



WASHINGTON STATE
BOWHUNTERS

WASHINGTON STATE BOWHUNTERS
4307 NE 139th Avenue
Vancouver, WN 98662

THE WASHINGTON BOWHUNTER

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Splinters From The Board

In recent discussions with friends of mine who have become successful bowhunters certain things stand out as generally being necessary to the development of a successful bowhunter.

Information. To most bowhunters, whether new to the sport or old timers at it, finding a successful bowhunter to talk to can be a turning point in their life with respect to bowhunting. Probably the number one need for any bowhunter is information. Information on areas, equipment, use of the equipment and how to hunt the game all play a vital role.

Good Hunting Areas. Most new bowhunters and some seasoned bowhunters do not know where to hunt and will pick an area from the game pamphlet because it is handy. They do not know what the area has to offer or doesn't have to offer. As areas can vary greatly in quality and quantity of animals, the wrong choice can often be the reason for a drop out from the bowhunters ranks. Some areas are annual losers. Some are hot and cold from year to year while others are consistantly good. This information is usually available through experienced bowhunters.

Success. To the average bowhunter success of some sort is usually necessary to hold interest. Success will usually be a result of the two items mentioned above. With the proper knowledge of bowhunting and good seasons success will be the inevitable result.

Success does not always mean killing an animal. To some it may mean hunting in a group where someone gets an animal and to others it may mean only seeing game and possibly getting a shot. But some sort of success is a necessity.

Without a fair degree of certainty of seeing game and a reasonable chance of getting a shot the ordinary bowhunter will not hunt very many seasons under the cold and rainy conditions that are so prevalent in bow seasons in Washington State.

It was with these thoughts in mind that WASHINGTON STATE BOWHUNTERS was formed.

WSB is an organization of bowhunters working for the common good of all bowhunters in the state of Washington. Information on all aspects of bowhunting will be available through the WSB newsletter, THE WASHINGTON BOWHUNTER, and through bowhunter clinics and direct contact with other WSB members.

WSB is a single membership organization without club affiliations so persons living in remote areas have as much input or access to information as persons living in more densely populated areas of the state. A constant effort will be made to assure that all areas of the state are represented.

Through a strong membership and hard work bowhunting will flourish in Washington State.

Chuck Bartlett, Director

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The WASHINGTON STATE BOWHUNTERS officially exists as a legal corporation in the State of Washington. The Articles of Incorporation were filed by Attorney and WSB Director, Albert A. Rinaldi, Jr. Al did all the legal work. We all owe him a debt of thanks as this was a monumental task.

The first organizational meeting was held in Lynnwood, Washington in Nov., 1976 and was attended by about a dozen eager & enthusiastic bowhunters, most of whom have been active in Washington for many years. At that meeting the main thrust was forming an organization that assures representation for all bowhunters in the state in a framework that is flexible enough to allow future changes as they may become necessary. At future meeting it is important that new people show up and participate so that new ideas get generated and pursued.

Now it is time to get input from all bowhunters. What programs do you want to pursue the most? What types of expertise could you make available to other bowhunters? What ideas do you have? We want to hear from you and to talk to you. During 1977 WSB will try to have organizational meetings in as many areas throughout the state as possible to try to find what resources are available. If you would like a meeting in your area write or call WSB.

There are presently about 70 WSB members. There are members from all corners of the state; Bellingham, Spokane, Kennewick and Vancouver.

There will be at least one WSB meeting per month. If you would like one of the meetings in your area contact WSB and make arrangements. Your participation will make the WASHINGTON STATE BOWHUNTERS a success.

Gerald Egbert, Director

Mountain Goats

It seems like two years ago that I couldn't even spell goats. Yet after applying for a tag it became such a fixation that now I find myself constantly on the watch for the white shadows.

As most of you may know, scientists say they are not a goat, but a mountain antelope. Washington hosts more of this specy than any of the other connected states.

In the past two years it seems no matter where I go the magnificent critters are there, excluding Safeway stores. My latest find is a family of six with a magnificent billy in an area I have hunted for years without ever observing them before.

My rules for the acquisition of a prime billy are as follows:

- 1) You MUST put out EFFORT (unless you're lucky).
- 2) In spring and summer follow the melting snow pack upward.
- 3) Summer thru fall look for the craggy cliffs and rock between 5-6000 feet, with little pockets of shrub like trees and melting packs of snow nearby. It should be at least a half a mile as the crow flies from the nearest trail or path used by man.

