

Many Happy Returns

Newsletter of the United States Boomerang Association

Issue 74 Fall 1998



In This Issue:

WBC Photo Contest Winners

page 7

MTAs: How to Tune 'Em, Where to Throw 'Em, How They Work

page 3

Election Results

page 6

Reports and Boxscores from Nine Tournaments

page 14

Adam Ruhf's unmatched MTA wind-up.
Photo taken by Janet Marie Fulrath at the
1998 World Boomerang Championship.



EDITOR
Tony Brazelton

CONTRIBUTIONS

Many Happy Returns thrives on contributions from its subscribers. Please share your experiences with your fellow boomerang enthusiasts.

Payment for articles published is US\$0.02 per word after editing. Payment for images (photographs, original artwork, etc.) published is US\$0.05 per square pixel after resizing and cropping.

All contributions may be submitted by e-mail to usba-pr@usba.org

or by fax (no images by fax) to
(217) 244-8371 attn: Tony Brazelton

or by mail to
**USBA Newsletter
2405 Lawndale Drive
Champaign IL 61821**

Deadlines for contributions and advertisements are published inside the back cover of every issue of MHR. Contributions will not be returned unless requested. Contributions will be considered donations unless payment is specifically requested.

ADVERTISING

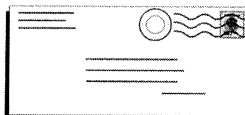
The basic advertising rate is \$2 per square inch. The width of the ad must be 2.4 inches (1/3 page width), 3.75 inches (1/2 page width), 4.95 inches (2/3 page) or 7.5 inches (full page width). Ads may be any vertical length.

- Special rates per issue include:
- ✓ Full page \$100 (savings of \$51.50 per issue)
 - ✓ Half page \$60 (savings of \$15.75 per issue)
 - ✓ 10% discount for four consecutive issues

All advertisements must be pre-paid in USD by check or MO to USBA. The editor reserves the right to refuse any advertisement or cancel a contract without notice. The deadlines for all advertisements are published inside the back cover of every issue.

Advertisements may be submitted in any electronic format, including: Pagemaker, Quark, and Illustrator. Scan-ready hard copies are also acceptable. To make your job a little easier, we offer FREE layout and graphic design services for your advertisement. All you need to send is the text and a rough sketch of any graphics you want and WE LL DO THE REST!

Contact Tony Brazelton for more information:
**USBA Newsletter
2405 Lawndale Drive
Champaign IL 61821
(217) 352-6184
(217) 244-8371 (fax)
usba-pr@usba.org**



Letters

Thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to be a member of the USBA. I look forward to seeing the newest issues of MHR and meeting other boomers and competing in your events.

I started out throwing booms this past December, with one of Greg Orlando's traditional-shaped booms, and then quickly called him and sent away for one of his omega-shaped booms. They fly fairly well, although they are right-handed and I am left. I've since received one of Kendall Davis' Turbines, which he gave me. A true left-handed boom.

Wow! This is a great sport. Everyone seems to be real cool and lacking in attitudes. Thanks again!

*George Willis
Burbank, California*

Boomerangs helped to make me well. In 1988 I rode a bicycle from southern New Mexico to Seattle, Washington. I didn't have any money to do the ride so I lived off my boomerang hobby. I rode town to town selling rangs and teaching people how to throw them.

*Paul Milner
Seattle, Washington*

I was in Philadelphia for the (Rosh Hashanah) holidays and since the weather was wonderful I started coaxing (as always) my relatives to go out throwing. My brother had come in from New York, and we both try to throw whenever we can get together. Some years ago, I had gotten some of my cousins, Abby Zach and Max out on the field throwing Peter Ruhf's hooks and omegas.

I hadn't thrown with them in ages and was looking forward to seeing how they've progressed. Zach and Max were up for it, and we were joined by Abby's friend Ari. We were soon joined by more cousins, Nomi &

Alister, who had never thrown before.

I was amazed to see how much Zach and Max had progressed, both were putting tons of power into their throws, with the rangs returning high over their heads. Clearly, a time for more advanced rangs. I got Max started on my phenolic *Sunshine*, and Zach was having fun with my brother's Behrens Windeater. Then it was Nomi and Alister's turns. Nomi was trying out my "R" shaped rang made by Mike Forrester (wonderful hovers) which I bought for my mom, Rochelle. Alister (who has power to spare) was soaring a Colorado *Delicate Arch* to the heavens like he'd been throwing all his life.

We were then joined by Ivan (yet another cousin) and his 3 kids, Jennifer, Daniel and Adam, who all patiently took turns with the "R" and other easy-throw booms. Ivan, on the other hand, was getting the hang of Pete's omega. Next to arrive, were Joannie (Zach's mom), Abby (Zach's sister, remember) and Phil (their grandfather). Keeping count? We couldn't. Finally my Mom pulls up, and performs the highlight of the day, her first 2 catches ever using the super-hovering "R". The fun continued with my brother's mini-long distance demonstrations — a Herb Smith *Veebo* going the length of the field and back, and then just going the length of the field (followed by walking) when the wind died unexpectedly. Finally, I got my cousin Zach throwing fast catch and after about an hour of solid throwing (it must be good to be young and full of energy) he was getting respectable flights with my Frost *Ice Runner*. I've convinced Zach to train in the off-season and we hopefully will coax him up to some competitions come spring. All-in-all, a fabulous First Annual Rosh Hashanah Boom-a-thon.

*Bruce Rosen
Chevy Chase, Maryland*

Here is the \$10,000 picture for the USBA contest. Sure I'm gonna win with this picture. I am sorry Tom, but it's the only



way all Europeans and non-Americans throwers have seen you during this expensive week.

This picture is without knack or trick. I had time to see Tom counting, to go to my bag, to take my camera and to take the picture. I know it's not politically correct but it is the reality.

I hope to see my picture in Fall issue #74.

*Michel Dufayard
Charlesvilles-Mezieres, France*

Editor's note: I did not include this picture with the other WBC Photo Contest entries because I felt it would have detracted from the positive-spirited intent of the layout. Good spirits and good will are words which I believe accurately describe the general atmosphere of the WBC itself.

However, my experience at the WBC tells me that Michel's letter and photo represent the opinion of a significant number of USBA members and members of the world boomerang community at large. I hope that Tom Fitzgerald will consider writing a rebuttal for the Winter issue of MHR.

*Tony Brazelton
MHR Editor*



Frank leaped up and caught the boomerang

The 1970 Hardy Boys book *The Bombay Boomerang* features this picture of a stylin' one-handed grab by Frank Hardy.

Frank and Joe Hardy's friend Chet Morton has taken up the hobby of boomerangs and tries to teach the Hardys how to throw. Chet actually has a good grasp of the technical reasons of how a boomerang works, but when Joe gives it a try it almost takes out one of Chet's lamp posts. Frank saves the day with a one-handed catch. The mystery does not really involve a boomerang but at the end the villain's jet is taking off and the Hardys and Chet throw their boomerangs into the path of the jet in a final attempt to foil the crooks. The boomerangs are sucked into the engine air intake, the plane cannot take off, and the police and FBI move in. Another Hardy Boys mystery solved!

Submitted by John Flynn.

Quarterly Quote

Oh great! I can just picture it now the first video made from a boomerang! Let's just think about this a little before we jump on this one. Here's how I picture it. First we get a close up view of the thrower's ear as he prepares to throw. Then, as he throws, there is a big blur followed by a longer scene of the thrower looking at the boomerang as it circles him. The problem is the thrower and background are spinning so fast that you can't tell who it is and you wonder how long you can watch this without falling over or throwing up. Just when you think you can't take any more the boomerang starts to lay over and you get a beautiful shot of the blue sky with white clouds spinning around so fast that you close your eyes in an effort to get back some resemblance of stability. When you open your eyes you see a giant hand come out of the spinning clouds and stop all that awful spinning. You are thankful that the worst is over and then you get a close up view of the thrower's crotch as he completes a tunnel catch.

- Bill Schuh, trying to be the voice of reason on the RangList by nipping in the bud a ridiculous thread on fixing video cameras to boomerangs.

MHR MTA Clinic

How to Tune a Snake

by Jim Jordan

In regard to tuning Snakes, I suggest more radical tuning than for other MTAs. All of Ola's boomerangs are hand carved, so there will be variations in how they perform. For this reason, your "problem" Snake may appear to have the same tune as the others, but it performs differently because there are other variations such as different airfoils or a different chord. Inspect them closely and you may see differences in the airfoils. These differences may be equalized by using a different tune.

MTAs in general present the greatest tuning challenge of all different types of boomerangs. What is good for one may not be good for another of the exact same make/model. You must first identify a specific problem with the flight and then make the appropriate tune change to correct it. It would seem that there are only a few things you can do to tune an MTA, but the art is in finding the correct balance to achieve the desired result for stable flight. Too much or too little of a particular adjustment will not

give you the result you need. But you should see improvements in the flight if you are headed in the right direction.

If your snake has too much range, it probably should be tuned to turn sooner. This can be accomplished by adding more positive angle of attack on the throwing arm. Don't be bashful, just don't try to do it all at once or too quickly. The paxolin can take a fair amount of bending. However, it will break without warning when you try to bend it like you are folding a piece of paper. Since the Snake's throwing arm is swept forward, a positive dihedral change at the tip will effectively be adding positive angle of attack. Twisting the wing a little further down towards the elbow (Snakes have elbows?) will also lift the tip. Some of my Snakes need more radical tunes than others (e.g. lots of dihedral vs almost flat). You have to experiment to determine how much each one needs.

The Snakes have been previously tuned by Ola for test flights. However, as with most

- How to Tune a Snake** p. 3
by Jim Jordan
- The Effects of Technique on Stability** p. 4
by Ted Bailey
- The Effects of Aerodynamics on Stability** p. 4
by Ted Bailey
- How to Find a Thermal** p. 5
by Jim Nieberding

MTAs the Snake can get out of tune in transport or on a bad landing. So, how do you know if it is in tune when you get it? The answer first begins with knowing how to throw it. You should start by throwing it with less power at first, to see if you can set it up in a hover on an easy throw. The throw should be approximately 30 degrees to the right of the wind, 60-70 degrees off horizontal and with a lot more layover than most wood MTAs. It is kind of a high Aussie Round style of throw. The more spin the better. You will be amazed at how easy it is to get a Snake high in the air, but an untuned Snake won't stay up long. If it goes into a sweet hover you have a tuned Snake which probably won't go out of tune until you are throwing in a tournament, where you won't have time to figure out what to do about it. That's my luck anyway.

