

# The Sportsman

The Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association Newsletter

January 2005  
Volume 11, Number 1

May Your Holiday Season Be Filled With Peace and Happiness!



## **IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2005**

IMPORTANT RENEWAL INFORMATION  
and APPLICATION INSIDE.

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

(717) 691-9323  
[www.msa-pa.org](http://www.msa-pa.org)

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

Editor: Ron Keslar  
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**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
Advisors to the Board	Jerry Coleman	766-2250
	Bill Bates	697-3085
Buildings & Grounds	Rich Barr	691-5856
Finance & Fund Raisers	Bob Dunn	766-0770

**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

**BLOCK SHOTS**

*By Dave Eakin*

Every year the second set of block shoots run from the first Monday after Labor Day until the Monday of Thanksgiving week. The Monday of the week before Thanksgiving is our Turkey Shoot. We take the month of December off and begin the first block shoots of the year on the first Monday in January. The shoots run every Monday through the end of April. Sign-ups begin at 7:00 pm-shooting starts around 7:30 except for the Turkey Shoot which is an hour earlier. 12 gauge shotgun only with 32" barrel limit and we provide the shells. Prizes are all meat prizes from Karns except for the Turkey Shoot which is all frozen turkey prizes (shooters won 81 turkeys at our November 15 Turkey Shoot!). We have a number wheel that we spin where you can win meat prizes also. We run 4 rounds-\$1.00 a shot, except for the Turkey Shoot which is \$1.50 a shot. There are pie boards you can sign for \$1.00 a square where you can win some large meat prizes. We also have a money round every week except for the Turkey Shoot night. The money round is \$1.00 with the chance to win at least \$100. First place winners from each round get an extra shot at end of night to try to win the money. The kitchen opens early and has some great food for those who want to have dinner or just a snack. We are always looking for new helpers, especially for the block house. If anyone wants to come out Monday to help, please contact me. Thanks to all those who do help, it is greatly appreciated. The Block Shoots are a lot of fun and a great source of income for our club. So please come on out Monday to support your club, try to win some of the very nice Karns meat prizes, and enjoy some good hunting stories.

**Block Shoot Schedule**

1/03/05	2/07/05	3/07/05	4/04/05
1/10/05	2/14/05	3/14/05	4/11/05
1/17/05	2/21/05	3/21/05	4/18/05
1/24/05	2/28/05	3/28/05	4/25/05

## **THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

*By Charles Kemberling*

Hello, members and sportsmen--Holiday greetings to all!

It is that time of year when most of our minds will take us into the great outdoors to enjoy the mountain and stream in search of the elusive wildlife of Pennsylvania.

Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association has had a great year. Our membership has grown and most of our programs and fundraisers were a great success. Keep in mind this was done because of the dedicated Officers and Directors along with the Committee Chairpersons who volunteer their time to make these things happen for a good cause. Also, it must be noted that Jake Wagner (owner of All-Pro) and Bob Morris (Barbarino's Pizza-Enola) were responsible for both making the Championship Trap Shoot a success and for buying guns for our Youth Trap Shooting Program. Thanks to these men for their donations. Many volunteers have come forth this year to help out with the different programs, too many to name because I know some would be missed. A big thanks from the Officers and Directors to all volunteers--keep coming back, we need you!! When you receive this, the hunting season will be about over. Hope you all have bagged your game and returned from the field safely. Projects in the works for the club will be completed and I will let you know about them in the next newsletter. Now I will say Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to the Directors, Officers, Committee Chairpersons and all Members of Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association. Hope to see you around the club in 2005!

Thanks again to you all!  
Charlie

## **VENTURE CREW 100**

*By Rick Patrick*

The crew is always looking for new youth age 14 to 20 interested in enjoying the outdoor experience and if they happen to learn new skills along the way all the better. We held an open house at our October 13 meeting. We had a few new prospects come out to see what our program is all about.

Activities since the last newsletter included the open house and an "introduction to scuba" held at the Cumberland Valley High School pool.

Our next event will be a backpacking weekend on the Appalachian Trail from Caledonia to PenMar.

While the Venture program is a Boy Scout program, participation does not require previous scouting experience. Anyone interested in attending a meeting with no obligations is welcome! We have just changed our meeting time to the first and third Sunday of every month at 7:00 PM in the old clubhouse. Hope to see some new faces!

