

The Sportsman

The Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association Newsletter

April 2005
Volume 11, Number 2



DID YOU FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2005?

Don't Let This Be Your Final Newsletter.
Renew Today!

Membership Application/Renewal Form Inside.

493 Sample Bridge Road
P.O. Box 2303
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

(717) 691-9323
www.msa-pa.org

President: Charles Kemberling - 737-3326
Secretary: Steve Wetzler - 730-8634

Editor: Ron Keslar
ronald@keslar.net

Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association is affiliated with the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, National Rifle Association, Civilian Marksmanship Program, Pennsylvania Rifle and Pistol Association, Amateur Trap Association, Pennsylvania State Archery Association, Cumberland Valley Archery League, Penn Dutch Archery League, National Field Archers Association, and South-central Outdoors for Youth.

***Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association
Officers, Directors, & Chairpersons***

Officers

President	Charles Kemberling	737-3326
Recording Secretary	Steve Wetzler	730-8634
Membership Secretary	Leonard Burg	796-9366
1st Vice President	Dave Eakin	245-9664
2nd Vice President	Ron Keslar	432-9039
Treasurer	Theresa Burg	796-9366

Directors

Archery	Phil Mentzer	766-8001
Fish Nursery & Block Shoots	Dave Eakin	245-9664
Assistant at Nursery	Rusty Garner	795-1170
Firearm Safety	Ron Keslar	432-9039
Game Legislation & Habitat	Don Heckman	761-5925
Game Legislation & Habitat	Dave Still	730-7373
Indoor .22 Range	Glenn Zimmerman	766-3308
South Central Outdoors for Youth	Linda Tucker	766-7011
Trap	Dick Roth	732-0154
Fish Pond	Vince Grenkevich	732-1920
Youth Archery	Mike Rider	766-8906
Advisor to the Board	Jerry Coleman	766-2250
Advisor to the Board	Bill Bates	697-3085
Buildings & Grounds	Rich Barr	691-5856
Finance & Fund Raisers	Bob Dunn	766-0770
PA Federation of Sportsmen	Dennis Fillmore	732-3148
Calendar Coordinator	Tom Butz	432-1432

Committee Chairpersons

Kids' Fishing Derby	Bob Dunn & Jim Szabo	766-0770
Hunter Education	Dave Still	730-7373
Newsletter	Ron Keslar	432-9039
Range Officer	Wayne Conger	792-4068
Jubilee Day	Bill Bates	697-3085
.22 Rifle Team/Range Officer	John Gingrich	789-4689
Public Relations	Jerry Coleman	766-2250
Kitchen (Old Clubhouse)	Dick Kramer	732-1762
Rifle Range Maintenance	Wayne Conger	792-4068
Web Site	Rob Szivek & Carl Keslar	www.msa-pa.org

PGC HUNTER TRAPPER EDUCATION CLASS

by Dave Still

Forty-eight new hunters were certified by the Pennsylvania Game Commission at our February 2005 HTE Class. A special thanks to the PGC Certified Instructors and Volunteers who share their time and talents to make these classes successful. Participating in the Feb 2005 Class were WCO Rick Deiterich, Deputy WCO Bob Koch, Don Heckman, Eric Joyner, Larry Eslinger, Steve Trace, Jay Tisserand, and Dave Still. Special recognition is also due Dick Kramer and Mike Kimkopf for preparing lunch and to James Gilbert of Gander Mountain (Colonial Park) for generously providing blaze orange hats for each of the newly certified hunters.

MSA will conduct the next PA Game Commission's (PGC) Hunter Trapper Education (HTE) course on April 29-30, 2005. The class will accommodate up to 50 students. This two-day event is held on Friday evening from 6-9:30 pm and Saturday from 8 am to 4:30 pm. Successful completion of the PGC HTE course is required by anyone wishing to obtain a valid hunting license in PA for the first time regardless of age.

The PGC establishes a minimum age of 12 to hunt or trap in PA. The HTE program states that training young hunters to become safe, responsible and knowledgeable is best achieved if that training occurs as close as possible to the onset of the legal hunting age. Registration for the class is open to all new hunters 11 years of age or more although a valid hunting license cannot be obtained until the legal age (12 years) has been reached. Lunch will be provided by MECHANICSBURG SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION for class attendees on Saturday. Parents are encouraged to attend the HTE class with their children.

Register for the HTE class by calling Dave Still at 730-7373. Space is limited. Registration for the class will be on a 'first come' basis.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Charles Kemberling

A Happy and Prosperous Year 2005 to all members!

I hope by the time you have received this newsletter that everyone is healthy and the forever nasty winter with flu and viruses has passed -- all members should be getting ready to enjoy some time out at your club! Please take note in the newsletter of activities and events that are available to our members and families. Some of you may even find time to volunteer to help at some of the events, please read the newsletter and offer to share your time and talent!

