



Benton Bowmen Archery Club Inc.

P.O. Box 253
Corvallis OR 97339

www.bentonbowmen.com

www.facebook.com/bentonbowmen

December 2021

Meetings

Board meeting: The next meeting of the Benton Bowmen Executive Board will take place on the evening of Tuesday February 1, 2022, at 7 pm, location Zoom meeting. Gordon to e-mail the Zoom invite.

2021/2022 Executive Board

Acting President: **Gordon Matzke** 753-3729
Past President: **Gordon Matzke** 753-3729
Vice President:
Secretary: **Chris Romsos** 231-4596
Treasurer: **Loreli Fister** 754-2855
Outdoor Range:
Gordon Matzke 753-3729
Craig Tokuda 760-6797
Board Member1: **Kathleen Brindley** 757-7640
Board Member2: **Arnold Alcantar**
Board Member3: **Brian Bowers**

Dates to Remember

*** 2022 Benton Bowmen Elections
and Club Fun Shoot ***
April 23, 2022 2pm

*** 2022 Benton Bowmen Safari Shoot ***
Saturday June 11th, 2022

*** 2022 Benton Bowmen Summer Hunters'
Challenge ***
Saturday & Sunday July 16th & 17th, 2022

Letter from Acting (and Past) President

The Outdoor Range is the primary asset of the Benton Bowmen. It is not a static asset in monetary, or environmental, value. Land prices fluctuate over time. Since we are not usually in the business of buying or selling land, the consequences land value changes for the club are mostly in the arena of property taxes. Environmental changes have more direct consequences for us.

Recent environmental changes include the aging our timber stands and the stress to trees caused by recent drought years. Add a heavy snow, saturated soils, and a windstorm and roads and trails get blocked by falling trees. This past month accelerated this process. Thanks to the volunteers who cleared the road to the parking lot. For their efforts, the firewood rounds that resulted are reserved for them so please don't cart them off. If members want firewood, our Outdoor Range Captains can point to places where log removal will be of most benefit to range maintenance.

The Outdoor Range contains habitats attractive to an entire suite of wildlife species.

It doesn't take many visits before one sees deer. Starting in late May does and fawns are a common sight. On occasion, small bucks show themselves to visitors. The real surprises reveal themselves on game camera pictures, often at night. This year, my range cameras took pictures of eight different bucks. Almost all of the big ones showed up after dark. Little creatures like raccoons, possums, squirrels, rabbits, porcupines and birds often appear. In the spring, hen turkeys search the range for nesting sites and commonly rear their young on our land. I have yet to see a mature tom turkey on the property and I have been a member for more than forty years. Big critters don't like to be seen on the range. Elk tracks are often seen in the winter, but elk themselves are rarely sighted. One member saw a cougar this year and a big black bear has been a regular in front of cameras during apple season. A cougar attacked several of our 3D targets toward the

end of 2021. Although it didn't eat them, he also didn't leave them unscathed!

My range wildlife coup this year was the positive identification of a resident owl that had eluded me several times in the past. Just before dusk one evening, it landed on a branch about five feet away and just looked at me. It was clearly a barred owl, the bird that has outcompeted the more famous spotted owl for the last forty years in the Pacific Northwest.

I look forward to hearing member stories of environmental change on our range. I look forward to member participation in dealing with many of these changes at our next work party!

Gordon Matzke

Outdoor Range Safety Notice & Update!

The storm of last week brought down a large tree that blocked our driveway at the range. Steve Faust and his son Shannon and Shannon's friend Gary were up there today and cut the tree up to where we can at least drive up to the parking area on the range. They will return later to pick up the large rounds that are scattered around what's left of the tree as I told them that they could have the wood in return for clearing our drive.

We will have some clearing work in the next few weeks. There are trees down across the access road that we use to set up our 3D targets and maintain our NFAA butts. For now however, the practice range is usable and most of the 3D targets (save for the grizzly) are accessible. If you are up at the range and see people wanting to take the large rounds, please let them know that those particular rounds are not up for grabs. Once the range dries up and they can maneuver a trailer around without tearing up the ground, Shannon and Gary will return to clear that wood out. And if you should see Steve out at the range, please thank him for working to clear out our driveway.

