



Mt. MADONNA BOWMEN NEWSLETTER

Spring 2011

Presidents Message

Spring is upon us. Archery shoots at different ranges are back in the swing. We are seeing increased attendance at the club shoots. The winter storms caused some downed trees that were removed from range shooting lanes. We were lucky there was no damage to targets from falling trees. This spring we will need a couple of work parties to get the range trails in shape for shoots in June and July. 3D animal shoots will start May 14th alternating Saturdays with Santa Cruz. As some of you visiting the range have see the road is in bad shape but the county has promise to have it repaired shortly.

Club members need to renew their membership and receive new parking for 2011.

If you are receiving this newsletter by mail and would like to have it emailed to you please contact me by email: rsandkuhle@charter.net.

Range Status/Activities

All targets are safe to shoot and hay bales have been replaced where needed to hopefully eliminate arrow pass thru. We are in the process of ordering more bales to place at targets where needed. Besides cleaning trails and remarking shooting hubs other planned projects are to repair the fence at the practice range, install new target numbers at the each target and at the target shooting area, fix the roof on the gazebo at target 36. and remove the dirt sliding of the embankment on the left side of the practice butts. We are looking at installing a retaining wall on the left side of the practice targets. Four trees that were blocking shooting lanes or causing a potential safety hazard were removed by Jose Urbina, Bob Buie, and Rich Sandkuhle. We will be asking Matt Rosso to put roofing material on several new roves. The road to the range is currently closed. The road has water damage and plans are to repair the road shortly. In the near term archers are requested to park in the area by the dumpsters and walk into the range. Rich Sandkuhle

Club Shoot Participation

Club shoots in February and March were well attended. More that 30 members participated in each of these shoots. Both shoots were Hunter/Field rounds followed by a barbeque. It is great to see increased participation at the shoots.

This spring we will have at least one 3D animal club shoot. Members and friends of the club who did shoot had a good time and hopefully gained experience in their shooting skills. We will continue to have club shoots the 2nd Sunday (weather permitting) of each month starting at 9:00 AM. Club officers need to continue to work to improve participation. I will email club members a heads-up about club shoots. Rich Sandkuhle

Bug Shoot

Activities continue in preparation for the Bug Shoot on July 17. Curtis contacted CBH/SAA to get the date of the Bug Shoot posted on the CBH calendar and published in the CBH news letter. Flyers for the shoot have been printed and are available at Predator's and will be distributed at shoots outside of our area. Ken and Kay Gardner are coordinating repair of the Bug Shoot targets and ordering new consumable targets for the shoot. We are working to make this year's Bug Shoot the best ever. Rich Sandkuhle

Upcoming Shoots at Mt. Madonna

We will be sharing weekly (Saturday 9 AM) 3D shoots with Santa Cruz again this year. Shoots start on May 14th. There will be eight shoots alternating Saturdays between Mount Madonna and Santa Cruz. Schedule for these 3D shoots will be sent out in a separate communication. The State Hunter/Field Animal round will be at Mt. Madonna on June 12th.

Protecting the Sport of Archery

At the Annual CBH/SAA Meeting on January 23rd, I presented to the Board of Governors, which include Delegates from your Regions, my concerns for not having the financial ability to protect our hunting and shooting rights as they surface. Most of you recall the legal battle we had with the City of Burbank in an attempt to stop them from eliminating bow hunting on all city owned property. We lost that battle on at least two fronts. One of those fronts, I feel, was due to the lack of financial backing and another was not having the representation and backing of all of the other outdoor groups in California. Since our loss with Burbank we acquired the combined support and strength of many of the outdoor groups in California through an umbrella association called the "California Outdoor Heritage Alliance" (COHA). With that association we have an annual financial responsibility. COHA is a very professional and active force who is on the front lines at the capital as well as at the local level dealing with every hunting, fishing, gun, and bow issue that comes up. Thanks to them we are kept up to date on issues of concern and they have stepped in to extinguish the fires that would infringe upon our sport. However, we are still vulnerable from our financial side and sooner or later the sport of archery is going to be challenged and we will have to provide for legal representation to protect it. In the past most of the funding, obtained by the Legislative Defense Fund, was obtained through contributions from the Big Game Club and other smaller donations. We do have several individuals and a couple of Clubs / Regions that donate money to this cause every year but that is not sufficient to meet our annual financial obligations nor is it enough to protect your right to shoot your bow in your backyard, on a shooting range or while bow hunting on public land. We need your help. Therefore, I am asking that all, club, region, and state shoot organizers, add one

dollar (\$1.00) to each archers entry fee for every shoot. Those dollars are collected and sent to the CBH/SAA Treasurer for deposit into the Legislative Account. We can not afford to sit on our backsides until it is too late. If you think your sport is safe, be it target archery or hunting, think again and then contact the archers and archery shops owners in Contra Costa County. Just this past year a county ordinance would have prohibited the shooting of all bows and arrows in the entire County. It would have disallowed your ability to shoot your bow and arrow at an archery range, on your own property no matter how big the property was, or on public land. However this ordinance was stopped in its tracks based upon the fast action of archers, local archery shop owners and Jason Rhine from (COHA) who was one of the speakers at the County Board of Supervisors Meeting. Based upon their combined actions and efforts, the archers in Contra Costa County can still shoot their bows where ever it is legal and safe for now. Please consider this request as it is easy and does not financially strap any one person or club. I think you can see how the Defense Fund could grow with full participation. Thank you, Wayne Raupe, CBH/SAA Legislative Coordinator

