

But it's fun

BOWFISHING AIN'T EASY

by John Stockman

Now that hunting season is over, the thoughts of some of our members have turned to bowfishing. In less than three months the backwaters of the Potomac near Dumfries, Va. will be teeming with carp and gar. On weekends you can expect to find several of our members poling their flatbottomed boats through the lilly pads in search of the elusive inhabitants of "Pogsum Point". If you have never witnessed a huge carp trashing its way through the lilly pads, you've missed an exciting event. One moment they are heaving themselves along on top of the water, splashing, rolling, leaping and then falling noisily back into the water. Their progress is easy to follow as they bull their way through the lilly pads. Suddenly, (usually after you have poled your boat into position to intercept the monstrous fish) the splashing ceases, the lilly pads stop quaking and the fish that just seconds before was an easy target, disappears. When the action is hot, you can expect to sight fish every few minutes. More often than not, the carp that seemed to be begging for your shaft will change course or dive just before you get within range. They seem to possess an uncanny knack for detecting danger.

(Continued on page 3)

Results of State Indoor on March 3 & 4 on Page 5

ARCHERS SAY BLUEFIELD ARE GREAT HOSTS

That group of people known as the Bluefield Bowhunters headed up by Harry Derange (President) and Becky Barnes (Secretary) may have just changed the way the State Indoor Tournament should be conducted. Efficient -- shucks, you don't know the meaning of the word until you've shot with these folks. The shoot was held at the Brush Fork Armory near Bluefield, W. Va. Registration was conducted efficiently with the rounds starting ON TIME and in addition to that they used the basketball timing device to time the ends. Time allowed was 15 minutes for four archers to loose five

arrows each. I don't think anyone came close to using all the time. They even timed the breaks -- 10 minutes -- and you better be ready to shoot when the buzzer sounded.

The work and preparation that went into this tournament was obvious. It was heard many times during the event that it was hoped that the Bluefield Bowhunters would exercise their option to hold it again next year. (I think they will). It appears that Bluefield Bowhunters will have to be awarded an "A" for this one.



Becky Barnes and Harry Derange, Secretary and President of Bluefield Bowhunters, take a break from the breakneck pace.



Here they are! Those hard working Bluefield Bowhunters. Front row from left: Mary Pickett, Ann Poe, Becky Barnes, Mary Jo Cox & daughter. Back row from left: Dan Shinault, Russell Poe, Tony Pickett, Harry Derange, Everett Barnes, Buford Cox.

News and Views of the Virginia
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NFAA MEETING DISQUIETING

NFAA Director Bill Bolt attended the meeting in Portland Oregon on Feb. 3 & 4 and will report on it in full at the March 25th V.B.A. meeting to be held in Charlottesville starting at 9:30 A.M. Following are some of the results of that meeting:

- * Chek-it release was declared illegal.
- * The 1973 Bear Victor Vicking handle was declared illegal for bare-bow.
- * Use of binoculars will not be allowed in tournaments indoors or outdoors.
- * NFAA had declared a policy effective 60 days after the Feb. 3&4 meeting that the F.S. division will be separated into a Limited and Unlimited division one for fingers and one for releases.
- * An Amateur Bowhunter Division will be reconized at the National Tournament.
- * There will be an Outdoor 300 round.
- * Six shooters will be the limit in a group.
- * There will be a new Cub Division for youth 11 years old and under.
- * NFAA will have a Professional Div.

DEADLINE DATES

The deadline date for the May - June issue of "Flight" is May 9, 1973. The issue should be in the hands of the membership by the first week in June

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Tidewater Tidbits

Hi Folks:

Things in Tidewater have been pretty quiet as far as archery is concerned, mainly because we've been too busy digging out from under the snow. Chesapeake and Va. Beach really got clobbered with a storm that came in from Carolina. The Norfolk weather bureau kept announcing 3 to 4 inches and sounded like a broken record since Chesapeake had already reaped a foot. Hey, you folks up North, did you wish this on us? But things are looking up. Warwick Bowmen took some "bravery" pills and challenged the Princess Anne Bowmen to a shoot-out. In fact, they were quite mouthy about the whole thing. So as a consequence, Princess Anne will travel to Newport News on April 1st and set the whole thing straight once and for all just who is Boss of the Bows.

