunting's connection to the firearms industry is severed, the problems of guns will NOT go away.

We urge you to read our previous articles that describe in detail how the funding works. One such article can be seen here:

<http://www.all-creatures.org/cash/cc2013-wi-hunting.html>

While game agencies declare that hunters pay for wildlife conservation and foot their bills, an investigation is needed into BOW's portion of the state's General Fund and what percentage of their income it constitutes. The analysis should include salaries for staff at all levels, outreach costs,

transportation, use of products, legal services, printing services, public relations, etc. all done for less than 5% of the population, the hunters.

AM



THE MYTH OF ETHICAL HUNTING

BY ASHLEY PANKRANTZ

Reprint of letter to the editor in the *Democrat & Chronicle*

People who live in the country know how deeply embedded the tradition of deer hunting is in rural culture. Sportsmen's clubs abound, antler decals line truck windows, and camouflage is dress code, even off-season. Gutted deer hang from swingsets and trees in early winter, and if gunshots disturb non-hunters, most still approve of hunting as a means to control population, stock one's freezer, and reduce motor-vehicle accidents.

Not everyone, however, supports the "harvesting" of wildlife.

I'm no stranger to the country. I grew up in a rural community and live in one now. I have friends who hunt. My partner hunted for most of his life - until one day, when he "thought about it too much."

In July, the public's complex relationship with hunting became national conversation in the wake of Cecil the Lion's killing in Zimbabwe. Although I, too, felt disgust, I had to wonder how Cecil's case differed from the millions of wild-lives hunted domestically each year. What defines hunting as ethical, and who is the eth-

ical hunter? Does it matter to the animal whether he is hunted for trophy or meat? Is his suffering justified if he's consumed by a modern human whose dietary choices abound?

The response to Cecil's death suggests that although most people care about animal welfare while supporting "ethical" hunting, they haven't fully imagined the agony of animals. All mammals, whether farmed or hunted, experience pain and fear, nurse their young like humans, and have interior lives. Humans are not predators in the way of wolves or coyotes. Humans have choice. We possess the unique capability to respond to others empathetically.

Empathy is imagining. So if you haven't yet imagined what happens every fall, the hunting community can help. Here's what you do once you've shot your deer: You wait. According to the International Hunter Education Association's website, "Wait 30 minutes before following it. For bowhunters, wait an hour if possible. Hits outside the heart/lung area require a longer wait of about four to six hours." The Big Game Logic website advises the hunter to "go have



<http://tinyurl.com/ethicalhunter>

lunch" and come back later. And while you wait, your deer - never the weakest of the species, but the strongest and healthiest - suffers immeasurably.

Hunting will not disappear overnight, nor in my lifetime. We can, however, initiate meaningful conversation that acknowledges both the suffering of animals and the human potential for empathy.

Ashley Pankratz is a resident of Mount Morris, Livingston County.

This led to a program on public radio upstate New York. Ashley was pitted against two hunters, giving her one-third of the airtime, but she did extremely well.

CUOMO'S VETO OF SWAN BILL ALLOWS SWANS TO BE KILLED AND CRIPPLED IN NEW YORK

BY PETER MULLER

Gov. Cuomo has made it clear that his close connection to the Bureau of Wildlife (BOW) (aka DEC) takes precedence over the will of the public and the New York State Legislature.

His cronyism with the bureau that is beholden to hunters and survives on firearms money was the root of his veto of the common popular, common sense "Swan Bill," which merely called for a two-year moratorium on the killing of mute swans in New York State so that unbiased experts and the public could weigh in on the BOW's annihilation plans for this beloved bird.

Basically, Gov. Cuomo has placed the regulatory process above legislative control. This is another lesser known way in which binding and enforceable "rules" can come about: through regulation promulgated by state agencies. These rules have the force of laws but were never voted on by an elected legislature. Normally, the rules are considered necessary by "experts" working for state agencies in an area such as environmental protection or consumer protection.

We should become aware that this way of "fast-tracking" rules has dangers associated with it. Legislators were elected by the public and can be voted out of office if they fail to serve the public's interest. Regulators are appointed to positions or are employees without the assent of the voters affected by their decisions. It has become customary in both federal and state appointments to appoint "experts" from within the areas they are to regulate. Since those "experts" are steeped in the cultures and ways of the regulated enterprises, it is common, not surprisingly, for those "experts" to promulgate and enforce regulations which reflect the de facto culture and practices of these very entities that are supposed to be regulated. This obviously results in the fox guarding the chicken coop.

Just looking at this scheme to promulgate laws, without the involvement of any elected officials, by appointees largely from the field that is to be regulated, should raise serious doubts about the wisdom of such an arrangement.

The specific case that in our view illustrates the danger of regulatory abuse is the New York State's Bureau of Wildlife's promulgation of a plan to kill or cripple ALL mute swans in the state of New York.

