

# The Sportsmen's Club of Clifton Park

Dec09/Jan2010

Over Sixty Years Serving the Sportsmen of New York's Capital District - Phone 371-9857

Volume 22 Issue 8

Visit our website @ [www.sportsmensclubofcliftonpark.org](http://www.sportsmensclubofcliftonpark.org)

A reminder: **your 2010 annual dues are due in January**. If your dues are not paid by 1 February your gate/membership card will be deactivated. You can send your dues to Tom Herzog at 13D Rovanten Park, Ballston Lake, NY 12189 or to the Sportsmen's Club at 644 Englemore Road, Clifton Park, NY 12065

## Communications:

The Marine Toys for Tots Foundation is a not-for-profit organization authorized by the U.S. Marine Corps and the Department of Defense to provide fundraising and other necessary support for the annual Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program. Now in its 62nd year, Toys for Tots provides joy and a message of hope to less fortunate children through the gift of a new toy or book during the Christmas holiday season. Here at the club this year, we collected 11 toys plus the 9 I put in myself for a total of 20.

Last year we had 49 donated toys, the year before 41. Given the apathetic response from our 1200 members, I am not sure I will expend the effort to continue this drive next year. Not only is it time consuming, it is an embarrassment and brings negative attention to the club, instead of the kind of publicity we need. Tony Wells

Our annual elections were held at the December meeting. All officers ran unopposed and were reelected for another one year term. Elected to a two year term on the Board of Directors were Don Blakeslee, Mark Shalala, Tony Curcurito and new comer Charles Carroll. Congrats to all and thanks to all who participated in the election.

## Committee News:

**Trap:** Our weekly trap shoot continues on Sunday mornings at 9am and will remain so until Daylight Savings Time begins again in March. We are currently shooting our ATA 16 yard singles league as well as open trap. Our last Sunday shoot will be March 14<sup>th</sup>. The cost to shoot open trap is \$2.50 a round (25 targets) and all are welcome

We will be making a change this year when we move our weekly shoot from Sunday mornings when DST begins. This year, we will be holding our weekly shoot on Tuesday evenings at 6pm instead of Thursday as it has been in the past. Our first Tuesday evening shoot will be on March 16<sup>th</sup> and will continue on Tuesday evenings until the fall when Eastern Standard Time starts again.

Our ATA Doubles League will begin on February 14<sup>th</sup>.

For any question about trap shooting at the club, contact either of the Trap Committee Co-Chairman: John Donahue, email: [jdonahu2@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jdonahu2@nycap.rr.com)

John Lee, email: [jleesccp@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jleesccp@nycap.rr.com)

**Rifle:** Safety first and always.

Safety upgrades to the 200 yard range have been completed. The left side safety berm was extended the full length of the range and the back stop graded and extended to the right. The 50 and 100 yard target lines are functional; however, the 200 yard line currently has only 2 target holders installed in the center of the range. The ground is frozen to a depth below 15 inches making it almost impossible to dig. This will be corrected as soon as the ground thaws. Do not put clay pigeons on the range to shoot at.

The 300 yard range has been modified to include a 50 and 100 yard target line on the right side of the

**The Sportsmen's Club**  
**Officers and Directors**  
**effective 1 Jan 10**

**OFFICERS:**

**President: Gary LaDue** (383-0637)  
E-Mail: [cladue@nycap.rr.com](mailto:cladue@nycap.rr.com)

**Vice-President: Howard Manny**  
(381-9878) E-Mail: [hmanny@nycap.rr.com](mailto:hmanny@nycap.rr.com)

**Secretary: Jim O'Brien** (377-5706)  
E-Mail: [Jobrien@nycap.rr.com](mailto:Jobrien@nycap.rr.com)

**Treasurer: Dawn Shafer** (371-8383)

**Financial Secretary: Tom Herzog**  
E-Mail: [therzog3@nycap.rr.com](mailto:therzog3@nycap.rr.com) (899-6855)

**Past President: John Lee**  
E-Mail: [jleesccp@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jleesccp@nycap.rr.com)

