

FLIGHT

(200-220)



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE VIRGINIA BOWHUNTERS ASSOCIATION

VIRGINIA BOWHUNTERS

FLIGHT NO. 1

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1989

VOLUME 31

Kingsboro Bowman Host State Indoor Championship

at
*Tidewater Community College,
Frederick Campus, Suffolk, Va.*

Registration Fees

\$15.00 Each
\$30.00 Family

March 11 & 12, 1989

	Rounds	
1st	Saturday 9 am-12 noon	Sunday 8 am-11 am
2nd	12 noon-3 pm	11 am-2 pm
3rd	3 pm-6 pm	2 pm-5 pm

Registration

1. By Mail: Must be postmarked by March 6, 1989
2. Friday Night (March 10th) 7 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
3. Saturday (March 11th) (1 hour only) 7 a.m.-8 a.m.

\$\$ PEARSON PAYS SHOOT \$\$

Please Note: 3 Rounds Shooting will be on one side only.
Practice will be available on other side!

Kingsboro Welcomes You Friday Night

Refreshments - Beer, 7-9 p.m.

at Tidewater Community College

Area Motels

Suffolk Holiday Inn
Portsmouth/Portside
Holiday Inn

Phone

1-800-934-2311
1-804-393-2573

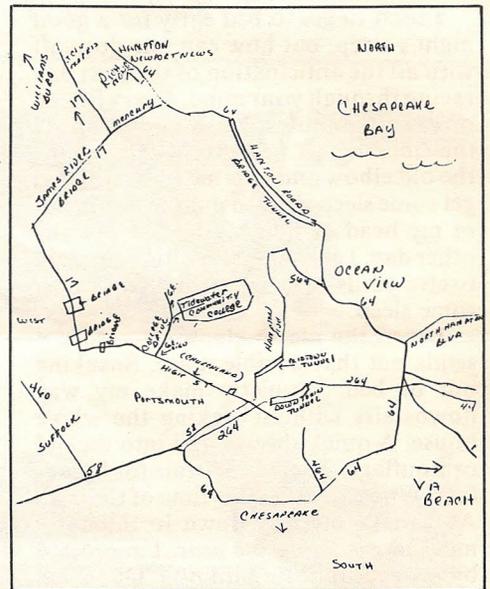
Approx. Distance to Shoot

20 Miles
10 Miles

At Portsmouth Holiday Inn ask for VBA special rates
(you must make reservations before 2/9/89
for special rates: \$48.00/night-4 people)

*Churchland Econo Travel	1-804-484-6143	3 Miles
Portsmouth Quality Inn	1-804-399-3066	7 Miles
Portsmouth Imperial 400	1-804-397-5806	9 Miles

*closest to college



Things to See and Do!

Williamsburg Pottery—
shopper's dream come true.
Williamsburg, VA approximately 50 miles
Colonial Williamsburg
Yorktown
Jamestown
Virginia Marine Science Museum
Virginia Beach, VA
Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Museum
Portsmouth, VA
The Chrysler Museum
Norfolk, VA
The Waterside—Food, fun, shopping market
place available by pedestrian ferry from
Portsmouth waterfront.

More information on places to go, stay, dine
and just plain have fun at will be available at
registration table.
Things to do for the entire family.
See you on the 11th!!!

For further information contact:

Kingsboro Bowman
c/o Ed Bickham
6353 Godwin Blvd.
Suffolk, Virginia 23432
Phone: (804) 255-2294

State Indoor Pre-Registration

Single \$15.00 Family \$30.00 Unlimited-Release Yes No

Name: _____ Adult Young Adult Youth Cub

Address: _____ Birthdate if Young Adult, Youth or Cub

Club: _____ Mo Day Year

VBA No. _____ Round Preference 1st 2nd 3rd

Soc. Sec. No. _____ Send Pre-Registration form to:

Division Circle One Ed Bickham
FS FSL BH BB BHFS BHFSL
6353 Godwin Blvd.
Suffolk, VA 23432

Limited-Finger Shooter Yes No

Bowhunters Edition

OPENING DAY BLUES

"Opening Day of Bow Season!" I had been waiting forever for this day to come. All through the year, almost every Sunday, Tuesday night, and too many Saturdays, I had been out shooting and perfecting my archery skills. The last month or so was spent making sure my hunting bow was tuned to perfection. The old target broadheads were replaced with brand new razor sharp 'Thunderheads'. Bow string, peep, sights, arrow rest, knocking point, were all checked and rechecked. All screws and nuts were tightened. Hunting clothes were washed weeks before and left out in the back shed to lose all human scent. The treestand was inspected several times and was still in top shape. All is laid out and ready for the big day.

