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FLIGHT NO. 1 VOL. 39

Published Quarterly Dave Proctor, Editor 3730 Singers Glen Road Harrisonburg, Va. 22801 Bulk Rate Postage Paid at Bridgewater, Va.

Flight Deadline

The deadline for the Summer issue of FLIGHT will be *June 3*, 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 <u>your</u> newsletter!

From the Editor

Hopefully, by the time you read this issue of *Flight*, we will have had our last taste of winter. Most of us will be anxiously awaiting warmer temperatures and some outdoor shooting. Many of our members will be tuning new equipment for that first field round or a 3-D tournament. Some will be practicing their turkey calling techniques for the spring gobbler season. And others may be planning a spring bear hunt to relieve their cabin fever. Whatever form of archery therapy you use, I hope you take the time to enjoy it.

I've just returned from the State Indoor Tournament with a list of shooters, scores, and pictures to arrange and get ready to print in the *Flight*. As this issue is being worked on, I would like to remind all host clubs of State Tournaments that it is their responsibility to furnish the *Flight* editor with accurate and legible listings of shooters, scores, and placement of winners. Please, as a host club, make this one of your priorities. It is important to the participating individuals and to the other VBA members who enjoy reading the results. Thanks, and

Good Shooting,

ATTENTION!!! Corr

The correct dates for the NFAA Nationals are July 29 – August 2.

The dates listed on the VBA Sboot Card are inc<u>orrect.</u> From the Corresponding Secretary

In the past several months, I have received numerous telephone calls from members and club secretaries about the post card reminder from NFAA of member's dues expiring on a certain date. This is a courtesy reminder that NFAA started in mid 1995 because NFAA dues expire at different times during the year for all NFAA members. In most cases, if you have paid your NFAA dues to your club secretary and they have mailed them to me, this notice has simply crossed in the mail, so please disregard it.

_Ann R. Boyd

Bowhunter Safety Course Offered

Every serious bowhunter needs this course! Learn the "how-tos" of ethics and hunter responsibility, safety, equipment set-up, game anatomy, shot placement, reading signs, trailing, field dressing, tree stand installation and more. Attendance at both sessions entitles you to bowhunter certification which is

required for out-of-state hunts.

March 23 & 24 • 1 – 6 p.m. • \$7.50 per person Izaak Walton Park, Amherst County Pre-registration is required. Call Al Baughman – 804-525-7427.

Sponsored by the National Bowhunter Education Foundation and the Walton Park Bowhunters

VBA to Postpone Second Annual Awards Banquet

The VBA has announced that its Second Annual Awards Banquet will be postponed until March 1997.

The banquet was set for Saturday, March 30, 1996 at the Mount Vernon Best Western Motel in Charlottesville.

According to Dave Burpee, banquet chairman, the primary reason for cancellation was a lack of support by the VBA membership.

"Putting on a banquet requires financial commitments to a caterer and hotel," Burpee said. "Unfortunately, when it was time to sign the contract, there were fewer than twenty VBA members who had said they would attend. Also, we had not received a commitment from our guest speaker. We simply couldn't afford the financial risk, and we don't want to put on a second rate event."

Bob Seltzer, VBA Hunting Vice President, said the trophies for the VBA members who harvest the largest buck by weight, the largest doe by weight and the largest rack as measured by the Virginia system would still be awarded – most likely at a VBA meeting.

