



THE UNITED Summer 2022 BOWHUNTER



Official Publication of The United Bowhunters of Missouri



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Summer 2022

Calendar of Events

July

1st-31st: Ticks get fat eating on hardcore squirrel hunters

August

Fall bear seasons open in various states and providences

September

15th: Missouri archery season opens!!!

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Newsletter submissions must be done using a word processing program like Microsoft Word and must be submitted in an electronic format. Typed and handwritten hard copies will no longer be accepted. All effort will be made to use any submission sent but preference will be given to submissions that have photos accompanying them.

Submit all photos and stories to: Darren Haverstick, Editor
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It is the purpose of The United Bowhunters of Missouri to support and upgrade the sport of bowhunting and foster a spirit of sportsmanship.

The United Bowhunter is published quarterly by The United Bowhunters of Missouri for the membership. This publication is a public forum available to the members to voice their ideas, concerns and to share their experiences.

Written materials, photos and artwork for publication are welcome. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with the materials you would like returned. The editors can assume no responsibility for any submitted materials.

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— On the Cover —

Dan Novotny's amazing 45-yard shot at the WHC shoot

deadlines for submitting copy and pictures to The United Bowhunter
Mar. 10th, June 10th, Sept. 10th, Dec. 10th



BY THE TIME YOU ARE READING THIS, we should all be packing up for our great trip to Marshall, MO. for

the Rendezvous. I am quite excited myself just to gather and catch up with everyone. We should all keep our prayers towards clear weather this year, but I expect we will make do and figure out a way to fling arrows one way or the other.

In other news: This year's Board elections are due to be sent out this week of this writing. I just want to make a final plea to everyone that the future of this organization depends on both new and old blood staying involved. As of now, we are looking at some potential voids that I'm crossing my fingers will be filled, so be sure to throw your name in the hat in 2023!

I can't tell you how excited you should be about our current Board members. I believe in the next year, with William Brown potentially at the helm, that some great times and ideas are ahead of us. These guys have a heart and mind for the future of this club.

I was honored to be on the Board for 6 years. I know that's a rookie number for many of you, but I did the best I could do to help, and with the personal time I had (which just wasn't enough for what we need) when it came to the presidency, but I feel confident that there are others who can and will give it their all when it comes to the top leadership. All I will say is thank you for giving me the opportunity to work with all of you on the future of this organization. I truly love this club and the people in it!

I'll be spending the rest of the

year jumping into my job, business, substitute teaching opportunities, and my other part time job for the rest of this year, along with a new position on my city council, so my time will be substantially filled by the time you equate an energetic, soon-to-be 3-year-old.

Anyway, I hope you are all sharpening your skills for the three-person scrimmage. I embarrassed myself last year, so I'll be putting some arrow time in for the next couple of weeks!

Have a great summer, everyone!

Ethan Grotheer




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I ENJOY UBM ACTIVITIES, especially the members, who willingly share their time and talents. As many of you could tell, I was caught off guard when presented the 2021 Member of the Year award at the Winter Festival. I was humbled and somewhat befuddled, but at the same time, felt proud or honored to be recognized. When arriving home, the plaque was hung among pictures of myself with Glen St. Charles, Fred Bear, Earl Hoyt and Maggie McGee. Thank You UBM.

The UBM Festival continues to be a success. Thanks go out to those who planned, scheduled, coordinated, and then worked their tails off throughout the weekend. It doesn't "just happen".

I enjoyed the seminars, the silent auctions, and made my annual purchase of archery repair materials (mostly for kids and grandkids). We had a fine dinner, entertaining speakers and a well done auction. Did you notice we have members who are naturals at being emcees with a good stage presence?

I have searched music stores, resale shops, antique malls, even online for recordings by Ken Beck. Maybe I am looking in the wrong category. That was country wasn't it? It's hard to believe that Ken,

"Won't Need This Bow No Longer".

Larry Hudson will take good care of it.

A few years ago, I was explaining (complaining) to Ken about not

drawing a Wyoming Elk Tag until in my 80's. He confronted me with, "What's wrong with that?" He is in his 80's. Ken's contribution to archery, and especially UBM, sets a standard for all of us. As I returned to my table at the banquet, he put his hand on my shoulder and whispered, "Us old guys still got it!" Ken brings out the best in all of us.

I started shooting a bow in my teens. My first bow was a lemonwood longbow. I've been a member and held various positions in several bowhunting organizations. We have seen a tremendous surge in bowhunting, significant changes in equipment, and many changes to hunting regulations. With all this change, it is difficult for an old timer to find a comfortable fit. UBM works for me. UBM is recognized for their values and integrity and ethical behavior is a standard. UBM's personality is recognized by other organizations and those communities we serve and become involved with.

