



News

Arkansas Outdoors for Aug. 20, 2008

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Today's Topics

[George Purvis spoke for the Arkansas outdoors](#)
[Marion McCollum chosen for Outdoor Hall of Fame](#)
[Short course on bears planned Oct. 11 at UCA](#)
[Trapping workshop scheduled for Oct. 24-26](#)
[Free trapper permit required this year](#)
[Boating education class schedule](#)
[Hunter education class schedule](#)
[What's open for hunting](#)
[Coming up in the outdoors](#)

George Purvis spoke for the Arkansas outdoors

LITTLE ROCK – For decades, George Purvis was an icon, probably rivaling Frank Broyles as the best known non-elected person in the state.

Purvis, long-time chief of information and education for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, died at the age of 83 on Aug. 15. Death came suddenly. He had just returned from a trip to Newfoundland with his fiancée, Judith Gray.

Purvis brought hunting and fishing into Arkansas homes through radio and television programs, through his writings and drawings in newspapers and through the AGFC magazine, today's award-winning Arkansas Wildlife, that he launched in 1967.

He understood the passion for the outdoors that is virtually universal in Arkansas. He grew up with it.

Purvis was born at Des Arc, a bustling White River town that was a center of the mussel shell industry in his boyhood years of the late 1920s and early 1930s. He moved with his family to Little Rock when he was 10 and graduated from Little Rock High School, now Little Rock Central a few months after World War II had started.

A high school classmate of Purvis was the late Orville Henry, the long-time sports writer who realized and understood another longing of Arkansans, that for a strong and winning football program that the state could be proud of. Henry and Purvis got together some years later for Purvis to write a weekly outdoor feature for the Arkansas Gazette, where Henry was sports editor.



Purvis went from high school to the navy and to officers training at Notre Dame University. He was on duty as an ensign in the South Pacific. After the War, he attended Arkansas A&M, today's University of Arkansas at Monticello, Louisiana Tech then received bachelor and master degrees in forestry and wildlife management at Louisiana State University.

The forestry study helped Purvis land a job with the Arkansas Forestry Commission in Little Rock, and not long afterward, in 1951, he moved to the Game and Fish Commission as assistant chief of information and education under Tom Mull. T.A. McAmis was director of the agency, and Purvis went on to work under the first five AGFC directors.



In 1956 Purvis planned and brought off a television first, a duck hunt in east Arkansas on live TV – Dave Garroway's morning program. Purvis had a weekly radio program on Little Rock station KARN, and a 15-minute program on KARK-TV, channel 4, became an Arkansas staple. At 6:15 on Saturday evenings, except during football season, Purvis and sidekick Dick Gregory talked and showed hunting and fishing topics in Arkansas. Many Saturday night suppers had to be in living rooms or dens so people could watch the show.

He also had a 30-minute program on the Arkansas Educational Television Network, "Game and Fish Highlights," an arrangement through AETN pioneer Lee Reaves.

Along with the start of a magazine for the AGFC, Purvis was instrumental in a number of new ventures in the Arkansas outdoors that are now fixtures. Hunter education and boater education were started. The mandatory use of fluorescent orange garments for big game hunters came about in the 1970s. Informing and encouraging young people to enjoy the outdoors was a constant direction for Purvis.

Purvis was assigned the task of spearheading a constitutional amendment drive for a conservation sales tax in 1984. That effort didn't pass, but the foundation was laid for the successful campaign in 1996 that created today's solid revenue base for the AGFC. After the 1984 campaign, Purvis

became the first director of the Arkansas Game and Fish Foundation, created as a fund-raising auxiliary of the AGFC.

He was inducted into the Arkansas Outdoor Hall of Fame in 1994.

Purvis was proud of his understanding of Arkansans' interest in the outdoors, especially hunting and fishing. His knowledge of these topics made him a source for the media and for researchers in the years after his retirement in 1986.

Purvis is survived by son Bob Purvis of Pine Bluff, daughters Neva Robertson of Klavok, Alaska, and Sara Brown of Little Rock and six grandchildren.

