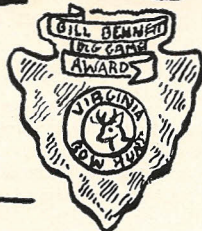




FLIGHT



Volume 4

FEBRUARY, 1963

No. 4

PROPOSED YOUTH PROGRAM

Quite sometime ago, Vernon Rogers, Warwick Bowmen, was appointed chairman of a committee to study our junior and intermediate situation. Later, three sub-committees were formed in order to cover more of the State and get different ideas from the different localities. These committees have now come up with the following recommendation for a Youth Program, which reads as follows:

"The committee set up to study the Junior program recommends the following Youth Program as a substitute for the Junior and Intermediate classifications presently existing:

YOUTH PROGRAM

- "1. All present Junior stakes will be eliminated.
- "2. There shall be established a Youth Division consisting of all VBA members under 18 years of age.
- "3. All youths under 18 years of age will compete as amateurs until their 18th birthday or until they marry.
- "4. VBA twenty-pins will be awarded in the Youth Division because they will be shooting from the adult stakes. (If the youth qualifies under NFAA rules for NFAA 20-pins, it shall be awarded.)
- "5. Prior to entering the Youth Division there shall be a classification known as the Novice Class. This class will shoot from the closest adult stake and will be confined to club shoots only. The present Intermediate and Junior black pins will be made available as a club award.

"When a novice shooter shoots a score of 101 or more points in club competition, he will then be eligible and required to join VBA.

"Full membership dues shall be \$2.00.

"He will then compete, unclassified, in a VBA sanctioned tournament in the Youth Division. At his first tournament in the Youth Division, he will be classified under the Youth Program consisting of classes A, B, C, D, E, and F, and Free Style, as presently established for adult men and women. He will be classified upon completion of the first 28-target classifying round.

"The Youth Division shall be composed of those youths who qualified for this division by advancing from the Novice Class as previously set forth.

(Continued on Page 2)

Nominating Committee

Frank Otey, Jr., chairman of the nominating committee for VBA officers for the coming year, reports that a slate of members has been prepared, and is submitted herewith for official notice to the membership. These nominations will be put on the floor at the VBA April quarterly meeting in Lynchburg, and any other nominations from the delegates will be added to the slate. Official balloting will be done prior to the June meeting on an official ballot sent to all members by the VBA Corresponding Secretary. Frank's report follows:

President: Gene Limerick
Exec. Vice Pres.: Vernon Rogers
Clinton Western
Field Vice Pres.: Wm. T. (Bill) Marshall
Hunting Vice Pres.: G. B. Booth, Jr.
Conservation Vice Pres.: Bill McEwen
Corres. Secy.: Sue Price
Recording Secy.: Pat Hamilton
Treasurer: Gertrude Lewis
C. D. Tarter
Hazel Rogers

Newly elected officers will be announced at the June meeting and will take over their duties on July 1, 1963.

State Shoot Site

Sherwood Archers, Roanoke, Va., will have the pleasure of being your host for the 17th Annual VBA State Championship Shoot to be held Labor Day week end. Look for more information on this in the next issue of FLIGHT.

Tournament Dates

Listed below are dates for three VBA sanctioned tournaments that do not appear on your tournament schedule card, January thru June, 1963:

Bowhunters of Rockingham—May 26th

Indian Mountain Archers—March 31st,
June 16th

From The Office Of Hunting Vice Pres.

Another deer hunting season is over and the records show 78 deer and one bear taken by VBA members. Of these 78 deer, 42 were doe and 36 were bucks. Kills were made at an average distance of 28½ yards; however, extreme distances were reported by Jack Cantwell who was successful at 5 yards, Ernest Grimes, Jr. at 80 yards and Robert L. Blevins at 70 yards. Seven deer dropped on the spot and two hunters, Russell Brinkley and Dr. McKelden Smith, tracked their deer for an estimated 500 yards. Only four hunters hit their deer with a second arrow. Thirty-six deer were weighed and averaged 118½ pounds each. The largest was a 200-pound, 6-point buck taken by Carl Brooks. Robert Day lowered the boom on an 8-point buck and Clarence A. Huff and Andrew J. Dippre each downed 7-pointers. The following three hunters bagged two deer each: Andrew J. Dippre, 2 bucks; Jack Flewellen, 2 bucks; and Barney O. McLean, 1 buck and 1 doe. Average bow weight was 45 pounds but anything from 30 to 65 pounds was used successfully. Forty-nine archers used wooden arrows, 17 glass and three aluminum. Forty-eight used Razorheads, 10 Black Diamond and 6 Hilbre. Forty-seven hunters were successful for the first time. Andrew J. Dippre got his ninth and tenth kills with Jimmy Moore and Walter C. Kello each their ninth. Jack Cantwell scored his eighth.

