

SMOKE SIGNAL

Official Newsletter of Skookum Archers Club and Range

December, 2005

Annual Member Meeting Dec. 8th

Notice is hereby given that the annual Member Meeting of the Skookum Archers Club and Range will be held Thursday December 8, 2005, at 6:30pm at the Club House. The meeting will be to elect officers for 2006 and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting, including approval of the following expenditures which may exceed \$1500 each:

- Contract with PSE for yard lighting
- Construct a fence in front of the front range to protect the bio-swell (est. \$2,700)
- Purchase additional 3-D targets
- Replace rain gutters on club house and paint roof and sides

Annual Banquet and Installation of Officers Saturday Jan. 14th

Mark your calendars! The Annual Member Banquet and installation of officers will be held Saturday January 14, 2006 at the Bonney Lake Senior Center. 5:30pm social, followed by 6:00pm dinner. We will be swearing-in board members, handing out the bowhunting awards, and giving away lots of door prizes.

The cost is \$10 per adult and \$5 per child under 12. RSVP at info@skookumarchers.com or fax / mail back the registration form that is located on page 5 of the Smoke Signal.

Western Washington Sportsmens Show Booth



For the past 3 years the Club has sponsored the Archery Demonstration Booth at the Sportsmen's Show at the Fairgrounds. Each year more than 2,000 kids and adults have tried their hand at shooting a bow. We setup 3 FITA targets and 9 3-D animals including 3 very realistic dinosaur targets loaned to us by the O'Loughlin trade show that are a big hit with the kids. For 2006, the show is scheduled for January 25-29.

We need lots of helpers to pull off this event. If you are able to help with the event (setup, takedown, instruction, etc), please contact President Denny Jenkins. As the time nears we will set up shift schedules for those willing to help. **The schedules will be posted on the club website.**



Public Meeting - Review WDFW Three-Year Hunting Package Alternatives

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has scheduled a series of meetings during January 2006 to review hunting regulation alternatives for the next three years. Each session is scheduled

for 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. The closest session to Skookum is in Tacoma. For additional information contact Dave Ware, WDFW Game Division Manager, phone 360-902-2509, or email waredaw@dfw.wa.gov

Date: January 19 2006
Location: La Quinta Inn & Suites
1425 East 27th Street, Tacoma

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Great Northwest Archery (253) 841-0991
Your full-service pro shop and indoor range at the
Skookum Archers Club and Range

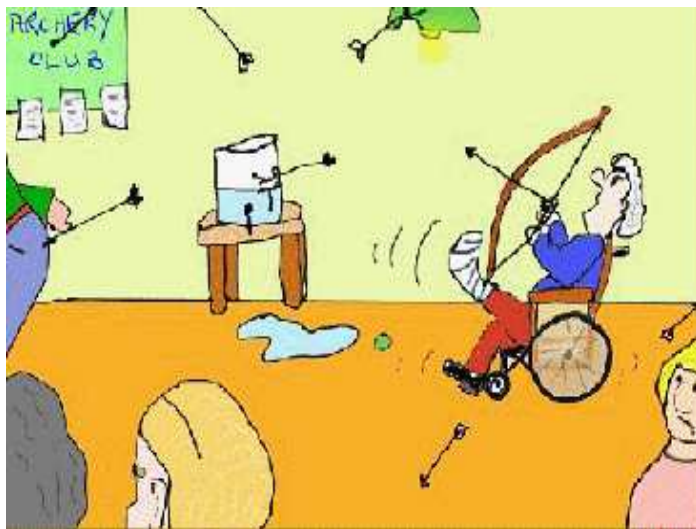


"Looks like another perfect score."



"What Cats Really Dream About"

"I used to have a handle on life, but it broke."



"I see Wilma hasn't given up shooting"



BA

***New Release
Aide for 2006***

January 7 & 8, 2006 Dirty Thirty Shoot Flyer

Chris Gray bagged his 4X3 Mule Buck in GMU 218 (Winthrow Area)



Club Hunting Awards

Once again, the Club will be giving hunting awards to anyone who harvests a deer or elk this fall. Awards will be issued at the Annual Banquet in January. Report your harvest to Hunting Director John Batts (See Board of Directors page for contact info) or list your animal on the Club House White Board. Report type and sex of animal, number of points (if applicable), and GMU where taken. Also, if you have a good hunting story to share with the Club, write it up and send it to John. We would be happy to publish it in the Smoke Signal. Good Hunting! Early congratulations to these Club members who have already reported their harvests include:

- Andy Ludwig, Spike Blacktail
- Daniel Hoas, 4X4 Muley
- Curt Allen, Cow Elk
- Chris Gray, 4X3 Muley
- Shawn Johnston, Muley

Analyzing Your Shots After a Practice Round

1. Before you begin shooting, look at your target and make a mental “+” over it. This divides the target into four quadrants with the X-ring as the center.
2. Shoot the course and keep score. On a sheet (scorecard), write the individual arrow scores (e.g. for field 5, 4, 4, 3) and the total (16).



