

THE ARROW

SUFFOLK ARCHERS AND BOWHUNTERS NEWS LETTER

Volume I Issue 18

JUNE 2008

From the Editor

Since our last issue much has transpired and our Field Archery Series is in full swing. Our active season began with both our first 2 scheduled Workdays meeting our established goals. Under the supervision of our Range Committee much was accomplished, enhancing our facility both functionally and esthetically. New 3D targets have been placed, target butts and bow racks have been repaired or refurbished, trails cleared, firewood gathered and stacked, drainage systems maintained, repairs made to tables and benches, and fresh paint applied where necessary. We are looking good, and ready for a great year!

We have a great season ahead, and the **LI Traditional** is already upon us. Come on out and feed the *Iron Rattler*, nail the *Flying Goose*, then *Beat the Clock*... Don't miss out on one of the best shoots ANYWHERE on June 8th, 9:00 sharp! Our June General Membership Meeting (with hot dogs and hamburgers served) will be on our range, June 18th. Open shooting starts at 5:00 PM; an **arrow building seminar** at 6:45 PM. The business meeting will start at 8:00 PM. Bring your bows and a 2 AA or 3 AAA battery (MAXIMUM) powered flashlight to shoot our **Raccoon Shoot** which will begin at dark. The **Knock-A-Block** scheduled for July 13th at 9:00 will be a great event and a chance to hone your skills if you are going to shoot the "**MUZZY**" in August. We have scheduled our first **Family Picnic** and **Turkey Shoot** to be held on July 20th at 9:00 AM. Come on out with your family and enjoy the games, competition, and food.

I would like to thank members **Jill Goeckner**, **David John**, and **Don Pecora** for accompanying me to New Jersey last month for 3 days of 4H Club Instructor Training. Congratulations as well on your new certification.

Stay safe,
Mike Jones

Presidents Message

As promised by mother nature, our woodland park is lush and green again and Suffolk Archers is in full draw for another season. As I walked the course in the late afternoon on Thursday, a sense of serenity filled me as I guided my arrows from target to target in the tree covered canopy. That serenity is like therapy to me and welcome relief from the hectic pace of life. Over the years this place has saved me a bundle in psychiatrist fees. After 15 years of membership I appreciate our club and property more and more.

I want to thank all those who attended the general membership meeting this past week. There were many ideas and plans discussed and your input is important and greatly appreciated. Plans for a new, larger and more comfortable pavilion/meeting house were met with wide approval. This project will be something the club has needed for a long time. It will serve the needs of our growing membership for many years to come. I thank you for your support on this improvement for our club.

The June meeting will be held at the club and promises to be entertaining and informative. I hope to see you there.

Joe Lupo

The Board Room

From the Table

Our number of active members now exceeds 270. With that in mind, it is necessary to always remain safety conscious and courteous. It is also necessary to remind all, to clean up after themselves and keep our facility in its pristine state.

During the open discussion conducted by Board

Member Rob Schaefer at the May General Membership Meeting, numerous topics regarding club operations, new activities, and proposed future improvements were addressed by the membership. It was a positive experience, with both the membership being enlightened, and the board receiving fresh ideas and proposals for consideration.

The board works for you. If you have any ideas or requests, you should to bring these issues out in the open at meetings. If the meeting schedule conflicts with your schedule, there are two alternative means to speak your piece; the new **Virtual Suggestion Box** on our web site or the **suggestion box** at the range. Use them!

Thank You Flo Droogan

Many of you may have noticed the new engraved signage around the course that directs archers from one target to the next shooting position and clarifies how to navigate some of the more difficult sections of our archery park. Well, it's our very own member, Flo Droogan, who made these professional, informative yet unobtrusive signs. When we told Flo about our navigation problems she stepped up to the plate and volunteered her expertise and services. So, the next time you DON'T get lost on the range, thank Flo in your mind. And the next time you see Flo on the range, express your hearty thanks to her in person.

Club News

Smith Point Archery Wants You to Know

Summer is fast approaching and now is the time to take advantage of the following hot specials, available exclusively to Suffolk Archers' members.

- PSE Bruin bow package, includes: fiber optic sight, prong-style rest, quiver, and peep sight. Bow features include machined aluminum, one-cam design, 80% let-off, 300 fps, 32" axel-to-axel, 4.1 Lbs. mass weight. Available in all draw lengths, 60-70 Lbs.