I tried to get to bed early for a good night's sleep, but how can one dose off with all the anticipation of the next day racing through your mind. Every fifteen or twenty minutes, I just had to check the clock by my bed. My wife gives me the old elbow and tells me to be still and get some sleep. I try to put the vision out of my head of that big buck I saw the other day. I can plainly see him standing twelve yards out, broadside! Got to get some sleep.

I turn the alarm clock off before it sends out that terrible noise. Sneaking out of bed, I quietly make my way downstairs without waking the whole house. A quick shower and into the old camouflage. There is no time for breakfast. Who can eat at this time of the day? As I make my way down to the basement to gather up the gear, I'm greeted by my ever faithful bird dog. Of course the sight of my hunting clothes gets the old tail going a hundred and fifty-five.

"Don't bark!! It's the pen for you old pal. Your day is yet to come."

I load the gear in the truck, feed the dog and put him in his pen, and I'm off for the woods. The ten minute drive seems to take much longer. At last I make it into the woods, and it's still dark. The short walk to my favorite tree takes no time at all. Setting up the tree stand is a different matter. How can something so simple be so difficult to do in the dark? Why won't my fingers do what they're supposed to do?

At long last I am finally up the tree, safety harness snug to the trunk, arrow knocked in place, all set, and it's getting light out there.

I am about ten feet up in a Tulip Poplar. The well-used deer trail, that we fondly refer to as Rt. 66, runs right under me. About 30 yards up the hill, there is a wide hole in the fence where the deer cross. I can't see the opening

due to a clump of trees and honeysuckle, but I know that is the way the deer will come. I am all set and ready for the action.

As the light increases, the woods become alive. Birds, chipmunks, squirrels, etc., come out to greet the new day. The wind is still and the temperature mild. All my senses are alert. I could do without that fox squirrel rustling in those leaves behind me. Where was he early this month when I had the old 22 out? Why do you always see deer during squirrel season and squirrel during deer season?

I wait, and wait, and wait. Although it feels like I have been up this darn tree for years, only about an hour and half has passed. Of course I must check my watch every ten minutes or so just to make sure it's still working. Is this why I stayed awake last night? Where are those darn deer?

All in all, it's great to be out here. The woods are wonderful this time of year! This sure beats work or waiting for the kids to wake up.

What's that? I slowly turn my head and look toward the opening in the fence. Yes, here comes one! It's a deer!!

A small button buck moves around the clump of honeysuckle. He is coming right towards me and I start to draw my bow. Wait! Out of the corner of my eye, I see another deer coming. At once I can see that this one has horns. The button buck walks right under my tree, stops, and then begins to move off to my left. He never noticed me above him. The second buck begins to move out in the open. He is only about fifteen yards out. Again I start to draw my bow.

Oh no! I forgot to lift my arrow from under the button of the Huntmaster 2000 rest. As I draw there is a barely audible squeak. I freeze as the deer stops and looks right up at me I can see complete amazement in his brown eyes. "Hey man, what you doing up in that tree?"

Ok, here I am at half draw, trying, with all my might, not to move or breath or nothing. Over there is a nice little four point buck trying to figure out what I am and what I am going to do. Out of the corner of my left eye I can see the button buck slowly feeding and paying no attention to us at all. Without taking his eyes off of me, the four pointer starts to back away. Wait! Out of the corner of my right eye I can see another deer coming. If I can just stay still and not spook young four pointer, all may not be lost yet.

