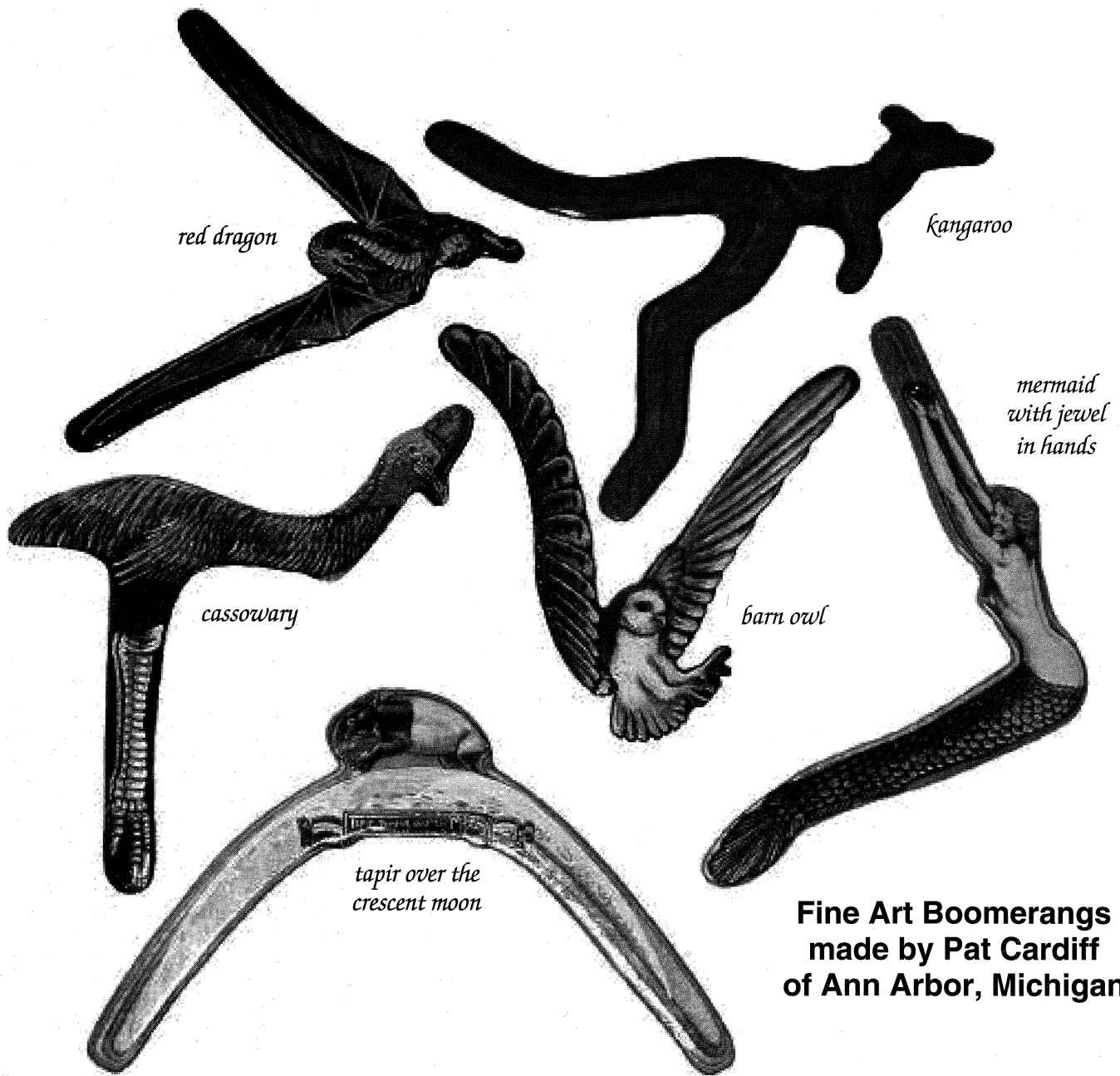


# Many Happy Returns

Issue No. 81

An International Publication of the United States Boomerang Association

Winter 2001



*red dragon*

*kangaroo*

*mermaid  
with jewel  
in hands*

*cassowary*

*barn owl*

*tapir over the  
crescent moon*

**Fine Art Boomerangs  
made by Pat Cardiff  
of Ann Arbor, Michigan**



## What's In This Issue!

Page	Contents
2	<b>A New Age Dawns:</b> National Expo and Festival Comes to Life.
4	<b>Bits &amp; Pieces</b> Miscellaneous tidbits about boomerang activities from around the world.
8	<b>Santa Barbara LD Tournament</b> Who can throw them the furthest? by Dan Neelands
9	<b>Team Gel New Years Event Results</b> What happened at the first and radeest tournament of the year 2001? by Bob Foresi
10	<b>Types of Aboriginal Throwsticks</b> Drawings depicting throwsticks from the museums in Sydney and Melbourne.
11	<b>A Tribute to Jack Byham</b> The boomerang world has lost one of it's greatest heroes by Jeff Lewry
12	<b>Remembering Bluey Williams</b> A tribute to one of Australia's greatest throwers - by Brother Brian M. Thomas.
14	<b>Boomerang Cartoons</b> Just what it says. A collection of cartoons that readers have sent in over the past two decades.
16	<b>Collectible Boomerangs</b> a review & where you can get them.
17	<b>2001 Boomerang Competition Rule Modifications</b> What? Again? It's time to remember the USBA competition rulebook.

Cover: Custom made boomerangs by: Patrick Cardiff; 1003 Miller Ave.; Ann Arbor, MI 48103  
 ph: 734-761-1908 email: cardiffeliot@hotmail.com

## A NEW AGE DAWNS!!

### National Festival Comes to Life.

Hello boomerang enthusiasts! The United States Boomerang Association is opening the new millennium with a renewed vision to unite boomerangers from around the country. As you all know, there are hundreds, maybe thousands, of boomerang makers and throwers hiding out in the U.S. with little connection between them.

#### Background:

Our fascinating hobby got its first nation-wide uniting effort during the 1970's when Ben Ruhe used his connection to the Smithsonian Institute as curator of Aboriginal antiquities to host an annual boomerang fling on the mall in Washington D.C. under the shadow of the Washington Monument. It was there, in 1979, that I first came in contact with other people who shared an interest in this strange, prehistoric flying tool. The tourist foot traffic that the mall receives each summer created a spectator crowd of thousands, many of whom were introduced to boomerangs right there on the mall, and later became leading participants in the hobby and sport. Through the excellent press that Ben and the early throwers were able to generate, word of this event reached far and wide, attracting many of the country's closet boomers to the mall each year. That's how I got there! It was those early participants who returned to their hometowns and organized the local tournaments that still exist across the country today.

In those early days, many of the competitors were also crafters of boomerangs, with a respect for the effort that goes into making one. Each year, crafters were encouraged to come out to the event and share their latest techniques and new designs with the others. Speeches were given and presentations made, with forums for these enthusiasts to discuss, share and enjoy their hobby and keep in touch with each other. Through the years, the competitive sport throwing has remained and gained momentum around the world, now with 18 international and womens teams competing every other year for the world cup of boomerangs. However, the crafter and leisure throwers have been increasingly left out of the annual event.

All of that is about to change! In an effort to find some friends for Dr. Fred Malmberg, the last of the great crafters who regularly attends and supports the US Nationals, we are kicking off the millennium with a "throwback" to the '70's!! One of my favorite recollections of a truly great Nationals was when Eric Darnell gave a talk on how he was trying to influence cherry trees at his Vermont mountain home to grow into natural elbows! John Flynn told us about new fast catch airfoil designs. And Ben Ruhe threw out his bag of Aboriginal throw sticks for sale on the ground for \$1 each and a young, fully-haired Gary Broadbent ran off of the throwing field, abandoning his round of trick catch, in order to buy all of them before anyone else could! Barnaby won the nationals and life was good!

The USBA Board has come up with some outstanding ideas to overhaul the sport! As a member of the Board, I have been asked to head the newly formatted Nationals this year that will attempt to win back this appeal to crafters and to leisure throwers. Our goal is to throw a weekend get-together for those who are intrigued by, and in love with boomerangs... ALL aspects of the hobby and sport. Here's what we envision and where we need your feedback. (The date would be one of the first two weekends in August)

1) A venue that is accessible to tourist foot traffic like the mall in D.C. was, so that we can capture an audience that is supportive and enthusiastic... an audience that will see demonstrations of our sport, learn to throw and make a boomerang while there, and then spend some money in the sales tent so that those crafters who come with booms and products to sell can make a few bucks! (I need suggestions for such a venue, if you know of any.)

2) A novice tent and dedicated 20 meter circle, staffed by crafters and boomerang folks and stocked with beginner boomerangs for spectators and media personnel and novices to learn to throw, under the tutelage of one of the masters of boomerangs. A place where we could run regular games for these novices with boomerang prizes given away, where they could learn to make boomerangs with a rasp and blank, and even where they could check out and learn to throw some of the cool MTAs or 50 meter or fast catch booms, if they want. All with the goal of hooking new folks into the sport, hobby and art of boomerangs. (I would need volunteers to organize it and to man it through the weekend.)

3) A design competition with prize money, where crafters could enter the year's projects, under categories like best natural elbow returner, non-returner, best lap-joint/laminate, most creative plywood design, most artistic, most dramatic technical breakthrough, etc... But here's the catch: All of the entries would actually need to qualify, by having the crafter throw them on Friday afternoon of the nationals weekend! All of the entries would have to be dated from the previous 12 months! A perfect opportunity for the closet crafters across the country to 1) get into their shops and get creative, and 2) get together, socialize and throw together, sharing designs and ideas. (I need suggestions for prize money amounts and categories for competition.)

4) Friday evening speakers and topics suggested by the membership, videos and displays portraying shop design concepts and construction technique ideas; displays set up by wood suppliers and shop tool suppliers. (I need suggestions for speakers, topics and displays you think would be of interest to crafters)

5) A big, fun, random-draw team tournament on Saturday with low-key throw-back events (no pun intended) like position and two-bladed trick catch and MTA super catch, etc... events designed to bring everyone on the field together to throw boomerangs, meet each other, and enjoy the day. (I Need suggestions as to whether you would be interested in participating! What events? Would it be fun?

6. Individual competition Friday and Sunday. The competitive sport junkies would still have their showdown during the weekend, though it will take place Friday, and then the final Head to head portion for media would be Sunday afternoon. But the key component is to bring back the leisure throwers and crafters to this annual event.

So there you have it! This year's national event is going to rip it up! If you have suggestions or comments on any of the above, let me know. Thanks for your time, energy and enthusiasm!