Not hovering enough? Now's the fun part. In general, you want to keep the elbow of the Snake flat, so firmly grip the wing between your thumb and index finger while tuning the wing tip end to keep from twisting the central elbow area. Small adjustments can produce significant changes in flight, so keep your adjustments small. If the Snake is placed on a flat surface (a table) you should generally see that both wings are bent up slightly (dihedral). Sometimes, only lifting up the very tip of the throwing arm/and or dingle arm (more dihedral) will produce the desired result.

In general, the throwing arm may need some positive angle of attack which can be achieved by either twisting the last section of the wing or lifting it from the tip to the elbow since this wing is swept forward on a Snake (or a combination of both). Again, make small adjustments. As with wood MTAs, the Snake may fly better with some negative angle of attack on the dingle arm.

Troubleshooting: This requires careful observation to determine what the Snake is doing wrong on the throw. Again, you start with was the Snake thrown correctly in the first place? A perfect tune doesn't have a chance if the Snake is thrown incorrectly. If you think you have the throw down, what is it doing wrong? Climbing too much/stalling and dropping dangerously to the ground? Perhaps there is too much angle of attack on the throwing arm or you gave it too much layover on the throw.

Experience is the best teacher.

The Effects of Technique on Stability

by Ted Bailey

Q: Whenever I try to power up my MTA in an attempt at a good flight, it crashes, or just plain never gets stable. It either snakes out quickly or does a series of descending (large) pendulum-like swings, losing maybe 10-20 feet of altitude on each successive swing. What am I doing wrong?

A: One of the worst things a MTA thrower can do is try to put full power into a MTA. When I used to compete, I would do great in warm ups and then bomb out in the event. It took awhile to figure out that a 100% power throw can be disastrous. You cannot control your wrist with full power. With full power, most throwers release late with your wrist lower positioned lower than your head during the release. When the MTA is released with your wrist lower than your head, there is a tendency for your wrist to twist and lay over the MTA. You can correct this some by making sure that your hand is held higher than your head at the moment of release. Most (Bailey-style) MTAs cannot tolerate even the slightest amount of layover.

My recommendations- back off on power. Add spin. Make sure your wrist is as high as you can hold it when you release your MTA. If this doesn't work, make sure your MTA is properly tuned.

The rewards of good technique.



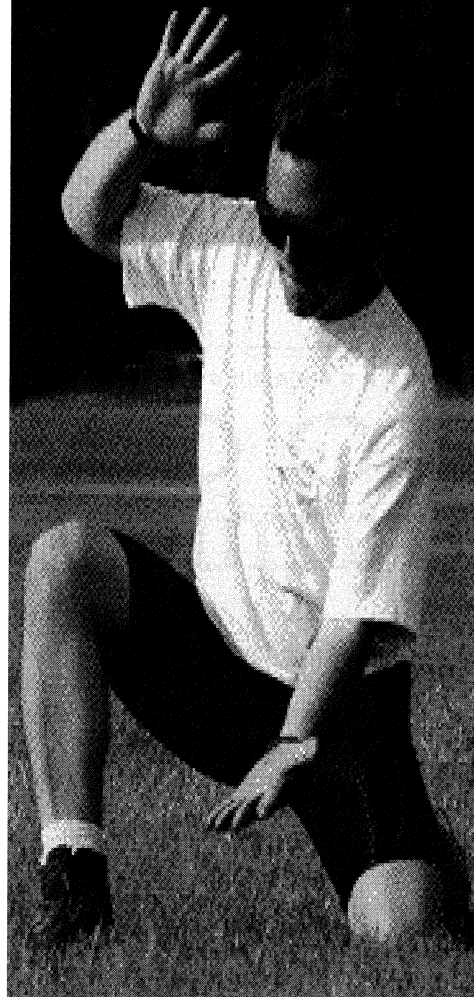
TECHNICAL TIDBITS

The Effects of Aerodynamics on Stability

by Ted Bailey

One of the tricks I use on my MTAs to make them more stable is to keep the upper surface smooth and the underside rough. My theory behind this is that the air on the upper surface has to flow a longer distance than the lower surface. Therefore, when the air exits on the trailing edge, the boundary layer on the upper surface is thicker than the lower surface. This causes vortices to form and this vortex shedding results in instability. When you leave the lower surface rougher, the boundary layer is thicker and less vortex shedding occurs because the air exits on both surfaces with more similar boundary layer thicknesses. I don't have any wind tunnel testing to back this theory up, but it sure works. Also, I leave the tips and elbow rough on the upper surface to induce turbulence at these locations where stability is most likely to be a problem. Adding turbulence here stops the formation of unstable recirculation bubbles.

An example of how too much aerodynamics can cause instability



BOOMFIELD METEOROLOGIST

How to Find a Thermal

by Jim Nieberding

This may surprise you, but a hot day does not necessarily translate into a good MTA day. Winter is a great time to go for MTA records because the air temperature differentials are much higher in some places. If you don't believe me, go out this February (if it's cold where you live) on a sunny day and throw your MTA over a black parking lot- it's better if the lot's full of cars. Don't worry about hitting one, the rang will

never come down. Differentials in air temperature is what the MTA thrower is looking for. That's where the thermals pop up. Sailplane pilots know how to read the air and look for updrafts.

Another great time to throw is the evening following a really hot day. The air in the sky cools down quickly, but parts of the ground are still hot and cause oodles of thermals. Watch the skies for flat-bottomed

cumulus clouds (those are the fluffy ones). A flat bottomed cloud is caused by an updraft pushing water vapor above the freeze line. While this doesn't do a heck of a lot of good for earthbound MTA rangers, sometimes you can trace the updraft to something on the surface (like a parking lot full of hot cars or a bridge baking in the sun over a cool creek), and align your throw accordingly.

More practical is to look for circling raptors (hawks and eagles and, if you're near the ocean, gulls and frigates). They will often find columns of rising air and circle lazily, gaining altitude without expending the energy of a single wingbeat. Scientists believe that oceangoing frigate birds actually sleep on these columns while flying. At Chet's Delaware, Ohio tournament in 1997 there was a cluster of red tailed hawks cir-

(continued on page 19)

1998-1999 USBA Board Election Results

Below are the results of the 98-99 USBA Board election. Winners are in bold.

Congratulations to the newly elected USBA Board.

Number of ballots received: **43**

Number of ballots mailed: **273** (quorum is 10% of membership)

President
John Flynn 42 votes

Vice President
Fred Malmberg 40 votes

Treasurer
Tony Brazelton 42 votes

Secretary
Betsylew Miale-Gix 37 votes

Directors At Large
Mike Dickson 38 votes
Larry Ruhf 38 votes
Chet Snouffer 36 votes
Eric Darnell 32 votes
Keith Mullinar 27 votes
Gregg Snouffer 20 votes
John Weigel 17 votes



BOOM fragments

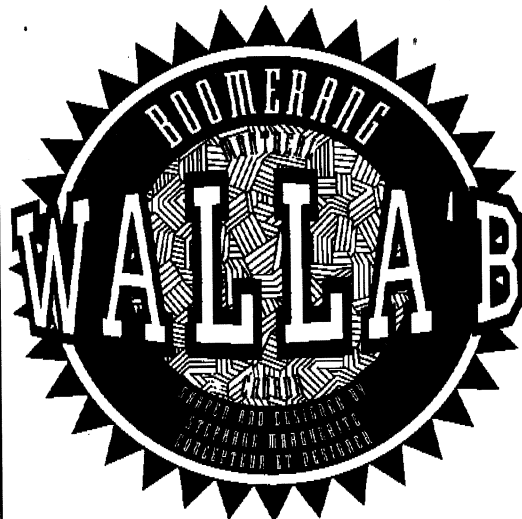
Yves Caze is the new Endurance world record holder with 80 catches. This was just after Yannick Charles held the world record for a few minutes with 77 in the Dijon, France tournament on October 4. Sources say that the winds were calm, which argues against the conventional wisdom which says that speed records require some wind to push the booms back faster.

Steve Conaway's Aboriginal Steve's Boomerangs and the Southern California Boomerang Alliance have moved. The new address for both is 169 Cook Dr. Fillmore CA 93015.

One mistake was found in the hundreds of pages of World Cup scoresheets that affected the final standings. USA Red should have received an additional 10 points in Tuesday's Relay (they got 7 points instead of 17). That 10 points put them in a TIE FOR FOURTH PLACE with Swiss Skandal I in the final standings.

Ozgur Kasdarma is trying to establish a boomerang organization in Turkey. Anyone who can help jumpstart the Turkish boom movement with catalogs, literature, boomerangs, etc. should contact Ozgur at ozgur@sekom.com.tr.

The World Ranking List has been updated. Check out the latest version including about 40 tournaments from
(continued on page 19)

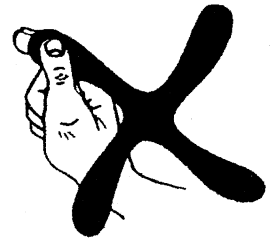


For 15,000 Years
"The Multiwing Company"

STEPHANE
MARGUERITE
is proud to announce that
Walla'B is now one of the
North American retailers
of the European
boomerang
company
FOX BOOMERANGS.



GET THE NEW SKYBLADER
by Fox Boomerangs
In polypropylene for only US\$10.
Shipping to USA included.



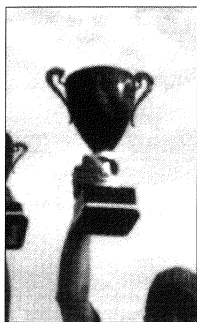
SEE THE NEW CARBON FIBER/FIBERGLASS TRIBLADER DESIGNED BY STEPHANE MARGUERITE
AT OUR WEBSITE AT

WWW.FQJR.QC.CA/BOOM

CALL, WRITE OR E-MAIL FOR YOUR
FREE WALLA'B CATALOG

WALLA'B
4016 DORION
MONTREAL, QUEBEC H2K 4B9
CANADA

PHONE/FAX (514) 597-1333
E-MAIL BOOMRANG@FQJR.QC.CA



WBC Photo Contest Winners

1998 WORLD BOOMERANG CHAMPIONSHIPS PHOTO CONTEST

FIRST PLACE



First Place

Everyone knows Adam Ruhf gets mammoth height out of his MTAs. This is why.

Photo by Janet Marie Fulrath of Oakland, California.



Honorable Mention

The next generation takes her first innocent throw.

Photo by Heikki Niskanen of Kuopio, Finland.

