



The PCCA is a volunteer organization comprised of sportsmen and sportswomen from the local area. Formed in 1928, the purpose is to promote and preserve our sporting heritage and wildlife in Penobscot County, Maine.

We raise money for conservation projects, wildlife college scholarships, and various adult and youth sporting programs.

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President’s Message by Tony Richard

I don’t know about you, but I have no idea where the summer is going – it seems like it should still be May. I’ve been really busy, but unfortunately, not fishing as much as I would like. The good news is that I’ve been picked in this year’s moose hunt – September, Bull – Zone 5 – yeah!!!!

I’m beginning my final year as PCCA President (for this time period) and look forward to working with everyone on the Board, club members, and non-club members who help move this organization forward and have done so much over

the last couple of years to improve our lands, clubhouse, and who participate in the activities that promote the good work we do.

You will hear some of the usual themes I have echoed over my tenure about volunteering – you will also hear about some of the on-going issues, as well some new (old) issues that are cropping up again (Bear Hunting as an example).

We are still looking for someone who would be willing to take over preparation of the newsletter as well as

anyone who is interested in learning how the Sportsman Show operates and/or the Gun Show. As you know, there was no newsletter sent in late June or late July since the person preparing our newsletter needed a break and we were not able to get someone to take it over.

I hope everyone has enjoyed their summer so far and looking forward to a spectacular fall in Maine.

See you at the September 5th dinner meeting.

Tony

Special points of interest:

- Regular meetings resume in September
- **PCCA Gun Show** will be held on September 7th & 8th – mark your calendar now. **Contact Charlie Rumsey to volunteer (941-8575). And Volunteers are still needed!**
- Hunter Safety Class October 19th & 20th Contact Tony Richard (827-3440)

Volunteers always welcome - contact a Chairperson if you are free to assist.

Stetson Land News

There has been a lot of activity out on our Stetson land this summer. The American Chestnut orchards are thriving and so is the wildlife. In acceptable practice and to protect the orchards, there has been some placement of electric fencing and solar panels to run it. Please if you are out enjoying our land, do not disturb this effort.

The October camp breakfast has been scheduled so consider coming to camp for breakfast and learning more about the Stetson land. Maps and directions are available if needed.

A reminder that any on going hunting activity (bear baiting, or more than a day in the field tree stands) do require prior permission of the board. This practice is to ensure a harmonious blend of practice activities on the land.

If you have any questions, please speak to President Tony or our Primary Land Management Coordinator, Deane Smith.

Helping One of Our Own

Fill In Your Calendar

We are going to try to get everyone dates for events as early as possible this year.

If you are interested in helping on an event but we have not yet announced the date – please ask!

Sportsmens Show Dates are March 7th, 8th and 9th in 2014

VOLUNTEERS are the heartbeat of PCCA!

Everyone working together makes for successful events.

Even if you can't physically help us or be at a function, there are other ways to help. Ask the Chairperson or leader for a suggestion.

Change of Email Address

Please change your email address on line at our website & email it to the newsletter editor!

Late this summer one of our members and a member of the Board of Directors, Andrew Stearns, was involved in a very serious and life altering ATV accident at his home. Andrew, for a number of years has freely given of this time, talents and freely supported PCCA. We are hoping the members of PCCA will help Andrew and Angie, his wife (who has also given time and talents to PCCA) get back on their feet.

Do to the seriousness of the accident Andrew is working every day in rehab to get home. Angie

is also out of work learning new skills to ensure Andrew's care at home is the very best!

On Saturday, September 28th, local churches and others will put on a benefit Supper, Dessert Auction and Raffle for them at PCCA. We hope our membership will support this event.

In addition, the Board unanimously agreed to place in the newsletter a request for our membership to consider mailing a donation for

Andrew. Mail to our PO Box 605, Brewer ME 04412. Checks may be made out to PCCA (note on the check to benefit Andrew Stearns). All monies collected will be used to defray expenses to put on the fund raiser and any additional money collected put into Andrew's account. If you have any questions, you may email or speak to Nancy or Tony.

Cash donations will be accepted at our September meeting!

SPECIAL CLUB HOUSE NEED

Each year folks use our club house and enjoy the warm crackling fireplace. We have a need for about a cord of dry firewood for this coming fall ~ so we can continue to enjoy the comfort of sitting around a nice fire. There's something about sitting

around a fire.

