

Many Happy Returns

Issue No. 66

An International Publication of the United States Boomerang Association

Spring 1996





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USBA BUZZ

"Everything you need to know!"

Corrections

Cartoon Submitter Located

The cartoon on Page 14 was submitted by Dave Hendrick. It was shown to him by Rev. Dean Jurgen from York, PA.

Alien Grid Lines Missing

The one inch grid lines in builder's square were unintentionally left out. The wingtip on the enlarged boomerangs should be approximately 13 inches on the "Radified Mantis," and 10.5 inches on the easy throw model. Don't get too hung up on exact sizes. A slightly smaller boom made of 4mm may fly better for you that a full size 5mm model. You never know and can get even a relatively close size a shape to fly perfectly, depending on your airfoils.

Incomplete Web Address

Dave Hendricks' Web Page, as reported in MHR 65, page 9 was incomplete. The correct URL for BVD Boomerangs is: <http://www.enter.net/~bvdrangs/index.html>

Front Cover: New T-Shirt Design!!

The new USBA T shirt, currently available through the USBA store, features design contest co-winner Joel Wilhelm's Black Eagle clutching a boomerang against a field of red and an outer ring of blue with the "United States Boomerang Association" proudly displayed.

The 3 color screened 100% cotton Ts in white are available for just \$12 to current USBA members, and for \$15 to non members. Price includes shipping! Hurry, quantities are limited. See store details for order info. For more winning design contest entries, see the next page.

Wanted: A Few Good People (to run for USBA office)

The USBA is looking for a few good people to become members of the USBA leadership team. Nominations are being accepted for all five board member positions and the officer positions, president, vice president, treasurer and secretary. For the details of each position see the USBA bylaws in MHR 59 or read the bylaws on alt. Boomerang.

HERE'S HOW TO RUN

All USBA members are eligible to run for a position. To run you must send in your self-nomination in advance. **No nominations will be accepted at the USBA annual meeting in Virginia Beach this June.** Running is easy. Simply send in your name, address and phone number, and the position you are running for. It is recommended that you also send in a short paragraph describing why you are running and what you would bring to the leadership team. This statement will be included with the ballot to help us all decide who to vote for.

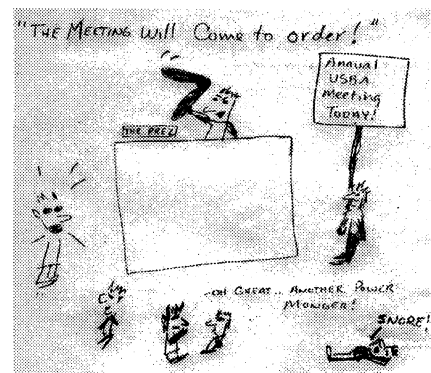
Send your self-nomination information to: USBA, P.O. Box 182, Delaware, Ohio, 43015. All nominations must be received by the USBA NO LATER THAN MAY 15, 1996 to be included on the ballot.

This is your chance to become involved and make a difference in our organization. The USBA needs you to run for office whether your primary focus is on Boomerang History, Technology and Design, Art, Teaching, Craftsmanship or any other facet of our sport. You do not need to be a competitor. All of our diverse talents and interests are what make us a great organization, and need to be represented in the leadership team.

The USBA not only needs all of you to consider running for office, it also needs you TO VOTE! You will receive your USBA election ballot by mail around the end of May. Please take the time to READ THE BALLOT, DECIDE WHICH CANDIDATES YOU SUPPORT, then FILL OUT THE BALLOT AND MAIL IT TO THE USBA by the deadline on the ballot.

MHR Editor sought

The USBA is seeking a capable individual with the time and means to edit the quarterly newsletter, MHR. In addition to a small stipend, the USBA will provide some reimbursement for Internet access to help with these duties. Interested individuals should contact Chet Snouffer at 614-363-8332.



**OFFICIAL
U.S.B.A.**



**BOOMERANG
TARGET**

More T-shirt Designs

Left: Mike Luczycki's winning entry in the USBA T-shirt design contest. Look for this official Boomerang Target T-shirt (along with a crash test dummy on the sleeve!) coming soon to a boom field near you!

Below: French-born Canadian Stephane Marguerite does the stars and stripes proud with this winning entry in the T-shirt design contest. The design features red lettering around a field of blue boomerangs with a large white star in the middle.

Super Novice Ideas For A Super Toss Across!

OK, you've got the beginners at your Toss Across America event this May, and they're really into it. But what do you do to ensure they have the most fun? Try generating some interest with the USBA **Super Novice Events** found on **page 8** in this MHR!

Super Novice is an easy to run, mini tournament-format series of events that's great fun for all ages and all experience levels. You don't even need field markings!

Check out "Fast Throw" and "Fast Throw Endurance", as well as "MTAussie Round!" Its a great way to show beginners the objectives behind the various competitive events without requiring special boomerangs. In fact, they can use the same boom for every event!

Take a look and start planning your Toss today. For further info on hosting a Toss Across America event in your elbow of the woods, call or write:

Betsy Miale-Gix
3351 236th St NW
Brier, WA 98036
206-485-1672 (phone or fax)



LETTERS

"The true essence of communication!"

A Hot Time On The Old Field...

Ed note: A friend of Carlos Martini's in Sao Paulo Brazil has been exchanging email messages with the editor recently. Here is a humorous story he passed on.

Dear Gregg,

Hi! Today I go in the new park, I don't know the name but is very good to launch boom's. I see one girl many, many, many beautiful, I think the most beautiful I see in my life.

Here now is rain.

I take one boom plan in the Internet, is one circle, you know this boom? I make and in the moment of the launch he don't come to me, he go only to the front and kicking (same kanguru) and go direct to one big man very fat. "Oh my good!" I think... and the man say to me, "Hey stuped! What you want? Kill me? Go out with this \$@*%! thing!"

I take the *#@% boom circle and say to fat man, "Sorry man, you are ok?"

And He say, "(expletive deleted), go out!"

I say "Please, broke this and you have peace."

Today my day is very hot!!!

Your friend,
Ricardo Bruni Marx
Sao Paulo, Brazil
boom@dialdata.com.br

These Rangs Are For The Dogs!

Hiya, gregg!

Below is the text of a note which someone posted in the CNN TalkBack Live Forum. Why they posted it there, I'm not sure. Not only was the decision to post in that forum rather odd, but the message itself is certainly unique. The person who posted the message claims this is the story of how boomerangs came into being. Have you ever heard this theory??

Tim Sparks
CNN Talk Back Live Sys-Op
Columbus, Ohio

"It has recently been discovered that early Labrador Retrievers (as in the dog) invented the boomerang. Sick of chasing sticks, they discovered that if they chewed the ends of certain sticks in a particular way, the sticks, when thrown, would angle back towards them, re-

ducing the distance they had to run to retrieve the stick. Eventually, sticks were chewed in such a way as to complete the boomerang effect, returning the stick to the owner without the dogs having to move an inch. Early hominids, obsessed with throwing sticks, soon forgot about the dogs and simply threw the sticks to themselves. One day, totally by chance, a bird flew into a boomerang and was killed, which led to the boomerang's conversion from a recreational tool to a hunting tool. Seems strange, and yet it did indeed happen."

Dear Sparky,

For most boomerang enthusiasts, this account is truly humorous. However, for the layperson, it is presented as fact, and so is quite remarkable, yet completely misleading. The textbook theory goes like this:

A while back (23,000 years or more), pre-historic man discovered, perhaps at first by accident, and then through trial and error, that sticks and stones made better hunting tools than bare hands. At some point, these objects' projectile value was discovered, after which time, they were thrown at quarry. It would be natural to throw large clubs sidearm at prey. Then, perhaps by accident, it was discovered that a bent stick spun better than a straight stick and maintained better stability in flight (a characteristic later described as the law of gyroscopic stability). A smooth-worn stick was found to fly further than a rough one (deceased drag) And finally, aerodynamic lift was discovered (probably startlingly so) when someone's worn stick developed a curved top and under side, like a wing, and amazingly defied gravity to travel considerably farther than anyone else's had ever flown before.

Eventually, it was discovered that a more asymmetrical airfoil (one that was flatter on the bottom) would not fly straight, but rather would swoop up into the air when thrown sidearm. When thrown overarm, the same stick would turn the beginning of a great circle. When thrown just right with the wind, one might even come close enough back to the thrower that he could catch his own throw! The challenge was on!

It seems as if Captain Cook interrupted Aborigines in the midst of this sort of early accuracy tournament when he mistakenly got the idea that these returning boomerangs were used to hunt with. Actually, the larger non-returns were used for that purpose, but the language barrier made it difficult for Cook to understand. Hence the misconception still lingering all of these years later!

There is another theory; one that I find more interesting. That being the idea that the gift of flight (the airfoil) was given to man by some civilization that already understood

those principles and used them to visited here many years ago across great distances through space. If early man was awed by these extraterrestrials, considerably more than the concept of flight might be explained, including theism, mankind's continued curiosity in the search for extraterrestrial life and UFOs. Like I said, its a lot more interesting... but I like this dog theory too!

-ed

Geographical Center Of The Boom Universe

As reported in MHR #62, "50th State Joins Union," I had the dubious honor of visiting Redbud, Illinois (the alleged geographical boomerang center of the United States) twice this past Spring on business.