The third deer appears to have even a bigger rack, maybe six points! I wish my heart would stop pounding so loudly. The second deer continues to back away watching me all the time. When he is out

about twenty-five yards, he turns and slowly walks straight away from me. The other two deer appear not to even notice this action.

At last, I take a deep breath, release my arrow from under the rest, and release myself for the third deer. All he needs to do is take two or three more steps from out behind of that little tree and he's mine. As the deer starts to move, I draw my bow back. A little further and I've got you.

Wait! Instead of walking straight, the deer turns and follows the second deer out away from me. He never even steps out in the open. In just a few moments he's gone from my sight behind a larger batch of honeysuckle. I turn to look for the button buck, but he too has vanished into the woods.

In complete disbelief, I lower the bow and begin to wonder about what just happened. how could I have let not one but three bucks walk within fifteen yards of me and not get a shot off? Why did I not just shoot the button when I had the chance? What happened???

I remained in the tree for several hours hoping against hope that another deer would pass, or better yet, those three would come back and give me another chance. No such luck. Well that's bowhunting. It's a great sport!

GUIDE SERVICES

If you have either used or have knowledge of services, fellow bowhunters will appreciate your comments. Each issue we will try to include reviews of services. Please submit any comments to me at: Rob Pecora, Rt. 1, Box 512A, Hume, Va. 22639, or have your VBA Delegate turn comments into the Bowhunting Committee.

* * *

Ronnie Wines of Front Royal has used West Outdoor Adventure. he says they offer super hunts. Services include hunts throughout the west, Alaska, and Africa with gun, bow, or black powder. Their phone number is 214-860-2620.

* * *

Linwood Williamson of Winchester tried Gary Malson of Trout Creek, Montana. He was very displeased with his hunt.

* * *

Question! What can hunters do to feed their habit during the off season? Answer: try a preserve hunt. There are many preserves throughout Virginia and other states that offer hunts through March.

* * *

Fellow VBA member, Linwood Williamson recently opened a preserve just north of Winchester where he offers guided pheasant hunts. Reports are that

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

his hunts are outstanding and the birds he stocks are high quality. He has about a hundred acres on which he has spent considerable time to develop a prime habitat. He also has a super bird dog which makes hunting all the more enjoyable. To inquire about a hunt with Linwood, give him a call at 703/ 667-1045. For a list of registered commercial preserve, contact the Virginia Game Department, Box 1104, Richmond, Va. 23230, 804/257-1000.

* * *

If you want a real challenge and a lot of fun, try one of these pheasant hunts with bow and arrow. A group from Two Rivers Archery Club tried this last winter. We used Flu-Flu fletching so the arrows would not travel far. Although we walked up on a lot of birds, shot numerous times, and had a heck of a time, those darn birds are awfully hard to hit (even standing on the ground!).

Equipment Reports

Have you heard about a new climbing treestand called Loggy Bayou? This is by far the best climbing stand I have ever seen and several fellow members swear by them. Although rather expensive at about \$180, these stands are quality built, light weight, rugged, and remarkably stable when properly installed in the tree. They come complete with carrying straps, a seat, safety harness, and a video tape on proper use. The stand uses a rubber coated metal strap to encircle the tree that will not dig into or mark the tree. Check with your local sports shop for more information.

Notes

The Bowhunters Edition needs your stories, comments, equipment reviews, and general help to provide the VBA membership and fellow bowhunters with information and advice on bowhunting. Please submit whatever you can to the Bowhunting Committee or contact Rob Pecora at Rt. 1, Box 512A, Hume, Va 22639, 703/364-2158. Thank you!

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VBA Meeting Highlights

The January VBA meeting was held on January 14-15 in Charlottesville.

Elroy Russel of Princess Anne Bowman was present and was accepted into the Order of the Golden Feather.

Pres. Clinton Western appointed the Nominating Committee to be chaired by Ed Bickman, with other members being Earl McCauley, Iris Street and Earl Berry. Chairman Bickman has asked that any people who may be interested in running for a VBA office to contact him or a committee member with information such as name, address, telephone number, background experience. We definitely need persons to run for any and all offices but Field VB and Hunting VB will need to be filled.

