

# SMOKE SIGNAL

Official Newsletter of Skookum Archers Club and Range

June, 2005

## Skookum Spring Safari

More than 60 shooters registered for the annual Spring Safari held April 30th and May 1st at the range. We had a larger crowd than expected for a largely paper shoot which competed with the opening day of fishing season and a number of other area archery shoots. Again, Mrs. Croft provided concessions for hungry shooters, and a number joined in for a Saturday evening pot luck supper. Thanks to all those who helped set-up, take-down and make this another successful event. 34 shooter shot both days for awards. Congratulations to those who competed both days:

### PRO FS M

1<sup>ST</sup> DENTON BRUNK 1464

### MASTER SENIOR FS

1<sup>ST</sup> DON KUDLACEK 1464

### SENIOR FS

1<sup>ST</sup> JAY BOQUIST 1485

### FS M

1<sup>ST</sup> JOHN HEUVEL 1513  
2<sup>ND</sup> RICK MORGAN 1497  
3<sup>RD</sup> KEVIN HODGINS 1448  
DON RENNELL 1419  
JIM MILLER 1521 N/C  
JERMERY RYSER 1497 N/C  
DENNIS JENKINS 1495 N/C

### YOUNG ADULT FS M

1<sup>ST</sup> JOSIAH BROWN 596

### MASTER SENIOR BHFS

1<sup>ST</sup> CLINT AXFORD 697

### BHFS A M

1<sup>ST</sup> MERL REED 1472  
2<sup>ND</sup> BRIAN RAY 1457  
3<sup>RD</sup> CHRIS RAY 1428  
SHAWN JOHNSTON 1387  
ANDY LUDWIG 1386  
BOB BROWN 1311

### YOUTH BHFS M

1<sup>ST</sup> BURK JOHNSTON 1017

### CUB BHFS M

1<sup>ST</sup> CALEB JOHNSTON 485

### YOUNGADLUT BHFS M

1<sup>ST</sup> RYAN CROSS

### FSL M

1<sup>ST</sup> KENT RUSRELL 1443  
2<sup>ND</sup> VINCE HERCHELL 1440  
3<sup>RD</sup> DAVE DENNY 1437  
MATT TURNER 1416  
BOB STIVISON 1321

### PEEWEE BB M

1<sup>ST</sup> DAKOTA BRUNK 808

### YOUNG ADLUT BHBB M

1<sup>ST</sup> SIMON ROWE 1323  
2<sup>ND</sup> LUKE CLUM 956

### YOUNG ADLUT BHBB F

1<sup>ST</sup> ALYSSA BOWER 596

### BHBB M

1<sup>ST</sup> FRANK McCUBBINS 1371  
2<sup>ND</sup> KEVIN DAVIS 1309  
BOB LINETT 842 (ONE DAY)

### YOUTH BHBB M

1<sup>ST</sup> CALEB BROWN 882



Shawn Johnston family at 2005 Safari. Burk and Caleb won the Cub and Youth BHFS M Class. Jessica shot in her first tournament.

## Thursday 3-D Fun Shoots

The Pro Shop, Great Northwest Archery, in cooperation with the Club, is sponsoring an every Thursday 3-D Fun Shoot at the range. The fee is \$8.00 for 28 targets (14 animals from two positions). Shoot anytime during the day or evening. Register at the Pro Shop. Great Northwest is using their own animals and doing the setup and take down.