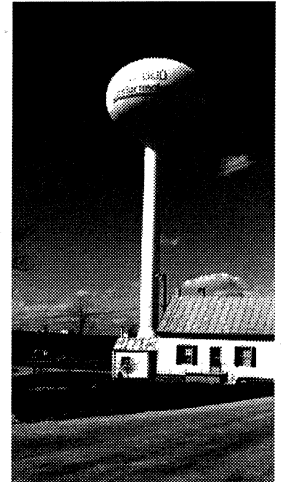
The local trees were doing their thing... budding red (actually more of a pink). Its a typical Midwest prairie farm community, with a mattress manufacturing plant (Comfortmaker), a small color proof/print facility, one stoplight and a fire department downtown, no hotels, so if we decide to meet there we will have to camp out in the field. Despite the name, no ganja was to be found.

Brad Westervelt
Boulder Creek, CA

Dear Brad,

Thanks for doing the thorough check-up and report for us. Fortunately, we have an "in" in Red Bud. Chicago Bob now lives there with his gracious and lovely boom chucking wife, Angela-Bob. Since moving from Chicago to Red Bud, Chi-Bob considered a name change, but didn't like the sound of "Chicago Steve." Anyway, Bob works at that printing facility you spoke of, since his Father-In-Law owns it. He also tends bar in a nearby town and has a well equipped boom shop in the garage. The point is, if we decide to hold a meeting there, we can all just crash at Bob and Angela's.

-ed



Boom Babes

Dear Sir or Madam,

I recently read an article in Women's Sports and Fitness about Ms. Miale-Gix. This article peaked my interest in the boomerang. I've asked my husband to buy me a boomerang for my birthday, but neither of us have any idea where to look or what we should be looking for. Can you help? Any information you can provide for a novice would be greatly appreciated.

Ruth McWilliams
Ft Irwin, CA

Dear Ruth,

I have sent you a copy of boomerang manufacturers and a recent issue of MHR, which I hope will help you in your quest to enter the exciting sport of Boomerangs. -ed

Its All Greek To Us!

Dear USBA,

I am a 16 year old boy from Greece. I have been interested for boomerangs since I was a kid. Recently I was given the chance to have my own. Your address was in my boomerang's packing. So since I am interested, I thought to write asking for a boomerang catalog. Thank you very much for reading my letter. I hope to get an answer from you soon.

Your friend,
Cojtas

Dear Cojtas,

Here's a list of manufacturer's and a couple of their catalogs. Now we hope to see a Greek Boomerang Team soon! -ed

Hey manufacturer's!

If you want your price list to be sent out to folks like this who write the USBA all of the time seeking boomerangs, just send a supply to the USBA address. We currently have a stock of Gel, B- Man, Leading Edge and Roundtrip Boomerang catalogs available.

Hooked On A Feeling

Dear "Boomers,"

Please enlist me as a proud member of the USBA. Ten years ago, a little boy wanted me to throw his inexpensive stick for him. Well, beginner's luck got me hopelessly hooked (pardon the pun). Now my specialty is getting three booms in the air at once and catching them all. I'd like to pursue distance or long-range 'rangs. (Pursue is probably not the right word!)

Thanks for the info on distributors and manufacturers. It will be helpful in my next purchase choice. Also, please send along the USBA rulebook. (Enclosed is an additional \$2)

Thanks,
David W. Bair

Why Are You Here?

Hello Mr. Snouffer,

I'm a college student at Ohio University and I was wondering if you could help me.

I am in a speech class and for my next speech I wanted to inform my audience about boomerangs. For this speech I needed to talk to some one who is knowledgeable about my topic. I found your name and address at the USBA homepage and I was wondering if you could help me out.

If it wouldn't be too much trouble, I was wondering if you could answer this question for me: "Why would some one want to pick up the sport of boomeranging, what benefits could an individual receive from this sport?"

By answering this question you are helping me tremendously, your time and effort are greatly appreciated.

Thank you very much,

Greg Koskinen
Athens, Ohio

Dear Greg,

Thanks for your recent letter concerning boomerangs and the sport of booming. I don't know if the reasons for booming would make sense to someone who hasn't tried it or participated in the tournaments, but I'll try.

My brother and I got into booms when I was 7 and he was 12. We were into kites and frisbees and water rockets and stuff that flew, so there was a natural attraction. My brother's first boomerang was built in Grandpa's garage with some leftover paneling from the basement. Anyway, it curved and that's all that mattered. He started building them and throwing and I basically just went along with it.

By my Junior year in High School, we learned of an annual boomerang fling on the Washington DC Mall by the Washington Monument. Our folks loaded us up in the car and we made a vacation out of it. That's where we met the pioneers of the sport. I didn't do so well that year, but Chet, my brother was so into it that he started holding his own tournament every summer. He was driven to be the best in this small, eclectic sport!

In 1981, he made the U.S. Team to Australia at 24 years old and has never been off of the U.S. Team since. I joined in 1987 and have

made every team since then.

For Chet, he'd probably tell you that he likes winning and being the best in the sport. For me, its the throwers. I like the social aspect. All of these guys do whatever the heck they do for a living, but every summer, we all get together and just go nuts with boomerangs. Others would tell you its the flight of the rang. Something you can make with your own hands and throw straight out away from you, and then the strangest thing happens. Its magic. It spins and starts to turn, and when you get everything right, it comes back so you can reach out and catch it without even moving.

Those who are into flight always seem to hone in on one aspect or another, like gliders, or kites or airplanes, hang gliders, or boomerangs. Its a pretty broad interest category.

Then we have the guys who are true crafters. They love working with wood and producing boomerangs. But remember, our organization stands at just 300 right now. Its definitely not for everybody! We get lots of folks who sign up for a year and then find out they're not that interested. I guess you just have to be one of those boomerang guys to understand. Its social, artistic, athletic, active, prehistoric, alternative, weird, exciting.... what else is there?

-ed

Gregg,

I just wanted to let you know that I sent in my membership fee. I look forward to the newsletters and competitions. Can you tell me if there are meetings for general members? Also, is there a secret handshake and some sort of initiation ceremony that I must go through? :-)

Dwight
dsouder@ashland.edu

Dear Dwight,

We have an annual membership meeting at the U.S. Open. This year that is in Virginia Beach the weekend of June 22-23. In addition, members keep up to date through this publication and at regional tournaments. You don't need to worry about the handshake until AFTER your first year of membership.

-ed

Responses To Last Issue

MHR Editor,

Regarding the John Gorski 17+ minute MTA flight in August 1993, it was submitted to the Guinness Book later that year as a feat,

worthy of mention as an "unofficial" record, with all supporting documentation that was gathered that day. The Guinness Book requires that all records be set during the course of scheduled, sanctioned competitions, such as USBA tournaments, German or French tournaments, international tournaments, like the World Championships, etc. (For example, if Carl Lewis long-jumps 35 feet during a practice effort, it is not the Record, even though "he did it." Guinness applies the same logic to boomerangs.)

Documentation that official rules have been observed, exact times or distances recorded, witnesses, tournament directors, etc. are standard requirements. And that is no guarantee that the record will be published. Guinness editors are faced with many decisions regarding what to include and what not to include in their book. They know everything there is to know about John's throw; it is up to them to decide whether it should be published.

As for Michael Chellucci's **NEGATIVE EXPERIENCE**, I would like to extend an invitation to New Hampshire for the July 13 tour-

namment at Kimball Union Academy. While I can't help with the weather or the length of the day, I can assure him that the lines will be on the field when he arrives, and there is a Novice award up for grabs.

John Flynn
White River Jct., VT

"Buddy Boomers" To The Rescue

Dear Editor,

Let me begin by saying I understand the virgin tournament novice syndrome I read about in Winter Issue; humbling indeed. I was lucky Tony Brazelton befriended me at the '95 U.S. Open in Minneapolis. It made all the difference. Not just a novice, I was 9 days elapsed from arthroscopic knee surgery and had my trigger finger on my throwing hand cut open early on the first day by a fellow

novice. Tony bandaged my finger, loaned me a boom in his bag to fight the windy conditions during the upcoming accuracy event and I scored 17 points. Hey Tony, THX!

My idea: Tournament Directors have novices who wish to sign up for "Boom Buddies," or Sport throwers who volunteer to adopt a novice thrower to show them the ropes. The two get adjacent numbers for the competition so the novice can accompany their B.B. around for the first day. This would help with things like learning to spot the 20 meter line, how to judge and score trick catch, how to time MTA and fast catch, etc., as well as to help them feel welcome and accepted.

At some point during the day, a break could be held when Boom Buddies break out in a pro-am style to enjoy the sport in a casual atmosphere truly reflective of the founding spirit of boomin' in the USA.

The fellow novice who beamed me that first morning was absent by lunch. A Boom Buddy may have consoled him, given a few pointers during the break, and kept him involved. Who knows? If this idea caught on and became pop-

The United States Boomerang Association

USBA INFORMATION

The USBA is a non-profit organization whose goal is to promote the art, craft, sport and poetry of boomerangs through events, competitions, and information distributed through the quarterly newsletter, Many Happy Returns. Your input is welcome and you can contact the USBA by

writing to:

U.S. Boomerang Association
P.O. Box 182
Delaware, OH 43015

Phone or Fax: (614) 363-4414

E-mail:

75574.2346@compuserve.com

Internet:

<http://ux1.cso.uiuc.edu/~brazelto/USBAinfo.html>

Comments on newsletter content, and submissions for inclusion, including articles, photos, cartoons and designs are accepted. Editorial content is also encouraged, but the editor reserves the right to edit and inclusion is not guaranteed.