This is the perfect bow for the archer looking for a great, smooth shooting, forgiving, hunting or target bow.

Special Suffolk Archers price: \$279. 99
Regularly \$399.99, **Save \$120!**

- All arrows are on sale!
15% discount for Suffolk Archers on all Easton, Beman, and PSE arrows.
This special includes all sizes and models, carbon or aluminum.
- All tree stands are on sale!
20% discount for Suffolk Archers on all Lone Wolf, Summit, and Ameristep tree stands.
Includes all models in stock.

These specials are available only to members of Suffolk Archers for a limited time.

Remember that at Smith Point Archery, Suffolk Archers members always receive at least a 10% discount on all merchandise, 5% off all bows, and free shooting year-round.

Please feel free to contact Smith Point for all your archery needs at 631-289-3399, or visit us anytime Monday – Friday 2pm-10pm, Saturday and Sunday noon–5pm.

Smith Point Archery is available for your child's next birthday party.

Smith Point Archery
215 East Main Street
Patchogue, NY 11772
(Located behind Carvel)
www.smithpointarchery.com

The Women's Committee

Two points of view

The Changing Face of Hunting

At Suffolk Archers, we respect the views of hunters and non-hunters. But whether you shoot 3D to improve your hunting skills, shoot 3D as target practice, or refuse to shoot 3D for what it represents for you, here are some facts about hunting that you should know.

Recent articles in USA Today (March 31, 2008) and on the U.S. Sportsmen Alliance website (April 2008), are highlighting the latest trend that is changing the face of hunting across America.

According to a recent *National Survey of Hunting, Fishing and Wildlife Associated Recreation* conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, there has been an 11% decline in the number of hunters nationwide from 1991 to 2006.

However, as a partial response to that decline, many states are trying to attract more women to the sport, and their combined efforts are now starting to show signs of success.

The 2007 U.S. Fish and Wildlife survey has indicated that the number of female hunters, about 10% of the nation's 12.5 million hunters, has grown only slightly since 1991, even as significant growth has occurred among the youngest female hunters. According to the survey, 304,000 girls ages 6 to 15 hunted from 2001 through 2006 — a 50% increase in the number of young girls hunting from 1991 through 1996.

Hunting is lauded for helping instill confidence in young women. They enjoy being outdoors and learn to identify and appreciate wildlife in a firsthand, immersive study of nature — a far cry from the typical academic approach to environmental studies, where students learn about nature from textbooks and through TV. These new hunters are also gaining survival skills and self reliance — critical factors in building their self esteem and counterbalancing the image issues many young teens experience today.

While the sport of hunting is often smeared by various humane society groups, who fail to appreciate the key role of hunters in conservation efforts, as new hunters are opening up their minds to the sport, they learn that they are actively participating in wildlife conservation efforts.

We at Suffolk Archers applaud the efforts of programs like the Women in Outdoors for encouraging women to participate and learn more about the traditions and outdoors skills that will help propel interest in outdoor sports into the next generation.

Hunting's Vital Role in Supporting Wildlife Conservation

Hunting is one of the chief supporters of wildlife conservation programs. Through license fees and taxes on firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment, initiatives such as the successful Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration program have provided significant benefits for wildlife. Hunting also provides substantial economic benefit to New York retailers and the tourism industry. Regulated hunting helps manage some wildlife populations to prevent crop and environmental

damage. According to the Department of Environmental Conservation, which closely regulates hunting in New York State, the populations of wildlife hunted in New York are secure and species are not endangered by hunters.

As any hunter will cheerfully attest, a day in the field usually results in communing with nature and observing all the creatures that “got away.” Most of the best hunting stories rarely end in success — it's stories about the wily old 10-pointer that challenges us year after year that we regale our buddies with over the campfire. Or the deer that stumbled into a sleeping hunter's blind by accident — wonder who was more startled?

The next time you are challenged by an impassioned member of PETA or the Humane Society, who urges you to put down your bow and just “observe nature”, here's some of the history behind why hunting has been a vital part of continuing wildlife conservation efforts since the early 1900s.

In 1937, Congress passed the Federal Aid in Wildlife Resoration Act, better known as the Pittman-Robertson Act. This law placed an 11 percent excise tax on rifles, shotguns and ammunition. In 1970, Congress amended the act to include a 10 percent tax on handguns **and archery equipment**.

