

FLIGHT NO. 5

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1987



A few of our 1987 State Closed Champions.

Warwick Bowmen would like to thank the 175 shooters that braved the rain to attend the 1987 State Closed Tournament. In spite of the weather some excellent scores were shot. Warwick would like to invite everyone back for the Mid-Atlantics in June of '88 and the State Closed in September of '88. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate and the range will be a little drier.

For You The Archer

By Tom Schanbacher

Well, hunting season is upon us again, and I want to wish all you bowhunters great success and remind you to keep safety first. There are more bowhunters taking to the woods than ever before so I'm going to dedicate this column to bowhunter safety and helpful hints. (Don't you tournament archers get discouraged. A lot of clubs in the state shoot outdoor and indoor year round, so keep shooting. The next article will be just for the tournament archer.)

I think one of the most important factors for a bowhunter to learn is his own personal limitations. At a recent bowhunter education class I asked how many of you exercise prior to hunting season? I had two out of 35 raise their hands. We all like to think we can still do what we used to do when we were in our teens, but many of us can't, and it's been a couple of decades since I saw my teens. I have to be aware of my limitations. Heart attack, stroke can strike at the worst times (like when you're out in the woods) unless you keep in shape and lower the risk. Please don't push yourself past your limitations.

Next, you have a responsibility to the game you hunt to shoot within your known accuracy range. I know some archers that can take a 40 yard shot and be assured of a good humane kill, while others I know shouldn't take a shot over 15 yards. Please be honest when you evaluate your personal skill level.

I will now list a few of the other basic bowhunter rules to follow. A good motto to adopt is one used by the Boy Scouts "Be prepared".

1. Always use sharp broadheads.

2. Always bank your shot.

3. Obey all game and conservation laws.

4. Respect all landowner and fellow hunters rights; be an ethical bowhunter.

Hall Resigns; Clinton Western Elected President

VOLUME 29

Clinton F. Western was unanimously elected President of the Virginia Bowhunters Association by the Board of Directors after Dickie Hall submitted his resignation in Executive session citing personal and business reasons. He issued the following statement for publication in FLIGHT.

"TO ALL VBA OFFICERS AND MEMBERS:

I am sorry to have to give my resignation as VBA President. At this time my other duties and responsibilities do not permit enough time to carry out the duty of President as should be done. I greatly appreciate the vote of confidence for putting me in office and I hope that in the future, whoever takes my place will enjoy working with such a fine group of people as I have done in recent years."

Richard L. Hall

Clinton has worked with the VBA for many years, in many capacities and we feel he will be a great asset in his new position in VBA.

5. And above all, always assume you made a good hit until proven otherwise.6. Remember, most bowhunter accidents are self-inflicted.

Please enjoy your hunting season, and keep it safe, I don't want to read your name on the game commission statistics. I've reprinted a chart to help you estimate your deer's live weight, dressed weight and net meat yield, at the end of this article. I hope you find it useful.

If any of you have any questions, comments, or issues you would like discussed please write me, and I'll see if I can help. Until next time, keep shooting and keep it safe!

From the Office of the Field Vice President

The 1987 VBA State Closed Tournament was held at the Warwick Bowmen range in Newport News, Va. Although a tropical depression threatened the entire weekend with torrential rains, the 175 shooters participated in the 41st running of the tournament.

The members of the Warwick Bowmen are to congratulated on a tournament well ran. Most Host clubs have a year to prepare for such an important task but because of action taken at the VBA meeting in June 1987, the Warwick Bowmen had only 2 months. Well done, Warwick Bowmen.

There seems to be some question as to how to figure one's classification. On the back of the NFAA card it shows in detail how to come up with an average.

If there are 2 scores, your average is the highest score.

If there are 3 scores, your average is the highest score.

If there are 4 scores, your average is the highest score.

If there are 5 scores, your average is the average of the 2 highest scores.

If there are 6 scores, your average is the average of the 2 highest scores.

