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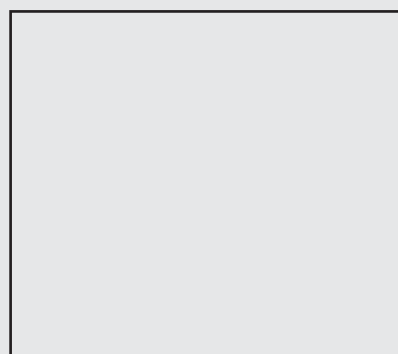
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of the author and do not necessarily reflect the position of the  
Traditional Bowhunters of BC  
Canadian Publications Agreement #40112003



# President's Report



Hello everyone. I do hope you are enjoying some of our fine BC summer weather. Get off the computer, away from the TV and get outside. I just love the four seasons that most of us are able to enjoy here in BC.

First and foremost in this issue, I really want to draw attention to the Provincial Championship shoot held the long weekend of May (as it always is) in Keremeos this year. What a fantastic time. I do believe it is the largest turnout (119) we have had in quite some time. We always hover around the 100 mark. More on the shoot itself later, but for now, congratulations to all those that work hard to bring it together. When we get involved we seem to meet so many like-minded people and spend time with people we might not otherwise.

As usual, Ernie pulled out all the stops to ensure we had a great event. Thanks to Ernie, thanks to Marie for supporting Ernie. And thanks to all the fantastic volunteers who worked so hard to bring it all together. Rod, Dennis, Kirk, Chris, George and Wilma, the boys from the Island who always put out for us. It was

great to see not only the youth (cubs and youth) coming out, but the youth that have been with us for some time and are now adults, in their twenties. We seem to focus on young people, but let's not forget those that are in their 20's and now considered adults.

*"It is not only great to see so many youth at our shoot, but also those young people that are now in their 20's. Holding on to instilled roots."*

Nice to see Zak is slipping a bit with his capacity to out-perform everyone. Congratulations to Kirk for taking the adult high score. Hunting a real target is different though Kirk. You know that. Right? Congratulations also to Eric Soth for taking the youth/cub high score. It was great to see so many youth including those now in their 20's still finding peace with the bow. Next year we will likely have a high adult ladies score as well.

The sound of the rising river took me back to my youth were I grew up next to a creek. It was great to enjoy the campfire with so many of you. I've camped next to Rod and Laura twice now over 4 years (Logan Lake and

Keremeos) and I've enjoyed them as neighbours. Good people. Thanks.

Speaking of our youth. When we look back to our roots, some of us grew up in hunting families some grew up in cities, some in the country, many of us started hunting with rifle. Yet somehow, our paths have brought us here, together. We are not alone. We are but one chapter of like-minded people on this planet. Somehow, through life's many choices, we find ourselves here. Let's not forget those roots and perhaps it might be fun to hear from others, about how they came to become a bowyer, to shoot a bow and/or hunt with a bow.

Hunting season will be upon us soon. I didn't get any LEH, but I hear from Monty that he and I will be chasing goats again in November. With an office job and airlines, it takes so much discipline to manage my fitness level. Given the chance to hunt, I'm not ready to let my level of fitness let me down. If you haven't started a training program, it's time to get on it. The older we get, the harder it is to get back in the saddle. Health and fitness, will lead to enjoyment and success.

On that note, I'll bid you farewell. Take time to read the magazine and enjoy the pictures of the fantastic weekend in Keremeos. Enjoy your hunting travels, where ever they may lead and remember, you are always welcome at my fire. 🐾



*All good things come to an end.  
Thanks Ernie for the hard work  
and the memories.*

# Letter's to the Editor



Hello:

Let me introduce myself. I am a scientist working for the NIH in Bethesda Maryland. I know very little (well, basically nothing) about primitive archery or bow making. The reason I am writing to you is that I have a son who is just turning 12 years old who lives in Victoria. He has been making his own bows and arrows from driftwood and sticks for several years. He has a great love of the outdoors and wood working.

I wondered if you might know someone in the Southern Vancouver Island area who would be able to give him some lessons in bowmaking or had any thoughts in general about how to encourage and develop this vocation.

I am also considering giving him lessons in archery , but to be honest it is not clear whether he would be interested in competitive archery or is more interested only in creating his own bows as a means to a self-sufficient life style.

Thanks for any advice and names you can think of.  
Sincerely

Sean Marrett  
Ph.D - Functional MRI Facility

Hi Sean,

My name is Jim Turner. I am the President of the Traditional Bowhunters of BC. We have a relatively strong membership that live in the Victoria area. In fact we just concluded a bow building course for about 10 12 – 15 year old youth in an area just north of Victoria. I have copied the gentleman that put on the course, Dennis Bowwick.

I also have a small group of members that live in the Victoria area itself. Most of these members are known for the quality of bow they make. In short, there is lots of bowmaking on the Island.

For us, when we speak of "traditional archery" it is a more a way of life than a sport. It sounds like your son might be heading down the road to finding this for himself. Coincidentally we are having our annual rendezvous/championships next weekend in Keremeos (about 8 hours from Victoria on the mainland). Your son would likely love this event. I don't think I know a young person that doesn't. It's a fantastic opportunity to talk to like minded people, look at new bows and arrows and the quality of workmanship everyone puts into their craft.

In addition, the absolute best bowyer I know lives on the Northern end of

Vancouver Island. If most of our members aren't shooting their own home-made bows they are shooting bows made by Chek-mate bows.

So, give this some thought. Feel free to ask more questions. I will ask around (probably not until next weekend though if that's ok) and see what plans we have in the Victoria area.

Does your son have access to transportation? And how flexible is it?

Thanks for the email.

JT

Hi Sean:

I'm Dennis Bonwick, the region 1 director of the TBBC, and I got an e mail from Jim Turner regarding your son and his desire of learning about bows and arrows. It can be a lifelong passion and I must confess that it is addictive. The more you learn the more you want to know and then help others.

As Jim said,we did have a bowbuilding class about a month ago and 11 boys and 1 girl came away with a red oak bow backed with hickory, complete with string and some arrows. We even gave them a short lesson and at the end of the day they were shooting and loving it. We won't be having another till next spring but if your boy is interested maybe we could work at getting him in.

We will be having an archery shoot over at Port Alberni on Aug. 9&10th. It is a 3D shoot in which we lay out a trail and have life size 3 dimensional animals at shooting stations. It is safe as safety is number one, right after having a good time.

I have a grandson and his friend in Victoria and I hope they will be able to come to our shoot as kids have alot of fun. I also could line up a bow for your son or he could share another bow.

If I can be of further help let me know.  
Dennis

# Vice President's Report



joined we have met the best people, been to the greatest 3D shoots in some of the most beautiful setting in the province. What more could we ask for? The camaraderie and the friendships that are made are life lasting experiences.

I started shooting my Ed Kellow long bow on a dare, and haven't looked back, late season white-tail hunting at Rendell Creek in the Christian Valley, blacktails and black bear in the Conuma Valley here on Vancouver Island. Maybe a Roosevelt Elk if I'm lucky in the draw. Turkey hunting near Top of the World Park I'd love to hook up with some of the Kootenay boys and chase Rocky Mountain Elk, and Moose hunting with my sons near Quesnel, That's what I dream about.

My first endeavor as your new VP was the 2008 Rendezvous on the Ashnola River near Keremeos. The lower

Similkamen First Nations land was a perfect setting for our best shoot ever. It was the biggest turn out yet. There were lots of kids and newcomers. We had nothing but fun and prizes.

We are planning next years Rendezvous on Vancouver Island. Exact location isn't decided, but I know the Region 1 boys, and we will put on a good one. "If we build it, they will come."

I am honored and flattered to have been chosen as you new VP. I look forward to working with everyone to make BC the best in bow hunting. Thank you!

"Pluck Yew"

Rod Taylor (The Islander)

I'd like to take this opportunity to officially introduce myself as your new Vice President. My wife Laura ("The Queen of Spades") and I have been members of TBBC Region 1 chapter for about 11 years. Since we

## NOTICE! TO HUNTERS

To enter, hunt over or trap in cultivated land, posted land or private property without the owner's permission is committing an offence.

