



**ISA OnTarget**  
Irwin Sportsmen's Association Newsletter

[www.irwinsportsmen.com](http://www.irwinsportsmen.com)  
P.O. Box 225, (995 Oakside Dr.)  
Irwin, PA. 15642

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## The Fourth of July

Also known as Independence Day or July 4th—has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution. On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues. The Fourth of July 2021 is on Sunday, July 4, 2021; the federal holiday will be observed on Monday, July 5, 2021.

When the initial battles in the Revolutionary War broke out in April 1775, few colonists desired complete independence from Great Britain, and those who did were considered radical.

By the middle of the following year, however, many more colonists had come to favor independence, thanks to growing hostility against Britain and the spread of revolutionary sentiments such as those expressed in the bestselling pamphlet "Common Sense," published by Thomas Paine in early 1776.

On June 7, when the Continental Congress met at the Pennsylvania State House (later Independence Hall) in Philadelphia, the Virginia delegate Richard Henry Lee introduced a motion calling for the colonies' independence.

Amid heated debate, Congress postponed the vote on Lee's resolution, but appointed a five-man committee—including Thomas Jefferson of Virginia, John Adams of Massachusetts, Roger Sherman of Connecticut, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania and Robert R. Livingston of New York—to draft a formal statement justifying the break with Great Britain.

### Anglers are expecting a fisherman's paradise

The Brood X cicadas are expected to emerge after a 17-year slumber and the high-protein insects are delicious food for a variety of fish.

Eric Hussar of Lewisburg, a commissioner with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, is looking forward to the cicada hatch. He said you can catch trout and bass with these insects. "Any type of predatory fish will eat them," Hussar said, recalling the last time he fished during an emergence of cicadas.

"It's like a steak to these fish. Like a big filet mignon. It's a pretty incredible sight to see," he said. Hussar said during the peak there will be insects on the ground and in the trees and some will fall into the water. "It's a like a protein bar" for fish, he said.

## HUNTING AT 105 YEARS OF AGE

Clyde Roberts turned 105 years young on October 29th and celebrated the occasion by spending the first five afternoons of Virginia's muzzle-loading deer season (excluding Sunday) sitting in his 20-foot tree stand. During that period, Clyde passed up opportunities at a number of young bucks feeding past his stand. Then, on Wednesday, and with an outdoor writer from Field & Stream Magazine sitting beside him, Virginia's deer-hunting hero dropped a fat, 8-pointer in his tracks at about 70 yards. The episode seemed an answer to Mr. Roberts' prayers, which he claims was asking God to allow him the strength and endurance to climb that ladder to bag one more buck.



And, invitations are coming in from around the state for Clyde to hunt other places. With renewed energy, no doubt he will travel to some pretty exciting places – like Ward Burton's Cove in Halifax County and beyond. Stay tuned folks, there is obviously more to this story!

### For sale

\*\* Ruger MK I standard pistol blued 6 inch tapered barrel 22 lr one mag 275.00

\*\* Ruger MK II standard pistol blued 6 inch tapered barrel 22lr one mag. 325.00

Both in excellent condition

Home 724-733-4715 Cell. 724-433-3416

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There is no need for anyone to work alone. Please call one of the following so that they can assist and provide additional safety.  
Smokey Burdin 724-396-9627 M-F 9-5  
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Rich Boehm 724-953-4778

## Musings from Our President

It's 5 am and I am sitting at my computer looking at a blank screen and wondering why. Due to changes that have occurred in my life, this is when my day begins.

No one likes changes whether they are thrust upon you or you have chosen them, it is inevitable that they happen. To deal with those changes, it takes a commitment of time and sometimes money.

Recently, I have heard people say "that this club is going nowhere" and "there is no change, it is the same and it will never change".

While it is true that we are land locked, there are so many things that can happen within our "land-locked" club. Committees can be formed; ideas for improvements can be brought before the board, etc.

It all doesn't have to revolve around shooting. Do you have a skill or talent that you would like to share? Would you like to do a presentation on hunting, fishing, archery, preserving/harvesting game, baking, cooking, crafts, etc.? Do you have a suggestion that would benefit the club and its members?

Not all ideas and suggestions will come to fruition, but will be considered by the board.

Remember for changes to occur, two things happen. One is to sit and complain that nothing happens and it will never change. The other is to do something about it.

So I ask, what are you willing to do for your club and its members?

Joyce

The Junior Rifle Club will be selling hoagies on the following date: July 10. Contact Paul Angelicchio at 724-864-2026 if you have questions and need the locations on those dates. Thank you for supporting the club and allowing them to finance their various shooting competition trips.

**MYTH: If some person tromps close to your stand, that spot is ruined for the day**

One November morning Indiana hunter Chris Thomas went to his ladder stand and got a shock — some slime bag had ripped it off! Chris was royally bummed and didn't know what to do. He plopped down beside the tree to think, and just after sunrise a gang of pumpkin-colored hunters marched by on a deer drive.

What the heck else could go wrong?

Chris had nothing better to do, so he sat tight. Two hours later he looked up bug-eyed as a huge buck raced down the ridge with some does. He aimed his shotgun, and the buck tumbled over. Chris' tenacity rewarded him with a 198-inch non-typical giant.

It clearly happens on public ground and can occur on private land. When another hunter walks under your treestand, or roars by your blind on an ATV, you're naturally going to think he spooked every deer within a mile. You'll get mad and flustered and want to move to a new spot or go home.

Don't. As long as the intruder hikes or drives on and gets gone in a hurry, sit tight. A buck might have been 150 yards away, standing stock-still and hidden in thick cover until the intruder passed. Or a 10-pointer might have been a half-mile away and was never aware of the guy's disturbance. Either way, a shooter buck might stroll into sight 20 minutes or three hours later and turn a miserable start into an epic hunt.

**MYTH: The more acres you hunt, the better your chances.**

Dieter Herbert is a 27-year-old New York City carpenter who bowhunts the suburbs near his home on Long Island. Most of the tracts that Dieter hunts are 20 acres tops — big enough to hide a big deer, and small enough for one man to scout and hunt effectively.

In November 2019 a huge buck with a split G-4 popped up on one of his trail cameras. Dieter scouted and tracked the beast for a year, and last Halloween [he shot him](#). The giant net-scored 197 4/8, the new state-record typical bow kill.

It's human nature to think that the bigger the farm or woods you hunt, the better your chances of killing big deer. No, just the opposite in many cases.

When you hunt a public area or a private farm or wood of 200 to 2,000 acres, you'll have to share the land with a few to an army of other hunters. People will roam and drive all over the place and hang treestands. To a mature buck, pressure changes everything, and it takes only a few days of that fracas for him to deep-dive for cover and go nocturnal.

Think about those small and likely un hunted woodlots and thickets near home that you drive past every day. If you can get sole permission to hunt 10 to 40 acres in just the right spot, you'll be able to scout it and hunt it the way you want to, like Dieter Herbert does in the New York suburbs. I doubt you'll shoot the next state record, but putting an arrow into a 130- to 150-inch buck is very doable.

**Welcome New Members**

Enjoy your membership....Questions?

**ISA Info**

- Gate open if anyone is on property...Gate closed & locked if you are the last one to leave. If you unlock the clubhouse, make sure it is locked if you are the last one out.
- See our calendar on the webpage for activity dates and times.



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