

CONEJO QUIVER



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Monthly Newsletter

**July 2013**

## **From the Prez**

**To all CVA member's**

Over the last few months I have been made aware of lots and lots of rumors about what is "going on" at CVA. I want to take a moment to clear up a couple of the major misconceptions about what I have heard and set the record straight.



Coaching on the range has been going on at CVA since the beginning of the club. Helping other archers is part of how we support archery. It is a way to promote the sport, help new archers become experienced archers, and a way to build lasting bonds with others that enjoy our sport.

A couple of years ago Dave Dragan started coaching for the Parks and Recreation (P&R) in Oak Park. For instructing P&R classes, the instructors get paid a percentage of the amount collected. I have heard rumors that "Dave was using JOAD equipment for the Oaks Park class". This is not true. Dave helped write a grant to Easton to purchase the equipment that is used for classes in Oak Park.

Last year Dave was approached by P&R about teaching classes in Simi Valley. He asked if he could use the CVA JOAD facilities and equipment to accommodate that class. In exchange Dave would be donating back to the club a generous portion of what he was getting paid. The existence of the classes was presented by Dave at several meetings (general and board) and there was no opposition to them at those times. Financial arrangements of the classes were not detailed out (exact dollar figures). Classes were taught last fall and then more classes took place this spring. During the spring classes some members started rumors that Dave was teaching private classes on the range using JOAD equipment and pocketing all the money. Again, this is not true. CVA has received \$400 from Dave teaching classes through the Parks Department.



Over the last year and a half being president, I have only had two people come up on their own to ask me about something they heard about that they did not think was right. In one case I filled in the facts they were missing and it all made sense to them, in the other case (coaching mentioned above), we suspended the program until we generate a policy on how to handle coaching on the range. Now I have to believe there are more issues out there that no one has brought forward.

The only reason I have recently found out about other specific rumors is that I have gone out and spent several hours asking members about what they have heard. I had to pull the information out of them. Let's be clear about this, I should not have to plug myself into the "rumor mill" to find problems to fix. I have other items on my task list that are being delayed (Easton Grant, By-Laws update, etc...) while dealing with these rumors.

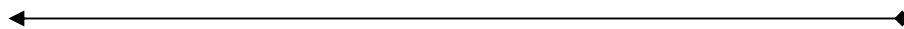
My big question to all members, is when you hear about something that you do not believe is the right thing for the club, why don't you tell someone who can investigate it and fix the problem, assuming there really is a problem. Often people don't have all the facts. Often I don't have the facts either, but if I know of something that needs to be looked into I will find the facts and take appropriate action.

I have to believe all CVA members want to bring the club together, but all these rumors are destructive to CVA and serve no good purpose. So please care about CVA enough to let myself or another board member know of potential issues so the proper actions can be taken. Do

Let us all remember that this is OUR club and work to make CVA a great place for archery, building friendships and having fun.

I think that is enough said. Now, go shoot your bow.

Clark Pentico



From The Desk of the Vice Prez,

Hi Everyone,

Well summer is in full swing and things have been hot and busy in more ways than one. Our JOAD Saturday program is still busy even with the warm weather and we continue to see an average of 50 new people a weekend by the number of waivers filled out.

We are also looking forward to a big fundraiser for the club which Bonnie Marshall is putting together and we will be doing at the JOAD range on Sunday September 29, from 9-11 am. This could raise as much money for us as some of our tournaments. Please see the email that Dan sent out and respond directly to Bonnie if you can help.

We also had our 8th JOAD BBQ sponsored by Mike Keena and his incredible crew. They grilled up over 40lbs of wild boar sausage for all to sample and with all the side dishes and great deserts, there was plenty for all, as they fed over 125 people!!! Thanks again Mike for your generosity and always making these events special!! Also thanks to everyone who helped serve and cook and make all our archers and guests feel welcome and full!!! I had a lot of people who were at CVA for the first time who commented that they could not believe that we would do this for free and offered donations to the club!! I think that everyone had a good time and this is what we are all about!!

I also just want to add a little about what Clark wrote about. I think all of you that know me well, also know that I'm a straight forward type of guy. I have nothing to hide and I always think of the good of the club and our programs. If anyone has any questions about anything that is going on with the club and the way programs are being run I would hope that you would feel that you can always come directly to me and ask for the truth and I will always give you the straight answers. That being said I hope that we can move forward by always keeping the lines of communication open and honest!!

