

NORTHERN VIRGINIA ARCHERS

PROMOTING FUN AND FELLOWSHIP AMONG ARCHERS SINCE
1948!

We Need Your Help!

Happy New Year and welcome to our first NORVA newsletter of 2016! This is going to be an exciting year. We have many shoots scheduled and we are currently rebuilding the practice and the field range. And this brings us to a very important topic. January 30, 2016 we are having a work party. We have approximately 550 members, yet it tends to be the same dozen or so that attend. Please come and show your support for the club. You do not need any special skills; you do not need to bring any tools or materials - just bring yourself. As a reminder, members that volunteer ten hours over the year are eligible to receive a 50% reduction on primary membership dues for the following year.

The work party (1/30/2016) will begin at 9am

Coffee, water, and donuts will be provided

Lunch will be provided

Reminder: Membership Renewal

Don't get locked out of the gate. All memberships are up for renewal and combinations to the gate and the clubhouse will be changed February 01, 2016. You can download applications from our Web site. Be sure to include the Waiver of Liability even if you signed one in the past. The new combination and club membership cards will be sent via postal mail.

Web address: <http://www.novaarchers.org/membership.html>

Ice Breaker 3D Shoot

Mark your calendars for February 27, 2016 as NORVA is hosting our 1st tournament of the year hence, "Ice Breaker" which is a 3D shoot. Do not let the cold stop you. It is a fun event and a great way to begin the new year.

The Sport of Bowhunting

Northern Virginia Archers is host to many things in the sport of Archery. One of which is the sport of bowhunting. NORVA has been involved with the Fairfax County Park Authority and the Fairfax County Animal Control in efforts to help manage the devastating effects that deer have on the local foliage. Annually there is a call for bowhunters to participate in this program and NORVA has answered that call. Fairfax county provides any hunter that fulfills all the required qualifications to bowhunt on Fairfax County park land. You are privileged with an extended

hunting season and special permits allow you to hunt without using your state issued tags. If you are interested in such a program, keep an eye out for the monthly newsletters and posts on the NORVA Facebook page. Your hunt group liaisons are Joe Wolfe, Mark Finkenstaedt and Windi Sims.

Recap of January's Club Meeting

The January meeting brought a large turnout of existing and new members. John Mckenzie (club vice president) conducted the meeting.

Rodney Roberts is filling the tournaments chair position. Speaking of tournaments, if you have never attended one, do not be intimidated. It is more about having fun and there are plenty of classes where archers that are just starting out can compete with others with similar skill levels.

Virginia Bow Hunters Association (VBA) is celebrating its 75th anniversary. As NORVA members, you are automatically members of the VBA. There are a few VBA state shoots that NORVA will be hosting:

May 28, 2016 VBA State Open
August 20, 2016 State 3D Fall Classic

Other major events include the annual Belvoir Bow Hunters, "Hunters for the Hungry." This is a 3D shoot and will be hosted by NORVA August 27, 2016. On average, this event raises approximately \$10,000 for the hungry.

For more details regarding these events and other upcoming visit NORVA's Web site.

The club took a vote to add two new classes for VBA 3D events at the state level by instituting known 45 & 50 yard classes. Normally 3D shooting is at unknown ranges but by adding two known classes, it is hoped that more field archers (that shoot known distances) will attend. Currently, the spring state shoot is usually a known yardage anyway but the fall tournament is not. Furthermore, the new rule would allow any clubs that want to add the new classes can without VBA's approval. The club voted 17 *for* and 12 *against* for the new classes of known yardage.

Bakari Dale, president of Belvoir Bowhunters Association invited NORVA members to attend a bus trip to the Great American Outdoor Show in Harrisburg, PA on Monday February 8th. The cost is \$55.00 and includes bus, breakfast, and show ticket.

Departure time is 7:00am from Backlick North Park & Ride and will return to the Park & Ride at 7:30pm.

You can get more information at Belvoir Bowhunter's Web site:

<http://belvoirbowhunters.com>

or contact: Jim Zolinski via phone: (210) 319-0792 / email: james.zolinski@verizon.net

No Broadheads

A friendly reminder: Broadheads are **not allowed** on the 3D course or the Field Course.

NORVA Members Hunt in North Carolina

Eight NORVA members (Ryan Rusbult, Daniel Trang, David Trang, Willie Whitlock, Paul Whitlock, John Mckenzie, Mark Finkenstaedt & Joe Wolfe) ventured to T&M Hunting Properties in North Carolina. Not knowing what to expect, they stepped into a top class hog hunting outfitter that went above and beyond their expectations. Matt Sherwood (owner) was the group's hunting guide and upon arrival had everyone in the stand/blind only a few hours after arriving.

The first night was rough for the NORVA group as they were a little unprepared for the cold weather. Furthermore, waking up early that morning made it difficult for them to have much stamina to hunt through the night. Nevertheless, Ryan had the first success with a modest kill. After hunting until midnight, the group took in some much needed sleep so they could try again the next night.

The group was divided into two. While one group made gallant efforts, the other group brought in two more kills. Unfortunately, the remainder of the evening turned out to be a bust for most. However, it was a great experience. In total, they put down 4 hogs and left with an adequate feeling of accomplishment. Congratulations to Ryan, Daniel, David, and John for their successful hunts.

If you are looking for a top class hog hunting outfitter, check out T&M Hunting properties in North Carolina. It is only a short 4-hour trip down Interstate 95.

Send Us Your Photos

If you have not recently visited our Web site, you are missing things! Uwe Jacobs our new Webmaster is revamping NORVA's site - and it looking great. We are in need of photographs of archers with NORVA shooting. If you have any photos that you would like to appear on our Website, please forward them to:

webmaster@novaarchers.org

Join Us at Our Monthly Meetings

Club meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month and begin at 7pm. It is a great way to meet other members, share some stories, and maybe learn a thing or two.

Hope to see you there!

Matt Bortniker, NORVA News Editor