

FORT RILEY OUTDOORSMEN GROUP DEC 2007–JAN 2008 NEWSLETTER

Please send your photos and stories to FortRileyOutdoorsmenGroup@Yahoo.com



FROG MONSTER BUCK CONTEST RESULTS



FROG CELEBRATES IN IRAQ!



CLAYTON'S FIRST BOW KILL!



DAVE SEIGEL'S BANNER YEAR



NIKO'S STORY - HIS FIRST DEER



BARRY WILLIAMS' "DROPPED GLOVE" ABILENE BUCK



GORDON ALLEN'S CAJUN- TRACKED 9 POINT



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*6 TONS of TROUT
stocked in FR Ponds!*



FROG "BIG BUCK" CONTEST RESULTS

The preliminary results are in for the Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group 2007 Big Buck contest.

This was another great year for big bucks on Fort Riley, with a number of excellent bucks taken on post.

Much of the success, according to Alan Hynek, Fish and Wildlife Biologist with Fort Riley's Conservation office, and co-President of the FROG, is due to the voluntary support for the post's Quality Deer Management Program.

Under this program, hunters are encouraged to kill mature bucks instead of younger bucks. This improves the overall health and quality of the herd over time, and provides for a higher quality hunt as well.

The FROG Big Buck Contest is meant to highlight the QDM program.

In first place for archery is a hunter from Georgia who came in for a few days of hunting and went home with a real Kansas trophy. Congratulations to Ken Burnette from Gainesville, Georgia, with a gross score of 192 7/8!! That is one monster buck!

In second place we have Jay Joubert III from Fort Riley, with a buck scoring 158 4/8. That's another nice Pope and Young class buck! Congratulations, Jay!

With the firearms season coming to a close, our preliminary results show that Rodney W. Frankenstein of Junction City took 1st place honors with a buck that gross scored of 183 1/8. What a buck! Congratulations to Rodney on his "Booner" buck.

We will have the second place firearms buck featured in the next newsletter once we make the final determination.



Rodney W. Frankenstein of Junction City took 1st place honors with a buck that gross scored of 183 1/8.



Ken Burnette from Gainesville, Georgia, with his bow-killed buck that gross scored 192 7/8.

FROG CELEBRATES IN IRAQ

BY 2LT RYAN WOOD

The New Year brought new excitement for the Rangers of 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, as supportive outdoorsman offered a taste of home to celebrate the close of 2007 during a BBQ and raffle on New Years Eve.

In addition to being a night of celebration, the Rangers managed to promote outdoor conservation as well.

COL Ricky Gibbs, commander, 4th IBCT was in attendance and together with CSM James Champagne, 4th IBCT and MAJ Brent Cummings, XO, 2-16 IN, was able to distribute dozens of prizes including shirts, hats, calendars, magazine subscriptions and the main prize of the evening, four free bird hunting trips.

“The merchandise and trips were donated . . . through the Fort Riley Outdoorsman’s Group, affectionately known as the FROG.”

The merchandise and trips were donated by Pheasants Forever and the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Program through the Fort Riley Outdoorsman’s Group, affectionately known as the FROG.

The Rangers of 2-16 IN have been fighting in one of the most dangerous portions of Baghdad for nearly a year.

According to Cummings, the party was a way for his Soldiers to both let off some steam, and remind themselves of the great things that wait for them when they return to Kansas in the spring.

“Many of our Soldiers enjoy the tremendous outdoor activities available in Kansas such as hunting, fishing, hiking or camping back home,” said

Cummings. “This evening gave supporters such as the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Program a way to show their appreciation for our Sol-



FROG Board Members Brent Cummings (L) and Big Jim Champagne (R), flank Ricky Gibbs (President Emeritus)

diers and promote conservation though current and future Kansas outdoorsmen.”

PFC Joseph Semtak, HHC, 2-16 IN, an avid outdoorsman himself, assisted with the evening event and identified with the excitement Soldiers who walked away with the hunt trips showed.

“This is something that gets guys excited about going home and reminds them of just one of the many things we fight for,” said Semtak. “For many of them, it was the first time they had heard of the various conservation and outdoor groups around the Post and now they have more ways to support the environment and responsible outdoorsmanship when they get home. They can help protect what they love.”

