

In Memory of Carl Newsom

Born February 28, 1936 Died April 8, 1998

by Butch Gleghorn

A traditional bowhunter and target archer, Carl helped start the first archery club in San Angelo in the late 1960's. Field archery was ongoing and Carl and a few other members cleared part of the range to put in the hunter round. Carl stayed with this club until people lost interest in field archery. Carl and Gerald May approached Raymond Adams in 1981 about putting in a range on Raymond's land, thus was born "The Devil's Mountain Bowhunters".

Carl put on clinics for bear archery from the mid 1970's until the mid 1980's. He gave clinics all over west Texas and got a lot of people interested in archery through these clinics.

Devil's Mountain had the first 3-D shoot in west Texas. One of our members was in Washington State attending a shoot that had homemade 3-D targets. When he returned he told Carl about it and Carl ended up making the first 3-D target, a javelina. Carl's enthusiasm caught on with club members. By 1983, we had 30 3-D's and had over 200 shooters at our annual shoot. Members were so impressed and enthusiastic that by 1984 we had 60 3-D's, 30 American and 30 Exotics, and had over 300 shooters at that shoot. After 14 years, we still shoot some of these 3-D targets.

Carl was a very good shot at 3-D tournaments. If you out shot him (even on one of his bad days and he didn't have many) you knew that you had shot good. In nine trips to the Texas State Longbow Championships, he only missed earning a buckle two years.

Carl was an avid bowhunter, from mule deer in New Mexico to javelina in South Texas. Like many of us, Carl wanted a Pope & Young whitetail. He never achieved this, but came real close this past hunting season by harvesting a buck that grossed $124 \frac{4}{8}$ and netted $121 \frac{6}{8}$.

Carl's last hunting trip was in February, 1998 to Maurice Chambers Ranch in Sabinal, Texas. James Bell, Charles Hall, Henry Dusek, Mike Tounget and myself accompanied him on this trip. Carl harvested two wild hogs and the hunt was enjoyed by all.

Pastor Ed McCorkle, presiding at Carl's funeral said "He may not have harvested a Pope & Young animal, but Carl was a Pope & Young person and archer.

So we say good-bye to a traditional archer, bowhunter and friend and we wish his spirit Godspeed.

THERE'S A SILENCE ON THE ARCHERY RANGE

By James Bell

On April 8, 1998 the archery world lost a longtime member, Carl Newsom. After attending his funeral, several of his friends met and swapped stories about their experiences with Carl. I sat and mostly listened to their hunting stories, since I had only hunted with Carl a few times. We had shot at archery tournaments many times though so after the get together, I decided to go to the range and shoot a few arrows in his memory.

As I walked around the range shooting the various targets, the memories of Carl came flooding back. Whenever anyone arrived at a tournament, Carl was always the first to greet them with his loud and coarse voice. His voice would carry across the range like a shot fired from a cannon. You always knew where he was by following his voice. Carl had a lot of personal pain and setbacks in his life, but he always had a big toothy grin on his face. If you shot with him, he would not let you get down or be sad about anything. His humorous antics were infectious. I have known many people who would travel to tournaments just to shoot with Carl because it was so much fun to shoot with him.

Carl had a way of making you feel you had shot good, even if you hadn't. He always shot good, but never admitted it when asked. He would just say he wasn't really pleased with his score and then usually finish in first place!

Now there's a silence on the archer range and this sound is deafening.



Carl's last hunt; Henry Dusek (left) Carl on the right with one of the two he harvested.