

Prairie Bowmen News – Jan. 2008

Prairie Bowmen Board Meeting Minutes -- Monday, Nov. 19, 2007

Board Members Present: Jim Tubbs, Rob Barlow, Denise Scott, John Elliott, Rob Hickman and Gary Waters.

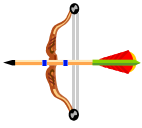
Board Members Absent: Jay Spencer, Chad Scott and Patty Hickman.

1. Rob Barlow, Treasurer, reported that several bills had been paid, including the electric and telephone bills.
2. Rob Barlow motioned to purchase a new club laptop computer for \$1,000 or less. Motion seconded by Gary Waters.
3. Target Report by Rob Hickman. Target League is doing well and there is always room for more shooters. The 300-Round went fine, on Sat.-Sun., Oct. 20-21.
4. John Elliott, Membership Chairman, said there are three new members: Jeremy and Angelia Boyer, Robert and Linda Bergholz, and Steven Jensen family, including Steven, Sandra, Taylor and Harrison.
5. John Elliott reported that the Outdoor Range has been winterized and additional cabinets have been made for the Indoor Range.
6. Gary Waters, Youth Education Coordinator, reported that the youth group has finished its recent session and will begin again on Saturday, Jan. 5, at 8 a.m. The 8-9:30 a.m. session is for youth not involved in the NASP Program, whereas the 9:30-11 a.m. session is for youth who are participating in the NASP. Gary said the NASP will have their State Shoot on April 26 and their Nationals will be held in May.
7. Denise Scott, Newsletter Editor, reminded everyone that articles were due.
8. Board elections were held at the Potluck/Club Meeting on Saturday, Nov. 17, at the Indoor Range. Officers retained were Rob Hickman, Target Rep., Jay Spencer, Website Coordinator, and John Elliott, Rangemaster. Cindie Jisa succeeded Rob Barlow as Treasurer.
9. The next Board Meeting will be held on Monday, Dec. 17, at Season's Choice Shooting Range, 4713 Hartley St.

WANTED

By John Elliott, Rangemaster

This is not a request of sorts, but one of the members was going to donate some 1-1/2" or 2" PVC pipe and some flange fitting. I have lost your name. Please contact the Rangemaster, John Elliott, at 466-6391 or 540-7238. Thanks again. Waiting to hear from you.



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2008 Archery Tournament Schedule

Jan. (Target)

Jan. (3-D)

Jan. 5-6 Woods & Waters FITA
 Jan. 12 Fremont 300
 Jan. 12-13 Norfolk 300
 Jan. 18-19-20 Holiday Shoot Golden Arrow
 Jan. 25-26-27 Columbus Indoor 3-D & Target
 Feb. 2-3 Midwest Sectional -- Sioux Falls, SD
 Feb. 8-9-10 Winter Archery Festival -- Omaha
 Feb. 9-10 Grand Island Silver Dollar Shoot 300

Contact Names & Numbers

Ahamo	Ed	345-7608
Atlantic	Bob	(712) 763-4326
Denison	Dale	263-6262
Fremont	Brad	727-1842
Golden Arrow	Jason	891-8111
Lincoln	Rob	416-7005/Chad 560-2879
Norfolk	Marv	379-1041
Platte Valley	Pat	447-6388
Pottawattamie	Rick	(712) 487-3013
Woods & Waters	Sonny	331-2742

WEBSITE COORDINATOR REPORT

By Jay Spencer, Website Coordinator

Thank you for all the harvest photos that have been sent. I have been trying to post them to the website about once every two weeks. It looks like some very nice animals have been taken and I'm sure that some very nice stories will be associated with these kills for years to come. Remember to forward your photos for the slide show for our Annual Banquet **ASAP**. Our banquet is just three weeks away! Good luck for the remainder of the season and, as always, shoot straight and shoot often.

TARGET REP REPORT

By Rob Hickman, Target Rep.

As the year of 2007 draws to an end, so does the Target Pizza League. Pizza league concluded on Tuesday, Dec. 18, with pizza, of course. We thank everyone who came down to participate.

