



# Quivers & Quarrels



*The Official Publication for the Archery Community of the  
Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc*

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**Bad to the Bow: Spotting Trouble in Equipment**

**Constructing an Economical, Portable,  
and Durable Target Archery Butt**

**An Interview with Dalton Arundel**

**Warbows Return to Avacal**

**Summer SSAC Scores**

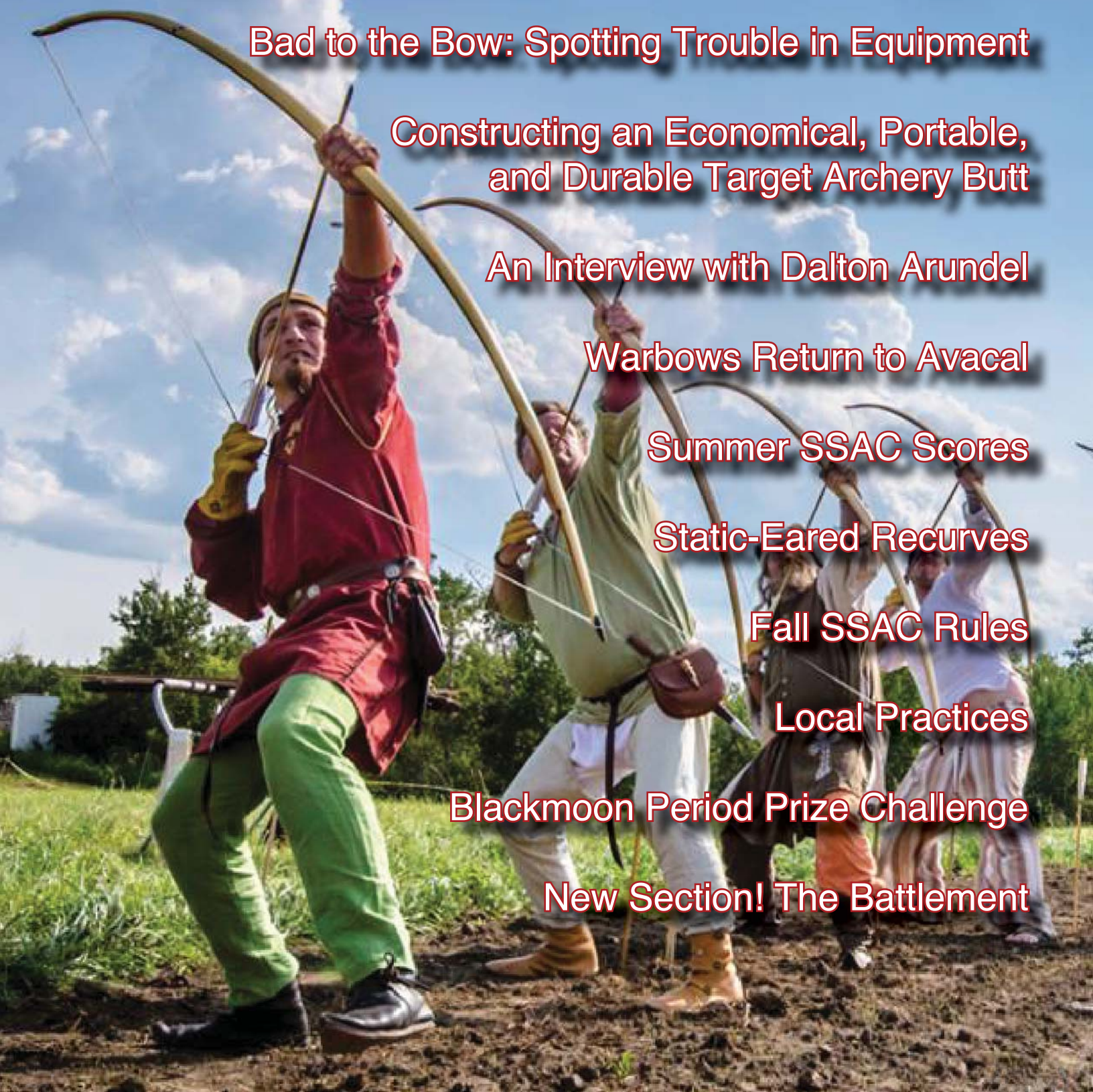
**Static-Eared Recurves**

**Fall SSAC Rules**

**Local Practices**

**Blackmoon Period Prize Challenge**

**New Section! The Battlement**



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- Your membership card speeds your check-in at events since membership includes a signed waiver.
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The cover for this edition of *Quivers & Quarrels* is by Henry of Bohemia (mka Henry Jakl), taken at Quad War in Avacal.

Previous issues of *Quivers & Quarrels* are available in the "files" section of <https://www.facebook.com/groups/QuiversQuarrels/>, at [newsletter.sca.org/archery-community.html](http://newsletter.sca.org/archery-community.html), from <http://scores-sca.org/qnq>, or by request from the Chronicler at [qqchronicler@gmail.com](mailto:qqchronicler@gmail.com)

## The SCA Archery Journey

Mighty Archers of the Known World,

**F**all has arrived! Were you able to fulfill your summer goals this year? I sure wasn't. I did not have one opportunity to saddle my mare and send arrows into my target bag from horseback. I am hopeful that I will be able to get some horseback practice in soon now that the kids are back in school and before the An Tir rainy season is in full downpour. Rain is our thing here in An Tir, after all. I must say, though, that I had some proud archer-mommy moments this summer when I bought my boy his first bow.



I want to take a moment to comment on the very lively discussion in our Facebook group about period and not-so-period kits for archery and personas in the SCA. The period versus not-so-period debate has existed for as long as I can remember in my 22 years of pursuing the Dream, and the debate will exist until the Dream is no more, may that day never come. That being said, it was clear to me that both sides understand that there are significant points of value to both period and modern archery equipment in the SCA.

In my experience, and in my own approach to this hobby, participation, satisfaction, and the achievement of fun in the SCA is a spectrum. We all enter that spectrum at different points, with different goals, with different skills, and with different intentions. The pursuit of purism compels me to grow my scholarship and my skill whether my kit is wholly period or not. Period purism defines some of my goals within this hobby, many of which are currently well beyond my reach. There is quite a bit of modern archery equipment in my horde. Yet, I shoot in the SCA because I love it. The pursuit of the Dream, regardless of all other pursuits, has made for some of the best weekends of my life with some the people I love the most. Vivat the Dream.

In this edition, and in the spirit of encouraging the exploration of all things historically accurate, we will be adding a new section, called "The Battlement", to the very end featuring contributions from the archery populace! Send me a digital photo with a brief description of your sweet period anything from your kit, or even other works related to archery, and we will feature it in the new section! In this edition, we will feature a beautiful piece of archery poetry from an artist of the written word, Tudor bracers inspired by extant examples from the wreck of the Mary Rose, and a zebrawood bow.

And, well, in the future... If you'd also like to write up a little article about how you made that horn bracer, how you found an example in tapestry of that quiver you made, or about the research you did for your Medieval English archer's garb, I won't complain. I promise. :o)

Please enjoy this edition of *Quivers & Quarrels*. Stay warm and dry as this year comes to a close, and may your arrows fly straight and true.

Yours in Service,  
Sayako Enoki



## A CHALLENGE HAS BEEN ISSUED!

### *The Blackmoon Period Prize Challenge*

*In order to promote both period-style equipment or shoots, and attendance at small group events, I am sponsoring a novice shoot at a small group event in November and donating a period style bamboo-backed IPE long bow as the prize. I would like to challenge all other bowyers, fletchers, leather workers, blacksmiths, or any other craftsman to create something of a period-style and sponsor a period style shoot where you give your creation as the prize.*

*Be safe, be happy, have fun!*

**Arthur Blackmoon**

*Ansteorra*

**D**o you have small events in your area? Do you want to encourage interest and participation in period archery? Do you have newcomers who want to begin putting together period kits?

The *Blackmoon Period Prize Challenge* has been issued by Arthur Blackmoon of Ansteorra, and is intended to promote the use of period-style equipment, period-style shoots, and attendance at small events.

#### **The rules for participating in the Blackmoon Period Prize Challenge are simple:**

- A craftsman must donate a period item as the prize for the challenge. The goal is “period-style”, not necessarily “authentic period” since

true authenticity can be unrealistic or unachievable.

- Upon inquiry and at the discretion of the sponsor of the shoot, participants must be able to present and explain at least one period item in his or her kit. This item need not be related to archery. For example, it can be a piece of garb or an item of jewelry that is accurate for the period of the participant’s persona.
- As always, the golden rule is to have fun!

This challenge will be ongoing. Send full-sized digital photos of your *Blackmoon Period Prize Challenge* shoot with a brief description of all the fun and the prize to [qqchronicler@gmail.com](mailto:qqchronicler@gmail.com), and we will feature your prize challenge in *Quivers & Quarrels*!

# Interview with Dalton Arundel of Avacal, An Tir

by Alice Percy

**D**alton Arundel is a man of many achievements – double bronze medalist for target archery at the Canadian Nationals, Dalton also represented Canada at the World Cup in Turkey in 2013. In the Society, Dalton is well-loved and respected for his role in reintroducing archery to the populace of Avacal, An Tir. His tireless efforts have revitalized and heightened the role of archery in Avacal's culture over the last fifteen years, creating a teaching program which has brought the principality into the limelight across the Known World for the quality and enthusiasm of the archers it produces.

I met Dalton at the Calgary Archery Centre, the home of archery in Montengarde, Avacal, where Dalton spends most of his week teaching. He agreed to speak with me about some of his experiences, his greatest achievements, and the direction of archery in the Society.