Cummings acknowledged that on the outside, the merchandise and trips were a simply a way that groups in the States could thank Soldiers in Iraq for what they do every day, but he also saw it as more than just receiving a cool new hat or shirt.

“Soldiers see examples of what people

can do to their environment every day as they walk down the streets. There is a total disregard for the future. The Soldiers see the damage these people are doing to themselves and their environment spilling out into the streets and it gives them an extra reason to work at protecting what they have back home,” said Cummings.

“We hope that not only will the Soldiers know they are appreciated, they can also become involved in these programs back in the States and ensure that the environment we enjoy is protected for today and our children in the future.”

By the end of the party, Cummings, who along with Gibbs and Champagne, sit on the board for FROG, was able to give everyone a prize along with a free subscription to Pheasants Forever Magazine.

With happy stomachs filled with BBQ and a few lucky Soldiers looking forward to fall hunting trips back home, the night served as a great way to ring in the New Year and an opportunity for some very supportive people back home to thank the Rangers of 2-16 IN and take a step towards protecting the Kansas environment - from the opposite side of the world.

Nearly 3400 Soldiers of the 4th “Dragon” Brigade are deployed to Iraq.

1st Infantry Division has 10,000 total deployed

Five of the FROG’s Board are deployed with the Dragons, including President Emeritus Col. Ricky Gibbs and Brigade CSM “Big Jim” Champagne.

May you all return safe.

SIX TONS OF TROUT

By Alan Hynek, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Conservation Office

Rainbow trout in Kansas? It's true. The popular fish that conjures up visions of casting artificial flies into a cold mountain stream can also be found on Fort Riley.

Although we don't have the mountain streams, we do have cold and we do have trout. And with a little imagination, Cameron Springs and Moon Lake can be high mountain lakes in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado.

OK, that might be a little bit of a stretch.

Rainbow trout are not native to the state of Kansas. They were originally found in the lakes and streams draining the Pacific slope, from Alaska to northern Baja, Mexico, as well as the Pacific coastal streams of Asia.

The first stocking of rainbows in the eastern states occurred in 1880, when the U.S. Fish Commission delivered rainbows originating near McCloud River, California.

The species can now be found throughout the United States and in many countries around the world. They are best adapted to cool waters that contain higher concentrations of oxygen.

Most Kansas streams and lakes can only support trout in the colder months of the year when dissolved oxygen is at its highest concentration.

Cameron Springs was one of the first places in the state of Kansas to provide trout fishing. Over the years, it has provided enjoyment to many, including military and civilians.

Fort Riley purchased trout mainly from the Neosho National Fish Hatchery in Neosho, Missouri. The hatchery was established in 1888 as the first federal hatchery west of the Mississippi. It is operated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, with its

primary mission to provide fish for Lake Tanycomo and surrounding impoundments. Another part of their mission is to provide hatchery fish for reimbursement to other federal agencies, which was how we received trout for Fort Riley.

Moon Lake became Fort Riley's designated trout fishery in 2004 as construction of the new water treatment plant adjacent to Cameron Springs was taking place.

"The Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks sold more trout stamps in the Fort Riley area than any other location in Kansas."

Then in 2006, Fort Riley entered into an agreement with the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks to provide trout to the installation in lieu of Fort Riley dropping its requirement for a Fort Riley Fishing Permit.

Not a bad deal for us. Persons fishing on Fort Riley no longer had to buy a Fort Riley Fishing Permit and we received our fish at no charge from the state of Kansas.

Some \$53,000 worth of catfish and trout in 2007-2008, which is twice the amount we could afford to stock on Fort Riley in the years prior.

Even better news is that both Cameron Springs and Moon Lake will be fully stocked with trout during the 2007-2008 season that began on 15 October and goes through 15 April.

More than 12,000 lbs of trout will be stocked on Fort Riley, which is the highest stocking rate of any location in the state of Kansas.



The basis for all this good fishing news is that the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks sold more trout stamps in the Fort Riley area than any other location in Kansas.

