



# VBA



(200-220)

## FLIGHT

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA BOWHUNTERS ASSOCIATION

FLIGHT NO. 3

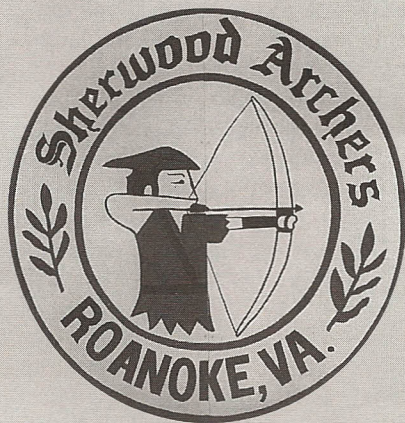
FALL 1996

VOLUME 39

*Closed State Champions . . .*



## VBA State Closed 1996



*. . . and 1996 Triple Crown Winners.*

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## Flight Deadline

The deadline for the Winter issue of FLIGHT will be *December 2, 1996*. 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 June Board Meeting Results

- **PASSED:** Motion to change title of the VBA Corresponding Secretary to Executive State Secretary.
- **FAILED:** Motion to create Senior Division at the 2 State 3-D with no class breakdown, effective for this year's shoot.
- **FAILED:** RECONSIDERATION of motion to change Article 16, Section 2, Item C to read "may" rather than "must." "It shall remain the prerogative of host club as to types of rounds

offered at their annuals. At least one qualifying round 'may' be shot in sanctioned tournaments with the exception of annuals."

- **PASSED:** Motion to change VBA State Indoor to a sectional, held at no more than one (1) club per zone and scheduled the same weekend. ↗

Respectfully submitted,

— *Ann Boyd*  
Executive State Secretary

Mr. James A. Overfelt  
Department of Mining and Minerals Engineering  
100 Holden Hall, Virginia Tech  
Blacksburg, VA 24061

Dear Mr. Overfelt:

I was recently chosen to be the recipient of the Virginia Bowhunters Association Annual Scholarship. I wish to express my deep appreciation to your organization and I commend your members for their continued support of education and natural resources. I am truly honored to accept this scholarship.

I am currently a junior at Virginia Tech. I am majoring in Wildlife Science. I grew up in Montgomery County and graduated from Shawsville High School in 1993. I attended Virginia Western Community College for two years before transferring. I enjoy many outdoor activities, including hunting, fishing, birdwatching, snow-skiing and hiking. I also participate in a wide variety of sports.

I plan to graduate in the spring of 1998 with a degree in Forestry and Wildlife and a minor in Communications. I would then like to pursue a graduate degree in wildlife science and seek employment with the federal government. I am concerned with the general lack of communication and understanding between the federal government and ordinary people who are affected by fisheries and wildlife policies. I would like to work as a mediator between citizens and government to find mutually beneficial agreements which also protect our natural resources. Thank you for providing a scholarship to the College of Forestry and Wildlife Resources at Virginia Tech.

Sincerely,



Daren A. Harmon

## VBA to Host Second Awards Banquet

The VBA has announced that its second Awards Banquet will be held Saturday, March 15, 1997 at the Mount Vernon Best Western motel in Charlottesville.

More than 60 persons attended the first banquet in 1995 and the event in March promises to be even more successful.

"The first banquet was a terrific event," said Bob Seltzer, VBA Hunting Vice President. "We expect that this year's banquet will be an outstanding evening that brings VBA members and their spouses together in a social setting to enjoy themselves and to honor members who have been fortunate enough to win awards."

Awards are presented to the VBA members who harvest the largest buck by weight and the largest doe by weight. A request to be considered for the award should be sent to Bob Seltzer. A copy of the game tag that provides details of the harvest and the right should accompany the request.

Also presented is an award to the person who harvests the largest rack as measured by the Virginia system, which allows the rack to be measured while still green. Requests to be considered for the largest rack award should be sent to Bob and must be accompanied by the score sheet, which can be completed by anyone certified to score the rack (most taxidermists and game wardens).

The deadline for receipt of all weight and rack entries is February 28, 1997.

This means that you need to plan NOW to enter your best animal harvested in the coming season. Although our previous winners had good animals, several VBA members had animals that would have scored higher - but they weren't entered!

"We hope to receive several entries in each award category," Seltzer said. "This year we hope our members will take advantage of the opportunity and submit their potential winners as soon as they are harvested."

