

The Sportsmen's Club of Clifton Park

Dec'10/Jan'11

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

Volume 23 Issue 1

Visit our website @ www.sportsmensclubofcliftonpark.org

Communications: In 2010 the club made several improvements to the facilities to enhance the ranges and do required maintenance. Snow slides were put on the roof of the pistol building, the paved roads and parking lot were done with a sealant. A covered shooting pavilion was constructed for the archery range and another for the plinking range. Work was done to fix the drainage and water run off problem at the plinking range with more budgeted to be done in 2011. Many of the ranges were hydro-seeded to prevent soil erosion, particularly on the berms. A new heating oil tank was put in at the archery building. Both septic tanks for the club house and archery were repaired and cleaned. A new tractor was purchased for club use and the garage door was replaced. The board of Directors continues to make improvements to enhance club facilities, make all ranges safe, insure our long term presence as a club and make using our club a good shooting experience.

The year 2010 also brought changes in other areas of the club. The membership approved the installation of a new front entrance gate, card scanners at the ranges and security cameras to help manage security and identify those very few members who resist following range and safety rules. Approved also was transitioning the club to a different type of not for profit organization which will allow us to be exempt from paying sales tax and defines our purpose as target shooting and education That process is nearly complete.

Moving forward into 2011, elections were held at the December meeting. Elected as officers were Gary LaDue-president, Howard Manny-vice president, Jim O'Brien-secretary and Dawn Shafer- treasurer. The following members were voted into the board of directors for a two year term: Dave Friedman and Dick Buehler who are both new plus Mark Cady and Tony Wells who have been on the board for awhile.

The budget for 2011 was approved by the membership. Three large projects planned from our NRA evaluation of the ranges and from our environmental stewardship plan have been approved in the budget. One is to build no blue sky structures for the 200 yard rifle range and the pistol range, this was part of phase 1 originally planned for completion in 2010 . Project 2 is a ventilation system in the pistol building to eliminate the lead, planned in phase 2 and three is the planting of trees near the shooting shelter at the 300 yard range for noise prevention, also part of phase 2.

As a reminder, you must pay your annual dues for 2011 by 1 January 2011 per the newly member approved change to the club bi-laws. Any members who has not insured that his or her dues are received at the club by 31 January 2011 will be dropped from the roles as a member.

Our chairman of the kitchen committee as resigned from that position due to work commitments. We are looking for a new chairman. If anyone is interested in volunteering please contact Gary LaDue at 383-0637

Committee News:

Trap: Open trap continues on Sunday mornings beginning at 9:00am and will remain on Sunday mornings until we switch back over to Tuesday evenings sometime after Daylight Savings Time begins. We may not make the switch back to Tuesdays this year until April. Once we know the date we'll post it on the website and in the newsletter. All are welcome to shoot trap, even if you have never shot trap before. Someone will be available to help out beginners if you want to give the sport a try. The cost is \$2.50 per round (25 targets).

The Sportsmen's Club Officers and Directors effective 1 Jan 11

OFFICERS:

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

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

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

Treasurer: Dawn Shafer (371-8383)

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

Past President: John Lee
E-Mail: jleesccp@nycap.rr.com

DIRECTORS:

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

Don Blakeslee: E-Mail:
dondiane@verizon.net

Tony Curcurito (434-8032)

Charles Carroll (371-2823)

Terms Expire 12/2012
Mark Cady (274-8694)
E-Mail: BIGM357@yahoo.com

Tony Wells (371-7504)

David Friedman (248-9480)

Dick Buehler (518-928-4627)
E-Mail: Richard.buehler@verizon.net

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: VACANT

Legislative: Fred Adriance
E-mail: fadrianc@nycap.rr.com

Pistol: Dick Buehler (518-928-4627)
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Rifle: Charles Carroll (371-2823) E-mail:
ccarrol@nycap.rr.com

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

Hunter Safety: Dennis Conrad (899-5387)

Website: Jonathan Williams E-mail:
jon.williams@sportsmensclubofcliftonpark.org

Plinking Range: Bill Sommers
E-mail: wsommers@nycap.rr.com

CMP: Jim King
E-Mail: jk060850@nycap.rr.com

We are currently in the middle of our Winter A.T.A. 16 yd Singles League which will run until February 13th. We will start our Winter A.T.A. Doubles League on February 27th and it will run for 6 weeks. More detailed information on that league will be in future issues of the newsletter and on the web-site.