1998 WORLD BOOMERANG CHAMPIONSHIPS PHOTO CONTEST HONORABLE MENTION

Honorable Mention

Representatives from each team wait nervously as the final standings for the Team Cup are inked in.

Photo by Stuart Jones of St. Paul, Minnesota.





World Champions: Germany's Young Guns

Left to Right: Team Manager, Guenter Moeller, Torsten Friedrich, Fridolin Frost, Gerrit Lemkau, Oli Thienhaus, Harald Steck

World's Best Individual Players

World Champion Fridolin Frost (middle),
2nd Place Adam Ruhf (right),
3rd Place John Flynn (left).

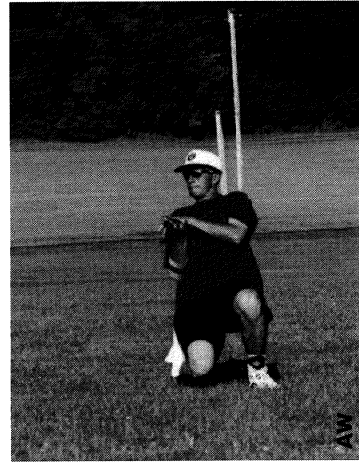


Key to Photographer's Initials

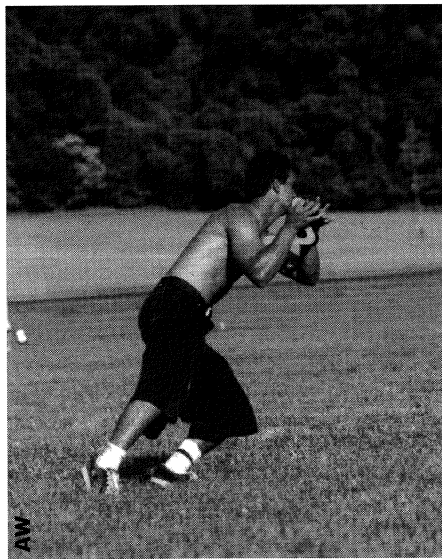
- AW** Alan Winterowd
- BR** Bob Rudy
- JMF** Janet Marie Fulrath
- SJ** Stuart Jones



USA Team United Blue



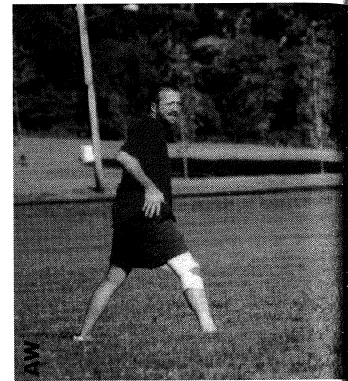
Julien Kerjan (FRA)



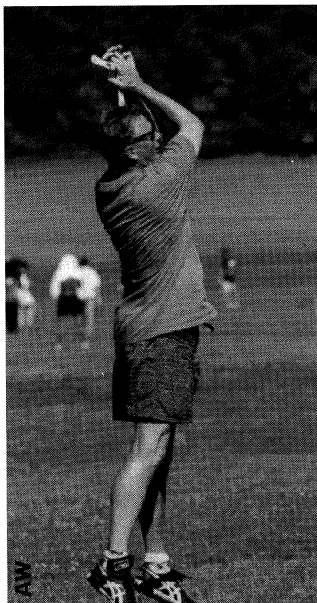
Paolo Serbelloni (ITA)



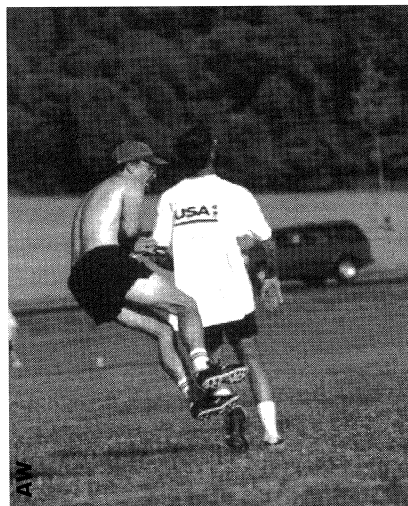
Yves Caze (FRA)



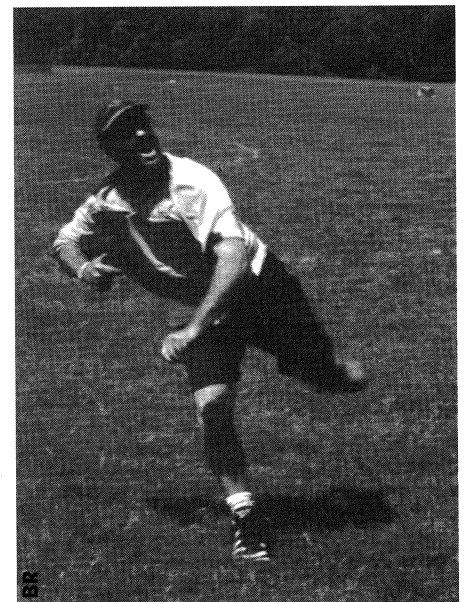
Axel Heckner (GER) and Thomas Szartow



Ola Wahlberg (SWE)



John Flynn and Mark Weary



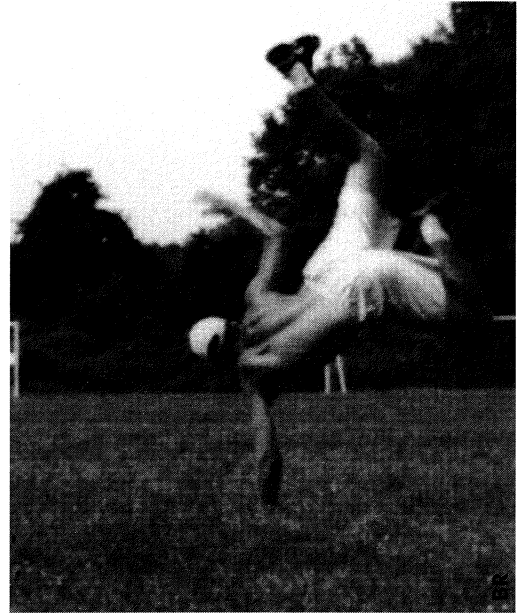
Roger Perry (AUS)



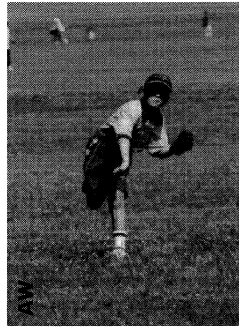
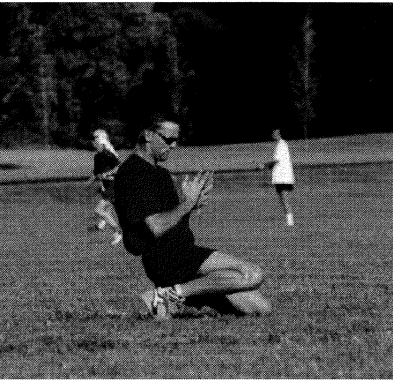
Yasuhiro Togai (JPN)



Thomas Stehrenberger (SUI)



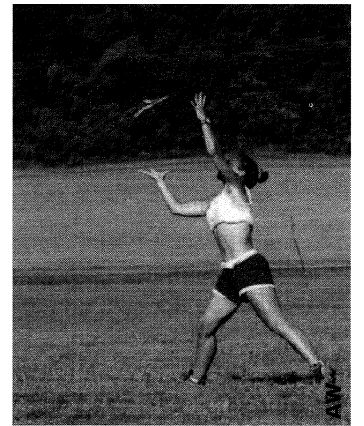
Oli Thienhaus (GER)



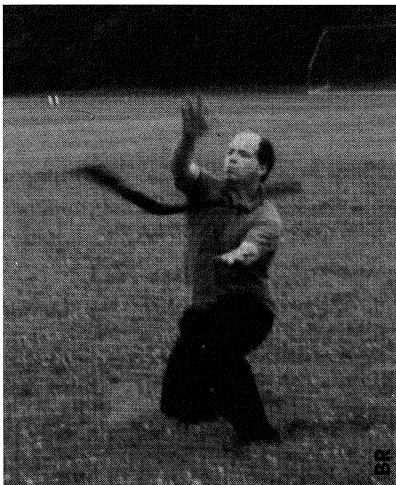
Craig Carter (AUS)



Thomas Stehrenberger (SUI)



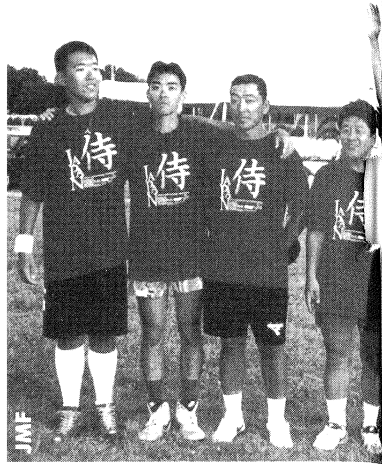
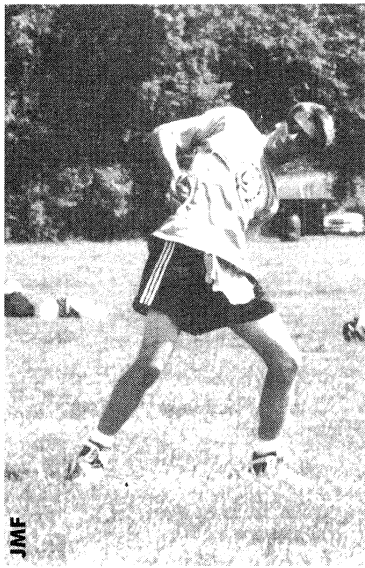
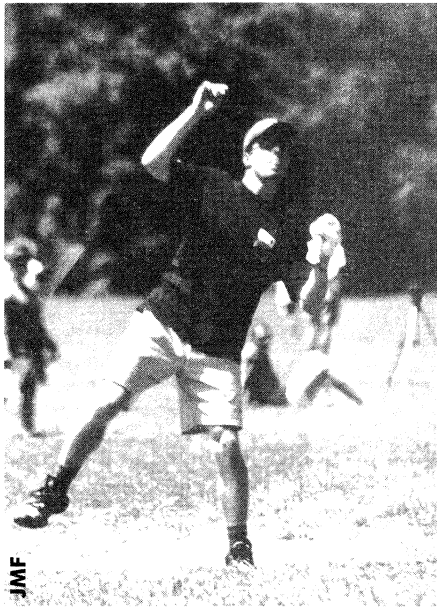
Frederique Richard (FRA)