It is the responsibility of the hunter or trapper to be aware of the status of the land they hunt and to get permission from the land owner before accessing private land.

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# Major Regulation Changes for 2008-2009

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## Region 1

### Major Regulation Changes for 2008-2009

1. Expansion of the Sooke-metchosin no shooting area, see map A5
2. New youth bow only season for antlerless mule (black-tailed) deer in MU 1-10
3. Addition of 11 conservancies to the Central Coast, all of which are open to hunting and trapping

## Region 2

### Major Regulation Changes for 2008-2009

1. Adjustments to Management Unit Boundaries between 2-12/2-5 and 2-8/2-16
2. New open season from April 1 to June 15 for wolves in MUs 2-6 and 2-11
3. Extended hunting season in Skagit Valley Park

## Region 3

### Major Regulation Changes for 2008-2009

1. No new Regulations changes have occurred in Region 3 for 2008/09

## Region 4

### Major Regulation Changes for 2008-2009

1. New Oct 1-Oct 15 bow or shotgun only turkey season
2. Extended 6 pt bull elk season in MU 4-18
3. Compulsory Inspection for all moose harvested during LEH in Region 4
4. Creston white-tailed deer bow only season expanded to include the entire MU 4-06

If you would like to review and comment on proposed hunting regulations for the Kootenay Region, please visit: [wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/kor/wld/Proposed\\_reg\\_changes.html](http://wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/kor/wld/Proposed_reg_changes.html). Proposed changes will be posted in mid September. The deadline for comments will be December 1, 2008

# Major Regulation Changes for 2008-2009

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## Region 5

### Major Regulation Changes for 2008-2009

1. Adjustments of the Upper Dean River Main Haul Road Motor Vehicle Prohibition
2. Addition of 15 Conservancies, all of which are open to hunting and trapping

## Region 6

### Major Regulation Changes for 2008-2009

1. Reductions in late fall mule (black-tailed deer and white-tailed deer seasons)
2. Extended mountain goat season in MUs 6-3 and 6-11
3. Addition of 15 Conservancies, all of which are open to hunting and trapping



# Major Regulation Changes for 2008-2009

## Region 7A

### Major Regulation Changes for 2008-2009

1. Removal of compulsory inspection requirement for elk
2. Extended calf moose season in MUs 7-16 and 7-23
3. Antlerless white-tailed deer and mule deer seasons on and within 2000 metres of private land in MUs 7-2 to 7-5, 7-7 to 7-10, 7-12 to 7-15, 7-17 and 7-24 from Nov 10 - Nov 20

## Region 7B

### Major Regulation Changes for 2008-2009

1. Establishment of an Agricultural Zone Hunt (Zone A of 7-20) for elk, white-tailed deer and mule (black-tailed deer. Zone A of 7-20 encompasses MUs 7-23 to 7-34 and portions of MUs 7-20, 7-21, 7-45 and 7-46 (See Map H27)
2. Extended bow only mule (black-tailed) deer and white-tailed deer seasons with no antler restriction in MUs 7-20, 7-21, 7-23 to 7-35 and 7-44 to 7-47
3. Increased hunting opportunities for white-tailed deer in MUs 7-19, 7-49, 7-50, 7-55 and 7-56
4. Increased opportunity to hunt elk in MU 7-52

### Major Regulation Changes for 2008-2009

1. General open season for 6 pt bull elk in MU 8-15 from Sept 25-Oct 20
2. Increased hunting opportunities for white-tailed deer in MUs 8-3 to 8-7
3. Addition of two new parks, both open to hunting and trapping.

## Region 8

### **NOTICE! TO HUNTERS**

#### Private Land Deer and Elk Opportunities

In 2008/09 the Peace Region will expand its pilot program that coordinates public hunting opportunities on a limited number of private land holdings in Zone A of MU 7-20 (see Map H27). As in 2007, time slots for some private land holdings can be reserved in advance on a "first come, first served" basis. The system allows hunters to gain access onto properties that are enrolled in the program. It conveys no other privileges and hunters must comply with all relevant hunting regulations.

After a successful pre-hunt meeting with the hunters will be provided with a map that depicts the 'hunt area' boundaries and shows where legal hunting may, or may not, take place. Participating hunters will be required to demonstrate that they hold \$1,000,000 in public liability and property damage insurance. For information please contact the Regional office in Fort St. John, toll free, (866) 751-4868 (HUNT)

# Grizzly Bear Population

Figure 1. Grizzly Bear Population Units and their conservation status in British Columbia.

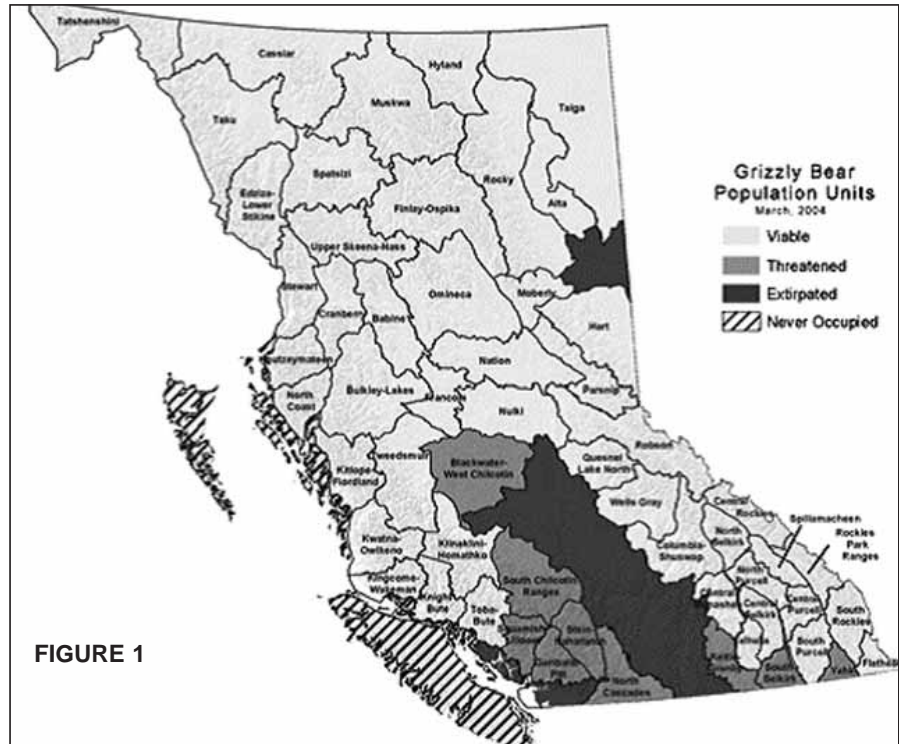
## Population Estimation

The working group chose three different methods to estimate the current number of Grizzly Bears in different areas of the province

Figure 2.