That's about all for now, see you all around the range. And remember to always shoot for the Gold!!!

Coach Dave



## CVA “QUIVER”

JULY – 2013 a column by Curtis Hermann

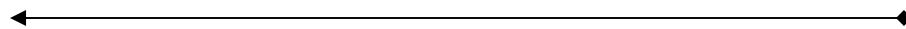
There is a mystery about the art of finding and seeing wildlife in the wilderness and even the non-hunter has a curiosity about how it is done, I think I can help you see more wildlife and add a little more joy to your life in this area - so hunter or non-hunter - venture forth and read on.

*In the Aug/Sept issue of “Traditional Bowhunter” is a column by G. Fred Asbell titled “Looking and Seeing: Essential Bowhunting Skills”. A good read and I felt I could add my own thoughts to many of Fred’s and provide some interesting reading for our friends and fellow archers in CVA. Thank you Fred for being my inspiration this month.*

### **HOW THE BOWHUNTER “SEE’S”**

If one is to “see” in nature there are a few things that one must know or understand and a few things that one must practice to become an effective observer of wildlife. Since people love to see deer in their natural habitat we will focus on them. The techniques you learn today will help you with all wildlife and make you a better observer of their world. One of the things that we must know and understand is how predator and prey see differently and how we can use that knowledge to our advantage.

We are designed as a predator species and therefore have eyes in the front of our head (binocular vision – 70-80 degrees wide), deer are a prey species and like all prey species have eyes on the side of the head (monocular vision - 270-300 degrees wide). In the natural world the predator “at the moment of truth” must focus intently on the prey, attack and reduce the prey to nutrition (notice how I got out of saying “kill him”), the prey on the other hand must be able to see the predator in plenty of time to flee to safety, their eyes help them accomplish that. The predator must see similar to the prey in the early stages to find and identify his quarry then refocus at the moment of truth to accomplish his goal, prey focus only when something has penetrated there effective



awareness range and they must prepare to flee to safety, at all other times they maintain a broad visual of their surroundings.

We as humans have perfected that straight ahead focused look, we focus on a computer, TV or video game, we focus our driving by looking straight ahead, yes we see the cross traffic, the pedestrian or the bird flying by but for the most part our view is a small arc that is about 45 degrees both left and right from straight ahead, if we want to see more we turn our head but the focus control is always on high, our awareness button is on low. Deer with eyes on the side have a periphery view of between 270 and 300 degrees and by turning their head will see all 360 degrees without turning around, their focus is on low but their awareness button is on high.

If we are to see more we must expand our field of view and turn up the awareness button, we can, -try this – stand facing forward and stretch both arms out to your sides and if you try you can see both hands at the same time, what you have just accomplished is a doubling of your field of view! Now slowly turn your head left and right without narrowing your focus. You will find it very difficult to focus when your field of view has doubled but you will find that your awareness of movement or of things being out of place has increased, it is almost a refreshing sense of freedom, you don't really see but you become aware, this is how deer spend their life. The experience is exactly like your eye exam at the "Eye Doctor" you know that machine where you put your forehead against the bar and look into the "white abyss" and try to see all the little white spots that appear on the periphery as you keep score by punching the button. Fred refers to this as learning to un-focus, Tom Brown, a renowned teacher of tracking, refers to it as "Splatter Vision" and that is the term I use.

So how does un-focusing or Splatter Vision help the hunter/observer in his mission to see? It allows you to scan a large area in a short time and during that scan your awareness will identify a few spots or areas or movements that require you to return to focus mode and identify an object or movement or habitat that says something of interest is or might be there

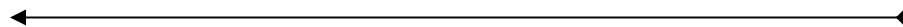
. In a matter of seconds you have just prioritized several spots/ areas or movements that require intense focus or binoculars. This is so much easier and faster and more effective than just lifting your binoculars and scanning a canyon or mountain.

