

# STICKTALK

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A Glance Back...

# STICKTALK

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Submit to:  
*STICKTALK*  
Caroline Wells  
9687 W. Beecher  
Clayton, MI 49235  
sticktalkeditor@yahoo.com

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## DEADLINES

The next issue of *STICKTALK* is due

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The deadline for advertising and editorial material is

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*On the cover*  
**Photo submitted by**  
**John Buchin**

*On the back*  
**Photo submitted by**  
**Rob Jones**

## Michigan Longbow Association Council 2016-2017

### President

Nick Viau O  
6124 Bittersweet Dr. NE  
Belmont, MI 49306  
616-635-7194  
viaunick@hotmail.com

### Vice President

John Buchin O  
310 E. Grant St. Apt 2  
Plainwell, MI 49080  
269-217-5611  
jwbuchin3@gmail.com

### Recording Secretary

Floyd Wells E  
9687 W. Beecher Rd.  
Clayton, MI 49235  
(H) 517-445-2710  
(C) 517-605-7513  
tkyelp@yahoo.com

### Treasurer

#### Membership Secretary

Peter Collins E  
1939 Encore Ln.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103  
810-599-5471  
petercollins1945@gmail.com

### Editor

Caroline Wells E  
9687 W. Beecher Rd.  
Clayton, MI 49235  
517-673-7531  
sticktalkeditor@yahoo.com

### Assistant Treasurer

Steve Chappell E  
2421 Rowley Rd.  
Williamston, MI  
517-896-1626  
schappell38@gmail.com

Keith Jackson O  
182 W. Miller Lake Rd.  
Coldwater, MI 49036  
517-227-2712  
kthjac@hotmail.com

Chuck Williams O  
16880 Manitou Rd.  
Manitou Beach, MI 49253  
260-209-8707  
oldwin@72.com

Rob Jones O  
208 Cummings Ave. SW  
Walker, MI 49534  
616-490-7212  
robslifts@gmail.com

Heather Williams O  
16880 Manitou Rd.  
Manitou Beach, MI 49253  
517-240-7611  
gemstategal@yahoo.com

Kevin Bowers E  
7493 Harmon Ln.  
Jenison, MI 49428  
616-340-0224  
gadgetman.kevin@gmail.com

Jeff Burns O  
1787 Carland Rd.  
Owosso, MI 48867  
616-901-7992  
slamm007@att.net

Jamey Burkhead E  
3777 N. Solomon Rd.  
Middleville, MI 49333  
269-870-6494  
burkheadjames@sbcglobal.net

### Non-Voting Immediate Past President

Mike Vines  
3035 Sandoval Dr.  
Lake Orion, MI 48360  
(C) 248-310-5593  
miklvines@gmail.com

**Proofreader:** Shirley Thompson

### Webmaster:

webmaster@michiganlongbow.org



WOW! The Michigan Longbow Association continues to grow! Bub and I sat down early one Sunday morning a few weeks ago to continue the work appointed to us by this great organiza-

tion. Poor Bub addressed 56 envelopes for new and returning members. That is simply exciting! The Michigan Longbow Association is one of the leaders for archery in this region, sporting a membership of over 500. Remember too that the MLA is an **"equipment specific"** archery club no less. We are happy that you have chosen to be a part of such a vibrant and thriving archery club.

The summer shoot schedules are out and the MLA Spring Shoot and Membership Meeting will be the first camping shoot of the year for many of us. It will again be held at the Land-O-Lakes Bowmen in Fenton, Michigan on May 5, 6, 7, 2017. If you are new to this organization and wish to start your experience with a **"BANG,"** then you really need to come to the Spring Shoot. The L-O-L courses are awesome. The club house is more than adequate. The food is phenomenal and the camaraderie is more reminiscent to a family gathering. You will laugh, shoot, eat, sing, and make lots of new friends. Just doesn't get much better than that for a longbow archer.

The MLA Council has been hard at work over the winter months making decisions that will help sustain and grow this archery organization for years to come. They are exploring new methods that will take the longbow shooter into the 21st century without losing the historic value of such a treasured past time. While many

# Editors' Point

by Ms. Caroline and Bub

join this club for the simple fun of shooting the stick and string, there are many different aspects of such a vibrant, growing group. Have you heard the old saying, "You will get out of it what you put into it?" Well, it was never so true as it is with the Michigan Longbow Association. The club has 10 or more interactive programs yearly that will allow you to share your love of the longbow with others. From writing to teaching. From planning to creating. There are opportunities for everyone to do something. You will find that when you share, you actually enhance your archery experience. Try it. You will be amazed.

If you are computer savvy, you will notice that the MLA has a world-class website with a blue ton of information on it. There is also an MLA Facebook page where you can keep track of what the membership is doing between events or issues of STICKTALK. Believe us when we say it's not just a two-shoot-a-year organization. It is a longbow lifestyle and we live it daily.

In this issue of STICKTALK you will find some new authors and some authors that you've read before. There is a great confluence of talent adorning these pages. Each time we finish up an edition we tell ourselves that it was a good issue, and each time the new one comes out we feel it is as good as or better than the last. You the members make that happen. By sending in your pictures, poems and articles, you continue to raise the bar for a club newsletter. It is the heartbeat of the MLA...because of you. So keep that in mind when you venture out this camping season. Please send us your material and remember if you do, "we'll make you famous."



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Jeff Burns 616-901-7992  
slamm007@att.net

**Northern Mist Longbows**  
Steve Turay  
906.458.5035  
[Northernmistlongbows.com](http://Northernmistlongbows.com)  
[nmlongbow@gmail.com](mailto:nmlongbow@gmail.com)  
620 Olive Road, Ste. C  
Montgomery, AL 36117

**WILD THINGS**  
ANDREW HARPER  
PO BOX 08  
ESTILL SC 29918  
TELEPHONE 803.943.8818  
[WWW.HUNTWILDTHINGS.COM](http://WWW.HUNTWILDTHINGS.COM)  
[ANDREW@HUNTWILDTHINGS.COM](mailto:ANDREW@HUNTWILDTHINGS.COM)

# President's Corner

By Nick Viau

The Winter Banquet has come and gone and Spring is almost upon us. It was a fantastic banquet. We had 158 in attendance and everyone must have had a marvelous time because there wasn't an unhappy face to be seen.

The banquet is a time of celebration. Sure, you could say that about any MLA gathering, but the Winter Banquet is special. It is here that we recognize members for their achievements both in the field and for their commitment to the MLA. This year we had shining examples of both. We inducted Denny Every into the MLA Hall of Fame for his level of service and longevity and awarded Audrey Watson the Service Award for being an outstanding volunteer. Both were well deserved and I was honored to present the awards.

We also introduced our new game award—the MLA rocker patch. We didn't actually have them ordered yet, so those who received them should be getting them from Thom Jorgensen soon. They are a really cool replacement to the green patches we've been giving out for some time.

Moving forward, the Spring Shoot is up next and it is fixing to be a good one. For those of you who do not know, this is a free shoot for our members and is one of our primary benefits other than this wonderful publication. Attend and you will see how much of a bargain \$20 really is. Our Annual Spring meeting will be on Saturday at 1 p.m. at the L-O-L clubhouse. If you are interested in MLA goings on, the direction of this club, and meeting your new Council, I highly encourage you to come to this meeting. It is important that we get a quorum (ample membership representation) to make important organization decisions. We were out of there in just over an hour last year and are looking to do so again. Don't be shy.

As previously stated, this meeting will be my last as the President of the Michigan Longbow Association. I will continue to serve the MLA,

but not in the capacity I have been for the last few years. My job responsibilities have increased, and at 4 and 6 (soon to be 5 and 7) my girls are get-

ting more involved in things like swimming, gymnastics, Daisy Scouts, and Lord knows what else. It is a very exciting time for me to be a parent and a really busy one. I don't want to miss a moment of it.

I could write volumes about my experience serving on this Council and as your President. I really could. I never thought I would do anything like this, nor did I seek to do it. But it has benefited me in ways I never expected. This is a tough position, but it is a worthwhile one. Even after 30+ years, this organization continues to blossom and having a hand in a small piece of it has been a truly special thing. It has changed my life in all the ways that matter.

I've learned many lessons along the way, but the most important one is this: serving others is good for the soul. And this is especially true if you are serving others under the banner of something special. And we are special. Don't let anyone tell you different. Yes, I'll be leaving you in May, but I'm leaving you in good hands. This Council is full of able-bodied people who love to serve both you and the MLA, and they will do everything in their power to keep the heart of this organization pumping. In other words, I'm leaving, but I'm leaving you in good hands.

Please continue to give them your support. By serving them, you serve the MLA, and you serve yourself. It's a never-ending cycle and every single component is absolutely critical. As our esteemed Secretary once pointed out (and by "once," I mean "every day"), "You get out what you put in." Thank you for having me and God bless you all.



# Michigan Longbow Association

## Regular Council Meeting

Wells Residence  
9687 Beecher Rd.  
Clayton, MI 49235  
March 19, 2017

The meeting was called to order by the President of the MLA, Nick Viau.

Roll Call was taken for MLA Council Members present or absent by Recording Secretary Floyd Wells. (Viau, Buchin, C.Wells, F.Wells, Williams, Burkhead, Jones, Collins, Chappell) The record reflects that board members Jeff Burns, Kevin Bowers and Keith Jackson were absent. Let the record also show that MLA members Heather Williams, Bob Wyman and Chad Graham were present.

Minutes of the January 28, 2017 Regular Council Meeting were handed out by Recording Secretary Floyd Wells.

Motion to accept: Caroline Wells, Second: Steve Chappell. Passed unanimously.

**Opening comments by MLA President Nick Viau.** The purpose of the meeting and an explanation of the agenda.

**New Council Member:** Heather Williams who was attending her second Council meeting had expressed a desire to run for a seat on the MLA Council. She had presented the STICKTALK Editor with a bio expressing her intent. Having open seats the Council determined that a vote could be taken by the current Council to award an open seat to Ms. Williams.

Motion to accept: Nick Viau. Second: Caroline Wells. Passed unanimously.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Membership and Treasurer's Report** was given by Steve Chappell.

Bank Balance for March 16, 2017 is \$21,369.83 plus \$421.60 in the cash box. Total MLA cash balance of \$21,791.43.

We took in \$2,900 for 155 banquet attendees which included 9 nonmembers. \$4,770.10 in Square purchases minus the fees. \$4255 in cash. \$725 in checks. \$12,650 total income.

