

THE BOW IS THE BEST WAY

Hunting Gar Pike

by Carey Price

While one is poling a flat bottom boat and the other is ready with bow and glass arrow and if one can pole quietly enough, you might get a shot at a gar, and if you hit one and get penetration, then all you have to do is get it in the boat without getting raked with their many sharp teeth. You need a bow, preferably 45 or more lbs. with a very sharp barbed point. Sting-A-Ree point is good and a reel attached to the bow with heavy duty line - 100 lbs. test, for instance - attached to a heavy solid fiber glass arrow.

According to American Wildlife Illustrated compiled by the WPA Writers Program in 1945 "Protected by a coat of mail and teeth-filled codilian jaws, gar pikes hark back to that dark and distant time when huge dinosaurs roamed the land and their contemporaries - the armor-plated, boneless monsters of the deep - were just beginning to

give way before the more agile bony fishes of today. The gars' heavy scales are found in only one other surviving type of fish, though often among the fossils of archaic forms. They are living anachronisms. Their survival is probably due to their close approximation to the modern fishes in such features as a bony skeleton and fins, a spiral valve of the intestine, and a lung-like air bladder.

"So tough is the coat of the gars that no fishes in their range can cope with them. Even the efforts of man are often futile in subduing them, for since they cannot be hooked in their bony jaws, the use of special tackle and bait which they swallow is necessary. The plates of the skin are so hard, at least in the larger specimens which grow ten or twelve feet long and

(Cont. on Pg. 6)

TED TUERKE Wins Mid-Atlantic

by LOUIS HUDSON

With over 350 Archers registered the Mid-Atlantic was a huge success for The Warwick Bowmen & the V.B.A.

There were 3 beautiful ranges at the Newport News Park which everyone enjoyed shooting, as reflected by some of the high scores. TED TUERKE from the Warwick Bowmen shot an outstanding 1674 out of 1680. Also shooting some very hot scores were PANSY BROWN of Md. in women's F.S. Div. who shot a 556 on the Hunters Round in winning her championship. TOM OTT from Loudoun Co. won Flight 2 with an outstanding 1664. CLAY SARGENT won the Pro Div. with 1674 with 2 perfect 560 rounds.

Scores & pictures & other coverage will appear in next issue of Flight.

Congratulations to the Warwick Archers for running a fine shoot.

NEWS AND VIEWS OF VIRGINIA
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From The President

There are two things that concern me at the present time. One, that V.B.A. needs a one or two page mimeographed paper telling a new archer or a prospective archer the ways and means of becoming a club and V.B.A. member, plus giving the advantages he will enjoy from becoming associated with organized archery. Do we have a member who is fluent in writing that would prepare us such a letter?

I would like to share with you two pictures showing Wythe Bowhunters' conservation project. I believe that the V.B.A. Director should vote in favor of conservation when a worth while project is presented to him.

For \$100.00 you can hire a small 'dozer for 8 hours that can build one mile of trails, a pond or clearing. Wythe Bowhunters had the usual problem - that the work days for this project didn't pan out, but five or six faithful members used chain

saws to clear the area. This is necessary if you don't mind having trees pushed out with the 'dozer. We felt sawing the trees into 6 ft. lengths would be neater, and we might sell it as pulp wood. Just don't count on much money from scrub trees. We got \$6.00 and haven't collected yet.

Fertilizer and seed are quite high. We spent around \$60.00. The Game Commission furnished seed, but remember the feed patch seed is annual and would have to be planted every year. They do have lespedeza which we used along with fescue and clover so that we would have a permanent cover. The State Forestry Service will furnish you with outline shrubs for \$2.50 per hundred that we used where the 'dozer left a ridge along the trail's edge, providing food for wildlife.

Harold Street



VOLUME 13 FLIGHT NO. 6

Published Bi-Monthly
Carey G. Price, Publisher
855 N. Kensington St.
Arlington, Va. 22205
Second Class

POSTAGE

paid at Vinton, Virginia

ADVERTISING RATES - \$2.50 per
column inch

Reflections of Three Years

by Carey G. Price, Exec. V.P.

When I was elected Executive Vice President and Flight Editor in June 1971, V.B.A. and N.F.A.A. were involved in the controversy on whether to accept the compound bow in all divisions. At least 50% of the tournament's archers must own compounds now with more being bought every day.

I was fortunate to attend the 1971 State Shoot at Warwick when Jim Quarles pulled off his back-to-back perfects on the field and hunter rounds. He was using a stick bow at the time. He is now using a compound and still can't shoot any better than perfect.

