

The Broken Arrow

News for Archers



Vol 11, No. 1
Jan - Mar 2010

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The GHCA newsletter has a new lease on life as part of the incoming board's goal to improve communications across the membership.

Named, "the Broken Arrow," the newsletter will be sent via snail-mail and e-mail to all members each quarter. Look for your copy on or about April 1st, July 1st, October 1st, January 1st.

Input is always welcomed, and we look forward to hearing about your competitive endeavors and hunting successes.

Articles and photos may be sent to the Editor, Roy Poole, at macpoole@pcisys.net.

Congratulations to the new officers of Golden High Country Archers. At our Annual Meeting, members voted for the following officer positions:

President - Dennis Doerr
Vice President - Jeff McDermott
Range Captain - J. D. Wellard
Secretary - Steve Hendrix
Membership - Carol Ashurst
CFO - Howard Moore
Public Relations - Bert Hendren

This is the one chance in the year for members and officers to discuss the issues and operation of GHCA. Naturally, a huge turnout would be wonderful, but the bylaws allow for those present to vote and initiate action for the Archers.

After some background information on the state of our 3-D targets, we decided to continue to use the McKenzie targets and pursue improvements at McKenzie which would help the targets stand up to our environment.

We then moved to the topic of accounting. While boring to most of us, we learned it is not boring to the IRS, and given the size of the Archers, we are responsible to keep some pretty good books. Fortunately, at the moment, our filing requirements with the IRS are very small, but they could change that any day. Ten to twelve hours of accounting services will be required every month - and that doesn't include the month-to-month reports so important to the officers. After a small change in the bylaws to authorize such a contract, the members present voted to contract with Howard Moore for the accounting services, and to keep Howard as our financial officer, providing board members with important monthly information.

Outgoing Membership Chair, Leo Paik reported that the club was at 348 memberships, with two applications in hand, and therefore we would reach our self-imposed maximum. And while there is a 10% overage allowed, that is intended to cover the non-renewing members each year. A discussion was begun to consider changing the bylaws and allowing up to 400 regular memberships. Those present discussed the impact of such a change, and the fact the memberships does not equal members, as there are many family memberships. The final vote on the change was turned down, although the board will take a hard look at the quality of the range experience in the coming year.

As we discussed the calendar for the coming year, the idea was raised that those organizations who pay or exchange for the range, and then use their own targets, are not particularly happy with having people they don't know, who haven't paid an entrance fee, walk the range and shoot up their targets. Note that this concern rests most with those who bring in their own, 3-D targets. As a result of much discussion, the bylaws were narrowly voted to change in a manner giving the officers of the GHCA the option of closing the range during shoots held by other organizations. Please feel free to contact any officer about the impact of this change.

As you can see some very important business was accomplished at our meeting. You can also see how important it is to have members attend. In addition to the officers present, there were 38 members and a handful of guests in attendance. All were very helpful in discussing issues and then voting on changes, which should improve club operation and range quality.

We cannot urge you enough to get involved with your GHCA throughout the year. Sometimes, it's a fulfillment of your "work day" commitment, and at other times, it's simply to provide officers with the information they need to do a better job for you.





President's View



Hello GHCA members,

I would like to start off by introducing myself. My name is Dennis Doerr, and I am your new President. I've been a member of the Golden High Country Archers from the very beginning. I've served as a board member five times now. Last year, you'll remember, I was your Range Captain. I've also worked on the newsletter for two years. I can't begin to tell you how proud I am to take over the challenging role of GHCA President for the coming year.

On behalf of all members, I would like to thank Fred Seyfried, Karen Seyfried, and Russ Skaggs for their many years of excellent service to the club. And I can't possibly forget Leo Paik for the great job he did last year as the Membership Chair.

And now, I would like to give a big welcome to our newest board members, Bert Hendren, Carol Ashurst, Jeff McDermott, JD Wellard, and Steve Hendrix (who stayed on the serve another year's sentence - Oops! I meant, "service" - as Secretary.

I'm sure we will have a great year again in 2010. So, if there is anything you would like to discuss, please feel free to call, or contact via email, or drop a note in one of our boxes out at the range club house. Speaking for all the incoming board members, we are here to provide you with the best archery club in Colorado.

Hope to see you all out at the range,

Dennis Doerr
President GHCA



And Now, a Word from Our Sponsors

Hello, All you Members of Golden High Country Archers Inc.