As he explains it, Dalton Arundel's first experience with the SCA – and, in fact, archery – was the result of a chance conversation in his hometown of Montreal in 1989. "I was playing D&D with a bunch of friends, and at one point I started arguing about 'rate of fire' rules for bows," he recalls, chuckling. "One of my friends knew a guy involved with the SCA...he asked me if I'd like to try archery for real."

Dalton's interest was piqued, and it didn't take long for him to attend his first event in Burlington, Vermont. He met his lifelong mentor, David McDougalls, at that event, and his life suddenly took a very different course. "I would drive down to Harwinton, Connecticut to train with him on weekends...we would train all over the East Kingdom."

Dalton had no archery experience before joining the SCA – it had never seemed to be an accessible hobby in the mundane world. He began spending more and more time honing his skills through Society events in the East Kingdom, even though

the SCA's other facets didn't hold much interest at the time. "I didn't get into it because I had a need to get into the history of it – I got into it because I got to shoot a bow," he explains, with a grin. Teaching other archers became a larger

and larger part of his weekly routine as his own abilities increased. "I found out that not only could I shoot a bow, I could teach others how to shoot a bow at a high level. I was shooting and teaching, and that's what I really enjoyed about it."

A formative experience of his early years as an archer was being inducted into the Order of Sagittarius in the East Kingdom, the highest honor for archery. As part of the ceremony, he received a medallion belonging to his mentor – he keeps it on his wall to this day as a reminder of where

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*As he explains it, Dalton Arundel's first experience with the SCA – and, in fact, archery – was the result of a chance conversation in his hometown of Montreal in 1989.*

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he came from and the passion and enthusiasm he learned from the archers in the East Kingdom. “The East Kingdom is a war kingdom. They participate in battles at Pennsic. So, the archery war point is a huge facet of that everyday life. Knights shoot, and they shoot to a high level. There are grand master bowmen in the Order of Sagittarius who are Knights, who are Pelicans, who are Laurels! It is much more widespread, because everybody does it as a war effort.”

Dalton moved west to Avacal in 1998 and was struck immediately by the stark difference in the number and skill of archers in his new home. “[In Avacal] there wasn’t that same onus on archery, so everybody was pretty much on their own. There was no real motivation,” Dalton recalls. “When I got out here, I hadn’t shot for a couple of years because I’d blown out both of my elbows in my mundane job. I was just starting to get back into it. I entered Dragonblinder, which is Montengarde’s archery championship, figuring it was good practice.” To Dalton’s great surprise, he won the championship by a wide margin. He chalked their relative inexperience up to logistical problems. “When I got here, they didn’t really have a place to shoot – it was in somebody’s backyard, or the back of their business.”

Suddenly, Dalton was Montengarde’s new archery champion. As the de facto leader of archery for the barony, Dalton got down to business. “No one had approached the Calgary Archery Centre, so that was the first thing I did. The barony had three people that were regularly involved in archery, and I wanted to change that. I asked the owner if we could train here. I spelled out how the SCA operated. He had had a bad experience with the SCA years previous, so wasn’t so inclined. I asked him to let me prove it to him, and told him what I wanted to do. If he had a problem with it, we would stop. They’ve been incredibly supportive of us ever since, and because of that, we have one of the strongest programs in An Tir.”

Dalton didn’t just stop with Montengarde. Before long, he took his new archery program on the road. “I looked around Avacal and realized there wasn’t a lot of archery going on anywhere. So, I built some transportable archery butts that I could put into the

back of my F-150. I would call up Seneschals and say ‘hey, I see that you’re having an event, do you have room for archery? These are the dimensions I need.’ They would say ‘well, we have the room, but we don’t have...’ So I made sure I had everything they needed. I would literally transport these butts to different events all over the place and run archery for them at their event.”

Dalton’s mission was simple at the time. “[I



wanted people to know] that they could do it and that it was something fun, and that you didn’t need to put out a whole lot of money. Heavy fighting gets pretty costly, plus you have to be in some semblance of physical condition. Anyone can shoot. Instead of sitting there for five hours while your lord is fighting, you get to do something!”

A turning point for archery in Avacal came in 2000 during Quad War, a large annual event held in Marsden, Saskatchewan. Dalton asked the owner of the site whether it would be possible to run target archery on the site – something that had never been done before. “I said, ‘I’ll bring all the stuff – all I need is a piece of land.’ [The site owner] built target frames and we ran it as a populace shoot, kind of like what you see at Pennsic with two opposing sides. You can shoot for one side or the other. We had the range open all day so it would fit in between all of the other activities, and I got people coming.”

It was hard work, with long hours. “I was standing on the range from 8:00 in the morning until 6:00 at night. We did that for four years. Then we started running classes, because [Quad War] was the major event that everyone in Avacal was going to at the time, so I figured that was the best mass exposure point. If we brought archery to that site, people would see it and say ‘oh, that looks like fun, can I do it?’ And we would say yes, you can, step right up!”

It wasn’t long before the effects of Dalton’s efforts to get the populace of Avacal involved in archery started to get noticed across An Tir. Archers from across Avacal began to appear on to the kingdom’s top ten rankings. As Dalton recalls, “when we put something like five people on their various top tens, we realized we were really making a dent.”

While Avacal was starting to produce top-tier archers, the widespread support of the populace was beginning to get attention, too. “Montengarde went to Clinton that year for the first time in

a decade, and we made a dent there, too. I arranged a populace shoot and a war point for archery with Lion’s Gate’s captain of archers,” says Dalton. “Guys were coming off the battlefield in armor, dropping their helmets, shooting, and then running off again. That’s how Montengarde beat Lion’s Gate, just on sheer numbers of people shooting!” The victory kept the momentum going across the principality. “A lot of people got to try it and realized that it was a blast, and wanted to know how they could keep shooting. I would always tell them that practices were on Thursday and we had equipment for them to play with!”

Despite Dalton’s many successes in helping Avacal’s archers get on the Society map, he still has all kinds of ideas to revolutionize the principality’s program. As Avacal continues to move steadily towards kingdom status, Dalton feels many rules will need to change and be updated. “I got the job of royal archer, so I’m rewriting the rules. I want to institute some class setups where people can actually come to seminars and be taught various things. We’re going to be setting up a teaching program. I’ll have lieutenants in the various regions of Avacal...if you talk to someone in the

north regions, they should be taught the same way as someone here. I’m trying to standardize it. We’re also going to be creating the Avacal Royal Archery Company, so that’s something for the populace to achieve and work towards.”

Dalton’s passion for sharing his love of archery has shaped his feelings about its future course in the Society as a whole, too. He believes there’s much more to archery than a Peerage could ever offer, and encourages skilled archers to share their love of the sport by teaching others. “There are a lot of people who say archery should be its own Peerage...you can be a Pelican for service as an archer, you can be a Laurel and make reproduction equipment as an archer. What does it matter? The archers were peasants. There weren’t a lot of nobility in Europe shooting a bow

except as a hobby. We already have high orders for archery. I try to encourage people to achieve within that structure. You’re still respected, you’re still revered. Just enjoy the activity and be glad you’re not at work! The

rest kind of falls into place. My student, Ellias Silver, became a Ludicrous Bowman – the top 1% of archers. I worked with him for several years to get there. They allowed me to give him his medallion, which I made. The greatest achievement for a master to have is when your student surpasses you. I just took on four new students. That’s better than any award you can give me.” Dalton gestures behind himself to a woman shooting at the archery range. “One of my students is going to the Pan-Am qualifiers in Argentina next month to represent Canada. How can a Peerage ever match that?”

Dalton Arundel’s ongoing legacy has shaped Avacal’s archery community into a welcoming, inclusive and diverse group. His ‘open door’ philosophy has encouraged many members of the populace to step outside their comfort zones and enjoy this ever-growing facet of SCA life. As Avacal approaches kingdom status, Dalton’s careful eye and steady hand will certainly continue to be a welcome influence on archery in this part of the Known World for many years to come.

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*The greatest achievement for a master to have is when your student surpasses you. I just took on four new students. That’s better than any award you can give me.*

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## Static-Eared Recurves

by Naran Numichi

### Introduction

Static-eared recurves (SERs) come in many configurations, and can be traced back hundreds of years to the time before the Scythians. The term “static-eared” refers to the mechanics of the bow where the tips do not uncurl at all when the bow is drawn. In contrast, modern recurve bows have “working tips” that do uncurl when drawn. The physics and geometry of the non-bending tips of an SER give additional leverage during the draw, which changes the draw/force curve considerably. The draw of an SER does not “stack” the way many modern recurves and longbows do, meaning that the draw does not become more difficult or “heavier” as it becomes longer. This not only makes for a smoother draw, but frequently it makes for a longer draw to the ear or the shoulder with less significant increases in draw weight per inch. In the larger bows such as the Manchu bows, the draw feels similar to the “let-off” that is designed into compound bows with pulleys and cams. Regardless of the size of the ears or of the bow, the actual proportions between the bending and non-bending parts remain fairly constant. The most significant difference between bows will be the available draw length. A small Turkish or Korean bow will simply

not be able to be drawn as far as a big Mongol or Manchu bow.

As the saying goes, “A well designed bow is 90% broken.” Many static-eared bows at full draw do look as if they are about to break with the ends of the limbs becoming nearly parallel. While they all have static tips, known as “ears” in some cultures



and “siyahs” in others, the tips may be long or short. Ultimately the proportions with each type of bow accomplish the same thing, and that’s leverage. Short bows, such as Korean and Turkish bows, will have comparatively short siyahs. The Mongolian and Chinese styles will be much longer, and the Eastern European versions such as Magyar and Hunnish will be in between. Most SERs are symmetrical, with the notable exceptions of the Hunnish types, which often have a noticeably longer upper limb.

