

*Traditional Bowhunters
Hall of Fame*

Summer 2026

Ishi—Where it all Began



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Vice President

Jim Akenson • Oregon

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Jim Eeckhout • Michigan

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Matt Schuster • Georgia

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The Traditional Bowhunters Hall of Fame (TBHOF) is a registered 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization with the federal Internal Revenue Service. As such, donations are tax deductible for most taxpayers; however, check with your tax professional on you own situation.

More information on supporting, list of inductees and their biographies, Mission and Vision Statements, and much more can be found at the website: <https://tradbowhuntershof.org>.

Two years ago, last month, in a cabin in a beautiful forest in west Oregon, the Traditional Bowhunters Hall of Fame (TBHOF) came into existence. It has been a busy, and quite successful, two years now, with two Induction Ceremonies held; the first in Golden, Colorado in March 2025 along with the Compton Traditional Bowhunters' (CTB) Big Game Classic, and the second this past March in Indianapolis, Indiana, in conjunction with the Professional Bowhunters Society's (PBS) Gathering. As such, we felt that a newsletter—quarterly or semi-annually—would be advantageous to keep our supporters and clubs informed as to what is happening within this organization. Hence, this is the first communique, which is short, but it is a start!

Several nominations for the Class of 2026 have come in and are being evaluated before they go out to the Electors August 1, 2026. Once the electors have chosen those folks, we will list them in the next newsletter (Fall 2026).

Our first Induction Ceremony in Golden was well received and was the springboard to the second Annual TBHOF Induction Ceremony held in Indianapolis. There, we inducted nine individuals, one of which was our first international inductee, Dave Whiting of Australia, who brought an entourage to Indianapolis to support his induction. The event on Friday evening was a resounding success. There were over 300 people in attendance for the two-hour presentation. The guests were presented with not only a support tribute from a close acquaintance, but the inductees also entertained the audience with humbleness, humility, and very personal testimonies on their lives, bowhunting, and what this induction meant to them. The comments from inductees, their families, friends, and attendees were positive, grateful, and from the heart.

Recaps of our first two Induction Ceremonies are in this issue, but you can find more at our website, along with interviews with most all of the Class of 2025 Inductees filmed on location in Indianapolis.

Also, our Vice President, Jim Akenson, has a column on our financials, and many projects we are working on, which are costly and will take time to accomplish. We also have our first online auction coming up soon with items donated by supporters and Board members. Robin Conrads has been the one who put this together, and she has done a fantastic job.

As a volunteer organization, we Board members have term limits. As such, we are looking for replacements over the next two years. We are looking for individuals who are committed to the ideals of the organization and committed to continuing the legacy created so far. Our Mission Statement and Vision Statement are included in this newsletter for those who wish to understand our purpose. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please send a brief resume to Robin, our secretary, at: tbhalloffame@gmail.com. Those who are considered may be asked to sit in on our monthly Zoom meetings to get an understanding of the job.

I want to personally thank both the Board of CTB and the Council of PBS for graciously allowing TBHOF to hold our Induction Ceremonies in conjunction with their annual Big Game Classic and Gatherings, respectively, as well as all of the gracious and generous supporters who see, and understand, what the TBHOF is working on to preserve and promote our rich traditional bowhunting heritage.

Respectfully,
T.J. Conrads

On the cover—Ishi on the Crazy-Auntee trip, May 1914. Image courtesy of Gene Hopkins.

TBHOF Financials

It is hard to believe that we are two years along now with TBHOF! Starting from an idea and vision of capturing our traditional bowhunting heritage to having completed a second induction ceremony is truly daunting. Along the way, we have actively tried to convey our message of documenting history through identifying the people who have helped form and expand our unique culture. This process has required several key elements – among those is having an effective working board, some mission-engaged partners, and some finances to accomplish TBHOF objectives.

Momentum is essential for a new organization. In order to maintain momentum, while also looking to future growth, we have operational funding needs. So far, these funds have come to us from donations by bowhunting organizations, supporting individuals, corporate partners, and our board members. As of June 1, 2026, we have close to \$28,000 in financial assets. TBHOF is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization with a mission focus of highlighting our traditional bowhunting heritage. Our Board of Directors is an all-volunteer group of life-long traditional bowhunters with the exception of one paid part-time staff person (.25 FTE) to coordinate operations: correspond with donors, manage nominations and Elector voting, maintain the website, handle the bookkeeping, and inform the Board of our financial status and needed business actions.

