



Mounted Archery Association of the Americas—MA3

Keeping Mounted Archery Alive



Competitors at Alpine Mounted Archery's 3rd Annual Competition, Hatch, UT.

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The MA3 Board

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Stacey Youlios:	Membership
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BJ Smith:	Treasurer
Frank Sihler:	Ranking System
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Message from the Board from Stacey Youlios, Vice President

Greetings from the MA3 board of directors!

We hope this newsletter finds you and your horses well. It is nice to see the demos and clinics taking place around the nation. It has been a busy summer with a record number of those grading and in competitions across the US. We have also seen record growth in new chapters and memberships which is exciting to see!

The new national ranking system is well underway with more and more score submissions every month. It is exciting to see members submitting scores and we look forward to using the national ranking list to select the very best to represent the US in major international competitions in the future.

Enjoy the rest of the warm weather, enjoy our wonderful sport and be safe!



AMA member, Erika Xochimitl, at AMA 3rd Annual Competition, Hatch UT.

MA3 Board Spotlight: Frank Sihler, Ranking System

Frank is a current member of the MA3 board of directors and serves on the national ranking committee. Frank is one of MA3's registered instructors who obtained his H4 grading in just two short years. Frank has earned a spot on the podium in several mounted archery competitions all the way to winning the 2019 STAR International Competition. His skills under pressure have earned him the 4th spot overall in our US national ranking system.



Frank Sihler, MA3 Ranking System

Born in Germany, Frank started archery in the 1980s. He competed in numerous traditional 3D archery tournaments there, while he worked on his career as a professional dog musher. The sled dogs brought him to Finland in 1996, where he worked as an outdoor and mushing guide. He also competed in sled dog

racers and used his bow and arrow to hunt for small game.

In 2001, Frank married another German, Claudia, and they moved to Alaska, USA. Their recreational dog team grew, and Frank finally fulfilled a lifetime dream, finishing the Iditarod, a 1000-mile sled dog race from Anchorage to Nome.

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New MA3 Chapters!

Please join us in welcoming the newest MA3 Chapters!

- Prairie Moon Mounted Archers, Brush Prairie, WA. Contact: Lisa Badger, lisamariabadger@gmail.com.
- Sagittarii Horse Archers, Lakeside, CA. Contact: TJ Marshall, tjmarshall619@gmail.com.

For a complete list of MA3 chapters, and information about starting a chapter, please go [HERE](#).

2019 Alpine Mounted Archery 3rd Annual Competition by Stacey Youlios, AMA President



Jr. Member Tanyon Griffith, Desert Warriors of the South West.

The 3rd annual AMA competition was held at the beautiful Lucky 7 Ranch in Hatch Utah. The competition was made up of 25 competitors in 4 divisions with 16 volunteers. This has been the largest AMA competition and each year we continue to grow! We gave prizes through 6th place in all 4 divisions as

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well as overall prizes through 6th place. It was fun to see some new faces and those making AMA their very first competition. Several competitors got their feet wet, while others moved up in the grading system and one of AMA's JRs, Sophie Felix took 6th overall! The HUN and Korean courses were also approved courses for our new National ranking System. This year, our Polish course had a unique floating target in the pond and several of us got to see some bison that live on the 1000-acre ranch.



Hannah Stern, Valhalla Horse Archers.

Though the weather proved challenging, we made the best of it and had to be a bit flexible with our schedule with pop up thunderstorms. The sky gave us many opportunities for awesome pictures, and we were thankful it was not 100 degrees like it was down near Salt Lake City. We ended the competition with a spectacular trail ride by Bryce Canyon.



Top 6 Overall winners (from left): Greg Ogburn, Dragon Riders MA; Frank Sihler, Mat-Su Mounted Archers; Joey Ogburn, Dragon Riders MA; Cody Lee Jones, Valhalla Horse Archers; Di Troyk, DWSW; Jr. Member Sophie Felix, Alpine MA.

We would like to thank all those who attended and volunteered to help make our 3rd competition a success. We are already planning our 2020 event and are looking at venues around the Park City area.



AMA competitors enjoying a trail ride after the competition in beautiful Bryce Canyon, UT.

Congratulations!

Please welcome Hadley Hudson of Hill Country MA, as an interim board member of the MA3 Board of Directors! Thanks for joining our team!

2019 Annual Member Meeting

Mark your calendars for the 2019 Annual MA3 Member Meeting on December 10th, 5 p.m. MST. This meeting will be a call-in meeting and all MA3 members are invited. Chapter leaders will be able to submit questions or concerns ahead of time for the MA3 Board to discuss. Watch for more details to come!

New Club Spotlight: Colorado Horse Archers

Colorado Mounted Archers (CMA) was founded by Cassandra Moe in November 2016. It became an MA3 affiliated club in April 2019. CMA is a nonprofit 501c3 club based in Denver, Colorado. Its mission is to bring horseback archery to the equestrian community in the surrounding areas of Denver, with an emphasis on range safety and horsemanship. CMA offers practices, intro classes, rankings, postal matches, clinics, and mounted archery horse training.



Cassandra Moe, Colorado Mounted Archers.

