

Many Happy Returns

The Official Newsletter of the United States Boomerang Association



Included in this issue:

USBA Nationals Coverage

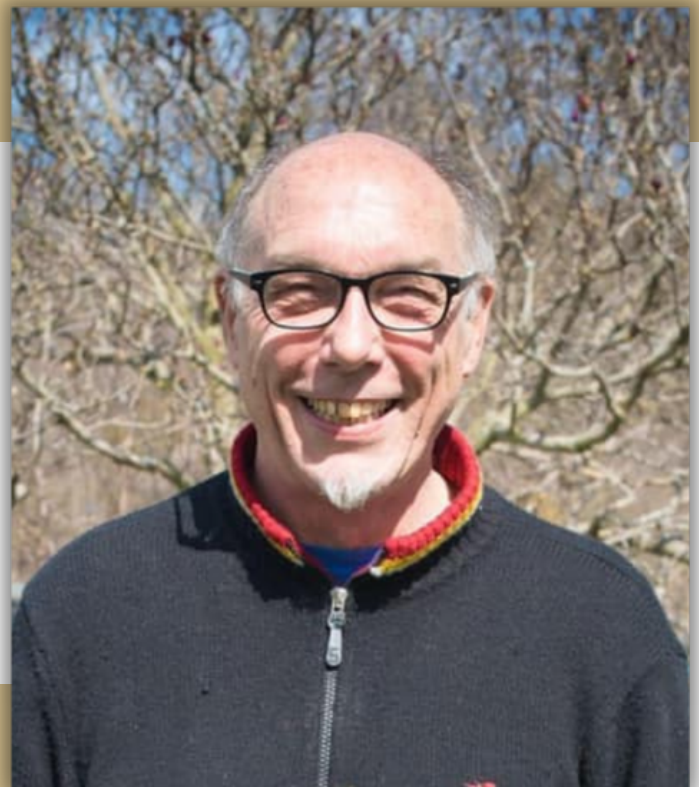
Secrets of the Wandering Nutmeg

Brockport Boomerang Tourney

Artist, Athlete, Competitor, Designer,
Organizer, Visionary, Father, Friend

In 2021 we lost one of the greats. Join us in our remembrance of our friend and colleague Larry Ruhf 1947 - 2021.

Larry Ruhf: A Tribute



USBA INFORMATION

The USBA is a non-profit volunteer organization. Our mission is to promote the sport, craft, history and science of boomerangs in the united states. Your input is welcome. You can contact the USBA through a member of the board of directors, listed below.

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A letter from the USBA President



Happy 2022 boomerang friends,

We finally made it! As we continue to navigate a seemingly never-ending global pandemic, I want to thank each of you for continuing to support the United States Boomerang Association and the sport of boomerangs worldwide.

2022 is going to be a pivotal year for the sport of boomerangs. The U.S. team is on track to participate in the first world boomerang championship since 2018. We hope many of you are planning your trip to Bordeaux, France August 15 - 25. In preparation for this event, the USBA is pulling together a U.S. youth team for the first time in decades. This youth team will give young throwers the chance to compete against the best boomerang athletes in the world. This international competition experience at a young age is invaluable and will drive the future success of our sport. I want to thank Sam Lemay, Janet Thacker Costello, Barnaby Ruhe, Peter Hansch, and others for volunteering to make this a reality.

U.S. team members Daniel and Richard Bower will be hosting the U.S. team trials April 22 - 24 in Lake Stevens, Washington. This team formatted tournament will determine the members of the U.S. team representing our country at WBC 2022. Everyone is welcome to attend this event and vie for a position on the U.S. team. We encourage beginners to attend and gain experience competing in team events. There are no prerequisites for qualification given the unique travel circumstances of the past couple of years. If you've ever dreamed of competing for your country on an international stage, this is your chance!

Thank you to David Hirsch for hosting the inaugural Dallas Winter Boomerang Tournament. This was a great opportunity for throwers to sharpen their skills leading up to team trials in April.

Finally, I want to thank Tom Luczycki for putting in the legwork of compiling the USBA newsletter. We would love to hear your feedback on whether the information in this newsletter is entertaining/relevant to you and what you would like to hear about in future editions. Please reach out to Tom or myself (tom@usba.org and logan@usba.org) with feedback and recommendations.

Thank you again for your support and membership!

Many happy returns,

Logan Broadbent
President - United States Boomerang Association

A letter from the Editor

Greetings fellow-'rangers!

How can we know where we are if we do not know where we have been?

As the self-appointed editor of *Many Happy Returns*, I have been taking this opportunity to review back issues and educate myself on the publication and the history of boomerangs in the US. The story of our place in the sport does not begin with *MHR* but is it a pretty good place to start.

Through my perspective as a museum professional, I am recognizing some challenges that lie ahead of us in terms of archiving, preservation, and usability. To begin this journey, the USBA is taking steps in a positive direction by revisiting our *Many Happy Returns* archive to find missing issues and to convert all files to searchable PDFs.

As in many journeys, the most successful are those that have help. I'd like to thank Paul Sprague for providing issues 098-108. John Flynn has located the issues before 020 that represent the work of Ben Ruhe's newsletter (and may have had a different numbering system) and is beginning the task of converting them into a digital format. Also a shout-out to our webmaster Jacques Sabrie, who is revamping our archive to feature these updates and new materials.

Last thing- I have a homework assignment, especially for those that are new to the sport: Join me on my exploration. Begin the journey by visiting our newly enhanced [MHR archive](#) and read Volumes 020 - 024 which cover the years 1984 - 1985. If you find something surprising or an item that piques your interest, write us and share your findings!

All the best,

Tom Luczycki,
Norman OK



MHR Particulars

Want to advertise in *Many Happy Returns*?

\$50 Full-page

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"REASONABLE RATES REACHING DOZENS OF PEOPLE."

***Many Happy Returns* is a quarterly publication.**

Issues are scheduled to be published digitally on (or around):

February 1, May 1, August 1, November 1

Please submit any materials to to Tom@USBA.org

The deadline for materials to be considered is 1 month before the publication date, but sooner is better of course!

If you send photos, please include "Photo by" and a caption.

Include who appears in the photo if possible.



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Remembering

Larry Ruhf



1981 American Challenge Team



The 1981 American challenge team in Melbourne before its first test match with Australia. On a chilly, blowy day, the upstart Yanks edged the Aussies, to the surprise of almost everybody', and went to sweep the series. From the left, top row, Al Gerhards, Doug Dufresne, Dr. Steve Miller, Eric Darnell, Dr. Larry Ruhf, co-captain Carl Naylor, Barney Ruhe; bottom row, manager Ali Fujino Miller, Chet Snouffer(face obscured), captain Ben Ruhe, Jerry Caplan, and Peter Ruhf.

Photo by David Austin

1988 World Cup - Blue Team



1998 World Cup Teams



VIDEO MADE WITH
PICTORY.AI

Remembering Larry Ruhf

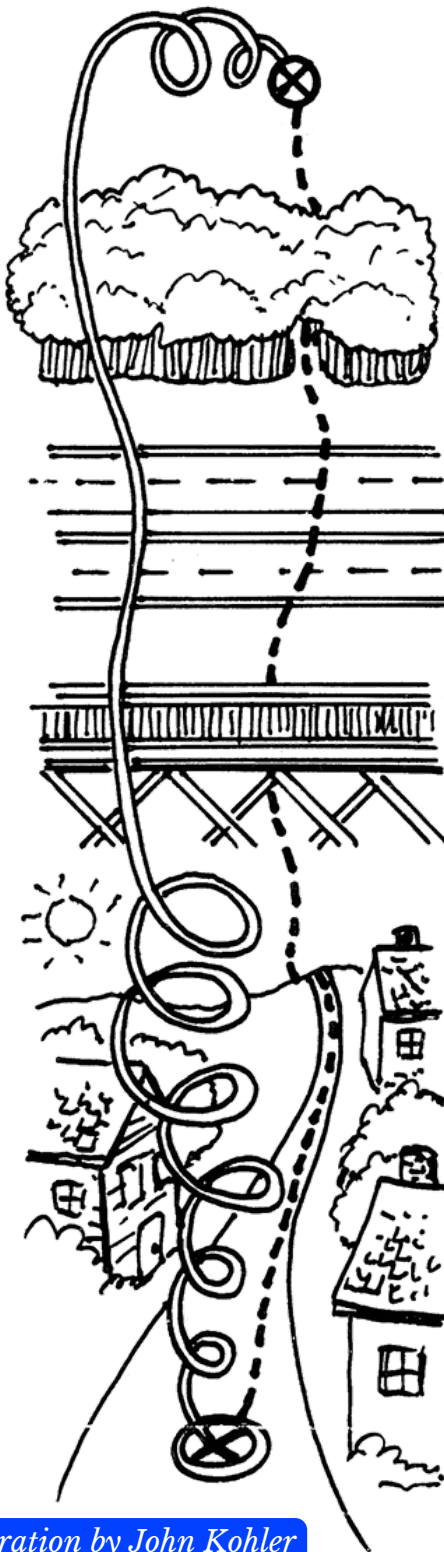


Betsylew Miale, John Flynn, Barnaby Ruhe, John "Moleman" Anthony, and Steve Kavanaugh sat down together at the 2021 Nationals Tournament, to share their memories of Larry Ruhf.

[The video can be viewed here.](#)



The Miracle Mapped



1. Ruhf throws rang.

2. Rang goes over trees, Ruhf goes through.

3. Rang goes over highway, Ruhf crosses.

4. Rang goes over railroad trestle, Ruhf goes under.

5. Rang descends into neighborhood. So does Ruhf.

6. Ruhf catches rang in middle of street. 2 minutes and 31 seconds after throwing and 1/5 mile downrange.

Illustration by John Kohler



A new World Record:

On August 30th 1986 at the first Catskill Corroboree, Larry made a remarkable throw with a 22" inlaid Bailey MTA achieving a time of 2:31.02. This was more than double the previous record of 1:02 set by Mike Forrester in 1985. His scramble to make the catch (about 1/5 mile from the start) is the stuff of legends.

[Video of the throw](#)

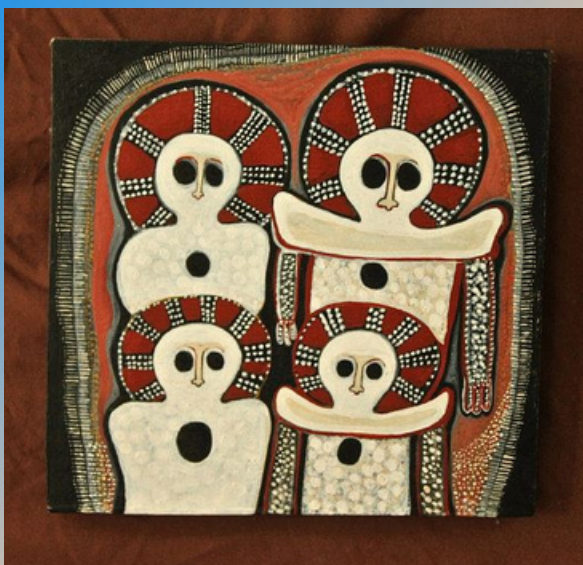
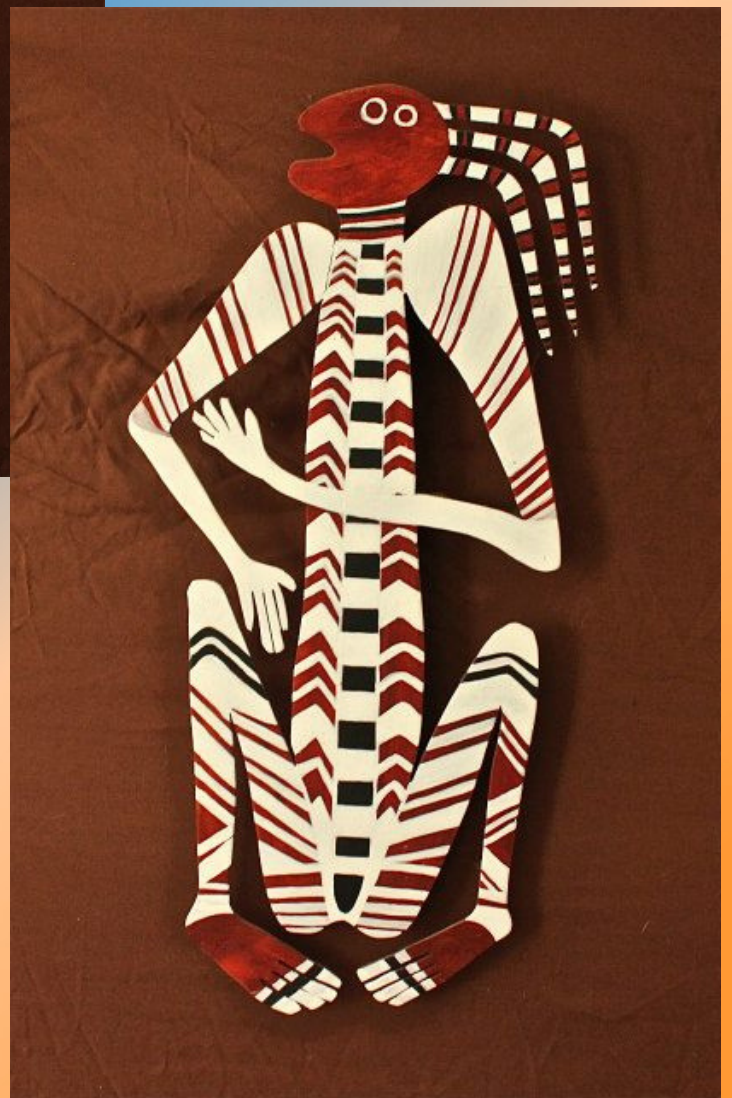
2:53 Throw initiated

