

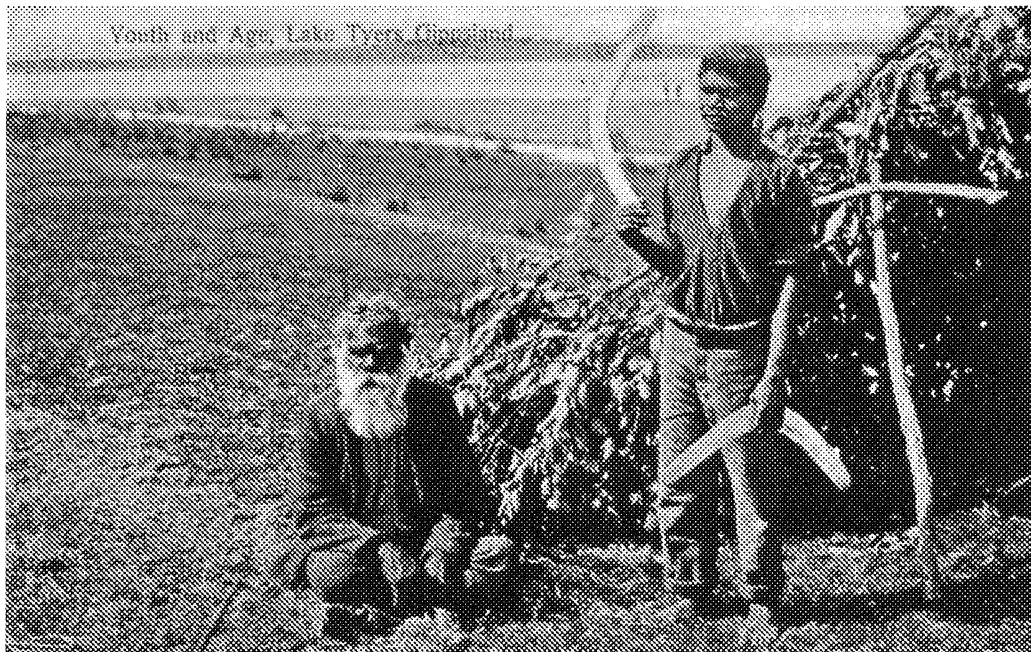
Many Happy Returns

Issue No. 68

An International Publication of the United States Boomerang Association

Fall 1996

USBA Turns Fifteen Years Old!



Left: From the South Australian Museum's collection of boomerangs and related material, on display at the San Francisco Airport's North Terminal Connector Gallery this past summer: This Australian postcard features "Youth and Age" at Lake Tyers, Gippsland. More pictures from the display are inside!

Its hard to believe, but it was fifteen years ago when the United States Boomerang Association was formed as a non-profit organization that would serve as a clearing house for boomerang-related information and a central focus for various clubs that were forming across the nation. It was also

formed to help raise funds for a group of throwers who wanted to travel to Australia and challenge the Aussies in their own sport and on their own turf.

In fifteen years, the USBA has served thousands of people with information, boomerang-related products, domestic and interna-

tional competitions, and, in general, bringing together folks from across the country and around the world who have one thing in common... a fascination with the world's oldest flying machine... a 40,000 year old stick that, when thrown properly, will spin out and around... and come back to you!



USBA BUZZ

"Everything you need to know!"

Membership Drive Contest Winners

The 1996 USBA membership drive contest was a huge success, with 130 renewals and over \$2200 raised from the promotion.

We'd like to thank the many crafters who helped out with their donations. Below are the crafters and donors, along with the winners of the drawing.

Fred Malmberg's curly poplar lap-joint "V", sanded to 400 grit, with Danish oil finish, with matched grain lines on the front joint. A beautiful collector's item; the first one Fred ever did in poplar: Won by **Carl Weston** of Portland, OR.

\$25 Gift certificate from **The Boomerang Man**: won by **William Sander** of Osseo, MN.

2- Australian Boomerangs from Manfred Anson: Won by **Peter Close** of Roberts, WI and **Andy Strum** of L.A., CA.

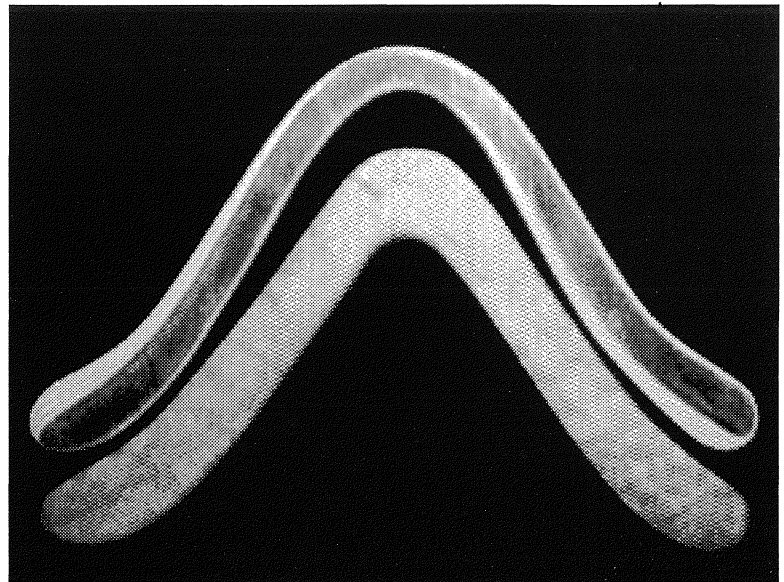
"Boom Magic" #48, 35-meter rang, made by **Harry Jiles** and contributed by Tony Brazelton: Won by **Gerald Snyder** of Media, PA.

Brazilian Yellow Wood Lap Joint boomerang made by **Gary Broadbent**: won by **H.L. Mayhew** of Westerville, OH.

Michael Gel "Sunbell" 35 meter boomerang: won by **John Yankee-lov** of Idaho Falls, ID.

Two **Michael Gel** "Majestic Beaut" 40 meter boomerangs and Gel T-shirts: won by **Paul Es-way** of Massillon, OH and **Jesse Robertson** of Jacksonville, FL.

Julian Kejean



Top: Norm Kern's Black walnut veneer, won by Bruce Rosen.
Below: Fred Malmberg's curly poplar lap joint, won by Carl Weston.

(French) Maximum Time Aloft Boomerang: won by **Norm Kern** of Birmingham, MI.

Hand painted German folk art boomerang by **Dwight and Gladys Hoff**: won by **Ken Glover** of Houston, TX.

Three General purpose "Tapir" Boomerangs from German Young Gun Champion team member **Gunther Moeller**: won by **Leonard Sloan** of Phoenix, AZ, **James McCook** of Danielsville, GA and **George Reitbauer** of Annville, PA.

Gunther Moeller's "Yukon" 40 meter Aussi Round boom: Won by **Gary Broadbent** of Canton, OH.

German Young Gun member **Gerrit Lemkau's** general purpose boomerang: won by **Dale Riendeau** of Jackson, CA.

Norm Kern's "Gentle Omega" 40+ meter boomerang with black walnut veneer and hand brushed finish: won by **Bruce Rosen** of Westmont, NJ

Ola Wahlburg "Medium V" phenolic 50 meter 'rang: won by **Thomas Betz** of Austin, TX.

Phenolic 50 meter **Ola Wahlburg** "Medium V" copy by **Gregg Snouffer**: won by **Dave Gilding** of Sacramento, CA.

Gunther Moeller's "Paff" Maximum Time Aloft boomerang: won by **Joey Arthur** of Lee's Summit, MO.

Hot new German competitor **Hagen Kapprykosky's** Maximum Time Aloft boomerang: won by **Tom Ritchey** of Quicksburg, VA.

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What Are Those Pesky Board-members Up To?

With the new administration comes new focus. This year's committees and their duties, as assigned by President Mile-Gix, who returns to the top position after a couple of years' hiatus.

USBA MEMBERSHIP GROWTH INTERNET, MEDIA AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE:

(Chet Snouffer, Tony Brazelton, John Koehler)

GOAL: Give the USBA a higher public profile thereby increasing membership and other opportunities for boomerangs in the USA.

Examples of areas to explore:

Development of sponsor relationships for USBA events and teams. Increased Public awareness of booms as a competitive sport, recreational hobby and educational tool not only for hotshot athletes but for everyone through the press and internet. Improve existing media materials for distribution with TD packet, etc...

USBA MEMBERSHIP GROWTH LOCAL CLUB/GRASS ROOTS COMMITTEE:

(Gary Broadbent, Steve Sanders, Mike Dickson, Mark Weary)

GOAL: Increase membership by expanding USBA member services, creating new avenues for introducing potential new members to the sport, improving communication with interested individuals and local boomerang clubs.

Examples of areas to explore:

Put together a new member packet that goes out to each new member when they first sign up along with their membership card.

Look into putting together a USBA boomerang starter kit we can offer at a reasonable cost to interested folks that includes everything you need to start throwing (some issues to think about on this one, price, whether including a boome-

rang would be construed as endorsement with liability implications, cost of maintaining inventory, how to spread orders around to different US boom manufacturers so no one USBA member gets a windfall from any USBA orders)

Expand information available on how to start and run a local club in your community, including how to keep members interested and joining the USBA also! Perhaps incentives/rewards for leaders of local clubs to sign up members?

Improve the lines of communication between the USBA and individual local clubs. Get local clubs to participate in a MHR "Whats Happening in Local Clubs" column.

Expand on the Boomerang Lesson Plan idea to include units that pertain to Social Studies, History, Art, Design and Culture (more than just Phys Ed classes; throwing and mini comps.)

Prepare form letter or article for MHR on how to approach different types of youth groups, secular and religious, sell them on having you give a presentation or class, then how to give the presentation or class- craft project suggestions, etc.

WORLD TEAM CUP 1998 TEAM SELECTION PROCESS COMMITTEE:

(John Flynn, Chet Snouffer, Eric Darnell)

GOAL: The team selection committee activities should be directed to drafting the parameters within which the next team will be chosen, starting from scratch, without obligation to follow any of the processes that have been used in the past. To consider all the factors that go into making a winning team, both objective and subjective, how to give all interested throwers in all parts of the country a fair and economical chance to try and qualify for consideration, and draft a proposed selection process for the Board to use to select the 1998 team(s). Advertise the process BEFORE the 1997 throwing season so everyone knows in advance how it is being done.

Also to consider how to coordinate the sponsorship hunt by the teams and how to distribute sponsorship money between teams/teammates.

MHR BOOMERANG DESIGN AND DECORATION CONTEST COMMITTEE:

(Mark Weary, Ted Bailey, Peter Ruhf)

GOAL: Increase membership and opportunities for participation in USBA activities for non-athletic competitive focused boomerang enthusiasts.

A Note To All Tournament Directors!!

If you have ever operated a tournament, or hope to next season, please note:

When you pay the \$80 sanctioning fee to hold a USBA tournament, you receive the Tournament Director's packet, inclusion in the USBA rating system for your results **AND insurance for the tournament organizers AND the entities that own and operate the field!**

In order to streamline the insurance issuing procedure and avoid possible last minute cancellation, send the 60 day notice, as outlined in your USBA rule book, **along with name of the entity that controls the field, that entity's business address and whether or not they must be named as additional insureds on the coverage certificate**, plus the \$80 sanctioning fee to the USBA insurance coordinator:

USBA President, Betsylew Mile-Gix, 3351 236th Street SW, Brier, Washington 98036

"WHAT? ... You mean I have to know what field I'm going to use for my tournament 60 days in advance?!"

Yes, that's right.

LETTERS

"The true essence of communication!"

Gator Booming (Careful On Those Swamp Retrievals!)

Hey Folks,

I've been throwing since 1984 but have never been a USBA member. I just discovered all the GREAT boomerang info on the net!

I'm planning to teach a community education workshop on boomerangs in the Fall. Hope to start a club here in Gainesville... home of the University of Florida "Gators." I think the sport would really fly in this town. I'm pumped with fresh enthusiasm to get my 'rangs and lots of others in the air around here.

Mark Smith
Gainesville, FL

No Young Guns In MHR 67!

Hi Gregg!

I just received #67 of MHR (actually I got it twice, one today, one last week. Is that what you mean by the headline "Two in Two Weeks"?) Good Stuff, but I'm missing something: Why isn't there any picture of five young Germans who happen to be BOOMERANG WORLD CHAMPIONS? Don't you have any? ChiBob has a good one on his homepage and I saw a lot of other picture-taking americans.

That leads to the second point: I'm searching for photo and video footage of the last team day and the awards ceremony. Everything showing the YG's would be appreciated. Somebody MUST have the awards ceremony on video. Don't care about German or American video formats, a friend of mine is able to convert that. Could you include this request to MHR?

See ya cheeky MHR-Editor! (BTW: Where's Dietmar?)

Gerrit Lemkau
German Young Gun

Dear Gerrit,

You know, by the time the Summer issue got out, the World Cup was old news. With the Nationals story breaking at press time and Adam Ruhf's incredible two records in two weeks, we figured it would be more interesting for our readers, as well as the throwers who

Letter Of The Month

Way back in 1979, I started making and throwing boomerangs with a friend of mine. We would throw every chance we got, but he moved away and I kind of lost interest. Well now I'm returning just like the B's we used to throw. By the way, Ted Bailey was the friend I was talking about and we have been reunited because of your web page. Thanks.

Jim MacNeil
Palm Beach Gardens, FL
Via the Internet, from The USBA Web Page

participated, to see a scrap book of photos from New Zealand's World Cup. But, since you asked for it, here are those incredible Young Guns from Germany. There are also more photos from New Zealand in this issue. If anyone has any other film footage. Call the editor for Gerrit's address. -Ed



The World Champion German Young Guns in New Zealand: From left, Fridolin Frost, Gunther Moeller, Gerrit Lemkau, Ollie Von Kempfen and Ollie Thienhaus

To Undercut Or Not To Undercut?

Dear Gregg,

This letter is in regard to all of the controversy created by Rusty Harding's article printed in MHR #61. It sounds to me like a tempest in a teapot, but I want to throw in my two cents.