Chet Kutzler of the Bowmen of York says that, contrary to rumors, he has not given up archery and has all intentions of shooting over 500 before the State shoot. The Bowmen of York have transferred to Fort Eustis. They have 17 strong workers and are building a new range. The Annual Silver Medallion shoot will be held on April 15 as scheduled, only on the new range at Fort Eustis. The club spirit is returning and it looks more like the Bowmen of York of old, and the travelling club they were in the past.

Bill and I were fortunate enough to attend the Indoor State Shoot at Bluefield this year. Now, being a city gal, I haven't had much to do with mountain travelling, but that 21 mile jaunt from Bland to Bluefield, W. Va. is one I'll never forget. It only took us 45 minutes and it's putting it mild to say my heart was in my mouth -- my toe nails were right there, too. Bill says the truck has permanent curve in it.

The heartiest of congratulations go to the Bluefield Bowhunters for having a fine tournament. Everything went on schedule. On the surface it looked so easy, but few people knew that on Friday night there was a basketball game at the armory and the bales had to be set up after the game. On Saturday night they had to re-set the bales after another ball game. But on Sunday at 5:45 a.m. the Bluefield club was there, cheerful and ready for the action to start at 7:00 a.m. Congratulations again to all you hard workers. It was a mighty fine tournament.

The Princess Anne Bowmen shoot is scheduled for April 29th has been moved up to April 22nd.

See you next issue,
Nina

by John Stockman

On February 7 and 8 the Humane Society lost its court case to ban use of bow and arrow and antique weapons for hunting on three national wildlife refuges: Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge and wilderness in New Jersey, Eastern Neck Wildlife Refuge in Maryland, and Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge in Virginia. The Humane Society claimed that the reduction of excess deer in these areas by means of public hunts with shotguns, antique and muzzleloading rifles and bow and arrows is inefficient and incompatible with principles of sound wildlife management. The Society claims these weapons maim or cripple deer and other animals instead of killing them outright. Although they lost their case, it seems as if they were successful in some respects. It is rumored that the Department of the Interior has begun a quiet survey to see whether hunters should be given tests with their weapons before they hunt on federal refuges. In my opinion this is a desirable development if it stops there and does not lead to total arbitrary banning of bowhunting on such land.

Last fall I hunted at Presquille National Wildlife Refuge near Richmond, Va. One hundred archers are selected by computer to hunt each day on the refuge. The only requirement is that the hunter possess a valid state hunting license.

Valentine Tourney

The Wythe Bowhunters Valentine archery tournament drew 141 in competition for trophies. Archers from all over Virginia were joined by bowbenders from the neighboring states of Tennessee and West Virginia to make this the largest tournament ever to be held in the state. Perfect 300 scores were shot by Clifford Necessary and James Thurman shooting free style. Highest Bare bow score was shot by Russell Poe of Bluefield.

Local winners were James Umbarger, 2nd, C F/S, Penny Shannon 1st A F/S, Bill Brackens 3rd B B/B, John Sexton 1st C B/B, Pat Snow 2nd D B/B and also 1st B B/H, James Corvin 1st C B/H also 2nd C B/B. David Sharitz 3rd C B/B.

With the weather on our side the Wythe Bowhunters closed out their indoor schedule the most successful ever held. There were numerous spectators from the entire area.

Where are Classification Cards?

So the club took your money, but you never got a classification card. Please don't beat up on your club secretary or write nasty letters to Nancy Lee Western V.B.A.'s long suffering corresponding secretary.

The problem is that N.F.A.A. is having trouble with its printer.

Please be patient.