## **2005 HUNTER TRAPPER EDUCATION CLASSES**

*By Dave Still*

MECHANICSBURG SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION will conduct three PA Game Commission's (PGC) Hunter Trapper Education (HTE) courses in 2005. Each class will accommodate 30-50 students. The first class is scheduled for February 25-26; the second (tentative pending PGC approval) is scheduled for April 29-30; with the last class scheduled for July 29-30. This two-day event is held on Friday evening from 6-9 pm and Saturday from 8 am to 4 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 Pennsylvania. The HTE program notes 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 of age 11 years or older, although a valid hunting license cannot be obtained until the legal hunting age (12 years) has been reached. Persons less than 11 years of age may observe the class (space permitting) but will not be permitted to register, take the exam, or receive a training certificate. MSA Director Bob Dunn has arranged for the Blue Mountain Chapter of Safari Club International to provide lunch 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 with those children 11 years of age and up receiving access first. Children under the age of 11 will be admitted only for 'unfilled' seats.

**HUNTING & SHOOTING TIP: KNOW YOUR TARGET AND WHAT IS BEYOND IT!  
SHOOT SAFELY!**

## ARCHERY REPORT

By Phil Mentzer

Another year has come to an end, and a new one is beginning. This past year was good for the Mechanicsburg Archers. We took 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the CVAL League in which we had 8 to 10 people shooting most of the time. This is an indoor league which shoots at 20 yards. At the State Indoor Championship in Harrisburg during April 1-2, 2004, the Bowhunter Unlimited Team (Donnie Price, Bill Irwin, John Eline, Phil Mentzer, Bob Weaver, Vern Vandevander, and Joe Boccelli) took 2<sup>nd</sup> place. John Eline took 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Bowhunter Unlimited "AA." We had a total of 11 people represent our club.

In the Penn Dutch League, the Mechanicsburg Archers took 2<sup>nd</sup> place. This is an outdoor league where shooters test their abilities at shoot distances from 20 feet to 80 yards.

At the State Target Championships, held in Montoursville, PA, the Bowhunter Unlimited Team (Phil Mentzer, Bob Weaver, Vern Vandevander, and Joe Boccelli) took 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Phil Mentzer took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Bowhunter Unlimited "AA." Joe Boccelli took 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Bowhunter Unlimited "A."

At the State Field Championships (held here at Mechanicsburg), Joe Boccelli took 1<sup>st</sup> place in Bowhunter Unlimited "B."

At the State Bowhunter Animal Championships (also at Mechanicsburg), the Bowhunter Unlimited Team (Phil Mentzer, Bob Weaver, Glenn Fink, John Eline, and Joe Boccelli) took 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Phil Mentzer took 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Bowhunter Unlimited "AA." Joe Boccelli took 1<sup>st</sup> place in Bowhunter Unlimited "B."

The Archers wish to thank everybody who helped out with the NFAA shoot in June and the two PSAA shoots in July and August. Without your help to staff the cook tent and kitchen, we could not host these money makers. There are too many other things for the Archers to do to get ready for these events, plus try to participate in them. Thanks again!

## CLUB VOLUNTEER WINS 4-H LEADERSHIP AWARD

By Ron Keslar



4-H Youth Development Educator Wendy Griest presents award to MSA Director/4-H Leader Linda Tucker

Each year, the Penn State Extension Office recognizes a 4-H Adult Volunteer Leader for demonstrating commitment and outstanding leadership in a 4-H club in Cumberland County. On October 19, 2004, the annual Cumberland County 4-H Achievement Banquet was held at the Penn Township Firehall in Huntsdale, PA. MSA's Director Linda Tucker was honored as the recipient of the 2004 Gladys Holtry 4-H Leader Award. Linda was responsible for starting the Mechanicsburg 4-H Shooting Sports Club which meets every Thursday evening at the old clubhouse. She is the Adult Leader in charge of the program and successfully coached her youth to several state championships in 2004, including the 4-H Junior Sporter Air Rifle Team State Championship.



Left: Adult 4-H Volunteer Leaders were recognized with certificates for outstanding dedication to Cumberland County 4-H program.



Left Photo: Youth volunteer leaders were also recognized as vital to the continued growth of the 4-H Program.



Above: Mechanicsburg 4-H Shooting Sports Club was represented by Jayson Bomberger (President), Linda Tucker (Leader), Elizabeth Embeck (Reporter), and Ron Keslar (Leader).

