



Many Happy Returns #108 • Official Newsletter of the United States Boomerang Association • www.USBA.org • Fall 2015

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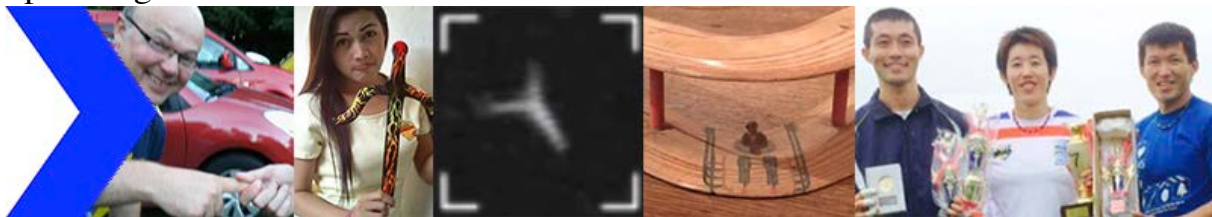
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## **Editor's note >**

It's been a busy summer; lots of booms in the air, magnificent athletic performances and much very cool innovation. And yes, some silliness. But silliness is STRICTLY PERIPHERAL to boomerangers, we are very serious thank you.

Some of the big tournaments from the Northern Hemisphere have posted results, our own USBA Nationals approaches. Chicago - details below, you've got just time if you book it today.

If you are a 2015 member of the USBA, your membership runs out at the end

of the year. Don't wait until next summer to renew, visit <http://www.usba.org/Store/index.html> today. It's a bargain at \$15 or \$35 for a family membership.

See you on the fields.



*Paul D. Sprague, Editor*

## Musings from The World of Boomerang >

This is a public group, you can join at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/142594709264084/>.



Doppel-Decker biplane boom posted by Rūben Vermeij, complete with a presumably dizzy pilot. "According to my friend it flies quite well, although very slow and you have to wear gloves due to the sharp edges."



Edgardo Confessore noticed a three-bladed UFO headed toward the moon and asks the obvious question "Has somebody lost an MTA?"



Sulistyo Yuliono posts some great design work and paint-jobs shown by fabulous models.



## emojirangs >

Boomerangers have always been somewhat geeky. But since Many Happy Returns went electronic with issue #105, things have been different.

^ Aussie

> righty

< lefty

7 big two-blader

V grounder

« équipe Française

L MTA

MTA perfectly tuned

v^ doubling set

) mammoth tusk throw-stick

√ kylie

Y triblader

- + four-blader
- \* six-blader
- ? NALDO hook
- Δ Aerobie Orbiter
- U Big Al Gerhards hook
- = broken

## Boomerang Japan Cup >



Tournament Directors Takuya Tachibana and Yuya Yoshida staged the Japan Cup. First place honors went to Yuko Kondo, with Takeshi Honda taking second overall and Junji Maiya coming in third. Hiroshi Nakagomi brought home the Rookie Award.

## Greater Seattle Open >

*by Richard Bower*

The 2015 Seattle Open was held July 26th at the Ronald Dahl Playfield's in Seattle's Wegewood neighborhood. It was held on the same day as the Ohio tournament simply because it was the only free day to book a field for the entire summer due to overabundance of soccer and softball leagues. As such attendance was a little low but as always for NW events the competition level was high. And we did have two novice throwers who will hopefully stick around and help inflate the boomerang ranks and Jan Muller-Alstrup came from Denmark to compete so technically we had an international event!

Winds were low to medium throughout the day, high around 70 degrees with overcast skies.

Typical to the last few Seattle tournaments the day started with Fast Catch. Rich Bower and Betsylew Miale-Gix both went aggressive in their first rounds and took first and second place respectively. Rich with a blazing 18.59 second round and Betsylew with a awesome 19.84. They were both well ahead of Stevie Kavanaugh who took 3rd with 22.82.

Endurance was second and brought on some slightly stronger and shiftier winds which made going fast a risky endeavor. James Stickney dealt with the shifts the best and took 1st place with a clean 57 catch round, followed by Rich with 50 and Betsylew with 48.

MTA was next and the light and cold early morning wind did not make for great float unless your name was James who dominated with a combined (3 of 5 throws) time of 1:33.81! Well ahead of Will Gix in second with 1:05.09 and Jan in 3rd with 87.33.