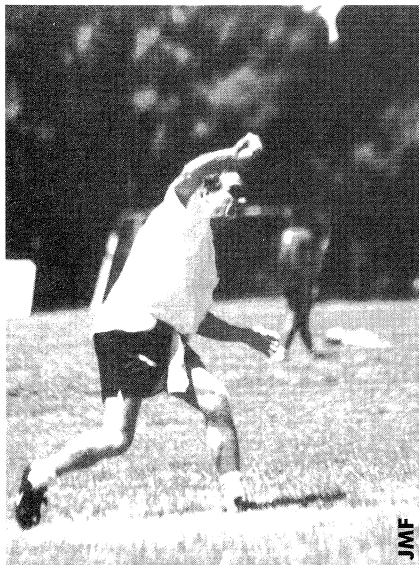
Ulf Valentin (DEN)

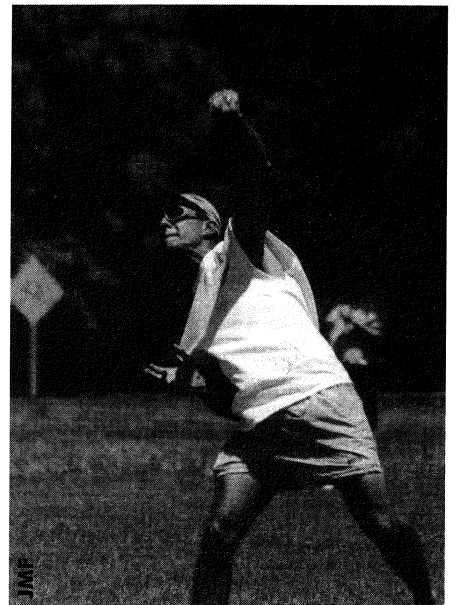
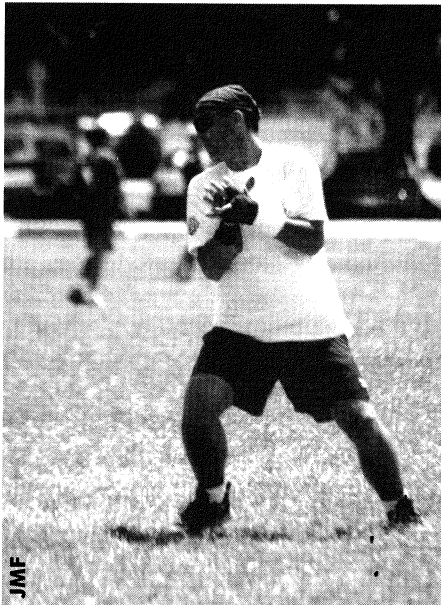
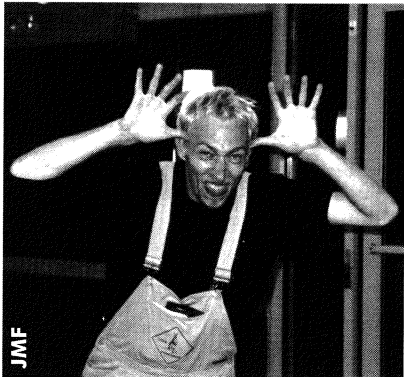


Brian Thomas (AUS) and Michael Girvin



Left to Right:
 Fridolin Frost (GER)
 Bob Leifeld
 Will Gix
 Team Japan
 Loofy Boiteux (FRA)
 Tony Brazelton
 Rob Parkins





Left to Right:
 Fridolin Frost (GER)
 Dennis Joyce
 John Flynn
 Martin Wikstrom (SKAN)
 Thomas Stehrenberger (SUI)
 Final Standings
 John Koehler
 Michael Girvin



onships DAY 3

Rank	Name	Points	Final Rank	Country
10	1635	11	USA I	
18	430	18	Aus. II	
16	685	16	Canada	
6	2155	6	France I	
9	175.5	9	France II	
12	143.0	12	France	
1	2635	1	Ger. I	
2	2455	2	Ger. II	
11	164.0	11	Sw. III	
15	69.5	15	Italy	
7	1945	7	Japan	
3	108.5	3	Scotl.	
4	2300	4	Swiss I	
14	105.0	14	Swiss II	
5	220.0	5	USA I	
8	2450	8	USA II	
13	117.0	13	USA III	
17	56.5	17	Women	



TOURNAMENT REPORTS

USBA RATED

11th Annual Western Oregon Boomerang Roundup

Salem, Oregon
July 19, 1998

Attendance was quite a let down from last year. Last year my tournament was one of the required 3 for all world cup team contenders. I had 30 or 35 throwers, which is an incredible turnout for a west coast tournament. This year, due to the Santa Barbara tournament and their long distance competition, as well as Gel's retirement, we were barely able to scrape together enough throwers for a legal tournament.

Still, everybody had a great time and a bunch of us retired to Pietro's for pizza afterwards.

It got a tad gusty. A look at the scoresheet for the 2nd round of FC shows that only one person completed 5 catches!

Highlights of the tournament included a very respectable showing in the new Trick/Doubling event by Will Gix, scoring 62 points.

High order strategy was shown in the Australian Round by Dean Kelly (me!) in skipping all those distance points and throwing a 20 meter slotted tri-blader under nasty wind conditions to take 3rd place with a score of 45 while most of the 50 meter rangs were being blown into the 'no-accuracy' zone.

First time MTA thrower Tim Mathison posted a very respectable 31.76 second throw under tricky conditions to take 5th place in MTA.

Will & Betsy made for an awesome duo taking 9 top 3 finishes in the individual events and 1st and 4th respectively in the overall.

And lets not forget the biggest benefit of a small tournament- we were done with awards and off the field by 5pm! On that I

have to give a lot of credit to Diane DuFresne who was head judge and chief statistical compiler.

All together a lot of fun. We're all looking forward to the next northwest tournament, Summer's Final Fling in Portland, this year under new management by Tim Shallberger. And we all look forward to the 12th installment of the Western Oregon Boomerang Roundup next year.

Dean Kelly

4th Annual Community Park Under the Lights Tournament

Emmaus, Pennsylvania
August 29-30, 1998

Two tournaments: August 29, 3-11 pm; August 30, 9 am - 3 pm.

The first tourney started early afternoon. To kick it off, Fred Malmberg hoisted a mountain of an MTA for 35.66 for 3rd place. Dan Clason-Hook with an enormous effort edged the good doctor with a 36.66 and seemed to hold the day. But Scott Barrett begged a Jonas off of Ruhedog for his last toss, getting three tips on how to switch from a Paxolin Ola Wahlberg Snake including "don't throw it too hard" and the good student popped a 37.08.

Mike Forrester was typical in Aussie Round, winning with a 71 in tight quarters and taking an early lead on the day. Larry Ruhf's 69 held second and proved his intensity. Bart Flynn's 18 points was fantastic.

The weird Doctor Ruhe proved out his theory that Accuracy need not be our Achilles Heel in team cup if certain fundamentals are addressed, with a wining 43. Larry Ruhf's second and Forrester's third kept Mike in the lead and Larry no joke on the day.

Flynn's 69 in Endurance, with some drops, would auger will for his crusher in New Hampshire. Adam (67) and Barrett (62) shadowed him. Ruhedog (60) anchored the 60s squad with no drops, in an attempt to nip the Darnoulli.

Adam was pathetic with a mere 14.90 in

Fast Catch under the lights. No one actually saw the boomerang but several on the line felt a strange buzzing in their ears. Mole's 19.02 was distant thunder and good for 2nd. Kavanaugh's 19.44 was more of an eye-opener for me. Scott began his big move on the day with a 20.18.

A stunning upset in Trick Catch, with Larry Ruhf's 81 distinguished by only easy ones dropped... and he said it wasn't his game. Kavanaugh was short one Eagle for a 96. Scott's 82 was good for third and holding position on the day.

Ruhe handing out Juggling sets as equalizers allowed Stevie K. (117) to edage Flynn (112) but Adam went unconscious. He tried to drop after 200 but couldn't get the hang of it. He was ready to quit after 300 but Mike Barrett coached him to toss the skating boom differently from the setting one so Adam wouldn't have to run right-left-right-left. With that kink smoothed out Adam was the Energizer Bunny.

So the awards ceremony was moved onto the field next to Adam - still going - and the crowd turned to Adam who, with lots of distraction to help him, was able to manage a drop at 439. An opportunity was lost: to form a circle around him and chant out the number. Adam, I pledge to set up such a circle next time you toss in the event.

European system found Kavanaugh and Barrett tying for first overall. USBA system moved Adam up from third to second, kept Ruhe third and dropped Kavanaugh down to fourth, showing that Team Cup thinking, which needs consistency more than splash, needs Stevie K. Darnell copped fifth and with his second overall the next day, proved he is a man for all seasons. Forrester at sixth and third overall as the shadow man. Steady. Barrett's first and third over the two days of touneys put him in serious consideration for teamplay.

Flynn at seventh took revenge by winning the second tourney. He won MTA with a very real 39.47 to nip Forrester by 0.38. Jim Jordan's 37.62 was a handsome third. Flynn and Forrester again taught school at Aussie Round with 64 and 62 in lousy stuff. Flynn's 45 in Endurance took it, typically, whereas Ruhe's 41 for second was, typically, far more difficult. The bad wind was the same- it just looked harder.

Alex Ruhe heroically braved the beast with a fourth in Endurance at 34. Darnell won a tricky Trick Catch with 73 and won a wicked Fast Catch at 22.80.

Stephanie Parkins threw for the fishing boy Rob on that blustery day tourney and cruised.

Barnaby Ruhe

4th Annual Illinois Open

Champaign, Illinois
September 6, 1998

Conditions: Wind 7-13 mph. Mostly sunny.

As the wind gods continued to look with disfavor upon the Illinois Open for the fourth year in a row, Jason Smucker (Atlanta, Georgia) captured his first ever USBA title.

Despite veteran competition from the likes of Spike Frazier, Billy Brazelton, Mike Gabriel, Aaron Kaminski, Tony Brazelton and Mike Dickson, Jason battled the winds for no less than fourth place in every event but Fast Catch.

It was the largest turnout ever for the Champaign tournament (19 players from nine states), and arguably boasted the toughest competition (1995 was close with Mark Weary, Rob Parkins and Chicago Bob). Even so, the man previously known as "The Sandbagger" showed he could compete with, and *beat*, the best.

The wind started out at a brisk 8-10 mph at 9:00 am and remained fairly constant until the last event, MTA, when it died down a bit. Accuracy was the first event and Aaron Kaminski (Hazelwood, Missouri) threw way better than anyone for an unbelievable 38.