## NW Sectionals June 18-19

It's not too late to register for the NW Outdoor Sectionals at [www.skookumarchers.com](http://www.skookumarchers.com)

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Wit & Wisdom.....	2
Arrow Speed .....	3
All About Bowhunting Sights.....	4
Avoid Tapered Nocks.....	6
Tournament Winners.....	6
Classified Ads .....	7
Calendar.....	8

**Great Northwest Archery (253) 841-0991**

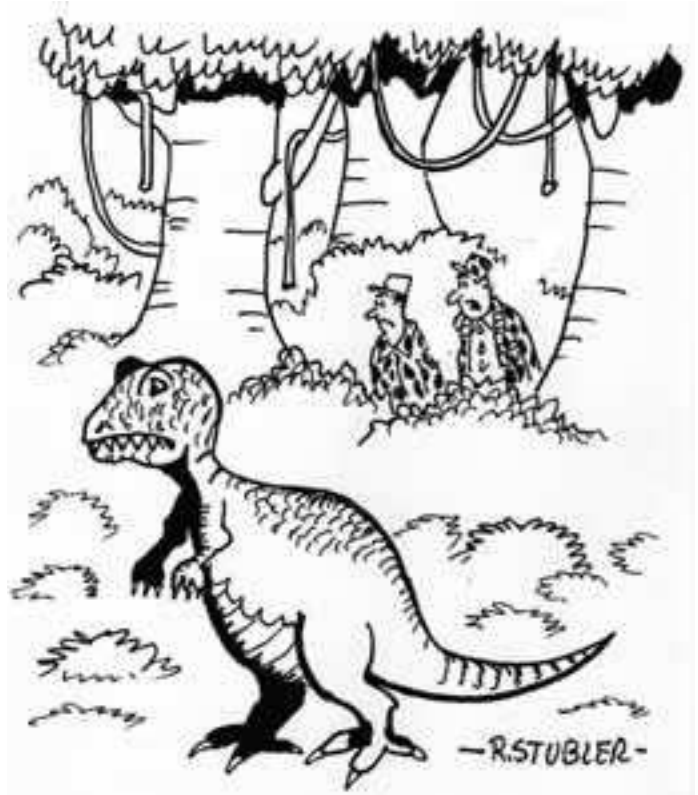
Your full-service pro shop and indoor range at the Skookum Archers Club and Range



**You too  
can  
dream**

## Cold

A man went to visit his 90 year old grandfather in a very secluded, rural area of Georgia. After spending the night, his grandfather prepared breakfast for him consisting of eggs and bacon. He noticed a film — like substance on his plate and he questioned his grandfather....”are these plates clean?” His grandfather replied, “Those plates are as clean as cold water can get them, so go on and finish your meal”. That afternoon, while eating the hamburgers his grandfather made for lunch, he noticed tiny specks around the edge of his plate, and a substance that looked like dried egg yokes... so he ask again, “Are you sure these plates are clean?” Without looking up from his hamburger, the grandfather says, “I told you before; those dishes are as clean as cold water can get them. Now don’t ask me about it anymore!” Later that afternoon, he was on his way out to get dinner in a nearby town. As he was leaving, his grandfather’s dog started to growl and wouldn’t let him pass so he said, “Grampa, your dog won’t let me out.” Without diverting his attention from the football game he was watching on TV his grandfather shouted, “COLDWATER, Go lay down!”



**Denny, I think we’ve gone a little too far back  
in the woods.**

**They only call it PMS because  
Mad Cow Disease was already taken**

## Arrow Speed Considerations

**Arrows.** The lighter your arrows are, the faster they will be. And shorter means lighter and therefore faster. Pretty simple here. Within reason, longer fletches make for slower arrows (due to increased drag).

**Arrow Weight vs. Speed.** The rule is—a six grain change in arrow weight will equal about one foot per second of arrow speed. This means that if your chosen shaft weighs nine grains per inch, trimming an inch off the end will make add just more than 11 feet per second difference in arrow speed. In fact switching from a 100 grain point to a 70 grain point will increase speed about 5 feet per second. What this means is once you select a particular arrow shaft you will have to make some pretty drastic changes to that arrow to affect the speed, with all other factors being equal. The original shaft choice has the greatest bearing on an arrow's potential speed with a given bow.

**Draw Weight vs. Speed.** The rule is—one pound of draw weight will equal two feet per second. This has a greater effect than changing arrow weight, but means that a 10 pound increase in draw weight will move the arrow speed up approximately 20 feet per second.