Some upcoming expenses for TBHOF are establishing a film archive that captures hunts, conservation efforts, teachings, and other outreach efforts of our predecessors. A lot of the material we are looking at is old technology and will need conversion into a digital format so that it can then be shared via YouTube and/or similar internet platforms. These conversions are expensive, but we feel that preserving these films is a very worthwhile expense for preserving our historic records. We are also looking at developing a mobile museum that can be transported and shared at various ceremonies and events. In late June and into July, TBHOF will be holding an on-line auction to help generate more income to cover upcoming expenses.

Jim Akenson, Vice President

Vision Statement for TBHOF

The Traditional Bowhunters Hall of Fame (TBHOF) was created to preserve and promote the rich history of bowhunters who hunt with longbows, re-curves, and selfbows. The organizational goal of TBHOF is to recognize and honor the contributions of individual sportsmen and women, adventurers, conservationists, and craftsmen, some of whom have gone before us and some that are still with us today. We hope to educate and inspire others to follow in the footsteps of these fine individuals who have done so much to promote and grow the traditional bowhunting lifestyle through their efforts and their support of the state and national organizations that support us.

Mission Statement

TBHOF has the mission of inspiring current and next generation of traditional bowhunters based on the past and current accomplishments of unique individuals. These individuals being honored will have devoted a large portion of their lives toward promoting the art, skill, ethics, and rewards of traditional bowhunting. Selected individuals will be commemorated and supported at national gatherings of the Professional Bowhunters Society (PBS) and Compton Traditional Bowhunters (CTB). Traditional Bowhunter Magazine (TBM) will promote and house a collection of TBHOF awards and distinguished items and artifacts of these honored individuals. Ultimately, a museum—either portable or facility based—will contain displays established for educational purposes to illustrate the great accomplishments of our forefathers in traditional bowhunting

Preserving our Traditional Bowhunting Heritage

Verified Organized by Traditional Bowhunters Hall of Fame Inc

Jun 27, 2026 @ 6:00 AM MDT
Add to Calendar

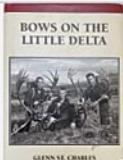
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Showing 9 Items



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Bows on the Little Delta by Glenn St. Charles
No bids yet | Starting Bid \$50

Place Bid



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Farr West Leather (Tim Roberts) Back Quiver
No bids yet | Starting Bid \$100

Place Bid



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Great Northern Pocket Quiver w/TBHOF Logo Laser Engraved
No bids yet | Starting Bid \$30

Place Bid



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Great Northern Sidekick Quiver w/TBHOF Logo Laser Engraved
No bids yet | Starting Bid \$50

Place Bid



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I Remember Papa Bear by Dick Lattimer
No bids yet | Starting Bid \$50

Place Bid



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One Dozen Custom Arrows by True North Arrows
No bids yet | Starting Bid \$100

Place Bid



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One Dozen Wood Arrows by Rick Stillman
No bids yet | Starting Bid \$100

Place Bid



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Traditional Bowyers of America by Dan Bertalan
No bids yet | Starting Bid \$50

Place Bid

TBHOF Auction June 27 - July 5

We appreciate support from Compton Traditional Bowhunters and the Professional Bowhunters Society allowing us some time at their events for our Induction Ceremony every year. We don't want to interfere with their fundraising efforts, so we are very selective about what can be auctioned for our benefit at their events. All of that is to say that fundraising by auction is very limited for TBHOF. Several generous people and businesses have offered items, but we didn't have a good way to get the word out to our community...until now.

The TBHOF Board decided to do an online auction to help raise funds for our mission. Board members gathered these great items for you bid on. The winning bidder will be asked to pay the shipping cost for the item as well as the purchase price, and those costs will be disclosed on the item. (Foreign shipping may be higher than quoted.)

Donors will also be asked to pay the credit card fees and "tip" the Givebutter platform so they can keep this free for non-profits. Those charges are optional, and TBHOF receives all of the funds whether you choose to pay the fees or not. Pre-register or see some of the items using this link: <http://givebutter.com/c/tbhofauction626/auction>.

