

27th Annual Eastern Seaboard Atlatl Competition

by Douglas Bassett

This event was again held at the Letchworth State Park Stone Tool Craftsman Show and included four days of throwing August 27- 30, 2015. Beautiful summer weather was experienced for most of the week-end despite a few drops of liquid sunshine on Sunday. The crowds cleared out early so there were not enough folks for the concluding atlatl battle. Next year will be August 21-24. There were ten shooting ranges (the Demo range; an ISAC range; an ISAC, IASAC and National warm-up range; an IASAC range, the State Round range, the Closest-to-Pin range; the Handicapped Mammoth Hunt range; the Distance range; the Distance ISAC Range; and the wooded Animal Round range - this set-up was enabled by the use of about 125 bales of hay that were put in storage from six years ago). These ranges were shut down for the opening ceremony of the Hoop Toss each day. More than 300 spectators, 250 atlatlists and 31 competitors from 8 states were attracted to the South Field in the various following ways:

Opening Ceremony – The Hoop Toss with Tiggy Winkle

Two hoops were placed on the ground and thrown at to open the competition each day. A larger hoop was thrown at from 25+ meters and a smaller hoop was attempted from 40+ meters. All throwers lined up and shot their single dart simultaneously to the hoop of their chosen ability. This was repeated for a total of three attempts in each of three rounds. Once a hoop was entered by a dart...that hoop was no longer available to win but the throwers could continue at the other hoop in the next round if it was still available. In the case of multiple darts in a hoop the dart judged closest to center was the winner. A stuffed toy hedgehog “Tiggy Winkle” was placed next to the small hoop with the understanding that the throwers would pay a \$5 penalty if their dart accidentally hit the toy to add a sense of tension and desire for accuracy. Fortunately for Tiggy no penalties were levied.

<u>Day</u>	<u>Close Hoop</u>	<u>Distant Hoop</u>
Thurs	no winner	no winner
Fri	no winner	no winner
Sat	Mamerto Tindongan (OH)	Mamerto Tindongan (OH)
Sun	Frank Takoch (OH)	Douglas Bassett (NY)

Demonstration Range

This range had four stations from 10 meters at four separate targets and was entered by more than 250 people. Each target consisted of a single hay bale with a balloon. Many balloons were popped to the squeals of success. Many thanks to all that helped our first time throwers.

ISAC

Twenty-seven people made 68 entries in sixteen flights (2 flights – Thurs; 5 flights – Fri; 5 flights – Sat; 4 flights – Sun). Ranking, Division (F- female, Y- youth noted by number = age), State (ranking by top scorer), Highest Score and Significance are recorded as follows (*lines in italics are competitors in this contest only*):

<u>Rank</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Person</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1	NY (1)	Douglas Bassett	94-2X	
2	PA (2)	Gary Fogelman	92-2X	<i>Season High</i>
3	OH (3)	Mamerto Tindongan	90-X	
4	PA	Andy Majorsky	85-X	<i>Season High</i>

4		NY		Scott VanArsdale	85-X	
6		VT	(4)	Greg Maurer	83	
7		NY		Rodger Klindt	82-X	<i>Season High</i>
8	12	NY		Marlin Bassett	82	
9	F	PA		Lori Majorsky	80	
10		NJ	(5)	Gary Sipila	79	<i>Season High</i>
11		NJ		Erich Zeh	76	
12		OH		Torin Tindongan	73	<i>Season High</i>
13	F	PA		JoAnne Fogelman	72	<i>Season High</i>
14		CT	(6)	Gary Nolf	70	<i>Season High</i>
15		NY		Wayne Wells	68	
16		NJ		Tim Zeh	62	
17		OH		Margie Takoch	54	
18		NY		<i>Jim Fisher</i>	53	
19		NY		Stephen Litwhiler	45	<i>Season High</i>
20	F	PA		Katelin Reeve	44-X	Personal Best
21		OH		Frank Takoch	40	
22		NY		Kevin Chieco	29	Personal Best
22		NY		Norman Heid	29	Personal Best
24	F	CT		Linda Nolf	26	
25	F	NV	(7)	Nati Delson	20	Personal Best
26	12	NY		Deven Bonvissuto	14	Personal Best
27	14	MI	(8)	Savanna Green	12	Personal Best

International

The International is conducted on the standard 122cm long range colored archery target. Three darts are thrown at 15M, 17M, 20M and 22M and youth (age 11 and under) shoot two sets of three each at 10M and 12M.