Expenses for the Banquet were: \$4006.50 for Woodshire, \$500 for the bow giveaway (Greg Coffee), and \$100 in miscellaneous expenses, for total expenses of \$4606.50. Net income from the 2017 Winter Banquet \$8,043.60.

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report made by Jamie Burkhead. Second: Charles Williams. Passed unanimously.

**Membership Report** was given by Caroline Wells. Membership Stats

1. We currently have 527 household memberships
2. 50 have memberships that expired January 2017
  - A. Email renewal reminders will be sent
  - B. STICKTALK will say "Expired" on mailing label
3. 56 New members this quarter
4. There are MLA members now in four countries
5. There are MLA members now in 19 states in the U.S.A.

Motion to accept: Rob Jones. Second: Heather Williams. Passed unanimously.

**STICKTALK Report** was given by Caroline Wells. She reported that the past few issues have boomed with new writers, filling the pages of STICKTALK with a variety of material. The current issue of the newsletter is being worked on at this time. Material is a bit lighter than the past two issues but still enough to fill the self-imposed 40-page limit.

Motion to accept: Rob Jones. Second: John Buchin. Passed unanimously.

**MLA Webmaster** was discussed. The team of Nick Viau and Tom Jorgensen are currently in charge of the webmaster's duties. Jeff Burns has also been added to that team. Nick Viau expressed intent to take more of an active role in the webmaster's duties after he steps down as president this spring.

Motion to accept: Chuck Williams. Second: Rob Jones. Passed unanimously.

**Merchandising:** Rob Jones stated that he would be resigning from the MLA Purchasing Agent position as of the Spring Shoot. A lively discussion followed. The Council is actively seeking Rob's replacement. An appeal will be made at the MLA Spring Shoot and Membership Meeting.

Motion to table: Chuck Williams. Second: Jamie Burkhead.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Personnel Changes at the Spring Membership Meeting**

Vice President John Buchin intends to run for the President's position as Nick Viau is stepping down from the MLA Council.

Rob Jones intends to run for the Vice President's seat and is stepping down from the Merchandising

Agent.

Odd year biographies due from John Buchin, Jamie Burkhead, Jeff Burns.

Keith Jackson intends to step down from the Council at the Spring Shoot.

**MLA Turkey Shoot.** Jeff Burns would like to step down from running the turkey shoot due to the growing responsibilities. Jamie Burkhead has agreed to assist in the running of the project.

**Instructor Renewal.** John Buchin reminded all those Council members who participated in the USA Level I Instructor Course to renew with USA Archery as their 1-year membership is expiring. Nick Viau is looking into an opportunity to find a Level II certification course.

**MLA Storage.** Storage for MLA gear is still an issue. A discussion was held concerning this growing problem. Three choices were presented.

- ♦ The storage garage at the corner of Charlton Park Road and M-79.
- ♦ A building built for the MLA and donated to Charlton Park (per Dan Patton CP Director).
- ♦ A tandem axle trailer that could be hauled to each site of an MLA activity.

After discussion on the prices, it was determined that the MLA Council would contact Dan Patton and see if the Charlton Park Board would permit a building to be placed at the park for use by the MLA. Financing of said building was also discussed. It was determined that this project would be presented by Nick Viau to the membership at the Spring Shoot and Membership Meeting.

Motion to pursue the building of an MLA storage shed: Steve Chappell. Second: Jamie Burkhead. Passed unanimously.

**Youth Program:** John Buchin asked that the MLA formulate an outline complete with budget for the MLA outreach/youth programming. A written set of "How To" directions that would allow anyone to fol-

low a set protocol for safety when manning a shooting booth.

Nick Viau brought up that we need another bow case to carry the MLA kids' bows. He said that he would talk to Rhino Products to see if one could be made.

The MLA is in need of more arrows. The wooden ones that were purchased from 3Rivers have taken a beating and will need to be replaced. It was determined that carbons would be bought this time vs the wood due to carbons longevity. Price comparison to be done by John Buchin and Nick Viau.

Rob Jones motioned for a yearly budget of \$750 for Youth/outreach programming. Second: Steve Chappell. Passed unanimously.

**Memorial Arrows:** Floyd and Caroline Wells brought a new idea to the Council concerning the use of a single personalized arrow to send to the family of MLA members who have recently passed away. Flowers are expensive and there is difficulty in finding florists and funeral locations. Wells' agreed to serve as coordinators for this MLA service.

Rob Jones motioned that \$100 per year be budgeted for this programming. Second: Steve Chappell. Passed unanimously.

**Boy Scouts:** A request by the St. Joseph Boy Scouts was made for instructors to help teach archery on a one-time basis. MLA resources would not be needed other than in the person of instructors.

**MLA Spring Shoot:** Responsibilities were divided up for the MLA Spring Shoot and Membership w/e. Chappel and Burns for the Chili Dinner at 6:00 pm on Friday.

John Buchin for the shooting competition.

Jones and Jorgenson for the American Round.

Burkhead and Burns for the Turkey Shoot.

Nick Viau for Archery Darts.

There will be no Sunday morning breakfast unless the w/e falls on Mother's Day (which it does not this year).

The next regular MLA Council meeting will be held 9:00 am on Sunday, May 7 at the MLA Spring Shoot, L-O-L Club in Fenton, MI.

Motion to adjourn made by Peter Collins. Second: John Buchin. Passed unanimously.

## Marshall Primitive Archery Rendezvous

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# Council Bios

## John Buchin

My name is John Buchin, and I have a passion for the longbow: from the simple elegance of the American Semi Longbow, the Reflex/Deflex designs of today, and the many self-bow styles of yesterday. I have been married to my wife Diana for 15 years, and blessed that she is so understanding in my toxophilia and my obsession with the Wild Turkey.

When I first joined the Michigan Longbow Association, one of the qualities of the membership that stood out, aside from the passion of the longbow and archery, was the tight family atmosphere. Not many clubs lend themselves to making new members feel as warmly welcomed into the family as the MLA. It made me want to give what I could back to the Club. Being a part of something as great as our Club has been very rewarding. Events such as Charlton Park Days, the West Kelloggsville Elementary fun day, and GOYJ are a big part of that in each of these events we get to introduce traditional archery and some of the history of the longbow to large groups of kids, young adults, and even parents. Quite a few of them return to these events primarily to visit our booth. Seeing the joy on kids' faces when they accomplish some-

thing as simple as popping a balloon with an arrow can be quite heartwarming, and I look forward to each of these this year.

We also have more families joining and participating in these outreach events, as well as in the Great Lakes Longbow Invitational. Having both parents and children not just participating, but getting involved in the events and shoots is wonderful! This is planting the seeds for the future of our Club. Seeing kids jumping in to help with events, and even helping other kids to loose an arrow, and seeing they are having fun doing it is quite heartwarming. Continuing these outreach events not only helps continue to develop more family involvement, but also further preserves the longbow for the next generation of enthusiasts.

My heart is full, and I feel that I am blessed to be a part of this, and I wish to continue to do so. In the role as President I would like to continue to pay back, and pay forward the joy and love of the longbow to the Michigan Longbow Association, helping to continue preserving tradition of the longbow for generations to come.



My name is Rob Jones and I have been a long-time member of the MLA. I have served on Council for three years, currently holding the position of Merchandising Agent. I would like to help the President by moving into the Vice President's position.

I'm very knowledgeable of the MLA and the way the Council operates.

## Rob Jones

We have worked hard to bring the MLA to where it is today. I would now like to step up and help in an executive capacity. My love for the longbow has grown over the past three years and my love for this association has grown with it. I would appreciate your consideration as I seek the VP seat in this election.

# Heather Williams

Hello, my name is Heather Williams. I've recently been voted onto the MLA Council. This is a very exciting step for me. Many of you have gotten to know me through the past year's events and through my writing here in STICK-TALK. For those of you whom I haven't had the pleasure of meeting, here's a few of the arrows that make up my quiver.

I'm married to Pops (aka Chuck Williams). This August we'll be celebrating 12 years of wedded bliss/ball-n-chain gang; depending on which of us you're talking to. Together, we have four fantastic kids (ages 19-22.)

I grew up a Navy brat, then joined right out of high school. I had the honor of being a Heavy Equipment Operator for the Seabees. I

now run significantly smaller equipment as a dental assistant.

Raised in the Idaho Mountains, I love outdoor living. My favorite place on the planet involves real mountains, deep valleys, wild rivers and picturesque lakes. Whether I'm nestled against a tree writing poetry or hovering over a smoky fire cooking dinner, you just can't beat it.

I am so happy to be part of this crazy addiction that has taken ahold of us all. Who'd have ever thought a person could get so much satisfaction, so much pleasure, out of some sticks, feathers and string?



## Trophy Hunt!

by Jerry Keck

A 13000-year-old Mastodon was recovered from the county drain that flows through the Fowler Center (our next door neighbor) less than a quarter mile from our house. And as neighbors, we had ring-seats for the dig conducted by U of M. This was the most successful mastodon find in Michigan resulting in recovering more than 70% of the bones.

The Fowler Center is an outdoor learning facility for kids with disabilities. They are great neighbors, and my help with their archery

program gets me fishing access to a lake full of fat bluegills. Also, I'm able to recover deer from their property, which is closed to hunting. Our 100 acres is abutted by the Fowler Center on two sides and deer have never figured out where the boundary lays. The camp director was complicit in creating the attached photo. I've sent it to several old bowhunting friends, explaining that it was hit a bit far back and took a while to recover.



# What's in a Name?

By Heather Williams

People are on both sides of the fence when it comes to naming inanimate objects. I'm a 'namer' myself. Sometimes naming comes along organically. I call my cute little blue Ford Ranger, "Baby Blue." That's mainly because my husband's blue Ford is "Big Blue" and the one prior to that was "Old Blue." (*Ya, we've got a thing for blue Ford trucks!*). Occasionally, naming requires a bit of research. Such was the case for my new bow. It may seem silly to some to think a grown woman would spend her precious time on researching the materials that went into her longbow just to be inspired with a name, but, there you have it.

When Chuck and I went to the Kalamazoo Expo, we knew we were going to be keeping our eyes peeled for a decent used bow for me. I had outgrown my Little Grey. a 29# Black Rhino that I absolutely love. It was an excellent bow to help me figure out form and technique. Now it was time for a bit more poundage. To make things slightly more challenging, I shoot lefty. (*I'm told this just makes me awesome!*) As we checked things out, there weren't any used bows that fit the bill. I had already started working him on the possibility of a custom bow from one of our talented bowyers.

