

# ***THE WHISPERING SHAFT***

*Keeping the Tradition Alive.....*



## **Quarterly Chronicle of the Carolina Traditional Archers Summer 2017**



[www.thecta.org](http://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.

### Member of:



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## *Letter from the President*



Members and friends of CTA,

Due to the generosity, participation and teamwork of our members, we have made some good progress at CTA in recent months. In addition to having a record attendance to date for our monthly shoots with over 400 in attendance, we have made progress with our clubhouse too. We finally have new doors and windows in the building and it has been great to hear all the positive feedback about the improvements. The goal of our management team has been to make steady progress with our physical facilities and marketing to keep the club growing and hopefully we will continue with that approach for a long time to come. But the best laid plans won't happen without the help and contribution of all our members.

And to keep Carolina Traditional Archers alive and growing, we really do need the help of *EVERY* member. Some of us provide ideas, some monetary contributions, some of us provide physical labor and some provide planning and direction to the club. "It takes a village" to help anything grow in a positive, constructive way. It has been very rewarding to me to see so many of our members share their skills, resources, talents, time and money to help CTA make the progress that we have at our new home in Catawba County. It has also been great to have so many members come forward with ideas about how to improve the club. We can't always act on suggestions and ideas immediately but some can be done promptly and some may take a few years. Many of the member ideas become part of our future plans and dreams, and we cannot develop good long range goals for the club without that input.

There is much that can still be done to help grow our club. Continuing to improve our clubhouse and range will help us realize the potential we have as an organization. Adequate storage for all our targets and equipment, a building addition with bath rooms, showers, storage and a full service kitchen are in our thoughts for the future as well. A well and septic system will be necessary and perhaps the acquisition of a few more acres of land. We would like to have room for aerial shoots, camping and a tough man course. A pretty aggressive wish list, but with a growing membership and good management, all can be realized. That kind of facility would allow us to host many other events, seminars, training programs, tournaments, etc.....all to "Keep the Tradition Alive".

Drew Sumrell - President



## ***From the Editor.....***

I hope you enjoy this summer issue as we begin preparations for our Fall hunts. Before you know it, bows will be strung and we will be hitting the woods. For those that are successful, member shots and stories are always welcome to fill the pages of your chronicle. And remember, success is in the eye of the beholder. Your picture doesn't need to be a hero shot, but can be a landscape scene, your bow leaning against a tree, other wildlife, almost anything.

You will notice deadlines for submission later in the chronicle, but please feel free to submit articles and pictures at any time. I would love to have a stockpile of material to use for future issues.

I hope you enjoy this issue.

Martin Seeley





## 2017 Calendar Of Events

<b>January 14</b>	<b>Herb Reynolds Memorial Shoot, 9am-3pm, Conover</b>
<b>February 4</b>	<b>Club Shoot—Annual Business Meeting, 9am-3pm, Conover</b>
<b>March 4</b>	<b>Club Shoot, 9am-3pm, Conover</b>
<b>March 31– April 1</b>	<b>Club Shoot—Traditional Skills Weekend &amp; Turkey Warm Up, 9am-3pm, Conover</b>
<b>May 6</b>	<b>Club Shoot, 9am-3pm, Conover</b>
<b>June 3</b>	<b>Club Shoot—Kid's Day, 9am-3pm, Conover</b>
<b>July 1</b>	<b>Club Shoot, 9am-3pm, Conover</b>
<b>August 5</b>	<b>Club Shoot, 9am-3pm, Conover</b>
<b>September 2</b>	<b>Club Shoot—Whitetail Warmup, 9am-3pm, Conover</b>
<b>October 7</b>	<b>Club Shoot, 9am-3pm, Conover</b>
<b>October 18-21</b>	<b>Club Hunt at W. Kerr Scott Reservoir</b>
<b>November 3—4</b>	<b>Club Shoot—Traditional Skills Weekend, 9am—3pm, Conover</b>
<b>December 2</b>	<b>Club Shoot, 9am-3pm , Conover</b>





## CTA Happenings...

Pics from the Spring shoots.





## CTA Happenings cont.....

The June kid's shoot that included lunch, games, face painting and a lucky winner of a bow!





# CTA Happenings cont.....

## Primitive Skills Weekend





## Club Improvements.....

A mini-work day provided new shutters for the club. Many thanks to Clyde Slagle for building the shutters and donating the cedar that he made them with. Clyde, Barry Sluder, Jim Jordan, Ken Ward and Drew Sumrell teamed up to do the installation. In addition, a 'ladies only' port-a-john was put in place!