If there are 7 scores, your average is the average of the 3 highest scores.

If there are more than 7 scores, your average is the average of the 3 highest scores out of the last 7 scores.

If there are fractions involved, they are rounded off. If below .5 they are rounded off down. If they are .5 or above, they are rounded off up.

I would like to thank those VBA officers who helped out at the tournament. I feel it is the duty of the VBA officers to participate in what ever manner they can.

From the conversations with several VBA members, it seems that some clubs do not on a regular basis send a Director to the VBA meetings. Why a club would choose not to be represented at a State meeting is beyond me. The only say a member has is through his club. If a member knows that his club is not sending a Director to the VBA meetings, insist or better yet volunteer to go yourself. The VBA Meetings are open to all members and club.

John Street VBA Field Vice President

Dear VBA Membership,

The membership of Augusta Archers would like to apologize for any inconvenience to the VBA Membership as a result of the recent VBA Board's decision to change the host club of the 1987 State Closed Tournament from Augusta Archers to Warwick Bowmen. We understand that their decision was based on genuine concern for the quality of the State Closed Championship. We regret, however, that their decision was based on misinformation. This misinformation was caused by a lack of communication between our club officers and the VBA. This decision was not based on the true status of our ranges, which are in superb condition or on any willingness or preparedness to host this tournament.

Again, we regret any inconvenience and hope you, the membership of the VBA, will give us the opportunity, in the future, to demonstruce that we can host a championship event even better than we have in past years.

Sincerely,

Tim Gum, President Ron Neville, Exec. Vice President Augusta Archers I wish to respond to the concerns of the Augusta Archers that the VBA Board of Directors made their decision concerning the location of the 1987 State Closed based on misinformation. More accurately, the VBA Board of Directors was placed in the very difficult situation of making a decision based on an almost total lack of any information received from Augusta Archers. The lack of communication between the VBA and Augusta was very difficult due to the ever changing club officers and tournament chairmans.

I too share the expectation that future Stae Tournaments will be held at Augusta Archers and that clearer lines of communication can be established for future tournaments.

> John Street, VBA Field Vice President

Flight Deadline

The deadline for the Nov.-Dec. issue of FLIGHT will be Nov. 15, 1987. Submit your articles of interest to the editor prior to that date. I encourage readers to send in letters to the editor. *Remember*, this is your newsletter.

VBA MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

from the office of FLIGHT Editor

At the September VBA meeting, Clinton Western was elected President by the Board of Directors to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Dickie Hall (see related article).

As this meeting was the scheduling session for 1988 shoots, by the end of the meeting on Sunday, ONLY 11 CLUBS had delegates left. If your club is sending a representative to the meetings and paying for that person's expenses, I would strongly suggest that your club send someone who will stay for the entire meeting. There is important business at the end of our meetings as well as at the beginning, so if your delegate does not have the time to stay for the entire meeting, find someone else who will. (As a matter of note, the September meeting adjourned before 1:30 pm).

Beginning in this issue of "Flight", I am starting a classified ad section. If you have archery equipment or related itesm you would care to sell or buy, you can now use our classified section to do so. Twelve (12) words cost \$5.00 prepaid and could help you get rid of unwanted items and help the VBA curb some of the expense of "Flight" at the same time. The January VBA meeting will be

The January VBA meeting will be held on January 16-17. Be sure to mark your calendars of this change and have a responsible delegate present. ALL VBA MEETINGS ARE IMPORTANT. More VBA Highlights upcoming in the next issue of "Flight".

Good luck to all bowhunters during the hunting season and your stories and pictures will be welcome for publication.



The new V.B.A. Bill Bennett award, replacing the small arrow previously given for additional game kills, is very close to being ready. This award will be a reduced version of the Bill Bennett plaque in the form of a one-inch pin. The pin can be easily displayed on hats, quivers, etc. As soon as I receive the pins they will be sent to the club presidents for distribution to persons who did not receive his/her award last year. I hope everyone enjoys the new pin and displays them.