My name is Bert Hendren, your new Public Relations Director. With your help and support, it is my goal to set up for your enjoyment, three main shoots for 2010; and possibly more, with your input.

I'm excited to be part of this fantastic group of archers, and want to do a great job; yet always have a lot of fun doing it. And while I'm having fun, I'll never forget that I am here to serve you.

For starters, the support of the businesses which paid to have their Advertisements placed in your news letter, are folks with whom I have done business with in the past, and will continue to do so in the future.

If you patronize any of our sponsors, please take a minute and tell them how appreciative you are for their support of Golden High Country Archers. Let them know you saw their ad in the newsletter and wanted to say "thank you."

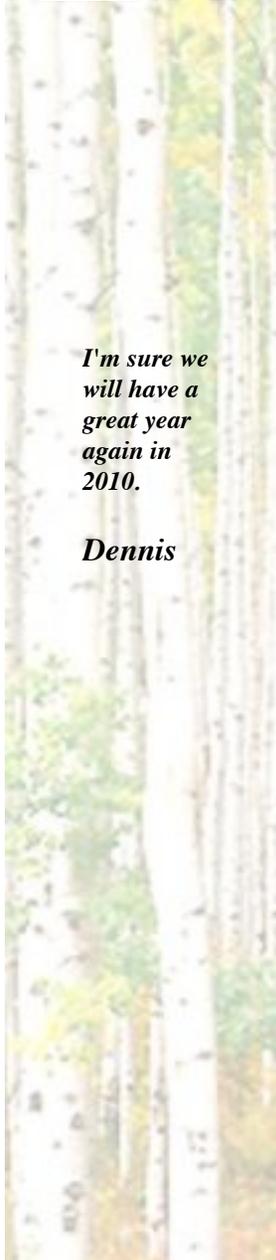
As your Public Relations Director, I want to be available to each and every one of you. Throughout the coming year, I look forward to meeting those of you whom I do not know, and all the friends I have found already on the range.

But don't wait for a big event, please fill free to contact me via E-Mail at hendren.bl@q.com

Once again, thank you for this opportunity to serve everyone in the greatest archery club in Colorado.



Bert Hendren



I'm sure we will have a great year again in 2010.

Dennis

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The Controversy Ends

A controversy has long raged about the relative quality and taste of venison or beef as gourmet foods. Some people say that venison is tough, with a strong "wild" taste. Others insist that its flavor is delicate.

An independent food research group was retained to conduct a taste test to determine the truth of these conflicting assertions.

First: A grade-A-choice Holstein steer was chased into a swamp a mile and a half from the nearest road and shot several times. After some of the entrails were removed, the carcass was 'drug' over rocks and logs, and through mud and dust, then thrown into the back of a pickup truck and transported through rain and snow for 100 miles before being hung out in the sun for 10 days.

After that, it was lugged into the garage, where it was skinned and rolled around on the floor for a while. "Strict sanitary precautions" were observed throughout this test – within the limitations of the butchering environment. For instance, dogs and cats were allowed to sniff the steer carcass, but were chased out of the garage if they attempted to lick the carcass or bite hunks out of it.

Next a sheet of plywood left from last year's butchering was set up in the basement on two sawhorses. The pieces of dried blood, meat, and fat left from last year were scraped off with a wire brush last used to clean out the dry grass stuck under the lawnmower.

The skinned carcass was then dragged down the steps into the basement, and a half dozen inexperienced but enthusiastic people worked on it with meat saws, cleavers and dull knives.

The result was 375 pounds of soup bones, four

It's Nearly Spring and a Young Archer's Fancy Turns to ... SNAKES!

As Spring approaches, most of us will be limbering up the bows, tuning the compounds, and stretching those neglected muscles.

While enjoying the Spring days on the range, remember to look down from the budding trees to the dry footpaths ahead. For as much as we enjoy being on them, a cold snake may be using them as well.

At the range, we are likely to see rattlesnakes, garter snakes, and bull snakes. According to officials, the rattlesnake is "common" below 7,000 feet or so.

We've placed signs with photos to help you identify the three most common species of snake, but we still need your help.

When you spot what looks like a rattlesnake, please leave as much information in the Range Officer's drop box as you can (location, time of day, description).

And if there are others on the range with you, be a friend and let them know you spotted the snake.



bushel baskets of meat scraps, and a couple of steaks that were an eighth of an inch thick on one edge and an inch and a half thick on the other.