First, I bought a boomerang blank from Ted Bailey. The blank was a beautiful Strip Laminated Al Gerhards replica. I cut the airfoil and took the boomerang out to the field to test. The boomerang would not TURN, let alone RE-turn. I read Rusty's article and decided to try his remedy: I gave the boomerang a slight undercut on both leading edges. I took the boomerang out to field test again. Like a charm, the 'rang turned and came back on a dime. Could I have achieved the same results by bending and twisting? I don't know nor do I care because I now have a beautiful Gerhards replica with a range of 45 meters and it's

permanently tuned.

As I read the article, Rusty explained where, when and why you would undercut a boomerang. It was the first article I ever read that thoroughly explained undercutting. Undercutting is a very common feature on boomerangs... so common that, as Rusty pointed out, many crafters give undercut to boomerangs that don't need it. All of the major manufacturers use undercutting on their boomerangs. Gel boomerangs and Colorado Boomerangs have it. Even Chet's have undercutting. That is why I don't understand why the critics were so harsh on Rusty for explaining a practice that is so very common. If I were a newcomer to boomerangs, I too would want to know what those strange undercuttings were on the bottom side of my boomerang. Rusty's article explains what they are and what they do. Send me Rusty's second article.

Sincerely,

Thomas Risher
Greyford Company
Whittier, CA

Dear Thomas,
How about next issue? -Ed

Thanks Gary B!

Dear MHR,

Nick and I were introduced to the world of boomerangs by Gary Broadbent earlier this year. Gary was a gracious host at his home this Summer, showing us how to make, tune and throw them. Since then we have been adding to our collections and getting better at our throwing technique. Both of us enjoyed the Saturday portion of the tournament in Delaware. If we had it to do over, we would have participated rather than spend the day as spectators. Hope to be there next year.

Thanks for the help,
Michael Hubbell
Kenton, OH

On opposite page, TOP: Nick Hubbell gets some pointers from some stranger (Gary B) he and his Dad, Mike met at the park in Canton, Ohio. Below: The surprised look on Gary's face as he shows his now-infamous haul from Australia after Mike informed him that his Uncle is an agent with U.S. Customs!

Reminiscing

A recent article by Tim Blangger of the Allentown Morning Call, a local PA newspaper, featured Peter Ruhf and Barnaby Ruhe and discussed the history, personalities and changing nature of the boomerang Sport.

The article was picked up by the wire service and was reprinted in several papers across the country. In response, many closet boomers wrote the USBA, sharing their own humerus boomerang stories.

Here are a couple.

Watch Out!

Dear Ed,

I read with interest your recent article on the resurgence of boomerangs in the local newspaper. Mention of them has always brought out a laugh in our family.

In a magazine that I was reading they described how to make the typical "V" shaped boomerang. I thought it would be fun to try.

I began the unit and that weekend the children, the wife and I left for a visit with her parents and mine, taking the boomerang along



with me to finish and to try out.

Out in the field in back of her parents, I threw it in accordance with the directions they gave and watched as it flew through the air and commenced its turn back toward me. I was amazed as it kept coming and coming. Seeing it was going to hit me, I held up my left arm for protection, and (as was the case with Captain Marvel) it hit my wristwatch, shattering it to pieces.

I never could throw it that way again. It set up on a shelf in my office, with my only regret being that I didn't wrap the watch around it and keep it for memories... or when I'd tell the story to others and need proof to convince them!

Have fun,
Charles Lawson, Associate Engineer
Deltona, FL

Brush With The Law

Dear Friends,

Last weekend The Toronto Star featured an article about Peter Ruhf and The United States Boomerang Association. Ironically, my best buddy and I just finished some beautiful boomerangs a few days prior. We have enjoyed boomerangs for over thirty-seven years. And this all began because I am a lousy carpenter!

I will be sixty-two soon, and will have been making boomerangs since I was twelve. It all began because I was the worst kid in manual training my last years in public school. In exasperation, my teacher said I could make anything I wanted (just to get me out of his hair, no doubt!)

I poured through some old Popular Mechanics magazines and found an article on "How To Make A Boomerang... And Throw It." WOW! It looked easy and I always had a penchant for Australia.

When my work was finished I took

a young friend, Raymond, to the park and followed the instructions. I told Raymond to stand off to the right as I threw.

The boomerang was 22 inches, tip to tip, and it spun off, bedazzling us. It nosed its way through the air, turned, and dove straight toward us, right where Raymond was standing! Raymond was seven years old and wearing shorts that morning. The boomerang slammed him across the bare legs, knocking him down, where he began to wail. We were both in shock!

Later that night, during supper, our doorbell rang. I had not told my parents of the accident on the field that day. Who would believe that it was not my fault?

Our caller was a burly Irish policeman, not unfamiliar to the wifes of we neighborhood kids. He asked my Mother if there was a boy there with a boomerang. He wanted to talk to me. Perturbed, my Mother said there was someone to see me.

As I entered the hallway, I began to tremble at the sight of this immense blue-clad Celt. Apparently, little Raymond's Grandmother was very upset by the welts on his legs and wanted something done about me... the Dennis the Menace of the community.

The constable said there was no law against boomerangs yet, but if he ever heard of me hitting anyone again, I'd spend the night in the crowbar jungle. How that man kept a straight face peering down at this freckled, straw-haired urchin is beyond me. Anyway, I was so impressed by his visit that I have never hit anyone since... and that was over fifty years ago!

Over the years, I have made a variety of boomerangs, always experimenting, and I've even sold hundreds of them. Some I oil and burn Aboriginal designs into with a soldering iron. In all, I am a boomerang nut and have persuaded many friends to join the madness and joy of the world's oldest toy. Mind you, I have also bagged a rabbit and have become a fairly deadly thrower if the need arises.

You can print my story if you would like. I'd love to share it with aspiring boomerang buffs everywhere.

Now for the real reason of this letter. I'd like to get your newsletter, "Many Happy Returns," and any other material you have available. Maybe my buddy Dave Bashford and I can form a boomerang club in the Toronto area. In all, this whole thing has turned our cranks and we are anxious to hear from you. We shall be waiting in nail-biting anticipation for all of the good news.

Bryan Westwood
Toronto, Canada



Life truly is a boomerang. What you give, you get.

- Dale Carnegie

BOOMERS' E-MAIL ADDRESSES

VERSION 3.07; 9/2/95 compiled by PDS

David Alexander.....ausdave@onthenet.com.au
Kelly Andretti.....andretti@u.washington.edu
Joe Arthur.....Joe.Arthur@Twisternet.com
Ted Bailey.....tbailey@ic.net
Gerhard Bertling.....100706.2710@compuserve.com
Chicago Bob.....chibob@htc.net
Ralph Bonheim.....72020.1046@compuserve.com
Andy Bourney.....73204.2172@compuserve.com
Boomerang Man.....BMANRICH@AOL.COM
Billy Brazelton.....billyb@mail.danville.net
* # Gary Broadbent.....broadboom@aol.com
Mike Chelucci.....71271.2323@compuserve.com
Steve Collins.....Kumba2@AOL.com
Steve Conaway (abo. Steve).....abosteve@vcnet.com
Steve Cooke.....sjcook@mailbox.syr.edu
* Greg Corum.....SBT@aol.com
Dan Derezinski.....102766.420@compuserve.com
Ken Farr.....76514.1342@compuserve.com
Erik Fields.....fields@icess.ucsb.edu
* Max Froumentin.....froument@lifel.fr
Masaaki Fujimoto.....yok1mxf@yok10.med.navy.mil
* Hubert Fulon (Belgium).....73324.344@compuserve.com
* # Michael Gel Girvin.....gelboom@gel-boomerang.com
John Gibney (Australia).....gibney@werple.mira.net.au
David Hendricks (bvd rangs).....bvdrangs@enter.net
Dean Kelly.....DEAN.A.KELLY@STATE.OR.GOV
Tom Langland.....tlangland@lfl.gov
Tom Luczycki.....looziskey@eworld.com
Fredric Malmberg.....fmalm@mem.po.com
Linda Maultsby.....lindam@acpub.duke.edu
Don Monroe.....monroe@azstarnet.com
Hague Nikolayczyk.....helicon@integris.phoenix.de
* Harri Pietila.....hpietila@astro.utu.fi
Eric Promislow.....emp@exoterica.com
RANG LIST.....majordomo@jcn.com
Matthew Rix.....MatthewRix@aol.com
Mike Roedelbronn.....72722.3053@compuserve.com
Steve Sanders.....ccc27@nmia.com
Tim Schallberger.....Tim_Schallberger@ccm.jf.intel.com
Michael Siems.....100350.1111@compuserve.com
David Silver.....72133.3725@compuserve.com
.....David.A.Silver@excalibur.org
* # **USBA:** Gregg Snouffer.....75574.2346@compuserve.com
Jim Sprague.....71601.2752@compuserve.com
Paul D. Sprague.....72470.1567@compuserve.com
Jonathan Tucker.....jonathan_a_tucker@capmac.org
Tom Tuckerman.....ttuckerman@mhnet.mhmc.org
* Earl Tutty.....EARL@LYNX.CO.NZ
VA Aviation Museum.....kleigh@freenet.vcu.edu
Andrew Watson.....andyw@insignia.co.uk
Mark Weary.....wildmann@ix.netcom.com

* denotes boom club organizer

denotes boomerang manufacturer

BVD Boomerangs:

<http://www.enter.net/~bvdrangs/index.html>

Bay Area Boomerang Club (San Francisco Bay area boomerang news):

<http://www.gel-boomerang.com/babc/>

Eye Of The Storm Boomerangs:

<http://www.vcnet.com/abosteves/eye.html>

Michael Gel Boomerangs:

<http://www.gel-boomerang.com>

Tibor Horvath of Switzerland ("long distance boomerang stuff."):

<http://rock-chem-stud1.ethz.ch/members/gubler/welcome.html>

Ted Bailey (boom links and info):

<http://ic.net/~tbailey/Boomerang.html>

USBA (links and info on boomerangs in U.S.):

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

Late B(l)oomer

To whom it may concern,
Let me start by saying thanks for taking the time to read this letter. I am eighteen years old and was introduced to the sport a couple of months ago while watching a program on television. I have to say, I am very interested in entering the sport and appreciate any information to get me started. I have never thrown a boom in my life, and appreciate any tips for the beginner. Can you also send a schedule of events, if there are any. I hope to hear from you soon, so I can start as soon as possible. Thanks again for your time and consideration.

Tizoc Gomez
New York, NY

Dear Tizoc,

Let me start by saying thanks for writing your letter! The USBA is now 15 years old and we're willing to bet it hasn't grown as much as you have in eighteen years!

We have sent you a couple of back issues of MHR, featuring tips for beginners from Michael "Gel" Girvin, and a boomerang for you to get started with. We hope this is the beginning of a wonderful relationship! Keep on b(l)ooming! -Ed

Video Needed For PBS Special

I'm into the editing stage of my first video opus on boomerangs. I'm missing a few pieces, and figure some of you out there might be able to help me out. Anyone with good quality, first generation tape (I'll take 2nd generation if it's dubbed onto S-VHS), please consider contributing to this project. Good quality footage, please, recorded at standard speed. Recording

I have thrown boomerangs on and off for 12 years. I started around 1984 with a darnell poly-pro and the book "Boomerang." I joined the USBA around 1985 but let my membership lapse as teenage hormones kicked in and I became more interested in chasing girls than rangs. Now I am back to ranging "in full effect" as the kids say these days.

Paul Rathemund
Pasadena, CA

at EP or SLP will render it useless for editing, and overdubbed 2nd or 3rd or beyond generation will be visual garbage. I will give credit to the videographer(s) involved. Neither I nor anyone else will benefit financially from this video project. It will be cablecast on Channel 27 Public Access TV (where I work), and hopefully distributed to other Public Access centers across the U.S., where it may gain our sport more exposure. From there... who knows?

My wish list (it's short!):

- * Footage of Adam Ruhf's World Record Fast Catch round
- * New Zealand World Cup '96, team and individual
- * '96 US Nationals
- * Vintage footage of Herb Smith, Janetzkibros, Brian Thomas, Al Gerhards, Ben Ruhe, Barnaby, Chett, Greg, et al...
- * Good footage of aboriginal folks throwing booms, kylies (to demonstrate the difference).

I'll return all video footage to you when done. Anticipated completion date is December 10. Knock on wood.

Steve Sanders
Sandia Boomerang Club
1411 Rio Grande, NW
Albuquerque, NM 87104

Other Boomerang-Websites:

(compiled by Gunther Moeller)

Usenet-FAQ-Newsgrroup "alt.boomerang"
<http://boomplans.montesquieu.u-bordeaux.fr/>
<http://io.com/usr/infinite/boomerangs.html>
http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/Gerhard_Bertling/
<http://soma.npa.uiuc.edu/labs/greenough/statements/adb/USBAinfo.html>
<http://ux1.cso.uiuc.edu/~brazelto/>
<http://viminal.me.psu.edu/~nkc/boom.html>
<http://www.borbank.k12.ca.us/~scott/booms/guestbook.html>
<http://www.dcs.ed.ac.uk/home/mxm/boom/>
<http://www.fhills.starway.net.au/~redrock/redrock.html>
<http://www.jcn.com/mx/home.html> (Micheal Gray/Rang-List)
<http://www.juggling.org/>
<http://www.lifel.fr/~froument/boom/>
http://www.portal.com/~rww/top_boomerang.html
<http://www.staff.uiuc.edu/~brazelto/>
<http://www.uku.fi/~hniskane/>
<http://www.viewpoint.com/people/meh/index.html>

Ask Ed

Advice From The Editor
(Heaven Help Us All!!)

Dear Ed,

1) What is a "regular fast catch airfoil?" It's always mentioned in MHR. Could you run a drawing of it?

2) I have a Darnell ABS Tri Fly carved down for fast catch and endurance (I just guessed the airfoil). It flies good but doesn't go out 20 meters. If I add weight or bend down a wing, it goes 20 meters but won't come back all of the way. What to do?

Thanks to all of the throwers at the Emmaus, PA Labor Day weekend toss for all the answers and technical knowledge. I was encouraged to throw but didn't I wimped out because of lack of comp booms (though everyone volunteered to loan me what I needed) and a general fear of competing with the "Big Boys." Anyone who throws for fun should try to get to a tournament. It's fun, you learn a lot, and everybody is helpful and encouraging. I'm in next time, guys!

