



Golden Arrow Archery Club

## The Golden Arrow

September/October 2007



### *MUD Mentor Hunt*



**Golden Arrow member Kevin Markt (second from left) along with fellow mentors and participating hunters pose with the bounty of a successful harvest.**

The MUD hunter mentor program is a joint effort between the Nebraska Game & Parks Commission and the Metropolitan Utilities District. It was created as a way for MUD to manage the deer heard on its properties while giving youth bow hunters, who otherwise might not have a place to hunt, the opportunity to harvest a deer under the guidance of an experienced bow hunter. Youth hunters age 12-18 years are required to have passed a bowhunter education course and have an archery deer permit. In addition, they must fill out a special application for the mentor hunt and pass a shooting qualification test by putting 4 out of 5 arrows in a paper plate at 20 yards. The youth hunters are then matched with mentoring adult bow hunters who act as guides throughout the hunt. The mentors can each take two youth hunters and have to remain within 70 yards them at all times. Because these properties usually have very high deer populations, the kids have a very good chance at taking a deer during the hunts. Having an experienced bow hunter on hand to unravel a difficult blood trail can be invaluable to a first time bow hunter since the successful retrieval of the animal builds confidence in a young hunter and makes it an enjoyable experience rather than a frustrating one.

**\* IMPORTANT MEMBER NOTICES & ANNOUNCEMENTS\*****MEMBER PARTICIPATION AT 3D EVENTS STILL A PROBLEM**

A special meeting was held on Monday September 17th by the members of the club to discuss the future of the outdoor range due to lack of participation by working members in the club's 3D events. It was suggested that next year we would try holding fewer events but try to focus on making those events as successful as possible. These ideas were brought before the club at the regular meeting the following evening where all members who were in attendance helped to refine those ideas.

Dale summarized the club's decision from Tuesday's meeting as follows:

"Essentially we decided there would be three (3) two-day 3D Shoots next year. They are the Nugent Kamp for Kids 3D, the IBO World Qualifier and Golden Arrow's own year-end shoot. There will be a group of members that will call other working members reminding them of the work parties required for these shoots. We decided to try this for one year, if the member participation/attendance doesn't improve at these work parties we'll discuss what needs to happen to move forward. This could potentially lead to the demise of Golden Arrow's 3D Shoots all together. Without revenue brought in from the 3D Shoots there is no way Golden Arrow can continue to maintain the outdoor public range unless the NGPC would fund money for the maintenance of the range. One of these activities needs to be successful otherwise we'll have no alternative than to turn over control of the outdoor range to the City of Omaha or NGPC. This is something all members need to think about and do some soul searching....especially if they haven't been actively involved in the success of the 3D events."

The annual scheduling meeting among all the area archery clubs will occur next week at which time all the of dates for next year's 3D events will be coordinated between clubs to avoid overlapping dates. Once it is determined what dates Golden Arrow will have, an announcement will be sent out to all working members by e-mail and through the newsletter. At that point working members should target dates that they are willing to work. We are going to update the announcement board at the outdoor range with posters advertising the shoots and attempt to get fliers out in a more timely manner. There was a suggestion to try to get some signs/easels set up at places like Bass Pro and Cabelas advertising the shoots.

**\* (more) MEMBER NOTICES & ANNOUNCEMENTS\***

- **Upcoming Indoor SHOOTS**

-Golden Arrow will be hosting a Halloween shoot on October 27th & 28th, 2007. The Saturday night line will start at 7:00pm and the Sunday morning line will start at 9:00am. We will need people to line judge and handle registration both days. We will also need assistance Saturday morning prior to the shoot to clean the range. If you are a working member and have not fulfilled your requirements for work parties this would be a good opportunity to get some time in. If you have any questions, or would like to sign up for a work party contact Tracie at 676-1940 or any other board member.

-Lincoln Prairie Bowmen will be holding an NFAA 300 on October 20th at 7pm and October 21 at 9am.

-Woods and Waters will be holding a FITA 450 on November 10 at 7pm and November 11 at 9am. This is the President's- Secretary's shoot, and the meeting to set schedules will be held after the shoot.

- **Golden Arrow indoor Leagues to restart in October**

Indoor leagues will be starting the first week in October at 7:30 in the evening. Larry Morgan will be running the Monday night league (starting October 1st). Thursday night league will start October 4. Cost is \$3 per night for club members and \$5 per night for non-members.

- **Keys to the indoor range**

There are some members who have paid their annual dues but have not picked up their new key to the indoor range. To receive your new key contact Tom Peterson to arrange a time when you can exchange your old key for a new one.