It appears to me they need the grasses & mosses where the meadows turn to cliffs. They also seem to like to bed a short distance below the top of the ridges on a point where they have a view, a breeze and shade. Quite often the terrain is such that it will create a dampness in their bedding area from melting snow and seepage. In many cases I have found prime bachelor billies on the back slope of U shaped basins that are shaded throughout the day. In these cases they will bed down in the middle of the meadow where they have pawed out well used beds. I have observed these creatures of habit to be consistant in their feeding and bedding areas from summer thru winter if unmolested and food & water are available. They are not nomads. During nice weather their feeding habits are in short duration. You must watch for them at the crack of dawn and at sunset and occassionally every 2 or 3 hours during the day for short periods. A comfortable method for this is to camp where you can overlook the type of country I have described while still in our sleeping bag, if you can call that comfortable. You must wake up and go to sleep on the watch. One minute you see him and the next he's gone behind a shrub or rock. Late in the season they will be up



DICK SMETHURST WITH A 49" BILLY TAKEN ON SLOAN PEAK.

more during the day as more snow, rain, fog and miserable weather closes in.

- 4) Never have a fire or smoke. Your biggest enemy is his nose. Even though he seems to have binoculars for eyes he is usually content with a motionless figure. Not so for the smell of man.
- 5) Fall thru winter look below the downward moving snow line. They will stay in front of and below the snow until such time as the snow fills the valley. Then they will move back up to the cliffs where snow can not stay.

It is my belief that if humanly possible a goat should be approached from above. Even if you have to go over the top of the mountain and down the other side a couple of thousand feet. Several reasons for this are that their attention generally directed downwards, especially while bedding; the prevailing breezes are generally rising wh which makes an approach from below difficult; and I have found that getting down a cliff quietly is much more difficult than getting back up. I have climbed up into ares that I could not get back down because of not being able to see toe holds and had to find other routes out of.

These are just a few things I have observed. However, a goat can be as unpredictable as man. I have also witnessed the largest goat I've seen, feeding in an open meadow from 11:00 AM to 2:30 PM during the 3rd weekend of hunting season in an area where there had been 15 camps of hunters only 2 weeks earlier.

Dick Smethurst

The National Bowhunt

The 1976 National Bowhunt has been won by the Washington State team of Dean McClellan, Fred Koch & Gerald Egbert.

Dean and Gerald both got big does making Washington the only State team to get more than one animal. Other State teams competing were Wyoming, Utah, North Dakota, Kansas, Kentucky, South Carolina, Colorado, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Arizona and Oklahoma.

The National Bowhunt was originally conceived by Blanche Duncan, a grand lady from Glenrock, Wyoming about 30 miles outside of Douglas, Wyoming. Blanche and her husband Hughe Duncan are not hunters but have a ranch comprised of many thousands of acres of mule deer country.

They both felt that bowhunters are the greatest and wanted to have this hunt on their property. The Chamber of Commerce of Douglas, thru the untiring efforts of Mr. & Mrs. Thomas teeters, picked up the ball at that point and since 1969 the National Bowhunt has been a successful reality.

One of the remarkable things is that in this small Wyoming town so many people, many not hunters, are so dedicated to this Bowhunt. It turns out to be a wonderful place for bowhunters from all across the Nation to get together and exchange ideas.



Pictured above is the winning team at the 1975 NATIONAL BOWHUNT. From the left they are Fred Koch, Dean McClellan, Floyd Colgin (guide) and Gerald Egbert. The same three man team from Washington also won the 1976 NATIONAL BOWHUNT.



Here is Bob White with the deer he got at the 1976 NATIONAL BOWHUNT. Bob was on the Jennings team and, of course, shoots a Jennings compound and 2219 aluminum shafts.

In 1975 the same Washington team won the event with two bucks. Both years Dean was the first bowhunter in the competition to arrow a deer.

Dean, Fred and Gerald have decided to retire from the Washington State Team undefeated. That means there will have to be a new state team picked by next April. If you are interested in being considered send your bowhunting resume NOW to:

Al Chrisman
Route 1, Box 26
Leavenworth, Wash. 98826

You should be prepared to pay \$55 for a license and pay for your own transportation and expenses. You should also be prepared to have a heck of a good time with some of the nations best bowhunters.

Three other Washington bowhunters competed this year. Bob Click, Bob White and Dirk McClellan, All from Clark County comprised the Jennings Team that competed in the Manufacturer competition. Bob White got a good sized doe. The Manufacturers competition was won by Astro Archery. Other Manufacturers teams competing were Allen, Carroll, Bear and Pearson. The NFAA team competed with the Manufacturers.

Next Fall bowhunters successful in being chosen for a team will be invited by WSB to a national bowhunt seminar. It will be a one evening event where the past hunters will help the new team become familiar with the hunting area as well as some of the other interesting features of the National Bowhunt.