George Satko
Pottstown, PA

Dear George,

Thanks for the letter. Here is the story of the "regular" fast catch airfoil, as described in the Spring, 1987 issue of MHR. Interestingly, the fast catch shapes have changed since this was published, but the same fast catch airfoil is relatively the same. If any of you experts can add details or clarify, please feel free to write in!

Back in 1981, while experimenting with MTA airfoils, Vermont engineer John Flynn accidentally created a boomerang that came around quickly right at head height. Unaware of the fact catch event at that time, he shelved the wing as a failure.

Later the same year, his neighbor, inventor and boomerang designer, Eric Darnell, introduced him to a new airfoil he had been experimenting with for the fast catch event. His theory was to hollow out the underside of the wing with wide, rounded tips, creating a turbine effect that increased the speed of return while slowing the rate of spin at the end of the flight to make a speedy AND catchable boomerang.

John recognized the flight characteristics of that hollowed 'rang... it was the same as his failed MTA attempt. Knowing that his boomerang could already fly nearly the same speed as the hollowed 'rang of Eric, he added Eric's innovation to his own MTA. The result, after some modification of the wing size, was a new world record of 18.7 seconds... the first sub-twenty second round of fast catch ever in competition!

Since this time, three bladers have become the standard... again, in large part due to the innovation of Eric, with his "Tri-Fly" three bladed molded plastic boomerang in the early '90's. But interestingly, the same issue of MHR that contained John's essay that set the stage for the next 5 years of two-bladed fast catch boomerangs, contained a profound prediction by a Maryland artist and future world champion... John Koehler. John had been working with three-bladed wooden fast catch boomerangs since the mid-Eighties.

In 1987, Koehler predicted that "The tri-blader will do for the fast catch event what Ted Bailey's MTA models did for the Maximum Time Aloft event: make good performances possible for many more people." John already recognized the characteristics that would eventually make the three blader universal: its symmetrical nature made it easier to catch and to throw, since it didn't matter which arm you grabbed to throw it with.

But before John's prediction could come to pass, a significant step had yet to be made. The connection John Flynn made at that time, which Koehler failed to make was the addition of Eric's hollowed wing bottom. John left his three bladers flat on the bottom. It would be

five years before Eric would add that innovation to his own three-blader and pave the way for the boomerangs that we now recognize as standard to the event.

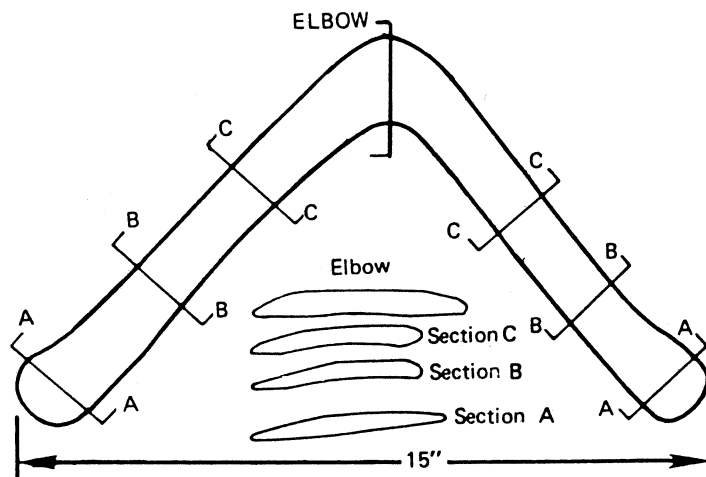
Below is a drawing from 1987 of John's fast catch two-bladed boomerang, with the cross sections of what has become the "standard fast catch airfoil." The quote is from the same article and reveals the difficulty in catching that Eric's Tri-Fly has since addressed. Remember, the airfoil is a conglomeration of different technologies... and perhaps the biggest innovation, as pertains to today's three-bladed fast catch boomerangs, is the concave under-side, provided by Eric Darnell.

The answer to your second question is a bit more difficult. Since the airfoil seems to work, you must have carved it very nearly correct. The problem with distance may be easily solved by simply twisting negative angle of attack into the wingtips. That will increase distance and decrease drag, making the boomerang fly further out while still flying back to you.

While adding weights DOES increase distance, it also increases drag, so a boomerang will run out of spin earlier and may not return all of the way to the thrower, unless it is thrown extremely hard, and with a lot of snap.

In addition to adding distance, weights or flaps are used to give wind resistance and stability to the flight, both of which are important in windy conditions.

The best advice I can think of to give you is to try variations of the fast catch airfoil on several different tri flies in order to close in on the one that suits your throw, as well as the varying wind conditions.



John Flynn's Fast-Catch boomerang, with airfoils. This is a right-hander. To achieve a smooth, quick turnaround, Flynn suggests catching by holding the

arms out and drawing the boomerang into the chest. Then turn to the left while finding the grip, and stride into the next throw.

Boom Fragments

Bits of news from around the world

Boomer Baby Boom!

On Thursday, September 5, at 12:25 pm, baby boy **Cameron MacKenzie Broadbent**, 7lb 5 oz, 19" long entered the world. This kid has no idea what he's in for! Gary said the best thing was, "he came out with TWO natural elbows!" For the first three hours of his life, he was introduced to boomerangs.

Then, on September 16, at 9:58 and 9:59pm, respectively Mitchell Robert Leifeld (3lbs. 15 oz) and Spencer William Leifeld (3 lbs. 5oz) were born to 'Chicago' Bob Leifeld and his lovely (and now somewhat smaller) wife Angela. The amazing story of how Angela accidentally discovered she was in labor while at lamaze class... TWO MONTHS EARLY... will be told for decades to come! Babies and parents are both recovering from the event quite nicely!

Boom "Uncle" John Koehler came up with the following Christenings:

Broadbent Boom Baby

May this child never break a boom with
no spare,
May his thoughts range far, may he never
be square.
May his Mom and his Dad bring him up
with great pride,
May a really sharp boom never enter his
hide.

May his airfoils be rosy, just the same
with his life,
May his boom bags be cozy, may he never
know strife.
May he always know joy, be content and
quite happy,
And please God, may he never, ever, be
just like his Pappy.

May the whole world rejoice at the new
Broadbent bonus,
May his dear old dad Gary love him more
than his Jonas!

WE WANT OUR MOUNTAIN BIKES!

(An ode to Chicago Bob and Angela's
New kiddies, born September 16th.

Monday's aren't my favorite days,
They tend to start out bad.
But on September the Sixteenth
Your Dad, Chitown Bob, was glad.

Because inside his lovely wife,
His little twinning brood.
That was why on this Monday,
Gladness was his mood.

Angela was doing her best
To look just like a Buddha,
When suddenly, as if to jest
Her babes said, "Can we see ya?"

I think it's just a little soon,"
Mom told the little tykes.
They kicked and screamed and then replied,
"WE WANT OUR MOUNTAIN BIKES!!"

They came out tall and skinny,
Just like their beanpole Dad.
Thank God they looked just like their Mom,
And not the other, ee Gad!

They had a little trouble,
Young Mick would not quite fit.
And when they got him out they found
That he was wearing his helmet.

Spence came next and shot out fast,
No helmet on his head.
But when they looked upon his feet,
They noticed tire tread.

So now the world bears witness.

And when you buy them toys.
Remember, don't be witless,
These are BIKER BOYS.

Gary's squirt came out with arm
Stuck firmly in a dingle.
But as for Mick and brother Spence,
Booms and Bikes don't mingle.

And Angela, who harbored them
And brought them to this world?
She took one look at Dad and Sons
And said, "I want a girl."

So raise your glasses high my friends,
To Mick and Spence we Toast.
This is a story with no end,
Nor will the parent's boasts.

Uncle John Koehler

Wholesale Opportunity

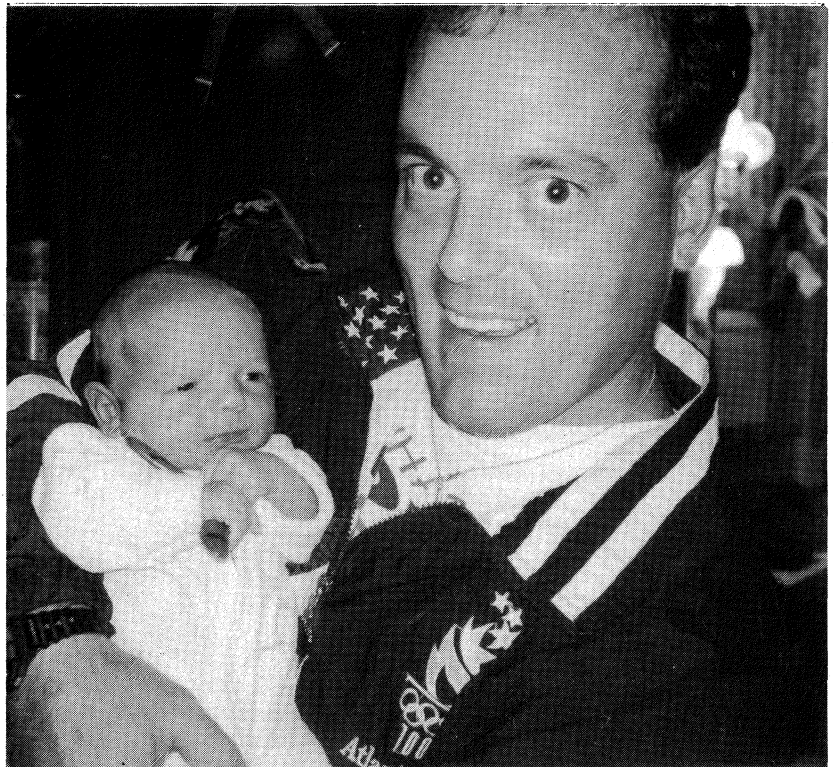
Manfred Anson, from New Jersey, writes to say that he has 1500 tourist quality Australian-made and decorated boomerangs in storage which he would like to sell for \$3.00 each. They come with a display card with info about boomerangs, Aborigines and Australia. The boomerangs are 3-ply with bright Aboriginal-motif decorations. For more information, write to Manfred at 55 High-view Ave.; Bergenfield, NJ 07621.

Ted Bailey's Boomerang Auction on the Internet!

Ted Bailey announces his Fall 1996 auction, featuring 112 items! There are some really great things in this year's auction, including Aboriginal throwsticks (two are old collectables), booms by Herb Smith, Al Gerhards, Bunny Read, and many, many more!

The Auction WWW Page is located at:
<http://users.aol.com/tbrang1/auction.html>
An internet bid sheet is located at:
http://users.aol.com/tbrang1/bid_sheet.html

You can print the bid sheet out and send it to me by postal mail or copy the web page as a text file and then email your bids directly to me over the internet. In the next week or so, I will add links to the table of so that you can view most of the items in full color. Instructions for making bids are on the WWW page. If you have email and cannot browse the WWW, let me know and I'll send you a B&W bid sheet.



Gary Broadbent and son, Cameron MacKenzie, who already has his hands on one of Dad's boomerangs!

WBA

world boomerang association

WBA Logo Design Contest Winner!

Ben Tesch designed this winning logo for the World Boomerang Association logo design contest. Boomerangers from around the world chose Ben's design from 18 that were submitted to Finland's Harri Pitila, the contest organizer. The designs could be viewed on Henri's web page and votes placed by email.

The Ruhf Is On Fire!

The father of modern boomerang competition, Ben Ruhe, recently wrote with details of a disastrous house fire awhile back, which reduced his 15th century listed thatched roof cottage to more or less rubble in less than one hour, despite the best efforts of upwards of forty firemen to save the building!

"The good news," reports Ben, "is I retrieved all of my possessions in more or less decent shape, including cat Missy, who I found the following morning hiding under the bathtub in the annex---just about the only safe place in the house. Smart cat!"

Not to worry, though. After a lot of problems finding a new place to live and getting things sorted out, life is actually getting back to normal, for the former Smithsonian Institute Boomerang Collection curator.

"In fact," Ben goes on to say, "I have a nicer house now than the one that burned, so that's even progress. Save me from progress!"

New Aussie Boomerang Book

From Ted Bailey comes the following review of a new boomerang book,

Do you remember the "Boomerangs-Echoes of Australia" CD Rom that was released by Dynamic Computer Solutions in cooperation with the South Australian Museum? The CD Rom now has a companion text written by Philip Jones, Curator of Anthropology of the South Australian Museum.

This is an absolutely incredible book with 134 pages loaded with full color photographs. There are more color photographs than pages! The text covers everything from old Aboriginal booms and throwsticks to contemporary boomerangs and household items that integrate the boomerang shape into their design.

The emphasis of the book is about Aboriginal throwsticks and the text is remarkably

well organized. There is a section about making and throwing boomerangs. Another section covers the multiple uses of boomerangs (fire making, fishing, hunting, music, trade, fun & games, etc.) in Aboriginal culture. Another section describes boomerangs and throwsticks by regions (7 in all). Finally, there is a section on boomerangabilia. This includes all kinds of commercial goods (ashtrays, hair brushes, etc.) that incorporate boomerangs as a central theme.

A lot of the photographs in the book show items that were on display at the San Francisco International Airport this past summer. If you didn't get a chance to visit the airport show, or if you forgot to bring your camera, then you need to get a copy of this book.