**Gregg Snouffer**  
340 Troy Rd  
Delaware, OH 43015

Phone: 740-363-4414  
email: boomerang@columbus.rr.com  
<http://www.rtboomerangs.com>

---

### Attention Boomerang Craftsmen!!!

*More info for this year's National Boomerang Expo:*

1. Create a boomerang for the design competition in one or more of the following categories:

1. Best natural elbow non-returner
2. Best natural elbow returner
3. best lap joint/strip laminate returner or throw stick
4. most creative returner (plywood)

All entries will have to be crafted and dated (or vouched for) within the 12 months prior to Expo weekend each year. All returning entries **MUST** be thrown on Friday afternoon of Expo weekend by the crafter or a designated stand-in and must be able to return within the 10-meter accuracy circles in order to qualify for judging! All non-returners must be thrown and checked for aerodynamic flight properties!

There are likely to be more categories, but these four, or some variation of them, will definitely be awarded.

2. Know any sponsors? We are trying to line up sponsors for prize money for each of the categories. (Around \$100 per category, or more!) Do you know of any potential sponsors we can approach? Foster's is already sponsoring some of the prize money. Is anyone else interested in sponsoring one of the prize categories?

3. We want to collect as many of the commercially offered "general purpose" boomerangs as possible for our participating boomerang crafters (all of you who come to the expo) to test fly and evaluate on Friday and Saturday afternoon of the Expo weekend. Nothing bad... no flame evals! Just a chance to compare all of the rangers available to the public out there, and see not only which commercially available 'rangers work well, but also what characteristics make a good beginner ranger... kind of like a wine tasting party! (In fact, if we had some wine to taste while evaluating these 'rangers, it might be even better! So bring that too!) Anyone who manufactures and distributes a general purpose 'ranger is encouraged to bring a sample or send it to me at the address below in advance of the Expo this August. Anyone who knows of some commercially produced booms that are available to the public is also encouraged to bring one along, or send it in, along with where it was purchased and any info you have on it or its producer. Perhaps we can publish the results... if not in MHR, then on ranger-list and boomerang talk!

Gregg Snouffer

Phone: 740-363-4414 email: boomerang@columbus.rr.com

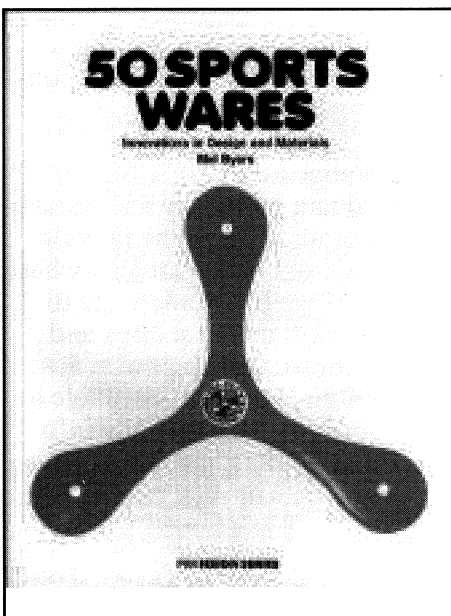
web: <http://www.rtboomerangs.com> (editor's note: really great web site with funny calendar, check it out)

# Bits & Pieces

## News From The USA

"Time for Kids Magazine" is working on a project for a textbook featuring a 3 page article on the sport of boomerangs! Veteran boomerang photographer Matt Emmons, who has supplied photos for numerous local, regional and national publications is supplying photos for the article. Time will notify the USBA when the project goes to print.

Eric Darnell's triFly has been featured on the cover of a new full color book written by Mel Byars and titled "50 Sports Wares" (ISBN #2-88046-418-8). The book has a four page article about the injection molding process of Eric's popular Polypropylene tri-blader. There are a few errors in the text though. First, the title of the article is "Fun Rang Boomerang" which matches the packaging of the small foam version of this boomerang style. The book



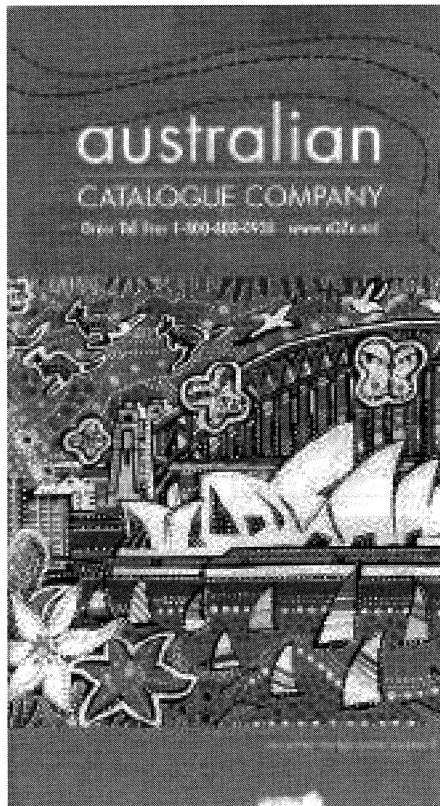
**New Book: 50 Sports Wares**

has lots of information on other high tech sports devices, such as a flywheel, bicycle, helmet, skateboards, etc.

Ripley's Believe It or Not! plans to have a boomerang thrower on their popular TV show in the near future. No word on who the thrower is, but keep your eyes open for it.

Supplying displaced Aussies with products from Down Under is a thriving business in the USA. The editor recently received two catalogs full of Aussie products as diverse as foods, music tapes & CDs, jewelry, liquor, stuffed animals, clothing, didgeridoos and even boomerangs. You can get on their mailing list and receive their colorful catalogs by calling Australian Products Company at (888) 422-9259 or Australian Catalogue Company at (800) 808-0938. Both of these phone numbers are toll free in the USA.

The membership chairman has moved, so make sure you send in your USBA membership renewal to Cookie (407-445-3276) at:



**Two Catalogs Available in the USA with Australian Products**

## Whi-Boomerang!

**Authentic-Looking Replica Of The Famous Hunting Boomerang Used By The Australian Natives!**



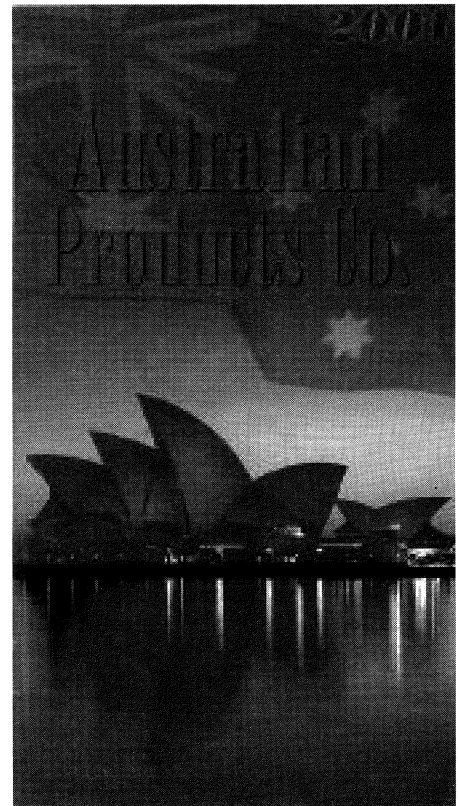
\$1.98

Provides hours of beautiful outdoor fun and exercise. Just follow the easy flying instructions. Let 'er go — and watch it return! Made of lightweight sycamore wood, yet so sturdy it's virtually unbreakable. **HURRY!** — Order yours while they last! Send only \$1.98 (cash, check, p.o.) to:

**VICTOR SPECIALTIES, DEPT. WC-965**  
P.O. BOX 331, DEEBY, CONN.  
(No C.O.D.'s, please!)

An indestructible boomerang made out of Sycamore was advertised for sale in a Texas Rangers comic book in 1965. The price was only \$1.98 and this included shipping. Does anyone have one of these in their collection?

Steve Cook  
USBA Membership  
630 Coral Glen Loop; Apt 303  
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714





Terrence Simon Cain is another displaced Aussie with a gallery in Longview, Texas full of Australian Aboriginal Art. Simon wishes to meet any boomerang throwers who happens to pass through his area. He will show you his large selection of boomerangs, didjeridoos, bark paintings, etc. You can contact Simon by email at [simontcain@hotmail.com](mailto:simontcain@hotmail.com) or call (903) 238-9407 or write to the following address:

Australian Aboriginal Art Gallery  
**1505 East Marshall Ave.**  
**Longview, TX 75601**

## AUSTRALIA

Roger Perry has the unique distinction of owning and running two boomerang companies. That's right. Roger purchased "Rangs Boomerangs" from Sam Blight in October 2000 and has moved the factory to his property in the hills of Perth. Roger is looking at adding some wooden sports and competition models and should have a competition plastic 3 arm boomerang for day and night throwing available in the not to distant future. Roger is in the process of transforming the aerodynamics and paint finish on all of the Rangs models as well as changing to a better grade of plywood. You can visit Rangs Boomerangs at: <http://www.rangsboomerangs.com>

Roger Perry also makes and sells boomerangs under his own brand name "Spinback Boomerangs". The Spinback range includes the Tri Magic, made out of 2mm phenolic and the sky high MTA, made from 1.5mm phenolic which is a good comp model that even beginners can get a handle on. Roger also has a 3mm phenolic hook which is called the Aussie Hook that is easy for the beginner to master. You can visit Roger's Spinback web site at: <http://www.boomerangsrus.com>



## ENGLAND

Congratulations go to Mark Lisney, Martin Laslett, Sean Slade, Jay Butters & Jim Reid for taking the top five overall rankings in the British 2000 Season rankings. Mark also took first overall honors in Accuracy and Fast Catch. Martin took first overall honors in Aussie Round and Endurance. Jim Millar took first overall in Trick Catch and Flo West took first overall in MTA.



**Georgi Dimantchev of Bulgaria with his new Composite Throw Stick - range of 80 metres**

## FRANCE

Congratulations go to Didier Bonin, Paco Gagniere, Eugène Cinal, Jérôme Royo & Yann Girault for placing in the top five overall positions in the France Boomerang Association's overall ratings for the year 2000.

Didier Bonin has been working for more than a year on a new boomerang book titled "l'essentiel du boomerang" (history, throwing, crafting, tuning, theory, pictures, etc...) The book will be published in April or May. If you would like to find out more about this publication, please email Didier at: [didbo@wanadoo.fr](mailto:didbo@wanadoo.fr)

The 2001 European Boomerang Cup is scheduled to take place in France in June/July. Individual events will take place on 30 June and 1 July. Team events will take place on 2 July. There may also be a Long Distance tournament. A maximum of 80 throwers is possible and if "non-European" throwers wish to participate, they need to contact the tournament director ASAP to reserve space. Please email Sandrine Boixo at: [sandrine.boixo@wanadoo.fr](mailto:sandrine.boixo@wanadoo.fr) or write to:



Prehistoric European man rarely incorporated the human form in cave art or carvings, with the rare exception of female figures for the purpose of fertility worship. Pictured above is the famous French "Venus of Laussel". What is she holding in her right hand?