In addition to the awards, the banquet will feature a display of animals, door prizes, raffle prizes and a prominent guest speaker.

The ambitious plans for the event will require a number of volunteers. Specifically, call Dave Burpee at the numbers listed at the end of this article if you can decorate; bring an animal for display; bring archery equipment for display; donate or solicit a door, raffle, or silent auction prize; or just volunteer to help as needed. Each of the areas listed already has a committee chairman to lead the effort. Contact Dave and he will put you in touch with the right person. As always, "many hands make light work."

The speaker this year is Scott Silsby, a nationally known expert in primitive technologies and in the manufacture of complete archery systems. Scott is also an expert on Native American Culture, a noted flint knapper, a retired Career Naturalist and co-founder of the Society of Primitive Technology. He will give an after-dinner presentation about Virginia "Indian" tribes, their lifestyles and their making and use of eastern woodlands archery equipment. Scott has given this presentation (with slides

and actual archeological examples) at other banquets. Comments from archers and their spouses indicate that he is entertaining, informative, and interesting - even for the non-archer.

The cost of the event is not finalized but is expected to be in the \$25 - \$30 per person range. Included is the meal and set-ups for drinks. Attendees provide their own bottle. Tickets will go on sale in January.

An added feature this year will be recognition of the buck, doe and rack trophy winners from last year. They have already received their trophies, but because the 1996 banquet was cancelled they have not received recognition at a VBA forum. The 1997 banquet is an opportunity to honor them along with the new winners.

Questions about the banquet or offers to volunteer can be referred to Dave Burpee, Belvoir Bowhunters, at (H) (703) 913-0508 or (W) (202) 496-3284 or e-mail [dburpee@nsia.org](mailto:dburpee@nsia.org).

Put the event on your calendar now and plan to buy your ticket(s) early in 1997.

*- Dave Burpee*



*Pictured here are VBA members who attended the 1996 NFAA Shoot in Watkins Glen, New York. Congratulations to all the winners!*