Marion McCollum chosen for Outdoor Hall of Fame

STUTT GART – If your name is McCollum and you live in Stuttgart, it's expected that you will be involved in duck hunting.

Marion McCollum is a member of a multi-generation Grand Prairie family heavily involved in duck hunting and the area's wetlands habitat. He developed Mack's Sport Shop into a leading national mail order sales corporation, Mack's Prairie Wings, and its Stuttgart facility draws visitors from many states and some foreign countries.

McCollum joins Gene Denton of Clarksville and the late Carl Hunter of



Alexander as 2008 inductees into the Arkansas Outdoor Hall of Fame. The annual Outdoor Hall of Fame banquet and fund raising will be Friday, Sept. 5, at Statehouse Convention Center in Little Rock.

Along with his development of Mack's Prairie Wings, McCollum was an active and effective commissioner with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission from 1995 to 2002.

His seven years as an AGFC commissioner were at a pivotal time for the state wildlife and conservation agency. McCollum came on board at a time when the campaign for a conservation sales tax was gearing up. This was passed by voters in November 1996 and went into effect July 1, 1997.

McCollum was closely involved with the other commissioners in using the new money for the purposes Arkansans wanted – more enforcement, more public hunting and fishing areas and more conservation education.

The first major project was the acquisition of what is now Rick Evans Grandview Prairie Wildlife Management Area and Conservation Center, west of Hope. More wildlife officers were trained and added to the staff that included at least two officers in every country of the state. Four nature centers were planned and constructed and have been highly successful in their educational roles.

Through his years as a merchant and as a commissioner, McCollum has followed a keen interest in hunting and fishing. He especially has a fondness for the hunting of white-fronted geese, often called specklebellies.

In his business activities, McCollum has followed a common thread of many other entrepreneurs. He seeks out and hires competent people, gives them the necessary assignments and expects their efforts to result in favorable bottom lines for the business.

A popular Game and Fish lake at Brinkley now bears the name of Marion McCollum Greenlee Lake.

For more information and tickets to the Outdoor Hall of Fame banquet, phone Steve Smith or Wendy Glover at 501-223-6396.

Short course on bears planned Oct. 11 at UCA

CONWAY – Do you want to learn more about Arkansas's bears?

A one-day course on Bears and Bear Hunting is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 11, at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway.

Biologists with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission will lead discussions on bear biology and management along with the history of bears and hunting strategies.

The class will run from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Brewer-Hegeman Conference Center, and it is free. Space is limited, so advance registration is needed. This can be done by phone at (501) 450-5274 or online at www.uca.edu/AOEP/ and click on Community Education.



Trapping workshop scheduled for Oct. 24-26

MOUNT IDA – Want to learn more about trapping? A workshop is being held Oct. 24-26 to give interested people tips and techniques for trapping



in Arkansas.

The workshop is sponsored by the Arkansas Trappers Association, Southwest Arkansas Fur Takers, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, and North American Fur Auctions. Both advanced and beginner classes will be available.

The workshop will be held at Camp Clearfork near Mount Ida on Highway 270. Lodging and meals are provided. Camping facilities and motels are located nearby as well. Groups are welcome. The cost for those 17 years of age and under is \$10. For those 18 and over the price is \$20. Reservations must be received by Sept. 30.

For more information call Wallace Funderburk at (870) 867-2642. For more information on the Arkansas Trappers Association go to: <http://www.arkansastrappers.org/workshop.html>

Free trapper permit required this year

LITTLE ROCK - This year, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission is requiring a free trapper permit for any Arkansas to trap within the state. The permit is r required for any resident over the age of 16 in addition to a hunting license.

The Resident Trapper Permit can't be obtained through the regular licensing system and can only be obtained by filling out an online application and printing the permit yourself on the AGFC web page at <http://www.agfc.com/trapperpermit/> or by calling the AGFC Wildlife Management Division in Little Rock, (800) 364-4263 extension 6359, where the staff will fill enter the person's information in a database and send the person a permit by mail. Some people may have problems printing this permit if their system has a pop-up blocker on it, so that should be disabled first.

