



Northeastern Arizona Sportsman's Association, Inc.
320 CR6350, P.O. Box 2715, St. Johns, Arizona 85936

Issue 2014111

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Letter from the VP:

Hello shooters!

It's that time of year, time to elect the club's leadership. We tallied up this year's nominations at our November board meeting, and are sending the ballots out this week. If you signed up as a member by September 1st, you will be getting a ballot. Please make sure you get your ballots back as soon as you can. We will count the votes on December 12th.

There are some definite changes coming. Our President, Don Borg, has decided not to seek re-election. Wiley Barnes, a long-time member/board member has also decided not to seek re-election. I have decided to seek election in a different position, and there are some new people seeking election as board members. We will have *at least* two new people on the board, so your vote is more important now than ever. If you're one of those "my vote doesn't really matter" people, let me remind you that last year's President position was decided **by ONE vote!** If you didn't vote last year, you could have picked the president! I'll agree that often our votes on a national level don't make much difference, but when it's down to a hundred or so voters, it really counts. **Ballots are due by our December board meeting, which will be held December 12th, 6:30pm at**

the St. Johns Library. You are welcome to bring your ballot to the board meeting if you don't want to mail it in. You are also welcome and encouraged to come to the meeting for the counting. The newly elected board will take office at the start of the January board meeting.

There has been a change to the Coyote Shoot. A large number of people I have talked to have said that January is a terrible time to have it. They have suggested we do it in February, after the archery hunts are over. We talked it over at the board meeting and decided it would be best to have it in February. So, the Coyote Shoot will be the second weekend in February. We'll start at 6:00am on Saturday the 14th, and then meet back at the range with our kills at 4:00pm Sunday. A valid Arizona hunting license is required to participate. We'll have a potluck dinner (possibly out there or maybe at someone's house). We have prizes! First place gets two Basha's gift cards worth \$15 each (\$30 in Basha's cards), Second prize gets one \$15 Basha's gift card, and third gets a brick of .22s that our President, Don Borg, graciously donated. Yeah, I'm shooting for third too! We may decide to make the brick of .22s first prize. I'll let you know if we do.

Our "Toy Shoot" is coming up. Entry fees are \$5 or a new toy worth at least \$5 per category. ALL money and toys received go to local charities. However, **we need your help.** We used to give it to the St. Johns Police Department's "Toys for Kids" program. They discontinued that program two years ago. Last year, we gave it to the "Angel Tree" program at the St. Johns Navopache offices. However, last year was their last year doing it. We need an appropriate charity that helps make sure every kid has a toy on Christmas morning. If you participate in such a charity, or know of one, please let us know. We would like to keep the toys/money as local as we can. We also need you to come shoot and donate generously.

Our October gun show didn't do so well. We always have our shows on the second weekend in October, and the second weekend in April. Last year, Winslow decided to have it on the same weekend, and they didn't do so well. This year, Hondah decided to do it on the same weekend, and we suffered. Something needs to change. We believe we have the answer. This spring, we will have a **Gun and Horn Show**. It will be a gun show, but will also have a horn and antler contest. There will be several categories, including children's categories, and shed categories. We're still working out details, but we're trying to find a couple Boone and Crockett scorers to score them. We are also looking for a horn and antler buyer to be part of the show. If you know someone that is either a scorer or a buyer that might be interested, please let us know. We think this format will become popular. I know in Round Valley, shed hunting is almost a religion, and everyone likes to see how well they did on their hunts compared to other hunters. We also need volunteers to help make this a success, so please donate some of your time to the effort, and SPREAD THE WORD!

If you want to see improvements on the range, help out. The same small group seems to be the ones doing a large portion of the work, but improvements take work and money. I believe we all would like to see things done at the range, so come help make them a reality. If you don't have time, donations are always welcome. If we work

together, we can turn our little range into something that not only we will be proud of, but something the Game and Fish can be proud of.