Missing Issues of MHR should be

USBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Chet Snouffer (614) 363-8332

Vice-President

Mark Weary (602)759-3973

Treasurer

Gerry Gix (503) 672-8117

Secretary

Gregg Snouffer: (614)-363-4414

Directors

Bob Leifeld (618) 282-6854

Mike Dickson (216) 499-9848

Jim Schramm (314) 607-0051

Betsy Miale-Gix (206) 485-1672

USBA MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

All membership dues should be paid by check or money order in \$USD\$. Make checks payable to: USBA.

Domestic and Canadian annual membership dues are \$15 per year. A domestic lifetime membership is \$225. Annual overseas dues are \$20. A lifetime overseas membership is \$350.

Check your newsletter label for expiration issue. Membership status questions should be directed to **Gregg Snouffer**

Many Happy Returns

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Full Page	\$100
2 Columns	\$ 75
1/2 Page	\$ 60
1 Column	\$ 50
Per Column inch	\$ 5

10% discount for 4 consecutive issues. All advertisements must be pre-paid in USD by check or M. O. to USBA. Camera-ready copy preferred. The editor reserves the right to refuse any advertisement or cancel a contract without reason. The deadline for all advertisements is March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1 for the Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter issues respectively. All advertisements should be mailed to USBA.

Membership Application

Copy this page and carry extra copies of this sheet in your boomerang bag to hand out.

Check: New Renewal

name

address

address

city/state/zip or country

phone number (optional)

New Member or Renewal?

USBA member sponsor's name

New members and renewals: Send the completed coupon (or copy) and \$15 (\$20 overseas) check or M. O. to:

USBA membership
P. O. Box 182
Delaware, OH 43015

ular, novices might be on a waiting list, ready to jet to tournaments to buddy up with their idols for a day! This inclusive idea would be a welcome burst of sunshine for a truly magical sport and wonderful group of people who participate U.S.-wide.

Jim Goff
Minneapolis, MN

Secret Handshakes

Gregg,

I just wanted to let you know that I sent in my membership fee. I look forward to the newsletters and competitions. Can you tell me if there are meetings for general members? Also, is there a secret handshake and some sort of initiation ceremony that I must go through?

Dwight
dsouder@ashland.edu

Dear Dwight,

The only secret signals seem to be when Rev Jim start grunting and wheezing in the middle of Endurance. While we're not sure exactly what it means, several have noticed that Barb usually picks up the phone and prepares to dial a 9.... So far, she hasn't had to finish the call because Jim's boom usually grounds out at the 20 meter line and he just kind of looks around and shrugs.

Anyway, there IS an annual membership meeting held at the U.S. Open every year, in conjunction with elections. This year, a mail in ballot will go out in May so that everyone can vote even if they cannot attend the meeting. Keep an eye out for it and when it arrives, fill it out and send it in. For more details on elections, see the article on page 2.

See You On The Web!

Gregg,

I am putting up a boom photo page on my home page. It will replace the Blizzard page I currently have running. What I would like to do is have people send me photos of boom events and tournaments with a caption for them. I will then scan them and post them on the web. This way we can show a lot more people color photos of what we do and promote the sport. 3.5 x 5 photos are great and scan easily. As a bonus these photos can then be saved for later use. I can't promise return of the photos unless a SASE is included for their return. People can send photos to:
Dave Hendricks
1086 E Gordon Street
Allentown, PA 18103

Issue No. 66

How's this for a real chance to see yourself on the web! Send your photos now!

Dave Hendricks
bvdrangs@dns.enter.net

Canadian TV Show Seeks Boomerangers

I'm currently researching story ideas for season #4 of a Canadian television program titled "Personal Best." It airs Saturdays on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. (CBC)

In a sentence, the show is about "people that move." Clearly, this leaves a wide range of possibilities open. This is why I am contacting you.

If I have my information right, you are affiliated with the sport of boomerang. My question to you is, whether or not you have any Canadian contacts. If not, do you know of anyone that might?

If you could be of any assistance at all, it would be greatly appreciated. I look forward to hearing from you in the near future. If you would like, or need, any further information regarding the program, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

Kevin Restivo
Researcher
Personal Best

(P) (613)747-2900 (X2231)
(F) (613)748-5769
email: krestivo@rtm.cdnsport.ca

Declining Relations With China

Dear Gregg,

Important news item from the national press. Our President, William Jefferson Clinton, has become immersed in matters pertaining to our sport.

A headline from an October article in an Allentown, PA newspaper causes me

Boomerang Adventures



Not exactly preparing for New Zealand...

From top to bottom, Aron "Zippy" McGuire, Adam "S.I." Ruhf, Gary "GBJ" Broadbent Junior, Gregg "MHR Editor" Snouffer and Steve Minor prepare for the Magnum 200 roller coaster at Cedar Point, Ohio last Summer during a week-long boomerang vacation in Canton at Gary's dad's, "Big G."

For those of you who have not yet spent some time at Gary Senior's boom workshop/house in Canton, Ohio, you can't come close to imagining what you're missing! For reservations, call Gary B at 216-492-RANG. He does NOT accept American Express, but his place IS everywhere you want to be!

great concern about team participation in international boomerang events by the Chinese. Perhaps their damaging booms should also be banned?

Will Gix
Brier, Washington

WHAT AN AUSTRALIAN CAN DO WITH A BOOMERANG



Many Happy Returns

USBA SUPER NOVICE RULES

Rules for Super Novice Events

Objectives

Provide a positive recreational and learning setting for beginning throwers. (Make sure everyone has fun!) These events can be used for a separate event or for beginner events in association with a veteran USBA tournament.

These rules provide an environment where throwers of all ability levels can participate and be challenged so they can also be used with throwers who are beyond the beginner stage, but should be used only with a group of throwers of roughly the same ability level.

General Rules

Individual scores are calculated for each event in the same way as in normal USBA tournaments. The event winner receives 11 points, with the second place receiving 9 points, third 8 points, and so on. In the event of ties, the resulting points are divided equally between the tied participants. For example, a two way tie for second place would split the second and third place points and receive 8.5 each. A participant's tournament score is the total of their event scores.

One sighter throw IS allowed before beginning each event/round for each participant.

Thrower must make a good faith attempt to throw in such a manner so as to create gyroscopic precession.

There is no minimum distance required for Super Novice boomerangs. Veteran throwers are expected to use 20 meter boomerangs. In the interest of safety, veteran throwers should not use their advanced technology boomerangs, such as paxolin, or world class fast catch boomerangs.

There are several events listed below. You may select as many or as few as is appropriate for the time, space, and throwers at your event.

Note-These rules allow most events to be run without marked circles. Throwing points may be marked with rags, or throwing discs. To provide a more permanent throwing point, throwing discs may be spiked to the ground. Accuracy may be measured with a tape measure or a previously marked rope.

Trick Catch

Each participant throws 8 consecutive throws. Any style catch may be attempted on any throw. Points for catches are as follows:

Any touch = 1 Point (not allowed for veterans)

Any catch = 2 Points (not allowed for veterans)

rans)

One handed catch or trap = 3 Points

One handed overhand = 4 points

Behind the back or Under the leg = 5 Points

One handed behind the back or under the leg = 7 points

Foot/leg catch = 10 Points

The participant's score is the total of points awarded for all touches and catches. Multiple throwers may throw simultaneously, but they should throw on command to allow accurate recording of scores for each throw. Great latitude should be given regarding the achievement of the more difficult catches. Disallowing a leg catch because it touches the thigh, is not appropriate in a Super Novice event.

Fast Throw

Each participant throws 5 times. The stop watch is started upon the first release and stopped after the fifth throw and when the participant returns to the start point in possession of the boomerang. For safety sake, thrower must make second through fifth throws from near (within approximately 2 meters of) the throwing point. Catching is not required on any throw. There is only one round. Shortest time wins.

Fast Throw Endurance

Each participant throws for 2 minutes. Catching is not required on any throw. The timer should warn the thrower(s) at 1 minute, 30 seconds, 15 seconds remaining, and should count down the final 10 seconds. Each throw must be made from near (within approximately 2 meters of) the throwing point. The score is equal to the number of throws which are initiated before the 2 minutes expire.

MTA Limited

Any boomerang may be used with the exception of an MTA. Each thrower throws three consecutive throws. A stop watch starts when each throw is released and stops when thrower first touches the boomerang or when it touches the ground. Score for each throw equals the elapsed time plus 2 seconds if boomerang is touched, and 4 seconds if it is caught. Participant score equals the longest of the three adjusted times (including the seconds for touching or catching). Longest adjusted time wins.

Accuracy

Each participant throws five consecutive throws. After the sighter throw, the thrower may elect to count it as their first throw. Thrower may not touch Boomerang until it comes to rest. Distance is measured from a

throwing point or the center of the throwing ring to the point of the boomerang (where it came to rest) closest to the center.