We all know the old arguments of just how important speed is. With more speed comes less arrow drift in a cross wind, and the reduced need to accurately estimate distances on an unmarked 3-D or on the hunt. All true. However, this is true only to a degree. A faster arrow is in the wind less time, but Easton's X10s proved that increasing arrow weight and decreasing cross section of the shaft actually resulted in less drift, especially at longer distances (due to less surface area on which the wind can act). X10s weigh the same as ACCs, but X10s don't suffer much in a crosswind. A faster arrow will actually lose speed at a higher rate than a heavier one and this is more apparent at longer distances. (Do you remember your physics . . . conservation of momentum and all that?) The laws of physics say that an object traveling in a straight line will be harder to divert from that line as the weight of the object increases. (One of Newton's laws applies here.) As you can see there are lots of factors that go into wind drift that have nothing to do with speed.

The other common argument is about distance and errors that might be incurred as you change distances. This argument has some validity on unmarked field rounds and 3-D rounds. As for known distances, practice is what ensures that your sight marks are all correct. If you know the distances, then trying to eke out more speed is just trying to find a crutch.



**Barebow Shooter**



**Olympic  
Dreams**

## All About Bowhunting Sights

There are more excellent hunting bow sights available at reasonable prices today than ever before. Bow sight design and manufacture are evolving rapidly, the result being innovations like easy-to-see sight pins and/or stadia wires, easily-adjustable sights featuring fewer and fewer moving parts and compact construction are becoming common.

### Sighting Systems

A bow sight is part of a total sighting system that can include a peep sight or kissers button as well as some “add-on” sight accessories like small lights for illuminating the top sight pin in dim light. Peep sights, which force you to keep your head erect and anchor consistently, are used by most archers today.

More and more bowhunters are shooting a peep today simply because it helps them shoot more accurately. One reason is that most all top 3-D shooters are using peeps and bowhunters feed off their success.

It also takes much more practice time to become a good shooter without a peep than with one and that's something most bowhunters don't have these days.”

The key to using a peep sight for bowhunting is to make sure the aperture is as large as possible. This lets in the maximum amount of light, critical when you're trying to find your pins or stadia wire at dawn or dusk and won't noticeably affect accuracy when hunting.

### Fixed-Pin Sights

By far the most popular sight type today, fixed-pin sights offer tremendous flexibility in that several sight pins can be added or removed as your needs dictate. Each pin can be set for a precise distance. Shots taken when not at these distances — as most shots at animals are sighted at “between the pins.” Because of the simple design of most fixed-pin sights, they can be made with few moving parts and constructed like a rock.

### *The choices between the sight pins themselves are varied.*

Small-diameter pins are best when distances are long and the light is good, with larger-diameter pins better in lower light. For many years the only pins available were either 6/32-inch or 8/32-inch, but now many sights feature .019 diameter in both the crosshair and pin models.

The first sight pins designed to help bowhunters see in dim light have been replaced by the new wave of fiber-optic sight pins. These pins gather the maximum amount of available light in dim light conditions when deer and other big game animals are most active, making shots possible earlier and later in the day than ever before without the use of electronic lights.

### Crosshair Sights

Crosshair sights are excellent hunting sights. They function the same as pin sights do with horizontal stadia wires moved up or down to place the arrow on target at a specific distance. The vertical stadia wire helps the shooter from inadvertently letting the bow cant left or right during the shot and also helps when shooting between the pins. The best however are built to take the inevitable bumps and bruises a bowhunter will give it.

### Movable- Pin Sights

The theory behind bow sights with movable pins is that by moving the sight pin to adjust to the target distance the archer could always aim with his pin dead-on the target, thus eliminating the guesswork of shooting between the pins. The ideal situation would permit the archer to dial in the distance to the target with a range finder before coming to full draw. If you are in a stand and know the exact distance to your likely target, a movable sight may work, if you are sure the animal is going to be where you expect it.