## Youth Archery Clinics

Union Baptist Church  
Filbert, SC

CTA members Charles Suttles and Dave Haggist recently had the pleasure of exposing about a dozen kids to the joy of traditional archery. Although other activities were available, several kids returned time and time again to shoot bows and arrows. Maybe a future CTA member.....

On April 22 a group of children, teenagers, and adults came to the club to enjoy a morning of archery. The idea was an outreach effort by Catawba Family Care which is a federally qualified community health center serving Catawba and surrounding counties to engage children in enjoying the outdoors by introducing them to archery.

Marsha Armstrong serves as Outreach and Enrollment Specialist for the organization and is continually seeking opportunities to reach children and families and promote exercise through fun and unusual activities. And while we at the CTA may not find traditional archery unusual, to many shooting with a 'stick and string' is not the norm.

There were about 12 individuals in attendance and a big 'Thank You' to CTA members Tom McRary, Charles Suttles, Dave Haggist, and Wil Bryan who came to help this group spend a few hours learning about and enjoying what many of us consider to be a significant part of our lives. Plans have already been made to do this again in July.







## IDAHO or BUST

### An Unforgettable Trip to Idaho to Bow Hunt for the Majestic Elk

By Jim Jordan

My thoughts and wishes for a 2004 elk hunting trip actually began in 2003 while Tommy Yale (Stump) and myself were elk hunting in the White River National Forest near New Castle, Colorado. Stump took a nice 5x5 bull elk early in the 2003 elk archery season thus making my adrenalin start acting up, if you know what I mean. Visions of elk antlers danced in my head along with all the thoughts that anyone could imagine pertaining to an elk hunt. Although I was scheduled to have surgery on my right shoulder for a torn rotator cuff on November 7, 2003, I never gave up my hope, wants and wishes to go back to Colorado in 2004 for a three week bow hunting trip.

My friend Stump had already informed me that he probably wouldn't be able to go back out in 2004 so I talked to another friend, Eldon Joins, who loves to elk hunt, about going out to Colorado or maybe Idaho in September of 2004. Although he was unsure if he would be able to make the trip due to the housing construction work he was involved in, we continued to chat back and forth by phone about the possibilities of being able to take the trip out west.

Well the surgery on my right shoulder, scheduled for November 7, 2003, went by on the scheduled day and time as planned. Needless to say I was in no condition to take part in any hunting or very little outdoor activities most of the winter of 2003. Until February 8, 2004 when the doctor released me to go back to work, man alive, was that word "work" a bummer. I had been out of work and laying around long enough that I didn't want to go back installing phones and working on troubled phone lines. But, with a big capital "B", I have a few bad habits like eating, hunting, etc. that sort of dictates you work or else you don't eat regularly and you definitely don't get to enjoy hunting and a lot of the other things I love to do. So, back to work I go. Being out of work as long as I was, it kept me longing and dreaming of going

to Colorado or Idaho after an elk. Those longings and dreams carried right into spring then into summer. I could hardly wait for the fall hunting season to begin.

My friend Eldon Joins and I had filled out an application for hunting license and elk tags for Colorado and sent them in along with our money plenty early since Colorado was where we had decided to go. We waited for the postman to deliver what we hoped would be licenses and tags but we got our bubble popped when we got the info from the Colorado Fish and Game Department. We were among the unlucky ones that computer didn't draw. That really dampened our spirits. We were really looking forward to going to Colorado for approximately three weeks. I thought what the heck, I've never hunted Idaho so plan "B" is placed on the front burner to cook for a while. After receiving the "You weren't one of the lucky ones letter" in the mail, things seemed to go downhill for my friend Eldon. Things just didn't work out the way we had hoped for but I was pretty well determined I was going to go ahead and get everything ready to go to Idaho since elk tags and licenses could be bought via the internet or by writing the wildlife department and get an application, fill it out and send check or money order for the unit or units you wanted to bow hunt. I really didn't like the idea of going out there by myself but I was determined I was going. I sort of casually mentioned to my daughter the thought of her going along for the ride and someone to fuss and argue with, you know.....just to make me feel at home. Since she had never been out west she jumped on that idea like a duck on a June bug. The only drawback was she had to get it OKed with my grandson, Ethan. I didn't know how he would take it with his Mom being gone for about three weeks. Well, I think she bribed him because he agreed reluctantly to let her go. She doesn't hunt but she enjoys traveling around and seeing new places so the idea of her going along for the ride was settled.



