

THE WHISPERING SHAFT

Keeping the Tradition Alive.....

**Quarterly Chronicle of the
Carolina Traditional Archers
Fall 2016**



www.thecta.org

CAROLINA TRADITIONAL ARCHERS

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Carolina Traditional Archers is the preservation and promotion of the ancient art of traditional archery through club activities and educational interactions with others. Members will adhere to the highest ethical standards in their support, practice, promotion and preservation of traditional archery and bow hunting. The Carolina Traditional Archers support sound wildlife management principles and seek opportunities to aid conservation efforts.

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Letter from the President



Members and friends of CTA,

After a long, hot summer fall has finally arrived and it's time to "change gears" again. Many of us in the club are hunters and look forward to this time of year. Spending time outside with cooler temperatures, dryer air and the colors of autumn is always a treat for me. The camaraderie of the hunt, like the camaraderie at our club shoots is always a high point of the whole experience. With the arrival of fall and its many activities, projects at the club have slowed down to a crawl. Those of us who have spent so many hours working at the club in the past eighteen months are ready for a break too. There are so many things that we still want to do to improve the club house and range.

- ◆ Complete the steps up the bank
- ◆ A tree stand on the range
- ◆ Permanent outdoor target butts
- ◆ A permanent storage building
- ◆ Covered entry porch
- ◆ Broadhead target pit
- ◆ Complete range clean-up
- ◆ Recover the pond area into a usable field
- ◆ Primitive camping
- ◆ Aerial targets
- ◆ New windows
- ◆ New doors
- ◆ Install running target on the range
- ◆ Cut and stack firewood from downed trees

On the long range list of items is a well, septic system, addition with bathrooms and a full service kitchen. This will take a lot more time and money, but the items above can hopefully be achieved in the next eighteen months. Many of our newer members may not be aware of all these plans and ideas, so I wanted to share these improvement ideas for our club and keep the goals in the forefront of everyone. We have made huge strides since acquiring our property nearly two years ago and it's exciting to think about where we can be two years from now.

To make all this happen we need some monetary help but we also need manpower and involvement from more of our members. To remain viable, a volunteer organization needs a constant influx of new people to step up and help out. I am beginning to hear "burn-out" from some of our members who have dedicated so much of their time and energy to CTA in the past two years. We have also been operating all year short one board member, which has put a bit more work on the existing team. This has also been a great year in terms of attendance and growth in new members. Our club is at a point that we need some members to step up and help us keep moving forward. Elections aren't very far away. Several of our board members will be stepping down and we need some new faces to step forward to help keep this fine club growing.

All of us have skills and talents that can help out. If you haven't been actively involved in the club's activities other than attending the shoots, give some serious thought as to how you can help. We have come too far in the past 31 years not to take advantage of the potential we have with our new permanent home. Talk to us and lend a hand. Many hands make short work.

Drew Sumrell - President

From the Editor.....

Many thanks to those that provided stories and pictures for this issue of the newsletter. I think this may be the largest newsletter yet that I have been involved in over the last couple of years. You will notice a new section called trail cam corner that I have been thinking about for a while now. I thought this bear pic was pretty neat and thought no better time than now to start this section. I am sure many of you have some interesting trail cam pics as well. Please pass them along and of course, you don't need to disclose the location!

Good luck to everyone this year and be safe. Below are couple of pics of new hunting arrows I am working on. I did not splice the feathers myself, but I really like the combination of colors. These arrows are laminated birch and will make a great, heavy arrow.

Please note the submission guidelines towards the end of this newsletter to send in your stories and photos.