> Good Hunting, Dave

CLUB NEWS

Note from the Editor:

If your club is publishing a newsletter, would you kindly see that the "Flight" editor is added to your mailing list and receives a copy.

Prince William Archers

Indoor shoots for the 1987-88 season will begin in November. For details and times contact:

Kevin Webb	(703) 368-9724
Ricky Stark	(703) 752-7129
Jim Frazer	(703) 368-4996

News from Zone #3 Bowhunters of Rockingham

by Irvin Bodkin

The Bowhunters of Rockingham elected Dale Mathias for their President this year. Under his guidance and with the help of indoor captain Dennis Grogg and Phil Schroeder we had a most successful indoor league this year. We had enough to shoot on two nights, and had opening shooting on Sundays. Our club activities have been good and we held our annual Pig Roast in July. Our good member Owen Shifflett donated the pigs. We have one member that we want to brag on a little, who is Phil Landes who went to Watkins Glen and won the BOW-HUNTER FREESTYLE UNLIMITED. We also want to mention Ronnie Layman who was runner up to Phil and losing by only two points. He is also a fellow member of the club. We are busy at this point getting ready for our ANNUAL BOWHUNTERS JAMBOREE. The club holds open house for two days for the public to use the ranges for practice and instructions. We tie all this in with a big deer roast and all the trimmings. After this is over then all our thoughts turn to that sport in the Autumn . . . BOWHUNTING. More news later in the winter.

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Kingsboro Bowmen

Kingsboro Bowmen hosted the Bowhunter Jamboree East September 19th and 20th in Suffolk. Saturday we had 17 shooters for an unmarked animal shoot. Robbie Taylor of Septa Bowmen took first place. Saturday night Ricky Williams of Richmond won the Coon Shoot.

Inclement weather prevented us from having the fun shoots Sunday but we had a fairly successful broadhead shoot with 34 shooters. In a round with a perfect score of 400 the winners were:

BHFS-L Men 1st Don Boyd 2nd Freddie Lueller 3rd Allan Lawnsbery (Allan won a shoot-off with Wa	390 375 370 ayne Kellum)
BHFS-UL Men 1st Tom Bruce 2nd Ricky Williams 3rd Robbie Taylor	395 390 370
BHMen1stEmo Moore2ndBo Cherry	340 300
FS-L Men 1st John Bauswell	355
BHFS-UL Women 1st Cathi Williams	330
Youth 1st Troy Grizzard 2nd Jimmy Mizelle 3rd Stan Boyd (Troy won a shoot-off with	285 285 240 th Jimmy)
Open Guest (non-VBA) Men	10 shooters
1st Andy Lipscombe 2nd Rob Gallion	395 370
3rd Rondall Canterberry	360

Congratulations to all the winners and thanks to all participants.

In spite of the weather, the Redman tobacco representative stayed all day Sunday. He had drawings all day for hats and gave out many samples of Redman products. Pete King won the drawing for a Redman jacket. An added feature of T-shirts sales gained a profit for the club also and Don Boyd won the drawing for a Kingsboro T-shirt. Lone Star Concrete Products donated pencils in support of our club which is always appreciated. Again, thanks to all participants for your support and to the Kingsboro members for your help and hard work.

Kitty Bowen President Kingsboro Bowmen

Loudon Bowhunters

We send a big apology to Jim (Rattlesnake) Kimble of Shenandoah Archers. Jim shot his highest score of 457 ever at our recent Annual in August. Jim received his trophy and recognition late. Jim shoots in the Bowhunter division. Many thanks to Jim, Loretta and daughter, Vickie for attending.

Two Rivers Archery Club

by Joyce Cameron TRAC Recording Secretary

Two Rivers Archery Club Championship was held on August 29th. Hank McGee was the returning champion with a score of 546.

Our September 13th shoot was a memorial shoot held for Mertie Shultz. All proceeds will be donated to Camp Fantastic at the 4-H Center for its cancer program, of which Mertie was very important to these young cancer patients.

