



Ken Geer, Second Place Winner in the Science Fair from the Eighth Grade.

"It's perseverance that counts" as portrayed by the two photos. The two First Place Winners had left the exhibit by the time we arrived to take pictures, but the 2 Second Place Winners were proud enough of their exhibits to remain until closing time — so they were the ones that were photographed.

News Photo

Alleg. Co. Association of Educational Secretaries To Hold Dinner Meeting

The Allegany County Association of Educational Secretaries will hold a dinner meeting at the Belmont, New York Hotel Monday, May 4, at 6:00 P. M.

The guest speaker will be John Carter, Director of Admissions at Bryant & Stratton Business Institute. Mr. Carter resides in Amherst, New York and is a graduate of Harvard University Business School.

Mr. Carter will narrate a filmstrip titled "Your Attitude Is Showing" — followed by a question and answer period. The filmstrip may bring some questions to mind, but come prepared with any questions you may have about office procedures, or inquiries about the courses available at Bryant & Stratton.

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Spring Turkey Hunt

It was just 10 years ago that the Conservation Department released the first wild turkeys in Tompkins County — 16 wild birds that had been live trapped in Allegany State Park and brought to Connecticut Mill Game Management Area. During the next four years, these four toms and 12 hens were followed by similar releases in Shindagin Hollow and on Star Stanton Hill in the towns of Caroline and Dryden less than two miles from the Tioga County border.

From these three sites the expanding flock moved out in all directions. Those moving southward in Tioga County were met by birds that had moved across the Pennsylvania line coming into southern Tioga. To the east turkeys quickly moved on into Cortland County, where additional wild birds have also been released during the last several years to speed their spread.

Sportsmen in the south central counties have been watching these birds with great expectations that someday they would support local hunting. That time has arrived, and this spring Tioga and Tompkins Counties were added to the list of six Southern-tier counties to the west which have a spring bearded turkey hunt. In addition Delaware County has also been added.

A spring gobbler hunt and a fall turkey hunt, where all turkeys are legal game, are two different things. While we have a turkey population that can support a good spring hunt, the biologists are skeptical about their ability to stand the pressure of a fall hunt.

A bearded gobbler season is just like a buck season in that it has no effect on the reproductive potential of the animals. Both deer and turkey are polygamous, and in the east of the turkey season, the spring hunt occurs after the males have served their reproductive function and are therefore surplus to the biological needs of the population.

The setting of the date and shooting hours is critical in making this a safe hunt for the hens. The dates — May 4 through 9 — the peak of the nesting period, and all hens should be incubating full clutches of eggs. Shooting hours are from 6 a. m. to 10 a. m. During these early morning hours the hens are incubating their eggs, and it is

not until midday, when the air has had a chance to warm up, that they leave their nests to look for food and water. A hunter walking quietly through the woods can pass very close to an incubating bird before it will flush from its nest. A dog, however, would be hunting with its nose, and if it came near a nest would be attracted to the bird by its scent, therefore the use of dogs is prohibited. Baiting is also illegal.

Last year 86 percent of the successful hunters used calls, though only 59 percent of all the hunters used calls, which clearly points to the importance of using a call to attract a gobbler. As with waterfowl hunting, the use of electronic calls has been prohibited. Here is where the real turkey hunters are separated from the novices, for one false skuawk on a call and a turkey is alerted.

Only shotguns loaded with number 2, 4, 5 or 6 shot, or a bow and arrow may be used to take a turkey. This means that the turkey must be at fair close range, giving the hunter ample time to be sure that it has a beard before shooting. Only with incredible luck, or a good blind and camouflage, can a hunter draw a turkey this close. Unlike deer, they are not fooled by lack of movement. Their quick eye makes them a most

challenging quarry. Free permits are available to mail to all holders of 1969-70 small game or combination hunting-fishing licenses. Permit applicants should submit their name, address and license number to the following address postmarked no later than April 30:

TURKEY PERMIT
NYS Conservation Department
Albany, New York 12201



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