The image is a screenshot of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC) website. On the left side, there is a navigation menu with the following items: 'HUNTING', 'FISHING', 'BOATING', 'Wildlife & Conservation', 'Data, Facts & Maps', 'News', 'Rules & Regulations', 'Video', 'Education & Classes', and 'Photo Gallery'. The main content area is titled 'Resident Trapper Permit'. It includes a sub-header 'Resident Trapper Permit' and a paragraph stating: 'Residents over the age of 16 are required to possess a free Resident Trapper Permit forbearers. You may obtain the Trapper Permit by submitting the information request'. Below this, it says 'Fields marked with an * are required'. There are four input fields: 'First Name: *', 'Last Name: *', 'Address: *', and 'City: *'. Each field has a small asterisk icon to its right. The background of the website shows a photo of two people in a natural setting.

Those wishing to trap fox and coyote for sale as live animals must have a Resident or Non-Resident Trapper Permit, a hunting license, and a \$25 Live Fox and Coyote Permit which can be obtained from the Licensing Division in Little Rock (800) 364-4263.

Boating education class schedule

Click here for boating education information: <http://www.agfc.com/education-class/boating-education.aspx>

Hunter education class schedule

Click here for hunter education information: <http://www.agfc.com/education-class/hunter-education.aspx>

What's open for hunting

Current and approaching seasons in Arkansas:

Deer:

Archery – All zones: Oct. 1, 2008 to Feb. 28, 2009.

Modern Gun - Zones 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 11: Nov. 8-30.

Zone 4: Nov. 8-9.

Zone 5: Nov. 8-9 and Nov. 15-16.

Zone 4A, 5A, 13, 14 and 15: Nov. 8-Dec. 7.

Zones 4B and 5B: Nov. 8-16.

Zones 9 and 12: Nov. 8-Dec. 14.

Zone 16, 16A and 17: Nov. 8-Dec. 25.

Muzzleloader- Zones 1, 2, 3, 4A, 5A, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15: Oct. 18-26 and Dec. 13-15.

Zones 9, 12, 16, 16A and 17: Oct. 18-26 and Dec. 29-31.

Zones 4, 4B, 5 and 5B: Closed.

The statewide Christmas holiday modern gun deer hunt will be Dec. 26 to 28 with the special youth modern gun deer hunt in all zones (excludes certain WMAs where a modern gun or muzzleloader permit is required to hunt) scheduled for Nov. 1 to 2.

Dove:

Sept. 6-28

Oct. 4-19

Dec. 13, 2008-Jan. 2, 2009

Teal:

Sept. 13-28

Virginia and Sora Rail:

Sept. 13-Nov. 21

Spotted Skunk, Weasel Hunting:

Closed

Fall Turkey:

Archery: All Zones: Oct. 1, 2008-Feb. 28, 2009.

Firearms: Zones 3, 5B, 6, and 17: Oct. 11-17.

Zones 1, 1A, 2, 4, 4A, 4B, 5, 5A, 7, 7A, 8, 9, 9A and 10: Closed.

Bear:

Archery: Zone 1: Oct. 1-Nov. 30

Zone 2: Sept. 15-Nov. 30

Zones 3, 4, 5, 5A, 6 and 7: Closed

Muzzleloader: Zones 1 and 2: Oct 18-26

Zones 3, 4, 5, 5A, 6 and 7: Closed

Modern Gun: Zones 1 and 2: Nov 3-30

Zone 5: Dec 6-14

Zone 5A: Nov 29-Dec 14

Zones 3, 4, 6 and 7: closed

Special Youth Modern Gun Bear Hunt: Zones 1 and 2 (does not include WMAs requiring a deer permit to harvest a bear): Nov. 1-2

Zones 3, 4, 5, 5A, 6 and 7: Closed

Furbearers(2008 Season):

Raccoon night hunting July 1-Aug. 31.

Badger, spotted skunk and weasel hunting is closed.

Furbearers(2009 Season):

Trapping (other than coyote, beaver, muskrat, nutria): sunrise, Nov. 15-sunset, Feb. 22.