Martin Seeley



2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 2	Herb Reynolds Memorial Shoot, 9am-3pm, Conover
February 6	Club Shoot—Annual Business Meeting, 9am-3pm, Conover
March 5	Club Shoot, 9am-3pm, Conover
April 2	Club Shoot—Traditional Skills Weekend & Turkey Warm Up, 9am-3pm, Conover
May 7	Club Shoot, 9am-3pm, Conover
June 4	Club Shoot—Kid's Day, 9am-3pm, Conover
July 9	Club Shoot, 9am-3pm, Conover
August 6	Club Shoot, 9am-3pm, Conover
September 3	Club Shoot—Whitetail Warmup, 9am-3pm, Conover
October 1	Club Shoot, 9am-3pm, Conover
October 19-22	Club Hunt at W. Kerr Scott Reservoir
November 5	Club Shoot—Traditional Skills Weekend, 9am—3pm, Conover
December 3	Club Shoot, 9am-3pm , Conover



Tips for Harvest Photos

It has often been said that any animal taken with traditional archery gear is a trophy. Along with the hours of preparation why would you want anything but the best photo? Listed below are some suggestions that will make that harvest photograph one you will treasure for years to come.

- ♦ Tuck the legs under and sit the animal upright as much as possible.
- ♦ Trim away grass or brush to get a clear view of the animal and remove all blood, guts, arrows, and anything man-made (tents, motorized vehicles, etc.) from the picture.
- ♦ Push the animal's tongue back into its mouth or cut it off.
- ♦ If the hunter is wearing a brimmed hat, push it back and up so that his/her face shows in the picture.
- ♦ Position the animal so the sun, if available, shines onto the animal's face.
- ♦ Get in close and fill the frame with the picture.
- ♦ Shoot both vertical and horizontal shots and shoot lots of photos.

W Kerr Scott Reservoir — Native American Pow-Wow

It was a hot September day at W. Kerr Scott Reservoir but CTA hosted another successful shoot at the Pow-Wow. The heat didn't seem to deter all the young folks.....and a few adults too. CTA would like to offer many thanks to Allen Wagner, Jeff Cook, Mark Rickard, Mike Keziah and our neighbor at the club, Zachery Honaker, who was a huge help. That kid must have shot 200 arrows in addition to helping us with the set-up and blowing up a LOT of balloons. Thank you Zach!

Hopefully we got a few more kids excited about traditional archery and maybe a few that will be lifetime archers. As much as some kids shot, they were certainly having a great time.....and that makes our efforts very worthwhile.



W Kerr Scott Reservoir — Native American Pow-Wow Cont....



BUILD A BOW STRINGER

Every traditional archer needs a bow stringer or two to safely brace and unbrace their bows. I use a couple of different designs but this one seems to work very well on the majority of bows. A few tools, materials and about 45 minutes and you can make one for yourself, or a friend or a kid that's new to archery.

Tools Required:

Sharp pocket knife, utility knife or X-ACTO knife
Rotary leather punch or 3/16" single hole punch
Scissors
Fine point pen to trace pattern

Materials:

5"x8" piece of 4-5 ounce leather
8' length of paracord
Cup Pattern



STEP 1

Print the limb tip cup pattern provided. (See next page). You may need to adjust the scale in your printer set-up so the dimensions are correct when you print the pattern. Cut out the pattern and trace it onto your piece of leather. If your leather is a dark color, it may show up better to trace the pattern on the back. You can cut out the pattern from either the front or back of the leather and it will work fine either way.