Absolutely no examination is made of the archer's equipment or skill. I saw far too many ill-equipped archers participating in the hunt. For example, lightweight target bows; newly purchased broadhead (obviously unsharpened); unmatched arrows; and children too small to draw a hunting bow were some of the more obvious things I noticed. Of the 100 hunters, I was the only one using a compound bow. Most of the other hunters had never seen **one and several** asked if I had made it myself. The point that I am trying to make is that if this group of hunters is typical of those who hunt on public lands, we need to do something about it. What? Not an easy question to answer, but we as individuals can start by ensuring that we practice true sportsmanship in every sense of the word. We can make sure that our equipment is suitable for hunting: heavy bows, arrows matched to bow, and razor sharp broadheads. We should take the time to study our game -- its habits and anatomy. We should practice shooting our hunting equipment until we are sure we can hit our quarry in a vital spot, not just hit it. We should know where to hit it. Once hit, we should trail it until we locate it or are absolutely certain that we caused only a superficial injury. We should respect the property rights of others -- examples: observe

signs, close gates, and no littering.

As members of an organized archery organization, we should use our collective power to influence public officials to protect our hunting privileges. We should take the **initiative in making** our desires known to these public servants. Unless we make more smoke than the anti-hunting elements, we can expect the politicians and administrators to accede to the demands of those who desire to abolish bow hunting. Write to your Representative and Senators and explain your side of the story. You can be assured that they have heard the other side. Finally, we should be willing to pay the cost of defending our hunting rights, rather than depending upon other interested sporting groups to pick up the tab. As the February issue of "Archery" magazine pointed out, the NFAA Bowhunting Defense Fund is in need of money to defend our bowhunting sport.

One has to mention all the hard work and long hours that V.B.A. member Tink Nathan has put into helping prepare the defense for the aforementioned trial. Tink was instrumental in arranging for expert witnesses, accumulating statistics and also worked closely with the Fire Arms Lobby of America, whose director is V.B.A. member Morgan Norval.

REPORT FROM HUNTING V.P.

by Roger Mock

I have received to date (Feb. 7, '73) 38 applications for Big Game Awards. One of these was for black bear. Clayton D. Loyd of Sherwood Archers killed a 180 pound blackie.

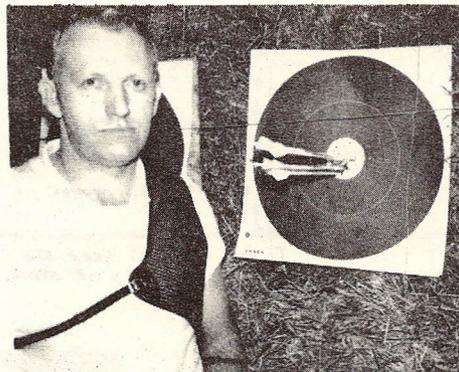
The most popular bow weight used was from 45 to 49 pounds, with 14 being 45 lbs. Other bow weights were: four using bows in the 40 to 44 lb. range; ten in the 50 to 55 lb. range; and seven hunters used bows over 55 lbs.

The most popular arrow material seemed to be aluminum with Bear razor heads.

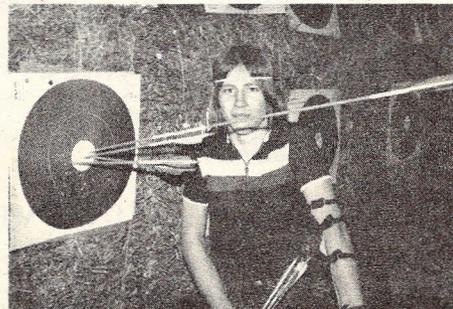
20-PIN WINNERS - FIELD

Bob Becker, Norfolk
Dennis Ward, Hampton
W.H. Thompson, Salem
William Smiley, Virginia Beach
Carlton G. Conkey, Falls Church
John T. Dodson, Culpeper
Ray Staub, Point of Rocks, Md.
HUNTER
William Ott, Harpers Ferry, W. Va.
"PERFECT PIN" - FIELD

Murray Selby, Annandale
HUNTER
Murray Selby, Annandale
Elmer Moore, Newport News



Cliff Necessary shows what it takes to shoot a 300 round which he did at the Valentine Shoot.



David Thompson, 15 yr. old participant of the Wytheville Valentine shoot, proudly displays his Robinhood. David came in 2nd in Youth F.S. at the State Indoor. Not bad for a fellow that started at Christmas.