One last editorial. I look forward to the quarterly newsletter. I like the stories and happenings, along with schedules and announcements. I read it online and again when I get the hard



copy. It's the thread that weaves us together until we can be together at our two major annual events, Winter Festival and Summer Rendezvous. Darren Haverstick has done an outstanding job chasing input and publishing. He shouldn't have to chase or ask for input. Share a story, an announcement, comments or just pictures. Without the newsletter, we'd be like a boat without a rudder. Poor steering and questionable direction. We got a good thing going. Let's support it. ■


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I WANT TO REMIND UBM MEMBERS TO NOT forget the fun that bowfishing can be. I had a chance to get out this weekend. It was a cool, late spring morning. I practiced my stalking skills, on carp that is. It didn't take long to get into some action. Remind yourself to aim low; that sounds easier than it is. Especially when you spend most of your time trying to hit a target and not to miss low.

Your equipment doesn't have to be fancy or expensive. Remember, this is wet and muddy. If you're lucky, you'll have a fish-slime covered adventure so it's not a good time to bring out the Black Widow or Wild Horse Creek bows. My weapon of choice for bowfishing is my \$35.00 flea market find. It's a Shakespeare Sierra 40-pound at 28" with a reel seat given to me. I bought a Zebco 808 fishing reel to use and the fish arrows and line I already had. The biggest expense I had was the \$4.60 a gallon gas, but that's another story.

My Wife, Joan, tagged along to get her morning walk in and to take some pictures (don't forget the bug spray).

Back to shooting - Unless you are good at snap shooting, this could be the start of some bad habits. Some shots do have to be made quickly as the muddy waters at Dresser Island don't allow a lot of time to aim. But it was a good time and followed with a breakfast at Hardees when we were done.

Give it a shot. Make new or different memories.



James Barker



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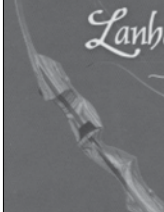
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AS I WANDERED AROUND THIS YEAR'S UBM Festival in Springfield Missouri, I enjoyed visiting with old and new bow hunting acquaintances. If you were there, you might remember seeing an old guy walking around with his shoulder in a sling. That would be me. Too many years of waving a fly rod at trout, along with years of shooting a bow, finally caught up with me. I was to the point it hurt to fish and hunt, so rotator cuff surgery seemed the best avenue for me. Many at the banquet offered words of encouragement, and some shared war stories from surgeries gone by.

One of the absolute best parts of the weekend, was a shooting seminar put on by Mr. Tom Clum Sr. As I sat with my drawing arm anchored to my side with the sling, it felt as though Mr. Clum was speaking directly to me about shoulder injuries. His discussion and demonstration of proper back tension and follow through, sure made a lot of sense to me as I sat injured on the sideline. With age, I finally figured out that all that weight we thought we needed to shoot when we were young and bullet proof, wasn't really necessary. I'm not knocking heavy weight bows, I just can't shoot them very well anymore. With my recent surgery, I was forced to go to an extremely light bow, or not shoot at all.

After the surgery, I set two goals for myself. The first was to be fly fishing in June. The second was to be shooting a 52-pound recurve for a September elk hunt in Wyoming. I discussed this with my surgeon, who agreed these were realistic goals, assuming I worked hard on the physical therapy. As an old, retired guy, I'm pretty much a bum and could devote whatever time was needed for recovery. Six weeks after surgery,



Bearing down on a pesky Shelbina zombie.

the sling went away, and I could finally start moving my arm and shoulder. I immediately began to see improvement in strength and range of motion.

There are few things I enjoy more than chasing Kansas turkeys with a bow, but after surgery, I had pretty much given up on the idea. As April approached however, I wondered if there was any way I could pull it off. I asked my physical therapists if they thought I could pull a "little kid's" bow without hurting my shoulder. I could tell they weren't too crazy about the idea and put me off for a couple weeks. I explained how I would only be holding 27 pounds at full draw. For Pete's Sake, that's what we used to pull in junior high gym class. They agreed I should be able to do that without doing my shoulder any harm and I took that as the green light.

My lightest hunting bow was 40 pounds at my draw length. I remembered how recently a friend had given me an old Ben Pearson recurve to pass onto my grandson. The old bow didn't have a string and it looked like it had been dragged down a gravel road behind the truck. Since I don't quite pull 28", the bow scaled a whopping 27 pounds at my draw length. It seemed to be a perfect candidate for an old guy with a bad wing. I bought a string at the UBM festival and began looking for arrows spined light enough for shoot from 27 pounds.

Not having any shafts that weak, I knew just who would. I made the trip to Shelbina, MO to my friend, Rusty Hammond's, archery shop. Rusty owns Salt River Outdoors and is a great guy. He is very knowledgeable about setting up a stick bow to shoot a good arrow. After trying several shafts, we ended up



Rusty watches my arrow flight.