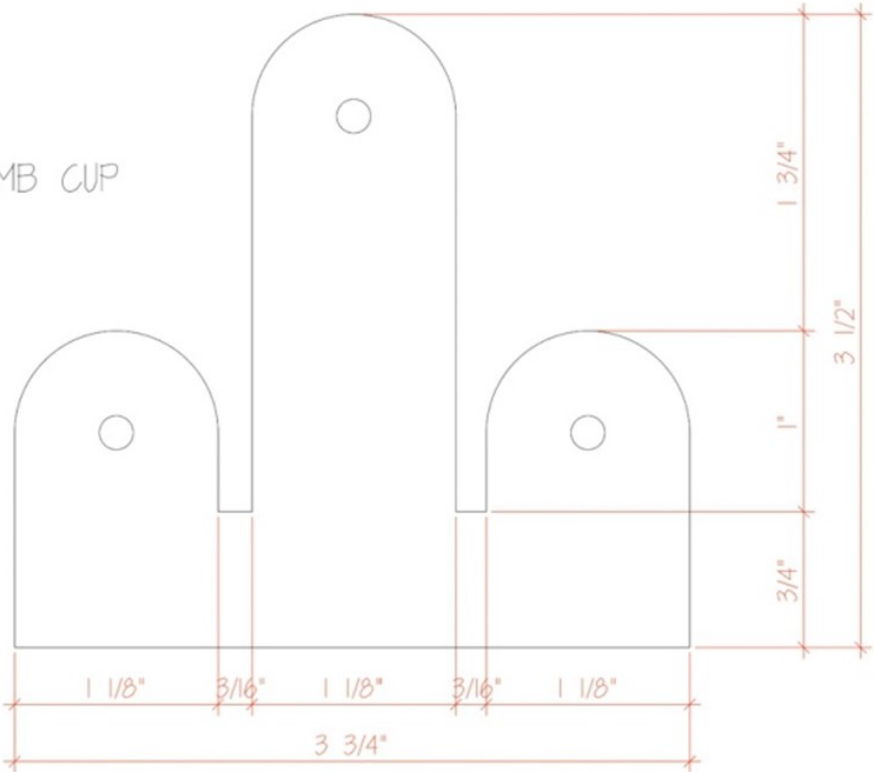
STEP 2

Select either the top cup or the bottom cup and fold it as shown in the following pictures.