*The term “static-eared” refers to the mechanics of the bow where the tips do not uncurl at all when the bow is drawn.*

The notable difference between types of SERs is whether they have “non-contact” or “contact” type ears. Non-contact ears are without any string bridges. In other words, the string does not touch the bow except at the nock or close to it. Contact ears have string bridges, where the tips sweep forward away from the archer, and the string would rest on the ‘knee’, which is the angle where the siyah meets the limbs. When someone says “Mongol

bow”, contact ears are what come to mind. There is no clear answer about what time period the contact ear design originated in, but it appears to be from a later period. Contact ear bows are generally not depicted in paintings or drawings from the Mongol Conquest/Empire period.

Even though string bridges are sexy and exotic, they probably don’t serve as much of a purpose as one might think. Some suggest that string bridges bring the string up short when it hits the bridge, thus imparting an extra snap to the arrow. However, it is doubtful that a string bridge is anything significant. String bridges may marginally assist in preventing

the bow from unstringing if there is a twist in the limb, but as they are usually not much wider than the limb itself at that point, if at all, then string bridges are unlikely to play a role in keeping a twisted limb from unstringing. At the traditional archery events in Mongolia, one will occasionally see bows that have a stick lashed to a limb close to the ear, which is there to ensure

that the bow does not unstring due to a twist. Some Mongolian bows have string bridges as much as 4 inches wide, and Turkish and Korean bows have string bridges as well, but they are much smaller.

Like other “tools”, different bows can have different purposes or special tasks. The larger bows will have longer, heavier limbs and ears that will store a lot of energy. These bows throw a long, heavy arrow (over 35 inches and 750 grains) with a lot of force, but the range and speed will be less due to the long, heavy limbs and ears. The force comes from the greater inertia that is generated by the mass of the arrow, not the range and speed of the arrow. Once the draw weight of an SER goes over 70 or 80 pounds, the

lesser range and speed will be overcome to some extent. These SERs with heavier draw weights are comparable to English longbows shooting heavy arrows.

Shorter bows will usually shoot lighter, shorter arrows and can achieve more distance, but with less penetrating power because the arrow has less mass. The Turks were known for their flight shooting, with the known records of up to 838 yards recorded at the Ok Meydan in Istanbul.

## Construction Materials



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*Like other “tools”, different bows can have different purposes or special tasks. The larger bows will have longer, heavier limbs and ears that will store a lot of energy.*

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Historically of course, all these bows were composite and were made of a wooden or bamboo core with a belly of horn plates and a backing of sinew. The horn resists compression and the sinew resists stretching because both materials want to regain their static state. The innovation of combining these properties into a bow was a moment of genius in history. Today,

with modern materials like fiberglass, the effects can be mimicked fairly well. However, modern materials may never allow the unstrung, super-reflexed shapes seen in some Korean bows, where the ears are nearly touching. Stringing these super-reflexed bows is complicated, and real sinew/horn composites are also subject to changes in temperature and humidity, resulting in variations in draw weight throughout the year. They sometimes also require special warming cabinets to dry them out.

We are lucky to have modern glues and materials that are durable and workable and allow bowyers to make fairly reasonable facsimiles of different types of SERs that look pretty good, at least when strung or at

draw. But, getting the highly-reflexed unstrung look does not appear to be doable with modern materials. Modern-material SERs are now fairly reasonably priced, and are not as difficult to acquire as they have been in the past. There are quite a number of bowyers to choose from, both here in the US and abroad. There are also genuine composite bows available from some very skilled craftsmen who have been re-discovering the nearly-lost art, though unfortunately those bows are usually very expensive and take quite a while to make. Additionally, the properties of the horn and sinew mean that composite bows don't become really efficient until draw weights exceed about 65 pounds for Ottoman Turk bows, and 70 to 80 pounds for bows similar to Manchus. For perspective, today's typical Mongolian bow like those used in the Naadam (Mongolia's traditional games festival), is a slightly shorter-eared version of the Manchu bow.

### Inspecting a Static-Eared Recurve

Due to their design and construction, the alignment of SERs is often much more critical than in modern recurves. A little twist in a modern recurve may be tolerated, with no likelihood of unstringing, but disastrous in an SER. Eyeballing an unstrung bows' ears is one of the first and most critical parts of inspecting these bows. Looking from one end to the other, the ears should be in the same plane when unstrung, when strung, and when at draw. Occasionally one will have a bow that appears to be twisted but shoots normally without unstringing, so when doing inspections, be sure to take all of those aspects into consideration.

Check the tiller from the side to be sure the limbs bend equally. The "tiller" is the difference in distance between the upper limb and the string, and the lower limb and the string measured from a 90 degree

angle from the base of the limbs. Ideally, the tiller should be equal, although again, slight variations may be acceptable, especially with asymmetrical bows. Some modern sinew and horn "biocomposites" will sometimes take a set after shooting and look out of tiller, but return to the original shape overnight.

Bows with bridges can be tricky. The bridges are often concave and force the string into the middle at rest/shot end, but the ear may still be out of kilter. A flat bridge would allow the string to come to rest where it wants to, and would give a better indication of misalignment if it sits off center. I had an SER once where the limb did develop a twist, and I was warned

of the twist in part because the string began slapping the edge of the bridge, and the different sound alerted me to the problem.

### Stringing and Shooting a Static-Eared Recurve

Stringing an SER can be trickier than a modern bow because of the reflex and angle of the ears. The "step through" method is not recommended unless you are completely confident that you will flex the bow precisely straight. It is too easy to flex the limbs out

of alignment using the step through method and risk twisting a limb, so a stringer is generally safer. Making a stringer with leather pockets to protect the tips is simple, though achieving the correct length for the stringer is important. [Ed.: *The taught-line hitch is a knot that allows for easy adjustment, but will not slip under tension.*] Too long and you will strain to lift the bow high enough to get the string into the nock. It is also very important to maintain control so the bow does not flip over before you reach the balance point where the limbs are sufficiently flexed. This point will be determined by the unstrung reflex and the angle at which the ears attach to the limbs.




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*Making a stringer with leather pockets to protect the tips is simple, though achieving the correct length for the stringer is important.*

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SERs can be shot with a thumb-ring or with fingers, and while the general assumption is that every nomadic culture used a thumb release, the extant archeological evidence of the use of a thumb ring (surviving thumb rings from antiquity) across cultures is incomplete. It is well-established that the Mongols used a thumb release in period art and writings, but few examples of extant thumb rings have been identified. The lack of archeological evidence may be explained by the material that thumb rings could have been made from. Unlike metal and stone, leather and horn tend to disintegrate over time. If thumb rings were made from leather or horn, examples would likely have not survived.

An archer shooting an SER with a ring may do better than one shooting with fingers. The angle of the string at full draw with a ring is more acute, and the ring provides a smaller and smoother surface for the string to slide off of when released.

In shooting speed events with an SER, it is possible to minimize the spread of two arrows at 20 yards when the shot is a double, meaning that the archer nocks two arrows onto the string instead of one. This

is accomplished by flipping the cock feather of one of the arrows so that the fletching of the two arrows is nestled against each other. Furthermore, nocking one arrow above the nock point, and one below the nock point, will keep the two arrow nocks from being squeezed together when drawn, thus minimizing the divergence between the arrow points. Attempting to keep both arrow shafts on the thumb of the bow hand can also cause the archer to exert more pressure with the draw-hand index finger against the section of arrow just in front of the nocks, which will negatively affect the release of the string when the bow is fired. Keeping both shafts in place on the bow hand thumb can be better accomplished by extending the bow hand thumb outward and upward rather than trying to maintain the placement of the arrows with the index finger of the string hand. Extending the bow hand thumb instead will help corral the tip ends of the shafts while they leave the bow. With enough practice and with proper technique, it is possible to achieve a spread of only a few inches between arrows when they strike the target. Remember also that when shooting doubles, two arrows mean that the bow is shooting twice the weight, so the archer will need to aim accordingly higher.

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## Bad to the Bow: How to Look for Trouble in Traditional Archery Equipment

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*by Manigarm the Scythian*

**A**ny time a bow is brought onto the archery range for the first time, it must be thoroughly inspected for wear and tear and for any number of common defects that can make the bow dangerous or unusable during the shoot. If you are a marshal, a marshal-in-training, or an archer interested in learning to inspect your own equipment, this article will outline the standard bow inspection process and included images and a brief discussion of common defects found in traditional bows.

The majority of the material included here is available in standard archery handbooks. However, this article

is meant to serve as a quick reference for inspecting traditional archery equipment for common problems often encountered on the range.