The steaks were seared on a glowing red cast iron frying pan, to lock in the flavor. When the smoke cleared, rancid bacon grease was added along with three pounds of onions, and the whole recipe was fried for 2 hours. The meat was gently teased from the frying pan and served to 3 blindfolded taste panel volunteers. Every one of the members of the panel thought it was venison. One of the volunteers even said it tasted exactly like the venison he had eaten at hunting camps for the last 27 years.

The results of this trial show conclusively that **there is no difference between the taste of beef and venison.**

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GHCA Reaches Membership Cap

MEMBERSHIP NEWS:

As winter continues to push forward and spring appears just on the horizon, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the previous Board of Directors for their hard work and dedication to the Golden High Country Archers. As a bowhunter for almost 30 years, I am honored to have been elected onto the GHCA Board of Directors as the 2010-11 Membership Director. Being new to the club, I look forward to meeting all of you, the great folks that make up this club. This is a membership club, so feel free to give me a call or shoot me an email if you have any questions, concerns, etc. in regards to the GHCA membership services.

Our club reached the 350 member cap for the 2009-10 season, and I would like to welcome those members new to our club and say thank you to those that have been a member for many years now. GHCA has much to offer archers and bowhunters along the Front Range including great events, camaraderie and perhaps one of the best 3D ranges in Colorado! A couple items of business--- all work parties must be completed and received by me no

later than March 31st. Remember, it is YOUR responsibility to get your work parties completed, verified and turned in. If you turned in your work parties to a Board Member, please follow-up with them prior to March 31st to ensure that I have received it. Per GHCA bylaws, no work parties will be accepted after March 31st—no exceptions! Partial work parties do not count- you must have the full FOUR HOURS. Renewal notices will be sent out in early April and renewals must be received no later than May 1st. Once May 1st arrives, we are required by club bylaws to limit membership to 350, thus meaning that for the first time, some members may not be able to renew. As the club continues to grow and expand, space is becoming more and more limited and we are very likely to reach the cap once again in 2010-11. You do not want to lose your place at the club for failing to turn in your renewal notice on time. If you have moved or are moving in the near future, please let me know as soon as possible so that I can make sure you receive GHCA membership notices and club information in a timely manner.

I look forward to seeing you all out on the range!! Keep the arrows flying and shoot straight!!

Carol Ashurst, 2010 GHCA Membership Director
ashurstcarol@aol.com



Our club reached the 350 member cap for the 2009-10 season

What's New for Hunters in 2010?

The new, big game brochures for 2010 are out, so you have until April 6, at midnight, to figure out what you want to draw for. And, although you've done it many times, there are a few surprises.

First, the format of the charts showing hunt areas and codes has changed. The basic hunt codes have remained the same, only the way in which they are listed looks different.

There's now a "hybrid" drawing for those holding 5 or more points, who'd like to take a shot at an area requiring more than 10 preference points. Some of the premier areas will now offer up to 20% of the available licenses to the random draw of these hybrid applications.

Another new change is for those who hunt in the Gunnison Basin for elk. Archery licenses are now totally limited in units 54, 55, and 551.

If you're a Rocky Mt. Bighorn Sheep, or a Rocky Mt. Goat hunter, take extra time to look at the unit boundaries. Some boundaries have changed, and you'd hate to plan on a hunt in your favorite area, only to discover the new boundary is 400 yards away, on the other side of the canyon.

Of course, the easiest way, and one which won't let you submit an application with an error on it, is to go online: <http://wildlife.state.co.us/ShopDOW/AppsAndLicenses/>





JD during a Scouting trip for 2008 Elk Hunting

Range Captain Aimpoints

My name is Jeremy ("JD") Wellard, and I am your new 2010 Range Captain here at GHCA.

Here's a little bit about myself: I received the "bow bug" at the age of 5 and it just never went away. I grew up in southeastern Idaho; moved to San Francisco when I was 18, and didn't get to do much hunting there due to my job. I moved to Colorado through my work, and was finally back in a position where I could go hunting again.

I have lived in Colorado for the last 12 years. I joined the GHCA club three years ago and have enjoyed every minute of it. I took on the task of a Range Officer last year, and found it to be a rewarding experience. Plus, it gave me the opportunity to meet and shoot with some very nice people.

My back ground is in homeland security, Corporate for the most part, along with loss prevention, security and access control systems, and terrorism preparedness.