This may seem a little difficult to accomplish at first, but I assure you it is a natural act, your ancestral caveman relative relied on it to survive and when you awaken it within you – in time – it just becomes a way of life, a part of you the hunter. Let me provide an example, recently Gary and I were returning from a shoot in Colorado and we were crossing a high plateau in eastern Utah at a good rate of speed. Gary was driving and his focus was straight ahead with his standard 45 degree left/right periphery, I was passenger with Splatter Vision and awareness button on high, I commented, beautiful high plateau – should see some antelope. Like at that water hole said Gary, (it was next to the highway on his left well within his 45 degrees). Yes I said, the one with thirty antelope. Gary was in focus mode, he saw the highway with a waterhole in the periphery, I was in Splatter Vision and I saw a whole plateau and 30 antelope that stood out to me but escaped him. (It should be noted that Splatter Vision is not a good practice when you are the driver). Simply by having my awareness button on high, using Splatter Vision I scanned the whole plateau and I expected to see the antelope because my trained mind added plateau, antelope, plus waterhole and switched instantly and instinctively to focus on the perfect spot.

The point is, with effort we can utilize our Splatter Vision/ peripheral vision and improve our ability to spot game, not as well as prey with their monocular vision but well enough to become a better predator.

The above practice is particularly useful to the Western hunter who often hunts on foot over expansive areas of low cover but Splatter Vision is useful in both the open west and the mid-west or eastern woodlot, the amount of area is determined by the amount of cover available.

Everything about spotting wildlife begins with the animal being unaware of your presence, since the ability to see movement and detect scent are the animals most alert defense mechanism we must do things that counter





counter those abilities. Most of the time when you see an animal and he is unaware of you it is because you are being very still and your form is blended with some piece of cover (and you are downwind).

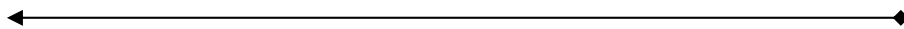
Any noisy or fast movement means something in the woods is frightened and every animal within range will stop and stare, attempting to determine the cause and if danger is near. To counter the above situation I do what I call meandering, that is to walk casually quite slowly with the awareness button on high, I look through the first and second layer of brush before me, focusing back into the shady areas for the form of a leg, nose, tail twitch or eye of a deer, anything that will help materialize the full picture.

Body language is important, deer are definitely good at determining intent by observing your body language (or a mountain lions), for instance, one time near June Lake I was utilizing a back packing trail to traverse a hunting area when I spotted a herd of bachelor bucks bedded a couple of hundred yards away, they had caught my movement and were trying to determine my threat level. They were used to hikers on that trail, so I pretended I had not spotted them and just continued my plodding stride, pretending to just be another hiker, the deer followed me with their eyes until I disappeared over the edge of a draw a quarter of a mile away, I sat down for 15 minutes and then circled around above them and an hour and half later I had closed the distance to about 20 yards, they had never left their beds! Had I stopped upon first spotting them and glassed them or in any way shown them that I was not a non-threatening hiker but a hunter aware of their presence they would have bolted and moved a great distance away and would be watching their back trail for any sign of me following them. In another instance on my brother-in-laws farm/ranch in Wyoming I could throw my longbow over my shoulder and wander all the irrigation ditches right out in the open and deer would pay me very little attention as they were so used to Earl with his shovel on his shoulder walking the irrigation ditches to remove clods and keep the water running. So watch your body language, especially when you are exposed!

Seeing wildlife successfully means having a sense of where it is appropriate to expect to see deer and this can only be learned by observing lots of wildlife, I call it “being out amongst them.” I drive Gary nuts when he is driving because I’m always spotting likely mule deer or elk habitat and trying to point them out to him, he thinks I see deer behind every bush but it is years of observation that has taught me how to look at a mountain and almost instantly section it off to where I am likely to find game and where I am not.

If you live in an area where there are few sightings of deer then it is difficult to develop this sense. The best way to develop this sense is observe your surroundings and ask “why?” at every observation of deer or deer sign. A deer track is just a poor man’s trail camera, it means something, it means a deer was here and you need to ask “why?”, was he headed toward a feeding area?, a bedding area?, or just passing through?. Where does this trail begin – end and “why” do they like it. Eventually you will see a bigger picture and realize that deer stick to fairly predictable areas and patterns that fill there needs of security, food, water and shelter, in some areas you will almost always see them because all the parts are there, trails through cover or saddles, along edges or fence lines, steady breezes, secure bedding areas, available food all within distance of water, yet a hundred yards away in any direction you will find little or no deer sign. This asking “why?” at every piece of deer sign is probably the best advice I can give you as the answers will tell you where to look. You have now learned how to look and are now learning where to look, you are becoming a better bowhunter and a more successful observer of wildlife.