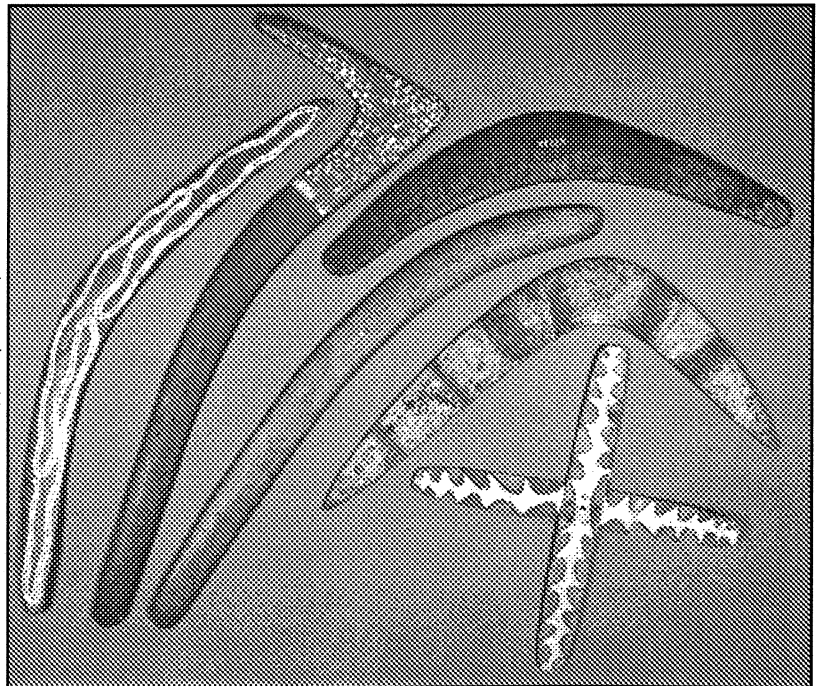
This book is the most definitive text on Aboriginal throwsticks the editor has ever seen. Anyone with a serious interest in boomerang and throwstick history will want to get a copy of their own for future reference. Only 5,000 copies of the first edition were produced and are expected to go fast.

For a copy, you can order one directly from the Boomerang Man. See

the manufacture's listings on page 23. If you are a retail outlet, you may wish to order a box of books for your own customers before they are all gone.

The CD Rom, "Boomerangs, Echoes of Australia" covers some of the same material as the book, but the CD has better information on making booms and the book lacks the dynamic flight simulator and video clips. You really need both the book and the CD Rom as reference material.

The book is available from Boomerang Man, Gel Boomerangs, Bailey Boomerangs & Cleveland Boomerang School. Ted's the only one with the CD at this time.



Above: Several of the hunting sticks from the South Australia Museum collection, including a North Queensland cross stick "Mira mira", wrapped with sinew and painted with a shark design (lower right), a fluted and painted fighting stick from northwest Australia (far left), a beak-nose, decorated with red ochre and coated with grease (second from left), that was used for warfare and emu-bashing, and a rare "Potbelly" from western Australia (above the cross stick) with pointed tips. More on page 17!

National Hunting Stick Championships

by Norm Kern

DELAWARE, OH- Gary Broadbent surpassed the largest field of Kylie flingers in known U.S. history to become the 1996 National Kylie Champion. Throw sticks of all varieties were used: space age poly carbonate, antique wood, plywood, strip laminated, natural elbows, and Tim Multsby even had a wood and Phonelic tribladed kylie.

There were 22 throwers for the first event with a few drop outs before the last event. In You Miss You Out, all throwers aimed for the 4 foot by 4 foot target from 20 meters. Every one had three attempts to hit it. The 9 who did moved back to 30 meters. Only 5 hit the target at 30 meters and moved out to 40. Chet Snouffer was the only Kylie flinger to hit at 40 meters and that was on his third and final attempt. John Kohler came in second. Like everyone else but Chet, John missed at 40 meters but required only one throw at 20 and 30 meters hitting on his first attempt at each distance. Tied for third were Mark Weary and Mike Dickson who each had one miss at 20 and 30 meters.

Gary Broadbent dominated 32 meter Waki-Klak by being closest to the target (a 5 gallon bucket) twice and hitting the target twice for a total of 14 points. Second place went to John Kohler who was closest once and hit the target once for a mere 7 points. Third place was settled by

a throw off between Tim Multsby and Frank McQuire who each hit the bucket once for 5 points. Chet was a modest 6th place coming out on top in a throw off from a 5 way tie.

The final dramatic event was distance. Bob Foresi stunned the crowd with his final toss which stepped off at 116 meters. Bob used a natural elbow stick of his own manufacture. Gary Broadbent was second with a huge effort to fling his 34 inch half inch thick polycarbonate beak nose out approximately 96 meters. Third went to Willy Davis who used a Norm Kern plywood stick. Chet took 4th and John Kohler took a modest 7th throwing the same massive natural elbow he used in the other events. Several good throws did not count due to the 'accuracy' requirement that the sticks stop within a 15 meter aisle.

After the total scores were tallied, Gary Broadbent came out on top. Chet Snouffer clawed his way into second place in the final throw off. John Kohler was third. Fourth through 8th place also were awarded mini kylie trophies: Mike Dickson, Mark Weary, Tim Maltstby, Frank McQuire, Willy Davis.

Next year look for plastic Hopi sticks, more poly carbonate, phonelic, and probably tri-bladed kylies.

Rules available from Norm Kern (see listing in clubs or manufacturers).

Wandering Nutmeg Fall Foliage Fling

EAST HARTFORD CT, Oct 19, 1996- Paul Sprague with Keith Mullinar reported on the 2nd Annual Fall Foliage Fling from Rentschler airfield, where they registered enough throwers to hold an official tournament, without having to hijack any stray dogs to fill out the roster!

As small craft advisories and gale warnings were issued for Long Island Sound, competitors from across Pennsylvania and as far away as Montreal braved the winds and rain to throw. The wind was so strong by 8:00am that organizers couldn't even set up a tent!

Scott Barrett won the Trick Catch event, but Stephane Marguerite scored the only Foot Catch in the event. Stephane won Endurance with 12 catches in 5 minutes and took second in Fast Catch with 48.31 seconds!

With flooding reports coming in from the west, and the downpour that delayed the World Series heading their way, the throwers decided to forgo lunch and throw Doubling while the rain was still holding off...sort of! Reports of incredible separation ensued... with insiders grounding out 20 meters upfield and outsiders landing 50 meters downwind. Chris Robson's weighted hook won MTA, while the tournament score sheets broke free and blew across the field and the endurance event went off in driving rain!

In the end, it was Stephane in first overall, followed by Eric Darnell, Scott Barrett, Keith Robson, Paul Gustafson, Barnaby Ruhe, Paul Sprague, Chris Mullinar, Allan Clough, Peter Robson, E Hankin, C Hankin and Mike Barrett.

1996 U.S. Nationals Have Familiar Look

By Betsy Miale-Gix

VA BEACH, VA- June 28-30: The Virginia State Games youth team event on Friday was a big success with several teams of enthusiastic kids. Of course the team stacked with Broadbent offspring took the title!

The auction went well with several innovative and beautiful booms from different folks, including briefly a pair of Kelly Leggette motorized models, Dr. Fred's exotic, finely crafted sticks, the Stewart Jones fork boom, the star rangs, and other assorted boom related items! The new T-shirts from Michael "Gel" Girvin and Chet "The Jet" Snouffer were introduced to rave reviews.

The USBA meeting was brief with the candidate slate being voted in. Thanks to those of you who mailed in your ballots. More on the agenda for this Board year later.

The tournament was incredibly well run

by TD John K who did not throw so that he could devote himself to the details and PA announcing. The tourney itself was excellent, featuring fun, challenge, meaningful and meaningless interaction with boom buddies, old and new, throughout 7 USBA events, three team events, GLORP, and a two event H to H. A stadium demo at the halftime of a professional soccer game Saturday night by Adam Ruhf, John Flynn, Gregg Snouffer, and Betsylew Miale-Gix was a big success. The crowd was psyched!

Now for the stunner, it actually calmed long enough on Sunday for ADAM RUHF to TIE THE WORLD ENDURANCE RECORD!!! After ROB PARKINS laid down the gauntlet with a 75, Adam stepped up in the last round with all booms blazing for a 76!! WOW.

Oh, by the way, Chet won his 10th Nationals title... two years after retiring!

The top 25 finishers at the 1996 U.S. Nationals were as follows:

1. Chet Snouffer	64.40
2. Rob Parkins	56.75
3. Gary Broadbent	56.14
4. Mark Weary	55.71
5. John Gorski	54.825
6. Steve Kavanaugh	51.66
7. Adam Ruhf	48.75
8. Bob Liefeld	47.31
9. John Flynn	47.30
10. Kelly Leggette	38.295
11. Betsylew Miale-Gix	35.328
12. Ola Wahlberg	32.425
13. Jim Schramm	29.60
14. Eric Darnell	28.995
15. Dennis Joyce	27.17
16. Will Gix	26.74
17. Eddie Carrig	25.30
18. Gregg Snouffer	24.555
19. Jim Jordan	20.74
20. Larry Ruhf	18.225
21. Fred Malmburg	17.21
22. Steve Cook	15.425
23. Peter Ruhf	15.403
24. Paul Gustafson	14.22
25. Ray Laurent	12.13

Fast Catch Flight Speeds Challenged

With speeds alleged up to 100 mph, John Flynn and Fred Malmberg hit their calculators to find out the real flight speed of a boomerang doing a 14 second round of Fast Catch!

by John Flynn

First of all, congratulations to Adam Ruhf for capturing the Fast Catch World Record. I was fortunate enough to be in Amhurst when he did the 14.98 (in fact, I was up next) and all I can say is that it was VERY FAST and VERY IMPRESSIVE. However, with numbers like 95 and 100 mph being thrown around in the press, it may help to do some math. Let's first make some sympathetic assumptions:

1. **Range** = 21 meters = 68.8 feet (which is also the **diameter** of the flight circle.)

2. **Circuit time** (from release to catch) = **1.95 seconds**. (I was timing Adam in warm-up and this was the fastest lap I clocked. Others were in the 2.00 - 2.15 second range.)

3. The flight path is a **true circle** 21 meters in diameter.

The distance traveled by the boomerang in 1.95 seconds is:

$$x \text{ d, or } 3.14159 \times 68.8 \text{ feet} = 216 \text{ feet}$$

Doing the math for average speed in mph for the 1.95 second fastest round looks like this:

$$\frac{216 \text{ feet}}{1.95 \text{ sec}} \times \frac{1 \text{ mile}}{5280 \text{ ft}} \times \frac{3600 \text{ sec.s}}{1 \text{ hour}} = \frac{75.52 \text{ miles}}{1 \text{ hour}}$$

If the boomerang is starting out at release at 90 mph, then it is finishing at around 60 mph to get the 75 mph average speed. To my observations, though, Adam's throws did not appear to slow down that much during the flight. This implies that the boom was released at a speed less than 90 mph. A more realistic estimation is that the boomerang was released nearer to 80 - 85 mph and returned at around 65 - 70 mph. It may be noted, further, that if the flight path was LESS than 216 feet, because the flight was less than 21 meters, then the average speed is even less.

As a comparison, an 18 second round of fast catch (with 1.5 second transitions) averages out at 61.4 mph for the flight. (One can imagine how old and slow I felt when I went in and threw a 27 second (6 throws) round after Adam!)

This by no means diminishes the accomplishment of Adam and Gregory Biseaux. They are still over 20% FASTER than the 18 second crowd!!

by Fred Malmberg

I have come to the conclusion that someone somewhere is playing a little

Adam's booms most likely are nowhere near 100 mph... The math does not lie.

-Dr. Fred Malmberg

loose with their math. Adam's booms most likely are nowhere near 100 mph; if they are, they are slowing down at least 40 mph by their flight end, because the overall average speed is under 80 mph, no matter how you look at it.

The math does not lie. The circle is 20 meters in diameter. Since I noticed that his rang was definitely going longer than 20 meters, I also calculated the results using 22 meters, which looked pretty close to what I saw at the Nationals. Using "pi x d" as the circle circumference, I came to the result that the 20 meter circle has a distance of 204.20335 feet; the 22 meter circle has a distance of 224.62368 feet.

Distance also equals rate times the time spent. For one flight, divide the distance by the time (stated as 1.92 seconds) to get the rate. This rate will be in feet per second; multiply by 60 and divide by 88 to get the miles per hour speed, which most of us are more familiar with (60 mph equals 88 feet per second). I get his speed to be 72.515 mph for a 20 meter circle, and 79.767 mph for a 22 meter circle (more likely, as I saw it at the Nationals).

These are average speeds; it started out somewhat faster, and ended the flight somewhat slower. Under NO CIRCUMSTANCES was Adam, or probably anyone on earth, yet subjected to a 95 mph catch, as the quote from the Sports Illustrated article would seem to indicate. I suggest that perhaps the truth may be

even more exciting to some of us, and even more useful when those times are ellipsed, in the future.

To get a more clear picture, let's look at the full round of five catches. There are 4 turn-around times in a 5 catch FC round; I was told his turn-around times were about 1.25 seconds. This means

that 4 x 1.25 seconds, or 5.0 seconds, were spent catching, turning and throwing. The rest of the time was spent with the boom in the air. Since distance still equals rate times the time spent, I multiplied the distance times 5, divided by the time actually spent by the boom in the air (about 10.0 seconds), and got the rates for all 5 catches. Not surprisingly, they actually match the one time throws pretty closely (69.615 mph average for a 20 meter circle; 76.576 mph average for a 22 meter circle).

For a final check, I calculated the rates for Endurance, checking out various turn-around rates (and assuming he had caught all 78 throws). I also assumed he caught the last throw exactly as time expired, so that he would not have the advantage of the added time of the last flight, which would not have shown up as time spent but would have contributed to the score. (Side note - boy, this guy really has to get a job that takes up more of his time!!)

There would be 77 turn-around times in a 78 throw Endurance session; I multiplied the turn-around time times 77, and subtracted this from the 300 seconds allotted in a 5-minute round. I used this figure as the time in the "distance equals rate times the time spent" equation, dividing it into the distance times 78 (for the 78 flights), and then converted it into mph. I came up with an interesting table:

At turn-around times of 1.25 seconds, at 20 meters, the booms flew at 53.300 mph (average speed) At 22 meters, with the same turn around speed, the average speed was 58.630 mph .

With turn-around times of 1.50 seconds, at 20 meters, the booms flew at 58.861 mph on average and 64.747 mph average speed at 22 meters.

With turn-around times of 2.00 seconds, at 20 meters, the booms flew at 74.383 mph on average and 81.821 mph on average at 22 meters.

See "Fast Catch" on Pg 22

Alternative Events: **TREMOLO:** The Ultimate Boomerang Triathalon

By Gunther Moeller

(editor's note: After coming up with the alternative event TAPIR Terror Round in 1993, Gunther has done it again. Yet another boomerang triathalon: TREMOLO!)