## 3-D ARCHERY

By Dave Prosser

Spring/Summer 3-D archery will be restarted at the Club. Information will be posted in the newsletter as it is developed. The course and number of targets to be set out will be developed this winter. We will open the event to non-members also. The possibility of joining the CVAL 3-D League is being looked into. Follow the newsletter and Clubhouse postings for information as it becomes available. Dave Prosser - 576-6725

## **MSA 2004 MENTORED YOUTH PHEASANT HUNT**

*by Dave Still*



The Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Protective Association (MSPA) in association with the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) held its Mentored Youth Pheasant Hunt in Adams, Cumberland, and York Counties. Over 1,000 acres of prime habitat had been reserved for the club's 2004 youth hunt. Of the 30+ participants who signed up for the hunt, 14 actually took to the field the day of the hunt.

Mandatory MSPA Field Day events were held on September 25 and October 2. Each registered participant had the opportunity to shoot a round of 25 clay birds at the MSPA's automatic trap ranges and gain valuable

instruction from experienced MSPA trap shooters. Thanks to Dick Roth and Dick Chekovich for volunteering their time to help the youth with trap instruction.



Registered hunt participants got to meet several of the dogs, both pointing and flushing, that would accompany them on the hunts and gain valuable instruction on how to approach the different types of hunting dogs for a safe shot. This year we had eight handlers who all did a magnificent job under less than suitable conditions. The participants also had 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.



The actual Youth Pheasant Hunt took place on October 9, 2004. There was a tremendous amount of dew that morning and the fields were soaking wet. All went well, however, and congratulations to the handlers, mentors, parents and youth who made this a safe and enjoyable experience.

## **PENNSYLVANIA YOUTH SHOOTING SPORTS SUMMIT**

*By Linda Tucker*

In October, nine of our youth and adults participated in the weekend event which was hosted by Palmyra Sportsmen's Association and included adult and youth representatives from youth rifle competition programs throughout the state. The weekend encompassed a variety of presentations and panel discussions and provided an opportunity for interaction with other youth and youth program leaders statewide.

## **2005 BASIC YOUTH ARCHERY PROGRAM**

*by Mike Rider*

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Archery Program is scheduled to begin on Saturday, January 22, 2005 and continue on successive Saturdays through March 5, 2005—8:00 am to 9:30 am at the old clubhouse's indoor archery range. This program is for both boys and girls, ages 9 through 15 years. Register by January 16. Class will be limited to 25 youth. Youth with 2 or more years of training in the program will be put on a waiting list and notified if there is room for them to participate. These experienced youth are urged to come out for the regular Tuesday night archery practices and shoot with our regular archery shooters—we'll be glad to help them, too!

Participants who have their own equipment are encouraged to bring and use it. We have limited equipment for those participants without any equipment. Parents are encouraged to attend. Feel free to bring a friend! Participation will be limited, so to register, contact Mike Rider at 766-8906.

## **YOUTH TRAP**

*by Dick Roth*

Beginning on January 10, 2005, we will again host our youth trap shooting and continue until soccer, baseball, and other sports take away our young shooters in the spring. Bring your son, daughter, grandchild, or any other youth interested in shooting trap. We have youth-sized shotguns for them to use. All you need is shells (12 gauge or 20 gauge) and \$1.00 per 25 birds. We will instruct each person to get them started in this sport.

## ARCHERY MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Archery Club meetings are held in the old club house on the first Tuesday of each month except for October and November.

### Archery Shoot Dates for 2005

January 14, 15, 16	Team Invitational	Indoor 22 Range Closed
February 4, 5, 6,	CVAL	Indoor 22 Range Closed
March 11, 12, 13	South Central Regional PSAA	Indoor 22 Range Closed
March 18, 19, 20	CVAL	Indoor 22 Range Closed
May 14, 15	Penn Dutch Field and Hunter	No ranges closed.
June 3, 4, 5	NFAA Mid Atlantic Sectional	Club Grounds Closed
July 22, 23, 24	PSAA Field Championship	Club Grounds Closed
August 19, 20, 21	PSAA Animal Championship	Club Grounds Closed

For more information, contact Phil Mentzer at 766-8001.

### 4-H CLUB ELECTION

*By Elizabeth Embeck, Club Reporter*



On November 11, 2004, the Mechanicsburg 4-H Shooting Sports Club had their annual elections. The new officers are Jayson Bomberger (President), Jared Taylor (Vice President), Katie Chastain (Secretary), Elizabeth Embeck (Reporter), and Amanda Stockton (Historian).

