



Northern Virginia Archers

August 2023

The next Club activities:

Next shoot: 26 August

Member Meeting

(With voting for 2024 elections)

on September 7

Meeting Minutes 3 August

Message from the Board

As required in NORVA's by-laws, this Newsletter is a report to the membership of the Board's actions. It also constitutes the minutes from the July 2023 meeting.

Date of Meeting: August 3rd, 2023

Attendance: Gerry Petraitis, Joe Wolfe, Susan Erdos, Jason Middleton, Pat King, John Shea, Ken Wilkinson, Uwe Jacobs, Dave Grant, Jordan Faircloth

General Items

The August 2023 meeting was led by President Joe Wolfe.

Construction Update (John Shea)

On July 22, Fairfax County finally issued a permit to construct two pavilions. John Shea held a pre-construction meeting with Northcraft Builders on August 1. Construction is planned to start on August 14. They will build one over the Youth/Academy shooting line first, followed by one over the 20-40 yd practice line. Ken volunteered as the primary Club POC during the day for the builders to resolve any questions on the plans etc. to make sure the structures proceed as intended.

The Club should be prepared for some limited access/construction area for a couple of days whilst doing the footings as they will need to wait for the official inspections before proceeding.

It is likely to take two weeks for both structures. This should be completed in for the shoot on 26 August, and certainly there shouldn't be any open holes by then.

Ken and Joe were congratulated great work on the Clubhouse renovation.

Vice President Update (Ranges) (Ken Wilkinson)

Broadhead Range Relocation:

It was a great work party to move Broadhead Range in early July. The good turnout enabled the work to be done well and quickly, a great effort by all.

Field Course:

Field Course targets are being replaced this week - mixed both field and hunter target, swapping the order.

Ken plans on calling Farron at Hoffman Archery on how many block targets required and review budget with John to utilize group orders. Farron (from Joe) has 3D targets arriving tomorrow (4th August), which was confirmed. It was noted that it is a big order, and will probably need more than one truck load, but bigger club trailer is available. Farron needs 4-5 block targets to round out an order, and ones on hand at the Club already are earmarked for the Practice Range. It was noted that having a few more on hand for the coming winter would be a good investment, and can be covered with a tarp. An estimated cost of four targets is \$2,000-\$2,500 and the Treasurer confirmed that these targets have already been factored in the budget.

Secretary Update (James Libovicz)

With Jim away on holiday, there was no update on correspondence

Membership (Gerry Petraitis)

At this time, membership stands at 776 members.

The next orientation class for August is already full. Tentative date for Sept is identified (and invitations open up about 2 weeks before the class, using the online sign-up). At this time we have 776 members.

Uwe noted that some people online had been requesting and being advised of orientation class dates, rather than using the online registration. As such, those posts have been removed from our Facebook page to avoid circumventing the online process which allows enrollment for registration and membership databases (and an audit trail for the orientation)

Media (Uwe Jacobs)

Nothing significant to report, it is all going well. (See note above on orientation courses for Facebook management).

Treasurer's Report (John Shea)

As per table below (for month ending in July), we have received around \$2,800 income, and the significant expenses (a second bow press and draw board) cost about \$1,500 for the clubhouse, and we recently also renewed liability insurance for the next twelve months at a cost of around \$5,000, and thanks to Pat King and crew, the A/C and Heat pump split systems working well. With a balance around \$75,000 in the Checking account, projected balanced for the end of the year is just under \$15,000, so almost \$5,000 remains available for additional work this year.

NORVA Treasurer Monthly Report for July 2023

Description	Credits	Debits	Notes
Membership renewal dues	145.35		via Square
New member dues	2,827.57		via Square
Merchandise sales	244.10		\$50 cash, rest via Square
Fridge snacks/drinks income	138.25		\$90 cash, rest via Square
7/8 shoot fees, food & drinks	215.96		\$158 cash, rest via Square
7/8 shoot water & rolls		185.17	
7/8 shoot breakfast burritos		48.65	for volunteers
Clubhouse improve misc. HW		173.28	Reconfigure/augment benches & cabinets.
Animal paper targets		22.24	
EZ bow press & accessories		1,090.39	for 2nd clubhouse workstation
Archery Designz drawboard		222.24	for 2nd clubhouse workstation
Nails for target pins		27.80	
Pastry		75.00	for 7/9 new member orientation
Dunkin coffee		26.49	for 7/9 new member orientation
Breakfast burritos		26.55	for 7/9 new member orientation volunteers
Printer ink		84.78	
Liability insurance		5,088.19	Sadler annual premium
Pizza for 7/16 work party		128.62	Broadhead relocation
Clubhouse AC & heatpump		2,600.00	
iFastnet web & email service		19.99	
Dominion Energy		43.08	
Waste Management		273.79	6 yd container every two weeks
USS Dons Johns		242.69	Weekly service
Verizon		72.41	
Totals	3,571.23	10,451.36	
Month-end bank balance	75,211.53		
Projected year-end balance	14,797		Based on recurring expenses and budgeted work.
Desired minimum reserve	-10,000		
Available	4,797		For additional work this year.