**DIRECTORS:**

**Terms Expire 12/2011**  
**Mark Shalala** (372-6558)  
E-Mail: [mshalala@nycap.rr.com](mailto:mshalala@nycap.rr.com)

**Don Blakeslee:** E-Mail:  
[dondiane@verizon.net](mailto:dondiane@verizon.net)

**Tony Curcurito** (434-8032)

**Charles Carroll** (371-2823)

**Terms Expire 12/2010**  
**Mark Cady** (274-8694)  
E-Mail: [BIGM357@yahoo.com](mailto:BIGM357@yahoo.com)

**Tony Wells** (371-7504)

**David Fizer** (885-7929)  
E-Mail: [dfizer@nycap.rr.com](mailto:dfizer@nycap.rr.com)

**Jerry Smith** (877-5961)

**COMMITTEES:**

**Archery: Tim Hayner** (664-5928)  
**Tom Spagnola** (280-4941)

**County Council & Conservation Camp:**  
**Dick Haner** (584-6663)

**House: Tom Herzog** (899-6855)  
**Grounds: Jerry Smith** (877-5961)

**Kitchen: Jennifer Novak** (878-7855)

**Legislative: Fred Adriaance**  
E-mail: [fadrianc@nycap.rr.com](mailto:fadrianc@nycap.rr.com)

**Pistol: Don Blakeslee**

**Rifle: Charles Carroll** (371-2823) E-mail:  
[ccarrol@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ccarrol@nycap.rr.com)

**Trap: John Donahue** (235-5582) E-mail:  
[jdonahu2@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jdonahu2@nycap.rr.com)/**John Lee** E-mail:  
[jleesccp@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jleesccp@nycap.rr.com)

**Hunter Safety: Dennis Conrad** (899-5387)

**Website: Jonathan Williams** E-mail:  
[jon.williams@sportsmensclubofcliftonpark.org](mailto:jon.williams@sportsmensclubofcliftonpark.org)

**Plinking Range: VACANT**

**CMP: Jim King**  
E-Mail: [jk060850@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jk060850@nycap.rr.com)

range. The 300 yard target line has been improved by cutting the back stop deeper into the hillside. Target holders will be installed as soon as the ground thaws enough to dig the holes. With only four firing points, accommodations will have to be made. While all four firing points can engage both the 300 and 100/50 yard targets, priority of use for the 100/50 yard targets will go to the two right firing points with the left two for the 300. This should not be a problem, be courteous. **The 300 yard range will be closed until spring.**

**Check our website for changes to the range rules.** There have been a few. If you use the ranges infrequently, get in the habit of checking to ensure the ranges are open before you get here.

**CMP:** SCCP will host a CMP Match on SAT., MAY 22, 2010 at the Club. This is a fun shoot subsidized by the SCCP. We would like to see as many people participate as possible. CMP marksmanship certificates will be awarded to all participants together with prizes and awards.

**Fire Arms:** Any rifle with open sights - semi-auto, bolt, lever, or pump action.

**Course of Fire:** 1) 5 sighting shots – prone – 5 min; 2) 10 shots – standing – 10 min; 3) 10 shots – sitting/kneeling – 70 sec; 4) 10 shots – prone – 70 sec; 5) 20 shots – prone – 20 min. Total = 55 shots. Distance = 100 yds.

**Required Equipment:** Ground pad/cardboard; eye and ear protection; long sleeve shirt, pants, cap (protection from hot brass), ammunition, pen, staple gun.

**Cost:** \$25

**DOWNLOAD REGISTRATION FORM FROM SCCP WEBSITE**

Contact Jim King at [jk060850@nycap.rr.com](mailto:jk060850@nycap.rr.com) if you have any questions or wish to volunteer for range setup, safety, scoring, or registration.

**Archery:** The indoor Vegas league is underway with 57 folks shooting on three different days. The kids league has also started on Sunday afternoons.

**Pistol:** Ben Lazarus has resigned as committee chairman. We thank him for all his effort and work. Don Blakeslee is now the pistol chairman.

**County Council:** Our club sponsors two youngsters for a week's stay at Camp Colby in Saranac Lake during the summer. You can nominate a child or a grandchild, either male or female between the ages of 12 and 14. If they are accepted, all you have to do is get them there and pick them up at the end of the session. A week at Colby is fun and adventure. If you have someone to nominate or want further details, contact Dick Haner at 584-6663.