Hunting White Salmon

Although the bow season is almost at an end, hunting stories will go on throughout the year. Wherever bowhunters gather there will always be a hunting story to be re-enacted.

While the weather wasn't the best for us the deer were plentiful in the White Salmon area. I have bow-hunted this area for 4 years now & I've never had any problem seeing deer. Bucks and does alike. My problem is getting them.

I usually hunt the area between B-Z Corners and Troutlake. This area is located off Highway 14, north of the town of White Salmon.

The oak hillsides and ridges, as well as the flatlands, provide an ample amount of hunting spots. A tree-stand on one of the many game trails found throughout the area would surely bring success to the patient hunter. There are many little clearings in which one can find camouflage to sit and wait for that big one. Still-hunting also produces great results, if the weather permits.

In the years that I've hunted this area I've seen 4 points, 3 points, 2 points, spikes and numerous does. Even though I've had plenty of shooting, one deer is all I've been able to come up with.

All in all, the area is abundant with deer and if one is patient enough a real trophy is waiting.

Anyone wanting any information about this area may call me at this number - 206-892-5529.

Happy hunting. ROD BERRY

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ATTENTION

THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER AND YOU MAKE THE NEWS. IF YOU KNOW SOMETHING OTHER BOWHUNTERS MAY WANT TO KNOW SEND IT TO YOUR NEWSLETTER. SEND SUCCESS PHOTOS, NEWS ARTICLES, STORIES, TACKLE TIPS AND HUNTING REPORTS. WE ALL WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.

Bowhunter Magazine

The WASHINGTON STATE BOWHUNTERS will be trying in the years to come to make Washington bowhunters among the best informed in the nation. The Board of Directors feel that there is presently a magazine that does a good job on the national level of informing and entertaining bowhunters. It is BOWHUNTER MAGAZINE. BOWHUNTER MAGAZINE is printed every other month. WSB will publish this newsletter - the WASHINGTON BOWHUNTER - on the other months that will give state news. We hope that together these two publications will keep the Washington bowhunters informed on their favorite sport.

If you have any interesting stories, success photos, anecdotes, tackle tips, jokes or news that bowhunters would be interested in send them to WSB for inclusion in this newsletter. If you are a bowhunter this is your publication and it will need your contribution to be a success.

In the meantime be sure to subscribe to BOWHUNTER MAGAZINE and learn what the rest of the nation is doing, thinking and talking about.

If you like bowhunting,
you'll love . . .

Bowhunter Magazine

P.O. Box 5377
Ft. Wayne, Ind. 46805

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Alberta Bear Hunt

With our bows ready we sat by the only bush in the area as a big sow & her cub moved within 18 yards of us. I could only imagine what would happen when she got our scent. As another bear came out of the woods on our left Gordon motioned not to shoot. It was too small. As the sow got our scent I noticed Gordon was grinning. It was obvious he was amused at my nervousness. Within minutes we were to see SIX bears within 50 yards.

For several years I had been trying to get a big black bear with my bow but hadn't gotten one that made the Pope & Young minimum of 18 inches. Early this spring I talked to Gordon Roline of Edmonton, Alberta about a record book bear hunt in Alberta, Canada. Gordon is one of the most successful bowhunters I have ever heard of having taken over 30 black bear with the bow. He assured me it could be done. He said September was the best time because of the habits of the bear and the fact that it is a bow only season then.

By the 3rd day of the hunt we had seen 12 bears but only two were bookers. Gordon had found thru the years that a 5 inch wide pad was usually a booker. We had found a bear with a 5-1/2 inch pad and one with a 5-3/4 inch pad. I hadn't been able to get close enough to either bear. I needed to be within 35 yards MAXIMUM to be sure of a vital hit. I'd seen Gordon shoot grouse at that distance and knew it was hard for him to watch me pass up shots at 40 & 50 yards but I felt I had to get closer.

One evening we wound up 50 miles from where we had stayed the night before so we spent the night in my Volkswagen to be sure to be there the next morning. It got cold that night and I was sure glad I had on my long-johns.

About 2 hours before sunrise Gordon woke me and pointed thru the windshield. As my eyes cleared I saw a huge black bear ambling straight towards us. We just sat there without moving. He came up and sniffed the car. Then he put one of his 5-3/4 inch pads on the hood of my Volks - then the other. With a Grunt he pulled himself up and put his nose right on the windshield. For a couple of seconds he seemed to study the contents of this contraption. Without even breathing I studied his face. It was only 2 feet away. There were scars on both eyes and a big one down the left side of his snout. He was definitely a scrapper and his head was enormous.