Sincerely,

Bowen Udall
Vice President
Northeastern Arizona Sportsman's Association, Inc.

List of Candidates:

Here are the nominees for the various offices. If you nominated someone that isn't on this list, one of two things happened. First, the person may have declined the nomination (we had eight nominations declined), or the person wasn't a member of the club (just one of those). The candidates are:

President:

Ben File
Bowen Udall

Vice President:

Bill Watkins

Secretary:

Pat Hall (current Secretary)

Treasurer:

Ben File (current Treasurer)

Board Members (Three will be elected):

Ben File
Bill Watkins
Casey Williams
Katrina Watkins (current)

Mack MacKenzie
René Greene (current)
Ron Carnett

Letters and concerns from members:

I frequently get comments, suggestions, and concerns from members. People will catch me when they see me, send me e-mails, or even call me. I am always glad when people let me know about things, even when it's a problem that needs to be corrected. I take all these things to heart, and try my best to use them to improve things.

This elections nomination cycle has raised some questions and concerns. Don Borg told us that many people didn't know who to nominate, mostly because they don't know who the members of the club are. He wanted to mail out a list of members to everyone, but we do have several members who have expressly told us they would lop off our heads and pillage our crops if we did anything like that. We talked about it in our November board meeting, and Don suggested we add the option to the membership application to be included/excluded in a list that would be sent only to members for things like this. Our bylaws state that any member can view a copy of the list of members, but mailing one out is a whole different thing. We would like to be able to send a list of members out for nominations next time, so we will modify the membership application to include the option, and we will come up with a privacy policy

that will state what we will/won't do with the list of names. I don't plan on including anything other than names/city lived in on the list, but that may change. I will make sure to keep everyone updated on how this develops.

Upcoming Shoots and Events:

- **ELECTION – Ballots due by December 12th, 6:30pm.** If you don't think it will make it in time through the mail, bring it to the Board Meeting at the library! Ballots will be counted and new board members will be approved by the board during this meeting.
- **Toys for kids** – December 13th at 10:00am. This shoot benefits local charities that help make sure every kid has a toy to open on Christmas morning. Entry fees for each category are either \$5, or one new toy worth at least \$5. ALL entry fees and toys go to local charities.
- **Coyote Shoot** – February 14th 6:00am through February 15th 4:00pm. The most coyotes taken during that time period wins. No teams, but multiple contestants can travel/shoot together. Prizes include \$30 in Basha's gift cards, \$15 in Basha's gift cards, and a brick of .22s.

Continuous Shoots and Events:

- **Members' Meeting.** Usually the fourth Saturday of the month. This is where the members meet with each other and the board members to discuss things about the club. **We don't have a Member's Meeting in November because it typically falls on the Friday after Thanksgiving!**
- The **Scholastic Clays Target Program** is held on the first and third Saturdays of every month at 10:00am on the Shotgun Range. The next one will be **December 6th** at 10:00am. This program is funded by the Arizona Game and Fish, and is free for the youth. [Sign-up forms can be found here](#). General information about the SCTP can be found on [the Game and Fish SCTP page](#). Contact Bowen Udall at bowen.udall@nasashootingsports.com for more information. Our Facebook page is www.facebook.com/leadingedgeshooters
- The **Board of Directors meeting** is held on the second Friday of every month, 6:30pm at the St. Johns public library. The next one will be **December 12th**.
- The **Scholastic Clays Target Program** is held on the first and third Saturdays of every month at 10:00am on the Shotgun Range. The next one will be **December 20th** at 10:00am. This program is funded by the Arizona Game and Fish, and is free for the youth. [Sign-up forms can be found here](#). General information about the SCTP can be found on [the Game and Fish SCTP page](#). Contact Bowen Udall at bowen.udall@nasashootingsports.com for more information. Our Facebook page is www.facebook.com/leadingedgeshooters

Range News:

Broken record time; no real progress on the fence. However, Don Borg did some calling to the Game and Fish and gave them a little motivation. We don't have anything solid, but we were told they were going to get an outside contractor to do the environmental assessment. If they can get that done, we may start the fence as early as mid-February. If not, we're looking at next fall.

