



Berrien County Sportsman's Club, Inc. Newsletter

www.bcsportsmansclub.com

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October 2009

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Well, with fall in the air, things are starting to get a little quieter at the Club, but we still have a few things to get done before Winter sets in.

The Board of Directors was told at last month's meeting that the Club had been awarded a three thousand dollar grant from the NRA Foundation. This grant was requested by the Club to enhance our Jr. Rifle program. I am happy to report that this grant allowed us to purchase four AR15 rifles and 1,000 rounds of .223 ammo for this program. I think the kids in Jr. Rifle are going to enjoy the opportunity to train with them.

Next time you visit the Club check out the new doors on the indoor range. Thanks to Larry Janke, Marty Bartholomei, Al Foster, & Frank Halik for installing them.

Larry Janke still needs help on the nominating committee for the December election. If you can help or are interested in running for office, please call Larry at (269)470-4926.

Weather permitting, we would like to hold the October membership meeting at the pavilion and cook hamburgers and hot dogs. Members are asked to bring salads or deserts.

We are exploring the possibility of up grading the clubhouse bathrooms to be able to rent the clubhouse. We can't do this until the bathrooms are handicap accessible. If you would help this project along with a donation, it can be made through the B.C.S.C. foundation, and it would be tax deductible. Please talk to Marty Prillwitz for details.
Hope to see more of you at the Club.

Jim

NEWS FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Many things are going on at the Club. The next time you come out, slow down and look around. For those who are involved with the Club on a routine bases, you know there is a lot of controversy over Campground Rules and campsite upgrades. We are trying to be fair to Campground members by enforcing the rules consistently for everyone and to make sure we are in compliance with the State Campground Rules and our Club rules.

With the fall season each year comes football games and Club elections. For most of us, one of these is a spectator sport but the Club cannot survive as a spectator sport. We must have membership involvement for the Club to function. Please consider how you might be able to support the Club.

Larry Janke is working on the list of nominations for the upcoming election. We could use new views and energy in some of these positions so give it some thought.

Something to consider when being elected to the Board of Directors or the Executive Board, is the commitment you are making to the Club. With an elected position comes a responsibility

to perform the duties of that position. A former Club President used to say that you can't fire volunteers but we depend on the activities of the positions being done accurately and in a timely manner. Not doing what is expected of me is worse than not having my position filled. With a position being vacant, we don't expect something to get done so we know we need to do it ourselves.

I understand that we are all busy so if you can't commit to a position, there are things you could do to assist someone who is holding a position. Please get involved in your Club.

There has been discussion of a celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the Club's existence but this celebration has been canceled due to lack of interest. This is very unfortunate but as stated earlier, everyone is busy. Please let your thoughts be known to the Board or President.

Gary Brumbelow
Chairman of the Board

Is Your Heart Healthy Enough for Hunting Season?

(ST. JOSEPH) – Lakeland HealthCare is offering special heart screenings for deer hunters to make sure they're ready for opening day. Set for Saturday, October 31, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., the event will take place at Berrien County Sportsman's Club, 2985 E. Linco Road, Berrien Springs.

The screening includes a 12-hour fasting cholesterol lipid panel with results on total cholesterol, "good" cholesterol (high density lipoprotein or HDL), "bad" cholesterol (low density lipoprotein or LDL), triglycerides, and glucose (blood sugar) level; and a blood pressure screen.

The screening is free for anyone who shows a current deer hunting license at registration. For those without a deer hunting license, the screening costs \$29.

This event is sponsored by HeartSafe, a program designed to evaluate the risk of heart disease and encourage healthy lifestyles. For more information, call (269) 556-2808 or (866) 260-7544.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS FROM AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

James & Ann Alderink	St. Joseph
Ken & Andrea Craft	Niles
Stacey & Daniel Demaio	Buchanan
Steve & Lisa Farnum	Stevensville
Matthew Foster	Bridgman
DeWayne & Lori Hellenga	Stevensville
John & Terry Jones	Berrien Springs
Kurt & Sharon Krueger	Niles
Bruce & Lorie Leshman II	Baroda
Ronald & Barbara Levine	Stevensville
Brad & Jodi Mattner	Stevensville
Richard & Jill Murphy	St. Joseph
Nancy & Ray Nail	Stevensville
Ben & Melissa Pancoast	St. Joseph
Don & Danielle Plichta	St. Joseph
Mariano & Lisa Reyes	St. Joseph
James & Carla Rogers	Baroda
Bruce & Jan Schadler	St. Joseph
William Schloot Jennifer Seager	St. Joseph
Ken Lee & Jessie Schneider	Coloma
Dan Sheerin	South Bend, IN
Philip & Sherri Slack	St. Joseph
Kurt & Judy Wehrmeister	Geneva, IL
Scott & Shannon Wiederwax	St. Joseph
Don & Dorothy Wilkie	Lansing, IL
Ed & Daphnie Witucki	Stevensville

