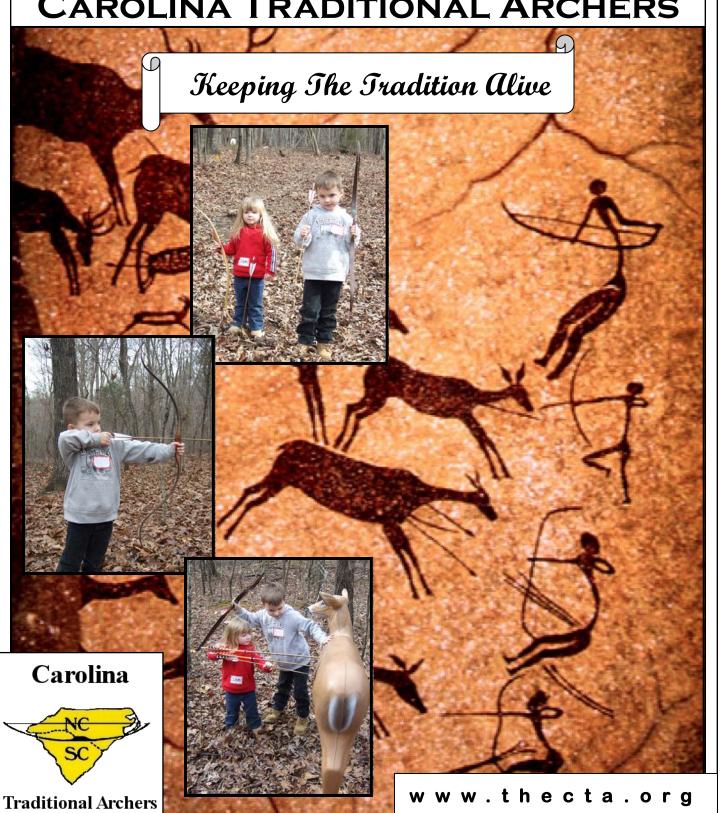
The Whispering Shaft

Quarterly Newsletter of the

CAROLINA TRADITIONAL ARCHERS



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The mission of the Carolina Traditional Archers is the promotion of traditional archery and bow hunting. Members will adhere to the highest ethical standards whether in the field or on the range and hold in reverence the traditions and history of archery.

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Letter from the President

Dave Haggist

Well another year is almost gone, but what a wonderful year for CTA. As I look back on 2009, I do so with a great deal of satisfaction. Listed below are just a few things we accomplished:

- Ι. Bowhunter Club Road repaired and graveled.
- 2. Incorporation obtained.
- 3. By Laws written and approved.
- Record attendance @ NCTAC. 4
- Increased attendance @ CTA events. 5.
- \$600.00 donation to NCBA for youth education projects. 6.
- 7 Significant improvements in membership record keeping.
- 8. Significant improvements with financial record keeping.
- The Whispering Shaft, CTA newsletter.
- 10. Significant target purchase that resulted in a greater number and variety of targets.
- 11. 501 © status, targeted for completion in December.
- 12. Web site revision targeted for completion in December.
- 13. Increased membership.
- 14. NCTAC trophies.
- 15. Construction of target storage racks.

None of these things could have been accomplished without the tremendous contributions of time and talent of our members. Special thanks are in order for our club officers who throughout this year took on a lion's share of responsibilities. Running an organization of this size is no easy task and our club officers really stepped up to the plate this year.

By now I hope that many of you have had the opportunity to spend some time in a tree stand or ground blind anticipating what the day will bring. I believe Fred Bear said it best:

"Go afield with a good attitude, with respect for the wildlife you hunt and for the forest and fields in which you walk. Immerse yourself in the outdoor experience. It will cleanse your soul and make you a better person."

Our monthly events are quite an undertaking! With setting and retrieving a 20 target range and feeding upwards of 75 people it's a lot of work but in reality a labor of love. Please don't hesitate to help. Bringing a covered dish or desert or helping with the range goes a long way in making these events a pleasure for all of us.

In less than two months, CTA will celebrate its 25th anniversary. Like all organizations we have had our peaks and valleys. But this year leaves no doubt we are at a peak. Together we can continue this upward trend.

