



FLIGHT



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Tribute To Martin L. Smith Virginian of Archery Renown

By PAT HAMILTON
for Virginia Bowhunters Association, Inc.

It is with heavy hearts that members of the Virginia Bowhunters Association mourn the death of their friend, colleague and fellow archer, Martin L. Smith, who gave so much of himself to the betterment of Archery for all archers. In the relatively few years that Martin was associated with the sport, there is no individual who left a greater mark of achievement and endeavor along the course of better organization to a sport that is in such dire need of leadership of his calibre.

Many of those who sat in meetings with him had a hard time keeping up with him in thought and there were few, if any, who could remain ahead of him, so deep and long range was his thinking. To see Martin in a group of people, he would not be the first to catch your eye other than he always had a ready smile, was always friendly and was never too busy or preoccupied to listen whether it be a new idea or a classic petty complaint—it was when he spoke that one became aware of the great mind, his deep thoughts and the vastness of his vision on the topic at hand. His was the great gift of being able to sum up a given situation, after hearing discussion pro and con, and present it in its proper perspective. His command of the English language was superlative, his fluency unerring with no hesitancy in searching for the proper word to convey his exact meaning.

Martin was born in Lawrenceville, Georgia, on March 21, 1900. He attended school in Atlanta and Georgia Tech for special courses. His trade was pattern maker which attributed to his deftness with his hands. He went to Pensacola, Florida, in search of work and there he met Juanita Grimsley whom he married in 1922. He was then employed at the Naval Air Station and came to Virginia in 1930, where he was superintendent of Production Planning at the Naval Air Station at Norfolk, Va., until his retirement in 1960. Martin and Nita had four children—Donald, who now lives in Connecticut and has just been elected President of the Connecticut Archery Association; Edwin, living in Wheeling, Illinois; Jacquelin Vogon of Beloit, Wisconsin and Doris Nixon of Virginia Beach, Virginia.

The Princess Anne Bowmen located on the Naval Air Station property aroused Martin's interest in the bow and arrow in 1955.

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RICHMOND ARCHERS WILL HOST STATE SHOOT

The Nineteenth Annual VBA State Championship Shoot will be held in the City of Richmond this year, September 5 and 6, with Richmond Archers acting as the host club.

According to officers of the club, the tournament will be held in beautiful Bryan Park, in Richmond's north side, with the cooperation of the Department of Parks and Recreation. VBA members attending the shoot will have at their disposal modern laboratories, telephone, water, beautiful camping and picnic area with an abundance of tables and plenty of shelters. There are paved roads throughout the park and there will be spectator ranges with paved walkways. The ranges will have new target butts of either the round Saunders Company type or the square precision pac type by American Excelsior.

The park itself is located on Interstate Route 95 and contains 263 acres of well-kept lawns, rolling terrain and large trees. It is easily accessible from any section of Richmond.

Within five blocks of Bryan Park are large modern motels such as Holiday Inn, the Town Motel, etc., all of which contain fine food and service. Also nearby, is a large shopping center. It is hoped there will be no need for it but, in case of emergency, Richmond Memorial Hospital is only five minutes away.

The three ranges that will be set up will be entirely new and no one will have had an opportunity to practice on them.

The Richmond Archers believe that with the new type of ranges that archers will be shooting on, new avenues to archery will be opened. It is felt that with the experienced personnel from both the club and the City of Richmond, this year will produce one of the finest State tournaments ever.

Television, radio and newspaper coverage will be used to advertise this event and put it before the public eye.

Make your plans early to attend the Nineteenth Annual VBA State Championship Shoot, September 5 and 6, in Richmond, Virginia.

NEW FLIGHT EDITOR

Starting with the April issue of FLIGHT, your new editor will be Wyatt L. Mays, Rt. 2, Madison Heights, Virginia. Information on ads, news items, etc., should be forwarded to Wyatt for inclusion in the April issue.

STATISTICS OF THE 1964-65 BOW SEASON

Of the 64 applications received to Jan. 8, 1965, 40 deer were bucks and 24 doe. Of the bucks most were still small antlered but more good specimens showed up this season than in the past. 12 were 6 point or better with 2 deer bagged by Jack Dunn and Andrew Dippre being 12 point. Of 22 deer actually weighed, the average was 115 lbs.

Most bowhunters were successful between the hours of 5 and 6 o'clock in the evening (18 taken), and the next best time was between 4 and 5 o'clock (7 taken). Morning hours were 7, 8, and 9 o'clock with 6 for each hour, but some deer were bagged each hour during the day, except the noon hour.