Is there anyone in our membership OR a "friend of PCCA" out there who would be willing to donate some wood? If so, please do not hesitate to drop some off at the club house.

Anyone who has sat around the fire knows how nice it is. And, if you have wood and are unable to deliver – please let us know, we will try to get it picked up.

Thank you!

SEPTEMBER – REGULAR MEETING

The September meeting of the club will be held on Thursday, September 5th at the clubhouse on North Main Street in Brewer. A BBQ Spare Rib dinner with fixins will be served. Dinner tickets are \$7/per person. All are welcome to attend.

Our speaker will be David Trahan of the Maine Sportsmens Alliance (SAM) with a **VERY** important update on the Bear issue here in Maine.

Please come so you can learn more and be up to date.

Business meeting will follow our meal and speaker. There will also be a chance to sign up to work the Gun Show and other activities.

All members are encouraged to attend and also bring a guest. Dues will be received and applications for membership are also available.

There is a 50/50 raffle at our meeting. If you have any questions, feel free to contact an officer or Board member.

Welcome Fall ~ come meet, greet and let's begin our new year with a great turn out. Working together the 2013 – 2014 season is sure to be a great one for PCCA The more the merrier – a great time for fellowship!

STETSON CAMP BREAKFAST

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Each fall, there is a club members breakfast gathering at our Stetson Camp. A time for fellowship and afterwards some fun with skeet shooting. Also tours will be given for folks to see the work on the land and the improvements.

This year the date of the breakfast will be Saturday, October 6th. Breakfast is usually ready by 8AM and the Skeet Shooting begins around 9AM. A good time is usually had by all. Food, Fellowship and some Fun – what could be better?

If transportation may be a problem or directions are needed, please let a Board member know so perhaps we can do some car pooling.

Looking forward to seeing folks there!

FALL EVENTS

Mark your calendars and pass the word – the date for our Annual Hunters Breakfast has been announced. On Saturday November 23rd, be prepared for one of the BIGGEST and BEST breakfasts in this area.

Contact Nancy Hatch to sign up to work that day. We will also have baskets on

the tables of our November meeting in for you to put in your financial support to defray expenses at this event. Door Prize donations accepted too – please bring them to any meeting.

And in October we will be holding a two day Hunter Safety Class. This is another event where many hands make the program easier.

Tony Richard heads up this program. If you are available to help on October 19 or 20, please contact Tony. There are many jobs to fill and even if you are not an instructor they probably will be a job you can fill.

Camp Breakfast is another activity where we could use a few new faces to help.

So Many Adventures Within Our Beautiful State

By LA Holmes, Newsletter Editor

Get out, get around ~ Maine is filled with fun. Many this summer went fishing, boating and other great fun. I had two hiking adventures which brought me to places I never dreamed of visiting.

My first was a trip camping and then hiking into the Trains in the Woods of the Allagash Wilderness Waterway. Oh, my – what an experience the end of June. There were 9 of us who trekked 1 mile through the woods in pursuit of seeing the

trains. We were not disappointed. Also got to meet a few folks who boated in to the site. This was on my bucket list – check it's done. If anyone is interested, I would love to share more of my experience.

And my second awesome experience – a bit closer to home was to hike to the cave on Little Picked Mountain off Route 9. It was a sunny day with a nice breeze (thankfully). Yes, I was in pursuit of a Geocache – a great motivation to go hiking

and get “get out there”! After leaving the Chick Hill Road and hitting the trail there are two ways to access the caves. One easy hike to the top – one not so easy. The descent from the summit to the cave requires some care but isn't too technical.

It was a day for awesome views and nice to encounter another cool place close to home. This is an example of how Geocaching (my passion) can get you to places you never realized were here to enjoy!

Up-Coming Events

September

5 - Regular Meeting

7 - 8 - Gun Show

19 - Board Meeting

October

3 - Regular Meeting

5 - Stetson Camp Breakfast

17 - Board Meeting

19 - 20 - Hunter Safety Classes

November

7 - Regular Meeting

21 - Board Meeting

23 - Hunters Breakfast

December

5 - Regular Meeting

NOTICE

Looking for articles from guest editors – send via email PLEASE~!



MAINE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE



BEAR FACTS

Black Bears Are Thriving in Maine

- Black bears are widely distributed in Maine.
- More than 30,000 bears occur statewide.
- Maine's bear population has increased 37% since 1990 in response to years of low harvest and high cub numbers.
- Maine has the largest bear population in the eastern United States and one of the largest in the continental U.S.
- IFW receives an average of 500 nuisance bear complaints each year; in 2012, 873 complaints were reported.

