

Officers & Directors

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Trap

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Tim Ore 859-223-6358

Past President

Greg Delabar 859-523-0250

BGSL Chaplain

Tom Cottingim 859-533-8896

President's Corner

Fall is upon us and outside maintenance chores at the club will begin to slow down. We expect to begin construction of the vertical baffles on the GP Range over the next several months. We will keep dark days to a minimum during construction and will keep the schedule posted on the web site. We can see the light at the end of the tunnel and it no longer looks like a train.

The office renovation is proceeding and looks really good. We now have someone to answer our phones and provide service 5 days per week.

The trailer has also been renovated. A water line has been dug from the spring to the front field [about 1600ft]. Ben and our operations people have had a busy end of summer and beginning of fall.

As Greg Delabar used to say "Come on down and use YOUR club."

Bill

SCOPE (Youth)

As the weather cools and the leaves change colors, we look forward to hunting season and the opportunity to branch out in our events. Youth Deer Hunt weekend, October 11th & 12th, saw 4 BGS� Youth rise early in their hunt for the big buck. The weather was still quite warm and the deer were elusive. Hunter Richardson was the only member to take a shot – but so far, no deer were harvested.

November 1st we will have an orienteering class. Reverend Tom and Mark Dacci have set out our course and we will have a couple of Boy Scout leaders teach the class. This should be great fun for kids and parents as I'm sure these two did not make the course too easy. If you are interested in learning how to use a compass and follow mapping directions – meet us at the Youth Lodge at 10 am. We'll have a little classroom instruction – lunch – and then an afternoon out hunting for Tom & Mark's course markers.

This year the Youth Committee will be available to cook for your division. If you are having a shoot, meeting or just a small get-together, let us know and we'll serve breakfast and/or lunch for your participants. We hope to make this a funding opportunity for any future projects we undertake. Please contact either Lu Ann Johnson (502) 598-1533 or Robert Burgess (859) 351-2060 to schedule a meal for your division.

Casting Division News

Well our season has ended in this part of the country, but we had a good year. Many top honors were taken by our members in the regional and national tournaments, making Blue Grass still a team to be reckoned with.

We look forward to the addition of "Cajun Bill" Clements to our team this month. Cajun is currently training with Bill Burke for the International Tournament in Europe next year. He will be a great addition to our group and will bring a little "spice" to our division (we can't wait for a little Cajun cuisine). He will be occupying the trailer at the front of the property, so you will see him around a lot. He will be a great ambassador to our sport and our club - please make him welcome when you see him.

Archery Division News

The Archery Division had a great "daylight to dark" shoot at our last meeting. No we were not shooting after dark - the wooded area for 3D targets gets dark around 6pm. We also enjoyed a great home-cooked meal by Mark Dacci.

Our next meeting, November 12th, we will be having a 3D Turkey Shoot. We'll get out all the turkey targets, probably play hide-and-seek with some, and see who can find and hit the most. We'll follow this up with a great meal (hopefully someone will get a deer by then) and a short meeting.

We will continue our Kids' Archery Night on November 20th. We hope to move this event indoors beginning in November so keep an eye on the website for directions to the venue. Kids' Night is a NASP style instruction and practice night. Whether you have kids on a NASP team or just kids that want to shoot more, these Thursday nights have proven to be great fun.

If you'd like more information about the Archery Division please contact any of our Officers or Directors.

From the BGS� Chaplain

by Rev. Tom Cottingim

I suppose it doesn't take much to make me happy. I had just a wonderful day this past week wandering through the woods in a light rain below the Archery club house. I was not there to shoot the 3D course, I didn't even have a bow, just a compass and a notebook. Mark Dacci and his son, Cam, were with me and we were on a mission. Mark and Cam brought the high tech gear, including two way radios, a really nifty range finder and a transit; we were there to set up a compass course to be used to teach ground navigation skills to kids.