Accuracy was the final event before lunch and was won by Rich who had a 83 point round, he was followed by Will with 79 and Jan with 75.

After a quick lunch break we rolled into Trick Catch which brought stronger and shiftier wind again. Stevie K showed why he is the reigning US Record holder in the event though by taking first place with an impressive 96 point round. Well ahead of second place Jame who had 71 and Rich in 3rd with just 59 points.

We finished the day West Coast style with Aussie Round. Which found James slicing through the tricky wind the best with 70 points, followed by Rich with 62 and Jan with 60.

Awards were had soon after Aussie Round at Zeek's Pizza. Where there was much delicious pizza and craft beer consumed, backs slapped and more good times to actually end the day. Congrats to Caden Kavanaugh for winning the novice event, although now you can never throw as a novice again! Also to our senond novice Francisco who was a good sport and happy to learn what he could all day long. See you next time!

Overall results:

1st: Rich Bower

2nd: James Stickney

3rd: Will Gix

4th: Stevie Kavanaugh

5th: Jan Muller-Alstrup

6th: Betsylew Miale-Gix

7th: Nick Citoli

8th: Eric Fromme

Novice:

1st: Caden Kavanaugh

2nd: Francisco

# Western Oregon Boomerang Roundup >

*by Dan Bower*

Dean Kelly's annual Western Oregon Boomerang Roundup tournament is the longest running tournament on the west coast and generally a casual affair.

Oftentimes with just the Oregon and Washington regulars in attendance, save for the occasional out of towners during Team Selection years. This gives it an intimate feel, with only one or two throwing groups, so everyone can watch each other, spot wind, heckle, etc. Dean still loves holding his tournament each year and jokes as long as we all enjoy ourselves and have a few bucks for pizza, its a success!

This year we had all the usual suspects, plus we had a couple novice throwers in Eric and Brian. Eric has been to three tournaments now and seems to be catching the bug. Brian was also attending to shoot video for a documentary hes making about Boomerang throwers, culture and events, stay tuned for more news on that!

Conditions in Salem are often tough. Strong, shifty winds are the norm and this year we had to use a different field due to a mistake on the parks departments part. So everyone got to deal with the blustery shifts and learn a new field too. Winds were between 4-9mph for the most part and our weather station recorded gusts as high as 18, overall, average wind for the day was 7.6mph. Temperatures were in the high 80's, with sunny skies predicted. This would have been a recipe for a beautiful day, were it not for the smokey haze. Washington and Oregon have been plagued by wildfires for most of the last month and a lot of the smoke had settled into the Salem area. You definitely noticed the smoke, both because of the haze and while breathing, more then a few of us had some smoke to cough up after Endurance. Who knows if competing in that kind of air condition was a good idea, but hey, we had fun!

Accuracy started the day and ended up in a tie for 1st place between Dan Bower and Will Gix, both with 80 points, 2nd place was Richard Bower with 79, close finish!

Stevie Kavanaugh won MTA, riding home on a couple 34-38 second flights, great times for the conditions! 2nd and 3rd place went to James and Rich, who only had 4/10's of a second between their times!

We rolled into Trick Catch with the wind picking up, many doublers were seen traveling a little further than ideal.... Richard ended up on top with 81 points. Followed by Dan and Stevie K who tied with 73.

We then broke for lunch and rolled into Fast Catch and Endurance. Most were happy to score in the high 20's and low 30's for FC but Richard struck again with an awesome 22.67 sec time in a mild window. 2nd was Dan with 27.27, 3rd Stevie K with 30.40.

As the winds increased even more, Dan and James tied to win Endurance, with 37 catch rounds. And Rich took 3rd with 34 catches.

In very west coast, traditional fashion, we ended the competition day with Aussie Round. Which was an interesting event, as 2 of the 4 throwing groups had absolutely terrible wind, while the other 2 groups had merely bad wind. Dan ended up winning with a score of 53, however, perhaps the best round for the conditions was by Senior competitor Rev. David Fantone who racked up 49 points, good enough for 3rd overall even with a couple drops, by scoring big on accuracy points!

Awards were done on the field as we packed up our gear and then, of course, we went out for pizza and beer! Thanks again Dean and we'll see you next year for another Western Oregon Boomerang Roundup!