Bowhunting Chairman, Rob Pecora reported that there are 18 members serv-

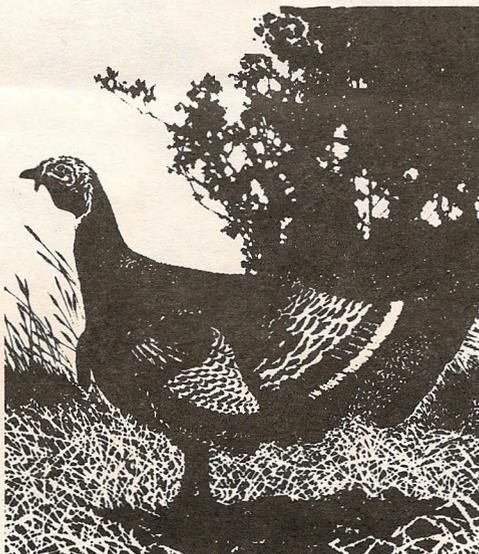
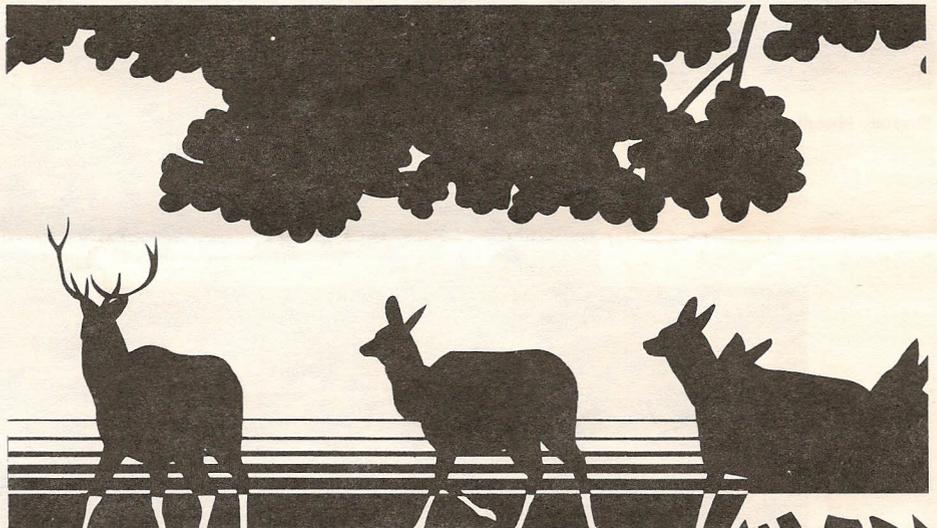
ing on the BH Committee, all Zones well represented except Zone 5. He also reported that \$650.00 has been donated back to VBA from artist Ken Schuler from the sale of his limited edition print.

Agenda items for the March 18-19 meeting are listed. Clubs are urged to have a delegate present.

1. (Kingsboro) To recognize all shooting styles for the Youth Division at State level (cub, youth, young adult) using present VBA classification.

2. The \$4.00 shooting fee will apply to pin shoots only. 25¢ will be sent to VBA for all scheduled shoots *except* one annual shoot each year. (Closed club shoots are exempt from the foregoing. Closed club shoots are non-invitational—those shoots attended by your club members only.)

3. Article 15 Section K (Bowhunters Jamborees) to read: registration fees to be no more than \$10.00 per archer.



Competitive Bowhunters

Due to the lack of interest in the "Competitive Bowhunter" shooting style within VBA, certain tournaments this year will be recognized as special events for bowhunters to attend. This will give the Bowhunter a chance to compete with his competition, exchange ideas, and socialize with an elite group of people. Special congratulations goes to possession of the "Bowhunter Cap" during the 1988 tournament year. Will history repeat itself? Join us at these events.

