

SMOKE SIGNAL

Official Newsletter of Skookum Archers Club and Range

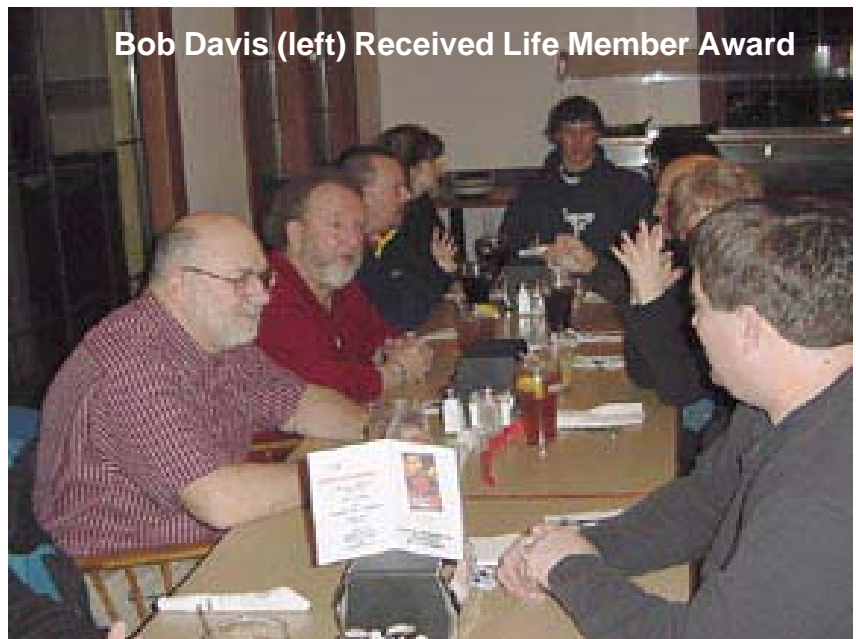
February, 2004

Annual Club Banquet

Thirty-six people attended the annual Club Banquet January 27th. Everyone had all the BBQ ribs, chicken and beef they could eat. The Board of Directors were sworn-in, and 25 year member Bob Davis received his life membership, along with a plaque and other appreciations from the Club for his many years of membership, service, and leadership to the Club.



Swearing-In of Officers at Banquet



Bob Davis (left) Received Life Member Award



Instructors Dave Peters and Bob Suggs teaching young archers at the Sportsmen's Show at the Puyallup Fairgrounds

Sportsmen's Show

The Archery Tent at the recent Western Washington Sportsmen's Show was a big hit. An estimated 2000 kids and adults tried their hand at shooting the Club's archery education bows and arrows. We passed out dozens of Club membership flyers and other information. Special thanks to Steve Cauffman who chaired this event. and put in a week's worth of work to carryout the event. Thanks to all those who helped, including Bob Suggs, Don Morrison, Dave Peters, Marty & Seth Mullins, Dennis Jenkins, Shawn Johnston, Cooper Ewing, Kristina Miles, Pat Fernandez, Marcos De La Iglesia, and any others we missed. We appreciate the help.