For any other questions about trap shooting at the club, contact either of the Trap

Committee Co-Chairman: John Donahue, email: jdonahu2@nycap.rr.com ,
John Lee, email: jleesccp@nycap.rr.com

Rifle: Safety first and always.

With the range enhancements over the past couple of years, 2010 proved to be a very productive for rifle shooters. The usual hunting season rush went smoothly without the long waiting time of the past due in large part to having an additional 50 and 100 yard range available at the 300 yard range and the use of the plinking range to "get on paper" before sighting in at the 200/300 ranges. As in the past, the 300 yard range has been closed for the winter until early spring. The 200 range is still open. A card reader has been installed on the door nearest to the target shed as the only entrance. You must scan your gate card to enter. A security camera has also been installed on the building. To ensure an accurate usage count, all members must swipe their cards, even in a group, when entering the building. Do not leave the door open. The door on the left is for emergency exit only and remains closed.

CMP: The Spring 2011 John C. Garand CMP Match will be held on the new, 100yd, Multi-Purpose range located southwest of the 300 yd range. The date will be determined and announced in coming newsletters and on the Club website. We will have approximately 20 firing positions. Because there is no shelter at the new range, we are asking SCCP members and match participants to lend us camping/picnic canopies that we can erect the day before the match to provide a covered "READY AREA" and a shelter from the rain and sun. With the increased range capacity we plan to have one morning and one afternoon relay, accommodating 40 shooters. Please contact the chairman if you have a canopy to lend. Jim King - jk060850@nycap.rr.com

Archery: The Indoor leagues are up and running we have about 50 shooters. The participation has been terrific. Anytime someone wants to stop in and see what the leagues are like please feel free to stop in. Anyone interested can contact Tim Hayner

The kid's archery league which is always a huge success started 9 January. For information contact Cliff Stevens at 885-6025

The 3-D archery shoots scheduled for 2011 are as follows: 1 May, 12 June (breast cancer charity shoot), 24 July and 4 September. All ranges at the club will be closed on these days

Pistol: The Fall Bullseye concluded in November with the Hi-Lo match. The HI Lo winners were Tony Wells and Dave Friedman. Most improved

competitor was Brendan Miller. Season Highest Average Shooter was John Wax.

.The AFPL (winter traveling league) started December 6th. For more information or to join the team they can contact the club representative for the league, Ralph Morse at ralph.morse@obg.com or 518-951-6195.

Some planned projects/improvements for the pistol range as a result of the NRA range evaluations Phase 2 are funded for 2011. The projects are listed here and the club can use your help on them. Just email or give the pistol chairman a call. Once we figure out who can do what and when, we'll get the work planned and completed.

1. Installation of a Red Range Flag and Light to indicate a Hot Range.
2. Grading in front of the firing points and installation of gravel.
3. Installation of fluorescent bulb protectors inside the range
4. No Blue Sky cover. (Visual blocking of the area above the backstop)

The range flag and bulb protectors can be accomplished piecemeal, but the grading and gravel should probably be done on a Saturday or Sunday in the Spring. In the meantime, We will get the materials for 1 @ 3 in place. #4 is in the planning stage and we could use some professional help in the design and construction. We are looking for some members to serve on the Pistol Committee and to help coordinate some of the above projects. We're not looking for a long term commitment, just a little help, contact the pistol committee chairman Dick Buehler if interested.

Some shooters are using targets that extend beyond the size of the target frames. This is unsafe and not acceptable. Follow the range rules for authorized targets and shooting.

The sale of targets is holding its own. By supporting the target sales, you are supporting the range too. The Range Rules are reviewed January for any needed updates so be sure to check out the web page and the Range for specifics.

Plinking Range: The plinking range is getting attention again with members leaving shot up items on the range. It is a plinking range, approved for a wide variety of shooting. Members bring in their own targets to shoot at and clean up after they are done. This is a popular range with many members. We do not plow out the area/road to this range in the winter. However, if you do shoot there even with all the snow, please clean up. It will only stay open if everyone observes the rules and policies.