27-pound Ben Pearson meets 23-pound gobbler.

with a full-length shaft in a 600-spine arrow. I put on a three bladed Woodsman and at Rusty's insistence, began pounding a "zombie" target down range. I figured if 27 pounds would take out a zombie, it would surely do the job on a gobbler from the Sunflower State!

Two days after leaving Rusty's shop with a handful of arrows, I was setting up my blind and strategically placing decoys for the opening morning hunt. The next morning, I slid into the blind with my "kid's bow" well before first light. Anticipation was running high, as I strained to hear that first gobble of the season. It was a textbook hunt, as not far away a barred owl broke the silence. On cue, an old gobbler fired back at the owl and I knew this was going to be a good morning. Soon the air was filled with gobbles, as six or seven other birds joined the chorus. For a minute, I thought I was back in Missouri in the glory days. These are the times that turkey hunters live for. I closed my eyes and soaked up all the sounds of a waking morning.

One gobbler seemed to really like the sexy sounds from my slate call, and soon I could see a big black ball about 85 yards down the field. The bird slowly strutted closer, then held up briefly at about 60 yards to put on a show for his new love interest. After a little more coaxing on my part, the old boy again started my way and I felt this might just be a really short season.

Bowhunting turkeys is rarely easy, and just when I thought the old gobbler had committed to check out my decoys, he folded out of strut and high tailed it for the timber. I immediately began looking for the coyote

or whatever had foiled my plans, when I heard and spotted the road grader. I watched the grader for the next hour or so go up and down the road right where I was hunting. It was almost like he knew I was there and didn't approve. Nonetheless, the grader finally left and a response to my cackle told me the old gobbler was still around and very much interested.

It was then that I heard footsteps in the leaves. My eyes followed the noise to a string of several hens, headed for my decoys. I still hadn't seen the strutter yet, but soon heard the unmistakable spit and drum of the big boy at about 20 yards. The only thing cooler than an old gobbler spitting and drumming at 20 yards, is an old gobbler spitting and drumming at about six to eight steps. This morning he would not get that close, nor would he beat up the jake decoy where my video camera was focused. Instead, he followed the hens, who were heading back to the woods. One hen approached a decoy to the side of the blind. She seemed fascinated by the decoy and



Two old turkeys in Kansas.

made all sorts of sounds one rarely hears unless they are mere feet away. Meanwhile, the strutter was putting on a show for said hen. At 14 yards, the old tom was in full strut and fully broadside. With a very light poundage bow and one I had not had a chance to shoot a whole lot, I was wanting the shot to be a little closer. A broadside, strutting bird is my favorite shot, as I know where I need to hit to get the job done. Other angles can be difficult to figure out and I try to avoid them.

As the string slipped from my fingers, the old Ben Pearson sent an arrow to the exact spot I was focused on. With only 27 pounds to push the 3-bladed broadhead and arrow, penetration was minimal, but probably as perfect as it gets. The Woodsman did not penetrate the far side of the bird, thus leaving the broadhead right where it needed to



Tom showing his stuff for the dekes.

be to work quickly. Upon impact, the bird jumped up and did a flip, landed on its back and kicked a couple times.

I sat silently in the blind for several minutes, trying to absorb everything that had just taken place. I gave thanks for another amazing morning of chasing turkeys. When I eventually approached the old gobbler, I stroked the wings and admired the bright glisten of sunshine off the breast feathers.

As I began the drive back to my home state of Missouri, the events of the morning played over and over in my mind. I was thankful for the opportunity to chase turkeys again. I was also grateful the old Ben Pearson and the new shoulder were up to the task..... Happy Hunting ■

➤➤➤ Tips and Tricks for a Successful Newsletter Submission

Darren Haverstick ➤

WHILE THE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES ARE PRINTED on the inside cover of every issue, I thought I would go over them here to explain why they are the way they are and discuss some tips and tricks to enable you to adhere to the guidelines more easily.

First off, is the format that I need the submission to be in. I REALLY, REALLY, REALLY want it to be in Microsoft Word format. Why? Because, like it or not, that is the universal standard used for document writing. Can I make do with other formats? Maybe, sort of, with potentially a lot of work on my part. Submissions on actual paper are out. Again, like it or not, the world is now digital and in order for me to give Elise something to lay out, the content has to be digital. The only way for me to do that with paper submissions is to either retype what was submitted into Word or, in some instances, I