Our new shooting season is beginning. We have 7 new members for a total of 17. Our club is primarily an air rifle club, but we also learn to shoot small bore, air pistol, muzzleloader, and highpower. We meet and practice every Thursday night at Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association.

### YOUTH RIFLE TEAM NEWS

*By Linda Tucker*

Fourteen of our youth participated in the three position air rifle and smallbore matches at Zerbe Township Rod and Gun Club on October 30-31. In addition to sporter air rifle, two of our youth competed in precision air rifle, and 8 youth from our air rifle and highpower programs participated in smallbore. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to compete in additional disciplines.

Award winners from our team included:

Adam Bell—1 <sup>st</sup> Place Intermediate Jr –Air Rifle	Katie Chastain-1 <sup>st</sup> Place Subjunior ---Air Rifle
Todd Rine---2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Intermediate Jr. –Air Rifle	Jared Taylor – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Subjunior---Air Rifle
Katie Chastain—2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Subjunior—Smallbore	

The award winners' scores ranged from 515 to 525. The highest score from our team was fired by 14-year old Katie Chastain, with a 525 in Sporter Air Rifle. Jayson Bomberger ranked third in Intermediate Jr with a score of 515 and Elizabeth Embeck (12 years old) ranked third in the Subjunior Division with a score of 479. The youth also won the 1<sup>st</sup> place Sporter Air Rifle team award at the event.

2004 was a very successful and busy year for the Air Rifle team members. They won state titles in NRA, American Legion, Junior Olympics, and 4-H team competitions, won their first National team title (NRA National Indoor Championship Subjunior Team), and placed 6<sup>th</sup> at the National Junior Olympics.

### GIVE A GIFT MEMBERSHIP THIS YEAR

*By Leonard Burg*

The perfect gift for the Holidays, Birthdays, Father's Day, Mother's Day, and Graduations--Grandparents, you can give your grandchild (age 12 to17) a **Junior Membership**, a great way to enjoy the outdoors with them! Moms, Dad, Brothers, Sisters--give an **Adult or Family Membership** to those you love. Show your commitment to the defense of the Second Amendment by giving an **NRA Membership** to a friend or family member. Or, renew your NRA membership through MSA. Contact Len Burg at 796-9366 (evenings) to give a gift membership.

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  
(1<sup>st</sup> 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) 766-9323 for club information. Visit our web site at [www.msa-pa.org](http://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 |                                     |                                       |

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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](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> 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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## ***MORE NORTHERN BOBWHITE QUAIL RELEASED ON CLUB GROUNDS***

*by Dave Still*



Approximately 150 northern bobwhite quail were raised from eggs laid by adult birds in the club's recall house. To assist with care of the larger number of birds a 'grow out' pen was constructed to allow the birds more space to grow and develop flight capability.

Approximately 50-60 birds were released late in October on Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association grounds. Twenty-four birds were provided for a 'sustainability' experiment on a farm with suitable habitat in the Pennsylvania Game Commission's Farm-Game Program. Another 40+ birds were released in mid-November on club grounds. A series of feeders will be placed throughout the club grounds to assist these birds through the winter months ahead. If you come across one of the feeders, please do not disturb the feeder or the area around it.

While in captivity these birds are completely dependent upon our care for their health and safety. For younger birds even a day without water can be fatal. While maintenance and care is given regularly, there have been a few occasions where unusual consumption of food or water has occurred, leaving the birds in a critical condition. If you happen to notice that water or food is lacking in the feeders, grow out pen or the recall house, PLEASE call me directly at 730-7373 or mention it to a Director who can contact me. **Also note 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 request has been extended to the Pheasant's Forever Regional Biologist to visit the club and provide habitat recommendations consistent with the club activities. In the meantime, there may be some opportunity to plant limited food plots consisting of foxtail, ragweed and other small grain foods next spring. Managed habitat improvement plans typically also benefit big game animals such as deer and turkey. If supported by the membership and approved by the Board of Directors, the club has an opportunity to enter into a limited propagation and habitat program to produce quail and ring neck pheasants for release onto club grounds. Please voice your opinion. If you would like to volunteer to help with any future habitat program(s) approved by the club, please contact Don Heckman or myself.