I started preparing for the trip to Idaho first by calling the Fish & Game Department and asked for any information pertaining to hunting in Idaho that I might need. The young lady I spoke with was a very helpful person with a very pleasing personality and very friendly. She told me the info I needed would be in the mail that very evening and also informed me if all went well with the postal service I should have my info within three or four days. Right on the money, three days and I got the material. I looked it over and decided where I was going, the units and the zone I would be hunting in.

Another friend of mine, Gene Canter, had told me of the area he had been hunting for about three years. He suggested I might like the area so I decided that would be where I would go try my luck. From the way he talked and described everything it sounded superb.

I filled out the application that was in the material I received from the Idaho Fish and Game Department and put it in the mail along with a money order for \$483.00 for the elk tag and hunting license. In a very short time, I think it was six or seven days, my application has been processed and mailed back to me. Joy! Joy! Joy! Happy! Happy! I was on my way to Idaho to bow hunt for elk. Just a few more things to take care of and we would be ready to “head ‘em up and move out”

One major thing that had to be done was to have a tow bar mounted on the front of my 4x4 Nissan pickup truck, since I was going to tow it along behind my motor home. Ah, the olde motor home with all the comforts of home; good beds, hot showers, a fridge to keep the diet drinks cold, a microwave for a good hot TV dinner and hot bologna sandwiches. Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! Oh well, later. The tow bar was mounted in place and ready to go.

A list of all the things we might need was made from clothing to foods to tools. All my hunting clothes, archery equipment, etc., was packed and stuffed into plastic bags and containers so as to help keep the human scent down as much as possible. Well, my daughter Malena, her wardrobe was also packed and packed and packed. My goodness. I didn't know she had so many clothes that “might be good to wear hunting” while trudging through the woods behind me. Well, all this packing done, the next thing to do was let the anticipation and excitement build up for a few more days until noon on August 25, 2004. That's when we planned to leave Roaring River, Wilkes County, North Carolina. The 25<sup>th</sup> was on a Wednesday. I wanted to get there in plenty of time to rest up a little from the long ride and driving and be ready to start hunting on the following Monday, August 30<sup>th</sup>. That was opening day of the archery season for elk in Idaho.

Well, August 25<sup>th</sup> finally rolled around. We were all psyched up, vehicles all gassed up, “Bye byes” and “see ya later” all said. Yippidy doo da, we're off and running on our way to Idaho to “kilt” a big elk.

Off we go up highway 268W to North Wilkesboro to get on highway 421N to Boone, then to highway 321 to Elizabethton, TN and on to highway 81 and I-40 west, etc. etc. Traveling west on Hwy 421 to Boone, NC, all was going fine and dandy. At least I thought so until we were almost out of the city limits of Boone. That's when my little 4x4 tried to pass the motor home.

“WHOA”! You can't do that. No one is driving you little fellow. You're hooked to the motor home. Luckily I was driving along beside a big parking lot where I could ease over into it and get stopped without the Nissan hitting any vehicles or breaking loose completely. Man, did that ever put a scare into me.



We got stopped and I bailed out to see what the heck had happened. I found the pin that secured the tow bar on the left side of the pickup had disappeared. I don't know whether the pin had a flaw in it or what made it break and come out of the hook-up. All I know is it was gone and I know it was secured in place when we left Roaring River because I checked everything twice to make sure all was properly hooked up. Those pins were something I hadn't thought I would need any extras, so I had to locate the local farm supply center to purchase a pin for the one that was gone and a few extras just in case another one might be needed somewhere down the road. Well, we got everything back in place and checked it all out and looked over the damage done to my little pickup truck. The damage wasn't real bad, just bad enough to almost make me sick to my stomach. But, what the heck, we're on our way to Idaho to elk hunt.

We're off and running again, on our way to Hwy 321 and to Elizabethton, Tennessee. As we're going down and around the narrow Hwy 321 toward Elizabethton I kept feeling this certain little jolt and bump once in a while, so I told Malena that just as soon as we get to Elizabethton we better check the tow bar and the Nissan to make sure all is well. If there was anything wrong we may need to rent a U-Haul dolly. Well, as luck would have it, something was wrong on the right side (passenger side). On the opposite side where the pin disappeared, the metal bracket that held the bumper and tow bar to the frame of the pickup was almost broken. Only about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an inch of the metal was all that was holding the tow bar and bumper to the little pickup truck. I doubt if I could have made another mile without a very major catastrophe, so I eased down the street a short distance from where we were to the U-Haul rental place to rent a dolly if one was available. It just so happened they had one. So, I rented it, got all the red tape paper work done, hooked it to the motor home and pulled the little pickup upon the dolly and secured it down. The gentleman managing the place asked if the drive shaft was disconnected. During the process of get-

ting the little pickup ready for the trip, I talked to the guys where I had the vehicle serviced about taking the drive shaft loose for towing. I knew I should take it loose but I let them convince me that I only had to put the four wheel differential in neutral and the auto transmission in neutral and it would be OK to tow it without dropping the drive shaft. They supposedly knew several people who had motor homes and would tow their vehicles along without disconnecting the drive shaft. But let me say this, take it from someone who learned a valuable lesson, don't believe that hog wash if someone tell you that you can tow your vehicle without disconnecting the drive shaft. You'll see why I say this a little late in this story.