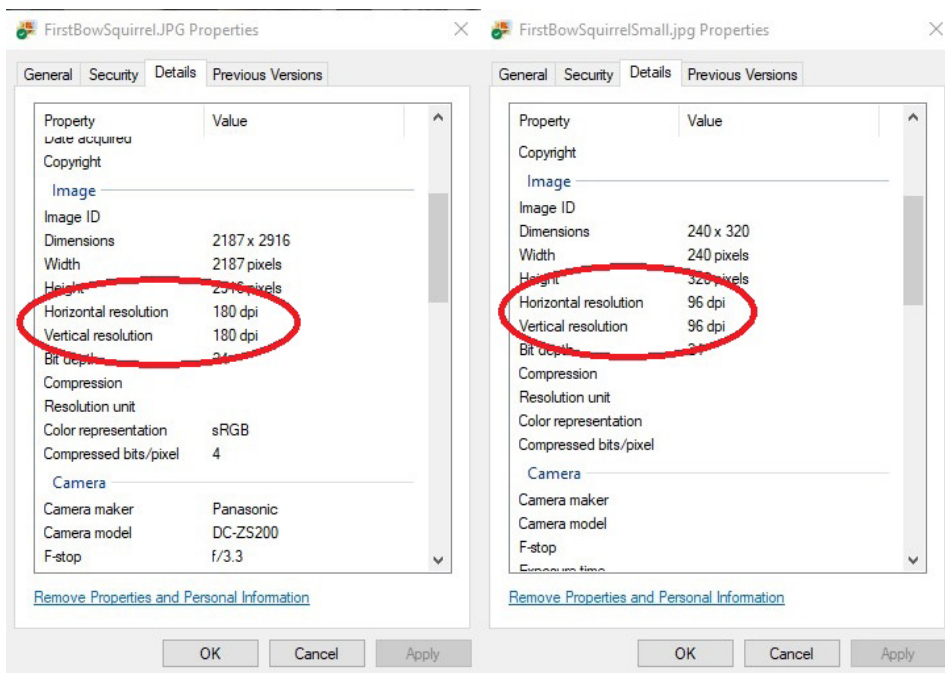


Left is the original image in full size. Right image was compressed and then blown up to full size.

can scan the submissions to create a PDF document. From there, I have to turn on Optical Character Recognition, which is a fancy way to say that the computer is going to try to read the scanned image and make sense of it. If OCR is

successful, then I still have to format everything and check for punctuation and spelling errors because OCR does not work very well.

So, what about other digital formats? Text messages, email,



Properties of the two images. Notice the original image has a dpi value almost twice the compressed image.

Facebook Messenger, PDF documents, or a photo of something you have typed? Yes, those are technically digital, and, in some instances, I can copy the content into a Word document. But...I still must do a lot of work just to get it into a readable form that Elise can work with. Now some of you might say, “Well, Darren, that’s what we’re paying you to do” and you would be correct. But I guarantee you that if you spent three hours, like I have, just trying to whip a single, short submission into shape that wasn’t in a Word document then you might be a bit more understanding.

Now I know that Microsoft Word is an expensive program for a PC and if you don’t already have it, you simply aren’t going to buy it on the off chance you decide to write the next Great American Novel. Fortunately, there is a free solution, if you are so inclined. There is a software suite called Open Office that is public domain software – that means it is free. It has all the programs that Microsoft Office comes with, only they are named something different to not infringe upon copyright laws. I have used it, off and on, for years and it works very well. Go to openoffice.org to learn more and/or download it.

Yes, I know that some of you don’t even have a PC anymore. Why would you? A tablet or phone will do anything a PC can do. Well, guess what, you can download Microsoft Word onto your phone for free! Just go to your favorite app store and look for it. I think the only stipulation for using it might be that you have to create a Microsoft account, but that is free as well.

So, as you can see, there are a lot of options for getting me stuff in the Word document format that I prefer.

So now let’s talk about a rather complicated subject, photography. Just about every article I received for this issue, I had problems with the submitted photos. It wasn’t the content that was an issue, it was the resolution. You see, nobody uses an actual camera to take pictures anymore. Everyone just uses their phone. And that is fine because a lot of phones have some really high-end cameras on them. The problem occurs, though, when the individual goes to share those photos with others. The most common method of sharing a photo is by texting it to someone. What happens is that the texting program takes a really

nice high-definition photo, or video, and squishes the bejeesus out of it so that it will send faster. So what the receiver gets is a photo that looks fine on a 4-inch screen but looks like absolute crap if it were actually printed out as an 8x10. Emailing photos from you phone usually works better, but not always. They are sometimes compressed then too. What often happens, though, is this – Billy sends Sally a photo through a text. Unbeknownst to him, that photo is compressed and saved as a copy. So now Billy has two versions of the same photo, one high-def and one low-def. Since the low-def version was the last one created, it will always show up first whenever he wants to send that photo to someone else, regardless of the method he uses. So now, no matter what he does, he’s always sending out the low-def version. So how would you know if the file size is reduced when you send it to someone? A quick telltale sign is that the name of the photo gets changed and the word “reduced” or “resized” is added to the name. I guaranteed you that the original, uncompressed photo is still on your phone, but you will have to look for it.