Australian Round in the wind was won by Mike Dickson (North Canton, Ohio) with 50 points. A highlight of this event was nine year-old Eric Brazelton (Oakwood, Illinois), competing for the first time as a non-ovice, who took 7th place with a Chet Snouffer plywood Seabreeze III.

I had the advantage of going in one of the later Endurance rounds and knew I had to beat Mike Dickson's 24. I made about 37 deliberate throws with my Darnell Nylon Stubby and caught 33 of them. Billy Brazelton (Eagan, Minnesota) stole second with 25, using an ABS Darnell Accuracy boom.

During the lunchbreak I tallied the placing points and at halftime I was on top with a sizeable lead with Mike Dickson, Mike Gabriel (Evanston, Illinois) and Jason Smucker next in line.

The winds puffed a little harder for Fast Catch with gusts up to 13 mph. Dan Hellenberg (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) threw down the gauntlet early with a 39.53 in the first round using a Georgi Dimantchev boom. But for the second time this season Mike Gabriel blew everyone away in windy Fast Catch with his 28.24, using a heavily weighted ABS Stubby by Eric Darnell.

Trick Catch warm-up felt more than a little like MTA for most people. After we caught our breaths, Mike Gabriel came out way on top with 44. One of the most memorable moments of the entire day, though, was Bill Rusky's (Hillsdale, Michigan) only point-scoring catch- a sliding foot catch on his last throw. It was the only foot catch of the day.

The last event was MTA, and by the 4th round, the winds had lessened to about 7mph. There were two ties in this event. Jason Smucker and Aaron Burke (Batavia, Illinois) shared first place with 24.50.

Spike Frazier (St. Charles, Missouri) organized some team events while I tabulated the final rankings. Four teams played two events- Position and Relay. The "American Young Guns" Billy Brazelton (18), Jimmy Brazelton (16), Aaron Kaminski (17) and Greg Schuh (14; Murphysboro, Illinois) swept both events.

By the end of the team events it was getting dark so we adjourned to Garcia's Flying Tomato pizza place for dinner and awards presentation. Following the tradition started at the 3rd Annual Illinois Open, *everyone* received a boomerang-shaped medal. This year's awards were supplied by Kendall Davis. Thanks again Kendall!

The morning after, several of the stragglers threw some booms until only Mike Gabriel, Eric Brazelton and I were left. We played Hackuracy in 9-18 mph winds and suffered some pretty serious welts. We finally decided we had had enough punishment and headed to the University of Illinois indoor track facility. Being a holiday, we had the place pretty much to ourselves. We threw MTA and Fast Catch, played GLORP, Hackuracy, Accuracy and Sprinklerhead. During Sprinkler head we had a TRIPLE Spinklerhead where THREE people had a foot on the same eight inch bullseye when they caught their booms. Despite the sore toes and ankles, we all agreed this was the most fun we had all weekend. Next year, we'll have the whole tournament indoors! That

(continued on next page)

TOURNAMENT SCORES

19th Annual Free Throwers Tournament Delaware, Ohio August 9, 1998

SPORT DIVISION Accuracy: Martin Wikstrom 43, Gary Broadbent, Sr. & John Gorski 41. **Australian Round:** John Gorski & Chet Snouffer 58, Tony Brazelton 57. **Endurance:** Nobuyuki Iizuka 53, Chet Snouffer 51, John Gorski, Mark Legg & Aron McGuire 47. **Fast Catch:** Chet Snouffer 26.67, Tony Brazelton 27.97, Nobuyuki Iizuka 30.60. **Trick Catch:** Chet Snouffer 119, Gregg Snouffer 91, Nobuyuki Iizuka 84. **MTA:** Duane Sagert 34.54, Gary Broadbent, Sr. 31.03, John Gorski 29.22. **Overall:** Chet Snouffer 48.96, Gary Broadbent, Sr. 40.94, Duane Sagert 37.97, John Gorski 37.378, Nobuyuki Iizuka 37.27, Gregg Snouffer 30.51, Tony Brazelton 29.70, Mark Legg 29.13, David Schummy 28.77, Aron McGuire 25.01, Steve Kavanaugh 23.32, Paul Gajski 21.12, Martin Wikstrom, 19.63, Takehiro 17.82, Steve Kostrab 17.39, Gary Broadbent, Jr. 5.89, Len Burns 3.257. **OPEN DIVISION Accuracy:** Dan Hellenberg, 42, Logan Broadbent 39, Jason Smucker 34. **Australian Round:** Jason Smucker 58, Nick 56, Bill Rusky 49. **Endurance:** Jeff Hendricks 34, Jason Smucker 28, Cody Snouffer 26. **Fast Catch:** Nathan Smucker 39.39, Jeff Hendricks 42.62, Jason Smucker 58.85. **Trick Catch:** Jason Smucker 54, Jeff Hendricks 42, Nathan Smucker 22. **MTA:** Kevin Moran 36.47, Leon 24.28, Jason Smucker 24.06. **Overall:** Jason Smucker 26.78, Jeff Hendricks 12.77, Kevin Moran 12.627, Dan Hellenberg 9.75, Nick 7.88, Logan Broadbent & Bill Rusky 7.25, Nathan Smucker 6.38, Leon 5.38, Norm Kern 2.25, Brittany Broadbent, Clint Frysinger, Mike Hubbell, Devin Schummy & Cody Snouffer 0.00.

4th Annual Community Park Under the Lights Tournament: Part 1 Emmaus, Pennsylvania August 29, 1998

MTA: Scott Barrett 37.08, Dan Clason-Hook 36.66, Fred Malmberg 35.66. **Australian Round:** Mike Forrester 71, Larry Ruhf 69, John Flynn 68. **Accuracy:** Barnaby Ruhe 43, Larry Ruhf 37, Mike Forrester 36. **Endurance:** John Flynn 69, Adam Ruhf 67, Scott Barrett 62. **Fast Catch:** Adam Ruhf 14.90, John Anthony 19.02, Steve Kavanaugh 19.44. **Trick Catch:** Steve Kavanaugh 96, Adam Ruhf 88, Scott Barrett 82. **Overall (European system)*:** Scott Barrett & Steve Kavanaugh 35, Barnaby Ruhe & Adam Ruhf 37, Eric Darnell 44, Mike Forrester 46, John Flynn 48, Larry Ruhf 59, John Anthony 63, Tim Maultsby 73, Jim Jordan 75, Paul Gustafson & Peter Ruhf 83, Steve Cook 84, Martin Wikstrom 93, Fred Malmberg 102, Wilson Lawrence 103, Will Hyber 116, Dan Clason-Hook & Alex Ruhe 119, Chris Malmberg 136, Suzanne Lentz 145, Bob Jones 147, Bruce Rosen 148. **Overall (USBA system)*:** Scott Barrett 43.60, Adam Ruhf 42.20, Barnaby Ruhe 39.60, Steve Kavanaugh 39.20, Eric Darnell 38.00, Mike Forrester 36.60, John Flynn 34.20, Larry Ruhf 31.80, John Anthony 20.20, Jim Jor-

(continued on page 19)

way at least my annual promise of perfect weather will come true.

Tony Brazelton

2nd Annual Outer Banks Tournament

Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina
September 12-13, 1998

Kitty Hawk Kites hosted the 2nd Annual Outer Banks USBA Boomerang Tournament on Sept 12th and 13th at First Flight Middle School. 13 boomophiles contested USBA events on Saturday the 12th. Free demos and lessons for the public, along with GLORP on Sunday the 13th made a perfect finish to an awesome event.

Wind conditions were like a bowl of strawberries waiting to be dipped into dark, melted chocolate: sweet and tempting. The beautiful panoramic views of the Outer Banks, great organization and publicity by Kitty Hawk Kites' fine folks (namely the wonderful and illustrious Bobbie Servant and the charming, multi-talented and all around RADish Annie Thompson), an eclectic mix of boom throwers, the international scoring system, a huge night throwing session on the sand dunes at Jockey's Ridge, Sunday's shred-fest for the public, and the great weather conditions created, by far, the most fun tournament of the year.

MTA was the first of the USBA events on Saturday and the scores were huge!! The lowest score recorded was over 20 seconds. 5 scores were over 30 seconds, including Steve "The Cookie Monster" Cook's second throw of 38:59 sec.; it was good enough for 3rd place. Not to be out done, Ray Laurent stepped into the 50m circle and launched his #2 throw. His studly physique and precise throwing ability produced a 40:02 sec flight and secure catch which earned him 2nd place honors. Then there was Scott Barrett. The overall co-champion of the Emmaus night tournament was sitting on a 26 when he stepped up for throw #4. For 43 and 1 tenth seconds Mr. Barrett mercifully defied gravity with his home made, birch wood MTA!! With a fine, casual catch, he claimed top honors.

Aussie Round winds felt like world-record conditions; although Moleman's record was never really challenged, some fine scores were recorded. Of note: neophyte boomer

Dave Hogue, in his first ever tournament threw a 40 meter boom and caught it in the 6 point zone for a 4-4-6!!! Veteran romancers of the bullseye Mike Forrester and Jim Jordan endlessly pummeled the bull with 50 meter throws. Mike was ahead going into the final throw, but only managed a 6-4-1 eleven pointer. Jim, trying to recover from a 4-4-2 ten pointer on his 3rd throw needed to hit a perfect 20 to pass-up Mike. Jim was less than 2 meters short of perfection with a 6-4-8 eighteen pointer securing 2nd place with 77 points, just one point shy of Mike's conspicuously awesome 78!!! John Köehler, took 4th with a 64; Cookie Monster was 3rd with 68.

Fast-Catch scores reflected a small time period of higher winds. John Köehler ripped into the lead with a 27:62 sec in first round. Tim Maultsby, abandoning his "five throws, five booms" theory of fast catch, shredded his way through a 32:35 sec, best first round in his circle, clinic on big wind fast catch. Notable round two improvements included Scott Barrett's 20 second reduction from 50:16 to 29:46 (good enough for 3rd) and of course Mike Forrester's 3 1/2 second improvement from 29:10 to a winning 25:65!!!

Trick Catch produced exciting catches and good scores. Callie Laurent and Dave Hogue both smoothly ended the flights of their booms with casual eagle catches. Jimbo Nieberding not only hit his one-hand behind the back catch, but flawlessly executed the right-hand clean + tunnel catch doubling set. Dave Barrett missed a few easier ones, but hit all the harder ones when it counted to tie Stevie K's 87 for top score. Notably, Mike Forrester's 79 and Scott Barrett's 78 pushed John Köehler's fine performance of 74 all the way down to 5th, his lowest finish all day long!!