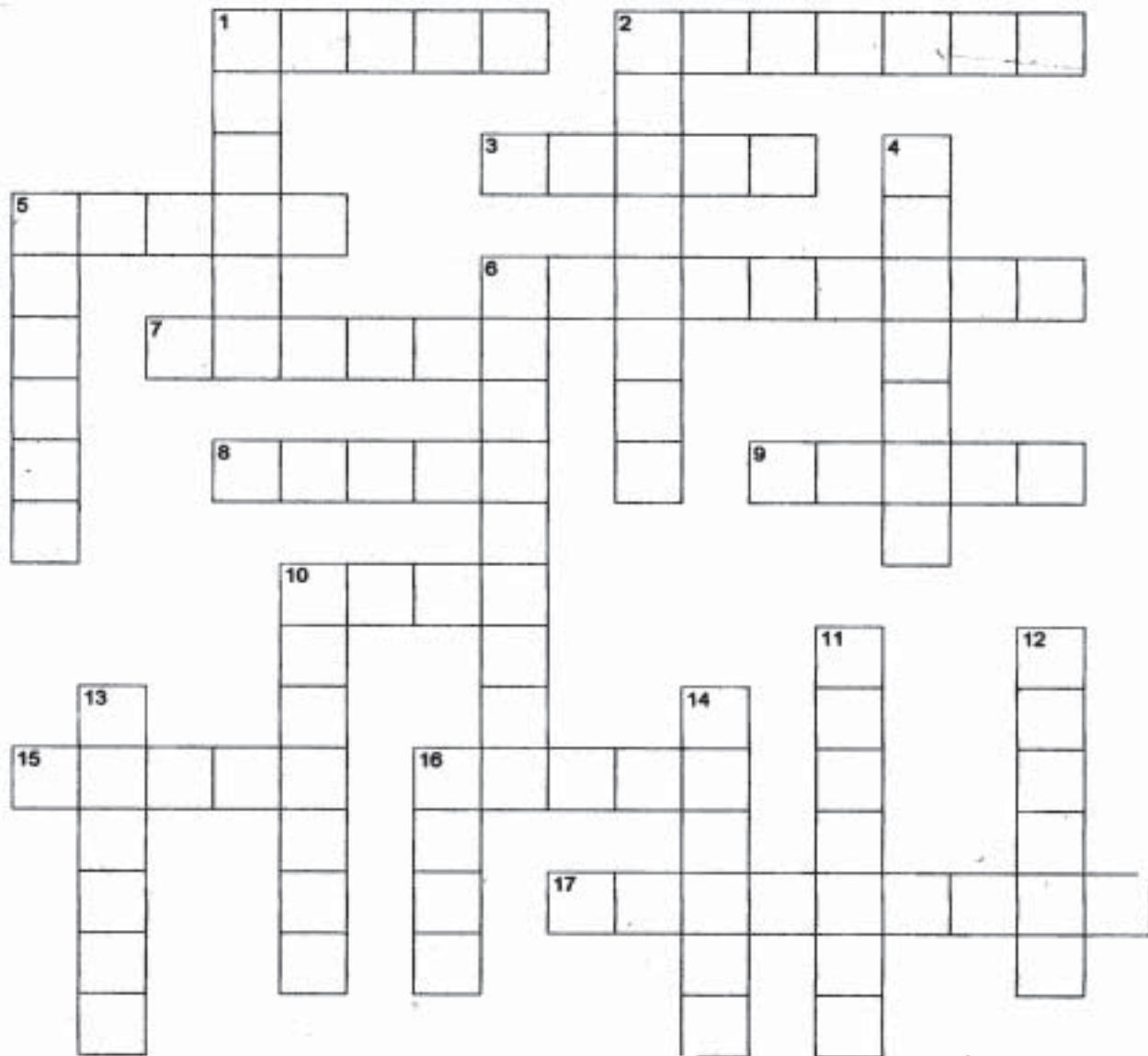
Blue Face Mail-In

The Club will shoot the Blueface Main-In beginning the first week of February. Registration forms are available at the Club House. Call Dan Croft at (253) 770-7662 for more information.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Archery Crossword Puzzle.....	2
3-D Sat & Foul Weather Shoot Flyer.....	3
Club History	3
Left & Right Misses.....	4
Shooting Line Etiquette.....	4
Lube Your Axles.....	4
How Much Bow Power.....	5
Archery Lesson Schedule.....	6
Pro Shop Lease Not Renewed.....	6
New Club Treasurer.....	7

Archery Crossword Puzzle



Across

1. A type of shoot for distance
2. To assume a stand straddling the shooting line
3. Flat head arrow tip
5. The upper and lower part of a bow that moves
6. Term for sudden movement of the bow arm upon release
7. The position where the drawing hand and string is drawn to
8. Term referring to the shooters bow setup for competition
9. Term for allowing the draw hand to move forward before release
10. Another term for target matt
15. Act of releasing the arrow from full draw
16. Traditional wood used for arrow shafts
17. Term for archer using a bow weighted too heavy for him/her

Down

1. Modern material use for arrow shafts
2. Traditional metal used for arrow shafts
4. A device to aid a finger shooters release
5. Refers to the weight reduction from peak weight to holding weight on a compound bow
6. The least limited style of shooting
10. Shooting without any sight fitted on the bow
11. Traditional type of bow
12. Small device of plastic or serving on the bow string
13. Name for a person who makes bows
14. An archer's inability to bring the sight pin into the bull's eye or release
16. Term for the ability of a bow to project an arrow



2 Great Shoots....1 Great Weekend *3-D Saturday & Foul Weather Field*

3-D Sat. Feb. 28th

Foul Weather Field Feb. 29th

3-D Saturday Fun Shoot

16 3-D Animal Targets
Shoot 9 am - 4 pm

Fee is only \$5 per round!
Kids under 12 shoot free.