Winter Target League will be starting soon—on Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2008. We hope to see you there! The NFAA and FITA targets will be shot every other night, so individuals can practice for any tournament they please. Weekly league fees will be \$5, as usual, unless you wish to participate in the “early bird” \$40 rate and pay for your whole league early (first or second week). We will start promptly at 7 p.m. and run for 10 weeks. New members can shoot their first night for free! Bring your friends, your family and yourselves, and have some fun.

BOWHUNTER REP REPORT

By Chad Scott, Bowhunter Rep.

We are going to start on Thursday, Jan. 10, instead of on Jan. 3. The 3-D and the Target League are going to a \$40 “early bird” fee, if you plan on shooting all 10 weeks, plus one week for the champion. This is the way to go! Otherwise, fees will be \$5 per night. We would like to collect the total league fees on the first or second night, if you want to pay all league fees up front (\$40). This year, we are going to open this night up to the public, for a fee of \$8 per night.

I will need to have all of your harvest reports by Monday, Jan. 3, so I can get the tags made up for the Annual Banquet. Your help with getting your reports turned in promptly is most appreciated.

COMBINATION CHANGE!

By John Elliott, Rangemaster

There will be a combination change next month. This will take place on Monday, Jan. 28. Only those members who are current in their dues will have a combination in their February newsletter--all others will have the **RED STAR** on their address label. Thank you for getting your dues paid promptly. If you wish to pay your dues with a credit card, please contact Rob Barlow to do so.

2008 ANNUAL BANQUET - SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

By Kriss Tripp, Banquet Director

The Annual Banquet is just three weeks away. The Annual Banquet will be held on Saturday, Jan. 12, at The Country Inn and Suites, 5353 N. 27th St., starting with the social hour at 5 p.m., dinner follows at 6 p.m.

Ticket cost for adults is \$25, and for kids age 12 and under, the ticket cost is \$15. **REMEMBER--NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR!!! RESERVATION DEADLINE IS MONDAY, JAN. 7!!!** Please send your reservation checks, made out to Prairie Bowmen, to the address printed below.

Please make sure that you get your trophy photos sent to Jay **ASAP** and that you let Chad know **ASAP** if you have shot any trophies, as you could qualify for awards. Please bring your trophy animal mounts to the banquet and we will have tables set up for you to display them. Remember, any harvest is a true trophy.

With Cindie Jisa's help, we are collecting donations for door prizes. Please feel free to call me if you have something to donate. I will be happy to pick up those items. If you can think of a business that might be willing to donate, please let us know and we will contact them. We are excited to have **two bows** for door prizes! I hope to see you all there! **Please send your checks, addressed to Prairie Bowmen, to:**

**Attn: Prairie Bowmen -- C/O Kriss Tripp
 2411 Ridgeline Dr.
 Lincoln, NE 68512
 402-421-8558 (home) --- 402-610-1496 (cell)**

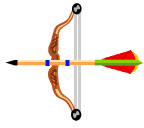
HUNTING MENTORS FOR ADULTS NEEDED!

By John Elliott, Membership Chairman

It has been brought to my attention that there are several new adult members who need or want help in learning how to bowhunt. They do not know a lot of other club members and, therefore, do not know who to go to with their questions or ask for a little advice. I know it is very late in the year, but I am thinking next year. This way, a person could get help with all aspects of hunting, such as scouting, looking for signs, trails, etc., thus teaching them where to put up stands accordingly.

If we have some members out there who are willing to take on and mentor other club members, please give me a call at 466-6391 or 540-7238, or email me jell912662@aol.com. I will put together a list of members who are willing to help. We're not asking for anyone to take on a partner for good, but rather to help them temporarily and get new hunters started correctly with the basics. Most of these new members have had Bowhunter Education, but they could use some advice with putting what they have just learned to good, safe use.