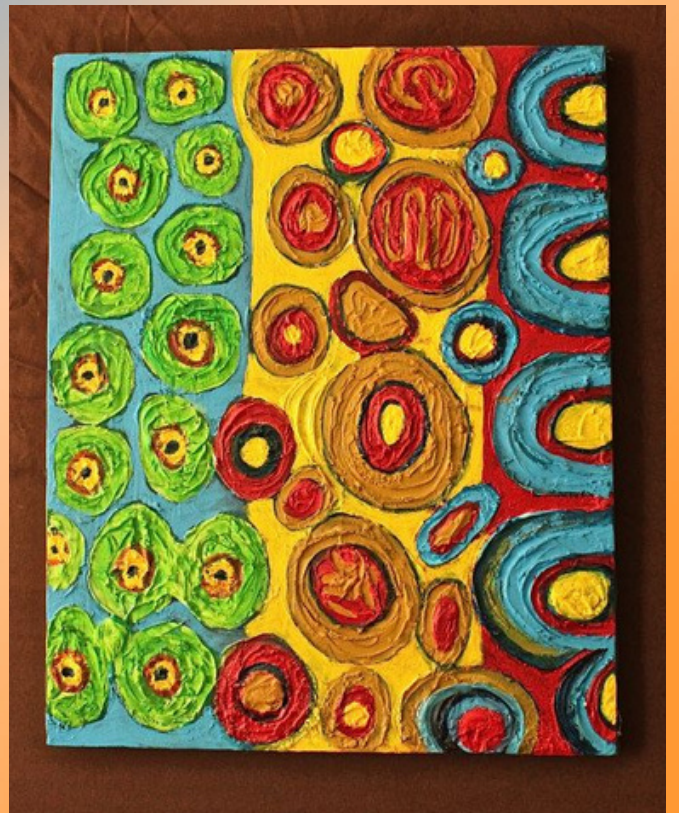
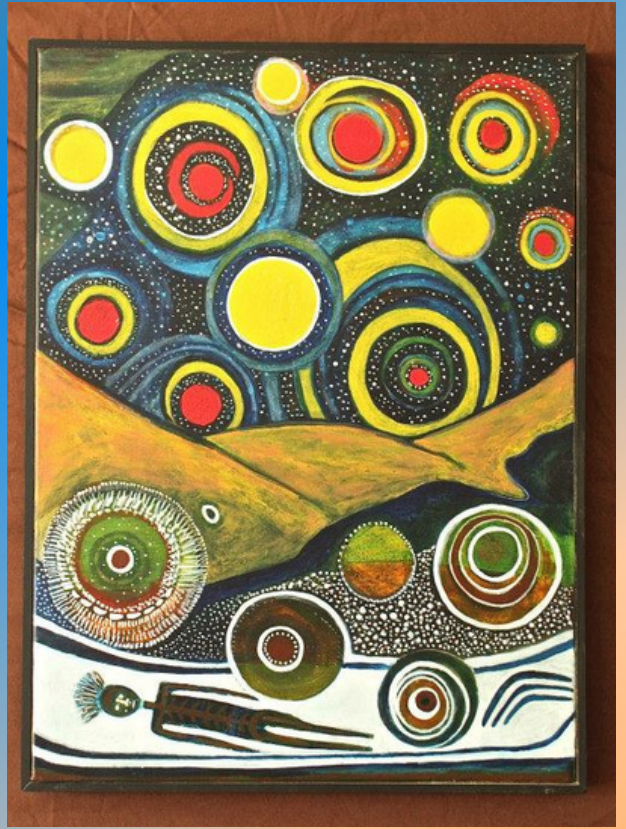
6:44 Return to the field

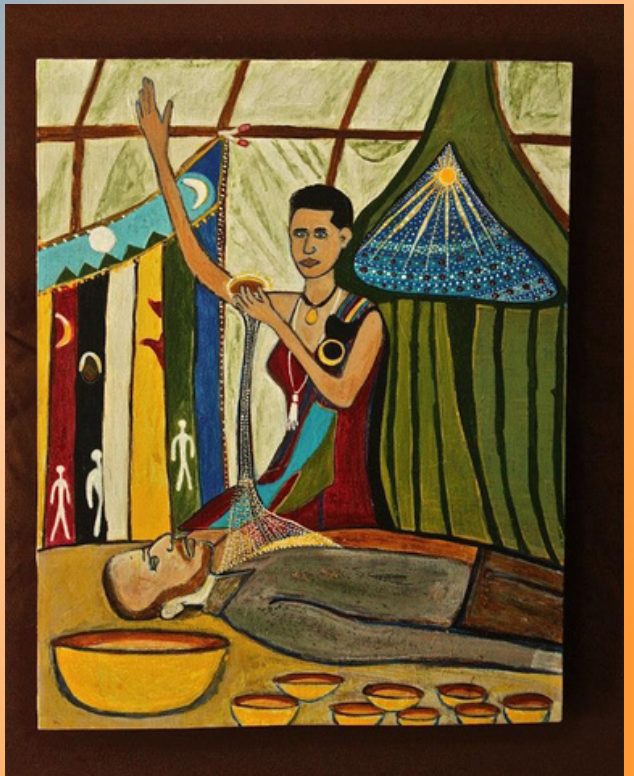
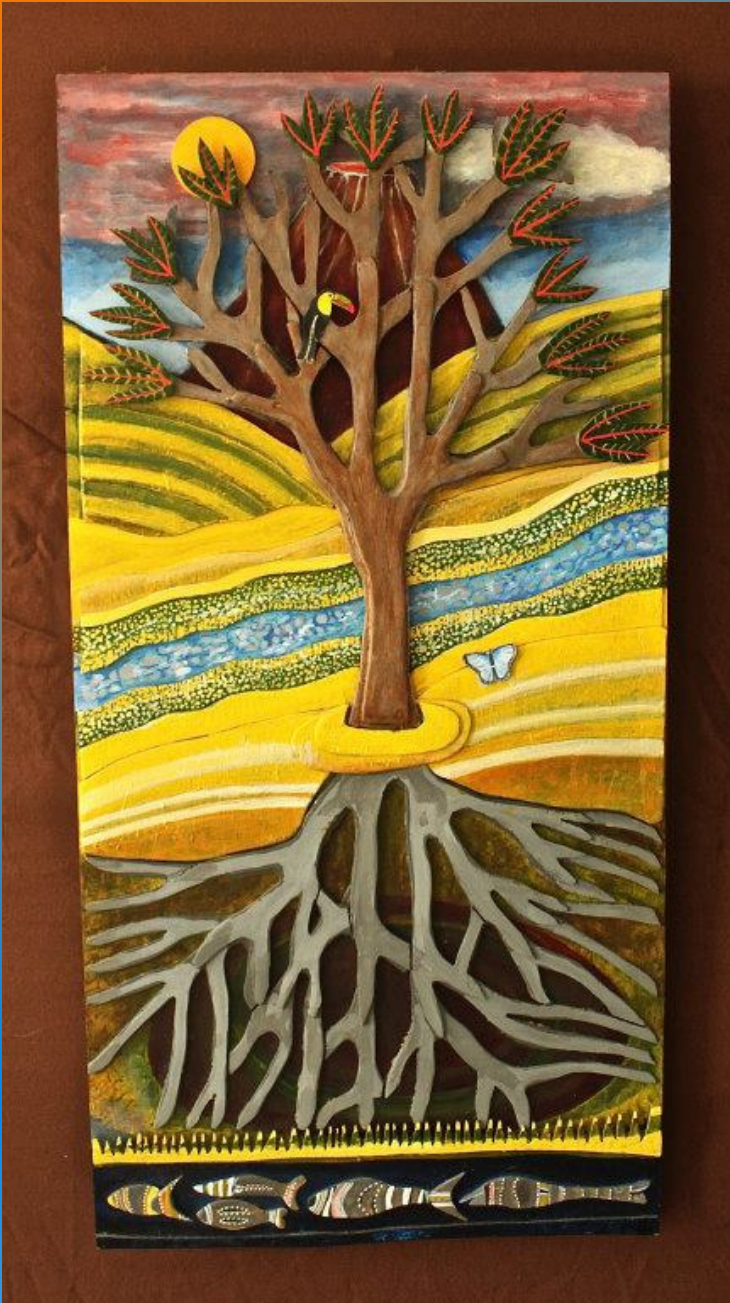
[Larry's triumphant return to the field, then retracing his steps to where he made the catch.](#)



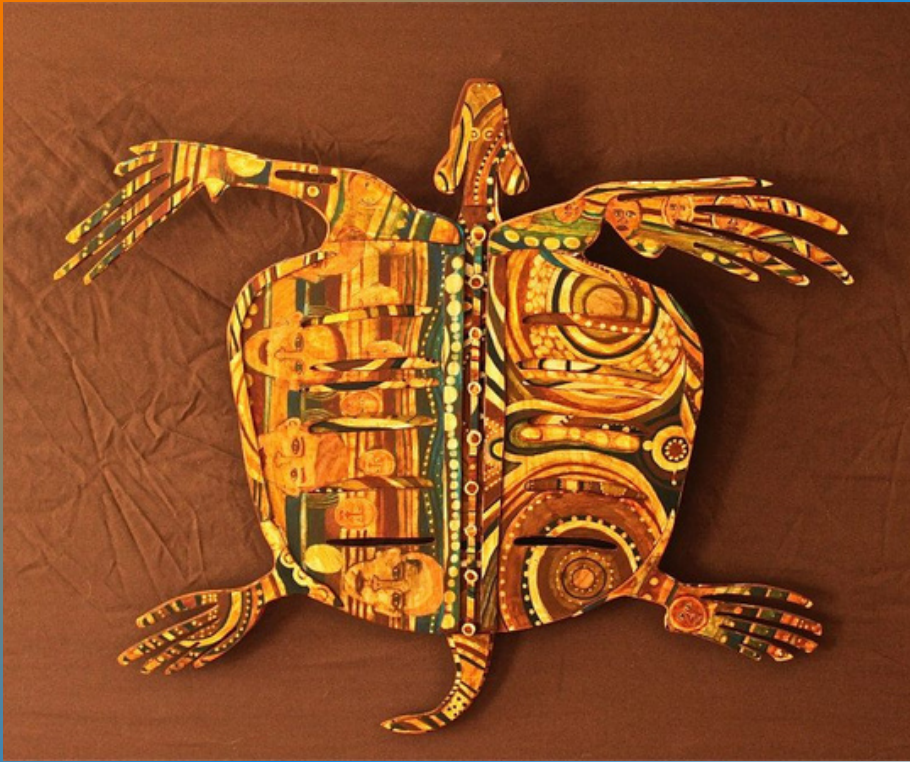




















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2021 USBA Nationals

Nationals: Overall Results



Final		Name	Division	Aussie Round		Accuracy		MTA		Trick Catch		Fast Catch		Endurance	
Place	Points			Score	Points	Score	Points	Score	Points	Score	Points	Score	Points	Score	Points
1	14.50	Logan Broadbent	S	72	7.0	71	3.5	120.38	1	85	1.0	22.67	1.0	52	1.0
2	24.00	Dan Bower	S	82	3.0	71	3.5	98.00	5	78	4.0	31.07	4.0	41	4.5
3	24.50	Richard Bower	S	80	4.0	69	7.5	112.58	3	83	2.0	32.36	6.0	44	2.0
4	26.50	Stevie Kavanaugh	S	83	2.0	79	1.0	105.97	4	48	10.0	32.18	5.0	41	4.5
5	43.00	Will Gix	S	85	1.0	66	11.0	91.20	7	45	12.0	30.11	3.0	31	9.0
6	45.00	Jason Smucker	S	66	10.5	67	9.0	84.74	8	69	5.0	27.13	2.0	30	10.5
7	49.50	Rick Saidenberg	S	77	5.0	61	14.5	74.56	12	65	6.0	38.22	9.0	43	3.0
8	60.00	"Chicago" Bob Leifeld	S	70	9.0	61	14.5	79.47	9	80	3.0	39.85	11.0	24	13.5
9	62.50	John Flynn	S	65	12.0	70	5.5	67.77	14	47	11.0	45.50	14.0	37	6.0
10	63.50	Kenny Barr	S	73	6.0	55	17.0	75.68	11	64	7.0	42.50	12.0	30	10.5
11	64.00	Steve Cook	S	71	8.0	73	2.0	79.19	10	58	8.0	85.00	20.5	22	15.5
12	69.50	George Essig	S	66	10.5	65	13.0	68.16	13	44	13.0	37.56	8.0	27	12.0
13	70.50	John "Moleman" Anthony	S	57	14.5	66	11.0	66.04	15	32	15.0	32.56	7.0	33	8.0
14	81.00	Betsylew Miale-Gix	S	57	14.5	70	5.5	19.22	25	29	16.0	44.16	13.0	36	7.0
15	94.50	Mike Smale	S	56	16.0	60	16.0	91.55	6	51	9.0	85.00	20.5	7	27.0
16	97.00	Jacques Sabrie	S	55	17.5	52	18.0	113.81	2	28	17.0	85.00	20.5	14	22.0
17	103.00	David Radcliff	N	63	13.0	66	11.0	57.10	18	15	21.0	110.00	24.5	22	15.5
18	110.00	Ron Rupert	S	38	24.0	38	24.5	47.25	20	26	18.0	39.06	10.0	24	13.5
19	113.50	Gary Broadbent	S	55	17.5	49	19.0	26.65	23	37	14.0	85.00	20.5	16	19.5
20	118.00	David Hirsch	SR	53	19.0	46	21.5	49.19	19	16	19.5	61.53	17.0	14	22.0
21	122.00	Bennett Sprague	S	30	25.0	28	26.0	58.25	17	12	22.0	46.98	15.0	21	17.0
22	130.50	Roger Armstrong	SR	26	26.0	69	7.5	39.58	21	3	27.5	110.00	24.5	13	24.0
22	130.50	Tom Luczycki	S	40	23.0	19	28.0	64.85	16	6	25.0	85.00	20.5	19	18.0
24	134.00	Barnaby Ruhe	SR	52	20.0	44	23.0	15.20	27	10	24.0	85.00	20.5	16	19.5
25	140.50	Tim Maultsby	SR	46	21.0	46	21.5	32.75	22	3	27.5	160.00	26.5	14	22.0
26	145.50	Dennis "Juice" Joyce	SR	41	22.0	48	20.0	0.00	30	16	19.5	310.00	28.5	10	25.5
27	152.00	TJ Levitski	N	-1	29.5	15	29.5	20.56	24	11	23.0	60.03	16.0	-1	30.0
28	161.00	Bill Rusky	S	6	27.0	38	24.5	12.90	28	0	29.5	160.00	26.5	10	25.5
29	167.50	Nick Jones	N	-1	29.5	22	27.0	18.16	26	4	26.0	600.00	30.0	0	29.0
30	172.50	Quang Le	N	0	28.0	15	29.5	11.63	29	0	29.5	310.00	28.5	1	28.0