Lundy is a small isle in the Bristol Channel. Shown above are the cancellations from 3 of their postal covers. Do any of the readers know why mail from Lundy Isle is called a "Boomerangagram"?

**Agnès Tardits**

**3 av. Val de Montferrand  
34270 Les Matelles  
France**

Serge d'Ignazio wrote an excellent article about boomerangs in the December issue of the French publication "L'Atelier Bois". The article covered boomerang science, tuning and throwing instructions and included full color photos of different boomerang styles. Serge was also featured on pages 66 and 67 of the October 2000 issue of "Express" magazine. The article has a neat color photo of Serge catching a small foam triblader over a desk filled with boomerangs and boomerang books.



New Bumper Sticker for the Deutscher Bumerang Club. Please visit the DBC web page to find out more about their activities.

## ITALY

The overall ratings for Italian throwers in the 2000 season have been published. The top five throwers in sequential order include: Paolo Serbelloni, Francesco Rossi, Antonio Scarpellino, Maurizio Saba and Jacopo Belfi. Congratulations go to Giovanni Lorenzoni for taking first place overall in the MTA event; Paolo Serbelloni for taking first place in Trick Catch and Fast Catch; Maurizio Saba for taking first place in Endurance and to Antonio Scarpellino for taking first overall in both Accuracy and Australian Round.

## WWW

One of the best places to buy and sell boomerangs is the "boomerang-auctions" web page. This web site is in both German and English and has everything from low cost beginner booms to fine art boomerangs and collectables made by Herb Smith: <http://www.boomerang-auctions.de> The home page for the European 2001 Boomerang Cup is <http://franceboomerang.multimania.com/euroboom2001>

Chet Snouffer has totally revitalized his web site with lots of new material and a completely different layout. Please visit Chet's web page and see: <http://leadingedgeboomerangs.com>



*Leading Edge  
Boomerangs*

Bob Burwell has a great web page with photos of his family, friends and a copy of an old Burwell throwing instruction sheet: <http://www.users.bigpond.com/robertburwell/>

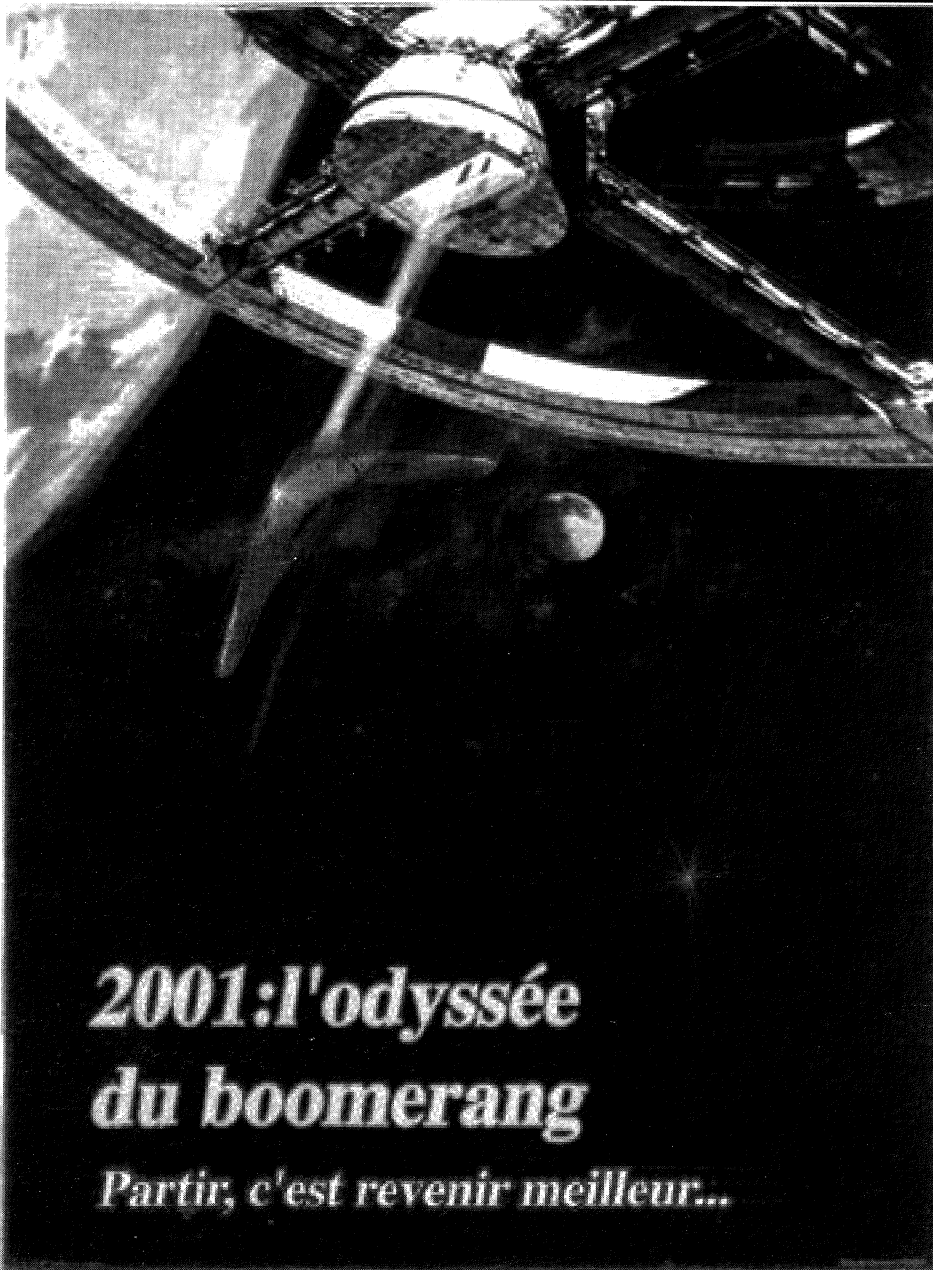
The Belgian Boomerang Club has a terrific web page at: <http://www.lexasoft.com/bba/>

Fedde Engwerda is the Dutch Boomerang Man: <http://www.boomerangman.nl>

Ewout Koldenhof has a great new web site in both Dutch and English with lots of plans at: <http://fly.to/boemerangtekeningen>

The Milano Boomerang Club has posted a new web site with results and pictures from the last Milano tournament and the official Italian Ranking List. Please visit: <http://www.boomi.it/>

The C.L.U.B web site contains the official Italian tournament cal-



Serge d'Ignazio celebrated the beginning of the Millenium by issuing this fabulous post card depicting a boomerang being launched from the space station from the movie "2001, A Space Odyssey".



endar: <http://web.tiscalinet.it/itboomerang/>

Gunter Wandtke has published high resolution photos at: <http://community.webshots.com/user/redgum3>

Br. Brian Thomas has posted boomerang related photos at: <http://community.webshots.com/user/TFMD1>

You can visit Roger Perry's Spinback Boomerang web site at: <http://www.boomerangsrus.com>

You can visit Roger Perry's Rangs Boomerang website at: <http://www.rangsboomerangs.com>

Ricardo Bruni Marx of Brazil has recently updated his web site and plans to offer credit card payment so throwers from around the world can order his boomerangs: <http://www.bumerangue.com>

The Czech Republic now has a boomerang team. For more info, email [booms@atlas.cz](mailto:booms@atlas.cz) or Czech out their web page: <http://mujweb.cz/zabava/boomerang/>

Outback Steakhouse has an online boomerang game: <http://www.outback.com/gamescontests/boomerrangegame.asp>

Check out the Boomerang Beach House Backpackers of Hervey Bay at: <http://dkd.net/boomerang/packers.html>

Here's a nice little home made page with a thrower's personal experiences with boomerangs: <http://www.thecitizen.com/homes/houseworks/000923/4564231.html>

This link is not really boomerang related, but if you like flying toys, you will think it is cool. Go to the following page to see a flying disc that has a programmable message. That's right. You program in a message up to 12 characters in length and when you throw it at night, the message is displayed in lights as the disc flies through the air. I would love to see someone get one of these and adapt the technology to a boomerang!: <http://www.stupid.com/giftshop/ewriter.htm>

---

## Santa Barbara LD Tournament

---

by Dan Neelands

Three days of distance throwing on Storke Field, the Mecca of long distance in North America hosted by Erik Fields.

The event was characterized by a bell curve of activity starting with a pretty casual 8 or 10 hours on the field December 30. People were still arriving from foreign countries like Canada, Switzerland and Massachusetts. Most of the outlanders needed time to thaw out and limber up after a winter of inactivity. Some of the locals were out to pass around sunscreen and chuckle at the other throwers fish belly complexions. Chris Cotter, "Abo" Steve Conaway and Erik Fields all made everyone feel very welcome. Bob Foresi had brought a couple of long distance natural elbows as well as an assortment of the very best contemporary throw sticks in the world. When winds were wrong or nonexistent everyone got to try a few non-returns. Booms were traded back and forth, theory was discussed and a good time was had by all.

Day two saw the curve of activity steepen as 11 throwers buckled down to throw their farthest and measure their peers efforts. The wind was light to none; the spotting was fast and accurate. Generally in practice throws were going far but not quite making it back. When measuring started it looked as if it would be a day in the low hundred + with few returns. Not so. Erik Fields showed us the results of practice and perseverance by throwing a beautiful high flight that scored a whopping 148 in less than perfect conditions. Tibor and Dan measured solidly in the 120s and Andy Cross tied the Canadian record mere minutes after stepping off a plane from the Great

White North. Local throwers Bud Jamison and Brian Emery threw 114 and 111 respectively with boomerangs they crafted themselves. Bob Foresi landed firmly in the 100 meter club with 110 and an easy return. Chris Cotter debuted the "Millenium" a new design that netted him a 109 which was a personal best. Rick Denuccio threw 107 with an excellent display of post throw sound effects. Andy "Big Wood" Strum powered an older style hook around for a 100 and Kelly Neelands got on the books with a 61 in calm air. At the end of the afternoon Bob Foresi made what would be the last competitive long distance boomerang throw of the 20th century. Everyone agreed that it was a great tournament.

The third day of throwing was much like the first with lots of comparing notes, tracing of booms talk of the up coming season. There was no official measurement just lots of throwing. An exciting aspect of the event was that new designs were everywhere. Erik flew the "Milpas Reaper" and "Isla Vista" Budd Jamieson favored his "S boom" and Chris Cotter broke in the "Millenium". Then North American distance scene is moving along at a great pace and 2001 should be an exciting season.

