

Quail 1955

Date	Place	Sex	Age	Wt	Long	Shells	Covier	Howe
11/6/55	West Remmick	F.	4	203	Thick	} 5	1	4 1/2
2		C	4	200	Thin			
11/12/3	Cone	}	}	}	} Juvenile.	} Thick		
" 4	"	}	}	}				
" 5	"	}	}	}				
"	"	Pheasant 4 - cock - Red & <u>Thick</u> .						4
(11/7)	Hills Club	1	cock pheasant	} Herb Stacks				
		8	maller					
11/13	6 N. of Farmington	C	4	183	Slings	} 10 birds 17 scribble lost	(4)	(6)
	7	C	4	180				
	8	C	4	—				
	9	C	4	173				
	10	H	4	185				
	11	C	4	150				
	12	C	4	200				
	13	C	4	180				
	14	C	0	194				
	15	C	0	191				
11/19	16 N. of Farmington	H	4	185	Slings	} Sheds 21 shells 1 scribble lost	4	5 1/2
	17	C	4	183				
	18	H	4	197				
	19	H	4	194				
	20	C	0	198				
	21	H	0	193				
	22	C	4	193				
	23	C	0	195				
	24	C	4	123				

date	Place	Sex	Age	Dist	Range	Shell	Cripples	Count	Hours
11/26	N. Farm.	H	Y	185					
26		H	Y	183					
27		H	Y	197			1-cripple		
28		H	Y	188		30	3	3	
29		C	Y	185					
30		H	O	190					
31		C	Y	183					
32		C	Y	—	shot up				
11/27	"	C	Y	190	Poco	10	3	4	
34		H	Y	191					
35		C	Y	193					
12/8	"	C	Y	182	Thick		two		
37	"	C	Y	172	"		17 cripples lost.	4	4
12/10	"	saw one covey wild no shot					1	3 1/2	
12/11	N. of Hopper	C	O	203	Poco	9 (4 birds)	Poco 2	4	
39		H	O	210					
40		H	Y	207					
41		H	Y	210					

11/7 - With Herb Steats at Hills Club on Monday morning where we had a hot spot. Not many new ducks but the same mallards were molting. We got 16. By noon & then during P.M. went quail hunting & I got a big cock ringneck.

11/12 Red & I with Jim & Steve started at Crystal Lake - on mallards. Lots of early corn fed mallards a bit coy & wouldn't quite come. So we came home & at 10:00 Red & I started north for Cornville & pheasants - near Herkner Club. Found a spot. 4 miles north of Cornville & then went a 1/2 mile with a friendly farmer. Lunched & started up his ditch at 12:00. Competition killed a cock at road edge, & we went on to get 4 cocks. Saw 5 or 6 coveys of quail & could not hit them with chokes & 6 shot. Ditch at 4:00 with 4 cocks. Chick did a fine job.

11/13 Edith & Red. Jimmy - Dingo left for Farmington at 8:30 A.M. Chick stayed at home to give the new dog a chance to show. We drove down in a pea soup fog & arrived in the same. Our first stop was an hour & a 1/4 before we finally hit a good covey back near the car. Jumped wild by Dingo - on 2nd rise still wild but got one. Then got 4 straight all tough evening shots. Took Edith & Jim to a

corner to cook our spare ribs. Near stone quarry.
Found a small covey & Red nearly got a white cat.
Killed rook of 3. red had 6 at lunch with 7 shells.
The ribs were wonderful. Jim seems to love it
all, and he is a sturdy walker. Never admits
he is tired or cold.

Got out a big covey at school house. They
were strong fliers. Got 3 with a lot of
misses. Ended up with a long walk along
a wet haund hedge etc. which yielded a
little group of 4. Killed one on covey rice.

Things is a hard enthusiastic hunter.
Found all my 10 down birds very effectively.
Seldom holds a point unless I am close.
Retriever very very well. Has the ability to
be very warmly friendly - and a tremendous
appetite. Guess I'll buy him.

11/16 Crystal Lake - Got red draw & Frank & Spike joined
at Run. Very cold & dropping temp. Saw ice. A few
mallards were & they decamped pretty well. Beautiful
bright morning after a cloudy start. Spike left at
8:00 with one mallard. I left at 10 with 3+1
leaves camp.

11/19 Edith - Things & F.L. north of Farmington. Road
slick ice all the way down there. 30 mi. per hr. top.
3/4" snow on the ground at 10:30 when we started. Things
still flushed the covey & held up a bit on singles. I made
two doubles. Edith killed her first bird in several seasons.

things is "hell on rabbits". If I buy him I'll have to give him a case of some kind.

Found 4 coveys - big ones - except, that may be had on about 10 birds. Heard no other hunting parties.
Lots of rabbits.

11/26 Edith - old Flick - on perhaps her last quail hunt. She did some good work - made good points, but her nose on cripples was poor and her ankles kept collapsing and her hind legs were stiff.

We were north of Farmington. Found 3 coveys shot very poorly. Plenty of birds this year. Also lots of rabbits.

Found much hazel brush - with lots of nests. Short cut to the area - turn north at cemetery at rail road right of way. Go thru village about 4-5 miles north, then take 1st road to left & in a couple of miles turn right.

Just finished hulling our hazel nuts.
11/27 Edith - Jim & Paco & I left home about 9:15 for Farmington & north. Sky overcast & stormy. Blowing N.W. Soon got much colder & before we arrived snow blowing hard & level. Wind very wild as the they lay so tight no jumps. First stop made a long drop down a draw. No birds - Jim returned to car & Edith flushed a covey 60 feet from our car in a small clump. When I returned 1/2 hour later we followed

the birds flushed wild at 50 yards - second flush I killed one. A cripple we had trouble catching

Moved on west to familiar ground where we found scatter of yesterday's covey. Got one on 2nd rise. Then we got up wild covey near barn wild. Hit a 2nd rise scatter.

Very proud of how Jim stood the wind & cold. Saw the best berried cedar I ever saw on the bank of the ~~prairie~~ river

12/8 Edith & I - High left at 11:15 AM, for N.W. of Farmington. Snappy. below freeze - breeze N.W. First covey out smarted us & no birds. Went on N. to new area - scrub pines blue stem a plenty - + oak brush. Covey rise in leafy oaks - on the follow & we never saw this covey again we jumped another - with a 200 yds. Confusion on where were our birds. We jumped quail a few singles - & missed. Lost a down cripple. Then more about gone - made a long hill earlier with a 10' lead. Back to car & a dream popped quail - a covey less than 15 yds from car. Killed a good rook, couldn't find the - over the hill - scatter. Never did I shoot worse - unless it was last week.

12/10 Saturday. Red & I with Doc went north of Farmington to place Edith & I found 12/8. Most exciting prospect as to coveys etc but no birds to be found at all. Later moved to Hazel nut hill & gathered a bag of nuts. Red raised a small covey. Hunter at last 4 hours - 1 covey - no birds.

12/11 Red - Poco - & I - north of Hopper. Country & conditions
looked excellent but found only 2 coveys in 4 hrs.
I killed 4 with 9 shells. Last two were down at one
time - both crippled - runner & in oak tree top.
Took at least 20 or more minutes but finally found
both of them. Red got greenback heron.

1956 Season

The Crystal Lake water so low that I didn't buy a license until 2 weeks after season opened.

About 11/4 I went over & joined Ed Cady & got a green head at Point. Red & I tried a day or 2 later but no shots.

Then weather changed 11/8 Red & I drew last & were invited by Dick & Walter to Point where we got our 4 mallards early. Next day tried again & drew 2nd & Ran where we got only 2. Lots of travelers going thru.

The big flight started Wed PM. 11/7. Ran thru 11/8 & the morning of 11/9. Lots of scaups as well as mallards.

Goodies all gone for a week now.

11/10 Pheasant opening. Ethel, Red, Jim - Spud & I drove to Dan Better's farm & arrived just at 12:00 noon to open season. A battle of Bonham helped us get OK. We had a fine afternoon, got 4 cochs & 3 quail. Spud enjoyed his first hunt, & did well. I lost a cock & didn't find out till back at Better's. An extra mile & half search - no luck. Then I remembered rolling under a fence. At dark I went back & found the cock at the fence. Felt better. Shot at 4 cochs & got 4. Two got up wild - out of range - because we failed to follow close enough to the dog.

1956

	Date	Place	Sex Kind	Age	Wt	Leg	Shells	Cover	Hamm	Puffin lost
Quail No.	"/1	Capital	D. Mallards							
	"/2	"	shrikes							
	"/8	"	4 mallards							
	"/9	"	1 H. Redwing					2	-	-
	"/13	Hills	2 quail 1 Canada goose			0				
	"/10	Better	3 cock pheasant			Spind	4		4 1/2	0
1	"	"	C quail	4	177	"		2		1-
2	"	"	C quails	4	161	"				
3	"/11	Fader	F	Y	170	Spind	20	2	6	2
4	"	"	F	Y	170	"				
5	"	"	C	Y	191	"				
6	"	"	C	Y	185	"				
7	"	"	C	Y	180	"				
8	"	"	F	Y	188	"				
9	"	"	F	O	192	"				
	"/15		4 green winged teal							
	"/16		1 pair mallards - Red also got							
10	"/18	Halifax	Cochs	4	172	Spind 4/8		2	6	0
11			"	4	170					
12			"	4	173					
13			"	4	172					
	"/20	Capital	moderate - just rain							
	"/22	"	Thauingway			1-hen mallard 1-hen ring neck				
14	"/25	Wormington	C.	4	181	Spind FL-4 for 11 shells				
15			C	O	189					
16			H	4	182					
17			H	O	190					
18			C	O	185					
19			C	4	195					

1956

11/28 Rental 1 mallard hen 1 - lesser scaup 3 - mixed - up - ice 5 hrs										
Box	Date	Place	Sex	Age	Wt	Log	Shells	Cover	Holes	Cripples lost
20	12/1	^{South} Farmington	C	Y	166	Spud	13 for 400		6	0
21			C	Y	182		possibly 5			
22			C	0	180		Red got 1-2 cover			
23			H	Y	184		and we scattered			
24			C	0	195		added on 2 of 2 more cover			
25			H	Y	163					
26		Hopper	H	0	200	Spud	18 shells for 12 birds		0 - Spud	
27			C	Y	180		Red got 1 bird			
28			H	Y	163					
29			C	Y	171					
30			C	Y	194					
31			H	Y	183					
32			C	Y	169					
33			H	Y	160					
34			C	Y	185					
35			H	0	192					
36			H	Y	169					
37			C	Y	167					
38			H	Y	206					
39		Hopper	C	Y	167	Spud		5	5	0 cripples lost
40			C	Y	161		4 birds FL	13 shells		
41			H	0	195		4 " EB			
42			C	Y	192					
43			H	Y	177					
44			C	0	188					
45			H	Y	183					
46			C	Y	169					

1956

Date

Crep

No	Place	Sex	Age	wt	Log	Shell	Cover	Home	Loat
47	Ogawa	H	4	175	Spud				
48		H	4	181		8 birds for 23 shells,			
49		H	4	186					
50		H	4	199					
51		C	4	195					
52		C	0	197					
53		C	4	193					
54		H	4	182					
55		C	0	199					
56		H	4	186					
57		C	4	187					
58		H	4	198					
59		C	4	197			6 or 7	6	0
60	Ogawa	C	4	187	Spud	FL 9 birds 24 shells	4	5	1
61		C	4	182					
62		H	0	190					
3		H	0	195					
4		H	4	144					
5		H	4	169					
6		H	4	190					
7		H	4	192					
8		H	4	177					
9		C	4	170					
70		C	4	167					
1		H	4	165					
2		C	0	177					
3		C	4	167					
74		C	4	182					

1 mallet's - 3 shells.
 Ringworm total for season
 59 mallet
 143 shells

11/11 Sunday, Family Picnic. Started 9:30 AM with Red & 2 boys & Spud. Mamma & Mamey to follow at noon. Drove to Ted's house. His "covey east of the house" could not be found, even going an extra 1/2 mile to 3 corn fields. Looked good - no quail? too dry? Went back to house & washed Red's covey in draw to meat. Big covey doubled on 1st rise & lost one - then lost another & Red lost one. So dry & so many rabbits. Spud has a good more but doesn't know much about clove work. Girls had sparrows ready at 1:30. Yum! Took a few pictures.

Drove north & east to colored man's house. Found a big covey & killed & found 3 on the rise. Added another. That made 9 killed on 14 shells (2 lost). Then proceeded to double miss 3 straight - all tough shots. The boys were enthusiastic & good company.

11/15 - Alone at Capital Lake. Hehner invited me to join. The forecast of rain turning to snow fizzled out & the flight was not impressive. At Point. Together we got 4 g. W. teal & John W. a mallard.

11/16 Red & I turned out early to a clear cold blow, & got mid draw. - Run. Beautiful AM. Bright sky. A modest flight. We managed 3 mallards. No good chances. All far. I found a green head that dropped way back at end of pond to right rear, Young's dry. Killed and not farmed in Young's Home at noon.

11/18 Red & I tried a new area, south of Lomas & east of Dallas. We didn't find many birds but the country looked good. The first two places we tried didn't produce anything but a scatter - no dead birds. Then along side the R.R. track we finally got a covey of 9 or 10 birds. Got 4 cochs with the first shot. (5).

Later south of Dallas we i.e. I sped flushed a covey too far - up the hill & I sped again flushed the birds too far. I was in good company & did a lot of walking. Bright sunny day with a colorful sunset.

11/20 Red & I tried the duck - big S.W. storm & rain at 10:00 AM. Found Inces empty - walked off Henchman, found the young Goldie, Philip ditch Catons & back thru big woods total seen 2 hen mallards. Sat till 4:00 in blind - still no ducks. Will it didn't ripen last summer.

11/22 John H. - Red & I. 12° above & N.W. wind. Last draw again. Got Home Blind. Ice farming fast everywhere. I got a wet foot & had to go home for a dry foot. We jammed into the little blind. Got a single - then 4 decoyed & we got only two. Then a single wing neck. Kept busy breaking ice to keep the ducks free. Snappy plus. Left at 11:30 for Thanksgiving at Golf Club.

11/25 Stephen, Red and I went north of Farmington - Rain snow, wind, cold. We were late and found only scatter all day. Covey broken up earlier. Stephen walked all day. Carried a gun for a few minutes.

11/28 A call from Spiedel - at 9:45 AM - lot of luck & shooting brought me hot-foot. Ted couldn't come. The ice in front of my boat still heavy enough to hold me & the boat. I pushed across to open water. Found Rehner in Dr. L. & upper end full. I took Home Blind & set out alone. 15° wind N.W. & mixed sky - some snow. Typical wind-up hunt.

A pair of pin-tails from south fooled me. M.L. got them. Then a long vacant spell - occasional big flocks - high. More north bound than south. The Big Blind got little shooting. Hot soup kept me warm.

First a scamp sneaked in & sat - before I saw him. Finally noticed him & collected. Then a hen mallard flared in & lit before I could shoot. So turn - I collected. Pulled up at 4:00 PM Chilly - but a beautiful day.

12/1 Red and I took Stephen & Jim north of Marmington. Stephen had a gun for the first time. He felt the importance of the privilege. Most of the time he carried the gun empty. He had one fair rabbit chance but forgot to cock his hammer, so no shot.

I started from town at 7:30 AM & did arrive ahead of competition, but found only 2 small coveys plus scatter of earlier hunters on 2 more coveys.

Noted a good area about 1 mile east of Bentonsport as well as another area a bit east of their area.

12/2. Ill. Hunt - got a late start - as Red's Drummy had been at Charity Ball last night. Started north of Hoppers got up a huge covey in field at bridge - Spud pushed them up wild & I failed to connect at covey rise. Then got better on the reather & ended with 5 birds on this covey.

Up the big hill & got a covey at the color violet corner. Where I added 4 birds after some had missed. Red was not connecting. at 12:15 down the steep hill to where Edith & Jim were to cash some - ribs they had phoned Drummy to bring Drancy & the 2 Barber dogs. The ribs were a great success. After the big fry went S of Hopper to the old corner. No birds till we got on the east slope where Spud flushed a small group wild. On the follow, I got one. Then along Ellison & I got a fancy single snap shot. Then went to foot of hill where we got a covey & Red killed his first bird & I got another.

As we got to car a huge covey spilled out & I threw 4 barrels in the air & got none.

Saw a big bald eagle at luncheon time. The sunset was odd to remember. Red, blue, green & all the yellow & orange colors. We talked about a shack on the hill top. !. !. !.

12/8

Red & Stephen & Jim - joined me for an Shiner hunt. First snow & more falling thru the day. Started north of Rappier. The birds were laying like glue. Red made a double on the first covey birds. We failed to pry loose a single.

The second covey I doubled on the rise & we didn't follow because of small numbers. Then climbed the hill & found the same covey in S.E. corner of hill top field. Again raised only 1 single.

Then I flushed another covey out of a gallery & they failed us too. Found no singles. Jim got very cold & headed for car. But we got him warmed up with the fire rose. Park shops thick & good.

In PM, the boys stayed at fire. Stephen fell into creek & got wet half way up. Very cold by the time we got back from the south grounds. Where we found 2 coveys & Red made another double.

Eight birds for the 2 of us. Still snowing & cold.

12/9

Red & I alone north of Oquawha. Snow 5' deep - above this AM. Bright blue sky. I found a beautiful spot about 4 miles south of Keithsburg. I found a few scattered & 1 covey before lunch, but couldn't hit so at 2:00 we had 1 bird a piece.

After lunch we drove to Keithsburg & then east & south. We started watching for tracks along the hedger as we passed. In Brown's farm showed a big bunch of

trach, so we tried & found & killed several. Then another covey just a hit went & we scared again. Then we tried a hedge corner & added 3 & so on till we had 13 birds. Our best of the season. Red was keeping up his end too. One of our best days.

This is the biggest quail year in 10 or 15 years. Saw about 7 coveys today 11/9

12/15 Saturday. Red & I headed for north of Oquawha. Snow on the ground 4"-5". Just at freezing - frost turned to moisture on new blade of grass. A shower at every step. Red emptied his Bear's Boot 3 times.

Speed finished his first season with quite an improvement. Retrieved fairly - pointed a little and lost only one cripple out of 74 birds.

Sand huns seem to have no fear for him. Setters could not have made his work today.

Jimm Rodgers met us again today - warden.

Didn't see a single mallard where we saw 1000 last week. Red shot better with his brush loads - he reacts to his better performance of course.

Lots of rabbits every where

UNION LEAGUE CLUB OF CHICAGO
65 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO 4, ILLINOIS

Delta 10/13/57

Wed 10/9

Arrived about 4:00 PM at Delta Station. Al having picked me up at Portage Bar Station, we hustled into hunting clothes and paddle east a $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to a sheltered phragmites cove. Learned how to stabilize a canoe for shooting by tying phragmites stem to thwart at 2 points each side.

The birds were everywhere in small wing groups. Paced up channel at lower ramp to favor mallards. Had several bad misses but finally scored on a greenhead. Al had not brought his gun. Up here they shoot till 30 minutes past sundown when it is quite dark.

A few geese trading back & forth from big lake to stubble field. Almost constant moving ducks, with lower ramp predominant. Practically no canvas-back. An occasional woody-toe.

Thursday we ate a leisurely breakfast. Al did some dishes & we went out to same point i.e., Wayne took me out because Al was tied to duty. We moved along later - to a point beyond the Lodge - hoping for canvas back but none showed. Shot a little better and brought in 5.

7,
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Al and I went out in later afternoon - far east where he had a canoe & blocks ready. The same kind of flight but more mallards. He set out an an east facing phragmites point and had several nice shots at singles & pairs. Beautiful delta sunset.

Dinner at the guest lodge with the Percatts from Ohio. Joan joined us of course Al.

Friday. No hurry here. we worked it Sunday projects in the morning. Percatts left about 10:00 AM. leaving me as the only lodge guest. Kedron went to Bell Lodge to see Peter Ward & he said the east marsh was not being hunted.

The lee shore (south) of Lake Manitoba was full of flocks of ducks resting. Some geese too. At dusk the birds go out too stubble in the marsh. Al left me after an hour gunnyp shooting, where I got 3 straight green heads. He went in to get young Albert who was returning from his week at school in Portage. He hunted a pair far the flight.

I had a chance at six geese, pairing. They were far & I failed to drop one. Then they wheeled & came back nearer me and I could hear the shot but but didn't drop a bird. This is the nearest I've ever been to a Canada Goose flock.

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I brained duck for all here at guest lodge -
and did a rather poor job. Too done & too dry.
but we had fun. Frank & Ernie & mother
& grand father were with us. Got to bed early for
the big sharp tail opening.

Saturday 10/12. Breakfast at Ali with young
Al & young George at 5:00 AM. Off in Ali car for
the sharp tail grounds - 50 miles west & north.
To find the place turn left off highway a mile west
of Lakeland and drive 5 or 10 miles to the
marginal country that holds the birds. Ken
Shallen was to meet us there at roosting & morning
ground - he came later.

Arrived 6:30 AM & practically dark. The prairie
chickens were calling all around us - with their
characteristic mellow chatter. At 6:40 we
started. Many birds flushed near us & some
voluntary flushes. Groups sometimes 30 or more
at a time, moving to feeding grounds. We
followed and soon were getting some shots
although most birds jumped away too wild.

I got a fair shot & then another out of old
trouble. Found myself with young Albert
& we made a hunt. Too car at 10:00 for a pre-lunch
& then off again north of road. Ken & Peter too.

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Got into very rough land - hard walking
and very wet. Just before noon a real
occasion th with Al as witness. Flushed 2
birds - midway between us. My shot. With
my first barrel both birds dropped dead
they were "in line" and 6 feet apart. So I
had 4 birds at noon lunch.

Al had blankets & we napped after luncheon.
About 1:30 we were off. Again Albert joined
me and we hunted together. I saw a hen on
island of popple we each killed one. Too close
later we both shot two barrels at a bird & at
my second shot he was "dead hit". I watched
* saw him drop dead after about 200 yards.
Marked & followed. Dropped while handling
* coat to establish line. After 10 minutes found
my dead bird in base of bush & within 4-6
of my line.

Both to car - tired - and waited for Al &
others. I got off 100 yards or a pass &
noon had a chance & killed a ~~seventh~~ bird.
Al and the boys who had done well and we had
our limit of 18 sharp tail prairie chicken. Dark near
fell right after we started home. A hot shower
restored my ability to move about a bit and a
couple of drinks gave me an appetite for hard work.

UNION LEAGUE CLUB OF CHICAGO

65 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD

CHICAGO 4, ILLINOIS

Joan and Jayce joined in and George & young Albert too. & that appetites we had. I'm fed by nine or nine thirty.

Since Sunday is a no shooting day I slept till 8:30 and then got my breakfast of fruit toast, coffee & poached egg.

Took some more pictures around the station and off the chicken. Also the coyote and tame crow. Then we all pitched in and dressed twelve chicken. Six for luncheon and six for Al's freezer. At Peter's suggestion I'm taking my home birds out to Bell Lodge to be ~~drawn~~ frozen and later packed for transport home as baggage. Unpacked and not drawn. Much for home will be picked & dressed too.

Al is drawing a my "dutch double" scene in my Travel & Tradition of Waterfowl as well as a sharp-tail head. One of the students (Lloyd) showed us how to sex birds by tail feather marking and age by 2nd primary. Age by crown marking - short & straight across 3 - longer marking of each crown mark 3. Rough tip on 2nd primary - young - smooth & new - old.

1957 Hunting Season

10/20 Ducks opened yesterday 10/19 but went to see
Jr. - Jr. football which we won 21-7.

Red and I were joined by John Hale and drew Ingers
which was not good in this low water stage. Set out
on the Pilger Island Point where we had one shot only
& I killed a green head. Saw few ducks. Opening day
16 hunter kill 34 ducks.

10/24 - Went to draw alone - Red being sick with flu.
Joined Paul Lehner & drew Schdaps River. Looked
red-hot early while putting out decoys. Lots of mallards.
Then the ducks disappeared. Panned up one long chance
At 7:30 went for a walk to Youngs - Philips - Goldie.
Best Lake & Buck Branch & killed 1 blue winged teal
Hame at 10:10 AM.

10/25 Went to the office as usual & greeted by RMF. "More
ducks in the river than I've ever seen." So gathered up Red
& got over about 10:00. Ingers - only good opening. Set
for 40 minutes & not a shot. Then looked as though they
should be near full limit & so moved & found they
were leaving. We moved in. Such a night of
mallards I haven't seen in years. And cheering too.
Rayne Jones Jr. joined us a few minutes later.

Spent night fine work for a pup of 2 years.

The mallards wanted to drop in back in
pool & Little Youngs so I moved back there.
Soon had 5 big mallards on a string.

Delta Trip - Oct. 1957

15 - sharp tailed grouse - (prairie chicken) (2 days)
25 - assorted ducks. (2 1/2 days).

1957 Season

Date	Place	Species	Age	Sex	Tag	Shells	Carver	Harmon	Cupphubert
10/10	Captal	1 small land				2			
10/24	"	1 B.W. Teal				2			
10/25	"	9 mallards				24		5	2
10/26	"	5 "				9		5	0
1 11/2	Remarks	H	Y	204	"	9 for 4	3	4	0
2 11/2		H	Y	196					
3 "		H	Y	180					
4 "		C	Y	146					
11/3	Captal	1 - W.D. 2 mallards				4			
11/8	"	6 mallards				13		3	
5 11/12	Remarks	C	Y	204	fund	8 for 4	1	4	0
6		H	0	195					
7		H	Y	195					
8		C	Y	195					
11/13	9 Iowa	C	Y	187	fund	7 for 3	2	4	0
16		C	Y	176					
11		H	Y	190					
12		H	Y	194					
13		H	Y	184					
11/16	Hoppers	skunked			fund		0	2 1/2	
14 11/17	Remarks	C	0	200	fund	12 for 4	2	5	0
15		H	Y	194					
16		H	Y	192					
17		H	Y	166					
11/19	3 mallards - Captal					7			
11/23	1 "					1			

1957

Bird No.

Date

Place

Sex

Eggs

Int.

Shy

Shells

Covers

Hours

Rephort

18 11/24 Kithbury H 4 194 Spud 15 for 3 1 3-4 0

19 H 4 182

20 H 4 213

11/21 Hamwell - - - Spud 1 1 (scattered) 5+ 0

12/1 { 21 Hamwell H 4 204 Spud 12 2 5 1/2 0
New London

22 Hamwell H 4 190

23 do H 4 186

24 H 4 185

25 H 0 184

12/4 26 Warmingford C 4 201 8 for 4 3 6 0

27 C 4 215

28 H 4 195

29 H 4 187

12/8 30 " H 4 187 5 for 3

31 H 0 185

32 C 0 195

12/15 33 Brent Point C 4 204 Spud 10 for 5 2 6 1

34 C 4 200

35 H 0 193

36 C 0 197

12/16 37 Brent Point H 0 204 " 23 for 6 5 7 0
Hamwell

38 H 4 206

39 C 4 207

40 C 4 202

41 H 4 208

42 H 4 218

43 C 0 187

44 H 4 184

Red joined me there. We ran out of shells.
Mallards all afternoon - and decaying if you
were in right place.

The biggest day's flight I've seen in many years.
Several acres of packed blue hills above bridge as
we returned home.

Plan for tomorrow to take Stephen & Jim. Carl
invited to join us, later. John Hale wants to join
too.

Motor ran well.

10/26 Red & I took Stephen & Jim after a breakfast at Inarmy's
kitchen. Served by Inarmy. John Hale joined us. He & Red
& Jim went to Indian Lake. Stephen & I to Young's. We went
by car thru the woods. Carried a few blacks & set out.
No action in Young's. flushed a flock of 20 out of Little Young's.
too far. Walked to Eaton & Stephen got a squirrel enroute.
Good bunch of mallards jumped by Spud. I got a double
as they passed. And one more out of a return pair. Walked over
2 hours but little come in - Stephen killed a baldpate.

Got 2 more in that lot well. Returned to car & home
Not much action in flying birds as compared to yesterday.

11/8 Looked dusky. Wind N.W. 25 MPH and colder. So I went to
office early & left for Lytle 8:25 AM, arrived Philips 9:20. jumped
about 30 mallards there. "Set out" a few blacks. No quick
return & little flight traveling. So walked thru Cuninghams
no ducks. ditch dry. In Bush Branch - 1 drake - which I got.
Returned to Philips no-nitters - so to Oak Tree - 10 or 12
mallards & got my 4th. at Eaton. Bush saw but 2 or 3.

and while eating lunch 3 green heads decayed & I
got 2 of them. Then the windy came back with big
heat & mist - too deep water. In office at 1:15 PM.

11/9 Iowa Quiverola - Ia 44. Inm 20 !!!

11/10 Red Stephen & I went to Better with our usual
1/5 of Bourbon & hopes. Spud & Jaron to help.
We worked from noon to 4:30 - hard - saw 3 or
maybe 4 cochs (Red had 1 shot) 13 hens, 3 coveys of
quail. Stephen killed a rabbit - all on his own.

11/12 Herb & Belle Staach came in at noon & after lunch
we took a quail hunt while the girls played the bridge
game with Pauline & Phyllis.

We started SW of Green & found no birds. Moved
to west of Kennards & found 1 covey. Got a double on the
rise and then proceeded to miss several. Got 4 with 8 shells

11/13 Herb S. and I left about 9:00 AM to hunt & to take
Sue to Russell Fair at Ponton. We made a hunting
stop near Bloomfield & found only a 5 bird covey & didn't
hunt further. I killed a bird red cat.

Moved on to a new place south of Centerville where
we found 2 coveys & got 5 birds. Herb dropped me near
Ino. border at 3:00 PM to hunt while he went to
Ponton with the dog. I hunted hard for 2 hours in
drizzle & found 1 bird only - no shot.

With an hour to wait I had told H. I'd build a fire
by the roadside - which I did. Got dried out by Harwell
have home in fog & arrived 9:00 PM.

Herb showed us all his goat head - safe & stork

"1/16 Went alone to north of Kopper at 9:00 AM - hunted till 11:30 and found only 2 scattered birds got none. I had doubt seem to find the coveys.

"1/17 Edith & I took Jim - to Farmington for the day. Went to hazel-nut hill & found a big covey & got 1 bird only. Then moved north & left Edith & Jim to look & spare a while I found a covey & killed 3 birds. Then I walked like back to find more birds - 2 locations & drew a blank. Those who say this is a big quail year don't know their facts.

"1/19 Home to Crystal to try a stormy morning. Joined Paul & Louis Lehner & drew Stoney. Where we watch the day break & saw few flocks. Got a pair of green heads & then at 9:30 I walked to Eaton & Oak Tree & got a double on green heads & then missed 5 straight shots at mallards coming by me in the timber.

"1/23 Saturday. Edith & I went beyond Hamnash. Combination rutting & quail. We left home at 9:00 & went to Hickory grove. There a lot of fine quail country. Gathered some fine big nuts. Then left Edith for a turn at quail. Walked a lot of good country & found no birds. Home for the Iowa State Game game & lunch. Iowa 21 to N.V. 13.

At 3:30 I went to Crystal for a late walk. Home to Stoney. Walked to Eaton - no ducks. Home then Oak Tree - to George still zero. Finally a single hen in little George. 1 shot.

Gileated wood pecker again - each day I have seen at Eaton. In Stoney woods a raccoon met me on the lane. I stopped the car. He walked right under car. I stepped out he kept on, & I picked him up by the tail & he remained calm. I released him & he ambled off. Now - shallant this fall.

11/24 Edith Spaul & I - near Keithsburg. The big barren was too tough with prickly pear spines for the dog, so we went to the hedger where Red & I found birds last year.

We soon found a covey - no warning of the covey rise & I wasn't ready & missed, barrel. The wind blew hard & the birds were fast & tricky. Made some good shots & missed some. Got 3 big females. The farmer owner & son or grandson came to kick us out & would friends invited us to return and ask permission.

We kept trying to find birds & get a place to hunt. We quit at 4:30 & didn't find another bird.

11/29 Supposed to be a Thanksgiving Hunt. Red & I took the boys up there Stony Timber in the car & I proceeded to get the car stuck in the mud! We spent 2 hours digging out & got home just in time to have Golf Club dinner.

11/31 Stephen, Red & I to Denmark, 10:00 to 4:00 hunt & found only 1 small covey & got no quail. He hunted lots of fine coveys - empty. Stephen tried his hand at rabbits & no luck. Killed a big cock pheasant.

12/1 Left home at 10:00 AM. Went to Danville & north & west. New London - morning, Sam etc. Still found no big quail population. Killed 3 straight including a double. Then missed 7 shots - including 2 dbl misses. Then killed 2 straight.

New Place About 1/2 mile west of Newport. So south on dirt road several miles to find a 40 acre grass & brush area. Killed 2 hen pheasants at 200 yards.

12/7 Red, Jim, Spud & I headed for Farmington at 9:00 AM. We turned off at a new side road & found good territory. Got permission from farm woman. Trouble with Spud chasing calves & sheep. Punished him hard.

Two coveys before a 1:00 PM lunch. Got 3 straight then missed 3. Moved on to familiar areas & found no birds where I know they have been found.

Finally at 4:00 PM, got a late covey where I killed one on the rise & then we never did find the mother. Lots of rabbits. We hope to go tomorrow at 8:00

12/8 Red over slept & Stephen was tired after a short camp Friday night so Jim & I went alone. A light snow hanging on all vegetation. We went back to Farmington - new place - We hunted hard thru three covey locations - without seeing a track or a feather. Red soaked thru near to the waist in melting snow. Jim tried to get his gun trained on a rabbit but the ro quag is a bit heavy, & long stretched.