We completed phase one of the project, an introductory course to teach beginners basic compass skills, how to measure distance traveled on foot and the use of landmarks. Before coming to the compass course, kids will be taught how to read a topographical map, how to do a pace count, what a compass is and how it works, how to shoot an azimuth with a compass, how to find a back azimuth and how to use a notebook to keep track of where they are and how to get back to where they started. Very basic stuff.

Only then will they get to walk the compass course. Teams will be sent to the woods with compasses and a set of instructions. They will be asked to shoot an azimuth from a starting point and follow it into the woods. There they will follow further directions to find markers we have placed and locate other features that are a part of the woods. Once learned, these skills will prepare them to find their way in and out of almost any place they might hike, hunt, or fish. The next phase of the compass course will be more difficult; it will be designed for intermediate skills. Kids will be taught to navigate longer distances through more complicated

terrain. We hope to include a night course in this phase. These advanced skills will help prepare these young folk for more challenging outdoor adventures.

That is, after all, what we hope to do for our children, isn't it? Prepare them for the challenges they will face in life? Knowing how to use map and compass certainly adds a lot to the sporting life, although it may not be the most critical skill to have as an adult. It does, however, give kids something they absolutely need in life: self confidence. The outcome of any situation is based on preparedness and opportunity. By learning how to navigate on the ground in all sorts of terrain, day or night, helps kids understand they can master other things, too. Things that will help them find their way in other places in life, not just in the woods.

How about you? Do you know how to shoot an azimuth? Read a topo map? Do you know how to find your way in strange terrain? Do you have the skills needed? If you do, come help teach our youth (and bring some kids with you.) If not, or if the batteries are dead in your hand held GPS, come out and join us the next time the kids have a ground navigation event. You might just learn something you like. See you at the club.

Blessings,

Tom

Morgan's Meanderings

By Terry Morgan

I have always been a little on the "geekie" side. Now, I am not nearly as "geekie" as, say, Richard Gehlbach or Clay Caudill but I definitely lean in that direction. You know how a Bass Division member, like say Mike Kass or Claudie Jacobs seem to have a faint aura of two day old fish about them? And Muzzleloader people like John Ruland and Tom Cottingim sort of project an "odour de gunpowder" as they whisk by? (The only odor I can detect from archery folks like Ken Maness is a faint whiff of chicken feathers). Well, I am having a lot of trouble trying to identify the imbalance in the atmosphere surrounding members of the "geek squad" and the only thing I can come up with is a slight burnt tinge such as you might get from the destruction of brain tissue on a regular basis or possibly burnt rubber. As far back as my feeble mind will let me remember, I was always trying to figure out some way to automate something. My Tinker Toy and Erector sets always had to have electric motors and I had an early collection of various switches, rheostats, solenoids, small wire, etc. To add to this affliction, one of my seventh grade classes in Michigan offered a course called Home Mechanics where we learned how to solder with blow torch heated irons, blocks of sal-ammoniac (sniffing this burning vapor will put you right) and solid bars of solder as well as read meters, make up plumbing, repair valves, replace switches and outlets, bend sheet metal and make joints on a brake, file a block of soft steel to a cube and many other handy household chores. When I joined the Navy they told me I was a good candidate for Electrician's Mate and I caught on pretty well to how electron potential moved in wire. When it came to studying the movement of holes in silicon in order to make transistors work, I started losing interest rapidly. I just made up my mind to accept transistor switching on faith and be done with it.

All of the foregoing experiences have had an effect on me in that I have become very susceptible to almost any new technology that comes along. I got into amateur radio pretty heavily and was forced to learn Morse code but I was not the best in receiving code at high speed. When computers first came into the market place at a reasonable price I snagged onto an Apple II because there was a technique for using that computer to convert analog radio signals in Morse code into a digital signal that could be displayed on a CRT in the form of a letter. This was the beginning of the end for the high speed teletype machines and a blessing for we of weak brain power (possibly caused by too much sal-ammoniac sniffing) who could not read Morse signals at high speeds; the computer took over amateur radio. Not too long after that came the death of the typewriter which had always struggled to not only be a communications tool but a typesetter for the less gifted. With the development of the digital computer and appropriate software, you now had a relatively inexpensive type setter. I had to be in the thick of all this, not only because I lusted after it, but it was always part of my business to put images onto pieces of paper and all of these new technologies worked right into my business life and made me happy as a clam. (I don't really know if clams are happy or even know what happiness is, but they appear to be happy the way they smile).