# Virginia Bowhunters Association 1996 State Closed Tournament

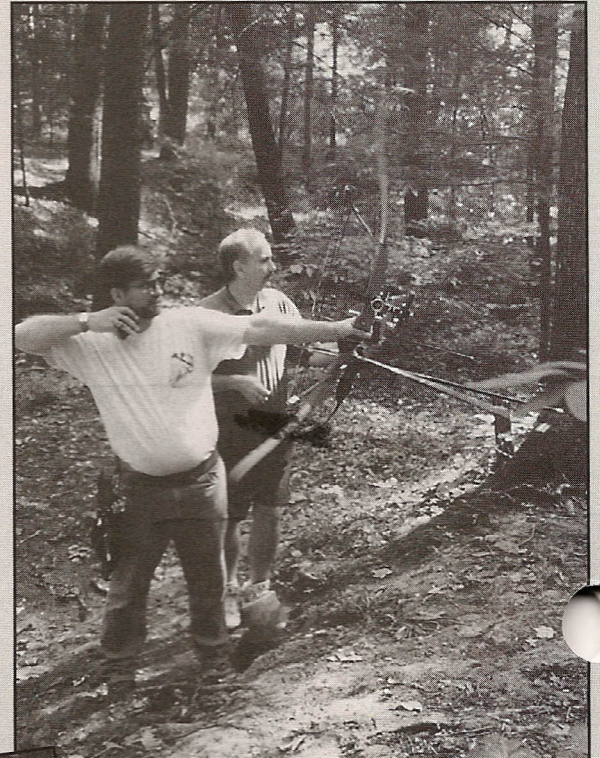
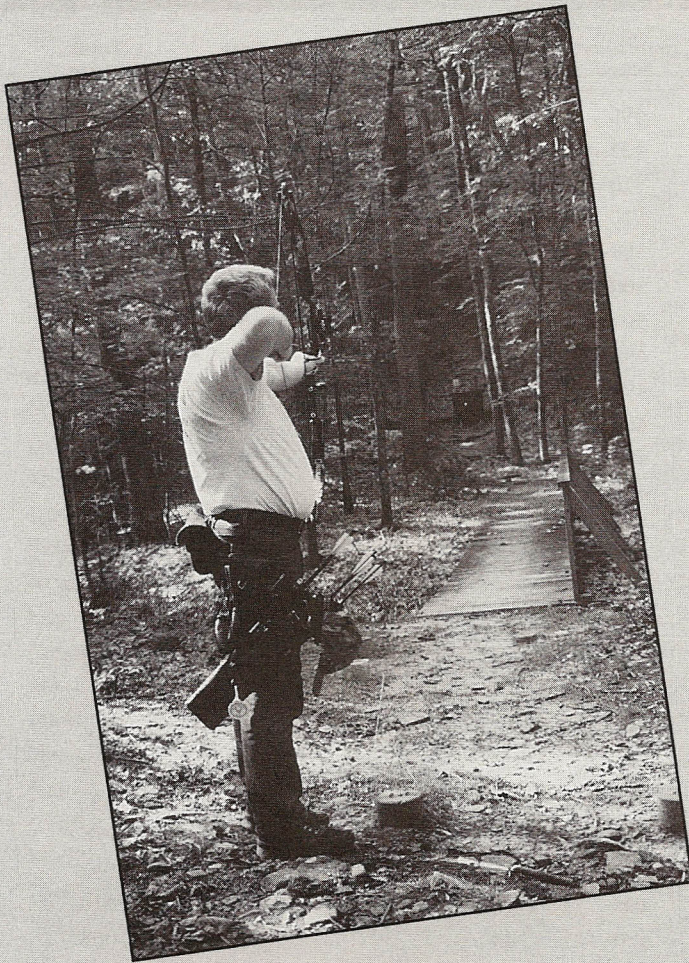
Rank	Name	Style	Class	Saturday Score	Spot	Sunday Score	Spot	Total Score	Total Spots
	Raymond Stone	Open-AMFSL	A	454	13	498	7	952	20
TC, SC	Cay McManus	AFBB	AA	494	19	533	145	1027	33
2nd	Gwenda Willard	AFBHFS	AA	490	24	510	10	1000	34
SC	Joyce A. Cameron	AFBHFS	AA	487	21	515	11	1002	32
TC, SC	Irene Stocksdales	AFBHFS	AA	452	12	470	2	922	14
1st	Sharon Hancock	AFBHFS	A	353	7	433	2	786	9
SC	Shirley S. Jordan	AFFS	B	388	2	470	5	858	7
TC, SC	Sarah L. Newmeyer	AFFSL	AA	438	6	480	4	918	10
SC	Rick Stark	AMBB	AA	492	20	520	7	1012	27
2nd	Phil Cantrell	AMBB	AA	481	14	496	8	977	22
3rd	Donnie Devall	AMBB	AA	444	7	493	9	937	16
1st	Chris Willard	AMBB	A	360	8	443	3	803	11
TC, SC	Howard Farris	AMBH	AA	493	26	518	10	1011	36
2nd	Robert W. Baublitz	AMBH	AA	469	15	483	5	952	20
3rd	John Boyd	AMBH	AA	453	12	465	4	918	16
	Carroll C. Willard	AMBH	AA	433	8	479	5	912	13
	Joe McManus	AMBH	AA	407	6	465	0	872	6
SC	Mitch Stonesifer	AMBHFS	AA	544	49	551	29	1095	78
2nd	Martin Stonesifer	AMBHFS	AA	538	52	549	29	1087	81
3rd	Darryl Diehl	AMBHFS	AA	537	47	544	20	1081	67
	Jerry L. Tice	AMBHFS	AA	530	49	549	16	1079	65
	Charlie Parsons	AMBHFS	AA	526	43	550	22	1076	65
	Michael H. Shupe	AMBHFS	AA	518	30	540	23	1058	53
	Paul Vogel	AMBHFS	AA	512	26	538	15	1050	41
	Mike Stonesifer	AMBHFS	AA	510	27	534	22	1044	49
	Danny Belcher	AMBHFS	AA	495	14	531	10	1026	24
1st	Thomas L. Barbee	AMBHFS	A	519	34	535	13	1054	47
2nd	David Robinson	AMBHFS	A	504	26	524	15	1028	41
3rd	Timmy Shelton	AMBHFS	A	488	18	504	7	992	25
SO, SC	Steve Walker	AMBHFS	AA	509	25	515	9	1024	34
3rd	Michael Smith	AMBHFS	AA	499	22	517	8	1016	30
2nd	Rob Owens	AMBHFS	AA	495	23	529	11	1024	34
	Jim Little	AMBHFS	AA	488	16	508	7	996	23
1st	James R. Herin	AMBHFS	A	499	15	513	9	1012	24
2nd	Jerry L. Jordan	AMBHFS	A	465	6	496	5	961	11
SC	Eddie Rogers	AMFS	AA	542	50	553	29	1095	79
2nd	Doug Hale	AMFS	AA	542	50	552	24	1094	74
3rd	William M. Hamlin	AMFS	AA	539	55	553	24	1092	79
	Danny Minnick	AMFS	AA	539	56	550	28	1089	84
	Robert Kenley	AMFS	AA	533	42	550	26	1083	68
	Ronnie Dove	AMFS	AA	531	42	545	24	1076	66
	Brian W. Young	AMFS	AA	529	47	541	21	1070	68
	C. D. Miller	AMFS	AA	527	44	555	33	1082	77
	Mark W. Lohr	AMFS	AA	527	37	542	20	1069	57
	Freddy Bailey	AMFS	AA	524	31	544	17	1068	57
	Billy R. Hamlin, Sr.	AMFS	AA	524	41	539	20	1063	62
	Don R. Davis	AMFS	AA	521	38	532	12	1053	50
	William Harman	AMFS	AA	520	46	527	11	1047	57
	Steve Lowe, Sr.	AMFS	AA	514	40	533	10	1047	50