After lunch in the car with motor & heater running we tried several added stops & still no feather.

Finally at 3:45 Jim decided on a final spot. We had just started when several quail jumped - and I got one - a few yards more and I dropped another & then another across the creek. Jim just got the biggest kick & spark. Finally as it got dark Jim still wanted to keep hunting. We drove back and made date for next Saturday.

12/14 Red, Jim, Spud & I. Stopped first at Mr Cook's house
with his permission hunted a pretty area. Found a
covey & got 1 on the wire. Then a long interval looking for
scatter. Spud pointed & we knoched down 2 - One by Jim
but failed to find his bird. Red & I took an hour walk
to good area - no birds. Lunch on Cook's lawn.

Next 2 stops blank - Then tried a quarry edge &
jumped big covey & I killed a double on the wire. Found
finding scatter but Red got one & I too one after a long
brashy try. Jim showed a rabbit with pebbles on
a near miss.

One more stop - no birds

12/15 Jim Stephen Red Edith Spud & I at 8:30 for points
S.W. Back to yesterday's quarry & soon found our covey.
Mamma got her bird & the rest of us missed. So I shot
one quail. There were only 5 left so we didn't follow.
Stopped at some false leads - no birds.

See Place After lunch found a place 4.3 miles south of Lommel on
and then west 1 mile. Red & I went alone - killed a
black cat - i.e. Spud did most of it. He helped with
a steel post.

Shot very poorly. Battered out of three birds - one
even hit the ground & then flew on. One covey just hid in
straw for an hour.

Finally a hit before dark we - Red & I - made a last try
& after long walk thru same edge. Spud pointed. I made a
near double - but one flew on after hitting the ground.
On the other bird - many feathers & no bird. So - a double & no

bird, despite Spuds best efforts. I decided to try for the second bird that had flown away, crippled. On the line for 125 yds & a good sound bird flushed. On the return walk - I found my dead bird right on my line.

We went back to the flush site. & Spud pointed & after 2 or 3 advances caught my second bird so I had my double. This being the only day of the season I had killed my six birds.

Spuds killed a big black cat - with white markings. This is the first time he has showed a fight against blood. Three cats for the season.

1958 Hunt Season

See my journal for mallard and sharp tail hunt at Delta.

Menon duck opening passed as I went to Jawa - Riv. football.

Next morning Red & two boys & I drove Young and set out there but got our four mallards at Ark Tree where there was just a little water. A few days later I went back to Ark Tree & the water & the ducks were gone from there.

11/1 Jawa Duck Opening - Red & Jim & I with Spud in West Point Area. Found a good place. Turn south on valley side road $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of town. Go south about a mile to big farm on left - woman in charge - says OK. if we ask permission.

Later moved west of W. P. where we found a covey about a mile west of town on north-south road. Jim stayed in car at this point. Spud pointed covey immediately. Even I double missed at least we didn't find the bird I thought I had dropped on, it shot. Followed & caught another covey, where I got 1, & then thought I missed on a pair of scatter. Later found a lovely dead hen lying where one may have flown. Scatter flew toward Jim & sure enough he had seen them coming & watched 5 alights. He joined us with his gun and killed his first quail. Great excitement.

1958

Date	Birds	Place	Sex	Age	Wt	Wing	Stomach FL	Shells	Carina	Wings	Cyph. Length
11/1	1	West Pt	C	Y	Perfor	11/10	10	28	5	6	?
	2	"	C	Y	"				of which		
	3	"	H	Y	"				12 perfor		
	4	"	H	Y	"						
	5	{	H	Y	157						
	6		H	Y	187						
	7		H	Y	168						
	8		C	Y	191						
	9		H	Y	185						
	10		H	Y	191						
	11		C		mangled						
	12		H	Y	178						
	13		C	Y	173						
11/2	14	4. miles south of West Pt	H	Y	159	Spade	4	15	2	5	1
	15	downy of Wm	H	Y	151				Plus 1-Perfor		
	16		?		112						
	17		C	O	196						
11/9	18	Caneville (West)	C	Y	206	"	6	20	4	6	0
	19		C	Y	214						
	20		C	Y	213						
	21		C	Y	200						
	22		H	Y	189						
	23		H	Y	198						
	24		C	Y	191						
	25		C	Y	198						

FL 11/8

2 rock pheasants at Catter

24

1958

FL.

Date	Number	Place	Sex	Age	Wt	Long	Wing	Sheld	Comer	Waver	Expt	Int
11/10	26	West of Kinnear	C	Y	199	Spur	2	8	1	4	1	Lat
	27	"	C	O	193							
	28	"	H	O	183							
11/16	29	J.O.P	H	Y	205	"	10	22	3	4 1/2	2	Total killed by FL. Joe H. & Kerry Martin 13 birds
	30		H	Y	171							
	31		H	Y	168							
	32		H	Y	155							
	33		C	Y	188							
	34		C	Y	190							
11/22	35	West Point	C	Y	192	"	5	15	2	4	0	
	36		C	Y	175							
	37		H	Y	166							
	38		C	Y	188							
	39		C	Y	164							
4/29	40	So. of Point	H	Y	210	"	5	12	1+ Scattered	4 1/2	0	
	41		C	Y	160							
	42		C	Y	196							
	43		H	O	186							
11/30	44	Algonquin	H	Y	196	"			3+ scattered	4	2	
	45		C	Y	190							
	46		C	O	188							
	47		C	O	202							
	48		H	Y	173							
	49		H	Y	195							
	50		H	Y	162							
	51		C	Y	196							
	52		H	Y	184							
	53		C	Y	162							

1958

	No	Location	Sex	Age	Wt.	FL	Kill	Shells	Coir	Wings	Bill	Foot
11/30	54	Oguncha	H	0	175	fresh	10	26				
12/6	55	Kaffer (S)	H	Y	206	"	2	6	2	4	0	
	56		C	Y	199							
12/7	57	West Point	H	Y	212	"	6	15	4	4	0	Herbert
	58		C	Y	211	Smaller						
	59		C	Y	205							
	60		H	0	220							
	61		H	0	210							
	62		C	Y	216							
	63		H	0	188							
	64		H	Y	162							
12/14	65	Oguncha	C	Y	175	fresh	8	10	3	4 1/2	0	Cold
	6		C	0	170							balise
	7		C	Y	168							when
	8		C	Y	195							I got
	9		H	Y	155							home
	70		H	0	174							
	1		C	Y	162							
	72		C	Y	158							
12/10	3	Seaton	H	0	221	"	11	15	2	3	1	
	4		H	Y	202							
	5		H	Y	201							
	6		C	Y	211							
	7		C	Y	217							
	8		C	0	212							
	9		C	Y	205							
	80		H	0	201							

Date	No	Place	Sex	Age	wt	Log	F.L. Kil	Shells	Cones	Horn	Foot Cup	
12/20	81	Seaton	C	Y	173							
	82		C	Y	193							
	83		H	O	175							
Season total to date			43C 39H	66 young. 17 old			79	192	32	53 1/2	7	average 2.43 per head

11/2

Red not available at 8:00 AM. Jim had a blistered foot. Edith & Spud & I drove to 4 mile south of Ronnelson & 1 mile west and I sat in two hours steady trying & found 1 covey of prairie of which I got one & then quit. Where we had found corn last year was fallow or ploughed bean stubble.

Drove west to Farmington & north. Got permission on 1st east road as before. Finally found a covey at south end of far hedge & hit a double on the rise but lost one running ripple. Spud couldn't locate. Tried following into oak brush timber & Spud made 5 nice points but in the brush I missed the 4 I shot at.

Spud jumped a big black cat which I killed with a load of #2 shot - a male.

Back to car & moved north to old area. A covey jumped wild. In scatter I got 2 out of three and that ended the day, early.

11/8

Pheasant opening day. Red Jim & I with Spud went to Better's with our usual bottle of bourbon & were well received. At 10:00 AM we started south & soon flushed a lone hen. Then a cock I killed. Then a group of 3 cocks later I got 1 of them. Lots of hunters in the area. For instance 2 car loads went north of Better's without permission. Later 3 or 4 other car loads did like mine.

Jim killed a rabbit. We jumped half a dozen

mallards from ditch & Red & I got 1 each.

Ended the day 2 cocks and 5 quail 1 rabbit 2 mallards.
Total seen 8 cocks 4 hens - 5 coveys

11/9 Luna & Carolyn came in last night so Luna joined us at Vetter - went on a quail hunt with pheasant as a side attraction.

I started with this line & near the first cross fence on near ditch Red had a chance at a cock but missed. Then the big event of the season, they jumped a red fox and shot it dead. Jim as chief executioner. How proud he is - we later got pictures.

A covey of big quail yielded 3 birds. Then went west of Vetter & found a small covey & failed to make them lunch. South to main cross ditch where we got into quail under tough cover conditions. We got six more birds - all big ones - see register. Jim killed one with Luna's lovely Parker - 28 gauge double which he carried. Home at 5:45 for 6:30 supper at Inarier on fillets - extra good.

Broody nesting pictures tonight.

11/10 Luna & Carolyn - Edith & I - took a business start after 10:00 AM & drove west of Denmark to colored main house - no lucky home - no quail located - found some quail & ate light lunch. Carolyn practiced with the 28 gauge all guns & hit some cranes.

Moved west a bit & hunted hill top corn near white turkey farm. I found the quail just

as we were ready to give up. I've got 3 - lost a 4th of them
I killed a couple with the 28 gauge - handier fast.
I miss auto. ejector. I've got sickly - eating dry
grass persistently.

Moved to Pichler just for a short time - no luck
Home for a quail supper, including Inar & Estella

11/16 Yesterday - Saturday - we watched Ohio beat Iowa
38 to 21, so only one hunt this week end.

Today accepted Joel Holmes invitation to I.O.P.
area to hunt quail. Joe Hurton joined and we
picked up Henry Snatter as guide at 9:00 AM. We
circled here & there and hunted some lovely coveys
but found two big coveys before lunch - one in
corn & one in a big orange hedge.

Joel & Doctor Lathimer called on us at lunch time.
After lunch we tried several beautiful spots
including corn etc but only found 1 small covey
in a steep orchard.

One doubt in the AM.

Stopped at Holmes for a drink - 7 up - at 4:00 &
watched T.V. of yesterday's game.

11/23 Red out of town. Inarmy & 3 kids - Edith & I - Spauld.
Left about 9:00 too south & east of West Point where
we found 2 coveys in a milo maize field. I didn't
shoot well but got 5 in 15 shots. Inarmy & the boys
walked with me in the morning & Edith in PM.

1958

We searched lots of beautiful fields & country where we failed to find birds. Could be that others had preceded us but we saw no shells or signs. The best section of quail land I can find.

11/29 Jim - Red & FL, with Spud too Franklin & north - Temp about 18° & colder - with a NW breeze.

Our first covey Red found by the tracks in snow. Spud made a good point. Then we followed & had a tough time finding the scatters. Spud finally nailed them on a point. Made a fancy double & Red got one.

Then across road in a weedy draw - flushed a cat tiger red. Spud tried it & Jim hit it twice with his 410 - #9s & knocked it out - as it ran I put a load of #2 shot in as it held up - should be dead.

Then a bit on we started jumping scatters. I missed 2 easy ones & Red did too - Then Jim made a chain kill. Spud caught a running cripple. Too far for lunch.

Went on to new places. Best birds surprised us as I had one leg over a backed wire fence & I got in my 2 shots & killed the first one. We were trying for rabbits too but missing more than we hit. Last stop was just west of Fruit Point where I got 2 rabbits.

1958

11/30 Stephen, Red, & I with Spud were late starting on account the 8:00 AM temp was 8° above. Sun shining & a south breeze. We went north of Oquawha to old familiar back roads. Got permission to hunt ditch where we got bounced last year. Too many hogs in Mr Pearson's pasture. "Seldom Seen" his farm ~~little~~ title. On his south line found a wild covey - Red crippled one runner we lost. Then a huge covey where I got a double - then walked like heck to add 2 more both were fabulous recoveries. One Spud pointed "dead" the other a runner that we had tried hard to find 40 minutes earlier - then Red did a good job of jumping this runner & tracking him till Spud got his scent.

Moved north a mile or two where we found scatter & got three. Then boring a field found a big covey at sunset where we got 4 more to make eleven. So we ended a perfect - tough - Nov. 30th quail day. Stephen stood the chill well. Red must get brush shells

12/6 Alone + Spud - too cold for the Barkers & for me too. Traced south of Kopper along edge of hills and found only 1 small covey & where last winter after season found 3. Got a nice double on the rise & missed one nigh. Then ~~lost~~ lot of walk & no more birds seen despite beautiful quail country. On way home at sunset saw 1 bird cross road (road near Dixon) stopped & loaded up - should have confined Spud. He saw one run across road & then broke - I ran but on the long rise missed 2, etc - no more birds
15 coveys

1958

12/7 Herb Staats came last night. Cold again this AM - 15°. We went south of West Point and with 2 dogs we found 4 coveys of birds - 2 of them good size - After running the first 2 shots I killed 6 with the next 6. & missed the last. Got 2 doubles in a row.

The last big covey Herb found - 15-20 birds we never found a single scatter. Same on an earlier covey. Where do they go? Why far out lay me? Or are our dogs no good?

12/14 Went alone with Gabe - 15° above at 10 AM. Asked permission of Mrs Pearson & was invited in to get warm - met the Mrs. then daughter with baby grandson & then son-in-law. The black haired ladies very handsome. Found a small covey & got 3 - couldn't find the 2nd covey. Lots of tracks in the snow - turned out to be mourning dove tracks. Then north to the posted areas where I finally raised 3 birds on Gabe's point & got 1.

Later went south to look for Wilson covey that I missed a couple of weeks ago. Then south & found a covey under hedge, where I got 4 more. Home near dark. Left two o berge about to pass.

12/20 Alone plus Gabe - left about 11:20 - Temp 20° - fair & some clouds snow melted off. - Season - for first time in 3 years. Didn't go to original farm - no corn there - James Bohan - wife gave permission to hunt a perfect draw. Orange - multiflora - uncut woods - not grazed - about perfect. So got a big covey at far

ends where cover thinned down. Flushed wild - 1 came by & hit him.
They settled in corn. Not dbl. on rise but last one. Followed
& got some open shooting & was hitting - made 1 dbl miss but
got the other shot - include a dbl. Over ran my allowance,
they just kept getting in my way. For the afternoon I
got 11 - lost 1 - on 15 shells. Too bad I hadn't tried the area
before - Got home at sun down.

1959

10/30/59

Later Stage highwater Crystal Lake after very heavy early Oct. rains. The directors are buying in fact have installed a new water pump & stone pipe. Rated capacity at 16000 gal per minute against a 1.7 head of lift. Not yet tested.

10/30 Opening day with 28 hunters chawing. I was alone. Red out of town - Texas. Shew #13 & got about 6th choice - my own first choice - ash tree. Plenty mallards there. I tried to pick & choose and ended with 4 mallards, 1 black duck, bald pate, 1 blue wing picked up in ditch dead. 11 shells. I had had a time. The Drs. Crow, Kee, & Eastburn about burned out flat foot - such a bombardment!

Wonderful to have timber shooting again after dry year? 4 or 5. Jim has a licence & goes tomorrow.

10/31/59 Jimmy had spent the night - he was up at 5:00 for a duck hunter breakfast. Fog & soft air. Shew marble #25 and watched all the hunters pass up Ash tree & they did pass it. So Jimmy & I went there. No ducks on hand when we arrived but soon we got going. Jim killed a green head. I got some good tree top shots successfully. By noon we had our ducks plus a racoon which I had tried. Jim shot him and then had to climb up to dislodge him. He skinned the hide & now have it tacked to a board. After lunch we explored the prairie & found practically no ducks there - but a few. Came home and dressed ducks. Nine mallard & 1 gr. wing teal. 9 by FL - 17 shells

11/1/59 Took Jim & Stephen for ducks - no draw because I had the bags but nobody else wanted. Ash Tree so I got it. Several 100 mallards there. I got a few at the little lake & I got several overhead in flooded timber near Flat Top. Stephen got a green head over the tree tops. Bright shine - lunched at boat.

Walter Bretz came along to try a timber hunt east of us. Wonderful to have water like this.

I in the P.M. the boys took over on the guns. They got four mallards. One for Jim 3 for Stephen. Spud did some good recon work we'd never have made. Tree color on oak still lovely.

Blue birds short weather. The boys have so much fun together - good company. Left at 4:30 with 10 mallards - my 6 took 19 shells.

11/5 I went to Crystal Lake. Spud has a swollen toe & foot. Over at 9:30 in a drizzle that continued. Left boat at full over & walked down prairie road & cut east to Ewing's Hole. Then SE to ash tree woods where I found mallards. Got 2 drakes - didn't stay because I wanted to bring Jimmy in P.M. Got 2 more mallards in south end marshy woods. Headed for home - met - to get Jim.

We went back at 1:30 with a new coat for Jim. Got many mallards back at Buck Creek & Jim didn't scare.

We went to R. Lake. Then tried Half Moon where we found plenty mallards. Jim killed 1 mallard, 1 spoony, 1 fin tail. Bag for the 2 of us 9 ducks. Big flight on & for tomorrow

11/10 Jim slept here and we made an early drive at Capital where we went to Incees with W. Fritz until about 9:00 when we moved to Half Moon. Little or no shooting in Incees blind. One mallard was still in H.M. and we settled down on north bank. Shot pretty poorly. Jim got in a couple of fine "jam shots". He built a fire near blind and enjoyed keeping warm. The big bunch of mallards all came back to us in one flock so we didn't have many chances. Ended the afternoon in Incees blind. Total 5 mallard 1 gadwall. Spent home with bad foot

11/8 Edith & Jim & I went to West Point place & found three coveys before lunch and one after in afternoon. Fred made good points and found all damn birds. Warm & hancy with no few a cook-out of hamburger peas & french potatoes. Birds killed nearly all are young birds. Jim made some good shots all over his own. But kids 16 g. is a bit too heavy for him. I think he would do well with a lighter gun.

11/11 I went to Capital at noon without dog. Forecast "high winds and perhaps snow" but it turned clear & calm so was a poor jump shooting afternoon.

We alhed down prairie road & got 2 green heads at corner. Then over to Bush Branch. Flushed lots of mallards there - passed up the bend many times. Then to Half Moon. Lost 2 mallards brought home four greenheads = 12 shells

Garner Trip "13/59

Stephen - Edith & F.L.

Left home in a freezing drizzle at about 10:30. Via Int. Pleasant
Lake City - #6 went to 212 - which was a night mare of
slick ice. When we reached #30 it was nearly dry
thank's to traffic etc. Went to Limer - north on 69 to
Garner 46 miles. A few stretches of ice on this road too.
Arrived 6:30 to the surprise of R Motel operator Ivan
Havin who had called me off.

"14 Up at 6:45 to a little below zero clear sky - north
breeze. Car wouldn't start - no oil at all.
Got a Standard Station man to give me a push.

So we were a bit late for our 9:00 AM opening.
Went to Pitts then north to Crystal Lake & north to
a RR track where we made a non pro stop. First tried
a deserted farm yard where we found lots of tracks
and in a near corn field I killed a cock. Later tried too
long a shot N.B.

Moved along to various stops largely non pro.
In crossing a drainage ditch I broke thru & got
soaked to over crotch so we had to skin for home
to change clothes. By the time we had lunch it
was past 1:00 PM.

Proved S.W. and tried hard to find good areas with
no luck. After 3:00 started to get cold again. Ended
with a 1/2 mile fence line walk to no avail. Hays results
Saw 3 or 4 cocks - killed 1 each 3 shells. - Saw about
6 hens. Spud made some nice hen points.

1959 - Lucail Record

No.

Date	Place	Sex	Age	Wt	Flag	Shells	Cover	Remarks
1-4/8	Or. est Parent	M	4	181	Spade	FL. 28 for	4	4
2		F	4	191		8 birds		Jim killed
3		F	4	193		plum prob.		4
4		C	4	178		2 birds	tra	
5		H	4	195			lost	
6		C	0	193			cripples	
7		C	4	180				
8		H	4	184				
9		H	4	167				
10		C	4	178				
11		H	4	175				
12		C	0	198				
13		H	4	178				
11/22	14	H	4	155	Spade	14	3	4
	15	H	0	185				
	16	C	4	173				
11/28	17	H	4	203	"	4 for 2	2 1/2	1
	18	C	4	185				
11/29	19	C	4	194	"	5 by FL-10 shells	3	5
	20	H	4	197				
	21	H	0	188		Lost first down hook - 1		
	22	H	4	188				
	23	H	4	202				
	24	H	4	178				
	25	H	4	191				
12/4	—	—	—	—	"	0 - 0	1	5 1/2
12/6-26	Bygones	H	0	204	Spade	8 for 3	3	4 1/2
2/1		C	0	189				

1959

Date	Sex	Place	Sex	Age	Wt	Reg	Shells	Hours	Lost
28		Agua Caliente	H	Y	199	Spade			
29			C	Y	175				
30			C	Y	167				
12/12 31		Haffer	H	Y	221	Spade	16-for 5 but I lost 2 shells	3-4 1/2	2
2			C	O	199		ova. dhl. hill too (1-dhl.)		
3			H	O	194				
4			C	Y	187				
35			C	Y	182				
12/13 36		Scatons	H	O	202	Spade	20 for 8 (dhl.)	3 hrs	—
7			C	O	200				
8			C	O	201				
9			C	Y	203				
40			H	O	199				
41			H	Y	199				
42			H	Y	187				
43			C	Y	177				
12/19 44			H	Y	?	Spade	4 for 1	4 1/2 hrs	1
12/20 45		South of River further see	C	Y	207	"	24 for 9	5-6 hrs	0
46			C	O	191 1/2				
47			H	Y	185				
48			H	Y	185				
9			H	O	170				
50			C	Y	170				
1			C	Y	175				
2			H	Y	183				
3			H	Y	210				
4			H	O	203				

1959

Date	No	Place	Sex	Age	Wt	Reg	Shells	Horn Cavities	Cupules lost
12/20	55		C	y	200				
	56		H	O	182				
	57		C	y	177				
	58		H	y	178				
	59		C	y	175				
	60		C	y	172				

Karner Trip 1959 - page 2.

11/15 Sun vis partly overcast - temps 2° above zero. Breakfast at the little truck-eating shop and on our way at 8:30. Car in Harvis garage so started right off. Headed toward Karst City. About 8-10 miles north found & got permission on a corner of a good marsh.

As we walked in an army of farmers came in too. They got up a large group of birds & we got up some. Missed my first chance since my finger didn't find the suit opening - shuck.

Next one I knocked down with mud shot. Not dead. I found where he hit ground & started off. Not Spud on trail & he dug him out of a fence line 150 yards away - never a chance except for dog.

Moved to a weed patch eastward & again found lots of birds & Spud finally got a lovely point & it was a cock, which I killed. Up to now saw at least 60 pheasants. About 6 times all we saw yesterday.

Later Stephen & I took a long cold walk up a ditch. Must have been near a mile each way. Killed a long shot cock in gun range of car as we returned. He flew off shakily - hit a village board fence & Spud caught him.

Lunched at Karst City. In PM. went back to first morning spot & got a fourth cock close to my 1st bird. Stephen helped on this one. Home at 5:10.

11/16 4° above zero & a strong N. wind. Packed & left for home about 8:30. Angled east & south prospecting. At first stop jumped a big cock &

Stephen tried but missed. Thick hedge prevented my shot
Fred got 2 electric shocks on a hot fence wire & it
sure set him back.

Tried other spots - probably 4 more - but got no
shots. Arrived home at 4:45 with 5 cack & a
tired dog and Edith with a painful knee.
Marion for supper. We really had a chilly trip.

"1/22 In army Red Jim Nancy & I went to Conarville
Vetters to try for a pheasant and Red got one in
the ditch just east of the house. We worked on quail
but couldn't hit 'em. Cooked lunch near road - dined
on hamburgers & fried potatoes & cocoa.

After lunch found 2 more quail coveys & got
only 2 more birds. They just fooled us but good
3 birds for the day. Jim had some shots but no luck

"1/28 West Point - afternoon - one small covey of weather only
Killed 2 birds

"1/29 Barkers - Leo Nancy & FL. Farmington. Started at old
couple's house just north of F. Lonely coveys etc. Finally a covey
along hedge. They laid so tight we only got 1 & a scatter
Cooked lunch near our hay stack - fair amount of birds there
Went to hill above D. Lee. River coveys were plentiful & 2
coveys, magpies, crows & thick timber but collected
some birds & lost 1st bird of the season. Lonely sunset
coloring. Red home home. Barkers supper with us

12/4 Red & I went to I.O.P. to hunt with Perry Ingham. Started at about 10 AM. & worked till 4:00. hard. In beautiful quail country. Inlets on ends. We found only one small covey. Not no birds. Why no quails. Ingham collected a red fox & a raccoon from his traps.

12/6 Red, Ingham, Jim & I went north to Oquawha & Ingham. Hunted on Mrs. Brown's land & worked thru beautiful country found only 2 coveys. I got a double & later a single on an over head shot. Then we north to Little land after Ingham served us hamburgers at 3:00. Nice fire in shelter of a corn crib. Not hunted as we returned to car.

Beautiful early winter weather. Temp. just freezing. Jim killed a difficult shot. Near Bald Bluff.

12/12 Alone with I sped to Illinois for bob-white. Stopped first at plum thicket behind or east of Dixon home. Saw a cooper's hawk leave thicket as I drove up. Sure enough a good covey. Only 1 bird close enough which I got. Ingham found the rest - asked to leave - no hunting.

Tried the beaver bridge field no birds. South too walnut corner - a small roost no birds. Licked back into hills & found nothing. Back on sand bottom & hedges - got a good double on surprise covey rise. Then with a few minutes got 2 more. Conservation men inspected my license. I saw a kill & got a good point on covey at base of hill. Killed a double & never did find either. That's all - except a huge roost sign along a sand hedge row.

12/13

Alone to Seaton - Inm Boham farm - as last year
 found 1st covey at far south end on ditch & got a double
 on surprise rise - both running cripples but I had caught.
 Then had some good & poor shooting. 4th & last bird of 1st
 covey was badly hit but flew 90 yds & later I had caught it.

2nd covey in west draw & surprise rise again. Both matted
 in waist high weeds so I got 4 with 6 shells. Last bird
 flew 100 - 150 yds along ridge. Later follow - I had wheeled
 to a point - let down & walked in & picked up my dead bird.

So - probably - ends the season.

Lunched in front of laryngitis patients house. Looked
 as though he could have a covey but I had my 8 birds

14/19

Jim & I went to Seaton. At the old man's house -
 man with laryngitis - he was gone & house M.T.
 So I worked his whole draw & found no birds. Then
 we went to Boham & they said no. So I worked south
 & tried along big creek - found small covey but they
 were wild & we got no shot.

On to Bald Bluff - after trying hedge north of Seaton
 seen - we went for timber covey. Red & I had a couple of
 weeks ago. 1st across 1/2 mile of field & sand bars. I had
 found covey - wild - Got up only 2 singles - Killed
 the 1st & knocked 2nd down but lost cripple & that
 was the day. Bought Xmas tree on way home.

12/20/59 Red Jim & I started on last quail hunt.
in a light snow fall. Went to a new area on road south
of old Dixon farm, where we found some new hedger &
ditches. Beautiful desert coloring in grasses & h's crops etc.
^{new place} Left car about 1/2 mile south of Dixon & — Ford farm
house. Just east of elbow in creek levee where it turns west.
Jim enjoyed himself & did well. Found 5 coveys & 3 big
enough to shoot. Spud did well. Lost no down birds.
Found car & we didn't know we had dropped. 16 birds.

After a full day like this one wonders how much good
fortune can fall to one man. To be able - to have such
a grand view & snow-in-luv, and country with scenery and
such birds - thanks.

1/8 Spud & I took a rabbit hunt in the afternoon. Set out to
ask permission at the house north of east bound road a mile south of
Hopper, at the grass (prairie) ridge (sand). but no one at home so
^{new area}
^{quail} continued east past plum thickets & took road south - short of hills -
for a mile & then part up the hill to Dr. This is farm on south
side of road. He knew that Hanger & me, and gave rabbit OK. no quail.
I walked along brush edge on sand hill - an area I formerly
hunted - saw no rabbits but Spud secured 4 good quail coveys.
On way home I found a 5 threaded side covey. Maybe I
could get permission here next year? How about paying a hit?

1960

and we found we should move to south end of lake.

I layed off of Jim's birds by 11:15 we have 2 limits. All green heads but 1 one. Jim got some good shots. Rained a bit but we were dry. Home at noon.

- 11/1 - Went with Spud to Crystal at 1:30 for ducks. Turned to a bright afternoon following several rainy days. The prairie grass - cord grass especially - deep golden color with a rich tinge of red near the tips.

Went to Philips but found black act out there, so returned to full over & walked to Half Moon. Trained out on some chance by letting Spud get too far ahead. Lost a green head. Made a green head double too. Walked to Buck Branch which is now full of water, - and woodier - no shots.

Could see that birds were shy at Evinger - burned out. Back to Half Moon & back via water edge. Tried & missed a long one at Benjamin from roadway. Wind to was blowing like a storm with roosting black birds. 3 green heads + 1 lost 9 shells

- 11/4 Spud & I to Crystal at 1:30. Cool little breeze - overcast. Left boat at full over & walked to Evinger. Where we jumped a dozen or so mallards. I missed 2 on up when I returned & lit & the flock were circling. I missed them all. Water in ash trees at B. Branch - no ducks even in main B Branch except a few wild scattered.

Then to H. Moon - nothing at south end. Walked the north wing - 2 pair lit behind me & I got 1. Spud

recovered in heavy brush. A mallard in south h. another
I called in. Spud recovered another. This one I called
in. Then via boat to Ash Tree + Eaton. no ducks
I met very few ducks using grounds. Had a new
flight. Got 2 more green heads + 1 gadwall - 8 shells
11/5 Jim Red Edith Spud + I rushed to Vetter for 9:00
pheasant opening. He was absent + said he had seen no
pheasants. We worked his ditch a mile north then east
+ then south along ditch. Saw no quail. 1 cock - which
I marked down. Followed + flushed - knocked him
dead? I thought but a long search - no cock. Spud
tried hard.

Then south of road - 1 1/2 hours or 2 hours. 1 hen +
2 cocks seen - no shot. No quail seen. Only 1 rabbit.
Beaver had been dynamited - s.e. their dam.

Lunched + returned home listening to Minnesota
heat Larver 2:4-10. Just too strong for us.

11/6 Pichnis near West Point. 5 Barben + 2 of us. Arrived
about 10:00 AM. Found 2 cars parked in area. We scoured
the area far and wide. Found only matter of one covey.
Blowing + hailing with a few grains of hail. Saw
quite a few rabbits despite heavy cover for them to hide in.
Marion + Edith fried hamburgers while we kept trying. 3 shells
Knees still full of rough cartilage. Got 1 quail young cock

11/9 Red, Spud & I had 5:15 breakfast at Red's. Cold - just above freezing & N.W. wind. Set last draw & took Stoney N.E. lots of flocks at day break. Mostly big flocks. Woodcock all gone - or almost all gone. Skinned some shots & then killed a pair Red 1 & mine 1. Then Red tried walking out back where birds had been alighting. He got a chake & I killed a hi drake that lit behind me & then a pair of chakes. The big flocks were launching out in mid lafess then jumping with no fair shot. I took the boat & tried to pick up a cripple. Jumped a pair & got 1. To fall Red 4. She dove but Spud caught her. We came home cold. In my bag 5 mallards & about 15 shells. So far I have brought home all green heads. Killed 23 mallards 1 gadwall Total brought home 18 green heads

11/13 Jim, Erving, Edith Spud & I left at 8:30 for Farmington. Started mud place on 1st. rt. turn after top of hill behind the town. We worked the whole area without raising a bird till we were nearly back to the car when Spud jumped a small covey wild. They dropped to creek bed, where I got two. Then on north side of road we raised another covey in heavy cover. They laughed at us. I got only 1 & missed a lot. Erving & Jim cooked our lunch.

Worked on north & made a long tow after hot fence line where I finally raised a 3rd covey & got 3 more birds & Jim got one. Home at 6:00 tired.

1960

Number		Date	Place	Sex	Age	Wt.	Tag	Shells	hms Covier
11/6	"	1	West Pt	M	Y	171	Spuds	3-4	1-4
11/13	"	2	Warming	H	O	189	"	21 for 6	3-6 hrs
		3	"	H	Y	193			
		4	"	H	Y	189			
		5	"	H	Y	171			
		6	"	} gave to Jim					
		7	"						
11/20	"	8	Hoffers	H	Y	177	Spuds	5 for 2	1-4 1/2 hrs
		9	"	H	Y	186			
11/26	"	10	N. Open	H	Y	186	"	4 for 2	1-4 hrs
		11	"	C	O	199			
		12	Warming	H	Y	180	"	6 for 1	1-4 hrs last 1/2 hr

11/19 Jim Red Spud & I went to Crystal at 9:30
for mallards. Lots of hunters cars parked. & a sandbar
in East Run & walked east. Jumped a good scattering
of woodchucks. Red & Jim picked up a mallard each in head
of meadows. On to half moon, where we found little
till we got to the rail tie crossing where we saw
a good 20 scattered mallards. Red got 2 drakes &
Jim & I both missed. On north on 1/2 moon & Jim
killed another & Red & I also. Spud was "pointing"
my back as we proceeded. Went nearly to Brundage
& then returned. Spud did fine work recovering down
mallards. Dug last queen head - a cripple - Spud
recovered 100 yards from where he fell. Back to
boat about 1:30 and registered 11 mallards and 1
squirrel. Most of the other hunters were still out
in their blinds. Turned on radio & found Iowa
14. Water same 0. late in 1st half. Lovely bright
day - light south wind - some ice as we started.
Jim & Red enjoyed the experience - as did I.
My score 5 mallards - 10 shells.