CMA is planning a demo at the horse expo in February 2020, and hopefully, its first competition before the end of 2020. Colorado Mounted Archers is happy to be affiliated with MA3 and looks forward to promoting horseback archery for the Denver area in the years to come.



Jr. Member Aslan Contreras, Colorado Mounted Archers.



Adriane Temple, Colorado Mounted Archers.

Announcement:
MA3 will soon implement exciting new changes for the organization which will help it run efficiently and make it easier for chapter leaders and members to navigate. More details to come at our December member meeting.

Upcoming Mounted Archery Competitions

- **Creekside Mounted Archery September Open Competition:** September 6-8, 2019; Waynesburg, OH. Contact Cynthia Bauman, creeksidehorsepark@gmail.com.
- **Kansas State Fair National Mounted Archery Competition:** September 9, 2019; Hutchinson, Kansas. Contact Brandy Von Holton, vonholtonranch@yahoo.com.
- **Mat-Su Mounted Archers 3rd Competition:** October 4-6, 2019; Bluff Park, Wasilla, AK. Contact Frank Sihler, fsihler@hotmail.com.
- **Country Tough Mounted Archers 2019 National Competition:** October 25-26, 2019; Mora, MO. Contact Brandy Von Holton, vonholtonranch@yahoo.com.
- **DWSW Wild West Shoot Off National Archery Competition:** November 8-10, 2019; Scottsdale, AR. Contact Di Troyk, 414-617-3843.

For more details about upcoming clinics, postal matches, and other horse archery events, please go [HERE](#).

2019 Grading List

Congratulations to all MA3 members who have participated in the Grading program to date! The numbers of members who are grading is incredible! For a complete grading list of MA3 members from S1 to H8, please go [HERE](#).

Mat-Su Mounted Archery Holds 2nd Competition in Alaska

Mat-Su Mounted Archers hosted their 2nd Alaska Horse Archery Competition and Midnight Madness June 27-30, 2019, in Wasilla, Alaska.



Mandy Seymour, Mat-Su MA; Beverley Heffernan, Alpine MA; Frank Sihler, Mat-Su MA; Di Troyk, DWSW; Joey Ogburn, Dragon Riders MA.



John Evans, Mat-Su MA; Cameron Momtaz, Ind.; Greg Ogburn, Dragon Riders MA; Jessica Ouichi, Dragon Riders MA; Lisa Hirahata, Ind.; Dan Hansen, Mat-Su MA.



Archery Tips from Nomad Archery

from Canyon Cappola

Aim Left, then Aim Left Again!

(Of course, everything is opposite for Left Handers)

This is a refrain you will hear me say a lot. And I often get asked 'Why'. The 'Standard' style that we Mounted Archers prefer is all about small sacrifices in the name of speed to allow us a chance at hitting 3 targets at a canter in 14 seconds or less. To that end, we do a lot of things that cause our arrows to drift to the Right, for Right-handers, or to the Left for Left-handers.

- Having the Arrow on the Right side of the Bow rather than 'across' the string will send your arrows to the Right.
- Using Thumb Draw will send your arrows to the Right.
- Sometimes having the odd fletching on the inside and rubbing the bow as it passes will send your arrows to the Right.
- The movement of your horse down the lane will send your arrows to the Right.

All these small changes add up to send your arrows wide to the right of where you will 'think' you are aiming if you try to site down your arrow as you would in standard archery.

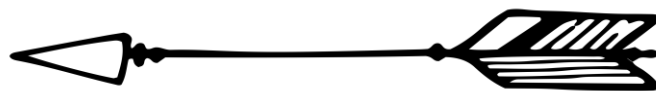
So, in short, until your body attunes itself to the 'Instinctive' part of Instinctive Archery....
"Aim Left, and then Aim Left Again!"

(Board Spotlight, cont. from page 2)

Embracing the outdoors life and the challenges of being a woodsman, Frank obtained the Alaska Bow Hunter Certification and kept up his practice with different types of bows for sport and real-life purposes. Frank became interested in horses and researched and found his love for the Mongolian Horse and the traditions around it. He found similarities in the Icelandic Horse and since 2014 Frank and Claudia have been riding Icelandic horses. Besides lots of trail riding and participating in Competitive Trail Rides, Mounted Archery became Frank's newest passion.

Frank loves the challenges of improving his gradings as a horse archer and competing in mounted archery competitions around the U.S. and the world. He also enjoys growing the sport by teaching others and founded the first Alaskan MA3 chapter, the Mat-Su Mounted Archers.

As a MA3 board member, Frank looks forward to increasing the U.S. presence in worldwide mounted archery events.



2019 AMA Competition, Advanced Polish Winners (from left): Di Troyk, DWSW; Cody Lee Jones, Valhalla MA; Stacey Youlios, Alpine MA; Erin Troyk, DWSW; Beverley Heffernan, Alpine MA; Frank Sihler, Mat-Su MA.



2019 AMA Competition, Special Awards: Amanda Olsen, Best Display of Horsemanship; Erika Xochimitl, Alpine MA, Best Dressed Competitor; Jr. Member Tanyon Griffith, DWSW, Best Mounted Archery Horse.