Coyote trapping: sunrise, Aug. 1-sunset, March 31.

Beaver, muskrat, nutria trapping: sunrise, Nov. 15-sunset, March 31.

Gray fox, mink, opossum, red fox, striped skunk hunting: sunrise, Sept. 1-sunset, Feb 28.

Raccoon day or night hunting: sunrise, Sept 1-sunset, March 31.

Raccoon night hunting: sunset, July 1-sunrise, Aug. 31.

Bobcat hunting: sunrise, Oct. 1-sunset, Feb. 28 and from the first day of spring turkey season through June 8.

Coyote hunting: sunrise, July 1-sunset, Feb. 28 and from the first day of spring turkey season through June 14.

River otter hunting: sunrise, Nov. 15-sunset, Feb. 28.

Muskrat, nutria, beaver hunting: sunrise, Sept. 1-sunset, March 31.

Badger, spotted skunk and weasel hunting: Closed.

Elk:

Zones 1, 2, 3, 4 and A: Sept. 22-26.

Zones 1, 2, 3, 4, A and B: Dec. 8-12.

Quail:

Statewide: Nov. 1-Feb. 8.

Rabbit

Statewide: Sept. 1-Feb. 28.

Squirrel

Statewide: Sept. 6, 2008-Feb. 28, 2009 and May 16-June 14, 2009.

Crow

Statewide: Sept. 6-Feb. 23.

Projected opening dates for the 2009-2010 deer hunting season.

Archery:

Oct. 1, 2009

Muzzleloader:

Oct. 17, 2009

Modern Gun:

Nov. 14, 2009

Coming up in the outdoors

Aug. 21 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2 Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m. Topics include: late migratory bird season (waterfowl season) approval and 2009 fishing regulation approval.

Aug. 23 - Arkansas Catfishing Association "Open Tournament" on Lake Dardanelle, Clarksville, Spadra Park Landing. Fishermen don't have to be a member as this is a "get acquainted" tournament with the association. Registering will begin at 4:30 a.m. until 5:45 and boats will be launched at 6 a.m. Stop fishing at 2 p.m. and weigh-in at 3 p.m. Rod and reel only, therefore no jugs or trot lines allowed. Two per boat maximum. Entry fee \$50 per boat with 80 percent payback, and optional \$25 for the big cat with 100 percent payback. For more information call Paul Schweyer at (479) 452-1652 (home) or (479) 719 0474 (cell), or email at paulschweyer@sbcglobal.net. Also Lee Fields at (479) 331-0499 (home) or (870) 577-7289 (cell), or email at leefields@centurytel.net.

Aug. 24 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 5 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Fishing for Tilapia."

Aug. 30 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Outdoor Resources."

Sept. 6 – Annual White River Fishermen Bass and Trout Tournament benefiting

Arkansas Children's Hospital, 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Access and weigh-in at Guion Access. \$50 entry fee per person. For more information contact: Johnny Thomas at (870) 269-4596 or (870) 213-5979 or (870) 213-6606, Rickey Canard at (870) 214-0760 or Bill Turner at (870) 793-3670 or (870) 834-5783.

Sept. 7 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 5 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Elk of Arkansas."

Sept. 13 - Arkansas Catfishing Association (ACA). Arkansas River, Cherokee Landing, Morrilton, launching from Cherokee Park. Registration at 5 a.m. and launching at 5:40 a.m. Check-in time is 3 p.m. Details at

ArkCats.Org website:

http://app4.websitetonight.com/projects/8/4/1/0/841049/Home_Page.html , or contact ACA president James Freeman of Pocahontas at (870) 810-3294 or by email at big_vato98@yahoo.com, or, Coordinator Lee Fields of Russellville at (479) 331-0399 or by email at leefields@centurytel.net.

Sept. 13 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Fishing for Monster Catfish."

Sept. 18 – North Little Rock chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Woody's Sherwood Forest in Sherwood. For more information call Pat Mahan at (501) 743-6154 or email at pmahan000@centurytel.net.