Overall finishes:

1st: Dan Bower

2nd: Rich Bower

3rd: James Stickney

4th: Stevie Kavanaugh

5th: Will Gix

6th: Nick Citoli

7th: Doug DuFresne

8th: Eric Fromme

9th: Dean Kelly

10th: Neethi Nagarajan



11th (Tie): David Fantone and Tom Wythes  
13th: Brian

## Ravensburger Bumerangcup >



The Ravensburger Bumerangcup was held 8/29-30, overall finals:

1. Michael Siems
2. Klaus Häbe
3. Dizzy Klöckner
4. Maxi Häbe
5. Heinz-Willi Dammers

Some great videos posted from the event, look for "Tapir Terror", thanks Heinz-Willi Dammers.

# New England Open >



*By John Flynn*

We had 13 registrants, 12 of whom threw (Bennett Sprague elected to help with timing). A couple of people with long drives were understandably spooked by the weather forecast, but it takes a lot to postpone a NH-VT event. And we were rewarded with a warm, overcast, but dry day with variable winds shifting up to 120 degrees. First event was MTA with light puffy air that allowed Jonases and Manu models to be used without worry. Adam Ruhf used an Axel Heckner Quirl to double the height of the rest of the booms and reap the benefits with a 3-best throw total of 127.82s, and offset Moleman's 121.97. 3rd was Larry Ruhf's 80.21. Adam easily took ACCURACY with 77/100, Moleman second again with 59. TRICK CATCH w/Doubling had some tricky winds, with Adam winning with 62 points, and Paul Sprague and Paul Gustafson tying for 2nd with 56 pts.

After lunch, Adam continued his stellar work with an 18.50s in Fast Catch. John Flynn took advantage of a brief window to finish second at 21.68s, Moleman 3rd at 28.76s, with the wind offering small windows alternating with unpredictable shifts and gusts. These tricky winds got the best of Adam in ENDURANCE, who mustered 33 catches over the 5-minute span with several grounded booms that required long fetches. John Flynn took it with 40 catches, with Mole and Paul Sprague tying for second place with 34. Last event of the day was AUSTRALIAN

ROUND, with hopes of getting some calm wind, but the shifts continued and Flynn won with a score of 72. Adam was second with 64 pts, with an underthrown groundout representing the difference, but his finish was all that was needed to take the overall trophy.

Special awards were given to Keith Towne for best Novice, Kris Johansson won the Novice Trick Catch, and Jeff Lebow took the Rad Performance trophy with 2 personal bests. Jay Mutti threw well in his second-ever contest and Steve Caliri, a USBA member in the 1980's who is now again, visited his first USBA tournament while in the area visiting friends.

Hopefully we'll have as much fun next year.

## Schaalsee Bumerang Cup >



Results from the 2015 Schaalsee Bumerang Cup by tournament director Oliver Thienhaus: "Epic weekend with the first wedding in a bullseye EVER (Heinz-Willi Dammers and Alexa Dammers)"

1. Frido Frost
2. Oliver Thienhaus
3. Gerrit Lemkau

## Boom Bash, Canton OH >

Final placings from tournament director Gary Broadbent for the 7/26 event:

- Logan Broadbent
- Mark Legg
- Chet Snouffer
- Adam Stankiewicz

George Essig  
Kenny Barr  
Jason Smucker  
Brian Wissner  
Gary Broadbent  
Tom Howman  
David Hirsch  
Eli Gepfert  
Mike Smale  
Roger Armstrong  
Stephen Taylor  
Kristen Barr  
Nick Furukawa  
Garry Knudson

## Free Throwers, Delaware OH >



Some great coverage for this event by Jami Kinton including a blooper reel. Final placings from tournament director Chet Snouffer:

Logan Broadbent  
George Essig  
Chet Snouffer  
Adam Stankiewicz  
Brian Wisner  
Tom Howman

Gary Broadbent  
Mark Legg  
Eli Gepfert  
Isaac Syler  
Mike Smale  
David Hirsch  
Roger Armstrong  
Stephanie Frisch



## Championnat de France >



Moirans France 8/29-30, highlights included a European FC record under artificial lights of 14:84 sec by Manuel Schütz. Final placing results from tournament director Olivier Chelmas:

