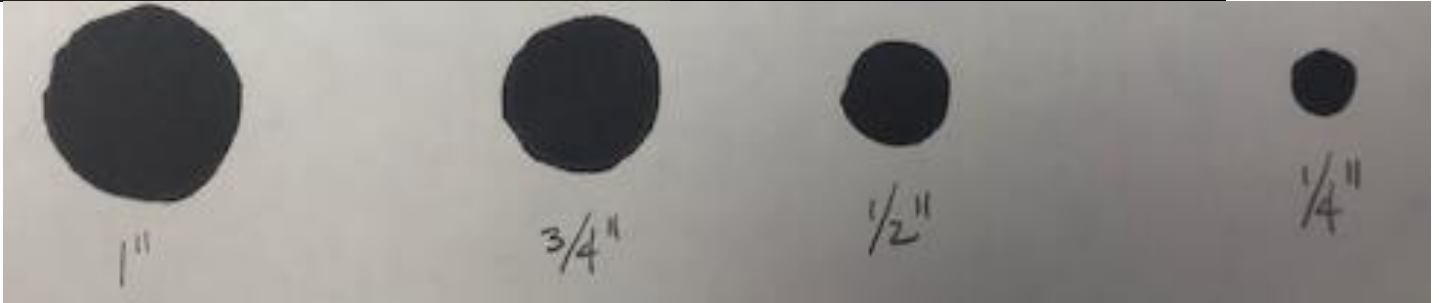


*Las Vegas Woods and Waters*  
Since 1991  
**GAMEBAG**  
*"all we want to do is hunt and fish and talk about it"*



August 2020, Issue 344

## August 12th Lunch Program:



Can you hit these targets at 40 yards? Come out and prove it.

## August 15 Know Your Limits (KYL) Shoot at CCSC honcho Jeff Bryant



Sign up 7-7:30 **Match starts at 7:45 am** (no late sign ups) cost is \$20  
CCSC Training Center 50 yard range  
Match is four sets, (prepare to shoot 50 rounds), all shot from the bench,  
Any 22 Long Rifle "NO Magnums" Any scope limited to 10x, red dot or laser,  
remember the smallest target is 1/4" at 40 yards Jeff Bryant 275-1400

This is 22 long rifle Sharp Shooting and Gambling in all one.  
There are eight targets ranging from 2" down to 1/4" in 1/4" increments. They  
are placed at 40 yards. You will have 90 seconds to shoot a MAXIMUM of  
"EIGHT" shots. Remember your masks and practice social distancing.

Starting at the 2" target working your way in order down to the 1/4" target. Here is the kicker or gambling portion.  
You can stop shooting after hitting any target and keep the targets point values "one point per target", BUT, if you  
proceed on, when you miss, your score reverts to ZERO and you MUST start back at the 2" target "IF you have  
any of your eight shots left"

Targets must be shot in order, largest to smallest. Target must visibly "swing" to be counted as a hit (Range Officials  
decision is final). If a target is shot at and missed, you lose all accumulated points for that set. If a target is shot out of  
order, you lose all points for that set. You may stop at any time and keep all points earned for that set. If time runs out  
and you have not missed, you keep your points for that set. If you miss and still have any of your rounds remaining you  
can start from beginning again.

**Example:** if you started shooting and hit the first five targets and stopped you would get 5 points. If you shot at  
target number 6 (the 3/4" sized target) and missed you would start over back at the first target (2") and proceed  
on but you would only have the two remaining shots from your original eight loaded in your gun. That's why it's  
called "Know Your Limits" The shooter with the most points wins. Ties will be broken by head to head shoot out.



**Next meeting Wednesday September 9<sup>th</sup>, noon at LV National  
Golf Club located at 1911 E Desert Inn Road (Desert Inn/Eastern)  
price still \$20**





## Presidents Message...Mike Reese

August 1st is a very significant day here in Nevada as it means trail cameras can no longer be used during the hunting season and it's also the start of archery season!! Some nice Antelope have already been taken as well as a few Elk. The archery hunters are enduring lots of hot days and numerous fires. Obviously most of these animals have been taken by water holes and springs in the early mornings and late in the evenings.

Our August event is on Saturday August 15 up at the hunter education center. The details are in this months GameBag so browse through and we hope to see you there!!