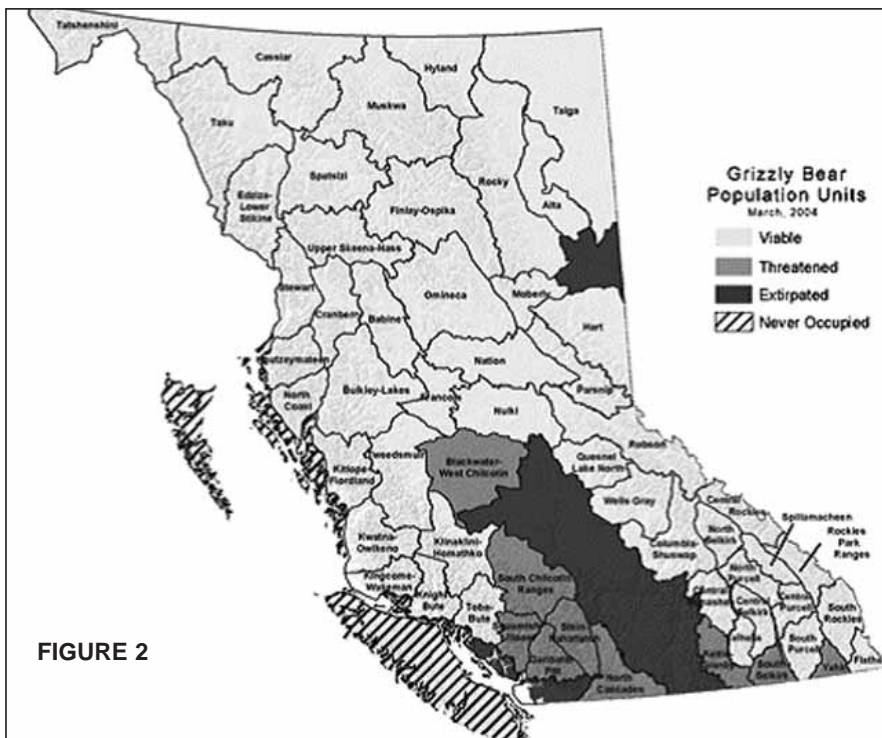
The choice of method was guided by a preference for objectivity and transparency and the potential of the method to be broadly applied. A multiple regression model (Mowat et al. 2004a) was preferred over direct inventory results (e.g. Mowat and Strobeck 2000, Boulanger et al. 2002), which, in turn, was preferred over the expert-based approach (Hamilton and Austin 2002, Hamilton and Austin 2004).

The revised Grizzly Bear popula-



tion estimate for British Columbia in 2004 was 16,887 bears (Table 1). A quantitative estimate of the precision of the final estimate is

not possible because the expert-based approach does not estimate uncertainty. The Panel recommended that the Ministry switch from estimating and reporting the minimum population estimate and begin reporting the best population estimate. The estimate of 13,834 bears in 2002 (Hamilton and Austin 2002) was a minimum estimate for the province and therefore cannot be directly compared to the current best estimate of almost 17,000 bears. However, the midpoint of the 2001 estimate (19,389 bears) and the current estimate can be compared. Although that comparison indicates fewer bears currently, no conclusions about population trend should be drawn because of the uncertainty surrounding both estimates. Similarly, the 13,000 minimum bear estimate of Banci (1991) had an unknown degree of uncertainty and cannot be used for establishing trend. We cannot




# Grizzly Bear Population (continued)

make any conclusion about the trend in the number of grizzly bears in British Columbia from our data. The current number of grizzly bears in the province is 83% of what the environment is capable of supporting and 84% of the GBPU's have populations that are above 50% of capability.

British Columbia Grizzly Bear

(Ursus arctos)  
 Population Estimate 2004 by  
 A.N. Hamilton, Forest Wildlife  
 Biologist  
 British Columbia Ministry of  
 Water, Land and Air Protection  
  
 D.C. Heard, Senior Wildlife  
 Specialist  
 British Columbia Ministry of  
 Water, Land and Air Protection

M.A. Austin, Large Carnivore  
 Specialist  
 British Columbia Ministry of  
 Water, Land and Air Protection  
 Prepared for British Columbia  
 Ministry of Water, Land and Air  
 Protection  
 June 14. 



**Grizzly bears are neither threatened nor endangered in British Columbia. They are classified as vulnerable**

*The BC Wildlife Branch estimates that 10,000 to 13,000 Grizzly bears live in British Columbia; conservative estimates which are being corroborated by active research at 20 different research sites in the province.*

*There have been criticisms of these estimates, but no other jurisdiction in North America has better methodologies, and none are as satisfied with their population estimates, particularly in such heavily-forested habitats.*

*Grizzly bears are neither threatened nor endangered in British Columbia. They are classified as vulnerable (see table below), mainly because of social intolerance by humans to living in close proximity to bears, and agricultural and industrial damage to, and fragmentation of, important habitats.*



# Dust and Chips



*Left to right Back row: Ross Bowen, Will Bowen, Dennis Bonwick, Chris Ireland, John Burns, Helmut Bose.  
Middle Row: Riley Varkonta, Alex Madarasz, Kaitlin Ireland, Steven Bowen, Jacob Rogers  
Front Row: Jamie White and Dog Kayla*

By Dennis Bonwick

As an older hunter I've always had an interest in what drives young people. Things, I hold dear to myself (hunting, fishing) are not really a top priority with kids today. It's important to me, that we keep the hunt alive. That we instill an excitement in young people to ensure we have a future in hunting. So I set about (again) scheming a way to get kids excited in hunting.

My idea was born after reading of a fellow writing on the website, stickbow.com. He and a few others helped a group of kids build their bows. I liked the idea and I thought it might work. What I needed was help.

I was at our annual turkey shoot in Nanaimo and spotted Helmut

Bose, one of our island bowyers. I had no idea how receptive he would be of my proposal of doing the same thing here. I carefully started to lay out my plan and I was really encouraged when he said, "count me in" even before I had finished my proposal. He even said lets use my shop.

Helmut and I started to put a plan together. As we talked for a few minutes Jamie White, who also has considerable bow making experience, walked by. I quickly grabbed him and Helmut and I ran the idea by him. Again, 'great idea' was the response. I knew we were on a roll. It seems everyone has a desire to help young people when it comes to archery and to hunting.

Coincidentally we open our local turkey shoot to the Boy Scouts.

It is great to see so many young people shooting. But shooting with borrowed bows and club equipment. I also noticed the bows were too big for some and too small for others. Ah huh. We have young people. Step One complete.

John and Chris, the two scout leaders, thought "what a great idea". The date was set and the wheels set in motion.

Jamie did a lot of shopping for the perfect red oak boards and Helmut picked the backing out which was hickory. I began gathering the finishing equipment. The three of us met at Helmut's workshop and cut all the boards into 2 in. strips and each of us took some home to glue up and glue handles on the boards.

When the chosen day was getting close I was apprehensive as the weather had been very cold and wet up till then. While watching the weather channel they called for the best day so far this year and it was our day. They were correct.

The morning of April 12 saw the sun coming up and a group of smiling yet apprehensive boys, one girl along with their fathers arrive right on time. After about one minute of introductions and safety tips, they began in earnest. There was a cloud of dust and chips flying and two hours later the first bow popped out.

Jamie says, "Here she is Den, take this guy out and teach him to

## Dust and Chips (Continued)

shoot!" And shoot he did. This inspired the rest of them to be the next to finish, and in all we completed 11 bows.

I should also add that these bows were going to need strings. Jim

end. I had made a few dozen arrows and Helmut had a target and some 3D animals out in his back yard that had a lot of new holes in them when we were done.



*Alex Madarasz*



*Riley Varkonta.*

By all the grins and smiles it was a great experience for the kids and I'm sure for the parents alike.

As for me, one boy, as he was saying good-bye, shook my hand and said, "this is the most awesome thing I've ever done." As I drove out of Helmut's driveway I smiled to myself and thought this is a good thing we did.

materials to this effort, it was a day that each of us felt a reward. We can get kids off the Xbox and the cell phone, we can get kids hunting in all kinds of ways. The way I know how and the way many know how, is through making bows and getting youth into archery.

Calvin took care of that for us by making 11 strings in the week prior to our bow-making week-

It is important to thank all the men who contributed time and





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# Traditional Bowhunters Hold Rendezvous at Pow Wow Grounds

*This story was written by Steve Arstad, Editor – Keremeos / Okanagan Falls Review*

The traditional bowhunters of B.C. held their annual meet this weekend at the Pow wow grounds on the Ashnola.

The bowhunters enjoyed some fine spring weather at the campground as all ages took part in the event. This is not the first time the bowhunters have congregated in the Keremeos area. In 2001 and 2002 the group also staged the event here.

Using life sized images of wild game, thirty targets are set up in the bush on the benches above the campground. The contestants, depending on their category, take aim at the targets a set distance away and scores are kept to be entered on a scoreboard back at the campground. Many valuable donated prizes are available to be one over the course of the three day event.