### General Inspection of a Bow

#### *Step 1: The Unstrung Bow*

Start by examining the unstrung bow close up. Carefully go over the bow and look for cracks, loose screws (if it is a take-down type), broken strands in the string or serving (the middle section of the string

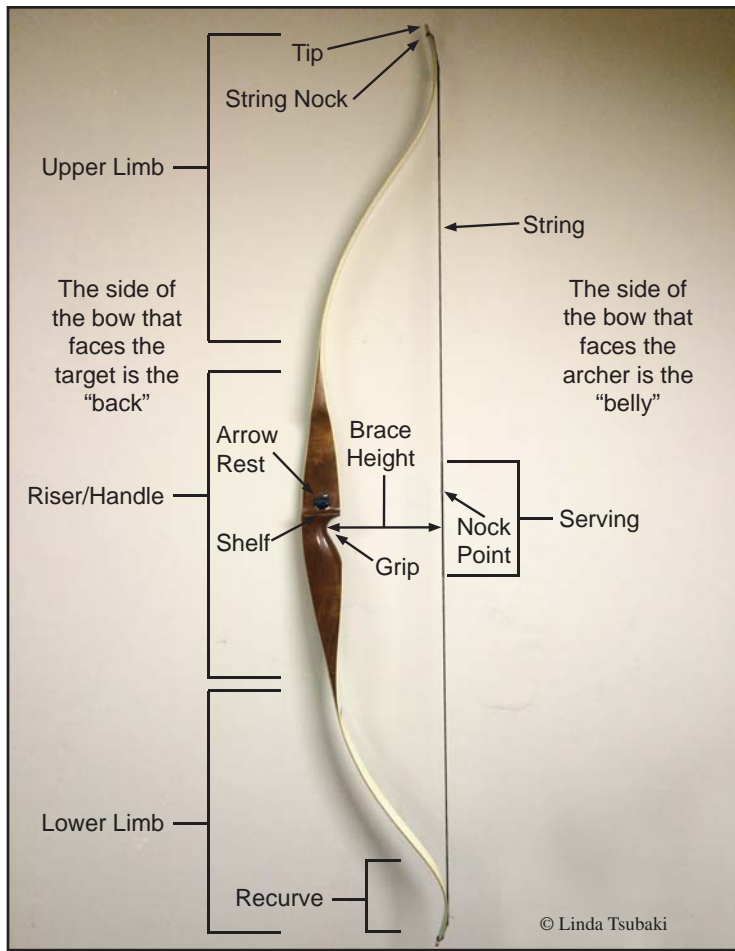


Figure 1: Anatomy of a modern recurve bow.

that is wrapped by additional thread in order to make it more durable), warping in the limbs (limb twist), dirt and other debris lodged in the string groove or handle wrap, and anything that looks out of the ordinary. Fiberglass and laminate bows should be thoroughly checked for cracks and splits. Also pay careful attention to laminate bows if they appear to have a wavy or “bubbling” effect on their limbs because this can be a sign of delamination (refer to the “Common Bow Defects” section for more detail). Wood bows should be carefully examined for water or weather damage, warping, and limb curve (also called “following the string”).

Feel along the limbs for bumps, grooves, or pits in the bow material. Then, rest one end of the bow on the ground, balance the other end lined up with your chin and look down the bow from end to end. From this vantage point you should be able to see any evidence of limb twist (the two ends of the bow not lining up in a straight line) and warping. This is also a good opportunity to see if the bow is beginning to curve (“following the string”). While following the

string is not necessarily a criterion for outright failure, it is a natural degeneration of a well-used bow that will eventually render the bow unusable when the limbs have bent too far to safely hold the string.

Next, keep the bow in the same position and turn it over so that the back (target-facing side, the side that faces the archer is the “belly”) side of the bow is facing upward. Examine the ends of the bow, especially the area where the string rests, for tilting, twisting, or warping. Twisted bow tips can result in the bow string failing to return to center after the bow has been fired. The limb may eventually twist far enough that the string rolls on the end of the bow when drawn, coming off the limb entirely, and usually breaking the bow.

### Step 2: The Strung Bow

Following your close-up inspection, have the archer string the bow and watch for any strange limb movement during the stringing process. Then, instruct the archer to draw the bow to a full draw-length facing toward you and have them slowly ease off (obviously, this should be done without an arrow).

Have them repeat this motion facing to the side of you (the archer is then standing in profile). Watch the bow as it moves and ensure that each limb is bending and returning to a resting position symmetrically. Do also bear in mind that this might not apply exactly for certain kinds of asymmetrical bows, but such bows have marked differences in the length of their limbs and are easy to spot. In either case, each limb should bend in the same place as the other and return to a resting position at the same time.

Once this inspection is complete, take the strung bow from the archer and re-inspect the string. Ensure that the string has returned to a central position on the bow limb and is not in danger of rolling off, and does not appear to have reseated itself crookedly. This is usually an indication of limb twist or a string with loops that are not properly sized.

Flemish twist strings should have at least two inches (about three fingers worth) of twist at each end from the bottom of the end loop to the end of the string.

Do not use strings that do not have any or adequate serving, or are made of twine, thread, or other unsafe materials. Finally, be attentive to any evidence of strand breakage. This breakage usually first appears as small “fuzzies” around the end loops of the string or near the arrow nock point. As a point of order, bows in the higher poundage ranges (such as around 60# and up) should ideally not be used with strings that have begun to “fuzz” around the edges as they have a tendency to wear through their strings more quickly.

### *Step 3: Vigilance*

At some point, pay attention to the sound the bow makes when fired. Oftentimes, bows will have an unusual snap, crackling, or reverberating string sound right before something goes wrong. If you notice a bow making a strange sound, step off the line and re-inspect it.

## **Practical Inspection Points for Certain Bow Types**

### *Horse bows*



*Figure 2: Magyar horse bow.*

Many horse bows (also called Magyar, static-eared recurves, or Asian reflex bows) have limbs wrapped in leather or cloth. These materials are attached to the bow, therefore, the archer is not able to remove them. This can make it difficult to determine if there is any surface damage to the bow. For horse bows, always take extra care to feel along the limbs for uneven bumps or breaks under the material.

Horse bows are typically constructed in three parts: The central body of the bow and the two reflexed limbs. Be sure to check the limb joint areas in bows of this type to inspect them for breakage or damage.

It is also not uncommon to see bows of this type that are constructed asymmetrically. This means that one limb, typically the top limb, is longer and curves further backward by design. Inspecting asymmetrical bows can be tricky, but be sure to pay close attention to the motion of each bow limb during inspection to ensure that the bow is working properly and returning to a safe resting position.

### *Reflex-Deflex Longbows*



*Figure 3: Recurve longbow.*

Longbow inspection is relatively straight-forward. No matter their shape, longbows can be distinguished from recurves because the string does not rest against the belly of the bow. However, in the case of reflex-deflex longbows, or longbows with a noticeable forward curve at the ends of each limb, be sure to inspect the bow string carefully after the bow has been strung. In most cases, the string should not be resting completely against, or touching, the bow tip curve (this often causes a loud “thwop” noise when the bow is fired, as well as some significant hand shock). Bow strings that rest too far down the body of the bow are usually a sign that the bow string is too long or that it has relaxed from use and needs to be tightened.

In the case of longbows and similar bow types, the center of the string should be about 6 inches away from the center of the bow. This can be approximately measured by resting the bottom of your fist on the inside center of the body of the bow and extending your thumb toward the string. The string should sit slightly above the end of your thumb.

### *Long bows - Flat Bows*

Flat bows, or longbows with a distinctly flat body shape and no forward curve at the tip, are particularly prone to “following the string”. Carefully inspect all flat bows for unusually deep curvature resulting from use, wear, or improper storage.



*Figure 4: A flat bow tip.*

### *Single Staff/ Stave or Self Bows*

Single staff or self bows are made from a single piece of wood and are not laminated. For single staff bows, pay extra attention to the natural wood knots present in the limbs. Over years of use, these wood knots can shake loose, fall



*Figure 5: Single staff bow with linen backing.*



Figure 6: Single staff yew bow with knot wraps.

out, or otherwise compromise the integrity of the bow. Some bow-makers compensate for this fact by backing single staff bows with linen cloth, or by wrapping the nocks in sinew. In either case, the more wood knots a bow has, the more cautious you will have to be while inspecting it.

Single staff bows also typically have some noticeable color variation, particularly where the outer

wood transitions into the inner (or “heart”) wood. Be sure to inspect this transitional area to ensure that the two sections of wood are not beginning to separate or peel apart.



Figure 7: Single staff yew bow showing wood color variation

## Common Bow Defects

### Delamination

Delamination occurs when the layers of material that make up the body of the bow begin to separate. Many bows are not made from a solid piece of wood, but instead are “laminated” layers of wood and fiberglass. Delamination is typically caused by normal use and wear, and is an inevitable consequence as the bow ages. Delamination can also be the result of improper attempts to repair twisted limbs. Bows that have begun to delaminate are not safe to shoot. It is inevitable that the bow will catastrophically shatter when drawn, and should not be allowed on the archery range.

In figure 8, notice the “bubbling” appearance on the limb. To the touch, the surface of the limb is rough and slightly uneven.

This wood bow is beginning to delaminate.



Figure 8: Indications of delamination.

In figure 9, there are two noticeable lines of discoloration in the limb. To the touch, these lines are raised and feel like large, elongated, bumps in the fiberglass. These lines are sections of delamination.



Figure 9: Lines of discoloration indicating delamination.

### Limb Twist

When the limbs of a bow have begun to warp and turn, this is called limb twist. Limb twist is another common consequence of aging, as well as a consequence of improper stringing or storage. You can inspect bows for limb twist by resting one end of the bow on the ground and looking straight down the body of the bow from tip to tip. Bows that have begun to twist will have noticeable asymmetry in their limbs as the two ends of the bow will no longer line up in a straight line. This often causes the bow string to fail to return to the center of the bow when the bow is fired and can result in sudden breakage of the bow. Bows with twisted limbs will also never shoot with reliable consistency. Bows with significant limb twist are not safe to shoot and should not be allowed on the archery range.



Figure 10: Off-center string indicates a twisted limb.

Notice that the string in figure 10 has failed to return to the center of the bow after the bow was strung and drawn. This is referred to as “rolling”, and is a strong indication of limb twist.

In the recurve longbow in figure 11, the body of the bow is resting perpendicular to the archery marshal. The marked rightward curvature of the upper limb, indicates that this bow has significant limb twist and is unsafe to shoot. The tips of the limbs should be aligned in a straight line down the center plane of the bow.