A great tool for helping you keep track of these extra copies your phone is creating is by installing a file manager app on your phone. Your phone probably already has one installed but you’re just not familiar with it. If it doesn’t, go to your app store and search for one. There are a couple bazillion free ones out there that are pretty good. What this app will do is allow you

to dig into the file structure of your phone. You'll be able to see exactly where things are being stored and you can also clean up a lot of junk while you're at it. Another thing you will be able to do is see the details about a file like when it was created, how big it is, what its file extension is, etc. You might be surprised, but most photos that you take with your phone are probably 2 MB in size or larger. When you text them, the receiver will likely get something about 15% that size. That is a whole lot of resolution lost! If I were to use that photo in the newsletter, it would look like a dot-matrix printer threw up on the page.

If you really want to get more tech savvy, you can hook your phone up to your PC, if you have one, and transfer your uncompressed photos from your phone to the PC. Then you can edit them on the PC and/or email them to others without worrying about the photos being compressed. All you typically need to hook the two devices together is a cable with a USB plug on one end and a USB-C or USB-mini plug on the other end. YouTube has many, many videos to show you how to do this.

The last thing I want to mention is including captions with your photos. Please do! You have to remember that the person reading your story probably has no context about how the photo relates to the article. Including a caption with the photo gives the reader that context.

Well, I've borrowed your eyes long enough. Hopefully, you have found some of this information helpful. I work with this stuff every day, so I sometimes forget that not everyone knows what "dpi" means (dots per inch) or how to upload a file to Google Drive. If you have any questions about any of this, please give me a holler and I'll see if I can help. ■



Cables you will need to hook your phone to your PC.



Left – USB Mini plug. Right – USB C plug.

2022 Wild Horse Creek Bows Customer Appreciation Shoot Darren Haverstick

DAWN WAS STILL A COUPLE HOURS AWAY WHEN I jumped out of bed to get ready for the day's activities. It was April 2nd, and I was heading to Perry, KS to attend the annual Wild Horse Creek Bows Customer Appreciation Shoot. There had been a two-year hiatus on the event due to Covid, but it was happening today and I was so looking forward to seeing old friends, eating some good food, and slinging some arrows. UBM member, Tim Donnelly, arrived at

my house a little before six and we loaded up to make the three-hour journey to Mike and Susie Dunnaway's house where the shindig was taking place.

If you are not familiar with this shoot, it's most likely because you do not own one of Mike's precision

crafted longbows or recurves. Otherwise, you would have gotten an invitation in the mail telling you the date it would take place. The Dunnaways have been holding this event for years and it's just their way of thanking all their loyal customers. It's also a good reason to get together and do what we love to do most, shoot bows!

We arrived a little after nine and the roped-off parking area was already crowded with vehicles. Several UBM members were already there and we got right to work



The parking lot is getting full.



The usual gang of suspects.



We all shot this target from 40 yards away!

busting each other's chops and lying about our hunting prowess. Tim went inside the barn/office to take care of business as that Saturday was New Bow Day for him. He had bought the custom bow that Mike had donated to the Festival auction and he was going to get to see it and shoot it for the first time that day.

Mike has a nice 3D course to shoot set up behind his house around the edge of a field. The schedule for one of these shoots is to launch arrows in the morning on the course, have a wonderful lunch that the Dunnaways provide up at the barn, compete in Mike's "special" contest shoot, and then maybe shoot the course one more time before helping to pack up and going home.

There was a whole gaggle of UBM folks shooting together as a group so it took us a while to go from target to target. Mike has quite the menagerie of critters scattered around the field like a rat, a mosquito, a gar, and a new one this year – a velociraptor. Some of the shots are straightforward while others require body

contortions to find the opening to shoot through. You also can always count on somebody to suggest adding a new complication to the mix just to keep things interesting. Dan Novotny did that this year as we were in the home stretch of the target loop. We were all shooting at the leopard target we were supposed to be shooting

at when Dan looked across the field and said, "Hey, let's shoot at the dinosaur from here." He was referring to the velociraptor target directly across the field from us at an unknown, but lengthy, distance. All of us agreed that it would be fun, and as nobody was behind us waiting, Mr. Novotny stepped up to shoot first. He drew back his

longbow, let go of the string, and we all watched his arrow hit squarely in the target's 10-ring! Well, we certainly weren't going to let him get the best of us, so we each stepped up to try our luck. It was not pretty. At the end of the round, only one arrow was stuck in the target, and it was the first one shot. I think the distance was stepped off to be around 45 yards, so Dan did have something to be proud of. We were never going to admit that to him, though. His head is swelled big enough as it is!