Now don't start fretting; I am working up to a point here. Anyway, as I was saying, I have a definite bent towards anything new in technology that comes along and I have to be very careful about disciplining myself in the expenditure of funds for fear that I will get carried away and spend myself into bankruptcy in short order. I did allow myself a cell phone and I have a little cheapo personal music player but when these GPS units started proliferating in the market place, I had to start looking like the three monkeys: See no evil, Speak no evil and Hear no evil. I could not convince myself that there was really any justifiable use of these tools for me and therefore I would not succumb to the temptation. Keep thee

behind me, Satan. About three weeks ago an opportunity came up that set the stage for my downfall. My wife and I enjoy going up to the mountains of New York (Adirondacks) and Vermont (Green) and with the lousy potential for a decent autumn here in the dry country, we decided to take a trip in the direction of West (by God) Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, New York and back. Here was my justification for the expenditure of funds for a GPS unit. I read up on them and found one that was highly rated and being sold by one of the companies I had distributed for back in my business days. It was highly featured (could call out the next turn by street name) and was only \$180.00. Was this a good day or what? Off went the order and the gadget arrived in just 3 days. This was all too good to be true. Well, I am surely glad there were no paparazzi hanging about to take pictures of my tongue hanging out and my eyeballs sweating from pure pleasure cause this little toy made me want to slap myself for putting this off for so long.

Gentlemen (and ladies), this piece of technology has the makings of a **social revolution**. Just as computers have changed our way of relating to the world, the GPS unit, when used as a travel companion, has the power to change our most intimate relationships. As it happens, my wife cannot read a map at all. She has no idea of the difficulties involved in modern transportation to get from one place to another on our modern street and highway system. Basically, she gets into her car, starts the engine, slams the accelerator to the floor, arrives at her destination, puts on the brake, turns off the engine and gets out. She cannot give directions and has a dickens of a time receiving them (I should mention here that none of the above in any way stifles her need to give orders and directions as if she knew what she was doing). So, when we go on a trip, it is totally up to me to figure out how to get to wherever she wants to go and then get back to wherever we need to be. I have often been chided by her for not wanting to stop to ask directions of a local because I have learned long ago that locals have no idea what

is around them and probably have never been to see whatever it is she wants to see and even if they knew about it, they cannot give a decent set of directions to get there.

Well, this trip was an amazing enlightenment to me. I already knew that the bass guys had these rascals installed in their bass boats and were getting good use out of them, but I never had a conversation with anyone about their usefulness in travel. The wonder of it all is that my stress level dropped to practically zilch when I was asked to find out how to get to his place or that and back again. It became almost a pleasure to make sudden changes in the itinerary. After a couple of days, I just quit using any maps at all. Just think of it; no more hen pecked men who are chided for not wanting to stop and ask directions from a local. No more high stress arguments about whether you should or should not visit a certain place or where it is. No more ugly responses to "lets turn around now" or "lets go just a little farther". Not only does it help my stress level but it gives my wife someone she can trust to tell us where we need to go. (It is a well know fact that your spouse will never trust you when you say, "its just a little farther" or "its too far to go there"). That "someone" of course, is the computer voice that issues forth from the GPS unit. It has a little trouble putting the right accent on the correct syllable and you have to learn to adapt your hearing to the mispronounced words, but even then it is a blessing. Just keep in mind that computers do not talk "Kentucky". The Asians are great at developing the electronics but they have a long way to go in the art of making their computer generated voices sound like us "good ole boys" would carry on a conversation. They do not say "Garrad" county; they say "Ger rard" county. They say "Yo sim I tee" and not "Yosim ite". This is a blessing sent from Heaven if I ever saw one. I can't wait to try it in downtown Boston or New York City.