"We have 112 participants this weekend, spanning all age groups

from kids six years old and up," explained an enthusiastic Jim Turner, President of the Traditional Bowhunters of B.C. "This weekend is the largest turnout in seven years. There are a lot of kids participating, which is very encouraging."

There are several different classifications of bowhunter, including men's longbow, recurve, self bows (bows made by the participants), ladies longbow, ladies recurve, cubs (to 12) , and youth (14 and up)

"The kids shoot very well," Jim noted. "We even have a wheelchair contestant this year - he can reach most of the targets on his own, and for the one or two that are not accessible, other members help him reach them."

The bowhunters have always met on the long weekend. Last year they were in Trail, and previous to that, they were up the coast.

"We strive to select a unique location," Jim said.

The traditional bowhunters of B.C.'s philosophy is to maintain the heritage of the hunt from a traditional perspective. They publish a quarterly magazine through volunteer efforts. The money goes to wildlife enhancements, and the annual meet also generates funding towards worthwhile charities like the Children's Hospital, bursaries and other donations.

"Our primary focus is youth," Turner said. "Our membership is made up of people who care about the communities they live in, and the lifestyle they have. Getting out in meets like this one is beneficial to most kids - it gets them away from the television, or the X-box, and into a healthy lifestyle."

The organization of bowhunters promotes traditional values and conservation principles and ethics. "We want to collaborate with other interest groups and governments in issues of mutual interest," Turner added. "We do not want to be adversarial."

Steve Arstad



# Championships is About More than High Scores



*By Ken Davidson*

Each year the TBBC Flagship Championships take place on the long weekend of May and this year took place in Keremeos along the banks of the Ashnola River . The area is known for it's unique scenery , mountain wildlife and is steeped in native History. The course was well layed out with a mixture of ranges , so called "gimees", intimidation by the biggest hardest boulders on this planet and several "what in heck am I going to do with this one" targets . It aso included two moving targets which many would like to forget.

The weather was rather hot but several squads adapted by being

on the course by 6:30 and after 28 targets looked forward to the appropriate beverage.

Of the 120 attendees several groups caught my eye . One of the notable squads consisted of a wonderful band of "Princesses" I encountered on the mountain side od the course . Smiles and happy Chatter were all around as they allowed us to shoot through .These woodland "Princesses " were not only charming and bubbling with enthusiasm but as demonstrated by one of them were as tough as a ragged Grizzly Bear . You see one of them Michaela cut her leg on a sharp boulder . Seven stiches later this steller Princess was back on the course with her cohorts .They were Matie

, Megan , Michaela and Mom Sue Porter .In that group was another Princess flitng about by the name of Maddison.

Another notable squad contained three generations of joval Gowards headed by the Papa Bear Fred . As usual one of the youngest "Calvin" outshot them all and the tradition of "the Gowards" cleaning up on the raffle and door prizes continued.

Once again Randy Roberts attended and brought along his "famous/infamous?" PIT CREW . This crew simply does what it takes to get Randy in his motorized chair around the course and they insist the front wheel of his cart must touch the shooting

# Championships is About More than High Scores cont'd

stake. This close knit gang sets the standard as far as laughter on the course and fireside merriment is concerned . Some of this gang are Randy Roberts ,Greg and Bert Bertwistle, Bob Walczak, Bruce Reed, Wayne Young and Peter Bushkin.

The primary reason this event is so successful is due to "character" of each and everyone , some as defined above .

Thank you to those who organized and set up this great event .



As always I am looking forward to the next May long weekend  
Cheers,  
Greybark 🏹



# “Traditional Bowhunting.... Take the Journey”

## Winner's of the bow draws:



Sharon Storizynski enthusiastically accepts the Chekmate longbow from VP Rod Taylor.



Bowyer Greg Birtwhistle (left) crafted this bow and Pat Wiens gratefully takes it off his hands. Thanks Greg for the donation and thanks Pat for your consistent hard work.



Joel Tahara is looking forward to shooting this Chekmate recurve. Rod is wishing it was him. Great work on the shoot Rod.

## Winner's of the Youth and Adult Top Score:



Eric Soth takes the high score in the youth category. Congratulations Eric.



Kirk Joyal shooting a Chekmate longbow outlasted and out played recurve shooter Ray Quadvlieg for the top adult score. Kirk will be returning the sheep horn carving next year where it will be placed up for top honours again.



Kirk and Eric share the moment.



The TBBC donated \$1,000 to the Keremeos Cawston Sportsman Association. In partnership led by the KCSA the money will go to the purchase of archery equipment for the local high school.

# Recipe for a Perfect Weekend

Once again the sunny Similkameen shone through by offering the TBBC some awesome weather for their Championship Shoot. This is third time the shoot has been held at the Pow Wow grounds in the Ashnola Valley. The river was slightly higher than normal but there were no casualties that we know of. Nancy Qualtier treated us all like royalty and made sure we had what we needed.

The championships are becoming more than a 3D championship shoot. Many participants arrive 2 or 3 days ahead of time. Some a week in advance. A great opportunity to explore the local area, try some fishing or canoeing. Most of us are anxious to get to the site and get set up, so we can enjoy the social activities that life prevent us from frequenting. The shoot is becoming a rendezvous.

This year, the primary organizer was Ernie Marven, and what a fantastic performance he gave. Ernie was supported by his family, Marie and Cole. Of course Cole felt obligated to help out as last year his Dad ensured Cole harvested an elk and a deer with his bow. How could he turn Dad down?

Rod Taylor really stepped up

and helped Ernie carry the shoot off. Chris and Kirk hauled the targets over and Dennis took care of most of the novelty shoots. Special thanks to Shawn and Pat for all their help. Shawn is an awesome sight pounding stakes in with a maul in one hand. As mentioned we had lots of help putting the course up and lots of help taking it down which made everyone's life a lot easier. As always,



*The TBBC enjoyed it's largest turnout in 5 years. The Ashnola Pow Wow grounds proved to be the ideal setting for a great shoot*

there were bows donated, and prizes won, and the guys from the Island did the lions share of the grunt work. Most importantly, most of us made a few new friends.

The weather was fantastic. We are bush-like people so I'm sure we would have survived if we had met with inclement weather. But that just wasn't how it happened. Our Ancestors in care of the weather ensured a great weekend of weather for us. A seafood sampling on Saturday night kept people up a little



*Monty Evin, graciously donates a \$1,150 cheque from the RMEF to the TBBC.*



# Recipe for a Perfect Weekend cont'd

later than they should have but it didn't affect the scores. Rob Fleming handed over the Crooked arrow Sheep Horn trophy on Monday to Kirk Joyal. All in all it was a fantastic weekend which is attributed to the wonderful membership who are forgiving, understanding and a great crowd to hang with.

The TBBC use the Championships as a primary source of revenue and this year, we profited quite nicely. Just as you thought we were heading to the bank with the cash, it's important for you to know what we do with that money. This year, we have taken \$1,000 and partnered with the Keremeos Cawston Sportsmans Association and will be contributing to the refurbishing of the archery equipment for the high school. In addition, we will be giving a \$500 donation to Kevin



*Rob Fleming receives congratulations for the fine effort last year with a commemorative trophy for his high score at the 07 Trail Championships.*

Evans of Jaffrey (East Kootenay). Kevin will be attending the Beijing Olympics in the archery discipline. And finally, we are committing funds to purchase a large selection of new 3D targets for upcoming shoots. You can shoot these new targets next year at the TBBC

Championships in Courtney.

What a wonderful sight to see wild California bighorns right above our foam bighorns. The turnout was fantastic and it was nice to see the TBBC complaint can empty as usual.



# “In Every Competition, there is a winner”



TBBC Vice-President Rod Taylor congratulates Cubs. Tobias Kolmel (centre) took top honours with Gavin Goward (left) second and Hayden Wassiyk Third.



Fun in flinging sticks Britt Murendeela (left) dominated the youth girls category while Bryla Evin Took second.



Great to see youth at the shoot. Top honours to winner Eric Soth (right). With M. Colvey and C. Lamb placing second and third. Everyone enjoyed a great weekend of camping and being outdoors.