11/20 Red Spud & I - for quail - to hills south of Hopfer 1 mile +.
We found one covey of perhaps 8 or 10. No covey point - I
missed on the covey rise. Red got one. Then I made an extra
fancy double on a pair; in the brush. Spud found both for
me. Then we tried up the hill on the Run farm. No birds
found - got picked out by a young man who was pharant
about it. Covered a lot of ground & found tracks only of a
2nd covey. Killed a big tiger tom cat, to Spud's delight.

11/26 - Alone with Spud north of Oquawha 11:00 AM.

Got up a big covey in Jack's part of Reasons & as I picked up my second bird an elderly & irate farmer with help from a younger man scolded me out! with emphasis. Moved to Geo. Brown farm where game is decimated. Walked the full circuit of big corn field to Bald Bluffs back & says no quail. Ate lunch in car. Moved about a lot, & found no more quail all afternoon - so I covey in 4 hours fly. A very few rabbits. Lovely rosey afterglow as I drove home.

11/27 Spud & I to Crystal at 10:30. Lots of covey - hunter out.

Took boat to pull-over. Walked toward prairie - in the Soldier Lake & pikeated flew up & sat in oak tops very near. They are large & brightly or gaudily marked. He saw Spud & flew off squalling. On to Half Moon. Where I got a long drake that fell far away. Spud worked a good 20 minutes & finally found him.

Went a drake east of RL home. Then to Buck Brush. where in south end I got a mallard hen. Spud again excelled on a diving cyprip. Home for lunch.

11/29 Red & I - with Jim heading to Odessa. Wild windy cold day. Big flight in 2 hours after sunrise. No shooting for us. Special note the huge blinder on boat. Heavy engine. Crew boat rank

12/4 - Herb Staats & I to Farmington at 10:00. Went to
old couple's home & failed to find 2 coveys we had seen
on our 1st trip. Belle met us at restaurant at 11:30
for lunch. Then the Staats left for home. & incidentally
Herb left his gun in my car. In PM I found 1 covey
only.

1961 Hunting Season.

10/28 Crystal Lake. fine high water stage with good areas of flooded timber and prairie swales. No pumping as yet & probably none will be needed.

Ducks not plentiful so we are set to a 2 bird daily limit with 1 woodie allowed. Season opened 10/28 at noon.

Jim & Red & Spud and I drove - Hawthorn where we found plenty mallards. Light was bad so we probably scared up some green head chases. Jim killed 2 good pairing birds and made a dbl. on jumping green heads which filled his & Red's limit. I shot poorly and lost 4 down birds Spud could not find. I finally got a drake & a hen mallard.

10/29 First early snow at 6:50 - rained nearly all night but stopped by 5 AM. Red Jim & Spud & I. Drove Oak Tree. A few mallards had moved in there & Spud had a good line running the marsh. Boring weather. Drove heat to up ditch to borrow where I picked out a poacher. 5 good plastic blacks he said were not his so I took them & gave them to Jim for his own. The hunter already had a duck on his string.

Shamed J & R the maple swale where Edith experienced flock shooting years ago. - beautiful color & perfect reflections.

Waded down hay ridge & found lots of mallards - especially N.E. Stony. Back thru

1961 Quaker hill by F.L.

	Place	bag	cripples			dog
10/28	Kanham, etc.	2 mallards	4 lost	14 shells	4 hours	Spud.
10/28	Ash Trees - Bushy Br.	2 " 1. woodcock	0	4 "	3	"
11/2	Bushy Br.	2 mallards	0	4 "	2	"
11/4	" "	2 mallards	1	9	2 1/2	"
Lucia 11/5	upper areas	2 " "				

Kanham where we found Rehner & home at 10:00

11/2 Alone - with Spud - 1:40 PM. Red & Marmy had preceded me. Overcast - warm - threat of rain - strong wind. Drove boat to Kay Ridge landing & walked south. Water has risen a good bit since my last hunt Sunday. Picked up a big green head cripple along edge of flooded timber. Hung him in swash tree for my return. Jammed some mallards quite wild & didn't shoot. On to the ash tree hole N.E. of Bushy Br. where there were hundreds of mallards - water all riled up from their puddling. Didn't shoot till they were all out. Then took two fat greenheads & started back. First took a look for

woodcock - I had a handfull of #8 along. Jumped
one beauty and got him. Such a handsome - lovely bird!

Rained as I returned toward boat & picked up my
3rd greenhead. At ditch found Inarmy & Red who had
no ducks yet so gave them my extra. They started off
for Bush Branch & I started for home.

"1/2 Spud & I. Landed at pull-over and walked east thru
timber where I saw a big fox squirrel. On these flooded
timber S.E. I missed a big pair & then a good full on a big
pairing drake. He tumbled & remained lodged in top of
a 40-50' spindly ash tree - took his picture there &
then easily shook him down.

Next was a big pairing hen - very satisfactory
so that was my limit. I looked around a while &
missed several - hunched down & lost a green head.
He cut dove spud. Bright sparkling afternoon with
promise of a heavy freeze tonight.

"1/4 Luna L. arrived this AM. - He Red Jim & I went at
mid morning to Crystal. To pull-over and walked S.E.
Jim & Red to Grundt's Hole. Luna and I saw some mallards
in the woods. Sporty long range pairing birds. He returned to
boat for lunch with Jim & Red. - Red went home for Inarmy
Jim & L. and I back to Bush Branch. and Jim took L.
to N.E. Bush Branch where they got up lots of mallards.
I built a fire & waited with Spud. Tried smoking out

a varmit Spud had in hollow tree.

On the way home we walked up thru brambles and L. around up with a good hill and a big baldpate. A "sight" of ducks, some large traveling flocks at sunset.

"1/5" Lenna, Jim Spud and I to Farmington. 1st stop at the old couple on the hill top. Two hours work & found no birds. Then in valley to north - Jim got a woodcock - his first. Then we found a good covey under hedge at west end. At 2:00 when we lunched we had found 2 covies and had about 6 birds.

Moved on north - and found covey at old windmill. Lenna got a bird & covey were kicked out. On west to hill edge above the Beaver river. Rove in to old barn & started south. Spud got up a covey while ahead & they flew toward us - I got a double. Jim got one. It is about filled our limits. As we walked south another covey got up voluntarily. It exceeded our limits. I had 9 with 17 shells. Makes 5 covies for the day. Best in several years. Lenna delighted. Jim did well too. A perfect November day. Crimson at sunset on road home. Killed a big white wild cat.

Journal 1961

	Birds									
Date	No.	Place	Sex	Age	Wt.	Wing	Shells	Birds lost	Carrier	Hours
11/5 off	1	Hampton	H	0	192	Spade	17 for 9	0	5	6
	2		H	4	186					
	3		C	4	152					
	4		C	4	173					
	5		C	4	138					
Brookside - June	6		?	?	211					
	6		C	4	167					
	7		C	4	175					
	8		H	0	195					
	9		C	4	164					
	10		C	4	172					
	11		C	4	176					
	12		C	4	183					
	13		C	4	143					
	14		C	4	184					
	15		C	4	151					
	16		H	4	170					
11/7 June	17	Went Point	C	4	202	"	15 for 2	1	3	5
	18	Point	H	4	188					
	19		C	4	184					
	20		C	4	192					
11/25	21	Went Point	H	0	200	Spade	20 for 17	1	3	6 hrs Per bellman
	22		C	0	190					
	23		H	4	187					

19/61

		Place	Sex	Age	Wt	Log	Ther	Birds lost	Cover	Hours
11/25	24		H	4	185					
"	25		H	4	182					
"	26		H	4	157					
"	27		C	11	147					
12/2	28	Ant Pt	C		205	Spud	18/5	0	3	6 1/2 Juv + FL.
	29		H	4	203					
	30		C	0	196					
	31		H	4	180					
	32		C	4	179					
	33		C	4	173					
	34		C	4	160					
	35		H	4	154					
12/8	36	S. of Riffers	H	4	183	Spud	12-4	0	1	2 alone
	37		C	4	180					
	38		H	0	173					
	39		H	4	170					
12/3	-	Shunhed				Spud		0	4	Ill. far south to Santa Cruz
12/9	40	N. of Santa Cruz	C	4	208	Spud	17/6	0	2	5 Jim 6 - for 16
	41		H	4	220					
	2		H	4	191					
	3		C	4	192					
	4		C	4	196					
	5		H	4	184					
	6		C	4	184					
	7		H	4	186					
	8		H	4	184					

Date	Place	Sex	Age	wt	Log	Alb	Birds Lost	Bin	Hour
49		C	0	184					
50		H	Y	150					
51		H	Y	153					
12/10 ⁵²	Manitowish	C	Y	212	Apr	21-5	0	3	4 1/2 Jim
53		H	Y	194					
54		C	Y	192					
55		C	Y	185					
56		C	Y	181					
57		H	Y	177					
58	N. of Epishus	C	0	200	June	9/5	1	2	6 1/2 Jim B
59		C	0	225					
60		H	Y	185					
61		H	0	180					
62		H	Y	180					
63		H	Y	180					
64		H	Y	162					

11/6 Monday - Luna and I too Crystal Lake about 10:30. Tried to find birds north of Towns but drew a blank. Immediately found birds east of Pin Lake but there was no breeze & they got up very wild & flew away so we had few chances. I had no gun - one license only.

By dint of much foot work Luna got 2 mallards. Both long in passing birds & real sporty. L. tried driving birds for me & I got one teal which lodged in a big ash tree & couldn't dislodge it.

11/7 Luna & I to West Point where our old place has gone had our own. Too many cattle, few owners. The widow died. Moved west a mile where we found a friendly reception & some good territory. Three women. Made a ditch dbb. on first shot but lost one ruffle. Then proceeded to win many & Luna did too. Lovely bright day. Big birds & we came home humbled. My gun repair did not hold up.

See journal for account of 5 days pheasant hunt. Jim Barker, Edith & I.

11/25 With Spad to West Point (Sunday) First stop at Mr. Wellman's house south of W. P. He is most cordial - his son runs Big Clipper store. This is entrance to new territory Luna and I found 11/7. Met a farmer and his son with a turkey pop. Farmer joined me and we hunted coveys together. Coveys had just got up wild. We were

in deep draw or ravine and the birds alighting in red cedar trees & that added to confusion. Shot poorly. Spud made fancy recoveries on cripples and birds that fell unseen & far away. My former friend gave me his one bird - new experience.

Early in the day I saw a fine big buck with impressive racks of horns. Crossed fallow field 125-150 yards away. Spud on his track. Lots of tracks in mud spots everywhere.

When I returned to Mr & Mrs Sellman - he invited me to come in - and offered "something hot" for me. We had a pleasant conversation.

Drove to W. P. and went to first road south - and took that. end of road - a car waiting there at deserted house. Bean field, much cover - at far corner raised a big covey and missed. They really gave me a rough time. I finally took 2 on fancy shots. Spud again found running cripples etc. I missed fern.

12/2

Jim and I started from B about 8:40 and drove to my new area SW of West Point. Around of the main bean field finally produced a group of about 5 scattered birds. Diligent effort turned up no more birds around the main area & a side trip north 1/2 mile finally got us a medium covey where we each got a bird or two. Ate lunch at 1:00 with only 4 birds bagged. Lovely weather except too warm.

Prospected SW to Franklin & then north again to Mr. Sellman's house where he gave an OK.

Hunted eastward and missed finding a covey I'd had up twice. Then in the big deep draw a covey jumped wild & flew on down creek. We followed but failed to locate excepting for 1 bird which I missed twice on an easy chance. Then a hill top bird I'd marked down & we both missed. Walked back toward car & failed to locate another known covey. Drove out his drive & stopped to work a grassy ungrazed draw where I had pointed a covey. We got 4 more birds to double our bag. - On this "last chance" excursion. Very white lot of rabbits today! Very plentiful. Very shooting poor again.

^{12/3} Alone with Spud - to Ill. hills. Warm day 60+. Hunted new areas south. beyond Santa Fe track - looked like good territory but found no birds - saw no sign of bird. Honey creek - full of beaver dams and fresh signs. Especially rotting corn fields & tunneling creek banks. Farmer said he had no quail - knew of 1 covey on neighbors farm.

^{12/8} Spud & I started at 11:30 - 1 mile S. of Hoppers found one fair covey - jumped wild - into jack oaks where I got 4 birds. Shot quite poorly. 12 shells. Several good points. We found some running chipmunks for me. Tried N. of Hoppers. Wood cutter - no birds found. Tremendous gullies in sand hills.

12/9

Jim & I took Spuds - new snow - about 1 1/2" deep and a bit more during the day. Left B. about 10 AM & on icy roads for Seaton. Our old place - new owner where my old friend lived and he said no. All neighbors mutually agreed to stop hunting this year. So we cast out for new area. Tried a hot looking spot along top of bluff - no birds found.

Down the hill to try far bottom land area. Soon discovered we were in familiar ground, at deserted house - "We got relations". Found great big covey - they jumped wild and Jim & I doubled on same bird. Lost the covey. At 2:00 ate lunch - 2 birds - then we got smarter & found our scatter & in 1/2 hour had 9.

Moved on at about 4:30 finally in jack oak he tried a final area. Immediately we were in scattered birds. Most (5) got into cover & no shot but finally I killed a wild winging bird that I couldn't see as I shot. Went to look & Spud had my bird! More scatter & then a point as we returned to car toward the west. Two rows & we each killed our bird - 12 for the day. Jim did some good shooting and has learned a lot about how to maneuver & to hunt.

Bought my Xmas tree outside home.

Our hen weighed 2,20 grams young.

No birds lost. Lots of points by Spud.

8/10 Sunday - Margaret Jim Spud & I to N. of Farmington
Parked at barn - on hill top. After a false start we tried
the corn field & soon flushed a big covey that pulled
a disappearing act on us. In hours hunt & we had found
one scatter - no shot. So we set off for more birds & soon
flushed a covey wild out of bean field. So wild. Killed
my first shot and then missed plenty. Jim wasn't over them
either. Very interesting country. Deep valleys & some
good big timber. Finally tried it covey & found
some of them. Lunched in car. Then at head of draw
we found some brush pile birds that really had to be
fired loose. Killed one - I thought I'd missed.
He spiraled up & fell dead 100 or more yards away.

Drived north a mile or two & found some wonderful
new territory. Big covey again flushed wild. We had
to leave at 3:30 to get home in time to meet
Betty & her 3 children at air port. My score 5 for 21!!

9/16 Jim & I hunted in a miserable rain-sleet-ice - found a
few birds & couldn't hit any. - so returned early to
mend our icy fingers & take it easy - fixing outside tree etc

9/17 Jim & I - north of Oquawka again. Int stop to ask
permission - a covey alights in barn yard & we
we drove in to ask. No permission.

Next got farmers OK & after a long hunt found
big covey in bean edge - & we each got one on our side.
Then we had a tough hunt finding weather - finally

located & I got ~~up~~ out of weed field at one side & I got
one fin mixed. They flew out of the country - at $\frac{1}{4}$
mile they were still above tree tops. Never did find
other $\frac{1}{2}$ of covey despite a long search.

Drove N. & found tracks - no birds - next morning
found 5 or 6 scattered & fin get 2. Next morning
tracks but no birds. Then in car went home
caught covey crossing road. Jumped mile behind
jack oaks & are followed. They gave away their location
by muted covey call & we jumped them toward
nest & I made 1st clank in several hours.
Jim grabbed me one bird.

Got stuck on high center - by using jack
& Jim's salvage logs & tire spare we got off.
New birds & a good day.

1962

See my leather bound journal for account of our
15 day Canadian trip thru Manitoba and Saskatchewan
Bay while there - approximate

- 3 - white front geese - speckle belly
- 2 - lesser Canada geese
- 10 - assorted ducks
- 5 - sharptailed grouse
- 5 - ruffed grouse
- 18 - Hungarian partridge

10/28 Opened our home season with ducks at Ayitab
Jim B. and I took.

Limit this year 2 - ducks per day - allows only
one mallard - can bag 4 - total if 2 are scaup - either
Closed entirely or red - head and canvas back.

Rucker

1962 - bag - Blucher
(see previous page for Canada Hunt)

Place

10/28 Upper grounds 1 mallard 1 g.W. teal - no bones 3 shells
2 hares - Spud

11/4 Quails opened yesterday - as we watched lower heat this
28 to 14

Jim Barber & I went north of Farmington this AM - arrived
about 10:00 or before. Rained as we left home - still north
wind - strong. Stopped as we started to hunt. Our first
cast in last years good area - no birds. No beam this year
cackle burr instead. Glorious blue berries on the
large red cedars. Some good 18' chains.

Second place we found 2 small coveys on that
nearly mile long east west fence line. I kept missing
birds. Jim did better. Second covey had a fairly
point & Jim got one. There were along a hedge
where shooting should be easy.

Lunch at 2:00 with 6 birds - State warden from
Bloomfield checked us. also took a wing on each bird.

Found a fine looking place corn - timber - etc.
Spud made a fine covey point. Place had been hunted.
Found fine roost - no more birds - but they're there.
Killies by the house. 8 birds - beautiful foliage.

11/7 Crystal - 1 mallard drake - 1 g.W. teal - 2 hares - Spud.
Timber ducks have moved out - no feed in timber. Some in R.B.
slough - where I get mine - lost a down teal cripple.
6 shells for 2 ducks.

1962 Quail

Number	Date	Place	Sex	Age	wt	Leg	Heel	Birds Foot	Wings	Crown
1	11/4	Para	M	y	192	Spade	FL	0	5 1/2	3
2			H	y	193		15 for 4			
3			M	y	195					
4			H	y	200					
5			M	y	176					
6			H	y	179					
7			M	y	180					
8			M	0	184					
9	11/11	West Point	M	y	195	Spade	FL	0	4	2+
10			M	0	179		4 for 9			4 for 9
11			H	0	168					
12			C	y	178					
13			C	y	195					
14			C	y	201					
15			C	y	180					
16			H	y	167					
17			C	0	195					
18	11/18	Biggsville	C	y	195	Spade		1	6 1/2	4
19			H	0	186					
20			C	0	192		11 for 4			
21			H	0	185					
22			C	0	185					
23			C	y	188					
24	11/24	Hammond Turkey Farm	C	y	207	Spade	10 for 5	0	2	1+
25			C	y	184					
26			C	y	182					
27			H	y	187					
28			C	y	186					
29		Biggsville	H	y	209	Spade	18 for 808	1	7	3
30			H	y	200					
31			C	y	199					
32			H	y	190					
33			H	y	189					
34			H	y	193					
35			C	0	186					
36			H	y	181					
37			H	y	182					
38			H	y	186					

State No.	Place	Sex	Age	Port	Flag	Shells	Band	Hours	Count	
39		H	y	184						
40		C	y	181						
12/1					spine			4	0	North of Gladstone - Sarty
12/2	41	C	y	186	spine	3 for 2	0	4	1	West of Klemmank
"	42	C	y	176						
12/4	43	C	y	213	spine					
	4	C	y	205		10-6	0	3	3	Lunar 18 for 6
	5	C	y	200						
	6	C	y	228						
	7	H	y	223						
	8	H	y	204						
	9	C	A	228						
50		C	y	226						
1		C	y	219						
2		C	y	195						
3		C	y	196						
54		C	A	199						
55		H	y	206	spine	11 for 3	1	6 1/2	2	Lunar - Jim - FL.
12/8	6	H	y	204						
	7	H	y	206						
	8	C	y	182						
	9	C	0	188						
60		C	y	163						
1		H	y	168						
2		H	y	155						
12/15	63	H	y	206	"	4 for 1	1	2	1	plus scatters.

Note: longer
spine of these
funds. South of bank
area? any connection

1962

Pheasant. Conneville - Lone Tree.

11/10 - Jim, Spud & I left at 7:20 for Vetter's farm to open pheasants. Arrived 8:30 and found Vetter in the barn yard. He reported seeing some cackles - also thanked us for the wishy fifts. We hunted the ditcher complete & saw a total of one pheasant - a cack. I failed to kill. That took till 12:30. A natural gas pipe line being laid thru the farm.

Lunched in the car. Drove Vetter & 4 sons were there helping. After lunch drove to Lone Tree then 4 roads north - then east. Our first stop we immediately found pheasants - lots of them. Many hens & a few cackles - no shots. But lots of birds. Kat asked "out" in a friendly way. Spud made a lousy point on a hen of course.

Next stop we get permission - here many hunters before us. Killed a young cack & then got asked "out". Last stop get permission but a high wall returns only 1 bird. A cack framed - near - we followed - he jumped & we missed him. Tired & home at 6:00 - drove 150 miles plus = 160 or more. Too bad we didn't go north earlier in morning. A 10-15 mile drive made all the difference.

- Ben Hany -

11/11 Barbara - Lee Steen - and Spud & I to Bart Point at about 10:00 arrival time - to deserted home - First found some scatter & get 2 or 3 birds - then a covey - out of range on size. They were hard to find in thick timber but did fairly - then a sandwich lunch on the blue grass. Found a new place & soon a covey - fair point. Red in car. J & I each get one on size. Then looked back to no avail. Later found a couple right near 1st location & we doubled on another. Home early. J. tabulated our birds. Spud & I tired.

11/16 To Crystal at 9:30 - Cold - north wind - prospect of snow & freeze - apr. Dashed from Tanager pull over to Half Moon - to Bush Branch - Curinger and then Wundts. Got not a shot - saw 2 small traveling flocks and a scattering of winged dunks. A sad demonstration of duck shortage. Broke out Hawkin about it.

11/18 Jim - Spud - and I went to new area north of Highway #34 and east of Gladstone. First took north road at Brer Farm and got an OK from Mr. Buss to hunt on Mr. Paine's land straddling R.R. tracks. Hunters afraid of us this AM had shot quite a bit - we heard a few whistles. Finally found coveys north of tracks. Scatter hard to locate. I dropped first bird but he ran out on me. I tried hard - no luck.

Moved on to Road Quarry road where we found a covey and they too were hard to find - no coveys were shot. Finally found some out in gathered corn and got three.

Moved north on Road road and found coveys in ungathered corn - no good. Mr. Siering joined us. As we headed home tried a "hot" shot & injured a covey from road & got 2 birds & 2 each after the day. Road new area for future hunts.

11/24 Inarmy - Spud - first picked up bird food at Brer's & bag to Inarmy & one for us. Then looked for a place along creek west of Brer's. Every thing failed - no entrance - so moved on thru Denmark to old turkey farm. Soon flushed a covey - wild - one long shot missed. Then looked a long time before finding the birds which again jumped wild - no shot. Again looked long for the matter - then jumped a new covey & made a double. Followed & got 2 more singles. Then ran into scatter & got my 5th bird - 15 shells. Three coveys. Lovely bright cool day. Inarmy good company - Home at 12:45 to hear football. Joe & Kate Home

11/25 With Jim - north of Road quarry. First stop with Mr. Randall who we met near South Henderson Cemetery & Church. He proved a pleasant gentleman who directed us where to hunt and invited us back again. He goes to hunt deer in Pa. next week. First covey in big one ungathered corn & I shot poorly. Jim did better. I saw them on the ground - so many of them! Spud caught a racoon & nearly killed it. We went to place Randall told us and got a covey again in ungathered corn. Hard to see them! Then lunched at car & watched Leg. Hawks - a pair - circle - 2 red shouldered?

Upon hill to west saw a great show of hither sweet. A machine covey. I got one over me & shot me both killed one in a tree. Then I was sure I killed one out of two - but he jumped & went on. Jim missed him next and then on 3rd we Spud caught him.

11/5 Cont. Found place a hill top north of Sien's farm. We walked the entire perimeter & found no birds - they're there, sure. He knows me. His wife from Hawaii - part Chinese part Hawaiian. Lucky. Knows Frank Johnson & Fred Clinton. Invited us to return. Says he has deer - plenty. 12 birds - 3 coveys for the 9 hours. Good day to hunt - a bit too warm. Jim good company.

12/1 Warm Saturday - sunny 65° - day. Tried Mr. Riddens farm. Bert, tenant near bridge north of Gladstone - 2 hours try - found no quail. Jim lunching along old R.R. right of way - perhaps 50 birds. Then tried Sien but failed to find coveys I know is there. Then tried R.R. field of Randall & again failed to find coveys Jim & I had a week ago.

12/2 Cold, Jim, Spud & I west of Denmark. Turkey farm woods. One medium covey on which I got a double on covey rise. Then missed a single. Jim didn't get a chance at coveys & missed some singles. Near 70° & sunny. There birds are long & there. There is a second covey there but failed to find.

lots of rabbits. Was the day I thought I'd have had at least a dozen shots. Maybe more.

Stopped to call on Lee Piche. His arrow head and rock specimen collection is better than ever. Now showing in sectional book case. He spent 5 weeks in Idaho. Failed to get an elk.

12/7 Luna - Spent at Randall's north of Biggsville. New man Tom Kerns owns farm includes deeded home. Biggs farm next one east with soil bank area. He has red hair. Is down east - & south - stony house. First big covey. really ragged me. Both of us missed badly. I missed first & shells then got 6 out of 7 and missed three. Luna about the same. Best two coveys in soil bank where we could see the birds. Best shooting in years. Got no down birds. Spent very good. - Note heavy weight of three birds from "soil bank" weed patches?

12/8 Luno & Jim - Spud & I. Started at Reid quarry draw. Birds got up wild & I missed several. Luno & Jim got 3 - I lost one that came down in heavy grass - too much lime dust on the grass. This is a tight bird corner! They moved to Randall's south corn field where a couple of hours failed to find the 2 coveys. The lunchroom is a south facing shelter.

Is kind blowing a gale and freezing temperature. Rough - but better than the rain that was forecast!

Moved north looking for new areas. Finally hit a covey, where 6 or 7 alighted in trees before taking off. In the heavy wind they really flew like leaves. Found ourselves near Aquahar.

12/15 Edith, Spud & I. at Biggers and Mr Smiths. Late start - after lunch. Saw 2 wild scatters only at Smiths and 1 scatter at Biggers - probably earlier hunters. Then went after bitterweeds for Christmas - Edith had shipped. Spud flushed covey behind me - 4 birds passed me & I dropped, it one and hit ^{it} - which flew on. No find either one!!! Decided to go for Christmas tree north of Aquahar - a lovely Scotch pine 3.12. On way home near old Sandy Lake watched 5 to 10 M mallards drop into corn field after sunset. They roll - along - over & over!

1963 - Season.

11/2 Opened with ducks at noon today - Friday - bright with a brisk north west wind scudding down the lake. Marmy and I with Spud. Got last draw. Took the swale east of Hawthorn. Many ducks flushing as we came thru Invercraig Swale. Jumping mostly from Hawthorn and many from our area and west end of Half Moon.

Shooting started at 12:00 noon. Collected my four in a hurry.

Limit this year 2 mallards and 2 others - no game or red heads. Marmy was doing her first duck hunting with a gun. She learned to brace with her feet etc. After getting a wet bottom from tipping backwards. She tried 8 or 9 shots with no feathers. I killed

4 mallards
2 gadwall
1 pintail

} 17 shells - no lost birds down.

Came home near 5:00 with tired legs and back but excited with the old experience repeated again - many many ducks

11/3. Jim and I - Spud - 24° no ice - lots of frost. Went to last on draw. Went to Half Moon etc. Still lots of ducks in the grounds. We both shot poorly, but finally hit some birds. Fairly clear sunnier - scarce a cloud anywhere.

The general bombardment was quite impressive, but blind filled with hunter. Looks to me like many shoot at birds that are too high.

I can't decide why my four were - too far? too much or too little lead?

Puffed a dead bird away across the burnt slough, just at the edge of the 200 yard distant woods. So - I started again. Made it and found my fine big drake. Then I saw I had to struggle back across. This made my limit of a pair of mallards and two pintails. Jim finished up behind him later on a gadwall, his limit also included 2 hen mallards & one baldpate. Home at noon. Tired - did lots of walking.

2 - mallards
2 - pintails

} 1 flying cripple lost

Shuck 1963
dog spud

11/2 -	4 mallards 2 gadwall 1 pintail	}	17 shells - no cripples
11/3 -	2 mallards 2 pintails		
			1 - flying cripple lost
11/8	3 mallards 1 encouche (by others)	}	6 shells - no cripples
11/12	1 bald pate		
11/13	2 bald pate 2 gadwall 2 gr. wing teal	}	7 shells - no cripples
11/30	1 bald pate 1 G.W. teal	}	10 shells no cripples
12/1	1 - mallard		
			5 shells no cripples
			5 shells no cripples

No.	Date	Place	Sex	Age	Wt	Log	Shells	Corn	House	Birds
1	11/3	Brit St	C	4	210	Spud		4	3	
2			H	4	175		23 for 4			
3			C	4	177					
4			C	4	170					
5			H	4	185					
6			C	4	160					
7			H	4	169					
8			C	4	164					
9			C	0	174					
10			H	4	166					
11	11/16	Brit St	H	0	184	Spud	15 for 5	3	5	0
12			H	4	190					
13			C	4	175					
14			H	4	169					
15			H	4	179					
16			H	4	170					
17			H	4	171					
18			C	4	168					
19			C	4	170					
11/2 - 4 each pheasants at Brit Branch										
20	11/19	"	"	"	"	"	20 shells			
21	11/23	Corn	C	4	291	Spud 1-for 1		2	4	0
22	11/24	Pickles	H	4	166	Spud	4 corn killed these two.			
23	"	"	C	0	183					
24	11/25	South Pepper	C	4	185	Spud 6 for 11 - FL 11-6 corn 1-				
25			H	4	195					
26			H	0	163					
27			H	4	190					
28			C	4	187					
29			C	0	164					
30			C	0	179					
31			H	4	196					
32			C	0	188					
33			C	4	159					
34			H	0	150					
35			C	0	200					
36			H	0	179					
37			H	0	2108					

1-inch hole in the ground no chance for dog

1-ing hole
in the ground
no chance
for dog

1963

No	Date	Place	Sex	Age	Wt	Stock	Shell vs birds	Ripple	Number	Cooper
38	12/7	Wilmington	H	0	195	Spand	8 for 2	1	4 1/2	2
39			C	4	178					

11/3 - First quail hunt. Edith - Jim - Spud - and I.
This is third day in a row of hunting - quite a task for me,
but inspiring and a challenge. Left 9:30 AM. for S.W. of
West Point at our old deserted farm house. Found a car
and 3 men - farmers - hunting ahead of us. Soon got into
some birds and had trouble hitting them. Missed early
shots and then scored a tough double kill. These early
birds are running rather small in weight. Of 10 in the bag
only one was an old bird.

Spud did quite well to keep up this sort of day.
At lunch, on the lawn of deserted farm.

Lots of timber land ungrazed. Wonder about wild
flowers? Should look next spring.

Jim shoot badly too - but said he had a good day.

11/8 Red and I went to Crystal with Spud. Tried
west bay of Ogish Lake and found the big bunch had
been shot out. I missed a green head - e. e. he didn't fall though
head hit. Red knocked down a hen which escaped. Then I got
a green head that I had captured for me across the sloughs - too
deep to wade so had to wait for boat & found my bird dead after
first looking 50 yards too short.

Tried little Honey - no duck - except woggles. Went to
Pulk over and Red went down to undt's while I went to
Goldie - Phelps - Cwinger. On return walk in passing Youngs
I spotted a dead drake wogchie lying in the duck weed &
he proved fresh so I picked him up.

3 mallards - 6 shells

1 wogchie - dead.

Home at 5:20 - Red got a q. w. teal in Kanawha.

11/9 Pheasant offering. The Barbers & me & drove to
West Branch to join with Ken Barber for pheasants. He was
late and Ken had already gone. We went to Karen's farm north
and east about two miles before Kilbuck got us permission. As
started out and soon found birds. Our shooting not very
good. Jim sent a cripple off - hit. We all missed a
Turkey. I killed a long one, and then a short one in
clover patch. Then Red & Jim missed some - Jim hit

a good clean bill. Then we dabbled on the next one.
Found plenty of birds - poor shooting - warm day. Very warm
we two had to quit at noon. So we slipped on our bathall
clothes and hastened to Iowa City where we watch Iowa high
Minnesota 14 to 13. Home at 6:30 - supper with Betty & Bob.
Kill 3 - cochin - 12 shells - no cripples but that could
expect to find

11/10/63 Went out with Spade near Pickles place - next to Tenney
ranch. Found 1 scatter and a 1/2 covey in the edge near
a small corn patch. Missed a good chance. Boat hunting so
I drove to Pickles landing and then on home.