I have another reminder to our group that none of the events or luncheons are mandatory! We understand the fears that may still linger and be relevant so everyone is to use their own personal judgment on whether to attend or not. Some people join just because of the wealth of information that comes from our group and its members. \$25 a year subscription is well worth the announcements that are emailed directly to you!

Sept 1st is just around the corner and that's the opener for the dove season! There are details in the GameBag for this years dove hunt down in Yuma so check them out.

This is my 4th year of not getting any tags but my son drew an area 23 bull elf tag for the black powder season so we have been out scouting a bunch and I've included a few pictures of what we have found so far. One evening at dusk we counted over 135 elk from one vantage point. There are a lot of bachelor herds out there right now and they should start bugling in another 2 weeks or so.

We have a request for an Eagle Valley fishing trip and we are looking for a honcho....anyone interested???

As you are out purchasing your outdoor gear please remember to support those that have and do support Woods and Waters!

Stay safe! **Mike Reese President 2020, 2011, 2008**



**Photos from Mikes scouting trips this summer**



## August 30-Sept 2 Yuma AZ Dove Hunt 2020 honcho Russ Johnson



Opening day this year is on a Tuesday so that, added to the COVID-19 mess may result in less hunters/competition.

Here are the details:

Drive down to Yuma, Arizona on Monday the 31<sup>st</sup> of August.

Hunt opening day Tuesday (Sept 1<sup>st</sup>) and Wednesday (Sept 2nd).

**Reserve your lodging now!!** All hotels are filling up quick since this is opening day of Dove Season.

Check <https://www.airbnb.com/> for available houses to rent.

Holiday Inn Express. Cost per night is around \$120 for double bed rooms.

Holiday Inn Express  
2044 South Avenue 3E  
Yuma, AZ. 85365  
Phone # 928/317-1400

Get your license online: <https://www.azgfd.com/license>

\*\*rates have changed. You pay per day now. Don't forget your dove stamp.

Last year we had a great hunt with most hunters getting their daily limit. We have scouted the territory and know the places to slay the birds so join us for the fun.

E-Mail Russ at [russ@cordcruncher.com](mailto:russ@cordcruncher.com) or call 702-271-0430 with any questions/concerns.

## LVWW Lunch August 12th at a new venue, Las Vegas National Golf Club located at 1911 E Desert Inn Road (near Eastern and Desert Inn).

The golf club is centrally located and easy to get to (just off the 95, south on Eastern to Desert Inn) it has ample parking, a large banquet room that can seat 100, and great food. They really want our business and will work with our group. The room will be set with round banquet tables allowing only 5-6 per table for proper social distancing. They will provide buffet style food with two servers. **Please RSVP to Mike Reese 400-6501** if you plan to attend, as this is our second time at LV National we want an accurate head count to save of food costs. July we had 27 RSVP and over 45 showed up.....luckily there was enough food and space for everyone. Please be considerate and RSVP for these first couple months until we get a feel for the amount of needed food and tables to be set. Remember your masks to get into the facility and practice social distancing.



Can anyone guess where this photo was taken? July 18, 2020 NV small community, within 250 miles of Las Vegas. Do you have a deer tag this year? In this unit? Have you been out scouting?



## Ruby Mtns Pack Trip photos....no story, pictures are worth 1000 words



### Gun Safety Mike Taylor

On my 12th birthday my Mom & Dad gave me a new Mossberg 20 gauge shotgun. Being a man of few words Dad condensed all of the NRA Safety Rules at the time into a succinct 5 word instruction: "Now, be careful with it".

Growing up in West Texas I hunted upland birds, waterfowl and game animals and shot all types of firearms. I blasted tons of glass Coke bottles and steel beer cans. (I loved how those steel cans jumped when you hit 'em.) Firearm maintenance, handling and safety were learned primarily from

friends and family through osmosis.

Fast forward to the 90s; I'm in the Las Vegas Woods and Waters Club and the NRA and taking CCW class and getting a more formal education in firearm safety. Then, a few years back, I got my certification as an NRA shotgun coach and stored all those safety rules in my brain and have been teaching them to kids and newbies. Now I'm teaching my grandkids how to handle fire-arms safely.