Members Dennis Bonwick (left) and Norm Anderson proved whose self made stick was the better on this particular occasion with Dennis taking the primitive bow category.



Ladies Recurve Mifi Joli (right) won the event followed by, Laura Taylor (centre) second and Kim McLehnan (left) third. Toby (dog-front row) did his part too.



VP Rod keeps his distance from the dominant women of the long bow category. Sharon Cunningham (left) took the Ladies longbow with Elaine Quintal (right) second and Chris Joyal third.



Ray Qadvlieg proved it's the shooter not the bow by moving from his usual long-bow category to the recurve and taking top spot in Men's Recurve. Jim Murphy (left) placed second and Kim Wong (right) 3rd rounded out the top three spots of a heavily and closely contested category.



TBBC Vice-President Rod Taylor congratulates Cubs. Tobias Kolmel (centre) took top honours with Gavin Goward (left) second and Hayden Wassiyk Third.



Male bonding is often accomplished through the thrill of competition. The Men's longbow category was topped by Kirkj Joyal (left) followed by good friends Lorne Nichol (centre, second) and Lenny Brissette 3rd.

The TBBC always have interesting novelty shoots and this year was no exception. Dennis Bonwick worked hard to oversee the novelty shoots. Thanks Dennis. The "William Tell" shoot Connie Sorensen. The "Canoe Shoot" was won by Mike and Bill (sorry guys, no last names to protect the innocent J). The popular "Hunter Round" was won by Ticker Quintal and Doug Bell and finally the ever popular "Long Shot" event was won by Tobias Kolmel

# Environmentalists decry hunting's record toll on B.C. grizzlies

**MARK HUME**

*From Tuesday's Globe and Mail  
April 15, 2008 at 3:57 AM EDT  
VANCOUVER —*

A record number of grizzly bears were killed in British Columbia last year, according to new figures released yesterday by environmental organizations.

"It's kind of shocking ... very disturbing," Chris Genovali of the Raincoast Conservation Society said of provincial government statistics that show 430 grizzly bears died in 2007, bringing the total to nearly 11,000 killed in the province since 1975.

"I don't think you can call that a sustainable harvest," said Mr. Genovali, whose group has long been lobbying for a moratorium on B.C.'s grizzly bear hunt.

The numbers could rekindle the bear-hunting debate in B.C., an issue that has brought the province international criticism. Typically, about 300 grizzly bears are killed each year in B.C., but the numbers fluctuate, ranging from a low of 97 in 1975 to last year's high of 430. "We were very surprised to see the numbers up for last year," said Mr. Genovali, whose organization won a court order in 2004 that allowed it to pry bear mortality statistics out of the province.

While the 1975 to 2003 figures had previously been released, the latest information, for 2004-2007, was obtained only when the David Suzuki Foundation requested it recently, citing the earlier court ruling.

Mr. Genovali said the numbers show that, from 2004 to 2007, 1,391 grizzly bears were killed in B.C., which, because of its salmon rivers and mountainous wilderness, is recognized as the heart of the grizzly's remaining habitat in North America.

The vast majority of the bears -

about 88 per cent - were shot by hunters, while animal control measures, poaching and other unspecified causes accounted for the remaining mortalities.

Mr. Genovali said he is concerned because B.C. doesn't know how many grizzly bears there are in the province. "These bears are being taken out of a population that we don't believe the government has a handle on," he said. "This is the opposite of the precautionary principle."

He said population estimates for grizzly bears in British Columbia have changed, going from 6,660 animals in 1972 to about 13,000 in 1990 to about 17,000 today. He said those estimates aren't scientific.

Environment Minister Barry Penner said he hadn't seen the latest data, but noted the government has imposed regional hunting closings whenever game biologists raised concerns about sustainability.

"Our commitment is to a science-based approach," he said. "My top concern is sustainability ... [and] my preference is to err on the side of conservation."

Faisal Moola, science director of the David Suzuki Foundation, said the government estimates the grizzly bear population by determining how much bear habitat there is and then extrapolating a number based on how many bears should be found there.

"But they are not actually out there counting bears," he said. "Leading bear biologists are very, very critical of this approach because of the level of imprecision."

Mr. Moola said grizzly bears are designated by the national Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada, the federal Species At Risk Act and the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species as a species of special concern.

Since 2003, the European Union has

banned the import of grizzly bear trophies from B.C. because of concerns the hunt is not sustainable.

"It doesn't make sense to be hunting a species that is at risk," Mr. Moola said.

He called on the government to establish no-hunting zones for grizzly bears in B.C.

"The government has made some progress in establishing protected habitat. They did set aside areas in the Great Bear Rainforest recently... but hunting is still allowed in those areas, so we have a situation where the habitat is protected, but the bears aren't. That doesn't make any sense," he said.

But Scott Ellis, general manager of the Guide Outfitters Association of B.C., said the province is doing a good job of managing grizzly bears. "The grizzly bear harvest is at a sustainable level," he said.

He said he didn't have any hard figures to back it up, but anecdotal reports from guides around the province indicate "there's more grizzly bears than ever out there." He said guide outfitters hunt in designated areas that range in size from a few hundred square kilometres to a few thousand square kilometres.

But each guide, he said, will take only one or two bears a year. Clients pay about \$10,000 to go on a grizzly bear hunt.

B.C. residents can also hunt grizzlies without hiring a guide.

The B.C. Wildlife Federation, which has about 30,000 members in the province, believes the grizzly bear harvest is being correctly managed.

"We believe that hunting as it is currently practised in British Columbia does not threaten any grizzly bear population," the organization states in a position paper. "It is our opinion that grizzly bear populations continue to thrive and are not endangered ... "

# Making Basic Arrows

## Part 4: Nocks and Points

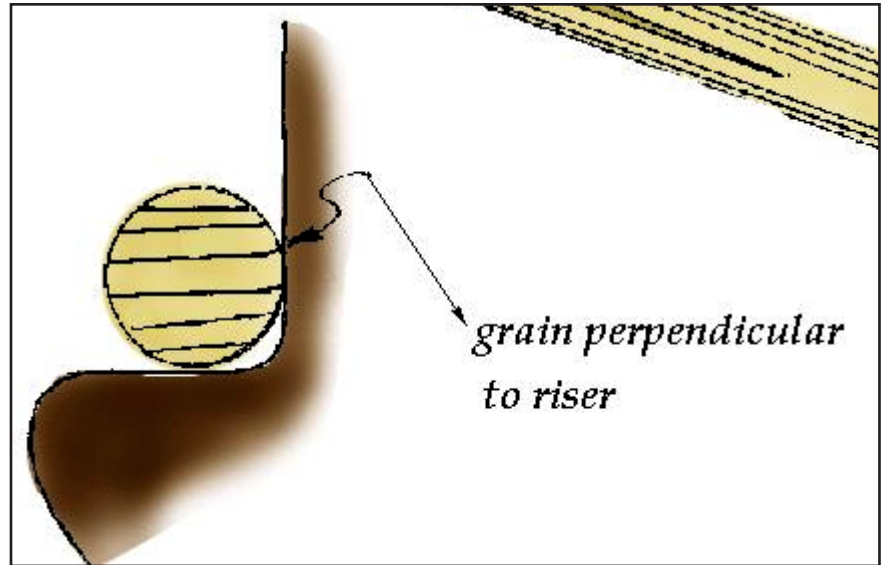
Such a simple thing, putting the nocks and points on a shaft, one might think it hardly worth more than a moments notice. I warn you though, do it wrong and you will curse the day you felt so lazy.

### Taper Taper

On normal wood arrows, the points and nocks are glued on to the shaft by first tapering the shaft with a proper tapering tool and then aligning them correctly so that they are straight and all on the same way. To do this correctly you must first taper the shafts correctly, making sure the angle and alignment of the taper are perfect. for if they are not, the nocks and points cannot be mounted properly and the arrow flight will be poor and erratic.

