

The Sportsmen's Club of Clifton Park

Feb/Mar 2010

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

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Visit our website @ www.sportsmensclubofcliftonpark.org

Communications: If you have visited the Club recently, you have seen, we have been busy this winter making changes and improvements to the ranges. The majority of Phase #1 of our project is almost completed. Work remaining in our plan, for this phase, is to build a shelter for the firing line of the Plinking Range and add a no-blue –sky structure to the Pistol and the 200 yard Rifle Range buildings.

Our range improvement plans are driven by the SCCP Environmental Stewardship Plan, and the recent NRA Range Safety survey. The long term goals for our project are to improve the safety of the ranges, and prep the ranges for mining of lead.

The ultimate goal is to have ranges that are as safe as possible, for members, and our neighbors. Our plan is to bring the ranges up to the modern NRA safety standards in a step by step process. These improvements will probably take several years to complete. The object is to have ranges that incorporate all reasonable means to keep rounds from leaving a range. When we are finished, we will have physical barriers between each firing lane, a “no- blue sky” device over-hanging the shooting positions, and a bullet proof, overhead lane cover, for the first portion of each lane. There will also be a “hood” type device at the top of the back stops to help keep back stop ricochets confined to the range. Until all these NRA recommendations are completed, we will be limited to the type of shooting we can safety allow.

The Board and each Range Chairman is currently in the process of re-evaluating the range rules to make sure shooting operations are as safe as possible, with the degree of physical barriers and operational limits we currently have in effect.

We can not have shooting situations that increases the possibility of rounds leaving the ranges. The types of shooting that we must limit our ranges to, at this point in time, are fixed position, bulls eye, target type shooting. All shooting must be done from the designated firing line. Any shooting style that requires, moving and shooting, drawing from a holster and shooting, rapid fire, semi-auto or full auto, empty- the- magazine- type continuous shooting, have a very good chance of having rounds leaving the ranges, as they are presently configured.

Our current range operations on the rifle and pistol ranges are based on the requirement to use our standard size target stands, and that shooters are aiming at the targets, not the frames, or outside the frames. The target stands are a standardized height, the berms and back stops have been rebuilt to a standard height. This design will help keep the rounds impacting in the back stops.

The Board of Directors is currently in the process of studying a recommendation to re-state the “Purpose” paragraph in our organization incorporation papers, to be more specific as to the type of shooting operations we perform. The By- Laws of the club are being reviewed for possible changes to reflect more accurately the nature of how we use our ranges.

As always, your Board of Directors will study and make recommendations to the general membership before any major changes are made. Please be patient with us as we go through this process. The end result will be a

The Sportsmen's Club Officers and

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

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safer place to shoot. Thank you for your cooperation.
The SCCP Board of Directors

Committee News:

Trap: Our last weekly Sunday morning trap shoot will be on March 14th. We will begin shooting on Tuesday evenings on March 16th and will continue on Tuesday evenings until Eastern Standard Time begins again in November. All are welcome, 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).

As of this writing, we're halfway through our ATA Doubles League and that will finish on March 30th.

There are no leagues or organized events, other than open trap, scheduled until this summer. Coming up at that time will be the Club Championship shoot, the Lost Target League (non-ATA) and perhaps a Big 50 handicap league (ATA, registered targets). Watch future newsletters and the club website for more information on these events.

For any question 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

The Amateur Trapshooting Association announces the first ever \$100,000 Grand American Challenge courtesy of Bill and Lee Ann Martin! Competitors in the Grand American World Trapshooting Championships will have a chance to compete for this "winner-takes-all" purse on Saturday, August 14, 2010. During the Grand American, nine Handicap events will take place and a qualifier of each of those events will have a chance to shoot-off for the \$100,000 prize. The last shooter standing will walk away with it all!

It is estimated that 40% of right handed shooters are left eyed dominant while 80% of left handed shooters are right eyed dominant.

A problem for many shooters is wrong eye dominance and crossover sighting. This often occurs when right handed shooters have a dominant left eye and a left handed shooter has a dominant right eye.

Submitted by Mark Shalala

Rifle: Safety first and always

With the warming of the weather will come an increase in range usage. With that, will come spring maintenance. As soon as the mud season starts to dry out and the frost is out of the ground, we will finish installing the remaining target holders for both ranges. The 200 range will also require aligning the target line with the shooting line. While maintenance will be done with a minimum of interference with shooting, it may require closing the ranges from time to time. The 300 range will open after the road dries and the target holders are in place.

Several changes to the range regulations have been recently incorporated. All are related to safety issues.

Be sure to check the website for the most current information and any scheduled range closures.

CMP: Saturday May 22, 2010

Open to all - 18 or older. Fun match for rifle shooters. Relays at 9AM, 11AM and 1PM. Prizes and awards for each relay. Only restriction is no telescopic sights or red dot sights allowed – open sights only.

Download application from the Club's website or contact Jim King for details

(518) 371-7600, jk060850@nycap.rr.com.

WE NEED 15 MORE PEOPLE TO REGISTER BEFORE APRIL 15TH, TO MAKE THE MATCH VI-
ABLE..