Members who wish to be mentored, please also give me a call. I will put you on another list and try to match people up. I know this may be asking a lot from members and it may be impossible for others because of landowner agreements, etc., but this can help our club image. It will tell other non-members what we are all about as a club family--friendly, thoughtful and helpful to each other.



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COLLEGE STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

By John Elliott, Membership Chairman

The Board would like to offer a special deal to college students. They can apply for a membership at a reduced rate of \$75 and no initiation fee. All they have to do is fill out an application form, enclose a copy of their current Student ID and mail it to the Membership Chairperson, with their application. A student MUST enclose a copy of their Student ID with his/her renewal dues also. He or she MUST be a full-time student.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

By John Elliott, Membership Chairperson

I would like to welcome, on behalf of the Prairie Bowmen Archery Club, a new member to our family. Welcome to Whitney Bergholz. She is also the daughter of club members, Robert and Linda Bergholz. Please make her feel welcome. Don't be afraid to say "hi" to any member you don't know. Extend the hand of friendship so they may feel at home. Again, welcome to Whitney.

YOUTH ARCHERY UPDATE

By Gary Waters, Youth Education Coordinator

The next session will start on Saturday, Jan. 5, 2008. There will be two sessions each week. The first session will start at 8 a.m. and go until 9:30 a.m. This session is for all youth **who are not** involved in the NASP program. A second youth session will start at 9:30 a.m. and go until 11 a.m. for those youth **who are** involved in the NASP program.

Plans for Kids Camp are underway. Kids Camp will take place on Saturday, May 24, at the Outdoor Range. If you would like to be part of the planning, please contact me. If you would like to make donations for this of money or prizes, please contact me.

Well, that is all for now. Until next month, remember the true reason for the season.

MEMBERSHIP DATABASE NEEDS UPDATE

By John Elliott, Membership Chairperson

The following information is needed to update our membership database. **Please fill out the form below and mail it to: John Elliott, 3930 Madison Ave., Lincoln, NE 68504, or email me at jell912662@aol.com.** Thanks for your help. Fill it out even if you think we have the right data. This will save the club a lot of postage and time. As a last resort, call me with the information and leave it on my voice mail, but I might not get the correct spelling this way, unless you are very specific. Thank you!

Name: _____

Family Members under 18: (family membership only) _____

Address: _____

City, State and Zip _____

Phone Numbers: Home _____ Cell _____

Work _____

Occupation _____

Email address: _____

Life Member only: (Date you joined or were given life status) _____

"THE GOOD OL' BOYS CLUB"

By Tom Nauman, Life Member

Man, can I remember it well! When I joined Prairie Bowmen back in around 1983, I hadn't been a member for very long, when I said, "It seems like this club is like a good ol' boys club." The more I got involved, then the less I felt that way. But it wasn't easy to fit in and not all the ol' guys wanted new guys to help. Luckily (or unluckily, depending on how you look at it), some might say I'm a bit of an extrovert and have been know to force my way in. I quickly figured out that instead of a "good ol' boys club," we had a small group of very dedicated bowhunters and archers who really wanted our club to be successful. Without those few members, our club would not be what it is today.

As time passed, it seemed I became much more involved and other members from our club began to say, "They're just a bunch of good ol' boys" or a "clique". Of course, they were referring to the small group of us members who seemed to be making all the decisions for the club. You know, I think it has always been that way and probably always will be. By the way, it's the same way out here in Pocatello, Idaho. There are a few in our club who do it all and many of the other members in this club think it's a "Good Ol' Boys Club."

I can remember when I was the Bowhunter Rep. I got so frustrated with the insinuations of "the Good Ol' Boys Club" that I almost quit. Thank goodness folks like John, Wes and Dee were willing to take the time to talk me into staying. And I'm darned glad I did. When I read the newsletter articles today, I see new blood mixed with the old blood. That's a good thing--we need both. The more new folks we have, the more new ideas we get.