Figure 11: Twisted limb

### Splits and Cracks

Splits, cracks, breaks, and other damage can occur easily in traditional archery equipment, either from normal handling and use, or from accidental sources. Carefully check each bow you inspect for any damage



Figure 12: Split in a fiberglass tip.

advancing toward the string groove in the tip.

Note that simple surface cracks, or cracks in the bow's outer finish or scratches that do not penetrate all the way through the bow, do not automatically fail a bow. However, even minor damage should be closely monitored to ensure that it doesn't worsen.

### Failed Strings



Figure 13: Measuring the twist at the ends of a string.

approximate the length of the twist.

Bows strings should consist of several strands of Dacron, Kevlar, linen, sinew, or other standard bow string materials. Strings should also have at least 2 inches, though 3 inches is preferable, of twist at each end and about 6 inches of serving in the center. Using three fingers to measure the length of the twist is a good way to

that compromises the bows integrity and safety. In the fiberglass bow in *figure 12*, a large split is easily seen starting on the left and

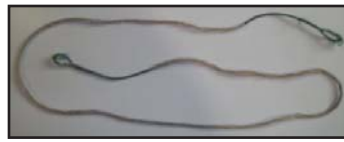


Figure 14: Example of failed string.

string passes inspection.

The string in *figure 14* was failed during inspection because of end loop breakage and no central serving, and the string in *figure 15* was failed for twist separation.



Figure 15: Example of failed string.

### Conclusion

Having the knowledge to be able to inspect bows is not only useful for the archery marshal on the range, but it is also useful for the archer who wishes to purchase a used bow and does not have a marshal at hand to provide an opinion. When in doubt, have your bow inspected by someone knowledgeable. However, by looking for signs of trouble that were presented in this article, the archer should be able to spot trouble with confidence in their own equipment, and in potential purchases.

## Constructing an Economical, Portable and Durable Archery Target Butt

by Lord Dafydd ap Tomas

This article addresses a problem common to many SCA archery groups: coming up with target butts that are portable, durable, easily setup and dismantled, and not too costly. When the archery range regularly used for weekly Baronial archery practices closed for renovations, we suddenly found ourselves looking for a home. The only other free public range within our territorial boundaries proved to be too small to accommodate our regular group of 15-20 archers. Fortunately however, they had an open area off to one side where they would allow us to set up our own targets. Necessity being the mother of invention, we set about trying to construct

economical homemade target butts and stands that we could easily bring to the site, set up, and dismantle for each week's practice. Our result, after much experimentation and weighing of pros and cons with various materials, is presented here. We have been using this design heavily for the past year, and it has proven to be easily portable, and quick to set up and take down. Most importantly, it stops arrows effectively and safely while still leaving arrows easy to pull and has proven to be very durable by standing up to months of hard use at our weekly practices. Cost per unit for materials is less than \$40. (Note: we have not yet tested them with a crossbow.)



## The Stand

The stand is a wooden tripod constructed of three 4' long 2x3's bolted together at the top with a 1/4" diameter by 5" long hex bolt. The center/rear leg is beveled at the top, and the bolt holes in the outside/front legs are oversized (1/2" diam.) to allow the outside/front legs to spread apart. A wing nut allows this bolt to be tightened and loosened as necessary for set-up and take down. The tripod is restrained in the open position with para-cord that is tied to a 1 1/4" fence staple near

the base of the center/rear leg and passing through two fence staple "guides" in the outside/front legs.

The arms that support the target butt are constructed of 1x2 and attached to the outside/front legs with 1/4" diameter x 3" long hex bolts. Two more 1 1/4" fence staples act as stops to hold the arms in the open position. Arms are tapered to minimize the profile exposed to direct arrow hits. A final 1 1/4" fence staple placed near the top of the center/rear leg receives a small shock cord that is used to hold the target butt in place on the stand. A tent stake hammered through a 3/8" diameter hole in the base of the center/rear leg stabilizes the stand and holds it in place when in use. The stand folds away compactly for transport and storage.



Hole for a tent stake at the center base of the rear leg.



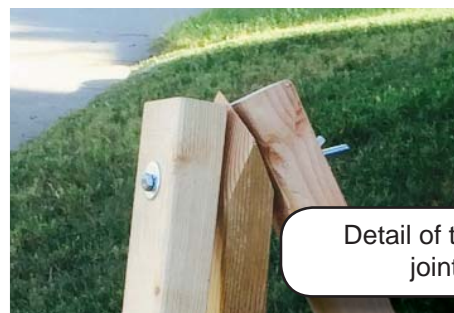
Base of the outside front leg.



Support arms in open position.



Detail of the top joint.



Shock cord holds the target butt to the stand.



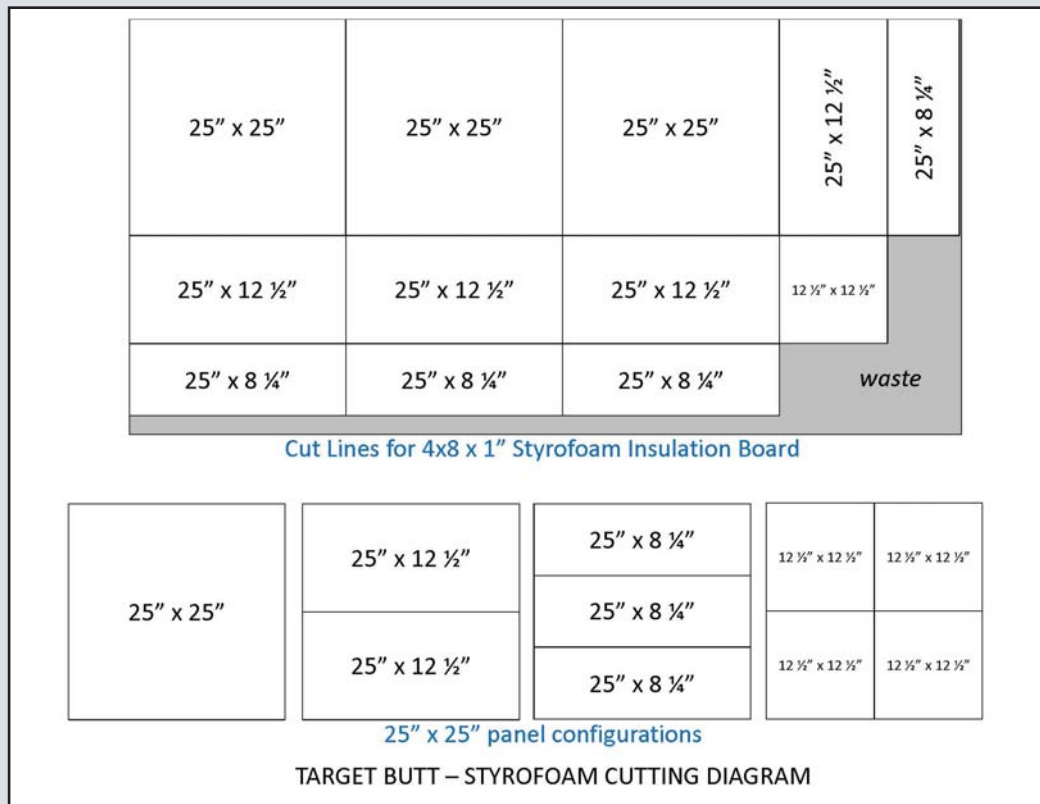
Stand folded for storage and transport.



### The Target Butt

The target butt is sized to receive an SCA standard 60cm FITA target face (approximately 25" x 25"). Construction consists of 5 layers of 1" Styrofoam insulation board sandwiched between 6 alternating layers of 1/2" inch thick closed cell foam anti-fatigue mats (purchased at Harbor Freight). The four sides of this assembly are fully encapsulated with duct tape. The standard size of the anti-fatigue mats is coincidentally 25" x 25" so no cutting is required. Styrofoam insulation board is commonly sold in 4'x8' sheets so it is necessary to get creative in order to get the five 25" x 25" pieces necessary for a target butt from a single 4'x8' sheet of insulation board.

As shown in the cutting diagram below, 3 pieces are cut to the full 25"x25" size, and 4 pieces are half panels, cut to 12 1/2" x 25". If you are building multiple target butts you can cut 4 further pieces at 1/3 width, 8 1/4" x 25", and 1 quarter-size piece at 12 1/2" x 12 1/2" that will yield an additional full panel and portions of two more.



When laying up a target butt, begin with a layer of anti-fatigue mat, followed by a layer of 1" Styrofoam. Alternate layers of each material until you have 5 layers of Styrofoam, then finish with a sixth layer of anti-fatigue mat. When using two or three piece Styrofoam panels you should alternate the direction of the pieces in each layer avoid creating a weak plane inside the butt. Complete the assembly by thoroughly wrapping the four outside edges of the butt with duct tape so that you cover the exposed edges of all the layers. This compresses all of the materials together and prevents them from disintegrating over time as the butt is used, greatly extending its life. We currently have 5 of these targets that are used every week by 20 or more archers at our Baronial archery practice, and we have found that with a reasonable amount of care and periodic maintenance they are still effectively stopping arrows after nearly a year of heavy use.

*A dimensioned plan is available from the author by emailing a request to [archery@sca-gyldenbolt.org](mailto:archery@sca-gyldenbolt.org).*



First layer of closed-cell foam anti-fatigue mat.



Second layer of 1" styrofoam insulation board.



Layer using 2 pieces of 12.5" x 25" styrofoam.



5 layers of styrofoam & 6 layers of floor mat.



Wrapping the sides with duct tape.



Completed target butt.



Paper target faces are taped onto a cardboard backing and are attached to the butt using golf tees.



