HARRISBURG, Ill. (Jan. 11, 2013)--Kerry Jones of Harrisburg, master bow maker, inspects one of his longbows similar to the one he is building for Southeastern Illinois College’s archery team. Jones, an avid outdoorsman and bow hunter, has been making longbows for 17 years and is donating the bow to the team. Team members are selling raffle tickets for a chance to win the bow to help raise money to fund their participation in archery tournaments and to buy supplies and equipment necessary to compete at the collegiate level. Jones’ custom-made longbow will be made from Osage orange and hickory and will measure 70” -72” in length. Each tip will be adorned with antler ends, and the grip and rest will be made of quality leather.

Scott Williams from Orient, Ill., center left, is the lucky winner of a handcrafted longbow donated to the Southeastern Illinois College Archery Team by Kerry Jones of Harrisburg, far left. Presenting the bow to Williams is SIC archer and 2012 USCAA National Bow Hunter Champion Kailee Irvin of West Frankfort. Irvin sold the winning ticket. Standing next to her is Roger Snodgrass of M&R Bowstrings and archery coach for Southeastern. Raffling the bow raised $1,253 for the team and helped fund its participation at the National Field Archery Association (NFAA) Indoor National Championships held earlier this year in Louisville, Ky.