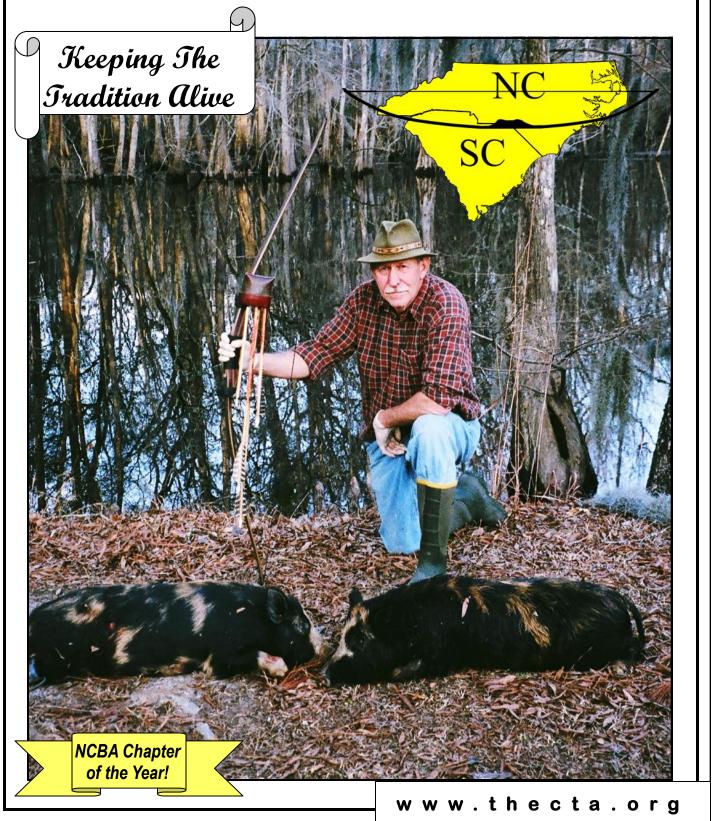
The Whispering Shaft

Quarterly Newsletter of the

April/May/June 2011





CAROLINA TRADITIONAL ARCHERS



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

Dear CTA Members

I sincerely want to thank each of you that joined CTA this year or renewed your membership. Your support of CTA is greatly appreciated and goes a long way in promoting traditional archery in this region.

Congratulations to our new club officers. Maggie Vogt, Larry Anderson, and Kyle Garrou were elected to the Board of Directors. Charles Suttles is our new Vice President. I know these folks will do an outstanding job on behalf of CTA and its members.

Bridge replacement on St James Church Road continues to be delayed. Until this project is completed it is not cost effective to grade and gravel the entrance to Bow Hunting Club Road. Hopefully this project will be finished in the near future and we can complete the final leg of the road improvements.

Your club officers take seriously the suggestions we receive during the yearly survey. The March shoot was a great example of that with several blanket trades taking place, a seminar on the use of fletching tape, a spaghetti lunch, and aerial targets. At the April shoot we will have a running target. Our goal is to make your experience as enjoyable as possible.

CTA continues its support of state and national archery organizations. This year we donated \$250.00 to both NCBA and Compton Traditional Bowhunter's.

NCTAC is right around the corner. As always we need assistance from our members to pull this event off. This year we are going to try something new by sending out an email notice showing exactly where we need help. Please show your support for CTA and traditional archery by signing up for a time slot. One of the highlights of NCTAC is the raffle. In years past, our members have really come through with great items to raffle. Please see Jim Vogt if you would like to donate an item.

I have been involved in archery clubs since 1969. With that said, CTA is hands down the best club I have ever belonged too. Recently that belief was further validated with our selection by the North Carolina

Bowhunters Association as Chapter Club of the Year. This is quite an honor and a testament to the great work that is being done by CTA.

I want to express my sincere thanks to all of you that have asked about my wife and offered prayers. This has provided me with much peace during this difficult time.