Academy (Dave Grant)

Classes on Saturday, same time as the Hunters 4 Hungry, but manageable. This is similar to last year when the date changed.

Dave is going on travel when the shed work is on, so can we check the post installation makes sense for the Academy as well as the Club (Ken will monitor this). If the foundations work impact the range, a fallback option (backup plan) is to use the portable targets at back end of the Field Range for continue the Academy. However, the footings should be done by that Saturday

Otherwise, Academy rolling along as normal.

3-D Range (Blake Hodge)

Blake was not at the Meeting. Joe advised he is heading down on 5 August (all day) ahead of Belvoir to check the course is ready, pins ready to go. He advised we need to start looking for

another 3D Captain, Blake will be standing down. An interim solution is available, but **members are welcome to nominate.**

It is assumed the targets will be ready for collection tomorrow, but we may need to wait until Saturday afternoon to pick them up until we are ready to pick them up, and Farron has been advised.

Field Range (Ken Wilkinson)

This was covered by Ken in his range update. Nothing further to add.

Events (Susan Erdos)

-The club has received a couple of different requests about teaching Scouts, Bachelor party Birthday, and discussed with Committee members.

- The Scouts request was passed to Academy.
- The Birthday Party we were not proceeding with.

Hunters for the Hungry is coming up this weekend.

As Patrick and Susan were only ones volunteering at SummerFest at the Brewery, with a likely 6 hours teaching, at Joe's suggestion we will back out from supporting it

The meeting discussed options for 2024 for an occasional weekday shoot, but the sun has set (literally) on doing it this summer.

Tournaments (Jordan Faircloth)

The next club shoot (and final one for the year) is scheduled for 26 August with a 9:00 a.m. shotgun start. The format is Field/Hunter and 3-D.

Hunters for the Hungry. Score cards are ready for this weekend for Hunters for the Hungry. Volunteers are needed to help move wood to the winter stockpile tomorrow afternoon, 5PM (which was subsequently emailed out and posted on Facebook). NORVA will run the Iron Buck, Belvoir run the rest.

Joe advised that the same lady as did 2022 (Kat Michelli) will be at Hunters for the Hungry in the morning selling pastries as an independent seller from either clubs, and he was pretty sure she does cash and card for her delicious breakfast pastries.

August 26th will be the last (planned) shoot for the club-run for the year.

It was noted that there is an opportunity for a shoot at NORVA in Sept, with the Backcountry Hunters and Anglers event planned for 16 Sept.

New Business:

Signage was discussed for the Broadhead Range, with an agreement to proceed with metal signs using the design currently in place.

Signage for the Academy was subsequently discussed, noting that especially for late students the instructors aren't able to be at the carpark to direct people arriving. Dave thanked the club members for directing students down to the Academy. It was concurred by the meeting that better signage with clear directions was required to get students to the Academy (and avoid them stumbling into other areas of the range by accident)

The committee again thanked Joe for being President for the last eight years.

Club Officer Nominations for the Future Committee

Nominations have been received for all five positions. If there is no opposition, the nominee is accepted. If there are multiple nominees by the September meeting, a vote will occur at the next (September) meeting

Nominations presented to the August Membership Meeting for the 2024 Committee are:

President: Ken Wilkinson (nomination accepted)

Vice President: Patrick King (nomination accepted)

Secretary: James Libovicz (nomination accepted via text from his remote location)

Treasurer: John Shea (Accepted)

Membership Officer: Gerry Petraitis (Accepted)

All five positions have been (tentatively) filled and will be officially appointed in September.

Nominations will still be accepted until the September meeting, whereupon a vote will be taken for any positions being contested.

Otherwise, the positions will be enacted at the September Membership Meeting.

The New Committee takes effect from January 2024, and the 2024 President is responsible for filling **the remaining positions** for next year. The 2023 Committee will remain until the end of the calendar year.

Congratulations from the President (and attendees) on the tentative selection of the nominees.

Meeting closed 7:58pm



Beginning archery education – for free!