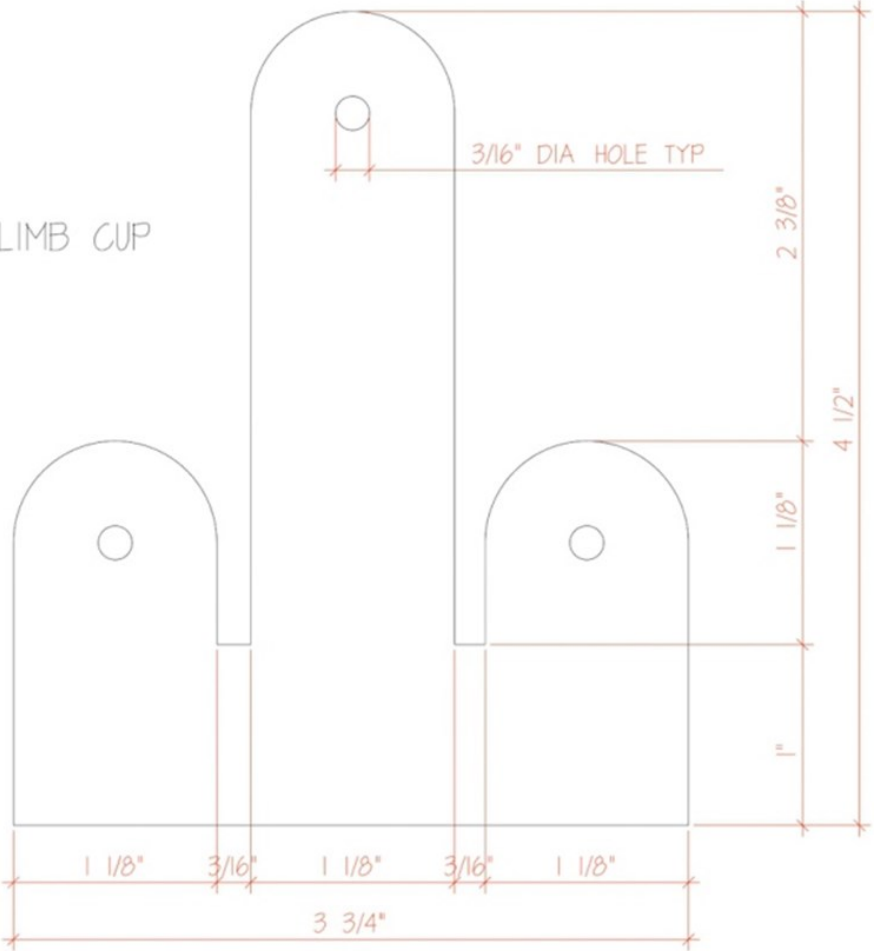


Cup Cut Out Ready to Fold

TOP LIMB CUP



BOTTOM LIMB CUP





First Fold



Second Fold



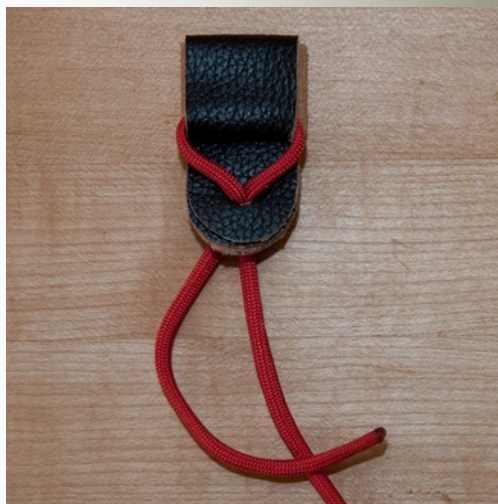
Third Fold



Folded Tip Cup

STEP 3

You are now ready to lace the cup with your piece of parachord as shown in the following pictures.





Complete this part with an overhand knot as shown in the last picture or a bowline as shown in the picture at the beginning of the article. Repeat this process with the other cup. Adjust the length of your completed bow stringer to the size bow that you shoot most often. The shorter cup is used on the top limb to make it easier to slide your string into the string nock grooves.

I like to make my stringer about a foot longer than the bow. Slide the longer cup onto your bottom limb, the shorter cup onto the top limb. Stand on the stringer with both feet spread a little more than shoulder width apart. Pull up on the handle of the bow until you can slide the top loop of the string into the string nock grooves. Make sure the string is securely in the string nock grooves before releasing pressure on the stringer. You and your bow will both be safer by using a good bow stringer to brace and unbrace your bow.

Drew Sumrell

Member Shots



Darren Webb—Opening day 6 pointer —
Centaur longbow 60# @ 26, Beeman arrow
and Simmons Treeshawk broadhead.



CTA Hosts NCBA Meeting

The Carolina Traditional Archers hosted the North Carolina Bowhunters Association quarterly meeting on June 26, 2016 at our club house. The meeting began at approximately 10:00am with the Pledge of Allegiance to the US flag followed with a prayer. The regular procedure for the business of NCBA began and lasted until the lunch break. A lunch of hot dogs and hamburgers and all the trimmings was prepared by several CTA members including Drew Sumrell, Allen Wagner, Mark Rickard, and Jeff Holchin. Theo Lynn and Jim Jordan were also in attendance at the meeting.

The business meeting resumed after the lunch break and several topics were discussed. For quite a long while the NCBA executive officers and quite a large number of the members have talked about securing a piece of property for a permanent home for NCBA. The thought is to acquire some property acreage large enough for a campground for NCBA members to use for free as desired. The area would also be used for educational purposes to teach archery safety, hunter safety and hunting skills. Hopefully, the property will be located near the center of the state and close to some good deer hunting, lakes for bow fishing and other hunting.

Other business included a lively discussion of whether to allow crossbows, air-bows and other arrow launching equipment into the organization in addition to the use of traditional archery equipment and compound bows. The discussion leaned toward not allowing these other shooting instruments into the organization but the discussion will continue. Discussion took place with updates about legislative items concerning hunting, planning for next year's Dixie Deer Classic and next year's NCBA banquet. The meeting was adjourned approximately 3:30pm.