- **Working Members To-Do List:**

Looking for some chores to do to meet your working membership requirements?

- At the last meeting Dale was still looking for a volunteer to go up on the roof of the indoor range with a bucket of Black Jack and patch a hole in the roof.

(Also Sergeant of Arms Steve Wiley carries a list of things around in his head that he would like to see done at the outdoor range before winter. Don't be afraid to give him a call. His number is on page 6).

**\* (more) MEMBER NOTICES & ANNOUNCEMENTS\***

- **Trailblazers Fall Adventures**

Trailblazers is having its annual fall adventure at the Hitchcock Nature Area north of Crescent, Iowa on Saturday October 20th. The event runs from 1402-510-7025

2:00 noon to 2:30 p.m. and is free to all kids. Events will include outdoor cooking, hiking, BB gun and archery events. For more info contact Trailblazer's Dave Smith at: Home: 712-328-9268, Cell: 402-510-7025.

**Welcome New Members!**

Bill and Kara Orel and their children Morgan and Jakob

- **Club Newsletter by E-mail**

We are now sending the Club's Newsletter by e-mail and also posting the newsletter on the club's homepage at [www.archeryclub.com](http://www.archeryclub.com). Thanks to those who have volunteered to take their names off the hardcopy mailing list and receive their newsletter by e-mail. It saves the club a lot of postage. If you haven't already done so and would like to take your name off the hardcopy mailing list, you can send an e-mail to the newsletter editor at: [tkwelsh@msn.com](mailto:tkwelsh@msn.com).

**SEPTEMBER DEER**

Ryan Markt (son of Kevin Markt) didn't waste any time getting the '07 archery season underway. He shot this nice buck September 22nd.

## THE 5 YARD SHOT

### Decoying Deer

Thinking about trying a deer decoy this season? Here are some tips to consider:

- **Doe or Buck Decoy?**

If you're after a doe, you might want to skip the decoy. Mature does make it their business to know the other deer that occupy their areas and therefore tend to be suspicious of a decoy when they see it. Although fawns may come in to investigate a doe decoy, does tend to be leery and shy away from unknown female interlopers and they generally hightail it when they see a buck decoy.

If you're trying to bring in a buck during the early season and up until the start of the rut (mid September to the third week in October), your best bet is to use a buck decoy. A buck's territorial instincts are beginning to kick in during this time period and there is a good chance he will come in to drive off an intruder if he feels his space is being invaded. A mature buck usually ignores a doe decoy during this period because he knows the does aren't ready to breed. A forkhorn or immature buck, however, may sometimes come in to investigate a doe decoy, mostly because they haven't learned the breeding routine yet.

During the early stages of the rut (generally from the last week of October until the first week in November) your odds of drawing in a buck are still probably best if you use a buck decoy. Although a doe decoy may sometimes work, the bucks are still acting fairly cautious and are likely to approach your setup cautiously and on full alert. A buck decoy, however, is more likely to agitate him and get him to throw caution aside, possibly even causing him to come charging in to your setup.

During the peak of the rut (generally from the first week in November until about the third week in November) a doe decoy is a good choice but a combination of a buck and doe decoy may be even better. When a buck sees a doe with another buck, he is likely to assume that the doe is ready to breed and he will want to get in on the action. Expect him to approach the buck decoy first as he attempts to drive off his foe.

At the tail end of the rut (generally from the third week in November up until the end of the year), you should go to a lone doe decoy. By now all territorial boundaries between bucks have broken down and most of them are not interested in scrapping with their counterparts. However, there is a good chance they might approach a doe decoy as they search for those last few does that haven't been bred.

- **Decoy Positioning:**

Naturally, you want to position your decoy downwind from your stand. You also want approaching deer to be facing away from you as they enter your setup. Since a buck will approach a buck decoy from the front, you should position your buck decoy so it is facing your stand and at a slight quartering angle. A doe decoy should be positioned so it is facing away from your stand at a slight quartering angle since a buck will approach a doe decoy from the rear.

- **Scents & Decoys:**

You want to keep your decoys as scent free as possible. Store them in plastic bags and spray them down with scent eliminator before your hunt. Handle them with rubber gloves when setting them up and spray them down again with scent eliminator again after they are in place. Attraction scents are good to use in conjunction with your decoy, but don't spray them on the decoy as they will won't smell right after the scent gets old. Instead spray them on the ground or hang scented gauze from trees around your setup. Good Luck!



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