3. After you write in the number score on the score card for each end, turn the card over and mark a / in the part of the box that represents the quadrant the arrow was in. The only time you do not record a / in a quadrant is if the arrow is in the X-Ring.

4. After you have finished shooting all of your ends, and the scorecard is marked, it is time to do the rest of the analysis. Of course, if you are practicing, you could do this part of the analysis every three or four ends. Count the number of “/” marked in each quadrant (upper left, upper right, lower left, and lower right).

5. For **right-handed shooters**, the quadrants generally mean the following (keep in mind that there are lots of other lesser causes, and that these are for experienced archers who have fairly consistent form and execution):

- *Upper-left* you peeked at the arrow in flight and did not follow through on the shot. Your bow hand lifted to the left before the arrow cleared the bow.
- *Upper-right* You forced the shot. Release shooters triggered the release while recurve shooters plucked the bowstring.
- *Lower-right* Weak shot. The draw-hand was creeping forward before the arrow was released. This usually happens

when the archer is tired or held the draw past the point where they should have let down and redrew.

- *Lower-left* This quadrant is hit more at long distances than the shorter. To hit in here, either the archer completely blew the shot or the arrow was pushed down by the wind.

6. For **left-handed shooters**, the quadrants generally mean the following (keep in mind that these notes are for experienced archers who have a more consistent form):

- *Upper-right* you peeked at the arrow in flight and did not follow through on the shot. Your bow hand lifted to the left before the arrow cleared the bow.
- *Upper-left* You forced the shot. Release shooters triggered the release while recurve shooters plucked the bowstring.
- *Lower-left* Weak shot. The draw-hand was creeping forward before the arrow was released. This usually happens when the archer is tired or held the draw past the point where they should have let down and redrew.
- *Lower-right* This quadrant is hit more at long distances than the shorter. To hit in here, either the archer completely blew the shot or the arrow was pushed down by the wind.

There are many things you can do with the information garnered above. The simplest is to determine if you are having a form problem or are simply in need of an equipment adjustment. For example, suppose a right-handed archer had shot seven arrows in the upper-left quadrant. This would tell us that the archer was probably peeking at where the arrows were landing. He should try to concentrate on his follow-through.

For more detail explanations, and other causes of left, right, high, and low misses, visit our Archery Library at www.skookumarchers.com (Shooting Technique section – Arrow Misses Due to...

Registration Form

Skookum Archers Annual Banquet

Sat. January 14, 2006



The annual Skookum Archers Club banquet will be held Saturday January 14th at the Bonney Lake Senior Center. This will be a superior catered banquet. The address is 19306 Bonney Lake Blvd. 5:30 p.m. Social Hour; Buffet Dinner at 6:00 p.m. Both Associate and Active members are welcome. The buffet will consist of roast beef, chicken breast, potatoes, salads, dessert, etc. There will be a variety of awards and door prizes. **Cost is only \$10 per plate for adults, \$5 per child (6-12), free for Kids 5 and under.** The Club is offsetting a portion of the banquet cost.

Send in your reservation today. Deadline to register is January 8th. You can pay at the door. We look forward to seeing you there.

Instructions: Complete the following and mail to:

Skookum Archers
 C/O Don Morrison
 1231 Farallone Avenue
 Fircrest, WA 98466

or fax the registration to 253-565-2575. You can also register by sending the necessary information by email to info@skookumarchers.com. Be sure to mail-in a check with your registration form if you want to receive double the number of door prize tickets.

Cost is \$10 per plate for adults, \$5 per child (6-12), Free for Kids 5 and under.

Name	List Category (Adult, Child, or Kid)
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

TOTAL \$ _____

Directions to BL Senior Center: From SR 512 or SR 167: Take the SR 410 East Exit. As you go up the hill towards Bonney Lake, turn left at the first stop light (AM/PM and Dairy Queen). Follow road (Old Sumner Buckley Hwy) past fire station and post office to the first stop light (Locust Ave.). Turn left onto Locust. Follow Locust north about 1 mile to Bonney Lake Blvd. Turn right. Follow 1/2 mile to Senior Center/City Hall complex. Note: if you run into Lake Tapps, you have gone three blocks too far.

Breathing and Shot Execution



There are several theories as to how to breathe during your shot execution to maximize your chances for the X-ring. Some of the theories were spelled out in an article in Archery Focus magazine by Leighton Tyau. One theory holds that the archer should breathe in

during the draw and exhale half-way after reaching full anchor, as this enhances relaxation and facilitates aiming. Another theory has the archer breathing in during the pre-draw phase and exhaling during the draw. A third theory holds that you should breathe in before the draw, and exhale after full draw. You must keep some of your breath in the lungs, that is you exhale until your lungs reach natural air content. To do this, breathe in deeply and then relax the diaphragm letting the air out naturally rather than forcefully. A fourth theory is not to think about breathing at all, as it is part of your natural everyday existence. Your shot execution should be as natural as possible, and deliberately changing your breathing pattern during your shot is un-natural and thus difficult to duplicate the same on each shot.