Richard W. Fenn was the first successful hunter this season with a doe bagged on Chincoteague during the Sika deer season. Saturdays were the next best day with Nov. 14th being "the day" (7 taken). October 19, 22, 24, and November 7 were next best days. 19 bowhunters centered on the lung area, 13 making spine shots and 10 getting into the heart area. Average distance of the successful shots was 25 yards, with a 10 ft. shot from a tree stand being the closest and a 60 yard shot being the longest.

Bow weights moved up this season with an average weight of 45 lbs. The heaviest being 71 lbs., the lightest a 28 lb. There were 39 wood arrows, 21 glass, and 4 aluminum. Arrows were tipped with: Bear Razorhead, 32; Spiral Killers, 4; and Bodkins, 4.

Wythe Bowhunters led the clubs with 9 kills and Two-Rivers and Fort Eustis being 2nd and 3rd with 8 and 6 respectively. Our successful bowhunting ladies were Jacquelyn Street and Penny Shannon.

G. B. BOOTH, JR.
Hunting Vice President

INSURANCE TROUBLES?

If your club is one of the few whose NFAA range inspection expiration date falls between November 1, 1964 and October 31, 1965, and your club desires but is unable to procure liability insurance through NFAA, write to Corresponding Secretary Sue Price, 1712 N. Quincy Street, Arlington, Va., 22207, for information on where and how to obtain liability insurance, with good coverage, at a reasonable price.

FLIGHT

News and Views of the Virginia
Bowhunters Association, Inc.

VBA OFFICERS: Eugene Limerick, President, 446 Hanson Avenue, Fredericksburg, Va.; Clinton Western, Executive Vice President and FLIGHT Editor, 4041 Virginia Ave., N. W., Roanoke, Va.; Woody Woods, Conservation Vice President, 577 Magnolia St., Waynesboro, Va.; G. B. Booth, Jr., Hunting Vice President, 108 S. Washington Street, Staunton, Va.; Bill Marshall, Field Vice President, 5012 Huntington Avenue, Newport News, Va.; Hugh Darnell, Recording Secretary, Rt. 1, Box 399, Springfield, Va.; Sue D. Price, Corresponding Secretary, 1712 N. Quincy St., Arlington 7, Va.; C. D. Tarter, Treasurer, Box 78, Wytheville, Va.; Ted Greffe, VBA & NFAA Field Governor, P. O. Box 352, Fairfax, Va.

“20” PIN WINNERS

December, 1964-January, 1965

35 Yards

Jerome Cantrell, Springfield
Joel Wells, Yorktown

40 Yards

Franklin D. Willis, Fairfax

45 Yards

Jerome Cantrell, Springfield
Nina Enders, Norfolk

50 Yards

None

55 Yards

Sam Sherwell, Yorktown
Franklin D. Willis, Fairfax

60 Yards

Dollie McPeak, Front Royal

65 Yards

Edward Rose, Alexandria
Harry Benton, Norfolk
John Mullins, Manassas Park

80 Yards

None

FROM: OFFICE OF THE
HUNTING VICE PRESIDENT

To date there have been 87 applications received for big game bagged this season. This is considerably below last year's bag at this time. I believe the final count will at least equal last season's, but the successful hunters are just slow in sending in their applications. As most of you know, the two-week regular gun season on deer failed to bag the number bagged last year in the one week. This is going to be another reason for some objections to our 30-day bow season. One commissioner has already voiced his objections. The fact that the two-week small game season overlapped the bow season didn't seem to figure in the picture of spooking the deer back into the unaccessible areas of our mountains.

From my personal experience, this season's overlap did not cause the bowhunter much concern. I saw many more deer the last two weeks than the first two. It may have made the deer just a bit more cautious, if that is possible.

Some objections have come to light on this overlap, because there is the possibility of someone bagging a deer with a gun and then using an arrow on the same animal in order to check it in as bow-killed game. This objection, while possible, doesn't necessarily have foundation. You can't set seasons and pass laws to legislate against a violator.

Just the same, while we have the support of the Chief Game Commissioner, the Game Biologist and most of the other commissioners and Forest Personnel, we must stay on guard against any such moves as the one in Botetourt County last winter.