### ***TRAP***

*by Dick Roth*

In 2004, we have had the most successful trap season since we started shooting trap at this club. My thanks to the many shooters and helpers who made this a successful year. The Saturday winter league has started with three other clubs (Carlisle, Enola, and Harrisburg) and will run through March 2005. Every Thursday evening we have our own MSA league shoots plus practice shooting.

### ***AFFILIATIONS***

Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association is affiliated with the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs (PFSC), National Rifle Association (NRA), Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP), Pennsylvania Rifle and Pistol Association, Amateur Trap Association (ATA), Pennsylvania State Archery Association (PSAA), Cumberland Valley Archery League (CVL), Penn Dutch Archery League, National Field Archers Association (NFAA), and South-central Outdoors for Youth (SOY); MSA partners with American Legion Post 1001 and American Legion Post 109, both supporting the club's youth, gun safety, and high power marksmanship programs.

***SHOOTING SAFETY TIP: TREAT EVERY GUN AS IF IT WERE LOADED!***

## January 2005

Sat 1	.22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon*	Sun 16	Archery Team Invitational*#
Mon 3	No Youth Trap tonight Block Shoot, 7:00 pm	Mon 17	Youth Trap, 7:00 pm Block Shoot, 7:00 pm
Tue 4	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm* Archery Club Meeting*	Tue 18	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*
Wed 5	General Membership Meeting-7:30 pm%	Thu 20	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7 pm-9 pm*#
Thu 6	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7 pm-9 pm*#	Sat 22	Youth Archery, 8:00 am-9:30 am# .22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon*
Sat 8	.22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon*	Mon 24	Youth Trap, 7:00 pm Block Shoot, 7:00 pm
Mon 10	Youth Trap & SOY Meeting, 7:00 pm% Block Shoot, 7:00 pm	Tue 25	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*
Tue 11	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*	Wed 26	Directors' Meeting, 7:30 pm%
Thu 13	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7 pm-9 pm*#	Thu 27	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7 pm-9 pm*#
Fri 14	Archery Team Invitational*#	Sat 29	Youth Archery, 8:00 am-9:30 am# .22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon*
Sat 15	Archery Team Invitational*#		

\*Indoor .22 range closed  
%Indoor pistol range closed

#Indoor archery range closed  
@ 100 Yard Range closed

## February 2005

Tue 1	Archery Club Meeting* .22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*	Tue 15	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*
Wed 2	General Membership Meeting, 7:30 pm%	Thu 17	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm*#
Thu 3	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm*#	Sat 19	Youth Archery, 8:00 am-9:30 am# .22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon*
Fri 4	CVAL*	Mon 21	Youth Trap, 7:00 pm Block Shoot, 7:00 pm
Sat 5	CVAL*	Tue 22	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*
Sun 6	CVAL*	Wed 23	Directors' Meeting, 7:30 pm%
Mon 7	Youth Trap, 7:00 pm Block Shoot, 7:00 pm	Thu 24	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm*#
Tue 8	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*	Fri 25	Hunter Ed, 6:00 pm-9:00 pm
Thu 10	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm*#	Sat 26	Youth Archery, 8:00 am-9:30 am# Hunter Ed, 8:00 am-4:00 pm .22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon*
Sat 12	Youth Archery, 8:00 am-9:30 am# .22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon*	Mon 28	Youth Trap, 7:00 pm
Mon 14	Youth Trap, 7:00 pm Block Shoot, 7:00 pm		

### **MECHANICSBURG ADULT .22 TEAM**

*By John Gingrich*

The adult indoor winter league started on Nov. 16. The winter league consist of team matches between Central Penn [Dauphin], Lebanon and Mechanicsburg . We have a new adult team member Tim Racioppa and two former junior members John Gingrich and Jesse Hummel are back. The team also travels to outdoor prone and three position matches around the state. Any adult who is interested in joining call Frank Hobausz at 737 3932 or John Gingrich at 789 4689.