**Legislative:** See page 4

**House and Grounds:** We are still looking for volunteers to help out.

Contact Jerry Smith, grounds chairman at 877-5961. If you would like to help in maintaining the club house contact Tom Herzog at 899-6855. We always need help in these areas.

**Plinking Range:** The range is now open. **Please go to our web site and read the range rules before shooting and follow them.** Your co-operation will keep this range open for all members to enjoy. Clean up when you are done shooting. **Do not take target frames from the pistol range.** This is a bring your own target range. We are looking for a volunteer to be chairman of the plinking range committee and volunteers for the committee. Keep it clean, keep it open.

**Kitchen:** The Kitchen will be open during the Mar 20th and 27th Hunter Safety classes and cooking cheeseburgers, hamburgers, and hotdogs. Anyone attending the course and willing to volunteer their time in the kitchen to assist serving the students may contact Jennifer Novak at (518) 878-7855 for more information. The next few meetings we will be serving coffee and refreshments rather than dinners.

**Web site:** You are encouraged and welcome to send pictures to be placed on the web site, send them to [jon.williams@sportsmensclubofcliftonpark.org](mailto:jon.williams@sportsmensclubofcliftonpark.org).

**Old Business:** . The board of directors is still receiving and evaluating bids for a security camera system and potentially a new gate entrance system. These systems are very expensive but perhaps necessary because we continue to have folks who violate range rules. We do not want anyone to get hurt because a few members are ignoring the rules. We want them dismissed from the club. If you have any suggestions on how to manage folks not following the range rules other than security cameras please contact me. If you are willing and have the time to monitor the ranges and advise folks on following the rules please contact me. Gary LaDue 383-0637 or e-mail me at [cladue@nycap.rr.com](mailto:cladue@nycap.rr.com)

The excavating work on all the ranges is completed including the clearing of the area on the trap field, allowing for mining of lead in the future. This is consistent with our environmental stewardship plan. Thanks to Charles Carroll (rifle committee chairman) for all his efforts in overseeing and coordinating this project. Thanks also to Mike Zaremeski (Club Member) and Stillwater Ridge Excavators who did all the work in really cold weather.

As approved by the membership the club traded in our old tractor and purchased a newer used one. This will allow us to better maintain the ranges and the grounds. If you work on a committee or want to get certified to use the tractor contact Mark Shalala at 372-6558

**New Business:** All committees continue to look for volunteers to help with the club. Whether you have been a member or recently became a member you can get involved.

**Do not put targets on the target frames that extend outside the frame itself, especially at the bottom. You are only succeeding in shooting up the target frames. Help everyone out here so we always have frames to use. They are all built by a couple volunteers. The specs to build your own frame are on our web site.**

There will be a hunter safety course given at the club on Saturdays March 20 and 27 from 8:30 until 3:30. You must attend both days. Call Dennis Conrad to register at 899-5387

## 2009 in Summary

This past year we had the ranges inspected by NRA and made improvements including adding a 50 and 100 yard range for more shooting capacity. We put in place an environmental stewardship plan. The membership was capped to match shooters with our range capacity better. We standardized all the target frames for all ranges and the club provides the frames. We put forth requirements for all new members to have a sponsor who has been a member for at least three years and or be interviewed by a club officer or director. All new members must attend an orientation and tour so they are aware of the club activities, range rules and facilities before they join the club. For the first time we held a course for practical pistol shooters for those who are new to the sport. We added language to the bi-laws to allow us to manage those who violate range rules better. There is now procedures in place that allows for safe use of the trap field using hand throwers. The newsletter is now sent out every two months and on our web site saving the club money. A new web site was put in place and is maintained up to date. The club traded in our old tractor and bought a newer one. There is a training program in place for those who want to safely use the tractor.

A lot has been accomplished this past year. The Officers and Board of Directors have worked hard to improve the way we gain new members, improve the facilities making it safe and enjoyable to shoot at our club. My thanks to all of them and the many members who volunteer to make our club as good as it is.