Mission Trail Bowhunters Association which Mount Madonna Bowmen is a member of is contributing at least \$500 to the Defense Fund. Rich Sandkuhle

Let's Talk Bow hunting-from CBH/SSA News Letter.

Hello Bowhunters of California this year at CBH/SAA Annual State meeting Capt. Roy Griffith, the person in charge CA Hunter Education Program, brought to our attention a request to the CA Fish and Game Commission made by Glenn Vargas. Mr. Vargas is a private citizen, and a CA bowhunter who took the IBEP course in 2007. He enjoyed the course and thinks that the course should be made mandatory for all CA bowhunters just as the Hunter Education program is required for all California gun hunters. Below is a copy of the request that Mr. Vargas sent to the Commission, regarding Archery Hunter Safety Regulation Update

Dear Commissioner's:

I am requesting that the Commission consider additional safety and education measures that will enhance the ongoing conservation efforts and safety in the field as directed by the Department of Fish & Game. As a California Resident archery hunter and out of state archery hunter, I have been required by other states to complete a detailed Archery Hunter Safety Course in addition to the regular firearms Hunter Safety Course. This additional Bow hunter Hunting Safety Course is administered by the N.B.E.F. (National Bow hunter Education Foundation) nbef.org and has been adopted by the California Department of Fish & Game as a Certified Course. The California Department of Fish & Game already Certifies archers after satisfactory completion of the above referenced Bow hunter Safety Course, and Certification Test that all hunters Certified have been educated in hunter safety, conservation, habitat and environmental management. This Course is a detailed and well implemented training program. The Department of Fish & Game has this great Bow hunter Safety Program in place but does not require Residents or Non-Residents to complete this highly educational program prior to Bow hunting in our State. Every tool from on-line education to classroom and practical application are in place for the good of all

persons and hunters that enter the field. I see and talk to Bowhunters in California every year that are in need of more education in Bowhunter Safety. Many of these hunters say they have been hunting for years and never heard of let alone practice any of the basic fundamentals stressed in the Course. In the field I see Bow hunters over and over that take poor shots “placement”, lack of understanding in the need for Conservation, Habitat Management, and Environmental Protection. I am requesting that the Commission add to the Archery Hunting Regulations that all archery hunters must satisfactory complete the Bowhunter Safety Course already in place within your Hunter Safety Program prior to Bow hunting. No Grandfather clause for prior Bow hunters, all must take the course. Let’s upgrade California Bow hunting and make California Archery Hunters much more Educated and Safer in the Field.

As you see in Vargas’s last statement he wants all bowhunter’s to have to take this course with no grandfathering. I think it is time for CBH/SAA, IBEP and all bowhunters who care about bowhunting in California to get in on the ground floor of this request to help design it for the benefit of bowhunters instead of another obstacle. I would defer the grandfather clause and make the course mandatory for all new bowhunters. Let’s get together and talk. “It is not a question of if we will require the IBEP, but when.” California Archery Foundation: California Archery. By John Waddles CBH/SAA IBEP Chairman

This issue has been discussed with the Dept. of Fish and Game for many years. As long as I have hunted in California. As a teacher of the course I feel it provides excellent training as discussed in Mr. Vargas’s request to the commission. Whether it will be implemented remains to be seen. Rich Sandkuhle

Calendar of Events 2011

Date	Activity	Location
Apr 24-25	Fresno Safari	Fresno, Ca.
4/30-5/1	16th ANNUAL TILAPIA SHOOT	Blythe
5/6-8	NFAA National Marked 3-D Championship	Redding
5/14	Saturday 3D alternate between MMB and Santa Cruz	
5/14	Bowhunters Unlimited President's unmarked 3D 2 arrows	Stevens Creek
5/14-15	CBH/SAA Small Game Club: Annual Carp Shoot-	Lake Isabella
5/15	Diablo Bowmen Red Devil Cartoon Shoot 42 targets	Clayton
5/22	3-D Unmarked 30 targets	Black Mountain
June/July	3-D Unmarked Tournament Wednesday nights 5:30 PM	Black Mountain
5/28-29	CBH/SAA 2011 Broadhead State Championship	Ft. Tejon
6/12	State Hunter/Field	Mt. Madonna
7/17	Bug Shoot	Mt. Madonna

For additional information check the following web sites: CBH: www.CBASAA.net , NFAA: www.nfaa-archery.org, SAC: www.calarchery.com or contact Predator Archery (408-842-7733)

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