Top scores were:

- |     |                |      |
|-----|----------------|------|
| 1.  | Eric Fields    | 148m |
| 2.  | Dan Neelands   | 123m |
| 3.  | Tibor Horvath  | 122m |
| 4.  | Bud Jamieson   | 114m |
|     | Andy Cross     | 114m |
| 6.  | Brian Emery    | 111m |
| 7.  | Bob Foresi     | 110m |
| 8.  | Chris Cotter   | 109m |
| 9.  | Rick DeNuccio  | 107m |
| 10. | Andy Strum     | 100m |
| 11. | Kelly Neelands | 61m  |

To find out more about future LD events, please contact Eric Fields by calling 805-564-4840 or by email at: [fields@icess.ucsb.edu](mailto:fields@icess.ucsb.edu)

---

---

## Team Gel 17<sup>th</sup> New Year's Day Tournament 1/1/01

---

---

written by Bob Foresi

What better place to pop the cork on the new year and the true millennium than at Gel Girvin's annual New Year's Day affair? The setting was beautiful, with temps near 60 °F, light breezes, and thermals of radness rising from Billy Martin Field in Oakland, CA.

31 throwers divided into 4 teams were on hand to participate in 1 individual and 5 team events. Besides the core of California throwers, and myself displaced from the East Coast, Andy "Calgary Stampede" Cross lent an international flair to the festivities, and radman Casey Larrance was down from Seattle. Further Northwest representation was provided by Dan and Kelly Neelands, as part of their well-established winter migration route. Altogether, 7 women throwers were present, as a testament to the radness of the proceedings.

Team Neves Leg won the opening event, Hackurracy, led by super Bay Area thrower Chris Rose and tribal elder Pete Gibson. It was nice to reconnect and throw on the same team as Pete, after what we figured was a 15-year hiatus. While not that old, Pete is now throwing in his 5<sup>th</sup> decade, beginning back when a Wham-O looked like a Jonas. Neves Leg also got big-time contributions

from Mario Hernandez, Stephanie Martin, Sophia Bowart, Brian Lilla, and Tony and Ian Marlow, adding a 1<sup>st</sup> in Round Rang Relay, and an eventual 1<sup>st</sup> overall. Team Dangling Chads took Whoa Nelly impressively, and nosed out the Alley Catchers in Butterfly (Team Hacky), during which both teams gave a virtual clinic in what this event was about. The Chads were Casey, Andy, Thor, Anita, Karin Ericssen, Bruce Bender, London Toft, and Georgia "Style Outback" Schreiber.

The Alley Catchers, besides Butterfly, also shined in Hackurracy, with a lineup including Gel, Brian Pearson, Amanda, Alan Byrm, Mike Wilmeth, Jim Eldridge, and featuring Joe Miller. Joe has upcoming knee surgery, and a speedy, rad recovery is wished for GLORP's original inventor.

Beaver Corporate Entity.merica won Supercatch with ease. Beaver was made up of Luca, Kelly King, Dave Grover, John Lee, Bill Wilson, and the Neelands'. The breeze did pick up a little for this event. Casey hit the thermals with an MTA which carried up, up, and way out of the park. He and a flock of others gave chase across the patchwork of residential yards and numbered streets. But the Jet Stream God thought this one was good enough to keep.

Sometime before the GLORP event, all eyes turned to a stretch limo which had pulled up to the park gate. About 7 as yet uniden-

tified, but extremely colorful rads got out, and withdrew from the limo a full-length sofa. They carried it en masse to the best possible viewing point of the tournament, and settled in. Their pageantry would never have made it at the Rose Bowl Parade down the road (to their credit), but was much-heralded here.

GLORP, the only individual event, was contested last. Brian Pearson did a head catch-and-roll, with the catch radfully close to the ground. Casey added a neat elbow hacky-to-head catch. Alan Byrm, who just started throwing booms that day, incredibly made it to the last few throwers. Alan was on Gel's team during the day, so this may be a good time to point out just how well Gel recruits and helps new throwers along. They don't stay in the novice stage for long, and I wonder how much Gel had to do with the fact there was an unusually large number of local throwers with big-time skills at this tournament.

Chris Rose did a head hacky-to-fist hacky-to-behind-the-back catch, and stayed with Gel in GLORP until the end, finally stepping aside so the host had the spotlight to close out the day's action. Some great prizes were given out to all throwers, and we convened at a local Thai restaurant. The food by that time was definitely a necessity. The prizes may not have been, in the sense that this was not a tournament where you needed to take home a souvenir to remember you had been there.

---

---

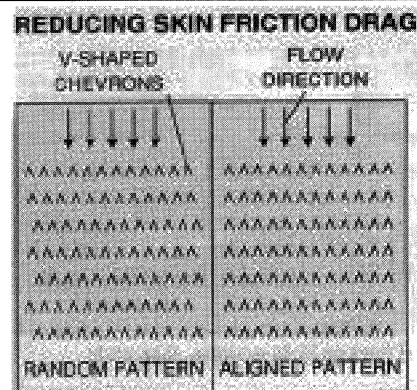
## How to Alter Airfoil Drag Using Chevron Markings

---

---

Some Aborigine craftsmen incise small Chevron markings into the upper surface of their boomerang airfoils. The Airbus A-340 successfully uses a special tape with similar riblets to reduce drag by 1-3%. Now researchers at 3M Aerospace have found that stag-

gering v-shaped chevrons in a random pattern (see photo right) can reduce drag by as much as 13%. By placing the chevrons in an aligned pattern, drag was increased by 20%. Be careful how you use this knowledge. On a competition boomerang, you may wish to increase drag at the tips and reduce drag at the elbow so you need to experiment and find what pattern works best for you.



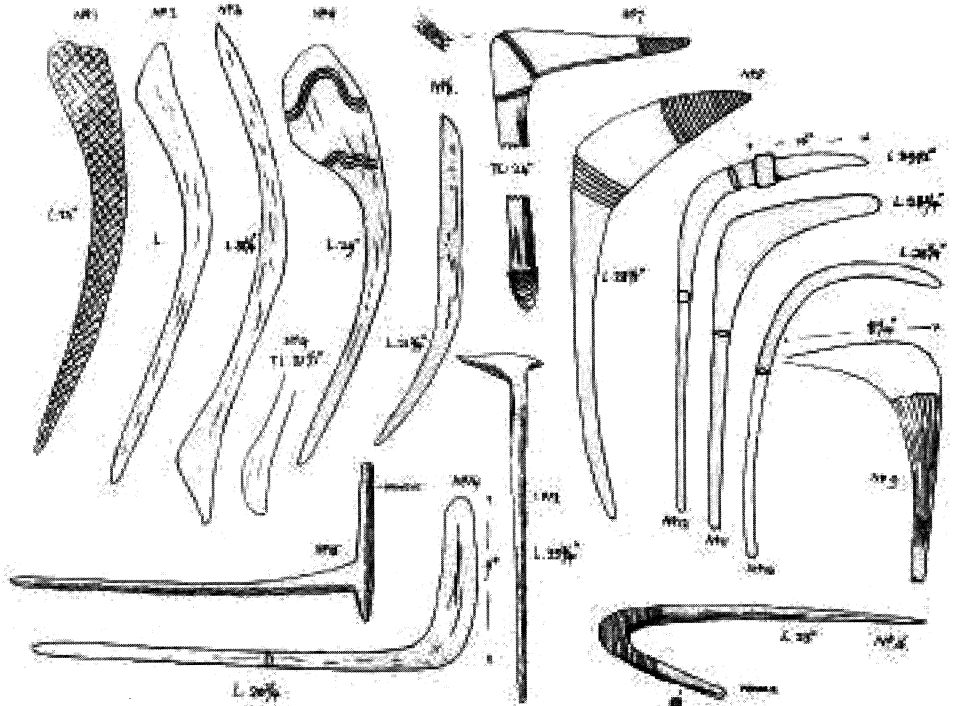


Ben Ruhe found a marvelous book that was published in 1890 and titled "An Album of the Weapons, Tools, Ornaments, Articles and Dress, Etc., of the Natives of the Pacific Islands". Shown below are two of the drawings from this book showing many different types of throw stick devices that were found in Australian museums at that time. The throwsticks in the upper drawing are from the Australian Museum in Sydney. The throwsticks in the lower photo are from the Melbourne Museum.

AUSTRALIA

101

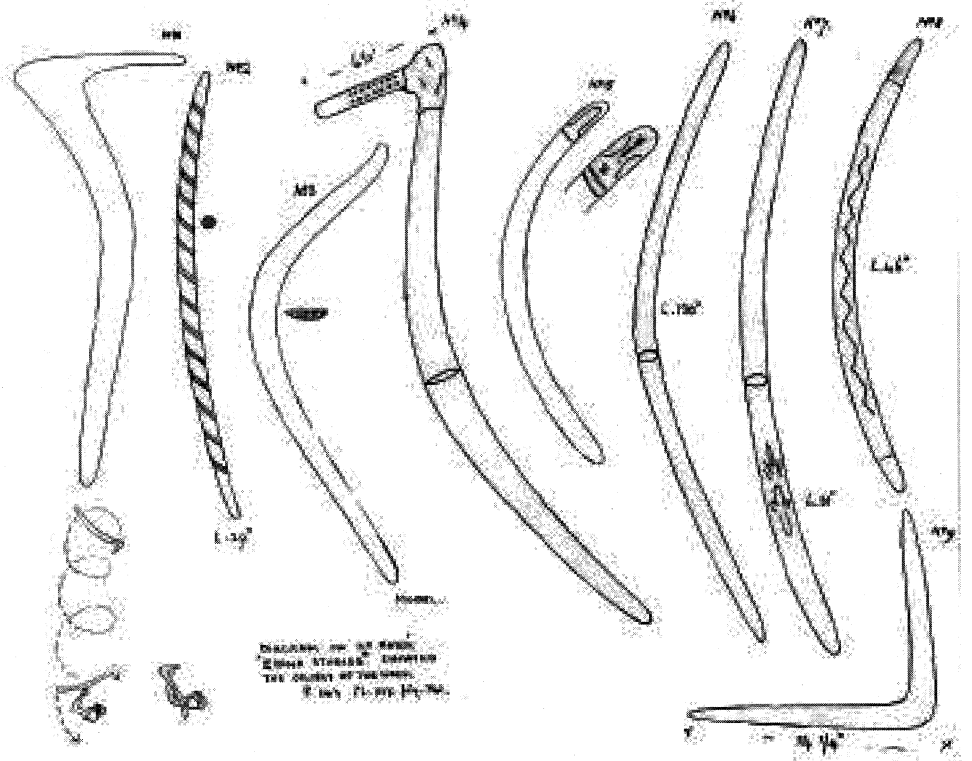
- Nº1. CLUB INCISED LINES  
ROCKINGHAM BAY. Q.
- Nº2. WAR BOOMERANG [BARRAGAN]  
N.S.W.
- Nº3-4 QUIRIANO-AN-WUN USED AS SWORDS  
AND AS MISSILES VIC.
- Nº5 LIL-LIL. DO VIC.
- Nº6 BOOMERANG [BARGEET] VIC.
- Nº7-9 CLUBS FORT MACKAY Q.  
MELBOURNE MUSEUM
- Nº10-12 CLUBS CLARENCE RIV NSW  
AUSTRALIAN MUS: SYDNEY.
- USED SO AS TO DEAL A BLOW NEAR THE KIDNEYS.
- Nº13 CLUB VICTORIA  
MELBOURNE MUS.
- Nº14. CLUB FOR DEALING A BLOW NEAR KIDNEYS  
300 MILES INLAND FROM TOWNVILLE.  
STOCKDALE.
- Nº15 DIGGING IMPLEMENT HERBERT RIV
- Nº16 DO DO
- USED ALSO AS FIGHTING WEAPONS  
AUSTRALIAN MUS: SYDNEY.