# COMPETITIONS & HIGHLIGHTS

## Society Seasonal Archery Competition (SSAC)

### “Triangle”

Archers are used to targets where the highest point value is in the center of the target such as a concentric circle, the peg in a roundel target, and so on. With these types of targets, if your aim is a bit off, you still can get the next highest point value. With the “triangle” target, which is an equilateral triangle with one of its points straight up and divided into three equal width horizontal bands, the highest point value is the top part of the triangle. So, if you are aiming for the highest value and your aim is a bit high, left, or right, you can miss completely and receive no points. Those who try for the highest value have a greater chance of making no score if they miss than those who aim for the lower value areas. This provides a high scoring area for the advanced archers, and still has the larger lower scoring area for all others. The three parts of the triangle target from Medieval Japan were said to represent a warrior on horseback. The top, high-scoring triangle was the head of the warrior, the middle band was the body, and the largest band, the bottom, was the horse.

**Shoot Begins Wednesday, October 1, 2014**  
**Shoot Ends Sunday, November 30, 2014**

Scores must be Submitted by: Monday, December 7, 2014 and within 30 days of being shot.

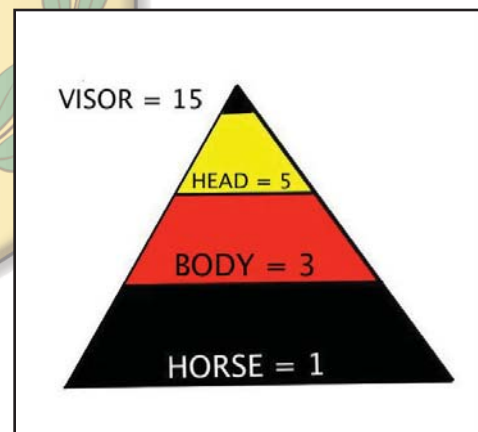
### Rules

The area of the highest scoring part, the head, is one-fifth the area of the horse and one-third the area of his body. So a logical way of scoring is: Head is five points. Body is three points. The horse is one point.

Sir Jon’s addition to this target is to make it a bit more challenging for the highly skilled archers by drawing one additional horizontal line at the upper third of the top or head triangle. This would represent a visor slot and would be a forty-fifth the area of the horse. However, this would give a point value of forty-five which would be too high, because one lucky shot to it and five misses of the target would give more points than hitting the head with all six. A reasonable compromise would be to give a value of fifteen points. However, slight errors in aim are even more apt to create a complete miss and zero points.

### Scoring

The below drawing shows the scoring areas and values of the target. Lines count as higher score. The scoresheet available at [http://scores-sca.org/ssac/images/ssac\\_137\\_scoresheet.pdf](http://scores-sca.org/ssac/images/ssac_137_scoresheet.pdf) was created to make keeping track of the ends and the direction of the target easier, courtesy of An Tir.



## Target Construction

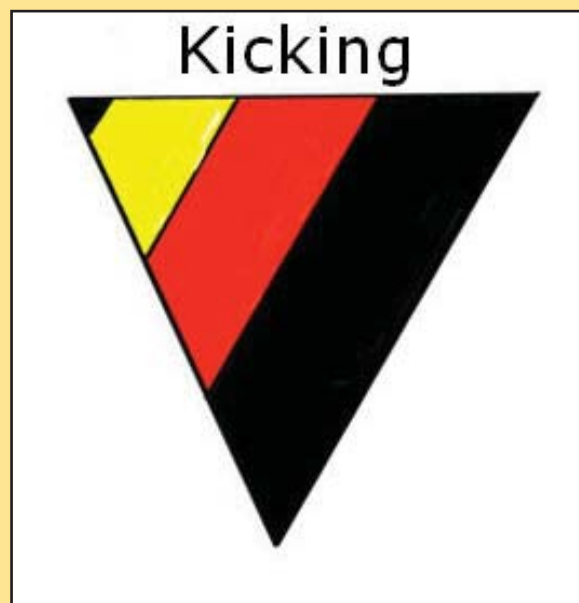
The target for this shoot will be a triangle that has a 24-inch horizontal base. From the center of the base, draw a vertical line 21 inches tall, then draw the side lines of the triangle from the ends of the base to the top of the center line. Measuring up the center line, mark off what will become the scoring bands of the target starting from the base line. See below for the measurements for each of the scoring bands. If lines are drawn in between the color bands, the line should be no wider than 1/8 inch. When the target is complete, the center line should **NOT** be visible as it could be used as a reference line or an aim point..

- The “horse” is the bottom 7 inches, and colored black.
- The “body” is the next 7 inches, and colored red.
- The “head” is the next 5 inches, and colored yellow.
- The “visor” is the top 2 inches, and colored Black.

## Ends

For the SSAC competition, all ends are shot from 20 yards, and youth ends are shot from 15 yards. The SSAC General Rules apply, and the four ends shall be shot as follows:

- **Standing** - 6 arrows untimed, bottom of the target horizontal.
- **Rearing** - 6 arrows untimed, “side” of the target horizontal across the top with the visor as the right point.
- **Charging** - timed 35 seconds, bottom of the target horizontal.
- **Kicking** - timed 35 seconds, “side” of the target horizontal across the top with the visor as the left point.



# Warbows Return to Avacal!

by *Laudie McKnight*

Modern target shooting, at distances generally no longer than 40 yards, is fun. But, let's face it; this does not replicate true medieval martial archery. A small but dedicated group of archers has endeavored to bring true medieval archery to the principality of Avacal. Using longbows (commonly referred to as warbows) with draw weights from 90 to 135 pounds, these hard men are able to cast arrows weighing up to one quarter of a pound over distances of 200 yards.

This year's warbow shoot at Avacal's Quad War was not a formal competition, but rather a fun event for the participants to work on technique and experiment with new livery. Along with the core group, some new

archers tried their hand.

Shooting

was done

for the

simple joy of watching the arrow's arc and for the admiration of the crowd, with arrows reaching ranges up to 240 yards. One line featured six archers, giving the spectators a magnificent sight to watch all six arrows hang in the air at once – a taste of what the journey to Azincourt 2015 might bring.



All of the warbows and arrows were hand crafted by Adam of the Wood (mka: Adam Beck) in his shop, at Lost Arrow Archery. [www.lostarrow.ca](http://www.lostarrow.ca)

## Inaugural Blackmoon Period Prize Challenge Period-Style Novice Archery Tourney



A period-style novice archery tourney will be held at the Canton of Chemin Noir's upcoming Saturnalia Event, on November 15, 2014.

The tourney is sponsored by Arthur Blackmoon, who will

offer a period-stye longow as the tourney prize.

1. *If you have never won any adult archery tourney, archery shoot, or a prize with a bow, and if you plan to shoot the prize if you win it, then you are eligible for this prize tourney.* If you have won a tourney, shoot, or prize with a crossbow, but not a bow, then you are still eligible to participate. Past children's champions may compete if they meet all other requirements and plan to shoot the prize if won.

2. *If you shoot at a Ansteorran Royal Round "Bowman" level (44.99) or below, then you are eligible for this prize tourney.* For those who have no opportunity or choose not to shoot Royal Rounds, we will be using the honor system. If you believe that you are a novice, and your fellow archers believe you are a novice, then you are probably a novice. It is on your honor and on the honor of those you represent. For newcomers to the SCA, if you are good enough with a bow to bow hunt, then you would not qualify as a novice.

Please, anyone competing for the bow must plan on shooting the bow if they win it. I would hate to see this bow wind up in a garage, a closet, a shed, not being used, or even worse, on eBay!!

*The longow has bamboo-backed IPE limbs with a handle composed of bloodwood, purpleheart, osage and red oak, drawing 43# at 28 inches.*

**This tourney is open to novice archers.**

# Summer SSAC Results

## Origins

**A**rrow slots, also called slits or loops, were reintroduced to castle architecture in the late 12th century. They allowed the defenders of a castle to shoot at the attackers, while giving them only limited exposure to enemy arrows and bolts. The early forms were a simple vertical slot. These evolved into vertical slot with cross arms. This transverse opening allowed a wider field of view. However, the “X” formed by the cross made a good aiming point, like cross-hairs, for the enemy archers. This evolved into a vertical slot with off-set cross arms. This still gave a wider field of view, but did not make such a good aiming point. In the new Osprey book “The Longbow” by Mike Loades, on page 46, the author states that the offset transverse arms made it harder for enemy archers to aim to shoot through it and hit the archers inside. This competition is intended to test the validity of this theory. Data from the shoots may be passed along to Mike Loades for further inquiry.

## Rules for this Shoot

For this slots shoot, the competition consists of three targets each representing a different slot: the “vertical” slot, the “cross arm” slot, and the “off-set” slot. The slot is 4 inches wide and 24 inches high. The cross arm slot is 4 inches wide and 24 high with the arms centered at 12 inches are 4 inches wide and 4 inches high. The offset slot is 4 inches wide and 24 inches high. The arms are 4 inches wide by 4 inches high. The upper arm is placed on the right side and 6 inches down from the top. The left side arm is 6 inches up from the bottom. This leaves 4 inches between the two arms. In each of the slots is an 8-inch diameter circle centered at the middle of the 24 inch-slot. Part of it is included in each of the two arms of the cross arm and off-set slots. Within this circle is centered a 3-inch circle. The 8-inch circle does not extend outside of the slots or arms. The 8-inch circle may contrast with the slot, but the 3-inch circle is the same color as the 8-inch and is only outlined.