All hooked up and ready, off we go from Elizabethton, TN headed for I-40 to Nashville, TN then onto I-65 through Kentucky. The trip continued to Indianapolis, IN onto I-74W through Illinois to Davenport, IA to I-80. I-80 would take us through Iowa, Nebraska and across Wyoming to Rock Springs where we would get onto Hwy 191 and travel northwest almost to Jackson, WY. Then on to Hwy 26/89 west to Alpine, WY where we would get any food, water and supplies that we might need and meet up with my old friend Gene Canter and some of his hunting buddies from Ohio. We were to follow them on over into Idaho's McCoy Creek hunting area.

Well, everything seemed to be going along quite well as we traveled along the route I had chosen. Each time I stopped to get gas I would check everything out to make sure the tow dolly was A-OK and my little 4x Nissan was A-OK also. All was doing great and we were making good time. We made real good time to Davenport, Iowa and I-80 our route west. I stopped for gas just outside the city limits on the west side of town. I checked everything out as usual to make sure all was well with the tow dolly and the pickup truck. Everything was fine. So on to interstate I-80W we went, finally heading directly west, a straight shot for a while.

Traveling west on I-80 was a fast paced, seventy, seventy five and eighty mph at times but my goodness how rough the road was. So rough, you would think the fillings might drop out of your teeth. We had traveled quite a good distance down I-80 between Davenport and Des Moines, Iowa when the "Big Happening" began to take place. We were traveling along making great time when this fellow pulls up beside the motor home and starts blowing the horn and pointing toward the back of my vehicle. I automatically knew something was wrong. It just so happened we were at the entrance to a rest area so I ducked onto the exit road and bailed out to see what the problem was. Good gosh-oh-mighty, my little pickup truck was on fire under the hood. I jerked the door on the motor home open and tore the fire extinguisher off the wall and proceeded to raise the hood on the pickup truck and extinguished the fire. Oh well, so much for the transportation when we get to Idaho I thought. The little truck was now undriveable. Luckily for us, one of the tools I had bought thinking it might come in handy was going to have to be put to use. It was a little cabled come-along jack. The truck was undriveable so we had to maneuver the dolly around into position where we could use the little jack to pull the pickup truck onto the dolly backwards so we would be able to tow it along.

That was one heck of a task to get the little truck up on the dolly backwards, but we did it. With the vehicle strapped down and everything checked out and double checked we were ready to throw our wounded ego back into the motor home and head off on our way to Idaho. But wait, as I walked along beside the motor home, I noticed a liquid running from under it. What the heck is this I thought? Upon kneeling down to take a look-see, my ego was wounded even more. My gosh, what next? I thought, the darn gas tank was leaking, not gushing out but drip, drip, drip enough to be concerned about. I still have to look to Heaven and say "Thank you Lord for looking out for us". It was a small miracle that the fire in the little pickup never ignited the gas that was leaking from the motor home.

What do we do now?

***Stay tuned as we bring this story to its conclusion in the next issue of The Whispering Shaft.....***



# ***The Hunter's Feast.....***

## **Vegetable Venison Soup**

### **Ingredients**

- ♦ 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
- ♦ 1 pound venison, cut into cubes
- ♦ 1 cup diced onion
- ♦ 16 ounces (2 cups) mixed vegetables
- ♦ 2 cups peeled and diced tomatoes
- ♦ 3 cups potatoes, peeled and cubed
- ♦ 4 cups water
- ♦ 1 tablespoon white sugar
- ♦ 2 teaspoons beef bouillon granules
- ♦ 1 teaspoon salt
- ♦ 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- ♦ 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- ♦ 1/4 teaspoon hot pepper sauce

### **Directions**

- ♦ Heat oil in stock pot or dutch oven over medium/high heat.
- ♦ Brown the venison in hot oil.
- ♦ Add onion, cover pot and simmer over medium heat for 10 minutes.
- ♦ Stir in mixed vegetables, tomatoes and potatoes.
- ♦ Combine water, sugar and bouillon, stir into the soup.
- ♦ Season with salt, pepper, garlic powder and hot pepper sauce.
- ♦ Cover and simmer for at least 1 hour or until the meat is tender.