Along with hunting license fees, Pittman-Robertson revenues go directly to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service where, by law, they must be apportioned to the states, which must then use these funds for conservation related activities including hunting and hunter education and wildlife welfare.

It is estimated that nationwide, less than 10 percent of the budgets of state wildlife agencies comes from income taxes, general sales taxes, or other forms of across-the-board taxation. A minuscule amount comes from donations, bequests, product sales, and other limited sources; the remainder comes from licenses fees and revenues from the Pittman-Robertson Act and a companion law relating to sport fishing.

Since the first payouts in 1939, states have received a total of \$4.4 billion in Pittman-Robertson funds. Fiscal year 2003 payouts

totaled \$213 million, an all-time high, and up from \$189 million in fiscal year 2002.

So the next time a non-hunter claims that hunting is destroying the environment, use these statistics to engage them in an informed debate!

Ladies, how about stepping up and joining The Suffolk Archers Women's Committee !

Contact Jill Goeckner to learn how you can help make Suffolk Archers even better than it is. jill@goecknerfamily.com or call (631) 662-9833

The Hunters Den

Well here comes summer! Turkey season is behind us. Congratulations to all of our turkey hunters who scored, and a special congratulations to **Jeff Milano** for taking a Merriam Turkey out west WITH HIS RECURVE. That was quit a task. GREAT JOB JEFF!



Just a few reminders: The **Bow Hunters Rendezvous** still needs a few volunteers. If you have experience, please sign up and share your knowledge. In conjunction with our **Club Picnic** on July 20, 2008, we will be holding our **1st Annual Turkey Shoot**. In the future this shoot will take place in the month of April prior to the turkey hunting season. It should be a lot of fun.

The club hunt at Taghkanic still has a **few** openings left. If you are interested, don't miss out! Contact Mike Jones or myself. **TURKEY**

SEASON IS OVER, DEER SEASON IS NEXT. HONE YOUR SKILLS!

Hope to see you all at the range this summer, Jack D

The Hunters Pot

Throughout the past members have generously donated a portion of their harvest to the club. These contributions combined with the superb cooking skills of our volunteer cooks have added to the continued success of many of our events. A special word of **Thanks** is given to all of our hunters and cooks for providing gourmet entrees for our events.

The Trading Post

Wanted: As a new member of Suffolk Archers I am in desperate need of a compound bow. I am new to the sport and not sure of what I want. I don't know a lot about it but I know that I really want to start shooting at the range to prepare for this years hunting season. I know that I am a 30" draw and I intend to use it for hunting and a lot of target shooting. I am open to suggestions. Please call with availabilities and suggestions. My 8 year old son is looking to start in the sport and I am looking to outfit him as well. Please call John Jordan 631-872-5510 or email with pictures to chiefjayj@optonline.net

No more carpeting PLEASE! At this time we no longer need any more. Thank you all for your contributions, they are appreciated.

This space is always available for those members who wish to swap, trade, or sell their Archery Equipment.

Tackle Tips

Safety, Safety, Safety! The Number One Rule at Suffolk Archers must always be "safety." The number two rule is "have fun." Fun cannot exist without safety! Review the safety rules with every member of your family and all guests that shoot or visit the range. It is your responsibility to ensure that anyone you bring onto the range for any reason knows the safety rules and agrees to abide by them.

Stay safe and shoot straight,
Fletcher Stringman

All six archery shops participating in the Suffolk Archers Program to Improve Archery on Long Island have been invited to submit information to be printed in *The Arrow*, gratis. The length and content are determined by the archery shop and Suffolk Archers does not intend these articles to be endorsements of any shop. Such articles are for your information only. See the Smith Point and C&B articles in this issue.

Suffolk Archers Members Can Introduce Family and Friends to Archery

By Ralph Allocco, Owner, C&B Archery

As archers having an amazing outdoor archery park, members of Suffolk Archers are among the elite of archers worldwide. Nevertheless, it is often difficult for members to introduce family and friends to the sport due to lack of extra equipment, improperly fitted bows, or reluctance to provide initial lessons and training. Here's one solution.

First-rate Archery Experience for the Entire Family

Visit **C & B Archery's** top-quality facilities and experience the comfort of practicing and learning archery in over 12,000 square feet of range space. Enjoy friendly customer service and professional instruction from our National Field Archery (NFAA) accredited staff. Cumulatively, our range offers over 50 years of archery experience and is dedicated to teaching archery to any individual, family or group.