The 2004 hunting season has passed and as always, some will have filled their tags and some have not. Rightfully so, some are saying that they did not see a deer, or very few, after spending 8 or 10 days hunting. The Game Commission has some problems and I hope for the future of hunting that the agency can identify and solve them. Experienced and wise minds need to solve some of the problems to save this tradition. If you have input on these problems, let Don Heckman or Dennis Fillmore know. They are our representatives at the State and PA Federation of Sportsmen. These gentlemen spend a lot of time at the PA Game Commission and Federation meetings.

I look forward to seeing you at the club! Remember to be a good sportsman in whatever you do. There are other people in the world besides you that would like to enjoy the outdoors and hunting pleasures that we all have. Attend our training classes, bring the young people out to participate! There are youth programs for trap, archery, 4-H Shooting Sports Club, and others. This is your club—Support it!

NRA INSTRUCTOR CLASS

By Ron Keslar

One of the major objectives of Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association has been to provide training to club members and the public in the safe and proper use of firearms. That objective is being fulfilled by the continuing addition of club members who are trained and certified as NRA Instructors.

NRA Instructor training at MSA is provided by Director Linda Tucker and Vice-President Ron Keslar, both of whom are certified by the NRA as Training Counselors in all disciplines. At various times throughout the year, Tucker and Keslar hold classes for those who seek to become instructors in rifle, pistol, shotgun, muzzle loading, personal protection, home firearm safety, and ammunition reloading.



(Above) New NRA-Certified Shotgun Instructors: (rear-L to R: Phil Snyder, Dennis Horstick, Vern Greenfield, Bud Steager, Dick Roth). (seated: Dick Cekovich, Bernie Girman, Leonard Burg II).

On Saturday, February 19, twelve instructor candidates completed the Basic Instructor Training module. On the following day, six of the candidates went on to earn the recommendation for NRA-certified Rifle Instructor. Eight experienced shotgunners finished the NRA-certified Shotgun Instructor Program on February 27. Congratulations to Dick Cekovich, Phil Snyder, Bud Steager, Dick Roth, Dennis Horstick, Bernie Girman, and Leonard Burg II for completing this course so that



(Right) Dick Roth leads the class in a practical exercise.

ADVERTISEMENTS

If you would like to have an advertisement in the newsletter, contact Steve Wetzler (730-8634)
Full Page-\$100 Half Page-\$50 Quarter Page-\$25 Business Card-\$15

ARCHERY REPORT

By Phil Mentzer

This year the archery group has been growing. We have nine 3-person teams in our inner-club league which is up from 7 teams last year. There are between 15 and 20 people shooting the CVAL League and 10 to 12 shooting the Team Invitationals. There are two teams attending the invitationals; a Bowhunter Unlimited Team and a Women's Unlimited Team. Both have won several shoots this year, and are getting ready for the Indoor State Championships at Harrisburg in April.

Anyone interested in shooting the outdoor league this summer must be at the Archery meeting on Tuesday, May 3, 2005. IT STARTS AT DARK at the Old Clubhouse.

June, July, and August will be very busy for the archers with all of our major shoots. Anyone willing to help, please contact Phil Mentzer at 766-8001; kitchen and food services are really needed! Spend a couple of hours at the club helping and you will meet some great people from all of the state and the east coast.

VENTURE CREW 100

By Rick Patrick



The Crew held a fall backpacker on the southern most section of the Appalachian Trail in PA on 11/13 and 11/14. The Crew invited a younger patrol from Troop 180 to help expose the newer guys to backpacking. The original plan was for the Crew to begin their hike 11/12 in the late afternoon at the intersection of the AT and Route 30 near Caledonia. They planned to hike about three miles and camp Friday night then meet up with the younger boys Saturday morning along route 233. Since heavy rain began Thursday night and the forecast Friday included heavy rain and near freezing temperatures with clearing overnight, the crew decided to just begin their hike at route 233 also.

This turned out to be a wise decision as Saturday proved to be a beautiful clear day. Its always a good idea to start a trip

with dry gear. This section of the trail is great for beginners, not too difficult with some great vistas. Several of the guys incorporated a short geocache side trip. The cache was found after some searching. For those who are unfamiliar with geocaching, it is like a treasure hunt using GPS, maps, and compasses. It is a fun way to develop map reading and navigational skills.

Sunday turned into another cloudless day after a cold Saturday night with overnight temperatures near 20. We ended the hike near the Maryland border at Pennmar.

Our next event will be an advancement weekend 1/28-1/30/05 near Carsonville in upper Dauphin County.



Our new meeting times are 1st and 3rd Sundays each month 7:00 – 8:00 PM in the old club house. All youth 14-20 are invited to attend any meeting to see if our organization would interest them.

PA STATE JUNIOR OLYMPICS – AIR RIFLE

by Linda Tucker

Twelve year old Elizabeth Embeck won 1st place in the Sub-junior (age 14 and under) Women's Air Rifle category at the recent State Junior Olympic Championships. The event is modeled after Olympic International style competition. The course of fire is 40 rounds standing for women and 60 rounds standing for men. Elizabeth fired the match with a junior size Walther precision air rifle which had been purchased from the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP). Elizabeth is an experienced sporter air rifle competitor and this was her first match in the international style air rifle discipline.