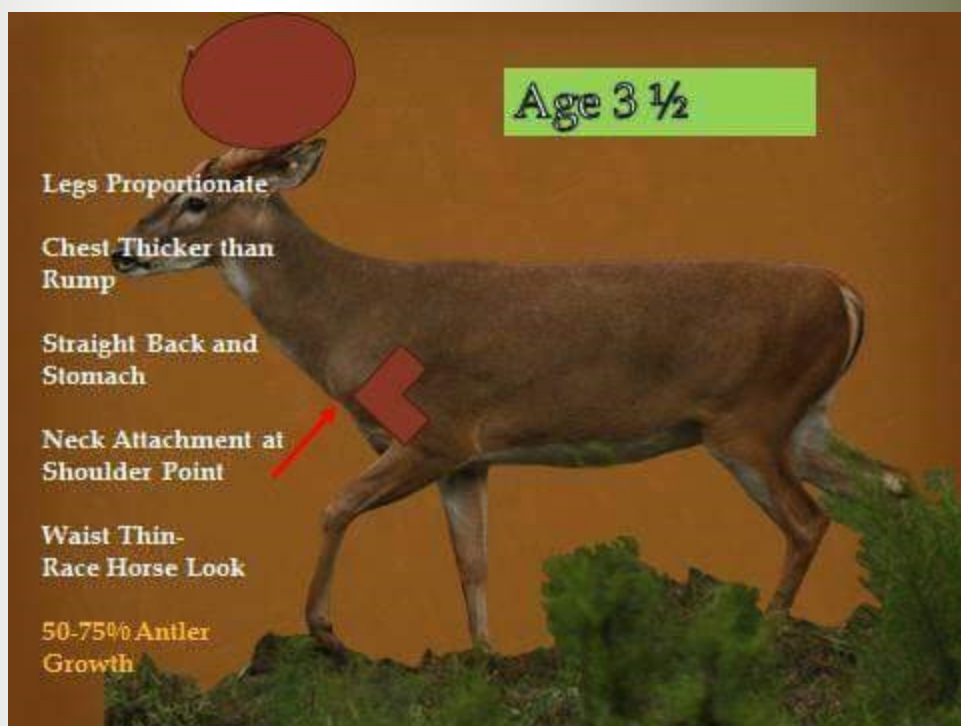
The NCBA officers and guests that attended the meeting were very impressed with our club house and property. Knowing that we are in the process of restoring our club house, archery range and building our membership to keep traditional archery alive, they had great compliments for our activities. Both organizations would like to see more of our CTA members join NCBA. NCBA is an organization for traditional bow hunters as well as compound bow hunters. We all want to "Keep the Tradition Alive".