I've watched apprehensively while attacks were made on the bowhunters and the effectiveness of their weapons. We have been defended successfully in court and I believe successfully in some of the news media.

I remember publishing the results of Ralph Stevens' questionnaire in the 1972 Jan.-Feb. issue. One question in particular bothered me and that was one that asked "Does your club send a V.B.A. representative to V.B.A. quarterly meetings?"

(cont. on Pg. 5)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

No ballots are being sent out for V.B.A. elections this year due to the fact that no offices are contested.

Please send all copy for ads and articles for next issue of FLIGHT to:
Louis M. Hudson
Rt. 1
Berryville, Va. 22611

NEW EDITOR NEEDS HELP!

As this paper goes to press I will be sworn in to the duties of the editor of this newspaper which Carey Price so masterfully talked me into. My only hope, as I take this new job, is that I will be able to do as well as Carey has done during his term as Executive Vice President and Flight Editor. This will certainly be a hard job, but I do believe this paper can be made better and more interesting if we as a membership work very hard on it. I would appreciate any articles of interest that any club or individual in the Virginia Bowhunters Association would like to submit before the deadline date of each issue.

Since this is a paper for all our clubs I hope you take this opportunity to use its facilities. Please support your advertisers and let's try to get more ads in the coming issues to help defray the higher cost of publication and mailing. So would appreciate any help I can get in the coming months in order to make this a publication we will all be proud of and will be looking forward to receiving every two months. Thank you very much -

Your new Editor,
Louis M. Hudson

DEADLINE DATES

The deadline date for the July-August issue of "Flight" is July 11, 1974. The issue should be in the hands of the membership by the first week in Aug.

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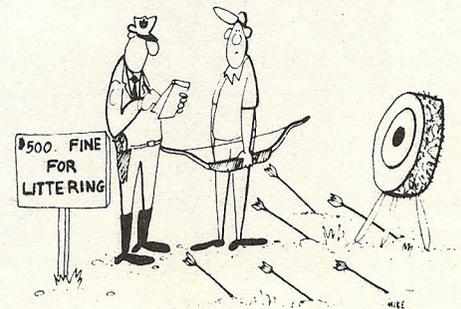
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NEXT ISSUE HUNTING



VA. OPEN RESULTS

✓ AA-FREESTYLE MEN F H T

James Quarles	551	560	1111
Charles Nease	556	554	1110
Robert Shamblin	554	554	1108

✓ AA-BAREBOW MEN

Billie Umbarger	510	493	1003
Tony Pickett	481	493	974
Richard Nida	445	497	942

A-BOWHUNTER MEN

Emmett Martin	419	405	824
Larry Kline	364	402	766
Jerry Maxey	379	374	753

A-FREESTYLE MEN

Bobby McNew	537	554	1091
Eugene Scites	538	536	1074
Neil Blankenbeckler	536	527	1063

A-BAREBOW MEN

Urshel Miller	449	439	888
Charles Lucas	376	380	756
Albert Walker	383	367	750

B-BOWHUNTER MEN

Aubrey Caldwell	307	392	699
Kenneth Sorrels	334	327	661
William Saunders	266	320	586

B-FREESTYLE MEN

James Lester	528	529	1057
Donald Chapman	526	524	1050
Donnie Coleman	525	513	1038

B-BAREBOW MEN

David Hart	389	365	754
Bill Henderson	300	289	589

SEMI-RESTRICTED BOWHUNTER

Webb Babcock	523	535	1058
Philip Clark	464	438	902
Gary Shavlik	468	423	891

C-FREESTYLE MEN

David Harris	444	460	906
David Chapman	453	446	899
Harry Jones	444	441	885

C-BAREBOW MEN

William Perdue	215	212	427
Jackie Miller	174	201	375

✓ AA-FREESTYLE YOUNG ADULT

Rodney Lawhorn	533	532	1065
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✓ AA-FREESTYLE WOMEN

Pansy Brown	520	503	1023
Ann Boyd	474	509	983
Penny Shannon	483	496	979

✓ AA-BAREBOW WOMEN

Mary Pickett	344	388	732
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✓ CUB BOYS

Steve Thompson	442	476	918
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A-FREESTYLE WOMEN