At the Angeles Ranges where I teach the Bowhunter Education Program we have a 3 acre Eucalyptus forest that is rectangular in shape and scouting shows us a series of trails that show us a pattern. There are 3 trails, one each along the North and South edges and one through the middle and only one connecting trail about 100 yards off of the road that runs North to South along the eastern edge giving us a shape of a backwards “E.” .



” I am able to show the students that to just put an arrow on your bowstring and walk through that forest would only spook all the available deer and provide you with no shot, but if you observe the trail patterns and check the wind patterns you can establish an ambush site (blind or treestand) near the intersections of these connected trails and perhaps at least have an opportunity to see deer or have a shot. This is called “being in charge of the hunt,” just wandering through the woods without “seeing” allows the prey to be in charge and since they like avoidance - you will rarely see them.

As a society we are focused on self and that isolates us from our natural outdoors rhythm and instincts as a hunter, I often find that it is three days in elk camp before I feel that I have returned to what I call “woods rhythm,” where I walk with the slow casual grace of a deer or elk, with my awareness button on high, with splatter vision on automatic, where every sense, every sound, every smell, every breeze registers as though it was a normal way of life. When I am at that stage I feel like I belong and am very comfortable and relaxed, I am the hunter!

At the CVA range on our Monday/Friday practice sessions I always find myself going into automatic Splatter Vision mode as we round the corner that exposes Bennett road and that large hill just across, I always expect to see wildlife going up the south edge or across the upper third, I never do, I see cows but no deer, yet my mind says I will and I always look as it has a magic hold on me, it has the necessary components, water in the creek, ridge access to safety and trails across the top so my awareness button says I must observe, I must see and I always look. I do the same as we approach target twelve, I scan the back canyon, the ridge route from Bennett Road, the trails across from the bench and the bedding areas near the top, here I often see deer or coyotes and love to point them out to Robert Luttrell as he is just learning to observe wildlife, soon he too will have an automatic “Splatter Vision” awareness button that allows him to really “see.”

## Membership

It's been a great month for the club and membership has been very busy. We would like to welcome new member Steve Mahoney who took his club oath this month. We all look forward to working and shooting with you!

July anniversaries include:

Debra Mora – 22 years

James Person – 8 years

Brain Tanger – 6 years

Garrett Griffen – 5 years

William Miner and family, Robert & Joanna Minshall, Randall Porter,

Robert Ramos and family – 4 years

Mike Burke, Francis & Jen Locklin - 3 years

Jeffrey Gelman and family, Brian & Trisha McCready, Steve Erickson,

Randy Jenkins –

All 2 years

Alan England and family, Marc Wintroub, James Corbet, Virginia

Hankins, Fred French, Jason Fuller - 1 year

Please remember to invite anyone who wants to become a new member to attend our monthly general meeting (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every month at 11:00 am), where we will have them participate in their first meeting, complete their safety seminar, have a little talk with me regarding their own archery goals and what goals, ideas or contributions they may have for the club and then they get their key!

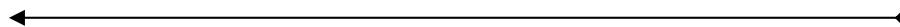
Anyone wishing to volunteer to help with safety seminars is asked to contact me at the general meetings. Also if you would like to welcome any new member by offering to host them on their first field range shoot please let me know!

I will be contacting many of you shortly who had noted on their membership apps about positions you would like to help with. Our club runs on it volunteers and these jobs are vital for our club to keep running smoothly. Thanks for stepping up!

Have a great month of shooting!

Bonnie

[bmarshall79@verizon.net](mailto:bmarshall79@verizon.net)



# June Club Scores

We had a very nice turnout again for the June Shoot with twenty archers making the round and turning in score cards. At the top this month with the highest handicapped score was Norman Rice (570) shooting BHFS. He was followed in turn by Clark Pentico (566) and Norman Rice's alter-ego (554) shooting Free-Style. Keith Murphy had to settle for 4<sup>th</sup>.

