

Sportsman Trails Sportsman Trails

Volume 41 Issue 7

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Archery News

The Archery Division played host to a great group of kids on June 7th for the Youth Ironman Competition. Sydney Rhodus took top honors on the course - showing everyone how it's done.

June 14th we hosted the Boy Scouts from Troop 103. Since they were unable to attend the Ironman, this alternative day was a lot of fun. The boys were provided basic instruction by Jessi Johnson and Ken Manness, then had a little competition. Our thanks to member Bob Patton and his troop leaders for bringing the boys out for the day.

The Archery Division is looking for a few good kids! We would like to have a youth instruction and shoot once a month and are looking for interested youth to join us. With NASP being a prominent sport in the schools these days, bring your kids out for some summertime practice. Dates will be listed on the Archery Calendar.

Also, please join us on the 2nd Wednesday of every month for our monthly meeting, complete with dinner and games. July's game will be a poker shoot - come see who can make the best hand!

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The casting division held their annual Kentucky State Open Tournament the weekend of May 17th & 18th. As a prelude to the tournament, members of the division held two days of distance casting instruction and practice on Thursday and Friday at the Kentucky Horse Park. Although attendance was down, we had a good group and a great time. Scores were lower than normal due to the gusting winds, but that just made it more fun - there were no guaranteed winners this time. Our club winners were as follows:

Senior Men:

Bill Burke - Bass Bug Accuracy & 5/8 oz Accuracy Plug

Men B Class:

Pat McFadden - Dry Fly Accuracy

Greg Delabar - 5/8 oz Accuracy Plug

Ladies A Class:

Lu Ann Johnson - $\frac{1}{4}$ oz & $\frac{3}{8}$ oz Accuracy Plugs

Ladies B Class:

Nancy Burke - $\frac{1}{4}$ oz, $\frac{3}{8}$ oz & $\frac{5}{8}$ oz Accuracy Plugs

Intermediates:

Jessi Johnson - $\frac{1}{4}$ oz, $\frac{3}{8}$ oz & $\frac{5}{8}$ oz Accuracy Plugs

We also have possession of the Team Trophy - the Minnow Bucket - for a year. It's good to have it home.

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Youth Division News

As Family Fun Days was not possible this year, the Youth Committee hosted it's 1st Annual Youth Ironman Competition. This event was only made possible by the volunteers that came forth to support us. The Youth Committee would like to thank:

The Pistol Division and the Ironmonger Family for providing the funds, smokers, charcoal and everything needed for our "all you can eat" dinner. If you weren't there, you missed the best pulled pork sandwiches around.

Rollie Beers for providing the shotguns the kids used at Skeet & Sporting Clays and Trap - we had enough 20 gauge shotguns for everyone.

Steve, Jamie and all the guys at Air Rifle who stepped up and gave the kids a little fun time to go along with the competition.

Blackpowder gurus: Archie, Jeanette, John, Marvin & Rev Tom for not only taking the time to reload each gun for the kids, but for easing the new ones into it. They're ready for a woods walk now and maybe some new vintage clothing!

Joel & Donnie with Archery for making sure the kids kept on target. Those little targets made the competition much tighter (and easier to score) than it could have been.

Skeet and Sporting Clays Range Manager Jonathan and his crew. You guys did an amazing job running two stations at **once** (Skeet & Trap).

WTF, Casting Division and all those individuals whose monetary donations made this event possible. We couldn't do anything without the support of the Federations, Divisions and Individuals that take such great interest in teaching heritage and outdoorsmanship to our youth.

Dr. Scott VanMeter for bringing his Boy Scout Troop in to compete with us. We hope to see these boys at more events in the near future.

Now on to the part everyone has been waiting for....who won?

Well, the first Ironman competition was is... a GIRL! Sydney Rhodus took the trophy home this year with a total score of 328 - 18 more than her next competitor. Sydney has been a long-time member of the BGSL SCOPE program - winning the league and region Squirrel Rifle Competition for 10-12 yr old girls the last two years. It's no wonder she had a slight advantage in the shooting sports.

There were many others that had exceptional scores in each discipline. The Boy Scouts were tough competitors, but our kids took some awards themselves. It was a great day, the weather cooperated, the pond was stocked with 400 lbs of catfish (yes we went fishing after dinner), and we experienced a feeling of league unity in supporting our kids. Thanks again!



From the BGSL Chaplain

By Rev. Tom Cottingim

When you get to my age, everything reminds you of something; even the seasons of the year. Summer is here and that always brings to mind my first love. It was the Summer of 1962 and I was fourteen years old. I was helping my dad in his welding and repair shop when she showed up. I heard the crunch of wheels on the gravel parking lot and went to see what the next job might be and there she was. I was speechless; I couldn't take my eyes off her. I felt my heart race and I couldn't catch my breath. Oh, yes, I had seen lots of others before and quite frankly was interested in several of them. But she was not like the rest, she was special in every way. She was a '32 Ford Duce Coupe Lowboy painted flat black; a HOT ROD!!! I was in LOVE.

The Duce Coupe visited my dad's shop only that one time, but while she was there I studied her carefully. She had no fenders and no hood; the engine was a transplanted V8 with three carburetors and dual exhaust. The interior was very sparse, just bucket seats, a floor shift and no carpet, headliner, or door panels. This wonderful car had been built by hand; someone had done it themselves. That made me want it even more. In the months that followed I talked about the Duce Coupe; I drew pictures of it; I even dreamed about it. I wanted one of my own; one I had made myself.

As the years have passed, my love for

hot rods has not diminished; it has expanded to include sports cars, race cars, well really, just cars. I grew up in my dad's garage working on all kinds of mechanical things and that has benefited me greatly. I have always fixed my own cars (and everything else) because I usually could not afford to have someone else do it. All in all, it has been a labor of pure love.

I still have not built my own hot rod. I don't know if I ever will. I have my plans ready if it happens. I know just what I want to do. I will need a '51 Studebaker and a North-star V8 engine from a late model Cadillac. Do you suppose that would be a Studillac, or a Cadibaker? I will not be disappointed if it never comes about. My love of cars has helped fulfill my life the last 46 years. It has even proven to be an avenue of ministry for me. Had I not fallen in love with the Duce Coupe, and cars in general, I may not have learned what I did.

I guess the moral of the story is that getting exactly what we *think* we want is not always what life has in store for us. I surely wanted a Duce Coupe and even though I didn't get one, my life was still enriched because of it. Is there a Duce Coupe somewhere in your life? Don't be surprised if you find something even better. See you at the club.

Blessings,
Tom

BGSL Board of Directors

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