### **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

## March 2005

Tue 1	Archery Club Meeting* .22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*	Tue 15	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*
Wed 2	General Membership Meeting, 7:30 pm%	Thu 17	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm*#
Thu 3	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm*#	Fri 18	CVAL*#
Sat 5	Youth Archery, 8:00 am-9:30 am .22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon*	Sat 19	CVAL*#
Mon 7	Youth Trap, 7:00 pm Block Shoot, 7:00 pm	Sun 20	CVAL*#
Tue 8	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*	Mon 21	Youth Trap, 7:00 pm Block Shoot, 7:00 pm
Thu 10	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm*#	Tue 22	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*
Fri 11	S.Central Reg. PSAA Archery*#	Thu 24	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm*#
Sat 12	S.Central Reg. PSAA Archery*#	Sat 26	.22 Team, 10:00 am-Noon*
Sun 13	S.Central Reg. PSAA Archery*#	Mon 28	Youth Trap, 7:00 pm Block Shoot, 7:00 pm
Mon 14	Youth Trap, 7:00 pm Block Shoot, 7:00 pm	Tue 29	.22 Team, 6:00 pm-8:00 pm*
		Wed 30	Directors' Meeting, 7:30 pm%
		Thu 31	Trap Shoot, 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 4-H Rifle Club, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm*#

# Indoor archery range closed

% Indoor pistol range closed

@ 100-yard range closed



### **STATE SENATE HONORS CLUB YOUTH**

*By Ron Keslar*

On November 10, 2004, the Senate of Pennsylvania honored four of our Mechanicsburg 4-H Shooting Sports Club youth through the issuance of a special citation. The youth, shooting as the Capital Area Rifle Team, won a number of state championships in 2004. The citation, sponsored and presented by Senator Jeffrey E. Piccola, also commended Head Coach Linda Tucker for her dedicated guidance of the youth. All four team members were present for the ceremony which took place in the State Capitol. Congratulations to Coach Tucker and team members Jayson Bomberger (age 15), Katie Chastain (age 14), Jared Taylor (age 14), and Josiah Taylor (age 17)!

### **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE**

*By Leonard Burg*

**Time to renew your membership for 2005!** This newsletter is your renewal notice. No further notice will be sent. Club membership is on a calendar year, and expires December 31. You must renew your membership by February 15, 2005 to avoid a \$15.00 reinstatement fee. For your convenience, a membership application is provided in this newsletter. All renewals must be accompanied by a completed membership application. Payment without an application will delay processing of your renewal. I ask the cooperation of all Adult, Family, Junior, Life, and Honorary Life members to submit an application so your contact information can be updated in our new membership computer. Honorary Life and Life Membership cards for 2005 have been mailed. If you are an Honorary Life or Life member and have not received your card, or have a question about membership, contact me at 796-9366 (evenings).

Best Wishes for a Safe and Happy Holiday!

**FALL JAMBOREE**

*By Ron Keslar*

The 2004 Fall Jamboree (held on Sunday, September 26) saw the a record turnout of club members and guests—it was a resounding success by all standards. The day turned out bright and sunny—great for the Outback Steakhouse’s outdoor cookout. Kids were entertained by Hip-Hop the Clown and all enjoyed the music played by DJ Ray Thomas of WI00 Radio. Congratulations to Event Chairman Rich Barr and to Len Burg for pulling together a fine program. And to Outback Steakhouse—super food!!



## THE MAJOR JOSEPH D. CARTER MEMORIAL FUND FOR YOUTH SHOOTING SPORTS

By Ron Keslar

North Harrisburg American Legion Post 1001 has a history of commitment to helping area residents learn to use firearms in a safe and responsible manner. Gun safety and marksmanship training has long been an important American Legion community service and Americanism program. Post 1001 contributed the use of its match air rifles and other equipment so that MSA could begin its own youth air rifle program. Currently, MSA uses the Legion's rifles, shooting mats, offhand stands, spotting scopes and stands—all enough to equip six firing points at MSA's youth program every Thursday evening. It costs \$1,000 to set up a single firing point.

On Veterans' Day, November 11, 2002, Post 1001 established a special fund to honor a departed comrade, Joe Carter. Joe was a long-time member of the Post, a distinguished military veteran, and an active member of Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association. This new fund, the Major Joseph D. Carter Memorial Fund for Youth Shooting Sports, was founded through the efforts of Joe's friend of many years, Frank Kenski. Frank, also a member of MSA for countless years, is an NRA-certified Instructor, Chief Range Safety Officer, and Training Counselor.