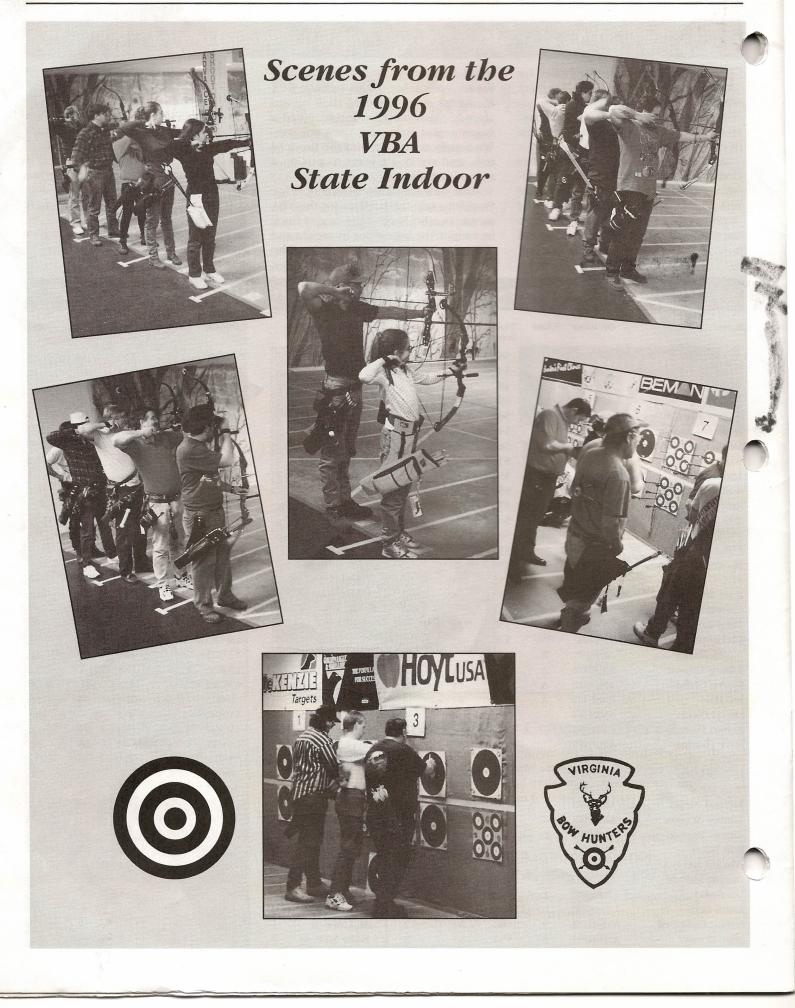
The banquet next year will be scheduled for late March and will feature presentation of the 1996-97 hunting season awards as well as recognition of this year's winners. In addition to the awards, the banquet will feature a display of animals, door prizes, raffle prizes and a prominent guest speaker.

Put the event on your calendar now and plan to commit early!

