



NEWSLETTER

OUR GOAL: To Promote, Preserve, and Experience One of the Greatest Southern Traditions Known... Quail Hunting.

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Momentum Continues to Build for the 'New' NBCI

The "new" National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative, NBCI 2.0, continues to gain momentum as summer winds down and fall approaches. Both the Northeast Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies and the Midwest Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies recently renewed their commitment to supporting NBCI's range-wide strategy for wild quail restoration. These regional wildlife agency associations, along with the Southeastern Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies where NBCI was originally launched, represent all the core bobwhite states.

The beta version of NBCI 2.0 was unveiled March 17 in Kansas City at the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, and the new digital, online tools developed for biologists as part of the initiative are being fine-tuned by Tall Timbers Research Station in Tallahassee, Florida. In August, state quail coordinators will be trained to use the tools, designed to make identifying, planning and launching quail habitat projects easier and more efficient, at the annual meeting of the National Bobwhite Technical Committee, according to NBCI Science Coordinator Dr. Tom Dailey.

"This NBTC meeting will be different from all the earlier meetings," said Dailey. "This is the first meeting where the state quail coordinators are the focus. They will be provided the training to use the NBCI tools to 'step down' the NBCI strategy to the respective state level, based on the individual state's objectives.

"We will also be working to standardize an inventory of the status of the respective state quail programs, quail populations and hunting activity. And we will be developing an annual "State of the Bobwhite" report for the first time, including actions the individual states are taking to first slow the decline and then build the populations.



"Between now and December there will be a lot of work done on translating NBCI's approach to specific states," Dailey predicted. "We expect the first three states to make some announcements at or shortly after the Tallahassee meeting."

Alabama's new quail coordinator, Carrie Johnson, plans to be in the thick of the action at the Florida meeting.

"I'm really looking forward to learning more about the NBCI strategy and how different states are embracing and using it," said Johnson. "I hope to bring a lot of ideas back to Alabama."

For more information check out the NBCI website: www.bringbackbobwhites.org.



EPIC OUTDOOR Game Fair

Are you looking for a great event where the whole family can learn about and get better at all your favorite outdoor pursuits? Then the first annual EPIC Outdoor Game Fair, hosted by Safari Club International Foundation and Quail Unlimited, is the place to be this fall.

Scheduled for September 23-25, 2011 at the Foxhall Resort and Sporting Club outside Atlanta, GA, the EPIC Outdoor Game Fair is going to have a first-rate lineup of activities that cater to outdoor enthusiasts with all levels of experience. EPIC stands for Education, Participation, Instruction and Competition, and the villages spread across Foxhall's 1,100 acres along the Chattahoochee River will provide just that.

Shooting Sportsman Magazine, Beretta, Laser Shot, Crosman and John Rigby & Co are headlining the Shooting Village that will include shotgun sports, shooting simulators and airgun venues, expert instruction, and the unique opportunity to field test fine guns that will be available for sale onsite.

The Canine Village is sponsored by Eukanuba and will feature Scott Linden, host of the TV show Wingshooting USA, will be a featured speaker presenting his popular Bird Hunting Boot Camp: What the Dogs Teach Us seminar daily. Linden's Boot Camp offers something for novices and seasoned hunters, he says. Much of the information comes from his careful observation of the more than 150 dogs he's hunted with while making Wingshooting USA. Insights and advice from shooting to dog training, bird behavior, hunting strategies, shortcuts, tips and tactics are included in a fast-paced, interactive presentation. There will also be "ask the pro" sessions and numerous opportunities for hands-on training seminars with the industry's top trainers.

Mossy Oak is sponsoring the Archery Village that will include 3-D courses, sporting arrows and other archery sports.

A Birds of Prey area, led by Earthquest, Inc., will include live displays of owls, falcons, hawks and other raptors,

as well as daily flight demonstrations and seminars on falconry and wildlife rehabilitation. In addition, there will be fishing, ATV, and equestrian villages, plus nature activities, numerous vendors, concerts and much, much more.

The EPIC Outdoor Game Fair is shaping up to be a huge outdoor recreation festival and anyone with an interest in outdoor sports needs to make the time to be there.

Tickets are now on sale at www.EPICGAMEFair.org. Tickets bought in advance are cheaper than onsite admission prices, and discounted 3-day event packages are only available online.

See you at the EPIC Outdoor Game Fair!

If you've seen this logo, then you've probably seen the most recognized hat worn by serious quail hunters.



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Cullman Lease Update

AQH is the benefactor of Mike Barlow's retirement. Mike has been very active in preparing and planting wildlife food plots this spring.

An estimated 7 acres have been planted and more is being prepared.

Harold Ridgeway, Bill Warren, Jim Watkins and Steve Lecroy have been generous in loaning us equipment.

In order to have a successful hunting season in the fall work will be on-going all summer. There are several small jobs that can be done anytime someone has time.

Contact Frank or Bob to volunteer.

Welcome To Our Newest Members

Phillip Crow from Andalusia

Be sure to visit AQH online:
www.AlabamaQuailHunters.org

For Sale:

2008- Kawasaki 3010 4X4 bird hunting utility vehicle.

- Only 80 hours of use
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HEY FOLKS

Hey Folks, At our March meeting, a representative of the Alabama Forestry Commission, Mr. Jeter spoke to our club. At the beginning of his presentation, he mentioned that state funding for his agency was declining, resulting in employee lay-offs and fewer capital purchases.

The continued affects of this declining funding has been that to fight the wild fires in Orange Beach prior to Independence Day, Florida's Department of Natural Resources fire fighting unit had to be called to assist.

I recently called a Mr. Holly, a theft investigator in AL Department of Agriculture and Industries to ask for assistance in a theft matter. He informed me that the entire department of theft investigation had been closed out. Additionally, I was recently privileged to attend a conference on behalf of AL Department of Wildlife and Fresh Water Fisheries in Clarke County at Hal's Lake. They too have been downsizing to adapt to the reduced funds.

You may conclude that all state agencies are experiencing financial hardships. Not true! The State of Alabama Medicaid and Prisons are operating with increased funding. You may be surprised to learn Wildlife and Fresh Water Fisheries does not receive their budget money from the Alabama General Fund. Their funding is from you, hunters and anglers buying hunting and fishing licenses.

The AL license sales money, directly funds the protection of our wildlife species. Every dollar you spend on purchasing a license is matched 3 to 1 by the Pittman Robinson Act. Lifetime license purchases are also included. To reduce cost Game wardens are using radios and Southern Linc cell phones to be more available to calls such as trespasses. Thus, it is extremely important that you purchase your hunting and fishing license to protect the game and fish we enjoy and pursue. Buy them as gifts for your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews and take them with you as you teach them the pleasures of enjoying hunting, fishing and the fresh air of God's creation.

Frank Harris

President

Treasurer's Desk

Please check your AQH Newsletter mailing label. If "12-11" does not follow your name, my records show that you have not yet paid your 2011 dues payable to all AQH members on January 1st. Please mail me your check made out to AL Quail Hunters & mail to 1901 Morgan Road, Bessemer, AL 35022. Your annual \$15.00 dues are income tax deductible. If I have made an error, email me at coalcarr@bham.rr.com or call me during office hours at (205) 424-1381.

Bob Carr

AQH Treasurer

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Renewal

2011 DUES – \$15.00

Check Payable to "Alabama Quail Hunters"

For more information call N. H. Holt @ 205-936-6293 or contact:



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Alabama Quail Hunters

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