After shooting many arrows, and breaking a couple, we headed back to the barn for lunch. I always love this time at the shoot because Mike has long sawhorses set up for people



A sight to behold!



The lucky winner!

to lay their bows on and you get to see the myriad bow designs, colors, and wood combinations all put together by one master craftsman over the years. It is quite the sight! The lunch menu is always centered around the 50-gallon cauldron of chili they make, plus several different side dishes and desserts. You eat until you're sick, and then you eat a little more just so Susie's feelings won't get hurt. It's always delicious and you cannot beat the company you share the meal with.

About midway through lunch, Mike always announces what the year's contest will be. Winning the competition is always a balance of shooting skill and plain luck, so everyone has a chance. And the prize is a custom one-piece bow of your choice, so you'd be silly not to give it a try. This year's trial was called "Cut the Cheese" named after the cottage cheese lid targets we were shooting at. If you hit a lid with your arrow, you got to continue shooting. If you hit the lid with the special orange dot on the back of it, you won the contest. In theory, the rules were simple enough. In practice... Mike had a lot more confidence in his customers' abilities than the customers demonstrated. There were lots of cheering and good-natured jeering and, finally, a gentleman hit the magical lid with the correct colored dot on the back. It's a good thing the contest ended when it did. Mike had already told us that we all had to leave when the Kansas basketball game came on TV that afternoon!



Mr. Dunnaway explaining the rules of this year's contest.



Joan didn't shoot but she did find something to keep her occupied.

Much too soon, it was time to leave our dear friends in Kansas and head back home. Tim was quite pleased with his new bow and we solved most of the world's problems on the drive back. Unfortunately, we didn't write anything down so I guess we'll have to do it all over again next year. Thank you, Mike and Susie, for your wonderful hospitality and your support of the UBM over the years. Both are very much appreciated!



ONE EVENING, BACK IN MARCH, a group text went out asking if anyone was interested in going camping in Mississippi to the Jerry Pierce Memorial shoot. The shoot was going to happen again but there would be no crawfish boil. Two years ago we all had plans to attend but it didn't happen because of Covid and last year we couldn't get camping spots. So when we heard about it I think we all made reservations in less than 30 minutes.

It was a great weekend with our UBM family. What a group of shooters! We all have issues with mobility. All the way from bad ankles and knees, to new hips, to bad shoulders.

The shooting was a great 3D course and, yes, they had the infamous Cry Baby shoot. Yes, arrows were destroyed on this trip.

I can't say what it meant to get together with this group of like-minded people. It explains why we are a small group but a group of quality people.

I think this was the first time we all made it from Missouri to

Mississippi without having to buy tires on the way. LOL! Just a small repair on a camper window on the way home.

Saturday night we all got together for a potluck dinner. Let me tell you these people can cook! We had wings, sliders, mostaccioli, salad, watermelon, strawberries, cherry fluff, and broccoli rice casserole to just name a few. Dessert consisted of blackberry cobbler and yellow cake with chocolate icing.

It was very relaxing just visiting with friends at each other's campers and, during the evening, visiting around a fire. The weather was true to form. We were in the 90's a couple of days. A little storm came

through and by Sunday the temperature was in the 60's and we were all in jackets.

A big Thank You goes out to the Southern Traditional

Bowhunters and our southern friend, Lenny Pierce. Thank you to our UBM family. Tom and Ruthann Dickerson

Dan and Suzi Novotny
Max and Janet Medsker
Mike and Joan Calahan
Brian and JoAnn Peterson and dogs

Thank you, Kristine Banderman, for being the one to keep me organized. Thank you for 35 years of marriage. ■

Continued on next page





THIS PROJECT WAS THE RESULT of me getting tired of repairing my old wooden target stand and my love of nerding out on a computer. When you have thousands of dollars of high-end 3D modeling software at your fingertips, it's hard not to play with it creating home projects.

I had two goals in mind when designing this stand. One, I wanted something that I could easily assemble and disassemble for storage. The second thing I wanted was versatility. I can change out uprights to hang my life-size moose target from or I can prop a bag against it on the ground, hang a