The Tapir Terror Round combines Accuracy, Trick Catch and Fast Catch on a total time basis. TREMOLO now combines Accuracy, MTA 40 and Trick Catch on a total point basis.

To begin, every thrower has four throws of Accuracy for a maximum potential of 40 points.

Next, there are 3 throws of 40 meter MTA (every MTA is to be thrown from and caught in the 40 meter diameter circle.) The **two best times** are added up and then added to the Accuracy score. (Split seconds of MTA time become split points.)

The final part of Tremolo is Trick Catch. Here every thrower has to perform four different catches in a suicide format. (ie: If you drop any catch, you are finished and your point scoring potential is finished. By the same token, if you continue to catch, you keep repeating the se-

ries of catches until you drop, so the scoring potential is infinite!) The total number of catches is added to the Accuracy and MTA 40 score for the final score. The catches are "one-handed left hand clean", "one-handed under one leg", "one-handed behind the back" and "one-handed tunnel (one-handed under one leg while both feet touch the ground)".

The more points, the better! The strategy is to think of the right way of doing MTA! If you scored poorly in Accuracy, you might use your Romblad and try to catch up, risking the possibility of blowing out of the 40 meter circle and scoring a 0! If you're first after Accuracy you might play it safe and protect your lead.

Furthermore, to make for a dramatic finish, the running scores are announced regularly, so the pressure mounts, as the events pass. Then, for the Trick Catch finale, the person(s) in last place go first, trick catching until they drop, to either lose or to catch up and take the lead, one catch (point) at a time, putting the ultimate pressure on the leaders and making for a dramatic, tension-packed showdown!

New Mexico's First Big Boom Bash!

Steve Sanders writes to share the story of New Mexico's first boomerang tournament in Albuquerque on September 7:

Due to the 5000 feet of elevation, many booms just didn't fly the same. MTA times tended on the short side, due to the humidity in the air over the field, which limited lift.

But a great spectator audience, with a good number of college students enjoyed the show! All 3 network affiliates came with 2 reports airing on the evening sports news. Ch 4 (NBC) aired a one minute, 20 second piece featuring sound bytes from Chi Bob, relating his participation on the national circuit and at the World Cup.

There was also good coverage in the local papers, with an advance piece on Linda and Laurence Montgomery (local club members who crafted the "Scimitar" boomerang trophy that went to the overall winner) and coverage of the tour-

namment, as well.. Sunday's Albuquerque Journal reported "Albuquerque's a Real Boomerang Town" on the Front Page, along with interviews of club members, competitors, and a photo of Wildman Weary's under the leg catch on page A-13 where the story continued. You can't ask for much better coverage than that! (any competitors, or others of you who want copies, I'll be glad to send them, just let me know.)

Steve Sanders
1411 Rio Grande NW
Albuquerque, NM 87104

The Standings:

Accuracy: 1- Don Monroe (41), 2- Rev. Jim (38), 3- Chi Bob (36), 4- B Man (31), 5- Mark Weary (26)

Trick Catch: 1- Rev. Jim (27), Chi Bob (27), 3- Mark Weary (26), Chris Oz (26), 5- Don Monroe (20)

Doubling: 1- Chi Bob (28), 2- Mark Weary (26), 3- Rev. Jim (17), 4- Chris Oz (15), 5- Don Monroe (14)

Fast Catch: 1- Chi Bob (25.00), 2- Mark Weary (27.02), 3- Don Monroe (36.88), 4- Steve Sanders

German Team Cup Launches New Alternative Event

Team Head To Head Fast Catch Event A Big Success

Germany's **Michael Siems** writes to share details of the German Team Cup the last week of July and to share details of a new head to head team event that promises to blow the old team events out of the water!

The German Team Cup was great. We had nice weather and 7 Teams, including Team Skandal from Switzerland which won the Cup. Then came Team GBC, with Axel, Thomas Scartowitz, Peter "Mini" Wahl, and myself. In 3rd place came Team "Obergreuner" with Fridolin, Oli Thienhaus, Dietmar Reinig, Hagen Kaprikowski und Hansfrieder Schleiermacher.

Team Skandal won 5 events out of 7. We won Aussi Round and Frido's Team won Consec (New Zealand Consec). We included a new event called Team Fast Catch Shootout which developed. It was very exciting for all of us. Maybe we could fit this event to the International Team Cup?!

Say we have, for example, 8 Teams. The best Team so far has to compete against the last and so on. One round works like this: One team sends a thrower to their choice of the circles. Then the other team chooses a thrower to "do battle" on the other circle. They have 30 seconds to practice simultaneously. Then they throw on a central call. The winner is who catches 5 in the shortest time. His team gets one point. The referee reports the winning time. The teams continue through four throwers. If one team gets 3 points it reaches the next round. But if both teams have 2 points, the team with the shortest sum of the two winning times reaches the next round. It was really exciting. That's it for now. Ciao, Micha.

Sandia Open Standings cont'd

(50.32), 5- B Man (51.97), 6- Chris Oz (59.61)

Endurance: 1- Mark Weary (42), 2- Chi Bob (36), 3- Chris Oz (35), 4- Don Monroe (30), 5- Rev. Jim (19)

MTA: 1- Mark Weary (42.75), 2- Rev. Jim (33.56), 3- Chris Oz (23.21), 4- Chi Bob (23.21), 5- Steve Sanders (19.76), 6- Don Monroe (19.54)

Aussie Round: 1- Mark Weary (63), 2- Chris Oz (58), 3- Don Monroe (53), 4- B Man (49), 5- Steve Sanders (46) (scored the only bullseye catch of the tourney... a left-handed grab!), 6- Rev. Jim (44)

Overall: 1- Mark Weary, 2- Chicago Bob, 3- Don Monroe, 4- Rev. Jim, 5- Chris Ozolins, 6- Steve Sanders, 7- Rich B Man Harrison, 8- Ed Verploegh, 9- Ben Balassi, Brad Burk, 11- Keith Sanders (Steve's son), Ray Santiago, Chandler Shortlidge

Why aren't you in Phoenix? Frido is so junk-food-stuffed, he can't even move! This would be a near-perfect time to beat him.

-Gunther Moeller, wondering why everybody in the U.S. didn't go to Phoenix to challenge his German "Young Gun" Team-mate, Fridolin Frost, who toured the U.S. this Fall. (It was "nearly" but not quite THE perfect time to be there, as Frido managed to win in spite of the vanilla milkshakes!)

Michigan Turkey Toss Slat-ed For T-Day Weekend

Norm Kern announces the Ninth Annual Turkey Toss at 10 AM on Thanksgiving Friday (29 November) at Bryant School in Livonia, Michigan. Livonia is just a few miles north of the Detroit Airport. Bryant School is located on the East Side of Merriman Road between 6 & 7 Mile Roads. If you need more detailed directions, contact Norm Kern at KernNP@PO5.PL.unisys.com or call (810)-645-9308.

This is not a formal competition. In Norm's own words: "Just Plain Fun with boomerangs and throwsticks. Bring Hot Chocolate and Wear Gloves!! As always - plenty of loaners, free lessons, boomerangs for sale". Hope to see you there!

Under The Lights!

EMMAUS, PA- Adam Ruhf and John Flynn traded top and runner-up positions for overall in the twin tournament series held under the lights in Community Park over the last weekend of August.

There were two world records set, with Mike Forrester eclipsing the 49 point mark in Accuracy. His fifth and final throw left about an inch of one wing hanging over the line to nullify the first perfect round ever thrown in competition. Word on the field was that Mike has resurrected his boomerang career and is now burning with pure focus. His perfect 12 catches in Trick Catch the next day tells of the range of talent he has developed. (He and Jim Jordan have been training hard in the shadow of the Washington Monument in the nation's capital, rewarding awed visitors with lessons in

throwing.

Adam Ruhf had the other World Record, bettering his own Fast Catch mark of 14.98 seconds by nearly four-tenths of a second, scoring a 14.60 that, witnesses say, was dead-on the 20 meter line... not a meter over nor under. He also reigned in the top Endurance scores both days, with 72 and 75 catches, respectively.

Aussie Round on the first day found Adam's score of 82 nudged by Jordan's 83, and then Flynn's 85.

Rob Parkins finished 3rd the first day, but Eric Darnell rose on the second day to claim the third spot. Other highlights included a Don Sagert chase of an MTA toss over the pool, through the woods and across suburbia he went. Scott Barrett showed up with no boomerangs, but mysteriously and effectively tweaked several boomerangs into magnificent performances for other owners, including several Masters of the sport!

Professional Cameraman Alan Clough made a respectable showing, scoring a 46 in Accuracy. Tim Maultsby had the most fun, and seemed best at interpreting Barnaby Ruhe's abstract portraits, done of all 28 of the competitors.

In all, it was a wonderful couple of evenings... under the lights!

Bay Area Rad Fest

SAN FRANCISCO, CA- The Bay Area Boomerang Club tests went off and were rad!

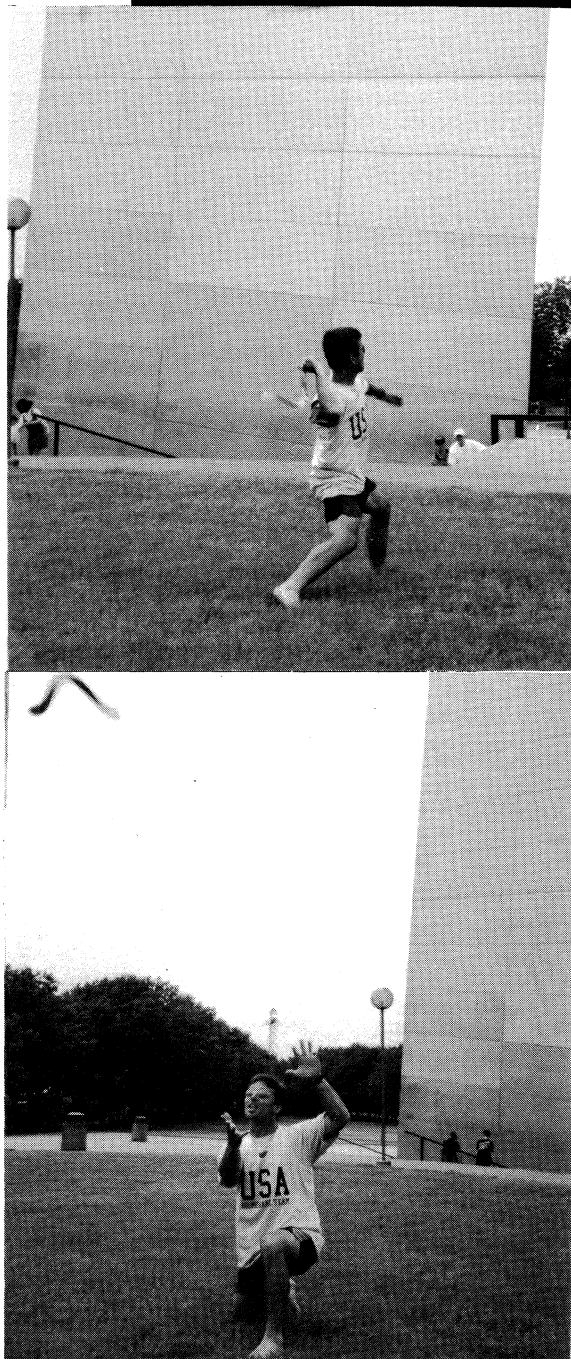
Teams were deliberately picked to be a random mix of "pros" and "novices." With team names like, "Boys Suck", "Girls Playing With Gelly" (we assume that's Michael "Gelly"), "Smokin Lizards", "Peanut Butter", "Salmi and Cheese", among others, you could say that part of the competition was simply making up team names.

There were many highlights, including Ted Bailey's "Budda Catch," Gel juggling over a fence, Ed Hoops playing GLORP with a 24 inch hook after too much coffee, Doug Du-Fresne teaching boom lore that is not written anywhere, Byron Seward addicting Dan Neelands to MTAs, and of course, throwing the prize booms out over the ocean sunset.

What? Chet is 40??? I knew it was coming, but I figured Chet could conjure up a time-warp window and postpone the big day for a few years. Man, 40 years old!

-Chicago Bob, on hearing the BIG news of the decade... well, big for Chet anyway!

Below: In a younger day, Chet throws... and moments later... catches a toss around the St Louis arch.



European Boom Vacation

When Boom Bucks Adam Ruhf, Aron "Zippy, the Chimp Boy" McGuire and Gregg Snouffer headed to The Old World this Summer, for three weeks of sight-seeing, rollerblading and boom-chucking, things got, shall we say, just a little out of hand! Following are some of the letters home, with grizzly details of the terrorizing European Boomerang Vacation!

Friday, 12 July

Hello everyone,

Gregg Snouffer here in Germany. Its raining in Weinheim and the German Nationals are coming up tomorrow! But the forecast looks good. So far we have chased the rain out of everyplace we've gone to.

Here's some details of our exciting trip in Europe so far:

As we left the New York airport, we met barefoot water skiing legend "Banana George, of Cyprus Gardens, Florida. George has been on ESPN and is in the Cyprus Gardens ski show. The interesting thing about George is he's 81 years old and still leads an extreme life... just like Chet! A well-timed delay (to change a cracked windshield on the airplane) left us plenty of opportunity to introduce George to our eclectic sport, complete with indoor boomerangs! What luck!

We arrived in Paris on the 4th of July (just a week before the ill-fated TWA Flight 800 found tragedy on the same route) and were met at the airport by Didier Phillispart and his father, who took us to their house south of Paris.

The family dog, Yron (pronounced Ee-roan) is very peculiar. It will beg for food when you have it, but once your food is gone, she forgets who you are and growls at you. Zippy the Chimp Boy walked into the house one day and tried to bar the dog from running out the door, so it attacked him! He needed twelve stitches to close the gaping wound (joking), but Adam and I told him to suck it up and be a proud chimp. He stopped crying at that and began impressing girls again with his voluminous chest muscles.

Then, on the second day, Didier goes on vacation to Madrid, leaving us alone with his father, mother and... DOG!!! Ahhhhhh!