With a late edition last month, and a drive to get our nominations out to members, it is just a short one from your guest editor this month (and some quick photos from Hunter for the Hungry).

Some of you may be like me, who got the new member orientation, some recommendations to get further education, but have probably been more interested in tinkering with your bow and arrows than taking the time to do a course or some online study.

With a busy schedule, I looked at doing an online course for some bowhunting. Whilst it may not turn out the correct solution for local requirements, I have found it to be quite comprehensive and noted it would have been good to do when I first started. Not for bow hunting, but because it is:

- A free course which is self-paced and online, and
- Has some good information through both text, images, and video

Now, there is a few quizzes, but you don't have to do the final exam – think of it more as reinforcement. Once you pass the ten questions for each area, you can go back and forward (to where you got up to) as much as you want.

There's a section on long bows, recurve bows, compound bows, and also crossbows. The information provided at our orientation about checking arrows etc. is reinforced in this material. If you've ever wondered about the scoring areas on 3D targets (or how to predict them from afar), there's a section on that too (well, on the cavities in game – never fear, there's no dentists, only cavities).

One thing I like is the videos also have an instant transcript, so you have the option to watch the interesting videos, or just read the script, or do both (if watching in silence). This lets me go through the course later in the evening, or if up early (or waiting for the work computer to load). You could equally go through the course on the Metro.

So, as a free resource, which comes with some credibility and historical background, it's probably a good start (or refresher), even if thinking about visiting the Academy or other instruction. It is recognized by Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, for the Virginia Bowhunter safety education, and is linked to from the DWR Hunter Education page.

www.bowhunter-ed.com

For those interested, below are some screenshots of some of the topics covered. As can be seen, these aren't just exclusive to hunting, and much of the course in those first four sections is generic on archery, including some history on archery.

▼ **Unit 1: Introduction to Bowhunting**

- ▶ Topic 1: How Bowhunting Developed
- ▶ Topic 2: The Sport of Bowhunting
- ▶ Topic 3: Bowhunter Education

☰ [Unit 1 Quiz](#)

▶ **Unit 2: Understanding Wildlife**

▼ **Unit 3: Safe and Responsible Bowhunting**

- ▶ Topic 1: Archery and Bowhunting Safety
- ▶ Topic 2: Responsible Bowhunting
- ▶ Topic 3: Responsible Bowhunters Show Respect
- ▶ Topic 4: Bowhunting's Public Image

☰ [Unit 3 Quiz](#)

▼ **Unit 4: Know Your Bow and Arrow**

- ▶ Topic 1: The Bow
- ▶ Topic 2: Types of Bows
- ▶ Topic 3: The Arrow
- ▶ Topic 4: Arrow Points
- ▶ Topic 5: Matching Arrows With Your Bow
- ▶ Topic 6: Accessories
- ▶ Topic 7: Bowhunting Equipment Review

▼ **Unit 7: Methods of Bowhunting**

- ▶ Topic 1: Ways to Bowhunt
- ▶ Topic 2: Ground Bowhunting Methods
- ▶ Topic 3: Hunting From Elevated Stands
- ▶ Topic 4: Elevated Stand Safety
- ▶ Topic 5: Scents, Lures, Game Calls, and Decoys
- ▶ Topic 6: Bowfishing

☰ [Unit 7 Quiz](#)

▼ **Unit 8: Shot Placement and Recovery Techniques**

- ▶ Topic 1: Shot Impact
- ▶ Topic 2: Shot Placement
- ▼ Topic 3: Shot Strategy
 - ✓ [Plan and Practice Your Shot Strategy](#)
 - ✓ [Ethical Hunting and the Risks of Long Shots](#)
 - ✓ [Animation: Choosing the Proper Shot Angle](#)
 - ✓ [Consider Your Location](#)

Video: Taking Effective Shots ← You Are Here

▼ Topic 4: Choose the Proper Shot Angle

Shot Angles: Broadside

Shot Angles: Quartering-Away

Shot Angles: Quartering-Toward

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Hunters for the Hungry registration and warm up





Raffle prizes



Norva member Clayton shoots the first spinning raffle





First ever tournament hit for a youth archer, who was in this group



Visitor archer Robert (from MD) lets fly



I'm not sure this 35lb recurve shot from the red pin would work in real life, but I'll take the 11 points.



Oh deer, it's the Bail-out point, and the water station



Winner, Winner, come in spinner.
Norva member Jarrod gets the lucky arrow



Tasty lunch for the attendees, chicken shishkabob (& venison chilli)



And for those wondering because they haven't made it to the Range in the last month, here is what the new Broadhead lane looks like (from the 40 Yard marker)