Unfortunately, Callie Laurent had a huge wind shift on her first Accuracy throw and went holistic. Surprising nobody, she rallied back and peppered the bullseye to score a 29. Showing no shame, husband Ray hit a perfect 10 on his last throw to top his wife, edge out Mike Forrester, and tie Timmy Maultsby with a 33. 3rd place honors were awarded to Köehler for his 34 point performance. Steve Kavanaugh's 38 point performance was holding up well until Josh Nesemeier's round. Josh, in only his second tournament ever was sitting on 18 points after 3 throws; he took Jim Jordan's simple, yet effective advice and hit a couple of bulls to close out his excellent Accuracy round and tie Stevie K.

In a huge performance, Tim Maultsby shrieked, screamed and grunted all the way through his 47 catches in 5 minutes to tie with the Cookie Monster for 3rd place in Endurance. As an exciting finish to the day Scott Barrett, with the help of his brother Dave, squeaked his way into 3rd place overall, just edging out Mike Forrester by 1/2 of a placing point. (Remember, points are bad in the international scoring system: one point for first, two for second and so on.) Scottie's 43 catches in the final event couldn't beat Mike's 44, seeming to set up a tie for 3rd overall. But, brother Dave was kind enough to tie Mike giving him the fatal extra 1/2 placing point.

At the same time, Köehler and Kavanaugh, battled for the overall championship. It turns out that Stevie had an advantage by one placing point, 17 to 18. Köehler had his own advantage by throwing his round after Stevie's. Mr. Kavanaugh dropped none of his 57 throws, but he knew he couldn't close the door on the 1991 World Champ and former world record holder of this coveted event. Shredding with all his skill, charm and vigor, Köehler never missed an opportunity to catch. At 3 minutes gone, he had 36, a perfect pace for 60!!! But wait, they just called him short on one throw, then another!!! Making the appropriate wind direction adjustments John kept his pace and never looked back. With his awesome performance of 58 catches Köehler just aced out Stevie K.'s 57 for 1st place in Endurance and a tie for 1st overall!!!

14th Annual Summer's Final Fling

Beaverton, Oregon
September 19-20, 1998

First let me thank all who participated in the 14th Summer's Final Fling! This year we ended up with a strictly Pacific Northwest turnout which as we all know means a fun and mellow event. Overall, 17 throwers braved the early morning clouds and 6 in the Novice class.

In the Sport class it was the Betsylew and Will show, with one of them winning every event. This is believe was Betsylew's sec-

ond tournament victory of the year and it was well-deserved, after scores such as 48 in Accuracy, 1:07.50 in MTA and a 23 second Fast Catch round in tricky winds.

In the Open Class we had Hurlin' Will and Tim Matheson battling hard all day with Will setting a number of personal best scores and subsequently winning the division.

In the Novice class fun was strictly the goal as shown when Tim Anderson made his first throw catches ever in Endurance and Dan Neelands making a phenomenal 26 catches in tricky winds.

After the boring old USBA events were contested Will Herlan debuted a brand new team event that is sure to catch on here in the US. The game is called Boomball and is loosely based on baseball with the goal to score as many runs as possible in the allotted number of innings. The game was incredibly easy to play and effectively integrated both veteran and novice throwers. Look for future publication of the rules by Will.

Finally I would like to thank the folks who helped me put on the tournament. Diane- our head judge and scorekeeper who kept everything following smoothly and the standings updated so Betsylew knew where she was at. Doug- for being the head referee and sounding board when I had tournament ideas. In addition, thanks for the prize booms and prize books. Tom- for also being a sounding board and for his assistance with producing the tournament t-shirts. In addition, thanks for the prize booms. Byron- for being grounds keeper and arranging/acquiring the liner and ten bags of chalk.

Tim Schallberger

9th Annual Kimball Union Academy Tournament

Meriden, New Hampshire
September 26, 1998

A beautiful indian summer day welcomed 17 throwers on September 26 to the 9th annual tournament at Kimball Union Academy in Meriden, NH. The notoriously tricky winds at KUA gave only a hint of their nerve-

wracking potential and the result was a summer-like tournament with top performances across the board. We had throwers from the South (Steve Cook, Callie Laurent, and Jim Jordan), North (Stephane Marguerite, Gaston Jacques, Etienne Sourd, and Daniel Bellemeure) and West (Steve Kavanaugh and his '66 Cuda mobile home). Etienne gets the Night Owl award for performing with his band until 4 in the morning, then riding to KUA with the other Montreal folks, who also brought with them several bottles of the new *Boomerang* lemon malt beverage. And thank you Chantal Plamondon for scoring! Merci!!

Highlights were: Paul Sprague's 68 in Trick Catch/Doubling using two-wing Boo-

(continued on page 19)

Scores

(continued from page 15)

dan 18.60, Tim Maultsby 17.00, Paul Gustafson 12.60, Fred Malmberg 10.80, Steve Cook 10.40, Peter Ruhf 9.10, Martin Wikstrom 6.50, Alex Ruhe 5.40, Will Hyber 4.60, Wilson Lawrence & Suzanne Lentz 1.40, Dan Clason-Hook, Bob Jones, Chris Malmberg & Bruce Rosen 0.00.

* Overall scores include one non-ratings event, Juggling.

4th Annual Community Park Under the Lights Tournament: Part 2 Emmaus, Pennsylvania August 30, 1998

Trick Catch: Eric Darnell 73, Scott Barrett 71, John Flynn 3. **Fast Catch:** Eric Darnell 22.80, Scott Barrett 24.21, Mike Forrester 24.61. **Endurance:** John Flynn 45, Barnaby Ruhe 41, Steve Kavanaugh 40. **Accuracy:** Steve Kavanaugh 36, Eric Darnell & Jim Jordan 34. **Australian Round:** John Flynn 64, Mike Forrester 62, Steve Kavanaugh 61. **MTA:** John Flynn 39.47, Mike Forrester 39.09, Jim Jordan 37.62. **Overall (European system)*:** John Flynn 27, Eric Darnell 28, Mike Forrester 35, Scott Barrett 41, Jim Jordan 42, Steve Kavanaugh 44, Martin Wikstrom 51, Peter Ruhf 53, Barnaby Ruhe 58, Tim Maultsby 59, Alex Ruhe 64, Wilson Lawrence 78, Josh Nesemeier 79, Fred Malmberg 87, Chris Malmberg 91, Suzanne Lentz 93, Stephanie Parkins 94, Bart Flynn 111.

* Overall scores include two non-ratings events, Juggling and Mole's Head.

4th Annual Illinois Open Champaign, Illinois September 6, 1998

Accuracy: Aaron Kaminsky 38, Jason Smucker 31, Tony Brazelton 29. **Australian Round:** Mike Dickson 50, Tony Brazelton 44, Mike Gabriel 43. **Endurance:** Tony Brazelton 33, Billy Brazelton 25, Mike Dickson 24. **Fast Catch:** Mike Gabriel 28.34, Dan Hellenberg 39.53, Tony Brazelton 43.09. **Trick Catch:** Mike Gabriel 44, Jason Smucker 37, Aaron Kaminsky 26. **MTA:** Aaron Burke & Jason Smucker 24.50, Bill Rusky 22.94. **Overall:** Jason Smucker 41.305, Tony Brazelton 39.20, Mike Gabriel 38.63, Mike Dickson 35.995, Aaron Kaminsky 24.58, Billy Brazelton 21.365, Dan Hellenberg 18.062, Spike Frazier 12.765, Aaron Burke 12.525, Kendall Davis 10.047, Nathan Burress 9.85, Bill Rusky 9.37, Greg Schuh 9.25, Laura Smucker

8.845, Louis Cassorla 7.79, Tim Crowley 6.165, Hal Barnhart 5.897, Eric Brazelton & Bill Schuh 3.63, Jimmy Brazelton 0.00.

2nd Annual Outer Banks Tournament Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina September 12, 1998

MTA: Scott Barrett 43:10, Ray Laurent 40:02, Steve Cook 38:59. **Australian Round:** Mike Forrester 78, Jim Jordan 77, Steve Cook 68. **Fast Catch:** Mike Forrester 25:65, John K ehler 27:62, Scott Barrett 29:46. **Trick Catch:** Steve Kavanaugh & Dave Barrett 87, Mike Forrester 79. **Accuracy:** Steve Kavanaugh & Josh Nesemeier 38, John K ehler 34. **Endurance:** John K ehler 58, Steve Kavanaugh 57, Steve Cook & Tim Maultsby 47. **Overall (European system):** John K ehler & Steve Kavanaugh 19, Scott Barrett 29, Mike Forrester 29.5, Steve Cook 33.5, Dave Barrett 37, Jim Jordan 38, Tim Maultsby 39, Ray Laurent 49.5, Josh Nesemeier 56.5, Jim Neiberding 61.5, Callie Laurent 66, Dave Hogue 75.5.

14th Annual Summer's Final Fling Beaverton, Oregon September 20, 1998

Accuracy: Betsylew Miale-Gix 48, David Hash 44, Tim Schallberger 41. **Fast Catch:** Betsylew Miale-Gix 23.10, Will Gix 26.30, Doug DuFresne 29.03. **MTA:** Tim Schallberger 32.57, David Hash & Dean Kelly 31.74. **Trick Catch:** Will Gix 83, Tim Schallberger 78, Doug DuFresne 70. **Endurance:** Will Gix 51, Betsylew Miale-Gix 49, Tim Schallberger 41. **Australian Round:** Will Gix 74, Doug DuFresne 70, Peter Caliandro 66. **Overall (European system):** Betsylew Miale-Gix 59, Will Gix 53, Tim Schallberger 52, Doug DuFresne 44, Byron Seward 40, Tom Peterson 34, Peter Caliandro 30.5, David Hash 29.5, Dean Kelly 23, Will Herlan 22, Tim Mathison 9. **Overall (USBA system):** Betsylew Miale-Gix 47.82, Will Gix 40.36, Tim Schallberger 29.64, Doug DuFresne 20.46, David Hash 12.00, Tom Peterson 9.37, Byron Seward 7.82, Peter Caliandro 5.73, Dean Kelly 4.64, Will Herlan & Tim Mathison 0.00.