<u>Rank</u>		<u>State</u>		<u>Person</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1		NY	(1)	Douglas Bassett	83	
2		OH	(2)	Mamerto Tindongan	78	<i>Season High</i>
3		NY		Wayne Wells	68	<i>Season High</i>
4	F	NV	(4)	Nati Delson	33	Personal Best

National

The National is conducted under the same rules as the ISAC but the target is the standard 122cm long range colored archery target. The other difference is that the youth shoot at 10M and 15M. Five people made 9 entries.

<u>Rank</u>		<u>State</u>		<u>Person</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1		OH	(1)	Mamerto Tindongan	82	
				(Opposite hand	51)	
2		NY	(2)	Douglas Bassett	75	
				(Opposite hand	56)	
3	F	PA	(3)	Lori Majorsky	42	

4		NY	Wayne Wells	40	
5	F	NV (4)	Nati Delson (Opposite hand)	33 0)	Personal Best

The Eastern Seaboard Atlatl Competition

We had 20 people vying for division winners. As originally constructed the Eastern Seaboard Atlatl Competition is composed of three parts: Accuracy, Closest-to-Pin and Distance. For the event this year five divisions were created based on each competitor's best ISAC score thrown this year or last. Colors for each division were chosen from the concentric bands of color on the standard archery target. White = ISAC < 40; Black = ISAC 41-60; Blue = ISAC 61-80; Red = ISAC 81-89; Yellow = ISAC 90+. This handicapping was also applied to the Animal Round and Mammoth Hunt. Award certificates were given to the top three finishers in each event as well as top ten for the Mammoth Hunt. The Grand Champion Trophy and throw-off certificates were also awarded.

The State Round

This accuracy contest consisted of three shots from each of five distances with each succeeding distance being three meters farther from the 122cm colored archery target. The starting distances were White- 5m, Black- 8m, Blue- 11m, Red- 14m, and Yellow- 17m. Three entries per day were allowed. Twenty people made 42 entries with their ranks noted per division:

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Person</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>Bl</u>	<u>Bk</u>	<u>W</u>
1	Douglas Bassett	116-X	1				
2	Mamerto Tindongan	90	2				
3	Gary Fogelman	89	3				
4	JoAnne Fogelman	79-X			1		
5	Andy Majorsky	74	4				
5	Stephen Litwhiler	74			2		
5	Michele Brophy	74					1
8	Marlin Bassett	73		1			
8	Lori Majorsky	73		1			
8	Norman Heid	73					2
11	Wayne Wells	71		3			
12	Eric Zeh	68		4			
13	Deven Bonvissuto	60					3
14	Margie Takoch	59			3		
15	Frank Takoch	52-X				1	
16	Debra Converse	50					4
17	Linda Nolf	49				2	
18	Gary Nolf	47		5			
19	Katelin Reeve	24				3	
20	Will Gomez	20					5

Closest-to-Pin

Three darts thrown just once a day were thrown from the following distances: White- 17m, Black- 23m, Blue- 29m, Red- 35m, and Yellow- 41m. Measurement is taken from the point of impact or entry into the earth of the dart to the base of the pin. Eighteen people turned in scores.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Person</u>	<u>Distance</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>Bl</u>	<u>Bk</u>	<u>W</u>
1	Douglas Bassett	hit 2cm up	1				
2	Norman Heid	hit 66cm up					1
3	Mamerto Tindongan	2cm	2				
4	Michele Brophy	15cm					2
5	Gary Fogelman	20cm	3				
5	Erich Zeh	20cm		1			
7	Deven Bonvissuto	30cm					3
8	Andy Majorsky	33cm	4				
8	Stephen Litwhiler	33cm			1		
10	Lori Majorsky	38cm		2			
11	Frank Takoch	46cm				1	
12	Marlin Bassett	51cm		3			
13	Linda Nolf	53cm				2	
14	Gary Nolf	64cm		4			
15	JoAnne Fogelman	97cm			2		
16	Will Gomez	112cm					4
17	Debra Converse	165cm					5
18	Margie Takoch	335cm			3		
19	Wayne Wells	-		5			
19	Katelin Reeve	-				3	