I would suggest to the "Good Ol' Boys," be sure to listen to the feedback from the new and/or less active members. We can't close our ears. We have an obligation to make the club better and stronger for all. Every club has a few people who seem to do the most. Every club also has a few people who want to be critical of how things are being done. If you're one of those who feel left out, talk to the leaders, clear the air, and give suggestions for improvement. The best way to have truly meaningful input is to get involved. Run for a board position (there is hardly ever more than one candidate for each position). You don't have to be a board member to be a part of making the club more successful. Help with workdays, volunteer to help with the Cornhusker State Games, 3-D Tournaments and Target Tournaments. Attend board meetings and the club functions like the Potluck Dinner, the Fish Fry, the Club Jamboree and the Annual Banquet. I know it hasn't changed....Our club always wants and needs help!

When the same folks do all the work, they can quickly burn out and sometimes become resentful, intimidating, rude...even try to shame others into helping. If you are a club leader today, remember--the shaming tactic never works! It only serves to drive others away. As a leader, you need to make sure you are welcoming others to participate and not making them feel that their voice doesn't matter! Our club will only grow and become stronger if those of us who have been members for awhile are willing to go the extra mile to make our new members feel welcome by getting to know them. We need to encourage them to join in the fun and camaraderie, so they, too, will really enjoy the club and be glad they got involved. When we gain new members, we never want to drive them away. Instead, we want to draw them into being a part of the club and all it has to offer

Club members, if you decide to get more actively involved, I'll give you a word of "caution." You will soon be considered part of the "Good Ol' Boys Club" and that, my fellow club members.... is a good thing! Thanks to all the "Good Ol' Boys and Girls" who make our club tick...and to those who will join those ranks to make our club even stronger in the future.

INDOOR RANGE LEAGUE SCHEDULE (WINTER 2008) -- 345 S. 14TH ST., 474-5505

Monday – Northeast High School NASP, 3:30-5 p.m.

Tuesday – Target League, 7-9:30 p.m. (begins Jan. 8)

Wednesday – North Star High School NASP, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

SCA, 8:30-11 p.m.

Thursday – Bowhunter 3-D League, 7-9:30 p.m., set up at 5:30 p.m. (begins Jan. 10)

Saturday – Youth Session, 8-9:30 a.m. (begins Jan. 5)

NASP Program, 9:30-11 a.m. (begins Jan. 5)

See tournament schedule for Saturday-Sunday events at the Indoor Range.

Prairie Bowmen Board Meeting

The next Prairie Bowmen Board Meeting will be held on Monday, Jan. 21, 2008, at 7 p.m., at Season's Choice Shooting Range, 4713 Hartley St. All Club Members are invited to join the Board Meeting.

Upcoming Events

- **January 5 – Youth Session begins, 8-9:30 a.m., Indoor Range**
- **January 5 – NASP Youth Session begins, 9:30-11 a.m., Indoor Range**
- **January 7 – Target & 3-D Shooting Seminar, 7-9 p.m., Indoor Range**
- **January 7 – Deadline for ticket reservations for Annual Banquet—TICKETS WILL NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR!!**
- **January 8 – Winter Target League begins, Indoor Range, 7 p.m.**
- **January 10 – Winter Bowhunter 3-D League begins, Indoor Range, 7 p.m.**
- **January 12 – Annual Banquet, The Country Inn and Suites, 5353 N. 27th St., 5 p.m. Social Hour/6 p.m. Dinner**
- **January 21 -- Prairie Bowmen Board Meeting, Season's Choice Shooting Range, 4713 Hartley St., 7 p.m.**
- **January 24-27 – 39th Annual Boat, Sport & Travel Show, Lancaster Events Center**

THE PHANTOM!!!!

By Janice Spicha, Club Lifetime Member

(Editor's Note: Due to popular demand, "The Phantom" is "reappearing" in this issue. Thanks, Janice, for your hard work and contributions to our newsletter.)

Fall is the season for ghosts, goblins and phantoms. Prairie Bowmen has a phantom, which has been on the prowl for over 30 years. As legend has it, he was watching for the antics, mistakes and laughable behavior of Prairie Bowmen as far back as the early 1970s. I hear tell that Joyce Eiland, her sister Donna Behlen, and Muriel Beardslee were the ones responsible for bringing the Phantom to the Prairie Bowmen Annual Banquets as a way to liven up the banquet.