New River Valley Archers lead the clubs this season with 9 deer killed, Augusta Archers were second with 6 deer and 1 bear, and Galax Bowhunters were third with 6 deer.

Marking Distances

Quite sometime ago, VBA went on record as favoring the marking of distances on all targets at such time as NFAA took action to do likewise. NFAA has now gone on record as favoring this and at the VBA meeting in January, the directors from the various clubs voted in favor of making it mandatory that all VBA affiliated clubs mark the exact distance on all *field* and *hunter* round stakes. This will be a requirement for course approval in the future.

FLIGHT

News and views of the Virginia
Bowhunters Association, Inc.

VBA OFFICERS: Ted Greffe, President, Box 352, Fairfax, Va.; C. J. (Woody) Woods, Executive Vice President, 319 W. Main St., Waynesboro, Va.; Clint Western, FLIGHT Editor, 4041 Virginia Ave., N. W., Roanoke, Va.; Wm. McEwen, Jr., Conservation Vice President, Richmond, Va.; G. B. Booth, Jr., Hunting Vice President, 1812 Churchville Ave., Staunton, Va.; Bill Marshall, Field Vice President, 5012 Huntington Ave., Newport News, Va.; Pat Hamilton, Recording Secretary, Rt. No. 4, Glen Allen, Va.; Sue D. Price, Corresponding Secretary, 1712 N. Quincy St., Arlington, Va.; Harold Woods, Treasurer, 646 Grimes Rd., Hampton, Va.; Franklin M. (Ike) Lewis, VBA & NFAA Field Governor, RFD 2, Box 190, Portsmouth, Va.

"20" Pin Winners—Dec.-Jan.

35 Yards

Charles H. Bailey, Newport News
Robert O. Cissel, Woodbridge
Ronald Cox, Matoaca
John L. Ferrell, Annandale
Bill Goodman, Falls Church
Earl Jordan, Lacy Spring
Roy Moser, Galax
Edward Rose, Jr., Alexandria
W. F. Sellers, Staunton
Homer Lee Strother, Front Royal

40 Yards

Robert Cole, Stafford

45 Yards

Carlton G. Conkey, Alexandria
Jack Evans, Hampton
Robert O. Hale, Roanoke
Don Hester, Jenkins, Ky.
Ralph Winesett, Galax

50 Yards

Donald Utt, Galax

55 Yards

Carlton Conkey, Alexandria
Jack Horner, Jenkins, Ky.
Carey G. Price, Arlington
Bob Sandridge, Harrisonburg
Cecil Watkins, Appalachia

60 Yards

Thomas Ford, Jr., Fairfax
Homer Lee Strother, Front Royal
Ralph Winesett, Galax

Bowfishermen — Note

It seems that one of our number was taken to task for not having a fishing license when shooting carp. This is just a reminder that a person must have a fishing license to shoot carp or gar in the inland waters of Virginia.

Proposed Youth Program

(Continued from Page 1)

"Competitors in the Youth Division shall shoot from the adult stakes.

"The pin awarded to the Youth Division shall be a suitable pin and shall maintain the same basic colors as the adult Instinctive Division.

"All youths shall be grouped together insofar as is possible.

"Free-style shall be governed under the same rules as the adult Free-Style Division.

"The Committee recommends that this Youth Program be adopted for a one-year probational period."

The above quoted recommendation was presented to the directors present at the last VBA meeting and discussed item by item. The directors seemed to agree that this program, as presented, was about 99% perfect but still had a few "wrinkles" that may need ironing out.

It would be necessary for each club to have on hand one complete set of pins for the Youth Division, at a cost of \$37.80 (present cost per set of pins for the adult classes, including free-style, but excluding hunter division). This cost would not be too prohibitive once a complete set was acquired since most clubs would probably charge the usual fee of \$1.50 to youths desiring to enter competition.