Best regards, Dave Haggist



Cover: CTA member Bill Stroupe with two swamp rooters taken with a longbow and arrows of his own making.

2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 26-CTA Workday, 8am-noon, Maiden

April 9—Youth Club Shoot, (children under 18 shoot & eat for free) 9am-3pm, Maiden

May 21—NCTAC Workday, 8am-noon, Catawba Valley Wildlife Club

May 26-NCTAC Workday, 8am-noon, Catawba Valley Wildlife Club

May 27, 28 & 29 NCTAC 2011 - Catawba Valley Wildlife Club, Hickory

June 11—Club Shoot, 9am-3pm, Maiden

July 9—Club Shoot, 9am-3pm, Maiden

August 13—Club Shoot, 9am-3pm, Maiden

September 10-Club Shoot, 9am-3pm, Maiden

October TBD—Club Hunt

November 12— Club Coon Shoot, 5pm-9pm, Maiden

December 3—CTA Workday, 8am-noon

December 10-Club Shoot, 9am-3pm, Maiden



Other Regional Traditional Archery Events

May 21 - Sissipahaw Traditional Archers Shoot, 9am -3pm, Bellemont, NC

More details at www.stacgang.org

June 11-12 - STAR - Sherwood Traditional Archers Rendezvous, Roanoke, VA

More details at www.sherwoodarchersroanokeva.com

July 9 - ATAR, Beckley, WV - CANCELED

July 16 - Blue Ridge Bowhunters, Leicester, NC (near Asheville)

More details at website: www.blueridgebowhunters.org

July 30-31 - Powder Creek Traditional Archers, Horse Shoe, NC (near Asheville)

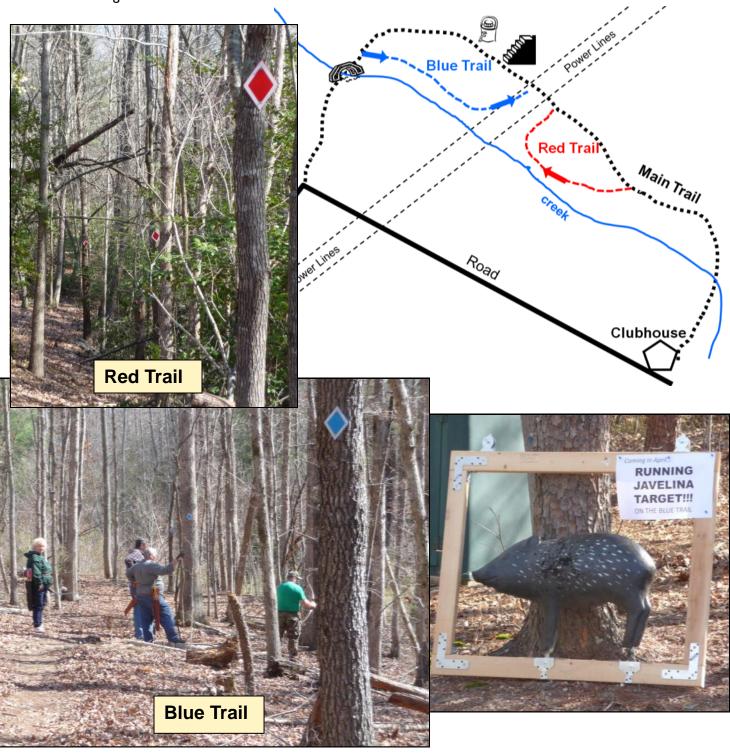
For more information contact Dustin Roberts at (828) 577-2665.

The weather for our March Club Shoot could only be described as "heavenly"! Come to think of it, the weather for our February Shoot was pretty good too. Getting outside and enjoying the fellowship of other archers is a great



New Trails for Club Shoots

On our last work day, CTA volunteers blazed two new trails to add variety to our 3-D range. As you can see from the map below, these two trails cut along the creek. The Red Trail, so called because it has red blazes, cuts through a holly thicket making it good for "toughman" type set-ups. In contrast, the Blue Trail is in wide-open mature hardwoods. Our plan for the next workday is to install a "zip line" between two trees on the blue Trail, so that we can have a running javelina target. If you think the targets are hard enough to hit when they're standing still, try hitting one that's moving!