Dog aside, it turns out Monsieur Phillispart is quite a fun and funny

guy. Every evening, we would sit down to a wonderful home-cooked French meal prepared by Madame Phillispart and drink down several bottles of wine

from the back yard wine cellar. (Didier and his Papa dug it out by hand and stocked it with over 750 bottles of European wines. Mr. P has a saying, being the wine connoisseur that he is.

Whenever he hears a bottle of wine being opened, he says, "Pardon, on m'appelle", excuse me, someone is calling my name!)

In Didier's absence, His neighbor, Jean-Phillipe and his beautiful sister kept us entertained, touring Paris by Rollerblades and throwing boomerangs at Evry, the sight of the 1988 World Cup Boomerang Tournament where Team Blue masterfully staged its come-from-behind victory over Team Red in blustery winds. Let

those Red guys forget, the winds were so bad that we had to use Eric Darnell's weighted, slotted Wizard for all of the events... even MTA!

We climbed on the Roman-era aqueduct that crosses the field and threw booms from the top of it. It was truly impressive to see the development of the town and sports complex since our 1988 visit. There's a huge sports stadium on the sight now!

Eventually, though, we had to leave the gracious Phillispart's after a couple of days because the food ran out! We took the train to Gunter Moeller's house near Koln in Germany because his refrigerator was well-stocked.

We found out shortly after disembarking the train near Gunther's that there is a button near the door of the train that will apply the brakes should you need more time to get off. So I guess there was really no need to jump off of the moving train, our bodies sprawling across the station floor, with our belongings scattering across the platform. Oh well, live and learn!

We had been toting our Rollerblades all over Europe and using them occasionally for fitness, recreation and sight-seeing in Paris. But when we got to Gunter's we immediately ripped into hardcore, extreme death skating. To save weight and make them more

"...I guess there was really no need to jump off of the moving train, our bodies sprawling across the station floor, our belongings scattering across the platform."

Our three heroes, from left: Adam Ruhf, Aron "Zippy" McGuire, and Gregg Snouffer trying to find a descent burger in gay ol' Paris





Gregg meets The Netherland's infamous Max Hoban at his house in Amsterdam

nimble, we had to shred our nice new skates apart, shedding all unnecessary items like brakes and so forth that got in the way.

Currently we are preparing for the German Nationals by staying out all night with Gunter, Michael Siems and Dietmar Reining, drinking beer in the Weinheim beer garden where we spent the second team cup in 1988, singing fine German songs about John Flynn's Fast Catch and getting blitzkrieged. So, I guess you could say we're right on our training schedule! Zippy has us up at 1pm every afternoon, doing 300 pushups and situps (or, at least thinking about doing them) while we drink coffee and have little french baguettes.

See you all soon, and if someone sees Larry, tell him Adam seems to be doing fine... at least when he's awake!

See you, Gregg Snuffer at Dietmar's... somewhere in Southern Germany.

Monday, 15 July

Hello everyone,

Gregg here, back at Dietmar's home. Dietmar is a lot like the Gary Broadbent of Germany. He has a garage FULL of boom material. Everything you could imagine... plastic, wood, phenolic, G-10 and more. But unlike Gary, Dietmar has a nice job, no kids and is totally mellow!

Anyway, the news you've been waiting for. There is a new German National Champion and he's NOT German! But before you all get too excited, thinking one of those cheeky Americans won it, let me tell you, it was Thomas Stehrenberger who won. He's Swiss. Adam managed a 22.46 in Fast Catch, but only got 3rd place. I won the Fast Catch with a 20.9. Zippy was second in Accuracy with 42. Adam had a 41.52 second MTA throw which was 8th place. I caught a 57 second toss 6 meters out of bounds,

which WOULD have been second, but no. (Matthias Giesenschlag won the event with 68.49 seconds!) That was it for the somewhat side-tracked Americans.

The tournament was actually held in a big cow field on the side of a hill, which explains why a lot of German's didn't even show up for it. And the ones from the German team who did make it weren't into the competition too much, Guenter because his arm is hurt, and Gerritt because the conditions were so bad. Maybe that's why our best times were with those two. They had the closest to what I call the "American Mentality".

The crazy thing about the German tournaments, as opposed to the American ones seems to be that there isn't much fun and laughter and heckling going on on the field, like there is in the U.S. They compete very seriously. Maybe its just that they're missing **Rev Jim** and **Chicago Bob**, or maybe they just take it more seriously. Or maybe we just didn't understand the language and they were joking about us all day long behind our backs! But in my opinion, John Koehler's beach tournament a couple of weeks ago was the perfect example of an enjoyable, laid back American tournament. Way to go Johnny K and you funky American throwers! But let's get one thing straight... these German guys are the BEST at after-tournament relaxing. You could call them connoisseurs! The good German Biers flow and the crowd definitely has a good time.

Here's the results of the German Nationals for all of you guys who are breathlessly waiting.

1st Place: Thomas Stehrenberger (Swiss) 52.5 points, he was second in accuracy (tied Zippy) with 42, 3rd in Endurance with 50, 2nd in Trick Catch/ Doubling with 11.

2nd place: Juerg Schedler (Swiss) 58 points, he was second in MTA with 51.14 seconds.

3rd place overall, but German Champion, Thomas Hieber with 68.5 points. He was first in accuracy with 46, 1st in Aussie Round with 68.

4th place: Oliver Rau with 69 points. He was

second in Aussie Round with 67.

Immediately after the tournament, there was a demo for the 20-some spectators and 500 or so cows. Zippy, Adam and I teamed up with Gerritt and eliminated the competition in two rounds of single-elimination, head-to-head Team Relay. Then Adam and I outlasted the 50-some throwers in a giant round of suicide/trick catch, along with Axel Heckner, until I finally won it on an under-the-shirt catch.

That about wraps up the adventure for the moment. Heinz-Willi Dammers and Hartmut Steeb (who did a 22 second fast catch round at 55 years of age) all said "hi" to their friends back in the States. along with Axel, Gabbi Englert, Michael Siems, and lots of folks I am forgetting.

Its now back to training for this weekend's Cambrai tournament France. We started this morning with coffee and cake, but will gradually work up to the meat of our workout (McDonald's hamburgers) this afternoon.

Hey, have you seen this promo for the big showdown in Cambrai between former world record holder Greg Biseaux and new record holder Adam Ruhf? Pretty amazing, eh? Word is, Greg has taken his National Treasure Fast Catch off of the wall and is practicing again! He vows to return the world record to France. But I think you won't miss too much. It'll probably be windy and rainy! First place will probably be a pretty anti-climactic 33 seconds or something!

Aron, looking empirical in front of Louis XIV at Versailles.



Oh, I forgot to mention last week that, as we were leaving the cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris, guess who was walking in... that's right, Henri Winkler... "The Fonz" from Happy Days. What a cheeky hoot! See you,

Gregg at Dietmar's

Wednesday, 24 July

I can't believe the way Zippy can charm the socks off of those little old ladies from the tour group that are flying home on the plane with us! Anyone who thinks today's young people are all rude need to take a trans-Atlantic flight with this guy! He's amazing! (And I was hoping to get some sleep on the flight home!)

The Cambrai tourna- (cont'd on page 17)

The Year of the Woman - 1996

Following is an excerpt from Kelly Boyer Sagert's new book **Bout Boomerangs: America's Silent Sport**, published by Plant*Speak Publications

THEN:

* It is a "well-known and deplorable fact that fully nine-tenths of our girls and women are narrow chested and shoulder-bound. This is true because they have so little use for the muscles that throw the chest forward and shoulders back." (Things Worth Knowing about Brist, and Short Stories gleaned from historical research, by the Brist Co., Topeka, Kansas, 1903.)

NOW:

* "Buzz! Wrong answer!" (Michael Gel Girvin)

* "Women have just as much potential to do well as both recreational and competitive throwers as men, given some arm strength and enough enthusiasm to stick with the sport." (Betsylew Miale-Gix)

* "Betsylew Miale-Gix is fearless. She knows she can do it, and she just does it." (Eric Darnell)

* "Boomerang throwing is one of the few sports where women and men can compete side by side on a truly equal basis. I strongly object to shortening range requirements for women, and I strongly object to having separate men's and women's ratings. Since a ten year old can make the twenty meter range, there's no point in even discussing special rules for women." (Kelly Croman-Andretti)

* "When I do boomerang demonstrations at schools, I draw a bullseye on the gym floor, and divide the classes into male and female teams. The children are supposed to throw the boomerang so it will land inside the bullseye. Ninety percent of the time, the girls beat the boys -- they just have more finesse." (Gary Broadbent)

* "Boomerang throwing is skill over power, and that puts the sexes on very equal footing. Height and weight have very little to do with success. Men and women, equal terms." (Chet Snouffer)

* "When I did a demonstration in Hawaii, the girls did just as well as the boys in the fast catch race. Many of the boys just go nuts, throwing too hard, while the

girls flipped the boomerang correctly." (John Flynn)

* "Women have been involved in some of the most interesting chapters of my flying life. My first instructor in powered airplanes was a woman. A woman taught me how to fly Pitts specials. A woman soloed me in hot air balloons. Some of the best hang glider pilots are women. Now, a woman has taught me how to throw boomerangs." (Dan Neelands)

* "I've come a long way from Christmas of eighty-two, With two hundred booms and some skill did ensue. So, how did you get started in booms - and be frank! As for me, I have my mother to thank." (Bud Pell)

* "I believe that if more women knew about boomerang throwing, they'd get involved, too." (Vera Broadbent)

* "Is twenty seven a good score?" (Carmen Snouffer after winning the Accuracy event... and bumping her husband, World champion Chet Snouffer, out of first place overall with that score)

Year Of The Women -1996

While I'm still thrilled when my boomerang completes three quarters of a circle, and while catching for me is still extremely optional, the sport of boomerang throwing intrigues me because it offers a wide open opportunity for interested women.

Anyone who has attended even one USBA tournament leaves in awe of the power, the skill and the finesse of the male competitors. As they well should be. But, that spectator probably drove home without seeing one single woman competing on the throwing field.

Whose fault is this? Absolutely, positively no one's.

But does that mean that the situation should remain this way forever and ever? No way.

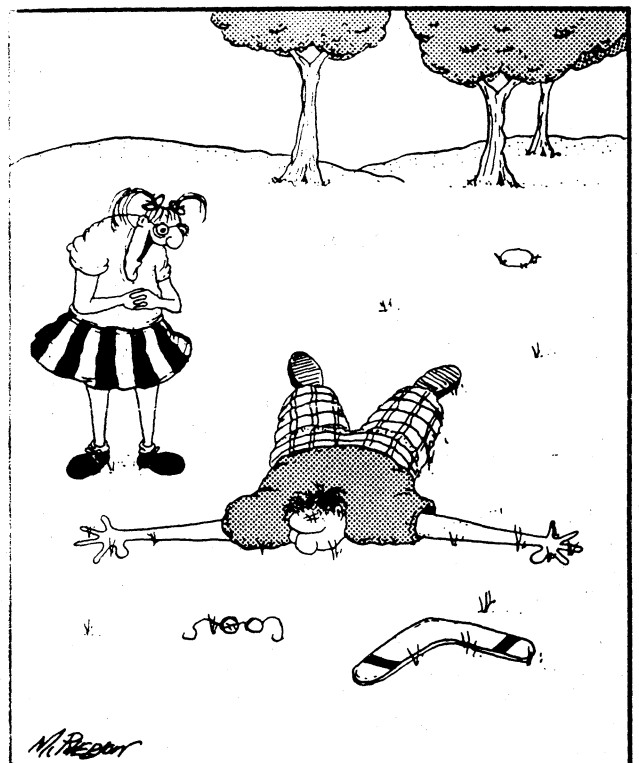
In the year 1996 and beyond, the talented male throwers of the USBA will continue to set astonishing records, but there is still plenty of room for female competitors in this unique sport.

So, why not make 1996, the year when the USBA will be led by President Betsylew Miale-Gix, the Year of the Woman?

Kelly Boyer Sagert's book, **Bout Boomerangs: America's Silent Sport** was scheduled for a mid-October release from Plant*Speak Publications. The 200 page book has color cover and color photos and is listed at a cover price of \$29.95, but is available to USBA members for just \$23.95. Shipping is \$2 per book, domestic, and \$4 overseas.

To order, send your payment to:

Plant*Speak Publications
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North Ridgeville, OH 44039



"Wow! That was neat, Dad! OK, teach me how to throw it! Dad!!"

(cont'd from page 15)

ment turned out to be a no show... for Greg Biseaux, that is. Adam ended up winning the tournament after Jerome Royo... the little French guy with the big, fast legs finally gave up the lead for good in Doubling.

They had tied for first in Accuracy with 33 points, then Jerome inched ahead in Aussie Round and Trick Catch (first with 17 catches), but Adam started creeping back in Endurance (second with 40) and Fast Catch (third with 20.42 seconds). Adam won doubling with 13 catches, while Jerome only caught 7, dropping him to third overall. I finished fourth out of 30 throwers.

I guess there's something to be said for the hard-core-psycho-death-skating-and-McDonald's-for-lunch training technique after all!

We spent the last couple of days in Europe touring a World War I U.S. cemetery near Cambrai. We traveled up to the beaches of Calais, where one can see the coast of Britain across the English Channel. Its strange to see the people vacationing on the beaches among the 50 year old bunkers... 50 year-old ruins of the Nazi war machine that dug into the sand of Northern France to repel the D-Day invasion that would come instead to Normandy, off to the southwest. But for three small-town boom-boys from the States, there were more graceful adornments to the typically-clad French beaches...!

We gained access to the midnight indoor training grounds of Yves Caze, where, with specially made 14 meter boomerangs, the young French star hones some of the speediest Fast Catch turn-around times in the world!

We lay out on the ground under the myriad stars of the French countryside and watched satellites... tiny points of light that, within the hour, would cross our home con-



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continent... pass overhead. It was a time for reflection... our vacation was ending, and so was the Summer. School would start soon, and another boomerang season would come to a close.

We remembered the questions some other friends and I had asked of the stars on a hilltop half a globe away, in a place called Sedona a couple of years before... Chicago Bob had indeed made one of the U.S.