Foul Weather Field

14 Field and 14 Hunter
Competition in Class. Register by
8:00a.m.; Shotgun start at 9a.m.

Fees:
Adults - \$10; Youth - \$7
Cub & PeeWee Free
\$30 Family Maximum



For more information:
Club Line: (253) 770-4177
www.skookumarchers.com

Skookum Archery Range
11209 Shaw Road East
Puyallup, WA

Camping and RVs Permitted on site. Motels within 2 miles. Concessions Available.

A Little Club History

In the late 1940s a local Native American named Henry Lange loved to shoot a bow and arrow. He worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). Henry had constructed a little archery range on the "North Hill" (Edgewood area). He had also organized target archery shoots at Sun Field, the Pierce County Airport site.

Henry was able to get a number of other greater Puyallup area sportsmen interested in archery. In 1951, Henry, Ed Arnold, Frank Marcoe, and William Stoner, a local sporting goods store owner (and later Mayor of Puyallup), established Skookum Archers. In 1959 the Club was incorporated as a nonprofit corporation.

Shortly thereafter, the club began eyeing a 35 acre site off Shaw Road in Puyallup for their club and range. The site had BPA lines already running through it, so the area was not suitable for residential or commercial development. However, the club had little money. Several founding members loaned the club the money to buy the land at 11209 Shaw Road East, which has now hosted Skookum Archers for more than 50 years. Around 1960, the flat range and walk-through courses A and B were developed. In 1961, the club held a general open house to acquaint the community with

"one of Puyallup's newest recreation facilities". The open house featured archery demonstrations and tours of the new range.

In 1965 the Club held a "Mortgage Burning" ceremony celebrating the final payment on the 35 acre site. The founding fathers had been reimbursed for their loan and the club now owned the current site free and clear. The club had about 50 members at that time.

In the early years, the Club also hosted a Daffodil target archery tournament at the Fife High School Football Field in conjunction with the annual Daffodil Festival.

The initial club house, which was built on site by member volunteers, caught fire and burned down one weekend, and was later replaced with the current club house, which was eventually expanded.

Early Club presidents included 1952 Henry Lange/Ed Arnold, 1953 Francis Marcoe, 1954 Maury Pihl, 1955 John Carpenter, 1956 Dee Francis, 1957 Jerry Shea, 1958 Ed Homan, 1959 Frank Ramey, 1960 Bill Stoner, 1961 Kerm Swartz, 1962, 1965, 1966 Fred Scott, 1963 Steve Wehmeyer, 1964 Betty Whitener, 1967-68 Terry Call, 1969 Duane Bundy.

Comments Heard at the Shoot

The spot is our friend.

Aiming is but another anchor point.

Aim within the shot, don't shoot within the aim.

"Shut up and shoot!"

Don't worry, shoot happy!!!

The more you practice, the luckier you are.

Once they're out of the quiver, there's no telling where they'll end up.

The arrow flies not from the Bow, but from the heart...

Shoot the shot...Not the score.

"I was perfect - until I shot the first arrow."

"Nice Bounce"

Arrow Misses Due to Faulty Form

In the January issue we listed the possible reasons for missing high or low. This month we list the causes for missing right or left that are due to faulty form.

Arrow **Missing to the Right** Caused By:

- Bow Hand placed further left on grip, causing torque in bow
- Bending wrist outwards, moves bow to the right on release
- Tilting top limb to the left
- Moving to the right on release
- Drawing Hand plucking bowstring
- Shooting through clicker
- Body twisting to the right on release

Arrow **Missing to the Left** Caused By:

- Bow Hand placed further right on grip, causing torque in bow
- Wrist bent inwards, moves bow to the left on release
- Tilting top limb to the right
- Moving to the left on release
- Bow Arm over-extended or locked
- Bow Shoulder pointed to the left
- Drawing Hand plucking the bowstring on release
- Snap shooting, not at full draw and anchored prior to release
- Leaning body backwards
- Bowstring hitting loose clothing on release
- Loss of back tension on release

Shooting Line Etiquette

It's important not to disturb those with whom you are shooting so talking on the shooting line or making comments is considered rude and inappropriate.