Luck would have it, Chuck spotted her first. A custom built Bear Paw USA, Quick Stick, 40#

@28"/60", bamboo with a Nicaraguan cocobolo riser. Oh, did I mention? Lefty!! When he brought me by to see her, I fell in love. I confess, I was esthetically swayed. Every time we walked by her, my eyes strayed for a glimpse of her slim lines and bold red riser. Apparently, the fella that had ordered it never came through. They say 'Timing is everything.' Well, it was time for a show special and we were in the right place. After several arrows flew from her string, there was no going back. I think Chuck knew the moment he placed her in my hand that we were going home with a brand new bow.

I didn't pack the, as yet unnamed, Quick Stick away just yet. Of course, there was the appropriate amount of showing and sharing that comes with the purchase of a new bow. Maybe a little bit of walking "like a princess" (Thanks Rick!!). My bow had one more task before the weekend was done. While working the membership booth, I got to meet a lot of really great members and future members. One such person was Allison. Now Allison also shoots lefty and is just getting into longbows. Her husband and son were there, already accomplished shooters. After a trial run with Little Grey, we knew she would need a bit more bow. So, I pulled the Quick Stick out, and we headed over to the practice range.





# MLA Winter Awards Banquet Auction Items

Donor	Item	Buyer	Amount
Steve Viau	Birch Bark River Quiver	Ken Scollick	105
G Fred Asbell	Asbell Hoodie	Mark Mingerink	95
Jim Belcher	35# Longbow	Joe Callahan	325
Gene Hickey	Flint-knapped Arrow	Ken Scollick	200
Andrew Zwerk	Two-Tracks Wool Cap	Chuck Butkiewicz	85
John Buchin	Turkey Call	Frank Oltman	55
John Buchin	Turkey Call	Brian Carpenter	75
Jerry Keck	Arrows	Sam Morello	175
MLA	Kids' Arrows	Ken Scollick	120
Gene Hickey	Knife	Caroline Wells	75
Ron LaClair	Pic and GLLI Buttons	Lori Norris	125
Bear Creek Outfitters	Bear Hunt	Cheryl Butkiewicz	1,250
JoAnn Kruko	S'more's Kit	Audrey Watson	60
Joe Callahan	3 Arrows	Ken Scollick	55
Ben Hammond	3 Arrows	Jeff Pelley	50
Howard and Mariska Sheridan	Cherokee Slim Kids' Quiver	Matt Cowie	130
Jerry Zigman	Turkey Target	Lynn Gasiorek	95
Tim Eastman	Suzanne St. Charles Arrows	Brian Carpenter	85
Gene Hickey	Glass Deer	Janet Folske	40
Rick and Sean Butler	Cast Iron Cookware Set	Bryon Jolly	125
Chad Graham	Dozen Arrows	Stan VanLiere	160
Don Gilson	Knapped Arrow	Steve Keck	135
Matt Wirwicki	Selfbow, Sock and Arrows	Ben Hammond	230
Great Northern	Bow and Matching Quiver	Karen Root	775
JoAnn Kruko	Arrow Painting	Ken Scollick	450
Denny Every	Chili Contest	Heather Williams	35
Joe Callahan	Dozen Arrows	Stan Van Liere	200
Rob Kruko	Dozen Arrows	Sam Morello	105
St Joe Riverbow	Dozen Arrows	Thom Jorgensen	70
True North	Paint Kit	Ken Scollick	100
Tim Eastman	Arrow Shafts	Eric Stienberg	45
Tim Eastman	Arrow Shafts	Robert Jones	25
Carl Johns	Taper Tool	Jamey Burkhead	100
MLA	Traveling Bow	Kelly Sauter	85

## MLA Winter Awards Banquet Card Raffle



Card Raffle: Jeff Burns	Stained Glass	Steve Chappell
Card Raffle: St. Joe River Bows	Youth Bow: Otter	Kevin Bowers



# MLA Winter Awards Banquet

## Raffle Items

Donor	Item	Winner
Joe Callahan	Duck Hunting Stuff	Matt Cowie
Great Northern Quiver	Side Quiver	Floyd Wells
Joe Callahan	Smith's Sharpener	David Lucas
Nick Viau	Longbow DVD	Dan Toles
Ken Scollick	Pen	Sean Butler
Ken Scollick	Pen	Audrey Watson
Rob Jones	Coleman Lantern	Tracy Jackson
Heather Williams	Garlic and Herb Challah Bread	Denny Every
Chuck Williams	Wool Hunting Jacket and Pants	Chad Graham
Ole' Olsen	Arm Guard	Jill Burkhead
Sheri Anne Designs	2 Wine Glasses	Lyfia Lucas
Caroline Wells	Silver Arrow Bracelet	Jill Burkhead
Caroline Wells	Gold Arrow Bracelet	Denise Van
Jamey Burkhead	Arrow Coat Rack	Tim Eastman
Rob Jones	Youth Self-bow and Arrows	Jeffery Lizyness
Jamey Burkhead	Essential Oil Diffuser Necklace	Cherity Stienberg
John Buchin	License Plate Holder	Richard Cross
Ron Rohrbaugh Jr	Traditional Bowhunter Book	David Lucas
Nick Viau	Hunting Pants	Rob Jones
Donna Jones	Spa Basket	Rob Kruko
Floyd Wells	5 Pc Big Game Butcher Kit	Andy Wcisel
Floyd Wells	5 Pc Big Game Butcher Kit	Donavan Watson
Caroline Wells	Wild Hunting Toy Set	Caryn Pelley
Paul Gasoriak	Ace Express	Del E Brado
Jamey Burkhead	Crocs	Gene Hickey
Jamey Burkhead	The Witchery of Archery	Andrew Zwerk
Jamey Burkhead	Six Months Among the Indians	Chad Graham
Dan Handy	Quiver	Joe Lucas
Steve Chappell	Journeyman Broadheads	Andrew Zwerk
John McIntosh	Bowfishing Rod/Reel	David Lucas
John McIntosh	Feathers	Frank Oltman
Denny Every	Robin Hood Book	Lynn Keck
John McIntosh	Rogue River Archery Cedar Shafts	Steve Keck
John McIntosh	Rogue River Archery Cedar Shafts	Kelley Sauter
Andy Kohlhofer	Selway MLA Quiver	Mark Mingerink
Audrey Watson	Lady Things	Rob Jones
Audrey Watson	Lady Things	Gene Hickey
Audrey Watson	Lady Things	Donna Haught

Donor	Item	Winner
Audrey Watson	Lady Things	Charity Stienberg
Audrey Watson	Lady Things	Paul Gasiorek
Terry Folts	Knife Keychain Set	Matt Strabbing
Steve Chappell	Judos and Limbsavers	Bob Jones
Steve Chappell	Under Armour Hood	Charity Stienberg
Walter and Cathy Hammond	\$25.00 Gift Card Cabelas	Donna Haught
Tomahawk	Free Shoot Passes	Floyd Wells Clementine Kornder Heather Wir-wicki Kelly Sauter Terry Folts Keith Jackson Caroline Wells Keith Jackson Sam Morello Steve Chappell
Steve Chappell	Solo Quiver	Richard Cross
Steve Chappell	Solo Quiver	Denny Every
John McIntosh	Bag Target	Ben Hammond
Steve Chappell	Arrow Shafts	Matt Strabbing
Steve Chappell	Arrow Shafts	Willie Soto
Bob Wyman	Gadget Adapter	Frank Oltman
Steve Chappell	Lone Wolf Back Pack Strap	Sam Morello
Steve Chappell	Zwickey Broadheads	Bob Jones
Steve Chappell	Tusker Broadhead	Matt Cowie
Steve Chappell	Grizzly Broadheads	Richard Cross
Steve Chappell	Wool Socks	Tristan Zigman Ken Scollick Andy Wcisel
Terry Folts	Money Clip	Richard Cross
Steve Chappell	Soap	Beverly Vasos
Stan VanLiere	Stratobow	Pat Gleason
Ionia Zigman	Camp Pillows	Dan Handy
Rob Gillow	Camping Cutlery	Gerry Zigman
Donavan Watson	Wine	Robin Howell
Steve Chappell	Bow Fishing Quiver	Richard Cross
Steve Chappell	Limb Skins	Richard Cross Richard Haught
Jeff and Jennifer Wilcox	Survival Bucket	Gene Hickey
Eli Ibbotson	Leggins	Erin Mahoney
Denny Shattuck	3 Arrows	Jeff Pelley
Steve Chappell	Phone Protector	Gene Hickey
Thom Jorgensen	Cast Iron Fryer	Jill Burkhead

# MLA Winter Awards Banquet Raffle Items



Donor	Item	Winner
Del Bradow	Knife	Joe Callahan
Elly Ibbotson	Paparazzi Jewelry	Joe Callahan Tracy Jackson
Del Bradow	Cooler	Carole Morello
Ionia Zigman	Chalkboards	Rob Jones Jessica Viau
Audrey Watson	Wreath	Denny Every Tracy Jackson
Steve Chappell	Craft Beer	Tim Eastman Beverly Vasos Mark Mingerink
Greg Denney	3 necklaces	Jill Burkhead Sam Morello Brian Carpenter
Andrew Zwerk	Arrow Matt	Tracy Jackson
John Vasos	Books	Mike Schreiber Steve Chappell Gene Hickey Charity Stienberg Richard Cross Rick Butler
Don And Diana Grice	Survival Kit	Stanley Van Liere
Carl Johns	Eat, Sleep, Hunt	Kathy Hammond
Denise Van	Archer's Basket	Dan Handy
Matt Beard	Hip Quiver	Donna Haught
Lynn Yochem	Coffee Gift Basket	Wendy Clevinger
Sam Morello	Beer	Rob Kruko
Rick Butler	Books	Frank Oltman Chuck Butkiewicz Steve Chappell
Mike and Mary Deppe	Monty Browning Book	Joe Callahan

Donor	Item	Winner
Gene Hickey	Yo Yo's	Tracey Balowski x 3 Matt Cowie x 2 Greg Denny Terry Folts Dennis Harrison x 4 JoAnne Kruko Sam Morello James Reckley Linda Reckley x 4 Denise Van Bob Wyman Elly Ibbotson Randy Huffin
Carole Morello	Hunting Seat	Joe Lucas
Carole Morello	Decorator Arrows	Matt Wirwicki
Dave and Tracy Balowski	Asbell Wool	Ken Scollick
Jerry Brumm	Real Michigan Feathers	Richard Cross
Greg Denny	Horse Mounted Quiver	Bryon Jolly
Sam Morello	Bourbon	Kevin Bowers
Del Brado	Flashlight	Pat Gleason
Denny Every	Trenary Toast	Denise Van Steve Chappell Sam Morello
Denny Every	Chili Challenge	Brian Carpenter Sam Morello
Brian Carpenter	Muffin Bread and Wine	Del E Brado Tristan Zigman Matt Cowie Erin Mahoney Bob Wyman
Matt Cowie	Hand Carved Bowl and Spoon	Rob Kruko
Donavan Watson	Arm Guard	Ken Scollick Clementine Kornder
John Vasos	Robin Hood Print	Ben Hammond

## MLA Winter Awards Banquet \$500 Drawing



Jack Benson was the winner of the \$500 towards a bow of his choice from a MLA-friendly bowyer. Congratulations Jack!