Listed below are names of the 87 persons killing deer during the past big game season, along with the type of deer taken:

Claude F. Welton	6 pt. buck
Carson Compton	9 pt. buck
Kenneth J. Hinson	4 pt. buck
J. E. Blankenship	4 pt. buck
J. C. Blankenship	Doe
L. J. Vaughan	Button buck
M. L. Blankenship	2 pt. buck
W. R. Dillow, Sr.	Button buck
W. R. Orr	4 pt. buck
Tommy Topham	2 pt. buck
Harold Street, Jr.	Doe
Jacquelyn Street	3 pt. buck
C. A. Huff	Doe
Penny D. Shannon	Button buck
Sidney Johnson	7 pt. buck
Robt. Sargent	Doe
James Moore	Button buck
Ronald Hockman	4 pt. buck
Emory E. Clifton	Doe
J. W. Burke	8 pt. buck
H. J. Hiserman	Doe
Bud Fultz	Doe
Lacie L. Foltz	Doe
Robt. Day	Button buck
Irvin Bodkin	Button buck
Hobart Bentley	Doe
Vic Peyton	Button buck
Athos Morganti	2 pt. buck
Fred McDermott	3 pt. buck
R. T. Akins	Doe
Charles Shantzer	Doe
S. M. Heffinger, Jr.	Doe
W. R. Ludlow	Doe
Jack Cantwell	Spike buck
Jack Cantwell	8 pt. buck
Franklin M. Lewis	6 pt. buck
Edw. J. Wightman	4 pt. buck
C. B. Lineberry	Doe
J. K. Liddle, Jr.	Buck
Arthur Burcham	2 pt. buck

Arthur R. Shape, Jr.	Doe
R. W. Fenn	Doe
C. H. Gallimore	Doe
Ernest Barr	Doe
S. Clay Dillon	Buck
Dick Wassum	Doe
W. G. Frye	4 pt. buck
Andrew Dippre	12 pt. buck
C. H. Rasnake	Doe
Donald Sanders	Doe
Stewart Bradford	8 pt. buck
Jack S. Dunn	12 pt. buck
Arch Thompson	10 pt. buck
Gerald Upton	8 pt. buck
Wm. B. Upton, Jr.	2 pt. buck
Tommy Wilhelm	2 pt. buck
Kenneth Wiseman	2 pt. buck
Franklin J. Turner	Doe
Sam Sherwell	2 pt. buck
Donald L. Seal	2 pt. buck
Michael W. Martin	Doe
Luther Lane, Jr.	6 pt. buck
T. E. Hancock	2 pt. buck
Roy M. Gumm	Doe
E. E. Blankenship	Doe
Haswell Frazier	Doe
D. L. Lucas	Doe
Dotson Miller	Doe
Lacy Perdue	Doe
Gary Stallard	Doe
Herman Stamper	Doe
R. M. Thomas	4 pt. buck
F. K. Wellington	Doe
Michael Martin	?
John W. Berry, Jr.	3 pt. buck
Wyatt L. Mays	Doe
Robt. Williams	3 pt. buck
Billy Winsett	Doe
E. D. Baker	Spike buck
Wm. Perdue	?
John McCabe	2 does
Lowell Roberson	Buck
Gerald C. Seagler	Doe
W. M. Martin	Doe
E. E. Martin	Spike buck
Eddie Landram	Spike buck

G. B. BOOTH, JR.
Hunting Vice President

V.W.F. PATCHES

For those of you who wish to order Virginia Wildlife Federation patches, there is a new treasurer of the organization. His name is Mr. A. C. Carmean, 9 Newport Avenue, Newport News, Virginia, and you may direct your orders to him. Patches are \$1.00 each and decals 25 cents each. All V.B.A. members are eligible to wear the V.W.F. patches.

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Tribute to Martin L. Smith

(Continued from Page 1)

In 1956, he joined that club and attended his first State Championship Tournament in Harrisonburg, Va., and never missed one from that time on. He attended his first N.F.A.A. Championship Tournament in 1958 and all thereafter except 1963.

The Board of Directors of V.B.A. recognized the potential officer material in Martin and in 1958 he was appointed to serve the unexpired term of N.F.A.A. Field Governor for Virginia. This appointment was coupled with the office of V.B.A. Field Governor. He was then elected to another term in the same capacity.