# Virginia Bowhunters Association 1996 State Closed Tournament, (Cont'd)

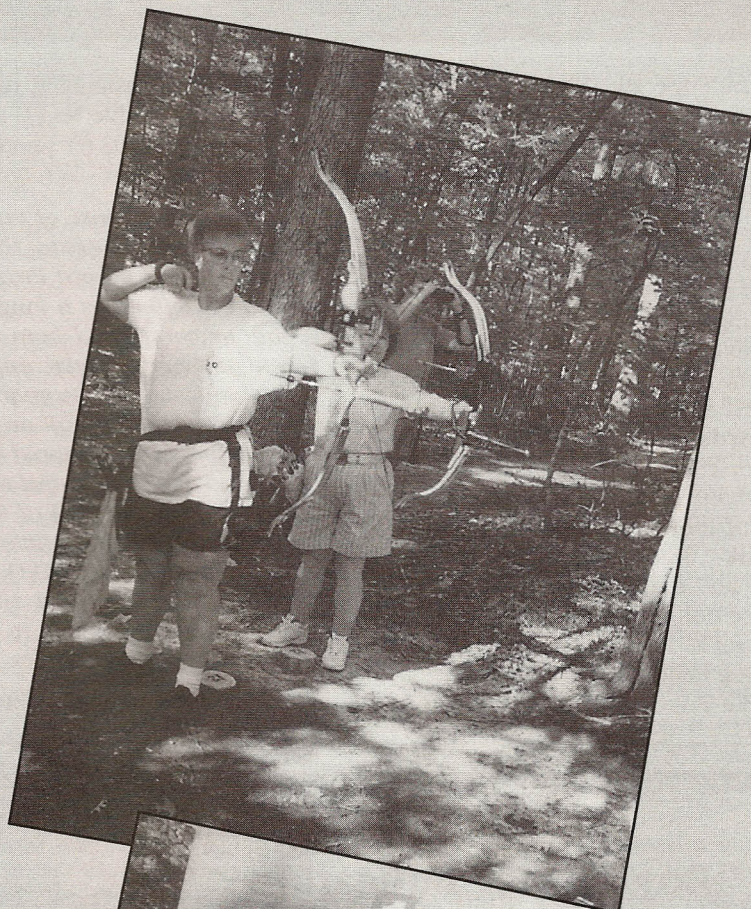
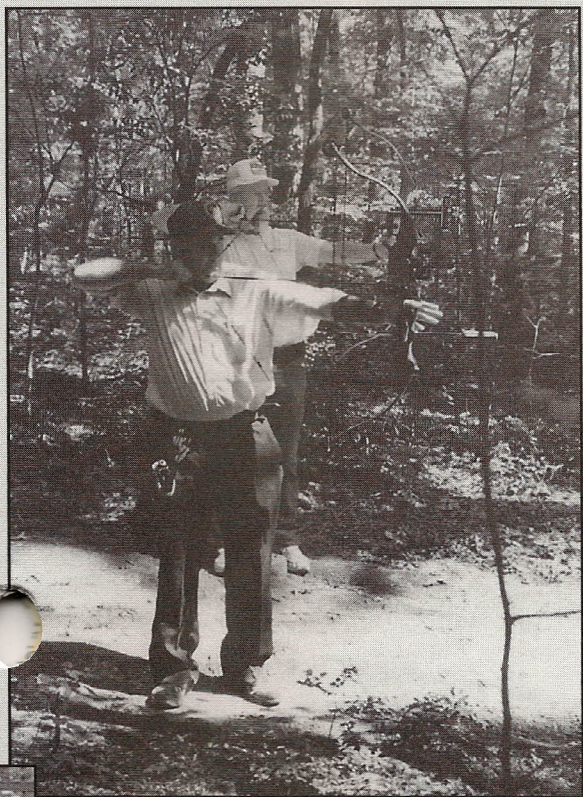
Rank	Name	Style	Class	Saturday Score	Spot	Sunday Score	Spot	Total Score	Spots
	James Brugh	AMFS	AA	496	19	526	11	1022	30
	Brad Leininger	AMFS	AA	427	17	516	8	943	25
1st	Rob Pecora	AMFS	A	518	34	534	15	1052	49
2nd	Danny Trent	AMFS	A	510	28	540	16	1050	44
	Tommy Wilhelm	AMFS	A	507	26	526	9	1033	35
3rd	Joe Seagle	AMFS	A	504	27	535	16	1039	43
	Richard Slater	AMFS	A	501	17	518	6	1019	23
	Terry Ballowe	AMFS	A	498	26	530	12	1028	38
	Keith Trent	AMFS	A	496	27	514	10	1010	37
	Chip Groseclose	AMFS	A	483	12	530	11	1013	23
1st	Doug Helsley	AMFS	B	482	19	517	8	999	27
2nd	Charles Smith	AMFS	B	457	12	402	2	859	14
SC	Greg Slater	AMFSL	AA	520	44	532	13	1052	57
2nd	Chester Hancock	AMFSL	AA	481	23	512	7	993	30
SC	Doug Leininger	CMBHFS	AA	425	7	495	7	920	14
2nd	Steve Herin	CMBHFS	AA	439	8	470	7	909	15
SC	Tim Stark	CMFS	AA	467	11	495	8	962	19
1st	Christopher Shelton	CMFS	A	464	4	488	4	952	8
1st	Gwendolyn McMurray	GUEST AFFS	B	481	23	525	11	1006	34
1st	Steve Tincer	GUEST AMFS	AA	532	48	542	27	1074	75
2nd	Randall Garber	GUEST AMFS	AA	499	18	523	10	1022	28
3rd	David Curtis	GUEST AMFS	AA	478	13	519	11	997	24
1st	Shane Parker	GUEST AMFSL	AA	519	31	532	15	1051	46