Some plans for this year at the range are to improve some of the back stops on the back side of the range to get a more natural look instead of bags and hay bales all over. I would like to improve some of the lanes that are a sloppy mess when you go to walk down them. This is also a safety precaution in my eyes. I would also like to see a better rotation on the lanes with the target selections. I am looking at getting a few more fun targets for the kids to shoot as well as a good selection of the McKenzie and Rinehart targets for everyone to enjoy.

Thanks for the warm welcome and I look forward to meeting even more new faces and shooting with you all.

JD Wellard
Range Captain GHCA.



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DOUBTS ABOUT TRADITIONAL ARCHERY

After graduating from college in 1976 and gaining employment, I walked into an archery range to buy the Bear Super Kodiak of my childhood dreams, and thereby become a bow hunter. The man behind the counter said that a recurve wasn't a good choice ("too hard to shoot well"); and that the new-generation compound bow was the only way to go.

I actually didn't even know what a compound bow was! After convincing me the Martin Cougar was the way to go, I purchased one and started the wonderful way of life, that of a bow hunter. This love affair burns as hot today, as it ever has.

After a few years of shooting – and finding some success in bow hunting – I started noticing beautiful recurves made right here in Colorado by Keith Chastain (Wapiti recurves) and the Bighorn Bowhunting Company. Although intriguing, the main thing that kept me from trying traditional archery was self doubt.

The fact is, I thought that "I could never be good, or good enough," with a recurve or longbow to hunt with one. I had taken three elk with my compound bow. But I'd also missed my share of elk due to over-estimating distance. How could I properly hit one without a sight?

The real reason I broke down and bought my first recurve was that it was a thing of beauty. It was a beautiful bow to own, and one that I would shoot "on the side," once in a while. I could look at a good recurve shooter and think, "how in the heck can he hit like that, no sights, varying ranges, it must take forever, or it must take a special talent."

Well, I purchased a Wapiti recurve, made some wood arrows and started to shoot. Man this is fun! So simple, no fussing with Allen wrenches, estimating yardage, tinkering, just pull it back and shoot.

The next thing I knew I was hitting the target with increasing regularity. Maybe I can get good with this thing. I read Fred Asbell's book, went to his seminars – which were regular back then; and developed a shooting style. Not a good one, but a shooting style nonetheless.

It was in the middle 1980's and I remember how much I enjoyed every minute I ever spent with a compound bow. But I also remember how I thought, "holy cow, this recurve thing is really

fun!" In truth, the compound was becoming boring in comparison. My love of "just shooting" had just been rejuvenated. It was more of a challenge, and wow it was satisfying when you hit the target with all of your own skill.

Late June I made an impulsive decision to get good with this bow by September and hunt with the recurve ONLY. And guess what happened? My buddy passed up the bull he called into four feet, because he didn't want to spook it by trying to break his compound over. That bull came to within 20 yards of me, and I got him.

My buddy said, "Man, if I had a longbow, I could have just eased it up, pulled real slow and" The next year he had a longbow and proceeded to harvest elk nearly every year after.

Today, I don't know why I didn't think I could hit what I wanted with a recurve. After all, I could throw a baseball or softball with good accuracy at varying distances and varying levels of speed. I could even throw a football and hit moving targets. I watched people just pile the arrows into the mark whom I knew had no athletic background.

If you think about it, shooting a bow with your hands and body in the same or similar positions, and simply looking at your target, should be a whole lot easier for your mind and body to accommodate than throwing a ball from infinitely varying positions and speed. Instinctive shooting is a skill that *does* take a little time to develop, but it is a life skill that stays with you for the rest of your life. I have seen many an older man pick up the bow after a 10 to 30 year hiatus and plink the arrows right to the middle of the target. The only thing they usually say is, "This is fun! I've wasted too many years not getting back into this." Another of our club members has told me on several occasions, "I so much wish I would have tried this years ago."

So to sum it up, please do not let those doubts in the back of your head prevent you from trying something new. I love "traditional" archery the most, and I know that the type of archery one enjoys is an individual choice. However, because I understand what kept me from trying something that today is one of my life's great joys, I want to encourage others. I encourage you to try it the 'hard way;' and to not let doubt keep you from something that just might be the most satisfying archery of your life.

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New Technology Available in 2010

A short time ago, I was over at Tanglewood Archery, talking about the "Broken Arrow" newsletter, and asked, "What's new?"

The answer was a strange compound bow looking like a sad accident between a hunting bow and a tennis racket. I was looking at the new, Hoyt Carbon Matrix and really was impressed with the bow itself. I soon found myself looking at a YouTube video of some - unconventional - tests done by Hoyt to prove the durability of this equally unconventional bow.