The bottom line is that Fort Riley is receiving a bountiful supply of stocked fish without the additional cost of a Fort Riley Fishing Permit.

All persons between the ages of 16-64 must possess a valid Kansas Fishing License.

In addition, persons actively fishing for trout must possess a valid Kansas Trout Stamp.

These and other Kansas hunting and fishing licenses are available at any state designated license vendor including the Fort Riley Conservation Office, bldg 1020.

[Editor's Note: In order to make getting permits on Fort Riley easier, the FROG voted last year to pay for and install the automated permit system at the Conservation Office.]

For more info, visit the Conservation Office or call 239-6211. You may also visit their fishing website at <http://www.riley.army.mil/Recreation/Outdoor/Fishing/>

CLAYTON'S FIRST BOW KILL

FORT RILEY YOUTH HUNTER GETS HIS FIRST BOW KILL

During the final minutes of legal shooting light on November 13th, Fort Riley bow hunter Clayton Vermeesch waited anxiously in anticipation for deer to make their way into the soy bean field he was over watching.

Clayton, 13, was in the middle of his first season as an archery hunter and had already had several close encounters with Fort Riley whitetails.

He was ready when this doe approached the ground blind he was hunting from in area 16 on Fort Riley.

Clayton made a perfect behind the shoulder shot from 15 yards and harvested the deer which only ran about 75 yards.

Needless to say, Clay was a little excited when he called his dad on his cell phone to tell him to bring

the truck because he had one down.

We are not sure who was prouder, Dad or Clayton!

This is the second deer that Clayton has harvested on Fort Riley, but his first ever with a bow.

He took his first deer, a buck, in 2005 with his 20 gauge shotgun.



Clayton Vermeesch with his first bow-killed deer



Privately Owned Firearms Range

Where: Range 4

When: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. most Saturdays and Sundays.

Info: Call ahead – 239-4200 – to make sure the range will be open

For more info, e-mail Bob Forman at bobforman@usd475.org

The month of January 2008 looks as follows; we're filling the dates slowly: If you are a certified Range Officer, or would like to become one, please contact Bob to volunteer.

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Range Volunteer:</u>	<u>Date:</u>	<u>Range Volunteer:</u>
Sat 5 Jan	John Villarino	Sun 20 Jan	Brian Ahlers
Sun 6 Jan		Mon 21 Jan [MLK]	
Sat 12 Jan		Sat 26 Jan	
Sun 13 Jan		Sun 27 Jan	
Sat 19 Jan	Bob Forman		

FROG SPONSORS: THANK YOU!!

Conservation Champion (\$2500)

Dick Edwards (J.C. & Manhattan)

Wildlife Benefactor (\$1750)

Kansas Wildscapes

Habitat Partner (\$1000)

Star Lumber

Junction City - Geary County Military Affairs Council

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Animal Care Clinic-Dr. Stenstrom

City Cycle Sales

Concordia Tractor Inc. (John Deere)

Matthew Champagne

Griffith Lumber Co.

FROG Contributors (\$100)

Crites Real Estate Inc.

A&L Hay Farms

Junghans Agency

Coldwell Bankers

Jim Walmann

Geary County Convention & Visitors Bureau

Pottberg, Gassman, & Hoffman, CPA

Rusty Taylor Auctioneering

Geary County Fish & Game

Little Apple Brewing Company

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Central National Bank

GTM Sportswear

Dillon's (JC)

Edward Jones

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Lyons Creek Long Bows

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Pat's Pawn and Gun

Champion's Car Wash

Haydel's Game Calls

Pat's Pawn & Gun

Cabela's

Beacon Marine

Patriot Outfitters

Please Patronize Our FROG Sponsors!



DAVE'S ABILENE WALL-HANGER

DAVE SEIGEL'S BANNER BUCK YEAR



DAVE'S MISSOURI WALL-HANGER

ABILENE BUCK —I was hunting on Kansas deer rifle opening morning and had already placed a ladder stand in some CRP land north of Abilene on some private land I can hunt about 35 miles west of Fort Riley. It overlooks wooded dry creekbed and had lots of good deer sign last year so I thought I'd give it a try.