Distance

Each contestant was allowed five darts daily with any combination of atlatl and dart they pleased, but to count had to land in the designated throwing lane which was about 30 degrees of arc. The longest shot was measured perpendicular to the center of the lane. Seventeen people turned in scores.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Person</u>	<u>distance</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>Bl</u>	<u>Bk</u>	<u>W</u>
1	Douglas Bassett	167m	1				
2	Marlin Bassett	87m		1			
3	Gary Fogelman	64m	2				
4	Andy Majorsky	54m	3				
5	Stephen Litwhiler	52m			1		
6	Erich Zeh	45m		2			
7	Deven Bonvissuto	43m					1
8	Lori Majorsky	39m		3			
9	Gary Nolf	38m		4			
10	Frank Takoch	33m				1	
11	JoAnne Fogelman	32m			2		
12	Michele Brophy	30m					2
13	Margie Takoch	27m			3		
14	Linda Nolf	26m				2	
15	Norman Heid	13m					3
16	Debra Converse	10m					4
17	Will Gomez	8m					5
18	Mamerto Tindongan	-	4				
18	Wayne Wells	-		5			
18	Katelin Reeve	-				3	

Grand Champion Throw-off

Each Division Champion was determined by adding their ranking for each of the three parts of the contest with the lowest score winning in each division. The five winners were positioned at the different distances as noted in the State Round above and shot five flights of two darts from each distance starting each time in rotation and moving back three meters each round.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Division</u>	<u>Distance</u>	<u>Person</u>	<u>Score</u>
1	Yellow	17-29m	Douglas Bassett	71
2	Red	14-26m	Marlin Bassett	56
3	White	5-17m	Michele Brophy	43
4	Blue	11-23m	Stephen Litwhiler	37
5	Black	8-20m	Linda Nolf	12

Animal Round

Ten life-sized black animal silhouettes were created with realistically sized colored killing zones [heart (yellow) – 12 points, lung/liver/spleen (orange) – 8 points, brain/spinal cord (red) – 5 points] Body hits scored 1 point, while outside the marked body line such as hair/feathers, ears, tail/beard scored 0 points. Negative scores were also assessed such as -1 for lower legs, -2 for nose/jaw/beak, and -3 for entrails. Hunters were allowed to go around the course twice with one shot at each animal and only one entry per day. The maximum score of twenty heart shots would be 240 points. Each of the ten animals were shot in realistic settings at realistic distances with animals with larger killing zones being shot at from farther distances (grouse- 7m (44% ave 37%), squirrel- 8m (22% ave 38%), rabbit- 9m (61% ave 45%), opossum- 10m (29% ave 41%), woodchuck-11m (29% ave 51%), fox- 12 m (50% ave 34%), turkey- 13m (44% ave 41%), raccoon- 14m (44% ave 48%), bobcat-15m (50% ave 43%), coyote- 16m (22% ave 45%) – See % note below). Red division shot at 2-4 meters closer, Blue from 3-7 meters closer, Black from 4-8.5 meters closer and White from 5-9.5 meters closer (each larger animal was shot from 0.5 meters farther in the White Division, i.e. the ten animals ranged from 2 to 6.5 meters from the White Thrower). Twenty-seven people made 35 entries (*lines in italics did not enter Seaboard*).

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Person</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>Bl</u>	<u>Bk</u>	<u>W</u>
1	Douglas Bassett	107 (15 kills)	1				
2	Erich Zeh	90 (12 kills)		1			
3	Gary Fogelman	78 (9 kills)	2				
4	Tim Zeh	63 (8 kills)		2			
5	Mamerto Tindongan	55 (9 kills)	3				
6	Wayne Wells	54 (7 kills)		3			
6	JoAnne Fogelman	54 (7 kills)			1		
8	Frank Takoch	49 (7 kills)				1	
9	Deven Bonvissuto ⁽¹²⁾	46 (6 kills)					1
10	<i>Torin Tindongan</i>	43 (8 kills)		4			
11	<i>Kevin Chieco</i>	43 (6 kills)			2		
12	Michele Brophy	38 (6 kills)					2
13	Nati Delson	35 (5 kills)				2	
14	<i>Rodger Klindt</i>	35 (4 kills)		5			
15	Andy Majorsky	33 (5 kills)	4				
15	Lori Majorsky	33 (5 kills)		6			
17	Norman Heid	33 (4 kills)					3
18	Debra Converse	31 (4 kills)					4

19	Stephen Litwhiler	29 (4 kills)				3
20	Katelin Reeve	24 (4 kills)				4
21	Gary Nolf	24 (3 kills)	7			
22	Linda Nolf	11 (2 kills)				5
23	William Gomez (7)	9 (2 kills)				5
24	Margie Takoch	7 (2 kills)			3	
25	Marlin Bassett (12)	4 (2 kills)	8			
26	April Christensen	0 (no kills)			4	
27	Greg Maurer	-1 (1 kill)	5			

% note: After examining the score sheets and tallying the hits in the heart (12 points) or lungs (8 points) or spine (5 points) and counting them as all kills a percent (%) kill after each animal is listed above for the top ten hunters; ave = average from previous six years. In the top ten hunter tally, the percentages for each kill zone are as follows: hearts (4 % ave 5%), lungs or better (26 % ave 26%) and spine or better (40 % ave 37%).