11/12 - Too Crystal at 11:30 PM. Spade, I turn blaming up
first to upper grounds. Found a hundred small ducks &
some mallards in Goldens set out a few decoys. The ducks
alighted in Philips. So I jumped them out. I fired a long shot
or two. Walked to Ewingers - nothing there - pretty good
water. Too Barchbush - one distant duck. Back around
south & west timber edge to Philips. Then upper ditch and
walked to Oak Tree - no ducks - good water. Back
to Goldis where I set out 4 decoys. Killed a lovely
drake bald pate - no more good chances. Snow started.
Mallards in Lehighs Run and returned to home.
Many more in the air - arriving from the north
(left at home)

11/13 Went for draw at Crystal (Spade, 21 last draw for the 3rd
straight time. Set out at 8 miles in hope of new mallards.
No ducks there. So walked 6 miles to Half Moon where I found
gradually - bald pates and g. w. teal and in a few minutes
had 5 ducks. Also picked up a dead fresh teal someone lost.
Forgot about 10 - 16 gauge shells in blind. Home at 10:00

11/16 Jim, Spade and I at 9:00 for J.R. opening. First to Reid quarry.
where we failed to find birds. On north went to Carner where we
got OK at new farm wife. OK'd but an hour produced no birds. So
on to Johnson house. Carner gathering corn. Here we tried a few
east bound draw but no birds. So we went to soil bank and
found 2 coveys. No hits on first covey. But got 6 out of second
covey, which was a whopper!

By this time it was 11:30 and we ate lunch in farm yard.

Proceeded to the big corn field by the R.R. track. Most crows not gathered so decided against a try. Listened to saws get 3rd bunch down to the Michigan 21 and the game ended. Tried a good place westward where we had birds last year N.B. Then tried a fine deserted farm yard again N.B. Same drove toward home. Decided to replace Kopper area etc. Made a last stop at a big hedge in sand flats. Found birds & get 3 more to make nine total.

Curate house had a good show of arrowy owl. On a pole - several minutes sitting on pole, then a good show as he flew away with his big wings spread.

11/19 Marmy Edith Spurd and I left at 7:30 for West Branch & Lloyd Barber to hunt pheasant. They - Edith - took us out to Christiansburg where we hunted the AM. Got the first 4 cocks with 5 shells - Marmy helping on one bird - her first pheasant.

Then to Karon for PM. This is same farm as our opening day hunt.

The birds got wild and had mostly long shots which I missed. The birds were mostly in the high grass - lower - brought in grass - saplings or clumps. Birds all gathered.

At a guess - we saw 80 or more cocks - get 6.

" " 40 or 50 hens - no mistakes

Spurd did some fine work on recovering cripples. He too enjoyed the day - which was cool and bright.

11/23 Luna came to town this AM. Heard Jim and I went to Ill. near Carner for quail. Went to one fallow field where we found only one covey of around a dozen birds. They jumped wild. The scatter also were irregular. I got one shot and killed my bird. Jim and I doublet on another.

Carner turned us down on permission. Then went to Biggs where the elder welcomed us. We walked a lovely row of edge, but found no birds. Walked south in hopes of finding birds. The boys did and at last got another bird. Brought orange oranges for our cock roaches.

11/24 - Took Luma to Pickle's to look at the land and the pond sight. Also gave him my gun - he & Spud found a covey and he killed two birds. He liked the pond sight. Thamed him the wild flower hill & cabin sight.

11/25 Jim & I took Luma to area south of Hoppers. Pres. Kennedy's funeral made it a closed school day so Jim was free. So we worked hard - first in the hedges of sandy stream bottom where we raised 2 fair coveys before lunch. Then went south & east to hills where Luma raised a covey. I went back for the car and left them this day. I happened into 4 birds & got 1 out of 2 and then flushed two in the red grass peach and made a double! From hill, he brought home 14 birds.

Kept Luma 10 to take to Caroline when he left next morning. Heard the La Mare that night.

11/30 Red Jim and I - no Spud - to Crystal at 11:30 AM. Left Red in Kenneth's blind. Jim and I worked prairie. Dropped my gun and refilled my broken stock. I killed a long baldpate - after safety trouble. Then missed an G W Teal and then killed a teal. My gun was through so I started to walk tracks to Club House. Found a fine bunch of mixed - shorelarks - teal - baldpate - gadwall present in half moon, but did not try shooting. Jim and Red got shamed.

12/1 Jim and I to Crystal for the draw. Last draw 4 times in a row. See 1/2" thick even on Indian Lake. Went to pull one, and walked to half moon where we found lots of ducks in an air hole - but did poorly and got only 1 mallard. Very few ducks came back.

12/7 Edith Jim Spud & I for Farmington & points north at about 9:30 AM on a fine day. Cool not cold. Later a little drizzle.

First stop at old couple's home - found he died last year from now sold to younger couple. Little corn south of road & no birds. Good cover & corn with good. Edith raised 1st covey and Jim & I were bushed in - scattered also in deep brush. No more.

Get covey - a real big one - flew away from my side - I killed one high overhead - my only bird in range - had trouble finding but eventually I found came up with him -

They scattered in favorable area. Got my next bird and also a third which I lost? Why? runner. Jim had a double.

flyer, which are later followed - and mined again. Then Jim
got his hand going a phoebe this time.

Tried other good areas - 1/2 of them but no birds. I met
bird hunters who had found no birds. I saw roosters
two but couldn't locate the series. ? Earlier hunters?

1964 ducks - day found

11/1 -	2 drake mallards 2 bald pate	} 9 shells 1 cripple tort found,
11/5	1 hen mallard 2 bald pate	} 10 shells found 0 cripples found
11/15	1 g. W. teal 1 hen mallard 2 muskrats 1 g. W. teal	} 8 shells - no cripples found
11/16	4 mallards	} 12 shells - no cripples found
11/17	2 mallards 1 lesser scaup	} 7 shells " " "
11/19	2 g. W. mallards 2 g. W. teal	} 9 shells 1- cripple tort missing

1964 - Hunting Journal

10/24 to 10/30 - less 2 days or 3 days travel time. climber
two pheasant hunt at He. Sonet, S.D. Edith, Spud & A.
Bag. 10 each pheasant with 12 shells - 12 birds not shot
one a wood hill and one a pick up. See trip journal separate.

11/1 Along with Spud to Crystal. Left home at about 8 AM.
The boat house yard was full of cars and the blinds full of hunters.
Landed at full over and senochet down & lost a green head at
edge of pin oak timber. Walked on to Half Moon where I found
mallards plus many others. Lots of woodchuck. Got my 2 green
heads and two bald pate.

11/5 Spud & I to Crystal at 10:15 AM. Landed at Hay Ridge. Water
too low to make enough overflow for birds to use timber. Flushed
1 barely woodchuck in dog wood brush on H.R. Walked to Evingers
no ducks. Followed to Bush Branch where there were about 100 mostly
small ducks e.e. teal & bald pate & a few woodchuck and just a few
mallards. Got no mallards shot & held off our small ducks. Walked
across corn to Half Moon & then northward. no ducks. Back up the
slough to Evingers and to boat. no shot. ate lunch at 1:00.

Back to the lake & across Evingers. Landed at north end of
point east of Hawthorn where there were a few birds. Walked south.
No breeze & everything jumped wild & far. I took on most birds &
billed 2 single bald pate which Spud swam out & brought
nearly in. Walked to end of Half Moon - woodchuck only. Prather
until 3:30 then walked to boat & landed on west bank of slough.
Killed a g. W. teal and a few mallards & flushed some
birds which made shooting for blinds.

Prater registers that very few woodchuck are being killed
there last 2 or 3 days. They seem to have moved out mostly.

11/7 Edith Spud & I to get Branch arriving there just before 11:00
Stopped at Barkers to see Ed and Robert who had called Alfred Larson
yesterday and got an OK on our hunting their fire farm - they would
be away for the day.

We parked & started for the long grass pasture where we had
hunted last year. Immediately got out two cochr. that
at once seemed to mix with hawks. Soon saw more

long range. Walked north to stream bed - dry - which we
hunted for near $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to N.W. tree road. Came on both sides
of ditch & good cover but jumped no birds. Later tried again
again along east portion of this ditch & saw no birds in corn.
They all seemed to be in heavy long grass pasture area. Also
birds lay quite well in this type pasture. Got some fine
day work with steady points. Especially later in afternoon.
Launched at car about 1:00 and had only 2 cochs - 9 shells
and could have had several more if I had shot real well.

Back hunting at 2:00 and soon had #3 cochs. Then had a
45-50 yards passing shot that I hit hard & bird seemed
to drop dead 150 yards out in heavy pasture grass. Spent
at least $\frac{1}{2}$ hour but failed to find him! Two boys with a
wild ranging dog joined us. They owned the land!

Edith's legs played out and she decided to sit awhile so
I started N.E. to the bridge. No water there. Also no birds.
Walked west along dry ditch for long stretch - no birds.
Then south to the pasture where I had had an encounter
with a shunk & got sprayed. Nevertheless he soon pointed
two fine cochs for me, and I collected. I saw had a
third chance & killed our end shot. Made my 6 birds.
These last three in a period of not over 15 minutes!

Several - I think long - eared - owls were flushed
repeatedly during the day. They act a lot like a hawk
in flight.

Total pheasants seen - about 23 cochs & 23 hens - most
unusual ratio! Killed 6 with 20 shells and lost 1
down cripple as described above. Warm day - dry for dog.

11/12 Hunt quail hunt - alone - Edith home - Jim in Kallar - Head
Left city at 10:00 arrived at deserted farm & midpoint of Pt at Point 10:45
Hartman to W.P. about 20 mi. Benman about 16 or 17.

Found birds in mud field. Sign by spud - no point. They jumped
a bit wild - going toward a brush fence line. My 1st shot dropped
4 dead birds! I was so surprised I fired only once. 3 birds very
close as they lay - nearly touching - one a couple of 3 ft short. Looked
for cripples but found none. Followed & killed one scatter.
So I had 5 with 2 shells! Then things changed a lot.

1964 Quail

No	Date	Place	Sex	Age	Wt	Spd	Shells + Bones	Pris Lost	Tru	Conin	
1	11/12	Mud Pond	H	Y	159						
2			C	Y	134						
3			C	Y	113						
4			H	Y	185						
5			C	Y	195						
6			C	O	185						
7			C	Y	182						
8			C	Y	187						
9	11/25	N. of Farmington	C	Y	194	Spud	17 for 4	1	6	1	
10			H	Y	188						
11			C	Y	176						
12			C	O	176						
13	12/12	10 miles south of Milton	H	Y	185	Spud	15 for 6	0	5 1/2	3	
14			C	O	204						
15			H	Y	204						
16			H	Y	215						
17			C	Y	209						
18			H	Y	183						
19	12/20	Bobby's place	H	Y	216	Spud	15 for 9	0	6	3	
20			C	Y	209						
21			H	Y	200						
22			C	Y	215						
23			C	Y	210						
24			C	O	195						
25			C	Y	196						
26			C	Y	185						
27			C	Y	180						
28	12/29	Bird Quarry	H	Y	2140	Spud	22 for 8 Jim Barber	0	3	3	
29			H	O	203						
30			C	O	205						
31			C	Y	234						
32			H	O	2107						
33			H	Y	209						
34			C	O	199						
35			H	Y	198						
36	1/3	Gr. pit Point	C	Y	208	Spud	6-3	0	4 1/2	2	
37	"		C	Y	205	"					
38	"		H	Y	203	"					

F.L. alone many rabbits in this area

Shot poorly & gun misfired in its barrel also several times.

1 rabbit.
10 miles S. Milton
#23-S-then #15 mo.
5 miles - turn west
on C 1 mile to TD
For Bullock's house
Snow gone
hunted alone

Shot by Jim Barber the first of the year 1964

Bobby L. - Calhoun F.L.

1964

11/12 Continued. Second covey flushed quite far & I had only 1 poor chance. In singles I had a glimpse or two but scarcely a shot. But no birds at all. Third covey again wild - but I had some sporty single chances I should have scored & missed. Exciting & some points. Finally killed last single on a tough shot.

Drove me back to midown road. Near 4:20 walked same edge of farm in full edge found nothing. Saw 6 farm dogs hunting together on a patch. Cut some cedar berry sprigs for E. & M. Spud made a point & up jumped a single which I got. Directly another jumped & I made a longish hill way below me. Running cripple which I got. Caught at least 3 times before I got hold of it. Lovely, rainy sunset - rather warming. Weather has been mild today & fairly cool. Isighed my birds 3 very small & 5 between 182 & 185.

11/15 - Alone to Crystal 9:30 with Spud in a light breeze. Many hunters came at the boat house. So I went to talk him & point out east of there. Found birds especially in west end of Half Moon. & here I got my four birds. But I made some stupid mistakes like. I killed two woodies thinking they were mallards. Never did that before. So ended up wet - with 1 mallard & 2 woodies, 1 g W teal. Home at 12:30 so cold weather yet - picked (Edith did) a yellow tea rose

11/16 Went after mallards at 10:00 - Spud. Promise of colder weather in the 20-3. Manfred Nordstrom invited me to the Point Blind where he had just got his birds. Beautiful! a procession of flocks large and small - all travellers - and mostly ready to decay - some lit out in open water & soon flushed, others came over for a change. Collected 2 g. b. & 2 hens - no cripples but two dropped for that were dead. Spud plunged in to swim for the first one. I got him into the boat & kept him in a blanket. Blinn Randall went to Run to replace Schramm - Braden - Some one to Ingers. Tom Read & Jack Ted took over my blind at 1:30. They were still shooting at 4:30 PM. What beautiful birds.

11/17 First time to 6:15 AM draw at Capital. The promise of
temp. in the 70's did not come thru - it was about 40°. I
got #2 draw and took Point - where I had good results
yesterday. Smelter & cedar or balsam (?) - one of them and
young Char. joined me. Is a had no attraction at all.
I had flushed 500 mallards as I was first up the lake, but
later they all wanted to drop in 1/2 way between Pt. & Run.
Char. turned down a sitting shot at a mallard & later
at 2 scaup - good sport. He made a good kill and a
few drake mallard high out front.

I got a drake and a hen mallard & later one hen
scaup - that was a long shot - dropped away back in
Incees where I killed him.

Home about 10:00 with 3 birds & a pleasant visit
with young Char. & also

This was the 2nd day of major migration flight.
Contrasted to yesterday when it was all mallards after
10:00 AM. Today there were many big flocks of scaup & var-
ring necks going south, mallards too. I understand there
were deep water ducks yesterday early in the day.

11/19 To Capital at 1:15 no dog. Temp. about 33° - N.W. breeze and
intermittent snow flurries. Landed behind Incees & walked
south-east. Passed up some rather long awkward shots. In
willows north of half Incees I knocked down 2 g. W. mallards
and lost one that was not dead. There were a lot of mallards
here. Maybe I should make a clearing here?

Killed a g. W. teal in half Incees and then another further east.
Shot & killed a green head but he flew off - falling gradually.
10 minutes later I think I picked up this same head - for my limit.
Home by 4:15. My foot made no trouble to worry about.

11/25 Sunday - alone north of Farmington. First to farm where old
couple lived. No one home - left car. Place looked good but
did not find the birds. Also got invited to leave by nice young man
who now runs the place. Old man had died. Must have missed
the birds - he says they are there.

Moved N. to little cemetery & failed again. Looked good.

Moved N. some more, to just above river bluff, where I heard scatters whistling - couldn't find them. On south of bluff finally found covey and started right in missing shots. I think it was 6 or 7 shells before I killed first bird. They may have started missing Chicks - but not enough to fire. Saw I had a single barrel gun.

Finally collected 4 birds. Sent 1 off hard hit & feathers another. Missed the last 3 shots. Stopped at 2 spots on way home & failed to find birds. Speed is not a good covey finder dog. We are both really tired. Home just at dark.

12/12 - Speed and I drove to Milton Ia. thence south on #23 to Mo. border then became Mo #15 - for 5 miles to west bound "C" for 1 mile to D.D. - turn north to second house on Bull who gave me permission. Several likely areas probably had lots of birds in early season.

First hunted west a mile on "C" just beyond a bridge. Found birds almost at once. Started out with bad shooting but then killed 2 straight. Too many misses tho.

Returned to Mr Bull's bean field draws which I hunted hard finally found a covey and got it with 6 shots. Car at 4:00 both of us very tired. Home at 5:35 - about 75 or 80 miles each way.

12/20 Speed & I drove to Ill. hills south. Stopped first to hunt hedge south of old plum orchard etc. made a 2 field circuit found no birds. Next east to old corner mile south of hopper - another big circuit no birds. Next south to old creek out west of road no birds. Next 1/2 mile more south and up to top of hill. Made north side circuit - 1st corn field found roost where I doubled last year no birds. On east & north & found tracks in dirt but no quail. Then farther east to thicket where Jim raised birds last year - very thick brush growth. Speed flushed good covey only one way which I got. Followed 3 north wings & missed with 2 shells. Then followed south birds and killed 5 straight in open shooting. Sent.

Going west Speed flushed birds where I could see but little - too far to shoot. Followed and finally jumped a group of 5 or 6 no shot. Later killed 1 scatter made 6 straight - that's all of this covey. Back to car for lunch at 2:30 PM.

Tried south of road & immediately jumped covey & killed 7th consecutive shot. Couldn't see where they flew. Raised several & missed two then finally got last bird with second shell. Speed gave a fine point. Very hot shooting in a long time. Sorry not to have Jim or Ethel. Made 1 double

12/29, Jim Barber - Spud - and I to Elk hills at 12:00 N. Looked
like rain or drizzle. Temp 40° plus - fields slippery. Took # 34 to
turn off for Reid quarry. As we topped the first knoll a fine covey of quail
flew across road just ahead of us - heading east. It had an auspicious
start. Well - we parked & pursued - Jim with the gun - Spud & I held
logging. Followed up a good draw and soon got action - Jim got a
bird at each opportunity. We followed back down etc - ending up with
4 fine big birds from this covey.

Moved on north and then west to well known area. Looked good!
Visited our widower or bachelor friend who gave us permission.
This in the area that had fallow growth last year. Succeeded the first
covey on first pass but Spud flushed them at 2nd pass. We
followed & Jim soon had two more birds. Also a few more. Then
followed some south bound birds & got a third. Next Spud flushed
a new covey too far to shoot. Jim soon had his 5th bird.
Spud made fine points at every opportunity. & I thanked our
host - and after a few remarks about the Kennedys we started
home. Stopped at Capital where we found Dolores waiting her
camping boys. I brought home my motor & blocks.

1/3/65 - Jim left for Dallas last night so, Edith and I asked
Robby Lare to go with us today. He did very well & seemed to enjoy
the walking and the scenery. Especially seeing me kill a few (3)
quail. He seemed interested in learning names of crops - trees - flower
stems mosses and then watching Spud hunt - point - and find
down birds. He helped me weigh - etc - and gave me 3 birds.
The day was lovely and bright - warm enough to turn the
ground in the sunny spots.

Hunted S.W. of West Point in many old areas around deserted house &
found 2 coveys. One was a fine big bunch and I got one on the rise
& then 0 more - due to heavy brush cover - only found 4 and tried
1 shot only. This winds up lower and Illness for season for this year.

1965 - B. ml. Hunt journal

'65

Started the season with a Canadian hunt - 2 weeks - with Frank Schumann - see the trip journal for details. Off to kill 2 mallards - 3 jack snipe 14 sharp tails - 2 ruffed grouse 10 or 12 Huns.

10/23 - squirrel walk at Crystal - 3 for squirrel season. Set 2 with my 22 rifle - 1 thru head - 1 not because of no head target.

10/30 Opened duck season - dawn at 2:00 C.D.S.T. Went with Frank Schumann to Half Moon. Season bag limit 1 mallard 1 pintail 2 woodies or 1 Canada red head. Total duck bag 4 - ducks allowed. Limit on geese 5 per day - not more than 2 Canada.

Left Frank in a good spot. Lunched on to west Half Moon, where I killed a high mallard drake. Heard poacher shooting to the east - Found 3 or 4 boys in south Birch Branch. They all respect to east of ditch except one who thought he was in the area that here at head of East Run.

I killed a pairing pintail and a pairing bald pate. Picked up two ducks others had killed to make 4 + 1 and quit shooting. Total 4 ducks - 10 shells. Many birds using in north end of Birch Branch. Can I get that for tomorrow and will it still be good.

Went back to Frank who still needed a duck or two. Home about eleven.

No travelers - but a fine bunch of young ducks - mostly mallards - then bald pate + gad wall - not many woodies - some green wing teal which I paired up.

10/31 Alone this time - chose Birch Branch - just watched all the duck activity for nearly an hour before shooting. Lovely sunrise - a good N.W. wind. Worked south & north on the way. Didn't try a shot - looking into sun. After shooting a drake mallard and quit standing awhile, two Canada's flushed 150 yds south in main Birch Branch. Didn't make a sound until they flushed. A little luck I'd have made contact.

Must have been several hundred mostly mallards in B.Br.

Went to Evingers where many ducks had gathered. Finished with 3 bald pate and 1 green head. Back in time to attend church.

1965 ducks

10/30 - opening } 1 mallard
1 pintail } 10 shells 1 cripple lost - no dog.
1 gadwall
1 baldpate

10/31 - Buchholz. } 1 mallard
3 - baldpate } 14 shells no cripples - no dog

11/5 - " 1 mallard 3 " " " " "

11/9 Wundt 1 " 5 " 1 " " "

11/13 Lannon's 4 cock pheasant for E & F. no cripples Spud
12/5 Oak Tree 1 hen mallard

1965

11/5 - Quich walk - Friday - left home at 3:00 PM. First tried R.L. area but found 2 hunters there. I suspect they were poachers. Then to pullover and walked timber toward Baldie & Phillips. Found mallards there. They flushed wild. Killed the only one I shot at. Then to see them wheel. On to Evinger and B.B. & went to road & home. Got a mallard dropping into south brandt in the sunset glow.

11/7 Edith Bob & Spud - at 11:00 to SW Hot day.
Go again this year near sweet tea house. No birds found there. Second point north flushed a big covey. Missed a lot of shots. Got 3 birds. Lunch at 2:00. Tried two other places but found no hunting sign as yet. No more birds. I feel held up quite well. 3 birds were small ones. 2 coos 1 hen. Spud chewed them. Have one to Bob.

11/9 Up for the draw at Crystal. Chose brandt and started out walking from pullover to Baldie timber. Lots of mallards were jumping out of north end brandt & south end Lounge. No breeze so I couldn't get close to mallards in timber. No birds in south - east brandt - probably poachers turned them out. Heard shooting east of Phillips.

Went to blind in brandt - killed a greenhead that got away.

Went back to timber & finally killed a hen - going over me.

Confusing trying to get a shake in timber - with poor light

11/13 Up at 5:45 to get ready for pheasant opening day. Took Betty bond along with Edith Spud & F.L.

Arrived about 8:40 & had a chat with both Mr & Mrs Larson in their pleasant home. He no longer operates his farm except his white face steers. Rents the balance to a neighbor. He sells seed corn commercially.

For that Mr. I just missed them all - about 6 or 7 chances & 4 or 5 easy shots. Lunch at 1:00. Intended to Chickating Iowa 17-0 at 1/2. Edith didn't go out in our 2:00 to 4:00 hunt. Again I missed the first 2 chances. Then I started to connect & got the next 5 straight. One unfortunately the wrong bird. Spud did intelligent work. No birds lost. Ended up in heavy pasture - ungrazed -

No	Plate	Place	Sex	Age	Wt	Tag	Hatch	Cyphus	Wings	Beak	
1	11/1	WP	M	Y	—						
2	"	"	M	Y	—	Shed	3-16	0	3 1/2	1	Birds quite small size - did not weigh
3	"	"	F	Y	—		shells	0			
4	11/29		M	0	186	"	9/20	0	3 1/2	4	
5			F	Y	206						Birds big birds I've never seen years!
6			M	Y	206						
7			F	Y	196						
8			M	Y	192						
9			M	Y	203						
10			M	Y	204						
11			M	Y	194						
12			M	Y	154						
13	4/28	"	F	Y	165	"	1-3	0	3	0	same as seen yesterday
14	12/10-11	Out starting -	H	0	200	Shed	23/10	0	4	1 of 4 and 1 of 6 birds	
15			H	0	208			0	4	3	7 old out of 10 birds
16			C	0	182						
17			H	0	219						
18			C	Y	197						
19			H	0	191						
20			C	Y	200						
21			C	0	191						
22			C	Y	207						
23			H	0	213						
24	12/18		C	0	212						
25			C	Y	182	Shed	26-9	0	5	5	Kookabold birds! 5 out of 9
26			C	0	206						
27			C	Y	198						
28			C	0	208						
29			H	Y	182						
30			C	0	212						
31			H	Y	187						
32			C	0	208						
33	12/31		C	Y	185	Shed	7-2.5	0	5 1/2	3	
34			H	Y	193						
35			H	Y	187						
36			C	Y	202						
37			H	Y	194						
38			H	Y	195						
39			C	Y	214						

1965

at the wind up where I got 2 cochs in quick order. They were preparing to roost there.

Estimated about same stock of pheasants as last year. Very queer - not estimate - my flushed 40 to 50 birds today. Much gathered corn - this is where flushed birds went - gave birds a pretty safe hideaway thru the day. Our area corn was very weedy.

Young Bally is good company - learning well - and has lots of stick to a fine quality. Tired but he kept going.

11/27 Bally, Lard & Spud & I to north of Farmington 8:00 AM. Bob came for breakfast. He must have been up last night late for he napped & came to and from a hunt. Started north of Farmington. at that heavy cover corner, and almost at once Spud gave us a fine point. About six birds and I missed. Bob marked them ahead 200 yds. and I missed again. On to a new area where Spud flushed birds miles ahead & they found north of us & one was near which I killed. On next rise I got another. Then they topped a hill we followed and I got a single. Then a long hunt for the others. Finally found 4 singles of which I got 2 straight & missed 2.

On to new territory east of us. A big covey flushed wild & I missed 1 barrel far. They flew like leaves in the wind. Next rise my right barrel clicked. Followed and another click but did not get a single. Others scattered for no more shots.

Back toward car. Spud made a swing into the wind and we followed - 100 yds on he had the birds. A huge ddb. covey. One raggie dapple shot missed. Followed & got up several singles of which I killed two, nearly back to car.

We lunched listening to Army - Navy.

Spud did very fine more work - as good as his best.

Lots of birds - if it were and we went over 1/2 mile from car. Most birds in years.

Gathered climbing buckwheat seed for Edith - a little

1965

11/29. Edith, Bobby, - F.L. - Spud 9:00 AM to Farmington as yesterday. Bright day - heat 22° & windy S.W. @ 15-20 mi. Spud yesterday's area for two hours and saw only a few quail. No coonies. Got one out of two chances. Must have been a premium hunter?

At the river - before we start Spud, Fred a black cat in a low bush. Cat jumped when Bob approached and Spud tackled him. Gave him a hell of a thrashing but not dead on the spot. Spud pretty well scratched up. P. In. on the river and overlooking river. Looked grand but two hours work produced not a bird. I must return with the first snow fall. There must be birds here. Home at 3:45 for tea with Betty & Marie

12/4. Bobby, Fred, Spud and I departed hopefully at about 8:00 AM. Stopped in Meves for bird grain for Marie. Then on thru Farmington to a side road just short of road to but Sterling. Good looking area but no birds.

On the Int. Sterling and across Fox(?) River to familiar area. Hunted until after 11:00 not a sign of a quail so returned to north of Farmington to cat tunnel entrance. Then hunted thru all of last Saturday's area, found a covey of 4 birds which I did not pursue. Finally about 3:15 got back to car. With eyes unbrooked etc. Spud flushed 6 birds in ditch beside car. Could not spot just where they went - so didn't even find any of them again, despite a tough effort to do so.

First time in my history I failed to get a single quail.

12/5 To Crystal at 2:00 PM - ran boat to Philips - no ducks enroute. Walked to Ash Tree where I missed a gadwall and killed a mallard - the only one I saw all my trip. Shot her in the head - only 1 shot in body when I dressed her. On to Catow - no ducks. Then back to boat & to pull over. To south end of marsh - no ducks. Back to boat & returned. Hunted in the Run and Slough - but I saw no flight. Season closes in 3 days.

11/11 - Spud and I to Ill. for quail at 9:00. Traced the old second corner south of Hopper including hill top - no birds. Then 1 mile south at hill top. On south side of road I finally found a covey at far south of rough ridge. Spud pointed but I didn't see him. Not in our covey rises. But got 6 out of the rather with some good dry wash and pretty fair shooting. Lunched at car and watered Spud out of the thermos hot cup. He was thirsty!

After lunch headed N, E and found 2 good coveys quickly. But 4 more birds in some good open shooting. Note table - 6 out of 10 were old birds and fine big ones too! Larry Bob & Edith weren't there. Plenty left for Jim to have a good hunt later I hope. Even territory hunt I didn't need to work!

12/18 Young Robert L. - Spud and I to Illinois about 9:15 Bright - freezing - white frost. To Carman & east to my new hill top area. Parked below and walked up & over to the east side. First covey surprised me and I missed. Then missed a second two barrels - should have been easy. Got the next two. Next covey again fooled me & came straight at me. Trouble finding them. Then Bob had a covey on east fence hedge line. Scored a few more. Next covey on creek I got only once my side. Trouble finding them. Later discovered we had passed them in gathering area. This wound up our morning hunt. To car for lunch. Two for squirrels then getting corn.

Started north - woman in the road in distress - her husband dying? Took her to neighbors for help. Later phone Arlene Broome to get message to Ralph Smith about his father.

Picked up a final bird on hedge row in sand bottom. Fine coveys - few hours - again majority were old birds!

1966 Season

Each season opened Oct 22 - I was in N.Y. Limit 4 ducks
Only 2 mallards or wd duck or cane etc.

10/29th First hunt with Jim B - Kew #25. Took Brumette. One
chance in blind - I missed. He shot spare to R L. Dave no jump
Jim walked far. Half moon got 1 male wd duck & 1 gold pate.
I walked near " " no shot. Dave clicked on one
bird near road way.

Jim had date for I.C. game & he walked to Pub to go home.
I went to Bach Bunch where I found around 25 birds. That
young poorly. Lost 2 mallards. Young Spud had no idea that
he had anything to do. Any function at all - I landed
only 2 yards from him & he paid no heed. Finally I
got 1 - red head & 1 drake mallard. Jim forgot to tell
Dutch to pick me up at noon so I waited an hour for him.

11/2 Jim & I on a Wednesday AM hunt - 22nd as we passed thru
town. Drew Phillips but too much ice to get there. Went to
Youngs. A fine early flight including some deep water ducks. One
flock rushed past - we were too late to get shot in.

Jim walked to Eaton, Oak Tree and Soldier but got no shot
I killed a mallard drake on ahead - and missed 4 deep water
far out in front. Bag 1 drake mallard 3 shells

11/5 Jim & I and young Spud to Farmington. Heavy sky no rain.
Cover very heavy & most corn not gathered. We both shot very poorly
at 1:00 lunch had seen 2 coveys and had only one bird in the bag.
Cooked some good sparrowlike over oak coals. Jim approved!
His first time to roast spar over a forked stick.

Lots of good quail area and we must have passed some coveys.
Our final covey. I happened to see flying. To roost - across road.
We got 2 out of that one and lost a running cripple because
Spud would not "come" when called urgently.

He has a good nose - no idea of a point - very careful on
approaching a down bird. Too careful. He enjoys the hunt. Not
gunshy.

11/6 Left start 10:00 to West Point. Our old place has had a full -
dunes treatment that spoils it for quail. Found scatters of 2 coveys.
from prior hunter today. Tried new areas to no avail. Young
Spud made 2 good points - ranged well.

Number	Date	Place	Sex	Age	Wt	Tag	Photo	Pup	Worm	Cover	
1	11/5	Marionton	H	0	190	Pup Spud	23 for 5 kids	5	6+	4	The pup had not seen a quail before today.
2			C	4	190						
3			C	0	192						
4			C	0	198						
5			C	7	188						
6			C	0	174						
7			C	4	189						
8			C	4	167						
9	11/6	West Point	-	-	-	Spud	0-0	-	3		scatter of 2 some
10	11/12	Pharosanto Hamlet			6 kids	Spud	3 for 1	0	3	1	
11	11/13	Blackstone	C		182						
12		North of Hopper	?		110						
13			?		120						
14	11/26		H	4	203	Spud	3 for 0	0	6	1	
15	12/3	NW Ronaldson	H	4	203	Spud	8 for 2	1	6	3	Jimmie about 4-4
16			C	0	179						
17			C	4	194						
18			C	0	189						
19			C	4	188						
20			H	4	184						
21	12/4	S-Hopper	C	0	230	"	7 for 2	0	4	2	recovered all.
22			H	4	195						
23			H	4	195						
24			C	4	191						
25			C	4	178						
26	12/10	S-Hopper				"	5 for 2	0	2 1/2	2	Pup will own second covey
27											
28											
29	12/17	Ronaldson				Spud	1 for 0	0	5	1	Jimmie
30	12/29		H	4	185	Spud		2	3 1/2	2	Bird will in snow
31			C	4	200						
32	1/21	Mcathorne	H	0	222	"	9 for 2	0	4	4	slipping
33	1		H	0	195	"					

1966 - Jim Barber & F.L.

	Plate	Place	X	Y	Z	Log	Shell	F.L.	Butter	Stems	Cones
33	1/2	Hampton	H	0	208	fresh	4/10/3	0	3	3	
34			C	4	214						
5			H	4	211						
6			C	4	198						
7			H	4	198						
8			H	4	192						
39			C	4	185						

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1966

11/9 Jim & I to Crystal (Wednesday) for the draw.
Part draw again - 3rd time straight. We walked first to
Buck Branch. Curate heard quail giving summer call north
west of R.L. patch. Water in B.B. quite low - down 6".
Jim killed two greenheads there. Then to Half Moon, where
I lost a mallard cripple in open water. Then ducks.

Killed a mallard hen that I found saw fall and ran to it!
His first such experience. Jim walked the length of
Pramati and lost 1 downy mallard. I killed a sparrow
in south Youngs which I found retrieved from a long
way off.