Submitted by Jim Jordan, Life Member and Hall of Fame Member of NCBA

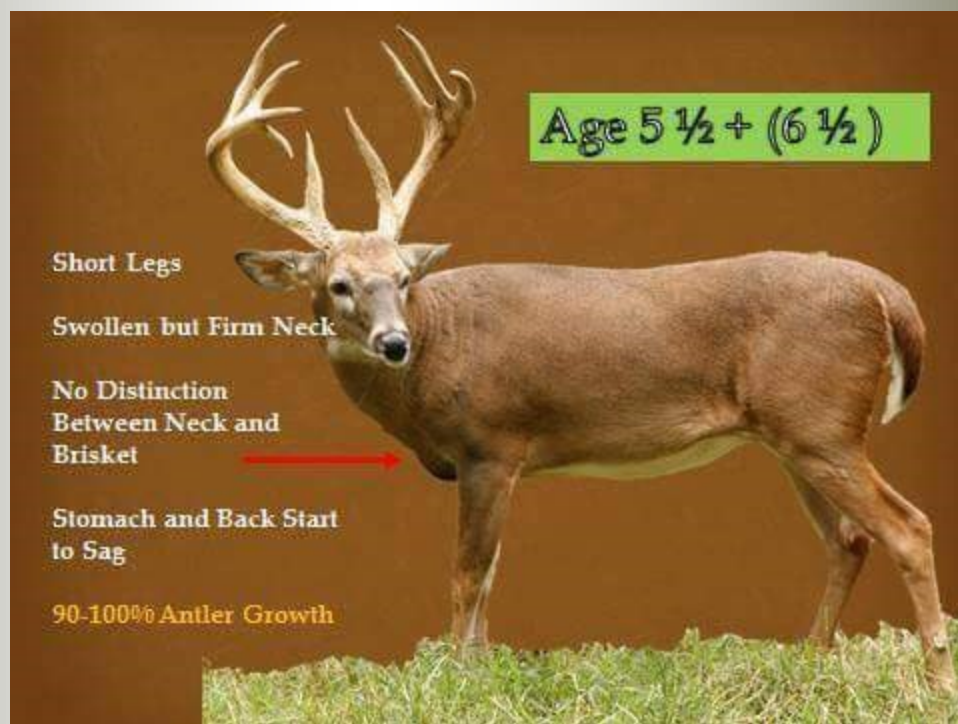
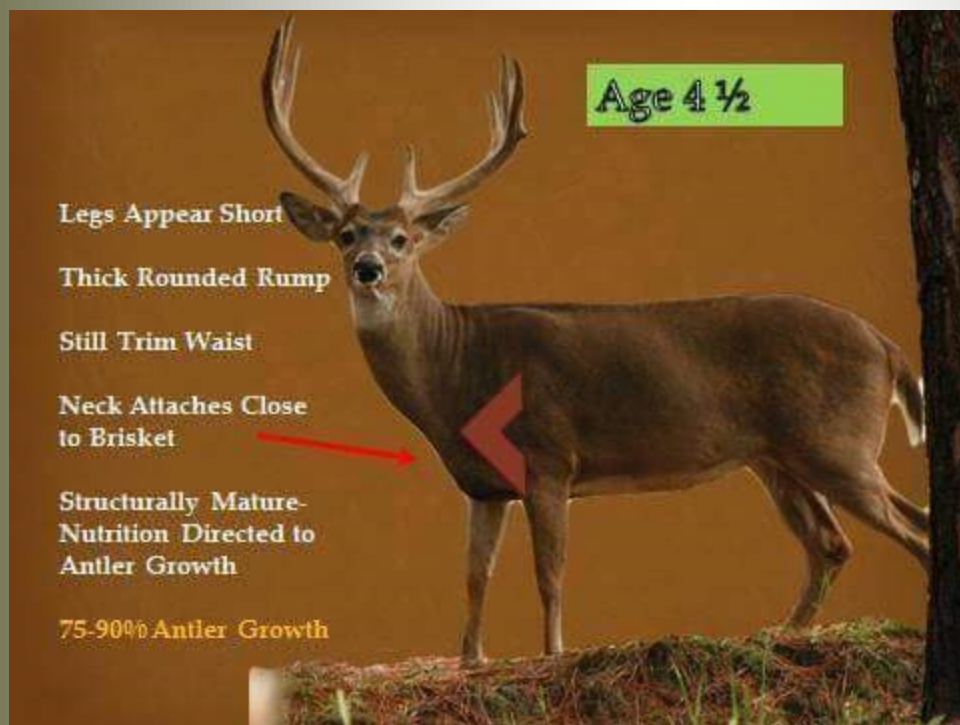
<http://www.ncbowhunter.com>



Picture Guide on How to Age a Buck



Picture Guide on How to Age a Buck cont....



About our Club Shoots

Our monthly Club Shoots are loads of fun! If you like traditional archery, or even if you're just curious as to what traditional archery is all about, you owe it to yourself to check us out. It's an event the whole family can enjoy.

All club shoots are held the first Saturday of the month at the Carolina Traditional Archers Club: 6072 Timber Ridge Rd, Conover, NC. 28613 All shoots run from 9am - 3pm,. We set out twenty 3-D animal targets. All the foam targets are in the woods, amongst the trees, which makes for a realistic and very pleasant setting.

Shoots cost \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members. Meal is included with the price of admission, and first-time visitors shoot and eat for free!



Club Improvements

We are one step closer to having the ceiling done in the club house. We had a good, productive morning at the club. I think one more work day and we can finish the ceiling. It's been a long haul. Many thanks go out to our CTA construction crew.

Pictured L to R, are Bud Blaylock, Tim Kidd, Drew Sumrell, Jim Jordan, Rick Richard Jr., Ken Ward & Mark Rickard. What a great team to work with.