(L to R): Ron Keslar, Frank Kenski, Post Commander Galen Johnson

The Internal Revenue Service has ruled that the American Legion is a non-profit, charitable institution (Section 501 (c) (19) of the Internal Revenue Code). As such, donations from individuals or businesses to the Major Joseph D. Carter Memorial Fund for Youth Shooting Sports are considered to be tax-deductible charitable contributions. Individuals or businesses desiring to honor Joe Carter and help fund our local youth shooting programs may contact Ron Keslar, 717-432-9039, [ronald@keslar.net](mailto:ronald@keslar.net). Ron is MSA's Second Vice-president and Past-Commander of Post 1001. The youth programs have no administrative costs—100% of all donations go directly to youth firearms and safety training.

### GATE COMBINATION & CLUBHOUSE KEYS

The combination to the gate and the locks on the clubhouse doors will be changed in February. Renew your membership now—the gate combination will be on your new membership card. Keys to the old clubhouse (.22 and archery ranges) can be obtained from the membership secretary. Keys to the indoor centerfire pistol range may be obtained from Chief Range Safety Officers Ron Keslar or Linda Tucker—a one-time safety briefing is required.

### MECHANICSBURG YOUTH .22 TEAM

By John Gingrich

Two of our members traveled to Treverton for a Halloween haunt match on Oct. 31. The girls, Ellen Gingrich and Lara Gingrich, shot a 60 round air rifle match and a 60 round smallbore match back to back. Their air rifle scores were their best to date. Ellen's was a 420 and Lara's was a 513 out of 600 possible points. We added three new members to our team. The new members are Jordan Jackson Lehman, Jamie Lehman and Luke Buckman. The team is open to any youth between the ages of 11 and 20. We are a competitive team and do travel to other clubs for matches. Practices are Tues. 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm and Sat. 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. For information call Frank Hobausz at 737 3932 or John Gingrich at 789 4689.

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Saccoff Health Ctr., 157 Nisland Ave., Chambersburg, PA 17201 (717) 217-9881 (717) 217-6889  
Toll Free (800) 240-0717 [www.moffittheart.com](http://www.moffittheart.com)

### CHILD GUN SAFETY

Teach your children that if they see a gun,  
they should

**STOP!**  
**Don't Touch**  
**Leave the Area**  
**Tell an Adult**

Support the NRA's  
Eddie Eagle Gun Safety Program

**SOUTH-CENTRAL OUTDOORS FOR YOUTH**

*By Linda Tucker*

The next meeting of South Central Outdoors for Youth will be held at the new clubhouse on Monday, January 10, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. The organization annually holds two youth field days in Cumberland and Adams Counties. The meeting is open to all individuals—adults and youth—who are interested in volunteering to assist at an event.

Mechanicsburg Sportsmen’s Association will host the Cumberland County event on May 21, 2005. We will need volunteers to assist at the event. Contact Linda Tucker at 766-7011 or email [TuckerLHBG@aol.com](mailto:TuckerLHBG@aol.com).

**JUBILEE DAY AT MECHANICSBURG**

*by Bill Bates*

Every year, the club participates in Mechanicsburg’s Jubilee Day. Make a note on your calendar for the 2005 Jubilee Day—Thursday, June 16, 2005. Have a SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!

**NRA WOMEN ON TARGET EVENT**

*By Linda Tucker*

In October, we conducted an NRA Women On Target Event. The ladies participated in handgun, shotgun and rifle shooting clinics. The event included classroom and range instruction, and all participants received NRA Basic Shooting Handbooks and NRA First Steps Orientation Certificates for successful completion. The NRA provided a variety of materials and keepsakes for the event.



The participants had an opportunity to try a variety of disciplines and firearm action types. The instruction provided information regarding how ammunition and different types of guns operate, so that participants could develop confidence in their safe firearm handling skills. We had 11 instructors for the event, and we conducted range firing in small groups of four to five participants to provide plenty of individualized instruction.

The instructors and participants enjoyed the event, and we plan to provide similar opportunities in 2005.



## **HIGH POWER RIFLE PROGRAM**

*By Ron Keslar*

In 2004, Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association hosted four NRA-approved high power rifle matches and one youth high power training clinic. The year ended with fifteen competitors firing on September 12, 2004. Tom Wise fired his match rifle to take first place overall, 489-23x. Frank Rizzuto took first place Service Rifle (AR-15), scoring 487-14x. Sean Leighton's venerable M1A produced a 479-8x to gather third. Dave Beers used his Colt AR-15 to bring in fourth place, 472-12x.