I've given you this dull and boring background so that you will understand how complacent we can become and how scary the results can be. At our last LVWWC pistol shoot I was up and firing at targets when I heard people behind me yelling for me to stop shooting. I still had bullets and targets left and I had no idea what was going on but I stopped firing and lowered my revolver. When it got down to around waist high it went off and sent a deadly .38 caliber wad cutter downrange.

Looking down the first thing I saw was that my finger was still inside the trigger guard. I couldn't believe that I had made such a serious mistake. I "never" do that. There could have been tragic consequences had the gun not been pointed downrange.

I apologize to everyone that was there that day for being so careless. I'm thankful that nothing serious came from my mistake and I pledge to be more attentive and aware. I hear you Dad

[www.LVWoodsandWaters.org](http://www.LVWoodsandWaters.org)



## Center Fire Pistol Dueling Tree Shoot Results



Dan Zelna, Tony Perkins, Ralph Willits the top shooters for the event

Thirteen members came out to brave the “perfect” weather and shoot against each other in the dueling tree competition. This was a pretty straight forward set up. The tree has 6 targets set up as 3 per side. Each shooter had a total of 6 shots. Push your 3 targets to the other side before your opponent can get his targets on your side. If you can’t get all 6 on one side, the side with the fewest targets wins. Ties were settled by a one shot per person until someone missed.

This was a double elimination format. Honcho Ralph Willits had all shooters names on a poker chip in a bucket, there was a random draw pulling out two names to shoot head to head. The winners went into a separate “winners” bucket and the losers went into another separate “losers” bucket.

In the next round two random names were pulled from the losers bucket, the winner went to the “winners” bucket and the loser (for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time) went home. This format went back and forth until there was one man standing. Tony Perkins finished in the top spot, followed by Ralph Willits and Dan Zelna in 3<sup>rd</sup>. Tony won \$60 in the Lewis Class prize pool while Ralph got \$40 and Dan \$20. 4<sup>th</sup> place went to Jeff Bryant, 5<sup>th</sup> Larry Cusimano, 6<sup>th</sup> Mike Taylor, 7<sup>th</sup> Mike Lussier, 8<sup>th</sup> Don Turner \$60, 9<sup>th</sup> Clayton Philipp \$40, 10<sup>th</sup> Al Schoelen \$20. Marksman of the Year standings have been shuffled with only a few more events left, it is still wide open on who will win.



Al Schoelen vs Larry Cusimano

Tony Perkins vs Ralph Willits  
Shooting for 1<sup>st</sup> place

Fred Huntowski vs Al Schoelen



## BUY – SELL - TRADE



Buyers & Sellers agree to obey all firearms laws and local regulations in all transactions and hold LVWW harmless. Hunting, Fishing Camping gear for sale: Ralph Willits has a pistol safe for sale, asking \$50. The combo doesn't work but the key entry is fine. Contact Ralph at 702 423-7444

Mike Reese has a 5'x7' trailer/tent all in one for sale, trailer sides fold down and tent goes on top, only used twice! Asking \$1,400 call Mike at 702 400-6501

**New Members:** Welcome new members Miles Duecker, Peter and Vincent Badalamenti to the club, make sure to get your free hat at lunch for joining.



### Lake Mead fishing Success

John Mitteness has been out at Lake Mead fishing this past month, and having some success. One evening he landed a 25 lb carp, the next week he landed a 25 lb catfish! That's like shooting 25 straight in trap! Nice job John. Looks like he's beating the heat by going out at night. Someone with that much experience at catching BIG fish should think about being the honcho for a fishing event next year. The club is always looking for new events and trying something new.

### LVWW Trap Team Captures First Place!

Did you know the club sponsors a Wednesday night trap league team? This is a long standing tradition of some 26-27-28 years running, shooting non-stop all year round, four separate 12-13 week seasons each year. The core of the team (shown left to right) **Paul Schoppe, Neil Dille, John Fenner, & Mike Taylor** have been shooting together since the beginning. When another longstanding member, John Gorman passed away 5-6 years ago **Brian Patterson** was added to the roster. Many others have shot as alternates or substitutes over the years.