Calling another archer's arrows for them may seem like a good idea, but don't do it. Telling an archer that his arrow is at 3 o'clock when it's really at 9 o'clock could cause him to mis-set his sight and lose points.

Stepping off the shooting line while your neighbor is at full draw can be distracting and dangerous. If you accidentally bump him while he is executing a shot, you could find yourself being assigned to your own target at the end of the field. Instead, wait until your neighbor's shot is over, then step back to the waiting line. The reason for doing this is so the judges can determine how many archers are still shooting and when it is clear to give the signal to score your arrows.

When your last arrow is shot do not stand on the line spotting arrows though a scope or binoculars. The judges can't call the all clear signal until the shooting line is clear.

The object of most archery rules is to make the contest fair to all. It might give an archer an unfair advantage if a partner stands next to him while they finish shooting. Being the last archer shooting on the line can be nerve-wracking to some.

LUBE YOUR AXLES

If you are having trouble with occasional, inexplicable high and/or low shots, it may just be your axles need lubrication.

Before every tournament or hunting trip, make it a point to press my bow and lube the axles. In wet or dusty conditions axles often become dry or dirty. One axle may have more friction than the other creating an upward or downward 'pull' on the nock, resulting in a high or low shot. These highs and lows will be even more severe with radical cams.

Many pros use white lithium grease, but other lubricants work just as well. To lube your axles pull the axle out 1/3 of the way and push grease into the axle hole. Next push a second axle into this hole as you are pulling the original axle out creating a little pressure as you do so. This forces the grease into all the nooks and crannies, ensuring complete lubrication. Push the second axle all the way in. Wipe off the original axles, lube it and push it back into position.

How Much Bow Power is too Much?

By Robert Glenn Willis

Yes we are all susceptible to it. That macho thing about **MORE POWER** is better. You hear it at the range. "So, how much are ya pulling? 80 pounds, You? Ahhh 82 pounds!" So, more is better, right? A modern compound bow drawing 50 lbs will shoot a properly placed arrow right through most North America big game animals hunted today except for Elk and Moose. You don't need a high draw weight to kill whitetail, mule deer, javelina, turkey, or even black bears.

OK here is another one. **MORE POWER = FLATTER TRAFECTORY** thus making you a better shot. While a faster arrow will fly flatter, more power will sacrifice accuracy. There are other ways to compensate, without sacrificing accuracy. Lighter arrows will flatten your trajectory. Although with practice any archer can overcome the effects of gravity on the arrow, but drawing more weight than one can comfortably handle will always result in an occasional errant arrow.

So how do you judge whether or not you are drawing too much weight. Well actually it's pretty easy. First drop the machoism and take a close look at how you draw your arrow. Do you have to go through any "unnatural" movements in drawing your bow? Do you have to radically shift your shoulder, does it hurt when you draw? Does your arrow keep falling off the rest? do you feel like Helga the Olympic women's gold metal shot-putter gave you a shoulder rub after you shoot? If any of these shoes fit then you're drawing too much.

Your draw should be natural and smooth. It should start by placing the bow into the aiming position and then drawing back smoothly without moving it off the target. Remember that deer is only 25 yards away and you don't need unnecessary movement. Whitetails, bear, moose and elk can all be hunted with a bow set just over 60 lbs. This is fast enough to develop kinetic energy of about 65 lbs. For hunting other game 55 lbs will do the job. OK, go on out into the yard and drop it down, besides it doesn't matter *when* you bring home the meat, does it?

Something For Nothing — a little more **S P E E D!**

Looking for a little more speed? Here is one way to quickly pick up one to seven feet per second without changing your set-up.

Place 1 to 4 brass Noc Sets or Eliminator Buttons on your string 1 - 2" from where it meets both the top and bottom wheels. The arrow speed gained depends upon the type of wheel. The more radical the cam, the more speed you'll pick up. The added string weight does not seem to effect tuning or timing. So, add the Noc Points, change your sight marks and go shoot!