Best Regards,

Dave Haggist

Cover: Young CTA Members Eli and Sami continuing the tradition.

Photos by Joe Henz

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Citizen Alert!

On Saturday, August 8, authorities received one complaint of target cruelty at the monthly CTA Traditional Archery Shoot in Maiden, North Caorlina. Surveillance cameras caught the alleged perpetrator celebrating a hit in the ten ring by giving the target a "noogie".

The victim, identified as a middle-aged black bear, stated that "Binding me to a tree and shooting my vitals out is one thing, but that noogie was way over-the-top!"

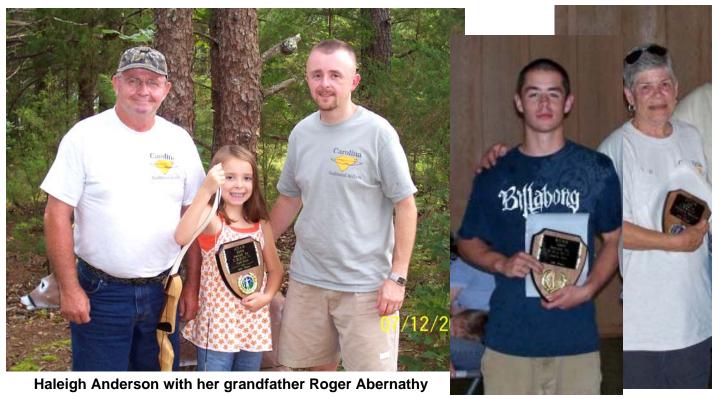
In a prepared statement, a spokesman for Carolina Traditional Archers said "CTA deplores this cruel and degrading treatment to high-density foam animals. Not only do noogies cause irreparable damage to the target's self-esteem, but repeated noogies can rub the paint off the foam!"

Anyone recognizing the identity of this suspect is urged to contact CTAPD.



CTA Members Win Big at ATAR!

CTA members made their presence known at the Appalachian Traditional Archery Rendezvous in Beckley, West Virginia this summer! Haleigh Anderson won second place in the girl's Cubs category. Tate Ostwalt finished second in boy's youth class <u>and</u> the youth division of the 3D Pop-Up competition! Maggie Vogt also brought home a trophy in women's recurve, placing third.



and father Brad Anderson.

Tate Ostwalt and Maggie Vogt

Public Lands Day at Kerr Scott Reservoir- Oct. 10

As we did last year, CTA will be putting on an archery clinic for the Boy Scouts at Kerr Scott's Ft. Hamby (near Wilkesboro, NC). We'll be doing this on Saturday, October 10, from noon to 4pm. If you'd like to assist in this effort, contact Dave Haggist at (704) 435-0265.

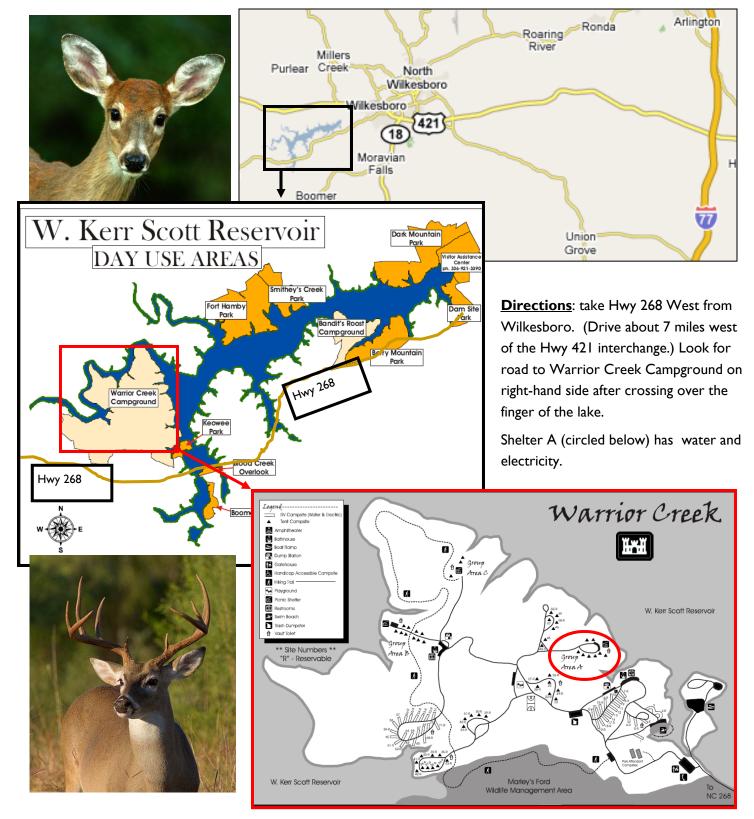
Directions: Ft. Hamby State Park is 6 miles North of Wilkesboro on US Hwy 421 at the 293 Milepost.

