

GIVING ARROWS A PERSONALITY

Article Courtesy Spot-Hogg Archery

For the longest time now, we have been numbering our arrows. Knowing that a particular arrow has developed a personality of it's own (and won't stay with the group) is hard to identify unless you can tell one arrow from the next.

Because all the arrows look alike, and most of us can't be really sure that we didn't do something to cause the arrow to stray, writing a number on the vane with a ball point pen seemed like a good idea.

That way if # 4 arrow is always going low, we know something is wrong with the arrow, not our form.

The trouble with that idea is that you have to write down what each arrow is doing, all the time. Given variations in form, aiming, and the belief that we are always to blame, it is hard sometimes to keep track of what each arrow is doing.

When the arrows seem to keep taking turns going low, it's hard to remember that # 4 arrow went low more often than any of the other arrows. (We are too lazy to write down where all the arrows hit all of the time. Let alone, take the time to analyze all that information.) For some reason, keeping all the numbers straight in our head did not work well.

Then somebody started naming their arrows. They would write a name on the vane with a ballpoint pen. At first, it was just kind of a joke. Names like; KILLER, FANG, HEARTSEEKER, CIRCUS MONKEY, TONY DANZA, XENA, etc. We soon found that with names, it was a lot easier to keep track of what each arrow was doing. For instance, we knew that TONY DANZA always hit right where it was aimed, and the GUTS arrow was always off a bit.

Come hunting season, everyone has a favorite named arrow that is going to be used. Remembering names works a lot better than remembering numbers, and it is a lot more fun.