THANK YOU TO THE MECHANICSBURG SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION!

By Julia Mentzer
NASP Board Member

As a board member of the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) of Pennsylvania, I would like to send my thanks to you for your generous donation to this wonderful program. The money that you donated has gone to the William's Valley School District to help them get this new program underway at their school. As of last week, there were 80 schools on the waiting list to adopt this program in their schools. There are some from the greater Harrisburg area. If you would like information for your school, feel free to contact me. If anyone would like to make a donation through the Pennsylvania State Archery Association (PSAA) feel free to send it to:

Jo Ann Mentzer, PSAA Treasurer
44 Bourbon Red Drive
717-766-8001
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

**Cumberland Valley Friends of the NRA
Thirteenth Annual SPORTSMEN'S Banquet**

Saturday, April 2, 2005

Holiday Inn Harrisburg West

Cocktail Reception & Raffle Sales -- 4:00 p.m.
Buffet Dinner -- 5:30 p.m.

5401 Carlisle Pike
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Come join us for a special 13th Annual Celebration! The Cumberland Valley Chapter of the Friends of the NRA greatly appreciates your past support. We will continue to offer the best in prizes, food and good times to make this year's banquet just as exceptional. We will have the usual **large** assortment of quality firearms. This year's Gun of the Year is a very special .45 ACP Kimber Eclipse II engraved with "NRA Eclipse II" on the ejection port side and "2005 FNRA GUN OF THE YEAR" on the Kimber logo side.

We pride ourselves on having the best fine art available. We will have an original by 5-time PA Duck Stamp Winner, Gerald Putt, as well as wildlife art by American's premier wildlife artists, including Ned Smith, Daniel Smith, Jim Killen, and many others.

Dinner tickets are still only \$35 per person, \$65 per couple, \$20 for youth age 16 and under. As in the past, there will be a special drawing for a firearm just for the kids coming to the banquet.

Sponsor packages are available for \$250. For every 10 sponsors, we will have a sponsor raffle for a quality firearm. This year's sponsors will also receive 1 meal ticket, the 2005 unique Friends of the NRA Rough Rider sculpture, sponsor hat, sponsor pin, sponsor decal, Traditions magazine, and 25 tickets to the sponsor-only raffle.

NEW for our 2005 Banquet, we are offering a \$100 Shooters Package. This package includes one dinner ticket and \$100 worth of bucket raffle tickets. Tax deductible Business Underwriting Packages are available—contact Jerry Coleman or Naomi Gelsing for details. Make all checks payable to Cumberland Valley Friends of the NRA (CV-FNRA). Register now!!

___ **Shooters package @ \$100** \$ _____ **Name:** _____

___ **Dinner tickets @ \$35** \$ _____ **Address:** _____

___ **Couples @ \$65** \$ _____ _____

___ **Sponsor Package @ \$250** \$ _____ _____

___ **Youth 16 & under @ \$20** \$ _____ **Phone:** _____

Method of payment: ___cash ___check ___VISA ___MasterCard

Card number _____ Expiration Date _____ Signature _____

Jerry Coleman
49 S. Old Stonehouse Road
Carlisle, PA 17013
(717) 691-7949



Naomi Gelsing
380 Old York Road
Wellsville, PA 17365-9793
(717) 432-5795

2005 YOUTH ARCHERY REPORT

By Julia Mentzer

This year's youth archery program has been a great success! We have drastically cut the number of students attending the program and this has allowed us to give them the personal attention and instruction that they need to feel successful with the sport. On a typical Saturday morning, you will see 10-12 smiling faces eager to get their bows and start shooting. The smaller group has allowed the students to shoot a lot of arrows, and concentrate on the proper form of shooting.

This year we have also had great instructors that have dedicated their time each week to set up the range, instruct the students, and tear down the range. Without these individuals, the program could not be such a success.



2005 CHILDREN'S FISHING DERBY

by Bob Dunn

Our annual Fishing Derby will be held on Saturday, April 23, 2005, weather permitting, of course. Just like Jubilee Day, we have never been rained out! That's not to say that we haven't had rain, but we never had enough to turn the event.

Safari Club International, specifically the Blue Mountain Chapter in Harrisburg, is once again our "Blue Ribbon Corporate Sponsor".

There will be our usual small pond set up in our parking lot for tots through age 5, and as usual, it will be filled full of trout!

Lots of prizes, gifts, awards and food! Don't miss this outstanding event for the youth of our community—ages up to 11 may attend.

For more information or if you'd like to volunteer to help out, contact Bob Dunn, Chairman, at 776-0770.

Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association
P.O. Box 2303, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Membership Application

To submit this application:

Bring this application with a check or money order to the General Membership Meeting
(1st Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.).

OR

Mail this application to with a check or money order to:

Leonard A. Burg
6358 Bennington Road
Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

Make Check or Money Order Payable to Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association.

New applications are voted on at the General Membership Meeting. Membership credentials are sent out after the meeting. Membership begins when you receive your credentials. Please check your application before submitting; incomplete or missing information may delay processing your membership.

