

Helpful hen provides assistance



BILL PARKER

There's no better teacher than the source.

A tom turkey was gobbling boisterously from a large oak on the edge of a nearby orchard as I snapped on my fanny pack and removed my 12 gauge from its case.

I had received permission to hunt a farm in southern Montgomery County with the stipulation that I "stay on the property and away from the orchard, the barns and the horses."

"I just my luck," I thought, as a second tom let loose with a hoarse call from the midst of the forbidden zone near the orchard. It was pre-dawn and the birds were active, but they were centered too close to the house.

I tried to ignore the enthralling chorus and headed away from the house along the edge of the barns to a stand of jack pines at the far end of the property. There were plenty of tracks and fresh signs of both birds and roosting trees in that area and my plan was to intercept a tom as he came down from the roost.

Engulfed in darkness, I snuck cautiously and quietly along the wooded property line. As I passed under large maple a pair of roost-

ing hens erupted into flight with the roar of a stealth jet. After regaining my breath and allowing my heart to settle back down to a normal rate I continued toward the back of the property.

I set my decoy on the top edge of a small knoll and positioned myself 20 yards away beneath a large jack pine. I could still hear the concert in the orchard which was now two hay fields and some 350-yards away. As daylight trickled through the budding trees I picked up the source of the music with my binoculars. Four toms — two in full strut — and three hens. My adrenalin raced like a sprinter, but common sense calmed my nervousness. "I'll never be able to call them this far. Plus, they seem pretty content in the forbidden zone."

Still, I had to try. I gave a few yelps and was amazed at the response. The feathers fanned out, necks stiffened and gobbles came roaring back.

"Well, at least they can hear me," I assured myself. "Now if I can lure them my way."

"Fat chance," I argued. "The toms were with hens."

"Yes, but maybe one of them will break away and investigate my hen on the hill," I tried to stay optimistic.

Help on the wing

Despite the response, the small

flock wandered through the orchard then disappeared from sight. I was almost ready to give up when one of the toms appeared at the edge of the hay field.

As the decoy swayed in a cool morning breeze I offered a series of yelps.

"GOBBLE, GOBBLE, GOBBLE, GOBBLE, GOBBLE," responded the tom.

He started across the hay field at a slow, methodical pace, fanning his tail and gobbling along the way, particularly when the decoy moved in the breeze. But about 75 yards away he stopped to stand his ground.

He gobbled and strutted and pranced back-and-forth, but would come no closer. After waiting several minutes I decided to play my trump card and let loose with an urgent cackle. The tom gobbled once more and proudly fanned his tail feathers but still wouldn't come any closer. Finally he turned around and started back toward the rest of the flock.

"*%#!," I gumbled, at the prospect of slipping to 0-for-5 years of spring turkey hunting. But Lady Luck was at my side and a local hen came to the rescue.

Now I've studied several turkey calling tapes and received tips from expert callers, but there's no topping a lesson from a real professional.

The hen was close behind me and as the tom turned away, she

immediately began cutting — something I hadn't tried. The tom responded immediately.

"GOBBLE, GOBBLE, GOBBLE, GOBBLE, GOBBLE."

The hen called twice then abruptly fell silent as the tom moved to within 60 yards then hung up again. I started cutting like the hen had and the ol' boy fanned his tail and came trudging toward my decoy.

He gobbled aggressively as he neared the base of the knoll I was perched upon. After a moment of eternal silence a small white head bobbed above the grassy crest of the hill.

"Patience," I thought. "Let him come all the way in."

He disappeared beneath the crest but reappeared moments later. This time he came all the way to the top of the hill. It was 6:55 a.m. on the last day I could hunt when my 1993 spring wild turkey season came to an end. The tom dressed out at 17 pounds. He had a small four-inch beard but a full fan and a pair of healthy 1/4-inch spurs.

(Hunters and anglers are urged to report their success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to: Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009 or call Bill Parker 6-10 p.m. Monday at 644-1101, ext. 241.)