Craig Tokuda

As always, please be mindful of these hazards while you are at the range. Please report any issues you find on the range to one of our outdoor range captains.

December Board Meeting

The December meeting was held via Zoom December 21, 2021 at 7pm. Attendees were Gordon Matzke, Craig Tokuda, Kathleen Brindley, Joe Neelands and Loreli Fister. Arnold Alcantar, Chris Romsos, Brian Bowers

Previous Meeting Minutes Review:

Meeting minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report:

1. Balances - November corrected to read \$11242.99 for both the beginning and ending balance. December had the same balances.
2. The 2022 annual registration with the state of Oregon is due. The board voted to approve the renewal cost.
3. Membership Report – There are 40 lifetime (some family, the rest are individual) - representing 56 people and 49 annual memberships – representing 91 people.
4. Loreli proposed that we take an action Howard had previously suggested. Send out renewal letters to individuals whose memberships are about to lapse or have previously lapsed and to make renewal easier. She will do the work. Chris says we have some example documents. It was moved and passed for this to be done and to reimburse Loreli for the expenses of letters.
5. Expenses – There are expenses, but none of the members were ready to submit them. The board will handle them at the next meeting.

Outdoor Range Report: Craig Tokuda and Gordon Matzke report

1. Lock replaced & extra in shed. Both have the current gate code.
2. Bear damaged targets. Brian reported that the second turkey on the 3D trail that starts at the practice range. The turkey was found near a later target and it was broken up.

3. The target butt on the 80 yard walkup on the NFAA trail needs to be set back up vertical and stabilized.
4. Craig is working with Mike Walden to find the missing plates on the NFAA trail. These tend to get covered by soil and leaves over time.

4-H Report:

The Benton 4-H Archers started weekly practice indoors at the fairgrounds on December 1st with distancing and masks. The group is holding two sessions per week. There are 13 members this season.

BBS3DA:

There was some communication recently from the National and State coordinator Craig Delarm. Presently, there is no activity with the Benton Bowmen club.

Old Business:

1. Status of the Website. - Chris has been making progress on rebuilding the site. There is a lot of content out there, and he will be adding the club constitution and bylaws. He asked the board members to look it over and think about what other content is needed or edits that need to be done.
2. Status of Facebook – Chris reports that this has not been getting updated. Kathleen suggested that Chris double check our security settings on the page, and to otherwise just focus on the basics of a link to the web page and adding the flyers.
3. Benton Bowmen has been granted access to put shoot flyers out on a facebook page called Oregon 3D Archery Shoots.
4. The forestry discussion with Nikolai Hall was postponed because he is not in town.
5. Shoot Card – Loreli is working on the shoot card. She has the dates. The board decided that we will do the standard of putting our two shoots on the card and to receive 150 copies of the card for the fee.

New Business:

1. Board member/Officer recruits. Gordon is working to identify people and asked for suggestions. He would like to invite potential board members and officers to join the meetings as at-large members. The board members agreed.
2. Discuss priority of possible range improvements. The board brainstormed a list. The List of items to consider for prioritization so far are...

- Replacement Butts
- 3D Targets
- Maintain bow hangers at NFAA targets
- Maintain fence line.
- Play Structure refurbish
- Work for the bridge over the creek.
- Clubhouse repairs
- Women's outhouse structure repairs/refurbish.
- Poured floor in the shed.
- Modern toilet
- Electricity
- Covered winter shooting area
- Create a guide to help in running the shoot events.
- Create a Map/Guide of club property facilities and trails

3. Setting next meeting date. Gordon will not be available for the regular meeting dates. The board considered possibilities. It was moved and passed to hold one meeting between the two months to be held on February 1st at 7pm.

Pictures and Stories

Do you have pictures from a trail camera, a hunt, an archery event, or a nice day at the Benton Bowmen range with the family? Perhaps you have archery, hunting, camping or wildlife story to share. Members like to hear about each other's experiences. So, if you have a picture and or story you would like to submit, please send these to – kwbrindl@peak.org with the subject "Story for Benton Bowmen Newsletter". We will try to get as many as we can into the newsletter each month.