2021 USBA Nationals

Nationals: Winners in each event

Aussie Round			Accuracy			MTA			Trick Catch			Fast Catch			Endurance		
	Total	Name	Points	Total	Name	Points	Total	Name	Points	Total	Name	Points	Total	Name	Points	Total	Name
1.0	85	Will Gix	1.0	79	Kavanaugh	1	120.38	L. Broadbent	1.0	85	L. Broadbent	1.0	22.67	L. Broadbent	1.0	52	L. Broadbent
2.0	83	Steve Kavanaugh	2.0	73	Cook	2	113.81	Sabrie	2.0	83	R. Bower	2.0	27.13	Smucker	2.0	44	R. Bower
3.0	82	Dan Bower	3.5	71	D. Bower	3	112.58	R. Bower	3.0	80	Leifeld	3.0	30.11	Gix	3.0	43	Saidenberg
4.0	80	Richard Bower	3.5	71	L. Broadbent	4	105.97	Kavanaugh	4.0	78	D. Bower	4.0	31.07	D. Bower	4.5	41	D. Bower
5.0	77	Rick Saidenberg	5.5	70	Miale	5	98.00	D. Bower	5.0	69	Smucker	5.0	32.18	Kavanaugh	4.5	41	Kavanaugh
6.0	73	Kenny Barr	5.5	70	Flynn	6	91.55	Smale	6.0	65	Saidenberg	6.0	32.36	R. Bower	6.0	37	Flynn
7.0	72	Logan Broadbent	7.5	69	Armstrong	7	91.20	Gix	7.0	64	Barr	7.0	32.56	Anthony	7.0	36	Miale
8.0	71	Steve Cook	7.5	69	R. Bower	8	84.74	Smucker	8.0	58	Cook	8.0	37.56	Essig	8.0	33	Anthony
9.0	70	"Chicago" Bob Leifeld	9.0	67	Smucker	9	79.47	Leifeld	9.0	51	Smale	9.0	38.22	Saidenberg	9.0	31	Gix
10.5	66	Jason Smucker	11.0	66	Anthony	10	79.19	Cook	10.0	48	Kavanaugh	10.0	39.06	Rupert	10.5	30	Barr
10.5	66	George Essig	11.0	66	Gix	11	75.68	Barr	11.0	47	Flynn	11.0	39.85	Leifeld	10.5	30	Smucker
12.0	65	John Flynn	11.0	66	Radcliff	12	74.56	Saidenberg	12.0	45	Gix	12.0	42.50	Barr	12.0	27	Essig
13.0	63	David Radcliff	13.0	65	Essig	13	68.16	Essig	13.0	44	Essig	13.0	44.16	Miale	13.5	24	Rupert
14.5	57	John "Moleman" Anthony	14.5	61	Saidenberg	14	67.77	Flynn	14.0	37	G. Broadbent	14.0	45.50	Flynn	13.5	24	Leifeld
14.5	57	Betsy Miale	14.5	61	Leifeld	15	66.04	Anthony	15.0	32	Anthony	15.0	46.98	Sprague	15.5	22	Cook
16.0	56	Mike Smale	16.0	60	Smale	16	64.85	Luczycki	16.0	29	Miale	16.0	60.03	Levitski	15.5	22	Radcliff
17.5	55	Jacques Sabrie	17.0	55	Barr	17	58.25	Sprague	17.0	28	Sabrie	17.0	61.53	Hirsch	17.0	21	Sprague
17.5	55	Gary Broadbent	18.0	52	Sabrie	18	57.10	Radcliff	18.0	26	Rupert	20.5	85.00	Cook	18.0	19	Luczycki
19.0	53	David Hirsch	19.0	49	G. Broadbent	19	49.19	Hirsch	19.5	16	Joyce	20.5	85.00	Smale	19.5	16	Ruhe
20.0	52	Barnaby Ruhe	20.0	48	Joyce	20	47.25	Rupert	19.5	16	Hirsch	20.5	85.00	Luczycki	19.5	16	Broadbent
21.0	46	Tim Maultsby	21.5	46	Maultsby	21	39.58	Armstrong	21.0	15	Radcliff	20.5	85.00	Sabrie	22.0	14	Maultsby
22.0	41	Dennis "Juice" Joyce	21.5	46	Hirsch	22	32.75	Maultsby	22.0	12	Sprague	20.5	85.00	Ruhe	22.0	14	Sabrie
23.0	40	Tom Luczycki	23.0	44	Ruhe	23	26.65	G. Broadbent	23.0	11	Levitski	20.5	85.00	G. Broadbent	22.0	14	Hirsch
24.0	38	Ron Rupert	24.5	38	Rupert	24	20.56	Levitski	24.0	10	Ruhe	24.5	110.00	Armstrong	24.0	13	Armstrong
25.0	30	Bennett Sprague	24.5	38	Rusky	25	19.22	Miale	25.0	6	Luczycki	24.5	110.00	Radcliff	25.5	10	Rusky
26.0	26	Roger Armstrong	26.0	28	Sprague	26	18.16	Jones	26.0	4	Jones	26.5	160.00	Rusky	25.5	10	Joyce
27.0	6	Bill Rusky	27.0	22	Jones	27	15.20	Ruhe	27.5	3	Armstrong	26.5	160.00	Maultsby	27.0	7	Smale
28.0	0	Quang Le	28.0	19	Luczycki	28	12.90	Rusky	27.5	3	Maultsby	28.5	310.00	Le	28.0	1	Le
29.5	-1	Nick Jones	29.5	15	Le	29	11.63	Le	29.5	0	Le	28.5	310.00	Joyce	29.0	0	Jones
29.5	-1	TJ Levitski	29.5	15	Levitski	30	0.00	Joyce	29.5	0	Rusky	30.0	600.00	Jones	30.0	-1	Levitski

2021 USBA Nationals

**Steve Cook & Kenny Barr
establishing Base Camp**



David Hirsch, making it all official



Richard Bower scouring his rubber-band inventory

2021 USBA Nationals



John Flynn, channeling the strength of winners past.



Jacques Sabrie and Bennet Sprague agreeing that stopwatches are indeed ambiexterous.

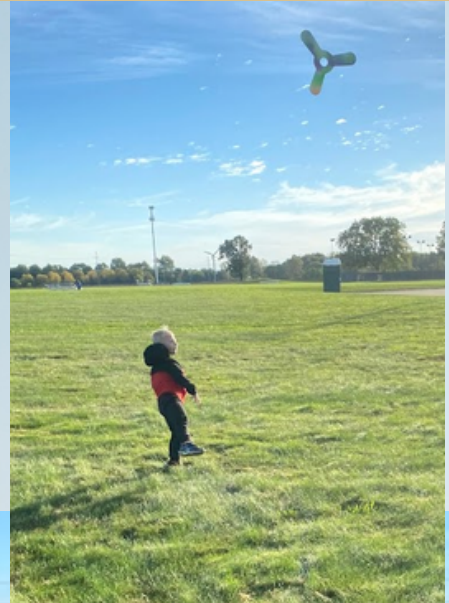


Bill Glover displaying his wares.

Introducing the Future

2021 USBA Nationals

Theo Rupert shows us how it is done!



Introducing the Future

2021 USBA Nationals

Cameron Brosnan tearin' it up!



Introducing the Future

2021 USBA Nationals



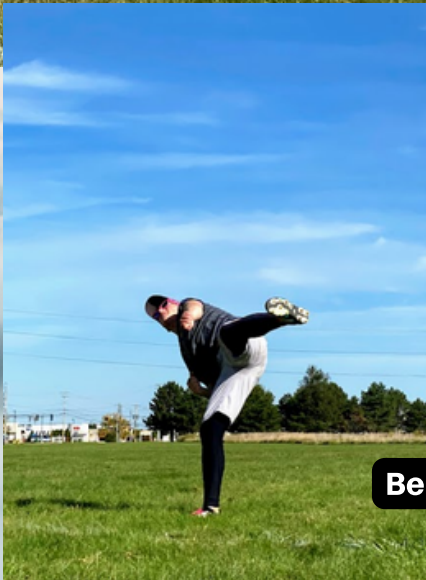
2021 USBA Nationals



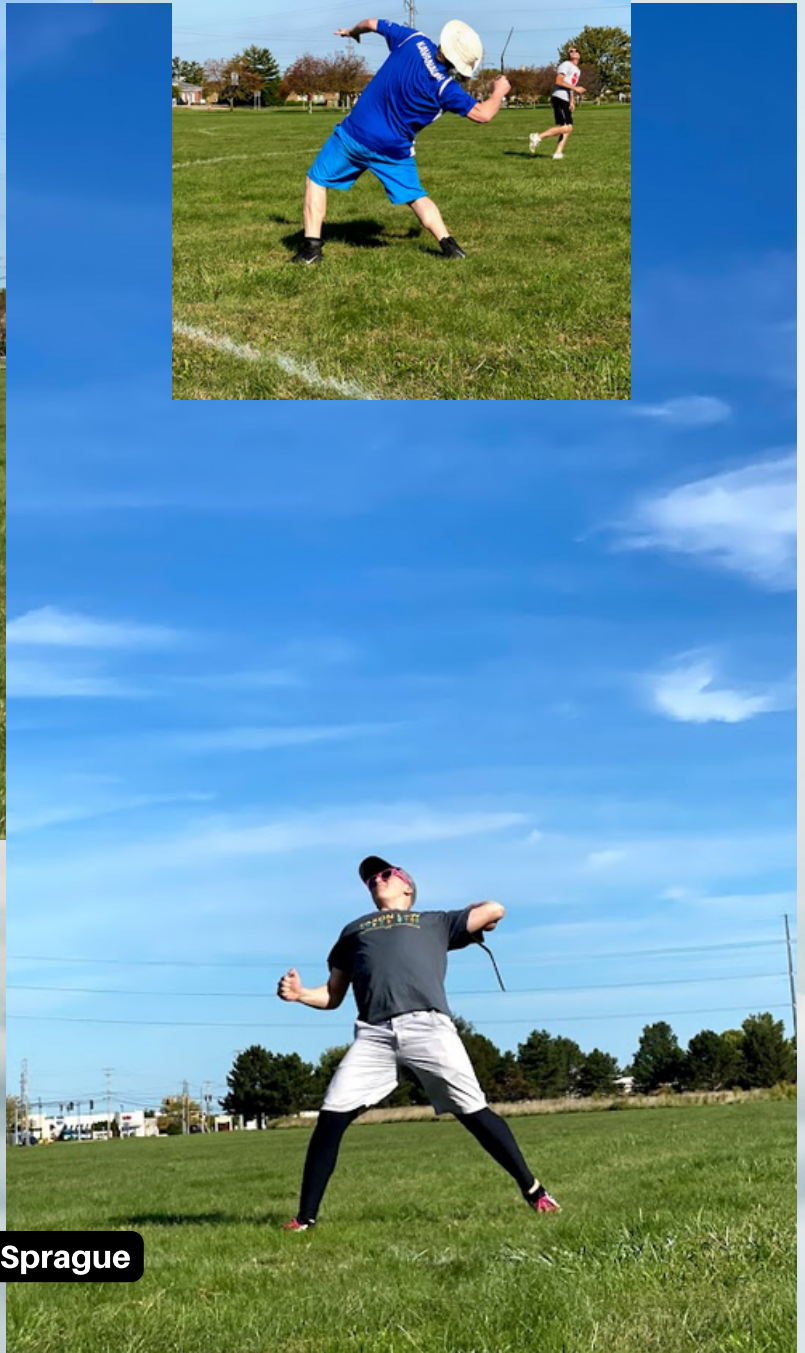
2021 USBA Nationals



Steve Kavanaugh



Bennet Sprague



2021 USBA Nationals



"Chicago" Bob Leifeld



Bennet Sprague and Nick Jones

2021 USBA Nationals



TJ Levitsky



**TJ Levitski
meets
TJ Luczycki**

2021 USBA Nationals

Bennet Sprague



2021 USBA Nationals

Rick Saidenberg



2021 USBA Nationals

Jason Smucker
(Image is in focus but
the boomerang is a
little fuzzy.)



**Dennis "Juice" Joice continues to
maintain his record of perfect attendance**



Bennet Sprague and Tom Luczycki



2021 USBA Nationals



Barnaby Ruhe taking it all in.



2021 USBA Nationals



Naught escapes the watchful eye of Mark Legg.