State vs. State

The overall rankings in the State Round, Closest-to-Pin, and Animal Round were added together to give a raw score; lowest combined score wins. Twenty people completed all three games for consideration. Two five member teams are also noted.

<u>Rank</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Person</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>Bl</u>	<u>Bk</u>	<u>W</u>
1	NY	Douglas Bassett	3	1				
2	OH	Mamerto Tindongan	10	2				
3	PA	Gary Fogelman	11	3				
4	NJ	Erich Zeh	19		1			
5	NY	Michele Brophy	21					1
6	PA	JoAnne Fogelman	25			1		
6	NY	Norman Heid	25					2
8	PA	Andy Majorsky	28	4				
9	NY	Deven Bonvissuto (12)	29					3
10	NY	Stephen Litwhiler	32			2		
11	PA	Lori Majorsky	33		2			
12	OH	Frank Takoch	34				1	
13	NY	Wayne Wells	36		3			
14	NY	Marlin Bassett (12)	45		4			
15	NY	Debra Converse	51					4
16	CT	Gary Nolf	52		5			
16	CT	Linda Nolf	52				2	
18	OH	Margie Takoch	56			3		
19	NY	Will Gomez (7)	56					5
20	PA	Katelin Reeve	58				3	

<u>State(s)</u>	<u>Three-member team</u>	<u>score</u>	<u>if a five-member team</u>	<u>score</u>
NY	Douglas (3), Michele (21), Norman (25)	49	Deven (29), Stephen (32)	110
PA	Gary (11), JoAnne (25), Andy (28)	64	Lori (33), Katelin (58)	155
OH	Mamerto (10), Frank (34), Margie (56)	100		

Handicapped Mammoth Hunt

Following the Grand Championship Throw-offs, the handicapped Mammoth Hunt was conducted facing the bright sunlight of the afternoon. All registered atlatlists were automatically entered in this event and their starting positions were based on their highest ISAC score and started their throws from the following distances: lowest scoring eight - 14m, middle scoring seven - 17m, highest scoring seven - 20m. Each thrower had three attempts to hit a circular cardboard representing the kill zone on a life-sized Woolly Mammoth constructed of plywood-backed foam covered in burlap fur. (This creature was created by Rodger Klindt in 1996 and was kindly donated to me for use at the Letchworth event after a decade of use up on the Tug Hill Plateau.) If the hunter hit the red center of the cardboard representing the heart, an extra throw was awarded when needed in the future. Those successful hunters continued to the next round and retreated another 3 meters. The order of dropping out determined your rank. Twenty-two throwers and a couple dozen spectators showed up at hunt time and only 14 were left standing after the first round, 12 after the 2nd, 10 after the 3rd, 7 after the 4th, 5 after the 5th and 3 after the 6th. For the first time in history, not one, but two throwers completed the 8th round with Douglas Bassett setting a new course **record of a successful kill at 41 meters!** In the final volley by everyone at 50 meters several hunters hit the mammoth even the “first in the dirt”, but once again, there were no kills. The number under each column is the rank due to an unsuccessful round, + moved on, * were awarded an extra throw (*lines in italics are competitors that did not enter the Eastern Seaboard or Animal Round*):

Start	Person	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>
20m	Douglas Bassett	+	+	*	+	+	+	+	+	2 nd
	Gary Fogelman	+	+	*	+	7 th				
	Mamerto Tindongan	22								
	Greg Maurer	+	+	12						
	Andy Majorsky	+	+	+	10 th					
	<i>Gary Sipila</i>	+	+	11						
	Lori Majorsky	+	14							
	17m	Marlin Bassett	+	+	*	+	*	+	+	+
JoAnne Fogelman		+	*	+	+	+	5 th			
<i>Wayne Wells</i>		+	+	+	+	6 th				
Erich Zeh		+	+	+	9 th					
Gary Nolf		+	+	+	+	+	4 th			
Tim Zeh		21								
Torin Tindongan		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	3 rd	
14m	Frank Takoch	20								
	Nati Delson	19								
	Katelin Reever	+	13							
	Linda Nolf	18								
	Kevin Chieco	17								
	Michele Brophy	16								
	Norman Heid	+	+	+	8 th					
	Deven Bonvissuto	15								

Toss Across the Gorge Qualifier

A distance of 150 meters (164 yards) was located to be a potential area for an actual future attempt downstream from the Middle Falls and in the meantime this qualifying distance was laid out on the Distance Range. As an extra step for safety the park road and nearby Highbanks Trail were monitored and

throws halted if any traffic occurred during the qualifiers to safeguard against that wild aberrant possibility that is always present during efforts of throwing pointed, lightweight, sailing objects with maximum force. Douglas Bassett was able to qualify with the single throw on Friday - 167m (182 yards).