**For additional information, call Leonard Burg (717) 796-9366 or
(717) 691-9323 for club information. Visit our web site at www.msa-pa.org.**

MSA NEEDS YOU. PLEASE VOLUNTEER.

As a member of this club, you get to use great facilities for the shooting sports and much more. Your membership dues are only part of the funds needed to pay for the operating expenses of the club. It would be greatly appreciated for every one of our members to volunteer to help at one of our fundraising events or help with the maintenance. You will have the opportunity to meet other members and the satisfaction of working to improve your club.

Will you answer the call and volunteer to work in one or more of the following areas?

Donations are accepted in lieu of volunteer work. See other side of application.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children's Fishing Derby | <input type="checkbox"/> Block Shoots |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Carpentry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grounds-keeping | <input type="checkbox"/> Electrical |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hunter Education Class Instructor | <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Nursery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jubilee Day at Mechanicsburg | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawn Mowing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kitchen / Food Stand Help at Club Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Masonry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Field Day | <input type="checkbox"/> Rifle Range Maintenance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Work Party | <input type="checkbox"/> Trap Shoots |

CLUB ACTIVITIES: Please check up to three activities.

- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archery / Competitive | <input type="checkbox"/> 3-D Shoots | <input type="checkbox"/> Hunting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior .22 Caliber Team | <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Fish Nursery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior .22 Caliber Team | <input type="checkbox"/> Trap | <input type="checkbox"/> Block Shoot |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High Power Rifle Competition | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Rifle | <input type="checkbox"/> Black Powder |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor Center Fire Pistol Range | | |

Continued on other side.

Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association
PO Box 2303 Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

NEW APPLICATION RENEWAL APPLICATION CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Renewals are due by February 15 each year to avoid a \$15.00 reinstatement fee.

*** Required Information**

*NAME: _____ *BIRTHDATE ____/____/____
*ADDRESS: _____
*CITY/TOWN: _____
*STATE: _____ *ZIP CODE: _____
*PHONE: _____
EMAIL ADDRESS: _____
*APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: _____

Check here if you want a newsletter mailed. Newsletter and club events calendar are available on the web at www.msa-pa.org.

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

*SPOUSE NAME: _____ *BIRTHDATE ____/____/____
List children age 17 and younger. List additional children on separate paper.

*CHILDS NAME: _____ *BIRTHDATE ____/____/____
*CHILDS NAME: _____ *BIRTHDATE ____/____/____
*CHILDS NAME: _____ *BIRTHDATE ____/____/____
*CHILDS NAME: _____ *BIRTHDATE ____/____/____

- \$15.00 Initiation Fee:** Required for new membership or late renewal.
- \$35.00 Adult Membership:** Age 18 and older.
- \$50.00 Family Membership:** Includes member, spouse, and children age 17 and younger
- \$5.00 Junior Membership:** Ages 12 to 17. No initiation fee.
- \$15.00 Spouse:** Life/Honorary Life members add your spouse. Annual fee.
- Active Duty Military & Life Memberships Available:** Contact Membership Secretary.
- \$10.00 Clubhouse Key:** For the indoor archery and .22 rimfire range. Not available to Junior Members. This does not include the indoor centerfire pistol range.
- \$3.00 Club Patch**
- Donation:** \$ _____ In lieu of volunteer work.
- \$35.00 Join / Renew NRA Membership:** One-year membership.
Renewal-provide NRA ID#: _____ Choose one magazine:
____ American Rifleman ____ American Hunter ____ America's 1st Freedom ____ Woman's Outlook
- \$15.00 Join / Renew NRA Junior** (18 years and younger): One-year membership.
Renewal-provide NRA ID#: _____ Junior members receive Insights Magazine.

Make Check or Money Order Payable to Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association

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MECHANICSBURG 4-H & AMERICAN LEGION YOUTH RIFLE TEAM NEWS

By Linda Tucker

The major championship season for state level three position air rifle is March through mid-May. The teams are scheduled to participate in three-position State Jr. Olympics in Dubois, NRA State Championships in Trevorton, NRA Three Position and International Air Rifle Sectionals at Palmyra, and the state American Legion Tournament in Harrisburg.

Ten youth ages 11 to 18 participated in the NRA Four-position Smallbore Sectional Championships at Alexandria (near Huntingdon) and the NRA Three-position Smallbore Sectional Championships at Ontelaunee Rod & Gun (near New Tripoli). Two youth also participated in the Open Four-position Sectional Championship in Lebanon. Our highest scoring 4-position shooter was Jared Taylor and our high scoring three-position shooter was Todd Rine. In our subjunior shooter category (under 14), Elizabeth Embeck turned in our highest four-position score and Cody Enders was our high three position shooter.



We appreciate the support of the Mechanicsburg members and our partner organizations as we develop structured educational, recreational and competitive youth shooting sports programs and opportunities. Our adult coaches and leaders are active members of shooting sports organizations and we

participate in continuing education opportunities to develop high quality and up-to-date youth programs. We emphasize safety and our programs are designed to promote skill building for youth in self-discipline, responsibility, planning, concentration, team work, sportsmanship, and marksmanship.