## Final scores for the Summer SSAC “Slots” competition.

For compete scores, please visit [http://scores-sca.org/public/scores\\_current.php?R=25&Shoot=205](http://scores-sca.org/public/scores_current.php?R=25&Shoot=205)

### Current Averages with Period Handbow

1 Alaricus Simmonds	An Tir, Dragon`s Laire	31.0
2 Tryggr Tyresson	An Tir, Corvaria	20.0
3 Mika Longbow	Outlands, Caerthe	15.0
4 Tyrfingr von Wolfsberg	Outlands, Hawk`s Hollow	15.0
5 Arion the Wanderer	An Tir, Dragon`s Laire	14.0
6 Kenneth of Shaftesbury	An Tir, Lions Gate	13.0
7 William Hawke	Outlands, Caerthe	13.0
8 Kaitlyn McKenna	Ansteorra, Shadowlands	12.0
9 Plachoya Sobaka	Ansteorra, Shadowlands	12.0
10 Jon Thomme de Claydon	Caid, Lyondemere	11.0

### Current Averages with Open Handbow

1 Loegaire mac Lochlainn	An Tir, Dragon`s Laire	43.0
2 Miranda Macandrew(11)	An Tir, Hartwood	38.0
3 Dieterich Lowenstern	Outlandsal-Barran	34.0
4 Ioin Mkenze	An Tir, Dragon`s Laire	31.0
5 Kenneth of Shaftesbury	An Tir, Lions Gate	30.0
6 Stephen of House Awry	An Tir, Dragon`s Laire	28.0
7 Winfred Archer	Caid, Lyondemere	28.0
8 William Cristofore of Devonshire	An Tir, Adiantum	23.0
9 Kateryna atte Hagenes	Trimaris, Starhaven	22.0
10 (Justin Godey)	West, Vinhold	22.0

### Current Averages with Period Crossbow

1 Paganus Grimlove	Caid, Calafia	47.0
2 Daffyd of Emmet	Outlands, Caerthe	40.0
3 Tymme Lytefelow	An Tir, Wyewood	29.0
4 Mika Longbow	Outlands,Caerthe	27.0
5 Plachoya Sobaka	Ansteorra, Shadowlands	23.0
6 John Macandrew	An Tir, Hartwood	18.0
7 Kaitlyn McKenna	Ansteorra, Shadowlands	16.0
8 James Llewellyn ap Gruffydd	An Tir, Seagirt	11.0
9 John Wayland	An Tir, Adiantum	9.0
10 Klaufi Hafsson	An Tir, Madrone	4.0
11 Cunegonda	An Tir, Hartwood	3.0

### Current Averages with Open Crossbow

1 Winfred Archer	Caid, Lyondemere	36.0
2 Tymme Lytefelow	An Tir, Wyewood	34.0
3 Kenneth of Shaftesbury	An Tir, Lions Gate	31.0
4 Plachoya Sobaka	Ansteorra, Shadowlands	25.0
5 Daymond	West, Vinhold	11.0
6 Halvar Half-Hand	Outlands, Hawk`s Hollow	7.0
7 Alaric MacConnal	Aethelmearc, Marche of the Debatable Lands	6.0
8 Bjorn Helgason	West, Vinhold	5.0
9 Elaisse	Outlands, Caerthe	4.0
10 Frederick de Cathcart	West, Mists	0.0

# Local Archery Practices

*Editor's Note: This list is a work in progress. Please send your submissions and updates for local practices to [qqchronicler@gmail.com](mailto:qqchronicler@gmail.com), or contact me via the *Quivers & Quarrels* Facebook group. *Quivers & Quarrels* is only published quarterly, so it is highly recommended to include contact or web information along with a brief description of your archery practice arrangements. YIS, Sayako*

## Ansteorra

### Northkeep

Missile practice scheduled every Sunday from noon until whenever people go home.

9737 W 61st Street S, Sapulpa, OK.74066 (918) 200-5584  
Calling first is a good idea, as I may be gone to an event.

Random cook out / pot lucks. Thrown weapons practice from noon till 2pm. Children's archery practice from 1pm till 2:15pm. Adult archery practice from 2:30pm till people go home.

Submitted by Arthur Blackmoon, Baronial Missile Marshal - Barony of NorthKeep.

*Cancellations: For major regional archery events and if the temperature is below 40 degrees.*

## An Tir

### Barony of Montengard (Principality of Avacal, Kingdom of An Tir Calgary, Alberta)

Archery practice is held at the Calgary Archery Centre 4855 47 St. SE Calgary, AB.

This is an indoor range space with multi distance ranges, 3d course and pro shop.

The SCA hosts practices Tuesday and Friday evenings from 6:30 - 9 pm.

[capt.archers@montengarde.org](mailto:capt.archers@montengarde.org)  
[www.montengarde.org](http://www.montengarde.org)

### Barony of Dragon's Laire (Kitsap County Area, WA)

Fall and winter practices are held at the VFW Hall at 9981 Central Valley Rd NW, Bremerton, WA, on Sundays, from 1-4pm, weather permitting. Thrown weapons practice is held every Tuesday at this location, from 6 pm to 8 pm.

No loaner gear will be readily available, though the Barony has developed a loaner program for those who are new to archery and do not own any equipment.

The facility is open for bathroom use only. We will not be using the hall or grounds for other activities during archery practice.

For more information about the archery newcomers program and for updated information about practices throughout the seasons, please visit [www.dragonslaire.org](http://www.dragonslaire.org)

## Barony of Wyewood

By Ikea in Renton, WA. Saturday 10am-1pm, Wed will be 4:30pm-7:30pm.  
Please contact [t\\_a\\_geyer@yahoo.com](mailto:t_a_geyer@yahoo.com) for more information.

Wyewood also has a Yahoo group for announcing whether practice is on or cancelled, and that is "wyewood\_archery".

Tymme "Prodkiller" Lytefelow  
Chief Archer, Barony of Wyewood  
Arcuarius to HL Evrard de Valogne, OGGS

## Atenveldt

### Baronies of Sundragon and Atenveldt

The baronies practice together on Sundays at El Oso Park. This is for royal rounds and tournaments only at this time for target archery. October thru April 9 AM and May thru September 7 AM

## Caid

### Altavia

1st, 3rd, and 5th Sunday of every month at Woodley Park 11:30am-3:30pm

### Angels

See webpage at <http://www.sca-angels.org/>, or contact Lady Rayne Archer of Annan at [raynearcherofannan@gmail.com](mailto:raynearcherofannan@gmail.com).

### Calafia

Sundays from 10:00 am to noon, and on Tuesdays and Thursdays at UCSD Thornton Hospital from 5:30pm to 7:00pm

## Dreiburgen

1st and 3rd Sundays, 10am at House Montrose in Pedley, 2nd and 4th Sunday at Paganus and Rekon's

## Dun Or

Unofficial practices Mondays, 6:30-8:00pm at H&W Archery on Trevor St. in Lancaster and last Sunday of the month at 2:00 in Littlerock

## Gyldenholt

Every Sunday at 10:30am in Mile Square Park Archery Range in Fountain Valley.

## Lyondemere

El Dorado Park (north of Spring Street), Long Beach 7550 E Spring St, Long Beach, CA, 90815 - Sundays from 1-5; and Thursday nights from 7-9 PM at Rancho park in Cheviot Hills.

## Naevehjem

At Baldwin's keep, a private residence. For more info contact [jotl2008@wildblue.net](mailto:jotl2008@wildblue.net)

## Nordwache

No Info

## Starkhafn

Clark County Archery Range (6800 E. Russell, Las Vegas, NV 89112) located behind Sam Boyd Stadium/Old Silver Bowl Park. Tuesday: 6:00pm until 7:30pm (or dark) Saturday: 10:00am until noon.

## Western Seas

No info

## Shire of Al-Sahid

Same as Dreiburgen

## Shire of Carrweg Wen

On Hold

## Shire of Darach

No Archery Practice

## Kingdom of Lochac

### Barony of Southron Gaard

Weekly practices from 2pm to 4pm every Sunday, weather permitting, on the back field of Kirkwood Intermediate.

Submitted by Darayavaush Ah.r'r. Captain of Archer for Southron Gaard and current Baronial Archery Champion, MKA Damon Daines



## Meridies

### Barony of Thor's Mountain (Knoxville, TN)

The Barony of Thor's Mountain holds its practices on the 2nd and 4th Sundays, 3:30pm to 5:30pm, with reservations (no practices on weekends with Kingdom-Level Events or TM events. We post updates on our website calendar.)

## Midrealm

### Barony of Ayreton (Chicago Area)

Wednesdays: 6:30PM, 7240 Madison Street, Forest Park  
(708) 366-4864  
Confirm with: Forester Lukas Mesmer  
[Stoutmaker@hotmail.com](mailto:Stoutmaker@hotmail.com)

### Barony of Cynnabar (Ann Arbor, Michigan)

"Official Archery Practice in the Barony of Cynnabar is held Sundays from 2-4pm, weather permitting, at the archery range of The Honorable Lord Forester Dillon ap Dillon.

More information regarding archery in the Barony of Cynnabar can be found at our Website: <http://www.cynnabar.org/archery>

For all questions regarding practice dates, times, and the location of the official Baronial archery range, please contact Lady Godaeth se Wisfaest, GM, [archery@cynnabar.org](mailto:archery@cynnabar.org)

### Barony of Flaming Gryphon

Archery practice at Wildlife District 5 at 1076 Old Springfield Pike in Xenia, OH. As of November, indoors.

Madame Bertrande Fresneau, CDB, AOA Order of the Flaming Brand June 2007 Flaming Gryphon Deputy Archery Captain mka Kristen Allen-Vogel

### The Shire of Eastwatch (Cleveland Ohio area)

The Shire of Eastwatch has archery practice every Sunday from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Free Spirit Farm located at 13987 Watt Road, Novelty, Ohio 44072.

If people would like to contact us about attending, they can email me at [whgkingstone@ameritech.net](mailto:whgkingstone@ameritech.net) or they can call me at (216) 246-0085.