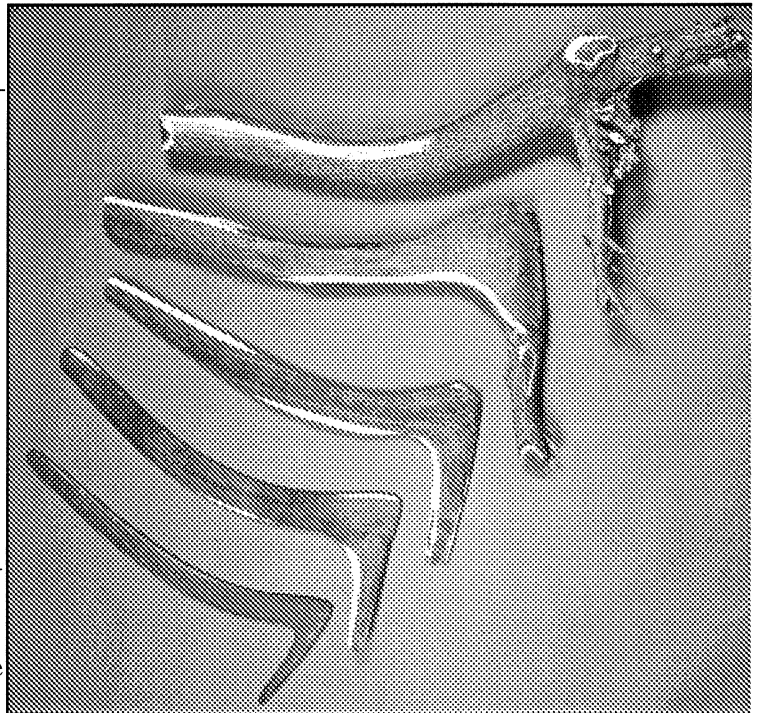
Teams, Gary and Vera had been married... were even having a baby! Someone had beaten Chet... an old Aussie guy named Rob that, it turns out, had beaten him before! Someone had broken Biseaux's French Fast Catch record... in fact, the guy that had was laying right there beside us!

But other questions had not yet been answered: no one had yet scored a 100 in Aussie Round, nor a 50 in accuracy. And there were new ones like, "Will a head to head boomerang tournament ever be on television?" Or "Will the U.S. Team win back the World Cup?" I guess we'll just have to keep traveling boomerangs, meetin

old friends, and waiting for the answers.

Its funny how, as Science keeps finding more evidence of the boomerang ever further back into history, we continue to carry this incredible tool ever further into the future. What a strange, magical stick!

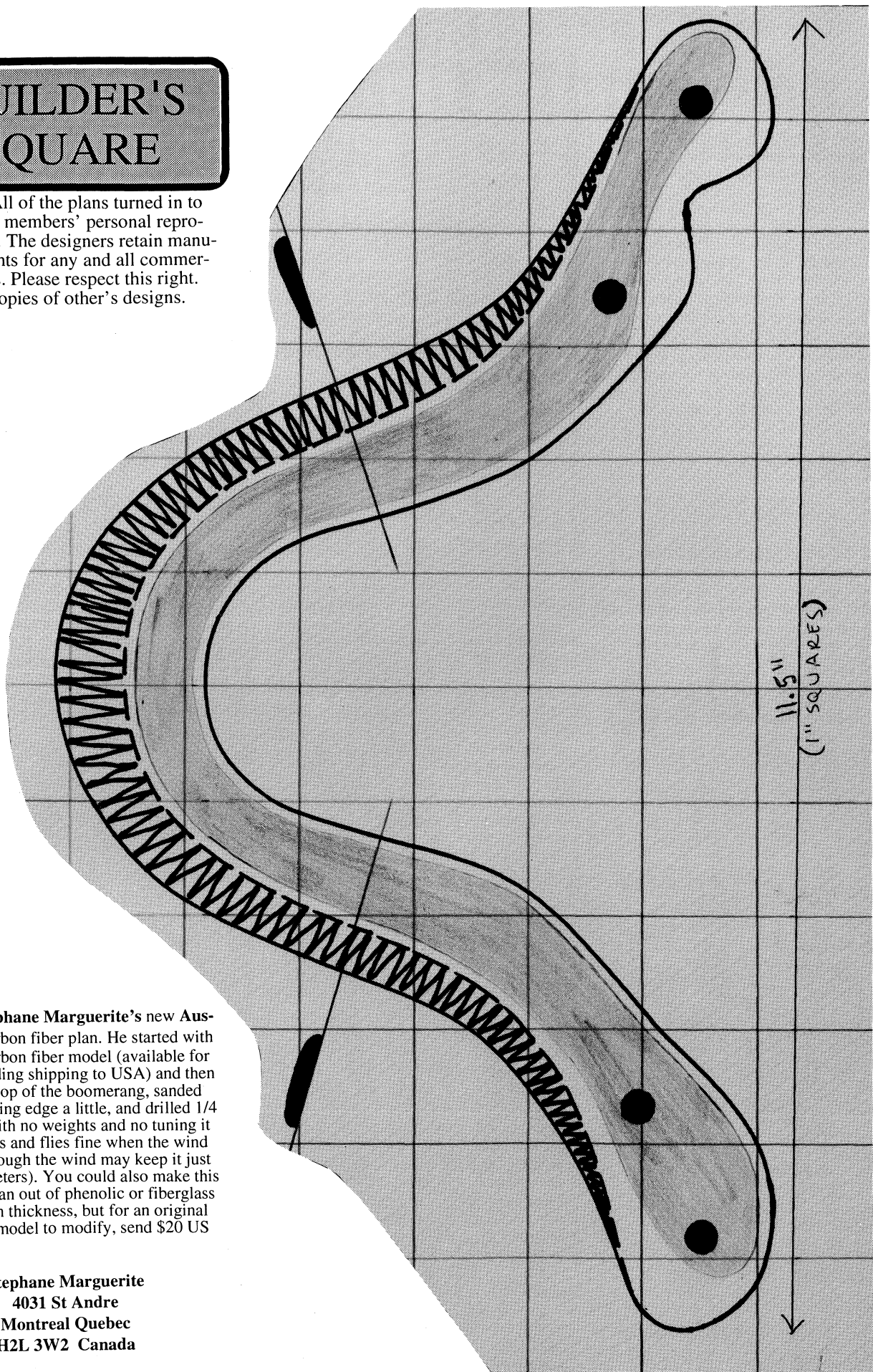
Gregg Snouffer, here... somewhere over the Atlantic...



Above: The evolution of a beak-nose kylie... one of the displays from the South Australia Museum collection.

BUILDER'S SQUARE

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Canadian **Stephane Marguerite's** new **Ausie Round** carbon fiber plan. He started with his regular carbon fiber model (available for \$20US, including shipping to USA) and then cut down the top of the boomerang, sanded down the leading edge a little, and drilled 1/4 inch holes. With no weights and no tuning it goes 50 meters and flies fine when the wind kicks up (although the wind may keep it just short of 50 meters). You could also make this boomerang plan out of phenolic or fiberglass in 2 to 2.5 mm thickness, but for an original carbon fiber model to modify, send \$20 US to:

Stephane Marguerite
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September 1996

Shape: "2+1"-type with 120° between the arms angle

Material: Finnish Birch plywood

Thickness: 4.5 mm (8 plies)

Arm-radius: 142 mm

Mass: 40 g

Profiling: turbulent leading edges, little bevels

Holes: 2 x 6 mm + one big drop-type hole

Finishing: upper side - ONLY one ply varnish, down side - up to three plies varnish

Tuning: no necessary, flat is OK

Throwing:

- pinch gripp,
- windangle - 45-50°,
- tiltangle - 15-20°,
- aimangle - 15-20°.

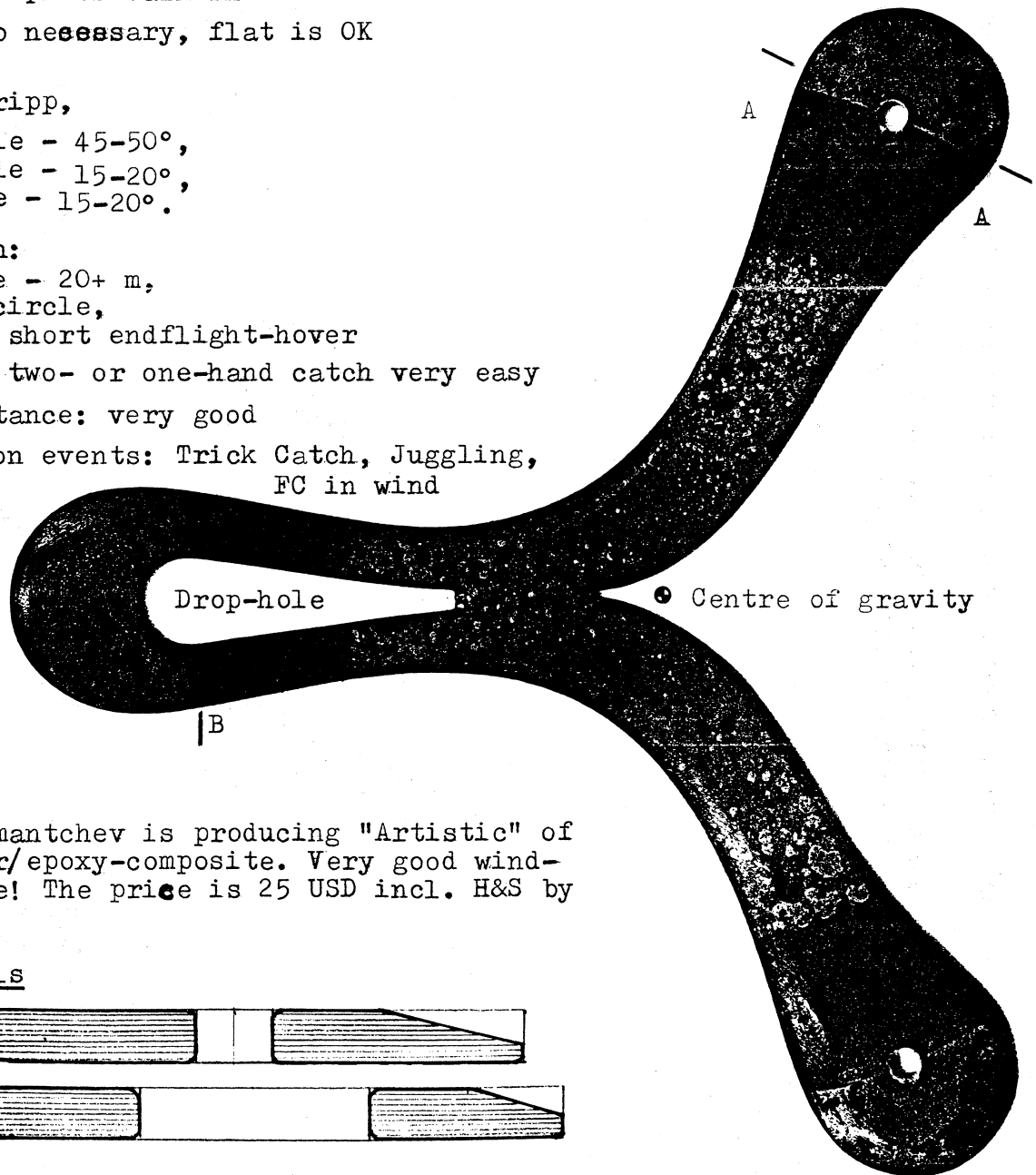
Flightpath:

- distance - 20+ m,
- form - circle,
- hover - short endflight-hover

Catching: two- or one-hand catch very easy

Windresistance: very good

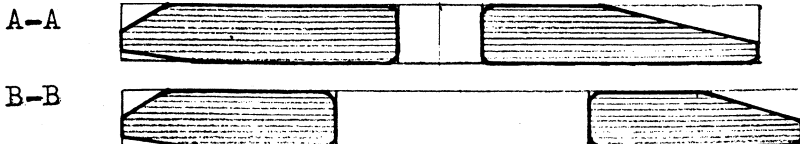
Competition events: Trick Catch, Juggling,
FC in wind



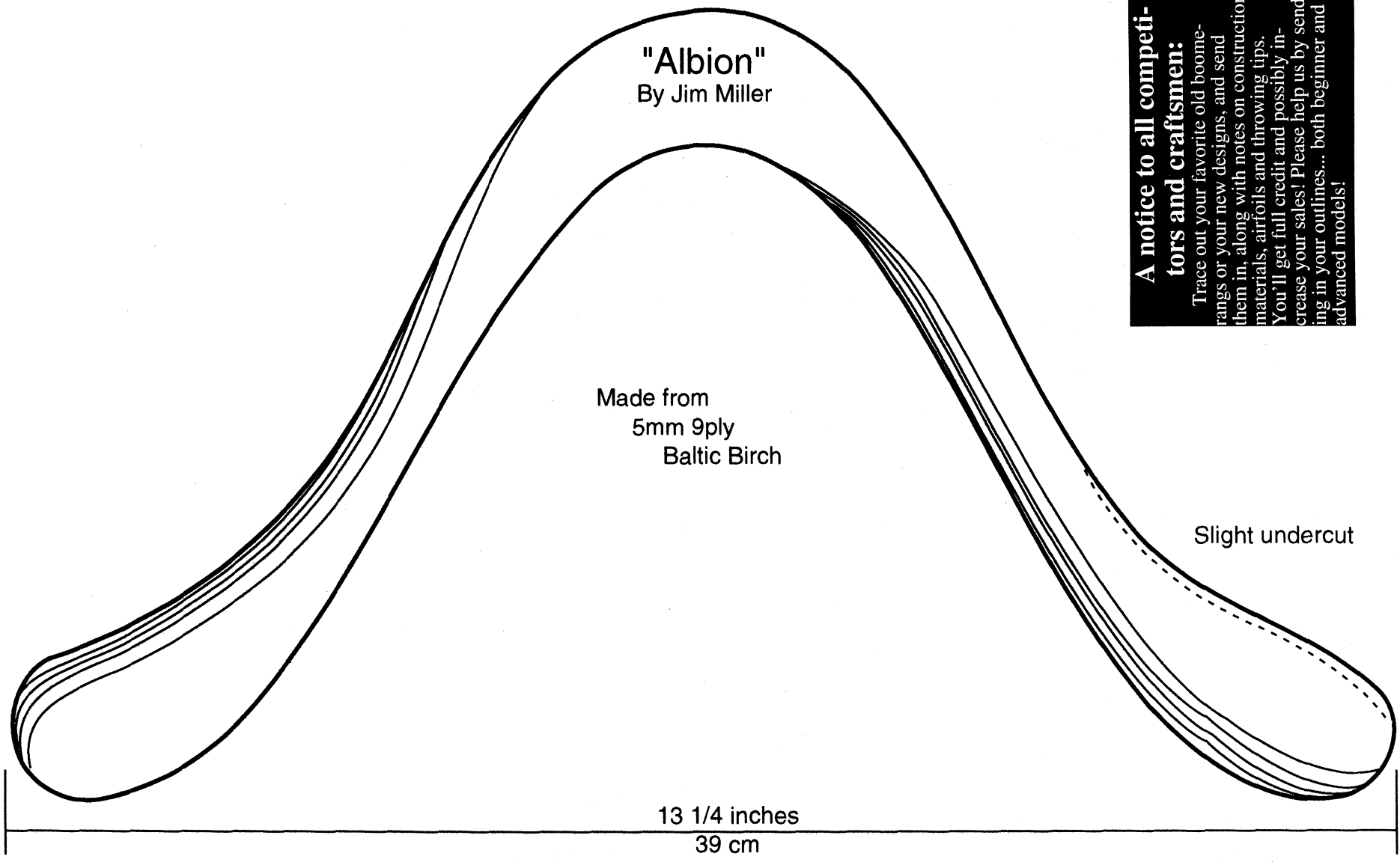
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Arm-profiles