Points are awarded as follows:

within 2 Meters = 10 points
within 4 Meters = 8 points
within 6 Meters = 7 points
within 8 Meters = 6 points
within 10 Meters = 5 points
within 12 Meters = 4 points
within 14 Meters = 3 points
within 16 Meters = 2 points

Participant's score equals total of all throws. (If there are marked circles on the field, they may be used with the normal USBA scoring. Measuring distance to the point of the boomerang closest to the center is somewhat simpler, and will boost the scores.)

MTA Aussie Round

Any boomerang may be used with the exception of an MTA. Each participant throws three consecutive throws from the throwing point. A stop watch starts when each throw is released and stops when thrower first touches the boomerang or when it touches the ground. The score for each throw equals the number of seconds the boomerang is in the air, plus 2 points if boomerang is touched, and 4 points if it is caught anywhere on the field, plus the accuracy points as listed in Accuracy above. Award accuracy points based on the point where the thrower contacts the ground at the time of the touch or catch. If there are multiple points of contact score based on the point which is closest to the throwing point. Participant score equals the total points for all throws. Highest number of points wins. (To further simplify this event, you may omit the timing and award points based only on accuracy and catching.) Do not run this event with a measuring rope on the field. This could be a serious safety hazard. Use marked circles, or remove the measuring tape or rope before each throw.





1996 BOOMERANG NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA



**1996 Virginia State Games
Youth Boomerang Team Competition**

**Head2Head Boomerang Challenge • Hunting Throw Stick Competition/Demo
GLORP Championship • Boomerang Auction & Design Contest • USBA Annual Meeting**

June 28-30, 1996 Redwing Park, Virginia Beach, Virginia

BIG BEACH

What?

You are cordially invited to take a trip to Va. Beach this June for the 1996 Boomerang National Championship & Virginia State Games Youth Boomerang Competition.

Sponsored by the United States Boomerang Association and the Hampton Roads Chamber of Commerce.

When? June 28-30

Friday, June 28

9:00 am- Youth Boomerang Team Competition
7:00 pm- USBA Meeting, Auction and Design Contest.
Radisson Hotel, Back Bay Room. Cash Bar.

Saturday, June 29

US Boomerang Open, Day One

8:00 am- Final Registration

9:00 Events Begin

Lunch Break- Hunting Throw Stick Demo and Competition, Norm Kern. Other boom demos.

After events- US National Glorp Championship, Michael Gel Girvin

9:00 pm- Koehler Beach Party (see map)

Sunday, June 30

US Boomerang Open, Day Two

9:00 Events Begin

Lunch Break- Hunting Throw Stick Demo, Norm Kern. Other boom demos.

After events- Presentation of trophies.

Immediately after Trophy presentation- US Head2Head Boomerang Challenge, Gregg Snouffer

Where?

Virginia Beach, Virginia, located on the southeastern corner of Virginia, and next to heaven. Sunny beaches, lots of fun things to do, and loads of hotels draw people from all over the world. A great place for families and a great place to party. Fun for everyone.

Things to Do

There are a ton of things to do in Va. Beach. Aside from just hanging out at the beach and sunning, surfing, jetskiing, sailing, parasailing, swimming and volleyballing, you can try:

- The Va. Marine Science Museum, located on Gen. Booth Blvd. near Redwing Park
- Water Parks
- Fishing of all kinds- deep sea, pier, head-boat.
- Gobs of great restaurants.
- Gads of shops and malls.
- The Norfolk Naval Base- a tour that is way impressive and totally cool.
- Dolphin Watch- take a ride on a tour boat and get up close and personal with dolphins.
- Seashore State Park- everything from Spanish Moss to salt marsh to cypress lakes.
- Nauticus- a very cool place on the Norfolk waterside; virtual reality, laser light shows at night and more.

For more information about things to do in Va. Beach, call the Visitor Information Center at 800-822-3224. Ask them to send you a brochure.

The Official Hotel

The Radisson Hotel will be the official hotel for the event. A large block of rooms has been reserved for boomerang throwers, available at the discounted rate of \$70 for single or double. For Va. Beach in June, that is a great rate!

The Radisson will have the most boomerangers, plus will be the site for the USBA meeting, Auction and Design Contest. We suggest you choose the Radisson.

The Radisson is a wonderful hotel filled with amenities including a huge pool, sauna and other sports facilities, and is located just six blocks from the oceanfront, just off Rt. 44 and Birdneck Rd. (see map)

The Radisson also sports one of the areas best night spots, The Bayou. The Bayou features dancing, live music, a bar and a complete restaurant.

To make a Reservation call:
800-333-3333 or 804-422-8900

Register by June 1 Tell them you are with the Boomerang Group and quote the rate. They can help you with any additional nights you might want to consider.

Other Hotels and Camping

You probably won't beat the \$70 price that close to the beach, but it is possible to get cheaper places further inland, though many will be booked.

Call 800-VABEACH (822-3224) for information about hotels and camping. Several Campsites are available to choose from, but they get reserved pretty quickly, so don't wait.

The Field

Redwing Park is the site for both the Youth Boomerang Competition and the US Open. Located just off of General Booth Blvd. (see map), Redwing has excellent facilities, including restrooms, parking, children play areas and tennis courts.

Youth Boomerang Team Tournament

Who: 4-6 person teams, comprised of boys and girls between 9 and 15 years of age. Each team to have an adult sponsor/coach, who will be required to attend the competition.

How Much: Registration fee of \$10/player covers teeshirts, field fees, trophies and three boomerangs for each team.

Format: Open Team Competition with five events. Each event requires 4 throwers from each team. Team ranking determined by cumulative point total from all events.

BOOMFEST

EVENTS:

Team Accuracy Team Relay

Team Endurance Team Trick Catching

Team Position

Specific detailed information and registration for Youth Boomerang Competition available by calling John Koehler at 804.437.1185. Form will be faxed or mailed.

US Open

Who: US competitors must be USBA members. Onfield signups will be allowed. Foreign competitors must also be USBA members or must join to compete in the US Open.

TWO DIVISIONS:

Open- Beginners to Intermediate throwers

Sport- Advanced level, top competitors

How Much?

\$45 for Advanced Registration covers one teeshirt, registration fee, site fee, insurance, party, and one drink ticket for USBA meeting. \$50 for onsite registration.

Individual Events (IE)- Seven events run according to USBA official rules. Scores will determine the Open ranking and will be included in annual USBA rating of competitors.

Team Events (TE) - Four events will be run. These are primarily for fun and will not effect either the Open scores or the USBA ratings. 4-person Teams will be selected Saturday morning by the Tournament Director and Head Judge based on approved selection method. Teams will

stay together for the duration of the Open.

SATURDAY EVENTS

Trick Catching & Doubling (IE) - to be run consecutively. Thrower will proceed immediately into doubling upon completion of Trick Catch throws. Look for heavy styling in these events.

Fast Catch (IE) - Watch Out! Some of these boomerangs will go close to 100mph. Speed is of the essence

Team Position (TE) - one of the funnest team events. Simple and direct. After 8 team throws, be the closest to the bullseye.

Accuracy (IE) - Seems easy right? Go ahead, make my day. Hittin' that bull is no easy thing. Take your best shot.

Australian Round (IE) - the premiere event in boomerang competition. Sit back and relax, unless it's your turn to throw!

Team Relay (TE) - Yee ha! That's southern for allright! Runners to your mark.....

Stay on the field for The Glorp Championship!

Michael Gel Girvin is Mr. Glorp. Others might want to disagree...

9:00 pm (TE) Party at Koehler's

SUNDAY EVENTS

Endurance (IE) - A great event to run first thing Sunday morning! Wake up!

Team Supercatch (TE) - hey, Super is in the name, so it must be cool.

MTA (IE) - Why not save the maximum event for last. Check the thermals.

Team Relay (TE) - More fun in the sun.

Onfield trophy presentation for the 1996 US Boomerang Open will be followed by the

Head2Head Challenge

for the radically tough boom folk to show their stuff in a winner take all blowout. This will be an unofficial event. Details for event will be announced Friday Night. Gregg Snouffer is the official US Head2Head coordinator.

Schedule of Team Events and Head2Head may change per discretion of Tournament Director and as time allows.

Your Host & Tournament Director

John Koehler, 1991 Boomerang World Champ, will be hosting this event. John lives in Va. Beach with his wife Patty, boom kids Kim and Danielle, two cats and Jasper, the friendly dog.

You can reach John by calling: 804.437.1185 Fax: 804.437.1285 email: jkoehler@norfolk.infi.net

or by writing:

John Koehler
210 60th Street
Va. Beach, VA 23451

R E G I S T R A T I O N

FULL NAME _____ AGE _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ COUNTRY _____

PHONE _____ FAX _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

YOU WILL: COMPETE HELP WITH SCORING, ETC. GUEST WILL HELP WITH SCORING, ETC.

DIVISION YOU WILL COMPETE IN: OPEN SPORT- TOP 30 RATED USBA THROWERS (DISCRETION OF T.D.)