This year we plan to put a shooting shelter at the plinking range and an outside shooting shelter at the archery practice range. We also plan to put snow slides on the pistol building, a new door on our tractor storage building and put blacktop sealer on all paved roads and parking lots. These are approved in the budget and the work is planned between now and late spring or summer.

Gary LaDue– President

### Legislative Committee Report

#### **Date Set For Court To Hear Oral Arguments In McDonald v.**

**City of Chicago** The U.S. Supreme Court is scheduled to hear oral arguments in the *McDonald v. City of Chicago* case on Tuesday, March 2, 2010.

The *McDonald* case is one of several that were filed immediately after last year's decision in *District of Columbia vs. Heller* in which the Court upheld the Second Amendment as an individual right and invalidated Washington, D.C.'s ban on handgun possession, as well as the capital city's ban on keeping loaded, operable firearms for self-defense in the home. On November 16, the NRA filed its brief with the U.S. Supreme Court as Respondent in Support of Petitioner in *McDonald v. City of Chicago*. The NRA Brief asks the U.S. Supreme Court to hold that the Second Amendment applies to state and local governments through the Fourteenth Amendment. NRA 12/04/2009

Several political groups signed Amicus Briefs as friends of the court in favor of the McDonald position. An Amicus Brief was filed by 36 of the 50 States Attorney Generals. **New York's Andrew Cuomo did not sign.** An Amicus Brief was filed by 891 State Legislators with only 2 from New York signing, Ginny Fields and Teresa Sayward. Both of them have been strong advocates for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. **None of our local legislators signed.** An Amicus Brief was signed by 309 members of Congress. Only 4 New Yorkers signed. **Scott Murphy from our local 20<sup>th</sup> District did sign.** Way to go Scott! Looks like he'll be moving up the NRA rating scale. We got a replacement for our defecting Brady Group anti-gun supporter Kristin Gillibrand. **Paul Tonko did not sign.** In all these Amicus briefs, New York, Massachusetts, Vermont, and Connecticut elected officials were notably absent.

**Town of Rhinebeck to Hear Public Comment on Zoning Plan** - The Town of Rhinebeck Town Board is currently considering a comprehensive zoning plan that includes provisions that potentially could impact local shooting ranges. If passed, strict limitations on the amount of noise emanating from the range would be put in place. Ranges would not be permitted within 900 feet of a property boundary, public trail or park, public or private road, public right-of-way, or publicly maintained road. Finally, hours of operation would be limited to 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. with the opening time pushed back to 12:00 p.m. on Sundays and state and federal holidays. A vote on the proposal will be taken on Monday, December 21. NRA 12/07/2009

This proposed change to the zoning law would affect the Northern Dutchess Rod and Gun Club. The club has actively worked with the town on conservation projects and feels that they cannot comply with the zoning proposals. This will probably go to court to determine if the Town's eminent domain rights can impose restrictions on clubs that have operated within the letter of the law.

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IS DUE JANUARY 1ST, 2010**

Dues for 2010 will be \$75.00 (Seventy Five dollars). You will not be receiving a separate mailing or invoice. Unpaid members will have there card deactivated on Feb. 1st, 2010.

To remain a member in good standing, submit you dues of \$75.00 by January 1st, 2010. Make checks payable to "Sportsmen's Club of Clifton Park". Please fill out the information on this page, remove page, and submit with payment to: Tom Herzog

13D Rovanten Park  
Ballston Lake, NY. 12019

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Check box if this is an address change

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ NRA Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Access Card # \_\_\_\_\_ (Found on the back of your card)

Want Ads

The Sportsmen's Club of Clifton Park  
644 Englemore Road  
Clifton Park, New York 12065

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 2010

Date Event

1 archery league  
3 archery league  
6 Boy scouts- club house  
7 trap, archery league, kids archery  
8 archery league  
10 archery league  
11 membership meeting  
13 boy scouts-club house  
14 trap, archery league, kids archery  
Bass masters-club house  
22 archery league  
24 archery league  
25 directors meeting  
28 trap, archery league, kids archery

March 2010

Date Event

1 archery league  
3 archery league  
7 trap, archery league, kids archery  
8 archery league  
10 archery league  
11 membership meeting  
13 boy scouts-club house  
14 trap, kids league, bass masters club house  
21 trap  
25 directors meeting  
28 trap