So, what's new

QUARLES WINS AGAIN

AT STATE INDOOR

What do you say about Jim Quarles? Lucian Butler says, "It's going to be a heck of a long time before this state comes up with a Free Styler to beat Big Jim." "Besides," Lucian goes on "he's just a kid; he ain't even thirty yet." Some other free stylers standing around like Louis Hudson and Wendall Thweatt (you can't drop any points to any of these guys) just groan and let the tears roll down their faces. To say you're in the same class with Jim Quarles is saying something because this cat is in a class by himself.



Report From The Nominating Committee

The following list is a tentative slate of officers for the year 1973-74 At the next V.B.A. meeting, March 25, the floor will be open for additional nominations.

- President: Harold Street
- Exec. V.P.: Carey Price
- Hunting V.P.: Roger Mock
- Field V.P.: Doc Dillow
- Murray Selby
- Conservation V.P.: Woody Woods
- Rec. Sec'y: Hugh Darnell
- Nina Enders
- Treasurer: Dottie McGuire
- Lucille Darnell
- V.B.A. Field Governor: Bill Enders
- NFAA Director: Bill Bolt
- Corr. Sec'y: Nancy Lee Western

ALGONQUIN BOWMEN

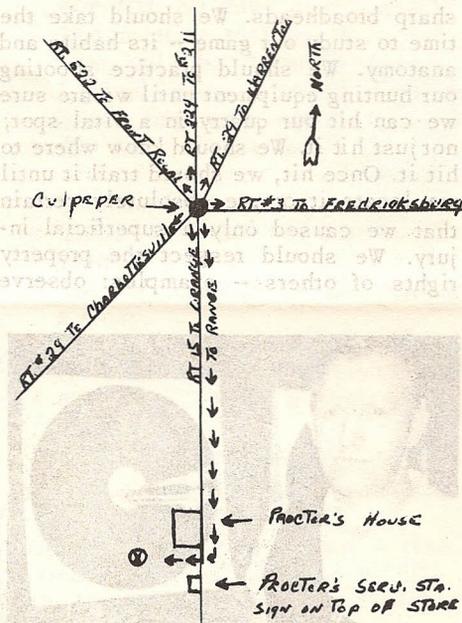
CHANGE SCHEDULE

The Algonquin Bowmen of Culpeper announce the following changes in the shoot schedule:

The Nov. 11 shoot has been cancelled and the shoot will be held May 6 at 1:30 p.m.

The Oct. 21 shoot has been cancelled and will be held instead on Oct. 14 at 1:30 p.m.

Take Rt. 15 South from Culpeper toward Orange, Va. Go 7 miles from Rt. 3 and Rt. 15. Turn Right between Proctor's House & Proctor's Service Station.



From left - Harry Derege, Doc Dillow muse a point just made by Buford Cox.



Becky Barnes, Mary Pickett, and Ann Poe ready the favor bags that were given to each archer upon registration.



Marilyn Layman, former secretary of the Rockingham Bowhunters was a spectator at the State indoor because of an arm injury. She was Rockingham's secretary for five years.

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STATE INDOOR SCORES

Men FS A

- 1st. Jim Quarles 299 - 300 - 599
- 2nd.

Men FS A

- 1st. Jim Quarles 299 - 300 - 599
- 2nd. Robert E. Bunnell 296 - 297 - 593
- 3rd. Bob Taylor 296 - 296 - 592

Men FS B

- 1st. Fred Christian 290 - 282 - 593
- 2nd. Jerry Boyd 285 - 283 - 568
- 3rd. Fred Crockett 283 - 283 - 564

Men FS C

- 1st. C.D. Shrewsbury 283 - 266 - 554
- 2nd. Bobby McNew 265 - 269 - 534
- 3rd. James Umbarger 268 - 257 - 525

Women FS A

- 1st. Penny Shannon 281 - 287 - 568
- 2nd. Ann R. Boyd 276 - 276 - 552
- 3rd. Carol Morgan 271 - 273 - 544

Women FS B

- 1st. Ellen Shamblin 247 - 260 - 507

Women FS C

- 1st. Mertie Shultz 236 - 235 - 471

Youth FS A

- 1st. Mark Van Hutton 277 - 287 - 564
- 2nd. David Thompson 277 - 276 - 553
- 3rd. Mike DuBrueler 265 - 275 - 540