There are a few good tools out there, varying in price from under \$10 to over \$100, which one you want depends on how many arrows you plan on making and the relative quality you desire of your shafts. For the time being I use a midlevel model for about \$25, it is reversible, so it can cut both 5 degree and 11 degree tapers. It comes with screw on guides for all 3 standard shaft sizes and the blades are replaceable. Eventually I will move on to an electric grinder designed to do the job faster and more accurately as well as more expensively.

Now when cutting the tapers, you must make sure the guide fits exactly to the shaft and is as close to parallel to the long axis of the shaft as possible; this will make sure that the taper is a consistent radial reduction along the axis of the taper. I am sorry, there is no simpler way to say this but until I can make a proper drawing it will have to do.



One way to tell the two tapers apart is that the nock is a short steeper taper at 11 degrees and the point is a longer, less severe taper at 5 degrees.

### Nocks and more decisions

Before you have mounted your nocks, you will have decided what sort of nocks to use. ***This is important so don't roll your eyes at me.*** Do you want a snap nock, which will hold on to the string ever so slightly or do you want a speed nock which will not hold the string at all? I recommend a snap nock for a beginner and as well for more experienced archers. There are few things more annoying than having your arrow fall off the bow as you draw it, it slows you down and gives everybody a chance to snicker at you while on the line. No matter what you choose I also suggest you get a model with an indicator tab so that you can tell by feel which fletch is the cock and do not have to look. (this of course assumes that you lined up the indicator and the cock when you fletched the arrow)

When gluing the nock on, first determine which way the grain runs. I like to mount my nocks perpendicular to the grain so that I lessen the chances of splitting the arrow if I split a nock on the string. Also, if you can imagine how a 2x4 maintains it's stiffness in one orientation but bends relatively easily if you turn it 90 degrees. Well the same thing happens to an arrow, it is stiffer when you bend it with the grain than across it. I have found that this is the most efficient way to mount my nocks, the arrows fly nicely and many other so called experts agree with me or I with them, however that works.

Just so long as you always glue them on the same way to maintain consistency across the set, which way probably matters little.

**Note:** I like to use a TrueFlight glue to mount the nocks and feathers and heat melt for points, so do yourself a favor and taper only the nock end before you dip the shafts. This will allow a prettier assembly of nock to shaft and the C-A will bond nocks to the sealer. Then you can taper the head once the shaft is finished so that you

# Making Basic Arrows (part 4: continued)

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have a clean wood surface to bond the point to.

## Pointing the way

In target archery, we only use field points or bullet points, no broad heads, bodkin points or other cool things some folks can think up. Trust me, I tried. I have been the cause of more than one hold called on the line while I was informed that some ghastly flam-berged 4 inch bladed head was not allowed on this range and no argument about wanting to be a member of the horde and therefore it could be period would be allowed. Oh well, so much for my pumpkin splitters. Anyway, field points only is the rule and my personal feelings aside, that is what we will do.

This is possibly the only dangerous part about making arrows, we will use heat melt glue to mount steel to wood so the point will be real hot while we are working with them. For that matter, any glue that oozes out will be not only hot but sticky so if it gets on you it hurts and won't get off. Make sure that you can comfortably work with an open flame and hot stuff before you get started here, if you are a minor, making sure your parental's are with you would not be a bad idea.

We will need:

- A candle or propane torch.
- Good heat melt glue.
- Points and tapered shafts.
- Good heat insulated pliers.
- Some 0000 Steel wool.
- A scrap of wood or thick leather.
- A bowl of very cold water.  
A wide stable bowl is best.

## Preparing the points.

The points are made of steel,

at least they should be, anyway when they are manufactured they are coated with a thin oil to prevent rust. Oil and glue do not mix well so you will have to clean the points so that the glue will bond them to the shaft. I like putting the points in a big bowl and mix in a liberal amount of some grease cutting dish soap and boiling water. Stir the mess up and then let it sit for a while and let the oil dissolve. After about an hour or so, rinse the points in more boiling water until you are sure there is no soap or oil left on the points. pour the points into a colander and drain well. They should be as hot as the water was so if you get most of the water off them they should dry of their own accord fairly fast.

Now find yourself a thin rod that will fit inside the point and wrap some fine steel wool around the head like a q-tip then scour inside the point well to roughen the surface. This should make sure that those "ratsafatin" points don't come off in the target too often.

Take the shafts in hand and melt a small amount of glue on to the narrow part of the taper, you would be amazed at just how little is actually used. To get the right amount takes a little practice, I find a thin layer, 1/4 inch wide around the taper tip is more than enough and infact probably too much. Repeat this step for each of the shafts and put them aside for the moment.

Once all the shafts have been glued up, take one and press a point on it as far as it will go with your fingers. This allows you to heat up the point inside without the risk of burning the end of the shaft and discoloring it or having

to handle a hot point. Heat the point over the flame until the point moves about on it's own, you should see some of the glue bubbling out of the point. At this point press the head onto the scrap of wood or leather as hard as you may while spinning it, you want to force the point on as far as you can and squeeze out the extra glue while it is still hot. when it seems that you can press it on no farther and the glue is cooling, put the head into the cold water to flash harden the glue and keep it there till the head is cold.

Wipe the water away from the point and spin it carefully to see if the head is on straight, if it is, fine. Trim off the extra glue and move on to the next. If it isn't straight, you have to reheat the point and do it again till you get it right. Don't heat the point so hot this time though, it really isn't needed, just hot enough to move the head and align it properly. Cool and inspect it, repeating until perfect then move on to the next one.



# Making Basic Arrows

## Part 5: Finishing the shafts

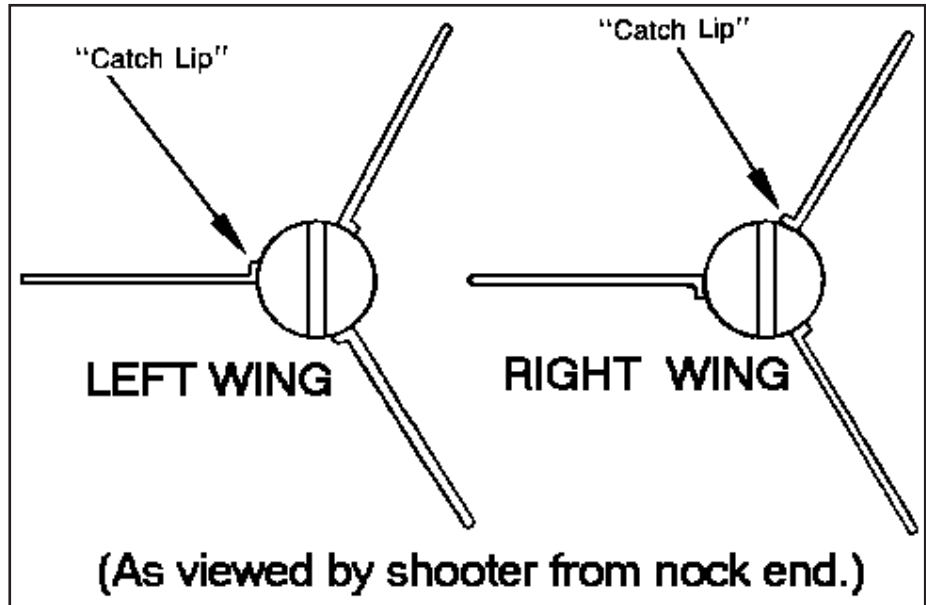
Ok, now it is time to put all this together into a set of arrows you can be proud of and again I will present you with a list of things you will need.

- Assemble all of the assorted pieces before you.
- A fletching jig to mount the feathers.
- A dip tube to seal the shafts and a rubber squeegee top to scrape off the extra sealer.
- The Sealer of your choice, such as Flecto brand polyurethane.
- A ruler to measure your shafts.
- A very fine toothed (+/- 40 teeth to the inch) cutoff saw.
- Heat melt glue for the heads and Cyanoacrylic glue (CA) for the feathers and nocks.
- Some tool for straightening the shafts such as a hook or a roller.
- Some very fine 0000 steel wool and a 3 inch square of hard flat leather.
- If you wish to crest the arrows, some paint, a fine brush and some method to turn the shafts.