LODGING: RADISSON HOTEL 800-333-3333 OTHER HOTEL 800-VABEACH CAMPING 800-VABEACH

ARRIVAL DATE: _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

TRAVEL: AIRLINE CAR OTHER _____

FEES: PRE-REGISTRATION- \$45 (ENCLOSED) ONSITE REGISTRATION- \$50 \$ _____

TEE SHIRTS- ONE INCLUDED WITH REGISTRATION FEE, ADDITIONAL SHIRTS \$15.00

SHIRTS WILL BE TWO COLOR AND HAVE LARGE LOGO SHOWN ON COVER

INDICATE NUMBER OF SHIRTS IN EACH SIZE

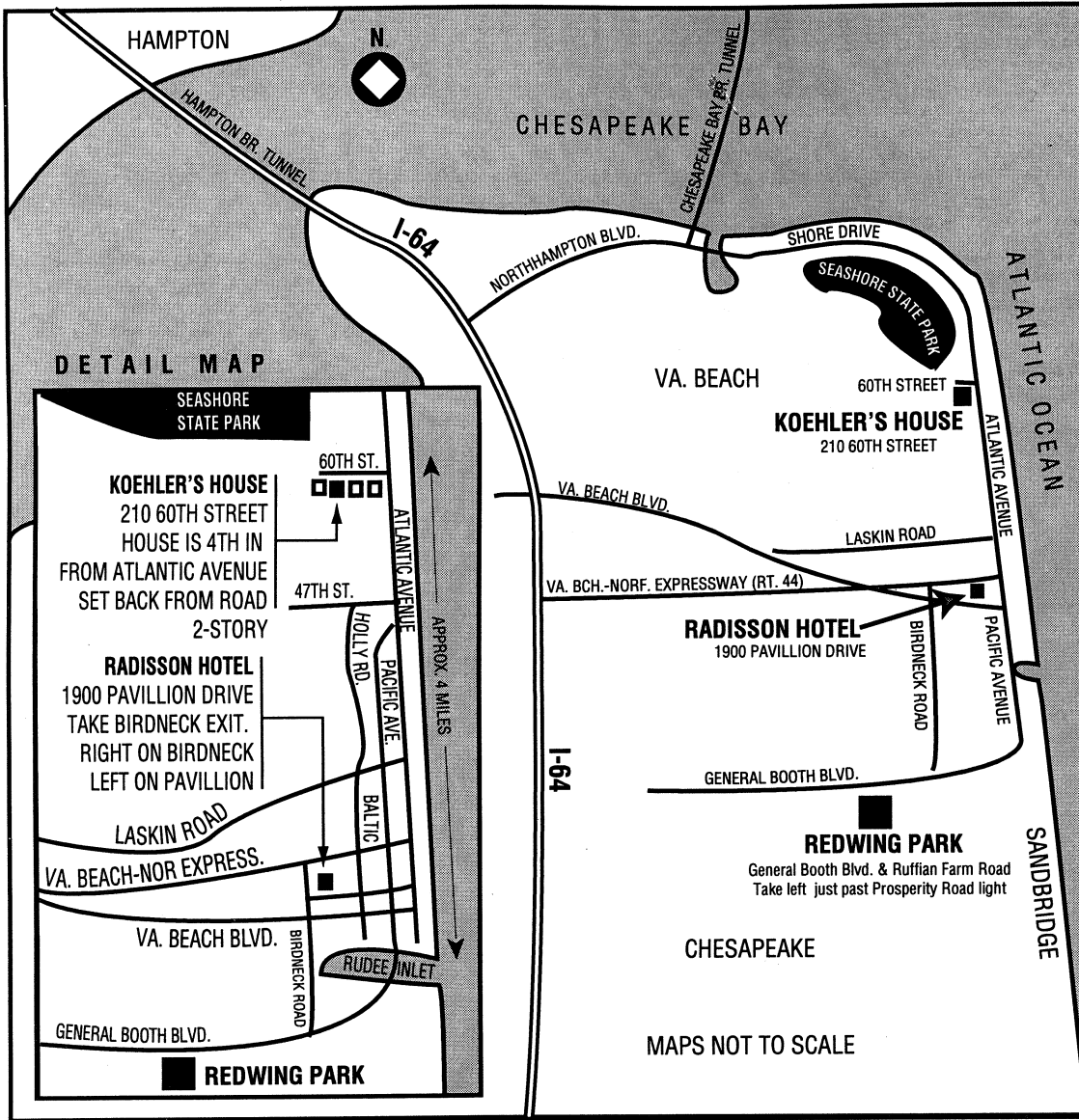
_____ X-LARGE _____ LARGE _____ MED. _____ SMALL \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____



SEND THIS COMPLETED FORM ALONG WITH FEES TO: 1996 NATIONALS, 210 60TH STREET, VA. BEACH, VA 23451

Directions to Boomerang Locations



Virginia Beach is located on the Southeastern corner of Virginia. Norfolk International Airport is the closest airport, only 15 miles from the oceanfront. From any direction, take I-64 to Rt. 44/ Virginia Beach-Norfolk Expressway and head east. Rt. 44 runs directly to the oceanfront.

Redwing Park

From Rt. 44, take Birdneck Rd. exit and go right for approx. 3 miles to right turn on General Booth Blvd. Drive approx. 1 mile and take the first left past light at Prosperity Rd. This will be Ruffian Farm Rd. and the entrance to Redwing Park. Drive to back of park and parking lot.

The Radisson Hotel 1900 Pavillion Drive

From Rt. 44, take Birdneck Road and go right. Take immediate left onto Pavillion Dr. This turns into 19th st. Radisson is on your left just before the Pavillion Convention Center.

Koehler's House 210 60th St.

From Rt. 44, take left on Pacific Ave. Drive north on Pacific to left turn on 60th street. (Note: at about 40th St., Pacific becomes Atlantic Ave.) House is 4th on left, set back from street.



210 60th Street
Virginia Beach, VA 23451

Don't Miss It!

Boom Fragments

Bits of news from around the world

Adam Ruhf In Sports Illustrated

OK, so its not the Swimsuit Edition... but there's STILL a reason to check out SI for the week of March 3-9. Its 15-year-old Adam Ruhf, who, as the youngest member ever to make the U.S. Boomerang Team, garnered some BIG press.

The editor has yet to see the article, so anyone with a copy, please forward it quickly, so we can all take a look in next issue!

Ola Wahlberg Boomerangs Available Domestically

Over the Winter, Jim Jordan received a shipment of boomerangs from Ola Wahlberg to make available to competitors in the U.S. The sale went over well, and Ola has now sent additional 'rangs, some of which were grabbed up by an overflow of orders from the first shipment. Following is a list of what Jim has in stock. Jim also mentions that he can forward a request to Ola, or you can e-mail Ola yourself at mg11740@gaia.swipnet.se

3mm MEDIUM-V \$26 (2 in stock)

This is the little hummer that Mole Man used to score the 95 in Aussie Round. The wings are about equal in length. Weighting is necessary to make 50 meters.

4mm MEDIUM-V \$26 (6 in stock)

The dingle arm on these is about 3/4 inch longer than the throwing arm for added mechanical advantage in throwing. The angle between the throwing arm and the dingle arm is smaller. The extra thickness should produce a little more range.

4mm LARGE-V \$26 (0 in stock)

As you know, Ola's boomerangs are small in size. So, even Large is small by normal standards. However, if you don't use a pinch grip, the large-V will probably suite your style. The range is 45-48 meters.

4mm DeVe \$26 (0 in stock)

I obtained my first DeVe which was one of a kind that Ola sent to me last summer. I fell in love with it. It handled wind nicely, as the medium-V and large-V do. However, the DeVe also made 50 meters range without weighting it. The one I have will also make a complete return in no wind, so I'm looking forward to a chance to use it this tournament season.

1.75mm SNAKE MTA \$32 (6 in stock)

This is Ola's trademark MTA that you are familiar with. The throw is similar to throw-

ing a high Australian Round throw (with about 45 degrees of layover). These are best in moderate winds.

1.50mm SNAKE MTA \$32 (1 in stock)

This is a thinner and smaller (85%) version of the previously described SNAKE. Ola designed this for light to no wind conditions. This is the first I have seen these, so I have not had an opportunity to throw one. Ola said in his letter that the throw is more like a standard MTA throw, with a lot of vertical (no layover). Although smaller, the cost is the same since it takes the same amount of effort and craftsmanship.

If you want any of these, send Jim an e-mail and mail him a check made out to Ola Wahlberg. Remember to include \$3.60 for envelope/postage/ handling for the first boomerang and \$0.75 for each additional boomerang.

Ola guarantees his boomerangs and he would like to hear from you, so drop him a line about your experiences. He is planning on attending the Nationals at Virginia Beach so you may see him there.

Jim Jordan

11813 Silent Valley Lane
Gaithersburg, MD 20878
(301) 424-4562

JORDANJC@vit-ag2.ccmil.vitro.com

Douglas McArthur Boomerang "Will Return"

Here's another one of those "Why doesn't that ever happen to me?" stories.

According to the BAA bulletin, **General Douglas McArthur**, while staying in Australia after his Phillipine ousting by the Japanese during World War II, was presented with an Aboriginal returning boomerang on his 63rd birthday at Australian Headquarters on January 26, 1943. The 'rang was signed by each of the 26 Australian officers staying at the headquarters where the Allies planned the triumphant return to the Phillipines.

When the General left Australia, the boomerang was left behind and became the property of his Australian housekeeper, who later passed it along to her son. He eventually decided it was of little personal value and decided to liquidate it.

According to **Boomerang News**, Issue 22, about ten years ago, the son sought out at least one boomerang enthusiast, **Doug DuFresne**, to see if he wished to purchase it. Doug let **Ted Bailey** know about the find. But by the time Ted had attempted to acquire it, the son had offered it for bid at Downies auction house to maximize its value. Australian **Tony Butz** was the eventual high bidder for the 'rang, although the BAA did not mention how much he paid for it.

