

WHAT IS THE ABA?

The ABA is an organization whose roots go back to 1976. It started out as a newsletter that was designed to keep the Bowhunters of the state informed on any activities that affected their sport. The concept was so successful that in 1981 a full state alliance was formed to foster, perpetuate, and expand Bowhunting and Bowhunting ethics in Arizona. The people who helped establish the organization realized that the only way Bowhunters could have a say in the wildlife management of our state was to join together and speak out as a collective voice. It worked! The ABA is now recognized by many as one of the most hardworking, innovative and influential outdoor associations in Arizona. Some of the ABA's activities, like The Bowhunter Happening and the Operation Unit Watch program during archery elk season are even gaining national attention.

WHAT HAS THE ABA DONE FOR BOWHUNTING?

Each year the ABA works hard with the Game and Fish Department to see that the bowhunter is fairly represented at all "hunt-set" meetings.

To date, the ABA has donated infra-red video camera equipment, metal and lead detection kits, and "Buster" deer decoys to the A G&F in an effort to keep Bowhunting clean in Arizona. Perhaps the most important thing the ABA has done is improve the image of the bowhunter in Arizona. The ABA also donates money to various state and national organizations to protect our right to hunt and keep Bowhunting alive.

There is much more! As society becomes more complex and environmental issues grow into major concerns, it is imperative that we understand and be involved in decisions that affect the sportsmen of America. The ABA is currently represented on committees or workshops that are addressing some of those problems. The ABA is your conduit for information on Bowhunting in the state of Arizona.

THE BOTTOM LINE IS THAT THE ABA IS WORKING FOR YOU!

WHAT THE ABA ASKS OF YOU

Your annual membership dues and a pledge to obey all game laws and to act as a sportsman are the only requirements. If you can meet them, your voice will be added with every other member when the ABA speaks to the Arizona Game and Fish Department or to the Arizona Legislature.

But if you REALLY want to help Bowhunting:

- Tell your friend about the ABA and what it is doing for them.
- Share your thoughts and ideas at a board meeting or through the newsletter.

THE ARIZONA BOWHUNTER

If you want to become even more involved, ask about serving as a regional representative or volunteering to help the Bowhunters of our state.

The ABA needs people like you!
WHY YOU SHOULD BELONG TO THE ABA

The ABA is determined to see that a quality hunting opportunity is available to all archers. It is your organization. Dedicated volunteers spend many hours attending meetings, writing letters, placing phone calls and generally making themselves available to help.

AWARDS BANQUET

Every year the ABA hosts a banquet where special awards are presented for "Bowhunter of the Year", Big Elk, Mule Deer, etc. That's great, but-the ABA believes that ANYONE who is successful in taking a big game animal with the bow and arrow should be recognized. EVERY successful big game hunter in the organization receives an award.



THE BOWHUNTER HAPPENING

The ABA hosts what has become the biggest family Bowhunting event of its kind in America! This prestigious three day shoot draws thousands of people from all over the Southwest. Everyone enjoys the cool pines of Northern Arizona while experiencing camaraderie only Bowhunters can know. When you're not shooting, there are dozens of manufacturer, pro-shop and taxidermy displays to visit. Included among these are several informational booths provided by Arizona Game and Fish and the Forest Service. The "Bowhunter Happening" provides you with nearly everything you need to be a successful bowhunter in Arizona.

THE FUTURE OF BOWHUNTING IN ARIZONA IS IN YOUR HANDS

All officers and dedicated volunteer workers in the ABA spend a great deal of time seeing that the interests of Bowhunting are fairly represented. That's because they care. Bowhunting means a lot to them. The ABA needs more people like that! Join us in protecting your rights. Become a member of the ABA.