Matches are co-sponsored by American Legion Post 1001. As part of its youth gun safety program, Legion members furnish ammunition and the use of AR-15's to the junior shooters. Come on out to the 2005 high power rifle program—match dates will be posted on the club web site when the schedule is determined—new competitors are welcome; our matches are designed to accommodate shooters wanting to learn. The Annual Memorial Day Youth High Power Rifle Clinic will be held on Saturday, May 28, 2005. A limited number of Clinic openings are available for adults interested in learning to shoot competitive high power rifle; the Clinic concludes with participants firing a 50-shot National Match Course.



President Kemberling (right) presents club award to high power competitor Dan Meck.



MSA member Joe Kuhn at Camp Perry, OH, National Matches. The old reliable M1 Garand is still a rifle that's hard to beat!

## **CIVILIAN MARKSMANSHIP PROGRAM**

*By Ron Keslar*

The Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association is affiliated with the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP), a nationwide network of shooting clubs. The CMP (formerly the Department of the Army's Civilian Marksmanship Division) promotes firearm safety and training and also makes surplus service small arms and ammunition available for all qualified American citizens.

Club members may purchase new and surplus ammunition, M1 Garands, .22 target rifles, and competition grade AR-15 type rifles at reduced prices from the CMP. In addition, the CMP offers training materials and other items related to competitive shooting. To learn more, check out the CMP web site at [www.odcmp.com](http://www.odcmp.com). The club's CMP activities are reported in the newsletter and on the club web site, [www.msa-pa.org](http://www.msa-pa.org).

## **IMPROVED HANDICAPPED ACCESS**

As a club whose members have an interest in participating in meetings and other events, Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association has always looked for ways of improving access to its facilities. As an example, our outdoor rifle/pistol ranges have a wide paved path from parking lot to each range, concrete pads at the covered firing points and a concrete walkway down to and in front of the target area—all to ensure that our handicapped members can enjoy shooting with a minimum of bother. Recently, MSA President Charlie Kemberling directed the installation of a raised area on the porch of the new clubhouse—enabling those with mobility problems to better access our meeting room and indoor centerfire pistol range. Great job, Charlie!

## **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.

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

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***FISH NURSERY***

*By Dave Eakin*

The club's fish nursery is located on Sinclair Road outside of Mechanicsburg on the Trindle Springs stream. We raise between 8000 - 9000 fish every year. We raise Brook, Rainbow, Brown, and Golden trout. We receive approximately 7000 fish from the Fish and Boat Commission every year in July. The fish are usually 2" - 4" long when we receive them. We also buy about 1500 fish of about the same size. We feed the fish 3 times a day and by April of the following year the fish are quite nice. We also hold over some fish so we get the big lunkers everyone likes to catch. The fish we receive from the state we have to stock in waters open to the public. The fish that we buy are for our use for the club pond and Jubilee Day. The fish nursery is locked and gated but if anyone would like to tour the nursery please contact me. If I get enough calls we could hold an open house where the nursery would be open for any club member to tour. Thanks to all the feeders and helpers without whose work we wouldn't have such nice fish. I will post a stocking schedule in the Spring newsletter so all the club members will know where and when we will be stocking. Anyone who wants to help stock, just show up at the nursery the night we stock and we will put you to work. Anyone wanting to help feed or stock can contact me if you have any questions. MSA has a portable tank that we set up for our Children's Fishing Derby, for South-central Outdoors for Youth events at our club, and for Jubilee Day in Mechanicsburg. It takes quite a few people to get this tank set up and stocked with fish. On Jubilee Day, we man the tank all day, so we can use lots of help for these events. I'm also trying to come up with some kind of chiller unit to use in the portable tank on Jubilee Day. Last year we spent over \$100 on ice and the water was still too warm. So, if anyone has ideas or suggestions for cooling the water, please contact me. The club pond will be stocked several times over the winter. Please check the sign at the gate, the notice on website or you can contact me as to when we will be stocking over the winter.

***DID YOU KNOW?***

Mechanicsburg Sportsmen's Association was incorporated on July 7, 1949. The club grounds contain 153 acres and 50 perches. Come to the membership meetings (first Wednesday of every month at 7:30 pm in the new clubhouse by the trap range) and learn more about your club!

***2005 CHILDREN'S FISHING DERBY***

*by Bob Dunn*

MSA's annual fishing derby is always sees a great turnout of young fisherkids! Plan for it now and mark your calendars for the 2005 event—Saturday, April 23.