Basic youth muzzle loading rifle and air pistol classes will be scheduled this summer--schedule will be posted on the club web site.



TRAP NEWS

By Dick Roth

With the current weather not being the best, we are looking forward to our spring shooting. The Central Penn League is coming to a close with Carlisle and Enola clubs running neck and neck in the standings.

The Carlisle summer league begins mid-April, and our club starts a Doubles league on March 17th. The summer league starts April 21-- our summer picnic is on August 6th -- along with open shooting all spring and summer. Hope to see you for these events!

April 2005

Sat 2	.22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon* Friends of the NRA Banquet-4:00 pm Boy Scout Merit Badge, 8 am-3 pm %	Mon 18	Youth Trap, 7:00 pm Block Shoot, 7:00 pm
Mon 3	Youth Trap, 6:00 pm Block Shoot, 7:00 pm	Tue 19	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*
Tue 5	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm* Archery Club Meeting*	Thu 21	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7 pm-9 pm*#
Wed 6	General Membership Meeting-7:30 pm%	Sat 23	Children's Fishing Derby, 9 am-2 pm
Thu 7	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7 pm-9 pm*#	Mon 25	Youth Trap, 7:00 pm Block Shoot, 7:00 pm
Sat 9	.22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon* Boy Scout Merit Badge, 8 am-3 pm %	Tue 26	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*
Mon 11	Youth Trap, 7:00 pm % Block Shoot, 7:00 pm	Wed 27	Directors' Meeting, 7:30 pm%
Tue 12	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*	Thu 28	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7 pm-9 pm*#
Thu 14	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7 pm-9 pm*#	Fri 29	Hunter Ed, 6 pm-9:30 pm %
Sat 15	.22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon*	Sat 30	.22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon* Hunter Ed, 6 pm-9:30 pm %

*Indoor .22 range closed #Indoor archery range closed
%Indoor pistol range closed @ 100 Yard Range closed

May 2005

Mon 2	Youth Trap, 7:00 pm	Tue 17	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*
Tue 3	Archery Club Meeting* .22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*	Thu 19	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm*#
Wed 4	General Membership Meeting, 7:30 pm%	Sat 21	Southcentral Outdoors for Youth club grounds closed all day
Thu 5	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm*#	Sun 22	NRA High Power Rifle Match, 9-4@
Sat 7	.22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon* Boy Scout Merit Badge 8 am-3 pm%	Mon 23	Youth Trap, 7:00 pm
Mon 9	Youth Trap, 7:00 pm	Tue 24	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*
Tue 10	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*	Wed 25	Directors' Meeting, 7:30 pm%
Thu 12	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm*#	Thu 26	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm*#
Sat 14	.22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon* Archery-Penn Dutch Field & Hunter	Sat 28	.22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon* Youth High Power Rifle Clinic, 9-4% 100 yd range closed, 11 am-4 pm
Sun 15	Archery-Penn Dutch Field & Hunter	Mon 30	Youth Trap, 7:00 pm
Mon 16	Youth Trap, 7:00 pm		

JOIN THE NRA

by Leonard Burg

Show your commitment to defend the Second Amendment. Join the National Rifle Association. Membership in the NRA has many benefits including a subscription to one of four great NRA monthly magazines. \$1000.00 in firearms insurance coverage, and a wide variety of discounts and special offers from many national companies, and much more! Most important, you will be doing your part in defending our Right to Keep and Bear Arms. Join through our club and MSA benefits, also. Adult and Junior NRA Memberships are available through MSA. Contact me at 796-9366 (evenings) to learn how you can join the NRA through MSA.

June 2005

Wed 1	General Membership Meeting, 7:30 pm%	Thu 16	Jubilee Day
Thu 2	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm*#	Sat 18	.22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon*
Fri 3	NFAA Mid-Atlantic Sectionals <u>all club</u>	Tue 21	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*
Sat 4	NFAA Mid-Atlantic Sectionals <u>grounds</u>	Thu 23	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm*#
Sun 5	NFAA Mid-Atlantic Sectionals <u>closed</u>	Sat 25	.22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon*
Tue 7	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm* Archery Club Meeting*	Tue 28	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*
Wed 8	District Attorney's Institute%	Wed 29	Directors' Meeting, 7:30 pm%
Thu 9	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm*#		
Sat 11	.22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon* Boy Scout Merit Badge, 8 am-4 pm%		
Sun 12	NRA High Power Rifle Match, 9 am-3 pm@		
Tue 14	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*		*Indoor .22 range closed

Indoor archery range closed

% Indoor pistol range closed

@ 100-yard range closed

MSA 2005 MENTORED YOUTH PHEASANT HUNT

by Dave Still

The Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Protective Association (MSPA) in association with the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) will conduct its third annual Mentored Youth Pheasant Hunt, tentatively scheduled for early October, to coincide with the PA Game Commission's Youth Pheasant Hunt. This year we are going to try a new approach to the program building on the experiences of the club's two previous outings.