Virginia Bowhunters Association 1996 State Indoor Tournament

Name	Division	Class	Final Score	Total x's	Rank	Name	Division	Class	Final Score	Total x's	Rank
Cay McManus	AFBB	A	580	54	SC	Mark Jenkins	AMBHFSL		551	22	
Robin Vogel	AFBB	Α	535	21	2	Dennis Mitchell	AMBHFSL		551	29	
Gwenda Willard	AFBH	Α	480	17	SC	Greg Kesner	AMBHFSL		548	28	
Diana Delgado	AFBHFS	Α	592	76	SC	Robert Baublitz	AMBHFSL		543	29	
Auvray Shumate	AFBHFS	В	567	38	1	James Mauk	AMBHFSL	С	521	21	1
Irene Stocksdale	AFBHFSL	Α	546	32	SC	James E. Smith	AMBHFSL	С	517	23	2
Debbie Maricle	AFFS	Α	566	29	SC	Bill Hamlin, Jr.	AMFS	Α	600	114	SC
Judyth Ingram	AFFS	Α	553	28	2	Kendall Woody	AMFS	A	600	111	2
Cynthia Diehl	AFFS	А	551	27	3	James Riddel	AMFS	Α	599	103	3
Sarah Newmeyer	AFFSL	Α	550	27	SC	Bobby Norris, Jr.	AMFS		599	104	
Ricky Stark	AMBB	A	578	52	SC	Mark Lohr	AMFS		598	83	
Phil Cantrell	AMBB	A	564	42	2	Brian Tate	AMFS		597	76	
Bill Keen	AMBB	Α	561	44	3	Bill Hamlin, Sr.	AMFS		592	78	
Chris Willard	AMBB	В	533	22	1	William Shumate	AMFS		588	50	
Howard Faris	AMBH	A	570	40	SC	James Brugh	AMFS		587	61	
Paul Vogel	AMBH	A	555	44	2	Rob Pecora	AMFS	В	574	51	1
John Mason	AMBH	A	553	31	3	Steven Lowe, Sr.	AMFS		299	33	inc.
Carroll Willard	AMBH		541	30		Giles Gilley	AMFSL	Α	570	51	SC
Terry Lambert	AMBH		530	24	3 1	Rodger Willett	AMFSPRO	PRO	600	116	SC
Christopher Bruce	AMBH		526	26	4	Doug Lester	AMTRAD	A	274	3	SC
Joe McManus	AMBH	В	480	10	1	Sarah Delgado	CFBHFS	Α	481	12	SC
Johnny Gibson	AMBHFS	Α	599	91	SC	Chanelle Lohr	CFBHFS	Α	133	3	2
Steven Oldham	AMBHFS	Α	596	84	2	Christopher Shelton	CMBHFS	A	432	10	SC
Jeff Hale	AMBHFS	A	596	83	3	Haynies Davis	SMBB	A	514	13	SC
Darryl Diehl	AMBHFS		595	109		Sanford Straight	SMBHFS	А	583	59	SC
Robert Hansford	AMBHFS		595	72		Charley Davis	SMBHFS	A	536	21	2
Jerry Thomas	AMBHFS		594	83		Russ Shannon	SMFS	A	573	60	SC
Michael Shupe	AMBHFS		594	77		Charles Kenyon	SMFS	A	558	30	2
D. J. Delgado	AMBHFS		592	65		Richard Merkel	SMFSL	Α	563	43	SC
Whitney Wagner	AMBHFS		590	60		Victor Matthews	SMFSL	A	562	41	2
Richard Parker	AMBHFS		587	61		Joe Herbert	SMFSPRO	PRO	600	109	SC
Tommy Wilcox	AMBHFS		585	65		Heather Stevens	YAFBHFS	A	562	31	SC
Timmy Shelton	AMBHFS	В	574	38	1	Denya Pecora	YAFFS	A	573	46	SC
Wilt Baker	AMBHFS	В	573	51	2	Nicholas Willard	YAMFS	A	595	67	SC
Edward Stevens	AMBHFS	В	563	48	3	Beth Pecora	YFBHFS	A	334	1	SC
Donnie Maricle	AMBHFS		563	36		Steven Hale	YMBHFS	A	557	24	SC
Les Goss	AMBHFSL	Α	591	68	SC	Kenny Hale	YMBHFS	А	541	34	2
James Little	AMBHFSL	В	564	42	1	Justin Campbell	YMBHFS	A	459	9	3
Robert Campbell	AMBHFSL	B	560	38	2	M. Lowe, Jr.	YMFS	A	588	59	SC
Mike Heaster	AMBHFSL	В	554	33	3	Eddie Stevens	YMFS	A	542	28	2

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Hunting Bait-Shy Bears

A large, black object appeared in my peripheral vision. Turning my head very slowly, I focused on a large bear cautiously walking the perimeter of the baited area.

The sow stopped three times to look at a nearby vacant permanent tree stand and sniff the air in an effort to detect human presence. My excitement grew as it looked like my tactic – seldom used by bear hunters – would be successful.

My tactics for hunting over bear bait would change on this pilgrimage to Maine, beginning with my stand. Calling my guide and outfitter Jack Pierce of North Ridge Bayed Bear Outfitters, I informed him that I would be bringing my portable tree stand. He agreed that it sounded like a good idea.

The exciting sport of black bear hunting has, in recent years, shown tremendous growth in Maine. Nearly all bear outfitters use permanent tree stands, the result being that bears become conditioned to look directly at the stands before coming in to baits. By setting up a portable stand in a new position, many times a hunter can outfox a wary black bear.

Many times, the ability to change tactics is crucial to a successful hunt.