Darlene Frye	461	447	908
Twylia Overfelt	340	258	598

A-BAREBOW WOMEN

Virginia Dillow	339	353	692
Ann Poe	349	335	684
Linda Miller	303	336	639

✓ YOUTH-B-BAREBOW BOYS

Kim Hines	287	237	524
Michael Bucklew	172	155	327

B-FREESTYLE WOMEN

Olive Quesenberry	340	352	692
Gwendolyn Troll	261	318	579

B-BAREBOW WOMEN

Myrtle Saunders	286	269	555
Sandra Maxey	233	225	458

YOUTH C-BAREBOW BOYS

Billy Derenge	101	87	188
Billy Deeb	84	70	154

✓ AA-BOWHUNTER MEN

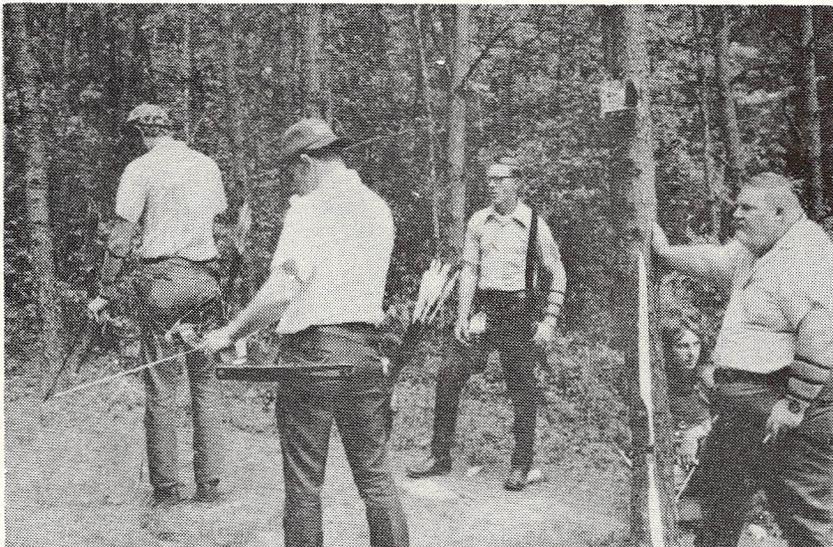
Thomas Frye	494	473	967
James Overfelt	483	479	962

✓ BAREBOW CUB BOYS

Philip Painter	391	446	837
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✓ CUB GIRLS

Leslie Maxey	156	168	324
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SOME OF THE PARTICIPANTS AT THE VA. OPEN.

With pretty weather, a setting of the beautiful South West Mountains of Virginia, 2 well manicured ranges, and 99 enthusiastic archers from several states, the Wythe Bowmen staged another fine Virginia Open Tournament.

Jim Quarles was the big winner beating Jim Nease of W. Va. by one point.

Everyone seemed to have an enjoyable time.

Tidewater Tidbits

Folks,

Well, Spring has sprung and the fair weather archers have come out of hibernation to join the old die-hards who have been shooting all winter. It's nice to see all those familiar faces again. In Zone #1, the tournaments have started up and attendance has been outstanding.

I'm sorry to report that the Bowmen of York club had to fold. They tried so very hard to hang in there, even when they were reduced to two people doing the work. It was just a case of too many chiefs and not enough Indians. Vandalism also was a factor in this club's down fall. As soon as bales would be put up, they would be tumbled into the water. Our hats are off to those few who kept the club going as long as they did under such adverse conditions.

Of course the Warwick Bowmen are busy as beavers getting ready for the Mid-Atlantic Tournament. This will be a golden opportunity for those who have never attended a tournament of this type. The ranges are fine, and for those who do not shoot, there are a variety of other sports available right there at the State Park. If all V.B.A. members will attend this event it will be a smashing success for the state of Virginia as well as the club that is working so hard.

The Princess Anne Bowmen will hold their Annual Tournament on July 14. Jessie Wilkins of the Warwick Bowmen has volunteered to bring his famous B-B-Q sauce and be chief cook at the venison roast to be held on Saturday Afternoon, the 13th. But, fellows, go easy on Jessie this year in the liquid refreshment department. Make it 3-2 beer, please. Later on Saturday evening there will be a free crab feast and Dorsey Falls (the best crab cooker in the state) will be in charge. There will be horse shoe pitching as long as your arm holds out as the pits are equipped with electricity. Camping spaces with electric hook-ups are available and the ocean is only 5 minutes away for those who want to swim or fish.