First, the field day and the hunt will be combined into one day instead of two field days and the day of the hunt (3 days). This is being done to lessen the number of conflicts with other competing activities such as soccer and football. Second, the club will provide lunch as part of the hunt activities. Third, the hunt will be limited to 8-10 **first-time** youth hunters. Fourth, club members will have primary access to the MSPA hunt.

On the day of the hunt each registered participant will have the opportunity to shoot a round of 25 clay birds at the MSPA's automatic trap ranges and gain valuable instruction from experienced MSPA NRA Certified trap shooters. Participants will also get to meet several of the dogs, both pointing and flushing, that will accompany them on their hunt and gain valuable instruction on how to approach the different types of hunting dogs for a safe shot.

The participants will also have an opportunity to participate in an organized Mock Hunt where live pheasants, both male and female, were launched to simulate what hunters may see in the field. We also used this opportunity to discuss 'shoot-don't shoot' scenarios, zones of fire, how to hunt 'in line' and how to walk up on a pointing dog.

Register early to take advantage of this opportunity and watch for details in MSPA newsletters and the website.

INDOOR CENTER-FIRE PISTOL RANGE RENEWALS

By Ron Keslar

Current key holders may renew their range privileges by sending a check in the amount of \$10 (made payable to Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Assn) to Ron Keslar, 47 Barrens Church Road, Dillsburg, PA 17019.

Members interested in obtaining a first-time key to the range may contact either of the club's Chief Range Safety Officers to schedule a range safety briefing: Linda Tucker (766-7011, TuckerLHBG@aol.com) or Ron Keslar (432-9039, ronald@keslar.net). Briefings are generally held immediately following the monthly membership meeting.

BOY SCOUT SHOTGUN MERIT BADGE PROGRAM

by Leonard Burg

Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association welcomes Scouts who want to acquire the knowledge and skills to earn their BSA Shotgun Merit Badge.

Instruction will be held one day a week: Mondays, at 7:00pm. Spring session will begin April 4th through May 23rd. We will meet on the trap range. **Parent, Guardian or Adult Leader must accompany their scout(s) on club grounds.** We will be in co-ordination with the Youth Trap Program sponsored by MSA. We start with gun safety and get right into the shooting skills requirement. Parent or guardian may shoot with their scouts.

Requirements

The scout must complete the requirements 1 and 2, option A, as listed in the Shotgun Shooting Merit Badge Book. A worksheet for the requirements will be provided. To qualify for the shooting skills, the scout must hit at least 24 out of 50 targets (two 25-target rounds). The two rounds do not need to be shot in consecutive order.

Scouts Responsibilities

Scouts must bring the blue Merit Badge Card signed by the Scout Master.

Scouts are responsible for bringing their own BSA Shotgun Shooting Merit Badge Handbook.

Scouts are responsible to complete homework assignment (reading and worksheet).

Scouts must provide their own eye and hearing protection.

Scouts may bring their own shotgun, as long as it is in safe working order. (BSA requires that it be certified by a gunsmith).

Scouts are responsible to bring their own shot shells.

Scouts are responsible for transporting themselves to/from the course. (An Adult Leader from your Troop is responsible to file a tour permit with Keystone Area Council, as needed)

Scout must conduct himself by the Scout Law at all times and follow all safety rules and instruction or will not complete the course.

Materials/Equipment

A Shotgun Merit Badge Worksheet will be provided. Youth sized 12 and 20-gauge shotguns will be available for those who do not bring their own. There is a \$1.50 charge per 25 clay birds. Shot shells will be available at MSA for a fee.

Registration/Information

Parent or guardian must contact Len Burg at 796-9366 to register their scout. Contact Dick Roth at 732-0154 for information on the Youth Trap Program. Visit MSA on the web at www.msa-pa.org.

SOUTHCENTRAL OUTDOORS FOR YOUTH

By Linda Tucker

Our youth field day for youths age 6 to 17 will be held on Saturday, May 21st from 7:00 a.m. to approximately 3:30 p.m. The club grounds will be closed to all other activities during the event.

The youth registration form is available on our web site at www.msa-pa.org. Please return the registration form to the address indicated on the form by April 15.

Volunteers are needed for registration, serving food at lunch time, assisting as a group leader by leading groups of youth to each station, assisting with muzzleloader, 22 rifle, BB gun, & archery. Youth are signed in and organized into groups from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m., and the events begin at 8 and conclude at 3:00 p.m when prizes are awarded. Volunteers and donations are needed for the events. Please contact Linda Tucker at email TuckerLHBG@aol.com if you can assist at the event.

YOUTH TRAP

By Dick Roth

Our Monday night youth shoots have been hampered with bad weather, but we are getting back to shooting with the parents' help for the rest of the winter until the baseball, soccer, and other spring events steal the young ones away from us. See you on Monday evenings!