The aforementioned bear walked directly behind my tree stand only twenty yards away, sat down on her haunches and continued to sniff the air. Unfortunately, in the distance I could hear a helicopter approaching fast. With one tremendous bolt she was gone. I wouldn't see the bear again until the following day.

However, my tree stand tactic had proven to be a success.

The following day, fifteen minutes before it would be too dark to shoot an arrow, the big black bear suddenly appeared in the thickets directly behind the bait. Never hesitating, she looked up at the old permanent stand and, satisfied that all was well, turned broadside for a perfect lung shot.

Once again, hanging my portable stand fifteen yards from the wooden adder stand the outfitter hand-built – nd directly in front of a pine tree to break up my outline – proved to be a technique that works on conditioned bears. But not any portable stand will do. An inherent problem with many climbing stands is the noise made when setting them up. Traditional bowhunter and expert bear hunter Tom Frye notes, "Many bears are never very far from the bait site, so it's imperative that a hunter be as quiet as possible upon entering and leaving a hunting area." For this reason, I use a hanging stand and tie-on tree steps, as the screw-in style is illegal in Maine. The hanging stand affords the hunter a quiet entrance and exit.

All but two of the five bowhunters in the camp that week switched to rifles because bears were moving off before getting near the bait. Aside from the tree stand factor, patience is a must when bear hunting over bait. A few hunters in camp tried in vain to convince me that I would be unsuccessful if I continued with my bow. However, bowhunting is the ultimate challenge for a bear hunter and settling for anything else would be sacrilege for me. Patience also applies to time per day spent in a tree stand. Pierce recommends that his clients arrive at their stands earlier in the afternoon than most outfitters do. This is a key tactic, as Pierce relates. "I've had quite a few bears taken around one or two o'clock, rather than the typical three or four o'clock that most outfitters suggest." This tactic, while time-consuming, has proven effective for me on occasions when bears seemed to be hitting baits early in the morning or at night. If you don't see a bear for several days, try a trail timing device. In my case, many times the bait was hit a little after one o'clock, according to the trail timing device I used. One very simple tactic for



harvesting a wary black bear is to stay in your tree stand until dark. Most of the bears that I have taken – including the 250 pound sow on this trip – were shot just before dark. However, many bear hunters are not willing to risk running into a bear on the way out of the hunting area in the dark. Take it from veteran guide Pierce – "Hunters who stay on stand longer naturally increase their chances substantially."

Probably the least known or practiced bear-hunting tactic is calling. Calling can either be very productive and exciting or boring and frustrating. Calling in a bear isn't unlike calling any other predator. First the hunter must be in an area bears frequent. In Maine, this will be a baiting area with the caller set up in a location with excellent visibility to ensure that a bear cannot sneak in undetected. Frye again describes bears' keen senses. "Although a bear has only average sight, its sense of smell more than makes up for mediocre eyesight. And as in any big game hunt, always monitor wind direction and keep the wind into one's face when calling," he says. As in most predator calling, the greatest results are in early mornings not a popular tree stand time - and afternoons. Calls can be as simple as a rabbit-in-distress sound, made by kissing the back of a hand, or pursing the lips. However, most use a hand-held reed call.

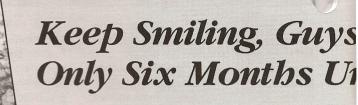
Typically, sows and young boars will come in to a distress call very quickly, with an old boar arriving much slower. But note: if a bear is called in and fooled

once and gets away, the hunter may never get a second chance. Bears are smart. If you are unlucky enough to have a bear in the area that has been fooled once, you'll know it. The bear will ignore your call or run in the opposite direction.

The ultimate lesson to be learned is never to hesitate trying different tactics. You just might be the only one in camp who returns with a used bear tag!