Bowen's Stupid Tips:

Since very few have offered to help with content in the NASA News, you're going to have to listen to some of the 'duh' moments I've encountered. I'll try to keep them 'sportsman' related, but there are times that I might slip in a computer reference, car reference, or even a plumbing reference depending on how poorly my week has been going. I'm really hoping some of you will decide to jump on the band-wagon and start helping me out with content...

Crap flows downhill. It's a basic principle in physics and plumbing. That's why sewer lines have to be planned and properly 'plumbed'. Gravity does its job and takes it away. Ah, the joys of modern plumbing.

That simple principle has been used to describe command structures in the military, and management structures in the private sector. It is a well-known fact that if your boss isn't happy, you're not going to be happy. Heaven forbid HIS boss isn't happy, because by the time the crap reaches you, it has gathered momentum! The farther up the chain it starts, the harder it hits at the bottom.

I didn't think about it until just now, but it also works in the Federal, State and Local government model. The Feds make some stupid crap law, and it rolls downhill to the State and Local levels. The State makes some stupid law, and it rolls down to the local levels. Crap flowing downhill seems to be everywhere!

You would think that basic principle would work all the time. There shouldn't be any time that crap does not go anywhere other than down. However, I have seen examples of crap that went the opposite direction.

First example I can think of is revolutions. Revolutions happen because the 'upper' people abuse their power and privilege to constantly crap on the 'lower' people. The 'lower' people get sick of getting hit with crap all the time and decide to make the 'upper' people unable to produce more crap. It has happened many times in history. It will likely happen many more times. This planet is full of people who are more than happy to crap on their underlings. I suppose as long as it's a small amount, they'll be OK, but once they have the double order of greasy enchiladas from the taco shack on the wrong side of town, people decide they've had enough.

The second example, and the first thing that came to mind as an example, is a mutiny. On a ship, the captain is the boss. His word is law. If they are a good captain, things go well. If they are a bad captain, maybe they don't go so well. If they are an evil captain, sometimes the poor saps working the oars and swabbing the decks get sick of his crap, and throw him overboard.

The third example involves work. Yes, crap flows downhill at work. I've had bosses crap on me. I've had my boss's boss crap on my boss, who in turn passed it on to me. I've had my boss's boss's boss crap at the top, and again, it flowed downhill. That's how I know it gains momentum the farther down it goes! However, there was one time that my boss crapped on me by putting a middle-manager type boss over me and below him. This middle-manager guy was extremely full of crap, and loved to crap all over us underlings. I did my honest, very best to make him happy. I did everything I could to make him happy, I did everything he assigned, and yet, he still wasn't happy and made sure I wasn't happy either. There comes a point that the crap flowing downhill reaches your neck, and it is impossible to deal with it. That point came when the middle-manager guy accused me of doing something wrong, and doing it on purpose in order to make him look bad, when in reality, HE was the one that did it. I did try. I apologized for 'my' mistakes, and promised to try harder. This seemed to encourage his crap dispensing, and he found a dump-truck load of crap to then apply to me and my co-workers. Well, at that point, I had all I could stand, and I couldn't stand no more. I exploded big enough that bosses three levels up got crap on them! Luckily, when the crap flowed back downhill, it stopped with the middle-manager guy. He's no longer the middle manager, and everyone was happy about it.

The fourth example is a little different than the other three, and why I'm writing about crap flowing downhill. This example uses the literal version of the saying. Yes, sewer. I love modern plumbing... when it works. Running water is fantastic, when it runs. Draining sewers are fantastic, when they drain. When they don't, things can get pretty miserable. Now, I'm not opposed to living without those things, after all, I am WELL versed in outhouses and carrying water in a bucket from the spring. I used to spend three months a year without electricity, running water, or sewer. Things are fine when they are planned that way. However, when you don't have running water and also don't have a well or spring, things don't go so well. When you don't have draining sewer, and no outhouse, things get bad fast.