Maine Has a "State of the Art" Bear Management Program

- Maine has one of the most extensive, comprehensive, and longest standing bear studies in North America. It is based on wildlife management's most current, scientific methods.
- More than 3,000 bears have been captured and marked since 1975.
- Between 79 and 100 radio-collared bears are tracked annually; ~85 den sites are visited each winter.
- IFW collects detailed information on bear survival, birth rates, behavior, and animal condition.
- Information gathered from this study allows IFW to adjust the bear harvest to levels to meet bear population objectives and ensure the conservation of Maine's black bears.
- IFW has monitored bear harvests since 1969.
- As part of a periodic update to Maine's bear management plan, an integrated population model using this extensive data set is being developed.

Public Input Determines Black Bear Management Objectives

- In 1999, a public working group representing landowners, forest industry, sportsmen, environmentalists, etc., developed the following management objectives for 2000 through 2015:
 1. Stabilize the bear population through annual hunting and trapping harvests
 2. Promote traditional hunting and trapping methods.
 3. Promote public tolerance of bears in Maine.

Regulated Hunting is the Primary Tool to Achieve Public's Goals and Objectives

- To achieve publically derived population objectives and stabilize bear numbers, a harvest of 3,500 to 4,500 bears is needed.
- Although Maine's bear harvest averaged 3,780 between 1999 and 2004, harvest has declined by 23% (averaged 2,910 bears annually) since 2005 and is attributed to a 74% decline in hunter numbers.
- Although hunting bear over bait is the most effective way to hunt bears in Maine and meet bear population objectives, other methods, including traps and hounds, are needed to reach objectives.
- Since 1999, between 300 and 623 bears were harvested each year with hounds or traps.
- Bear harvest rate by method has not changed since 1999:

Bait	79%	Incidental to deer hunting	4%
Hounds	11%	Method unreported	3%
Trapping	3%		
- Success rate of bear hunters using bait and hounds is about 30% each year and 19% using traps.
- By comparison, 79% of moose hunters, 38% of turkey hunters, and 14% of deer hunters were successful in 2012.
- Other bear hunting methods used in states that have restricted the use of bait and/or dogs may be unworkable and are likely impractical in Maine because of our terrain and thick vegetation.
- Bears can only regulate their numbers at extremely high population levels after becoming malnourished and fewer cubs are born and more cubs starved; conflicts between bears and people would also rise.

For more information, check our website: www.mefishwildlife.com

Updated May 8, 2013

2013 – HUNTER SAFETY CLASS

DATES:

SATURDAY - OCTOBER 19, 2013

SUNDAY – OCTOBER 20, 2013

REGISTRATION:

Call IF&W in Augusta or Clint Gaskell (Regional Coordinator) 732-4300 or Tony Richard (827-3440 or e-mail at pccapres@gmail.com).

COST: \$3.00

CLASSES: Completion of Registration

From 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. at PCCA

Clubhouse on October 15.

Classes run approximately 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day.

LUNCH: Students should bring their lunch each day. PCCA provides all other class materials.

MINIMUM AGE: 10 - Anyone 12 or under must be accompanied by an adult both days.

**PENOBSCOT COUNTY
CONSERVATION
ASSOCIATION**

570 North Main St.

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Brewer ME 04412

Phone:

(207) 989-4709

E-Mail:

pccapres@gmail.com

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[http://www.conservation
association.org](http://www.conservationassociation.org)

PCCA BANGOR GUN SHOW – SEPTEMBER 7TH & 8TH

The 36th Annual Bangor Gun Show will be held at the NEW Cross Insurance Center on Saturday, September 7th from 9 AM – 5 PM and Sunday, September 8th from 9 AM – 2 PM.

Come visit us and see all the great vendors.

The show this year will have expanded offerings of Collectors and Estate Liquidators.

Vendor space may still be available – please visit our web site for more information if you would like a table or to contact

the show chairperson.

Admission is \$8.00 for adults, children under 12 free with an adult. NRA members \$7 or join NRA at the show and get in FREE Law Enforcement with LE ID - \$7.00

See you at the show!

About Our Organization...

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To learn more about PCCA or obtain a membership application, please contact us.