TRAC Indoor Shoot will start on Thursday, Nov. 5th at the 4-H Center. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and shooting begins at 7 p.m.

Pro Division Reinstated

At the September VBA meeting the directors voted to reinstate the Pro Division in the state. There are new ideas and I'm looking forward to a great first year. We will be a self governing branch of the VBA with all money coming from the Pro members themselves. If you are interested in this, please write to me or call me.

> Stephen McGuire Rt. 2, Box 667 Hayes, Va. 23072 (804) 642-3766

Your club should be getting a proposal soon and an organizational meeting will be held at a future date.

Where to Hunt, Problem Solved

by Jim Lam

Have you ever sat wondering about where there is a new place to hang a tree stand or where there might be a trophy buck waiting to be harvested? I have an answer that to me has solved this problem.

The answer lies in 8,089 acres of state owned land in Madison and Greene counties of Virginia. This tract of land is called Rapidan Wildlife Management Area. On any given day you are subject to see white tailed deer, black bear, or wild turkeys. In Virginia this is all there is in the way of big game animals. There is not many places where the big three of Virginia are available to the hunter and this place is available to any person who holds a Virginia hunting license. No check-in or check-out, no assigned areas where you are restricted to, and as of this year no massive crowds and waiting in lines as it is with many of the public areas open to the bow hunter.

This is not an easy area to hunt, it is on the east slope of the Blue Ridge Mountains. Bordered to the west by the Shenandoah National Park game is continually travelling back and forth from this protected area. There is access roads which can be traversed by conventional road vehicles but a four wheel drive is handy. The area is criss-crossed by old abandoned logging roads and jeep trails. The area is bounded to the north by the Rapidan River which is nothing more than a rocky mountain stream this far up. To the south the area is bounded by the Middle River which is one of the tributaries which flows into the Rapidan further down stream. Flowing through the middle of the area is the Conway River which also flows into the Rapidan.

To briefly describe the lay of the land, like I said earlier it lies on the east slope of the Blue Ridge Mountains. It is desolated country made up of high mountain ridges, rocky creek bottoms, jagged rocky crags and steep sided valleys. It was an area that many years ago was home to several mountain families that have long since left the mountains. But the signs of where they have been are still there, two old apple orchards are located within the WMA, Booten's and Goodall's. There is several old home sites where the remains of old hand hewn chestnut log cabins can be found. Upon entering the WMA was the site of an old school house, McDaniels School which was a one room school house for the children who lived on the mountain. There is several old family cementeries where the spirit of many of the old inhabitants of the mountain still remain. Strewn all through the WMA are fallen remains of the one time king of eastern forests the American Chestnut and occasionally while scouting you can find a young tree growing from these old remains.

From overgrown clear cut to near maximal growth forests a variety of growth stages exist within the WMA. There is major stands of hardwoods made up of oaks, maples, hickories and poplars. From here the forest turns into stands of evergreens made up of pines and hemlocks. Where old home sites and clearings once existed they are slowly reverting back to nature, here you have first and second stage growth from weeds to tangled underbrush.

The close proximity to the national park accounts for much of the game found in the WMA. The national park is a protected area where the game animals of the WMA can retreat to for safety when hunting pressure gets too heavy. This nearness to the national park accounts for the large bear population found within the WMA. The Shenandoah National Park harbors the largest population of black bears found within the state. Deer are not as plentiful here as they are in other areas of the state but the deer are big and even does are large bodied and heavy. The final member of the big three, the wild turkey, ranges all through the WMA. You are likely to see turkeys ranging from mountain ridges to creek bottoms from clear cut to open timber most anywhere at all.

For the small game enthusiast the area has great small game hunting potential. Because of the natural make up of the area there is a wide range of small game animals for the hunter. Squirrels abound throughout the area. Around the cut overs and old orchards find occasional covies of quail. You are subject to jump a ruffed grouse under any bush or from behind any old down fall. In a few areas where there are thickets especially around the old orchards where apples still grow a few rabbits can be found. Early on in the bow season, when conditions permit the rivers are stopping over points for ducks. This should be a wide enough variety of small game for even the most discriminating small game hunter.