VBA State Indoor
VBA State Open
Buggs Island "Big Apple"
VBA State Closed

Hunting Highlights



Rodney Hundley



Eugene D. Arnold



Earl Sechrist

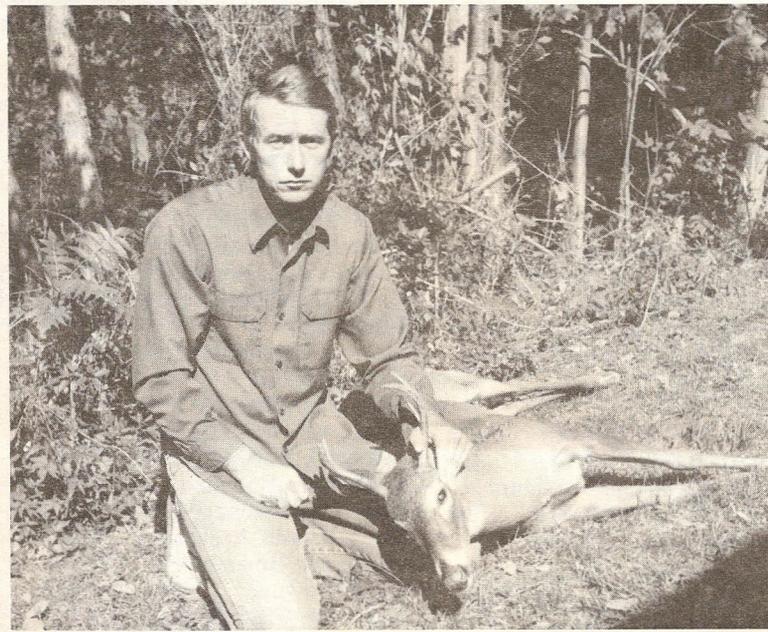
Ron Neville



Hugh E. Rakes



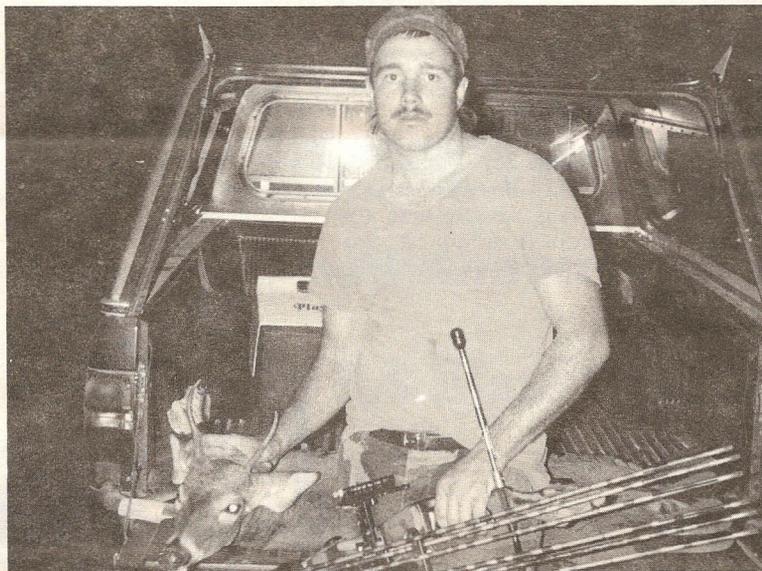
Luther Trower



Curtis Goins



Carl Steven Mitchell



Freddie Luellen



Robert W. Withers



Charlie Parsons

CLUB NEWS

Bowhunters of Rockingham

*News from zone #3 by
Irvin Bodkin*

The Bowhunters of Rockingham elected their new officers for the coming year as follows: President—Tom Bohl, Vice President—Lowell Hertzler, Secretary—Doug Bates, Treasurer—Marie Rhodes, Corresponding Secretary—Jerry Middleton, and the trustees are Bill Hashiguchi, Jerry Blank and Nick Taylor. Jerry Middleton is the VBA representative.

The club held its Annual ROSS GARLETT Awards Banquet on January 20 at the local Moose Club with over 100 attending. A buffet supper was served to all and after the supper the ROSS GARLETT Awards were given to 38 members bagging white-tail deer this past hunting season. Many members bagged two and three deer apiece. Bob Smith took the big buck award for his big 6 pointer. Two members bagged black bear as follows: Randy Armentrout and Phil Peterman. Phil took the big bear award. One turkey was bagged and the big turkey award went to Chuck Rodamer. The biggest carp shot and the award went to Wayne Bowen.