Turn South on South Recreation Road to the Park entrance.



October Club Hunt - Oct. 15-17

Deer season is here and CTA will sponsor a hunt in the Warrior Creek WMA at W. Kerr Scott Reservoir. The folks at Kerr Scott are graciously allowing us exclusive use of a site at Warrior Creek Campground. Entry to the campground will be via a key pad code. If you are interested in participating please contact Dave Haggist at 704-435-0265 for the combination. This is a bow hunting only area. Hunters must possess a current NC Hunting License.



The hot, humid weather of North Carolina hasn't smothered the enthusiasm of CTA members for our monthly archery shoots! We've had good turnouts, with fun, food, and fellowship enjoyed by all. And for the September Shoot we had a camo contest—which Dennis West won hands-down with his tenpound ghillie suit!



North Carolina Artisans

Russell Wyatt - Barnardsville, North Carolina



We archers tend to take 3-D targets for granted. We forget that they didn't always exist, and most of us haven't a clue how they are made. We in North Carolina are fortunate to have a company that makes fine 3-D targets in right here in our state: R&W Targets.

R&W Targets is owned by an archer with an entrepreneurial spirit by the name of Russell Wyatt. Formerly a 7th grade Science teacher, Russell and his friend and fellow bowhunter David Rogers decided to try their hand at making 3-D targets for their own use back in 1990. A taxidermist, Rogers was instrumental in making the realistic looking molds that R&W Targets uses to this day. While "R&W" stands for Rogers and Wyatt, Russell Wyatt bought out his business partner David Rogers and has been running the company by himself full-time for nearly a decade. While no longer a science teacher, Russell is an avid wildlife photographer on the side, and has had some of his photographs published in magazines such as Sports Afield and Outdoor Life.

The manufacturing operation is set up in an old chicken house on Wyatt's property at the end of a gravel road in the mountains of western North Carolina. If you weren't looking for it, you'd never know that it was there. Inside the old barn is an equally rustic interior, with a quiet, lowkey owner and a few diligent workers. But don't let appearances fool you: R&W Targets are known for the quality and durability of their targets, and their low-overhead operation makes them the most economical targets as well.

"As far as advertising, we don't do any." Wyatt says. He simply relies on word-of-mouth.

Letting the price and quality of his targets speak for themselves seems to be working. Russell gets orders from archery clubs all over the nation.

He remembers when he received his first order for targets from an archery club in Missouri. It was the first time he'd ever gotten an order from that state. However, it wasn't long after Wyatt filled that order that he began getting more orders from other clubs in Missouri. In the close-knit archery community, word-of-mouth advertising

seems to work if you have a good product to sell!

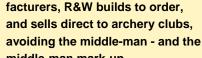






Workers mixing and pouring the foaming agent into a mold.





Unlike the big-name target manu-

middle-man mark-up.



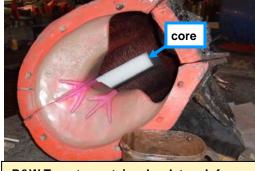


Recently made targets waiting to be trimmed. The painting is done in the mold, and then captured in-place when the foam fills the mold.



Wyatt's original business partner David Rogers was a taxidermist, and was responsible for making the molds that result in the life-like head of the deer target shown here.