BIG BUCK CONTEST

By Ron Keslar



Each year, Harrisburg Hunters' & Anglers' Association conducts a contest to determine who has taken the biggest buck deer in the area. For the 2004-05 hunting season, Mechanicsburg's own President, Charlie Kemberling, won HHA's Senior Division with a deer sporting antlers with ten points! Charlie used his .308 Remington Model 760 to down the buck on the second day of the season. The deer dressed at 150 pounds and was shot at 125 yards at Charlie's Huntingdon County camp. Congratulations, Charlie!

Photo at left: Linda Tucker (Member of the Harrisburg Hunters' & Anglers' Board of Directors) presents the Harrisburg Big Buck Award to Charlie Kemberling, President of Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association.

FISH NURSERY

By Dave Eakin

We are starting into our busy time of year for the nursery. We have stocked the pond over the winter and will now start stocking the streams for the spring season. Posted below is the stocking schedule for our nursery. The fish will be very nice again this year thanks to the time donated by all of our fish feeders and their dedication to making sure our fish get big and fat. Anyone wishing to help at any of the stockings or other functions please contact me.

Stocking Schedule

(on regular stocking nights meet at nursery between 5:00 and 5:30 pm.)

4/13/05	Wednesday	Trindle Springs and Yellow Breeches (McCormick Road)
4/14/05	Thursday	Hogestown Run and Club Pond—Pond closed until 8 am Saturday 4/16
4/22/05	Friday	Set up fish tank and stock pond
4/23/05	Saturday	Stock fish tank and monitor for Children's Fishing Derby
4/27/05	Wednesday	Trindle Springs and Yellow Breeches
4/28/05	Thursday	Hogestown Run
5/11/05	Wednesday	Trindle Springs and Yellow Breeches
5/12/05	Thursday	Hogestown Run and Club Pond
5/20/05	Friday	Set up fish tank
5/21/05	Saturday	Stock fish tank and monitor for South Central Outdoors for Youth
5/25/05	Wednesday	Trindle Springs and Yellow Breeches
5/26/05	Thursday	Hogestown Run
6/08/05	Wednesday	Trindle Springs and Yellow Breeches (Depending on # of fish left)
6/09/05	Thursday	Hogestown Run (Depending on # of fish left)
6/15/05	Wednesday	Set up Fish Tank
6/16/05	Thursday	Stock fish tank and monitor all day for Jubilee Day (Need helpers all day)

CHILD GUN SAFETY: Teach your children that if they see a gun, they should
STOP! DON'T TOUCH.
LEAVE THE AREA. TELL AND ADULT.
Support the NRA's Eddie Eagle Gun Safety Program!

NRA/4H NATIONAL POSTAL MATCH AWARDS

By Linda Tucker

Annually, the NRA holds a national postal match for 4-H Shooting Sports members. The 2004 national results were recently published. Twelve year old Elizabeth Embeck won 1st place in the Junior Smallbore competition, 16 year old Lara Gingrich won 5th place in Senior Smallbore, and twelve year old Amanda Stockton won the 5th place award in Junior air rifle.

NORTHERN BOBWHITE QUAIL & RINGNECK PHEASANT PROPAGATION PROGRAM

by Dave Still

Although it's snowing outside right now, the first 240 Bobwhite quail eggs have been set for incubation in the first phase of our 2005 Propagation Program. This year we are adding Ring Neck Pheasants to the 'raise-n-release' program and are looking to develop sustainable habitat areas throughout the club grounds.

A series of feeders was placed throughout the club area to assist previously released birds through the winter months. If you come across one of these feeders, please do not disturb the feeder or the area around it. Recent sightings of northern bobwhite quail on club grounds were reported in late January and early February. This is exciting since the last birds released onto club grounds were in October so the birds have managed to sustain themselves for several months! **A reminder that Bobwhite quail are currently a protected game bird species in Cumberland and surrounding counties and it is illegal to harm or kill these birds on public or private property.**

Habitat improvement proposals for ground nesting game birds such as quail and pheasant have been discussed and a Habitat Master Plan is being developed as part of the club's timbering proposal. The Forester is to develop habitat recommendations consistent with club activities and the potential logging plan. If you would like to volunteer to help with any future habitat program(s) approved by the club, please contact Don Heckman or myself.

NOTICE

2005 INDOOR ARCHERY / .22 RIMFIRE RANGE KEYHOLDERS

Some of our members reported they are having a problem with their 2005 Indoor Archery/.22 Rimfire Range Key. The key will not fully insert into the lock, or will not turn the lock. Some of the keys for this lock were incorrectly made.

IF YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH YOUR 2005 KEY, STOP. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU ARE USING THE 2005 KEY, (ILCO 999A Y2 STAMPED ON A ROUND HEAD). DO NOT FORCE THE KEY. YOUR KEY WILL BE EXCHANGED.

To exchange your key, you must return the 2005 defective key to:

Len Burg c/o
Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association
P.O. Box 2303
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Include your name, address, and membership number found on your Membership Card. The new key will be mailed to you.

OR

Bring the key to the Membership Meeting held the first Wednesday of each month, at 7:30pm, in the clubhouse opposite the Trap Field.