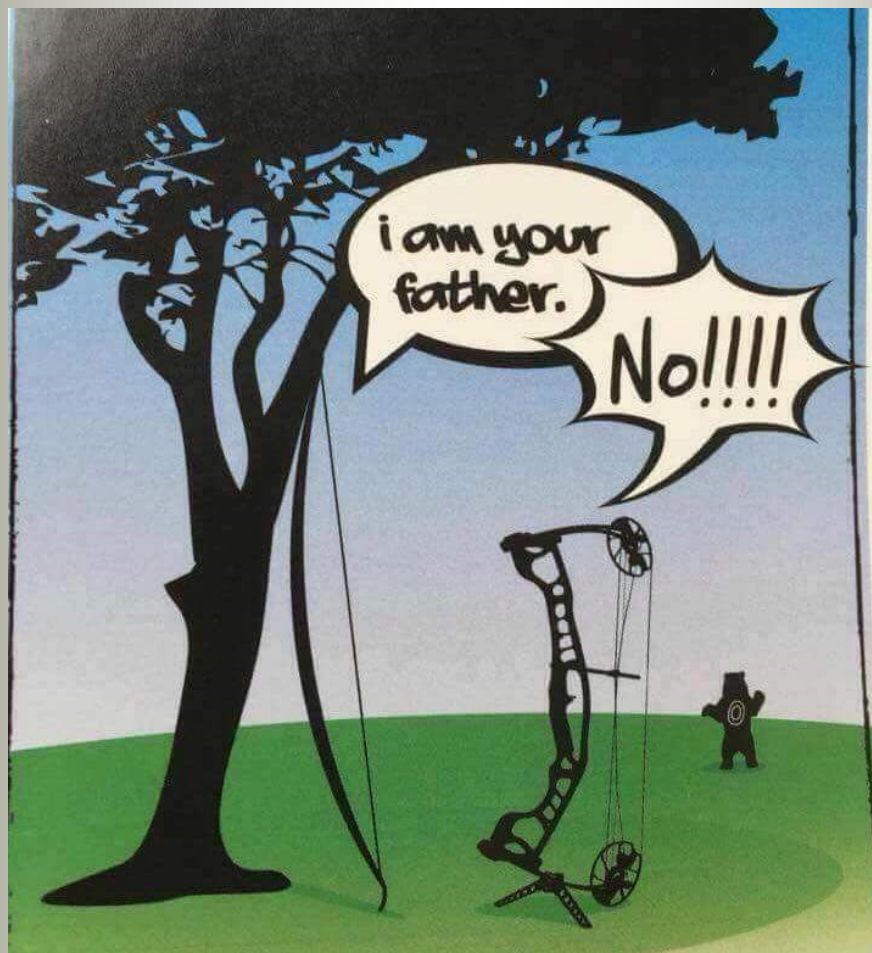


Trail Cam Corner.....





## Archery Humor.....





## ***Photos from the Past.....***



**Dr. Saxton Pope**

**Archery at Wellesley  
College, 1910s**





# Member Shots.....

CTA was well represented at the Tennessee Classic this spring.





## Product reviews.....



### Ten Ring Strings

I recently ordered strings from this company and was very impressed. They offer a dozen colors in both Fast Flight and B 50, and the quality is excellent. Also the string material is pre-stretched so little additional twisting is needed.

### Rick Young Ultra- Light Bino Harness

I never found the typical binocular harness very comfortable. I found this harness not only be very comfortable, but allows for five different carrying positions. At under \$25.00 it was also very affordable.  
[www.RickYoungOutdoors.com](http://www.RickYoungOutdoors.com)



## 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!





## **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 formatting purposes or grammatical correction.

### **Submission Deadlines**

**Spring:** March 20<sup>th</sup>

**Summer:** June 20<sup>th</sup>

**Fall:** September 20<sup>th</sup>

**Winter:** December 20<sup>th</sup>

### **Photograph Submissions**

**A Walk in the Woods:** (Nature, landscape, wildlife photos)

Photographs submitted cannot contain people, domestic animals or manmade structures. A description of the photograph to include the subject matter and where the photo was taken is needed.

**Bragging Wall:** (Harvest Photographs)

The animal must be placed in a natural setting (no truck beds, ATV, etc.) and position with blood wiped away and tongue in mouth. The hunter's bow, quiver or vegetation must cover the arrow wound. A description of the photo that includes the species, where the animal was taken, and equipment used is needed.

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

amymartin1999@yahoo.com

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