AUSTRALIA.

103

- Nº1. SWAN NECK BOOMERANG UPPER GEORGINA  
DISTRICT WORKIA TRIBE ESPECIALLY
- Nº2. TOY THROWING CLUB SAID TO BE THE  
ORIGIN OF THE BOOMERANG  
BRISSBANE MUSEUM
- Nº3 BOOMERANG HERBERT RIV Q.  
LE SOUV. COL.
- Nº4 ORDINARY BOOMERANG CONVERTED INTO A  
SWAN NECKED ONE  
M'ARTHUR RIV. G-OP. CARPENTARIA.  
HARDY COLL.
- Nº5 BOOMERANG HEAD WITH PAINTED DESIGN  
HORN EXPED. PL. 12 Fig. 11 ARUNTA
- Nº6. LONG CEREMONIAL TWO HANDED SWORD  
ALSO USED FOR EXECUTIONS S OF LAKE EYRE  
TWO HANDED SWORDS WITH SURFACE COVERED WITH INCISED  
ORNAMENT ARE ALSO FOUND IN THE BOOLIA DIST. Q.  
ADELAIDE MUSEUM
- Nº7 BOOMERANG. TABLELAND BETWEEN GULF OF  
CARPENTARIA AND PORT DARWIN  
STOCKDALE
- Nº8 DO EDWARDS RIV. LE SOUV. COL.
- Nº9. TOY. DO [WONGUM] VIC.  
MELBOURNE MUS.



Jack Byham, one of Australia's most famous boomerang throwers, passed away near his home on 26 November 2000. Jack was a founding member of the BAA and a great promoter of boomeranging. He was especially famous for his natural timber boomerangs. He sold his first batch of boomerangs at Australia's first Olympic Games held in Melbourne in 1956. Jack lived at Cobram, which is on the opposite side of the Murray River from Barooga, where his nephew Peter Byham currently makes boomerangs. Jack was a commando in World War II, and a real bushman. He was an honorary Aborigine and often went bush with them.

## A Tribute to Jack Byham

by Brother Brian Thomas

On Friday Kevin Moran and I returned from a 1500 km drive to attend Jack's funeral. We probably travelled the farthest by car, but others came from further afield. A niece flew over from Perth (about 3000 km away), while the indomitable Jacques Thomas made a lightning dash from France to attend the funeral of the great man, who was a good buddy of his. The weather was very hot, and a huge crowd of over 400 bulged out the back doors of the small Cobram Catholic Church for a requiem Mass celebrated by Fr. John Corcoran, who knew Jack well. At the start of the service two of his relatives and an army buddy went up and gave speeches about Jack. Summary: Jack was an interesting and pretty tough man! And loved by all. Boomerang people who attended were Morris Maxwell and his wife, Janine; Rob Croll, Ralph Sinclair, Kevin Moran and me. Peter and Joan Byham and the family were there, of course, and Peter helped carry the coffin out, even though he was only out of hospital a week from having his gall bladder removed and a hernia operated on!! He was sure that Jack had a slab (24 full cans) of beer in the coffin with him, it was that heavy!! After the Mass over 100 drove a few miles out of town to the hillside cemetery in the hot Aussie sun. After laying Jack to rest we returned to the Cobram Bowling Club for eats and drinks till about 5.30. After that Kevin and I returned to Bronya's place. Here I threw a Binghi Falcon around a few small buildings in the yard. One of the sheds looked like Professor Marvel's cabin in the Wizard of Oz. Bronya then took about eight of us for a walk down to the river side to show us where Jack died. We threw our boomerang there quite a few times. Even Bronya had a throw. Jack's nieces Sonia and Kathleen, both had good arms. I was thinking how much Gary Broadbent

would have loved to have been there at that stage. We certainly felt privileged to be there. It was only on the way down there, when we stopped at Jeff Lewry's, that the full impact of the importance of Jack to our boomerang world came home. Consider this. Jeff Lewry bought his first boomerang from Jack about 1962. It was right handed so Jeff had to learn how to make a lefty boomerang. He went on to become a maker. From Jeff the Janetzkis bought their first boomerang and started in their own making career, and have left a monumental mark on boomerang history ever since. So, without Jack, we might never have seen Jeff Lewry or the Janetzkis ever get into boomerangs! How much poorer the boomerang world would have been for that. I have asked Jeff to write the story of the Albury Boomerang Club, the first boomerang club, so in our next Bulletin or so we hope to have that story for you.

Bronya thanks all those people who sent their condolences. She was very brave during everything. It would be good if she heard >from a few people in the next few weeks when things get more lonely. Remember the address: Boorim Street, Cobram. Vic. Australia 3644. Bronya is a bit deaf (not that it will effect her reading your letters!). It happened when she a young girl trying to impress others with how far she could swim underwater. The pressure ruined her ears. She is a small woman from Poland and worked very hard with Jack in making the boomerangs all those years. She used to do all the buffing of the boomerangs

and get covered in fine dust constantly. So, if you possess a Byham boomerang, you have part of Bronya's labour there too. The BAA thanks Jack Byham (and Bronya) for all his efforts over the years to promote the sport and help get it kick started. Jack was President of the BAA in 1981 when the first International Challenge took place between the USA and Australia. That boomerang tour had a memorable time at Jack's place in Cobram and many hunting sticks were bought then. We have captured part of that on our video we produced which shows much of the 1981 challenge, plus nearly two hours of early BAA competitions and competitors, like the Janetzkis, Bunny Read and 2 year old Ben Loveland at the Nationals ... all very fine memories. We also have some shots of Jack throwing too. I am thankful now that we got that footage. Thanks again for your concern for Jack. May he rest in peace. God bless you all.

*Br. Brian Thomas,  
BAA President 2000*

If anyone is interested in sending a card or note to Jack's wife, Bronya, the address is:

**Bronya Byham  
Boorim Street  
Cobram, Vic. 3644  
Australia**



In Jack Byham's yard after his burial. Pictured left to right are Sonia, Therese, Morris Maxwell, Bronya Byham, Jacques Thomas, Kathleen Byham, Kevin Moran behind Otto & Ken.

---

---

In Memoriam  
"Bluey Williams"

---

---

by Jeff Lewry

I have always held a great affection for my good friend, Bluey. He was christened Irvan, but that was more or less kept a secret, as we all seemed to think of Bluey as his given name. Indeed, I note that he was listed as "I. Williams" in only a few of the results of early competitions, and then it became always B. Williams.

He was a stalwart of Boomerang throwing, one of the foundation members of the B.A.A., and when I looked it up, it came as a surprise to learn that he died as long ago as 17<sup>th</sup> October 1974. it doesn't seem that long, but means that even long - term members did not have the pleasure of knowing him, or competing against him.

He died of Asbestosis, a lung disease probably contracted 30-40 years previously, while working as a welder, when the rods were wrapped on asbestos string instead of the later powdered flux.

My vivid memory of Bluey, even today, is of him in the very typical pose with one foot outstretched taking a catch. He seemed to be so in control of his throwing that he could always be in this position for a catch. He was unique in that he could throw a L.H. boomerang with his left-hand almost as well as he threw a R.H., right handed

Bluey was a consistent competitor, in fact I said for years, that if you were in a comp, with Bluey present, at the end you sure knew you had been in one! He was also a bit of a hard case, and a practical joker. During the first ever World Championships, held at Darlington Point in November 1970, he walked out to take his throws in

the elimination round, with what appeared to be a 3-bladed boomerang. These were outlawed then (and still should be), so of course he was hoorayed by the other throwers, until he separated the 2 ordinary V-shaped boomerangs he'd been holding together. In the minor events held that day, it was possible to enter more than once, "if time permitted", with prize money being sweepstakes of entry fees. Bluey was announced as winner of the Accurate return. He told me afterwards that Jack Burwell, there with his father, Cec and brother Bob, lodged a protest claiming that Bluey only beat his score with a second attempt. Bluey said "Bob got the trophy, but I got the prize money, and I'd rather have the ten bucks any day".

He was also a good sport and chivalrous competitor. In the main event that day, the prize was a fortnight's all expenses paid trip to New-Zealand, so it was surely worth winning. In the first round of the eliminations, I was drawn to throw first, and didn't do at all well, so I really had to pull my socks up in the second round to make the finals. Bluey led into the finals with 68, followed by Bruce Kyle, (also since sadly deceased) and myself on 60.

In those far off, pre-metric days, the maximum possible for each throw was fourteen: (6 for a return within 6 feet of the thrower, - 6 really had to you have a returning boomerang! - 4 for the catch, and 4 for exceeding 40 yards distance thrown before return.)

Then, as now, the highest scorer had the privilege of throwing last, so knowing the scores to beat. I was pleased to score 24 while both "Bluey" and Bruce had 18, giving me a handy lead of 6. Bruce could only manage a further 16 in round 2, for a low total

of 34. I feel that my second throw in this round was the crucial one - the return was right over the centre circle, hovering nicely, and a catch would mean maximum points. I managed that O.K. Feeling on top of the world, I took my remaining three throws quickly, and finished with a great 48 for that round, and a very good total of 72.

As I left the ground, "Bluey" passed me going in and said: 'You believe in making it hard, don't you?' I replied ; "Well, if I left it too easy, there'd be no triumph for you in winning".

Bluey's reply was ; That might be so, but this time I think you've made it a bit too hard".

Actually "Bluey" had to score 55 in this round to win, which would have meant creating a new record. After his second throw, we all knew he had to score possible points on each of his remaining 3 throws to win by one point, a not impossible task, but very unlikely. His third throw was returning nicely to the circles, with "Bluey" in his typical pose, slightly crouched, with arms outstretched, waiting for the catch, and dropped it! He still scored for the accurate return, as well as distance, but loss of the catching points surely meant I had won. The other competitors, good sports all, clustered round



Bluey Williams   Geoff Finson   Bruce Kyle   Jack Byham

congratulating me, before "Bluey" finished his last 2 throws. He didn't try very hard and totalled only 54.