Youth FS B

- 1st. Ben Stiltner 242 - 216 - 458
- 2nd. Rodney Lawhorn 166 - 192 - 359

Youth FS C

- 1st. Chuck Christian 141 - 159 - 300

Men BB A

- 1st. Hiram Burch 273 - 281 - 554
- 2nd. Russell Poe 277 - 270 - 547

Men BB B

- 1st. John Sexton 271 - 270 - 541
- 2nd. Butch Phipps 255 - 269 - 524
- 3rd. Clate Phipps 256 - 266 - 522

Men BB C

- 1st. Buford Cox 260 - 245 - 505
- 2nd. Wm. Shively, Jr. 243 - 246 - 489
- 3rd. Paul Whittney 224 - 217 - 441

Women BB A

- 1st. Virginia Dillow 267 - 266 - 533
- 2nd. Ann Poe 251 - 266 - 517

Women BB B

- 1st. Nina Enders 259 - 261 - 520

Youth BB A

- 1st. Robert Phipps 236 - 237 - 473
- 2nd. James Corvin 230 - 212 - 442

Youth BB B

- 1st. Ken Lovern 192 - 107 - 299
- 2nd. Bill Lawhorn 162 - 116 - 278

Bowhunter Div. A

- 1st. Larry Thompson 258 - 267 - 525
- 2nd. Robert Shamblin 253 - 251 - 504

Bowhunter Div. C

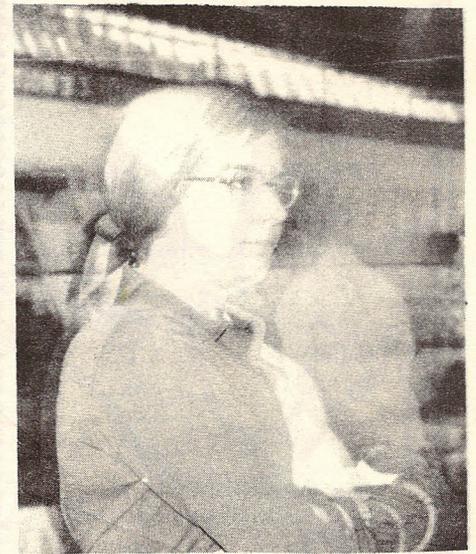
- 1st. Noah Simmons 215 - 195 - 410
- 2nd. Bill Harris 197 - 194 - 391

Team Winners FS

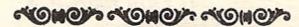
- Jim Quarles (599) Jim Shively (587)
- Les Bunnell (585) BOB Bunnell (593)
- TOTAL POINTS: 2364

Team Winners BB

- Tony Pickett (533) Mary Pickett (523)
- Russell Poe (547) Ann Poe (517)
- TOTAL POINTS: 2120



Carol Morgan of Dixie Bowmen looks on as competition toughens. She finished 3rd in women FS A.



BOWHUNTING AIN'T EASY

Continued from Page 1

These gluttons (they eat their own weight in smaller fish every day) don't betray their presence as do carp. Gar are usually spotted at close range as they roll or move. Their silvery coloration is probably their biggest weakness, since it allows them to be seen against the usually murky water. Compared to a carp, a gar is a speedster. He who hesitates after he has spotted a gar, misses. This streamlined creature doesn't offer himself as a target for long. If you are fast enough to nail one of these vicious fish, you had better be prepared to dispatch him quickly once you boat him. These prehistoric-appearing animals have a long snout literally loaded with rows of sharp teeth that they love to snap shut on anything edible -- and they consider hands and feet of archers a delicacy. When the action slows, there is time for lunch and story telling. Usually everyone gathers on a shady bank and while lunching attempts to convince everyone else present that (thru no fault of his own) he missed the biggest carp or gar ever seen in the area. As in other forms of hunting, there are skills that if learned and practiced will contribute to success. For example, polaroid sunglasses aid in detecting fish that are swimming deep. The ability to pole a boat with one hand (steering it where you want it) so as to leave the other hand free to hold the bow is invaluable. Knowledge of the effect the tide has on the fish will also aid in success. Of course, your tackle must be suitable, too.

If you have never tried bowfishing, you have missed a suspenseful, exciting experience.



PANORAMA OF THE BRUSH FORK ARMORY