He backed off my folks and turned to leave. Gordon whispered "close enough?" The bear heard it and froze. We didn't move or say another word. He came to my door and sniffed loudly. Then he went to Gordons side checking everything as he went. When he disappeared behind the car I wanted to get out and try to get him but Gordon just said to be patient. We'd try to get him the next evening.

The next evening we were ready and the first bears we saw were a sow and two cubs. Then a 4th no bigger than the cubs. We sat and waited. Suddenly out of nowhere came a big one. It took forever for him to get broadside but this time he was no more than 20 yards away. I began my slow easy draw but he bolted. He hadn't seen me so I waited. Suddenly there was a bigger bear in the same spot and this one stopped long enough to get a perfectly placed shot right behind the front leg. THUNK. I had heard that sound many times and I knew it was good. The old bear disappeared in the bush and we waited for the characteristic last moan. It never came.

It had gotten dark and we debated tracking it out but decided under the situation to wait till morning. I didn't sleep a wink that night. At first light we were on the spot. Only 50 yards into the brush lay my bear. He was a boar and even bigger than I had remembered. I just stared at him. When I looked at Gordon he had a big grin from ear to ear. We'd really done it in grand fashion.

The bear weighed out at 353 pounds and measured a final 18-9/16 inches. This had been absolutely the most exciting and memorable bowhunt of my life and I felt good. I was pleased with my bear but most of all I was impressed with this man from Alberta who had made it seem so easy. He had shown me 19 shootable bears of which 4 were definitely bookers.

Now days whenever someone asks me what they should do for excitement I tell them "definitely an Alberta Bear Hunt with Gordon Roline".

Gerald Egbert

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NEOPHYTE: "What's a bar stool?"
OLD TIMER: "Something you don't want to step in when you'r Bar Huntin'."

POPE & YOUNG CLUB

Three Washington Bowhunters have recently been admitted as Regular Members in the Pope & Young Club. They are Albert A. Rinaldi, Jr. of Seattle, Gerald L. Egbert of Vancouver and Dennis H. Dunn of Bellevue. Regular membership is limited to 100 bowhunters who qualify by having taken at least one record size animal in addition to 2 additional species with the bow.

The Pope & Young Club keeps records of North American big game animals taken with the bow and arrow. In addition they give financial grants to outstanding individuals doing research in the area of wildlife conservation.

To be eligible for entry into the Pope & Young Clubs records, a trophy must equal or exceed the score listed on the minimum list and must have been taken by the individual or persons who are entering it, entirely by the means of bow and arrow under the rules of fair chase. Trophy award citations are issued to each qualifying entry. The minimum Pope & Young score requirements for animals available in Washington state are:

Mule deer (typ)	145
Mule deer (non-typ)	160
Whitetail deer (typ)	125
Whitetail deer (non-typ)	150
Columbian blacktail deer	90
Bighorn Sheep	130
Mountain goat	40
Black bear	18
Yellowstone elk	240
Roosevelt elk	210

SUPPORT BOWHUNTING IN YOUR STATE. JOIN THE WASHINGTON STATE BOWHUNTERS.

Once upon a time in a far away land a researcher was studying aging on porpoises. He found that feeding them a diet of young seagulls almost stopped the aging process. However, the only seagulls in the country were on an island in a state Seagull Refuge. People were kept out by 50 lions chained around the border. The young researcher was resourceful and soon learned how to smuggle the gulls out of the refuge by air and continued his research. Soon he was caught and the police charged him with "transporting young gulls across state lions for immortal porpoises". ***



Here is Adolph Huber (on the Left) of Labam, Washington, with his 1975 five by five Bull Roosevelt Elk. He got it near his home with a well placed lung shot. Pictured with him is Steve Fluke, also of Labam.

Dick Thrasher tells a story about shooting on the field range with Steve Gorr. Steve was shooting wood arrows in his 70# longbow. As Dick was applying an Allen wrench to his new compound bow trying to tune it to shoot aluminum arrows with plastic fletch Steve asked "Dick - do you think you'll ever get back into archery?"



That was FUN! Let's sneak up on another Bowhunter and tap him on the shoulder.

USE THIS FORM TO SIGN UP YOURSELF OR A FRIEND IN THE WASHINGTON STATE BOWHUNTERS.

Enclosed find \$ _____ for membership in the WASHINGTON STATE BOWHUNTERS.

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CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

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MEMBERSHIP.....	\$5.00	SECOND FAMILY MEMBER.....	\$3.00
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DEALER CONTRIBUTION.....	\$10.00 (includes classified listing)		

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