R&W Targets contain a hard, tough foam core molded into the center for extra arrow-stopping power.



Photos and article by Joe Henz

www.randwtargets.com

Did You Know?

According to the 2009 QDMA (Quality Deer Management Association) report, a single whitetail deer eats approximately one ton (2,000 pounds) of food every year! So if you want your hunting land to grow big bucks, be sure to harvest a good number of does!



Book Review

One with the Wilderness

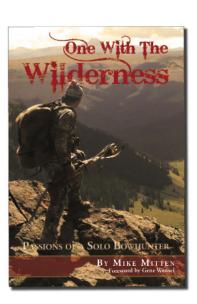
Mike Mitten

Herdbull Productions

www.brothersofthebow.com

This book is a collection of several hunting essays that leave no doubt that Mike Mitten is a phenomenal hunter and outdoorsman. Mike is a clear example of how tenacity and a positive attitude pay's off. What I was most impressed with was Mike's belief that regardless of the outcome all hunts are successful and offer learning opportunities. Although this book contains some grammatical errors, a solid content easily overcomes this. Bottom line, Mike is the real deal and this book would be a valuable addition for any hunter's library.





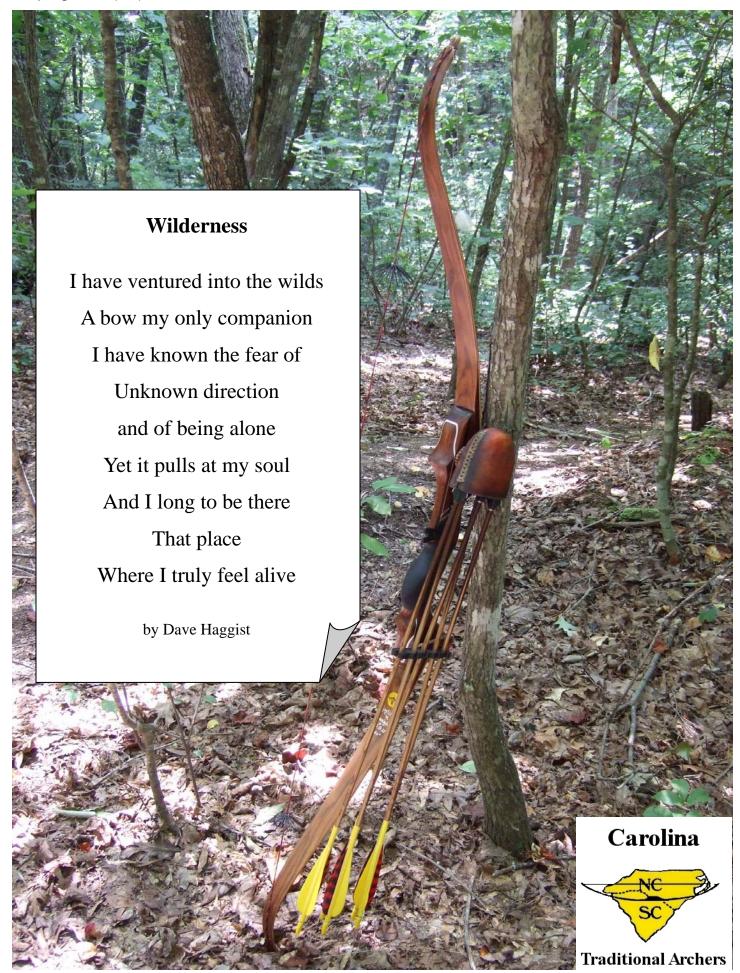
Wildlife Sighting

Sasquatch seen prowling Club picnic area!

Thought by many to be the stuff of legend, a large indigenous ape commonly referred to as "Sasquatch" by the Native Americans was seen prowling our Club picnic area—no doubt attracted by the scent of Maggie Vogt's famous desserts! Archers in the area at the time gave the beast a wide berth.

- "As big as he is, he probably needs the calories more than I do." one archer said.
- "Yeah, one hamburger would probably just make him angry—better give him two." another replied.
- "I can't believe how ugly those things are!", exclaimed another.







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