"I really want to thank the MLA and (of course) sheer luck in winning the door prize at the banquet. Funny, I had just told my wife that if she won, she'd have to start shooting

and then my name was drawn. After some re-search, I decided to have Gregg Coffee (Javaman Bows) build my new bow."

Jack Benson 

# Treasurer's Report

By Steve Chappell

2017 MLA Banquet - Another family fun & financially successful Event

On Saturday, February 11, 2017, 155 dedicated MLA family members gathered at the Woodshire Banquet Center in Fowlerville, MI for MLA's Annual Winter Banquet providing the foundation for a strong 2017 and future for MLA. MLA's Winter Banquet is the single most important event for MLA's financial health; it provides the lion's share of the funds needed for the MLA Council to promote the wonders of the longbow statewide through many outreach events and to expose our youth and the general public to the benefit of shooting a longbow. These funds also provide a foundation for the MLA to give back to its cherished, loyal and dedicated membership through things like Banquet-attendance cost below actual cost, 100% free Spring Shoot & Member Meeting as well as discounted pricing on all things MLA for MLA members.

The sheer amount of donations MLA received this year was impressive and humbling. Donations are a window into the value members place in an organization and clearly MLA members love MLA! A big "thank you" to all who shared a possession(s), of theirs with MLA! Then there are those who buy bag raffle tickets and bid and buy auction items. A big "thank you" for taking your money and sharing it with MLA! Many of the auction items ended up being great entertainment for attendees as

bidding battles became humorous events....that in the end benefited MLA in a bigger way.

The 2017 Winter Banquet net benefit to MLA and its members is \$8,043.60. The MLA Council cannot say thank you enough to those who took the time to attend the 2017 Winter Banquet and provide the MLA with a strong financial foundation to see through the missions of the MLA. The MLA Council will take good care of your Association and your money!

The Winter Banquet is also when MLA recognizes a member for lifelong advocacy of MLA and the longbow. As long as I have been involved with MLA, Denny Every has been a larger-than-life person and advocate of MLA and the Longbow. Denny is a stand out (and stands out) at every event he attends. It was his enthusiasm for MLA and the longbow that played a big role in my interest in engaging actively with MLA...and I know he has been an inspiration for countless others. Denny is a highly admired and respected man in my eyes and clearly the eyes of the MLA membership. Congratulations and thank you, Denny Every!

As of March 17, 2017, MLA's income stands at \$21,650.10 with all known expenses paid.





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## ***Banquet Dessert Contest***

by Heather Williams

This year's banquet showed off the finest of our association's gifted bakers. There were so many tasty things to try and none of them disappointed. The competition was tight with many very close to coming in second and third. There was, however, a winner that was a landslide ahead of the rest. Congratulations go to Heather Wirwicki and her sinfully excellent Pumpkin Cheesecake! Second place was awarded to Caroline Wells with her Chocolate Mint Overload. The name is pretty self-explanatory on the amazing taste of this

one. Third place went to Kelly Sauder and her Raspberry Peach Pie, an All-American classic that brought us back to a time of Grandma and Grandpa hosting a large family Sunday dinner, where the food was wholesome, good and there was plenty of it! This year showed off a plethora of talented bakers, from esthetic design to technical difficulty. Thank you to all who participated! You've done a fantastic job of showcasing the well-rounded talent of the Michigan Longbow Association.



## ***Banquet Game Awards***

by Thom Jorgensen

The big news at this year's Game Awards presentation was that we finally ran out of the old Big Game Award patches and we used the opportunity to come up with award "rocker" patches to go over the normal MLA shield patch.

A total of twenty members received Big Game Awards at the banquet, and that includes seven first-time recipients!!! This year we also presented two Small Game Awards. Congrats to

everyone who had a successful harvest in 2016, and thank you to everyone who participated in submitting applications!

For those who didn't attend the banquet, I have a small handful of certificates, patches, and leather fobs on my desk that will be mailed out to anyone I don't see at the Spring Shoot. All who received their certificates and fobs at the banquet will get a rocker patch the next time they see me, or via the mail.





# *Shoulder Therapy*

By Chris Briggs

September of 2016 is most memorable to this writer for its shoulder pain, specifically the right shoulder. That's the arrow hand, for most of us.

After spending much of the summer rebuilding and expanding a deck, Your Correspondent couldn't draw his 58-pound Jerry Hill Wildcat longbow. Turns out that the shoulder is a marvelously complex joint, made of what feels like a highly organized bag of Jello and pretzels. It seems the human body is...squishy, easily injured. This one sure is, anyway. As the 60th birthday approaches, the bendy parts—knees, elbow, shoulder—seem to be less willing to get into archery form...or just out of bed...easily, or even quietly, for that matter.

It didn't show up while I was building a deck all summer, oh, no. Not even casual shooting from the lower level of the nearly finished deck bothered the shoulder. It wasn't until a few weeks before the season opener that the problem became noticeable. In fact, it was so, um, "noticeable" that drawing the Wildcat became

impossible without drawing like a feudal Japanese Kyudo archer. This style becomes pretty conspicuous to every deer in the county when performed 15 feet up in a pine tree. The gasping and sobbing don't help, either. A visit was scheduled with the family physician, and physical therapy was ordered. After several appointments, I could finally draw my homely little sinew-backed Osage bow, at almost 50-pound draw weight. Couldn't draw it gracefully, but could get the arrow back and on target (usually) at 17 yards, so a-hunting we went, carefully observing that range limit.

From the last week of October through November 14, the ugly little bow was the weapon of choice. By the end of early archery season, though, I was still unable to give eyewitness testimony to the existence of whitetail deer in Michigan. I heard owls, saw a mangy coyote, and squirrels by the dozen. I saw so many ravens one afternoon that Edgar Allan Poe would be proud, but no deer. My almost supernatural ability to repel Whitetail Deer from great

distances was at full strength in October and early November. No deer sighted. Well, none in a hunting situation, anyway. My grandson and I did see a marvelous buck November 14...after dark. In the city of Muskegon, under a street-light! No arrows were launched at game, though, and the therapy continued, with much improved use of the shoulder.

My physical therapy is almost complete, as of this writing, with a few lessons learned. Here they are, in no particular order. Knock Out the Practice Time.

First, practice even when you're busy. Take the time to "fling sticks" just to stay interested and limbered up. In hindsight, there were other ways to get that deck done that would have left a little more daylight available for more shooting. Perhaps the problem would have shown up sooner and been dealt with before it affected the archery season.

Hello, Body?

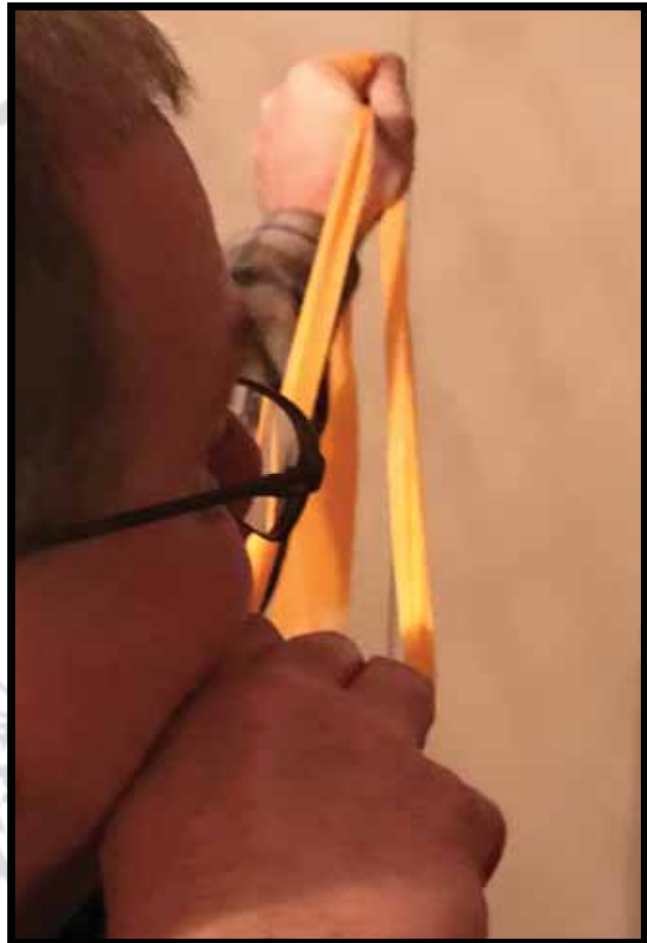
Second, listen to your body. Easy enough for me, since this nearly sixty-year-old body crackles and pops like two ten-pointers sparring over a doe. -Hmm...come to think of it, this could come in handy in early November. No need to carry antlers to rattle, just stand up and take a practice draw.

What's Up, Doc?

A third lesson came during physical therapy. Andrew, the Physical Therapist (DPT), taught me some shoulder exercises with a simple elastic band, which he provided. I adapted it to use

in place of a bow, when drawing a bow wasn't practical. Most employers tend to frown on drawing a bow while working, just FYI. The exercises helped immensely. How Do I Look?

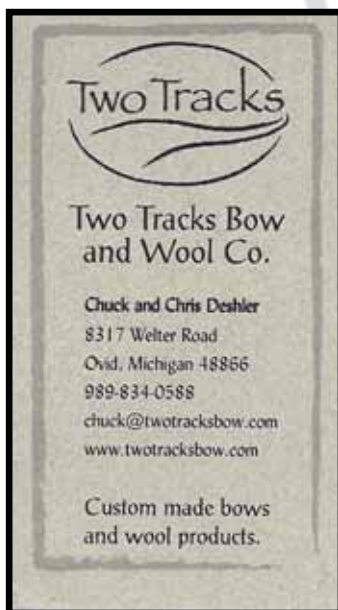
As you can see by the photos, (photo, elastic band drawing) practice drawing the band like a bowstring revealed that I was twisting the Big Rubber "string" at full



draw. I had to correct this to bring the right hand parallel with the left (bow) hand. In other words, form is critical, so use several methods to critique that form, especially if shooting alone. If shooting with a group, try to make sure at least one critical observer has no filter and speaks up regularly. It will help your shooting, as well as providing hours of entertainment...if you can take the sarcasm.