2021 USBA Nationals



Ron Rupert and Betsylew Miale facing off in Aussie Round



2021 USBA Nationals



2021 USBA Nationals



2021 USBA Nationals



Logan B warming up for Aussie Round

2021 USBA Nationals



Will Gix displaying the effortless form that garnered him 1st place in Aussie Round



2021 USBA Nationals

Ominous yet beautiful skies during Aussie Round



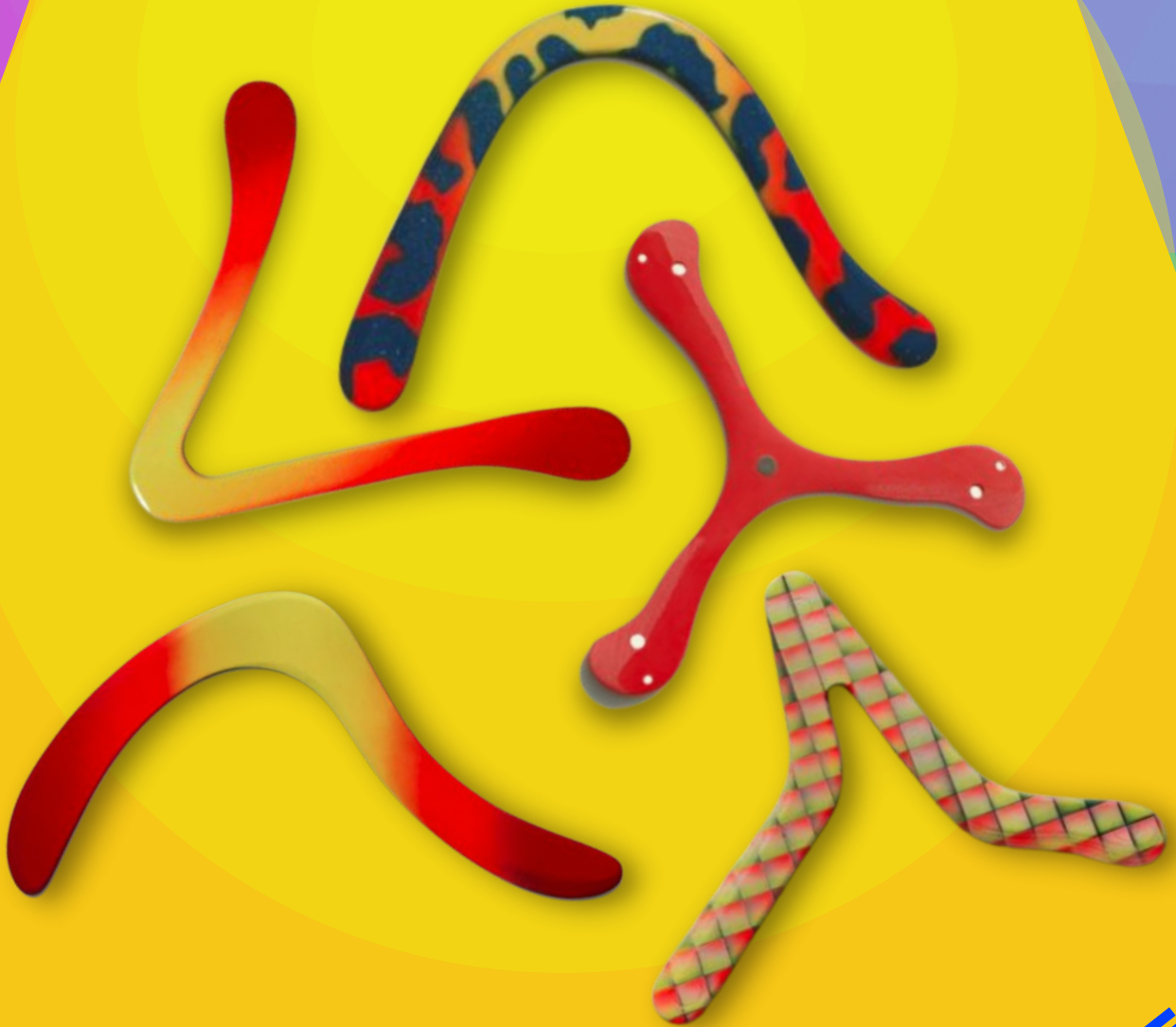
Mike Smale and Will Gix



John Flynn and Logan Broadbent

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KIDS - COMPETITION - LEISURE

<https://legacyboomerangs.com/>

2021 USBA Nationals

Long Distance

A damp start on Sunday for Long Distance



Tom Luczycki, Rick Saidenberg and Nick Furukawa



Gary B., stylish as always.

2021 USBA Nationals

Long Distance



2021 USBA Nationals

Long Distance



The Usual Suspects



Roger Armstrong

2021 USBA Nationals

Long Distance

Tools of the trade.



2021 USBA Nationals

Long Distance



Gary Broadbent, officiating



2021 USBA Nationals

Long Distance



**Kenny Barr,
Flinging all things**



2021 USBA Nationals

Long Distance



**Will Gix, finishing 3rd in LD
with a 110m throw.**



2021 USBA Nationals

Long Distance



Gary Broadbent

2021 USBA Nationals

Long Distance



2021 USBA Nationals

Long Distance



Nick Furukawa



2021 USBA Nationals

Long Distance



Steve Kavanaugh - 120m



Will Gix - 110m



Dave Radcliff - 103m
(His first!)

The Hunger

Post LD R&R at Kenny B's!

Ancient codes dictate that all LD participants that meet or surpass the 100m mark during a competition will earn (and must consume) a Twinkie snack cake at the earliest convenience. It is considered proper etiquette to ignore any "sell-by" dates if still visible.

Missing from this saccharine celebration due to travel, etc:

Logan Broadbent - 115m Richard Bower - 102m
Roger Armstrong - 102m Nick Furukawa - 101m



2021 USBA Nationals LD Scores

by David Hirsch

With unpredictable weather and spotty rain, Long Distance was no less a good event. Some great scores and plentiful 100s made for a good day. And yes, Twinkies did appear at the Awards Ceremony and were, shall we say, awarded with characteristic grace and gobbled with glee lol!

Top scores, in order, with ties broken by secondary scores or given as a tie if no second score was available to break the tie.

1. Steve Kavanaugh, 120m
2. Logan Broadbent, 115m
3. Will Gix, 110m
4. David Radcliffe, 103m (PB, 1st 100m throw)
5. Richard Bower, 102m (101m)
6. Roger Armstrong, 102m (82m)
7. Nick Furukawa, 101m
8. Kenny Barr, 98m
9. Jason Smucker, 97m
10. Betsylew Miale, 95m
11. Moleman, 92m
12. Tom Luczycki, 89m (83m)
13. Dan Bower, 89m TIE (no 2nd score)
13. Ron Rupert, 89m TIE (no 2nd score)
15. David Hirsch, 88m
16. Gary Broadbent, 83m
17. Juice, 81m
18. Rick Saidenberg, NS



Interview with 2021 Long-Distance Winner Steve Kavanaugh

by David Hirsch

For long-time readers of MHR, you will recognize this interview as one in a series, always with the same questions, so that answers are not only revealing but comparative as well (though the interviewee may skip any question they choose).

Steve Kavanaugh (AKA Stevie K.) is one of the top boomerang throwers in the world and has a long history in the sport. As the 2021 National Long Distance Champion, with a throw of 120m, I sent him the interview and received his replies via email.

DH: Tell us a little about yourself. Where were you born? Where do you currently live? What is your current job? Married, kids, hobbies besides boomerangs?

SK: I am born and raised in Seattle, WA, which is also where I have lived almost my entire life. I lived briefly in Oakland, CA while working a short while with Michael Girvin of Gel Boomerangs. I left the Bay Area in spring 1998, for an extended road trip to the World Boomerang Championships in St Louis, rolling in my 1966 Plymouth Barracuda, from Seattle across the country to the WBC and beyond. I visited many places and met boomerang throwers including John Flynn, Moleman, Barnaby Ruhe, John Koehler, Ray and Callie Laurent, and the entire Maultsby family. I spent that winter in Florida, where I picked a gig selling yo-yos and paid down bills. Eventually, I returned to Seattle near the end of 1999, when I got an email saying some folks in Colombia wanted a thrower for some demos there. So I jumped on a plane, had a great time throwing boomerangs in Colombia, but even more awesome was meeting Oscar Cuartas at his shop in Medellin. Once I returned to the US, I applied for a job delivering bread for The Essential Baking Company, in Seattle; they liked me but didn't want to hire me because I had plans to go to the 2000 WBC in Melbourne for at least a month. When I returned to Seattle, I got the delivery job, and I have worked there ever since, doing a variety of work including managing delivery drivers, sales and currently am the Customer Service manager and production planning. I live with my girlfriend Erin Sullivan, and my son Caden Kavanaugh.

DH: When did you throw your first boomerang? What kind was it?

SK: I remember in high school a friend had some foam boomerang-like thing we used to throw and try to catch, but the first real boomerang experience was thanks to Ed Love and Mike Krausser, my first-year college roommates. My first throw was Ed's Madonna boomerang made by Gel: too vertical, not hard enough, but it curved to the left like it wanted to come back. Soon I had entered my first boomerang tournament and received a prize boomerang made by Michael Gel Girvin, a Live to Boom made of 5 ply 1/4 inch plywood.

Interview with 2021 Long-Distance Winner Stevie Kavanaugh, *continued*

DH: When did you become interested in LD?

SK: That first throw of mine was in 1986. I was never interested in LD much, I thought I didn't have a power arm, and didn't want to mess up my arm with LD. I was more interested in a good overall performance. Way back then, LD booms were big, heavy fiberglass things! Then, after hosting the 2008 WBC in Seattle, I went to Bordeaux for the tournament hosted by Michel Appriou. At that tournament, Manuel Schütz was there with some newly designed black carbon fiber LD booms. He let me try throwing one, and so I entered the LD event and got a decent score. Since then, I have participated in most LD events I could make it to.

DH: What is your favorite LD boom?

SK: I have a Tom Wythes LD that I used for my personal best, 135m, so that is my favorite, plus a Manu black carbon fiber, and a James Hoy.

DH: What percentage of your LD booms do you make? For the LD booms you make, describe your manufacturing process. What materials do you like best?

SK: I don't make many boomerangs. I've never made an LD boom.

DH: How do you see LD as it fits into the rest of the boomerang world?

SK: LD is the ultimate stand-alone boomerang event. I view LD tournaments as an agreement between throwers to show up on a specific time and place, to help each other determine just how far the boomerang goes out, and help find them! Otherwise, it is impossible to estimate the distance, much less the return between the poles. It is less of a contest, and more of a cooperative way to judge the distances, and everyone is happy when a thrower gets over 100m.

DH: What throwers have made an impression on you and why?

SK: Manuel Schütz is at the top of the list, especially regarding LD. But I have great admiration for many top throwers, and those who were influential in my boomerang education. Gotta start with Ben Ruhe and the whole Ruhe/Ruhf clan especially including Barnaby, Larry, Peter and Adam. Michael Gel Girvin learned boomerangs from Peter Ruhf, and then Gel ended up at The Evergreen State College, a year before I started college there in autumn of 1986. By the 1989 WBC, in the Washington DC area, Gel was awarded a team captaincy and managed to get Moleman, Casey Larrance, Jim Youngblood, and myself on a team with him and Doug DuFresne. Interestingly Jimmy Youngblood set the world record at that event at 134m, but I didn't throw LD back then.

Interview with 2021 Long-Distance Winner Stevie Kavanaugh, *continued*

DH: What do you see as the future of our sport, and in particular, LD, in ten to twenty years?

SK: To me, boomerangs are magical. They are beautiful, as a static piece of art on a wall. But then, they come alive when thrown, revealing a completely different character in flight, varied by the expression of the throw. I hope to still be throwing in 10-20 years, and hope that we continue to push the boundaries of what is possible in fast catch, MTA, LD. I feel like there is a generational swing that affect participation in boomerang events: really good boomerang throwers near the top of their game are intimidating, and tend to scare off newer throwers who are not near the same skill level, but as the top throwers age, they become less intimidating to new throwers, eventually becoming beatable, which then opens the gates to allow newer throwers to progress. 10 to 20 years from now I expect to see a new groups of young throwers to be pushing the limits of every event.

DH: LDs range has steadily increased over the past decades. What do you think is most responsible?

Design, strength, materials, a change in the way we throw the boom?

SK: Design and materials I think affect the distance more than the throw technique for us mortals. For Manuel it is more a combination of technique and design.

DH: Manuel has said he thinks 300m is possible. Do you agree? What will it take to get there?

SK: Given the right conditions, I don't doubt Manuel could hit 300. I saw him throw 185ish one time, he is in another spectrum.

DH: Since you throw in other boomerang events, what percentage of your time do you spend on LD?

SK: I never practice LD; I wouldn't have any LD booms if I practiced because I would lose them.

DH: It can be difficult to spot LD booms beyond 100m. If you only had one spotter to help, where would you position him?

SK: It depends on the lighting, I'd want them to be at a different angle to the sun than I was when throwing. Probably 70m out and with the sun behind them if possible.

DH: For most of us, LD requires a lot of walking and chasing bad throws; as finicky as these booms are, it just seems part of the sport. Do you have that problem? If so, what percentage of your practice throws would you say are good?

SK: If I can get 3 of 8 throws in a round to qualify, that seems like a good round to me. I don't practice, I literally only throw in LD events, so people can help spot my LD boomerangs.

Interview with 2021 Long-Distance Winner Stevie Kavanaugh, continued

DH: When we throw, we often say “Be aggressive!”. In competition, on average, what percentage of your throws score?

SK: 0 to 30% are valid flights is my estimate

DH: What kind of place do you routinely throw in; a school, park or private land? How big is it?

SK: I throw on public fields in Seattle, I like Sunday mornings at Greenlake, and of course the East meadow fields at Magnuson Park.

DH: What advice would you give to someone just beginning to throw LD?

SK: Go to an LD tournament and see what you can learn!

DH: Is there anything you’d like to say to other throwers, not just LDers, or about our sport in general?

SK: The best way to spread boomerang knowledge and love is to host a regular throwing session, for new throwers to learn about boomerangs.

DH: Finally, if you could have only one boomerang, any kind, what would it be?

SK: My broken and repaired multiple times, *Sunshine* made by Michael Gel Girvin.

Cheers!