Ishi, the Last of the Yahi

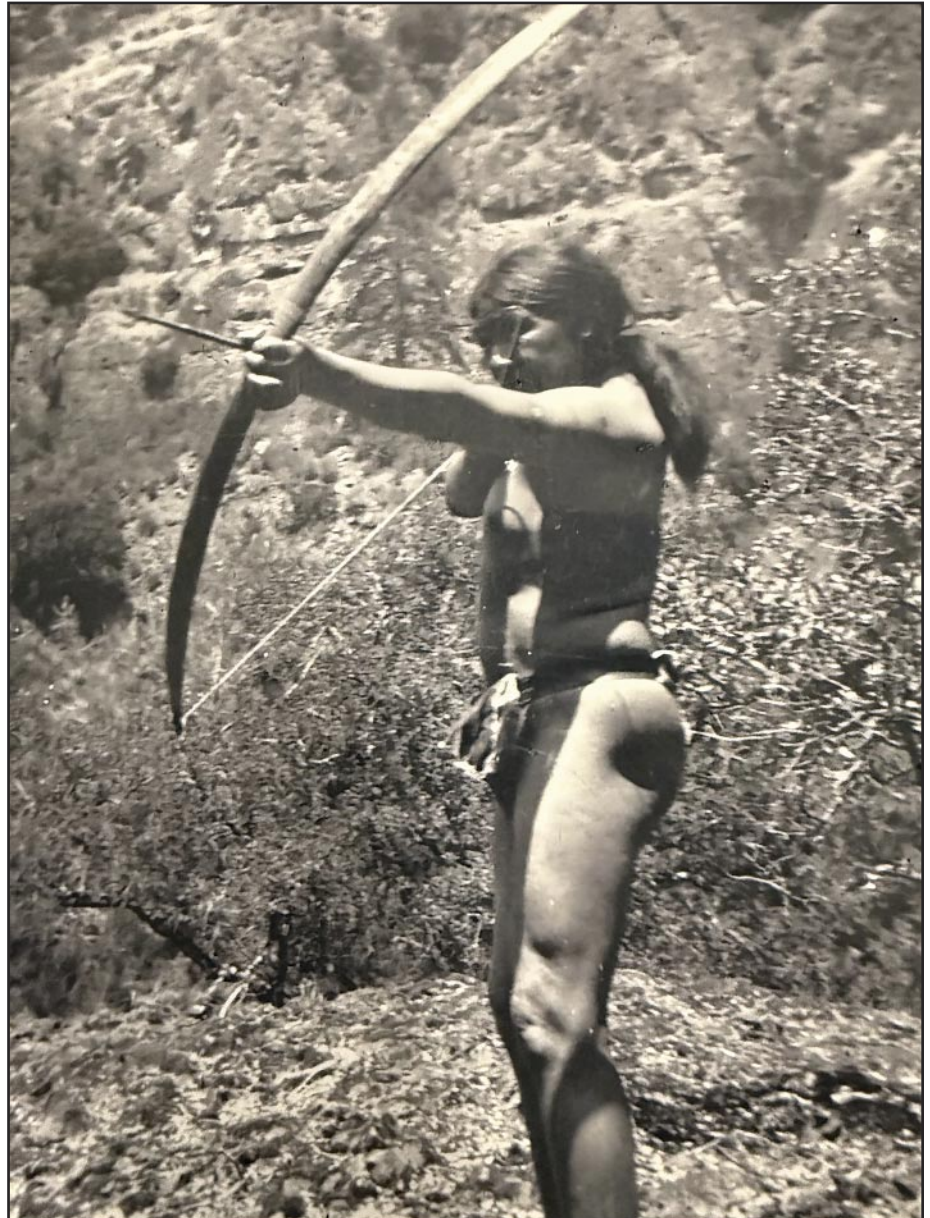
By Gene Hopkins, TBHOF Historian

A mere 55 months. That is all the time that we had to share with and learn from the last Stone Age man who came out of the rugged mountains in Northern California and entered a world of modern inventions and civilization. And most importantly to us as bowhunters today, those 55 months were spent sharing that man's knowledge of his bow and arrow with what was to become his medical doctor and his new best friend, Dr. Saxton Pope.

It all started when the man, who we came to know as Ishi, walked out of the mountains at dusk on the evening of August 28, 1911, into the stockade of a small, rural slaughterhouse near Oroville, California. Nearly naked except for a tattered shirt, starved from hunger, and scared for his life, the man was soon discovered by the slaughterhouse dogs whose barking led a teenage worker to walk outside to see what the commotion was about.

There, squatting in the corner of the stockade, the man waited for an unknown fate. His entire tribe was dead, mostly from the vigilantes and scalp hunters who had hunted them down after gold had been discovered in the California mountains. Now he was "the last of his tribe," the Yahi, a tribe that had previously been thought to be extinct for the past 40 years.