Norman & Janice Zielke	Stevensville
Mark & Julie Addis	St. Joseph
Greg & Nina Molter	Benton Harbor
Matthew & Lana Sharai	St. Joseph
Greg & Jennifer Smith	St. Joseph
Jerry & Suzanne Stechmiller	Orland Park, IL

SUMMER RIFLE ACTIVITIES

This summer I held four rifle shoots. Three CMP matches and a Military bolt gun shoot .The turnout was the best it has been in a long time. I had a lot of new shooters and may have enlightened some pistol shooters to the virtues of the long gun. I think a good time was had by all, even the Match Director. I look forward to next year and would like to add a Rattle Battle if my schedule allows. Thanks everyone for your help and support and I will see you next summer.

Jason Grimm

ARCHERY

Now that the outdoor shoot season is over, I'd like to thank all of you who participated and hope to see you all again next year. I hope your archery season is going well and that you harvest a trophy this year. Now we begin to focus on the indoor leagues. We are working on revised backstop targets this year which will allow us to have a spot target league in addition to the traditional and compound leagues that we currently have. Since these leagues fill up quickly, please contact me at lljanke@comcast.net or 470-4926 to reserve your spot in one of these leagues.

We are also looking forward to our youth instructional league again this year on Sundays beginning right after the first of the year. We will run the instructional league as we have in the past but for the more experienced youth, we will have a 3-D target league for them. More

details will follow in future newsletters or you may contact me at 470-4926.

I'd like to thank Rogers' Foodland for providing the inner material for several new indoor targets that has allowed us to make them very inexpensively. Also a big thanks to Ken Conklin from Country Carpet for donating a beautiful recurve bow for use by any youth or any of the ladies out there that wish to learn how to shoot.

Nominations Committee

It's that time of the year again and we need your help to make your club better and grow. Please contact me 470-4926 or Dan Jennings 429-4656 now to get your name in for one of the very important elected positions in the club. We have openings for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and 3 Board of Director positions. We need to get this rapped up by mid October so that we can get the candidates information in the November newsletter for the membership to review before the election in December. Don't delay, call now!

FROM THE SHOTGUN FIELDS.

With that heat last month, it was easy to pass the hat to buy an air conditioner for the skeet shack. Manny Stoes helped Tom Holt remove the old unit and set the new unit in place. Tom came out and did the finish work along with replacing the outside fence on the skeet field. Thank you Tom.

Thanks again to Jack Teuteberg, again kind enough to use his trailer and truck and drive to Knox, Indiana to pick up five skids of clay targets for the club. Thanks to all the shooters and non shooters who helped unload 10,000 pounds of targets. This should carry us thru until next summer.

Manny Stoes

NRA Foundation Grant for Youth Program

By Gary Brumbelow

I am very proud and excited to announce that the Berrien County Sportsman's Club has received a \$3000.00 grant from the NRA Foundation. Not really knowing what I was getting in to, as a winter project last year, I volunteered to prepare a grant request asking for money to enhance our youth programs.

We have United States Naval Sea Cadets and Boy Scouts at the Club each year working on their firearms training programs. One of the stages they shoot is on the 100 yard rifle range with AR-15 rifles. In the past, we have had to depend on members loaning their AR-15s to the Club for this training but now, we own our own rifles.

This project was the brain child of Marty Prillwitz so, when the check was received, Marty was able to purchase the rifles at his cost. We are now the proud owners of 4 Bushmaster AR-15 rifles with scopes and 1000 rounds of ammunition. The Friends of the NRA has suggested we apply for several grants next year to continue to build our Youth Programs so it sounds like there is a new winter project in the works.

Many thanks to the Friends of the NRA and especially to John Andrasi for their advice and guidance and a very big thank you to the NRA Foundation for the generous gift.

Postscript on Grant Writing

Few people realize the time and effort it took to write a grant. There was a lot of research done, hours of time writing the request in just the correct format as requested in the Grant Forms. Then there are thank you letters, records to be done and the job still isn't done with the rifles in the safe. At the end of the year, a report must

be sent in before we can even think of applying for another grant. A huge thank you to Gary.

An anonymous grant typist

Jr. Rifle Program 2009 "Junior Shooters to the line"

The years Jr. Rifle Program is getting ready to begin! Gun Safety, Marksmanship Skills and NRA Certifications will be achieved through a curriculum of **Safety, Attitude, Knowledge and Skill**, and will be taught with experience, fun and acknowledgement of achievement. The program is open to girls and boys ages 12 and up. The first 9 wk session starts on Wednesday September 23rd with Orientation and Safety Training. Practice will be Wednesday evenings 7-9pm at the BCSC indoor range Sept 23rd through Dec 9th. Cost is \$27.00 per 9 wk session. Membership is not required, equipment is supplied and there is a discount for siblings! This year's program is certain to be educational and fun!