This group has shot A LOT over the course of all those years and has had some success, placing in the top 5 several times. A few second place or third place finishes but never a

**FIRST PLACE** finish in over 100 attempts. Until now, the "winter" league was postponed on March 18<sup>th</sup> due to the virus, only one week left to complete the season and LVWW was in first place by a small margin of 0.5 points. There was a 15 week stoppage of the league until July 8 when the boys got back out to shoot again. There were concerns the team would not be ready, Neil just had knee replacement surgery, Paul just got all new teeth, Brian got new hearing aids, but John and Mike didn't need any new parts.



There was not much rust on these old boys as they came out smoking hot, they collected all 5 points available for the night and won the league for the first time! **CONGRATULATIONS LVWW Trap Team!**



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## LVWW Marksman Angler Events

August 15<sup>th</sup> Know Your Limits Shooting event at CCSC 7am  
 Honcho Jeff Bryant 702 275-1400  
 31-Sept 2 Yuma AZ Dove Hunt  
 Honcho Russ Johnson 271-0430

Sept 12<sup>th</sup> Fall Feast Sporting Clays Shoot at CCSC 8am  
 Honcho Mike & Scott Reese 400-6501  
 19-20<sup>th</sup> Eagle Valley fishing  
 We need a honcho, who will step up?

Oct No events Happy Hunting

Nov 21<sup>th</sup> Turkey Shoot at CCSC 1-5pm  
 Honcho Don Turner 602 799-6466



Stories or photos, contact GameBag  
 Editor Brian Patterson 715-2020

## In the News/Coming Events

Clark County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife (CAB)

Next Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup> 5:30pm-9:00pm stay tuned for updates if it will be held virtually or in person at Government Center, Pueblo room, 500 S Grand Central Pkwy. Your involvement is needed please show up to support NV wildlife issues.



## 2020 Marksman & Angler of the Year Standings

**Marksman of the Year**  
 2020 standings after 5/8 events

Ralph Willits	30 pts
Tony Perkins	25 pts
Michael Reese	24 pts
Brian Patterson	23 pts
Jeff Bryant	18 pts

**Angler of the Year**  
 2020 standings after 3/4 events

Brian Patterson	30.0 pts
Ralph Willits	14.0 pts
AJ Gagliardo	9.5 pts
Josh White	9.0 pts
3 tied at	8.5 pts

**All Around**  
 2020 Standings after 8/12 events

Brian Patterson	53 pts
Ralph Willits	44 pts
Tony Perkins	25 pts
Michael Reese	24 pts
Mark Forsstrom	18 pts

**"Things turn out best for the people who make the best out of the way things turn out"**  
 Art Linkletter



## The GameBag

Las Vegas Woods and Waters Club  
P. O. Box 29081  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89126-3081  
www. LVWoodsandWaters.org

Email: admin@lvwoodsandwaters.org  
Editor: Brian Patterson 702 715-2020

## 2020 Officers

President	Mike Reese
1st VP	Steve Peirce
2nd VP	Dave Talaga
Treasurer	Mike Reese
Secretary	Dennis Rusk
Warden	Al Schoelen
GameBag	Brian Patterson
Social Media	Reese/Patterson

## 2020 Directors

### 3-Year Term

David Peck  
John Quinn  
Steve Scott  
John Mitteness  
Dennis Rusk

### 2-Year Term

Steve Peirce  
Randy Peters  
Mike Stokes  
Duane LaDuke  
Steve Reiter

### 1-Year Term

Rich Beasley  
Ken Johnson  
Gordon Warren  
Bill Rocheleau  
Dave Talaga

Past President Brian Patterson

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION—LAS VEGAS WOODS & WATERS CLUB

PO Box 29081 Las Vegas, Nevada 89126-9081  
admin@lvwoodsandwaters.org

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Due with application \$25

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment: Check: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ MC \_\_\_\_\_

Acct. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_\_\_\_ CIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

“all we want to do is hunt, and fish and talk about it”



## Jokes



**FOR \$1200 WE'LL COME TO YOUR  
HOUSE DRESSED AS COVID-19  
RESCUE TEAM AND TAKE YOU  
FROM YOUR WIFE FOR A 14 DAY  
FISHING TRIP AND RETURN YOU**

### **THE BACK PEW - AMEN**

A pastor's wife was expecting a baby, so he stood before the congregation and asked for a raise. After much discussion, they passed a rule that whenever the pastor's family expanded; so would his paycheck.