The hunter of Rapidan should be prepared for rapid changing extremes in conditions. Due to the altitude of the area weather conditions can change almost instantly. On overcast days the clouds can be laying right on the ground. Many mornings the mountains are shrouded by fog which usually doesn't burn off till 9'ish. If you are camping it can be 80 during the day and drop below freezing at night. Also, when camping food and other attractants should be stored out of the reach of roaming bruins.

Directions to

Rapidan Wildlife Management Area

Take route 3 west to route 29, route 29 south to route 230, route 230 west to Wolfetown, turn right at the Wolfetown Merchantile Store, route f662 to Grave's Mill, bear left on the dirt road and follow it to WMA.

Points of Interest

Wolfetown Merchantile carries basic grocery needs as well as a deli where they build some super sandwiches if you happen out around lunchtime.

Wolfetown Cash and Carry has gas pumps, they also have most of the things you will need in way of staples. They also are a hardware store and have a few items for minor auto repair. They also are the Game Commission Checking Station.

Letter to the Editor

Editor:

I was appalled at the lack of response in the number of ballots returned for the election of VBA officers. If these members continue to have this nonchalant attitude about the VBA, *if* this is what the problem is, I foresee the clubs and the VBA "going down the drain." The members of an organization with the second highest membership in the nation should show more support.

As President of my club I reminded my members to return their ballot but I kept hearing that they didn't know who the candidates were and therefore did not know for whom to vote. In response to this, as a suggestion for the next election, maybe each candidate should have a picture in *Flight* since some members know faces from different tournaments but don't have names to go with them. Also, along with each picture have an introduction like the ones that were presented in this year's Flight. Another suggestion is to remind all members that they may attend VBA meetings and meet the present officers and the delegates from the different clubs.

I feel the VBA is a good organization and would like to see more member support. Maybe in publishing this letter, more suggestions will come forward and we'll see more return in the next election.

> Sincerely, Kitty Bowen, President Kingsboro Bowmen Rt. 1, Box 206 Zuni, VA 23898

State Shoot Results

Neare NI	1000	ALCOULED	
Freestyle Unlimited AA Male			
State Champion		C. D. Miller	
537	557	1094	
2nd place		Mark Lawrence	
536	554	1090	
3rd place		Joe Herbert	
541	547	1088	
A Class			
1st place		Stephen Graham	
512	535	1047	
2nd place		Rodney Williams	
514	533	1047	
3rd place		Luther Vinoski	
509	533	1042	
B Class			
1st place		Guy Pelletier	
465	503	968	
2nd place		Phillip Pelletier	
454	494	948	
3rd place		John Gray	
422	432	854	
Freestyle Limited	A Mal	٥	
1st place	A IVIA	Gary DeWinter	
460	504	964	
B Class	504	501	
State Champion		Ray Stone	
485	505	990	
2nd place	505	Benny Villorente	
485	491	976	
3rd place		Danny Wells	
462	509	971	
The second se		And a second state of the second state of	
Freestyle Unlimit	ed AA		
State Champion 494	517	Leela Villorente 1011	
2nd place	517	Pat Harwood	
490	517	1007	
	517	Ann Boyd	
3rd place 490	501	Ann Boyd 991	
	301	991	
A Class		Nancy Thompson	
1st place 476	519	995	
	519	Freda Little	
2nd place 478	502	980	
3rd place	502	Cathi Williams	
465	471	936	
403	4/1	730	