2021 USBA Nationals Aesthetic Competition Results



Peter Hansch
Rainbow Gateway
1st: Best of Show
1st: Craftsmanship



Kenny Barr
Birdseye Maple V
2nd: Best of Show
3rd: Craftsmanship



David Hirsch
American Elm
Natural Elbow
3rd: Best of Show
1st: Natural Elbow

(continued)

Peter Hansch
2nd: Natural Elbow



John Flynn
Ski Boom
2nd: Craftsmanship



2021 USBA Nationals Aesthetic Competition Results (continued)

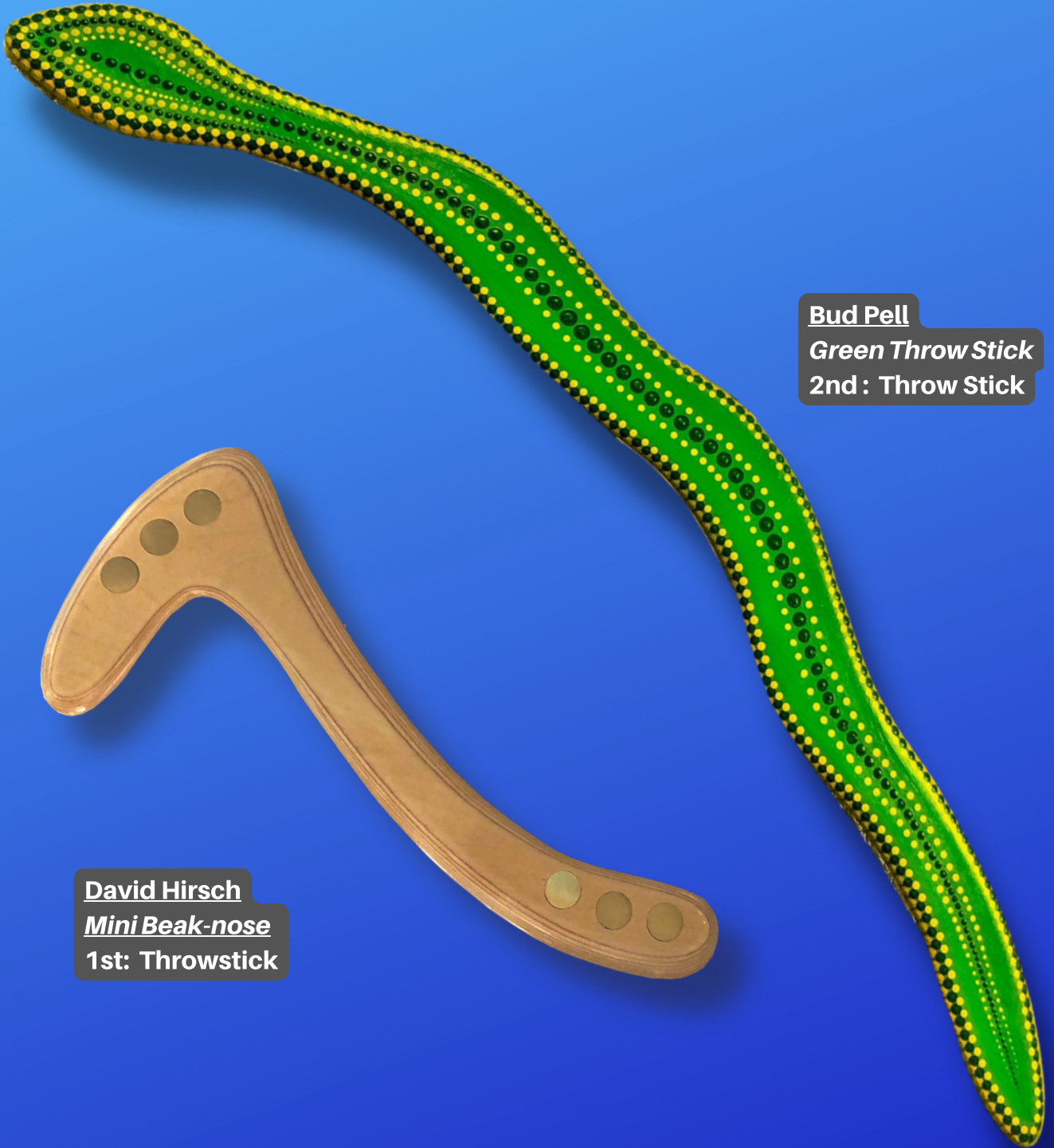
Bill Glover
Aphrodite
2nd : Decoration

Bud Pell
Fish Throwstick
1st : Decoration
3rd: Throwstick

Bud Pell
Turtle Throwstick
3rd : Decoration



2021 USBA Nationals Aesthetic Competition Results (*continued*)



Bud Pell
Green Throw Stick
2nd : Throw Stick

David Hirsch
Mini Beak-nose
1st: Throwstick

2021 USBA Nationals Aesthetic Competition Results (continued)

1st



Bill Glover sweeps the Boomerang Related Object Category

2nd



3rd



IT'S NOT ABOUT YOU...

It's about your boomerang.

A look at what boomerangs were used by the event winners at the 2021 USBA Nationals

By Tom Luczycki



Competitive boomerang throwing has a distinction not shared by many other (if any) sports: The equipment used is not standardized, it can be modified or even homemade. The definition section of the USBA 2007 Boomerang Competition Regulations states:

Boomerang:

Number of arms is unrestricted. To be a boomerang a stick must tend to return as result of gyroscopic precession caused by asymmetric lift. The lift is created as a result of a throw that gives the object rotation and linear motion. Other characteristics include:

a. Materials - can be made from any non-metal material. Metal may be embedded or taped on but may not have exposed sharp edges.

b. Other- No launching, propulsion, or catching aids may be incorporated in the Boomerang.

This being the case why is it that after a tournament we see who placed in each event, but no mention made of the highly specialized equipment that perhaps made it possible? To help end this oversight in our sport *MHR* has asked the event winners in each event to share the booms they used, and the stories behind them. We hope this will fuel further innovation, competition, and draw attention to the many boomerangs crafters and their amazing work.

Presented to you in alphabetical order:

Dan Bower

- 3rd place Aussie Round
- 3.5 place Accuracy



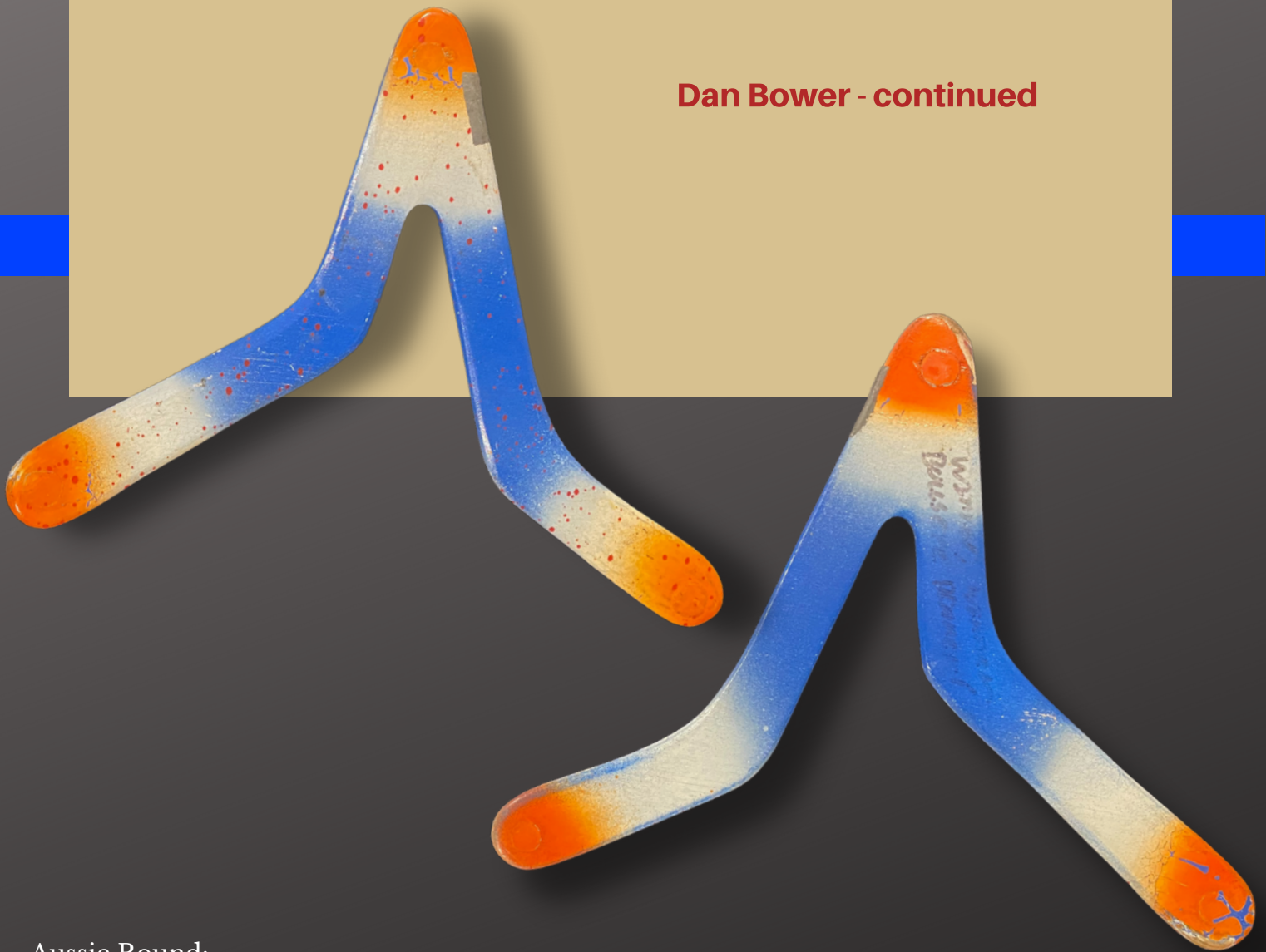
Accuracy:

This is a 7% glass fiber infused, Nylon, tri-fly I modified around 2015, using the “Bower Biter” design, which is based on the now decades-old Biter modification. The main difference from a standard Biter, is one wing is swept backward a little bit, which helps give it a healthy bit of “Belly Up” at the tail end of the flight. This helps it survive bad winds and over vertical throws, as it will nearly always have a slight dive, then lift and backdoor swoop, about 70% through the flight.

This high, hard, vertical throwing style is something Richard and I have been known for, for many years and it has served us well. The overall flight path is more teardrop-shaped, as opposed to a full circle, which makes the flight path shorter and quicker. This leads to faster flight times for FC and less time in the air, which can help prevent blow bys, due to sudden wind shifts.

You can see this particular Biter has lots of rubber bands, lead tape, and cloth tape, I add and remove rubber bands and sometimes cover or uncover the slot for different wind conditions. I can use this one boom effectively in Acc and Fast Catch events in as little as 4mph winds and as much as 15mph.

Dan Bower - continued



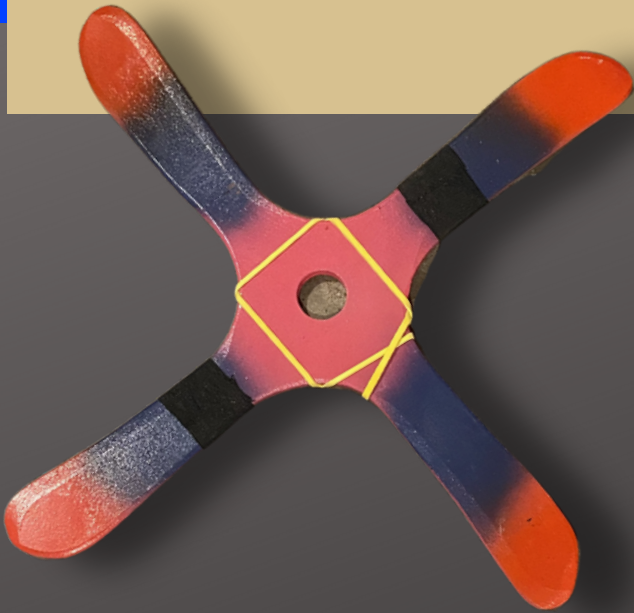
Aussie Round:

This boom is a *Fuzzy*, just about anyone who's been in the sport very long knows what a Fuzzy is, and this one, on the surface, is really nothing out of the ordinary. It's made from 5mm, 10ply Finnish Birch plywood and has 3/8" lead weights hammered into all three wingtips. The airfoils are similar to what you would see on many Fuzzys, made by any number of great boomsmiths.

I will say though, I made this boom at Gary Broadbent's house, on a visit in 2015 when James Stickney and I stopped by on our way to the St Louis tournament. We made a batch of Fuzzys and a batch of Gel Quads and every, single boom from both those batches ended up being amazing! So there was some magic running through the infamous Broadbent shop that day and we reaped the rewards! The booms from those batches have won events at several tournaments by now and been used in World Cups by several members of the US Team. I named this one "Winner Winner, Bullseye Dinner!" after it kept proving itself to be amazing in practice and many tournaments. It's my go-to Aussie stick for 3-8mph winds.

Richard Bower

- 3rd place MTA
- 2nd place Doubling / Trick



Trick Catch- Singles:

A classic Mike Gel "Quad" shape, but made from 4mm Polypropylene plastic. I made this boomerang just in April 2020 when I was at home during Covid quarantine, my go-to singles trick rang for years and years has been one wooden quad or another. I typically use them until I have broken and repaired them so many times they become unusable. So I made this one from Ploy so I could have one that in theory is near unbreakable, and I love it! The poly is denser than the typical 4mm aircraft grade Birch, which gives for a longer ranger outbound flight, and a lot more wind resistance while still being light enough to fly in low winds. And this one has a rock-solid, straight, hover!