### Pendulum Sights

Designed expressly for the tree stand hunter, pendulum sights feature a single horizontal cross wire or pin that is permitted to freely pivot on a hinge so it rises as you take aim closer to the base of your tree and drops as you aim farther away.

Together with a fixed vertical stadia wire, the two give a precise aiming point out to 30 to 35 yards, the exact distance being directly proportional to arrow speed. Beyond that distance the system breaks down. Some pendulum sights attack this problem by adding a couple of fixed horizontal pins or stadia wires to give the shooter an aiming point at longer distances.

The better pendulum sights will allow you to adjust the length of the pivoting arm thereby fine-tuning the sight for your own individual arrow speed. However, sights without this feature give acceptable accuracy at the distances at which they are designed to be used. One disadvantage of some pendulum sights is that they tend to be a bit noisy and their moving parts can break or stick.

## Important Hunting Sight Features

When it comes to hunting bow sights, the KISS principal—Keep It Simple, Stupid—certainly applies. Those bow sights with the fewest movable parts, least number of screws and knobs, that need the fewest number of different Allen head wrenches to adjust and secure are compact and relatively light weight are the ones that will cause you the least grief over time.

The better sights have simple vertical and horizontal adjustments. Many of today's sights also permit the entire sight pin block to be moved as a single entity while maintaining the solid integrity of the sight. This is a great feature, especially if you sight the bow in, then bump the sight bracket or find the bow goes out of tune just a bit and you are forced to adjust the arrow rest or move the nock point slightly to regain the tune you want. You then must re-sight in only one pin—usually a mid-range pin—and the others are going to be very close to exactly on the money. This will save you a bundle of time. One often-overlooked hunting sight feature is a rugged pin or stadia wire guard.

**A pin guard cannot be too beefy.** You don't want to get your pins dinged or broken. One of the best ways to avoid that is to make sure the pin guard is beefy and bulky.

Some bow sights feature a beefy clear plastic pin guard that does two things—protects the sight's fiber optic sight pins and allows in additional light for easier aiming in low-light situations.

Hunting sights must also attach securely to the bow riser. Some attach directly to the riser with two large screws, while many more use a dovetail mounting system. The dovetail system provides the most flexibility while still holding the sight in place like cement. With a dovetail mount you can easily remove the bow sight for transportation then reattach it quickly and easily. One helpful hint is to mark the edge of the both the male dovetail and female dovetail bracket with the sight attached with white paint or an indelible marker. This way you can be sure that the sight is replaced in precisely the same position each and every time, assuring a consistent point of impact. To minimize any noise that may be created where the bow sight attaches to the riser, pad both the riser and the bottom of my sight's dovetail bracket with a small piece of stick-on felt.

With today's speed bows, stacking the sight pins becomes necessary in order to have a pin set at the distances most of us like to set our sight pins at—20, 30, 40, and 50 yards. When selecting a bow sight with this feature try and choose one with as few moving parts as possible. There are several available like this, but also many with lots of thin arms for each pin that will certainly rattle loose at just the wrong moment.

## Choosing a Hunting Sight

There's no secret formula in choosing a hunting bow sight except to select one that fits your shooting style, hunting technique and personal preferences. With sight design and technology changing rapidly, the best way to see what's out there is to visit a well-stocked archery pro shop and look over several different makes, models and designs. Ask the shop owner to let you shoot a couple of different sights on the indoor range to get a feel for them. If two or three appeal to you about the same, make your final decision based upon the KISS principle.

However, KISS doesn't include the word "cheap." To avoid heartbreak at the wrong time—like when a good buck finally walks into range after a season of searching—buy the best bow sight you can afford. Then take your time and precisely adjust the pins or crosshair stadia wires until you know exactly where your bow is shooting at various distances.



## Winning Archery

You'll win more often if you try to shoot sixty "one-arrow tournaments" than if you try to shoot one "sixty-arrow tournament". Shoot each arrow as if it is the only one you are going to shoot today!

