



ON-TARGET NEWS

The Newsletter of the Fort Collins Archery Association

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Membership Shoot Planned For April 21

The annual FCAA Membership 3-D Shoot will be held at the outdoor range on Saturday, April 21. This is an unscored fun shoot for members and prospective members, with unlimited shooting available between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. The only request is that shooters restrict shooting to one arrow per target per round.

Cost for the shoot is \$15.00 for members with a current 2001 membership. Cost for renewing members and new members is \$15.00, which includes a one year membership. Lunch will also be provided at no extra cost. **This will be the last opportunity to renew or join the FCAA at the \$15.00 rate.** After April 21, the cost of an annual membership rises to \$20.00. (This slight increase is necessary to generate the funds necessary for the FCAA to finish and furnish the new clubhouse which the City of Fort Collins is planning to build sometime during the next year.) Join us for a fun day of shooting and tune up for the upcoming summer 3-D leagues.

Summer Leagues Set

Our popular Wednesday 3-D leagues will continue in 2001, with little change from past year's format.

The four 4-week sessions will begin on May 2 at 6:30 p.m., at a cost of \$5.00 per session for members. We'll continue the cash paybacks of 50% of the total purse in the adult divisions for the leaders of each 4-week session. A shooter's three best scores will be counted toward the 4-week total, allowing a shooter to miss one week or drop a bad score (not that that ever happens!).

Each shoot will feature 30 targets, with one arrow scored per target. Classes are basically the same as ASA rules and the Arrow Dynamics class and distance restrictions.

One clarification should be noted: Any Young Adults, Youths, Cubs, or PeeWees who wish to compete for cash prizes in the adult divisions must shoot from the adult distance stakes.

Arrow Dynamics Schedule

The Arrow Dynamics 3-D shoot schedule has begun, and will continue through the summer at the Fort Collins outdoor range. Shooter of the Year will be awarded in each class at the conclusion of the six sessions, with each shooter's five best scores counted toward the total. A new class has been added this year - Ladies Pro.

As always, archers will shoot 20 targets in the morning and 20 in the afternoon, with lunch provided by the staff. Shoots are scheduled for the

second Saturday of each month, and the remaining shoots are scheduled for:

April 14th
May 12th
June 9th
July 14th

For more information on the Arrow Dynamics shoots or about the fine services provided by this top-quality archery pro shop, call Arrow Dynamics at 970-484-4900, or e-mail Jim Widmier at jwidmier@aol.com.

General Membership Meeting

Our annual membership meeting will be held at the clubhouse on Tuesday, April 10th at 7:00 p.m. Jake Clendenning and Toby Trujillo will present a slide show and talk about the successful club Russian Boar hunt held earlier this spring. Though all members are welcomed to attend the monthly board meetings, this annual meeting is a great forum to discuss club activities and the direction of the club with all interested members. It is also a chance to volunteer to help the club by either becoming a board member or offering to help with many of the little chores required to keep our range as one of the best public ranges in the state.

If you are free that night, please come down and join us. Your input into the direction of the club is much appreciated.



Equipment Restrictions Proposed

As many of you are aware, there has been much discussion recently regarding potential archery equipment restrictions for big game hunting. In an effort to provide positive input from bowhunters, the Colorado Bowhunters Association is framing recommendations to be given to the DOW for consideration. These restrictions generally are technology related, such as maximum bow let-off, types of acceptable sights, etc., and are being initiated by a broad range of bowhunters who want to keep the perception of bowhunting as "primitive".

Many feel that the current Pope and Young Club restrictions will suffice. Others want more extreme restrictions, while some want no restrictions. In an effort to represent the FCAA membership, the board is asking for your input on this issue. Please let us know how you feel, either by letter, by a phone call or email to board members, or by speaking up at the April meeting. Once the input is received, the FCAA will then send a position paper to the CBA.

FCAA Web Site Grows

If you haven't checked it lately, the FCAA web site run by Tom Christian is an awesome thing. It has news of our club, of other clubs, hunting season information, and links to other archery websites. We're on most of the major search engines, and our visitation has grown to over 1000 hits per day! People are tuning into the FCAA from all over the country. Visit ftcollinsarchery.com and check it out!



Lou and Antonio (right) at the DOW deer pens

Wall Street Journal Visits The FCAA

The Wall Street Journal recently ran a feature article on Chronic Wasting Disease in the game herds in northern Colorado and Southern Wyoming. (That article is also on our website). Tom Christian contacted the author, Antonio Regaldo, Science and Environment reporter for the WSJ, for permission to post it on the website. Tom and Antonio exchanged e-mails, and on a visit to research his follow-up article, Tom and Lou Phillippe spent the day with Antonio, giving him a hunter and landowner perspective on CWD. A full report follows on the next page.



The Editor Shoots Back

Antonio Regaldo is a neutral non-hunter who lives in New York City and writes for the Wall Street Journal. As such, he could be considered as a member of the "East Coast Mainstream Media" which so often misrepresents and distorts events and lifestyles out here in the west. He had never been hunting, nor had had much contact with hunters. Tom Christian and I took this as a great opportunity to give him a positive view of hunting and archery. During our day with Antonio, we discussed hunting, ethics, and archery, and spent some time in Arrow Dynamics (where Antonio drew back bows for the first time). We visited the DOW deer research pens at the CSU Foothills Campus, where the Chronic Wasting Disease studies are in progress. The afternoon was spent with two local ranchers (also hunters) who have large ranches where CWD is present, and where CWD-positive deer have been sharing the range with cattle for three decades. Our goal was to allow him to gain a different perspective than he gathered from his meetings with Colorado and Wyoming DOW officials, who gave him the "official" story.

The next day, FCAA member Margie Constantino allowed him to tag along on one of the special CWD rifle hunts north of Fort Collins. It was his first hunting experience, and Margie made a perfect heart shot on a deer, then explained safe field dressing and field care of game meat to the fascinated reporter.

We found Antonio to be a very intelligent, sincere individual who impressed us with his desire to present a balanced, non-biased perspective on CWD and its effects on hunting and ranching. Tom, myself, Margie, Jim Widmier and the others who met with him were very careful to present a positive view of hunting, hunters, and ranchers, and I believe we were successful.

Now, we'll wait for the next article to be published to see if the impression we made translates into a positive portrayal in the national media. Let us hope we succeeded. We hunters need all the help we can get right now in the eyes of the voting neutral non-hunters in this country.

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