First World Open Atlatl Invitational

As suggested last year by Bob Berg all of the throwing of the weekend could be combined and each thrower be given a ranking in all six events with the lowest raw score determining the winners. The top number above several of the columns is the number of each in that category. **Women are noted in pink** and **youth in green**. Ranks are in parenthesis if the competitor did not enter that portion of the competition. **Lines are in bold if all events were entered by the competitor (15 people)**. *Lines in italics are competitors (4 people) that only entered one component of the weekend of throwing:*

<u>Rank</u>	<u>(8)</u> <u>State</u>	<u>(31)</u> <u>Competitor</u>	<u>(27)</u> <u>ISAC</u>	<u>(27)</u> <u>Animal</u>	<u>(22)</u> <u>Mammoth</u>	<u>(20)</u> <u>Seaboard (3 parts)</u>	<u>sum of ranks</u>
1	(1) NY	Douglas Bassett	1	1	2	1	5
2	(2) PA	Gary Fogelman	2	3	7	2	14
3	PA	Andy Majorsky	4	15	10	3	32
4	(3) NJ	Erich Zeh	11	2	9	7	34
5	PA	JoAnne Fogelman	13	6	5	12	36
6	(4) OH	Mamerto Tindongan	3	5	22	7	37
7	NY	Marlin Bassett (12)	8	25	1	6	40
8	NY	Wayne Wells	15	6	6	17	44
9	OH	Torin Tindongan	12	10	3	(21)	46
10	PA	Lori Majorsky	9	15	14	10	48
11	(5) CT	Gary Nolf	14	20	4	14	52
12	NY	Norman Reid	22	15	8	9	54
13	NY	Deven Bonvissuto (12)	26	9	15	11	61
13	NY	Michele Brophy	(28)	12	16	5	61
15	NJ	Tim Zeh	16	4	21	(21)	62
16	NY	Rodger Klindt	7	13	(23)	(21)	64
17	(6) VT	Greg Maurer	6	27	12	(21)	66
18	NY	Stephen Litwhiler	19	19	(23)	4	67
19	NJ	Gary Sipila	10	(28)	11	(21)	70
20	NY	Kevin Chieco	22	11	17	(21)	71
21	OH	Frank Takoch	21	8	20	13	72
22	PA	Katelin Reeve	20	20	13	20	73
23	NY	<i>Scott VanArsdale</i>	4	(28)	(23)	(21)	76
24	(7) NV	Nati Delson	25	13	19	(21)	78
25	CT	Linda Nolf	24	22	18	15	79
26	OH	Margie Takoch	17	24	(23)	16	80
27	NY	Debra Converse	(28)	18	(23)	18	87
28	NY	<i>Jim Fisher</i>	18	(28)	(23)	(21)	90
29	NY	William Gomez (7)	(28)	23	(23)	19	93
30	NY	April Christensen	(28)	26	(23)	(21)	98
31	(8) MI	Savana Green (14)	27	(28)	(23)	(21)	99

Closing Ceremony - Distance Accuracy

Not enough people remained on Sunday for the Atlatl Battle, Moche or Distance Accuracy.

Other results from previous years (c = cardboard; b = bale)

	<u>30/40m</u>	<u>45/60m</u>	<u>60/80m</u>	<u>75/100m</u>
Douglas Bassett	62	8-2c, 2b	15-c	9-2b
Ryan Grohsmeyer	39	12	15-c	-c
AJ Bagg	34	8	6	
Gary Fogelman	33	8-c		
John Whittaker	17			
Andy Majorsky	14	7		
Danny Brophy	13	-		
Tom Goble Sr.	12			
Devin Johns	7			
Jared Gillis	6	7		
Gary Sipila	6			
Ray Madden	6			
Lori Majorsky	6			
Mike Alegra	- 2c	6-c	-	
James Geyer	- 1c, 2b	-		
Mike Waters	-	-	6-b	

The Atlatl portion of the Annual Stone Tool Show at Letchworth State Park continues to be one of the biggest events in the world. See you next year, and bring a friend...Nayweh



Scene from the Opening Ceremony in 2011 – Hoop Toss presided by Tiggy Winkle