The exercise regimen is still being followed, and next season holds more promise than the last. Now if the deer would just appear during the season, rather than after it is closed...but that's a story for another time. Hope we can meet at an MLA shooting event. Until then...

Your Correspondent signing out.



BIO: Chris G Briggs

Hometown boy (ha!) from Muskegon. Been a hunter and fisherman since childhood, but became an archer and occasional bowyer in my forties. I'm a married toolmaker, and my wife Cindy and I have six children and four grandchildren.

The long history of the MLA is proof that traditional archery and the longbow in particular is the very root of our archery history. It has been etched into our being from the time when man threw down the club and picked up the bow.

Little wonder that the longbow feels so natural, so familiar, because it has been with us almost from the beginning. I believe the bow was inspired by God as his gift to man to aid in his dominion over the beast of the earth. (Genesis 9:2)

By Ron LaClair



## *The Longbow way*

*Deep within, the archers spirit slept  
with fate uncertain and promise not kept*

*Because wheels and cables deceived and lied  
The sleeping archers spirit almost died*

*Then the simple beauty of a longbow's lines  
excited the heart and enthralled the mind*

*The archer's spirit awoke from within  
A life-changing experience soon to begin*

*The joy of sending bright arrows to flight  
The hum of the bow when the release is right*

*The need for companions to share the passion  
The search so rewarding, then after a fashion*

*Brothers and Sisters with longbows in hand  
Became like a family, with just one demand*

*To hold to the spirit of the longbow way  
It's the oath of each member of the MLA*





by Dorothy McElroy



World Dragon Shooting Day was born from the dream of a grieving child. Wyatt Kauth wanted to honor his father who died suddenly. Grief camp helped him design a special day in a special way. Wyatt's dad, Dennis Kauth, had been an artist for Dungeons & Dragons—and also loved archery.

Wyatt dreamed of thousands of archers all over the world shooting at dragon targets to honor his dad. In three years this dream has grown to include archers from 65 countries and 35 states. Thousands of dollars have also been raised for numerous charities in the process.

This year we move to Temperance, Michigan to partner with the Tomahawk Archers. World Dragon Shooting Day will be June 3-4, 2017. Yes, this is a two-day event! We are grateful to

be members of that club and the Michigan Longbow Association. In both clubs we have found an extended family and second home. The support has been overwhelming.

We look forward to supporting two local families in need from our proceeds. Gavin and Nathan Walker lost both parents to a drunk driver. The Jimmy Gretzinger family lost a wife and mother to cancer. In Wisconsin, we are supporting Mustafa Ahmed, a seven-year old battling spinal cancer.

We are looking for vendors to set up during this two-day event. Don't be shy, there is no fee for booths.

Saturday night we will have the Reece Daily band performing.

Every participant will receive an arrow charm at registration. It is our way of reminding you that you're not only shooting for yourselves, but you are impacting the world one arrow at a time and helping others. Everyone has a dragon to slay and it's always easier when you help each other slay them together.

We hope our 4th annual World Dragon Shooting Day will see us continue to grow, prosper, and get closer to our goal of becoming a foundation.

## ***Rena Mary Dee Kowalski*** ***10/8/1944 - 3/10/2017***

Rena passed away on Friday at home with her family by her side. Rena was born in Muskegon on October 10, 1944. On March 26, 1976 Rena married Robert "Bob" Kowalski and their great adventure began. Bob and Rena had 8 children. Rena was a member of the MLA, MTB, White River Muzzleloaders, Benzonia Muzzleloaders, Ravenna Conservation Club, and the

Santa House Program in Montague for 35 years. Rena was also a Hunter Safety Instructor for 20 years.

Rena loved going to archery events around the state and also participated in 1800's reenacting events with Bob. Most of you probably remember Rena in her later years at shoots sitting in front of her trailer knitting as it was hard for Rena to get around. Rena loved to knit and gab with all that stopped by for a visit.

Rena will be greatly missed by all.



# *I Got the Shaft*

By Jeff Wilcox

I was really excited for this year's deer bow hunting season. I am always excited for bow season but this year was just a little different. I had not shot a deer on my property in the last four years since the EHD disaster, but that is a whole different story which I will get into at another time. However, this year looked to be promising as we had started seeing deer again early in the spring.

I set up trail cameras in a couple of my "go to" spots and as suspected the deer herd was on the rise as we had seven different deer on film; however, we only saw two different bucks and both were small bucks but at this point I really did not care, WE HAD DEER AGAIN!

Then during the spring turkey season I had deer encounters on a couple different occasions which added to my already-building expectations. As for the turkey season between my new neighbors and the new apple orchard bulldozing down the trees in the back field by the turkeys roosting area, my turkey harvesting was a bust. However, it did not dampen my deer-hunting spirits.

During the summer I put out a couple mineral blocks near areas the deer frequent often and set up my trail camera. Again, I had several deer on film, but only a couple different bucks. However, multiple deer were hitting the miner-

als in different areas at about the same times so I was staying encouraged. Another exciting thing happened as I ran into the owner of the new apple orchard. I received permission to hunt his entire farm! This was way cool as it was the primary bedding spot and some of the best hunting grounds in our area. YAHOO!

Moving ahead to the first of September on one of my regular roving/stumping/tree stand checking sessions I heard a lot of heavy machinery operating from the new apple orchard area. So I headed over to check things out only to find the orchard owner was putting up an eight foot tall fence around the entire apple orchard cutting me and my neighbors off from the primary bedding areas. As you can imagine, my heart sank in disappointment. Now it made sense to me why the farmer was so pleasant and willing to let me hunt his property: he knew I would not be able to have access to the woods and swamp. During that long depressing walk home all sorts of thoughts and visions raced through my mind. Some of my thoughts were not-so-good thoughts, LOL.

After a couple days of pouting and whining to my wife, I thought maybe all was not lost as the deer on the west side of the fence still will move from that side of the orchard to the lake on the east side of the orchard and vice versa.



So now I had new hope this fence could create a kind of a man-made funnel and deer will have to move on the back side of the fence. I can make this work!

So I moved a couple

stands in strategic spots behind the fence on the northwest corner of the fence then another stand a couple hundred yards north closer to the creek hoping I could intercept the deer traveling between this new man-made funnel. One week later I checked the trail cam pictures and although I did not have near the number of deer I had compared to earlier in the year, at least I had deer. With this, a new hope arose and the vision of venison steaks once again filled my thoughts.

On September 27 a couple days before opening day of bow season I took a quick walk to make sure everything was set for opening morning. As I started to get close to my stand, I could hear some commotion and voices just over the ridge and wondered what the heck was going on. As I crested the hill there was my neighbor (a non-hunter) with his friend (a supposed hunter) setting up a tree stand less than 50 yards from my stand. I pointed to my stand, told him I am already hunting this area, and suggested he move his stand back east and south, but he continued to set his stand up anyway. There was not much I could do about it as they were on my neighbor's property. You could only imagine the emotions going through me at this point.

Fuming and totally disappointed I went to check on my other stand behind the orchard fence and low and behold 35 yards in front of my stand is a new stand actually facing my stand. Unreal! You have got to be kidding me!

That was it. It was almost enough to stop me from hunting at all behind the house. Matter of fact, I did not hunt back there until the end of October! My only saving grace was I was headed north to Grayling for 9 days of bow camp!

Upon my return from Grayling I set up my stands back on my own property and just hoped I would catch some wayward deer moving through the area, which is sad because my valley used to be one of the hottest spots in the area. I sat in the valley several times not seeing any deer until the first week of November when I finally saw a couple of does move through the pines on the ridge out of bow range. The next couple days I did have a few more encounters; that was very encouraging.

November 13, two days before the orange army is released, I thought I would get one last hunt in that evening before the war. The weather conditions were perfect: it was cool, clear with a slight breeze. I could not have asked for better weather. As prime time approached, I reflected on all the great hunts and the numerous deer I had harvested before all the changes of the last four years. It was a very mixed bag of reminiscing emotions.

With daylight fading fast I heard the distinct sound of deer hooves crunching through the crisp oak leaves. I had just enough time to slowly reach up and retrieve my bow off the bow hanger. As I readied myself for the shot, the doe moved into my shooting lane headed directly away from me. Finally she angled slightly broadside to me. I had not had a shot opportunity like this since the EHD breakout four years ago. She was now only 18 yards away from me and did not have a clue I was in the area.



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By now my shooting light was at its end, and I knew it was now or never to shoot! As I loosed my Zigman Wolverine cedar arrow tipped with a 190 grain Grizzly, everything felt exactly right! A split second later I heard that sound that every archer wants to hear, THUD! As the deer bolted up the hill towards the creek, I saw the maze and blue fletchings buried deep past the cresting. However, as quick as the celebration and exciting feeling came on me from the initial hit, the feeling quickly disappeared even faster when I saw the fletchings stuck just below the spine and well above the sweet spot.

All I could hope was that I hit the back lung, but I knew my chances were slim. After sitting there for 15-20 minutes replaying the whole thing over and over in my mind, I got down to check for blood. With only my head lamp for light, I made a quick scan of the area but could not find any blood. So I headed back to the house to get my good tracking light.

Once I got home and changed out of my hunting clothes and found my big flashlight, I headed back to the spot just to look for any positive sign of the hit. Because of the marginal shot I had no intentions of tracking this deer until morning, but I was hoping to find some blood or the arrow. After about 20-30 minutes



of searching, the only thing I found was the torn-up ground where she bolted up the hill. So, it was another long depressing walk back to the house.

The next morning I slept in until 8 am as it took me forever to fall asleep that night. After a quick breakfast of Black Silk coffee and blue-



berry waffles, I headed to the valley in hopes of a great ending to a bad situation, but that was not to be. I was searching for just any clue that might give me hope. I was on my hands and knees searching under every turned up leaf or track left in the soft hill side; not even one spot of blood was found. Once the deer hit the top of the hill the ground was hard and tracks were impossible to see. All I could do now is look for turned up leaves and broken twigs.

From my years of hunting and tracking deer back there I was pretty confident I knew where she would head. So, I headed north towards the creek and after going about 50 yards, I found my arrow, well at least most of the arrow. The arrow was broke off just above the cresting and below the fletchings. So, where is the knock and fletching end? Upon examining the arrow shaft there was very little blood with some tallow and hair stuck to the shaft, but not a drop of blood on the ground anywhere near the arrow.