2nd	John Grossl	GUEST AMFSL	AA	496	18	521	12	1017	30
3rd	H. P. "Buddy" Lowman	GUEST AMFSL	AA	496	20	507	8	1003	28
1st	Brent Stone	OPEN CMFSL	B	389	5	441	6	830	11
1st	Ron West	PRO AMFS	AA	543	65	551	29	1094	94
2nd	James Thurman	PRO AMFS	AA	538	44	547	17	1085	61
3rd	David Schuab	PRO AMFS	AA	534	40	542	26	1076	66
	Dale Rucker	PRO AMFS	AA	531	44	542	20	1073	64
	Hank Megee	PRO AMFS	AA	510	27	509	12	1019	39
1st	Joe Herbert	PRO SAMFS	AA	547	62	556	30	1103	92
SC	Larrie L. Emerson	SAMBB	AA	456	6	508	3	964	9
2nd	Russell Poe	SAMBB	AA	454	11	491	2	945	13
SC	Earl F. Anderson	SAMBH	AA	421	7	463	3	884	10
SC	Roger Wheaton	SAMBHFS	AA	497	34	539	14	1036	48
1st	James R. Stone, Jr.	SAMBHFS	A	470	17	490	11	960	28
2nd	James C. Kyle	SAMBHFS	A	451	7	506	8	957	15
1st	Charley Davis	SAMBHFS	B	403	8	415	5	818	13
SC	Layton Allen	SAMFS	A	506	28	535	17	1041	45
2nd	Andrew Dobranski	SAMFS	A	499	30	541	15	1040	45
1st	Rusty Mann	SAMFS	B	405	7	476	1	881	8
TC, SC	Richard J. Merkel	SAMFSL	AA	491	21	516	6	1007	27
TC, SC	Beth Sue Pecora	YFBHFS	B	355	5	389	1	744	6
TC, SC	Denya Pecora	YFFS	B	475	17	510	8	985	25
SC	Steven Stark	YMBHFS	AA	438	8	499	6	937	14
TC, SC	Steve Lowe, Jr.	YMFS	AA	504	25	531	7	1035	32
SC	Dan Leininger	YAFSL	AA	384	3	495	2	879	5

TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED - GREAT JOB!!!