The man's fortunes would change that day. He was sent to the University of California Berkley and quickly learned a vocabulary of 400-500 words of



Ishi demonstrating his shooting style from a standing position.

English, which allowed him to communicate in his new world. He explained that his culture didn't allow someone to speak their own name, so those around

him began calling him Ishi, the Yahi word for man. The University gave Ishi a place to live within the University Museum and even gave him a job as Assis-



Calling rabbits.



Ishi's shooting style from a kneeling position.



Ishi and Saxton T. Pope.

Ishi and Pope had a good doctor/patient relationship, but things changed one morning in the spring of 1912, just 6 months after Ishi's leaving the Stone Age, when Dr. Pope looked out his office window to see Ishi out on the museum lawn shooting his bow in his Yahi style. Pope left his office to venture out and observe Ishi, asking questions about this bow to his friend. That was the moment that Dr. Pope found his love for the bow and arrow, which followed him throughout the remainder of his life.

Ishi and Pope became best friends, spending much time shooting their bows and even venturing back into the mountains of Ishi's youth. Ishi's fame drew many thousands of visitors to the museum to meet him, most notable for us these visitors included Will Compton and Art Young, who quickly became bowhunting friends with Ishi and Dr. Pope.

But Ishi's new life was soon altered dramatically when he tested positive for tuberculosis, a death sentence in those days for someone whose immune system could not tolerate all the new diseases in his new world.

Ishi passed from this world in March 1916. On his deathbed his last words to Dr. Pope were, "I go, you stay," following the Yahi belief that he was about to embark on a new adventure in the afterlife. And Dr. Saxton T. Pope used much of the knowledge that he learned from Ishi in the writing of his classic 1923 book, *Hunting with Bow & Arrow*, the book that ignited the flames of bowhunting for generations of bowhunters to follow.

Fifty-five months is all the time that they had with Ishi. But oh, what a fantastic 55 months it was for us as bowhunters!

tant Janitor with a salary.

And most importantly for our bowhunting history, the University assigned a medical doctor to care for his health. That doctor was Dr. Saxton T. Pope, a very renowned surgeon known throughout the country for his skills as a medical doctor and a surgeon.

The First Annual TBHOF Induction Ceremony



The Traditional Bowhunters Hall of Fame, Inc. (TBHOF) held its first Induction Ceremony in Golden, Colorado March 14, 2025, during the Compton Traditional Bowhunters' Big Game Classic. The event, the first annual event for TBHOF, was almost a year in the making and by all accounts was a resounding success.

The first round of Inductees included G. Fred Asbell, Dan Quillian, Jerry Brumm, Marv Clyncke, and Scott Koelzer. Scott George gave a testimonial on his friendship with Fred Asbell and T.J. Conrads gave an acceptance speech and plaque acceptance for Fred's wife, Teresa Asbell, who could not make it to the ceremony.

TBHOF's Board member and Emcee for the night, Matt Schuster, introduced the late Dan Quillian of Georgia, and Dan's son, D.D. Quillian of Georgia was there to accept his father's plaque and give a speech.

Jerry Brumm's wife, Sharon, and both sons, Bob and Adam, were there from Michigan to talk about Jerry. Bob and Adam talked eloquently about their father and his lifetime involvement with traditional bowhunting, and Sharon accepted Jerry's plaque for his nomination.



The founding members of the Traditional Bowhunters Hall of Fame, left to right: President T.J. Conrads, Vice President Jim Akenson, Secretary/Treasurer Robin Conrads, Kevin Bahr, Russell Lantier, Tom Weaver, Jim Eeckhout, and Matt Schuster.

T.J. Conrads presented his testimonial on his 40+ years of friendship and bowhunting with Marv Clyncke and Marv accepted his plaque and gave a very moving acceptance speech. Marv's wife, Judy, a well-known bowhunter in her own right, as well as their large family and friends were there as well.

TBHOF Board member Jim Eeckhout provided his testimonial on the long and distinguished bowhunting career of Scott Koelzer. Scott was there with his wife, son and his wife, as well as many friends to give his acceptance speech.