Relax, reflect, focus, and recharge. You can only shoot one arrow at a time. Don't worry about the last arrow or the next arrow. You can only shoot one at a time. Make each shot the very best you can, and pretend you are shooting a one arrow tournament and that you are going to nail it.

Don't randomly shoot arrows, even in the most casual practice session, without a purpose, a system, a rhythm, and a consistent shot sequence. Otherwise, you will just develop bad habits.

## AVOID TAPERED NOCKS AND ARROWS



It used to be there were only wood and aluminum arrows, and they could use the same tapered

nocks. These particular nocks were glued onto a tapered cut at the end of the wood shafts. They used a belt sander to put that same taper on the end of aluminum shafts (and still do).

Folks found that the taper on the aluminum shafts was not concentric and true to the shaft. They discovered this using an indicator and lathe. We found that only about 40 to 60 percent of a dozen shafts would run-out less than .001". Some would run-out more than .006".

So, folks began using the lathe to cut the taper again. This gave too smooth a finish on the taper for the glue to hold the nock in place. However, by using some coarse sandpaper, the taper could be roughed up and the glue would hold quite well, and the arrows grouped noticeably better. So much better, that it became a standard part of folks arrow assembly. Straightening the nock taper on the shafts is the first thing to do on a new set of arrows with tapers.

THEN HALLELUJAH! Nocks were developed that could be inserted inside the shafts. Machined nock adapters were also developed for most of the arrow sizes. These types of nocks aligned so much better. Can't understand why anyone would use the tapered style nocks anymore. But, apparently many people still do. They are still making aluminum arrows that look like someone put one end into a pencil sharpener. If you buy any of those arrows, cut the taper off and install nock adapters.

## Congratulations Winners!

Congratulations to club members who placed at recent state and regional tournaments:

### WSAA Target Championships

#### ADULT MALE BHFS

Curt Reed 854 863 1717 1st

#### ADULT MALE TRADITIONAL

Pete Miles 718 632 1350 1st

#### SENIOR MALE FSL

John Finsterbusch 735 772 1507 1st

#### ADULT FEMALE FSL-R

Kristina Miles 748 747 1495 1st

### NFAA NW Indoor Sectionals

#### Adult Male Freestyle Limited R/L

Timm Hines 295 29 289 30 584 59 2nd

#### Youth Male Freestyle

Gaven Day 291 28 297 37 588 65 3rd

#### Adult Female Freestyle R/L

Kristina Miles 269 15 255 9 524 24 1st

#### Senior Male Traditional

Sam Payne 221 4 219 4 440 8 1st

#### Adult Male Traditional

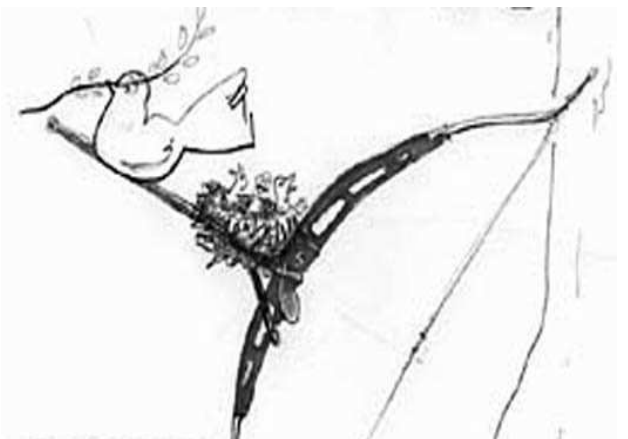
Pete Miles 258 5 252 8 510 13 1st

#### Youth Male Freestyle Limited R/L

Josh Raby 248 5 241 8 489 13 1st

#### Cub Female Freestyle Limited

Jennaya Day 223 1 247 9 470 10 1st



## 2003 HOYT ULTRATECH FOR SALE

**FOR SALE: 2003 HOYT ULTRATECH** , CAMO, XT2000 LIMBS, CAM & 1/2. Draw length set at 28-1/2", adjustable from 27-1/2 TO 29-1/2 . 65% let off. Comes with a Cobra Sidewinder LX camo sight, Trophy Taker Shakey Hunter rest. Enhancer 2000, string leeches. Also includes 18 carbon arrows and a dozen NAP Thunderhead 100 grain broadheads and a hardshell plastic bow case. This bow is brand new. I've only shot it enough to get it tuned and sighted in. ASKING \$500.00; CALL TOM @ 253-853-6420 (evenings)