Arrow String Stretching

An arhcfer left his bow in his car on a hot day. The string stretched and he didn't notice it right away. The obvious result was that his peep sight didn't rotate right when he drew the bow. Later he also noticed it was shooting low. Letting your bow sit in your car on a very hot day can cause the strings and harnesses to pre-stretch.

As long as the break-in temp exceeds anything your bow is likely to see later in the year you should have effectively pre-set the string and harnesses, and little additional heat-related stretch should occur. When the string stretches, your nocking point will move up slightly, your draw length will be longer and your draw weight will increase. Twist the string to shorten it.

Comments Heard at the Shoot

Whether you are trying to play hide-the-arrow or not, at least know where youre shooting.

The only way I can get my arrows to group is to put them in my quiver!

Only from standing on the shoulders of the past can you see into the future: After a bad shot just learn what you did and make the next arrow the best.

"My wife told me that if I go to one more archery shoot she's going to leave me. Gosh, I'm going to miss her".

A bullseye is the easies shot you'll ever take. If you struggle it's probably not gonna be a bullseye.

2003 Bowhunting Report Due

For the past three years, the annual hunting reports have been **mandatory** for all deer, elk, bear and turkey tag holders, **whether or not they actually hunted or were successful.**

Hunters have two options for filing their reports-calling toll free at 1-877-945-3492 or via the Internet at <http://fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov/> You must input your your WILD ID, name and birthday.

ArcheryTip

The low wrist grip is the easiest to duplicate, takes the least amount of tought, and requires no muscle involvement.

WSAA Multi-Color Champs

Congratulations to Skookum Club members who placed at the recent WSAA Multi-Color championships:

Curt Reid, 2nd Place, AM BHFS

Dan Croft, 1st Place, AM Traditional

Timm Hines, 1st Place, AM FSL-R

John Finsterbusch, 1st Place, SM FSL

Sam Payne, 1st Place, SM Traditional

Archery Lessons

Lessons are taught by National Archery Association (NAA) Certified Instructors. All equipment is provided. Students can use their own equipment if it is deemed adequate and safe by the instructor. The beginning classes consist of a series of four (4) one and a half hour (1 1/2) lessons, on Tuesday nights from 6:00pm to 7:30pm. Intermediate classes are also offered on Tuesdays from 7:30pm to 9:00pm.

The Board of Directors Liaison to the Archery Education program is Board Member Cooper Ewing who can be reached at 253-653-1575 or by email at cooperewing@yahoo.com. You can also visit www.skookumarchers.com (Archery Education) for more information. Sign up no later than the first of the month for that month's lessons.

Upcoming Class Schedule:

February: 3, 10, 17, 24

March: 2, 9, 16, 23

April: 6, 13, 20, 27

May: 4, 11, 18, 25

June: 1, 8, 15, 22

July: 6, 13, 20, 27

Dedicated Archers!

Neither rain nor snow.....nor last month's Blizzard could keep Don Morrison, Dan Croft, Curt Reid, or Pat Fernandez from flinging a few arrows at the range.



Photo by Curt Reid

Club News and Notes

The **monthly Club and Board meeting date** has been **changed** from the 3rd Thursday of the month to the 2nd Thursday of the month. The Club membership meeting starts meets at 6:30 pm, with the Board meeting at 7:00 pm. The Next meeting is Feb. 12th.

At the the end of the year, the final purchases were made by the Local Government Institute for the Club's **Archery Education Program**. One additional LH Genesis bow, some more arrows and 3 large round foam matts were purchased for the archery education program. This was the final expenditure of the grant awarded to the Local Government Institute (Don Morrison, Exec. Dir.) by the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe Charity Fund to support an archery education program. The funds were used to purchase the equipment for the Skookum Archers Archery Education Program.

On Target Archery Lease Not Renewed

At press time, it was learned that *On Target Archery* has notified the Board of Directors that it will not renew the lease of the pro shop buidling. The Board and On Target were not able to come to agreement on the terms of a new lease. Accordingly, On Target will remain on the premises until the end of February to handle pending orders, etc. The Board will lease the premises to another party, and has a tentative offer pending. The Club appreciates all of the work Gary and Marlene contributed to the Club, and wishes them well in their endeavors.