- Greg Hise

Author's Note: To book a Maine bear hunt, contact: Jack Pierce North Ridge Bayed Bear Outfitters RFD 1, Box 5508 Lincolnville, Maine 04849 (207) 763-3900





Barry Henningsen



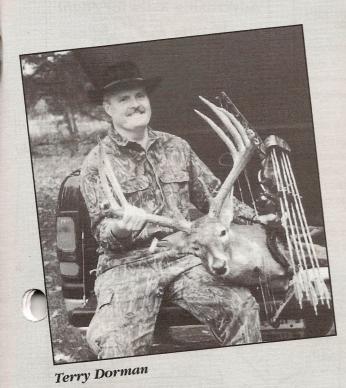
Kenneth Sorrels



Zach's father – he forgot to give us <u>his</u> name!



til Hunting Season!

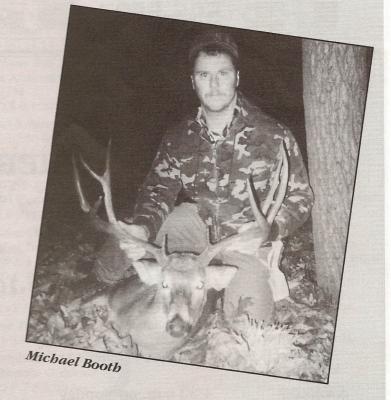




J. O. Guyant



Elvie Sbifflett, Jr.



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1996 VBA Tournament Schedule

Abbreviations P-Pin Shoot, T-Trophy Shoot, O-Other, F-Field, H-Hunter, A-Animal, 3-D, M-Multiple Registration, C-Casual Registration, SG-Shotgun Start, BD-Both Days Annuals in Bold Type \$-Money Round

March 30 & 31 VBA Meeting Charlottesville

March 31 Sunday Blackwater F/H P 10:00 SG Wythe Spring Feyer 3-D T 10-1:00 C Cub Run F/H P 9-1:00 C M

April 7 Sunday Two Rivers F/H P 8-12:00 C M Dixie 3-D 9-1:00 C

April 13 & 14 VBA Spring Classic Manahoac

April 20 Saturday Augusta F 3-D T & P 8-2:00 C Kingsboro 3-D O 9-11:30 C Sherwood F/H P 10-1:00 C

April 21 Sunday Massanutten F/H P 8-12:00 C M Northern Va. 3-D O 10:00 C Seminole F/H P 9-12:00 C Wythe F P 10:00 SG Rockingham 3-D T 8-2:00 C

April 27 & 28 Warwick Annual Silver Bow F/H T 8-11:00 BD C M Sherwood Dogwood F/H A T 8-11:00 Sat. 8-10:00 Sun. C M

April 28 Sunday Belvoir 3-D P 9:00 SG Shenandoah (shoot at Two Rivers)

F/H P 8-12:00 C M May 4 Saturday

Kingsboro H P 10:00 SG

May 5 Sunday Dixie 3-D P T 9-1:00 C Buggs Island F/H P 10:00 SG Loudoun F/H P 8-1:00 C **Manahoac Annual Totem Pole F T** 10:00 SG Rockingham 3-D T 8-2:00 C New River F (300 Money Round) 10:00 SG

May 11 Saturday Staunton River F/H P 10:00 C Septa 3-D O 9-12:00 M May 12 Sunday Dickenson C. F P 9-1:00 C Warwick F/H P 9:00 SG Massanutten F/H P 8-12:00 C M May 18 & 19

VBA STATE OPEN Buggs Island May 25 & 26 Augusta A 3-D P T 8-3:00 Sat. 8-2:00 Sun. C

May 25 Saturday Kingsboro 3-D O 9-11:30 C

May 26 Sunday Two Rivers F/H P 8-1:00 C M Walton Park F P 8-10:00 C Warwick 3-D T 9-12:00 C Wythe Billy Rakes Memorial 3-D T 10-1:00 C Bearcreek H P 9-1:00 C

June 1 & 2 Loudoun Freddy Feather Annual F/H T 8-1:00 Sat. 8-12:00 Sun. C M

June 2 Sunday Dickenson C. 3-D \$ 9-2:00 C Kingsboro Annual F T Reg. 9-10:00 SG at 10:00