9th Annual Kimball Union Academy Tournament Meriden, New Hampshire September 26, 1998

Accuracy: Steve Kavanaugh 44, Larry Ruhf 43, Paul Gustafson 42. **Australian Round:** Eric Darnell 81, Paul Gustafson 73, John Flynn 67. **Endurance:** John Flynn 73, Steve Kavanaugh 66, John Anthony 59. **Fast Catch:** John Flynn 19.64, John Anthony 20.89, Steve Kavanaugh 21.09. **MTA:** Paul Gustafson 54.88, Steve Kavanaugh 52.97, Steve Cook 38.05. **Trick Catch:** Steve Kavanaugh 93, John Flynn 83, Paul Sprague 68. **Overall (European system)*:** John Flynn 19, Steve Kavanaugh 25, John Anthony 38, Larry Ruhf 41, Paul Gustafson 42, Eric Darnell 56, Steve Cook 61, Jim Jordan 64, Paul Sprague 66, Stephane Marguerite 72, Bob Foresi 79, Daniel Bellemare 84, Etienne Sourd 93, Gaston Jacques 95, Callie Laurent 102, Bart Flynn 134, George Flynn 135. **Overall (USBA system)*:** John Flynn 70.36, Steve Kavanaugh 60.94, John Anthony 47.59, Paul Gustafson 40.705, Larry Ruhf 38.005, Eric Darnell 26.175, Steve Cook 22.46, Paul Sprague 17.35, Jim Jordan 15.995, Stephane Marguerite 12.815, Bob Foresi 10.23, Etienne Sourd 5.12, Daniel Bellemare 4.175, Gaston Jacques & Callie Laurent 1.59, Bart Flynn & George Flynn 0.00.

* Overall scores include two non-ratings events, MTA 1 and Relay Trial.



THE USBA STORE

[www.usba.org /USBAstore.html](http://www.usba.org/USBAstore.html)

PO BOX 182 DELAWARE, OHIO 43015

How to Order

Place orders by sending check or money order to the address above. Prices include shipping to US and Canada.

Overseas Clients

Add US\$2.00 for surface and US\$4.00 for airmail. Pamphlets and back issue newsletters are US\$1.00 extra for surface and US\$2.00 extra for airmail.

All proceeds from the USBA store go into the general USBA treasury. Your purchases subsidize the US Team, *Many Happy Returns*, and insurance premiums for the USBA among other expenses.

Questions?

Phone or fax
(614) 363-4414
 or e-mail
boomerang@midohio.net

CLOTHING

- ◆1996 US Open T-shirts \$16.00 (L, XL)
- ◆USBA Eagle T-shirts \$12.00 members, \$15.00 nonmembers (L, XL, XXL)

LITERATURE

- ◆1996 USBA Competition Rulebook \$2.50
- ◆*Boomerang*, a book by Ben Ruhe \$6.00
- ◆"The Boomerang" an early pamphlet by Ruhe and Hawes \$4.00
- ◆"Low Reynold's number airfoils" scientific paper \$2.50
- ◆Individual back issue of MHR (inquire for availability) \$2.50
- ◆Get one set of ALL available MHR back issues for only \$25.00!

Gift Certificates Available in Any Denomination!

USBA Member Boosmiths and Retailers

[www.usba.org /memvend.html](http://www.usba.org/memvend.html)

Aboriginal Steve's Boomerangs
 Active Vermont
 Air Traffic Kites and Games
 Boomerangs by Ted Bailey
 The Boomerang Man
 Broadbent Boomerangs
 BVD Rangs
 Channell Craft, Inc.
 Circle Stix
 Cleveland Boomerang School
 Colorado Boomerangs
 John Cryderman
 Fly Boy Boomerangs
 Flying Frog Boomerangs
 FS Boomerangs
 Gel Boomerangs
 Gemz
 Greyford Co. Boomerangs
 Kalmanson Boomerangs
 Leading Edge Boomerangs
 Left Turn Boomerangs
 Fred Malmberg
 Master Designs Boomerangs
 Outback Boomerangs
 Rangwrights
 Rangsmith
 Roundtrip Boomerangs
 Ruhf Boomerangs
 Dan Russell
 San Francisco Boomerang School
 Stix by Steve
 Stone Mountain Boomerangs
 Turning Point Boomerangs
 WALLA B



Steve Conaway 169 Cook Drive Fillmore CA 93015
 John Flynn PO Box 4425 White River Jct. VT 05001
 M. Hedberg & L. Sandifer Mall of America Minneapolis MN
 PO Box 6076 Ann Arbor MI 48106
 Rich Harrison 1806 N. 3rd St. Monroe LA 71201
 Gary Broadbent 3204 38th St. NW Canton OH 44718
 David Hendricks 1086 Gordon St. Allentown PA 18103
 D.J. Helfer PO Box 101 North Charleroi PA
 Stuart Jones 195 E. 5th St. #605 St. Paul MN 55101
 Dave Boehm PO Box 17385 Euclid OH 44117
 407 W. Tomichi Ave. Gunnison CO 81230
 John Cryderman 136 Thames St. Chatham, ON N7L 2Y8 Canada
 Kelly Leggette 7180 Lakemond Ct. Villa Rica GA 30180
 Tom Conally 1320 Cherry Dr. Burlington NC 27215
 Bill & Greg Schuh 9 Amethyst Rd. Murphysboro IL 62966
 Michael Girvin 2124 Kittredge St. #61 Berkeley CA 94704
 Tony Gembeck PO Box 5241 Portland OR 97208
 Thomas Risher Box 4734 Whittier CA 90607
 Neil Kalmanson 766 Old Nunez Rd. Swainsboro GA 30401
 Chet Snouffer PO BOX 664 Delaware OH 43015
 Norm Kern 1640 Haynes Birmingham MI 48009
 1545 E. Market St. York PA 17403
 Kendall L.Davis 932 21st Street Rock Island IL 61201
 Doug DuFresne PO Box 25577 Portland OR 97225
 John Derden 451 Colegrove Dr. Swainsboro GA 30401
 T.W. Smith PO Box 11332 Eugene OR 97440
 G. Snouffer & R. Tilford 340 Troy Rd Delaware OH 43015
 Peter Ruhf 6550 Meeting House Rd. New Hope PA 18938
 Box 84895 San Diego CA 92138
 Bill Tumath 127 Knollview Way San Francisco CA 94131
 Steve Collins 4820 Hillcrest Okemos MI 48864
 Dan Jones 222 N. Main St. Statesboro GA 30458
 Eric Darnell Star Route South Strafford VT 05070
 Stephane Marguerite 45 Pierre de Coubertin 1000 Succ. M. Montreal QC H1V 3R2

(805) 524-2913 14 models for comp and fun
 802) 296-7244 boomerangs and outdoor gear
 (612) 858-9599 retailers of Colorado, Flight Stix, Gel, Outback, more
 (734) 971-2970 comp B s, newsletter, mini B s, books
 (318) 325-8157 retailer of many models, credit cards accepted
 (330) 492-RANG comp booms, demos, lesson plans & supplies
 (610) 434-7305 variety of models
 (412) 489-4900 fax (412) 489-0773 recreational woodcraft
 612) 228-1393 demos, workshops, info phone or fax
 (216) 442-6024 variety of booms, workshops
 (800) 35RANGS recreational booms, comp booms
 (519) 354-3984 hardwood strip laminates, buyer
 (888) 213-0084 boomerangs
 (336) 584-4046 boomerangs
 (618) 684-4569 SchuhFly3@aol.com Quality & economy booms
 (510) 658-2469 full spectrum of comp and sport B s, T-shirts, more
 (503) 230-8955 variety of wood B s and comp clothing
 manufacturer and distributor, buyer, retailer
 (912) 237-7831 Kalmanson reversible art boomerangs
 (740) 363-8332 comp and beginner B s, FC, doublers, more
 (248) 645-9308 8 models from beginner to comp
 (717) 848-4601 rare hardwoods, lap joints
 (309) 793-9885 15 models to choose from + special orders
 beginner to comp B s, fast catch, strip laminates
 (912) 237-7831 birch ply, lap joints, poly & PVC B s, beginner to comp
 (503) 465-9461 full spectrum incl. dist., indoor, backyard, comp B s
 (740) 363-4414 whsl/retail, indoor, bkdy, beginner to comp, T-shirts
 (215) 863-3479 comp & beginner booms, specialize in lefties
 (619) 296-4243 wood booms, cyalume stix, call 4-8pm
 (415) 550-6746 Herb Smith dealer
 (517) 349-5234 beginner to comp, FC, TC, AR, art booms
 (912) 489-3640 birch ply, natural elbows
 (802) 765-4336 fax same number, Tri-Flies
 (514) 597-1333 fax same number, boomerangs

Attention manufacturers and retailers: Any USBA member who manufactures or distributes boomerangs or related products or services may be listed free of charge as a service to our members. Send description to: Boomsmith Listings c/o USBA 2405 Lawndale Drive Champaign, IL 61821 or fax to (217) 244-8371 attn: Tony Brazellton or E-mail usba-pr@usba.org

Calendar of Events

www.usba.org/calendar.html

USBA Sanctioned Tournaments

Date Event

Sept. 5 **5th Annual Illinois Open** - Champaign, Illinois

Contact

Tony Brazelton (217) 352-6184

To petition the USBA to sanction a tournament or other event, contact John Flynn.

John Flynn
(802) 296-7244
e-mail: activermont@cyberportal.net

Other US Events

Date Event

Nov. 27 **Michigan Turkey Toss** - Birmingham, Michigan

January 1 **15th Annual Team Gel Oakland New Year Tournament** - Oakland, California

Contact

Norm Kern (248) 645-9308

Michael Girvin (510) 658-2469

MTA Clinic

(continued from page 5)

cling over the field at one point, and I didn't think it was a fluke that Nobu's Jonas left the field before falling. . . three minutes later.

There is also the phenomenon of *ridge lift*. Over here in the East we have folded mountains as opposed to the pushed-up peaks of the Rockies. When wind hits a folded mountain, it bounces straight up. Sailplanes can fly for hours following the edges of the folded mountains; the world record sailplane time aloft was set (I think) in Pennsylvania. Standing at the crest of an appalachian ridge and facing a stiff breeze, even a triblader will hang like an MTA.



Tourney Reports

(continued from page 17)

merang Fevers throughout; Paul Gustafson's KUA-best 54.88 in MTA followed closely by Stevie K's 52.97; Gaston Jacques great MTA catch in MTA "1" (one throw, no practice); Steve's smooth 93 in Trick Catch and drop-free personal best 66 in Endurance; Eric Darnell's 81 in Aussie Round with his boomerangs clearing the ground and missing the trees by a combined total distance of about 10 feet for 5 throws; Moleman's 59 in Endurance, as it was getting dark quickly, to end the day. Along with MTA 1, we tested Relay Trial, an individual event based on the Team Relay event contested at the World Championships. For a first time event, it ran quickly and there was the same adrenaline rush and esprit de corps that exists in the Team event. Times for two relay legs were combined, just like team play. Hopefully other TD's will try this fun event next year.