If there is a morale to the story, it

Winterfields

By Jim Goff

My Summerfields are calling me
"Hurry, hurry, sundown's soon!
Heaven-bright sunshine reflects
Across my Winterfields!"

Deep Snow, crisply topped
With a wash of sleet,
I pull out my Christmas Boom
from Stu,
A handsome sport omega, and let
it fly.

Gently it floats
Almost to my grasp,
Then skates merrily on its way
Across the ice... great exercise!

Thank you Summerfields
For your Winterfields

must be that it is better to buy every boomerang that comes along first and find out exactly what it is later!

Georgi's Composite Vector MTA Now Available

Also from Issue 22 of Boomerang News is word that Georgi Demanchev's new composite MTA, the "Vector" (see MHR 65) uses "turbulators," or small scratches on the wing's trailing edges to minimize rotational drag in flight.

Ted has received his first prototype of the Vector and reports that after just a few throws, he mastered the technique for throwing consistent 30+ second flights in calm, with several throws near or over 40 seconds!

To reserve your own Vector MTA at \$48, contact Georgi at the following address:

Georgi Dimantchev
Hipodruma 139A-A-23
1612 Sofia
Bulgaria

Second Coming Like... A Boomerang!

Dave Hendricks has been presenting talks on "Boomerang Theology" to Sunday Schools around his local stomping

More Boom Fragments on Pg 16...

BUILDER'S SQUARE

Distance Rang From The Web!

Michael Gray of MX Boomerangs in France is maintaining a fantastic web page with boom plans for every taste!

According to Michael, "The range you can achieve with this distance boomerang (right) is certainly over 100 m, in fact it's up to 120 m if you are able to throw it correctly." This is an 80% reproduction of the original size.

Material :
4 mm Paxolin or
GFK
Range :
up to 120
m
Weight :
140 g
in paxolin

To get to the web page, go to:
<http://boomplans.montesquieu.uu-bordeaux.fr/>

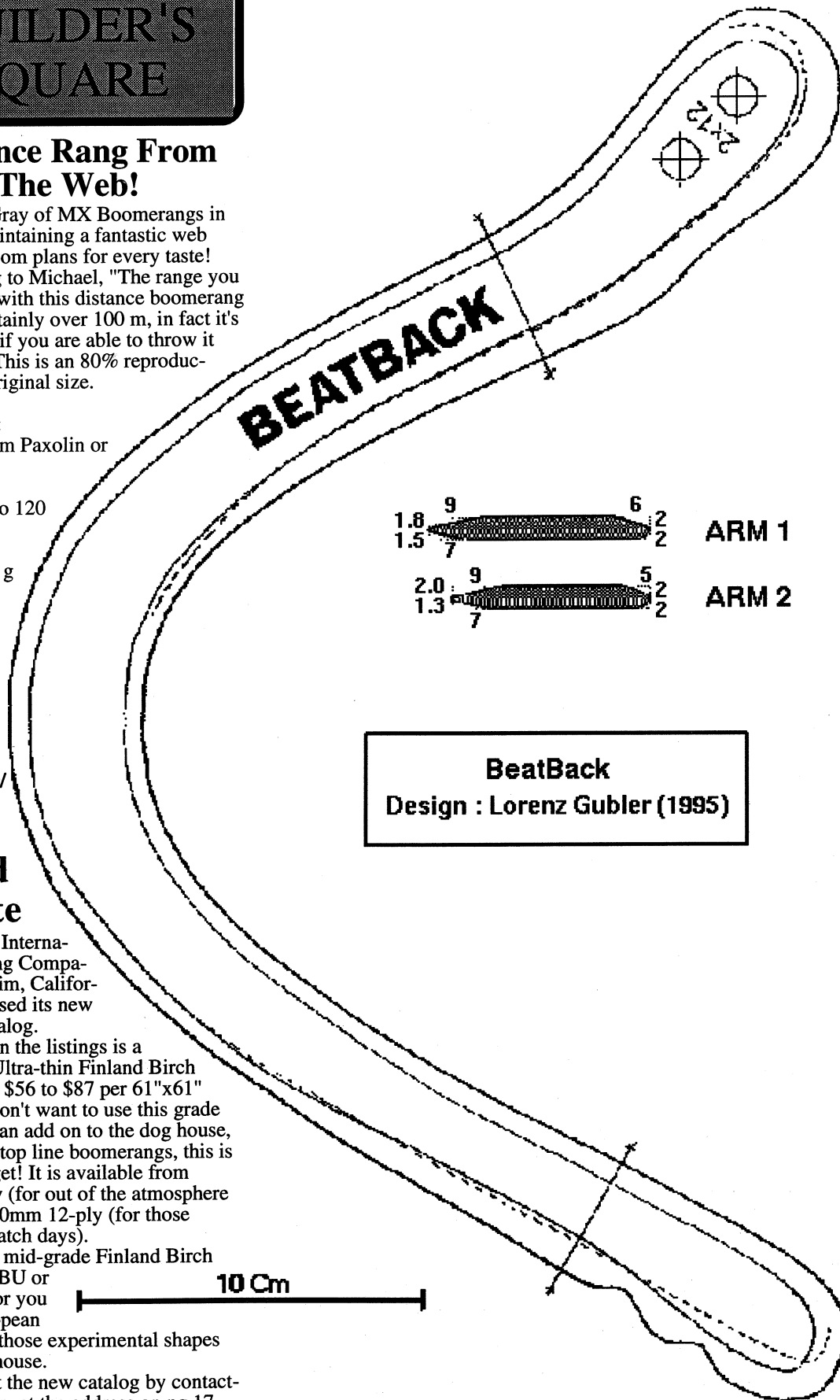
Ply-wood Update

Anderson International Trading Company of Anaheim, California has released its new plywood catalog.

Included in the listings is a high-grade Ultra-thin Finland Birch plywood. At \$56 to \$87 per 61"x61" sheet, you won't want to use this grade for building an add on to the dog house, but for your top line boomerangs, this is the stuff to get! It is available from 2.5mm 5-ply (for out of the atmosphere MTAs) to 6.0mm 12-ply (for those windy fast catch days).

There is a mid-grade Finland Birch available in BU or BB grades, or you can get European Birch in for those experimental shapes and the doghouse.

Check out the new catalog by contacting Anderson at the address on pg 17.



BeatBack
Design : Lorenz Gubler (1995)

Jim Miller On Boomerang Design Techniques

Jim Miller of Sandy, Utah runs the Wasatch Boomerang Club with about 20 members. In addition to regular flings, Jim also prints bumper stickers and T-shirts promoting the club and a local newsletter, informing members of events and keeping everyone up to date on the locals.

In his January newsletter, Jim offers advice to those wishing to design their own boomerang models.

"Boomerang designs vary as much as the people who design them. An infinite variety of shapes, angles and sizes can be incorporated into a boomerang design and almost any shape will fly," says Jim.

"The three stage design process is one graphic designers use in order to develop an idea into a finished product."

The process includes **thumbnail sketches, rough sketches, and final design.**

Making **thumbnail sketches** involves filling a paper with tiny boomerang sketches, or brainstorming with a pencil. Jim advises small, quick sketches without much detail or accuracy to slow down the creative process. "Try some crazy shapes," he encourages.

In the **rough sketch** stage, "Its time to choose, combine and refine." You can combine two or more aspects of the Thumbnails designs into one. You should "Draw larger, more accurate sketches and adjust shapes and angles through successive sketches until you get close to what you had in mind."

With the **final design**, you want to draw a full size pattern you can use as a template for your new shape. If your paper isn't big enough, tape a couple of pieces together. You can even draw directly on the wood you will be cutting. At this stage, you may want to use drafting tools such as a T-square, French curve, triangle, compass, ruler, or even a computer design program.

As Jim says, "There is great satisfaction in designing and crafting your own boomerang," and its even more fun to throw... unless it doesn't come back! (In that case, you just write "Ask The Experts" and let Norm or Gary figure it out!

For further information on the Wasatch Boomerang Club, or to receive Jim's newsletter, write:

Jim Miller
Wasatch Boomerang Club
1393 E. Galaxie Dr.
Sandy, UT 84093

Head to Head VS Traditional Tournaments

The buzzword on the boom fields is "Head To Head," as a result of a new tournament format being introduced by boomerang event promoters Gregg Snouffer and Aron McGuire. The new tournament style was featured at three venues last year and is slated for at least that many this season, including a Head to Head showdown scheduled during the U.S. Open in Va Beach! What does it all mean? Here's the scoop from Norm Kern, in a dramatic head to head comparison of Traditional Boom tournaments versus Head To Head.

What does Best really mean? - If you feel that one good MTA throw or one good fast catch round doesn't really prove enough, you will like Head to Head (H2H). To be the best in H2H you have to go through 5 elimination rounds. Each round is against someone who has made it to that round be beating people, so each round gets more difficult. To win an event you have to be consistently excellent. To win trick catch, you may have to make five foot catches, not just two.

Pressure - If you like pressure, you will like H2H. As noted above, each round gets more difficult. This is real time, so as you drop in fast catch, you can hear the count in your opponent's circle, and you know how much the drop put you in the hole. There is no second round in fast catch unless you win the first. In Aussie Round, you are both in the same 8 point circle throwing within a second of each other, and trying to get to your boomerangs at the same time. There is no long pause in the bull's eye waiting for the wind to drop. You throw when the judge tells you to. This was very hard to get used to.