June 8 & 9 Massanutten Annual F/H T 8-12:00 BD C M

Bearcreek 3-D \$ 9-1:00 BD C June 8 Saturday

Septa 3-D O 9-12:00 M Sherwood H P 9-12:00 C

June 9 Sunday Manahoac 3-D T 9-2:00 C Triangle F (300 Money Round) 10:00 Warwick F/H P 9:00 SG

June 15 & 16 VBA Meeting - Charlottesville Cub Run Safari A T 9-3:00 Sat. 9-1:00 Sun. BD C M

June 15 Saturday Staunton River F P 8-10:00 C

June 16 Sunday Rockingham F 3-D P T 8-2:00 C

June 22 & 23 NFAA Mid Atlantic Outdoor Augusta H 3-D P T 8-3:00 Sat. 8-2:00 Sun. C

June 23 Sunday Blackwater F/H P 10:00 SG Northern Va. F/H O 3-D P 10:00 SG Wythe F (300 Money Round) 10-12:00 C Shawnee F/H P 8-12:00 C Warwick 3-D T 9-12:00 C *June 29 & 30* Two Rivers Annual F/H T Coon Shoot Fri. & Sat. Even. 8-2:00 Sat. 8-12:00 Sun.

June 29 Saturday Kingsboro 3-D O 9-11:30 C

June 30 Sunday Walton Park H P 8-10:00 C Belvoir H P 9-11:00 C New River F/H P 10:00 SG Bearcreek F P 9-1:00 C

July 6 & 7 Buggs Isand Big Apple Annual F T 8:00 BD C M

July 7 Sunday Massanutten F/H P 8-12:00 C M Northern Va. 3-D O 9-1:00 C

July 13 Saturday Septa 3-D O 9-12:00 M

July 14 Sunday Rockingham 3-D T 8-2:00 C Shawnee F/H P 8-12:00 C Warwick F/H P 9:00 SG Seminole Bill Ingram Memorial F/H T 9-12:00 C Manahoac 3-D T 9-2:00 C Dickenson C. H P 9-1:00 C

July 20 Saturday Kingsboro F P 10:00 SG Sherwood F (300 Money Round) 10:00 SG

July 21 Sunday Prince William F/H P 10:00 SG Two Rivers H A P 8-1:00 C M Wythe Walter Dillow, Sr. Annual F T 10-12:00 C

July 27 & 28 New River Annual Children's Miracle Network 3-D 8-2:00 BD C July 27 Saturday

Kingsboro 3-D 9-11:30 C

July 28 Sunday Staunton River H P 8-10:00 Belvoir Annual 3-D T 9:00 SG Warwick 3-D T 9-12:00 C

July 29 – August 2 NFAA Nationals

August 3 & 4 Prince William Black Bear A T 10:00 BD C M

August 4 Sunday Triangle Annual Trophy F/H 9-10:00 C Seminole F A P 9-12:00 C Massanutten H P 8-12:00 C M

New River's Annual Benefit Shoot <u>Rack</u>s Up Another Success!

Fellow Archers and Bowhunters,

This past summer, on July 29 and 30, the New River Bowhunters held its Third Annual Children's Miracle Network 3-D Bowshoot to benefit sick children. In the last two years our shoot has grown in size - not as much as we would like - but by a significant amount. In two days, 473 archers shot 574 rounds. Participants came from all over, including six other states. Some archers from Georgia made their pilgrimage here for the second time. We feel that this speaks very well of our event. Many archers promised to return again next year. Thanks to all the many VBA members who came for their support and participation. We hope to see even more of you this year.

Many other activities were scheduled in addition to the shoot itself. The Ohio Whitetail Spectacular displayed twenty of the largest whitetail heads many of us had ever seen. The exhibit proved very popular and attracted many non-archers to the event. We also hosted more than twenty dealer displays which drew much interest – many people left wanting to know more about archery.

On hand for the adults were representatives from Skoal and Levi Garrett, who handed out free samples plus Cooler Rules and bumper stickers. Both have said they will return this year.