Note Only bag 1 mallard & 1 sparrowhawk - 1 lost - 7 shells
Dad & Mrs Alfred Larson - wife Rose

11/12 pheasants Opening Day, Iowa.

Jim and I were up at 5:30 and Edith got our
breakfast and had made a big basket of lunch for us.
We arrived at Larson's just a bit after 8:00 AM and
knocked. Dave & I, a box of fancy chocolates & started
out. In 5 minutes we were in birds and missed a
big cock & I found flushed another too far.

The long deep pastures of previous years were all
gone - in corn. The birds were concentrated in
ungathered corn fields. I lost a cock & missed the
second shot on a dandy double chance.

Came to lunch at car at 12:00 with 2 cocks only
I should have had 4 or 5 with good shooting.

After lunch, hunted south westward and found good
stock of birds. Jim got 3 more cocks in a hurry. Good
shooting. This is now better hunting area than Kanyer.

I did a lot of missing & Jim did too. Lost another
cock. I found nearly recovered him but he escaped again.

Total count right at 21 cocks and 43 hens for
the day. We quit at 4:30 - 6 birds - mostly Jim's.

1966

11/13 Edith, Jim, FL & Spud east of Bladstone. Traced first with permission of elderly couple south of stone house. Found no birds.

Turned down by the old man with fancy game laws. He had promised his former operator the hunting rights.

Found a mixed covey of about 6 peepers & 6 normal birds near saw mill, east of game yard. Jim got 2 small birds, 1 one. Edith started pork chop fire.

On to full top north of Hopper. Our old area, but a sign of quail. Jim territory with all a quail could do.

11/16 Jim, Spud & I to Capital City. Last draw again. Worked Back Branch - no ducks. I got a spoonbill at R.L. Dam. A few wild flukes.

On up swale east of Hawthorn. A few wild rice. Then to another where Jim knocked down a mallard last.

Then to Little Youngs. Jim had several shots. Lost another mallard. No wind so hard to approach birds. A dozen scatter in the smart weed in Little Youngs. One duck - 3 shells.

11/18 Alone to Capital for the draw - last again - 5th straight. My numbers have been 25-15-13-11-10 to date.

Went to Youngs - water lower than ever. Had to row up Youngs. No blind chances - no shots in Little Youngs - 5 birds all wild rice. Rowed to Goldies - a flock of 12 and 3 in grass in smart weed there. The flock was wild rice. Got 10 of the singles. Home at 10:30 - too little wind for jump shooting. Saw only 2 modest flocks - leaving the Goldies behind - 5 shells, 5 shells.

11/23 Jim Spud & I to Crystal - temperature 58° - little breeze.
Hart drove again - 6 times straight. Boat to fullower. Walked
to R.L. bridge road where I put jumped 4 small ducks wild.
I put a line on his collar. South to Half Moon corner where
I got a greater scaup - the first in many years. Spud assisted
in catching it. Then to west end of H.M. where we'd seen
mallards slight. Got a green head & 1 fine ashen, which
Spud again caught. That was all. Walked through all
the way north to Kings - no ducks. A few flocks were
working to the lake shore. Buy 2 ducks for 5 shells.

11/25 Jim & Spud & I to Crystal for 6:15 draw. Got #2 mallard
second draw - took the Ryan. Should have got 1 mallard but failed
to see him in time to hide. Jim walked Half Moon and
up to W. end to where he got a green head & 1 jack snipe. He
ate the snipe for supper - with zest. I showed him how to
get out the brain, which he relished! Good trout!!

11/26 Jim Spud & I had an early start at 7:00 A.M. Headed for
new area west & south of Rockbridge. A fog cleared enough
to hunt by 8:00 when we started. We spent nearly two
hours in the area - room enough for at least 3 coveys.
Back near the car finally found a 1/2 covey. Jim
got a fine hen - wt 203 gr. on the scale. Then we worked
other fine areas till 1:00 & saw no birds.

Cooked pork chops and trout and tea - while Spud
slaughtered his chops.

Then hunted two plus more hours - not a sign of a
bird - so I don't agree with those who report an
extra large crop of quail. Home at 5:30 - dark

12/3 Jim invited Rave Johnson to join us. Spud #2
Left at 8:00 - 14° above - a bit of snow on ground.
Grew area NW Donaldson - West of Primrose. First
Kymen Mrs Benjamin gave us an OK. Soon got a
big covey & Jim got 1 on rise. Trouble finding the
scatter but finally located several & Jim got another.
Lots of rabbits. Next covey rise on a fine point,
where I got one and on the scatter Jim & I each one.
As we approached home found tracks of a 3rd covey.
Hove on a bit and coaxed our first chaper. Then
got a 3rd covey near our fire - Jim made a good
shot. Rave found the scatter. Tracks only of another
covey. Grew place - found tracks - Spud pointed & I dropped
a bird that was lost. Rave I assume. Rave found this
covey - just 2 scatter.

4:00 and tired so headed home. Rave was good
company - got tired and stiff. Wouldn't take any birds
Spud flopped on the dining room rug - tired
and full of groans.

12/4 Sunday - Temp 29 - intermittent rain, freezing on the ground.
S.E. wind and nasty cold. Went to Ill. sand, hedges
where ice covered the hills. First 45 min. found 1 scatter,
then Spud made a fancy covey point & Jim got a double.
His first perhaps. I got a scatter and then Spud another
covey point. We were chilly & shot poorly. Ended with 5 birds
and 1 rabbit. Good shooting w'd had 10. Too much ice.

12/10 Saturday Jim & I went to Ill about 10:30 - to two miles south
of Haffer. We found the covey hedge covey in same place as
last week. Good point. I got two & Jim one with fair shooting.
Then a second covey a 1/2 mile south & Jim got 2 more. I
had no shot. We failed to find last week's second covey.
Then moved east a 1/2 mile and worked edge of big corn
field no birds, but were met by game warden and
arrested for hunting quail during deer season. We have to

appear at sheriff's office in Ogunba & he find there! he
mustn't miss to forget this regulation! Our gun were
held as security. Likewise out 5 quail.

12/29 Starber young Mitz and F.L. to Ill. 2 miles south
of Hopper. 4" new frozen snow on the ground. 14° Spud,
2 w gun Starber with mine & Mitz his.

Found quail covey in north-south hedge and Mitz
got his first bird. They were wild - running on the snow
and alighting in hedge trees. These make hard shots as
they take off! Spud was wild at time and good points
at other times.

Went to the north hedge and big covey flushed
wild and flew north to pine planting where they vanished
into the limbo! Spud vanished too and eventually double
flushed most of the birds into jack oaks, Mitz finally
killed one over a good point. Our only bird from this large
covey.

Back to car for 1:00 o'clock lunch inside. Tried one
more place - found tracks but not the birds. Home
at 2:00 with only 1 bird.

12/30 - Maub & Peter & Chronos took the two out north of
Ogunba where they found many birds and 4 gunn got
21 birds. Saw 9 coveys in all day hunt.

Lions Club Meeting
December 12, 1966

Ronaldson

Rev. Canfield, a Methodist Minister, the MC, said he would call me some time later this season to arrange a quail hunt.

Mr. Graham Jennings, who is a mink farmer and resides on 218 near the junction of 103, north of Donnellson, is the man who made the appointment for me to talk to the Lions Club and he invited me to stop at his farm in the area described above in reference to quail hunting.

12/14 Jim & I arrived Ronaldson about 9:30 but Jennings was not at home. We found him down in town. He conferred with friends for ideas. He decided next to Mrs Schuller's farm for permit to hunt OK. But not at his home farm rather about 2 miles S.E.

We first drove to Mrs Huff farm east of the stone village road, near R.R. He was out. So we returned to Schuller farm. Mrs Lake's renters. A creek bottom surrounded by dense wooded hills. Spade found a covey - jumped wild - flew to brush topped hill. He made a good point there. 4 or 5 flushed & at once disappeared. I fired once, three a bush - no birds.

That was all. Room for 2 more coveys - no luck.

Moved to Huff who was home. He hadn't seen any birds near his house. His farm goes north 1 1/4 miles but no gravelly road to get there. We roamed about in woods spot. Hunted his 2 corn fields no birds.

At 3:30 started north - stopped at a good creek bottom. No birds. Over to West Point to another spot - no birds. Home - start at 4:25 - no birds!

1/21 Went to Port Mathews farm at 10:00 AM. He took me west 2 miles to his pasture. He lives 1 mile west of Hanville on 1st east-west road south of Hanville.

Found 1st covey in good location - good point killed, laid on rice. Neither of us know where to look for them. I feel much good recovery on cripples.

Second covey jumped wild no shot on covey rice. Sniped 1 single bird - that was all.

Had a sandwich & coffee at Mathews. On 1st & north paved old Mathews timber. Yacks good. Found 2 more coveys & got 1 bird. Tough shooting. Fell over backwards on one shot. Reg. too wild.

1/22 Jim & I to Farmington. Took a new way to the big fallow field from east side. Found roasts of 3 coveys we failed to find - later found 1 of them.

Got 3 out of south covey and then 4 from 2nd covey - with pretty good shooting. Wild running dog had to be furnished - and right away he ran again to flush 3rd covey in very thick brush. Never got a shot at any of them.

Moved toward hill top barn but never arrived. Just plain stuck - in - the - mud. We worked 2 hours still stuck - Jim went a mile for tractor who nearly got stuck himself. But he got us out. I found I had no wallet no harmonica from Jim 10:20. Found my wallet at home! Good day - we won't forget it soon!

1967

11/1

Edith and I had been in Canada when ducks opened last Saturday. In fact we were in N.Y. that morning - for a week and in E. Hartland with Edith & Mary.

This AM. I met Jim B. at Crystal for the draw at 6:00 AM. In went to S. Point. Fog - drizzle - no breeze. At 8:00 we headed for Buck Branch woods, where Jim had found lots of ducks on Saturday & Sunday last. Today quite a lot of woodchucks - little else. Returned to blind about 9:15 with 1 g. w. teal I had salvaged in Curington.

Back at blind fog cleared. drizzle. Some loose scamp flying. One flock came in a pair & I killed one that Spud swam out to retrieve to me in the blind. Good mark. - He returned to landing at 11:30.

1 g. w. teal

4 shells

1 - loose scamp

Friday 11/3

Spud & I to Crystal at 1:30 PM. Lake blindy full. - landed a few Philifs. Good water in ash timber. Killed her at Ash Tree - Spud recovered it long. Walked to Eaton. 20 mallards there - killed 2 green heads. Spud left one deer hunt. He retrieved my green heads.

Got out at main lake for blue hill at 3:15. None flying so I came home.
3 mallards 5 shells.

11/5

Sunday. Jim, Spud & I left about 8:45 for Farmington.

Got into a covey right away. Started collecting especially on a slitch double I made early. Soon had a second covey up. had 8 or 9 birds in an hour.

We started toward the eastern hill area across the big mowed pasture, but competition beat us to our spot - we heard them shoot.

67

1967 ducks

11/1 - 1 teal g. w. } 4 shells
1 green scamp }

11/4 3 mallards 5 shells

11/11 1 cock pheasant 7 shells

11/12 1 mallard 6 "

1967 Lurel

no	Date	Place	Set	Age	X	dog	stall	Cripples	horns	criss
1	11/5	Birmingham	H	4	176	SI	17	0	7	4
2			C	0	198					
3			C	4	163					
4			C	4	159					
5			C	4	177					
6			H	4	158					
7	11/18	N. Ogden	C	4	175	SI	2	6	8	
8			C	4	148					
9			C	4	165					
10			H	4	191					
11			C	4	163					
12			H	4	197					
13			C	4	150					
14			C	0	182					
15			H	4	169					
16			H	4	168					
17	11/19		H	4	174	"	20	1	3 1/2	6
18		N. Ogden	H	4	184					
19			C	0	195					
20			H	4	187					
21			H	4	185					
22			C	4	180					
23			H	4	178					
24			H	4	183					
25			C	4	182					
26			C	4	166					
27			C	4	194					
28			C	4	178					
29	12/1	N. Ogden	C	0	197	SI	4	1	5	3
30			H	0	205					
31			C	4	151					
32	12/2	" "	C	4	200	"	10	0	5	3
33			C	0	203					
34			C	0	181					
35	1/16	Birmingham	C	0	190		8	0	5	24
36	1/16		C	0	170					

Paul, Sam, & Bob
his first year
his first year

1969

"1/5. Inland N. and went to hill top near river. Bathed over two hours & finally got up Sreni scatter which we both missed.

Then drove N. to inland road. Sat out for big birds. Found birds there & each got one. River area looks good. Found a little covey & got a couple more.

At the car I found another covey - we followed and missed in the dark.

"1/11 Jim, Spud & I to Larsons - arrived 10:00 AM. Found 4 St. Louis men already there - in the yard after 2 hours hunt - no pheasants - few shots - 2 dogs.

Jim & I had some chances but they were not easy ones. Jim often was in heavy ungathered corn.

Total birds seen about 35-40 (almost the same as

" coveys " " 23-28 Jan 1966.

Killed one cock only - last year got 6 cocks and lost 2.

Spud was wild early in the day - better later.

Left about 4:40 PM - tried a new route home and got off the track - into Innervation.

"1/12 Morning - Jim, Spud & I too Capt. at 9:00.

Landed at Hay Ridge and walked down - found the entrance of a den near big birch tree. Later found Peter & Chamon had killed a small buck here Friday. About 100 mallards on west side & I made a good kill. Few birds rising area. Jim walked Birch Branch.

We went back to knowing at the boat. Jim got 2 mallards near Oak Tree. Catons M.T. took M to boat home 11:30 & we went out on frame. Again few birds rising. I missed an easy one. Lost a ruffle in Waudts. etc. For the day Jim 3 - I 1. Home 4:15

11/17 Spud & I to Crystal @ 1:30 PM.

Left beat in ditch above Phillips. Walked circle Ark Tree - Cotton - & back saw only 1 duck - too far. Then walked Hay Ridge to Back Branch - Evingers Phillips no ducks at all.

At 4:30 went to Little Yummys - Snallars were sitting there scattered. One long shot N. B. Left at 4:45 - No ducks.

11/18 9:00 Jim Spud & I to north of Oquawha. Stopped at Pearson's house & were turned down for today, but invited to return tomorrow at 1:00 PM.

On to deserted house next north. Spud pointed a covey almost at once. Jim scored 1. Most of the coveys mysteriously disappeared. Walked S. towards hill, then E along ditch. I flushed a covey amongst corn. Lost.

Next covey Spud pointed & I scored! Best covey wild & no shots - amongst corn mixed black sprigum. Next covey Jim had the shot - got 3 for 2. Then 1:20 lunch.

On north a mile or more to Talley's house. At east end of field we found birds and stayed in birds until we got our limit. Covey after covey along hedge row and corn. I shot badly. Spud made some good accouins.

At car found I had lost keys. Covey Karmich a student of P. Schramm and his pretty girl wined us and drove us to Bar. I & Karmich will pick up car. The snipe I saw in a day. Maybe 20 or 10 coveys.

11/19 Robt. Kord, Spud & I too north of Pearson at 9:00 AM. Parked at west end of long hedge. Another hunter car further east. Were in birds almost at once. Shot snipe. Made 1 double - my 1st this year! Kept in birds all the way east. Robt did some good marking.

Spud started right in chasing rabbits so I killed one early and dropped it around his neck.

Lunched at noon then to Reardon's as arranged. He had not got a gun - was in bed - his wife said O.K. to hunt so we parked at ditch. At once got a wild covey rise. Reardon took the gun again, he tried a few - no luck - humbly shot. After 1/2 day, I took the gun to kill a few for Robt to take home.

Corn pickers were starting. Old Reardon - father - ordered us out. He wouldn't listen to my explanation. Told us not to come back - he'd tap our trees. So we went home arrived about 3:00. Robt enjoyed it. I should take him again. Three coveys on the ditch!

11/26 - To Karson's - Robt, Spud & Sat 8:30 AM. We immediately got into the little bean patch behind the wind break pines. Cochr (2) got up out of range - wonder if we could have surrounded them by one man on each side? Ah 2 or 3 here.

Then on to creek 1/2 mile north - 2 more cochs. One a long shot for Robt - one for me. We missed.

They worked 5 hours - no more shots. Total seen. 5 cochs & here } 5 hours - makes it pretty scanty.

11/29 Spud & I at 10:45 to hedge row N. of Ogema where only 2 coveys in long hedge. Got good points & killed 1 on early rise. One more good point in oak & got one. Lost a winged down bird that Spud did not see drop.

Tried the deserted farm & found 0 where Jim & I removed 3 coveys first time out.

Spud a little better on rabbits except in standing corn where he goes.

Removed three birds are old ones.
Killed one cat - cat

12/2 Saturday - Jim Spind & I too north of Oquawha starting at 8:00 AM. Driety and chilly. Later - snow and rain falling. I walked long hedge row and entire east area south of hedge row without finding a bird. Also hedge row along road west of decorated house and still no birds. Ate lunch in car about noon.

Then worked area east & south of decorated house. Finally got a point along ditch near Prof. Krantic road & we missed. Second covey as we followed it at birds. It was rare. We scored 3 on this group.

Then east & south to field of mixed corn & sorghum where we failed to find covey.

On way home we get up covey just before we reached the car & I got a swinging single.

Near Reason's road covey landed on & we got 3 there in locust grove.

The blue jays and other native grays and shrikes were particularly beautiful in the dull gray of the day. This area represents the utmost in poverty, yet the maximum in beauty! Soft yet strong colors and graceful shapes.

1/16 Alone to N of Farmington - have been layed up - with chest cold since 12/2. Jim also - rheumaty fever.

Last night low zero. The today 26 - 6" snow. Found 2 coveys of 6 or 8 near big fallow valley north of Farmington.

Also found a? covey of 1 bird - and a covey of 2. I had presumed such small groups would join others but this seems otherwise.

Spind made some fine points and responded well to my whistle. Not to voice.

Walking difficult - drifts knee deep. Good quad area near Harmony School but shot down by this time. Note light weight of my 2 old coxons.

1/25 At 2:00 PM to Port Mathews farm with Spud. In hopes of seeing quail, but worked two good money sites for nearly two hours without seeing quail or rabbit and very few small birds - Cardinals.

Close to Mathews timber but did not stop. Home west several miles past Jack Maclean's 60 acres. Hunted edge of a hill top corn field and 80% of the way around Spud pointed in a draw - deep & grassy. About 6 or more flushed quite wild & I missed a long chance. Followed on steep brushy road bank - Spud worked well & missed another long one and that was all. Brown mostly gone.

Note Wes Newcome called at noon to advise a F&W plane was bringing an immature bald eagle to be released. From Lincoln Park Zoo - a wild bird. Met plane and took the man and eagle to Crapo Park bluff where he was liberated. Seemed in good shape. Had a feast and what clamor!! - fearsome power. Took a few pictures

1968 Hunting

11/3 Edith & I returned from a 4 week Canadian hunting trip on 11 in late afternoon. Get result in terms of game bagged

23uffed grouse

2 sharpshin

2 Hungarian partridge

6 - ptarmigan

4 - duck - anortie

Season trip journal for details.

Opened home season today Sunday with Spud. From Rest Lake and on the walk down from the fallowes flushed a covey of 10 ? quail at corn field near corner.

Heard poachers shooting in Half Broon. Found only an odd duck or two there & walked to west end to Hawkins where I found nothing. There was a fine stand of smartweed in H.M. which has been dry - none in other prairie sloughs on our area.

Stood around awhile and killed 1 - greenhead 1 - g.w. teal & 1 - baldpate and came home at 9:30 in time for church. Spud retrieved very well.

11/5 Election day. To Crystal at 7:45 - went to Half Broon via Brecken. Found a few mallards, g.w. teal, pintails there. Killed a green head & a pintail. Dressed several wild parrots. Spud did well on the retrieve. Would have probably lost both.

Went to Back Branch - cattails - no place for ducks there. Then to Cwingers - found 1 g.w. teal there. Also south end found 2 no ducks there. Home at 12:45. Edith working at jobs today.

11/10 Sunday - Snow & Rain predicted so took a lazy 10:00 AM start to Denmark - old. Left turn a few miles west - beyond the big house. Turn home deserted. Asked next north & he said a new herd 2 miles north so I went ahead. Spud had had at once - wild rice. Missed first single rice - heavy brush. The area turned out very good 4 coveys in 3-4 hours. Between snow on my glasses - heavy cover and generally poor shooting I killed only 2 where I should have got at least 6. Decided to await a better day & went home at 1:40.

1968 Blucher at Bay

11/3 1 - mallard
1 - g. w. teal
1 - bald pate } 4 shells - no cripples

11/5 Election Day
1 - mallard
1 - pintail } 4 shells - no cripples lost

No. Date Place Sex Age Wt Long Shell Eggs Larvae Tadpoles

1	11/10	Remmarch	H	4	193	12	0	3	4
2	"	"	H	4	187				
3	11/20	with ^{alligator} gopher	C	0	189	16	0	3 1/2	3
4			H	4	194				
5			C	4	186				
6			H	4	167				
7			C	4	153				

8	11/22	Larvae	3	phacanth	8	1	5		
9	12/4	Edmonds	H	4	234	20	1	4	4
10	"	J. B. ^{new}	C	4	211				
11	"		H	4	161				

12	11/7	W Remmarch	H	0	219	4 for 6	1	4	3
13			H	0	204	1 for 6			
14			C	4	193				
15			H	4	197				
16			C	4	191				
17			C	0	182				
18			H	4	213				
19			C	0	178				

20	12/10	Edmonds	H	4	215	12 for 7	1	3	3
21			H	4	202				
22			C	0	201				
23			H	4	219				
24			H	4	163				
25			H	4	183				
26			C	4	194				

27	12/17	Remington	H	4	206	14 for 5	1	6	4 or 5	Jim Bgat school
28			H	0	223					
29			H	0	208					
30			C	4	188					
31			C	0	196					
32			H	4	187					
33			C	0	195					

34	12/20	Cuff	C	0	216	6 for 3	0	4	2	
35			C	4	213					
36			C	0	199					

← definitely old

1968

36	12/26	Hokamp	C	0	3.16	1/2	0	4	1 - Jimahogab 2
37		"	H	0	2.04				

arrived 11:15 AM.

11/20 Spud & I to the big hedge north of Quacha - worked it full length & found no sign of bird or quail shells. No corn this year. Bean stalks not enough.

Lunched at car and moved south to Blandie's deserted house. No birds at house. Hedge on south side of road had been cut down this year. Circled south & found 1 it covey at foot of big bluff. Flashed wings twice giving me no shot. Finally killed 1 on 3rd rise.

Hunted eastward & found scatter a 1/2 mile east. Flashed by Spud toward me. Killed one & another I thought I had killed just snout of dived into grass to hide.

Two more coveys along north-south hedge, where I got 3 more birds. They dodged the hedge line on me. Other I just plain missed. Had!

At road talked to owner - Mr. Albion of Keithsburg. Got his approval. His brother's farm is the next one north east of Blandie. I can get permission from brother - hopefully!!

Started the day with fog end of a cold. Now I think I'm OK. Spud is hard to control when he gets far out.

11/20 Edith & I arrived at Larran about 11:30 AM. Hunted nearly 2 hours before we saw first pheasant. Then in small patch north of pine wind break I got 2 fine cocks for 2 shells. Second was a lucky covey recovery by me. Lunched & left to go N.E. about 2 miles to a good looking ditch and long grass pasture. Spud made nice point & I missed 2 easy cocks that was double!!! Mistake on a brownie. Barker went undown.

After leaving Larran we first drove south to good weedy down. Cock jumped & I knocked him down but he was - no food here. Would have been 3 cocks 3 shells. I feel was frantic with rabbits etc.

1968

12/4 Spud & I alone at 10:30 Wednesday to try for new area in Ill. South thru Carman and on about 2-3 miles to an east road opposite red barn & came with on west side of road. Under Santa Fe and on east up the hill. A mile or so on to Mrs. Frank? Edmonds. White house on an east facing hill Creek winding thru corn fields. Excellent cover. Edmonds helped by 2 younger men was building fence. Not here OK. He knew John Clovers. Years ago knew Charles & Frank Bauman who came to hunt.

Found at least 3 coveys shot very poorly. Left at 2:00 & went east & then north to Santa Fe. Took easterly road 1/2 mile to another place. 1 more covey.

12/7 F.L. Spud - west of Minnark. My old place at deserted house all hulls decayed up. Hedge gone - no goods. Looked east & south at widow's area. Lots of deer hunters everywhere.

Went to my opening day 4 covey spot - No Hunt 1719 sign!

Went north to above Pickler and hunted a weedy corn field. No birds. Looked down road to Pickler's son - in - law. He entered car - & I stopped to hunt a draw plus corn - along east tail road edge & got a fine covey. First bird a cripple - lost.

Followed & missed in heavy brush - then killed one then flushed a bird where 1st cripple fell & killed it.

Decided to walk in to 4 covey area from a mile east. Covey gone - 1 shot - missed. German farmer & son and huge police dog - trained to attack man!

On west - Spud finally pointed into a deep draw. Saw white head mauling & shot & flushed up 6 dead birds. Heard no fire from a bit shocked & ashamed!

12/10 FL Spud to Edmonds - found 3 coveys - 1 new one - not seen 12/4. Lovely day 41° ground frogers. Saw 1 dove.

12:00 to 3:30.

Spud did well on holding points and sending cripples and a bit better on "close" hunting. Beaver dam - broken in creek shot very well 7 for 12 and lost 1 cripple in huge brush pile. Spud found a cripple - not mine - which could not fly well having only 2 tail feathers.

Earlier in the AM Bob Rember & I looked at Watuman 80 acres as well as Copper and Karin land. A good set up could be made out of 3 or 4 pieces of land - if attainable.

12/17 Jim B. & Spud and I north of Farmington at 8:30 from Jim's house. Young Sammy's first hunt.

Birds had been well shot down in most coveys. 5 or 6 birds left per covey. Tough shooting in heavy cover. Ground hard frozen. We had trouble making down the scatter. Made some extra fancy shots, and Spud made some fabulous ruffle recoveries.

On the final covey point Sammy came around and backed Spud. Then saw my bird drop and caught it all by herself. Her first. Early in the day she had no idea what the purpose was.

Spud recovered one cripple bird left behind on a covey rise. Plump bird too. Home before 6 PM hours of actual hunting. Both of us tired on drive home.

12/20 Spud and I - south of Edmunds at Ref. Dress - S.E. 2 miles. Did not find tenant at home so went in. Good place but found only 1 covey and never did find the scatter. Broom for 3 coveys early. Building a pond today.

Then north 1/2 mile finally found a good covey & clutch double on second barrel. Got one single and missed two.

Home at 4:15 with 3 birds for 6 shells. Cattle in Edmunds corn fields today.

12/26 Jim - Sammy - FL. Spud beyond Denmark. First took road south - 8 miles east of Hokamp road. Asked at stone house 1/2 mile south of #16. Walked nearly 2 hours & found lots of tracks in the snow but no birds. Don't know why - unless wild dogs put up some birds. 140 traps

Then on west to Hokamp road, where I had found 3 or 4 coveys early on season #10 and got 8 birds #17. Only found 1 covey but we got 4 birds. Then north on Pichler road. Hokamp stopped

on our road. He lives 2 miles north of #16 near the good place - where colored man formerly lived. He will give permission to hunt. Own the land near colored man's former home.

1/19 Spud & I for a short Sunday morning hunt to Holtrampf. Went to his house for permission - OK. Drove to good creek east of his house & hunted 2 1/2 hours found tracks of 2 coon but failed to find the birds.

Got badly stuck trying to turn the car around. Spent 2 1/2 hours getting back up the road. Then got stuck again on very steep slope up to the road and had to get Holtrampf to get his tractor to pull me out. Home at 4:30 instead of 1:00 and no lunch.

Hunting 1969.

11/1/69 Duck opening. Jim and I drove with Harry Murray & drove The Point on Harry's queen of clubs. Lots of ducks but not willing to decoy. Prepared up woodies. Harry killed a ring-necked duck at a good long shot. Jim missed a pair. I didn't shoot. I went home at 9:00. Jim stayed with Harry & got 2 woodies.

11/2 Jim Edith's and I went on the prairie at 8:45 AM. I killed a drake goose at timber point north of Bush Ranch and later a rail at Half Moon where we flushed out a poacher. Jim picked up a dead green-winged teal. There was no wind so mallards etc. flushed very wild in flooded timber - no jump shots. There were lots of woodies and a few mallards in timber.

11/4 Luna came in yesterday. We drove with of Farmington and worked the big fallow area in A. In. One covey only and some were proper. Got 3 in AM. Handmade on to area above the river. Ashed & got farmington south side of the road. Found one covey AM and 3 PM. Total 8 quail mostly small birds. Beautiful oak foliage as we walked and as we drove home.

11/5 - Luna and I to Virgil Landrum farm. As we arrived we saw a quail cross the high way. Checked in with him - saw his fine arrow and spear shot head collection - also many other heads etc. He had traps for yesterday plus about 5 coons in his house. Quite an operator. Got only a farmer. He owns 450 acres near Granddawn where he will take me quail hunting.

Luna and I - Spud - found 3 coveys at once on the bluff edge. Shot poorly again. I'm sure I shoot too quick to have to slow down? After lunch went to kill area and found a good covey. Again poor shooting.

Then made a long drive in bottom land and found no birds there. Seven birds for the day. Fair shooting 12 to 14 birds easily.

March 1969.

" 2/69 - 1 wood duck drake } 4 shells
1 sarat rail }

" 10 - 3 mallards 4 shells Black Jacks

" 11 - 2 " 6 shells. Buck Bucks

" 26 - 1 cock pheasant near Larson farm
Earlier 2 " " " " "

1969 - #1

No.	Photo	Place	Sex	Age	St. Hb.	Cupple	Thru	Notes
1			H	Y	194		5	4
2			M	O	183			
3			H	O	169			
4			C	Y	167			
5			C	Y	165	1-lost		
6			C	Y	163			
7			C	Y	163			
8			C	Y	128	16 for 5		
9	11/5		H	O	191	18 for 4	5	3
10			C	Y	183			
11			H	O	176	1-lost		
12			H	Y	188			
13			C	Y	169			
14			H	Y	184			
15			H	Y	138			
16	11/6	Hammerh	H	Y	197	2 in very heavy brush tree to fur		
17			C	O	188			
18			C	Y	185			
19			C	O	176		6	3
20			C	O	180			
21			C	O	182			
22			C	Y	163			
23			H	Y	147	14 for 4 plus 1 lost = 5		
24	11/19	Edmund	H	O	205	29 for 9 "	1 lost	
25		El. farm	H	Y	195	1 ←	4	beaver
26			C	Y	198			
27			H	Y	185			
28			C	Y	184			
29			H	Y	174			
30			H	Y	184			
31			H	Y	161			
32			H	Y	131			
33	11/20	N. Aguala	C	Y	186		20 1/2	3
34		Beaver	C	Y	174			
35			C	Y	169	15 for 4 birds		
36			H	Y	125			
37	11/22	Hammerh	H	Y	205	10	0	5 1/2 4 heavy cover
38			C	Y	187			
39			H	Y	178			
40			C	Y	145			

1969- #2

Lost

No.	Date	Place	Sex	Age	Wt	Shells	Cripples	Ant	Cover
41	11/23	Haltanpe	H	Y	204	4 for 1	0	3	2
42			C	Y	195				
43			C	0	183				
44			H	Y	192				
45	11/25	Edmunds	C		-	27 for 6	0	4 1/2	} gave to Sam Edmunds
46			C		-				
47			H	0	183				
48			C	Y	184				
49			H	Y	182				4
50			C	Y	175				
51	11/28	Illbrage	C	0	189	20 for 4	0	2	3
2			C	Y	193				
3			C	Y	189				
4			C	Y	162				
5	12/1	" "	H	0	197	20 for 4	0	5	shot at 1 saw another
6		Watson	C	0	197				
7			C	Y	195				
8			H	Y	180				
9	12/4	Illbrage	C	0	207	13 for 5		3 1/2	2
60		mouth of Koffar	C	Y	194				
61			H	Y	186				
2			C	Y	188				
3			C	Y	184				
4	12/7	Edmunds	H	Y	203	20 for 6	2	4 1/2	5 covies
5		Jim B.	H	Y	218				lost buried in snow
6			H	Y	215				
7			H	0	202				
8			H	Y	215				
9			H	Y	195				Jim killed 4 hares & 1 covey
20			H	Y	192				
1			H	Y	197				
2			C	0	191				
3			C	0	194				
4			C	Y	188				
5			C	Y	184				
6			C	Y	188				
7	12/12	Haltanpe	C	Y	206	9 for 2	100 gphadition	3	his most productive times 2- months w/ 2 coveys
12/13		Lower in several locations				0	0	3 1/2	0- tracks of 4 coveys
78	12/18	Illbrage	H	Y	202	12 for 7	0	4	4
9			C	Y	199				

no	Date	Place	Sex	Age	HT	Shells	Crabber	Hours	Lower
80	12/18	Illage	H	4	188				
1		Hopper	C	4	187				
2			H	4	181				
3			H	0	174				
4			H	0	173				
5	12/20	Red Oak	C	4	215				
6	12/21		C	4	200				
7			H	4	191				
8			C	0	205				
9			H	4	187				
90			C	0	185				
91			C	4	185				
92			H	4	176				
3	12/30	Edmunds	C	4	207	18 for 6	1 no dog fault	4 1/2	6
4			H	0	214				
5			C	0	226				
6			H	4	201				
7			C	0	191				
8			C	0	182				
9			H	4	195				
100			C	4	186				
1			H	4	180				
2			C	4	182				

Red
Oak
Jawa
Birds
mostly from
Bullhead

6" snail
James 1st hunt &
had few chopsticks

11/6 Lynn and I to Hemmick & Haltham farm.
By AM, worked 1 hour in barn in creek bottom &
found no birds.