Bluey, being Bluey, immediately came and shook my hand, and wished me all the best on my coming trip.

Although Bluey was a very consistent thrower, and a winner of every other regular comp. he couldn't crack the Darlington Point prize. In the 1971 World Championship, he was 3<sup>rd</sup> to Geoff Rawson's 2<sup>nd</sup>. Geoff was another good thrower from this era, winning a lot of competitions, including beating me, and Bluey, for "Champion of Champions" at the Albury Competition in July 1972. He was also President of B.A.A. in 1970 - 1971, and 1971 - 1972. Geoff called into my workshop several years ago, to say "G'Day" mentioning that he was currently involved with a youth organization, then disappeared from view. I've heard a vague rumour that he was in New Zealand, but nothing more.

Anyway, it didn't take very long for Bluey to get his revenge. At the "Moomba" comp, in 1971, he was 3<sup>rd</sup> to Geoff's 1<sup>st</sup>, but 1972 was his year. In March, he took

out the "Moomba" event in a close result - final scores were Bluey 84, Geoff 80, and myself 79.

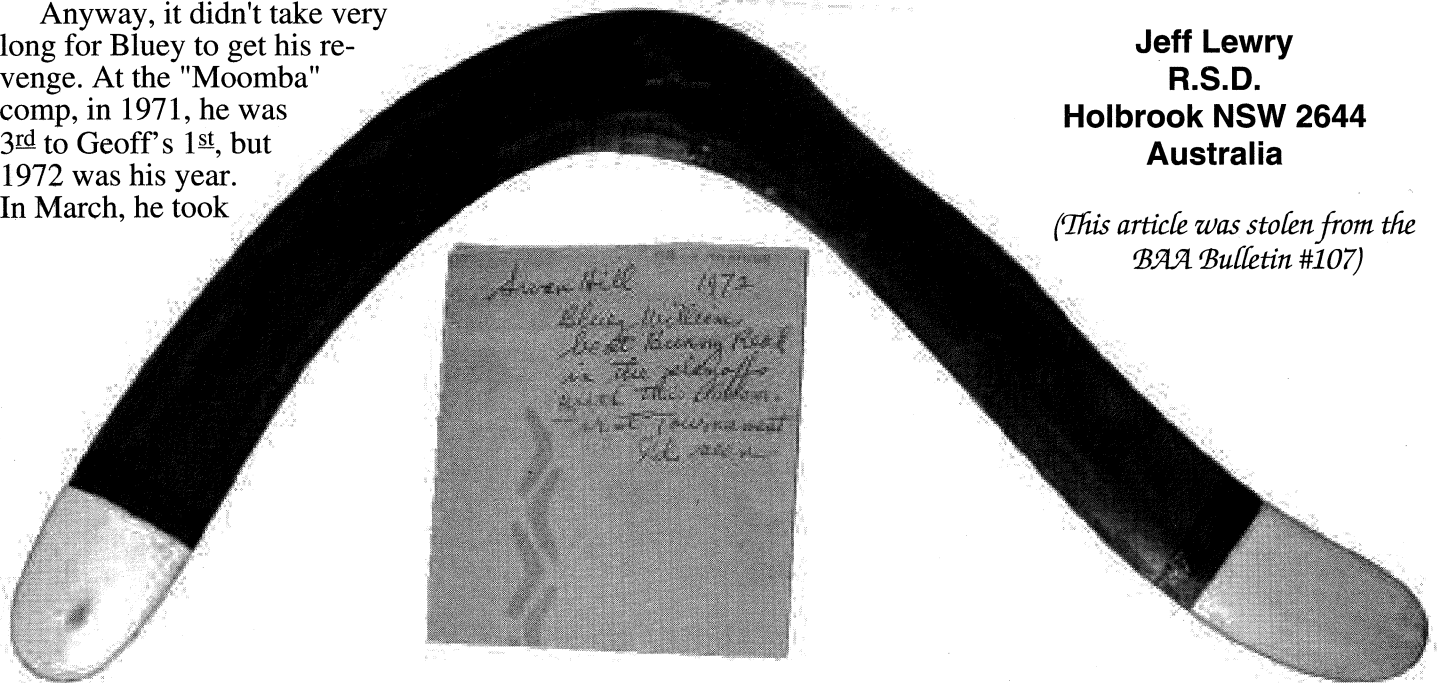
But it was at the Australian championships held at Swan Hill in April, ( it was held in conjunction with the Pioneer - Shakespeare Festival, a week long carnival) that he showed everyone just how it should be done. Preliminary rounds were held in the morning on one ground, with the finals later, elsewhere. An interesting entrant was Colonel John Gerrish, from the U.S.A. since deceased, accompanied by his wife Marjorie. Also, Bunny Read, in his very first comp, top scored into the finals with a remarkable effort. He had only a short range boomerang so didn't get any points for distance, but he took all 10 catches, and his accuracy was very good. Some thought there may be a bolover, and gave Bluey and I a good natured ribbing, for being outpointed by a newcomer, but I figured that there's a lot of difference between the pressure of preliminary rounds and finals.

I've always thought that final, held late in the afternoon, in perfect conditions, with a slowly dropping light breeze, before a huge crowd on the Swan Hill sports arena as a finale to the Carnival, was the best exhibition of boomerang throwing one could ever hope to Witness, and I was delighted to be part of it. I only wish that there could have been a film of the whole thing.

Bunny really wasn't 'in it with his short range boomerang - lack of distance points was a severe handicap - but he won his share later, when he had better boomerangs, in his unfortunately short life. At the end of the first round, it was neck and neck, Bluey 57 and myself 59. Bluey improved with 63 in his second round for a total of 120 out of a possible 160. A figure that I doubt has ever been bettered, all things considered. Remember that scoring circles were smaller, and maximum was 16 points per throw. He was pretty to watch. He took every catch, had maximum range every throw, and only one throw outside the scoring circles.

**Jeff Lewry  
R.S.D.  
Holbrook NSW 2644  
Australia**

*(This article was stolen from the  
BAA Bulletin #107)*



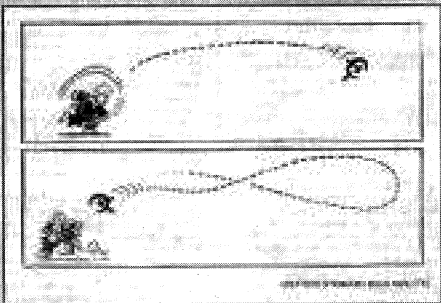
This Bluey Williams Hook won the 1972 Swan Creek General Championships. Following the Championships, Bluey gave the winning hook to Colonel John Gerrish who added it to his collection with the note shown above.



## Boomerang Cartoons

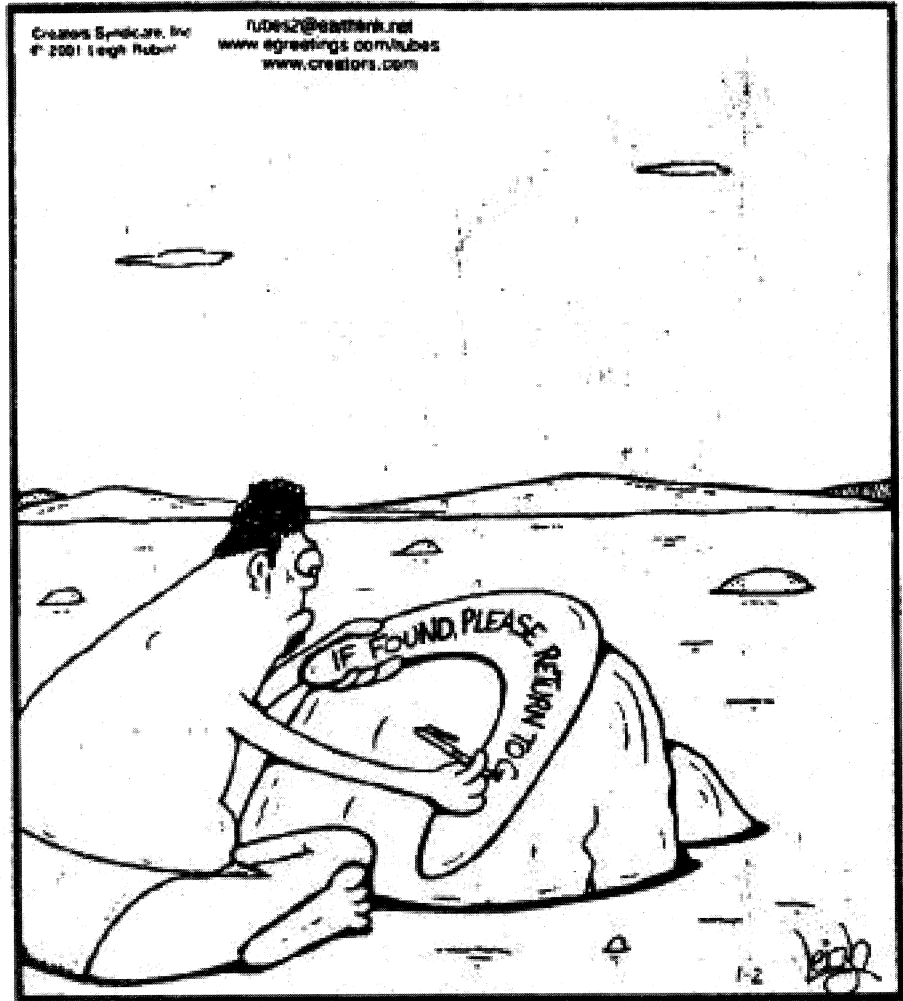
Boomerangs were featured in the Wall Street Journal twice in January 2001. The cartoon at the bottom left was part of a book review (page W8) in the 5 January issue. This less than favorable review was about a new book titled "True History of the Kelly Gang", written by Peter Carey. The "Pepper . . . and Salt" cartoon at the bottom right was featured in the 23 January issue. Many thanks to Andy Cross for sending in the Rubes cartoon, pictured top right. The cartoon immediately below shows Gorbachev tossing out a Hammer & Sickle and having it come back to hit him. The cartoons on the following pages were sent in by MHR readers over the past several years to be used as newsletter column fillers.

### The week in cartoons



RUBES®

By Leigh Rubin



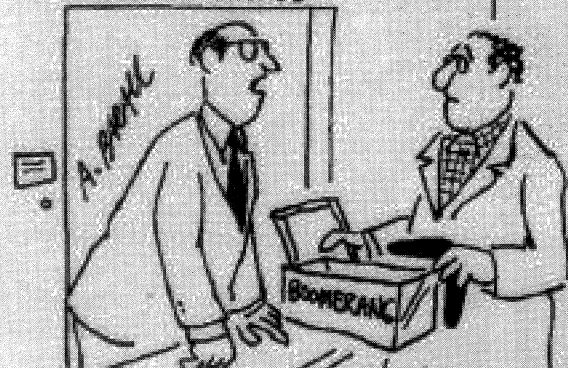
As was apparent, George had a long way to go before turning pro.