When all was said and done, the club was able to donate \$4,000 to the Children's Miracle Network through our local Wal-mart, which, in turn, presented us with a plaque of appreciation for our help.

Once again, we thank all of you for your support and hope to see you all again this year on the last weekend in July. For some stiff competition that benefits a worthy cause, come on over and give us a try!

> — Tony Hall, Secretary New River Bowhunters Club Galax, Virginia

Some Sbots from the SHOOT!

And the winners are...

North River Bowbunters Club members accept a plaque of appreciation from Wal-Mart for their work for the Children's Miracle Network.



300 ROUND MONEY SHOOT-OPEN

Mini Tour 1996

May 5, 10 am, Sunday New River Archers

June 9, 10 am Sunday Triangle Archers

June 23, 10 am Sunday Wythe Bowhunters

July 20, 10 am Saturday Sherwood Archers

\$10 registration fee, 70% payback to the shooters! 10 shooters per FLIGHT, plus TIES

1st Place 60%, 2nd Place 25%, 3rd Place 15%

All Shooting Styles and All Age Groups as Defined by the VBA and NFAA.

Target will be Field Target scored 5, 4, 3 300 Field Round,

15 targets, 60 arrows.

All Flights pay the same!!! Everyone has a chance to WIN! The more shooter registered, the more FLIGHTS will be available.

This official NFAA round is a very enjoyable round. The 80 and 70 are NOT shot and the round takes 2.5 hours to shoot.

The idea of this Mini-Tour evolved at the September '95 VBA meeting by Bobby Utt and Lloyd Overfelt of New River; C. D. Miller, director of Wythe, and member of Triangle; Jim Overfelt, director of Triangle; and John VanLew, director of Sherwood.

The purpose is to provide a money shoot, a shortened round, the opportunity to introduce a new archer or 3-D shooter to target archery! This Mini-Tour is an OPEN event and we encourage you invite all your friends to shoot. Help us advertise these events and support each!

1996 VBA State Open Tournament Hosted by Buggs Island Archers

May 18 & 19

Registration Friday night, May 17, 6 – 10 p.m. and Saturday morning, May 18, 7 – 8 a.m. (No Pre-registration!)

Menu Barbecued Chicken Baked Beans Cole Slaw Beverage \$5 per Plate

Saturday Night Program Includes:

- Supper Served on Club Grounds (Tickets Sold in Advance on Friday night and Saturday)
 - Horseshoe Tournament
 - Bluegrass Band

Area Motels Clarksville, VA

Lake Motel - 1-804-374-1806 Lighthouse Motel - 1-804-374-2123 Slagle's Motel, Hwy. 58W - 1-804-374-8820 Needmoor Bed & Breakfast - 1-804-374-2866

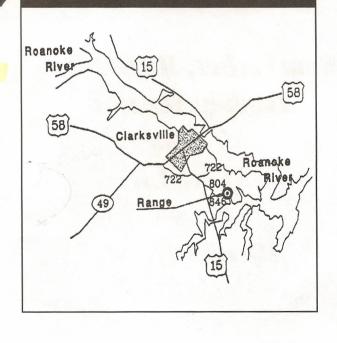
South Boston Area (25 Miles) Howard Inn, 360E – 1-804-572-4311 Crestview, Hwy. 58W – 1-804-572-3022 Hilltop Motel, Hwy. 58W – 1-804-572-3553 Hudson Motel – 1-804-572-2959

Super 8 Motel, Hwy. 58W - 1-804-572-8868 Days Inn, Hwy. 58W - 1-804-572-4941

Chase City (18 Miles)

Wesco Motel, Hwy. 92W - 1-804-372-5161





VIRGINIA BOWHUNTERS ASSOCIATION, INC. Ann R. Boyd, Corresponding Secretary 154 Wilkins Drive Winchester, VA 22602 Bulk Rate U.S. Postage **PAID** Permit No. 21 Bridgewater,VA 22812

Remember, Hunters – Turkey Season Opens April 13. Please Hunt Safely!