The Carbon Matrix is Hoyt's showboat bow for 2010 and features an all carbon riser. There are three main tubes that are hollow, and make use of the same O-Tech technology that Prince uses in its tennis rackets. With an ATA of 35.3 and a mass of 3.8 lbs, the Carbon Matrix is one of the lightest bows on the market. A relatively forgiving brace height of 7 1/4" and the new XTR Cam and 1/2 result in an IBO rating of 318 fps.

The Carbon Matrix is a smooth shooting, technologically advanced bow that will surely lead to a future of more carbon fiber-based bows. The MSRP is \$1599, so this is not a bow that's easy on the pocket book, however early reports indicate that it is selling well and Hoyt is rumored to be bumping up the production quantities to meet the demand.

In just a moment, we'll give you the URL for the YouTube videos, but it's important to read from the owners' manual about mishandling and damaging your expensive new bow:

Extreme care should be taken to avoid impact damage to the Carbon Matrix riser.



The Carbon Matrix is designed to withstand high stress flexing and high stress loading that would be associated with normal use and function of the bow.

However, in general, composite structures do not withstand high load impact such as being dropped from a tree, or by having some other object impact the structure. In the event that your bow does encounter a surface impact, you must carefully inspect the riser for damage.

If impacted, inspect the area for visible broken fibers, multitude of separation cracks, cracking that appears to resemble a spider-web, dented surface, or a soft flexible surface at the impact point. If any of the above conditions are apparent or suspect, the bow should be considered damaged and should not be used any further.

Now, have some fun watching some guys abusing a bow they surely have borrowed --

http://www.youtube.com/view_play_list?p=42094B90838DDA5A



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GHCA Calendar

Feb. 28, Sun	8:00 am	Work Party
Mar 5, 1902		Fred Bear's birthday
Mar 14, Sun	12:01 am	DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS
Mar 21, Sun	8:00 am	Work Party
Mar 27, Sat		<i>Tanglewood Archery Shoot</i>
Apr 1, Thu		CO Small Game/Fishing renewal
Apr 6, Tue		<u>Big Game draw Applications due</u>
Apr 10, Sat	8:00 am	GHCA Board meeting
Apr 24, Sat	8:00 am	Accelerated Bowhunter Ed Course, Lockheed Martin Range dskygazer@comcast.net
May 1, Sat	8:00 am	1st GHCA Membership Drive
May 2, Sun		<i>No Limits Archery Shoot</i>
May 9, Sun		MOTHERS' DAY
May 15, Sat		CSSA Shoot
May 22, Sat	8:00 am	CBA Spring Fest Shoot
May 31, Mon		Memorial Day (observed)
Jun 2, Wed	5:30 pm	<i>Rocky Mt Specialty Shoot</i>
Jun 9, Wed	5:30 pm	<i>Rocky Mt Specialty Shoot</i>
Jun 16, Wed	5:30 pm	<i>Rocky Mt Specialty Shoot</i>
Jun 19, Sat		Shoot for the Troops
Jun 20, Sun		Shoot for the Troops bonus day
Jun 20, Sun		FATHERS' DAY
Jun 30, Wed	5:30 pm	<i>Rocky Mt Specialty Shoot</i>
Jul 7, Wed	5:30 pm	<i>Rocky Mt Specialty Shoot</i>
Jul 21, Wed	5:30 pm	<i>Rocky Mt Specialty Shoot</i>
Jul 28, Wed	5:30 pm	<i>Rocky Mt Specialty Shoot</i>
Aug 4, Wed	5:30 pm	<i>Rocky Mt Specialty Shoot</i>
Aug 7, other dates		Bighorn (archery) Season Start
Aug 15, Sun		Pronghorn (archery unlimited) Season start
Aug 21, Sat	5:00 pm	GHCA Broadhead Tune Shoot
Aug 28, Sat		Deer (Archery) Season start
Aug 28, Sat		Elk (Archery unlimited) Season start
Sep 2, Thu		Bear (over-counter w/caps) Season start
Sep 4, 1875		Dr. Saxton Pope's birthday
Sep 7,		Goat (Archery) Season Start
Nov 7, Sun	12:01 am	DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS
Nov 11, Thu		VETERANS' DAY
Nov 13, 1899		Howard Hill's birthday
Nov 25, Thu		THANKSGIVING
Dec 4, Sat		GHCA Toys for kids Shoot
Dec 15, 1911		Glenn St. Charles birthday



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