### Pepper . . . and Salt

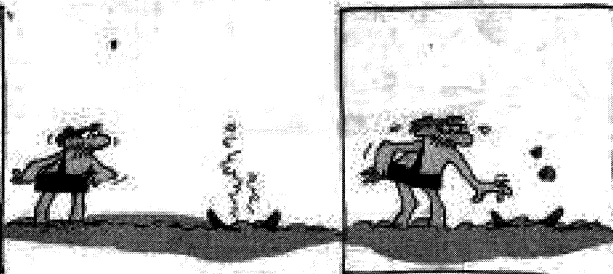
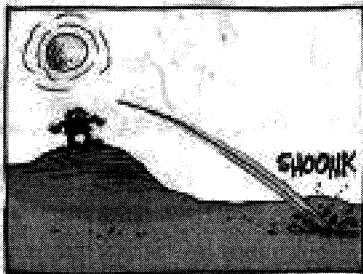
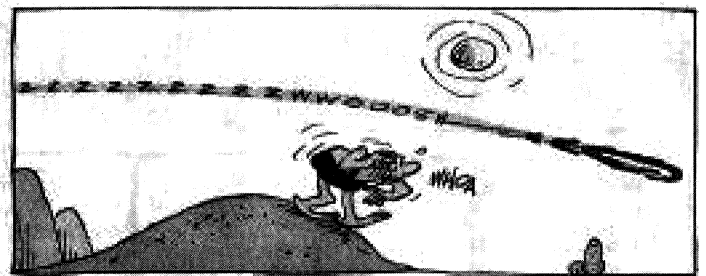
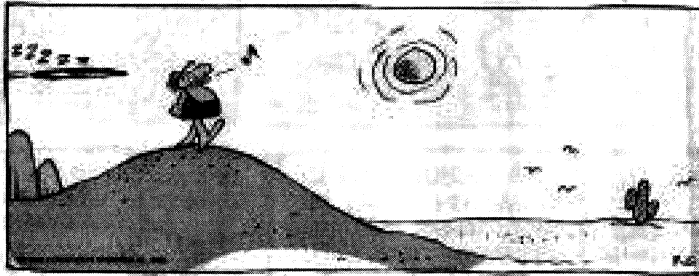
THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

COMPLAINTS

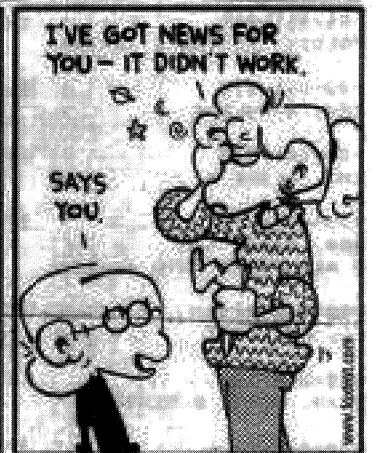
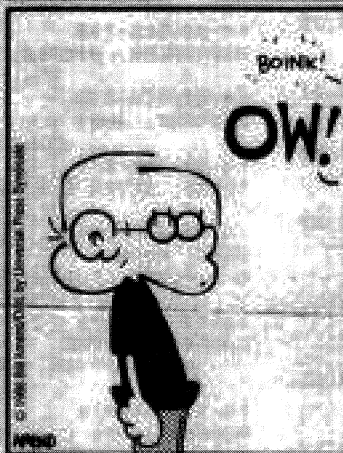
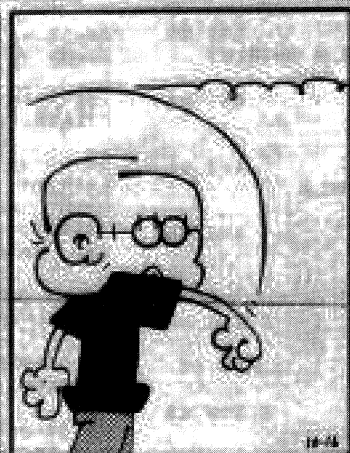
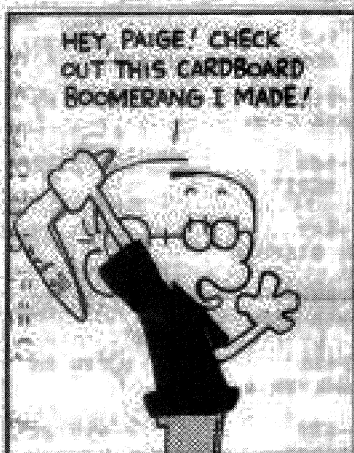
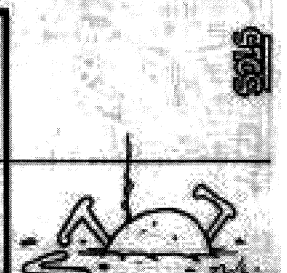
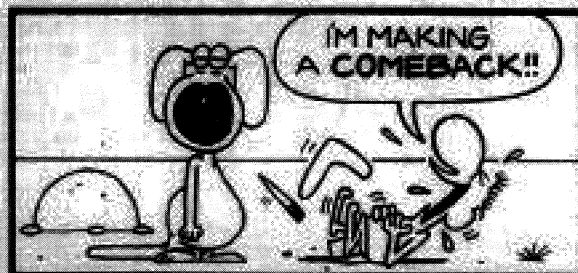
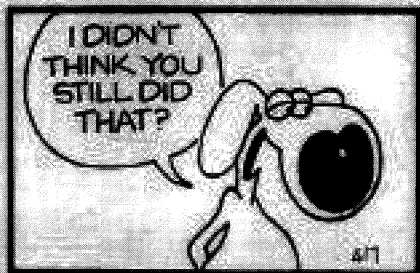
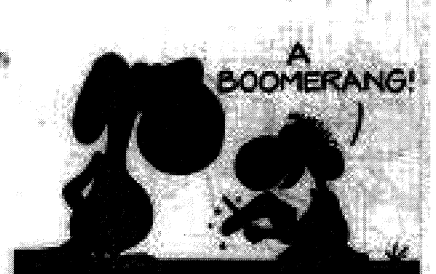
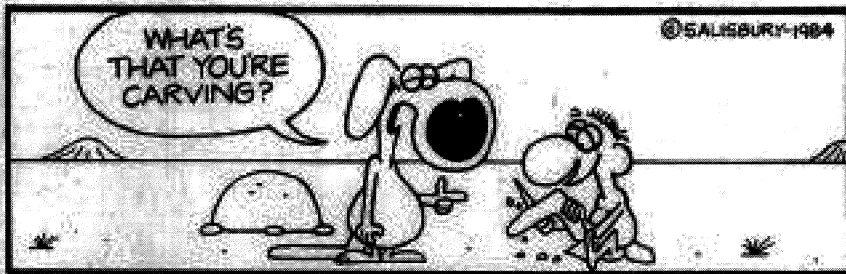


"Well, if it doesn't work, how come you still have it?"





**SNAKE**  
Tales by **SP5**





Can you name these collectible boomerangs & throwsticks?

From top left to bottom left:

David Schummy's Hybrid Lefty made out of Scotch ply and wrapped in a sheet of Carbon fibre. This lefty has a range of 130+ metres and requires both strength and skill.

Herb Smith's Weighted Birch Tornado, a terrific "U" shaped boomerang with floral art and a weight in the lift arm tip. Herb made this one in 1994.

Al Gerhards' Strip Laminated Weighted Hook has a range of 80-100 metres. Made in 1979 (S/N 278) and given to Jack Byham at the US/Aussie Challenge Match in 1981. Made out of Hickory wood.

John Flynn made this stunning natural elbow hook out of two tone Hickory wood in 1998.

Jonas Romblad made the best MTA boomerangs in the world. No longer in production, this premium model sells for hundreds of dollars if you can find one for sale.

Finally, on the right side of the photo are two Central Desert Aboriginal throwsticks (left, fluted hunting stick and right, fluted Swan Neck hunting stick) and on the far right, a returning Louisville Slugger baseball bat natural elbow with a range of 40+ metres by Bob Foresi. You can find collectible boomerangs at online auctions:

<http://www.ebay.com/>  
<http://www.boomerang-auctions.de>  
<http://www.flight-toys.com/boomerang/auction.htm>

---

## 2001 USBA Boomerang Competition Modifications

---

by Gregg Snouffer

After the 2000 boomerang season, a committee of boomerang enthusiasts formed, under the auspices of the USBA, with the basic mission of determining the best direction to take in order to appeal to a more mainstream boomerang audience. The Future of Boomerangs Committee (FBC) determined what was necessary was to better showcase ALL aspects of boomerangs, including the art, craft, design and history, as well as the competitive events into a festive, exposition type event at the national level, and to free up tournament directors at the local level, to enable throwers to more easily hold a local fling and more easily post and view the scores and results of those local events.

In order to accomplish these, it was determined by the FBC and adopted by the USBA board that the following changes be made for the 2001 season:

- 1) Non-USBA members may compete in their first boomerang tournament without joining the USBA.
- 2) The National Expo event will include a full time dedicated novice field and tent where "learn to make and throw" workshops will be offered, along with regularly scheduled games and prizes for any novice throwers that come or stop by.
- 3) The Expo weekend will also include an expanded craftsmanship and design competition with the following categories: Most creatively shaped returning boomerang (any medium), best lap-joint (hard wood), best strip-laminate, most creative design (any medium), and best non-returning throw-stick. The following criteria will apply: Entries must be crafted within one year prior to the National Expo, and must be thrown at the expo, before the judges, to prove boomerang flight characteristics. Sponsorship money will be sought for prize money in each category.
- 4) Speakers, exhibitors, demonstrations will be solicited and scheduled as part of the National Expo Weekend festivities. A large meeting room will be secured near the sight where each evening, boomerang aficionados can participate in forums, see new shop and design techniques, get info from wood and other resource suppliers, etc.
- 5) For competition events purposes, in lieu of a national ratings system, the USBA will continually post and update at its web sight a list of boomerang scores from all local tournaments, as well as an event-by-event listing of the best scores of the season.
- 6) Any thrower can hold a USBA boomerang tournament or event and have the results of that event posted to the web sight, counted for U.S. and World Records, and qualify individual throwers to the annual Head to Head National Individual Boomerang Championships at the end of the season. In order to have scores recognized for these purposes, a local organizer needs to:

A) Inform the USBA of the tournament, the format, and the events to be contested at least 30 days in advance, for inclusion on the USBA calendar of events and to give competitors time to arrange travel. (This amount of time has been decreased, to make it easier to hold a local tournament.)