I live in a double-wide that was put in when I was six years old. Trailer house (mobile home to you younger readers) construction was not nearly as good as it is now, and it's pretty bad now. I'm always running in to things that make me wonder why on earth anyone would have knowingly made things like that, and used such crappy materials. I know they were trying to make these things on the cheap, but good grief, there should be a limit. I can easily deal with most of the challenges that arise, but sometimes, that old place makes my life miserable. One of those times was when the sewer, once again, decided it did not want to flow downhill any longer. It had done this several times before. We would call George from Hunt, and he would come visit me with his industrial grade Ridgid sewer snake, spend about half an hour and charge me a large amount. I hated the expense, but was happy enough to have draining sewers that I

smiled anyways when I handed him the check. After a few times, George told me that he thought my sewer line had been crushed. He said he didn't mind coming and taking my money, but that I should dig it up and replace it. So, the next time crap didn't flow downhill, I decided it was time to dig.

Let me tell you, digging up a driveway in St. Johns is no easy task. I think breaking a hole through Hoover Dam with a sledge hammer would be easier. I didn't have much choice, so I started with my shovel. I am very lucky to have a smart wife. She called someone with a backhoe and sweet-talked them in to coming over and digging up the line. I believe that literally saved me from a heart attack! I couldn't believe the line was FIVE FEET DOWN! I don't know if I ever would have got it dug up without a backhoe! When I finally got the line out, I saw that George was right. I guess decades of having the sewer below the driveway eventually cracked the line. The crack wasn't the big problem, but the fact that Elm trees love sewer water was! There was a three foot section of pipe that was a solid root ball. No wonder nothing was flowing! I replaced the section of pipe, and decided that I better test it out before I cover it back up.

Well, I'm not that lucky. Gravity was unable to do its job of taking the sewage downhill. I had a clog somewhere else. Thinking it must have developed a clog in a corner while it wasn't flowing, I started trying to snake down toilets and sink drains. I think I snaked every drain in my house, and I still couldn't get crap to flow downhill. Frustrating. I used my 'home use' snake in my cleanout outside hoping to knock things loose, but no luck. I was baffled. I didn't know where the clog was. This is where the real problem comes in to play.

Like most people with double wide trailers, an early owner of the place decided to build on. They built a nice (?) addition that added about 50% more living space. Very useful since the double wide only has two bedrooms in it, and I have four kids. Unfortunately, it was built with concrete floors, right over the sewer line. There was a sewer clean out about three feet from the house before the addition was built, which means there is a clean out in the middle of the floor. After not being able to clear the clog or even 'hit' the clog with my non-professional grade snake, I decided I should try snaking both directions from that cleanout. Now, I knew that if the clog was downhill from that cleanout, sewer could be backed up to that point. I didn't want to pop the cap off and have a flood, so I thought that I'd be sneaky about it. It was a threaded black PVC cap down a 4 1/2" wide concrete hole in the floor. I had to use a ratchet, a socket, and a long extension to reach it and turn it. I figured I'd go really, really slow and watch for any seepage. If I saw any hint of liquid, I'd just tighten it back down and call George. So I started unscrewing the cap. I swear it took 10 minutes to unscrew about five threads. The whole time, I'd turn it just a little bit, then look and feel for 'fluid'. Things were going great. I was almost to the end. I was down to the last thread. I turned it a tiny bit, and POP! The cap flew up past my ratchet, riding a geyser of filth! It was just like Old Faithful... but with chunks. I was frantically grabbing for the cap and then shoving it down the hole, desperately trying to get it threaded back in to the pipe! Luckily, I did manage to get the cap back on, but not until after there was a very toxic, very large spill in the addition. I'm so glad shop vacs exist!

