



INSIDE! YOUTH SPRING TURKEY HUNT RESULTS!

Inside this issue:

*President's Notes* 1

*June Trap Shoot* 1

*Youth Turkey Hunt* 2

*Conservation Notes* 3

*President's Notes, cont'* 3

*37 Lb Carp Caught* 3

*FROG Notes* 4

## President's Notes -Donn Grimes (Outgoing)

Just a short three years ago, we started the "FROG" or Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group. We partnered with Pheasants Forever, Ducks Unlimited and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation to educate our membership and to help us with an important mainstay: conservation.

We know the wild life we enjoy so much will only be around if we maintain and improve their habitat. The elk, deer, and turkey that make Fort Riley a paradise are here through forethought and past efforts to set aside food plots, maintain habitat, and actively manage game populations.

I am proud that the FROG continues to support habitat improvement. I am also proud of the members who volunteered their time to become

Hunter Safety Instructors, in sponsoring a target skill course and a Bow Hunter Safety Courses.

Additionally, the new 3D Archery Course is almost ready. This project has been two years in  
(Continued on page 3)



President Donn Grimes (right) assists during the youth turkey hunt. Kansas NWTf President John Adams is at left.

## FROG Trap Shoot June 6— Sportsmen's Acres—Free Hot Dogs!

Special points of interest:

- President Donn Grimes says farewell
- Trap Shoot June 6th at Sportsmen's Acres
- Youth Turkey Hunt Huge Success
- Catfish Stocked
- Elk Tags Available Soon
- FROG Mission, Key Tasks, and Endstate

The FROG is sponsoring a Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Trap Shoot at Sportsman's Acres in Junction City on Wednesday, 6 June at 1830.

This will be a 50 target tournament (possibly 100, depending on how many sign up).

FROG will provide free hot dogs, chips and sodas. Grill is available if you want to bring your own meat other than hotdogs.

Families are welcome. If anyone wants to bring



their own beer for after the shoot, that's OK.

If you plan to go, please send a note to [fortrileyoutdoorsmengroup@yahoo.com](mailto:fortrileyoutdoorsmengroup@yahoo.com) no later than 1 June so we can ensure we have enough food and personnel to run the traps.

If you would like to volunteer to help grill dogs and serve food, please let us know as well.

If you've never shot trap before, this is a great opportunity! There will be a nominal fee to cover expenses.

## Youth Spring Turkey Hunt - A Huge Success!

**A** dozen youths and their parents filled the conservation office Thursday evening, April 26th, to learn a little about turkeys, hunting, and safety.

The youths got an overview of turkey hunting, with the opportunity to squawk on box calls for a while.

During the turkey identification portion (hen, jake, or tom), the youths got a chance to see a big gobbler up close and personal. One of our game wardens brought a recently killed tom into the room, causing quite a commotion!

Steve Wahle then provided a great orientation to hunting on Fort Riley. Steve has an uncanny ability to hoot like an owl, which the youths enjoyed tremendously.

Next, it was out to the range, to fire shotguns. Each of the youths fired, demonstrating control of the shotgun and gaining a little more confidence in their abilities.

After linking up with their guides, the youths went back home to prepare for Saturday's hunt.

Saturday broke clear and cool, with toms gobbling all across Fort Riley. Within 1/2 hour of sunrise, Colton Reeves had killed his first tom. His guide Tim Skelton started "with a lost hen yep and broke into a fighting purr a couple of times." "The tom came in to challenge the jake decoy and that's when Colton put it on him at 15 yards." CPT Don Reeves accompanied his son.

Nicholas Dombrowski took his bird before the youth hunt with his father, 1SG Mark Dombrowski. Mark says they spooked a hen and decided to set up. "About 15 minutes went by when we heard the first yelps . . . The Tom gobbled once and we just kept on purring and giving soft yelps . . . It popped up 10 yards away which was a lot closer than Nicholas thought it would be. I had felt his hearting pumping as he was leaning against me! . . . He shot twice and the Tom went down."

Chris Kubik took a late morning gobbler as well, killing his bird at about 9:30 a.m. His youth partner Jack Bates got a pair of toms to gobble with his new box call skills. A few purrs and leaf scratches brought the birds into range.

Many thanks to the parents and guardians who brought their youths to the hunt. Getting up at 4 a.m. on a Saturdays really shows how much you care for your youth.