I am now extremely confident this deer is perfectly fine and she is now well educated about hunting season. Somewhat relieved that I knew the deer was OK, I still wondered where the rest of my arrow went. I spent the next couple hours walking every deer trail headed out of the area until they ended at the creek or the lake, and never found the feather end of the arrow. Even as of this writing on my routine stump shooting excursions I still look for that arrow with the same results, nothing?

So to end this story all I can say is; I did get the "SHAFT!"



My Longbow  
It is part of me, I am part of it.

What is it, about this bent piece of wood,  
A string, and the relationship we share?

Few possessions hold such a place in who I am.  
This assemblage of various woods, resins and string.  
There really is nothing to it. Or is there?

What is it that connects us to this simple machine?  
Surely there are others more efficient.

We spend so much time together, my bow and I.  
We sometimes play fetch in the back yard,  
Sending and retrieving arrows.  
That wooden handle, comfortable in the hand,  
Muscles, and limbs equally exercised.

Without me, my bow is useless.  
It needs me to function, to do its work.  
Without my bow, I feel a hollow emptiness.  
Flexing its limbs, releasing its power,  
Brings an inexplicable calm to my being.

At times, when we are not in concert with each other.  
Frustration, anger, and disgust emerge.  
Not at the bow, but at myself.  
Why, I ask, are we un-synched?  
What have I done wrong?

We share so much adventure together,  
see so many places.  
We've pursued much of what nature has to offer,  
my longbow and I.  
We've sat quietly together for hours,  
Never a spoken word, waiting.  
As the colored leaves rain down upon us,  
We wait for that whitetail buck together,  
In hope together, we can bring it home.

We have slowly slipped across ridges,  
Through swamps and plowed fields.  
Searching. Watching. Listening.

We have scaled mountainsides together,  
Feeling the cool mountain breeze and sunshine upon us.  
Felt the biting cold of pre-dawn frost.  
Felt the heat of an early September afternoon.  
We together have been drenched by storming rain,  
Stiffened by a late December squall.

When feeling down, having that weathered stick of wood  
Can lift my spirit, calm the mind,  
Or ease an aching heart.

The longbow is an ambassador,  
Taking in those unaware of its mystique,  
Slowly wrapping them with joy,  
As their first arrows leave its shelf.

Child or adult alike feel that spark,  
That addiction.  
Discovering the simple pleasure of applied physics.  
From that simple wooden bow,  
It carries many lessons in its curves.  
Perseverance, patience, and humility.  
Stealth, focus, and calm.

Its lessons span time,  
The longbow is a part of mankind.  
From all corners of the earth, it has fought wars,  
Defended the weak, and defeated the strong.  
It's laid food upon the table,  
And fought back the tyranny of evil.

Its challenges are my own,  
As together,  
We marry the hand with the eye,  
The eye with the target,  
And the target with feathered shaft.

This simple bow,  
Of wood, and string.  
We belong to each other.  
For life, together,  
My longbow and I.

by John McIntosh: The Tortured Toxophile



## *Catch!*

by Thom Jorgensen

Every spring a bunch of us take our longbows down to South Carolina to hunt hogs and enjoy a late winter break from the cold. This year 6 out of 7 hunters in camp were MLA members and all were veterans from previous years. It's always nice to see the camp's bow racks filled with longbows!

While I'm happy with the successes I've had while hunting hogs with my longbows so far, there has been one special type of hog hunt I've never succeeded in. A long standing custom in some hunting circles in the South is to catch a live pig, and if it is a young boar to "barr" it so it will produce exceptionally good meat when harvested later. Many places that follow this practice do so with live traps or dogs, but a small group of people do "catch and release" pig hunting by stalking alone. I know about half a dozen people who have succeeded in this endeavor.

The property we hunt doesn't practice barring of hogs and does not use either traps or dogs. It's just a swamp where pigs live out their

lives as they have since they were planted here by the Spanish in the early 1500s. My goal for the past 3 years has been to do a "catch and release" stalk. I've been within 10' twice but those incredibly fast and agile pigs had me out classed and out gunned.

On this trip Steve Angell and I were stalking along both sides of a slough on a nice sunny morning when I caught a little movement up on the high ground. I began glassing hard counting eight young pigs out rooting in some hardwoods. They were nose down and feeding but there was no sow with them. Wind was directly from them to me, and several large trunked trees were peppered between us giving me the shadow side.

I called over Steve and asked him to take some pictures. I put down my longbow and binoculars and I began my approach. I wasn't excited yet as this chase has always ended in failure for me. I figure worst case they will get a good lesson on predators, a lesson that would be better coming from me than a coyote! One

nice-sized tree and a little rise got me from 35 yards down to 20 very quickly. At this point I made a few side steps and started moving forward as most of them were behind another tree while the remaining tails were turned towards me. In just a few minutes with cooperative wind and shadows I made it to a big tree with them just on the other side of it. I picked my moment to step around it until all eight of them either had their eyes down into the leaf cover or were facing away. This was the one extra step I needed to make my pounce.

I grabbed the closest one to me and it turned out to be a young boar. His legs were pumping and his squealing was loud enough to send the remaining brothers and sisters into a run down a trail towards heavy cover. As soon as I lifted him off the ground, his body went limp and he fell silent. I wonder if this is a reaction about mothers moving their young. Steve

came over and snapped a couple pictures and I pointed his nose down the trail his littermates went down and put him down. As soon as his hooves hit the ground, his legs started pumping and he was still going full tilt squealing when he left sight a few dozen yards away. Immediately after that the squealing stopped abruptly: he found his brothers and sisters and they were waiting for "danger" to pass. That ruckus pretty much ended our morning hunt, but it was totally worth it!

NOTE: It should be said that the family structure of feral pigs is unique, and catching or handling of other species can have DIRE consequences. Touching fawn whitetail deer for example can lead to it being abandoned by its mother leading to death by starvation. If you come across any occupied nests or beds, please back out and leave them be.



## Upcoming Shoot Schedule

If your club is sponsoring a shoot where the longbow is welcome, contact us here at STICKTALK (sticktalkeditor@yahoo.com) and we will try to place it on the updated schedule in every new issue.

Date	Event	Location	Contact
May 5-7	Twin Oaks Bowhunters <a href="mailto:twinoaksbowhunters@wordpress.com">twinoaksbowhunters@wordpress.com</a>	1079 Ashley Rd. Chapmansboro, TN	Mark Baggett 931-362-3717 <a href="mailto:markbaggett@detdist.com">markbaggett@detdist.com</a>
May 20/21	Michigan Bow Hunters: First Leg of the Triple Crown	Muskegon Bowmen 2380 Central Ave. Muskegon, MI	Lance DeVoght 586-382-1118 <a href="http://www.muskegonbowmen.com">www.muskegonbowmen.com</a>
May 26-28	Marshall Primitive Archery Rendezvous	Wilder Creek Conservation Club Marshall, MI	Guy Dasher 419-796-7269 Mike Damon 517-795-7987
June 3-4	World Dragon Shooting Day <a href="mailto:worldwidedragonshootingday@gmail.com">worldwidedragonshootingday@gmail.com</a>	Tomahawk Archers Temperance, MI	Dorothy: 262-325-5446
June 9-11	Cloverdale Traditional Nationals	Cloverdale Conservation Club - Cloverdale, Indiana	Jim Voyles 765-342-3047 Eric Voyles 765-349-1326
June 15-18	Compton Traditional Bowhunters Rendezvous <a href="http://comptontraditionalbowhunters.com">comptontraditionalbowhunters.com</a>	Berrien Springs Sportsman's Club 2985 Linco Rd. Berrien Springs, MI	Dave Jarvis 217-772-3144 Dennis Harper 816-739-8990
June 24-25	Michigan Traditional Bowhunter Jamboree	Hansen Hills Recreational Area Grayling, MI	Dick Gardner 616-238-6393
July 7-9	Michigan Bow Hunters Rendezvous: Second Leg of the Triple Crown	Harrison Fairgrounds Harrison, MI	<a href="mailto:2015mbhpres@gmail.com">2015mbhpres@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://michiganbowhunters.com">michiganbowhunters.com</a>
July 14-16	9 <sup>th</sup> Annual Barryton Stick Bow Shoot <a href="mailto:traddoug@live.com">traddoug@live.com</a>	Barryton Conservation Club 3444 18 Mile Rd. Barryton, MI	Doug Jackson 989-644-5920
July 27-30	Eastern Traditional Archery Rendezvous <a href="mailto:Archeryfestivals@hughes.net">Archeryfestivals@hughes.net</a>	Ski Denton 5661 US Route 6 Coudersport, PA	814-435-6653 814-203-0467
Aug 4-6	28 <sup>th</sup> Annual Pine River Recreation Club Stick Bow Shoot: <a href="mailto:brentsinger17@yahoo.com">brentsinger17@yahoo.com</a>	ELM HALL, MICHIGAN 5999 Ferris Road, Riverdale, MI	Brent Singer 989-436-1075 Brian Rockafellow 989-833-2430 Chris Koenigsnecht 989-640-5888
Aug 11-13	Great Lakes Longbow Invitational <a href="http://michiganlongbow.org">michiganlongbow.org</a>	Historic Charlton Park 2545 S Charlton Park Rd. Hastings, MI	John Buchin 269-217-5611 Rob Jones 616-490-7212
Aug 25-27	Lapeer Bowmen's 25th Annual Traditional Archery Rendezvous	Lapeer County Sportsmen's Club 1213 N Lake George Rd Attica, MI	Bob Jones at 248-217-8500
Sept 22-2	MBH Fred Bear Memorial Broad Head Shoot: Last Leg of the Triple Crown	Detroit Sportsmen Congress	Sam Morello 248-410-8794 <a href="http://michiganbowhunters.com">michiganbowhunters.com</a>



# *Anticipation and Reflection*

By John McIntosh

Hunting big game with the longbow is a process. The hunting archer, cut from a different cloth, while sharing similarities with other hunters, has some certain character differences. What fuels us to make it harder? In a world of instant gratification, technology and fast-paced lifestyles, the traditional bowhunter is cut from a different cloth.