Senior bowlers star at tourney



AL HARRISON

some fine competition. The starting field of 160 entrants was reduced to the 38 qualifiers for final head-to-head matches.

The high qualifier was Phil Horowitz of West Bloomfield with an eight-game total of 1,813. The final matches were hotly contested in a double-elimination format and Lou Ivancik of Wyandotte came through as the first Senior Masters champion.

Lou earned \$1,500 for his efforts along with the trophy which he will receive at the Awards Dinner on June 24th. Hall-of-Famer Fred Vitale of Farmington Hills came in seventh while the eighth spot went to Tom Hensman, also of Farmington Hills.

Rochester's Bill Haynes finished ninth, Bob Chuba from Garden City was 12th, Terrell Sel, Redford, came in 16th; Sal Cadillac, Troy, was 18th; Ruddy Pittaway, Canton, 23rd; Horowitz ended up in the 25th spot and Alvar Freden of Farmington Hills cashed in at the 30th spot.

Milo Quilton, formerly of Westland came in 31st, and many readers might remember Milo, for he is the bowler who survived two severe strokes to come back on the lanes.

Horowitz set tournament records for high four-game series (952) and high series for eight games (1813).

Clifton, Ward fill spring turkey tags

For turkey hunter Ron Clifton the adage "There's no place like home" holds a special significance.

"I've been hunting (turkey) ever since the state started offering permits," explained the 50-year-old Livonia hunter. "I've hunted them in Cadillac, Mio, Farview, all over the state. I've hunted them in the spring and the fall, but I've never got one. And I've never hunted them on private land."

Until this spring that is. Clifton and his relatives pur-

chased 40 acres of hunting land near Sand Lake last year and Clifton was at the cabin on Sunday, April 25, the day before opening day of the 1993 spring turkey season setting up a blind and a couple decoys.

"The only problem was that I over slept Monday morning and didn't get into the woods until a quarter after seven," admitted Clifton. "As soon as I got out there I heard one gobbling so I gave a few yelps and he started to come right in."

The two-year-old tom made his way in to about 40-yards then hung up on Clifton. Finally, after some soft, but persistent yelps from his box call Clifton enticed the bird to continue in his direction.

"He went into full strut in front of my decoys," Clifton said. "When he turned his back and his head was hidden behind his fan I raised my gun and when he turned back around toward me I dropped him right in his tracks."

The bird dressed-out at 17 1/2 pounds and sported an eight-inch

beard and 1/4-inch spurs. Jack Ward took his first tom last Saturday morning on private property near Clare.

Ward and his hunting partner John Parker heard a tom gobbling and set up about 100 yards away. Ward was the shooter and as Parker clucked and purred on a box call, the tom came strutting down an old railroad grade within 35-yards of Ward.

The 35-year-old Royal Oak resident used one shot to roll a 15-pounder with an eight-inch beard.

BATHTUB REFINISHING
10 YEAR WRITTEN WARRANTY
SAVE 80% OVER REPLACEMENT

\$199.00 CERAMIC TILE

STANDARD TUB FREE CAULKING

Appliances • Cinks • Tile and Countertop Reglazing • Chip and Scratch Repair

427-3838

LaFata **FACTORY INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE**

CABINETS

50905 Hayes (Just S of 23 Mile Rd.) 2-47-4440

HURRY Sale Ends May 29, 1993

Kitchens, bathrooms, offices, entertainment centers, excess cabinets, displays and much more! Nothing is impossible. Just bring in a sketch and let one of the designers at any local authorized LaFata Dealer make your dreams become a reality.

STERLING IMPROVEMENTS & DESIGN Sterling Heights 977-2000	KITCHEN WORKS Troy 828-3373
AUBURN KITCHEN & BATH Rochester Hills 853-2773	ROYAL RADIO & APPLIANCE Royal Oak 548-8711
RIVERSIDE KITCHEN & BATH St. Clair Shores 293-3130	P & S KITCHEN AND BATH New Baltimore 725-7900
WOODLAND KITCHEN & BATH Clawson 435-4748	CHIRRI BUILDERS Northville 348-7508

DATES AND EVENTS

FREE CAMPING
The Michigan Department of Natural Resources will waive all camping fees, reservation fees and the state park motor vehicle permit fees at 11 designated state parks this Saturday and Sunday, (617) 373-1270.