# Virginia Bowhunting Scenes from the



# Archers Association 1996 State Closed



*Rob Owens (left)  
congratulates Steve Walker  
(right) on winning the shoot-off in BHFSL.*



## Pope and Young Club News

The Pope and Young Club is one of North America's leading bowhunting and conservation organizations. Founded in 1961 as a nonprofit scientific organization, the Club is patterned after the prestigious Boone and Crockett Club. The Club advocates and encourages responsible bowhunting by promoting quality, fair chase hunting and sound conservation practices.

The Pope and Young Club is recognized as the official repository for records on bow-harvested North American big game. A successful bowhunter does not need to be a member of the Club to list an animal in the "Book." Animals must be taken with bow and arrow under the Rules of Fair Chase during the legal hunting seasons, as well as in accordance with the controlling hunting regulations.

The Pope and Young Club recently

upheld its longstanding rule which limits the acceptable let-off of compound hunting bows to 65 percent. The new official ruling reads as follows:

*"For the purpose of entering a harvested animal (into the Pope and Young Club's Record Program), a bow shall be defined as a longbow, recurve bow or compound bow that is hand-held and hand-drawn, and that has no mechanical device to enable the hunter to lock the bow at full or partial draw. Other than energy stored by the drawn bow, no device to propel the arrow will be permitted. A let-off of 65 percent on a compound is the maximum allowed, as defined by the A.M.O.'s method of measuring let-off and allowing for a minor deviation due to rigging and manufacturing variables."*

The Club also still prohibits the use of

any electronic device (such as lighted sight pins) on the bow or arrow when submitting an animal for entry into the Pope and Young "Book."

There are three levels of membership in the Club: Associate, Regular and Senior. All new members must join the Club as an Associate. The only requirement to join as an Associate Member is to be a bowhunter and have pursued the challenge long enough to have harvested at least one adult North American big game animal with the bow and arrow (not necessarily of record class size). If you are interested in applying for membership in the Club, contact:

**Pope and Young Club**  
15 East 2nd Street  
P. O. Box 548  
Chatfield, MN 55923  
(507) 867-4144

### Bowhunter Education Program Courses Scheduled in Virginia



<u>Locations</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Fort Belvoir Fairfax County, VA	September 14 September 28 October 6 October 20 November 3	Fort Belvoir Fairfax, Virginia Outdoor Recreation To register, call (703) 805-3781. Cost: \$7.50
Naval Air Station Virginia Beach, VA	September 22 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.	NAS Oceana Natural Resources Center To register, call (757) 433-2151 Cost: \$5.00
Bristol, VA	September 28	Kettlefoot Rod & Gun To register, call Ken Sorrels (540) 328-8485
Centreville, VA	September 14 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.	Cub Run Archers To register, call Mike Bosley (703) 815-3716
Henrico County	September 14 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.	Sandy Point Recreation Area To register, call Steve Wooten (804) 674-0150

Remember -  
the best bowhunter  
is an  
educated bowhunter!  
Call to register now!



## What's It All About?

Waiting motionlessly in the ground blind, hidden by a patch of mountain laurel and two small clusters of oak trees, we listened intently through the dead silence of the woods, hoping to detect the faint rustle of leaves that would signal the approach of our quarry, a whitetail deer.

Sixty yards from our position was the end of a wooded ridge. The ridge ran for a half mile, to the top of a mountain on our right. Fifteen yards in front of us, at the base of the ridge was a heavily used game pond. The boundary of a seven year old clearcut adjoined the edge of the pond and ran down the valley. The ground blind was in perfect position to take advantage of this well used transition area. Our confidence was high as we waited for deer to start moving that evening.

With twilight approaching, the woods started to come alive with game. Three does appeared and slowly fed their way down the crest of the ridge just out of range. They entered the thick clearcut, vanishing from sight, leaving us with thoughts of placing a tree stand on top of the ridge for the next evening's hunt.