Schütz Manuel  
Chelmas Olivier  
Tribillon Arnaud  
Rancoule Benoit  
Boiteux Laurent  
Misslin Michel  
Bordin William  
Dupret Olivier

Guiheux Sébastien  
Appriou Marie  
Lesieur Matthieu  
Appriou Michel  
Aloy Wilfried  
Han Pau-Thion  
Arnould Jean-Marc  
Lassus Bertrand  
Mancuso Alessio  
Rouland Nicolas  
Herrmann Thomas  
Saba Maurizio

## Long Distance News >

*by David Hirsch*

The LD season for the US began with the annual NALDO (North American Long Distance Open) tournament, once again held in beautiful Canton, Ohio at Diamond Community Park. The weather was good with decent wind and it was a good tournament. High scores:

NALDO 2015 high scores

1. Brian Wissner, 140m Personal Best
  2. Logan Broadbent, 135m
  3. Nick Furukawa, 116m Personal Best
  4. Kenny Barr, 104m
  5. Roger Armstrong, 99m
  6. Mike Smale, 98m (place via 2nd score)
  7. David Hirsch, 98m
  8. Tom Brausch, 97m
  9. Gary Broadbent, 92m
  10. Garry Knudson, 84m Personal Best
  11. Stephen Taylor, 74m Personal Best
  12. Kristen Barr, 54m (potential US Record for Women under 18, pending verification)
- (Not placing by rule for partial tournament participation):  
Mark Legg, 114m

Jason Smucker, 91m

The 2nd and final LD event for this year in North America will be LD at the USBA Nationals, Friday, Sept. 11th at Cornerstone Lakes Park, 2199 Smith Road, West Chicago, Illinois 60185. Start time is 8:30am. All are welcome and loaner booms are available.

## Random boomerang videos >

Following is a collection of video links. If you have one you'd like to submit for consideration for the next issue, please send it in.



14:03 sec Fast Catch. Before you load this video you'll need a stopwatch and a fire extinguisher, because Manu is smokin hot.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=drvAuOh\\_zYQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=drvAuOh_zYQ)

Oh, and he also set the European competition record 14:84 last weekend at Moirans France.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFEbXixvvRg>



Basic intro by the Australian Survival School

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lz4cNzgGJ1M>



Documentary of Australian aborigine making boomerangs from PlanetDoc

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HypNVcsozDE>



Overhead view of boomerang flight by Nundah Music shot from a drone

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G7obIFLd6Sg>

## Upcoming events schedule >

### > September 11-13

2015 US Boomerang Association National Championships and Exposition  
Cornerstone Lakes Park, 2199 Smith Road, West Chicago, Illinois 60185

LD on Friday, standard 6 events on Saturday and Sunday is a Gel/Funday maybe with H2H. The location is Cornerstone Lakes Park in West Chicago. Entry fee will be the same or less than last year. Details to come (approx. \$50). The name of the hotel: Hyatt Place, Chicago/Naperville/Warrenville. Rate is \$85 per night from Thursday to Sunday. Rooms must be reserved by 8/20/2015 to get that rate.

### > October 10 (Rain date Oct 11)

27th Annual Hurricane Patrol Boomerang Tourney, Emmaus Pennsylvania  
I promise the usual events with flow in the same order as the last 10 years



with Sprinklerhead and Position thrown in (if ratings apply to 2016, we will be vigorous in spotting range). Bring crash materials- tents and mattresses to stay warm under the night lights. We do provide dinner on the field. Organizer: Barnaby Ruhe <Barnabyruhe@gmail.com>

New dates & details will be posted at [www.usba.org/Calendar/2015season.html](http://www.usba.org/Calendar/2015season.html)

For those overseas, check out the international events schedule at <http://www.ifbaonline.org/ifba-tournaments-worldwide-calendar/tournaments/>.

- > September 5-6 Open Swiss Championship, Marly CH **CANCELED**
- > September 5-6 11° Campeonato Brasileiro de Bumerangue, Balneário Camboriù BR
- > September 26 Iron Man; Birmingham UK
- > October 10-11 BeachBoomerang 2015: Viareggio IT
- > October 17-18 LongDistanceSpaceBoomerang: Carcassonne FR

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