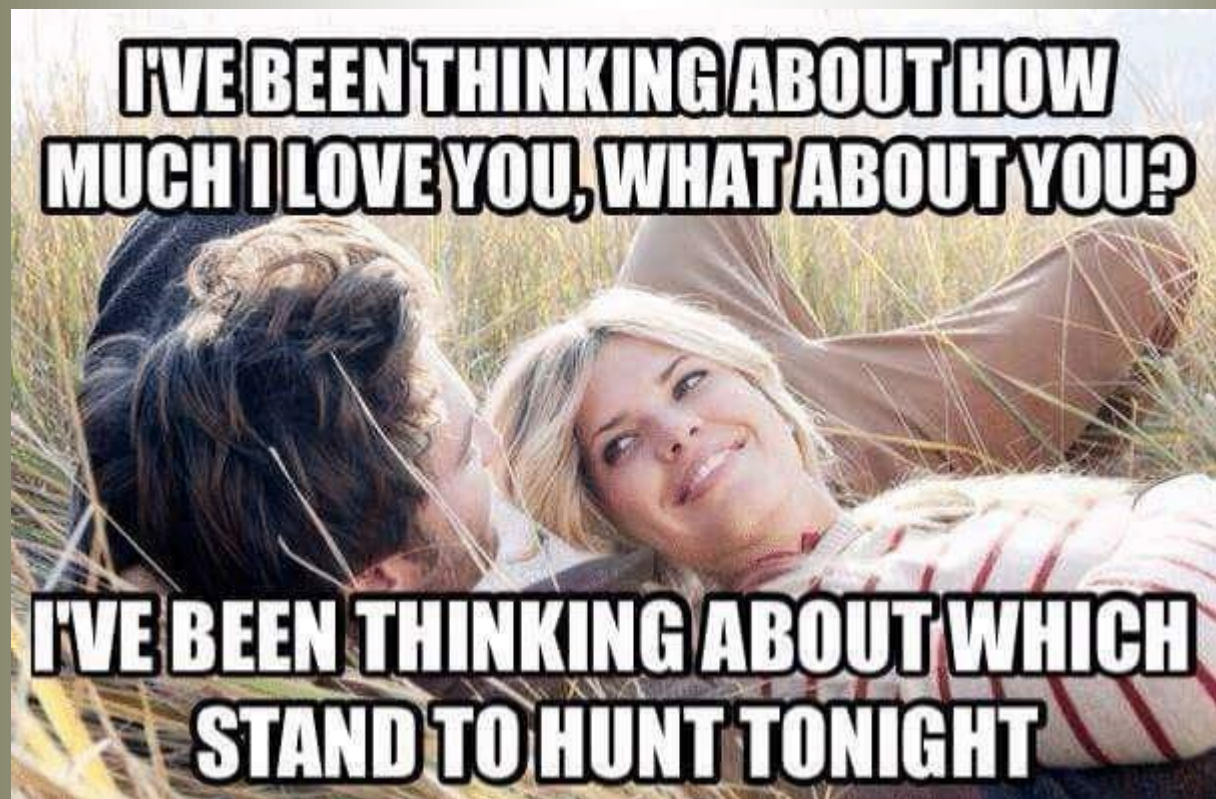


Osage Orange trees are blooming!

All of our Osage Orange trees are leafed out and doing well. I'm personally looking forward to day the first self-bow is made!



Archery Humor



Building a Home Archery Target by David Haggist

Having a target to shoot at each day is a great way to stay sharp between monthly shoots. Building one is easy and cheap. The target pictured below is 4'x 4' and provides ample space for multiple archers.

Materials List

(5) 1"x6" four feet in length

(2) 2"x4" four feet in length

(1) roll wide gap chicken wire, does not have to be four feet wide as you can splice together with wire

Roll of indoor/outdoor carpet. This is sold at Lowes and cost about \$20.00.

Stuffing material. In this case I used scrapes from the carpet along with plastic shopping bags.

Nails/screws 3" in length. I suggest predrilling to prevent splitting joints.

Utility knife with a razor sharp blade.

Assembly

Assemble frame as indicated in Figure #1. The 2x4's at top of frame are positioned to leave a gap to facilitate stuffing.