WHEELCHAIR OUTING
Members of the Four Seasons Fishing Club invite anyone confined to a wheelchair to be their guest at a fishing outing scheduled for 7 a.m. - 2 p.m. Saturday, June 19, at Wilcox Lake in Plymouth. Reservations must be in by June 15, 631-6665 or 422-4376.

DATES/DEADLINES
Base season opens Saturday. (Check the DNR 1993 Michigan

Fishing Guide for details.)
Michigan's Free Fishing Week is June 12-13.

FISHING CLUB MEETINGS
The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Maplewood Center in Garden City, 477-3816.

The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month at the

Livonia Clarenceville Junior High School, 420-2223.

Romeo B.A.S.S. Busters meet 7 p.m. the first Tuesday of each month at the Romeo Community Youth and Civic Center, 286-6463.

OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS
See **OUTDOORS, 5B**

GO CARTS • MINI BIKES

SALE FROM

MOPEDS.....\$695

CARTS.....\$439.95
1 & 2 Seats

MINI BIKES.....\$419.95

ATV CARTS.....\$729.95 & up

POLARIS ATVS SAVE \$100

LaBARON'S 313-585-3535
34711 DEQUINDRE • TROY • S. OF 15 MILE



We've always looked for quality. Only The Trowbridge measures up.

Go ahead. Shop around. No community matches our level of service. Sure, we may be a little more, but you'll get the quality you deserve. So look at them all, then visit The Trowbridge. We're confident you'll go with the best. Write or call (313) 382-0208.

- Spacious, elegant apartments
- Restaurant style dining nightly
- Weekly housekeeping service
- Weekly linen service
- Full activities & events calendar
- Flexible transportation service
- 24-hour concierge
- Valet parking
- Snack shoppes
- Full service hair salon

THE TROWBRIDGE
A PREMIER RESIDENT RETIREMENT COMMUNITY

Name: OAO 520-88
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____

MAIL TO: 24111 CIVIC CENTER DRIVE, SOUTHFIELD, MI 48034

GIVE THE POWER TO BECOME.

This \$30 Offer Is Full of Holes

1993 Golf Privilege Card*
Free Greens Fees at more than 100 courses!
1-800-678-LUNG

AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION of Michigan
Sponsored by the publisher as a public service.

Do It Yourself and Save!

VINYL SIDING
30 YEAR WARRANTY
\$34.95 per sq. ft.
Colors Available \$2.00 sq. extra

Aluminum Coil Stock
24"x50 ft.
\$39.95 roll
White or other colors

Aluminum Soffit
5VP-10 white and colors
\$56.95 sq.

Aluminum Seamless Gutters
Cut to any length while you wait.
69¢ ft., .027 Gauge

Vinyl/Replacement Windows
5/8" U.I.
Easy Clearing
Trendsetter
\$79.95 ea.

Dark Brown Vinyl Soffit
ON SALE \$29.95 sq.

Custom Trim
Bring in your measurements. We will custom-fit your trim any color, any shape.

DETROIT 4460 E. 14 Mile Rd. Detroit, MI 48214-2002

PONTIAC 6437 W. Warren Rd. Waterford, MI 48094-8800

LIVONIA 39415 Livonia Rd. (1 Mi. E. of Middlebelt) 478-8884

INSTER 5000 W. Middlebelt Rd. (1 Mi. E. of Michigan) 728-0400

WYANDOTTE 2151 Eureka Rd. (1 Mi. S. of I-75) 241-1177

QUARTERS Limited • One Sq. = 100 Sq. Ft.

SIDING WORLD

FREE Instruction Books

WYANDOTTE 2151 Eureka Rd. (1 Mi. S. of I-75) 241-1177