After 6 children, this started to get expensive and the congregation decided to hold another meeting to discuss the pastor's expanding salary. A great deal of yelling and inner bickering ensued, as to how much the pastor's additional children were costing the church, and how much more it could potentially cost.

After listening to them for about an hour, the pastor rose from his chair and spoke, "Children are a gift from God, and we will take as many gifts as He gives us." Silence fell over the congregation.

In the back pew, a little old lady struggled to stand, and finally said in her frail voice, "Rain is also a gift from God, but when

we get too much of it, we wear rubbers." The entire congregation said, "Amen."

### ***IF MY BODY WERE A CAR...***

**If my body were a car, this is the time I would be thinking about trading it in for a newer model. I've got bumps and dents and scratches in my finish and my paint job is getting a little dull ... but that's not the worst of it. My headlights are out of focus and it's especially hard to see things up close.**

**My traction is not as graceful as it once was. I slip and slide and skid and bump into things even in the best of weather. My whitewalls are stained with varicose veins.**

**It takes me hours to reach my maximum speed. My fuel rate burns inefficiently.**

**But here's the worst of it –**

**Almost every time I sneeze, cough or sputter ... either my radiator leaks or my exhaust backfires!**



Photos:

Jeff Jorgensen fishing at Panguitch Lake, pulled his rig right up to the waters edge and fished in stocking feet from his back deck....very casual.

Our first lunch meeting at LV National



Bears and deer at close range, less than 20 yards.

[www.LVWoodsandWaters.org](http://www.LVWoodsandWaters.org)



## How to Scout Summer Mule Deer by Mike Eastman

To produce big results on big mule deer, [scouting or locating](#) a buck ahead of time is one of the most effective tools to bringing home a big deer. Scouting and locating deer through the fall months is almost an art form. Learning where and how to look as the fall season changes can improve your outcomes drastically.

It's important to remember a few key points no matter when you find yourself scouting for big bucks. First and foremost, get the absolute best optics you can afford, particularly when it comes to a [spotting scope](#), even if you have to borrow one. A top quality, high-end spotter should extend your effective glassing range to well beyond two miles on bucks under perfect conditions. Next, always utilize the shadows and cover. I always try to glass from a shady spot and in front of an obstruction like a stump or deadfall log. This will allow you to move around more freely without a big buck picking you off from across a canyon. And always remember, big bucks can be very, very smart. When and if that sixth sense kicks in, he can change up his routine or disappear in the dead of night putting you back to square one. For this reason, try not to get too close to a pre-scouted buck; a thousand yards or more is the safest bet in my experience. Anything under 500 yards is just too risky and can be a recipe for disaster.



Photo Credit: Mike Eastman

**Late Summer** – *Scouting on the Red* – Hands down, the best way to inventory your deer area is to scout the bucks during the final weeks of summer, which my dad and uncles always called “scouting on the red.”

The prime weeks for scouting this phase are generally the final few weeks of August. The advantages here are bucks with their red summer coats glowing in the sun, bachelored-up bucks giving you more of an idea of what the area has to offer, and a green landscape that pops animals off the steep hillsides like beacons. The bucks’ racks should be just about fully grown by the 10th of August in most areas, giving you a very good idea of what a buck is to become.

The [best strategy here](#) is to get on a high point with the sun at your back and cover country both with boot and glass. Generally speaking, the south slopes will be too hot this time of year and the north slopes too thick, leaving a prospective hunter to glass east and west. I usually try to glass the west slopes in the morning and the east slopes in the evening. The key factor with this technique is to find the glassing sweet spots, the places that expose the best and most country from one vantage. Next, get the best glass you can afford, you’re going to be living behind it for hours on end. A [high-quality 80mm spotter](#) with a very solid tripod is usually the best tool to have on hand. The final step is to get comfortable and be thorough. Make sure to utilize the first and final hours of daylight each and every day.



I usually try to start at the very top of a creek drainage and work my way down, either by boot leather or glass. Working a knife ridge down can give you a vantage point of two drainages or more in a single descent. Sometimes if you pick the correct ridge you can see three or four drainages on one trip out. This often presents to you a very wide swath of country with minimal effort.