In 1960, he was elected N.F.A.A. Mid-Atlantic Representative. He relinquished this position when he was appointed to serve the unexpired term of N.F.A.A. Vice-President. He ran for N.F.A.A. President in 1963 and was defeated. He served on the N.F.A.A. Reorganization Committee from 10-18-61 until his death and also the N.F.A.A. Classification Committee. He attended the N.F.A.A. Reorganization meeting in Las Vegas in 1962. Upon returning from Las Vegas, he ran into difficulty with the reorganization committeemen in that they were lax with the correspondence and this hampered any progress that may have been made. His request to N.F.A.A. President Boenig that he be removed from the committee because of its ineffectiveness towards achieving its objectives resulted in Boenig's personal request that he undertake the job of drafting the proposed constitution for the Reorganization of N.F.A.A. in 1963. In 1964, this constitution was submitted at the Chicago special meeting of N.F.A.A. which had approximately seventy-five per cent state participation. Ninety-five per cent of the entire constitution as drafted by Martin Smith, the Virginia Delegate, was approved by 100% of those present.

This was an exceptional feat in itself, for one man to please 100% of the archers present by 95%. It was indicative of one thing, Martin knew what the archers wanted and had the ability to put it in writing and took the time and effort to do so. This knowledge of the desires of the archers was gained by his extensive travelling all over the United States since his retirement in 1960. He and his wife, Nita, travelled many times across the country, at their own expense, talking to archers and officers on state and national levels. He talked archery in Newfoundland, Honolulu and Bermuda. Even though he was a comparative novice to the sport in the time element, he was an expert in the background and needs of the sport. Martin liked to shoot; but his greatest fun from the sport was attained from those with whom he locked horns in discussion. He never lost his enthusiasm, and had no bias and was not opinionated; these are some of the reasons he could so readily choose the best course to follow. His was an open mind, seeking only to give the best to any office held.

Martin was a life member of N.F.A.A., a member of the Professional Archers Association and served on the committee of "Code of Ethics" which is a very necessary one and will work with the appearance of archers and portraying archers in a better light. He was a recipient of the "Order of the Golden Feather," the highest honor bestowed by the Virginia Bowhunters Association for service to the sport beyond the normal call of duty. You may wonder why he never held a state office. This was due to the fact that it was commonly recognized by all that Martin possessed the qualifications for higher offices

and the state felt that he could best serve all archers just as he did.

Martin was a man of great character, no matter what role he played—father, husband, friend, sportsman or colleague—he did so with dignity, ever mindful of what he could give to the role and not what he could get.

We will miss the deep, rich, resonant voice of our beloved friend and mentor who did such an outstanding job in helping us carry the ball in our seemingly endless struggle for the betterment of all archers, and we are proud that we had the opportunity of knowing and working with him these past few years.

Rudyard Kipling's "If" says it better than I—for he was a Man, our Martin.

RESULTS OF FIRST ANNUAL MID-ATLANTIC INDOOR TOURNAMENT

The First Annual Mid-Atlantic Indoor Open Archery Tournament was held on January 17 at the Sports, Travel & Auto Show at the Civic Center in Baltimore, Md. Despite snow and ten degree temperature, 53 archers from 11 states participated in the shoot. William Bednar of Suffield, Ohio, took first place prize money of \$250.00 in the Men's Division with 290 points out of a possible 300. Gwen Learn of Pittsburgh, Pa. led the Women's Division with a score of 261.

A portion of the archers from Virginia who attended the shoot were: James Mitchell, Bedford, Wyatt Mays, Lynchburg, Tom Taylor and Mrs. Taylor, Richmond, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Necessary, Richmond, Pat Hamilton, Richmond, and Mr. and Mrs. Joe Clifton, Richmond. I understand there were other archers there from Virginia, however, their names are not available.

None of Virginia's archers placed in this event. What happened fellows?

OBSOLETE PINS

If your club has obsolete pins to be turned in for credit, get them to the Field Vice President no later than April 11. After that date, no credit will be given for pins that have been made obsolete by action of the Board of Directors.

Two-Rivers Archers Chalk Up Third of Total Bear Kill

Investigation by Emory E. Clifton, a member of the Two-Rivers Archers, Front Royal, has developed the following facts concerning bow and arrow killed bear in the Old Dominion:

Members of the Two-Rivers Archery Club of Front Royal have accounted for one-third of the total number of bears taken by bow and arrow, according to information obtained from the Commission on Game and Inland Fisheries.

Commission figures indicate that nine bears were killed by archers from the first time a bow and arrow season was declared on bear in 1961 through the 1963 hunting season. Front Royal hunters took three of them.