Afterwards, there were dinner, campfire, and award festivities at the Flynn residence. On Sunday, we aborted the attempt for the Consecutive Catching record. Instead, Steve C, Steve K, John F, and Moleman went down to the field to rescue Cookie's tree-bound MTA and played an impromptu game of GLORP, won (surprise!) by the itinerant GLORP-master, Steve Kavanaugh. It was a fine weekend of booming and we lucked out with the weather. Two days later, autumn arrived for real with temps in the 50's and

30 mph winds. Whew!

John Flynn



CLARIFICATION

As implied on the cover and stated on page 23 in the Summer issue (#73) of *MHR*, the TriFly modification plans in that issue are proprietary of Eric Darnell and may not be sold without permission from Eric Darnell. The Super V Predator modification plan was developed by Tony Brazelton based on the TriFly Predator. Both the TriFly and Super V unmodified shapes are patented by Eric Darnell. In the future all plans published in *MHR* will, to the best of our ability, describe any historical origins of intellectual property and/or legal restrictions as appropriate.

Boom Fragments

(continued from page 6)

all over the globe at <http://members.aol.com/worlddranks>.

Heikki Niskanen of Kuopio, Finland has a new general information website at www.boomeranghelp.com.



Regional Clubs and Contacts by State

www.usba.org/clubs.html

AZ	Phoenix	Desert Ranglers	Mark Weary & Don Monroe	4026 East Cholla Canyon Dr. Phoenix AZ 85044	(602) 759-3973
CA	San Diego		John Weigel	1323 La Mesa Ave. San Diego CA 91977	(619) 462-4379
	SF Bay Area	Bay Area Boomerang Club	Michael Girvin	2124 Kittredge St. #61 Berkeley CA 94704	(510) 658-2469
	Santa Barbara		Erik Fields	1501 Clifton St. Santa Barbara CA 93103	(805) 564-4840
	Santa Cruz		Brad Westervelt	Voicemail 800-286-6310, box 748	(408) 338-0818
	Southern	Southern California Boomerang Alliance	Steve Conaway	169 Cook Drive Fillmore CA 93015	(805) 524-2913
	Southern		Paul W.K. Rothmund	533 South Hudson Apt. #1 Pasadena CA 91101	(626) 584-1807
CO	Aurora		Richard Pollock-Nelson	2530 S Ouray Way Aurora, CO 80013-1576	(303) 368-5933
CT	Madison	The Wandering Nutmeg Boomerang Society	Paul D. Sprague	782 Boston Post Rd. Madison CT 06443	(203) 245-8211
	Shelton	Team Gel East	John "Moleman" Anthony	21 Huntington Ave. Shelton CT 06484	(203) 924-6735
FL	Merritt Island	Flite Six Boom Slingers	Rich Surace	855 E Crisafulli Rd. Merritt Island FL	(407) 452-3963
	Orlando		Carl Morris	2602 Breezewood Dr. Orlando FL 32839	(407) 859-1319
	Southwest Florida		Jeff Sullivan	1715 SE 12th Terrace Cape Coral FL 33990	(941) 458-5514
GA	Atlanta	Atlanta Boomerang Society	Frank Golder	#2 Capitol Square rm 370 Atlanta, GA 30334	
	Swainsboro	South Georgia Boomerang Club	John Derden	131 College Cir. Swainsboro GA 30401	(912) 237-7831
IL	Champaign	Illini Boomerang Club	Tony Brazelton	2405 Lawndale Dr. Champaign IL 61821	(217) 352-6184
	Waterloo		"Chicago" Bob Leifeld	P.O. Box 242 Waterloo, IL 62298	(618) 939-9023
MD	Rockville		Jim Nieberding	Rockville, MD 20853	(301) 933-1073
MI	Ann Arbor		Ted Bailey	PO Box 6076 Ann Arbor, MI	(734) 971-2970
	Birmingham		Norm Kern	1640 Haynes Birmingham, MI 48009	(248) 645-9308
	Lansing	Mid Michigan Boomsling Club	Steve Collins	4820 Hillcrest Okemos, MI 48864	(517) 349-5234
MIN	Mnpls/St Paul	Boomerang Organization Of Minnesota (BOOM)	Stuart Jones	195 E. 5th St. Apt. 605 St Paul, MN 55101	(612) 228-1393
MO	St. Louis	St. Louis Boomerang Club	Tom Fitzgerald	1159 Holly River Dr. Florissant, MO 63031	(314) 839-1684
NM	Albuquerque	Sandia Boomerang Club	Steve Sanders	10408 Woodland, NE Albuquerque, NM 87111	(505) 294-8842
OH	Ashland		Dwight Souder	453 Parkwood Dr. Ashland, OH 44805-4135	(419) 281-4565
	Canton	Gary Broadbent's Boom Shop	Gary Broadbent	3204 38th St. NW Canton, OH 44718	(330) 492-RANG
	Columbus	There And Back Again Boomerang Club	Bob Lackey	31 E Dodridge Columbus, OH 43202	(614) 263-6840
	Delaware	Free Throwers Boomerang Association	Chet Snouffer	PO Box 664 Delaware, OH 43015	(740) 363-8332
	Delaware	U.S. Head to Head Boomerang Tournament Organization	Gregg Snouffer	340 Troy Rd. Delaware OH 43015	(740) 363-4414
	Euclid	Cleveland Boomerang School	Dave Boehm	PO Box 17385 Euclid, OH 44117	(216) 289-6324
OK	Oklahoma City		Joel Bussey	1516 Southern Heights Ave. Norman, OK 73072	(405) 447-2117
	Bartlesville		Steven Graham	924 Yale Drive Bartlesville, OK 74006	(918) 333-0730
OR	Portland		Tim Schallberger	4740 SW Hamilton St. Portland, OR 97221	(503) 241-9618
PA	610 area code		Dave Hendricks	1086 E Gordon Street Allentown, PA 18103-2208	(610) 434-7305
TN	Knoxville	Boomerang Club at the University of Tennessee (BCUT)	David Martin	2912 McNutt Avenue Maryville, TN 37804-2537	(423) 687-3179
TX	Houston	Boomerang Association of Texas	Greg Corum	3233 Magnum Rd. Apt 184 Houston TX 77092	(713) 681-0837
	Tyler		Pat Steigman	Tyler, TX 75703	(903) 581-5556
UT	Sandy	Wasatch Boomerang Club	Jim Miller	2095 E. 10095 South Sandy, UT 84092	(801) 942-6943

In the next issue of

Many Happy Returns

**WINTER
1999**

- Final USBA Season Event and Overall Ratings
- MHR Awards
- Plans, plans, plans!
- Much, much more!

Submit your materials **now** for inclusion in the Winter issue of *MHR*. See inside back cover for details.

Tired of Waiting for your MHR?

MHR is shipped via bulk rate mail, which saves the USBA about \$700 per year. However, if you live far from the shipping point, you could be waiting up to five weeks for your *MHR*! Some members have already solved this problem by subscribing to the **MHR Express Service**! It's easy! If you live in the US, simply send a \$0.78 stamp along with your current address to the *MHR* office in Champaign, Illinois. Your *MHR* will be sent **First Class** and will arrive just a few days after it comes off the presses. You may do this one issue at a time or send in as many stamps as you wish **Express** mailings. Send in four stamps - get one year of **Express MHRs**. Please be sure to send stamps to the *MHR* office in Champaign, Illinois and **NOT** the national headquarters in Delaware, Ohio. Any questions should be addressed to Tony Brazelton, editor in chief of *MHR*.



the United States Boomerang Association

GENERAL 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*.

USBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

John Flynn (802) 296-7244

Vice President

Fred Malmberg (717) 848-4601

Treasurer

Tony Brazelton (217) 352-6184

Secretary

Betsy Lew Miale-Gix (425) 485-1672

Directors

Eric Darnell (802) 765-4336
Mike Dickson (330) 499-9848
Keith Mullinar (860) 986-6396
Larry Ruhf (413) 323-4340
Chet Snouffer (740) 363-8332

GENERAL CONTACT INFO

Address

USBA
PO Box 182
Delaware OH 43015

Website

www.usba.org

E-mail

usba-pr@usba.org

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

USBA membership entitles you to four issues of the quarterly newsletter *Many Happy Returns*, reduced entry fees for USBA-sanctioned tournaments, discounts on plywood from Anderson Int'l., discounts on books, and early notice of special offers.

Non-USBA members may receive one free trial issue by submitting the form on the left or by visiting the website.

Check your newsletter address label for issue of expiration. Membership status inquiries should be addressed to the **Treasurer**.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Want to help out the USBA but don't want to run for a seat on the Board of Directors? The Board and its committees periodically need help stuffing envelopes, conducting surveys, writing and proofreading articles for *Many Happy Returns*, and various other odd jobs. If you would like to help out as a volunteer, feel free to contact any board member.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

USBA members: Copy this page and carry extra copies in your boombag. Your membership is extended one issue if a new member lists you as a sponsor below.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Postal Code _____ Country _____

Sponsor's name _____

Check one

- New member (check or MO enclosed)
- Renewal (check or MO enclosed)
- Trial issue (no payment required)

Dues

North America
 Annual \$15
 Lifetime \$225

Outside North America
 Annual \$20
 Lifetime \$350

Make checks payable to **USBA**

Send this completed form along with payment to:

USBA MEMBERSHIP
 2405 Lawndale Drive
 Champaign, Illinois 61821

Tips for Submitting Articles to MHR

Each issue of *Many Happy Returns* has a subset of themes which are relevant to the time of year that the issue is published. Persons contributing to MHR may wish to keep these themes in mind when deciding on the appropriate issue to which to submit one's writing. Please also keep in mind that contributions need not be limited to these themes. Details for submitting text and graphics can be found inside the front cover.

WINTER Deadline
January 1

Themes

- Making boomerangs
- Calendar

SPRING Deadline
April 1

Themes

- Making boomerangs
- Comp preparation
- Calendar

SUMMER Deadline
July 1

Themes

- Comp technology
- Event summaries
- Calendar

FALL Deadline
November 1

Themes

- Event summaries
- Calendar



**United States
Boomerang Association
PO BOX 182
DELAWARE OH 43015**

**BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 453
CHAMPAIGN, IL**

*If the number above your name is
or less, it's time to renew!*

75