So that brings me to the tip. “Crap flows downhill” is a good saying, but not a complete saying. After seeing the examples I gave above, the saying should be, “**Crap flows downhill, unless it’s under pressure**”. Expanding the saying not only goes for the literal applications, it also goes for the figurative ones as well. I suppose there are also a couple more ‘stupid tips’ in there as well, like, “Don’t build an addition over your cleanout”, and “Don’t open your sewer cleanout if it’s in your house”.

On an unrelated note, I have one slightly used shop vac for sale...

NASA Politics:

- **Elections are NOW!** – Make sure you get your ballots back before the December board meeting!
- **Board of Directors meeting** – The Board of Directors meets twice a month. First at the Board of Directors meeting on the second Friday of the month at 6:30pm at the St. Johns Library, second at the Members Meeting. The Board of Directors is responsible for making decisions for the club and take into consideration suggestions and opinions from members. Come to the meetings and participate.
- **Members meeting** – On the fourth Friday of the Month, the Board of Directors meets to hear from the members. The directors use members’ suggestions to help guide the club in the direction it needs to go.
- **Bylaws** – [NASA’s bylaws can be found here.](#)
- **Range Facilities Standard Operating Procedures** – [SOPs can be found here.](#)
- **Your Board of Directors:**
 - **President:** Don Borg
 - - 928-245-0222 (no texts)
 - - eMail: donborg@frontiernet.net
 - **Vice President:** Bowen Udall
 - – 928-245-3666
 - – email at bowen.udall@nasashootingsports.com
 - **Treasurer:** Ben File
 - **Secretary:** Pat Hall
 - **Board members:**
 - Wiley Barnes
 - Katrina Watkins
 - René Greene.

Highlights From the Board Meeting:

I’m not going to post minutes (I don’t have them), but I’ll post decisions the board made at the meeting that you might find interesting. Here are the highlights from the **November 14th** meeting:

- No Members' Meeting this month since it will be the Friday after Thanksgiving.
- We are changing our Gun Show format. We are making it a "Gun and Horn Show".
- NASA donated \$150 to the ["Wreaths Across America"](#) program. They put wreaths on veterans' graves across the country for Christmas. We feel it is a worthwhile program, and think you should consider donating to it as well.
- Coyote Shoot date changed from January to February 14th and 15th. We have prizes!
- Toys for Kids shoot next month. Entry fees/toys go to local charities.

NASA Website/Facebook/Twitter:

- We have been striving to keep our website up to date with current information. The main page has a listing of shoots and events coming up. There is also a "contact us" page, a Google calendar of events, documents to download, and information about NASA. The address is <http://www.nasashootingsports.com>.
- If you are on Facebook, liking our Facebook page will give you updates right on your wall feed. Our Face book page is the one that gets updated most often, so it's a good one to follow. The page is at <http://www.facebook.com/NASASports>.
- I finally got a smart phone, and plan on putting it to work on Twitter! I'd like to send out current, important information on Twitter, so people don't have to wait for a Facebook update or the next issue of NASA News. The Twitter page is <http://www.twitter.com/NASASports>.

About NASA:

Northeastern Arizona Sportsman's Association, Inc. was created in 1998 and incorporated in 2006. NASA's goal is to promote safe firearm usage for children and adults alike. NASA is a non-profit corporation that is run by an elected board of directors. Everyone who works for NASA does so on a volunteer basis.

About NASA News:

NASA News is an experiment created by Bowen Udall, the NASA Vice President, in hopes of raising the communication level in the club. He wanted to make sure that all members of NASA knew about what was happening with the club, and know about all the events planned. If you have ideas for the newsletter, or complaints, or want to add or remove your name from the NASA News mailing list, or especially if you want to help, e-mail him at bowen.udall@nasashootingsports.com. Forward this e-mail to a friend that might be interested. You can get back issues of NASA News, as well as a PDF version of the current issue from our webpage: <http://nasashootingsports.com/about-us--files.html>

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