Kristina Miles, Treasurer

New Treasurer

Kristina Miles joined the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors as the new Treasurer for the Club. Kristina was elected at the December 2003 Annual Meeting, and sworn-in at the Annual Banquet. She replaces Dennis Jenkins was doing double duty as President and Treasurer.

Practice Tips From the Pros

Learn to approach your shot sequence by breaking it down into bare minimums and practicing them separately. Practice drawing to the same anchor, practice aiming, and practice waiting for the release to fire, and then figure out which aspect gives you the most trouble (you know, the part that you fear and hate the most) and force yourself to make it your first priority at practice.

If an arrow was not a good shot then put down your bow and walk to the target and retrieve the arrow and re-shoot it. Do this until you are repeating your shot time and time again. You may get up to two arrows in a row or ten arrows in a row, and then some days you will do more walking than shooting. The whole idea is to force yourself to shoot your best possible shot so you won't have to do so much walking! Hopefully you will teach yourself to stay in your zone time and time again.

Here's another tip from George Ryals. "Concentrate on the feel of the shot and the rhythm of the shot. Each time your bow goes off, pretend there is a gallery watching you shoot, but (they) cannot see the target. Make your form and follow through look so clean and so perfect that the gallery would say, "He must have drilled it!"

Pretend you're in a tournament. Keep score. Use a shot clock. Do everything that you would do at a tournament. This helps you get used to competition.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Dennis Jenkin, (253) 862-8582
dennis_jen@msn.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Shane Peterson; (253) 631-5702
fingershooter@comcast.net

SECRETARY

Shawn Johnston; (253) 826-5592
slsjohnston@comcast.net

TREASURER

Kristina Miles; (360) 893-4919
kmiles@eskimo.com

COMMUNICATIONS

Don Morrison, (253) 565-6253
morrison@lgi.org

TOURNAMENT

Dan Croft, (253) 770-7662

RANGE

Cooper Ewing, (253) 653 -1575
cooperewing@yahoo.com

GROUND

Pat Fernandez, (253) 927-9742

HUNTING

John Batts
jkbatts@comcast.net

ACTIVITIES

Open - Volunteer Today!

On Target Archery

**Full-Service Pro Shop
and Indoor Lanes
at the Skookum Range**

11209 Shaw Road East
Puyallup WA 98373
www.ontargetarchery.com

Phone (253) 845-7165

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**Skookum Archers Club
and Range
11209 Shaw Road East
P.O. Box 73753
Puyallup, WA 98373**

**Club Line: (253) 770-4177
www.skookumarchers.com
info@skookumarchers.com**

Don Morrison, Editor

**First Skookum shoots of the year.
Mark your calendars! 3-D Sat.
and Foul Weather Field, Feb.
28th and 29th. Plan to attend.**

Notice to Active Members: There is a "To Do" list posted on the Club House outside bulletin board. In addition to your target assignment, those seeking work hours to reduce dues can perform any of the tasks listed on the "To Do" list. For other work that needs to be done, contact Cooper Ewing, Range Master, or Pat Fernandez Grounds Director.

Target Assignments: Active Members are responsible for maintaining a target area. Life Members, Associate and Junior Members are not required to maintain a target area. IF YOU DON'T KNOW YOUR TARGET ASSIGNMENT, CONTACT THE CLUB VICE-PRESIDENT. Your target assignment is generally printed on your Smoke Signal mailing label. You will be responsible for replacing the Target Face when it has been shot out, picking-up trash in your shooting lane, and reporting any maintenance that needs to be done; grounds work (grass, trees, brush, etc.) that needs to be done to the Grounds Chair, and reporting any range work (target shed, shooting bales or shooting stakes) that needs to be done to the Range Chair. Replacement targets can be acquired by contacting the Pro-Shop; you will be assisted with finding the correct replacement target face. Please do not replace targets until they need it; typically this means that the center scoring area is shot out. Also, we can all pitch in on replacing the target faces on the flat range. Thanks for working together!

- Thursday February 12th, Club Meeting 6:30 pm, Board Meeting 7:00 pm
- February 7 & 8, Capital City Bowmen Wooley Booger 3-D
- February 20-22, World Archery Festival, Las Vegas, Nevada
- February 28th & 29th, Skookum 3-D Saturday (2/28), and Foul Weather Field (2/29)
- March 6 & 7, WSAA Indoor Blueface Championship, Wilderness Archery

CALENDAR