Many thanks as well to the organizers, guides and instructors: Mark Dombrowski, Chris Kubik, Steve Wahle, Donn Grimes, Jim Walmann, Tim Skelton, Gordon Allen, Troy Mattingly, Shawn Stratton, Dave Seigel, CSM Wright, and Kansas NWTFF President John Adams.

We hope to repeat this success for next year's hunt!



CPT Don Reeves and his son Colton pose next to a big Eastern. Colton took the gobbler. Tim Skelton of DOIM guided.



1SG Mark Dombrowski's 7 year old son Nicholas with his big 2007 Rio Grande tom: 10.5" beard and 1" spurs!



Jack Bates (L) and Chris Kubik (R) with their gobbler. Jack located the turkey with a box call, and Chris shot it. Jack is holding a nice shed he found.

## Notes from the Conservation Department

The application deadline for 2007 elk tags is July 13, 2007. Applications will be available in June from Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks.

A total of 7 any-elk permits and 12 antlerless-only elk permits were authorized for the 2007 limited draw.

For further information, contact the KDWP, Pratt Office @ 620-672-5911.

Channel Catfish were stocked in installation ponds on April 30<sup>th</sup> and the other stockings are

scheduled on the stocking sheet.

Stocking sheets may be viewed at the Conservation office or online at: <http://www.riley.army.mil/view/article.asp?id=654-2003-06-03-29613-86>.

The only license you need to fish on Fort Riley is a state of Kansas fishing license. Trout anglers must also have a Kansas Trout Permit from October 15 - April 15.

Spring Turkey Season: The

2007 season is well underway with over 70 birds reported harvested thus far.

Just as a reminder - everyone hunting spring turkeys on Fort Riley must go through a mandatory turkey briefing at the Conservation office.

After the briefing you will receive a 2007 Fort Riley Spring Turkey Card. The briefings will continue throughout the season. The Conservation office hours are from 0730-1600 Monday through Friday.



Bull elk in Area P here on Fort Riley (OK, maybe not!)

## Notes from the President, continued

the making. As with our other projects, the FROG has great expectations limited only by our collective imagination and our ability to work together.

Lastly, I am proud that we have been true to our charter and supported a very successful youth deer hunt and turkey hunt. Keeping safety in the forefront, we provided hunter safety skill training, target train-

ing and then took the youth to the field where some were successful taking game.

As my family and I ready to depart Fort Riley, I want to say thank you for the fantastic support you have given to the FROG. You have made our organization what it is today and you have helped establish the vision of what the FROG promises to be tomorrow.

Through all of our efforts, from skills to conservation, the FROG has made a difference on Fort Riley.

It has been my great pleasure to work with you and our FROG Executive Council. I wish all of you the best. I ask all of you to continue to push the work along.

Thank you.



Fort Riley will soon be home to a 3D archery range, along with a static archery range.

## 12 year old Dylan McSherley lands 37 lb Carp

Dylan McSherley left his home at 0430 Saturday morning, 28 April. His mission: kill his second spring gobbler.

Last year, he out-hunted his dad, bagging a big bird. This year, his dad isn't here to take Dylan out, so his mother signed him up for the youth

spring turkey hunt. Dylan and his guide chased gobblers all morning, but had no luck in convincing one to ride home with them.

Dylan's day was not done yet! His mom took him out fishing, and Dylan managed to land this giant carp, caught at Hom-

ers pond. Dylan was using a minnow soft bait lure.

It took him a little while to get it in close enough to use the net but then using the net he was able to get it on shore.

Congratulations to Dylan and keep after those gobblers!



12 year old Dylan McSherley with a giant carp. After photos, Dylan released the fish back into the water.



## 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 COUNCIL MEMBER, OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE ADDED TO OUR DISTRO LIST, PLEASE CONTACT A COUNCIL MEMBER OR EMAIL US AT:

[fortrileyoutdoorsmengroup@yahoo.com](mailto:fortrileyoutdoorsmengroup@yahoo.com)

## *Presidents and Executive Council*

Presidents:

**Ricky Gibbs\***, Donn Grimes, Alan Hynek.

Executive Council:

<b>Jim Champagne*</b>	Adam Hastert	Dave Seigel
<b>Brent Cummings*</b>	<b>Ron Henely*</b>	Shawn Stratton
<b>Brian Derrick*</b>	Mike Houck	Steve Wahle
Mark Dombrowski	Ryan Jones	Jim Walmann
Gordon Allen	Chris Kubik	Terry Young
Paul Graves	Troy Mattingly	<b>'Zim' Zimmerman*</b>

**\* Deployed**