B) Pay a \$50 event insurance fee to the USBA (this amount has been reduced from \$85 and provides the TD and any sponsors and facilities provider with protection, in the event of a law suit)

C) Run the events they wish to include according to USBA standards for rules and number of judges. (The minimum number of participants has been reduced to make it easier to hold an event. See minimum numbers needed in the event descriptions below.)

7) The following formats are available at the discretion of the local Tournament Director:

A) Team pro-am Format: mix up the throwers onto evenly distributed teams and run team events.

B) Head to Head Format: A fun individual format for hard-core competitors. Also used to determine the ultimate national champion in each of the six core events. Throwers compete against each other in each of the events in an elimination-style tournament that has many possible options to make it inclusive or exclusive.

C) Individual Format: The traditional format where throwers test their skills one at a time against the elements and time.

D) Long Distance Format: the distance event!

E) Freestyle Format: A mix of these or a whole new format created by the tournament director.

8) All scores from tournaments that follow the standards will be entered on the High Scores list on the USBA website regardless of what tournament format was used to obtain them (i.e.: a fast catch score can be reported and posted, even if it was obtained as part of a team effort at a team event, as long as there were three timers and two range spotters during the rounds.)

9) The USBA encourages T.D.'s to experiment with new formats.

10) In order to encourage top competitors to travel to and participate in local tournaments, AND to encourage other throwers to participate in the National Competition, qualifying scores have been established for those who wish to participate in the Head to Head National Championship for individuals, which is held on Friday (preliminaries) and Sunday (finals) of the National Boomerang Expo Weekend. If these scores are obtained at any time during the regular season, that competitor is invited to participate in the prelims of the H2H finals on Friday of the Expo. There is no limit to the number of local tournaments one may participate in to accomplish these qualifying scores. Achieving the qualifying score once during the season qualifies them for that season's H2H national's prelims. They must qualify for each event in which they wish to compete. (See below for qualifying scores to the annual National Head to Head Boomerang Championships)

11) The National Expo Weekend will also feature a Junior National Championships, open to anyone under 18, and run as an individual format tournament on Sunday morning of the Expo weekend.

Here are the USBA core events, whose results will be tracked on the web page for qualification to the National Head to Head preliminary round, along with the minimum numbers of participants required to run each event, and the qualifying score a thrower needs to achieve in the 2001 season to qualify to the preliminary round of the 2001 National Head To Head Boomerang Championships for individuals.

**ACCURACY** - 3 rotating pairs of throwers, accuracy circles and 20m circle complying with USBA rules, 2 range spotters. (Minimum participants = 8. 2001 qualifying score = 25)

**AUSSIE ROUND** - 3 rotating pairs of throwers, accuracy and range circles complying with USBA rules, 5 range spotters. (Minimum participants=11. 2001 qualifying score = 50)

**TRICK CATCH** - 1 thrower, 20m range circle and center circle complying with USBA rules, 3 range spotters, 1 center judge. (Minimum participants = 5. 2001 qualifying score = 50)

**MTA** - 1 rotating thrower, 50m circle complying with USBA rules, 3 timers. (Minimum participants = 4. 2001 qualifying score = 60 seconds for best 3 of 5 times combined.)

**FAST CATCH** - 1 thrower, 20m circle and center circle complying with USBA rules, 3 range spotters/timers, and 1 center judge. (Minimum participants = 5. 2001 qualifying score = 30 seconds.)

**ENDURANCE**- 1 thrower, 20-meter circle and center circle complying with USBA rules, 3 range spotters/timers, and 1 center judge. (Minimum participants = 5. 2001 qualifying score = 25)

**30M RELAY** - 2 tandem throwers, 30m circle and center circle complying with USBA rules, 3 range spotters, 3 timers. At most 2 rounds per day per format. (Minimum participants = 8, 2001 qualifying score =30 seconds)

These optional events will also be reported on the web page to encourage local tournaments to hold both core and non-traditional events. Optional Events- Minimum # to run event

2- GLORP

13- Distance (note: extremely high standards must be met to run this event)

4- Team Beaver Scramble

13- Team Relay

8- Team Position (assuming (2) 4-person teams)

8- Team Super Catch (assuming (2) 4-person teams)

9- Endurance Relay (assuming (2) 4-person teams)

2- Kylie Golf

2- Other Kylie Events

3- Juggling

4- Five-Minute Juggling

---

---

## USBA Store

---

---

The USBA Store Manager is Billy Brazelton. The store offers bumper stickers, T-shirts, and "About Boomerangs" books. USBA Eagle T-Shirts (L, XL, XXL) are \$12 for members, \$15 for non-members. "Boomerangs are coming back!" bumper stickers are \$1, official USBA red logos are \$0.50 each (logo orders of \$25

or more are half price). This is a great way to expose the public to boomerangs, as conversation-starters or advertising. The books are \$28 and are autographed by the author, Kelly Boyer Sagert. To order, call 651-644-3086 or email: [update@usba.org](mailto:update@usba.org) or write to:

**Billy Brazelton**  
2082 Como Ave. #3  
St. Paul, MN 55108



---

---

### 2000 USBA Seasons Ratings

For a summary of which tournaments have been included in the 2000 competition season, please visit: <http://www.prism.gatech.edu/~gt5353b/USBA/2000/>

Note that results from the Amherst, Canton, Hartford, Salem, and Savannah tournaments are not included.

For more info on the USBA 2000 ratings, please email Jason Smucker at: [gt5353b@prism.gatech.edu](mailto:gt5353b@prism.gatech.edu)

---

---

The USBA is always looking for volunteers to work on various club activities. If you have desktop publishing experience and if you wish to help the USBA by editing Many Happy Returns, please contact the current editor, Ted Bailey, by email at: [tbailey@ic.net](mailto:tbailey@ic.net) or by phone at 734-971-2970 (evenings) or by writing to: Ted Bailey; P. O. Box 6076; Ann Arbor, MI 48106

---

---

### Spring 2001 Collectible Boomerang Auction

The Spring 2001 Boomerang Auction (#11) is currently underway with some terrific collectables being offered for sale. This includes Jack Byham's personal S/L Gerhard hook, a Janetzki boomerang, a Jonas Romblad MTA, lots of Herb Smith booms, a dozen Aboriginal throwsticks (two are central desert swan necks), natural elbows, strip laminated, etc. There are some terrific art rangers by Pat Cardiff (see cover) and Didier Bonin, lots of competition boomerangs by Georgi Dimantchev, lots of MTAs (Dimantchev, Bailey, Romblad, Smith), distance booms, fast catch, doublers, etc. Bids can be submitted until 15 April. For a complete list of all auction items, visit:

<http://www.flight-toys.com/boomerang/auction.htm>

or write to: Ted Bailey; P. O. Box 6076; Ann Arbor, MI 48106

---

---

### USBA Calendar of Events

*regularly updated on the web at: <http://www.usba.org/calendar.html>*

19 May 2001: 12th Annual USBA Toss Across America. For info, email: [Betsylew Miale-Gix, betwil@att.net](mailto:Betsylew Miale-Gix, betwil@att.net)

July 28<sup>th</sup> - August 9<sup>th</sup> 2002; World Cup: <http://www.boomerang2002.com>; email: [gm@boomerang2002.com](mailto:gm@boomerang2002.com)



### **USBA Board Email Contact Info**

President Chet Snouffer - usba@usba.org  
 Vice-President Fred Malmberg - fmalmb@pol.net  
 Treasurer - Keith Mullinar - k\_mullinar@hotmail.com  
 Secretary - Betsylew Miale-Gix - betwil@wa.freei.net  
 Billy Brazelton - update@usba.org  
 Steve Cook - scook1975@hotmail.com  
 Suzanne Lentz - suzanneraganlentz@earthlink.net  
 Gregg Snouffer - boomerang@columbus.rr.com

### **Other USBA Email Contact Info**

MHR Editor: Ted Bailey - editor@usba.org  
 Web Page: Tony Brazelton - web-admin@usba.org

Don't forget to notify Tony and Ted about your boom event so the info can be added to the internet and newsletter calendar of events.

All USBA members with an email address are entitled to received regular and timely boomerang news updates. All you have to do is send your email address to Billy Brazelton at: update@usba.org

MHR subscriptions are provided to libraries for \$10 per year. Make sure your local library knows about this great deal!

**MEMBERSHIP CARDS:** The USBA is once again issuing USBA Membership Cards! To get one, all you have to do is contact Steve Cook and renew your membership.

**USBA Membership**  
**Steven Cook**  
**630 Coral Glen Loop; Apt 303**  
**Altamonte Springs, FL 32714**

# The United States Boomerang Association

### **USBA INFORMATION**

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

**U.S. Boomerang Association**  
**1868 Panhandle Road**  
**Delaware, OH 43015**

Phone or Fax: (740) 363-4414  
 E-mail: usba@usba.org  
 Internet: <http://www.usba.org>

#### **USBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**President**  
 Chet Snouffer (740) 363-8332  
**Vice-President**  
 Fred Malmberg (717) 848-4601  
**Treasurer**  
 Keith Mullinar (860) 568-6008  
**Secretary**  
 Betsylew Miale-Gix (425) 485-1672  
**Directors**  
 Billy Brazelton (651) 644-3086  
 Steven Cook (407)-445-3276  
 Suzanne Lentz: (510) 530-5473  
 Larry Ruhf (413) 323-0774  
 Gregg Snouffer (740) 363-4414

Comments on newsletter content, and submissions for inclusion, including articles, photos, cartoons and designs should be submitted to the editor at the address below. The editor reserves the right to edit all material. Inclusion is not guaranteed. The deadline for newsletter submissions is April 1, July 1, October 1 and January 1 for the Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter issues respectively.

**Ted Bailey**  
**P. O. Box 6076**  
**Ann Arbor, MI 48106**

email: editor@usba.org  
 phone: (734)-971-2970

### **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 **Steven Cook**

### **Many Happy Returns**

Circulation: 300 Worldwide.  
 Published by the:

**U. S. Boomerang Association**  
**1868 Panhandle Road**  
**Delaware, OH 43015**

#### **Mechanical Measurements:**

Image area: 9.5" deep by 7.5" wide; 3 columns to a page;  
 width of a single column: 2.25"

#### **Advertising Rates:**

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: **Ted Bailey; P. O. Box 6076; Ann Arbor, MI 48106**

### **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)

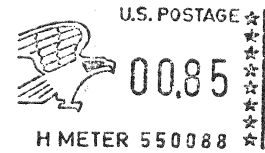
New Member or Renewal?

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**  
**Steven Cook**  
**630 Coral Glen Loop; Apt 303**  
**Altamonte Springs, FL 32714**





## United State Boomerang Association

### Membership Office

Steven Cook  
630 Coral Glen Loop; Apt 303  
Altamonte Springs, FL 32714

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

i

Andy A. Cross 7  
50 Falshire Terrace NE  
Calgary  
Alberta T3J 3B3 Canada