Legend has it that they were shooting above the old State Theatre downtown and, when something went wrong, it was always reported to have been done by "The Phantom." Thus, when a Prairie Bowmen member did wrong at a shoot or in the field, the Phantom called the member up to the front of the room and "told on them" at the Annual Banquet.

No one I've talked to, including the Great Pooh Bah (alias Tom Runge), can remember exactly when The Phantom started. As the years passed, the Phantom reported all that he knew about various Prairie Bowmen's indiscretions to the Great Pooh Bah, via sealed letters which were accompanied by paper sacks containing relevant props and awards to be given by the Great Pooh Bah to the various recipients at the Annual Banquet in January.

During this same timeframe that the Great Pooh Bah became presenter of the Phantom Awards, it seems Rex Sheets (Wes Sheets' then little boy) was in the 5th or 6th grade. Daddy Wes helped to make the little dear into a "deer" for Halloween, by taking an extremely ugly doe's head and creating a helmet for little Rex to wear to school for Halloween. As legend has it, the doe's head costume was so ugly that little Rex's feelings were hurt when some of the kids thought he was a coyote. So Papa Wes, not wanting to waste this great masterpiece, decided the doe head helmet would be fitting attire for the Great Pooh Bah to wear as he presented the Phantom's awards at the Prairie Bowmen Annual Banquet.

Somewhere in the late 1980s, the Great Pooh Bah, while wearing this doe head, mistook me for a "doe in heat," as the Phantom put it, since I had just given birth to the twins. That politically incorrect title later was changed to "Doesie Whoasie." At any rate, the Great Pooh Bah named me as his assistant and he placed an equally ugly coonskin hat, with a white deer tail flagging up where the coon's tail had been, on my head. Thus began my career as Doesie Whoasie, assistant to the Great Pooh Bah.

The doe head and the deer tail hats became more and more smelly, while shedding greatly in the 1990s. At the 2005 Annual Banquet, a beautiful doe head straight out of a Hollywood glamour magazine replaced my hat. Legend has it that this new doe head was designed in the laboratory of our very own Great Pooh Bah. If you missed the Annual Banquet last year, you must come this year, just to view this masterpiece.

Looking back over the years of the Phantom Awards, John Elliott has received the most Phantom Awards by far. I'm not sure if that means John is just older than the rest of us or if his behavior, in fact, qualifies him the most.

If you are not familiar with how the Phantom works, I'll run through the "rules" and give you an example. A few years ago, one of our mighty fine hunters shot a deer and delivered it to the meat locker, not even field dressed (rumor was he didn't know how to field dress a deer). Thus, a paper sack with a sealed white envelope appeared at the Annual Banquet. The Great Pooh Bah then opened the envelope. It contained a letter stating this hunter's name. The Great Pooh Bah called this hunter up to the front of the room. The Great Pooh Bah read the letter which contained instructions for the hunter to open the sack and put on (over his manly attire) a woman's bra, panties, slip, dress, hat and purse, as his fellow hunters and friends in the audience roared with laughter. At the end of the letter, the hunter, now fully dressed in his "new clothes," stood sheepishly as the Phantom read the letter which stated that now, perhaps, the hunter might know how to "dress for the field."

Do you get the idea? **The Phantom needs your help!** If you know of anyone who is deserving of a Phantom Award, please place the award in a paper grocery sack. Staple an envelope containing the person's name and a letter telling why this person is getting this award, as well as how they are to use or wear the award. Staple the envelope to the paper sack and please place the paper sack near the podium before the banquet, so the Great Pooh Bah can call up the deserving person to receive their "award." The Phantom needs some "new blood." **Hope to see you all on January 12, 2008, at The Country Inn & Suites, enjoying the Prairie Bowmen Annual Banquet.** (I'll be the one who is dressed like a Hollywood deer!!)