Not included in the figures are the 1964 count. One Shenandoah County resident bagged a bear by bow and arrow this year, but other figures are not available.

The first person to kill a bear with bow and arrow in Virginia when the season was opened was C. W. Hughes of Washington, D. C., who took a bear in Augusta County on Oct. 16, 1961. The following day, on Oct. 17, 1961, Vic E. Peyton of Churchville killed a bear in Highland County.

The first Two-Rivers archer to bag a bear was Emory E. Clifton of Front Royal, who took one on Oct. 18, 1961, in Bath County. That same day, Robert Riggelman of Hinton, killed one in Augusta County. On Oct. 23, Thomas L. Wood of Staunton bagged a bear in Bath County; on Oct. 26, O. P. Elsea of Riverton, another Two-Rivers member, bagged the only bear killed by bow and arrow in Warren County; and on Oct. 27, Jerry Lavne of Fishersville killed a bear in Augusta County.

The only bear bagged by bow and arrow in 1962 was by Clarence W. Woods of Waynesboro, who found the animal in Augusta County.

Donald Huffman of Front Royal, the third Two-Rivers archer to take a bear, took the only one in Virginia in 1963. The bear was killed in Rappahannock County on Oct. 22 of that year.

Of the 70 members of the Two-Rivers Archery Club, only about 30 per cent are hunters. This year, they have compiled an enviable record of taking 10 deer by bow and arrow.

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CRAZY?

A few weeks back during a holiday I took off down the country, leaving town early in the morning and coming back around 8 o'clock that night. I spent a most enjoyable day during which I accomplished absolutely nothing constructive. Instead of cleaning up some brush as I'd promised myself, I wandered around and picked some wild flowers that, as usual, I couldn't identify from the reference book. Instead of fishing, I sat on the dock and fed crackers and stale bread to the bream and watched for the shadowy forms of bass out in the deeper water, leaving the fishing to a noisy kingfisher across the pond. And about noon ate a can-opener lunch.

I dozed off for a pleasant hour and then got up to spend the afternoon walking lazily through the woods—watching and listening to the birds, studying the tracks of animals in the damp places, and giving not a thought to the troubles of the world, except to be unconsciously thankful they were far from me. Every 15 or 20 minutes I'd stop and sit motionless on a stump or log and let the woods come to life, realizing how much life there is if you'll take the trouble to be still and look for it.

I lost a staring match with a big chicken snake when I was unable to longer resist scratching my nose, the snake going slithering off through the bushes at my first movement. A little warbler flitted fitfully through the branches, never letting me get close enough to identify it, and a raucous pileated woodpecker went cackling in undulating flight across a pond.

There was nothing remarkable about the day except for one thing—I did not see another human being from the time I turned off the highway that morning until I reached it again that night; and, as far as I can recall, I had not an envious or mean thought all day.

The next day I happened to mention to a couple of people how I had spent my holiday and they looked at me as if I were crazy. If I am, I believe the world would be better off if there were more crazy people; and more places where people could be crazy in peace.

—EDDIE FINLAY in
South Carolina Wildlife Magazine

**WALTON PARK ARCHERS
RECEIVE AWARDS**

Lynchburg area bowhunters have received trophies awarded by S. O. Fisher, a local sporting goods store, for deer killed during the 1964-65 archery hunting season.

Top honors this year went to Raymond Arthur who downed an eight-point buck in Buckingham County. Second was Jerry Walton with a seven-point buck killed in Amherst County.

Other winners were: Wyatt Mays, E. D. Baker, Johnny Berry, James Childress, Doctor Donald Shotten, Russell Williams and Robert Matthews.

TOURNAMENT SCORES

Club secretaries take note. Effective immediately all tournament scores will be posted by the Corresponding Secretary. So, instead of sending your tournament scores to Bill Marshall, Field Vice President, send them to Sue Price, 1712 N. Quincy Street, Arlington, Va. 22207.

Order of the Golden Feather

G. B. Booth, Jr., Hunting Vice President, and C. J. "Woody" Woods, Conservation Vice President, were recipients of the Order of the Golden Feather, at the VBA meeting held January 10, 1965. The Order, for those of you who are new to archery in Virginia, is bestowed in honorary recognition to persons who possess the virtues of sportsmanship, character, morals, integrity and friendship, and who have rendered outstanding services to Archery and/or the Virginia Bowhunters Association. There are now approximately 14 members in the Order.

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