If you find a buck you like, stick with him and study his behaviors and patterns for at least one evening and morning or more. Don't count out a few midday movements as well; a mid-morning or early afternoon water stop might be a real possibility for bucks this time of year.



Photo Credit: Mike Eastman

**Early Fall – Post Velvet** – Once those big bucks drop their velvet, things will change drastically.

In the northern states, Wyoming, Idaho, Montana and northern Colorado, the bucks will generally shed their velvet around the 10th of September. Add two or three full weeks to that for the southwestern states. An early heavy rainstorm will accelerate this process by a week or ten days. The moisture does not play well with the velvet.

To scout bucks after the 15th of September you will have to become much more meticulous with your [glassing techniques](#). Once the bucks shed their velvet they will tend to hang much closer to the cover and become much more sensitive to the sunlight. Nocturnal bucks hanging in the shadows are very hard to find, leaving you with the task of picking off the flicker of an ear, turn of a head and even the blink of an eye sometimes. The feeding patterns will become more predictable but the time will be short. As soon as that sun rounds the corner of the eastern sky a mature buck will dive into the timber or aspens, leaving the young guns to fend for themselves, their lack of experience can be disastrous to their lifespan.

If you do find a big buck and he goes “radio silent” on you for a glassing session or two be patient. Sometimes if the feed and moisture are good enough a big buck this time of year will only feed once per day or in the middle of the night and sometimes even in the middle of the day in a sparse timber pocket or bench.

By this time of the fall, the green in the feed has burned off to brown and the buck's diet has changed drastically. Concentrate your efforts on the brush, timber strips and benches below big basins. During a snowstorm the bucks could very well climb back into the open basin and bed in the open to wait out the storm, a reverse in apparent common logic.



As hard as the bucks can be to find this time of year, the return on your investment of time is they tend to be very content and predictable unless they get bumped by a predator or hunter. This should remain the case up until about the 25th of October and then it all changes again-the pre-rut.



Photo Credit: Mike Eastman

**Mid-Fall – Pre-Rut** – Toward the end of October the big bucks will tend to split off from the bachelor group and drift into heavy cover while they stage for the upcoming rut.

An early heavy snow can send the bucks into this mode even sooner, sometimes near the 10th of October. This is the hardest phase to find big bucks in. These bucks can often be found mid-mountain, just off the creek bottoms or anchored to big aspen groves. [Willows and young aspens are prime for polishing up antlers for battle.](#) This phase will last until the rut starts about the middle of November, give or take a week to ten days.





Photo Credit: Mike Eastman

**Late Fall – Rut and Beyond** – This one is simple... find the does. The bucks will be concentrated around the does this time of year.

No real surprising news here. What might be of some help though, is to keep in mind, deer are not elk. A buck is not a herd animal. A big buck is on the move this time of year and is never in anyone place for very long. If you do find a big buck in this phase you had better act now. A big buck can easily and often does roll into a creek drainage full of does and rut two or three and move on. This is Mother Nature's way of mixing up the gene pool.



A big buck is a shy creature and usually will pull a hot doe out of a group and push her up into a tight creek drainage or rough canyon to breed her. This allows him to concentrate 100% on his lady and moves her and her scent out of the open where other pesky Romeos may come calling. Sometimes you will see a big mature buck come and go on and off into a big group of does for two or three days before moving on completely. If you find yourself in this situation be prepared to act fast. Time may not necessarily be on your side.

A mule deer buck has a massive range and can almost seem like a homeless bum at times, here today and gone tomorrow even when he appears completely content. Be patient, cover country and glass from afar. A snowstorm is always a welcome sight this time of year, as it tends to concentrate the bait/does into one place, out in the open.

In conclusion, [finding big bucks is not an easy task](#) and I don't see it getting any easier in the near future. The recipe here is to load up on patience, persistence, and be thorough. Find the best glassing spots that maximize your volume of view and get the best optics you can afford or borrow. Spend as much time behind them as you can and make sure you try to fully utilize those critical first and last hours of the day to find a big shy buck when his guard is let down. And when and if you do find one, cherish the moment, a [truly big mule deer](#) is a very rare commodity these days and they certainly do not grow on trees.