Many folks admitted it was long overdue for an organization to recognize those many men and women who have spent much of their lives promoting and hunting with traditional archery equipment. Both the Compton Traditional Bo



CTB president Bryan Burkhardt, left, and the PBS Council member Chad Slagle, right, present TBHOF President T.J. Conrads with their respective organizations' support checks.

whunters (CTB) and the Professional Bowhunters Society (PBS) presented President T.J. Conrads with very generous checks for TBHOF's mission to recognize, promote, and perpetuate traditional bowhunting. TBHOF is hoping to use some of this funding to create a traveling museum that can be driven to the many archery and bowhunting functions around the country. Many items have already been donated for such a project.

The next Induction Ceremony will be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, at the PBS Gathering March 12-15, 2026. Nominations are already coming in for the Class of 2025, who will be voted on by Electors this July. Nomination criteria, and much more, are available on the web site: tradbowhunter-shof.org.



D.D. Quillian accepted the award for his late father, Dan Quillian.



Scott George, far right, gave his testimony on his friendship with Fred Asbell, while T.J. Conrads accepted Fred's plaque for his wife, Teresa.



Montana traditionalist Scott Koelzer was the fourth inductee this evening.



Adam, Sharon, and Bob Brumm accepting for Jerry Brumm.



One of Colorado's most noted traditional bowhunters, Marv Clyncke, giving his acceptance speech.

The Second Annual TBHOF Induction Ceremony

By T.J. Conrads



The Second Annual Traditional Bowhunters Hall of Fame (TBHOF) Induction Ceremony was held in Indianapolis, Indiana the afternoon of March 13, 2026. This was in conjunction with the Professional Bowhunters Society's (PBS) Biennial Gathering that weekend. To say it was a success would be a vast understatement.

Nine well-deserving individuals were recognized for their lifetime commitment to promoting traditional bowhunting, its history and its heritage. Many of the inductees had their entire families present, as well as many of their friends. Those present for the 2-hour ceremony filled all the seats, resulting in standing room only for many guests who lined the back and side walls of the room. It was, as one of the Board members stated, humbling beyond belief at the turnout and the support from so many people who attended the event.

The highlight of the event to many of us on the Board, in addition to the dozens of family members of the inductees who attended, was the Australian contingency that accompanied our first international inductee from Down Under. Dave Whiting of Australia was nominated by several individuals who are involved in traditional bowhunting in Australia, and his credentials were impressive, to say the least.

Matt Schuster was our Master of Ceremonies and did a fabulous job entertaining the hundreds of guests, as well as moving the event along in a timely fashion.

Many people were not sure exactly what TBHOF does, or stands for, even though our website explicitly explains how



The conference room was filled to capacity with around 300 seated, and standing room only for dozens of other guests for the two-hour event.



Left and Above—Dave Whiting (holding his TBHOF Induction plaque, left) with his son and friends all the way from Australia. Dave is the first International Inductee into the TBHOF.

the organization began, who the current Board members are, and what the organization stands for. After the ceremony, and into the following two days, dozens of family, friends, and PBS Members came by the TBHOF table in the vendor room to



Founding TBHOF Board members with personalized and dated arrows generously donated by Joe Callahan of True North Arrows. Left to right: Russell Lantier of Louisiana, Tom Weaver of New York, Robin Conrads of Idaho, Kevin Bahr of Illinois, Matt Schuster of Georgia, Jim Akenson of Oregon, T.J. Conrads of Idaho, and Jim Eeckhout of Michigan

say how much they loved and appreciated what TBHOF is doing to protect, promote, and preserve the history and heritage of traditional bowhunting, not only in the United States, but the entire world.

One inductee, who initially was not going to attend, asked me the night before what he should say. I simply said just say “Thank you!” However, once he heard the other inductees’ acceptance speeches, he waxed an elegant talk himself. The following day he approached me and said he finally understood what TBHOF was all about...that it wasn’t an ego thing, that all the inductees were reserved, humble, and gracious of being inducted into the TBHOF.

To learn more about TBHOF and what it stands for, go to the website (tradbowhuntershof.org), or talk to a current Board member, and you will find out what the organization is doing, and what it is working on to protect and preserve the future of traditional bowhunting, and its unique heritage.

I want to thank the PBS and its Council for the generous opportunity they afforded the TBHOF for the afternoon. It was humbling to see the conference room completely filled to standing room only.

The Third Annual Induction Ceremony will be held at the 2027 Compton Traditional Bowhunters Big Game Classic to be held in March in Springfield, Missouri, where the TBHOF Induction Ceremony will be held on Friday, March 12th. Make plans to be there!

Special thanks to Ken Wensel, Rob Burnham, and Russell Lantier for taking the images here.