

Let's Get "TECH"NICAL

STORY & PHOTOS BY ANGIE MASSEY



Angie Massey

A woman's role as an archery technician is becoming increasingly popular throughout the United States. Years ago, a woman technician was almost nonexistent. As women are stepping into the world of archery, the professional positions are being filled by more than just men. I have been employed as a bow technician at Delta Outfitters in Vicksburg, MS for eleven years.

I grew up loving the outdoors and hunting was a way of life. Archery has always been a staple in my life since early childhood. I remember as a teenager I worked hard to save every penny I could to purchase my very own bow. It was a Darton, and I thought it was the greatest thing ever. The archery shop that I purchased it from had a technician that set the bow up for me. Although I didn't really know it at the time, the bow wasn't even set up correctly for me, the draw length was way too long I think guys just wanted a quick sale. I was the true definition as a self-taught bow hunter. This only fueled my desire to shoot more and learn as much as I could about archery. When I turned 25 years old I was introduced to competition style shooting by some friends and I have been hooked ever since. I started competing in the Archers Shooters Association circuit in 1995 in the Women's Open class. I did well in that class and moved up the Women's Semi Pro class in 2000. I eventually made my dreams come true and I made it to the Women's Pro class in 2010. For over 20 years I have participated and won tournaments all over the United States. Some of my biggest achievements have been to shoot on a professional level for Mathews Archery Inc. and to be a bow



technician. My role as a professional staff shooter for Mathews allows me to set the pace for women in archery and help pave the way for all the young girls and women that will follow. I truly believe I have the "dream job" that some people wait a lifetime to get. My job title is so much more than just a title, it is an accomplishment.

TRAINING?

Every day is a learning experience for me. With the constant change in archery equipment, I literally learn

something new every day and for that I am thankful. I try to listen watch and learn a little from others. I never want to have the mentality that I know everything because I know I never will. I was lucky enough to go to Mathews archery dealer school and learned a lot there. I toured the plant and got to meet the people that make the bows I love. I believe it is necessary to have knowledge of the products that your store carries, I love the fact that at Delta Outfitters we try to carry products that are



Angie Massie

quality products because we want our customers to have the best.

ARCHERY PRODUCTS CARRIED?

When I went to work as a bow technician I never dreamed I would get to work with some of the biggest names in the hunting industry from all over the United States and even Canada. Some of these outfitters include, but not limited to Jim

Shockey, Will Primos and Chris Ashely. I was humbled that these outfitters look to me to service their bows. I know that by giving them outstanding service and attention to detail that will give them the confidence in their equipment to have a successful and safe hunt.

Although some people don't always have the best support system, I am very rich in that area. I have my husband that also shoots for

Mathews Archery in the senior pro class. He has worked on my bows from the beginning and has taught me how to work on and fine tune my bows and not settle until it's perfect. During archery season I work long hours and he is pretty understanding that there are appointments missed, dinners not cooked and laundry that always needs doing. Eddie and Megan Buckner own Delta Outfitters and are hands down the best bosses and friends. They are very supportive of my intense tournament schedule and fill in for me when I'm away shooting.

BOWHUNTING?

Working in a hunting store and shooting 3D archery is definitely a way of life for me. Every aspect of my life seems to be about bow hunting. I try to be up a tree every evening of deer season, although it does not always work out that way, but you have to have goals. My goal is hunting as much as possible while trying to be a good employee, wife and fitting in enough practice to stay competitive in my class in 3D archery.

When results matter...

SHANE SAXTON
601-540-5040

SAXTON'S SPECIALTY BLENDS
FIELD TESTED AND PROVEN RESULTS

The best blend of food plot mixes for deer and turkey for year round nutrition and attraction.