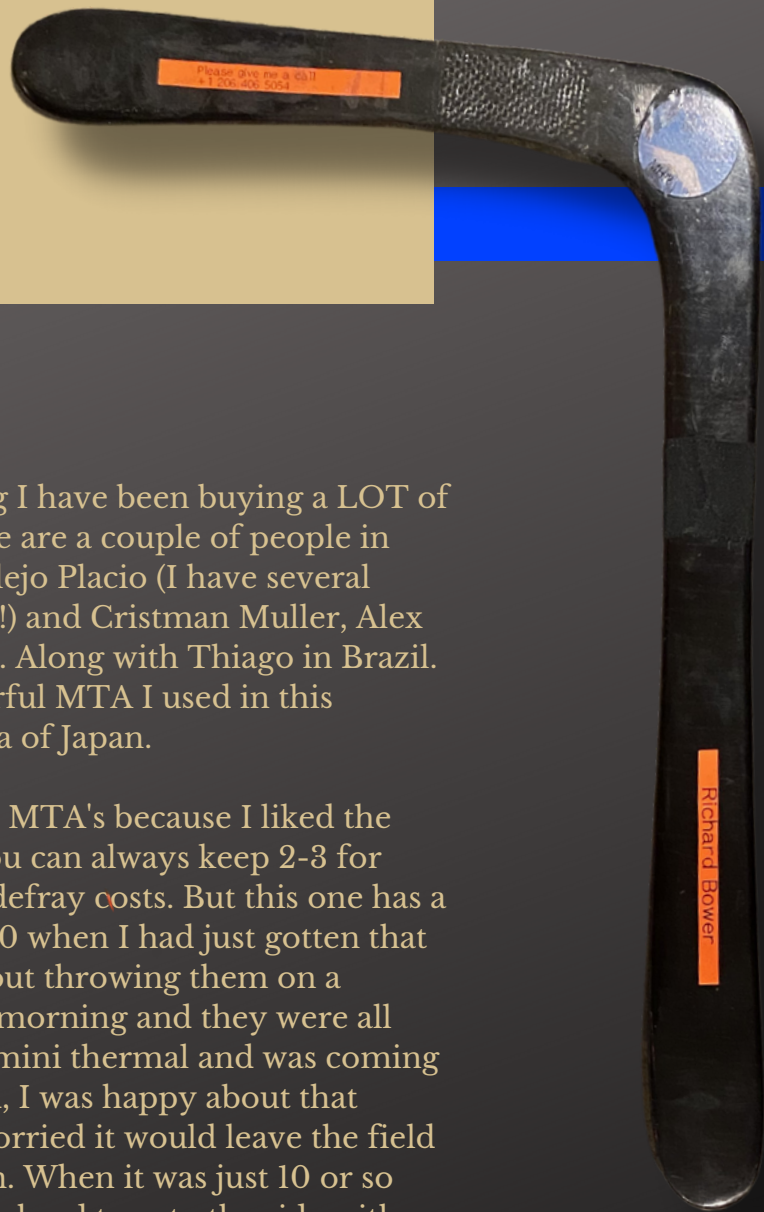
Trick Catch- Doubling:

A pair of Mark Legg *Praxi* doublers that I've had since 2017 or so (again, actually new for my kit, most of my stuff is from the late 2000's and early 2010's). I picked these up a while back just to serve as a backup pair for my beloved Mike Gel "Carlotta" doublers, but they have evolved over time to become a legit mid wind (4-8MPH) doubling set for me. I have used them several times for TC, including one round in 2019 where I had a perfect first round and ended up with a 170-something point overall score! They have a longer range than my low wind Carlotta set and can take more wind without drifting as far. I have the insider tuned to basically come around and drop like a bag of hammers, once I catch the insider I just look up, and about 20M in front and there is the outsider. Usually just easily coming in for the catch.

I used them during the Nationals because my low wind Carlottas were getting pushed around, and there was not enough wind yet for my high wind pair. I think I got 44/50 points in doubling so they definitely fit the bill!



Richard Bower - continued



MTA:

MTA's are actually something I have been buying a LOT of new 'rangs for recently. There are a couple of people in Europe making them now, Alejo Placio (I have several Alejo MTA's, and they ROCK!) and Cristman Muller, Alex Opri (but not as many I hear). Along with Thiago in Brazil. And the maker of the wonderful MTA I used in this tournament, Hiroyuki Murata of Japan.

I actually bought 5 or 6 of his MTA's because I liked the price, and if they are good you can always keep 2-3 for yourself and resell others to defray costs. But this one has a funny story. In February 2020 when I had just gotten that box of five in the mail I was out throwing them on a beautiful clear and low wind morning and they were all flying awesomely! One hit a mini thermal and was coming down on the edge of the field, I was happy about that because for a minute I was worried it would leave the field and fly into Lake Washington. When it was just 10 or so feet from the ground it took a hard turn to the side with a wind shift, and I decided to dive out for the catch. I made the catch but I fell over on the MTA, and cracked the dingle arm in half! So stupid!

Anyway, I took it home and effected a carbon fiber repair. And now that MTA of all five might be my favorite. The small amount of extra weight from that carbon fiber makes the MTA go farther and higher on the outbound flight and did not seem to cause any less of a hover time. So I have a high-flying MTA, which can also take a little more wind. And apparently, bring in a 3rd place finish at the US Nationals as its tournament debut. Not bad at all!!

Logan Broadbent

- 3.5 place Accuracy
- 1st place MTA
- 1st place Trick/Double
- 1st place Fast Catch
- 1st place Endurance
- 2nd place LD



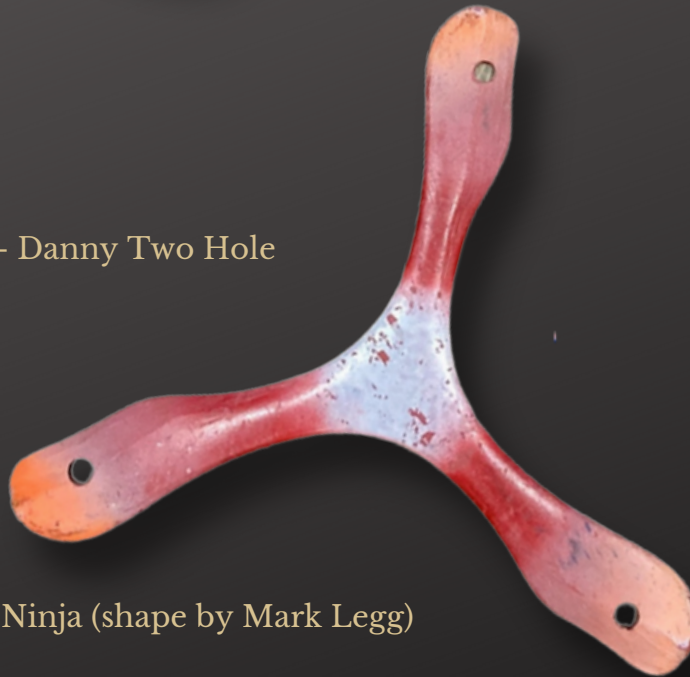
Accuracy:

Daniel and Richard Bower built - Danny Two Hole



MTA:

Manuel Schütz - MTA



Fast Catch:

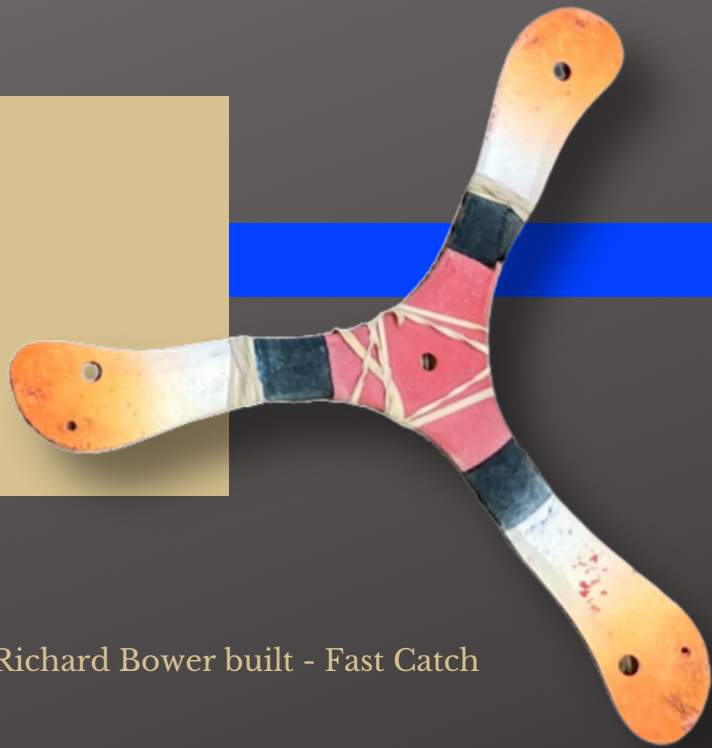
Takeshi Honda - Ninja (shape by Mark Legg)

I owe a big THANK YOU to these boomerang makers for making the boomerangs I used at Nationals!

Please let me know if you have any questions about my equipment choices or how I have these set up and tuned to perform.

-Logan

Logan Broadbent
continued



Endurance:

Daniel and Richard Bower built - Fast Catch



Trick Catch-
Doubling:

Mark Legg - Praxis Set

This is my Manuel Schütz long-distance boom made in 2008.
It is the same boom that I used to set the US distance record
of 162m in 2010. It has hit a few light poles since then!



Trick Catch Singles:

Daniel and Richard Bower built - Four Blader

Steve Cook

2nd Place Accuracy



Accuracy:

Coming in second at Nationals for Accuracy was quite a pleasant surprise since I have not thrown much lately, and it is not my strongest event. The winds were shifty, so I wanted a boomerang that had a lot of "cut back" to limit bad scores. When I pulled out the boomerang I had in mind, one of the wings was broken off. So, I pulled out a couple of other candidates, and a nylon fast catch made by Matt Golenor seemed to be working solid during warm-up. He made it about 10 years ago for me, and it is a cut-down nylon tri-fly. There is some lead tape on the back, but the black tape seen in the picture is only there to help see the boomerang better in flight.

During the event, I was paired up with John Flynn, and we have been throwing together for decades now, so there was a comfort level in the bullseye that led to a second-place finish. All in all, I was happy with my performance at Nationals since I have thrown in a couple of years, and the second-place finish was the cherry on top for the weekend. I think that I will get back out to more competitions now!

Wix Gix

- 1st place Aussie Round
- 2nd place Fast Catch
- 3rd place LD



Australian Round:

Black Plate Special. Long Arm "V" made from carbon fiber composite. The carbon fiber is interesting. It is early 21st century. Will Herlan and Clay Dawson found some surplus pre-impregnated (high temperature epoxy already in the fabric) carbon fiber fabric from Boeing Surplus. Imagine an Army surplus store full of stuff used to build airplanes. The material comes from a day when you had to bake your own. They laid the layers of carbon fiber fabric up, put it in a vacuum bag, then baked it in a kiln at 500 degrees under pressure in a vacuum bag for an extended period of time. Apparently the process didn't make a stink.

Clay made the plate. Richard and Daniel Bower made five V's and a tri-blader. They made them all the weekend of the 2004 Nationals. They were at home because they didn't have money to travel to the tournament, The booms went to Billy, James, Richard, Daniel, and one that goes about 43 meters also stayed with the Bowers. Guesstimate is that between Billy, James, the Bowers, and now me that Black Plate Specials have won Nationals about 5 times.

Billy was living in Braunschweig when the world cup was in Kiel. He came up and gave the team some boomerangs he thought might help. I've had it ever since. It's a pretty rigid and heavy material. It does have some lead weight at the wing tips. It was the first time I threw it in a tournament. On that day it was working well in practice so I went with it. Usually I throw it when there is even more wind.

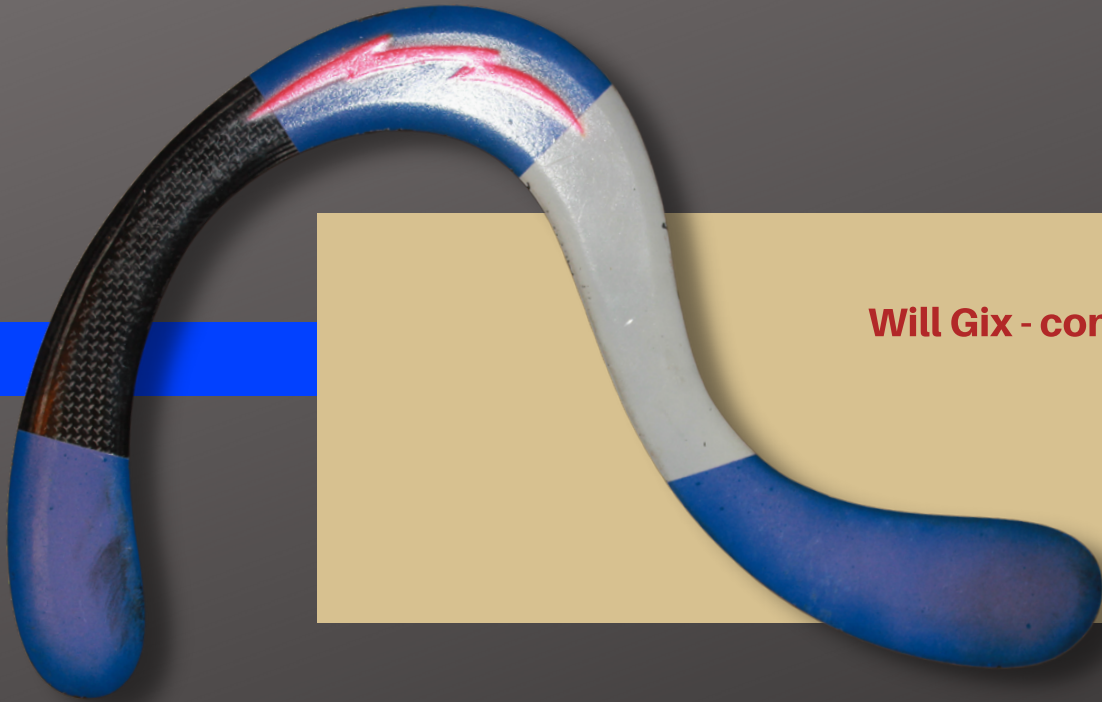
Clay Dawson or Will Herlan will be able to straighten out the facts on the episode of bake and stink out the house. Good thing we can just buy sheets of Dragon Plate now.

Will Gix - continued

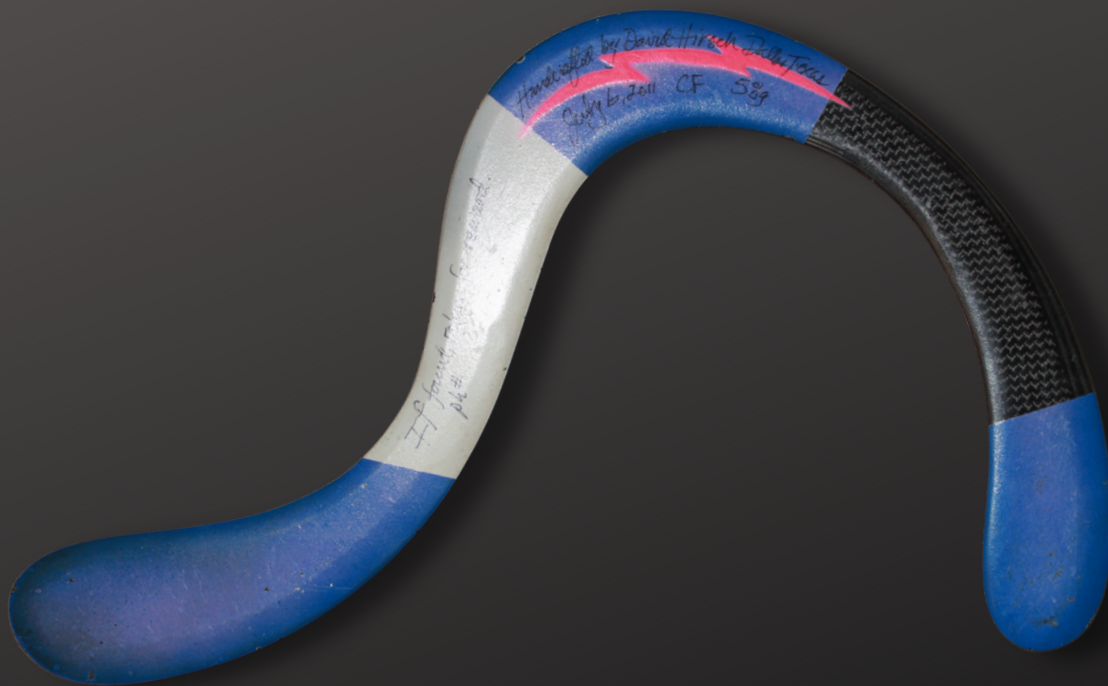


Fast Catch:

That's a Mark Legg bargain basement boom. Nylon tri-fly. Betsylew bought it for \$5 when Mark was clearing out some of his inventory. She tried it and it was close. She has a million FC booms I made along with a few good Bower Two-Holer wind booms. It sat in the garage for awhile and I tried it on a whim. I put a bunch of tape on the mid part of the wing. I thought it was close. I added a bunch more tape on the wing. Now it works in a jam.