Jim King
CMP Chairman

Archery: The archery program at the Sportsmen's club of Clifton Park is growing rapidly. I would like to ask for additional volunteers to serve on a Archery Committee. There are so many good ideas and suggestions a committee would help bring them to life for our members. Please call me @ 664-5928 or see me if you are interested in this committee. Our indoor season is ending. It has been a great year. There was 50 shooters and lots of fun. We are all looking forward to a great outdoor season. Please try to make our 3D shoots on Sunday April 18th or Sunday May 23rd (this is our Fund Raiser for Breast Cancer) if you don't shoot just come out and show your support or Sunday June 27th and our last one will be on Sunday July 25th. All the club ranges will be closed on these dates. I would also like to thank Jeff Stevens, Tom Spagnola and Chris Clingerman for all of their help during this indoor season. Also a very special thank you to Cliff Stevens and all his helpers, who did a terrific job with the kids league again this year. This is a huge responsibility and your hard work is appreciated. You are keeping kids interested and active in this sport.

Pistol: The spring bulls eye league will begin on Wednesday 21 April and run every Wednesday at 7PM for eleven (11) weeks. You must have a NY state pistol permit, safety glasses and hearing protection. This is 22 caliber, No magnification, either iron sights or red dots are allowed. \$20.00 for the season. one hand only shoot. To join contact Tony Wells at e-mail adwjc@hotmail.com

County Council: no report

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 plinking range is open. **NEW RULES** have been posted on the web site for this range and will be displayed at the range as soon as the ground thaws out. Please read them. Bill Sommers is the new chairman.

Kitchen: .The kitchen will be cooking lunch for the march 20th and 27th hunter Ed classes, April 3rd bow Ed class, April 18th 3d archery shoot, and the may 23rd 3d archery fundraiser for breast cancer. The kitchen will be offering a light breakfast and coffee at the may 22nd cmp shoot. To volunteer for any of the upcoming events please contact Jennifer (518) 878-7855. Thank you

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

Old Business: We are pretty much through getting bids for security cameras and a new gate system. Evaluation of the bids and a recommendation to the membership will follow.

Safety and following range rules is extremely important. Follow all rules and remind your fellow shooters to do so also.

Renew or join the NRA through the club. It's easy and we get a financial benefit which we pass on to members with a free one year dues paid for your NRA membership if your name is drawn in a raffle.

New Business: For those of you who reload there are new boxes at the ranges to collect brass. Once collected the brass is sorted by caliber and is available to all members free by contacting Craig Monroe at e-mail: cpgunclubbrass@6mail.com or by phone if you don't have e-mail at 878-7721.

The board of directors voted unanimously that no class C fully automatic weapons are allowed at the ranges.

The correct dimensions to build your own target frame is now on our web site. Any effort to make target frames for yourself and the club is appreciated. We still have members who shoot the frames up with birdshot and who just cannot hit the target apparently. To help build frames contact the range chairmen.

The membership passed a resolution to re-state the club purpose as part of changing it's status as a not for profit organization from the current 501C7 to 501C which exempts us from sales tax, saving the club considerable money.

Legislative Report:

U.S. Supreme Court: Oral Arguments In McDonald v. City of Chicago started March 2, 2010. Former U.S. Solicitor General Paul Clement is representing the NRA. The NRA chose Solicitor General Clement for oral argument in this case because he is one of the leading Supreme Court advocates of our time and has argued dozens of cases before the Court. In the case at hand, he has already represented 251 members of the U.S. House of Representatives and 58 U.S. Senators in filing an historic and very important friend of the court brief, which makes a strong and effective case in favor of incorporation. The Court could reach that result either through the Privileges or Immunities Clause or through the Due Process Clause (as the Supreme Court has chosen to apply nearly all of the other provisions of the Bill of Rights). NRA 03/02/2010
Along with the "Heller Case" in Washington, this Court action will have far reaching consequences beyond the 2nd Amendment. Failure to find that one part of the Bill of Rights doesn't apply to all citizens could backfire and cause the entire Constitutional Amendment process to be called into question. In other words, Constitutional Amendments and laws passed by a Central Government wouldn't necessarily be enforceable throughout the United States. This Chicago Law is using the argument that the Confederacy used. It didn't make sense in 1861 and it doesn't make sense today. States have had to ratify every part of the Constitution since 1791. Why should it take another Branch of Government to enforce that State compliance?

The Sportsmen's Club of Clifton Park
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 2010

Date Event

3 bow hunter safety course
6 trap
8 membership meeting
11 bass masters meeting
13 trap
18 archery 3D shoot (all ranges closed)
20 trap
21 pistol bulls eye league
27 trap
28 pistol bulls eye league
29 directors meeting

May 2010

Date Event

4 trap
5 pistol bulls eye league
11 trap
12 pistol bulls eye league
13 membership meeting
18 trap
19 pistol bulls eye league
21 200 yard range closed
22 CMP shoot
23 archery 3D shoot (all ranges closed)
25 trap
26 pistol bulls eye league
27 board meeting