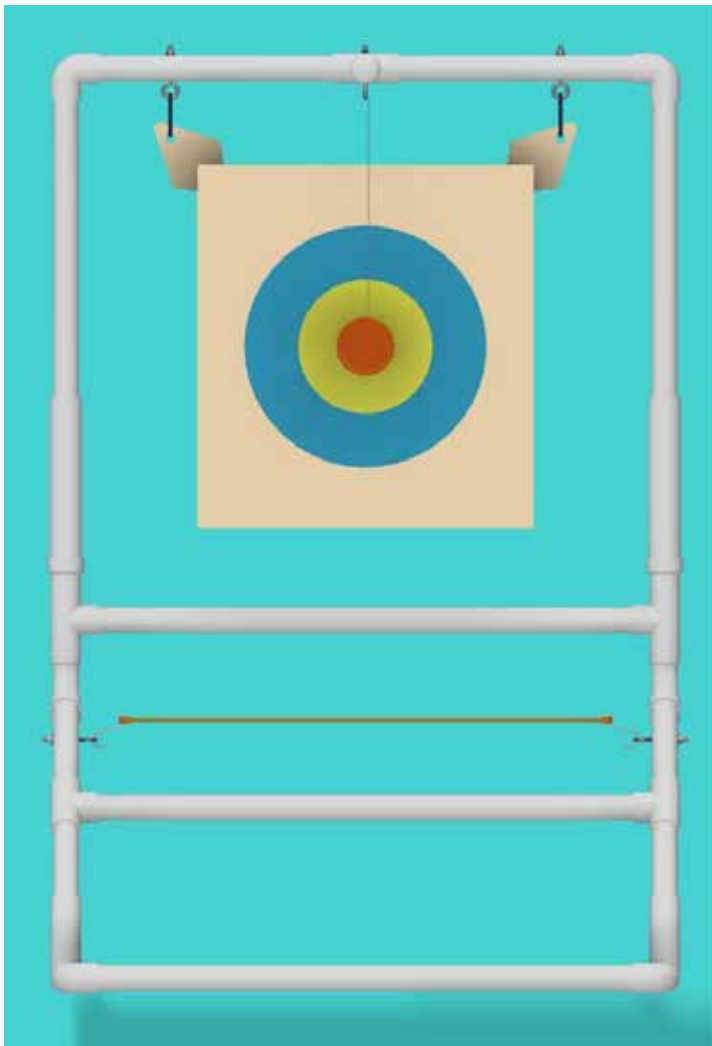
clay bird, and pretend I'm shooting at turkeys.

Every piece in this project is based around 1 1/2" SCH 40 PVC pipe. It takes five 10-foot sections of pipe to make and a whole lot of fittings. As far as structural integrity goes, I will admit that the stand is overdesigned. But I often thought my old wooden stands were "good enough" and then had to add a brace here and there to keep them solid. I won't have to do that with this stand.

The left and right braces have all their pieces glued together. The five cross pieces snap in place and I added two eye bolts to put a bungee

cord across to hold things tight if the stand is placed on uneven ground. The upright that the target hangs from is glued together and then slipped into the sleeves on the braces.

As you can see from the photos, the finished product looks pretty dang close to the 3D computer model. I will be happy to share the plans with anyone who wants them. Before "The Troubles" began, this stand could easily be built for under \$100. Not so much anymore, but it's still cheaper than a comparable one made from treated lumber, and it will last longer. ■