Wash your hands well. No oil should get on the shaft and wash them often if you have to.

Start with fresh clean shafts, give them a final inspection for imperfections, straighten any that are not right and decide which end will be the nock end for each shaft. Give each one a quick wipe with the steel wool to clean off any dirt and splinters.

Carefully cut the nock taper as I described earlier, do not bother with the other end for now. Make sure that the taper is neat and clean with no torn wood. If the taper tool is tearing the wood, get a new blade for it. Clean each cut with the steel wool.



We are now going to dip the shafts in a sealer. I will describe the way I do it, some folks do it differently and nobody is any more right than any one else. I use a Little dipper to do the crown only, I finish the rest of the shaft with a rubbed oil finish. Some folks will dip the whole shaft, I do not but you can if you wish. I also use a mason jar lid on the dipper and instead of a hard lid, I replace it with a rubber squeegee with arrow size holes in it. This allows you to wipe off the extra polyurethane and it dries almost instantly.

I have mentioned my choice of dip, Satin finish polyurethane. I like it cause it works well and is cheap but do not use the full gloss version, no glue will want to reliably stick to it. If you can get it, undiluted auto lacquer also works very well but it really isn't available in Canada anymore. You can also use the Bohning brand stuff but it is much more expensive and I never saw an advantage to it. To a certain extent, what sealer you chose will dictate what glue

you use, fletch tite works with the Bohning brands perfectly. Duco cement works with Polyurethane quite well but I find it a bit slow to cure.

Recently I stumbled upon another solution and I think it is best. Super Jet brand cyano-acrylate, medium viscosity for wood modeling such as airplanes and boats. It is fast but not instant like crazy glue which is a little safer for those of us who tend to be clumsy. It takes about 25 seconds to bond, is thick enough that it doesn't run too much and works very well with Polyurethane. I can fletch a dozen arrows with a single jig as fast as anybody can with a six jig and fletch tight.

### The dipping

Take a shaft and put it in the dipper, nock first, and slide it all the way in. Let it sit for about 10 seconds so that the shaft can absorb the Polyu then draw it out and repeat it a couple 3 times, this allows a thin coat to build up on the shaft. Remove it from the dipper and carefully wipe off

# Making Basic Arrows

## Part 5: Finishing the shafts cont'd

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any extra with a dry lint free cloth with a fast wipe towards the nock and set it aside to dry. Repeat with the next until all have been done once.

Let them sit for about an hour, when completely dry move away from your dipping area and give them a good polishing with the steel wool. This will start to give them a nice sheen. Once this is finished, wipe them with a dry cloth to remove any dust and redip them as before then dry, sand, redip again, sand and you should get a nice smooth glossy surface that is 3 to 4 coats thick. Depending on the wood, sometimes more than this is needed but for POC, 4 is as much as you will want as it adds weight.

**Note:** A thing to remember here is if you are going to do it this way with just the crown dip. you want a clean neat border between the wood and the end of the dip. any build up here is messy looking and hard to get off once dry. Try to make sure it stays even and smooth and it will look fabulous when finished.

When you have finished the dip and are satisfied with the results, you will have to finish the rest of the shaft with an oil like boiled linseed oil or lemon oil or my favorite, tung oil. The oil will soak into the shaft and keep it from being affected by moisture but must be repeated periodically. Follow the procedure as with the dip but instead, soak a sponge in oil and lather it on as thick as you can, scrubbing it in like you would a hand rubbed piece of furniture. Let it dry, sand it then burnish it with the hard scrap of leather and repeat as many times as you feel it needs. This will provide a nice

deep gloss that looks real pretty and the separation between oil and polyu is quite nice and rather distinctive. Spraying the wood with a little furniture polish once and a while will keep it nice and helps you draw the shafts from your target.

### The nocks

We have already discussed the attachment of the nocks and now is the time to put it into practice. All you need is a tiny amount of the glue. What I do is hold the shaft nock side down and put a tiny bit of glue around the tip of the taper. Since you have about 20 seconds I put the nock on the shaft, twisting it and trying to get it on straight, check it once and correcting it quickly, making sure that it is lined up "perpendicular" to the grain. Repeat for the whole set.

### The Fletching

This is one of the most critical steps to making arrows, gluing the feathers on. If they are not straight, the arrow will not fly right, simple as that. That being said, you have a choice of how to mount your feathers. Straight or helical. I recommend straight fletch for some simple reasons.

It is

- Easier to glue straight fletching on,
- Cheaper to only have to have 1 type of jig as RW and LW helical need separate jigs and
- The arrow goes faster without the extra drag and since even straight feathers impart enough twist to stabilize the arrow, helical is really not needed.

When gluing the fletch you must decide how far along the arrow you want the feather. I like to have them start about 3/4 inch ahead of the nock with parabolic fletching,

so before gluing the feather, put a feather into the clamp, put a shaft in the jig and fiddle with the set up to make sure your fingers will clear the fletch when you draw the arrow. Another consideration is feather offset or how much off the centerline of the shaft do you want the fletching.

I like to be just enough off center that the whole catch lip sits flush on the shaft because otherwise the amount of contact surface is reduced by as much as half which reduces the strength of the bond between shaft and feather and makes the glue job look a lot messier.

I know this is hard to understand but if you refer to the diagram below you will see how the catch lip extends out from the feather and can work to make the base of the fletch much more secure if considered properly.

Are you satisfied with your setup? Then lock everything down and mark on the clamp where you want the feather to fit so each successive feather will be in the same place.

Now I always start with the cock feather but this is just my own ritual. I align the jig so that the cock feather is the one to be mounted and I run a thin, even layer of glue down the feather base, making sure that you do not slop it all over. It is not hard to do but so many folks make such a bollixed job of this that I have to wonder why I don't. Make sure you don't mess up the clamp with glue either, this just complicates your life.

**Note:** The cock feather is the one that is at right angles to the nock, so that when strung on the bow

# Making Basic Arrows

## Part 5: Finishing the shafts cont'd

it faces away from the side of the bow. on the diagram it is the feather that points to the left.

Now remember you will have about 20 seconds before the glue bonds so there is no need to rush, carefully put the clamp into the jig and use finger pressure to clamp the feather down on the shaft as hard as you may to make sure that the bond is even for about 20 seconds or until the feather won't lift off the shaft.

There. You have just glued a feather to the shaft, feel good? you should. You have taken the first steps to understanding something of your heritage as a Human, the

bow is thousands of years old yet the discovery that led to fletching may have been one of the most important ones ever made. I do hope you too can appreciate the sense of history you hold in your hands as you repeat the fletching for each arrow.

All we have to do now is measure the shaft for length, cut it to length and mount the heads. What length you ask? Well it is your draw length plus a little bit and you can measure the draw by placing the nock into the hollow spot at the base of your throat and holding the arrow by

the finger tips, stretch your arms out in front of you as far as you can with the finger tips pressed together. This will be your draw length then add about 2 inches and you have your arrow length. Cut the shafts off there for each shaft and then taper as we discussed previously and mount the heads. When this is done you will be finished building your arrows, inspect them, straighten them if they need it and go shoot. 🏹



# TBBC members contribute to Iceman Journey

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## DNA links at least 17 people to B.C. iceman

*Related to man who lived centuries ago; his remains found at B.C. glacier*

*One time TBBC members, Bill Hanlon and Mike Roach along with their hunting companion Warren Ward made a startling discovery while sheep hunting in 1999. This discovery has taken these men on a unique experience of their own.*

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*Judith Lavoie, Times Colonist*

*Published: Saturday, April 26, 2008*

*Direct descendants of the ancient "iceman" found in a B.C. glacier in 1999 are living in northern B.C., Yukon and Alaska today, DNA testing has found.*

*Eight days ago, 17 aboriginal people were told that tests have proven they are descendants of Kwaday Dan Ts'inchí, the name given to the remains, which translates as Long Ago Person Found. The startling results were announced at a scientific symposium in Victoria yesterday.*