Usually early in the year, we set goals for ourselves for the coming season. This typically involves improving our skill set as pertains to our shooting, we may select a different bow, tinker with a different arrow combination. Typically our arrows are not a plain out-of-the-box affair. We take great pride in how they look, with crown dipped colors, cresting and feathers that not only give them style, but they satisfy us in a way that connects them to us, and the bow we shoot them from. Often while sitting at the workbench, hunched over a cresting spinner, enveloped in the aromas of cedar, or pine, glue,

varnish, and burnt feathers, our mind wanders to the forest. We imagine that satisfaction of seeing that newly created shaft disappearing through the chest of our quarry.

Throughout the non-hunting season, while distracted with the rigors of work or home responsibilities, our mind's eye is never far from the bow, and the woodlots and forests.

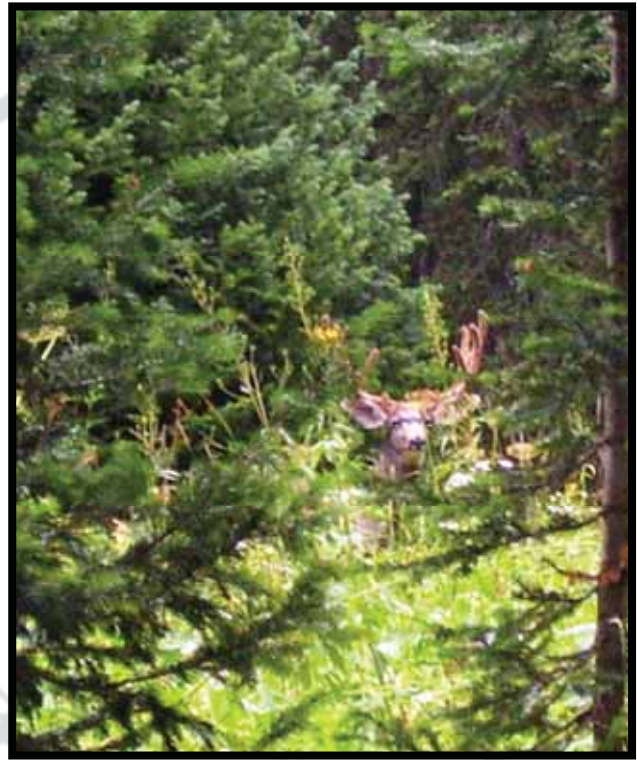
We may catch ourselves practicing our range estimation while walking around the yard or even while grocery shopping. We may spy a distant deer feeding in a neighbor's field, and while quietly admiring it, our eye automatically picks a spot behind the shoulder. The very thought of fresh venison wets our lip, and we anticipate what is to come.

We attend various shoots, expos, and other gatherings of our brethren. We share our stories around campfires and along the trails of a 3D course. One's past accomplishment fuels the dream of another. Our mind wanders to

imagining the yet-unrealized adventure that is available to us. Our grip on the bow handle tightens, our anticipation builds from deep inside us.

For the hunting archer, there is no such thing as just a walk in the woods. As we step off from the world of pavement and people, that first crunch of leaves under our feet flicks that primal switch inside of us. What for some is just a relaxing stroll among the trees, for us its relevance is much deeper. We walk slower. Quieter. We observe more. A blurred track of some unknown predator. An overhanging branch, broken and hanging over a faint trail. When the breeze tickles our face, we make note of its direction and the smells it carries. We notice trees, bushes and blowdowns. We seek out signs of acorns, honeysuckle, and browse lines. We cannot, in our nature, just walk in the woods. We feel as though we are missing a limb if our longbow is not in hand, accompanied by that quiver hanging from a hip or shoulder.

Distant pursuits of game take on a whole new level of anticipation. Getting tags, studying maps, phone calls, more mapping, readying our camp gear and our tools of the hunt. A primal attraction to bench-made knives honed to razor sharpness, a good pair of boots, and the warmth of a wool hoodie. The smell of wood smoke and bacon as we prepare to head into the stand. The crackling fire, a good cigar and a bourbon in the evening after a day pursuit. In the shadow of the dancing flames, the light of the fire reflecting off our longbow, dutifully hung from a peg or branch nearby.



We fuel our adventures in our preparations. Let's be honest, we find success in far more ways than an animal taken. While that is our ultimate goal, we are accustomed to finding success even when we never notch a tag. Many hours on a stand, or slowly stalking through cover thick and thin, affords us opportunity after opportunity to experience God's creation with a closeness those who do not do what we do never achieve. Then in an instant, our plans come together, and every bit of our preparations are tested to the limit.

How many, as you read this, can recall that at that moment of truth, rarely does everything come together without a flaw? Without some THING that threatens to upend our plan in a millisecond. A squeaking treestand. A crunched leaf beneath our boot. An arrow slipping off the string. A cough, a shifting breeze, or just a wary animal spotting us as the moment of truth is at hand.

As our vision narrows, our breath quickens, and our heartbeat suddenly becomes apparent; it is at this moment when life and death become destined to collide. We suddenly become unaware of the entire world and expect the game we seek to collect.

We forget the cold feet and hands, the dripping nose, the tickle in our throat, the mosquito

in our eye. How is it time can slow to a crawl, yet seem to race out of control at the same time? As we study every move the animal makes, (ears, eyes, nose, feet) we draw upon our past experiences to guide us to the fateful moment. It is often said, wisdom comes from experience. Experience comes from mistakes. As our heart races, our brain, in hyper drive, runs all of that wisdom through our thoughts, subconsciously, until we put thoughts, plans and anticipation into the action of loosing our arrow.

To me, there is no greater silence than being deep in a wilderness forest. No traffic noise. No sirens. No phones ringing. No music. Just peace that affords a man time within himself. We begin to hear what we have missed since the previous autumn's time afield. It calms and cleanses the soul. But there is only one other thing that brings upon another level of silence.

As our animal finally positions for an ethical shot within our effective range, and string and fingers meet against our cheek, then part ways, as the arrow strikes and our quarry dashes off.



The world stops cold in its tracks. No wind. Not a squirrel or chipmunk stirs.

The birds fall silent. Not a leaf rustles. For a brief moment, there is total and complete silence. In that short moment, as we soak it in, we instantly reflect on all that brought us to that point. Then slowly, we hear our breathing. Our heartbeat. Slowly, the breeze that stopped cold rustles a few leaves. In the distance, a bird resumes its song and another, followed by another. Our thoughts return to us, and the tasks that lie ahead. We may rejoice, we may feel a pit in our gut that comes with a missed shot.

Again our world speeds up, our mind races to replay the event through our mind. Our hands and feet shake. Adrenaline has its way with us as we wait to take up the trail. Leaning back against a tree, all those moments, hours and days of anticipation and preparation come crashing through us. We notice we grip our longbow tighter, and reflect on it all. And give thanks. For this process, while perhaps played out many, many times over many years, is different every time. It fills our soul.

It's what makes us who we are.



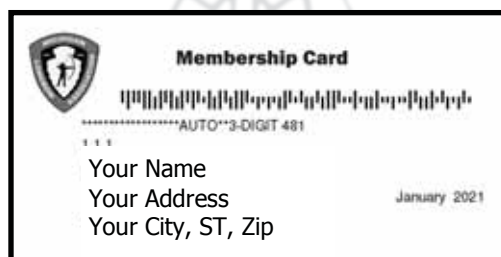
# Welcome New Members And Those That Have Been Away...

Ron Akey  
John Rufner  
Jeffrey Pruitt  
Tyler Kuipers  
Andrew Kemp  
Gabriel Forster  
Michael Creager  
Richard Boose II  
Lisa and Willie Soto  
Nancy and Jerry Keil  
John and Coby Kopec  
Peggy and Louis Urban  
Kara and Joel Ganow Jr  
Renee and Darryl Brinks  
Becky and Keith Stockford  
Sarah and Robert Plane Jr  
Katie and Charles Eastman  
Jessica and Jason Livingston  
Charlene and David Borgeson

Jennifer and Gerald Schondelmayer  
Pat and Richard Shunkwiler  
Selway Archery Kohlhofer  
Michelle and Roger Cook  
Katya and Marc Wilborts  
Val and Dennis Kleiman  
Tara and Craig Ziecina  
Sarah and Eric Nichols  
Kathy and Neil Heller  
Sally and Jeff Nichols  
Janet and Jim Brode  
Christopher Gainey  
David Thompson  
Russ Smothers  
Randy Huffine  
Erin Mahoney  
Argil Barrett  
Dale Rourke  
Brent Cole

Scott Ray  
Cory Franks  
Daniel Frein  
Joe Highfield  
Gary Swinton  
Richard Kemp  
Darrel Williams  
Thomas Cannon  
Nicholas Milliman  
Clementine Kornder  
Amy and Chris Gault  
Laura and Rob Gillow  
Matt and Deanna Ortiz  
Charles and Lexie Burns  
Charlene and Dale Kuder  
Briget and Josh Schaeding  
Timothy and Donna Booth  
Barryton Conservation Club  
Janet and Robert Czarnopys

## Your Mailing Label is your Membership Card!



The MLA keeps growing at an exciting rate! To keep pace, new innovations were instituted at the 2016 MLA Spring Shoot and Membership Meeting. You will be happy to know that your membership is now calculated on a quarterly basis, giving the member and the membership secretary a more accurate date of renewal. Please refer to your STICKTALK mailing label as it is actually your new membership card! No more waiting for a response or looking for

your card. It has the pertinent information already on it including your date of renewal. So, cut the mailing label off your copy of STICKTALK (or bring the entire magazine), stick it in your wallet, and you will be ready to flash your ID for MLA discounts at all our MLA functions. Congratulations on being a member of the greatest longbow organization in the nation! Welcome to the Michigan Longbow Association!



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## Michigan Longbow Association Spring Shoot and Membership Meeting

Land-O-Lakes Archers  
10380 Hartland Road  
Tyrone Twp.  
Fenton, Michigan 48430

As everyone can see by the Membership Report in the MLA Council minutes, this organization continues to grow by leaps and bounds. One of the perks of being a member of the Michigan Longbow Association is the MLA Spring Shoot and Membership Meeting at Land-O-Lakes Archers, 10380 Hartland Road, Fenton, Michigan. The dates are May 5, 6, and 7, 2017.

Remember that this is a "**members-only shoot**." It is not open to the public. It is one of those special perks for being an MLA member. As a current member, you may camp and shoot for free....that's right....no charge. You may use arrows of any material but field points only, unless on the broadhead range. As with any MLA shooting activity, this is a **longbow only** event. Most campers roll into the grounds late Thursday and all day on Friday, but be advised the shoot does not start until Friday!