Investment Report: We started 2010 with our account valued at \$121,816.91. We finished the year at \$135,172.99. We had an increase of \$13,356.08 during the past year in the account. This increase is made up of the increased market value of our holdings. (Dividends and capital gains distributions account for \$3,870.87 of the increase.) The Board of Directors Investment Funds Policy has not changed. The funds have remained balanced to the same percentages as our original guidance to the broker in January of 2007. We made no changes to our basic list of securities during 2010. We automatically reinvest all dividends. We made no withdrawals during the year. No additional money has been allocated to the investment account from outside sources during the year. During the year end conference with our financial advisors we were advised to maintain our present balance. An in depth analysis of our holdings shows no need to make any changes at this time. Our account is managed by Robert Fazio and Thomas Schmitz of Morgan Stanley/Smith Barney. The office is located in Niskayuna, NY. A detailed statement of the account is always available for inspection at each General Membership Meeting.

Old Business: Change in status to be exempt from state sales tax is progressing. We will save money for nearly everything we purchase with not having to pay sales tax.

The project for installing a new gate and security cameras is done. There has been numerous delays due to the weather and the contractor. There are cameras at the gate and ranges. There is also card scanners located at the range buildings. You will have to scan your gate card to enter. These changes in security will allow us to identify and get rid of members who constantly violate club policies, safety and range rules. It will also give us better data on how many members use what resources so we can continue to provide better facilities for all members. The Board of Directors has appointed Charles Carroll as the club security officer to oversee camera use and identify range and safety violations.

New Business: Hunter safety course is March 19 and March 26, 8:30am to 3:30pm and you must attend both days. Seating is limited to the first 40 students. Pre-register by calling Dennis at 899-5387 or email gobler69@aol.com and use Hunter Safety in the subject line.

The club signed a contract with the town of Clifton park to provide archery instructions as part of the town's summer program in July.

Dawn Schafer who is the club treasurer and has been for several years was voted to honorary membership for her many years of service to the Sportsmen's Club of Clifton park.

Legislative Committee : Amtrak lifts ban on guns Amtrak will let passengers transport unloaded guns on trains, reversing a ban in place since the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks. The ban lifts on Dec. 15. Travelers can check firearms, including handguns, starter pistols, rifles and shotguns and up to 11 pounds of ammunition at any train station that offers checked baggage service and if the travelers' itinerary includes a train with a baggage car. Most big city train stations including New York, Boston, Chicago and Washington have checked baggage service. To transport a gun, passengers must notify Amtrak at least 24 hours before their departure. The gun must be stored unloaded in a locked, hard-sided container, the guidelines say. The gun prohibition "was an overreaction" after the 9/11 attacks, said Sen. Roger Wicker, R-Miss., who proposed lifting the ban as part of a 2010 appropriations bill. USA Today 12/02/2010

Assault Weapons and the Truth The Obama administration has nominated an anti-gun zealot as the U.S.'s top gun cop.

The Obama administration is moving into high gear in putting gun-control advocates into important government positions. The administration's nominee to head the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (BATFE), Andrew Traver, should be of particular concern. His attacks on the civilian use of so-called assault weapons raise real questions about his willingness to distort the truth for political purposes. The person nominated to be the nation's top gun cop shouldn't use inaccurate descriptions to scare people into supporting gun control. Mr. Traver is the special agent in charge of the BATFE's Chicago field division. Therefore, he knows what was covered by the federal assault-weapons ban that sunset in 2004. But in November 2009, NBC interviewed Traver and reported: "Traver says the power and randomness of the heavy caliber, military-style weapons make them so dangerous not only to people, but to police. They're so powerful, body armor can't withstand a hit, and they're so difficult to control, their bullets often get sprayed beyond the intended targets, striking innocent victims even when they're in their own homes." National Review Online 12/02/2010

Second Annual Sportsmen & Outdoor Recreation Legislative Awareness Day January 25, 2011, State Legislative Office Building, The Well, from 9AM until 1PM. Speakers include Wayne LaPierre (NRA), Tom King (NYR&PA), James Rabbia (Remington Arms) and others. If you'd like to attend, RSVP Brian Kolb, Assembly Minority Leader, kolbb@assembly.state.ny.us or call 518-455-5073

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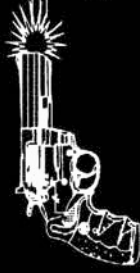
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 2011

Date Event

2 archery league
6 trap
Archery league
Kids archery league
7 archery league
9 archery league
10 membership meeting
13 trap
Bass-masters meeting
Archery league
Kids archery league
14 archery league
16 archery league
20 trap
Archery league
Kids archery league
24 directors meeting
26 private party in club house
27 trap
Archery league

March 2011

Date Event

6 trap
10 membership meeting
13 trap and bass-masters meeting
20 trap
27 trap
31 directors meeting