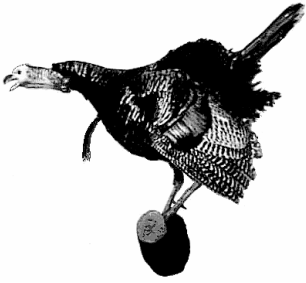


Cortland Area Limbhangers

Local Chapter of the



2006 Update

Dear Chapter Members and Chapter Friends:

Well another year has passed and our **Hunting Heritage Banquet** is right around the corner. This year's banquet package is bigger and better than ever. From raffles to fine works of arts, right on up to the gun of the year. Which, by the way, is a model 700 in a 270. This year our guest speaker will be NWTF Regional Biologist Doug Little. Doug will tell us a little about some of the projects the NWTF is currently involved in and what successes they have had to this point. He will also give us some tips and pointers specific for our climate and brood conditions.

I'd like to pass on a bit of good news about the Cortland Area Limbhangers. Our chapter was recently recognized for three different awards at the New York State Chapter's awards banquet held in Rochester at the RIT Inn in January 2006. We received the award for the most "unique" Women in the Outdoors event. We held this event in November of 2005. This was our 3rd annual where women came from all over to hunt for turkey and whitetail. Needless to say, fun is always had by all and we are looking forward to our 4th annual in 2006.

The second award we received was for hosting a Wild Turkey Woodlands event that was held at the Walrod Farm in Georgetown. This event turned out to be a big success with the most participants of any Wild Turkey Woodlands event held in NY. The weather cooperated, volunteers were plentiful and the Walrod's had the perfect set up for this event. There are hopes that our chapter can host an event such as this again in the future. We'll keep you posted.

The third and most important award was for 1st Runner Up for Chapter of the Year in New York State. This award is for all the things that our chapter does to stay involved within the community. They based this award on things such as our participation in the Youth Hunt, JAKES event, hosting a spring turkey hunt, WITO, and all the little things. See, sometimes the hard work and efforts of all our volunteers is recognized, even when it is doing the things that we really enjoy doing.

Our latest project, as some of you may have heard already, is assisting the NWTF and the NYSDEC in leg banding of wild turkey for a Gobbler study. This project has consisted of many hours of scouting for large flocks of turkeys with several gobblers evident, baiting them and eventually capturing them for banding and re-release. Once the turkeys that are banded are harvested, there is a number for the hunter to call and report. Data will be collected as bands are reported back to the NWTF and DEC. With any luck, a local boy scout troop will be assisting with the re-release next week. If you would like to help out, just give me a call and I can give you more information. Make sure you attend the banquet, Doug will fill us in more on this too.

Last year's JAKES Day fishing derby was such a success that we thought we would try it again this year. Just like last year, we will be having the JAKES event at the Cincinnatus Fire Department with that also being the check in spot for all day fishing. The event is scheduled for April 23th. We were so lucky last year with the Cortland County Sportsmen Federation stocking the river the same week as our event! Let's hope for the same luck this year. NWTF Regional Biologist Doug Little will also be there to give a demonstration for everyone to see on how they use rockets and nets to trap turkeys. You won't want to miss this.

On that note, I hope to see you all at the banquet on March 11th! Use the attached registration to sign up early. Bring your friends and family and sign up a new member or two. Help show your support for all the good that we stand for and try to pass on to our kids. Without volunteers like you, this all could not be possible.

Sincerely,

Bret Eccleston

Cortland Area Limbhangers
Chapter President



Hunt Safe New York