Our practices sessions are announced on the Facebook Pages for Eastwatch, Barony of the Clefthlands, March of Gwyntarian, Northern Oaken Archery, as well as the Eastwatch Yahoo group page. Besides archery, horseback riding is also available at Free Spirit Farm .

### Shire of Mynydd Seren (Bloomington, IN)

When: 2:00 P.M. every Saturday  
Where: Shire of Mynydd Seren  
5501 South Rogers St, Bloomington Indiana  
Contact: Eogan - [Baiofred@gmail.com](mailto:Baiofred@gmail.com)

*Cancellations: For major regional archery events and if the temperature is below 40 degrees.*

### Barony of Sternfeld (Indianapolis, IN)

Wednesday evenings 7:00 to 9:00 PM at Yurts of America, 4375 Sellers Street, Indianapolis, IN 46226.

Outdoor practices will be announced on the Sternfeld Facebook page and on the Yahoo group page. Come have some fun!

## Trimaris

### Barony of Darkwater (Orange, Osceola, Seminole, and Lake Counties)

When: Darkwater archery practice  
Where: 8545 Treasure Island rd Leesburg, FL 34788  
Address: 8545 Treasure Island Rd Leesburg, FL, 34788  
Contact: Ld Willaum of Willowbrook 352-326-0083

Notes: Practices are the second and last Sunday of the month. We do a potluck after practice if you wish to attend you are more than welcome to join in. We do ask that you bring a little something to add to the meal.

### Barony of Marcaster (Pinellas County, Florida)

Marcaster Archery dates have been set. The following dates are all Sundays. They all start at noon and go until 3pm-ish, and they are all at Camp Soule. This is a free, non-garbed SCA/Baronial archery practice. SCA Archery rules and equipment must be followed and used.

Nov. 2, 2014  
December is Long Nights so no practice, just a baronial Archery tourney.  
Jan. 18, 2015  
Feb. 8, 2015  
Mar. 8, 2015  
Apr. 19, 2015  
May 10, 2015

All practices are Camp Soule, 2201 Soule Rd., Clearwater, FL 33759

Some loaner gear is available for folks who wish to try out the sport.

Honorable Lord Gavin Kyncade  
Marcaster Archery & Thrown weapons  
Ranger  
[gavin.kinkade@yahoo.com](mailto:gavin.kinkade@yahoo.com)

### Barony of Oldenfeld (Tallahassee, Gadsden, Wakulla)

When: Oldenfeld Archery Practice  
Where: Ox Bottom Hollow  
Address: 2020 Ox Bottom Road  
Tallahassee, FL 32312  
Contact: Jay or Jancie Ter Louw  
(850) 668-3807

Notes: We will practice at 3 p.m. on any Sunday that does not have an SCA event or mundane schedule conflict. Please call or email to confirm the actual dates of practices.

### Canton of Peregrine Springs (Seminole County)

When: Darkwater East Archery Practices  
Where: Springdale Farms, Longwood FL  
Address: Bay Meadow Lane  
Longwood, FL 32750  
Contact: Bennett Redstone (407) 456-0077

Notes: First, third, and (optionally) fifth Sunday of the month. No practices the Sunday of a Kingdom event. Check postings on Trimaris-Archers board on Yahoo for cancellations.

### Shire of Southkeep (Miami-Dade County/Florida Keys)

When: Every Other Sunday @ 1:00pm  
Where: Homestead  
Address: 20420 SW 319th Street  
Homestead, FL 33030  
Contact: Cian mac Cullough  
(305) 213-3732

Notes: We practice every other Sunday (weather permitting), provided there are no events or modern conflicts. There may occasionally be additional practices scheduled, depending on availability of a ranger. Please call or e-mail to confirm, or check Facebook. There are usually other activities going on for those who don't want to shoot. Practices are potluck, and we ask that you do bring something to contribute if you can. However, if for some reason you cannot, please don't let that stop you from coming.

### Shire of Trysel (Ft. Myers)

When: Sunday @ 2:00pm  
Where: Fort DeNaud Archery Range  
Address: 506 Trader Road  
LaBelle, FL 33935  
Contact: Juliana Strangeways  
(239) 839-8333

Notes: All are welcome. We will practice on Sundays unless an event or mundane scheduling conflict arises. Please contact by phone or email to confirm and avoid disappointment.

## West Kingdom

### Barony of Eskalya (Anchorage, Alaska)

We usually hold practice Sundays at 2pm at the public range in Kincaid Park during the summer/fall. During the winter we occasionally visit an indoor range. This year we will also be going to the Northwest Archers classes (non-sca.) We will have to use their equipment, (compounds) but at least it will be free target time.

For more information, please contact Dawn Quick at [c\\_textrix@yahoo.com](mailto:c_textrix@yahoo.com)

## Province of the Golden Rivers (Sacramento Area, California)

Target archery practice is held from 10 am to 1 pm, non-event Sundays at Creekwood Equestrian Park in Elverta, CA (Sacramento area). This is an outdoor range on a horse ranch.

In addition to IKAC, Royal Round, and Seasonal shoots, we have also thrown weapons and mounted archery available, depending on interest. Some loaner gear is on-hand, more in the works.

Archers of Golden Rivers have a Facebook

Group for discussion of upcoming practices and other activities:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/735450109809751/>

For additional information, contact our Target Archery Marshal, Brigid O'Connor, email: [arcmarshal@goldenrivers.westkingdom.org](mailto:arcmarshal@goldenrivers.westkingdom.org)

# Archery Target/Shoot Ideas

## 5 Plates

5 foam diner plates about 6 inches in diameter are placed on a butt at 20 yards. Archers get 12 arrows. Each hit on a plate counts 1 point. HOWEVER for a second hit on one plate to count all plates must be hit first.

## Bull's Eye and 6 boxes

With 12 arrows, archers must score a Bull's Eye at 20 yards before using remaining arrows to score on boxes set at random distances. Boxes set further from shooting line score higher than boxes close.

## Clout Shoot

6 arrows shot at a man sized target 100 yards out within a 30 foot diameter circle. Arrows striking the man score 3 points, arrows falling and remaining inside the circle score 1 point. Score of arrows determined by resting place of arrow point. i.e. an arrow at the back line with its point outside the circle does not count.

## Clout Variation

Same as above but distances are 75 – 125 yards.

## Duel

Two archers shoot at a target 24 inches in diameter 20 yards out. Archers begin with no arrow on the string and draw hand on top of head. At marshal's "Go", archers draw an arrow and shoot target. First archer to score wins. Other archer is eliminated. Last archer standing wins. This may be run with a loser's bracket then final pairing is winner from winning bracket shoots against winner from loser's bracket.



# The Battlement

*Editor's Note: Welcome to the new section! A dilemma that many of us face as living history hobbyists is not only how and where to acquire period pieces for our kits, but also figuring out what kinds of pieces we want to acquire. Many folks learn to make the things they wear and use, myself included, and my hope is that Quivers & Quarrels in the future will include many how-to articles to inspire and teach you. A note of caution, however: When you take the plunge and make your own things, don't be afraid to add a bit of yourself to the creation of period items. When we reproduce exactly, and reproduce a lot, cloning happens, and the natural variation among "stuff" vanishes. In that regard, humanity was no different throughout the ages of history than it is today. Artisans and laymen alike put themselves and their inspirations into what they crafted. You may enjoy the challenge of reproduction, or you may enjoy the inspiration of recreating a period style. No matter what inspires you, enjoy the journey, and vivat the Dream.*

*Yours in service, Sayako*



Owner: Dafydd ap Tomas

Bracer inspired by extant examples from the wreck of the Mary Rose. Tooling is patterned in the style of a 14th century rerebrace in the British Museum.

Owner: Christophe of Grey

Reproduction of an extant Tudor bracer from the wreck of the Mary Rose. The color is in the fashion suggested by a separate extant example with some surviving pigment. Gold paint was substituted for gold leaf, and the leather was stippled (which was not done on the original) to hold the gold paint better.





Owner: Mikhailo

My Attila's Archery Hungarian style horsebow, made from Zebra wood. 53 inches tip to tip, 40 lbs at 28 inches. I used it to become Arc de Scorpion at Al-Barrans Champions on Sept 27th, 2014. I've also used it to place in mundane 3D shoots, wearing garb. Those medals are on either side.

## One Arrow, One Life

A Sapphic Ode by Robin Greenwood of Arden

Feet on hard ground spread, I am reeling in my  
senses from world's thrum, from allure of blossoms  
bottlebrush trees' red lips to the bees, and the  
hummingbirds' twitter

Sky-vault slow-paced drift of cotton cumuli  
calling crows' harsh caws and the mesmerizing  
glide above, hung between earth and sky, of the  
redtail hawk, soaring

Instead, heaves, world's pulse I set about blending  
synchronize breath to and uncover kinship  
plant myself, set focus squarely before me  
on target's circle

Narrowing focus tighter yet I set on  
single point, object of my dire intention  
and, as phenomena of the world's turning  
fall away, begin

Process long known from practiced hours aplenty.  
Reaching up I pluck from my back-bound quiver  
feathered arrow, nock to the string, set fingers,  
setting myself to

Draw the bow, English longbow, kin of every  
stick and string, this stinging thing deftly hewn of  
yew and only yew, sapwood & heartwood, this  
curvaceous beauty

Right elbow up now, pulling in the back, I  
raise the bow, draw string to my ear, and, pausing  
on the cusp of inbreath, as I ease exhale...  
let go the string and

Hear the strum monochord swift music of the  
bow as I pull in followthrough and she now  
thrusts the arrow forward whipping round the stave  
to fly to sing to  
thump as he strikes home