Will Gix - continued



Long Distance:

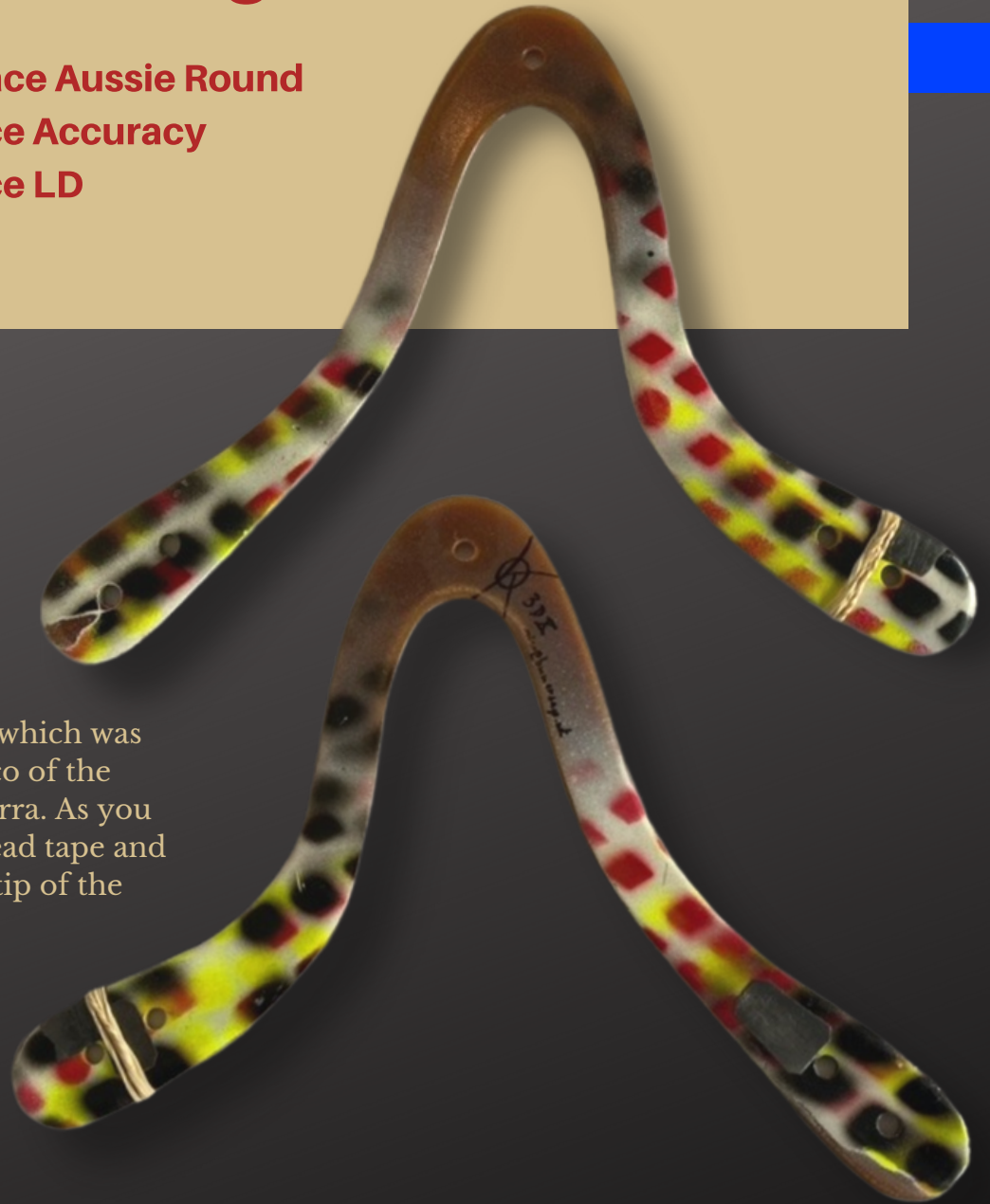
For Distance I used a David Hirsch carbon fiber *Voyager*. Made in 2011 weighing in at 58 grams the Moravian Champion from Mesquite Texas...

Steve Kavanaugh

- 2nd place Aussie Round
- 1st place Accuracy
- 1st place LD

Australian Round:

I used this boomerang which was made by Nico-Fast-Nico of the French Team Kookaburra. As you can see there is some lead tape and rubber bands near the tip of the leading arm.



I think it is made of G-10 fiberglass, and I acquired it from Nico in Mallorca, in Spain in early June at the 2015 European Boomerang Championships. I shared some of my herbal sacraments and he was thankful enough to ask me if I needed a no wind Australian Round boomerang. A few month later, Nico left this world for his final flight. At the 2018 WBC in Albuquerque, I used Nico's boomerang to win the individual Australian Round championship.

Steve Kavanaugh - continued



Accuracy:

I used this boomerang made by Dan (I think, but possibly Richard) Bower probably around 2004 or 2006. It is made from an Eric Darnell 9% fiberglass infused nylon tryfly.

I use it for mid-high wind fast catch as well as most Accuracy conditions. The quantity of rubber bands varies with the wind speed, and there is at least one coin and several pieces of lead tape.

I used this boomerang to win 1st place at the 2018 WBC in individual Accuracy.



Steve Kavanaugh - continued

Long Distance:

For LD I used this boomerang made by Tom Wythes in 2010.

At the 2009 Nationals I borrowed an LD boomerang from Don Monroe that Tom had made and got a good score with it. So, I asked Tom if he would make me one, which he did. I believe it is made of carbon fiber with some weights in both wing tips. I have not tuned it with any other weights or drag. I used this boomerang to go 135m (personal best) and win the LD nationals in 2010, 3rd place in LD in Perth 2014, as well as 3rd at Mallorca EBC in 2015.

Bob Liefeld

- 3rd place Trick / Doubling



The boomerang I used for trick catch at the Cleveland Nationals was the Karma Boom, made by Mark Weary in 1993 I believe. It is made from a flat sheet of polypropylene. It is one-of-a-kind in that Shark Weary has not created another Karma Boom that flies like this one. It takes a nice vertical MTA throw, goes very high and then just drops down slowly and without any spiraling or funny stuff. This boom originally had some Japanese characters on it, but I have long forgotten what they said!

I have used this boom for trick catch at probably every tournament since 1993. I won Trick Catch at the 1996 Nationals in Virginia Beach with it, and many other Trick Catch events at local tournaments. It was also fourth at the World Cup individuals in Seattle 2008.

I modified this rang with a matching leading edge and trailing edge flap on two wings, a small flap on the bottom of another wing, and a velcro dot on top and bottom near the center. I'm not sure if the science behind all this, but it sure flies ever so sweetly!

This is also the boom I use for demos, so probably many thousands or tens of thousands of people have seen it fly over the past 28 years. I'm really hoping that this polypropylene remains structurally sound and I can use this rang for another 28!

Jacques Sabrie

- 2nd place MTA

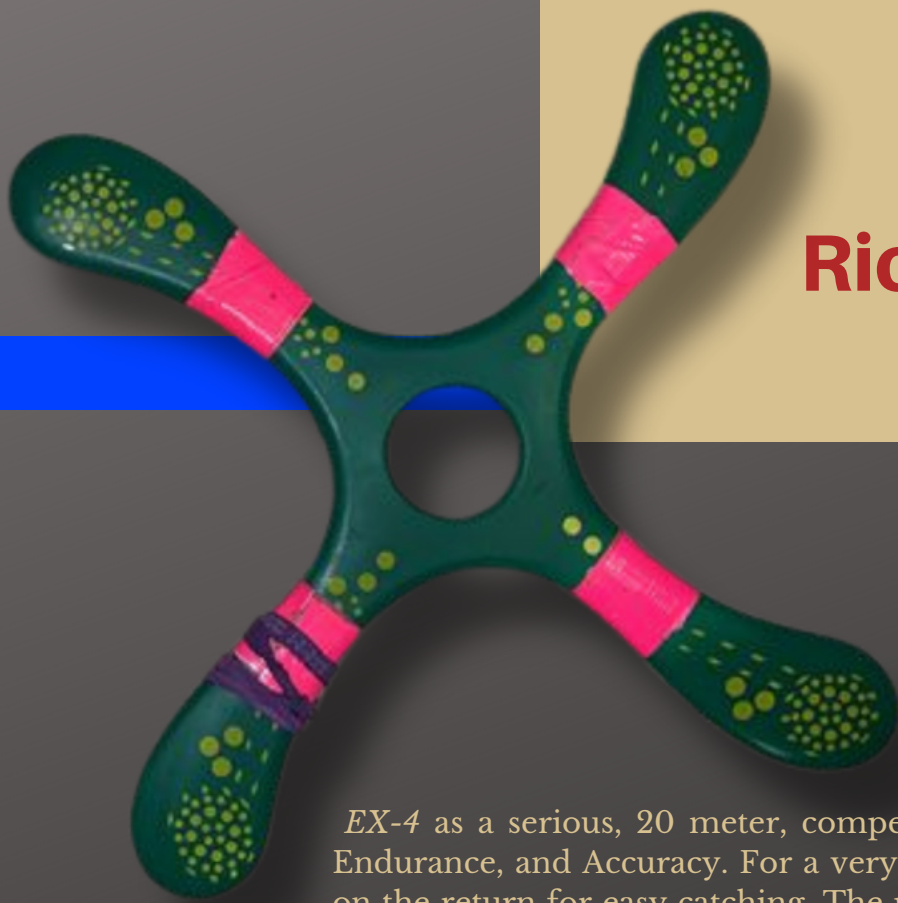


MTA:

At nationals I did well in maximum time aloft (MTA) and was able to finish second behind Logan Broadbent. MTA has always been my favorite event and I started making imitation Ted Bailey mini's back in the 80's.

For Nationals I threw my first carbon fiber MTA boom, which performs much better than anything I have left from last century, and was to get one catch in over a minute. This MTA was from an order of three that George Essig and I went in on from Boompop (<https://theboompop.com/>) and maker Alejandro Palacio. George kept two and this is the one I got.

Very easy to throw and catch and keeps a tune well even though I only throw it occasionally. I am looking forward to getting out and throwing it again next year!



Ricky Saidenberg

- 3rd place Endurance

The *EX-4* is a molded polypropylene four wing boomerang made in Brazil by Bahadara. The wingspan is 10" (25cm) and it weighs 1.3 oz (36 g). It is listed as the *Blade Runner* on the Colorado Boomerangs site, where it is mis-marketed as a great kid's rang with a 30 yard round flight. I see the

EX-4 as a serious, 20 meter, competition boomerang, good for Fast Catch, Endurance, and Accuracy. For a very fast boomerang, it is surprisingly gentle on the return for easy catching. The plastic is seemingly unbreakable, even in cold temperatures.

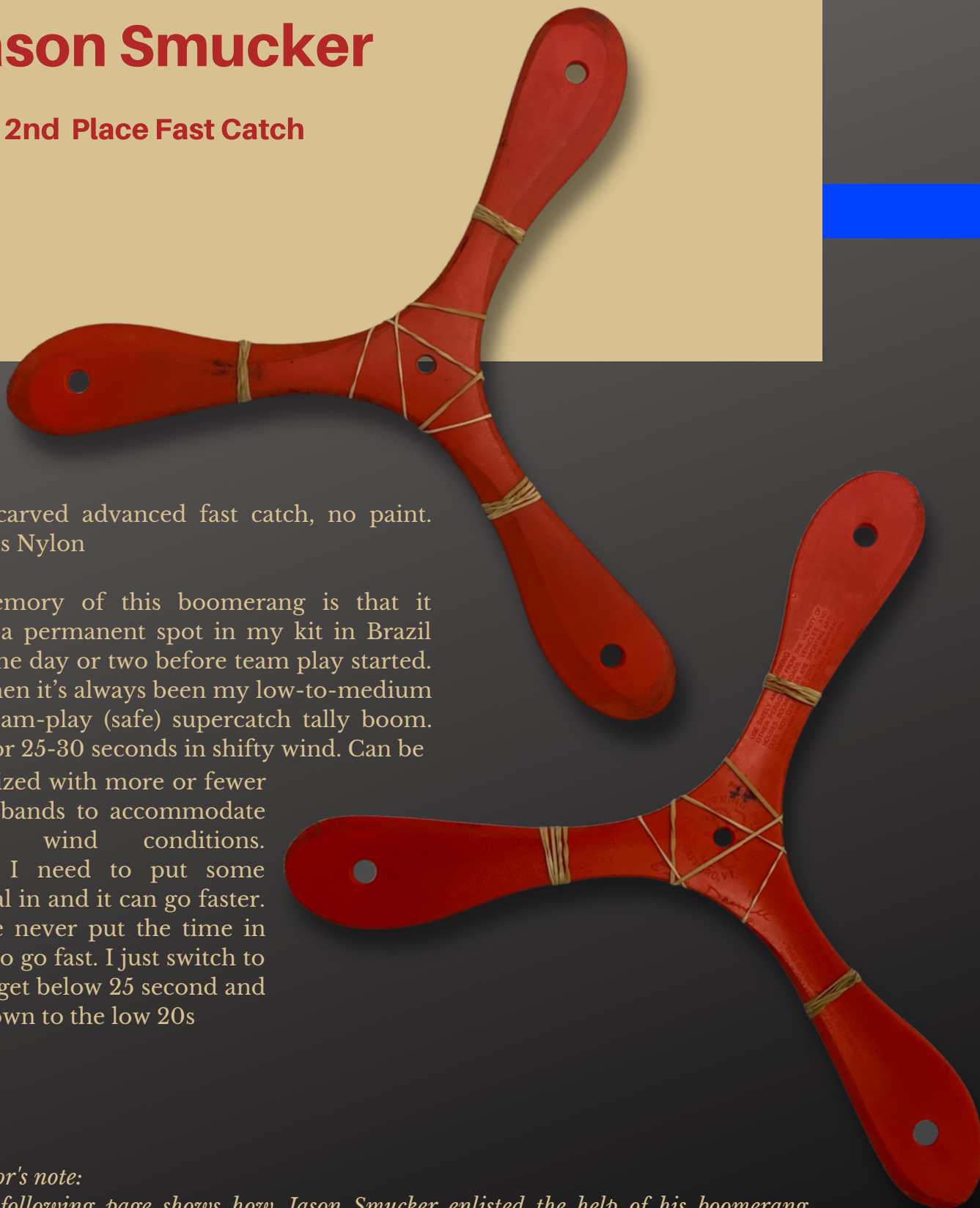
It is highly adjustable for precision tuning, and it stays where you tune it. When flat and un-tuned, it will fly well past 20 meters, climb fairly high and hover a bit. Twist it in (positive angle of attack) to decrease the range. Bend it down (negative dihedral) to keep it just above the ground the whole way around. Good tuning needs to be a match for the specific thrower, as we all generate different amounts of power and spin. Micro adjust the twist, in or out, to get the range right at 20 meters. Micro adjust bend, up or down, to get the flight height just right. The result can be a very competitive Fast Catch/Endurance boomerang.