Then to south of slab highway on Haltham farm.
Found 2 coveys and got some birds. Big coveys
and all in heavy cover. Ate lunch at 12:00 PM.
Then went off road - no birds. Then a final fling
back north of slab. Finally found coveys and kaha
made a double to end the day. Found coveys
right birds. Home at 5:30 PM. Lynn and
I each doubled today. He leaves tomorrow.

11/8 - Edith sv. Jim - Sped and I got on the road toward
West Branch at about 6:50 AM. for the pheasant opening at
the Larson farm - where we arrived a little after 8:00 AM.

Edith walked with us for the first hour or a half - which
we spent in fallow pastures instead of partially gathered corn
where the birds were hiding so got no early shots. As soon
as we got into Mr. Larson's corn west of his home we started
to flush birds. I killed my first shot and then fell apart.
There were plenty of birds but both Jim and I were missing
them.

Lunched at 11:00 and had only my first bird. Then immedi-
ately got my second in a pasture shot. Then a long
series of misses for both of us. Jim finally got one.

Left at about 4:00 PM with only 3 each between us.
I think I was snaf shooting - not following the birds.
Found Charlie & June Gold at 101 on our return.

11/10 Went to Crystal at 2:00 PM. Got 2 mallards in Black Jack. Then
as I motored up the lake rampers flock passed over Point. In hopes of a
repeat I retraced there for 2 hours - no shots. Then fished up and
hunted East Run Point. Killed another mallard there - 3 for 4 shells

11/11 Went over at 1:40 to East Run Point jump area. Doubled on
mallards at once. Then to upper grounds where water is 2" lower.
Left boat at Philips ditch. Walked Hay Ridge to Buckhorn
Creek. noted one extra large cottonwood tree between
Big Birch and Bush Branch. Used help from surrounding
trees.

Backhush

11/11 Found fine collection of happy quacking ducks in ash tree opening. Mostly mallards and some woodies. Took 4 overhead shots at woodies which I missed. Could have collected a bunch of dead mallards but didn't. Much blind shooting after I jumped these birds. Three blinds were still set out as I came by at sun down. They really should have filled their limits by that time.

11/13 To Crystal at noon with Spad. Blinds mostly full of hunters. Sandell was at boathouse returning without ducks. I ran via boat to Philips ditch then walked to Bush Branch where I found mallards but only a few. Jumped out of range. Waited and one flock returned and I should have shot - did not. They came in behind me so fast I was caught, unprepared. No excuse should easily have got 2 birds. Waited until 2:15 no more returns. Walked Quingis - blank. Walked to Ash Tree where one hen got up far - missed her.

Boat back to C. Tan Point. Thought I heard quacking ducks to the east but it was wind howling in the dead trees. Shot a coot en route across the lake to boat house.

11/18 To Crystal at 1:00 PM. Talked to Frank & Spike who had just left Youngs Lake. I went there and set out blocks. N.W. wind and right at 32°. Soon had a big flock coming over and I took a shot and missed. Maybe should have waited one more turn.

Next flock in 1/2 hour came closer and I over head my drake that was all my shooting. Left blind at 3:50. Very windy on pick up. Other hunters were still set out. I tried East Run point edge - no birds there - Probably season's end.

11/19 Left for Edmunds at about noon. Car welcomed and brought home 2 hoohe - flower arrangements - gardening shrubs.

Lots of birds but got a bad start. Second covey and 100 or 11 shells to get my first quail. Ungathered corn - willow thickets and wild dog flushing too often.

But later did better and dog also did better.

The creek pretty deep and hard to ford, when Spud got away i.e. out of sight, he flushed too much I must restrain him some how.

Finally ended with a double. Six big coverts. Spud has to be watched because he finds birds and then drops it - where?

1/20 Prospecting to area north of Oquahia. Looked up Ben Olson - found Fred who lives there was gone, I got permission from Frank. The one I saw last year in Bruce? Then with north hedge held no birds. A small covey at heavy corner beneath hills. Wilder - tried, shell N.B. Then Spud pointed out of sight in weedy, ungathered corn and I got 1st barrel. Move north and found covey on N-S hedge on east edge of corn and got one.

Then north to our farmer's big hedge - all chopped winter wheat. Went west and found Frank S & Parker about to start across a bare looking area. I went on west - then north. Finally drove in & got to sandy corn mixed with some bean fields & locust saplings where we got up matters. I should go back for another look.

4 birds - 15 shells - should have ~~10~~ 10 shells with fair shooting. Spud did good work in the locust thicket especially. The oil treatment succeeded on his barrels.

1/22 Jim & I to Kennedy farm north of Farmington. They were just leaving in truck & gave us OK. We worked miles of lonely quail edge but found few coverts. All in heaviest cover and we shot poorly too. Lonely day to hunt. Spud flushed & coverts rise? or were they wild birds. No covey rise shot at all.

Also got permission to hunt south of Kennedy Road a mile east.

Quarries too

1/23. Jim & I to Kaltham's. They were not home. So went to area south of #2. Found 1st covey partly scattered but got 4 birds. Second covey we found 1 scatter. Third covey not located. Then east on #2 to first north road - to the end. Got 1/2 mile Spud flushed good covey - wild again. He must be better controlled. I moved over only scatter shot. Time to go home at 3:00

1969

11/25 - To Edmunds at 11:00 AM arrival time. This was
my first home. He works TWA. Talked to the Mrs. He
has gathered practically all his corn now.

Drove to creek gate and marked west bank north. At
the north shore Spud got up a very big covey - flew to east
hillside. I followed and probably got up 2 more coveys in
the process. Shot horribly on many easy open shots! Damn.
Also got a few good shots. Finally lunched at 1:00 with
only 4 birds & had shot 19 shells.

After lunch went east to the brushy draws. Found 1
covey in the head of the bigger draw and had a couple of
wild chances - no kills. Then to the steep hillside where
birds flushed wild & I killed a long one at hill top from
bottom and Spud found him. Then found only 1 single
which I killed and Spud dug out of impenetrable brush & birds
thicket. That was all - 6 for the day. Didn't find covey along
this part of the creek.

Drove 2 crows to Mrs Edmunds - seemed to please her.

11/26 Edith & I to West Branch area. Left home about 10:40
Arrived about 12:30 and ate lunch. Across the road from
Petersons weed patch.

As I had just get over the fence a cock jumped - my
safety was on.!!! Another got out wild 100 yards further.
Then a wing across the north field weed patch got a point
on another which I killed.

Made more effort but only one more chance which I
missed, too much brush. That was at 3:50 PM.

The birds were clearly in ungathered corn & get up
wild ahead of day.

Saw about 120 hens & 60 or 70 cocks in 3 hours

11/28 A two hour hunt in the sand and oaks SW of
Hopper. The long south hedge covey had been scattered just
before meal found out later. Saw 3 wild scatter only. Moved
east to south bound road and found a covey on roadside.
They flew north along road - got three of them. Then
went 1/2 mile to next covey which Spud pointed. I missed
but much luck on finding scatter.

Then east toward house location to third covey

1969

which I had painted well. I thought it would be a rabbit & was out of position. Missed several shots.

My shooting was very, very poor. My right eye hid the birds.

Never saw more birds than this year.

Saw one immature bald eagle. Also a marsh hawk.

1²/₂ At about 10:00 to orange, some a mile or so south of Hopper. The 3 plus coveys of a few days ago were hiding from me. After an hour & a half walk finally found a big covey which flushed as a surprise & I missed an open shot. I was sure they had alighted in 3' open woods and a few did not but the main bunch went back to their heels at once. I got a couple in the open woods. Then my much good dog worked gradually located quite a few in widely scattered locations and bagged four.

Then more by work but no more coveys. Saw a red tailed and a sharp shinned hawk. The latter sliding along a hedge row at 1/2 hedge height.

Out to Tater to the same - one small covey no shot.

1²/₄ To Illinois sand prairie south of Hopper. Two hunters were before me & had scattered covey at first west hedge. I went on and parked near where house was removed. A lot of walking before I found scattered on next hedge to the west. Did quite a lot better shooting.

I had made a good find on a dead bird that had hung about 5+ feet above ground in thick grey dogwood. He stuck his nose up in the air and hawled down the bird.

Then I had pointed a covey way out in the sand prairie north of road. Got one & feathered a second. Later dropped a bird which immediately took off again. Not found. Two coveys 3 1/2 hrs. Go down cuffer last. I find is much better controlled with his rope drag.

1²/₇ Jim and I to Edmunds in a snow storm - 6" on the ground and more falling. Drove to gate at field. First covey in east chain got up wild - no shot. Next covey scattered under bluff bank & we missed.

1969

12/7 followed to west willows where we got several singles. Found tracks of a covey we never found. Is out east to islands in cove. Second one had two coveys. Is started shooting better. Each of us lost a down bird buried in the snow. Tried hard to dig them out - were right in the open stubble. Generally Spud made fine points.

Thrilled up on the high brushy bank at N.E. where Jim got a double on covey river. Spud caught a rabbit in deep snow. Ate lunch in car at 2:30 and decided we had enough and after a visit at Edmunds, headed home after one of our very best quail hunts - plenty of bird and good dog work.

12/9 Note on birds - After about 1/2 the quail are practically free of pin feathers. The earlier November birds and some October birds are very heavy to pin feathers. The Iowa season opening in October is entirely too early. Resulting in shooting deepers and partly fledged birds in the bag. See weight table.

12/12 Alone to Holtkamp at 1:00 P.M. Had 2 birds down on 1st covey river. Got 1st one in my snare - Spud had #4 in his mouth. Tried to get him to bring it to me but he put it down in the snow and we never found it again. Could run of course. I returned 2 times in an attempt to find the birds - 2nd time a good hour later.

Second covey jumped wild. A large covey - too far to shoot and we never saw a single bird thereafter. No idea where they went. They clearly started down the draw with plowed ground on both sides of draw? Or here?

Home 5:30 with only one bird. Many rabbits and I must string one on Spud's neck for a day as a note to try to cure him.

12/13 Left at about 10:00 after having a Christmas Tree. First went to Handman's. Tried the hillside - tracks in the snow but no birds. Then 1/2 mile west found tracks of large "15" covey, no birds. Then in hill top covey - again tracks but no birds. No explanation of where I missed them.

On to location above Pichli's and again tracks and no quail there!

Throve SW. of West Point - all cleared and no coveys so didn't try. Home a little after 3:00 - skunked!

12/18 - Drove to south of Hopper in the orange hedge. Overcast 37 degrees and NW windy.

Got into hickory east of old plum orchard and collected about first 4 shells. Then a covey that jumped wild - no shot - and found no scatter at all. Then a good covey point over in locust & killed one for one. Then 2 scatter that were tough shots - good points - better both & I had delivered crickets to me beautifully. Then missed a scatter - hole in tree. Ate lunch at cross roads. Then got a good covey point in hedge & got one for one. Killed 2 more singles. Total 4 birds, 12 shells. They beat in a long time.

Tried hilltop area used to be good - now overgrazed and no birds. Started home at 4:20 - chilly. I just did a good good job today.

Thought 3 big deer out of a tall weed patch. When they stood up from their beds the tops of their backs - showed above the high weeds & their white tails flashed as they leisurely ambled off.

12/20 To Red Oak Ia. via Dr Rowley's airplane. Interesting air trip out at about 3000 ft elevation, about straight westerly. Paul Runlap met us at air port and after taking bags to Holiday we started after pheasant. Snow - old - around 4 to 8" deep and crusted. Most birds in heavy cover such as ditcher rather than grass or soil banks.

Worked until dark. Lunched at Emerson. Saw several quail some of good size. I got a few with our #5 shot. Ended day with 12 pheasants which we cleaned in Runlap's garage and sent home via plane with Dr. Rowley.

For the day I saw 8 cocks and 40 hens.

12/21. Started again around 8:00. Colder and some new snow. Hunted new areas not tried yesterday. Three quail, two dogs. One quail down in corn smut have found 40 to 50 birds, almost all hens. Cocks were wild.

Lunched on Edith's candy bars. I killed only 6 cocks which we dressed by the road side. I resolved to give Runlap a pocket knife.

12/22. No weather for flying. Inspected Houghton Bank site - above home on Bank Creek. Some snow enroute. Arrived in time for 5:30 poker - great - won 16 1/2!

12/30/69 Jane & Jim - Inverness & FL to Edmunds at about 10:00 AM. 6"-8" snow, drove down their lane thru some drifts to stream side. The family were in California.

Our first birds were in brush pile at the upper field. Only succeeded in flushing 3 or 4 - the rest just stayed hidden in the huge brush pile. Lost one bird there. Next I had got lost - on point - and had to flush his point. I heard others but saw only 2 in our way & Jim got one. We then found other scattered and at lunch time had 5.

Picked a little shelter along side the open brook. While we cooked off chops I sent Jim after a covey to the south. He found them & got only one.

After lunch we tramped east across bean field & soon found birds that I had pointed & flew south to orange brush piles. Then another covey point & birds flew to the brush piles.

I killed one on 2nd hand and Jim crippled one. He then followed on over a hill & I had caught it later. I had pointed birds in several huge brush piles, and we got several more. I lost a dead bird in a big pile that I just could not penetrate to see or retrieve it.

On the way to the car I had flushed covey #6 off the big southern knoll. We had 10 birds for the day and also got thru the drifts to the road! Jane had a good time and proved to be a fine snow walker. Her first hunt and she enjoyed it. Have 10 birds to Jim. Biggest bird of the season 226 grams - old cock!

1970 - Season

10/17 Dark season opened. Hunt with Harry & Murray.
Last choice - took south of Stony. Beautiful colorful sunrise.
Some woodcock moving around grounds. I left at 8:30
without a shot - to go the La. Partridge game which we had

10/22 - Thursday, Harry and I drew Young's blind. Raining
off and on lightly. I killed a mallard. Harry & I went
to Phillips & walked to Ash Tree. Harry knocked down
and lost a mallard in the woods. I went too far west
got into bad walking - thick. Finally corrected to Ash Tree
where I killed another mallard. That was all.

At Young's I killed a g. w. teal long which I found.
Came home at 3:00

2 mallards 1 g. w. teal - 4 shells.

Found I'd turned out my notes last week in the mud

10/25 Jim & Jane F.L. to Hattkamp area. Found a nice
cover in valley east of negro stone house. Wild rice etc.
Jim got one and I got one - which Jim luckily found dead
five minutes later. I thought I'd missed. Then went south
of #16 highway. Hunter ahead of us had scattered all the cover.
So I got up only a few singles & Jim had a bunch of 5. Jim got one
and lost two cripples. Had one cripple in hole in the ground.
Rain day heavy cover. Four hours was enough.
Got home at 4:00.

New young 177 grams.

10/27. Edith & I with Spad II left home at 9:45 headed for
Wolf River Lodge & is. We were starting in a bit of fog & light
rain. Most of the way we were overcast sky. Lunched north of
Highway 80 on Highway 51 at a little rest area. Phone home till 7:00
when we landed at destination. Many small lakes and ponds
contained coots feeding. Heavy fog & a bit of rain. We drove
the first mile north then Shawano and the Indian reservation.

Supper at nearby bar. We were told there were very few
ruffed grouse in the woods? We'll see

10/28 Wakened first at 6:15 to the sound of rain, gentle rain, and a
very dark sky. Woke awake about 7:30 - still drizzling and dark.

'70

10/28 cont. Ate good eggs & brown cooked by Lil. Taylor for me. By about 10:00 the rain reduced a bit so we loaded up & got our gas tank filled, shopped for lunch effects - chocolate, canned chicken and bread & mayonnaise for a spread.

Called on Sam Beth - a half hour visit - then called on Bill Hamble at Yawhee Binell office. He gave me some partridge heads and a better map of the area. He says the birds are hunted pretty hard from here in the Camp Seventeen area.

We drove out there and turned north at Four Corner Church. Followed lanes several miles to a "gate" which had been removed. Parked there and started our hunt about noon. On a side lane a bird flushed quite far - I missed. Followed but got no end of me. Edith rested while I walked on further. Returned to her and went back. Spud made a fine "point". Bird flushed quite far away & I missed 2 hands. Excusable on account extreme heavy cover.

Did some walking on edges of hay meadow but saw no more birds. At Brown Cemetery Spud insisted on looking "up" into trees but saw neither squirrel nor bird. Good place. Blackberries - rose hips too.

The woods have lost their high colors excepting for the tamarack which is a very warm gold or cinnamon. Stand out by contrast at a half mile range. Never saw so much dead maiden hair fern. Haven't looked carefully but see no leaves of grandiflora trillium. Some woodier ferns are still green. The average ground cover color is a warm soft brown.

The hay fields near show evidence of great effort in removing small and medium boulders to edge areas or into "sink hole" areas.

Edith saw a distant deer - white flag. No pileated peckers.

10/29. Wolf River Lodge. The day was clear and chilly. Very heavy frost and dew overnight. Started out about 9:00 - east to Trout/Ketchikan. Drove north thru Ketchikan. Then walked a mile or more north - plus two good looking side lanes, no birds seen.

Drove back to Langlade and west to the Evergreen and the west north road west of bridge. Worked hard over several miles of trail. Saw one deer in cut over brush. One wild bird - got 2 misses but no shot. That's all the birds seen all day.

Wandered west to 4 Corner and north. Tried Brown Cemetery. Drove north to Camp 12 area. Same as yesterday. Another dark cloud. As we approach area of Spud's point yesterday - he again showed "sign". I'm sure he just remembered the place!

That wound up the day and the hunt.

Have "steak" dinner at Mrs Gelbi's home - strawberry short cake for desert. Tried to call Estella - she wasn't home.

10/30 Slept "lazy" until near 8:00. Rained most of the night and still going strong during the morning. Left, dressed for hunting at 10:00.

Drove west to Antigo - then south thru Steam Point and Wisconsin Rapids. Ate lunch in river side park at W. Rapids. Then west to Babcock, thru cranberry country. All low - swamp area. Leveed and ditched. Own west thru rough uncultivated swamp area. Huge deer fenced area - must be 5 miles square.

Have Spud a short run oak tree a red squirrel. He could see it way up there in the bare branches.

Tamarack very beautiful. Leaves tell on aspen and oak - in contrast to bare trees near White Lake.

Arr. Estellon about 6:00. Fine chicken dinner and a good visit until 10:30. News of Rena's divorce and Renna's illness is distressing.

Spud sleeps in the car tonight.

10/3 Alone to Farmington - arrived there about 9:40. Went to young farmer's home first. The new highway has eliminated some good quail areas. Got into bird at once and had 4 in just a few minutes. Then worked till 1:00 without a second covey. Chased a woodcock but couldn't hit him. He's a beauty.

Moved to two other areas & saw only scatter in one place - a new place incidentally. Last moved to my old fallow area and had about finished the area when Spud pointed. A fine covey rise - got one. Runner Spud found. No luck on finding scatter. This covey found at 4:00. Making 5 hours birding. Last thing Spud pointed a last covey and I got my last bird. Note - drive home = 1 hour + 5 minutes. Spud limps right hind leg.

10/4 Alone to Crystal Lake. ^{1:45} There seemed a slight cool set out in the Park, where I got no shots. Had left my calls at home. At 4:00 I worked Black Jack where a maggot jump and mallow - my gun was not loaded! Got a cripple

1970

No.	Date	Place	Sex	Age	Wt	Shall	Cruffin	Hours	Points	
1	10/25	Boltcamp	H	4	177	3	0	4	1	
2	11/3	Farmington	C	0	204	12	0	7 1/2	3	also some scatters
3			C	9	192					
4			C	0	179					
5			H	4	169					
6			H	4	126					
7			H	4	132					
8	11/14	West Branch	C	0	192					Pheasant hunt
9	4/18	Bob White	H	0	176	8	0	3 1/2	1	plus 3 scatters.
10	"		H	4	170					
11	11/20	Farmington	C	4	210	16 for 5	3	6	5	very windy ° 27
12			H	4	200					
13			C	0	184					
14			H	0	180					
15			C	4	188					
16			H	0	178					
17			C	4	130					
18			H	4	148					
19			H	4	124					
20	11/30	Edmonds	H	0	218	FL-3 FB-2	0	4	5	
1			C	4	212					
2			H	0	205					
3			C	0	200					
4			C	4	195					
5			H	4	190					
6			C	4	209					
7			H	4	203					
Big 8			C	0	231					
9	12/2	Ill. Cragg south of Koffner	C	4	200	4 for 3	1	2	2	1-0/6 lines 1-1/12 "
30			H	4	197					
31			C	0	192					
	12/8	Jimm & Stee	Ill. north of Cragg					4	0	not 1 bird seen
	12/9	FL. at Earl Johnson farm						3	2	no bird killed
32		Edmonds	H	4	232	6	0	1 1/2	1	wet feet in creek
33			C	4	285					
34		Ill. - Kragg	H	4	190	8 for 3	0	4	3	
35		" Bob White	H	4	174					
36			H	4	168					

1970

No	Date	Place	Sex	Age	Wt	Stomach Full	Feather	Wing	Count	
37	12/18	Edmunds	H	Y	211	10 for 6	0	3 1/2	3	50'-creek high Jim layed up in the a tree off.
38			H	Y	223					
9			C	0	215					
40			H	Y	215					
41			C	0	190					
42			C	Y	180					
43	12/31	Cragsville	C	Y	196	0	0	2 1/2	0	Spur caught the bird

10/5 Alone to (Spud) Crystal 1:45 - worked Black Jack & killed a hen - my only shot. Then to mid Stoney at 3:00 - no shots there - 1 mallard - 2 shells

10/6 Alone - Spud & I to Crystal draw at 8:00. Tried to call Harry, last night no luck. Last draw of course. Rehner in the Point, Bonanza by the Run - I in Mercer.

The sunrise flight was quite small. By 8:40 hours left & called me to Point. I had 1 g. h. had at Mercer. I moved to Pt. and soon knocked down a g. h. far out. I was cripplingly shooting when Spud jumped in to swim out. The duck dove & I hit him. Pulled Spud in, lost g. h. down to the west & I tried him. Next one out front Spud saw fall & he swam out & retrieved him alone.

Then moved to S. Run where I got 4 g. h. and Spud swam out again. Duck dove & Spud caught by wing tip. Hard swimming & Spud soon dropped him halfway in and swam to him etc. Next a Baldpate - boat retrieve, lost a g. h. Spud swam out & retrieved.

Great mallard flight today - lasted from early until at least 1:30. Many flocks - often very large - up to 50-75-100. Decoying very well. My calls worked fine for me. Also frequent flocks of deep water ducks.

Spud sat on the blind seat & watched the ducks fly.

There was a brisk south wind & the ducks were flying against it. Often quite high - but even some medium high flocks would decoy.

The most biggest flight I've seen in years.

10/8 Spud and I alone to Crystal. Usual last draw - took Mercer. Nothing doing in blind after I got a hen mallard high up. Took boat to south Grand and found Bay (50) mallards there in 2 flocks. Dropped a g. h. but Spud couldn't find him - Really I think he flew out.

Then took boat to Harbors where I found Walter & Betty & later in grand canyon with south. I found fine mallards in half moon. No one shot. Later killed two good mallards further east on south bank. Spud swam out for one.

10/10 Jim B. joined me for Crystal Draw. Got 1st choice Run. A good early flight but our one gun armament didn't scare.

At 9:00 to Park Run and walked to Lingerwood and on SE to Hay Ridge. Many mallards in flooded timber especially near east end of Hay Ridge on north side. I killed on 3 straight overhead shots in rapid succession. Jim got on at Half Moon. Jim not shooting well today. My score 4 shots - 4 mallards.

11/11 Spud & I alone for Crystal Draw. Jim is in bed with a cold. Went to Philip's set out decoys in preparation for a wood hunt later in the AM.

And crossed the Pull River the pink eastern sky was perfectly reflected in the ditch beyond. Add the myriad black birds flying low & reflected plus the added thousands hanging on the ashgreen cattail stems. A rare picture to behold! I explain it to Jim tonight.

Killed one G. H. in blind and passed up several hen chances as well. No ducks close enough.

Went to Eaton about 9:00. Maybe 50 mallards there but no shot. Too far! On to Willow where I found a few mallards - again too far. No ducks in many acres of flooded timber. Back to Hay Ridge and walked S.E. Many ducks on west side - all too far to shoot. Expected to find them where there were so many yesterday on north side near east end - where the wind would have been right for them to come over me after Spud jumped them. But drew a blank.

Then walked border fence to Back Branch = 1/4 mile again no ducks. So I went back up the west timber to big birch tree etc back to blind. Allowed my boat to drift away and was quit able to wade to retrieve it.

11/14 Jim and I went to West Branch after pheasants. Both fresh ruffed. + 1000 id and driving to Parsons. Arrived at 7:55 and started right out. Parsons farm has no bird cover at all. Coen all gathered. Potatoes, creek out a mile or more. One big group near Jim got two. I missed. On the walk back Jim said I got one that we both shot at. Lunched & then north 2 roads to old cemetery. Got permission - walked a big bean field - no shot. Then across north road where I missed a chance over a good point. (over) Went east a mile etc home.

"15 Jim, Spud & I to Crystal for 6:30 draw, Cold - 1st ice - temp. about 27°. Last draw. Goldie, we took turn on one gun. I killed a mallard hen early. Then Jim a lesser scaup hen. Some ducks moving but not ready to draw. I missed on a chance at well "out" mallards. Then Jim also missed on a flock - pretty far.

We had fun calling several flocks - which responded well but we thought pretty far to risk a shot. Probably should have tried. Started for home about 12:15. At the pull over Spud delivered a live b. w. teal to me! Then on the big lake we came down wind on 2 lesser scaup which I killed as they passed me. So I had 4 ducks with 4 shells - a. e. including Spud's teal. Nice morning in the blind with Jim. I want to give him my second Cwinger duck call - he should be learning now. This might be my last '70 duck hunt?

"18 Jim, Spud & I to Edmund's farm at 8:30. Enroute stopped at a new farm prospecting the second but then had a talk with the owner who has 500 acres & may let us hunt later. Now leased for \$5.00 per year to Dead City man.

Found Edmund rented his farm to next neighbor Mrs. Saegwaith. He was not at home so on east to Robert White farm near bridge over Santa Fe. Permission on 500 acres of fine quail ground. The birds are there - he says - but we saw only 1 set of 3 scatter. I got one. Then lunch at 1:00 and to his west farm where we got a covey - got 1 more each. Home at 3:30 with 3 quail. Bob White - Carman wants a duck - wood - instruction sheet. Had read about my colony.

"120 Spud & I to Crystal at 9:00 AM, 37° and NW wind at 20 MPH. Point MT. no set out there. The Barn had several shots - I none at Pt. Went east side Hawhorn & walked to Half Moon, where I jumped 5 mallards quite far - did not shoot. Probably should have but I hoped for a odd duck & closer. Walked north shore Half Moon. Nothing. Looked at R.L. - blank. Looked along cypress which a buck had broken off 10" above ground. I trimmed off dead parts - should sprout.

Encounter back to boat got a young g. h. mallard passing. Spud and I retrieved.

Looped at Storey Bay & Main Lake Bay - blank. Too blind and foggy all there. Still windy but clearing. At lunch soon and visited Alf. Left at 3:00 no shots. To boat house.

After Frank S. left me I walked up west road. Flushed ducks in Black Jack Bay. One pair returned and I hit a q. br. and he dropped 200 yds. north.

Couldnt find him. Perhaps a dozen mallards nesting. Trice north of Black Jack Lake. Some wild flushes then killed a drake Black duck. Spud retrieved. Soon flush a q. br. close and killed him. Spud retrieved. So I got two more mallards after I should have been there!

An exciting day. Weather was showing off various moods. A lovely pair of big hawks. ? red tail? over shoulder. Mallards had been numerous early - not after I arrived. Doing fancy flying - blown by the wind. With perfect judgement and shooting I'd had 5 q. br.

Net 3 drakes it was (mallards 2. Black duck 1) = 6 shells

11/22 Jim had breakfast here. He, Spud & I left for the Indian River area N. of Farmington about 7:45. First hunted the big fallow area, 35 miles wind and freezing fast. First covey across creek at old barn and don't draw. Long shot by Jim - lost a ^{two lost} runner. They went west across creek and well scattered away up the hill. Jim got 3 in a long cover search. I missed.

Next covey after a long search to far N. E. hedge along south edge of bean field. No shot at covey rise. Then I got 2 and Jim more which brought us to 1:00 lunch hour. We were really chilly.

Then at 1:30 N. to friendly farmer. Scatter in wet draw. no kills there but Jim lost one this. Jim found next covey up a long draw. Made a double. I got one that flew my way and we doubled on another.

Then as we admired a bluebird a covey flushed wild & must have lost themselves in the deep draw. We never found them.

Back at car & went home about 3:00 - a bit cold & tired but we had 9 quail - together - 3 very small.

Spud carried some retriever back to us today

11/29 Jim Spud & I to Edmunds. First to Siegworth but again nobody at home except a very mean dog. So we decided to go ahead and hunt. First I beched the keys into the car. Jim got a wire in to open the door. Now beans where was corn last year.

Creek much higher than last year. I wait in most of the usual places but we could cross it. Found 5 coveys. Spud very rabbit-minded. I'll have to tie one on his neck next week.

Then we get back Lieqworth's not yet home. So no permission yet.

I couldn't shoot today. Drove about 2:30 and ate lunch in car. Good looking place owned by farmer in big farm layout north of R. R., wartharking for permission.

Saw a big deer at distance. Beautiful marsh hawk. Jim saw beaver sign stick bark off.

1 1/2 Edith, Spud and I at 1:40 to Osage hedges south of Hopper. Lovely warm - near 60° - sun here most of time.

First covey well west of our car. Only about 6 birds. One shot one bird. Next flushed a single which I got = 2 shot 2 birds.

Then too main east - west road where Spud pointed a second covey. I walked in and they flush 15-20 yards away. On my 1st shot I thought I'd killed 2. Second shot dropped a left wing single = a double but never found the bird and only 1 at my 1st shot. We looked a long time - but only one bird.

Drove home in the dusk - 4 shells 3 birds 1 cripple lost. Turn to have Edith - across the hedge.

Didn't hang a rabbit on Spud's neck.

1 2/3 Went to Crystal just before 2:00. Almost a gale blowing and temperature up around high 50s. Walked to Half Moon. Nothing in west end, but I could see ducks in open water away east of me - so I crossed to south side - where the ducks were. When I got there my ducks had crossed to north shore - so back I went and then to east end again. Damn if they hadn't crossed to south shore!

Worked the east part of Half Moon and finally got a green head at the big pin oak. Worked a single that lit near the S.E. corner but missed him.

Plenty tired when I reached my boat & headed home - no ducks moving - only home birds.

Overmallard 7 shells no cripple

12/8 Jim & I spent 4 hours hunting the coveys and locust just south of Kithabing & north of Quanka. We found not a single quail - fired no shells.

12/9 I went alone to Cecil Johnson's farm west of Harroville. Wonderful cover - hills that are high & timbered. We have 3 hrs found 2 coveys - no coveys were shot. Shells 5 and not a bird bagged. These difficult areas are not for old men like me.

12/11 Jim couldn't go. So Spud & I went to Edmunds at 9:30. Got permission from Mrs Siegwirth. Found out it was another deer hunting day. Not good. Paded the creek and got water in both boots - cold.

Found none of the coveys on east bank of creek? Or by? Perhaps deer hunters earlier? Perhaps in brush on west bank? Went up the east bank draw and $\frac{2}{3}$ way up Spud pointed. I got my first bird and missed my second. Then a surprise flock of 3 birds in open east of fence - should have been easy shot, but missed both barrels. Then killed a hip anaph shot on a point from a high brush pile.

A long search and I was ready to give up - took another look & found my dead bird hanging in a small covey bush I'd overlooked. Then Spud recognized the bird smell. Previously I'd about decided my bird had run into a pile.

Now about 12:30 and I lit out for home - wet & cold - extra large birds 232 and 225 grams.

12/15 Spud & I to Bob's white place at 9:30 or 10:00. Found it covey early but flushed wild & I had not covey shot. Singles were jumped wild. Finally got one bird. Ploughed fields slippery - moved to covey hedger in sand prairie. Lots of walking. Found 2 coveys & got one on each covey rise. No singles found. Spud caught a squirrel. Saw a huge ground hog. Pleasant weather.

12/18 Spud & I at 12:30 to Edmunds. Jim cut off his toe two days ago! First coveys no shot - crossed creek. I found one ford too deep. On a long $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to a good ford. On the way back Spud flushed a covey in long east draw. Two birds alighted in edge of big rag weed only 25 yards from me. Called in Spud and worked 15 minutes and he made no sign of a scent & never flushed the 2 birds? What happened?

Found my scattered covey and with good dog work on points and on cripple (1) I had 5 birds with 6 shells! Pretty fancy!

On to Spade's wild flush covey but they ran ahead of us & I got no shot. But Spade pointed a 3rd covey very soon & I got 1 on the rise. They flew toward big brush pile but I couldn't find them unless they flushed as a covey - which surprised me & I double missed - that was my last chance - couldn't find them? Long walk to car over the lower field! Tried but a real good day. Four of six birds 20/15 gr. or heavier!