The BOW's original proposal cited the view of some "in-house experts" that mute swans are damaging to the environment. That opinion was challenged with rational criticism by academic and NGO experts outside of BOW.

The evidence and arguments presented by the scientific community were so compelling that the state legislature

stepped in and, in 2014, passed legislation requiring a moratorium and an objective scientific assessment of BOW's proposal by an overwhelming majority.

The governor then vetoed the 2014 will of the legislature.

In 2015, the legislature again passed a law halting BOW's grotesque proposal to kill or cripple all the mute swans in the state, again by an overwhelming majority.

The people of New York have spoken, unambiguously, through their elected legislators. The people of the State of New York do not want the mute swans in the state killed or crippled.

The governor has again vetoed the bill against the express demands of the voters of the State of New York and their elected lawmakers.



<http://tinyurl.com/killingmutes>

Have we surrendered lawmaking to special interests who, in collusion with a governor, can pass de facto laws at their pleasure?

We, the voters, have to take back the lawmaking function of our government and not allow our wild animals to be destroyed. We need to bring the regulatory process under the control of the legislatures.

**WE URGE YOU, THE HUMANE
VOTER, TO JOIN THE LEAGUE OF
HUMANE VOTERS:
WWW.LOHV.ORG**

Peter Muller, former director, the League of Humane Voters/NYS

ASK UNCLE JOE



BY JOE MIELE

GOT A QUESTION FOR UNCLE JOE? YOU CAN E-MAIL IT TO CASH@ABOLISHSPORTHUNTING.ORG. WOULD YOU RATHER SNAIL MAIL YOUR QUESTION? SEND IT TO:

**ASK UNCLE JOE,
P.O. Box 13815, LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO 88013**

UNCLE JOE GETS A LOT OF MAIL SO DON'T BE OFFENDED IF HE CANNOT ANSWER YOUR QUESTION IN THE COURIER.

LETTERS ARE PRINTED AS RECEIVED. THEY ARE UNEDITED.

Dear Uncle Joe:

I keep reading about contraception programs for deer and how they can effectively reduce deer populations and I don't understand why such programs are not more commonplace. Hunters obviously are not in favor of them, but why won't towns support them when most people would rather see contraception than hunting?

Annie G.
Lancaster, PA

Hello Annie:

From everything I've read, the primary reason more towns do not use immunocontraception programs is the expense of such programs. Some township officials claim to oppose immunocontraception for other reasons (the drugs are still considered "experimental"), but for the most part it comes down to dollars and cents. In addition to the initial cost of drugs and the labor to trap deer and administer the drugs, certain drugs are effective for only five or six years, after which the deer will have to be re-trapped and injected once again. It's a labor-intensive practice, and when compared with the relatively low cost or costless options of hiring "sharpshooters" or allowing hunters to kill the deer, many municipalities prefer to go the cheaper route.

A technique that shows promise for the future of humane deer control is surgically spaying the does. It's a program that is showing to be effective everywhere it's tried and it can be done with volunteer veterinarians and vet techs to reduce the cost of the program. Since the surgeries only need to be done once, no follow-up is needed once the deer are released. Surgical spaying is less expensive and more effective than immunocontraception in the long run, and while it's a program we'd like to see more of, we'd really like to see more understanding of wildlife by those who now complain about deer and other species. That will cause less killing than anything else.

Peace,
Uncle Joe

Dear Uncle Joe:

The residents of my city are causing a ruckus at City Council meetings because there have been a few recent occurrences of coyotes wandering neighborhoods at night and running off

with small dogs. They want to start trapping the coyotes and shooting them just outside the city limits and have suggested that police officers could carry out the killing. Because I've spoken up at the meetings and have told the city just what I think of their plan, I'm now being harassed by hunters who have been leaving notes on my car and on my front door. I'm not afraid of them because I know it takes a coward to kill a helpless animal, but I did report it to the police, who told me they can't do anything about it without knowing who is leaving the notes. I didn't really expect anything from them in the first place. Sorry to vent, but I hate the way people jump to the conclusion of "kill them" any time something happens with a coyote around here.

Margaret
Anytown, USA

Dear Margaret:

What you write about is typical of the mentality of the slimeball hunter — when someone disagrees and is willing to fight them about it, they begin making anonymous threats without having the guts to say anything to your face.

Because coyotes have adapted very well to human development, conflicts sometimes arise. Reports of dogs and cats going missing after coyote sightings are not uncommon, but what's tragic is that such incidents can be avoided entirely by keeping Fluffy and Fido indoors when not closely supervised or leashed. We hate hearing reports of coyotes running off with pets, not just because we feel for the pets, but because we know that such incidents will be seized upon by hunting cartels that will attempt to frighten residents into thinking that coyotes are bloodthirsty monsters who are eating cats and dogs only because they can't sink their teeth into children.