Making Memories

By Bill Stroupe

I got to know Blease Martin and Dub Cameron several years ago through traditional archery. Both are true traditional gentlemen in archery and attitude.

Blease called me Monday and said "You need to come down and hunt these hogs". This would be my third hog hunt in the past several years. The first two hunts were unproductive, but enjoyable non-the-less.

It took most of Tuesday to get my affairs in order: like sharpen broadheads, buy groceries, etc. Wednesday I arrived at his river house on the back water of the Little Pee Dee River. The house is a refurbished tobacco barn - although one could never tell on the inside with the two TVs, modern kitchen, ceiling fans, central heat/air and all the other amenities of home. There were also animal heads, antlers and fish decorating the interior. A tent or the bed of my truck is usually what I call home on hunting trips...this could spoil me! Blease even cooked venison, green peas, rice and gravy for lunch on

Thursday. And here I was prepared to open my can of pork & beans...

While easing to my stand in the swamps of southern South Carolina, I felt a sense of intimidation. How would one bow hunt such a highly intelligent animal that can smell a kernel of corn a foot under the water? I decided on two ways, the wind must be right and they don't know anyone else is in the woods but them. Plus, the small vitals are low and mostly between its front legs. While contemplating this and settling down into the tree stand, I started pulling the bow up. Then all of a sudden here come four hogs! After a few minutes, one offered a quartering away shot and I let loose an arrow. It passed completely through him and stuck into a tree about one inch deep. He expired within 15 yards. The other hog turned broadside to see what is going down. Big mistake! Another arrow quickly headed his way too. He ran 40

yards before collapsing in a thicket of river cane. The 47 lb. longbow and wood arrows mounted with sharp, woodsman broadheads had done their job.

The next afternoon Dub and I hunted again, but to no avail. Of course the pressure was off me, so I enjoyed the day watching the squirrels entertain and reminiscing about the previous afternoon.

Thanks Blease and Dub for the memories.





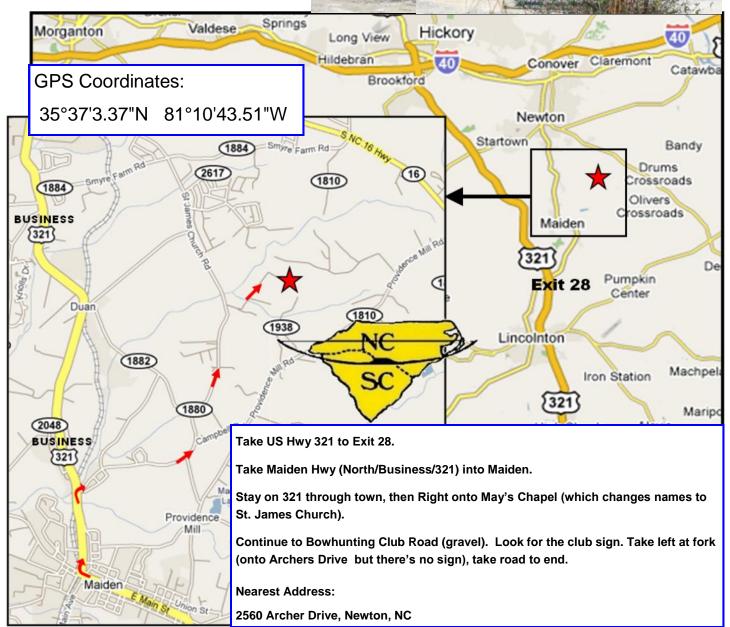


About our Club Shoots

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 at the Foothills Bow-Hunters/CTA range in Maiden NC. Shoots have about 20 3-D animal targets. All the foam targets are in the woods, amongst the trees, which makes for a realistic and very pleasant setting.







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