12/31 - Last day of Dec. season. Left home at 1:30 for the orange flats a mile + south of Haffner. Crisp day 35°-37° sun bright I was too late. Many hunters out earlier and I found no coveys. Spade pointed a single which proved to be a cripple which he caught and retrieved. He also caught a healthy rabbit, which I have just dressed & put in cooler. Hunted 2 1/2 hours. I should know better than go late in the day on closing days.

1971 - Fish

5/13 First time to Capital at 6:30 - to 8:30 Caught about 30 or 35 - mostly bluegill - some crappie. Bluegills not as large as last autumn but very good. No mosquitoes as yet - many gnats.

5/20 Went over after supper at 6:45 - calm, bright. Fished west bank while Spud hunted rabbits in the brush. About the best fishing I have had. Brought home 16. Must have thrown back 25. Crappie are all quite small. Many b. g. took a "push" to pass the creek hole. All 16 stranded at 9:00 PM.

6/20 Caught 10 big blue gills on island etc

7/7 " 17 " " " on west shore. No small blue gills, only 2 gr. sunfish + 1 crappie. B.B. at least 75% males - still had milk. Females had eggs. Wonderful fishing - an hour + 20 minutes thru town and back to town.

7/11 Caught after 7:00 PM. caught 16 blue gills - only a few small ones - no crappie. On dressing them - every one was a male fish. 20 females.

7/17 - 18 blue gills - took Spud - was fasting - hospital ambulance - 1 staid shot by nurse. Harv Brockell brought car + dog home from "The Lake". Jim changed my fish.

7/22 Jim's birthday at Capital 9 blue gills - home late

7/26 - 9 blue gills - after supper

8/1 17 " 12 crappie at boat house

8/5 6 " 2 " " " "

9/8 19 " 3 " " " 93° at 6:15 PM

9/20 4 " 10 " " " "

9/22 1 " 10 " west shore, 1 hour

9/24 1 " 15 " " " 1 hour

9/26 2 " 10 " " " 1/2 "

10/3 5 " 6 " " " 1 "

1941

10/8 5 blue gills 6 crappie - 1 hr, extra large

10/29 Inarmin caught a nice bass and has been catching
blue gills right along while we have been in Canada

Hunting 1927

See notes of Canadian trip to Bella with Edith & Spud

"1/1 I went to Capital at 12:30 - set out in Goldie. When a passed a chance at 2 red heads. Then missed a single coming in. After about 40 minutes I decided to go walking. Stan Grant came down from Eaton where he had got only 1 or 2 since daylight.

I landed near the big birch on the left side. Soon getting up mallards. Light was poor so I had to pass up many chances but I soon had 3 green heads. Spud stayed at heel very well.

Moved over to Bay Ridge. A few ducks on east side first at the north end & then beyond the big birch. Also the big birch has broken down completely. Then to Buck Branch trees - no ducks. Found ducks - mallards & woodies - at Eversgers. I stood on the hump and soon made a double on green heads which Spud retrieved nicely.

Raining now. Walked a deer trail to my boat. Raining harder. Picked up Bloch at Goldie and by now was pretty wet. Home before sundown with 5 greenheads. Gave one to Marjorie

"1/5 Jim & I at 11:00 landed in ditch bank beyond Philips. Jim carried the gun and we walked all thru the area where I got 3 g. h. last trip without seeing a jumper. We went on to the tree raised a woodie drake & a mallard hen. On the way back to boat Jim got two shots and killed 1 g. h. I stayed on the island & Jim walked N. W. where he got 2 more g. h. That was all for this area.

We set out in Goldie & ate our lunch. I tried a fancy long shot or two. One mallard dropped beyond Philips. I went over later but failed to find it. We picked up and landed at pull over. Jim walked & undr - then all the way to R. L. dam. Then Buck Branch & back thru the flooded woods. No dead ducks. Jim was tired.

There had been some blind shooting late in P.M. Dr. Evinger with his family blind at Point. A dead hen mallard out front. To late to try out Black Jack. Three green heads for Jim to take home.

11/6 With Harry Murray for 6:00 AM draw. I pulled #25 but Harry got #1 for first draw. Picked The Run on a N.W. wind at 25 MPH. We blew around a good deal as we set out our two groups of blocks.

My caller didn't pull as I hoped. A few long shots missed. Finally I got a hen mallard Harry missed again. One cut across left to right Harry's shot & he missed.

Then we got 2 blue hills that alighted. There was something of a traveling flight including scaups. Some blind shooter did pretty well on high shots. It is a type of shot I do poorly.

We quit soon after 12:00 and went home having had a beautiful morning but few dead ducks.

11/7 Jim & I at 9:00 to Haltham farm for permission OK. No corn in our favorite area, but we tried it. Found a small covey in the old draw that was formerly a hot. Now cattle grazed unfortunately. Jim got the only bird out of this group. The best area further east produced no birds. Maybe we missed something.

On our way back to the car Spad put up a covey which we had passed. Jim happened to see the bird rise. We followed & soon found birds. Jim got a long shot.

Then I started to hit birds & got 4 in 5 shells & Spad found a tough cripple. Jim ended with 3 birds.

On way back to car Jim said "Is that the Spad got a rabbit?". Turned out to be a female cat.

We ate lunch at car - Jane had sent pumpkin pie!

After lunch decided we would call it a day.
But I decided to call on a farmer for future panicle hunting.
Did so - and met farmer Blint who was friendly.
I took him out to meet Jim + Spud. Got his OK.
to come another day - provided I came with
some beer. He says there are lots of birds in his woods.
Don't give the beer to mother if I'm not here.
Get for day 4 birds for F.L. - Jim 3.

"1/13 "1/14 Jim Bullard & Son Mike + Bob Holsten to
Red Oak with 2 of Jim's dogs. Met & guided by
Paul Dunlap of Hampshire. Stayed at Holiday Inn.

First day up at 6:00 & early away to 15 or 20 miles
north & west. Lots of pheasants. Reminded me of S.D. in
1936 with Ranfurth. We worked hard all day & ended
with 24 cocks for one group including Treble who
helped guide us. (Team with). I got 5 or 6
of my own including 1 I discarded - shot up!

Second day Paul & 2 sons joined us again
hunted till noon or 1:00 got 7 birds - group.

I forgot about the car wreck yesterday where
young Tom Dunlap drove his dad's car off the
road - into ditch - up side down.

Number	Date	Place	Sex	Age	Wt.	Shells	Birds	Horns	Arms	
1	11/1	Holthamfr	C	0	176	11	0	3	2	
2			C	Y	140					
3			H	Y	166					
4			H	Y	136					
5	11/6	Ill. sand. Koff	C	Y	160	2	1	3	2	Luna, 2 - FL-1
6			C	Y	160					
7			H	Y	145					
8	11/17	Bob White	H	Y	183	FL-2 for 0				Luna 4 birds
9			H	Y	191		0	5	3	
10			C	Y	182					
11			C	Y	174					
12	11/18	BLINT	H	Y	174		1	3 1/2	2	LUNA, Jim & BOP
13			C	Y	187					LUNA 1
14			H	Y	184					Jim 2
15			C	Y	174					BOP 2
16			H	Y	160	-	this bird shot in half - tail gone			
17	11/19	Blint.	H	0	191					
18			H	Y	191					
19			H	0	175					
20			H	Y	156					
21			C	Y	144					
22	11/22	EDMUND'S	C	Y	224	1				} Jim Barber
23			H	Y	171					
24			H	Y	105					
25			C	Y	182					
26			H	0	212					
27	11/24		C	Y	191					
28			C	Y	215					
29			C	Y	260					
30			C	Y	188					
1			H	0	195					
2			H	Y	184					
3			C	Y	230					
4			H	Y	198					

Lab
 Lab
 Place
 Sex
 Age
 Wt.
 F.L. "Lives about 3000 ft. high"
 Ruffed
 Grouse
 "

35	11/27	Edmunds	C	0	193				
6			H	4	210				
7			C	4	185				
8			H	4	180				
9			H	4	177				
40			C	0	212				
1			H	4	183				
2			H	4	134		1	5	11
3			?	4	104				

44	11/27	Edmunds	H	4	209				
5		F.L. alone	C	4	208				
6			H	4	200				
7			C	0	209				
8			C	0	197				

9	12/7	Edmunds	C	4	203	18	0	5	6
50		F.L. alone	H	4	209				
1			H	4	207				
2			H	4	190				
3			H	4	191				
4			H	4	191				
5			H	4	176				
6			C	0	189				

7	12/17	Edmunds	C	0	217	8	0	2 1/2	5
58			C	4	165				

9	12/22	Edmunds	H	4	210	30	0	5	3
60			C	4	203				
61			C	0	200				
2			H	4	195				
3			C	4	169				
4			C	4	183				
5			C	4	153				
6			H	4					
7			H	4					

Gave to Edmunds

11/11 Wood Duck Talk to 4 H. Club at St Mary's
About 60 people at special meeting.

Dinner by Mrs Butler to his farm for quail
hunt. Route 61 to white school house beyond Mr. house
next road beyond school turn left. Canada to Y turn
left - next Y turn left. Large white house, Har
& covins - can gathered.

11/16 Luna came at 11:00 - We two went to sand
hedges south of Hopper. Others had preceded us
One scattered coveys. Luna made a double.
Spud captured a ruff. Second covey I just
flushed wild. We had some scatter shots -
mixed. Came home 4:30 with 3 quail.

Dinner with Betty & Maria & saw a pheasant
dinner.

11/17 Luna + FL to Bob's place. found 3 covies but worked them
badly in ungathered covey where we couldn't find them. Another
fence row covey ran away on us & Luna got one on his side.
Spud tried 2 big catfish lunch on place. Bob was genial and
friendly.

He tried his west farm yard area. Too many frogs - no birds.
Left pretty early - before sundown to look at some prospective
areas. Edmunds place looked unaccomplished today Luna got 4
with 8 shells.

11/18 Luna, Spud & I to Crystal at about 10:00 AM.
Two cars parked - meaning no hunters out!
He loaded and headed for the Park. Scarcely got
set out before next boat took the Point and soon
Exercise & Stoney north were filled. He started
right off to see mallards some of which were
ready to decay. Luna with his 20 g. had some
early trouble connecting. On one several
flocks I made a blut double - but I shot

secured my share of opportunity.

Spud enjoyed all the events - Especially picking up dead birds & lifting them into the boat. Often he held only a wing tip - so he really had to raise his knee high to bring the dead bird over the gunwale. Twice he jumped overboard to catch and retrieve mallards.

We came home about 4:40 with 8 big mallards. They decayed quite well and gave me renewed confidence in my coveys.

Suffered late after a long interview by Hazel Snaffit with Luna. He has yellow and ginger head.

"1/19 We got to Siegeworth farm and Mrs. reminded me that deer hunters were out in the field - so no quail.

Came back & went to Blint farm - with beer - Jim, Jane, Luna & I.

Found only 2 coveys & with jeans shooting 5 birds for three guns.

Blint got his box - has 80 acres west 1/2 mile - for sale. with big timber cut out - for pulp - Ft. Madison. He might consider his 780 acres north of his house. This area has

"1/22 Jim, Luna, F.L. to Edmunds. First covey at the car. They fooled us plenty - finally found they had flown 200 yds. further than we thought. Then we really started on finding coveys. One after another - a new covey before we finished the old one.

Luna shot very well with his 28 gauge. Jim was not up to his high pass. I did well enough with about 30 shells. Spud did well 11 coveys. Our biggest quail hunt in years. Luna never saw or imagined so many quail. He took 12 home frozen.

11/27 Alone - tried to find Butler's but found only slick mud roads at the far end of my search. Just lucky to get to gravel without sliding into the ditches.

On to Edmunds. First covey right on schedule. Missed a tough covey rise and then lost the scatter except 1. I missed.

Then a Hornet car drove away. Was he quail hunting? The 1/22 next 4 coveys I couldn't find at all. This high north facing hill yielded only 1 covey. I had 1 shot & knocked down a bird - not found.

Then covey in fallow field near last year's dead cow. Got 1 on rise. Finally got at the scatter with a point & killed 3 birds recovered & 1 dead one lost. Also a couple of flying cripples.

Then a last covey - no covey rise shot. Some tough shots on west side of creek. Got one tough high shot. Ended with 5 birds bagged - 2 down birds lost - 3 flying feathered or "leg down" birds. Home at about 4:00. Note the large size of Edmunds birds.

12/3 Jim & I left at 8:00 for Laroux arrived 9:30. Snow covered ground. He has bought black calves - so the cover is well knocked down and the snow completes the job. Didn't see a single pheasant on his farm.

Went north to cemetery. Jim walked a draw and had 1 shot. Raised 3 cochs & 2 hens.

Then we were about to eat lunch at R.R. track crossing at north edge West Branch when I saw a cock at 35 yds from R.R. Two loaded guns! He worked a 1/2 hour trying to raise him - no luck. In that heavy cover they can't be flushed.

At 8:00 overpass 5 miles east of W. B. we made a draw and flushed 3 cochs & 12 hens all too far to kill. Jim killed a rabbit.

Back at cemetery road at north house we tried to hunt a piece of ungathered corn - no luck - he was

picking it today. But in his barn yard we jumped
3 coon & 1 hen. & I doubled on 1 each & I missed my
2nd shot at a caribou overhead bird. Plenty close
So long for today - all furs 1 - coon - 1 rabbit -
Home about 4:00

14/6 Alone to Edmunds. Parking place over north there.
Found but side birds north of stream but one shot & bird.
Then a long hunt to east end of north facing bluff. First birds
on top of bluff and halfway back - missed several easy shots.
Then south to dead steer field where Spud pointed & I got 1
bird on a 4 bird rise. Didn't find scatter. First covey
in S.W. corner of weed field - got up birds - no shot - rabbit
to dog mix up. Located some ratters in draw to south in pasture
and killed 2 out of 3 shots - better.

Back to weed field - Spud pointed large covey - wild
no rise shot. Then Spud discovered trapped red fox! A beauty!
Spud shook him pretty hard. Got the dog off and managed
to release the fox forefoot without being bitten by him.
Difficult to release the trap spring with one hand.

Fox was alive alright but, had front foot & Spud
had shaken him very hard. Question after was he
live but he may see.

Followed covey and got some birds & missed some.
Ended by dropping my right hand in the creek
and Spud retrieved him. Made a Dutch double on
covey rise on next to last covey.

Talked with Edmunds on roadside
Home about 4:00 P.M.

12/17 Jim, Spud, I to Edmunds at 8:40. Temp 27° as we passed the bank clock. Had a visit with the E's. Found the first covey this time and some bit ingathered even. Let us walk right thru them. Spud pointed as we returned and we doubled on the rice & then missed our end shot. Jim picked up a bird caught in coils of old fence wire.

Passed the creek and got wet feet! No coveys in creek bottom but a huge covey in it soon half got up water. Jim missed. I tried for an hour or more to find the coveys but never raised a one!! What happens? No scent.

Next covey flew up the willow draw and I got a nice full on a big 217 g. each. South after next covey, & Jim got one I missed. I decided I was just 2 cold some heads for friends & home. Better this time.

No sign of my released fox?

Reached our place at Edmunds where we were invited for coffee.

Spud got a shot of skunk perfume.

Jim & I changed to dry things and ate kitchen lunch, 20° as we passed the bank thermometer. very windy!

12/22 Alone to Bob White's home. No body at home. Hunted his east area but found no birds - also saw no empty shells. Stopped at Siegwirth bridge. No covey there. Forged the creek up under the north bluff. Shooting my party of 3 toward S.E. Found only scattered birds along east of creek area. Then a covey in big weed field. Many missed shots.

At 2:30 only had 2 birds. Forged at center ford. On west bank flushed a covey which flew across creek. No scatter shots.

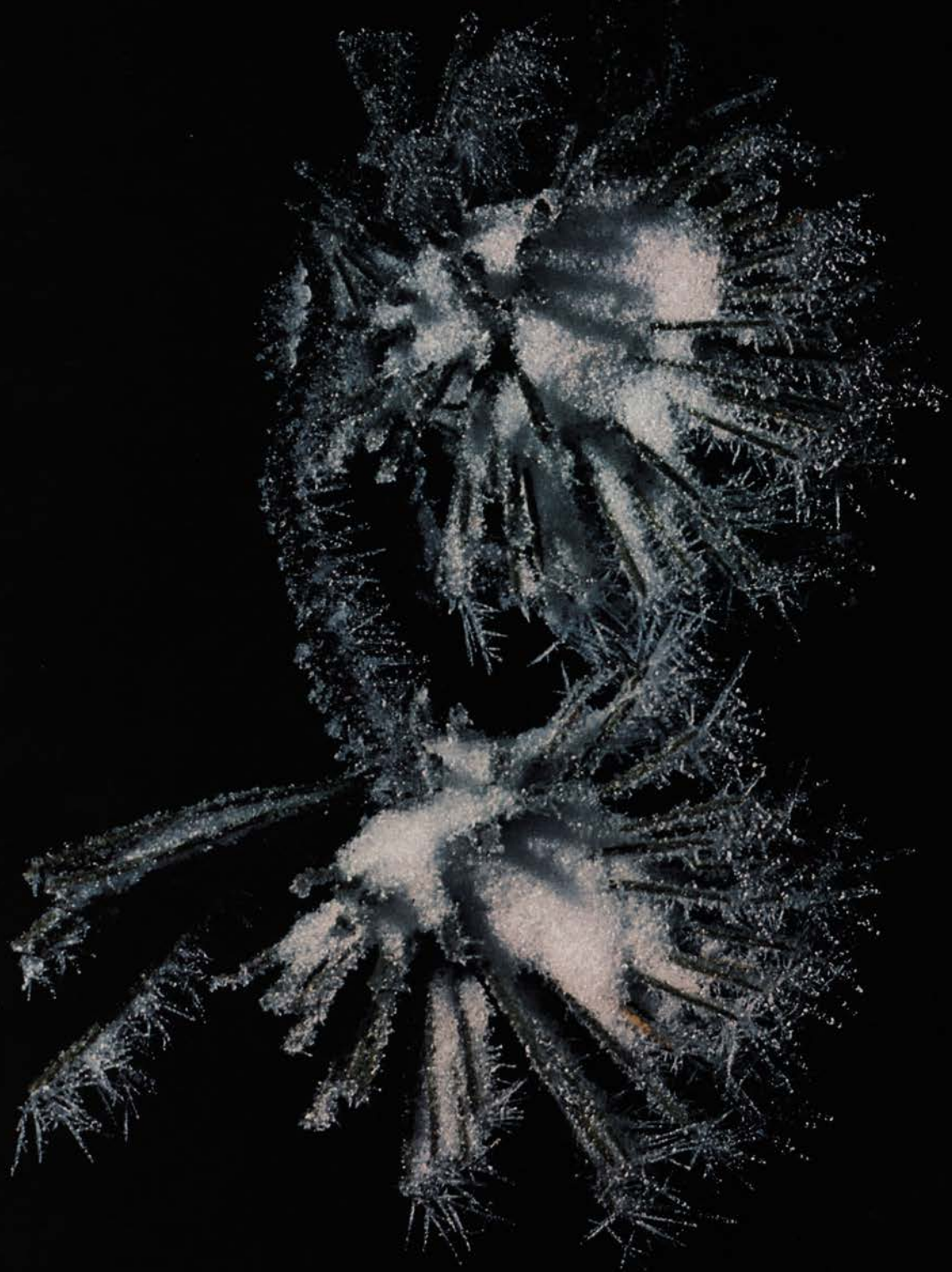
Then a second covey in willow edge. Missed the rice. These birds flew to Siegwirth bridge and alighted in

The brothers Blindt are Emil - the headman
Louis? the follower

the picked corn, I had washed them well and gave me many points. I shot well and bagged 7 more in a few minutes. All open holes Left 2 with Mr Edmunds and went home with 4 after a poor start.

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Audubon Jan, 1972





Audubon Jan 1972

*In a classic sporting still life by J. Barry O'Rourke,
a mixed bag of ruffed grouse, woodcock, and rail,
and a famous Parker double-barreled 12-gauge shotgun.*

I am a hunter

by ED ZERN

I DIDN'T KILL THOSE LOVELY BIRDS on the opposite page. But I've killed a great many birds just as lovely, and have spent long and happy hours in an effort to kill not only ruffed grouse and woodcock but partridge and pheasant, ducks and geese, doves and quail, not out of any need other than psychic.

How, then, am I able to feel (as indeed I do) that I revere life at least as much as, and probably more than, those good men and women of America who abhor hunting and hunters? Let me try to tell you.

In 1955 I attended the annual meeting of the National Audubon Society to present a conservation award to Robert Porter Allen, the society's research director, who had done important field studies on West Indian flamingoes and roseate spoonbills and who had, a few months previously, discovered the long-sought nesting grounds of the whooping crane. The award was part of a corporation-sponsored program of which I am the director, and whose selection committee has always included persons prominent in Audubon affairs.

At the dinner, to my astonishment, I learned that the society's own highest award would be—and was—presented to Walt Disney. Until that moment it had not occurred to me that anyone seriously concerned with defending nature and the environment could hold Disney in anything but mild contempt for his anthropomorphic, lily-gilding, nature-faking exploitation of wildlife and, indeed, all outdoors. Disney had, even then, convinced a whole generation that nature was something set to cornball-clever musical accompaniment and consisting largely of cobras fighting mongooses, sidewinders fighting roadrunners, tarantulas fighting scorpions, eagles stooping on gophers that always escaped, and other contrived and staged episodes designed to titillate an audience of sentimental make-believers and urban ignoramuses, and intended not to educate or edify but to realize the largest possible profit to Disney and his stockholders.

I realized then that the National Audubon Society, or at least a dominant group within it, took a view of renewable resource conservation quite different from my own and that of the professionals—foresters, wildlife managers, fisheries researchers, soil conservationists, hydrologists, and other dedicated specialists—I knew and admired. But since, as a spokesman for nearly twenty million licensed American hunters (and for a minority group of hunters holding memberships in the society), I've been invited to defend my view in these pages, let me in turn invite those who decry and condemn hunting to join me—briefly and invisibly—in a duckblind on the edge of a New Jersey marsh not far from Barnegat Inlet.

It's 3 p.m. of a bitterly cold, bright December day, and I've been sitting on a plank bench in a sunken box, with Joe, a middle-aged Labrador retriever, since shortly before the sun rose at about 7 a.m. My booted feet are in icy water, and ache with cold. (I spent half an hour in darkness pumping water out of the blind and arranging the decoys, which I lugged across a quarter-mile of ice-crusting marsh from my boat, but the water leaks back in.) I'm dressed for cold weather, and except for my feet I'm not too painfully uncomfortable. Nor is Joe, who is at least as happy to be here as I am.

I hold a double-barreled 12-gauge shotgun across my lap, and for nearly ten hours I have been waiting for a black duck or ducks—wariest of all waterfowl in these parts—to come into the rig of a dozen decoys floating in the shallow water in front of me. So far none have come, although a few have flown round the blind out of gun range, looked it over, and decided not to drop in. If any should, I would try to kill two of them, which is all the black ducks the law permits a shooter in any one day. (The law is slightly more generous with other, more abundant, species, but none of these are as challenging a quarry, nor as much a part of this region's tradition of waterfowling, nor as good to eat.) If I had killed my two blacks early in the day I would have dawdled awhile—perhaps ten minutes—and then picked up my decoys and gone home.

Ed Zern is a noted outdoor writer whose column, "Exit Laughing," has had the last word in the pages of Field & Stream since 1958. His articles frequently appear in Sports Illustrated and True, and he is director of the American Motors Conservation Awards program.

And so for ten hours I have sat here—cold, cramped, hungry despite the sandwiches I shared with Joe, and happy. Happy in a way the nonhunter can't ever know. Oh, I've been out of the blind a few times, to rearrange the decoys when the wind shifted and when the tide changed, to let Joe stretch his legs, to stretch mine and stomp some feeling into my numb feet. But mostly I've sat and watched for ducks, or watched Joe, who usually sees ducks long before I do, and gets tense and excited when he does. (We watch through a screen of marsh grasses, so that ducks won't see my too-pale face and flare off.)

Although this is an unusually windless and consequently duckless day, it hasn't been an uneventful one. A lot of life goes on in a marsh, and every bit of it, at this time of year, concerns food—and therefore death. And I've been observing it, while waiting for ducks: the schools of killies being chased by bigger fish, the wintering marsh hawk (I think, although it may be a migrating roughleg) patrolling the far side of the marsh looking for a rat or rabbit, the skunk prowling so near I hope Joe doesn't catch his pungent scent and try to investigate.

I'm not enough of a naturalist, of course, to see all of it, but I see enough to know, if I hadn't known before, that a marsh teems with life, even in winter. And with death, as life feeds on death. My 7x35s are around my neck, but I seldom need them to see and savor this day's episode in an eternal drama of survival.

After a while the sun sets, and I wade out into the shallow flats and pick up the decoys. I'm disappointed, and so is Joe, but we're still happy in the special, elemental way that hunters feel happiness. I don't analyze it or articulate it, and it doesn't occur to me to try doing either until the next evening, when I'm at a dinner and sitting next to a nice (really nice) white-haired lady whom I don't know, but who notices that my tiepin is a miniature duck in flight.

"Are you interested in ducks?" she asks, and I tell her how I spent the previous day. "But if you enjoyed it, and saw so many interesting things, why couldn't you have left your gun at home, and just gone and sat in the blind all day, with your dog and your binoculars?" she said.

"Because," I said, "I don't regard nature as a spectator sport. If I were to leave the gun at home, or to bring it without the intention of using it, I'd be in that marsh as a spectator, or a peeping tom, or a bystander. But nature, to all animals, including the human, is essentially one big food chain. And when I go into the marsh with a gun, prepared to kill ducks and take them home and eat them, I'm there as a predator, as part of the food chain, with as much right to be there as the hunting marsh hawk or the skunk.

"Granted," I continued, "I've got a top spot on the chain, with no man-eating predators to cope with, but the worms will get me sooner or later, and I'll start again at the bottom. But when I'm there as a predator, I'm there as part of the natural scene, and I feel a oneness with nature that I never feel except when hunting, and that no nonhunter, much less an antihunter, can possibly experience. I become involved. I become not a student of nature, or a lover of nature, as though nature were a bug on a pin or a box

of chocolates—I become a *part* of nature, in a way I don't experience even when backpacking into the wilderness or canoeing down a white-water river. Even in the woods or on the river I'm extraneous, an interloper, an outsider. But with a gun in the duck marsh, or in a woodcock thicket, or walking a hillside for ruffed grouse, I'm there as a predator—not as ruthless, perhaps, as a goshawk or a weasel or a Siberian tiger, but just as intent on killing.”

“My goodness!” says the nice lady, who had not meant to do more than make polite conversation. “Personally, I’m content to *watch* birds, and I think killing is, well, if you’ll forgive me, reprehensible, and I’m very much opposed to it.” She smiles to show she means nothing personal, and goes back to her lamb chop, which six weeks ago was part of a cuddly lamb with large brown pleading eyes that did it no good when the man came to cut its throat. I notice she doesn’t have to force herself to eat it, and that she is, like everyone else at the table, a natural-born carnivore, with jaws and teeth designed for eating meat.

To that nice lady, of course, nature is a mildly amusing spectacle, and she would no more actively participate in that very basic and natural activity of mankind, the killing of other animals for food, than she would climb up on the stage at the Philharmonic and sit in with the woodwinds. She cannot even associate a lamb chop with killing, because in her plasticized, technicolor world, animals don’t die unless they are cruelly slain by wicked hunters.

I think it is this refusal to accept death as an *essential* aspect of life, and man as a carnivore and therefore by deed or fiat a killer, that leads the antihunting sentimentalist into the idiocies of which he is frequently guilty. I don’t mean the nonhunter who says, in effect, “Yes, I’m a meat-eater, but I prefer to have someone else do my killing for me.” This is a matter of choice, or of esthetics, and I’m pleased that there’ll be one less person intruding on my favorite woodcock covers or poking about my marshes. It is those who attempt to make a moral issue of lawful hunting who make fools of themselves, even if their foolishness is currently fashionable.

Foolishness? I don’t mean the lady president of an antihunting organization who proclaims on a national television show that she delights in hearing of the number of hunters killed each season, and wishes the numbers were much larger. That kind of sickness is possibly curable. I do mean, for example, my well-meaning, kind-hearted, antihunting, nitwitted neighbor who “rescued” six mallard ducklings from a nearby pond last spring to raise in her bathtub, because five others of the clutch of eleven had been killed, probably by a large snapping turtle or perhaps a fox or skunk. It was her idea that the mallard hen was a white, Protestant, Anglo-Saxon lady who had somehow been transformed into a duck, and who felt as grief-stricken as any such lady should when five of her children had been destroyed.

When I explained to her that a pair of mallards begins breeding at one year of age, hatches an average of eight ducklings or four pairs each year, each of which pairs starts producing ducklings after one year, and that the original pair may live and breed for at least ten years, and that by this sort of geometric progression, if not for turtles and hunters and such, would have produced, at the end of ten years, a total of 19,531,250 ducks, and that if, at

the end of those ten years, three of those 19,531,250 ducks are alive there has been, in effect, a 50-percent increase in the mallard population, she said, “Oh, Mr. Zern, you’re just trying to confuse me.” The ducklings died of applied Disneyism. Unmolested, one or two might have survived.

I mean, too, the foolishness of the antihunter who has never seen a deeryard strewn with the starved corpses of whitetails—killed not by hunters but by the namby-Bambi sentimentalists (including some hunters) who had successfully opposed the shooting of does. And so when man, whom nature designed as a predator, failed to substitute for the wolves and mountain lions nature had intended to help him keep the herds in balance with their food supply, the result was the virtual wiping out of all, not just a few, of the deer in that area. (I’ve never killed a North American deer, as a matter of preference, but when on several occasions I’ve seen the grisly results of underkilling, I’ve felt guilty at not having tried.)

REVERENCE FOR LIFE? I think not, in the case of the antihunters. At least I’ve never met one who felt strongly, or at all, on the subjects of fishing, or logging, or farming, or other forms of life-destroying human activity. (Trout and trees and turnips are forms of life, even though unsanctified by Disney.) No, the antihunter is curiously selective in his solicitude for life, as though he had only a tiny amount and must ration it sparingly; I have had the unsettling experience, during one evening, of being attacked by a small but ferocious lady who accused me, within the same hour, of (a) condoning the hunting of wild birds and mammals, and (b) opposing the killing of people, even those with whose politics I disagreed, in Vietnam. I pleaded guilty on both counts.

And that, rather clumsily stated, is my position. Nature designed me as a meat-eating predator, and I accept nature on its own terms, acknowledging death, including my own (and yours, madam) as an essential aspect of life, not to be euphemized or Disneyfied or otherwise denied. When I kill a wild duck or pheasant cleanly and instantly, in the fullness of its wild beauty and strong flight, I save the life of a domestic duck or chicken, which would be killed in abject, squawking terror. When I kill a sharp-tailed grouse or bobwhite quail I become part of the process of life, accepting and fulfilling my role as predator and rejecting the destructive Old Testament concept of man as something separate from nature.

That the pheasant was introduced by hunters to be hunted, and that America’s wildfowl would probably have vanished years ago if not for the efforts of hunters to save their habitat, is perhaps beside the point. But my friend the late Ralf Coykendall, with whom I sat in marsh blinds and trudged New England woodcock thickets, once observed that if the bald eagle were only good to eat and came readily to decoys it would no longer be in danger of extinction; he was less than half-serious, of course, but it was hunters who demanded and got the compulsory duck stamp to provide money for waterfowl refuges and who raised millions of dollars through Ducks Unlimited to restore duck-breeding marshes.

And so I ask not that you join me in hunting—I’d much prefer you didn’t—but that you understand, in part at least, why I hunt. ■

The foundation of Lignumvitae Key is a fossilized coral reef, known as Key Largo limestone, and a solution hole near the shore has collected buttonwood leaves and the shell of a violet snail.

Lignumvitae —the last Key

impressions by PETER MATTHIESSEN

a portfolio by PATRICIA CAULFIELD

IN THE LEE OF THE NORTHERN KEYS. Flat clear bright day, east wind 15 to 25 knots, with small craft warnings.

At eight a.m., with Alexander Sprunt IV in the National Audubon Society skiff, ride out of Plantation Key lagoon (DREAM HOMES! VENETIAN SHORES! THE SUNKEN TREASURE!). Off to the north, the Cowpens, mangrove islets set on brown banks of turtle grass where, say the Conchs, the manatees or sea cows were once penned: the manatees are mostly gone now from the Keys, killed out or driven off by guns and boat propellers.

To the south is Cotton Key, a green tuft in a hard light on the bare sky; cormorants tumble from the gaunt black channel markers and beat away across the shallow green milky chop of Florida Bay. Crossing Steamboat Channel, the boat leaves Shell Key to the east; under the sun is Islamorada, on Upper Matecumbe Key, Indian and Teatable Keys, the settlements of the early days, and from Teatable, the bascule bridge is a black arc on the sky, striking the horizon once again at the north point of Lower Matecumbe. A mile or more northwest of the bridge, off the long rim of the Keys, lies Lignumvitae.

Cotton Key and Shell Key, like the Cowpens and the other keys west of the highway, are mangrove forests on the shallows of Florida Bay, overflowed by every tide, awash in hurricane. Only Lignumvitae is a true island, with 280 acres of high ground behind the mangroves. On its northeast shore, a concrete pier and a small dock have been constructed, and the wall of mangrove is broken by a lawn that slopes up to a limestone house. In the foreground are ancient cannon from the wreck HMS *Winchester*, lost near Carysfort Reef, off Key Largo, in 1695. In the background rise enormous gumbo limbo trees and a mastic and a giant strangler fig, or "banyan," with twined trunks and buttresses. Everywhere walk peacocks: a hard sun of the subtropics glints on the iridescent necks of birds and tints the rust flakes on the dead cannon.