Clark also had the highest scratch score this month (536) – that is just 24 points off perfect. Let's see now, that is 24 points over 28 targets, or less than one point per target on average. That is some mighty-fine shooting indeed.

Top Traditional Score this month went to John Brix (507), who also had the top Traaditional scratch score (258).

NAME	HSCORE	SCRATCH	DIVISION	STYLE
Norman Rice	570	496	GA	BHFS
Clark Pentico	566	536	A	FS
Norman Rice	554	496	GA	FS
Keith Murphy	548	516	A	BHFS
Jim Niehoff	545	455	GA	BHFS
Steve Price	545	475	GA	FS
Luke Sekerka	544	478	A	BHFS
Randy Estrella	544	479	A	FS
Carlos Parada	543	493	A	FS
Chuck Thurber	542	435	GA	FS
John Brix	507	258	GA	TRAD
Barbara Richter	494	242	A	FSL
Wesley Richter	493	198	C	FSL
Miles Gould	492	492	C	FS
Laura Loya	488	129	A	TRAD
Connor Richter	486	172	Y	FS
Tom Swindell	485	215	GA	TRAD
D.J.	152	152	A	TRAD
David Loya	125	125	Y	BHFS
Peter Loya	42	42	YA	TRAD

***Club Trophy – Best Five Score in a Particular Shooting Style***

As of the shoot, Clark Pentico has the highest shooting average (554.4) in any one particular shooting style (FS, or BHFS, etc.). He is closely followed by Keith Murphy (553.8) by less than one point. Not to be left behind, Chuck Thurber snuck in for third with a 535.6 average. He was in turn followed by Norman Rice (534.0 – FS) and Norm Rice again (532.6- BHFS). This will no doubt change next month as a certain twin will be dropping off some low scores for higher ones.

NAME	HSCORE AVG	STYLE
Clark Pentico	554.4	FS
Keith Murphy	553.8	BHFS
Chuck Thurber	535.6	FS
Norman Rice	534.0	FS
Norman Rice	532.6	BHFS

***Perpetual Trophy - Best 10 Scratch Scores (In any One or Mixed Shooting Style)***

As of the shoot Norman Rice has the top honors for the Perpetual Trophy having shot two more scores than any one else. All the numbers will change again next month and the top-dog could change two. Stay tuned to see who comes out on top next month.

NAME	HSCORE AVG	STYLE
Clark Pentico	554.4	FS
Keith Murphy	553.8	BHFS
Chuck Thurber	535.6	FS
Norman Rice	534.0	FS
Norman Rice	532.6	BHFS

***Golden Ager Award – Best Three Handicaped Scores***

Norm Rice is once again at the top for this trophy.

NAME	HSCORE AVG	STYLE
Norman Rice	556.0	BHFS
Steve Price	541.3	FS
Chuck Thurber	541.3	FS



# Certified Coach Mentoring Program

Hello All!

Conejo Valley Archers is proud to offer a new Certified Coach Mentoring program. The program is offered to Certified USA Archery Level 1 or 2 Instructors and will provide real world experience in running a JOAD range, an overview of bow types and tuning, safety, and many other topics.

The program is offered during CVA's normal Saturday JOAD sessions over a period of four weeks and is free of charge. If you are a current USA Archery Level 1 or 2 Instructor and are interested in the program, please contact Kurt Hoberg during JOAD hours for more information.

If you are interested in completing your Level 1 or 2 Archery Instructor Certification, please contact Mike Broder during JOAD hours for Certification requirements.

Thanks!

Coach Kurt

## Shadow Art By Rob Lind

Simply stand beneath the relative midday sun (for forward shadow), view your shadow on the dirt/dust/pebble/straw ground/path directly in front of you, carefully extract your iPhone or equivalent and snap away..  
.careful to arrange pro form.







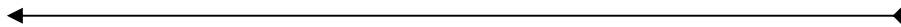
Classifieds



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**FOR SALE**





Conejo Valley Archers  
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*Remember with the  
time change next club  
meeting will start at  
11:00 AM*

**Reminder:** Range Beautification Days  
are the 1st Saturday of even months