There will be room for trailers, tents and pop ups, but be advised most camping trailers will want to stay in the first parking area below the club house. Since space in that area is quite limited, we ask that



you park your RV perpendicular to the tree line, NO HORIZONTAL PARKING. Once you top the hill, flat areas become even more limited and most of those places are commandeered early on. The ground at the L-O-L club ranges from sand to loam and when wet can be a pretty slick place to park an RV. The positive thing is that it dries very quickly and never becomes a quagmire unless driven on at the wrong time. There is an outdoor shower, but it is quite primitive; most campers bring their own. There will be porta potties at various locations on the grounds.



There will also be access to wood for fires and water for your portable containers.

The ranges open on Friday and will include 3Ds, a broadhead course, night shoot and pumpkin shoot along with various contests and novelties. You are not limited, but welcomed to shoot as much as you like. The kids' piñata will be there as will the American Round. Team contests and an archery dart game are also being planned.

At 6 pm on Friday evening the MLA Chili Challenge will be contested at the club house. Please bring a can or pot of chili to add to the communal cauldron. You may also want to share a side dish like bread, crackers, cheeses, toppings, desserts, etc.

At 1 pm on Saturday the annual membership meeting will take place at the club house. Please mark the date and time on your calendar as it is very important that we have everyone present to vote on the pressing issues of this growing organization.


Later that day at 6 pm we will again gather at the club house for supper. Everyone brings their best dish to be enjoyed by all, buffet style. Later string music and hunting stories can be heard around the fires as folks retire to their camps after a full day of fun.



Sunday is always a sad day at all the summer shoots as folks begin to pack up and head home. The ranges will close and targets will be removed by mid-afternoon. Before you leave the grounds please make sure that all the trash is picked up and fire pits filled. Remember that this is only the beginning of the camping season so make plans to meet your friends at the next trad event where a large contingent of Michigan Longbow Association members will gather to share the longbow lifestyle. We will see you soon!



**Matt Wirwicki**  
Primitive Archery & Tackle



13850 Shaftsbury Rd.  
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Email: [mattwirwicki@yahoo.com](mailto:mattwirwicki@yahoo.com)

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# One More Arrow

By Matt Wirwicki

Every year immediately following the close of the Archery Deer Season in Michigan, it's time for me to quit playing and get back to work. It is during the cold winter months that I get re-acquainted with my splitting wedges, drawknives and rasps. For myself once again it is the season for splitting osage, peeling bark, chasing growth rings and making a lot of yellow sawdust. The unending pile of osage scraps gets stuffed in my workshop's wood burner turning an otherwise wintery cold work area into a place comfortable enough for a T-shirt. It's when after work and on most weekends, I begin stockpiling selfbow blanks for the upcoming shoot season. I work hard and steady on these until our first shoot of the season which comes at the end of April. I try to have a couple dozen completed for the trip to Tennessee. For me, it's almost become a second job.

At the end of January, I take the weekend off for the Traditional Bowhunters Expo in Kalamazoo. The family comes along and enjoys a



<p><b>2017 SHOOT SCHEDULE</b></p> <p>JANUARY 15 - POLAR BEAR</p> <p>FEBRUARY 19 - MIXED GAME</p> <p>MARCH 19 - ALASKAN WILDERNESS</p> <p>APRIL 23 - PREHISTORIC</p> <p>MAY 20 &amp; 21 - TRADITIONAL WEEKEND COMPOUND SHOOTERS WELCOMED</p> <p>JUNE 3 &amp; 4 - WORLD DRAGON SHOOTING DAY</p> <p>JULY 23 - AFRICAN SAFARI</p> <p>AUGUST 20 - ELK AND MULEY</p> <p>SEPTEMBER 10 - WHITETAIL WARMUP</p> <p>Work Party each Saturday before shoot</p> <p>Registration is from 9:00am-1:00pm Adult shooters ~ \$10 Youth 13yrs+ ~ \$5 Cubs always shoot free</p> <p>FREE LESSONS AND EQUIPMENT RENTAL ON SHOOT DAYS</p> <p><b>TOMAHAWK ARCHERS</b></p> <p>• Leagues begin first week of January • Clubhouse Phone: (734) 847-1748 Email: TomahawkArchers@yahoo.com</p> <p>* Sorry, no crossbows</p>	<p><b>ST. JOE RIVER BOWS</b> One of a kind, handcrafted custom longbows and recurves</p> <p>427 S. Walker St. Bremen, MI 48828 ph. (517) 617.3658 www.sjrbows.com</p> <p>"We may not build the best bow, but they sure love ours"</p>	<p><b>Lost Nation Archery</b> Larry &amp; Janice Murray Traditional archery equipment and supplies</p> <p>When "Traditional Archery" meets "Traditional Service"</p> <p>www.lostnationarchery.com www.lostnationbows.com 36301 Maudsley Rd, Hoagie, MI 49891</p> <p>Office: 248.840.7889 Phone: 248.423.4401 Fax: 248.429.4401</p>	<p><b>TRADITIONAL BOWHUNTING</b></p> <p>Don't miss the 2017 season! We have everything you need to get started or improve your skills. We have a large selection of bows, arrows, and accessories. We also have a large selection of clothing and gear. We have a large selection of food and drink. We have a large selection of everything you need to get started or improve your skills.</p>
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get-away weekend spending most of their day in the hotel's hot tub and pool. The bow blanks I made up to then come along for the ride, but usually make their return trip to another home. So, when we return it begins again.

It's a passion; a labor of love, so they say. In the tradition of passing it on, I feel an obligation to help any archery enthusiasts who have a desire to make their own bow. To give back what was taught to me, a long time ago. It can be a lonely stretch of winter dedicated to the workshop, with the wife and kids doing things without me. And as for the wife and especially the kids, they miss the time usually spent with their husband and daddy.

This year has been a little different...

A couple of years ago, I began making knives. It was a satisfying diversion from osage and bow strings which at times is needed. Some fellas I know in Tennessee were doing it and showed me how. I made several since then which I mostly gave away or used as barter fare. Most important for me was the diversion. My wife who's always had a fascination with knives saw what I was doing and expressed an interest. She asked if I could show her how to make knives, and so I did. She's a farm girl at heart; her hands aren't the softest

and she often breaks a nail, yet I still had some apprehension to turning her loose in the workshop on my power tools. A broken nail is one thing, a lost finger is another. She took off with it after showing her different

ways of doing things and now has methods of her own that work well for her. And so far, some really nice knives and no missing fingers.

My youngest son since birth joined me at times in the shop. Of course, he didn't have much choice back then. He wasn't able to crawl at that time so he couldn't escape if he wanted to. Sitting in his bouncy chair atop my workbench at less than a year old, I remember his fascination with how I screwed and unscrewed a C-clamp. His big eyes followed my



*Perforate at line, send to address on back.*

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**All Michigan Longbow Association memberships are family memberships and run quarterly.**

every move, taking in everything I was doing while his baby ears were undaunted by the loud noise of the Shopvac and the sharp squeal of pushing a 6-foot log through a bandsaw with a dull blade. Beginning this year and now at four years old, he joins me every night after work and all day long on the weekends. He plays through the sawdust with his toy cars and pretends a lot of things, but enjoys most of all rummaging through my toolbox for a hammer, file or sharp object he can use on a piece of scrap wood. He's figured out "righty-tighty" and "lefty-loosey" squeezing three dimensional things flat in my spare bench vise. He makes swords, guns and bows of his own with scraps that look close to the real thing. He kills boxelder bugs that collect on the warm, sunny window glass and shoots make-believe racoons through the door to the backyard. Ironically, his newest favorite thing is "helping" daddy by turning on the bandsaw (when I'm ready) and the Shopvac.

This past weekend, the oldest son was off spending the weekend at a buddy's house after a Friday night track meet. The rest of us decided after a productive Saturday completing bow blanks to spend Sunday making things just for ourselves. During my sinew backing weekend at the Expo, I sinew backed what was to be a

new bow for Wee-Wicki and another for myself. The sinew had plenty of time to cure and they weren't going to make themselves so we got started. While we worked on the bows, Momma made a couple knives. Little Dan and I started on the small bow. We strung it up, identified which limb was strong and removed wood where that limb was stiff. We went on balancing the limbs, making pencil marks and filing them off, removing just enough wood until my little archer could bring it to full draw. With our eventual success, we reached into the freezer and pulled out some snakes that the little guy caught and saved last summer. We thawed them out and carefully peeled ("Eeew," he says) the skins. He helped pin down the snakeskins so they'd dry and be ready for applying to the back of the bow. Then we worked on my bow and finished it, just the same. We will put the skins on them both Monday evening after I get home from work, taking another evening off from making blanks. It was a great weekend of both productivity and fun. The best thing is that we spent it together doing things we enjoyed doing in the bow shop. Things we could do together. Though space is limited, we accommodated each other very well, and we didn't trip over ourselves or cut off any fingers.



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*Perforate at line.*

## ***Accept The Challenge Michigan Longbow Association***

Please make check or money order payable to:

**Michigan Longbow Association**

**Mail To:**

**Caroline Wells**

**9687 Beecher Rd**

**Clayton, MI 48103**

*You can also conveniently purchase or renew your membership online at:*

[www.michiganlongbow.org](http://www.michiganlongbow.org)

Any questions? Please contact Caroline Wells

Phone: 517-673-7531

E-Mail: [sticktalkeditor@yahoo.com](mailto:sticktalkeditor@yahoo.com)

# Michigan Longbow Association



## Spring Shoot and General Membership Meeting

**May 5-7 Hosted by LAND-O-LAKES BOWMEN in Fenton, MI**

*Free weekend shoot and camping for all current MLA members!*

### **FRIDAY, MAY 5**

**NOON: 2017 MLA Spring Shoot Begins**

**6:00 PM: Chili Cook-off & Dinner**

**Location: Indoor Range Building**

**Please bring chili for the communal pot or a side dish to pass**

### **SATURDAY, MAY 6**

**9:00-DARK: Novelty Shoots, Contests and 3D Courses and MORE.**

**1:00 PM: General Membership Meeting**

**Location: Indoor Range Building**

**(The American Round and Piñata Shoot begins 1/2 hour AFTER the meeting concludes)**

**6:00 PM: Pot Luck Dinner**

**Location: Indoor Range Building**

### **SUNDAY, MAY 7**

**7:00 AM: Ranges Open**

**4:00 PM: Conclusion of the 2017 MLA Spring Shoot**



**ADDRESS: Land-O-Lakes Bowmen, 10380 Hartland Rd., Tyrone Twp. MI 48430**

***STICKTALK***

Caroline Wells  
9687 W. Beecher Rd  
Clayton, MI 49235

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