The house faces east, turned from the sea. Its caretakers, here for eighteen years,
(Story continues on page 29)

1972

2/11 Edith jr. Jim Jane, Inarmy and I to I.S.M.
power station air hole - south of the plant exhaust.
The open water (warm) extends south about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles.

In the "air hole" was a flock of about 300 ducks. About
half or more were American golden eyes - the balance
were canvas back and American mergansers. We
had a fine view with very spotting scope.

Also we saw a doe run on the ice down the far
shore of the river. Soon - 5 minutes later 2 dogs "curs"
followed the deer by scent - not sight. We could
follow the deer by sight for near a mile on the open ice.
After a bit of time we heard dogs baying and sure
enough there the dogs had run the deer into an open
water lead and they bayed from the ice edge only
a few yards from the deer swimming in the open lead.
Then it seemed the deer tired and in the open lead
approached the Illinois shore to a point where she -
a doe - could stand in the water but the dogs
could not stand and therefore did not enter the water.
This is where the shore stood as we had to leave.
? Could the deer hold off the dogs until they tired
and decided to leave her? I doubt it.

10/28 Duck opening in Illinois. with Harry Murray. Leave at
7:00 A.M. daylight time. Harry got Jack of spades, & we had about
#6 or #7 draw and took Francis. Foggy day break. Much shooting
especially Schlaffer Run & others. Spent hour standing on front rail
to look things over. We missed our first chances cleanly.
Then Harry got a drake mallard I'd missed. Then we got 3 muddy
ducks.

I took a walk in afternoon to Half Moon & R.L. knee.
Got 2 G.H. mallards and very tired. In meantime Harry had
a hen mallard. Lost a G.H. mallard. Continued to Iowa play

1972 - Fish - Crystal Lake

5/15 1 hour 12 Bluegills full of eggs + milt. Water dirty
May - June - about 4 Crystal Blue gill spawning with
an average of 15 bluegills + a few crappie

7/12 1 1/2 hr. 20 blue gill - 1 crappie - threw back 4 b.g. and
1 - dog fish of 1 1/2 lbs.

On about 6/25 caught a 6 lb carp + 3 # bader.

By this date very few eggs in females

Still spawning in males but they have lost most of their
bright colors in the yellow - red - blue range.

7/17 caught 5 B.G. - very few evening - not feeding - 1 hr

Still some eggs + milt in most fish

8/24 - 14 blue gill + crappie on B.G. fly - big fish,

9/9 - 13 " " lots of mosquitoes

9/11 - 15 " " " "

9/14 - 25 " " also many crappie thrown back - biting really hot!

9/15 - 22 " " very large

9/21 - 20 " " " " - south RR. bank behind dock.

10/1 - 13 " "

10/6 - 6 " " 7 crappie / have 14 "

Michigan & take to 6 to 6 ties! Surprised!

Last thing we get 2 more B H mallards at 4:30 something time - so 6 mallards & 3 ruddies for the day.

Harvey loaned me dry socks. Spud enjoyed the day.

10/29. With Harry to draw at Crystal. We drew badly - got Philip where we set out. Harry left his gun in the car. We looked until 8:20 - not a shot. Spud swam across the lake twice to investigate the coots that hid in the cattails. Woodies were dropping into Ewingers Hole but I decided not to walk there. No mallards using the flooded timber.

11/3 I went over alone at noon - Philip - timber to R.L. a few wild jumps no shots. Then to Eaton - no ducks. Set out in Run - no ducks. Jack Lake no ducks.

11/5 Alone - Spud - Holtham, Covey in brush - no shots - too thick. Tried south of highway but car already there, took the car. Then to Blint where I was greeted by the beer brother. Tried his part covey but saw only 2 scattered which I missed - good point. Then walked west edge of timber & found a nice covey. Good point - got 1 out of two on rice. Then missed several brush shots. Found no other covey. Woods are lovely. Lots of rough land and brush covers.

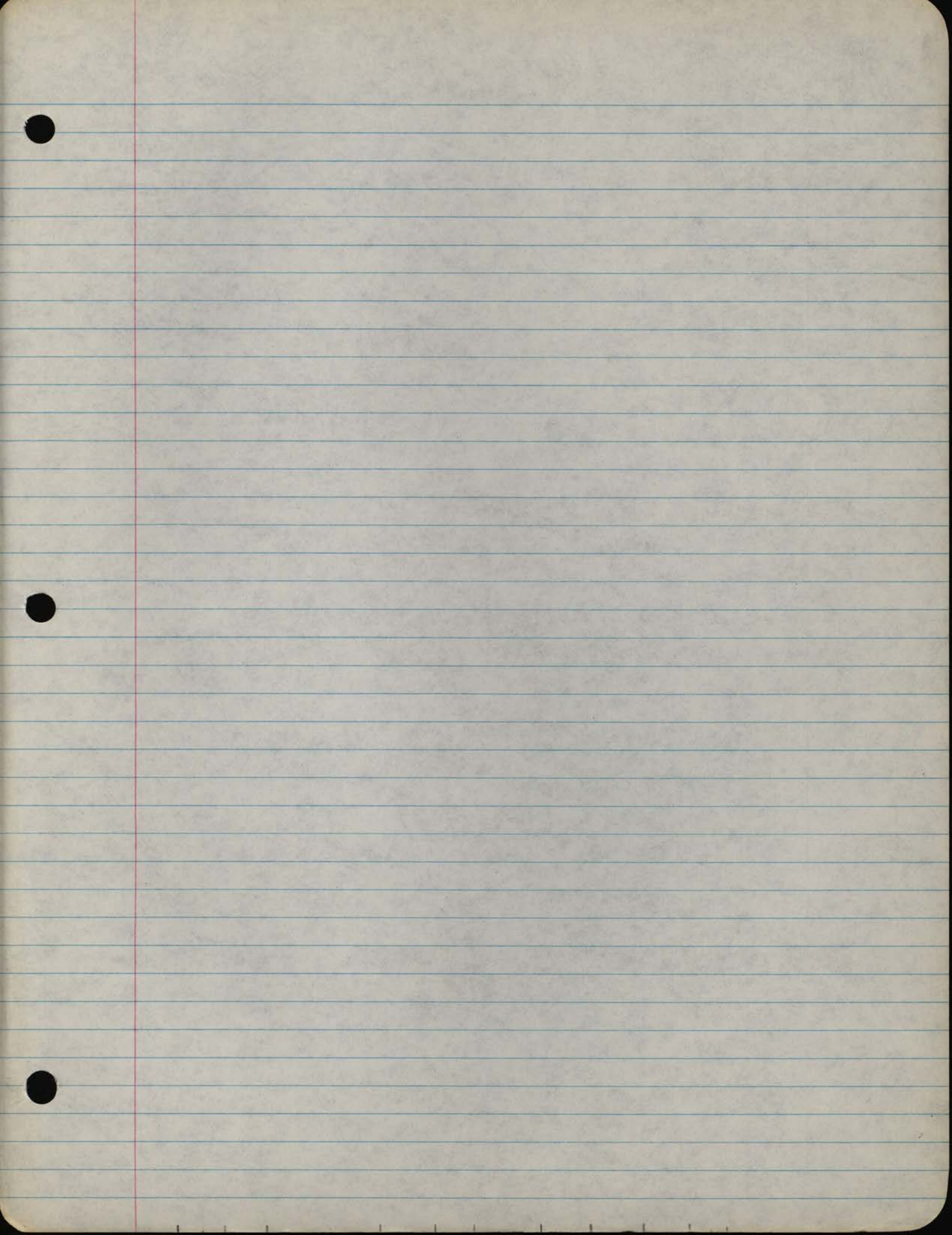
Then drove to several points in Pickle area. Tried one spot in a small cornfield no birds.

Appears there are many rabbits even in heavy cover.

11/7 To Crystal at 9:30. Spud. Only 5 cars parked. And passed the Point - Rehner was coming in having lunch. Run open so I set out there. Two flocks worked me - one lit front front & I missed as they flushed.

Then Inan Wardstrom joined me at 11:00. We passed up some chances & missed all but 1 Inan got. Illegal. I left at noon after lunch to walk prairie. No birds until I got to Ewingers where a flock of woodies & mallards jumped.

No	Plate	Plant	Sex	Age	Int	shell	crupper	horns	earrings	
1	"5	Holothuriform Blunt	M	Y	180	6	0	4	2	heavy cover
2	"8	Mudstone	H	O	202					FL.
3		"	M	Y	173	11	1	3 1/2	3	
4			M	O	198					
5			M	O	169					
6			H	O	205					
7			M	Y	192					J.B.
8			H	Y	186					Lunar B.
9			H	Y	187					
10			C	20	177					
11			H	Y	182					
12			H	Y	171					
13	"20	Edmunds	C	O	207	9	1	5	3	FL
14			C	Y	179					
15			H	Y	186					
16			C	Y	184	8				Lunar
17			H	O	187					
18			C	Y	173					
19	"21	Aquaria	C	O	194	4:0		5 1/2	1	Lunar



11/7 Can't b. I sat down on west bank & in 15 minutes a pair of qu. hdy. came in & I made a good double. I had a swim but retrieved one. I had to go around to east side where I had retrieved the 1st. Soon a single hen came in - no shot. Then a qu. hd. I got it. Waited another 30 minutes & decided at 2:30 to return to blind. Good flooded timber but not a duck. Lots of shooting at lake blinds. But when I got back man had only 1 hen & mallard & the shooting had been at Point and Mercers. We sat it out until 4:15 when man killed a hen with gun.

11/11 Saturday Pheasant Opening with Jim B. and Jim Wiseman. Jim B. came for breakfast at 5:45 AM. Went to Larsen's arrived at 7:50 on time.

Jim W and Jim B. doubled on a cock almost at once. Much ammunition used. Jim W made a nice shot at long range. We then walked south a mile or so, and got separated.

I missed a shot - long shot. Walked back toward Larsen's. I had 2 or 3 good chances at farm south of Larsen's. I missed. Can't focus - in - on - them I guess.

Went north to second road & made a good draw. Three wild cocks flushed. No shot. Decided we were thru and headed for home. Probably saw myself - more as two cocks and six or seven hens in 6 hours hunting.

11/12 Luna & Jim F. L. - first to Edmunds. Found deer hunting on so we had to back track to Loma to Jim's new place north of Middle. Right into a cover near car. They went to thick timber where we had some fancy shots. I got 2 straight that were real stem winders of snipe shots. Then another large covey which got scattered in all directions. We had some fine dog work by Spud and also 1 exceptional retrieve of a dead bird of Jim that we had not seen till.

Ended with a fine covey rise where I missed 2 and killed one which was lost because Spud dropped it and it ran away & not to be found. Lunch at 3:00 and home.

The Lennors Edith and Betty are gone to Smith's for a party. 11/20 To Edmunds at about 10:00. Many changes. No birds until 1:00 and then only 3 small coveys. We waited till 3:30 with no luck. Spud made fine recovery on a running cripple at 90 yards. Good weather. chilly.
over

11/21 Luna - F.L. north of Oahu, 10:30 to 4:30

First hunt was at lane off main Kethulua highway,
walked 3 hours before finding first covey of 16+ birds and then
we both double missed! the rise.

Luna knuckled down a single - not dead. Spud put on a
special show by trailing the runner over 200 yds and retrieving
him to near end! Gone at least 10-15 minutes on the job!
Even beats yesterday's recovery.

Hunted on and late found 2 scatter so bag of 1 quail
for 5-6 hours hunting.

Last year 12 old birds out 69

This " 8 " " " 19 to date.

1973

Fish at Crystal

7/5 - At 6:40 PM, brought home

16 extra big bluegills, some females have finished spawning some have lots of eggs.

7/22 - 16 bluegills very large - just a few had a bit of milt or eggs left in them.

9/1 7 extra large B.G., no small ones - fish 1/2 time

9/5 9 " " " a few small ones - hour + 1/4

9/9 21 " " " in 70 minutes - north breeze.

The hottest fishing this year - basket full - few small ones.

9/12 17 good B.G. - 6:15 home at 8:05 all fish cleaned.

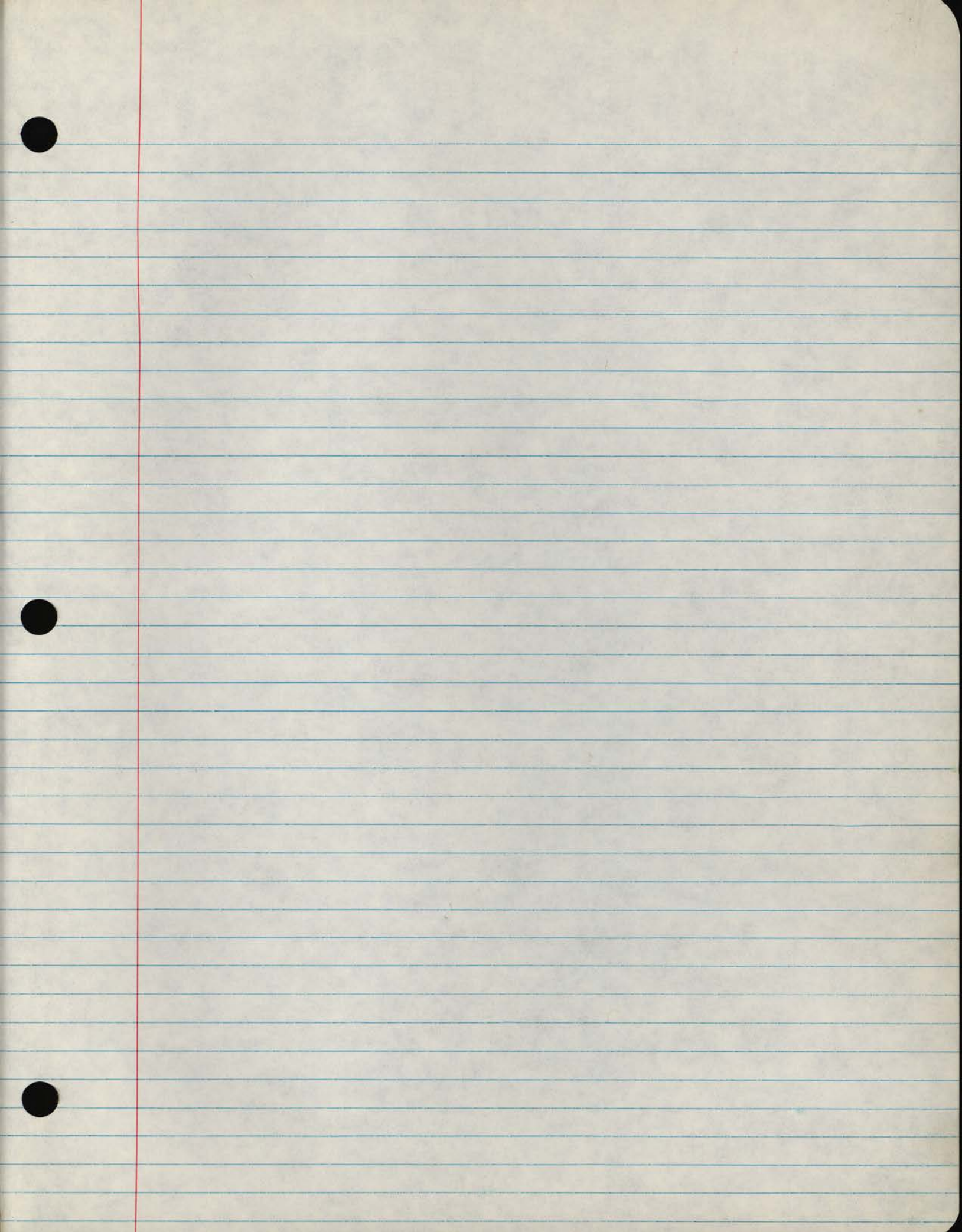
10/9 Late picnic - caught 7 big bluegills

10/15 9 big bluegills & 1 croppied

10/16 7 " " " - from R.R. embankment

10/24 12 the biggest bluegills of the year - 13 B embankment

1973



10/20/13 Harry, Dr. drew king of hearts which meant
4th draw. We took Young's Lake. It was a beautiful
sunrise show in the sky and especially the thousands
of black birds leaving their roosting grounds. The ducks
didn't like our blind. Mallards and baldpates
wanted them with shore beyond the old Ash Tree ditch.
Harry killed a lucky long shot at a bald pate.
Speed & I retrieved it.

We took our boat up the ditch toward Ash Tree,
No ducks until far end of Ash Tree where I missed a
hen and killed a greenhead.

Harry stayed in A.T. I walked and soon killed
a young green head. Then missed a g.h. and that
flushed several others I might have had a good shot
at. I walked all the way to Philips-Catons ditch.

Passed up three shots at geese. Joined Harry.
We went back to Young's. Thence north to entrance
ditch from pump etc. We hid a while in cattails
when I killed a lesser scaup and a spoonbill.
Tried a long mallard shot & lost scruple. Harry
tried a long fat shot at scaup - lost a rufflet and
I had had.

My score for the day 2 mallard drakes 1 spoonbill
1 lesser scaup -

10/31 Harry, Dr. & I arrived in the tail end of an all night
drizzle - 15 minutes early for the draw. Harry got mark #2 & I
got #1 - !!! We waited in the boat house until the rain
let up about 6:40 and then headed for the Run and set out.
Speed enjoyed the shelter under the roof.

Soon there were great flocks of lesser scaup. Some of several
hundred birds in 2 or 3 echelons of birds. The most I
have seen for several years at least. Very few came low enough
to show any interest in the big lake. Their show kept on at
intervals until nearly noon - with 1/2 hour more or less -
intervals between flights.

A single male came by Harry's shot - he hit but the
duck kept on toward Brandt's. Then died in the air or fell.

I happened to see him fall and later retrieved him & c.
And did it.

Next my catch dropped a mallard - both crippled and
both got into lotus before we got there - both hit. There
is no shore line above water level so where did they
hide.

Then I took my boat - to Back Branch to inspect new
completed ditch and ammonium nitrate blow out.
The nitrate blow is full of cattail root lumps 3' diameter.
Got a duck - then to Cataraugus - not a duck - then 1/2 hour
circle walk north toward Oak Tree - one warbler!

Back to Blind - Harry had shot at a flock of 30 mallards
knocked 2 down - both hit. I found one of them.

We sat on till nearly 3:00 - no more ducks - nice sunshine
Harry invited I take take two green heads home.

11/4 Jim Spud & I to Farmington starting at 8:30
from Jim's house. Temp. about 36° and forecast of snow
by P.M.

We asked permission at the old house near the long
fallow area. Marched south and found scatter of 2
crows. Got a bird of prey. Reminders cover - hard hunting.
The new owner challenged us but we made friends &
were asked to return - provided we asked for permission.
He is going to try to rebuild the land. Payer 200⁰⁰ per acre?
Too much for its value! I got a good bird an ant hill.

At a ranch at river road south of Barryport. Then found
good looking area on road behind the village. Saw a
covey which I fired from the & jumped wildly in hit.
Then a covey of jacksnipe where we each got a small bird.
Spud picked up another bird that we had hit earlier.

Beautiful day out. Overcast - snow sprinkles. Chilly.
Thick breeze and all. Shot quite poorly. Enjoyed Jim's
company & the mine I think.

At Jim's home stopped to inspect his painting of a
pair of evening gros beaks for Mr. Saar. Lovely home
near West End and D river.

11/7

Spud & I left at 9:30 for Buonaparte site. Stopped at Mrs. Harmon's house for permission. Had another visit with her as I ate lunch in her driveway. She is 82 years old and agrees we must keep a high level of activity or decline rapidly.

Explored the area along Highway between Buonaparte and Harmony School. Tried a good looking hillside where I got permission - no birds.

Then tried a fence corner on south side of road and flushed a huge huge covey. Finally got my second bird. Also made several bad misses. My reactions are not as accurate as they were. Also I must learn to pay closer attention to Spud when he shows "bird" signs.

11/10

Lava pheasant opening. Met Jim Band Jim Wiseman & Jane at Larson. We worked Larson area in the AM. Jim W. got a cock & I missed one - long. Then on north 2 miles ~~and~~ east a mile. The area had been hunted at least once. Jim B. got a lovely cock in the recent beans. I missed a good chance. By this time of day on opening day the best chances are the small weed corner & cover spots. Not the big cover area.

Worked until 4:00. Jim went off by himself & collected 2 more cocks - heathens.

Jane and I started home soon after 4:00 - 2 hours.

11/11

Took Spud to Edmund's at about 9:00 AM. prepared for an all day hunt. Mrs E - greeted me - all O.K. Left the car at the usual spot and walked to creek side. Corn not gathered. Beans along most of west creek bank.

Then forded at usual ford. Beans east of creek. Corn on north end - not gathered. No signs of birds anywhere. Continued all across north edge - then east edge & back to the ford. Not a bird! So I crossed to the ar. Gathered some waste beans & weed seed for home use. Part the traffic from Carmen. He got 4 racoon last night. Home to watch football - not a quail seen ???

11/16 Harry M. Spud & I drove last place at Rye 6:30.
Went to Dr. and to Dr. we approached the blind Harry in
loading boat stopped me as he loaded his gun. "I saw this
mallard just dropped in beyond the blinds", I loaded two.

Passed the blinds - a big goose flushed ahead to the
right - too far. I veered to the left - up jump for goose #2
and my side and he had to rise against the wind &
toward me. I hit him with harel and he sailed down,
to the brush & water. Spud did not see him drop.

I waded toward him and waded out to look. Spud
found him almost at once - not dead. He had crawled 50
yards into the woods. Weight 10 lbs. Length 39".

I walked the prairie - got mudchuck - saw 5 jackrabbits
in wooded area. No bull.

Came home at 8:30 tired - long nap!

1973

	Date	Place	$\frac{1}{2}$	at	T.	shells	crayfish	snails	other
	1	11/4 Bonaparte	C	0	185	10	0	6	4
	2	"	H	4	175				
Peper	3	"	H	4	132				
"	4	"	C	4	129				
	5	11/7	C	0	203				
Lawson	6	"	C	0	190	13	0	5	1 (Zonitidae)

1974

	1	11/2 Blind	C	4	176	Yuma hillier			
	2	11/22 Bonaparte	C	0	194				
	3		C	4	180				
	4		C	4	184				
	5		C	4	211				
	6		C	4	172				
	7		H	4	186				
	8		C	4	212				
	9	Shunk B	C	0	200				
	10	11/23 Bonaparte	C	4	208				
	11		H	4	177				
	12		H	4	140				
	13		C	0	160				
	14		C	4	197				

Jim & Jim - Yuma

1944

Ruck hunt about Nov 1st - Went overshoot
9:30, set out in Youngs blind. No shots - some mallards
were looking at Golden so I moved over there. Later worked
ditch to Bush Branch and killed a brown mallard at
Ewingers Hole. Missed several shots - poor right eye.

11/21 Luna arrived last night but no baggage, next
plane 10:28 this AM.

Jim Spring came in about 8:30 with Jane
and he will join me within a week.

We left about 11:30 - picked up beer for Blindt.
The older brother turned me down, we went on to
former - and got OK. First hunt N.E. of his
house - no birds. Then went to old area at north
end of Blindt woods. Immediately got up a wild rice
covey - heavy tree tops branch in valleys. Luna had a
few shots & got 1 bird

young each 116 gr.

I had no shots. On the main woods - no birds there.
Jim returned to get car, Luna & I got up a small
group of about 4 (sees) along open area edge. 1 no
shots. At 3:35.

Auto south of road - old place all grazed out.
At car as we returned dogs got up birds no shots

11/22 Luna & I to Farmington and north. First stop nobody home.
Second stop - our old standby overlooking D.M. River, looked good.
Wasted an hour - no birds. One taxi on north to Bonaparte then
east to Mrs. Lawson who welcomed us. Picked up specimens for
eat & seed.

Found covey at far north hedge line. Mrs. Ingle questioned
me. Her husband supervisor at Methuen plant. She gave an
OK. Luna got a double on second pass. I had no shot. We
worked back and forth, Reubled on one bird. Lost a cripple
runner into brush. Finally got 5 in the bag.

Moved east to a new covey I discovered last year.
Saw a covey quail head at road shoulder. Stopped &
went back. I got 1st double on second barrel. 1st & last
another I killed.

1975 - Fishing

7/20 First Crystal fishing evening. Went over after an early evening storm. A bit slow at first & at 6:30 but later between 8:00-8:30 caught the biggest B.C. ever - 15 total. Along the picnic shore

6/4 7:20-8:30 caught 8 good B.C. - 2 females full of eggs - 1 male larger.

10/22/75 Opening Day. Joined Frank Schramm. Try #11 make get me a fair draw but I probably took my mind when I could have had them. Opened at 12:00 N. Some ducks flying but no interest in ducks. I tried a hi chance at a pair & missed.

At 2:00 I picked up & went to upper ditch to walk to Ash Tree. Got up several birds en route to Ash Tree, no shot. Found a small flock of mallards in A.T. Got a green head on the jump & missed on second. Got a g. W. teal. I was retrieving my mallards.

Waited till 4:00. No return shot but I found a chance that I saw too late.

Home at 5:30. Called Frank - he did not score a kill.

Saw quite a good flight of mallards for a south wind blue bird day. A very few teal. Some ~~Red~~ bald pate and no deep water in our area.

25 shells 2 ducks.

1976

See our trip journal for account of Jim Springs
and my trip to Manitoba for ruffed grouse. After two
meetings - one at at Camp Euvald for my talk to the teachers
of Ia. Ill. Minn and Wis on Sand County & my woodchuck.
Also a meet at Shack of the Corn. on management of
Aldo's Shack area.

10/20 - A preliminary exploration of Crystal looking for
our season opening. 10/23, Over at 2:00 and got my boat
ready. Spud too. First to Tongue. Walked from pull over
to Kellb Tongue where I found a fine bunch of blue winged
Teal on to Goldies where a man was building blind.
Also found about 40 ducks in Goldies. Man said he had
flushed many ducks on his arrival.

On to Philips - woodchuck. The ditches are choked with
sedge, nut grass and smart weed. On to a walk to
Ash Tree - no ducks in the timber - nor in Ash Tree.

Back to pull over. Found 40 + mallards in Best Lake
pond south of Spireal Camp. Good prospect for Saturday

On to Buck Branch - poacher's car - at south end -
drive away. I went on to B. B. where I found lots of
ducks. Watched for 1/2 hour - with ducks close to me and
never coming in and going out. The sun was low behind me
and the beautiful birds were sharply brilliant against the eastern sky.

Later at the boat house Jerry Salar said to me "Did you see a
poacher over there - it was I." So that explains the car which drove
away. Jerry was prospecting for the coming deer season.

Spent a week with my car. Spud killed a muskrat at the boat house
and got a fleshy mouse. Tonight he has a very large foot, front foot.

There were several hundreds of ducks in B. B. - mostly mallards
of which at least 75% were of full plumage and green heads. Many
wedgins or baldpates - 3 black ducks - a few woodchuck and a small number of
blue wings and green winged teal. One duck pintail. All - they were so
clear and silhouetted against the eastern sky line - and brightly colored
by the 4:30 low sun.

10/23

Over for the Opening Day draw - 25 hunters on hand
Parked boat at pull over and walked to Buck Branch in the darkness.

No wind at all. Rain threatens

At legal shooting time it was still very dark. Couldn't identify drakes from here so did not shoot early. I made a buckbush stand for starters but birds were dropping in on east side so I moved. Finally tried a shot - missed both. Then dropped a green headway across the smart weed. How long - surely over 50 yards. I found him dead as he had dropped.

About 9:30 I moved to south & north where I found a dbb jump. The 1st dozen were all here. Then a dbb miss and a good jump - my poor eye couldn't see a thing. Then two returned and I made a clean hit. A hen. Walked to the old levee to the R.L. island but up & down and didn't shoot. It had been raining for 2 hours - and two better full. Spud was miserable too. Stopped at 8 more possible jump spots - no ducks. So I headed home. A hard and wet miserable day but a fine experience - recalling 60 years of former hunting days. I'm proud of my two mallards.

10/24 Sunday. Breakfast at home. Went over about 9:15 with Spud. On the edge of mist and rain. Left the boat at the pull over and walked to the smart weed hole east of R.L. Found a fine jump of mallards and I missed clean two barrels. Too bad - oh my right eye!

Waited 15 mins no return ducks. Walked in to north B.B. As I got close a boat came down the ditch - shooting plenty. Tried a passing shot - crippled - no find. Oh I did kill a hen at 1st place & late rise.

Walked down west bank B.B. and jumped and killed a hen mallard. Then missed 2 shots at good drake mallard.

Stopped again at smart weed hole - only 2 woodies there.

Came home for a 3:00 lunch with Edith.

11/5 Over at about 11:00 P.M. Left boat at pull over & walked to south & north and flushed out of range about 7 mallards. I walked north along the slough - jumped several hens - no shot. Then killed a hen that jumped. I walked Half Moon - no ducks. Spud was across after a coat. Back to original smart weed slough - no ducks. On to B.B. - no ducks there. Waited a while & saw one alight south of me. Jumped and killed a widow hen. Had to walk

across & back to retrieve my bird.

Hunter? came down by boat. Saw him drop a G. H. which he lost.

I walked the south meadow - no ducks.

Back to South Branch - good jump. Killed a drake mallard. Spud found him. Waited for return and at 3:55 decided to quit at 4:00. At 4:00 about 6 mallards dropped in. Spud ran out & saw them alight and was about to jump them. So I stepped out & on the jump - killed a fine green head. My limit for the day.

What a treacherous walk back to the pull over. Then the motor kept dying on me. The combination of shallow water and a cold motor killed the motor 5 times. Finally got the dam motor started down the lake. John Collins helped me pull up my boat. Ed Band and John Collins got skunked while I got my limit of four ducks.

Cleaned my 4 ducks on 10/24 and 11/8 - four more cleaned. Not a gram of corn so far in any duck. About 1/2 were M.T. and about 1/2 had considerable smart weed seed in gizzards. One or two had only fine sand in gizzards - no grave at all.

1974

1977

"11/1 Went overnight 11:00 - young Spurdie. She fell out of the boat twice before the pull-over. "Look really" took her". Boat to and beyond Eaton's ditch. Walked on to Kellow where I flushed about a scant 100. walked in wooded brush deep water. No jump shot - too far.

Waited - and passed up 2 chances for a hen. Many mallards dropping in far to S.E. in timber where years ago Edith & I had them coming down three tree tops to alight all around us.

After an hour or 1 1/2. I decided to try getting a jump shot. Walked N.W. in Kellow - clapped hands & had some distant rises - too far then further - clapped - and a drake jumped in range and I killed him. In heavy timber etc. Walked around to reach him & found an offspring. Here he was! Spud over powered by him. Green head.

That was all for this day. Set pit - over boat traps

"11/8 Spud & I over at 11:00 - to Eaton's ditch. Only 1 woodie in Eaton. A mallard jumped in that boat - I missed. Rowed to Oak Tree - back to ditch and then to boat. No more shots.

Walked from pull-over to Rest Lake down field. Dr. Chiche in boat again - mallard hole.

Lots of shooting in the blinds. I had no more chances

"11/12 Spud & I to Edmunds. She greeted me kindly. Looked over her things and linen etc for 1/2 hour. Then to my usual parking place. Discovered I had 20 gauge shells so back home for shells.

Get back to park about 12:00 and started. In quail all the way to far S.E. corner. Back to car - and 50 yds from car a dove flushed - I missed.

He such trouble to try wading.

On to Bob & hiter - they were away. At abandoned house - where I leave my car a hood boy said OK.

Left to former hedge corner where cover flushed! Killed one & then missed one. Spud found my dead bird. Her first quail. Worth on the hedge a 1/4 mile - no singles no cover. So I returned on west side of hedge. Spud made

a fine point - 3 or 4 flushed - killed my 1st. and then
got a bird in the hedge - I hunched down Spud caught a
running, scruffy old retrieved - got away - she found and
caught it again - so did I! Then Spud picked up my
second dead bird. We were tired 3 1/2 hours hunting.

11/15 Jim, Spud and I at 9:30 to Hommarh and S. W. First stop at
Holtcamp. Nobody home. Went to his creek east of home. Found the
old stone home gone. Bathed an hour in the creek bottom. Corv and beam
not a sign of a quail. Much destruction of timber and flood damage to
the area by high water - due probably to denuding of hill sides.
On to Lee Pickles. He was there but Laura is in a West Point
nursing home. Visited over a half hour with Lee. He was
wonderful to see us as we to see him! He invited us to hunt his
farm, we did.

Crowded him area carefully. Found beautiful quail ground
west of his farm. Flushed a woodcock and Jim a cock
pheasant - a too far shot. Later flushed a hen pheasant. But not
a single quail. Lee saw quail during the summer. I.e.x.e.
Jim found where a predator had killed a quail. We are completely
at a loss as to why no quail.

Brought a couple of small quail parts.

No	date	Place	Sex	Age	wt	shells	puffer	hairs	cones	
1	11/12	Edmunds	H	9	130					
2		Bob's hole	C	7	121					
3		" "	C	9	125	8	0	3 1/2	2	
4	11/17	Ill. sand	H	7	170	5	0	2 1/2	3	only hunter / survey
5		S. of buffer	C	7	180					

9/27/68

Quail hunting west of Indianapolis

Ruight Strachan 1-394-3956
home phone.

Also at Copper Service 754-6683
working hours or message
starts work day at 8:00 A.M.