Within a few minutes we caught a glimpse of a dark image moving through the clearcut. The evening shadows combined with the thickness of the clearcut had us wondering if our eyes were playing tricks on us. But the image kept moving and eventually crossed into the laurel, fifteen yards behind us and stopped. Eventually, the entire image came into focus. I raised my bow and started to draw but the bear mysteriously vanished into a creek bottom.

Just before dark, we heard a flock of turkeys working their way down the ridge toward us. We knew this would be the last opportunity for this evening's hunt and the chance of harvesting a turkey made our heart rates soar with anticipation. The turkeys abruptly stopped about eighty yards from us. We could only sit and listen as they scratched in the dry leaves. Then to our surprise they flew to roost. One by one, seven turkeys took flight into the trees.

Our hopes of tagging a turkey disappeared with the darkness, but the hunt had still been a great success. Even

though there were no shooting opportunities we had seen a grand slam of Virginia's big game animals. It was an evening to remember and we walked back to the truck in silence, reflecting on the evening's events.

Driving home that night my hunting partner seemed as pleased as I was about the hunt. I inquired as to what he thought was the most exciting thing that had happened. He replied without hesitation, "I liked watching the chipmunk running around in the leaves." You see my hunting partner, David, is only seven years old.

Last year David expressed an interest in going hunting with me in the fall. I told him he was not old enough to hunt but he could come along to watch and learn. He also would have to go scouting with me, practice shooting at the range, learn how to take care of equipment, sit patiently, field dress game, etc. This wasn't enough to discourage him and off we went on one of the most interesting seasons afield I have ever had.

David quickly learned to read deer signs. On scouting trips he stopped at every track, bed, rub and droppings we came across to proudly show them to me. He accompanied me to the range three times a week where we practiced shooting. Whenever I

worked on my bow, arrows and hunting equipment he would be sitting there waiting to hand me whatever I needed. Opening day always comes slowly but finally hunting season arrived and off we went.

We were filled with anticipation as we approached our secret spot on that opening morning. Our ground blind was adjacent to a well used deer trail in a travel corridor that adjoined a feeding area on one end and a bedding area at the other end. The corridor formed a funnel, about 60 yards wide and 200 yards long and was so thick we had to crawl the last 20 yards to get into our ground blind. From our position we had a 35 yard view down the trail. This was the longest and only opening in the corridor where a bow shot was possible. There was a gentle wind coming from the fields where we fully expected to see a deer materialize shortly before sunrise. We were in place, the conditions were perfect and we waited.

Just as we had dreamed a hundred times before opening day, a deer stepped into view at the end of the trail. When her head was down I started to raise my bow. David's eyes were bulging out of their sockets as he sat like a statue, just as I had instructed him to do. Everything seemed to be moving in slow motion; the deer would look, smell and nibble after each step down the trail. I started moving my bow into position, inch by inch, when the deer had its head hidden from view. The tension continued mounting for what seemed like an eternity. Eventually, the deer came within 20 yards of us. I was ready to draw as a second deer appeared at the end of the trail. The deer closest to us turned broadside and looked at the deer behind it. In one motion I drew my PSE Mach-5 and anchored the 20 yard pin on the deer's chest. Everything was perfect. Then like a bolt of lightning, "SHOOT NOW" echoed through the tree tops. When quiet had been restored and the white flags had vanished, I looked down at the excited little boy gasping, "Did you get him?" Thank goodness, I was speechless.

What's it all about? "Havin' fun."

— Don Alan Quackenbush



## Women in Hunting: Modern Day Pioneers

In the last 20 years many aspects of life have changed. Some are negative forces, while others are surprisingly positive. One of the positives is women participating in the sport of hunting. Hunting seems to be the last frontier with women in sports. Each year an increasing number of women take to the fields with great enthusiasm, although few have hunted as long or have been as successful as Darlene Frye of Lovettsville, Virginia.

Frye has been an accomplished bow hunter for more than 20 years. After a few years of watching her husband leave to go hunting she decided it was time to find out "what this hunting thing was all about." "A few times out in the field hunting and I was hooked," said Frye. She was so taken with hunting a decision was made to quit her job enabling her to hunt each deer season.