The key will be exchanged at the meeting.

REMEMBER AND USE THE NRA'S THREE RULES OF GUN SAFETY

Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.
Always keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.
Always keep the gun unloaded until ready to use.

2005 HIGH POWER RIFLE SCHEDULE

by Ron Keslar

In 2005, Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association will hold five National Rifle Association-approved conventional high power rifle matches. In addition, the Annual Memorial Day Youth High Power Rifle Clinic will be held on Saturday, May 28, 2005; pre-registration is required for the clinic; limited space will be available for interested adults.

50-shot matches will be held on May 22, June 12, July 4, August 14, and September 11, 2005. Relays are called to the 100-yard firing line at 9:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Pre-registration will assure competitors of a position; otherwise, register at the new clubhouse after 8:30 a.m. on the day of the match.

If you haven't fired in NRA high power rifle competition, come on out and watch! If you are new to this sport, we'll help you learn. This is the event that is fired at the Camp Perry National Championships each year. The rifles most commonly used are the M1 Garand, the M1A, and the AR-15. You may also bring any iron-sighted military rifle, such as an Enfield, Springfield, Mauser, SKS, etc.

This National Match Course is fired in four stages: 10 shots in ten minutes (standing), 10 shots in sixty seconds (sitting rapid fire), 10 shots in seventy seconds (prone rapid fire), and 20 shots in 20 minutes (prone slow fire).

MSA is a Civilian Marksmanship-affiliated club; participation at a match meets one of the requirements for buying an M1 Garand from the CMP. A limited number of M1 Garands and AR-15 type rifles are available for use at our matches by anyone without a rifle-juniors have first preference; rifles and ammunition are furnished to juniors at no cost. Matches are co-sponsored by North Harrisburg American Legion Post 1001. See the MSA web site for more information and to register on-line, or contact Ron Keslar at 432-9039, ronald@keslar.net.



DID YOU KNOW...?

by Leonard Burg

- You must display your membership card while on MSA grounds.
- You are required to sign in when you use the outdoor rifle or indoor ranges. Sign-in sheets are located at each range.
- You must obey all MSA Rules, Regulations and By-Laws while on club property. Rules and Regulations are posted by both club houses. Rules pertaining to safety are posted at the ranges. Bylaws have been mailed to all members. If you did not receive a copy, please contact me at 796-9377, evenings. Failure to comply may result in suspension of your membership.
- Junior Members under the age of 12 are not issued a membership card. They must be accompanied by their parent or guardian (who must be a member of MSA)
- Fishing in our pond is for MSA Members only. You must have a valid PA fishing license.
- Club membership is on a calendar year, and expires December 31. The gate combination and indoor range (clubhouse) locks are changed February 15. You must renew your membership by February 15 to avoid a \$15.00 reinstatement fee.

BLOCK SHOOTS

By Dave Eakin

Block Shoots run every Monday night through the end of April. Then we start up again the first Monday after Labor Day in September. Sign-ups start between 6:30 and 7:00, shooting starts between 7:00 and 7:30. You bring the gun and we will provide the shells (12 gauge only). Still \$1.00 a shot plus a \$1.00 for the money round. Come out for a chance to win some really nice meat prizes from KARN's. Big thanks to all of our helpers that make the block shoot such a good money maker for the club. Without those helpers donating their time the block shoots wouldn't run so well or be so well attended. I'm still looking for new helpers who want to work in the blockhouse setting, marking, or judging blocks. We really need to get some new people trained on how to do those things if we want the block shoots to continue in the future.

**The Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association
P.O. Box 2303
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055**

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STANDARD
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HARRISBURG, PA
PERMIT NO. 132

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

by Leonard Burg

Do you or someone you know forget to renew their MSA membership for 2005? Don't let this be your final news-letter. The gate combination and indoor range keys were changed on February 15, 2005. Renew today! See the center for Membership Application / Renewal form. Renewal forms are also available on the website www.msa-pa.org.

A one day MSA Guest Membership Pass is available for \$5.00. If your guest joins the club, send the guest pass along with the application, and the \$5.00 will be applied toward their membership fee. Remember, all guests must be accompanied by a MSA member, while on club property. Contact any MSA Officer or Director for a Guest Pass.

Great Gift Idea! Club membership makes a great gift for those you love. Consider a gift membership for Father's Day, Mother's Day, Graduation Day, or any special occasion. Contact me at least two weeks in advance, so your gift membership can be processed timely.

Contact me at 796-9366, evenings, if you have any question regarding Club Membership.

2005 JUBILEE DAY

by Bill Bates

Jubilee Day will be Thursday, June 16, 2005. Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association will have a stand set up at our same location in front of Clay's Exxon station on West Main Street in Mechanicsburg. There will be a special mailing of Jubilee Day tickets in April. We will need help setting up and tearing down the club stand. Also, we will need help to run the stand during the day and evening. If you are available and would like to help out, please contact Bill Bates at (717) 697-3085 or e-mail at ajbates@pa.net and let me know what hours you are available. Your help would be greatly appreciated!