Freestyle Limited	A Fen	
State Champion	500	Tina Grace
440	502	942
2nd place	450	Marianne Kemble
415	450	865
3rd place	10.5	Gail LeFever
428	435	863
B Class	52	
1st place		Aartha Washington
427	500	927
2nd place	100	Rebecca Reid
422	488	910
3rd place		Ann Harper
381	425	806
Bowhunter Freest	yle Un	limited AA Male
State Champion		Mitchel Stonesifer
527	546	1073
2nd place		Ronald Layman
525	547	1072
3rd place		Ricky Williams
532	535	1067
A Class		
1st place		Joseph Bowers
512	511	1023
2nd place		Gary Thompson
503	518	1021
3rd place		Michael Hopkins
498	521	1019
Bowhunter Freest	tyle Lin	mited Male
State Champion		Danny Alger
517	534	1051
2nd place		Harold Eller
507	525	1032
3rd place		Richard Rhodes
508	516	1024
A Class		
1st place		Glen Mabe
474	513	987
2nd place		Carl Chapman
476	510	986
3rd place		James Little
474	503	977
D	And a PT	Handler J. A. A. Transala
Bowhunter Freestyle Unlimited AA Female		
State Champion 484	495	Gloria Jenkins 979
404	473	919



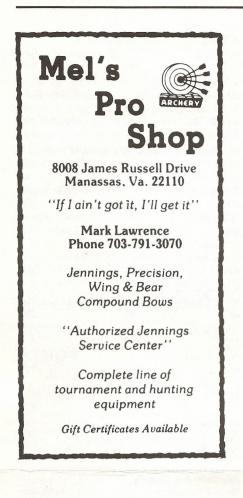
A Class		
1st place		Dorothea Wedding
411	450	861
B Class		C' L D
1st place	410	Cindy Dore
329 2. d ala ca	419	748 Maria Kasfa
2nd place 316	378	Marla Keefe 694
Bowhunter Freest	yle A.	
State Champion		Jannie Dillon
449	495	944
2nd place	105	Brenda Smith
454	485	939 Dahas Bashas
3rd place 454	476	Debra Barker 930
A Class	470	930
lst place		Vickie Turner
419	448	867
Barebow AA Mal		1 C . I I I
State Champion		homas Schanbacher
487 2md mla as	502	989 Elmon Maana
2nd place	499	Elmer Moore 970
471 2nd mla se	499	Russell Poe
3rd place 469	498	Russen Poe 967
A Class	490	907
lst place		Randy Davis
415	482	897
2nd place	402	Mickey Baugh
405	462	867
3rd place	102	Gary Jenks
413	450	863
Barebow AA Fem		
State Champion	laie	Cay McManus
482	506	988
		700
Bowhunter AA M	lale	Howard Farris
State Champion 473	505	Howard Farris 978
	303	John Boyd
2nd place 471	499	970
3rd place	777	Larry Thompson
448	486	934
A Class	400	,,,,
1st place		Wilson Godfrey
409	458	867
2nd place		Larry Robinson
413	435	848
3rd place		Joseph Elder
411	427	838
Young Adult Free	estvle	Unlimited Male
State Champion	cocyre	Eddie Fletcher
522	535	
Youth Freestyle U		
	min	Steven Quarles
1st place 485	491	976
A Class	771	510
State Champion		Shane Nicely
508	519	
Youth Barebow N	laie	Scott Wilkins
State Champion 385	414	
Cub Freestyle Lir	nited	
State Champion	17.	James Buttner
455	474	
Cub Freestyle Un	limite	
State Champion	F1	Amy Withers

517

1013

496

FLIGHT



VBA COMPUTERIZED?

by Dan Gregory, Chairman Computer Committee

The VBA directors have determined a need for a computer. The computer will be used for record keeping (scores) and letter writing, as well as maintaining mailing list of current and former VBA members. In the event of an emergency (such as the one in New Jersey) the membership can be mobilized in a hurry. Also, mailing list can be provided for club use in advertising club shoots, etc.

A letter is being sent to all club presidents requesting that each club raise at least 1.00 per member. This will cover about $\frac{1}{2}$ the cost of the system. Other methods will be used to make up the difference.

We need the support of each club to make this a reality.



V.B.A. OFFICERS

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