At about 0738 I heard a deer behind me close (40 yards) running through the dry grass, so I turned around, saw a good enough rack but knew I had to stop him because he was running way too fast, so I gave a loud imitation of a deer call (with my mouth, so no telling what it really sounded like) and he stopped on a dime, broadside 35 yards away.

I was looking in the scope and his head/rack was behind a bush, and I shot at the vitals. He bounded 20 yards and fell over in high grass.

I got down and then started doubting myself on rack-size since I never really looked at it -- hoped it wasn't a raghorn since it was opening morning only about 40 minutes after shooting light. I am glad it all happened within about 2 seconds,

because I was pretty darn pleased when I walked up to him -- 21 inch spread, 10 pointer, G2s/G3s all about 13-14 inches. He's going on the wall!



DAVE'S SON LUKE W/ 1ST DEER

MISSOURI BUCK—The rut was on and it was time to be in the woods.

It was a beautiful early November morning and I was watching a flock of turkeys that had gone by my treestand feed about 30 minutes after sunrise, and all in the sudden a doe popped out of the thicket in my shooting lane, and then almost immediately followed by another doe.

I thought, looks like some good backstrap there and started to draw on the second doe, and then I saw a nice rack right behind her, shifted to the right, quickly lined up the pin, and let the arrow fly.

He took a step just as I released the arrow, so it went about 6 inches farther back than I had planned, but it hit him good, turned out I double lunged him.

Waited for 45 minutes, then tracked him for an hour and found him. Carbon arrow, "Rage" mechanical arrow went through but hung up on the far rib, so didn't go all the way through.

Found the back half of the arrow 75 yards away, so knew he was dead somewhere.

Huge bodied deer -- 238 lbs field dressed, so might have been close to 300 prior.

LUKE'S FIRST DEER: Dave's son Luke killed his first deer this year, on the 28th of October. Dave's prouder of that deer than his two giant wall-hangers!!

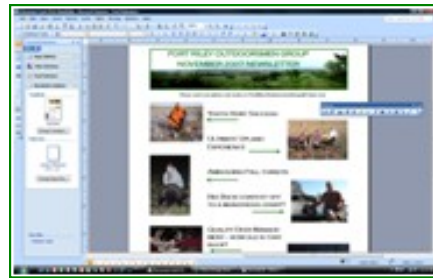
CONGRATULATIONS, DAVE!

THE FROG NEEDS YOU!

NEWSLETTER AND WEB GURUS NEEDED

The FROG is looking for someone to assist with, and later on in early summer, take over the FROG Newsletter.

No experience is necessary; we will teach you all the funky skills you need to jazz up blank pieces of paper with smiling hunters.



The FROG is also looking for a web guru to develop the FROG website and update it monthly.

(Don't bother searching for it—it doesn't exist yet!).



COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

Volunteer Outdoorsmen and Outdoorswomen are needed for several committees on the FROG.

The Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group works on a number of projects each year, ranging from archery ranges to youth hunts.

Currently, the FROG could use committee members for:

- spring youth turkey hunt
- 3D shoot program for 2008,
- spring youth fishing derby,

- trap and skeet range,
- And others.

If you are interested, please contact the FROG or a Board Member.



Volunteers are needed for the trap and skeet range project, among other projects.



A road? Or not?

RECREATION REGULATIONS CHANGE

This is not a road.

It isn't a road you can drive on at Fort Riley, anyway.

Although not many rules have changed this year for Fort Riley, one major change is that only those roads shown on the new, updated Outdoor Recreation Map can be driven on.

Hunters used to driving on trails should consult their map and regulations closely before

venturing off the primary roads.

Hunters can still retrieve killed deer and elk going off-trail.

The intent of the program is to reduce erosion and to promote foot use and not vehicle use of Fort Riley's great outdoors.

So get out of your pickup and walk! You will see more deer!

NIKO'S STORY: HIS FIRST DEER

BY NICHOLAS DOMBROWSKI

My First Deer

I have been waiting for this day for a long time.

My dad has been teaching me about hunting and safety for two years to get me ready.

He took me scouting, to the conservation building and to the range to make sure I knew what to do.