The BILL BENNETT Awards were given out to members applying for the award by Dave Proctor, the Hunting Vice President of VBA. This was a growth year for the club with over 180 members. President Tom Bohl said that our up-coming State Open Shoot needs all our attention now to be ready and first class.

The club is now engaged in our indoor shoots. We have two leagues shooting on Mondays and Thursdays. We have open shooting on Sundays.

So . . . more news later.

Massanutten Archery Club

Indoor shooting is being held at the Front Royal Volunteer Fire Department every Sunday, starting at 1:00 p.m. League competition is being held at the same location every Tuesday evening starting time is 7:00 p.m.

A youth program started on Monday evening, January 16, 1989 and will con-

tinue through the 2nd Monday in March.

Times will be from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The youth program will be co-sponsored by Massanutten Archery Club and Bear Archery Club.

The members of Massanutten Archery Club would like to wish you all good health and good shooting.

Prince William Archers

Indoor shoots are going strong and in full force. Shoots are on Tuesdays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.

A trophy shoot will be held on March 4, 1989 with two rounds being offered.

1st Round: 3 p.m.

2nd Round: 7 p.m.

You may shoot one or both rounds but only one score will be used.

For additional information contact:

Kevin Webb 703-368-9724

Ronney Fowler 703-368-6815

Smythe Co. Archery Club

Smythe Co. Archery Club would like to announce their shoots for 1989 as follows:

May 28—Pin Shoot: 10 a.m.

June 25—Pin Shoot: 10 a.m.

July 30—Pin Shoot: 10 a.m.

Aug. 6—Smythe Co. Ground Hog Shoot (trophy): 10 a.m.

Sept. 24—All animal shoot: 10 a.m.

Attention Clubs:

V.B.A. is updating the current maps and all clubs are asked to send their range location (outdoor and indoor) Tom Schanbacher before the March V.B.A. meeting.

VBA Computer Donations

A total of \$1,029 has been received from individuals and clubs within the state as donations to the VBA Computer fund. We sincerely thank all for their kindness.

Belvoir Bowhunters

Jack Upham

Shawnee Bowmen

Bowhunters of Paradise

Warwick Bowmen

Kingsboro Bowmen

Sherwood Archers

Buggs Island Archers

Bearcreek Bowmen

Dixie Bowmen

Northern Virginia Archers

Dennis Mitchell

Dover England

Two Rivers Archery Club

Princess Anne Bowmen

Don Frenier for Dixie Bowmen

Seminole Archers

Prince William Archers

John Stockman

Bowhunters of Rockingham

Massanutten Archery Club



Warwick Bowmen

Warwick Bowman Silver Bow Annual
April 22 & 23, 1989

Registration: Mul & Cas: 8-11
Newport News, VA.

The Warwick Bowmen would like to cordially invite archers from all over the state to attend the Silver Bow Annual Tournament. The four star range is at it's most beautiful in the spring when the dogwood is in full bloom.

Camping is available at Newport News Park Campground and motels are located conveniently nearby.

Contact Jack Wedding for more information. Telephone: 804-827-6649.

Accommodations:

Newport News City Park
13564 Jefferson Ave.
Newport News, VA 23603
804-887-6381

Hotels:

Mulberry Inn
16890 Warwick Blvd.
804-887-3000
Econo Lodge
11845 Jefferson Avenue
Under 18 free
804-599-3237
Days Inn
14747 Warwick Blvd.
Has a sports plus membership program
804-874-0201