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- Boomerangs By Ted Bailey:** P.O. Box 6076, Ann Arbor MI 48106 Ph (313) 971-2970: Competition B's, MTA's, miniature B's, books, newsletters, collector of Aboriginal artifacts, publisher of Boomerang News.
- The Boomerang Man:** (Rich Harrison) 1806 N 3rd St., Monroe, LA 71201 Ph (318) 325-8157: FREE "one stop, something for everyone" catalog, Fax/mail orders. VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVERY accepted. Been doing this 20+ years, would you believe!
- Broadbent Boomerangs:** (Gary Broadbent) 3204 38th St NW, Canton, OH 44718 Ph (216) 492-RANG (7264): FREE pricelist, beginner to comp booms, demos, lesson plans and supplies.
- BVD Rangs** (David Hendricks) 1086 E Gordon St., Allentown PA 18103, A wide variety of 'rangs. FREE Price sheet.
- Channel Craft, Inc** (D,J, Helfer) P.O. Box 101; N. Charleroi, PA 15022; phone (412) 489-4900, Fax (412) 489-0773. Recreational Woodcraft.
- Circle Stix:** (Stuart Jones) 195 E 5th St., #605, St Paul MN 55101: Special wooden rangs of all types. Call or fax 612-228-1393 for info, demo's and workshops
- Cleveland Boomerang School** (Dave Boehm) P.O. Box 17385, Euclid OH 44117 ph (216)442-6024: variety of Bs, workshops.
- Cryderman, John:** 136 Thames St., Chatham Ontario, CANADA N7L 2Y8 Ph (519) 354-3984: FREE Catalog, Strip laminates of beautiful hardwoods. Also, will purchase B's, Tribal Spears, Clubs, Shields, and related items.
- Gel Boomerangs** (Michael Girvin) 2124 Kittredge St., #61, Berkeley CA 94704 ph (510) 658-2469: FREE catalog, full spectrum of comp and sport Bs, T Shirts, etc...
- Gemz** (Tony Gembeck) P.O. Box 5241, Portland OR 97208 ph (503) 230-8955: variety of wood Bs and comp clothing.
- Greyford Company Boomerangs** (Thomas Risher) Box 4734, Whittier CA 90607: FREE NEW Catalog! Manufacturer and wholesale purchaser and distributor of wide variety of Bs. Prompt and professional!
- Leading Edge Boomerangs:** (Chet Snouffer), 51 Troy Rd., Delaware OH 43015 Ph or Fax (614) 363-8332: FREE Price list, Comp. and beginner B's. Fast Catch, doublers, ...
- Left Turn Boomerangs:** (Norm Kern) 1640 Haynes, Birmingham MI 48009 Ph (313) 645-9308: 8 models from Beginer to comp Bs.
- Fred Malmberg** 1545 E Market St., York PA 17403 ph(717) 848-4601: seasoned wood worker, rare hardwoods, lap joints,...
- Outback Boomerangs:** (Doug DuFresne) P.O. Box 25577, Portland OR 97225: Beginner to comp Bs, Fast catch, strip Laminates, Dealer inquiries welcome
- Rangwrights:** (John Derden) 451 Colegrove Dr., Swainsboro, GA 30401. Ph (912) 237-7831 (D) or 237-4014 (N): multi-ply birch, lap joints, poly and PVC booms for brginners and competitors.
- Rangsmith** (TW Smith) P.O. Box 11332, Eugene OR 97440 Ph (503) 465-9461: FREE Catalog! full spectrum, + distance, FC and MTAs and art
- Roundtrip Boomerangs:** (Gregg Snouffer / Rick Tilford) 340 Troy Rd., Delaware OH 43015 Ph or Fax (614) 363-4414: Wholesale abd retail! FREE price list, indoor/backyard booms and beginner to comp. booms, MTAs, T shirts, etc... online catalog: 75574.2346@compuserve.com
- Ruhf Boomerangs** (Peter Ruhf) 6550 Meeting House Rd., New Hope PA 18938 ph (215) 863-3479: comp and beginner Bs, and Lefties
- Dan Russell:** Box 84895, San Diego CA 92138 Ph (619) 296-4243 (4-8PM): wood booms and cylume stix. Write for prices.
- San Francisco Boomerang School** (Bill Tumath) 127 Knollview Way, S.F. CA 94131 ph (415) 550-6746: FREE price listing, large selection of Herb Smith's
- Stix By Steve** (Stece Collins) 4820 Hillcrest, Okemos MI 48864 Ph (517) 349-5234: FREE price list, beginner to comp. (FC, TC, AR, etc), also exotic shapes and art.
- Stone Mountain Boomerangs** (Dan Jones) 222 N Main, Statesboro GA 30458 ph (912) 489-3640: Multi-ply Birch and natural elbows
- Turning Point Boomerangs:** (Eric Darnell):Star Route; South Strafford VT 05070: FREE catalog, wide variety: beginner to comp. Tri-Flies! Phone and Fax: (802)-765-4336

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

FASCINATING FACTS

"Strange, but true!"

Ben Ruhe writes to share a strange, but apparently true story that may prove the boomerang to be considerably older than previously thought.

"Did you know that cave paintings in northern Iran (which was once connected by land bridge to Australia during the last ice age) have hundreds---thousands---of images of men

equippd with boomerangs, some of them possibly, probably, returners, and dated 20,000 years before present, or older?"

And that pales beside this fact: "Rock engraved boomerang-like images appear in the Broken Hill area with dates of 43,000 before present... And this is a conservative dating!"

FAST CATCH (Cont'd from pg 11)

Since the speed of the boom does not change, this suggests that the actual turn-around times in Endurance approach 2.0 seconds, or at least 1.9 seconds, or the boom used was a slower boom for the Endurance round than was used for the FC round. *(editor's note: Adam dropped one catch, but merely scooped it up and continued, probably using about the same amount of time as a turn-around, but making 79 flights and 78 turnarounds. That would make the average turnaround faster by 1/78th, or the average flight speed 1/79th faster, or, more likely, some combination of the two!)*

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

AZ, Phoenix : Desert Southwest Boom Chuckers and UFO spotters- Mark Weary & Don Monroe; 4026 East Cholla Canyon Dr.; Pheonix, AZ 85044. Phone or telepath 602-759-3973.

CA, Berkeley : Bay Area Boomerang Club - Michael Girvin; 2124 Kittredge St. #61; Berkeley CA 94704. Ph (510)658-2469

CT, Madison : The Wandering Nutmeg Boomerang Society - Paul D. Sprague; 782 Boston Post Rd.; Madison CT 06443. Ph (203) 245-8211

CT, Shelton : Team Gel East - Mole Man; 21 Huntington Ave.; Shelton CT 06484. Ph (203) 736-6304

FL, Merritt Island : Flite Stix Boom Slingers - Rich Surace; 855 E Crisafulli Rd.; Merritt Island FL. Ph (407) 452-3963

FL, Orlando : - Carl Morris; 2602 Breezewind Dr.; Orlando, FL 32839. Ph (407)859-1319

GA, Swainsboro : South Georgia Boomerang Club - John Derden; 131 College Cir.; Swainsboro, GA 30401. Ph(912) 237-7831

IL, Urbana : ILLINI Boomerang Club - Tony Brazelton; 2405 Lawndale Dr; Champaign IL 61821. Ph 217-352-6184

IL, Waterloo : Competition Update Newsletter: Bob Leifeld; P.O. Box 242; Waterloo, IL 62298. Ph (618) 282-6854: Monthly update of competition results and USBA ratings statistics. Available throughout competition season for \$10.

MA, Holliston : Bay State Boomerang Society - Bob Quinn; 18 Northway St.; Holliston MA 01746. Ph (508) 429-6871

MI, Ann Arbor : Boomerang News: Ted Bailey; PO Box 6076; Ann Arbor MI. Ph (313) 971-2970: Newsletter of national and world events. email: tbailey@ic.net internet: <http://ic.net/~tbailey/Boomerang.html>

MI, Birmingham : Boomerangs Etc. - Norm Kern; 1640 Haynes; Birmingham MI 48009. Ph (313) 645-9308

MI, Lansing : Mid Michigan Boomslang club- Steve Collins; 4820 Hillcrest; Okemos MI 48864. Ph (517) 349-5234

MN, Mnpls/St Paul : B.O.O.M. (Boomerang Organization Of Minnesota)- Stuart Jones; 195 E. 5th St. Apt. 605; St Paul, MN 55101. Phone 612-228-1393.

MO, Florissant : St Louis Boomerang Club - Tom Fitzgerald; 1159 Holly River Dr.; Florissant MO 63031. Ph (314) 839-1684

NM, Albuquerque: Sandia Boomerang Club - Steve Sanders; 1411 Rio Grande NW; Albuquerque, NM 87104. Phone:(505) 768-0537. Email: ccc27@nmia.com

OH, Canton : Gary Broadbent's Boom Shop - Gary Broadbent; 3204 38th St. NW; Canton, OH 44718. Ph 216-492-7264

OH, Columbus : There And Back Again Boomerang Club - Bob Lackey; 31 E Dodridge; Columbus, Oh 43202

OH, Delaware : Free Throwers Boomerang Association - Chet Snouffer; 51 Troy Rd.; Delaware OH 43015. Ph (614) 363-8332

OH, Delaware : U.S. Head to Head Boomerang Tournament Organization - Gregg Snouffer; 340 Troy Rd.; Delaware OH 43015. Ph (614) 363-4414

OH, Euclid : Cleveland Boomerang School - Dave Boehm; PO Box 17385; Euclid OH 44117. Ph (216) 289-6324

TX, Houston : Boomerang Association of Texas - Greg Corum; 3233 Magnum Rd., Apt 184; Houston TX 77092. Ph 713-681-0837

UT, Sandy : Wasatch Boomerang Club - Jim Miller; 2095 E. 10095 South.; Sandy UT 84093. Ph (801) 942-6943

INTERNATIONAL CLUBS

BULGARIA: Bulgarian Boomerang Club- Georgi Dimanchev; Hipodruma 139A-A-23; 1612 Sofia; Bulgaria

CANADA: Club De Boomerang de Montreal- Stephane Marguerite; 4545 Pierre-de-Coubertin; C.P. 1000. Succ. M; HIV 3R2 Canada

FRANCE: Lille Boomerang Club- Max Froumentin; 144, rue Anatole France; 59790 Ronchin; France. Telephone : 20 52 24 00

FINLAND: Finnish Boomerang Association- Harri Pietila; Röntämäenkatu 4 as. 18; 20300 Turku; Finland. Phone: +358-(9)21-2310578; email: hpietla@oj287.astro.utu.fi

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

Speaking Of Alternative Events!

Kelly Boyer Sagert mentioned on "Rang-List" (a boomerang throwers' email bulletin board) that she would accompany hubby Don to the Delaware, Ohio tournament, but that, while he was chasing boomerangs around the field, she would have her hands full chasing the couple's kids!

She went on to joke, "I don't think child throwing will ever catch on. Let's face it. They just don't have the aerodynamics for sustained flight."

In response, Steve Bolen came up with the following list of "Boomerang Tournament Childcare Events":

1) **Fast Catch** -- Involves dashing from the 20m line and scooping up your toddler as they wander into the bullseye.

2) **Endurance** -- Same as Fast Catch only three kids in three different bullseyes.

3) **Accuracy** -- A verbal skill to check how accurate you can give your child instructions to retrieve refreshments.

4) **Aussie Round** -- Same as Accuracy only with a more complicated and longer duration task, such as retrieving refreshments from the far side of the field without walking through the middle of the accuracy bullseye.

5) **MTA (Maximum Time Apart)** -- The maximum amount of time that you can keep your child entertained without your direct involvement.

6) **Juggling** -- Keeping two or more kids clean while sitting near a mud puddle

and recording scores for Aussie Round.
7) **Long Distance** -- Maximum distance which you can shout and still get your child's attention with "Incoming!"

8) **Trick Catch** -- Open field tackling of a child who is insisting on squirting you with their water guns.

9) **Doubling** -- Open field tackling of a group of kids who are squirting you with water guns.

Coming Soon!

MHR 69, with lots of extra boom plans and photos from last season, articles from Fred Malmberg and Michael Gel Girvin, updates from USBA committees, and, as always, a whole lot more!

The United States Boomerang Association

USBA INFORMATION

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

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

Phone or Fax: (614) 363-4414

E-mail:

75574.2346@compuserve.com

Internet:

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

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

Missing Issues of MHR should be directed to Gregg Snouffer at the above address.

USBA MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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

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

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

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

Check: New Renewal

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address

address

city/state/zip or country

phone number (optional)

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