A special note to Carey Price. You have done a fine job in the

20 PIN WINNERS

Mar. - April 1974

FIELD

Robert Lewis, Virginia Beach
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Alfred Petersen, Virginia Beach
Dennis Ennis, Virginia Beach
Les Tavers, Petersburg
Wayne Ketchum, Williamsburg
Robert VanNice, Newport News
Harry Jones, Petersburg
Thomas Storanski, Petersburg
Donnie Coleman, Madison Heights
Carlton Foster, Lynchburg
Carl Howell, Madison Heights
Harry Fling, Brunswick, Md.
Tom Capino, Brunswick Md.
Robert McMeans, Arlington
Arthur LaSante, Arlington
Mark Haynes, Christiansburg
Theodore Peters, FPO N.Y.
James Anderson, Springfield
Max Wickline, Roanoke
Curtis Colman, Christiansburg
Katherine Cissel, Leesburg
Zane Kennedy, Lee Hall

HUNTER

Franklin Siwik, Springfield
Arthur LaSante, Woodbridge
Robert McMeans, Arlington
Aubrey Allen, Woodbridge
Kenneth Sorrels, Fredericksburg
Harry Jones, Petersburg
Robert VanNice, Newport News
Les Travers, Petersburg
Charles Brunnelson, Virginia Beach
Tony Pickett, Bluefield
Jerry Maxey, Elliston
Madeline Selby, Annandale
John Pendleton, Virginia Beach
James Weidhuner, Virginia Beach

JUNIOR - ROBINHOOD PIN

Greg Holdren, Roanoke

FIELD "PERFECT PIN"

Norwood Douglas, Chesapeake
William Ott, Harpers Ferry, W. Va.

time you have handled "Flight", and have earned the right to rest on your laurels. As reporter for Zone #1, I can say I have enjoyed working with you on this project. Even though you will not be holding an office this coming year, we hope to see your smiling face at the meetings.

See you next issue,
Nina

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REFLECTIONS (Cont. from Pg. 3)

Eighty-one and a half percent of the people who returned the questionnaire said "yes". Of course, these people were the same ones who attended meetings regularly or were well informed. However, we have more like a 45% representation of the affiliated clubs. Why does it bother me? Because I know that if there was better representation there would be better communication and probably an unearthing of needed talent for committee work and new officer candidates. I know some of the long-standing officers would be delighted to have competition for their jobs or even step down.

I've had a great deal of help over the three years and I particularly want to thank those who contributed articles, stories, and also ads.

I think of all the fun I've had in archery in the past 15 years I've been in the game. There are so many side benefits. The people themselves are about as top notch as you can get. The bowhunters themselves, with rare exceptions are true sportsmen and love the hunt for the hunt's sake and the opportunity to rap with guys or gals of a similar bent. This is also true of the tournament archer. One of the best benefits I've had was the opportunity to serve as Flight editor. I've had a good time the last three years, and give up the job with some reluctance.

HUNTING GAR PIKE *Cont. from Pg. 1*

weigh several hundred pounds, that they cannot be pierced with an axe. . . .

"In general, their form betrays the sluggish hulks of primeval types, being thick and powerful, although cylindrical and elongated, with round tail fin, and small dorsal and anal fins at base of the tail and abdominal fins. In color they are mostly a dirty mottled yellow-gray above and paler below. This gives them a resemblance to logs as they float on the surface of muddy bayous or streams, or rest in nooks near the bottom. On either side of the long flat jaws, like those of a swordfish or alligator, are rows of sharp teeth, the outer row having the largest ones. At the very tip of the bill, the upper jaw protrudes, allowing the foremost teeth in it to overhang the lower jaw and form convenient grappling hooks.

"In habits, too, the gar pikes live up to their awe-inspiring appearance and ancient lineage. Moving warily

upon their prey, or lying in wait at the head of currents and caves, they are a terror to fish life, eating everything from insects and crustaceans to the larger pickerels, pikes, and basses inhabiting their waters. Many bass have been exterminated by them to add to the woe of fishermen, and they will even seem to flaunt their immunity by devouring the catch hanging over the side of a boat. They are rather nocturnal in their habits, however, staying in deeper water or shady nooks during the day and frequenting the shoals to feed when the sun has gone down. . . .

"Although their meat is said to be palatable if properly cooked - gar pikes are not generally favored as food. The roe, in particular, is considered poisonous. Their gills, however, harbor the larvae of the prized fresh-water mussel used in making pearl buttons and similar items. Indians have also utilized their enamel-covered, diamond-

shaped scales for arrowheads. As for game, their are few fishes can offer the resistance and obstacles to capture that gar pikes can, especially in the case of the largest, the alligator gar, which has been known to attack man.

"The common or long-nosed species grows to a length of six feet, although the average taken is much smaller. It is found in the Great Lakes and the Mississippi Basin, and the coastal streams from Maryland to Florida and Louisiana. . . ."

John Schoh of Norva shot one Gar over 4 ft. long. The bow is the best way to get these small monsters.

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