I had gone hunting three full days before this hunt. The weather was cold but I stayed outside from 6:30 am to 6:00 pm. I had seen seven bull elk, three cows, pheasants, grouse, squirrels and lots of birds but no deer.

It had snowed the day before and my dad told me that it was a great day to hunt because we could see tracks and tell what the deer were doing.

We started the morning by checking in with the guys at the conservation office. They tracked where we were for our safety. We were in the woods before the sun came up in a pop up blind that my dad brought.

It was very cold and we did not see anything except elk. My dad said that the elk may have spooked anything in the area and since I was cold that we should walk around.

My dad let me follow tracks and I was able to tell if they were bucks or does. I even went on my hands and knees because the tracks went into thick woods. I found two deer

beds where the snow was melted away but no deer.

We came upon lots of tracks in a little opening and dad was tired of carrying everything to keep me warm. He said the deer were feed-

see.

The doe stood there for 30 minutes and then walked back in the woods. My dad told me that the deer are smart and knew that something was different because we were there.



NIKO ALSO SHOT HIS FIRST TOM TURKEY IN THE SPRING

ing there and the wind was good for that spot. We put the blind up again and waited. It was very cold.

At 3 pm my dad said he saw something. He looked through his binoculars and said it was a deer's ear.

I could not see it but asked if I should get the gun ready. My dad told me no and to sit down.

I started to shake and my stomach felt funny. I wanted to get my gun ready but the deer were slow.

At 4 pm one of the does moved close to the clearing. It was still in the trees and far away and hard to

I had a great idea and told my dad to try the deer call. He did and it worked. The doe came back and this time started walking out into the open. I got ready but was shaking again.

I had waited so long but my dad would not let me shoot until the deer was standing sideways.

I watched the deer walk up and down to the other side and disappear. My dad told me another deer was coming and I got ready for it.

This one stopped and stood sideways. My dad said I could fire if I was ready and I did.

The deer fell right away as it was a good shot. My dad gave me a hug and was very happy.

We checked the deer in at the conservation building and it weighed 107 lbs and was five years old.

They told me that this was a very good deer.

It was the best hunt ever and I can't wait to do it again.

I love Kansas because I am the Great White Hunter!!

Nicholas Dombrowski

Age 8

ADAM HASTERT'S "DRT" COYOTE



Adam's Savage .204 was plenty of gun for this coyote

Adam called in this coyote on a recent Saturday morning using a combination of howling and cottontail distress calls. It took the coyote about fifteen minutes to come in, according to Adam.

Adam took him down with his Savage .204 at about 40 yards.

The Hornady 32 grain ballistic tip did a number on him.

The critter was pronounced DRT (dead right there).

NOTES FROM THE BIOLOGIST'S OFFICE

Severe Winter Weather: The effects from winter storms will vary among species. Among the hardest hit will be non-migratory game birds such as quail. Fortunately, the big storm happened early in season, and most birds possess fairly high fat reserves to carry them through the tough period. Bird hunters can help their cause by limiting late afternoon hunting activity (busting coveys) and selectively harvesting only a few birds out of each covey.

2008 Deer Seasons: Significant changes to the 2008 deer season on Fort Riley are likely with the impending regulations changes from the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. More information will be available after the January 10, 2008 Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Commission Meeting.

Quality Deer Management: The Conservation Office continues to encourage selective harvest of our male deer herd as part of our effort to improve the overall size class of the deer herd. The most important aspect of QDM is to harvest 2 ½ year old or older bucks. Our QDM targets took a big hit during the second day of the shotgun/muzzleloader season—we saw too many young bucks taken. Antler restrictions may become mandatory in future seasons if hunter selectivity does not improve.

Commissioners Tags: The application for a transferable elk or deer tag was submitted to KDWP. These are also called "Commissioners Tags" and are awarded to non-profit conservation organizations in Kansas. The drawing for those will be on January 10. If we are lucky enough to receive a transferable tag, we will auction that off at the FROG Banquet next September.

Trout Stocking: Trout will continue to be stocked in Moon Lake and Cameron Springs through the end of the trout season (April 15). Fort Riley receives more trout than any location in Kansas because this area sells the most Trout Stamps.