Elapsed Time - If you like a fast pace, and shorter tournaments, you may like H2H. The Delaware H2H was com-

pleted in about 3 hours. Even when you are not throwing, the spectating is more fun because of the head to head drama.

Money - If you like cash prizes or off track betting, you will like H2H. A portion of the entry fees goes directly into cash prizes so you can treat the people you beat to pizza instead of lugging another lifeless trophy home or I guess you could buy your own trophy. The off track betting makes all those who bet interested in each and every round, no matter how mediocre some of us are.

Personal Bests - If you like to throw to compete against your best time, you will prefer traditional tournaments. The events are not run according to the traditional rules in H2H so you won't get 5 throws in Aussie Round, and if you are too slow you may not get to finish your fast catch round, and there might not be a watch on you anyway.

Endurance & Accuracy - If you like these events you will definitely prefer traditional tournaments. H2H does not include them, except for Accuracy as an overall tie breaker event (like doing penalty shots in soccer).

Encouragement - Unless you are recognized as one of the best, and everyone bets on you, you will prefer traditional tournaments. Even your friends will bet against you, so even they will be cheering for your opponents. You might even bet against yourself. What does that do to your incentive? In a traditional tournament for some reason people root for you even when you are about to beat them. You won't see that in H2H.

All in all, H2H seems to be a good extension to the sport. There is plenty of room for both formats. Having them back to back as they were in Delaware makes a trip more worthwhile, and makes the seeding extremely relevant and fair.

"We had 16 throwers at this last weekend's boom throwing session, the third event for our club. Some were first-timers, one just happened to be walking by, was fascinated, tossed a couple of throws, did very well, and said "I'm hooked!". He'll be back..."

-Steve Sanders
Sandia Boomerang Club
Albuquerque, NM

Attention Competitors!

Tournament directors across the country would like you to know that if you are planning to attend a tournament this season, you should notify the director in advance of your plans to participate. Concerns such as trophies, insurance fees, and USBA required minimums on numbers of participants must be considered by your tournament directors. Your notification of probable attendance, even just a few days before the event, may save valuable time and effort for your director, as well, of course, as YOU, who can then be notified of any last minute changes or cancellations, should they occur. Tournament Directors' phone numbers are listed below.

COMPETITION CALENDAR 1996

Mar 16: Phoenix, AZ: Southwest Shootout- USBA-rated event. Mark Weary hosts tune up to World Cup. Ph 602-759-3973

Mar 24-31: Christchurch, New Zealand: World Cup Championships- Earl Tutty; 17 Truscotts Rd.; Heathcote Valley; Christchurch 2; New Zealand. Ph (03) 3845 405

May 4: Oakland, CA: 12th Annual Team Gel California Championships- World Record Attempts and team events at Billy Martin Field. Call Gel at 510-658-2469, or Kim Galeazzi at 415-325-5487.

May - weekends : S.F. Bay Area : 2nd Annual Bay Area Team Championships- every weekend in May at Billy Martin Field in Bush Rod Park. Call Gel at 510-658-2469 or Kim at 415-325-5487.

May 18: Toss Across America- Host your own local toss. Contact Betsy Miale-Gix at 206-485-1672.

May 26: St Louis, MO: Gateway Classic- USBA Rated event. Contact Tom Fitzgerald at 314-839-1604.

June 22-23: VA Beach: The U.S. Open- USBA Rated event, as well as Hunting Stick demos, Head to head, team events, annual membership meeting, beach booming... **HEY, sounds like a party!** Contact John Koehler at 804-437-1085.

July 13 (14- rain date) : Salem, OR : 9th Western OR Boomerang Roundup- USBA rated. Call Dean Kelly at (503) 581-8050.

July 20: Champaign, IL: Second annual Champaign Boom Tourney- USBA rated event. Contact Tony Brazelton at (217) 352-6184

July 28 : Seattle, WA : West Seattle Open II- USBA rated event at Denny Middle School. Betsy Miale-Gix at 206-485-1672.

Aug 4: Cuyahoga Falls, OH: CVNRA Tourney- USBA rated event. Contact Dave Boehm at 216-289-6324

Aug 10: Delaware, OH: Free Thrower's Fling- USBA Rated event. Contact Chet Snouffer at 614-363-8332

Aug 11: Delaware, OH: 2nd Head To Head Shootout- \$20 Fee, Prize money. Contact Gregg Snouffer at 614-363-4414.

Aug 17: Minneapolis, MN: Moomba Boomba- USBA rated event. Call Stuart at 612-228-1393

Not Yet Scheduled :

June/July: Amhurst, MA- The Amhurst Open- USBA rated event. Contact Larry Ruhf (413) 323-4340.

June/July: Canton, OH- The Canton Clasic- USBA rated event. Contact Gary Broadbent (216) 492-RANG.

June/July: North Ridgeville, OH- John Gorski's Boom Bash- USBA rated event. Call John at (@16) 671-2305 (eve)

July: Ft Wayne, IN: Annual THUBA Tournament- USBA rated event: call Sean Marquardt at (219) 486-0503

July: Emmaus, PA: Barnaby's Boom Blowout- USBA rated event: Barnaby Ruhe (610)-967-3683

July: Jackson, MI: Just Plain Bud's Boom Blast- USBA rated event: call Bud Pell at 313-421-5341

July: Kimball Union, VT- USBA rated event. Call John Flynn at 802-296-2158.

Sept: Central CT: Keith Mullinar's 2nd Boom Bash- USBA rated. Call Keith at 203-986-3392

Sept: Portland, OR: Summer's Final Fling- USBA rated event. Call Doug DuFresne at 503-292-4316

Sept: Livonia, MI: 8th Annual Michigan Novice Team Tournament- non-rated. Call Norm Kern at 810-645-9308.

Oct: Phoenix, AZ: 4th Phoenix Open- USBA rated event. Call Mark Weary at 602-759-3973.

Boom Fragments, cont'd

grounds of Allentown, Pennsylvania.

By relating to the returning boomerang, he has been able to express his faith in Jesus to these groups. As Dave says, "An indoor boom thrown in church certainly gets their attention."

A New Boomerang Book

Kelly Boyer Sagert is a freelance jour-

nalist who has done work with the USBA before to promote boomerangs. She recently included a segment on boomerangs in an article on College activities in the Cincinnati, Ohio area.

She now writes to report a book deal she has signed for an August release and will be a hodge podge of all things boomerang. She'd appreciate a summary of your career/accomplishments, etc. along with any action photos, boomerang photos that you could share. She's also interested in the USBA history, any Internet info, etc.

Also of interest, "What are your boomerang nicknames? superstitions? quirks in throwing? funniest experiences? What about the poetry of boomerangs? the amazing ability to fly? Have you written any boomerang poetry, fiction or essays that you'd like to share for the book? What is your favorite boomerang saying?"

Please share any trivia you'd like, along with the more substantial information. Kelly also needs boomerang slang and traditions.

Western Oregon Roundup Slated

I'll be holding the 9th Western Oregon Boomerang Roundup in Salem on July 13th in Salem Oregon. Exact site to be announced later. The 13th is a Saturday so I will use the 14th as a rain date. The tournament will only be postponed under the most severe of conditions.

All events will be contested. A victory party, probably at my house, will follow.

My address has changed since last year so be sure and list it. Any questions can be directed to me at:

Dean Kelly
1938 Fieldcrest Ct S
Salem, OR 97306
(503) 581-8050
dean.a.kelly@state.or.us



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Head To Head Shootout Is ON! Register NOW!

DELAWARE, OH- The second annual Delaware Head to Head tournament is scheduled to be held Sunday, August 11 at Mingo Park in Delaware, Ohio.

Competitors are being solicited to join in the fun and excitement of real head to head action! Prizes and money for the winners of each of four events, as well as the overall will be awarded.

Television coverage and big name sponsors are being solicited for this incredible boomerang event.

Seedings are done Saturday night, based upon the event standings in the USBA tournament held Saturday, but head to head competitors are NOT required to participate in Saturday's USBA tournament. (These competitors will simply split the lowest seeds in Sunday's events.

Seeding charts will be available at dinner Saturday night. Pool betting will also be available for all spectators and participants.

Pre-registration is REQUIRED! There may be a cut-off based upon response, so please enter EARLY to assure your place in this historic event!

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The Delaware Shoot Out Head To Head Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Include \$20 registration fee.

(Money is fully refundable up to July 31 and 50% refundable until the evening before the event. No refunds on the day of the event.)

Send to:
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340 Troy Rd
Delaware, OH 43015

Final Word

BOOMERANG

"When a bit of sunshine hits ye,
After passing of a cloud,
When a fit of laughter gits ye,
An' yer spine is feelin' proud,
Don't fergit to up and fling it
At a soul that's feeling blue,
For the minute that ye sling it,
It's a boomerang to you!"

-John Wallace Crawford
American poet and frontier scout (1847).