Cover frame with chicken wire. I used a pneumatic stapler to do this and then joined the sections of wire together. Figure #2

Cover frame with carpet and use a utility knife to trim flush with the edges. Figure #3

With this project, I used untreated lumber as the target was being placed in my basement. I recommend treated lumber and galvanized fasteners for outside use. Although I used plastic bags for stuffing, old towels, clothing, etc. can be used. If using clothing, be mindful to remove zippers as they can damage arrows. Also this will greatly increase the weight of your target and making moving more difficult.

Figure #1



Figure #2



Figure #3



Trail Cam Corner



The Hunter's Feast.....

Spicy Deer Breakfast Sausage Recipe

- 3 lbs venison
- 2 lbs fatty pork shoulder or 1 lb lean pork and 1 lb pork fat.
- 2 tablespoons crushed red pepper flakes
- 3 tablespoons kosher salt
- 1 tablespoon rubbed sage
- 3 tablespoon medium ground black pepper
- 1 tablespoon granulated or powdered garlic
- 1 cup ice water



1. Trim the venison of all bloody areas and tough connective tissue, cut it and the pork into 1 inch cubes, and grind it all through the medium plate of your meat grinder.
2. Combine the spices in a small container and mix with the 1 cup of ice water.
3. Pour the spice and water combination into the ground meat and mix thoroughly for at least 2 minutes. Use your hands for mixing to assure even distribution.
4. Once the sausage is fully mixed, stuff it immediately into casings and cool it down.

a fresh patty recipe too. You may even want to shape it into logs and freeze it. Then you can cut slices and fry it as needed.

When I do stuff this recipe, I like to use 29-32mm natural hog or collagen casings. You could also finish it in the smoker, but remember, if you do, add a level teaspoon of either Prague powder or Instacure for each 5 lbs. of meat used.

Don't keep this sausage in the fridge for more than a couple of days. It stores well in the freezer for at least 3 months, but that can be stretched considerably if you use a vacuum sealer.

This venison sausage works equally well as

Third Quarter Shoots

Our September shoot turned out well with the passing of hurricane Hermine and the rain. Nice attendance of 35 with a half dozen visitors and new members. The weather was such a delight after two very hot shoots the previous months. Thanks to Rick for setting a super range and Allen for a fine lunch.

It was really nice to see some new young guys at this shoot too. We ALWAYS welcome the youth and would like to see more of them at our shoots. They are indeed our future.

It's exciting to see new faces at every shoot and folks keep stepping up and offering their talents and time to help CTA keep growing and getting better. Good teamwork and communication among our members will take us far in "Keeping the Tradition Alive." We still have many projects on our list and need a lot of help and resources to keep getting them done.



We have come to a close on another fine shoot. We had 40 in attendance with no new members. Also Jeff Holchin served up a Great Lunch and Thanks to all who were involved and brought food. Valerie Buccio wrote an AWESOME Article in the Hickory Daily Record about CTA. So if you haven't had a chance to read it please do...it's worth it! Davld Haggist did another fine job on setting up the targets. Lots of good comments on

the setup. Hope everyone had great time and hope to see you at the next shoot September 3rd. A HUGE "thank you" to the Vogt team and everyone else who contributed to a great, great meal at today's shoot. It was worth the trip to eat if you did nothing else. All the work and efforts are much appreciated and I think our guests and new visitors really enjoyed the day too. And thank you Dave Haggist for setting another fine range for all to enjoy. And one more special thank you to Ken Ward who donated a dinner bell to the club so we can "call in the troops" for our lunches. There were 44 folks in attendance and we added four more members to our roster. Sorry if you missed the July shoot. It was a bit warm, but another fine day at CTA.









Photos from the Past.....



Bow Fishing



Submissions

Submissions to the Whispering Shaft are always welcomed. Articles must be traditional archery/bowhunting related and whenever possible sent via email. The editor and club officers reserve the right to reject submissions as well as make changes for the purpose of article size or grammatical correction.

Submit to: davidhaggist@yahoo.com
amymartin1999@yahoo.com

Submission Deadlines

Spring: March 20th

Summer: June 20th

Fall: September 20th

Winter: December 20th

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