Law Enforcement: Fort Riley's Game Wardens continue to do an excellent job of enforcement out in the field. Please call 239-GAME if you see an illegal act in the field.



FORT RILEY OUTDOORSMEN GROUP MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES



November 20th 2007
Fort Riley Custer Hill Golf Course

Attendance: Stratton, Kubik, Hastert, Jones, Hynek, Seigel, Vermeesch, Wahle, Champagne

Farewell to Board Member Tim Skelton

- 1) FROG Banquet: Leader: Shawn; Committee: Alan, Chris, Steve, Dave, Gordon, Jim, Adam, Ryan, Mike, Joe
- 2) FROG 3-D Archery Tournament: Leader = ? Committee = Gordon, Jim, Chris, Joe
- 3) FROG Fishing Event Leader = Alan & Mike Committee = Shawn, Adam, Chris
- 4) FROG Youth Deer Hunt Leader = Mark D. Committee = Dave, John, Jim, Chris
- 5) FROG Youth Turkey Hunt Leader = Chris Committee = Dave, John, Gordon, Shawn, Jim

Each leader is responsible for the update for their particular category at each monthly Board meeting. They are also responsible for sending Chris information about their event to put in the monthly newsletter. If the leader can't be present at a board meeting he is responsible for finding someone from their committee to update the Board.

Other Events for the coming year

Big Buck Contest, Update

Skeet Range, Update from Troy

Deer Processing Building, Update from Alan

Treasurer Report: Update from Alan

Miscellaneous

Thank you letter from Project Healing Waters

Archery Range Lead?

PF Habitat Team is looking for money for expenditures

Next Monthly Board Meeting: Tuesday, January 22nd @ the Custer Hill Golf Course

Decisions:

Board decided to spend \$150-\$200 on a Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group website.

Board decided on giving \$1,000 to the Pheasants Forever Habitat Team to work on local projects in and around Fort Riley.

BARRY WILLIAM'S "DROPPED GLOVE" BUCK

BY BARRY WILLIAMS

Every year I make it a point to hunt with close friend, Sid Sizemore, who is also a land owner in Abilene, KS.

I received a call from Sid on Thanksgiving Day, and he told me that he has seen several big bucks on his land and I needed to get out there to kill one of them!

That seemed like good advice to me, so on Friday 23 November 2007 I headed to Abilene, KS in search of a buck.

On the morning of the 23rd, under the cover of darkness I navigated myself to a spot that I remembered from the previous year.

I found one dominate trail using my LED headlight, and I knew that it was a game trail because no one else hunts in this area.

I found a tree that I could safely climb, and that was to be my home for the next several hours.

As the sun came up, I was able to see all of the scrapes and rubs in the vicinity of my tree stand and that took my mind off of the single digit temperature outside.

At approximately 0800 hrs I spotted a doe walking along the game trail. As she got out of my sight I hit my rattle bags and grunt several times.

About 30 minutes after the doe walked along the game trail, I noticed a buck moving along the same path that the doe had traveled earlier. By that time he was about 80 yards away, feeding and slowly walking in my direction.

I stood up and retrieved my bow. As I stood up, I realized that my glove was in my lap, as it hit the dry ground under my tree stand!



Check out the nice drop tine on Barry's big buck!

This got the buck's attention but did not completely "bust" me. It was obvious that this buck had been traveling this course for

As I stood up, I realized that my glove was in my lap, as it hit the dry ground under my tree stand!

some time, and someone in a tree with a bow was the last thing on his mind.

When the buck put his head down in search of another acorn, I hooked my release up and was able to draw on him.

He was less than twenty yards to my front, standing broad side. I shot him right through the shoulder (Montec broad head) and he only ran 15 yards and fell.

It was a memorable hunt, but a bittersweet moment because I'll have to wait until next year to hunt for bucks again.

Now I will satisfy my love for the outdoors by bird hunting

THE CAJUN-TRACKED BUCK

BY GORDON ALLEN

O 500 came early on 1 October. My wife and I arrived at our parking spot around 0605 or so and got our Scentloc on and walked to the tree stand. I put out some scent bombs and we secured ourselves to the tree with our safety harnesses. Now all we had to do was wait.