*The body of the young aboriginal man, believed to be in his 20s, was found by three hunters at the foot of a melting glacier in Tatshenshini-Alsek Park, part of the traditional territory of the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations in northern B.C.*

*DNA research has linked sisters Pearl Callaghan, left, and Sheila Clark to the centuries-old human remains that melted out of a glacier in northwestern British Columbia in 1999.*

*By coincidence, the head and other artifacts were discovered four years later, when two of the hunters returned and found the ice had receded another 20 metres.*

*The latest radiocarbon dating shows the man died between 1670 and 1850, preceding or just overlapping the earliest European contact on the West Coast.*

*Voluntary DNA testing of First Nations people is part of the international research carried out on the almost perfectly preserved body. Sisters Sheila Clark and Pearl Callaghan of Whitehorse, both of whom were tested, clutched each others' hands and blinked back tears yesterday as they talked about their ancestor.*

*"It was extremely moving. I couldn't believe it," Clark said.*

*The family is now pressing their 84-year-old mother for information as they try to establish the family tree,*

*Callaghan said.*

*Clark and Callaghan are members of the Teslin-Tlingit First Nation, and research shows the iceman moved between the coast and the northern Interior, which would have had him travelling through Teslin-Tlingit traditional territory.*

*For Champagne and Aishihik First Nations Chief Diane Strand, it is a remarkable reminder of the close, historical partnership between coastal and Interior bands.*

*A total of 240 people volunteered for the DNA study, so it is amazing that 17 were found to be directly related, she said.*

*"What is the most exciting news is that half of them are from the Yukon and half from the coast."*

*Out of those, 15 people self-identify as being from the Wolf clan, meaning the young man was probably Wolf as well, she said. Yukon First Nations divided themselves into the Wolf and Crow clans, and tradition held that Crow must always marry Wolf, to ensure ties remained between peoples.*

*"The majority of people who have worked on this project were Crow people, and I truly believe things happened in the way they were meant to happen," she said.*

*Among the international researchers and scientists at the conference were the three hunters who discovered the body while hunting Dall sheep.*

*Bill Hanlon of Sparwood and Michael Roch and Warren Ward of Nelson said the find has led to a historical learning journey of their own. In an emotional meeting, the hunters were thanked by Clark and Callaghan on behalf of their long-dead relative.*

*"There were so many coincidences that put us in that spot at that time," Roch said. "We were meant to be at that spot and then, four years later, we were meant to be there again."*

# Land Deal Supports Provincial Caribou Strategy

The federal government and Nature Conservancy Canada have announced a plan to preserve 550 square kilometres of remote valleys, mountains and lakes in the southern interior of British Columbia that may save an endangered herd of mountain caribou. The acquisition of the property, known as Darkwoods, is one of the largest single private conservation project ever undertaken by a Canadian non-profit organization, the Nature Conservancy said in a statement released Thursday. With support from the federal government, the land, which is situated between the towns of Nelson, Salmo and Creston in the West Kootenay, was acquired from the German-based Pluto Darkwoods Forestry Corporation for more than \$125 million.

"This is truly an incredible property both in size and value, covering an area nearly 140 times

the size of Stanley Park," Federal Environment Minister John Baird said in Vancouver on Thursday. "The property that we're excited about today is invaluable in our efforts to protect animals like the [mountain] caribou — not only for its size but for the important connection it provides between existing conservation areas," Baird said.

Craig Pettitt of the Valhalla Wilderness Society said the plan is superior to the one put forth by the B.C. government last fall because it gives the 45 members of the South Selkirk mountain caribou herd a decent shot at survival.

"It includes all ranges of [mountain caribou] habitat, whereas the B.C. government's plan restricts habitat, which means it's largely aiming at high elevation habitat, Pettitt said.

"Conserving Darkwoods is essential to the recovery of the South Selkirk caribou population," agreed biologist Trevor Kinley. "It could also significantly affect the viability of the local grizzly population, and it will definitely influence the retention of natural biodiversity."

There are only about 1,900 southern mountain caribou left in B.C., down from 5,000 about 20 years ago. The remaining population is spread out among 11 herds.

The Nature Conservancy of Canada, which is a private, non-profit Canadian organization dedicated to protecting the country's most ecologically significant lands, is now working closely with local communities to develop the management plans that will support and sustain Darkwoods for the long term, it said.



*An aerial view of the Selkirk Mountains and the Darkwoods lands.  
(Nature Conservancy of Canada)*

# How Far?

By Gord Eason

Last winter in hunting camp I overheard a conversation between some younger bowhunters revolving around shot distances. One of the young hunters was boasting of a shot he attempted at ninety yards. That's a long way for a bow. In fact I'd bet an Olympic archer would have a hard time hitting the kill zone on a deer at that marked distance with regularity under controlled conditions, let alone hunting conditions.

Now I don't for a minute believe that responsible bowhunters take shots at distances as long as ninety yards. However I'll wager there are occasional fifty or sixty yard shots. But could it be that those folks are putting themselves at a disadvantage with respect to taking home the venison. Let's have a look at what happens.

You may be able to group your arrows tightly at forty or fifty yards. That's good shooting. But in the time it takes the arrow to get to the animal at that distance a lot of things can happen. A small twig or unseen branch at ...say thirty five yards can deflect the arrow. In the excitement of the moment that twig is easily overlooked. A puff of wind can move it off course. The animal can move. Even a step of six inches can turn a perfect double lung shot into a gut shot. All this in spite of the fact that you are an excellent shot.

In 1989 the results of a Missouri study on wounding loss related to equipment type were published with some interesting results. It would seem that the more accurate you and your equipment were the more deer you would kill

## Redneck Men's pick up lines..



- 1) Did you fart? - *cuz you blew me away.*
- 2) Are yer parents retarded? - *cuz ya sure are special.*
- 3) My Love fer you is like diarrhea. - *I can't hold it in.*
- 4) Do you have a library card? - *cuz I'd like to sign you out.*
- 5) Is there a mirror in yer pants? - *cuz I can see myself in em.*
- 6) If you was a tree & I was a Squirrel, I'd store my nuts in yer hole.
- 7) You might not be the best lookin girl here,  
*but beauty's only a light switch away.*
- 8) Man - 'Fat Penguin!'  
Woman - 'WHAT?'  
Man - '*I just wanted to say something that would break the ice.'*
- 9) I know I'm not no Fred Flintstone, *but I bet I can make yer bed-rock.*
- 10) I can't find my puppy, can you help me find him?  
*I think he went into this cheap motel room.*

11) *Yer eyes are as blue as window cleaner.*

12) *If yer gunna regret this in the mornin, we kin sleep til afternoon.*

and.... the best for last!

13) *Yer face reminds me of a wrench, every time I think of it my nuts tighten up.*



## How Far? cont'd

and the fewer you would wound ...right? That was my first impression. It turned out that as more accuracy aiding gadgets were added to a bow, more deer were killed BUT a greater percentage of deer were wounded. In other words those shooting more primitive equipment may have killed fewer deer but they wounded fewer as well.

Another study done by a Michigan wildlife biologist in 1983 showed decreasing recovery rates with increasing shot distance. The most disturbing factor was that no deer hit at over thirty yards were recovered.

A more informal study in Texas showed that longbow shooters had the shortest blood trails and shortest game recovery times, recurve shooters had slightly longer times and compound shooters took 40% more time to recover animals that had traveled 50 % farther, one up to half a mile. The farthest longbow-killed deer traveled 70 yards. Why?

The longbow shooters kept their shots short, below 20 yards in fact. Their arrow will probably go exactly where they want it to go.

So how far is too far? If there is

any nagging doubt, it's too far. If there is a chance the arrow could deflect it's too far. If the animal has the opportunity to move before the arrow arrives it's too far. If you cannot say with certainty that you can drive the arrow through the middle of the boiler room it's too far.

But it's not all about equipment. It's not all about accuracy. It is about technique, hunting and stalking skill. It's about shot placement and being sure that your arrow is going exactly where it needs to go. It's about up close and personal. It's about accepting the challenge.