Computer model – front view



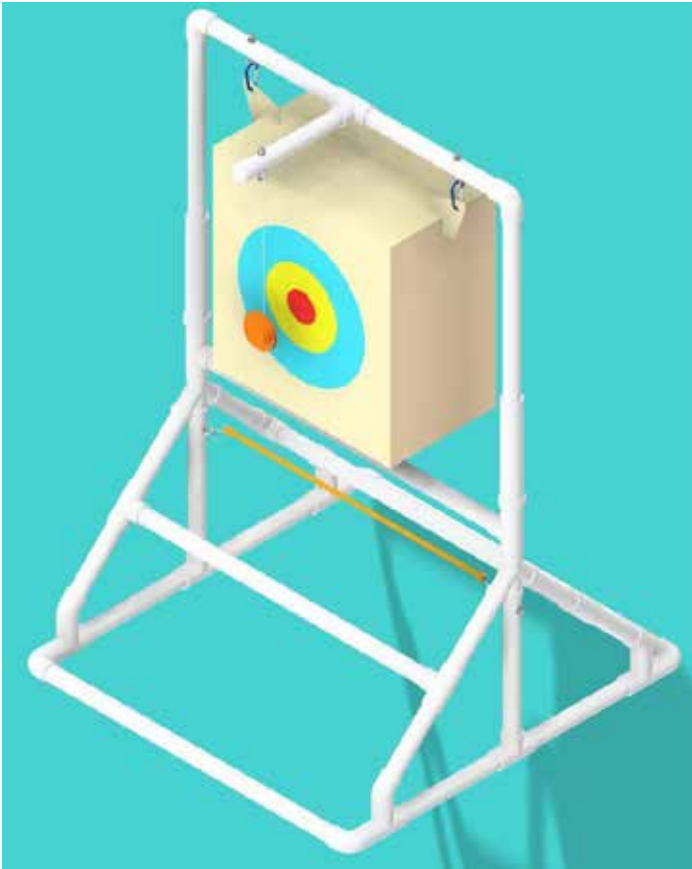
Target stand – front view



Computer model – side view



Target stand – side view



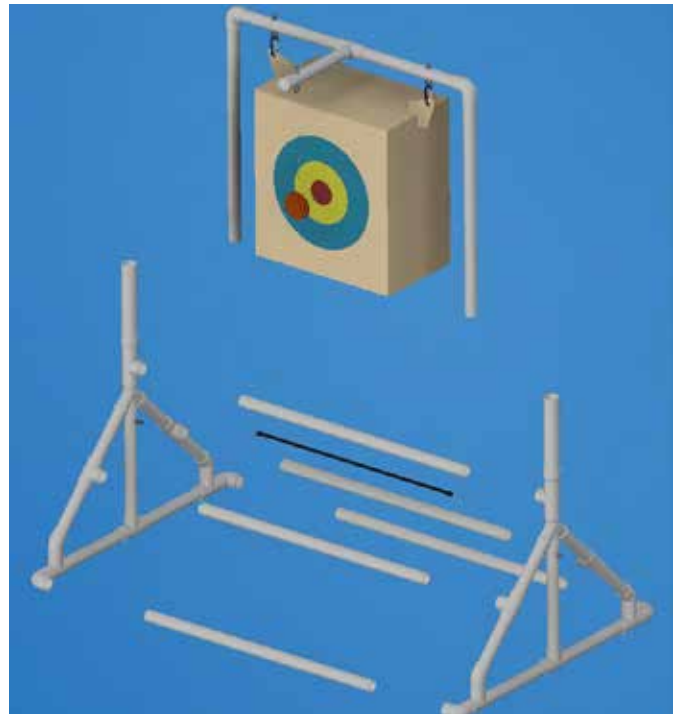
Computer model – isometric view



Target stand – isometric view



The stand in its turkey target configuration



Exploded view of the entire stand



Alternate configuration with moose target

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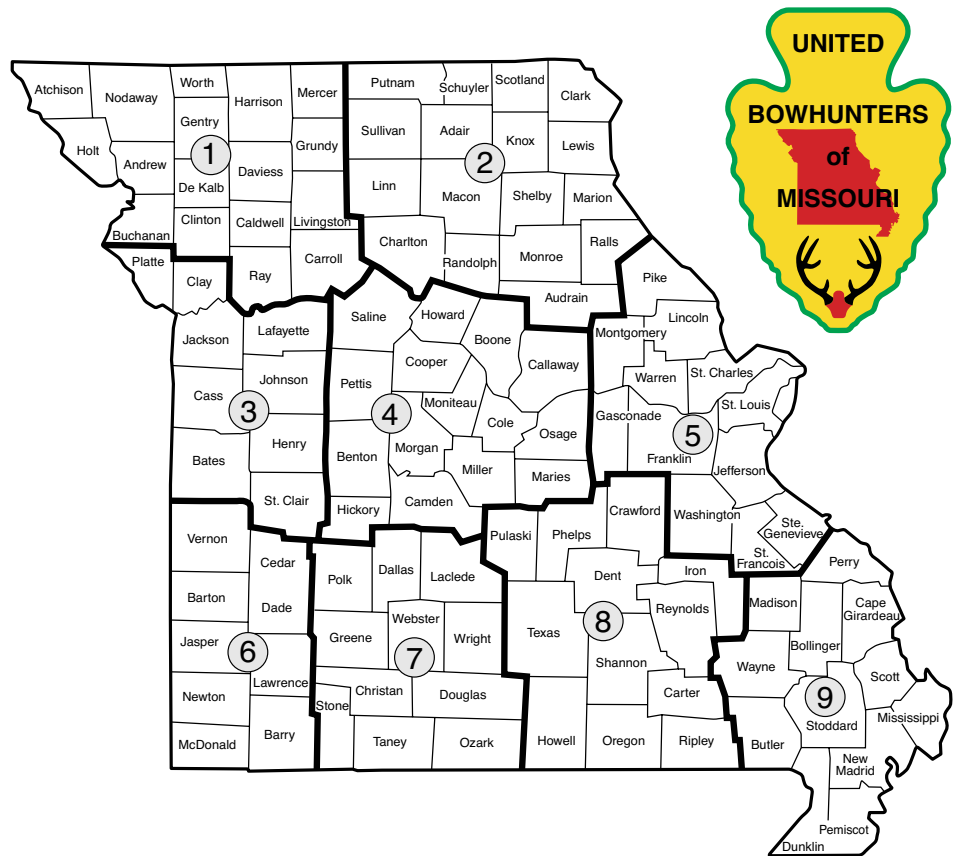
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