I guess it was around 0800; I caught a little movement out to the right side of the tree stand and saw three doe come walking into shooting range.

Mom stood around and stomped her feet for awhile and then grazed a little. This went on for about 20 minutes or so and finally she snorted and ran off. Of course her fawns continued to eat for another 5 minutes before they decided to leave. Already a great hunt.

We were discussing the show the deer had put on for us when I looked over to the right and saw a buck standing in the middle of a shooting lane, not 20 yards away looking dead at us. I told my wife, "don't move, there is a buck looking at us."

Well I thought it was all over since he was looking right at us, but the buck surprised me and put his head down and walked behind a tree giving me the chance to draw.

He walked out from behind the tree enough so that I could see his shoulder but not enough to see his vitals so I waited a bit longer. He took another step and I let the arrow go and heard a "THWHACK" like the arrow hit a log. The buck ran off into the woods. At the same time my wife gives the sigh (I think you missed sound).

I knew for sure that I had missed as the bow string had hit my arm.



Cajun Jay and Gordon with Gordon's fine 9 point

There was the arrow lying on the log that was behind the Buck.

Well I was feeling pretty bad about missing the buck at such a short distance so after about 20 minutes I said, "I guess we are done for the day; let's get down and get my arrow." I got my arrow and noticed there was blood the entire length of the arrow shaft. I took a closer look at the ground and there was a blood



Gordon's first bow-buck—a beauty!

trail leading into the woods. I looked up at my wife and said "I guess I got him".

We were both pretty excited at this point and decided to follow the trail, and then I came back to my senses and said "let's wait a bit longer." We went and changed clothes as it was a bit warm. After changing we went back and followed the trail for quite a while, until we found where he had laid down. There was a little pool of blood but nothing else except for some very tiny pin drops.

Knowing that I am not the world's best tracker I decided to end the search and go get some help. I went back to the office and got a couple of guys and we returned to the woods to find my elusive Buck.

One of the guys is Jay—a Cajun who has been tracking deer his entire life. We get back to where the Buck had laid down and Cajun says he went this way and sure enough there were a few pin head size drops of blood, then there were none but Cajun says, well, he had to make a decision on which way to go right here and if I were that deer I would go this way and sure enough a few more pin head size drops of blood.

We go on for a few more yards and Cajun says he had to decide which way to go here and says he went this way, a few steps later Cajun stands up and sniffs the air and says "I smell a dead deer".

About 20 yards more and there he was my elusive BUCK. I quickly counted the points and I thought I had a 10 pointer but on closer examination he was a nine, I was a happy hunter, though I knew my deer season was over.

Now it was time to concentrate on getting my wife her First deer with a Bow.

Governor's Annual One Shot Turkey Hunt

ATTENTION ALL KANSAS YOUTHS!!

Subject: Governor's Annual One Shot Turkey Hunt Youth Hunting Program, April 10th, 11th, & 12th 2008

- A youth hunting program has been incorporated into the Governor's Annual One Shot Turkey Hunt, held in Butler County, at El Dorado, Kansas on April 10th, 11th, & 12th, 2008.
- Six youths from around the state of Kansas will be selected to participate thin the hunt.
- Youth participants in this hunt must be a resident of the State of Kansas, have successfully completed a state hunter education course, be between the ages of 12 and 18, have a current Kansas hunting license, (if required), and be accompanied by a parent or an adult sponsor who will stay with them during the event except during the actual time that they will be hunting with a guide.
- Each of the six youths chosen for the hunt MUST ATTEND all three days and evening events of the hunt. NO EXCEPTIONS!
- In addition, candidates for the hunt must complete and submit an application form by January 19, 2008, from which the six participants will be selected by a committee that represents the Governor's Annual One shot Turkey Hunt organization.
- Applicants may ask for the application form by contacting; Mr. Gene White, 218 West Central, Box 308, El Dorado, KS 67042, telephone, 316 321-1710, or Mr. John Moore 304 East 12th, El Dorado, KS 67042, telephone (316)-320-7708.
- Applicants preferring an email version may request one from John Moore, email address at jmoore72@cox.net

The Governor's Turkey Hunt will provide the following:

- a. A guide for each participant
- b. Tickets and passes to all the events for the parent/sponsor and youth
- c. One turkey permit
- d. Special section in the Program to identify the Youth Hunting Program
- e. Tickets and passes to future hunt events (does not include turkey hunting)
- f. When a participant reaches their 21st birthday, they can choose to join the Past Shooter and Guides Association. Application will be required.