An advantage of the first theory is that you will feel a sense of strength during the draw and, in theory, be able to execute the draw with strength. In addition, the exhalation strength that continues through the draw phase. Upon reaching the transfer/loading phase the out breath relaxes the archer, facilitating aiming. Deliberate exhaling relaxes the body. The first method is very difficult. You must breathe in while the muscles are under strain. As for the second and third methods, both are well argued and each has their advantages. If the out breath occurs right before the aiming period, it provides for a more stable shot. Try all four methods and see which helps you shoot better.

Most adults do not use the full capacities of our lungs to breathe, using only a fraction of the available lung capacity. If you watch a child or sleeping adult breathe, you will notice that the stomach moves in and out. This in-out motion is due to the diaphragm expanding and contracting allowing the lungs to reach their full capacity. In order to breathe like this, you must relax your abdominal muscles, let your stomach expand and think of breathing down into your stomach. With enough practice, you will be breathing like this regularly.

Commission approves new incentives to open private lands to hunting

Submitted by John Batts

VANCOUVER, Wash. – A new, three-part strategy to encourage private landowners to open their lands to hunting won unanimous approval by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission at a meeting here Nov. 18-19. Concerned about the steady loss of private lands open to hunting in Washington state, commissioners adopted a policy that provides new incentives for timber companies and other landowners to open their gates to hunters. It also imposes tougher penalties on hunters who take game from private lands without permission. Specifically, the new hunter-access policy will:

- Authorize the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to provide incentives to landowners to open lands the department considers especially important in maintaining hunting opportunities. Implementation of this provision is subject to legislative approval of a \$5 surcharge on hunting licenses.
- Allow landowners under contract with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to sell a certain number of permits to hunters, provided they open their lands to other randomly-drawn, licensed hunters.
- Subject hunters who take game without permission from lands enrolled in the new hunting-access program to the same penalties imposed on those who take game out of season. For poaching big-game species such as deer and elk, penalties will run as high as \$5,000 and a year in jail.

“We recognize that landowners who allow hunting on their lands can incur significant costs for everything from security to litter control,” said Commission Chairman Ron Ozment. “This new policy is designed to help them meet those costs and provide them with other incentives to open their gates to hunters.”

If the state Legislature approves the \$5 license surcharge next year, the department will also be able to expand the access program into western Washington and provide more signs, gates, parking areas and enforcement on private lands open to hunting, said Dave Ware, WDFW game manager. “More than half of Washington’s land base is now in private ownership,” Ware said. “We have to reach out to private landowners if we want to maintain hunting opportunities in this state.”

Thanks to 3-D Saturday Helpers

About 60 archers turned out for the fun shoot November 12th. The weather cooperated for shooters, although the setup and takedown was a rainy affair. Thanks to all those who helped on this last 3-D Saturday of the year: Dennis Jenkins, Don Morrison, Shawn Johnston Family, Glenn Graham, Jeremy Ryser, Kris Miles, John Finsterbusch, and any we failed to mention.

The next 3-D shoot the Club hosts will be the **Dirty Thirty**. This will be the first 2006 3-D tournament held in the state. We will also hold **another 3-D Saturday** fun shoot Saturday February 25th.

WSAA Multi-Color Mail-In



The Pro Shop will be a host range to shoot the WSAA Multi-Color Mail-In Tournament. The Mail-In shooting begins the first of December. Wednesday evenings will be the official shoot night (5pm & 7pm starting times), although make-ups can be done at other times, provided there are sufficient archers for double

scoring. Costs include a on-time registration fee plus a weekly range fee. The tournament registration cost is \$10 for adults, \$17 for husband/wife, \$8 for young adults, \$5 for cubs, & peewees shoot free. The range fee is \$5.00 per shooter per week. WSAA awards will be presented to winners. Must shoot 6 time between December 1st and January 31st to qualify. A registration form is available at Great Northwest Archery and the club house, and must be sent in by December 15th.

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. Get your supplies for the late season hunt.

(253) 841-0991

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vacant - Volunteer Today!

GROUNDS

Pat Fernandez, (253) 927-9741

HUNTING

John Batts
jkbatts@comcast.net

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



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info@skookumarchers.com**

Don Morrison, Editor

**Thursday December 8th,
Annual Membership
Meeting and Election,
6:30pm at the Club
House. Come get more in-
volved in the Club!**

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!

- December 1st, Multi-Color Mail-in Begins
- Thursday December 8th, Annual Membership Meeting and Election, 6:30pm
- January 7-8, Dirty Thirty 3-D, Skookum
- January 14th, Annual Club Banquet

CALENDAR