It has been generally conceded that the biggest obstacle to overcome is that of cost for trophies or whatever a club happens to be presenting to winners at their annual tournament.

Each VBA member is asked to give this problem serious thought, take his ideas to his next club meeting, discuss thoroughly, and try to come up with a workable solution without changing the basic idea of the program. Each club director should be prepared to present the ideas of his club members at the next VBA meeting to be held April 7th. This will be a good item to discuss at the Saturday night session on April 6th.

V. B. A. History

Our good friend R. C. (Bob) Thompson, VBA Historian, advises that material which will add to the past history of VBA is being received at an alarmingly SLOW rate. O.K., you oldtimers. Think! Dig back into those old scrapbooks. Secretaries, look through some of your old records. Even if you may think the information you come up with worthless, send it to Bob and let him be the judge.

Mail to: R. C. (Bob) Thompson
2801 Neale Street
Richmond 23, Virginia

20-Pins

At the last meeting of the Virginia Bowhunters Association, the directors unanimously passed a motion stating that the host club will pay for the first 20-pin and bar. Subsequent bars will be paid for by the person winning them. Price for bars, \$0.75 each. It seems that some of the smaller clubs were losing money on their invitational shoots because of a high percentage of 20-pins won as compared with the number of archers participating in the tournament.

At this same meeting, a motion to give 20-pins on hunter round targets was defeated. Again the feeling was that this would be an additional burden on the smaller clubs.

News From Triangle Bowhunters

The Triangle Bowhunters of Christiansburg held an Indoor Tournament on January 19th at which the Chicago Round was shot. Seventy archers from the Bristol, Chilhowie, Wytheville, Galax, Pulaski, Roanoke, and Bedford clubs participated in this enjoyable event. Registration and shooting ran from 2:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. Due to the success of this shoot, a similar event is planned for the near future.

Thoreau and Muir Lived Their Conservation Convictions

By ERNEST SWIFT
from Conservation News

Time immortalizes some human beings—others it sentences to an obscurity deeper than the grave. Henry Thoreau was little known when he died; today his writings have assumed the stature of classics. The same can be said of John Muir.

These two evangelists had a common bond; a virgin sincerity and a passionate interest in all things natural. They followed their own kind of research, but not of the test-tube variety; nor was it down one narrow avenue. All out-of-doors was their laboratory, and everything great and small interested them. They did not pursue knowledge of raw nature to convert resources into creature comforts. Their interests in things natural had little relation to the accepted human benefits, but were of nature for its own sake.

They had a childlike disregard, almost a contempt, for conveniences and the monetary affairs of mankind. Neither one was afraid of

(Continued on Page 4)

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DEER KILL WEST OF BLUE RIDGE DROPS

from Virginia Wildlife

"An unofficial total of 10,134 deer bagged in Virginia counties west of the Blue Ridge during this year's six-day season marked the second annual decline from this section. Game Commission biologists had predicted a definite drop due to poor range conditions and a shortened season for the taking of antlerless deer.

"In a number of the western counties the kill reached little more than half that of a year ago. Field checks made by biologists on opening day found yearlings averaging up to 30 pounds lighter in some areas than in others, indicating a shortage of browse for the number of deer in some locations. In many western sections the number of fawns and yearlings in the kill is far below what is normally expected from a healthy deer herd. Apparently poor nutrition and other factors are cutting down on the reproductive ability of the deer herds.

"Biologists have long known that much of Virginia's mountain deer range was growing into mature timber. This rapidly cuts down on the available browse leaving a large number of deer stranded without adequate food.

The number of deer that mature timber can support is far below the number that can thrive on recently logged brushland.

"Hunters are going to have to accustom themselves to fewer deer per square mile in some areas of forest land. There is no need

for alarm, however. Biologists point out that when the number of deer is brought into balance with the carrying capacity of the range, annual reproduction will produce a yearly surplus that can safely sustain hunting pressure indefinitely.

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V. B. A. Manuals

DEAR FRIENDS OF THE BENT STICK:

Time has come again for us to talk about the VBA manuals.