The Hunt will set up a special awards section for the youth hunters and their guides. They will not be in competition for the Top Gun award.

Any youth who meets the eligibility criteria is encouraged to apply for participation in the hunt. This is a great opportunity to experience turkey hunting at its finest, and further, to experience the hospitality of the great folks in Butler County and El Dorado who put on this hunt. The Kansas Governor's Annual One Shot Turkey Hunt has become recognized throughout the United States as one of the finest such hunts in the nation. The 2007 Hunt is being held on April 12, 13, and 14, 2007.

(See next page for application)

Application for Youth Hunting Program
Kansas Governor's Annual One Shot Turkey Hunt

Date _____
Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Sex _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip Code _____
Telephone _____ Email _____ Hunter Education Certificate Number _____

Please describe your involvement in community and other civic activities:

Please describe your involvement in environmental and wildlife conservation activities:

What is your interest in outdoor skills:

What firearms safety and skills training have you had, and please describe your previous shooting/hunting experience:

What is your previous turkey hunting experience?

Please list your school extra-curricular activities, and your involvement in youth organizations, including offices held and volunteer work done on behalf of these organizations.

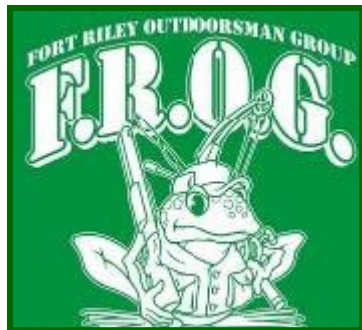
References; please list two adult references:

1. Name _____ Address _____ Tele _____
2. Name _____ Address _____ Tele _____

Please include a recent photograph, and describe on one page attached to this application, why you think that you should be considered for this hunt.

Parental Consent/Liability Release: Will be provided later.

Return applications to: **Gene White, 218 W Central, Box 308, El Dorado KS 67042.**



FORT RILEY OUTDOORSMEN GROUP

Mission: Promote conservation and outdoor recreation on Fort Riley.

Vision: The FROG creates and sustains strong interest in Fort Riley's environment, wildlife, and recreational opportunities by educating the public, sponsoring conservation and recreational projects, and promoting outdoor recreation.

Key Tasks:

1. Educate and inform the public -- especially youth, beginners, and newcomers -- on outdoor safety, proper ethics, environmental stewardship, and recreational opportunities.
2. Sponsor conservation projects that interest the public and enhance the current program.
3. Sponsor recreational projects that enhance outdoor recreation skills and increase interest in recreational participation.
4. Sponsor recreational events to generate interest in outdoor recreation.
5. Gain and sustain effective relationships with Fort Riley and community leaders to ensure adequate emphasis and resources for conservation and recreation programs.

Endstate: FROG's efforts in conservation and recreation on Fort Riley improve habitat, optimize wildlife populations, and increase ethical, informed participation in outdoor recreation.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A BOARD MEMBER, OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE ADDED TO OUR DISTRO LIST, PLEASE CONTACT A BOARD MEMBER OR EMAIL US AT:

fortrileyoutdoorsmengroup@yahoo.com

Presidents and Executive Board

President Emeritus: **Ricky Gibbs***
Presidents: Dave Seigel, Chris Kubik, Alan Hynek.

Executive Council:

Jim Champagne*	Adam Hastert	Shawn Stratton
Brent Cummings*	Ron Henely*	John Vermeesch
Brian Derrick*	Mike Houck	Steve Wahle
Mark Dombrowski	Ryan Jones	Jim Walmann
Gordon Allen	Troy Mattingly	Joe Woolery
Bob Forman		'Zim' Zimmerman*

*** Deployed**