Mel's Pro Shop

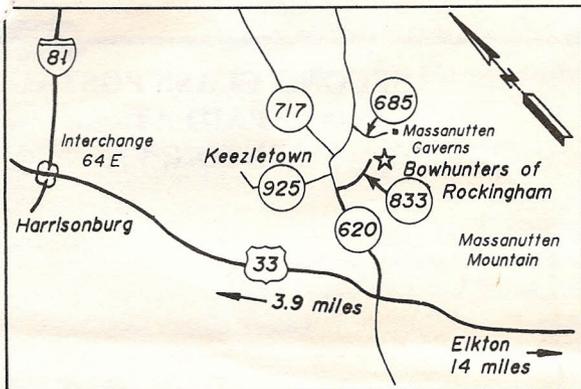


8008 James Russell Drive
Manassas, Va. 22111

ALL 1988 BOWS IN STOCK ON SALE

Oneida Eagle	\$250-\$180
Hoyt Pro Hunter	\$225
Hoyt GameGetter	\$135
Hoyt Spectra 5000 Camo	\$220
Hoyt Pro Vantage Hunter Camo	\$270
Hoyt Ram Hunter	\$115
Pearson Renegade	\$150
Pearson Spoiler	\$160
Martin Lynx Camo XRG	\$160
Martin WartHog	\$170
Bear Pro Specialist	\$125
Jennings Unistar	\$180

Mark Lawrence
Phone 703-791-3070



Bowhunters of Rockingham Host VBA State Open Championship May 20-21, 1989

CAMPING
Gerundo Camp Ground 1-703-289-5351
Water and Electric

VBA State Open Pre-Registration

Single \$15.00 Family \$30.00 Unlimited-Release Yes No

Name: _____ Adult Young Adult Youth Cub

Address: _____ Birthdate if Young Adult, Youth or Cub

Club: _____

VBA No. _____

Soc. Sec. No. _____

Mo Day Year

Round Preference 1st 2nd 3rd

Sen Pre-Registration form to:

Jerry Middleton
Rt. 1, Box 362
New Market, VA 22844

Division Circle One
S FSL BH BB BHFS BHFSL

Limited-Finger Shooter Yes No

Registration Fees

\$15.00 Single
\$30.00 Family

Registration Times

Friday 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Saturday 8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m.

PLACES TO STAY:

Shoneys Inn	1-703-433-6089
Comfort Inn	1-703-433-6066
Knights Inn	1-703-433-6939
Econo Lodge	1-703-433-2576
Sheraton Inn	1-703-433-2521

Need anymore information, contact:
Dennis Grogg
433-2272

**Mel's
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Shop**



8008 James Russell Drive
Manassas, Va. 22111

"If I ain't got it, I'll get it"

Mark Lawrence
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PSE, Oneida Eagle
Compound Bows

"Authorized Service Center"

Complete line of
tournament and hunting
equipment

Gift Certificates Available



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Flight Deadline

The deadline for the March-April issue of FLIGHT will be March 19, 1989. Submit your articles of interest to the editor prior to that date. I encourage readers to send in letters to the editor. *Remember*, this is your newsletter.

V.B.A. OFFICERS

Clinton F. Western, President
110 Dogwood Lane
Vinton, Va. 24179
Phone: 703-890-3072

Ann R. Boyd, Executive Vice President
and Flight Editor
265 Wilkins Drive
Winchester, Va. 22601
Phone: 703-667-1320

David Proctor, Hunting Vice President
Route 1, Box 358-B
Keezletown, Va. 22832
Phone: 703-269-2521 (home)
703-828-4663 (work)

Thomas W. Schanbacher, Conservation
Vice President
3544 Dandelion Cres.
Virginia Beach, Va. 23456
Phone: 804-427-1242

John Street, Field Vice President
1003 London Company Way
Williamsburg, Va. 23185
Phone: 804-229-2746

Nancy Lee Western, Corresponding Secretary
110 Dogwood Lane
Vinton, Va. 24179
Phone: 703-890-3072

Gail LeFever, Recording Secretary
P.O. Box 487
Ordinary, Va. 23131
Phone: 804-642-5264

C. D. Miller, Treasurer
P.O. Box 130
Chilhowie, Va. 24319
Phone: 703-772-0542 (work)

Kenneth E. Sorrels, VBA Field Governor
P.O. Box 2002
Wise, Va. 24293
Phone: 703-328-8485 (home)
703-328-8432 (work)

John Stockman, NFAA Director
1301 N. Utah Street
Arlington, Va. 22201
Phone: 703-524-3389

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Nancy Lee Western, Cor. Sec.
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Vinton, Va. 24179

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