About two years ago we voted to print a manual that would be up to date and of which we could be proud. After many hours of hard work and much loss of sleep, it began to take shape. Finally it was ready to go to press. We were very proud that the VBA was able to compose this manual and offer it to its members at such a low cost. However, the cost to the VBA was not as small as it might seem. The money that the VBA spent in having these manuals printed has not been put back into the treasury. Why? The members of this organization have not supported this project. About 1,900 books were printed and about 600 were sold. Ask yourself these questions: What does the VBA mean to me? What has it done for me? What have I done to support it? You will find that VBA has, can, and will do more for you than you can ever do for it. You could play a big role in VBA by having a manual which is worth its price for the range maps alone. This is a small request but by purchasing a manual you will be doing your share to maintain the strength of VBA. If you do not have a manual, see your club President or Secretary. If they should be out of manuals, ask them to order a supply from Ted Grefe, VBA President, Box 352, Fairfax, Virginia; or, Vernon Rogers, #3 Dulcy Court, Hampton, Virginia, the latter being in charge of manual sales.

Price for ten or more manuals, \$1.25 per copy, under ten, \$1.50 per copy. These prices do not include postage.

Thank you,

VERNON ROGERS

Thoreau and Muir Lived Their Conservation Convictions

(Continued from Page 2)

work, as such, nor of poverty or hunger; neither sought security.

Muir was more childlike than Thoreau in his rapture of the primitive. A true son of the Wilderness, daring and self-reliant, he worried less about human behavior, other than its obvious impact on nature, than did Thoreau. But he also was the voice of conscience.

Born in Scotland, he came to southern Wisconsin in 1849 at the age of nine. Until he was 21, life was the exacting drudgery of a frontier farm, and made intolerably harsh by a fanatically religious father. In after years John Muir never forgave his parent for the daily whippings he received.

He was also an inventor of no mean ability—an aptitude frowned on by his father. He left the family farm with 15 dollars, and after some preparatory study took entrance examinations for admission to the University of Wisconsin. His inventions, plus teaching country school, doing odd jobs and summer farm work, paid his way. Much of his diet consisted of graham mush, potatoes, bread and molasses at a cost of 50 cents a week.

Intent on his own interests, he studied only what he liked and did not receive a degree; and when he left the University after three years he "determined to study the inventions of God." A too stringent religious upbringing alienated him from church-going, although he freely gave to all denominations. He found religion in the temples of nature.

He journeyed to Canada and then walked a thousand miles to the Gulf of Mexico, but he did not find his ideal until he reached the Sierras and Yosemite. Later he helped unfold the beauties of Alaska. He roamed the wilderness for weeks on end with a sack of dried bread and tea.

To him conservation was a moral cause, and his arguments were more on that plane and less on economics. One thing is apparent, fear was not in him: of hardship, of being alone, of wilderness, or of death.

At the beginning of the century his was a powerful and eloquent voice raised in defense of nature. His voice has increased with time. His contributions to the preservation of wilderness beauty have been a guiding light to many; and probably none is more responsible for the establishment of a National Park System, even though it came after his death. Glaciers, lakes, hills, gorges, groves, campsites, wild-life species, a college, a railroad station and a liberty ship have been named after John Muir. Practical people have honored a dreamer and lover of beauty.

He once wrote: "A man in his books may be said to walk the earth long after he is gone."

Whereas Thoreau has been called parochial, Muir was of continental and global stature; but the writings of both have walked the earth after their passing, and have inspired posterity to a higher plane of ethical understanding. Many lesser men have been lost in obscurity who called them impractical and eccentric because of their uninhibited independence.

Objective critics credit them with complete honesty for the causes they espoused and the pattern of life they followed. Such acknowledgment is an accolade.

But many of their present-day followers can be likened to some who do not have the courage to sin, but do so indirectly at no personal risk by reading a sordid brand of literature. Many air-conditioned conservationists applaud the rugged independence and lofty

ethics of these two prophets, but shudder at the thought of adopting their disregard for conveniences, poverty and hardships to achieve an end. Few care to live in a 28-dollar house as did Thoreau, or camp without blankets and eat a diet of bread and tea as did Muir.

The present-day hot-house variety of purists find the pleasures of the flesh more attractive than the hard-won pleasures of complete freedom. Even so, the disciples are better for having read the accounts of the lives of both. Their written words have become an indestructible monument to their achievements. Two in one century is about all that we can ask.

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