History: We opened in June 2006 to create an easily affordable archery center where individuals of all skill levels could learn, practice and participate in archery together.

Range I: Main Room

Designed to allow for multiple skill levels to shoot in one area, targets are mobile and infinitely adjustable from 5 to 20 yards. A whole family of can learn as a group and continue to practice simultaneously in one area at a variety of distances. Tables and seating are provided and customized bow racks protect equipment. This large main room, ideal for 28 to 40 archers, is also available for Girl Scout and Boy Scout troops.

Range II: Separate Range

We expanded in 2007 to serve group parties, and 3-D shooters (with a moving target for realism). This area is also used for special archery programs when privacy is preferred.

Pro Shop:

We offer over 10 brands of bows, a full inventory of accessories, arrows, targets, hunting equipment and instructional videos and DVDs. If we don't carry it we'll order it or tell you where to find it. We assist you in every way.

Safety:

To ensure a safe and enjoyable archery experience we never allow any shooting to take place without a Range Officer in the room. We take our responsibility very seriously.

The Staff:

Ralph Allocco: Owner; Level 3 NSA instructor; equipment expert and mechanic; Range Officer.

Kim: Level 1 NSA instructor; equipment expert; exceptional bow hunter and able to advise on bow models; Range Officer.

John: Level 1 NSA instructor; equipment expert; exceptional bow hunter and Champion Shooter able to advise on bow models; Range Officer.

Sharon: Party Hostess; Range Officer

Services and Amenities:

Training: Beginners basic instruction \$5 provides an affordable introduction to the sport of archery including holding and operation of a bow, range etiquette and safety rules. Individual advanced instruction to improve form and ability is \$50 an hour.

Equipment Rental: We have different types of traditional and compound bows available, no matter what your size or strength level.

Parties: With a focus on a fun experience we offer party packages which include an archery lesson and practice time. In a separate party room, children or adults enjoy food, beverages and cake. We provide everything.

Leagues: Junior and adult leagues are open to the public.

Snacks: Vending machines provide snacks and beverages

Games: Specialty game targets for intermediate and experienced archers that want to "play" with their friends and challenge their skill level.

Pristine Bathroom Facilities: Clean and well stocked.

Equipment Repair: Having a problem with equipment or bow tuning? We can help! Just drop by our Pro Shop.

Affordable:

-Rent equipment and practice for one hour: \$20 (Equipment Rental: \$11 + range time \$9) If you want to practice for more hours that day rental and range time *reduces* to \$7 & \$5 per hour, or all day for \$40!

-With your own equipment just pay for range time: Public --\$9 the first hour, \$5 for each additional hour, \$20 for all day

-Suffolk Archers Members -- \$5 an hour. \$15 for all day

-Other archery organizations: \$7 an hour...\$17 for all day.

-First time basic instruction \$5 per hour.

-Advanced instruction \$50 per hour.

-Group rates are available.

-Special rates for Cub/Boy Scouts and Brownie/Girl Scouts.

-Family Packages for 3, 4, 5 or more family members.

-Targets available for .50 - \$2.50

C&B Archery

11 Commercial Street, Hicksville NY 11801

Phone: (516) 933-BOWS (2697) Fax: (516) 933-2699

Email: cbarchery@verizon.net

Accessible via the LIRR to the Hicksville Station!

Suffolk Archers Logo Clothing Manager Wanted

Volunteer needed to manage ordering, stocking and sales of logo caps, jackets and shirts.

Manager gets full year's work credits.

Call 516 873-8898 or email info@suffolkarchers.com for complete details.

The Arrow

C/O Suffolk Archers
PO Box 8087
Hicksville NY 11802-8087

(Address Label)

Don't Forget...

June 18 General Membership Meeting at the Range

- Open shooting starts at 5:00 PM
- Arrow building hands-on seminar starts at 6:45 PM
- Business meeting starts at 8:00 PM
- Raccoon Shoot starts at dark (only 10 targets to get you home early)
- Hot dogs and hamburgers
- Bring one or two 2 AA or 3 AAA battery (MAXIMUM) powered flashlight to shoot our Raccoon Shoot

--The LI Traditional, Sunday June 8, 2008 at 9:00 AM

--Knock-A-Block, Sunday July 13, 2008 at 9:00 AM

--Join us for our 1st Annual Family Picnic & Turkey Shoot, Sunday July 20, 2008 at 9:00 AM...BBQ, prizes, games and fun for the whole family