**Gold Tip XT 5575 Camo Shafts.** Great hunting arrow. 1 dozen new uncut in package with inserts and lock nocks (or can substitute flo. green Bohning nocks). Straightness of  $\pm 0.003$ "; Weight tolerance of  $\pm 5$  grains. For 55-75 draw weights (8.2grains/inch). These are the original Gold Tip camo pattern that looks "psychedelic". Retail between \$80-\$90. Will sell for \$55 plus \$4.00 S&H. Contact Don at [morrison@lgi.org](mailto:morrison@lgi.org). Phone: 253-988-5032 (cell).

## Target Replacement

When you are out to the range and notice that a target face has been pretty shot up or the bullseye shot out (after all, Skookum Archers are the best), you can go to the pro shop and get a key to the target cupboard. Replace the target with the same type and size as was on the target bales. We will also post a list of what type and size of target goes are each target bale. Also, each active member is assigned a specific target to maintain. That assignment is located after your name on your Smoke Signal mailing label. No one likes to shoot at beat up targets, so make sure your target assignment is always kept up. Thanks.

## Great Northwest Archery

### *Your Full Service Pro Shop at the Skookum Range*

*We feature an indoor shooting range, a full-service pro shop dealing Hoyt, Parker bows and PSE bows, and an extensive line of archery products and services. We also sell WA hunting and fishing licenses. Open daily.*

**(253) 841-0991**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vacant - Volunteer Today!

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### ACTIVITIES

Vacant - Volunteer Today!

The monthly member and Board of Directors meetings are held the second Thursday of the month. The member meeting is at 6:30pm, followed by the Board meeting, in the Club House.

# SMOKE SIGNAL



**Skookum Archers Club  
and Range  
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**Don Morrison, Editor**

**Your help is needed for the NFAA  
NW Sectional hosted by Skookum  
Archers June 18-19. Contact Pres .  
Dennis Jenkins for more info.**

Notice to Active Members: There is a "To Do" list posted on the Club House outside bulletin board. In addition to your target assignment, those seeking work hours to reduce dues can perform any of the tasks listed on the "To Do" list. For other work that needs to be done, contact the Range Master, or Pat Fernandez, Grounds Director.

**Target Assignments:** Active Members are responsible for maintaining a target area. Life Members, Associate and Junior Members are not required to maintain a target area. IF YOU DON'T KNOW YOUR TARGET ASSIGNMENT, CONTACT THE CLUB VICE-PRESIDENT. Your target assignment is generally printed on your Smoke Signal mailing label. You are responsible for replacing the Target Face when needed, picking-up trash in your shooting lane, and reporting maintenance that needs to be done to the Grounds Chair, and reporting any range work (target shed, shooting bales or shooting stakes) that needs to be done to the Range Chair. Replacement targets can be acquired by contacting the Pro-Shop. Please do not replace targets until they need it; typically this means that the center scoring area is shot out. Also, we can all pitch in on replacing the target faces on the flat range. Thanks for working together!

- June 4-5, WSAA Safari Championship, Cedar River Bowmen
- Thursday June 9th, Monthly Member Meeting, 6:30pm followed by Board Meeting
- Saturday June 11, Marked 3-D JOAD Fund Raiser, KBH
- June 18-19, NW Outdoor Sectionals, Skookum
- June 18, Iron Amos 3-D, Tacoma Sportsmen

## CALENDAR