Update on Jr. Rifle after first night:

This year's BCSC Jr. Rifle program is off to a great start! We've registered over a dozen new shooters to the program, a nice mix of girls and boys, and they have already completed their safety orientation. Neil Hays and Al Rosinski have returned as instructors, bringing their many years of experience to the shooters. Matt Center is helping as a RSO, and I am the new chairman of the program. Please feel free to contact me at **269-683-1168** if you have any questions or interest in the program.

Watch the BCSC website for updates on the program, as we may have some sponsors or a fundraiser to help keep the program in top shape. I also hope to post photos of our shooters throughout the session to share with their family and friends. This 9 week session runs until December 9th, Wednesdays 7-9pm, then we'll start a second 9 week session on January 13th. Anyone interested, that couldn't participate this time, please plan to join our group in January!

Best regards - **Robbee Center**

From Buildings and Grounds:

Al Foster would like to personally thank **Chuck Rhodes** for all his hard work fixing and remaking shooting tables and benches on the rifle and pistol ranges. He's a new member who has jumped right in volunteering his services.

Thanks, Chuck.

COMING IN 2010

1. Berrien County Sportsman's Club will be offering a **Women's Basic Pistol Class** in March or April 2010. Check upcoming newsletters for a specific date. If you have ever wanted to take a class to become more familiar and comfortable handling, operating or maintaining a firearm, this class is for you. We will have classroom instruction with NRA Women and Men Instructors along with actual range time shooting. To register or obtain more information call Karen Brumbelow 465-6736.
2. Berrien County Sportsman's Club will offer a **Range Safety Officer Class** on February 27, 2010. If you are interested in attending this class and becoming a Range Safety Officer please contact Marty Prillwitz at 463-3472. The cost of the class will be \$25.00 plus NRA fees.

THIS AND THAT

- The Annual **Sight-In Days** are Saturday, October 31 and Sunday, November 1. Hours are 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Cost is \$5/gun. Get ready for hunting season or just sight in that firearm that keeps missing the target!
- Welcome to new sponsor, Mister Jack's Paperbacks in Stevensville.
- HOW FAR WILL LEAD SHOT TRAVEL?

Manny Stoes sent this info: On occasion the maximum distance shot travels needs to be revisited. The larger the shot size, the smaller the diameter. Shot sizes allowed on shotgun ranges vary from number 9, the smallest, used mostly at skeet. Trap shooters will use 8.5 up to 7.5 the largest diameter or heaviest size allowed. The larger the shot, the further it will travel. Shot gun ranges are laid out to accommodate these shot sizes. No other shot sizes are allowed. A French ballistics expert, General Journey, worked out the following formula. To calculate maximum distance in yards, multiply the shot diameter by 2200. This comes out to; Number 8 at 198 yards, number 7.5 to 209 yards. If a person were to use number 6 shot, the maximum yardage would be 242 yard, exceeding the safety shot fall area for many ranges. These distances can vary by wind, humidity, altitude, powder charge and elevation of the shotgun. At sea level, 7.5 shot will travel 780 feet. At 12,000 feet the travel distance increases to 1,080 feet. (Be sure to remember that the next time you shoot your shotgun at 12,000 feet). Use the 7.5 on the trap fields and smaller shot sizes for the skeet fields. Best rule of thumb is the lightest load saves money, your shoulder and the environment. If anyone is wondering what happens to the shot after it hits the ground, it's recycled. They have equipment that comes in and scrapes off the surface of the dirt, separates the lead from the dirt, cleans it and repackages it like any other shot or it's melted down. Will shot hurt you when it hits the ground? It never has me. Hail from a thunder storm can hurt more

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Director 2 yr.	Les Herrman	429-9963
Director 2 yr.	Delmar Lange	926-8221
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Director 1 yr.	Paul Adam	429-6192
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CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS.

October

5 – Range Safety Meeting
7 – Jr. Rifle
10- IDPA
12- Executive and Board meetings
14 –Jr. Rifle
15 – Pistol shooting moves indoors
20 & 24 – CPL class
21 – Membership meeting/potluck/PAVILION
28 – Jr. Rifle
31 – Sight-In Days

November

1 – Sight-In Day
2 – Range Safety Meeting
4 – Jr. Rifle
9 – Executive and Board meetings
11 – Member meeting/potluck (nomination deadline for December elections)
14 – IDPA
18 – Jr. Rifle
Please see calendar for more activities and details.