We suggest you keep speaking out on behalf of the coyotes and at the next City Council meeting, bringing with you some factual information about the canines and what people can do to increase their appreciation of wildlife and protect their companion animals from harm. Also be sure to bring information proving that coyote killing increases their populations — you can find plenty on the C.A.S.H. website by using our search feature. And keep documenting the threatening notes. Even though you're most likely right that the cowards will not do

anything, you can use the notes to build a nice case against them should you catch them in the act.

Peace,
Uncle Joe

Dear Uncle Joe:

I read on your Facebook page that the perpetrator of a recent mass shooting was a hunter. I cannot say that I am surprised. What does surprise me is that the link between animal abuse and people killing people is not taken seriously enough. There have been Facebook petitions to create a national animal abuse registry but I don't think anything has resulted from them. What I would like to see is hunting recognized as an animal abuse crime. Then we could watch these people and possibly prevent future terrorist attacks.

Ben G.
Gilbert, AZ

Dear Ben:

Little by little, law enforcement is catching up with what we already know — that cruelty to animals is often a precursor to violent crimes against people. That's not to say that animal cruelty is only a problem because it might lead to violence against people, but that it's being recognized that those who are cruel to animals can easily become dangerous to people. Will hunting, trapping, and fishing soon be put in the same category as other forms of violence against animals? We probably will not see that any time soon, but perhaps things will start moving in that direction as authorities begin to recognize that mass shooters tend to be hunters more often than not.

We'd like to see the psychiatric community recognize the desire to hunt, trap, and fish as a mental illness that requires serious attention. Most would consider someone to be mentally ill if he or she enjoys killing dogs and cats the way "sportsmen" routinely enjoy killing other animals, but we don't understand why the difference in species makes any difference to mental-health professionals. If recreational wildlife killing were to be recognized as a mental disorder, perhaps such sick people could get the therapy and perhaps the medication they need to be able to act as responsible citizens.

Peace,
Uncle Joe

C.A.S.H. CATALOG

A Voice in the Wilderness

Videotape approximately 20 minutes.
\$12.00 and \$8 for members.

This video is an expose of wildlife management by **Luke Dommer**, founder of C.A.S.H. It was produced by **Focus on Animals**, CT. **Esther Mechler** of Focus has generously given C.A.S.H. the right to sell this videotape. Copies have been generously donated by **Nancy Gordon of HAVE**, an audio-visual company in Hudson, NY.



Luke Dommer

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A copy of our latest annual report may be obtained from Wildlife Watch, Inc., or from the Office of the Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.

PETER'S HUMOR? C.A.S.H. apologizes if you are not amused

By JOE MIELE, PRESIDENT OF C.A.S.H.

We didn't think that Pete's Humor could get worse, but it has. While Pete is recovering, Uncle Joe has taken over for Pete temporarily, Our apologies ☺

handed it back to the driver and said, "You're free to go. If I had known you were a police officer too, we could have avoided all of this."

☺☺☺

Q: Did you hear about the hunter that locked his keys in his car?

A: He had to use a coat hanger to get his family out.

Q: What does a hunter do when his laptop freezes?

A: He sticks it in the microwave!

☺☺☺

A hunter was speeding in a 75 mile per hour zone when a local police cruiser pulled him over. The police officer walked up to the car and said "I'm a hunter too, so just show me your license and you'll get off with a warning." The driver searched frantically and finally said to the policeman, "What does a driver's license look like?" Irritated, the cop said, "Don't be difficult, it's got your picture on it!" The hunter frantically searched again and found a small, rectangular mirror. He held it up to his face and said, "This must be my driver's license", then handed it to the officer. The cop looked in the mirror,

A man was mowing his front yard when his duck hunting neighbor came out of the house and went straight to the mailbox. He opened it then slammed it shut and stormed back into the house. A minute later he went to the mailbox and again opened it and slammed it shut. Angrily, back into the house he went.

As the man was getting ready to edge the lawn, the neighbor came out again, marched to the mailbox, opened it and then slammed it harder than ever. Puzzled, the man asked, "Is something wrong?" To which the hunter replied, "There certainly is! My stupid computer keeps saying, "You've got mail!"

☺☺☺

One day a hunter was watching the news and the news anchor said that a serial killer was on the loose. Frightened, he rushed into the kitchen, grabbed all his cereal, and ran it down to the basement.



Fans of Pete's Humor

www.ebaumsworld.com/pictures/view/557305/#

As always,
we are grateful to
**The Mary T. and Frank L.
Hoffman Family Foundation**
for hosting the C.A.S.H. website!



Wildlife Watch, Inc.
C.A.S.H. Committee To Abolish Sport Hunting
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