That first season turned out to be unsuccessful but rewarding. The following spring found Frye and her husband in Colorado bow hunting for black bear. Persistence paid off, with her first bow kill, a large black bear. Twenty years later Frye has taken nearly 50 whitetail bucks with her bow. A tremendous feat for any hunter regardless of gender!! In addition, she has taken several black



bears in Canada, mule deer and elk in Colorado, and a mountain lion which is entered in the Pope & Young record book. She also enjoys bow fishing for carp in the spring near her home. Frye is constantly practicing and sharpening her skills by shooting in 3-D archery tournaments with her husband. Along with her many accomplishments, she is also a national and local 3-D archery trophy winner.

Some women who are interested in hunting are hesitant to start for the lack of a suitable teacher. Not all interested women have a husband who hunts or is willing to walk her through the proper instructions and techniques. Although each newcomer to the sport must take a state hunter safety course, hunting, for

the most part, is a sport that is best learned in the field.

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries is developing and educational outreach program targeted on encouraging female participation in the outdoors. It is currently called "Women In The Outdoors Program." In the near future it will be aligned with the national "Becoming An Outdoor Woman" program. Virginia is designing its program with a specific goal in mind, that of providing women with necessary expe-

ences and skills that will allow them to feel both comfortable and competent to participate in hunting, fishing and other wildlife related outdoor activities.

Not many hunters are as skilled or perhaps as lucky as Darlene Frye, however the program is waiting for any women teetering on the edge. Perhaps the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries can put a novice at ease.

*For more information, call or write:*

**The Virginia Department of  
Game and Inland Fisheries  
4010 West Broad St.  
P. O Box 11104  
Richmond, VA 23230-1104  
(804) 367-1000**

*—Greg Hise*

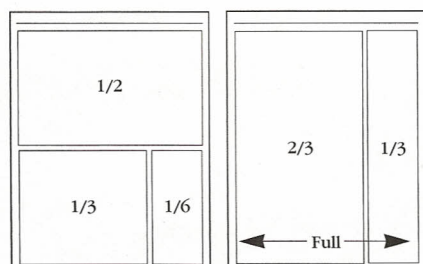




### Advertising Rates for Flight

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## FROM SCARLET'S KITCHEN

### VENISON CHILI

- 6 slices bacon, cut into 1/2 inch pieces  
 2 pounds ground venison  
 1 large onion, chopped  
 3 cups water  
 1 (28 ounce) can tomatoes, undrained and chopped  
 1 tablespoon chili powder  
 1 teaspoon pepper  
 1 teaspoon salt  
 1 teaspoon ground cumin  
 1 teaspoon garlic powder  
 1 (16 ounce) can kidney beans, undrained

Cook bacon in Dutch oven until crisp; remove bacon with a slotted spoon, reserving drippings in Dutch oven. Set bacon aside. Add venison and onion to Dutch oven. Cook over medium heat until meat is browned, stirring to crumble. Drain off pan drippings; add bacon, water, and next six ingredients. Bring to a boil. Cover, reduce heat, and simmer 1 hour, stirring occasionally. Add kidney beans; cover and cook an additional 30 minutes. Serve with sour cream, green onions, and cheese, if desired. Yield 2 1/2 quarts.

### VENISON-VEGETABLE BAKE

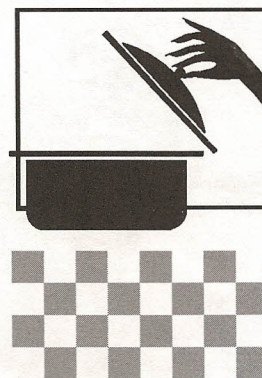
- 2 pounds smoked venison sausage  
 1 small onion, thinly sliced  
 1 (14 1/2 ounce) can stewed tomatoes  
 1 teaspoon dried whole oregano  
 1/4 teaspoon pepper  
 4 medium potatoes, thinly sliced  
 4 medium carrots, thinly sliced

Remove casing from sausage, and discard. Brown meat in a large, lightly greased skillet over medium heat, stirring to crumble. Remove sausage, and drain well, reserving drippings in skillet. Sauté onion in drippings; drain well, and discard drippings. Combine onion, tomatoes, oregano, and pepper in skillet. Simmer until heated; remove from heat.

Arrange potatoes in a lightly-greased 13 x 9 x 2 inch baking dish. Top with carrots. Sprinkle sausage over carrots; spoon tomato mixture over sausage.

Cover with aluminum foil. Bake at 350° for 45 minutes. Yield: 8 servings. *Note:* Thinly sliced Polish sausage may be substituted for the venison, if desired.

— Submitted by Scarlet Rucker



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