(Submitted by Dave Hendricks)

Coming Up...Next Issue

* **There's Dust On My Reynold's Number!**... another 'How to make a boomerang' Article' (with apologies to Tibor) by Chris Ozolinds

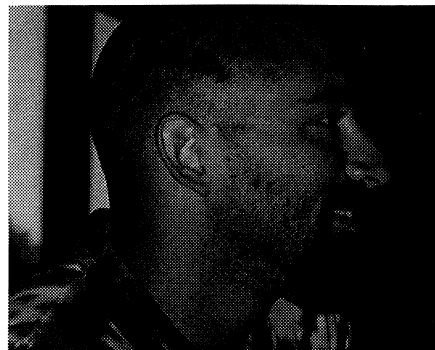
* Full wrap up on New Zealand's **World Cup With the Kiwis**

* Advice from Gary and Chet includes building Tri-Bladers, starting your own local club, and how to survive an avalanche while booming the Himalayas. (OK, that last part may be just a tease.)

Right: Moleman sports the trendy "Boom buzz" haircut at last year's U.S. Open in Minneapolis.

Your Assignment...

* Send in those letters, stories, boom plans, poems, advice, tips, quotes, photos, articles and USBA Board nominations! Don't put it off... **DO IT NOW!**



BOOMERANG CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS IN THE U.S.A.

- AZ, Phoenix :** Desert Southwest Boom Chuckers and UFO spotters- Mark Weary & Don Monroe; 4026 East Cholla Canyon Dr.; Phoenix, AZ 85044. Phone or telepath 602-759-3973.
- CA, Berkeley :** Bay Area Boomerang Club - Michael Girvin; 2124 Kittredge St. #61; Berkeley CA 94704. Ph (510)658-2469
- CT, Madison :** The Wandering Nutmeg Boomerang Society - Paul D. Sprague; 782 Boston Post Rd.; Madison CT 06443. Ph (203) 245-8211
- CT, Shelton :** Team Gel East - Mole Man; 21 Huntington Ave.; Shelton CT 06484. Ph (203) 736-6304
- FL, Merritt Island :** Flite Stix Boom Slings - Rich Surace; 855 E Crisafulli Rd.; Merritt Island FL. Ph (407) 452-3963
- FL, Orlando :** - Carl Morris; 2602 Breezewind Dr.; Orlando, FL 32839. Ph (407)859-1319
- GA, Atlanta :** Atlanta Boomerang Society - Brent Russell
- GA, Swainsboro :** South Georgia Boomerang Club - John Derden; 237 Thigpen Dr.; Swainsboro GA 30401. Ph (912) 237-7207
- IL, Urbana :** ILLINI Boomerang Club - Tony Brazelton; 2405 Lawndale Dr; Champaign IL 61821. Ph 217-352-6184
- IL, Waterloo :** Competition Update Newsletter: Bob Leifeld; P.O. Box 242; Waterloo, IL 62298. Ph (618) 282-6854: Monthly up date of competition results and USBA ratings statistics. Available throughout competition season for \$10.
- MA, Holliston :** Bay State Boomerang Society - Bob Quinn; 18 Northway St.; Holliston MA 01746. Ph (508) 429-6871
- MI, Ann Arbor :** Boomerang News: Ted Bailey; PO Box 6076; Ann Arbor MI. Ph (313) 971-2970: Newsletter of national and world events.
- MI, Birmingham :** Boomerangs Etc. - Norm Kern; 1640 Haynes; Birmingham MI 48009. Ph (313) 645-9308
- MI, Lansing :** Mid Michigan Boomslang club- Steve Collins; 4820 Hillcrest; Okemos MI 48864. Ph (517) 349-5234
- MN, Mnpls/St Paul :** B.O.O.M. (Boomerang Organization Of Minnesota)- Stuart Jones; 195 E. 5th St. Apt. 605; St Paul, MN 55101. Phone 612-228-1393.
- MO, Florissant :** St Louis Boomerang Club - Tom Fitzgerald; 1159 Holly River Dr.; Florissant MO 63031. Ph (314) 839-1684
- NM, Albuquerque:** Sandia Boomerang Club - Steve Sanders; 1411 Rio Grande NW; Albuquerque, NM 87104. Phone:(505) 768-0537
- OH, Canton :** Gary Broadbent's Boom Shop - Gary Broadbent; 3204 38th St. NW; Canton, OH 44718. Ph 216-492-7264
- OH, Delaware :** Free Throwers Boomerang Association - Chet Snouffer; 51 Troy Rd.; Delaware OH 43015. Ph (614) 363-8332
- OH, Delaware :** U.S. Head to Head Boomerang Tournament Organization - Gregg Snouffer; 340 Troy Rd.; Delaware OH 43015. Ph (614) 363-4414
- OH, Euclid :** Cleveland Boomerang School - Dave Boehm; PO Box 17385; Euclid OH 44117. Ph (216) 289-6324
- TX, Houston :** Boomerang Association of Texas - Greg Corum; 3233 Magnum Rd., Apt 184; Houston TX 77092. Ph 713-681-0837
- UT, Sandy :** Wasatch Boomerang Club - Jim Miller; 1393 E Galaxie Dr.; Sandy UT 84093. Ph (801) 562-2569

INTERNATIONAL CLUBS

- BULGARIA:** Bulgarian Boomerang Club- Georgi Dimanchev; Hipodruma 139A-A-23; 1612 Sofia; Bulgaria
- CANADA:** Club De Boomerang de Montreal- Stephane Marguerite; 4545 Pierre-de-Coubertin; C.P. 1000. Succ. M; HIV 3R2 Canada
- FRANCE:** Lille Boomerang Club- Max Froumentin; 144, rue Anatole France; 59790 Ronchin; France. Telephone : 20 52 24 00
- FINLAND:** Finnish Boomerang Society- Harri Pietlä; Röntämäenkatu 4 as. 18; 20300 Turku; Finland. Phone: +358-(9)21-2310578; email: hpietla@oj287.astro.utu.fi

CLUBS! If you're starting a club, or hosting a fling, send news of your activities to the USBA for inclusion in MHR!

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- \$6.00 "Boomerang": a book by Ben Ruhe
- \$8.00 "The Big Book About Boomerangs": a book by H. L. Mayhew (First edition and signed by the author.)
- \$4.00 "The Boomerang": an early pamphlet by B. Ruhe/L. Hawes
- \$2.00 'Low-Reynold-Number Airfoils article (*Scientific paper on airfoils*)
- \$2.00 Back Issues of MHR:

1985... #21, 23 (Winter, Summer)	1992...#52 (Fall)
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	1996... #65, 66

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- Aboriginal Steve's Boomerangs** (Steve Conaway) 121 Oakdale Ln., Fillmore CA 93015 ph (805) 524-2913: FREE info, 14 models for comp and fun, omegas, tri-bladers, hooks...
- Air Traffic Kites and Games (Matt Hedberg & Lamont Sandifer)** 518 Rosedale Cen.; Roseville, MN 55113; Ph (612) 631-3150: Retailers of Colorado, Flight Stix, Gel, Outback Booms..., In the Mall of America, ph (612) 858-9599
- Boomerangs By Ted Bailey:** P.O. Box 6076, Ann Arbor MI 48106 Ph (313) 971-2970: Competition B's, MTA's, miniature B's, books, newsletters, collector of Aboriginal artifacts, publisher of Boomerang News.
- The Boomerang Man:** (Rich Harrison) 1806 N 3rd St., Monroe, LA 71201 Ph (318) 325-8157: FREE "one stop, something for everyone" catalog, Fax/mail orders. VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVERY accepted. Been doing this 20+ years, would you believe!
- Broadbent Boomerangs:** (Gary Broadbent) 3204 38th St NW, Canton, OH 44718 Ph (216) 492-RANG (7264): FREE pricelist, beginner to comp booms, demos, lesson plans and supplies.
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- Gemz** (Tony Gembeck) P.O. Box 5241, Portland OR 97208 ph (503) 230-8955: variety of wood Bs and comp clothing.
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- Rangsmith** (TW Smith) P.O. Box 11332, Eugene OR 97440 Ph (503) 465-9461: FREE Catalog! full spectrum, + distance, FC and MTAs and art
- Roundtrip Boomerangs:** (Gregg Snouffer / Rick Tilford) 340 Troy Rd., Delaware OH 43015 Ph or Fax (614) 363-4414: Wholesale abd retail! FREE price list, indoor/backyard booms and beginner to comp. booms, MTAs, T shirts, etc... online catalog: 75574.2346@compuserve.com
- Ruhf Boomerangs** (Peter Ruhf) 6550 Meeting House Rd., New Hope PA 18938 ph (215) 863-3479: comp and beginner Bs, and **Lefties**
- Stix By Steve** (Stece Collins) 4820 Hillcrest, Okemos MI 48864 Ph (517) 349-5234: FREE price list, beginner to comp. (FC, TC, AR, etc), also exotic shapes and art.
- Stone Mountain Boomerangs** (Dan Jones) 222 N Main, Statesboro GA 30458 ph (912) 489-3640: Multi-ply Birch and natural elbows
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- Windsports :** (Jim Mayfield) 409 North Colorado, Gunnison, CO 81230 Ph (303) 641-3539: FREE catalog, all kinds of performance Bs

Attention Manufacturers: Any USBA member who manufactures or distributes boomerangs or related items can be listed... even if you're new or small time! For your FREE listing, send a description to: **Manufacturer's Listings, c/o USBA, PO Box 182, Delaware OH 43015** or Phone or Fax to (614) 363-4414.



**UNITED STATES BOOMERANG ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 182
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U.S.A.**