Sept. 18 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2 Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m. Topics include the 2009 spring turkey season regulations proposal.

Sept. 20 - Delta Wings Chapter of Delta Waterfowl will hold its third annual banquet on at Southland Park Gaming and Racing in West Memphis. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. Contact Gary Harlow at gjharlow@aol.com for more information.

Sept. 20 – Fort Smith chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Adelaide Hall in Fort Smith. For more information call Chris Walthall at (479) 471-8009 or email at tynoiaca11@yahoo.com.

Sept. 27 – Jacksonville chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Old Wal-Mart building in Jacksonville. For more information call Matt Robinson at (501) 412-8055 or email at jacksonvilledu@aol.com.

Sept. 28 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 11 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "All About Archery."

Oct. 5 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 11 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Early Season Goose Hunting."

Oct. 11 – A one-day course on Bears and Bear Hunting is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 11, at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway. Biologists with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission will lead discussions on bear biology and management along with the history of bears and hunting strategies. The class will run from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Brewer-Hegeman Conference Center, and it is free. Space is limited, so advance registration is needed. This can be done by phone at (501) 450-5274 or online at www.uca.edu/AOEP/ and click on Community Education.

Oct. 11 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Deer Hunting 101."

Oct. 18 - Arkansas Catfishing Association tournament. Arkansas River, Ozark Taylor Lock and Dam. Registration at 5 a.m. and launching at 5:40 a.m. Check-in time is 3 p.m. Details at ArkCats.Org website hosted by godaddy.com:

http://app4.websitetonight.com/projects/8/4/1/0/841049/Home_Page.html , or contact ACA president James Freeman of Pocahontas at (870) 810-3294 or by email at big_vato98@yahoo.com, or, Coordinator Lee Fields of Russellville at (479) 331-0399 or by email at leefields@centurytel.net.

Oct. 18 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Fall Fishing."

Oct. 18 – Logan County chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, First National Ban Community Building in Paris. For more information call Shane Vincent at (479) 963-6245.

Oct. 22 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting in Pine Bluff, beginning at 9 a.m. Topics include:the2009 spring turkey seasons regulations approval and special fishing regulations proposal.

Oct. 24-26 - Want to learn more about trapping? A workshop is being held Oct. 24-26 to give interested people tips and techniques for trapping in Arkansas. The workshop is sponsored by the Arkansas Trappers Association, Southwest Arkansas Fur Takers, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, and North American Fur Auctions. Both advanced and beginner classes will be available. The workshop will be held at Camp

Clearfork near Mount Ida on Highway 270. Lodging and meals are provided. Camping facilities and motels are located nearby as well. Groups are welcome. The cost for those 17 years of age and under is \$10. For those 18 and over the price is \$20. Reservations must be received by Sept. 30. For more information call Wallace Funderburk at (870) 867-2642.

Oct. 25 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Snakeheads."

Nov. 1 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Youth Deer Hunting."

Nov. 8 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Getting Ready for Duck Season."

Nov. 15 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Ducks, Ducks and More Ducks."

Nov. 20 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2 Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m. Topics include: special fishing regulations approval.

Nov. 22 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Wings Over the Prairie Festival."

Nov. 29 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "How 'Bout Them Hogs?"

Dec. 6 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Christmas Gift Ideas." The Grand Prize will also be awarded to some lucky viewer.

Dec. 18 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2 Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m.

Jan. 9-11, 2009 –Marine Expo at the Statehouse Convention Center in Little Rock.

Jan. 22, 2009 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2 Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m.

Feb. 19, 2009 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2 Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m. Topics include the 2009-2010 general hunting regulation proposals.

March 19, 2009 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2 Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m. Topics include the 2009-2010 general hunting regulations approval.

April 16, 2009 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2 Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m.

May 21, 2009 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2 Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m.

June 18, 2009 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting in Lake Village. Topics include the early migratory bird season proposals.

For the latest in Arkansas Game and Fish Commission information go to www.agfc.com or call the Wildlife Information Hotline, (800)440-1477.

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