The *EX-4* can also be tuned for a slower and safer flight which is good for the Accuracy event and also playing in difficult wind conditions. The green one has a thick rubber band and four dimes taped to the underside of the wings bringing the total weight up to 50 grams. The added weight of the coins increases the range, so it is necessary to twist the wings in even more (positive angle of attack) to decrease the range to stay nearer 20 meters. The effect of both the rubber band and the positive angle of attack is to add drag and slow the spin. The added weight of the coins also makes the boomerang fall to the ground more quickly making catching more predictable. Throw the boomerang with a higher launch angle, and more vertical for a safer, controlled flight, to achieve consistency in difficult conditions.

At the 2021 USBA nationals, during the Endurance event, there was some wind, maybe 4 mph, gusting to 8 mph. I played slow, steady and safe. I got 3rd place with 43 catches out of 43 throws in the 5 minutes. Some of the other throwers played with faster boomerangs and ended up having drops, blowovers and crashes.

Jason Smucker

2nd Place Fast Catch



Bower-carved advanced fast catch, no paint.
5% Glass Nylon

My memory of this boomerang is that it earned a permanent spot in my kit in Brazil (2012) the day or two before team play started. Since then it's always been my low-to-medium wind team-play (safe) supercatch tally boom. Good for 25-30 seconds in shifty wind. Can be customized with more or fewer rubber bands to accommodate varying wind conditions. Naked, I need to put some anhedral in and it can go faster. But I've never put the time in with it to go fast. I just switch to ABS to get below 25 second and push down to the low 20s

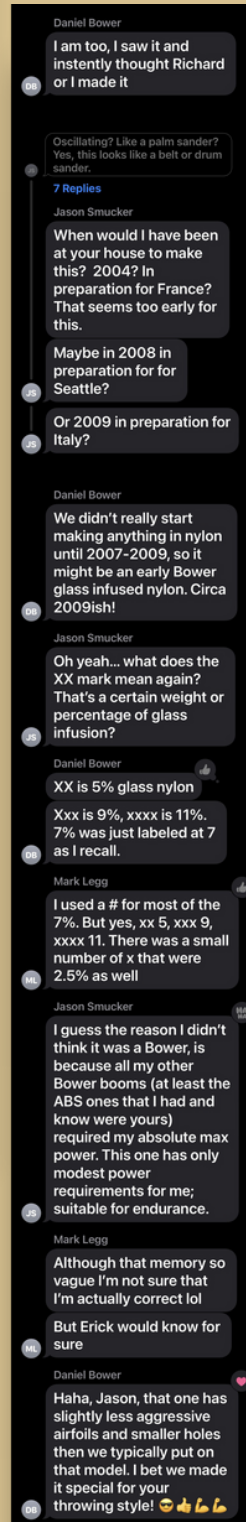
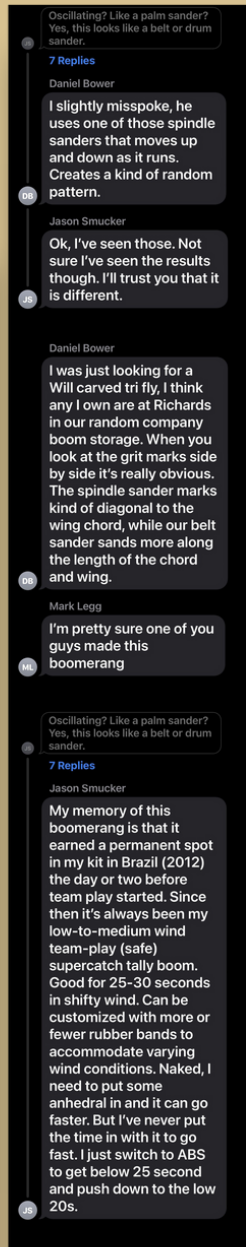
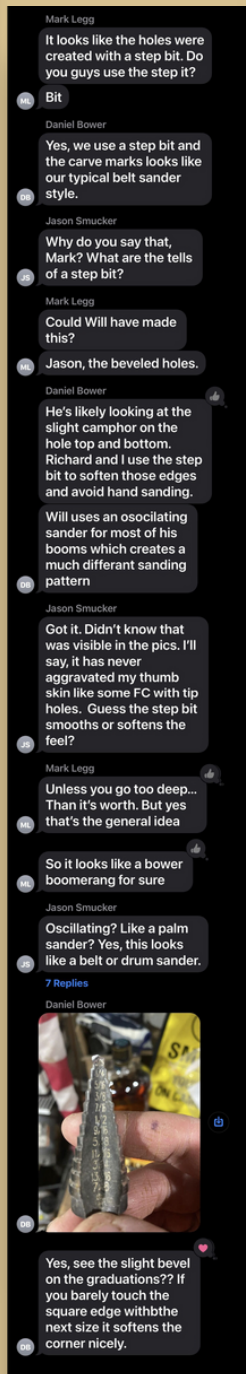
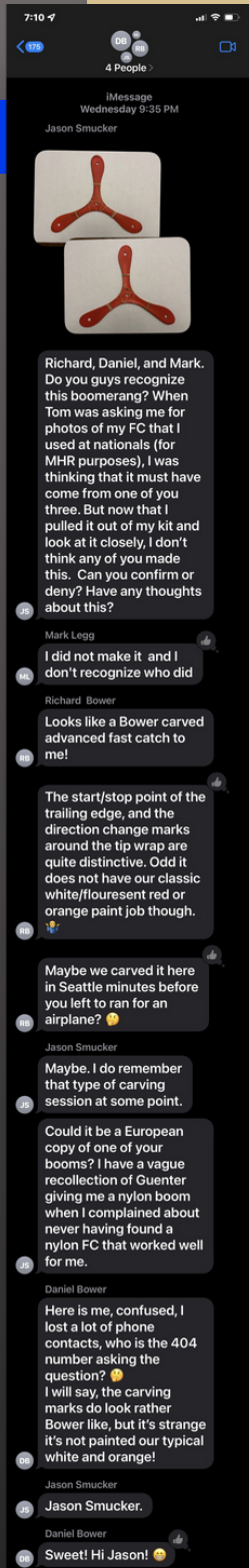
Editor's note:

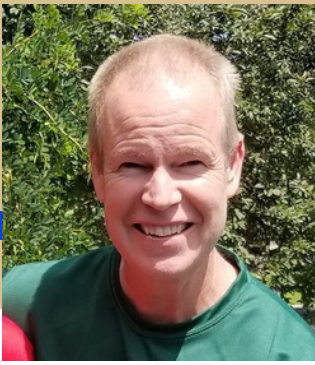
The following page shows how Jason Smucker enlisted the help of his boomerang brethren to identify this particular boomerang. I could not resist sharing this great example of how folks in this sport hang tight and help each other out. What sleuthing!

TJL

The Smucker Saga:

Group-sourced Boomerang ID





Brockville Boomerang Club 3rd Annual Tournament

by Brian Curley

The Brockville Boomerang Club had its 3rd annual tournament (more like a club championship as it's VERY local) on Saturday, September 18th. Our earliest date yet. A bit breezy at the beginning, as a lot of our young throwers are using things like Backyarders, but it soon calmed down nicely for the almost 5-hour tournament.

This is the 1st year we separated the throwers into Novice and Advanced. So the younger and less experienced throwers didn't have to worry about more skillful throwers, and the Advanced type didn't have to worry about someone throwing a 10-yard Backyarder beating their 30-yard boomerang in Accuracy!

There were 12 throwers in Novice. They had Accuracy, Endurance (3 minutes), Fast Catch and Pick 3. (Pick 3 is an event we created as it gets the young thrower to use 3 different boomerangs for 3 throws each. Gets them thinking about using different boomerangs other than their favorite one.



1st place was Alexis Gagnon (female) 64 points, (middle in picture in blue) 2nd place James Kafenzakis 38 points (on the left in red) and 3rd place Aaron Janssens 33 points (on the right in orange). All 1st year throwers. Alexis was a bystander at the 2020 annual tournament as she wandered into the park wondering what was going on. That tournament was in October so she came out a few times before the snow fell.

Brockville 3rd Annual Boomerang Tournament, continued

We had 2 throwers as Advanced. Same events as Novice (4 minutes for Endurance) plus Trick Catch with various points for Eagles, One Hand, Behind the Back etc etc

Aidan Curley won for the 3rd straight year with 126. (in green) 2nd place was Travis Mason with 87. (in grey)

Our third and final event of the year (first was the Parents vs. Throwers tournament, then our annual tournament) is on October 23rd....our 2nd annual Relay Race Tournament. The throwers will need skill and luck. The teams have to change every race. Being on a winning team in a race gets you 3 points, however, if you make a catch on your 1st throw on a losing team

you still get 1 point. After a couple of races no one knows what the other person has. It worked pretty well last year with lots of yelling and laughing. No big prize table, but a few prizes for 1st and 2nd.



Most of the participants at the 3rd Annual Brockville Boomerang Club Tournament

The Wandering Nutmeg Boomerang Society: Teaching Connecticut to Boom Since 1991



by Paul D. Sprague

First off let me clear up the name. Connecticut being the Nutmeg State, Society because my co-founder Keith Mullinar is a sort of British chap who kept trying to get me to drink tea, and Wandering because the society would bring boomerangs to different places around the state. We smile brightly at near-misses like Pondering Nuthatch, Wandering Nuts, Thundering Wallabies... “Yes, absolutely. That’s us.”

30 years is better-than-average tenacity for a regional boomerang club, and I was asked to give some pointers to others who might want to start one up. So here goes.

• We’re All Connected

The WNBS operates just like slime mold (OrionMagazine.org/article/what-slime-knows/). Slime mold is an amazing organism that can go dormant if there’s a heat wave or an ice age, then ooze out when conditions are right. The excellent article referenced above addresses the American go-it-alone attitude: “Individuality—a concept so central to so many humans’ identities—doesn’t apply to the slime mold worldview.” Similarly, WNBS members who move away (you know who you are), are still stuck to us.



• Don’t Be Such a Snob

Readers of Many Happy Returns can agree that boomerangs are the true source of happiness, but there are lots of other kinds of weirdos who gather on fields. Go meet them. Juggling groups, drumming circles, balloonists, unicyclists, look through your local event listings. Show up at a kite festival just as the wind dies to save the day.

• Get Onto the Field

If you can't build a steady rhythm, like Tuesday evenings on the field, then you'll need a contact list or social media group to coordinate. Winter is tough but suit up and "Rang in the New Year" January 1, have a "G'Day" February 2 or Detroit-style "Turkey Toss" at Thanksgiving. Cardboard turkey targets are a fun project for kids to make in advance, and they love trying to decapitate it with kylies.



• Get Off the Field

The WNBS got wind of a stash of booms at New Haven's Peabody Museum. They weren't on display and nobody had got them out of their drawers for decades. We put in a request to go drool over them, which was granted enthusiastically. Have a club meeting at an Australian restaurant. Give a talk at the Rotary Club. Teach Cub Scouts how to make cardboard 4-bladers. Find out when the Science Museum is doing an aerodynamics exhibit. Put up some booms in the library's display case.



• Send Your Phone Number to the USBA

The USBA Board of Directors email addresses are posted at USBA.org. Contact one of them to say "I've started a local group" and they'll list you. Welcome to the club.

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CIETY** TEACHING
CONNECTICUT
TO BOOM.

2022 Tournament Calendar

April 22-24, 2022

[2022 US Boomerang Team Trials](#)

Lake Stevens Community Park

Lake Stevens WA

This three-day tournament/event from April 22-24th of 2022 will be the proving grounds and selection event for 12 (or more) lucky individuals to don their red, white, and blue jerseys and travel to Bordeaux France in August for the World Boomerang Championships and the chance to defend the USA championship title from 2018!

May 29

St. Louis Gateway Classic

Contact "Chicago" Bob Leifeld

robert.leifeld@gmail.com

DETAILS TBD

August 15 - 25

[IFBA World Cup](#)

Near Bordeaux, France

2022 Nationals

DETAILS TBD

September 10th

Wandering Nutmeg Boomerang Society

Hammonasset Beach State Park, Madison, CT

DETAILS TBD

