



# South Haven Rod & Gun Club

## NEWSLETTER

Spring 2014

### ***Membership Cap is lifted***

The membership has voted to remove the 225 member limit in the Club's By-Laws with a final vote at the February meeting. That means we are now open to as many members as we would like to accept. This action was brought about because we hit our limit of 225 members last October and were not able to accept new members until spots opened up from non-renewals.

In addition to the lifting of the cap we now have put into practice a new application and renewal process. To now join you must fill out a application and have a current member sponsor you. Once the application is submitted the individual applying will have their name read at a general membership meeting for comments. In the next month the investigating committee will do a background check and if no red flags come up the applicant will then be put up for a vote of acceptance at the next general meeting. Thereafter, they will be given a orientation, issued a membership card and allowed to get a building key.

Renewals will be treated that if your fully completed renewal form and dues are not received by February 1st of the next year you will no longer be a member and will have to apply as a new member with a possible new initiation fee and be re-orientated. Late dues submittals will no longer be tolerated since they create too much work for our Membership Secretary and other volunteers.

### ***Lots of New Ideas for Activities in the Making***

You may have heard rumors of new activities this year. There has been talk of **Pin Shooting** in the upper bunker with new steel tables, and it's true. This will get set up as soon as the weather breaks and we can put together all the tables. What is really heating up with plans taking shape is a walk through **Air Gun Field Course** with reactive steel targets. With all the folks that are getting into air rifles and those that already that have them, this could be very interesting and a great activity. **Rattle Battles** with military/tactical guns is another area of interest and now with the range improvements and all the folks that have surplus rifles and AR's it would be a good excuse to use them.. These are just some of the ideas talked about for activities for you the members to make use of our wonderful club facilities. If any of these ideas interest you please get a hold of one the club officers and chat with them about it or call Dave 268-767-1078 or email to [bigboredave@yahoo.com](mailto:bigboredave@yahoo.com) .

### ***Members and Friends Potluck***



Our next Potluck will be held Saturday May 31 with appetizers and refreshments at 6:00 pm and the main course following at 6:30. It sounds as if the club will be starting furnishing Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and Brats. You can bring appetizers, main course side dishes or deserts. The club will also furnish coffee so you can bring whatever beverages you may wish to consume. Please feel free to bring more than one item so we are sure to have a variety. Remember that this again is for members and their guests, so please reach out and bring a friend or family with you. For further information you may contact Dave at 269-767-1078.

## **SHR&GC Sponsors SW Michigan Friends of NRA Fundraiser Dinner**



The Southwest Michigan Friend of NRA held their annual fundraising dinner last Month in Lawrence. The South Haven Rod & Gun Club supported their work by taking a Bronze Sponsorship. We as well as many other clubs have been recipients of their many grants.

Secretary Kristy Young is pictured here receiving a framed plaque as a thank you for our support from John Andradi President of the SWM Friends NRA. Our club was well represented by members Kristy and Jim Young, John and Jacque Phillippe, Bruce and Shirley Thatcher along with Jack Troyer and Dave Wiatrowski.

## **Membership Cards**

If you have renewed and have not received your membership card yet, please call or email Dave Wiatrowski (269-767-1078). He will see that you get your 2014 Membership card which you should carry on your person. We have a lot of members who are known to only a few, so if your asked if you're a member by another member please answer politely "yes" and show them your membership card. We are trying to eliminate use by non-members who walk in or piggy back in on a current member without them being aware. So don't be defensive, just introduce yourself and shake their hand. If you come across a non-current or non-member try and get their name, then ask them to leave the grounds politely.

## **New Members**

Help me welcome our new members to the club and if you should run into them, introduce yourself and make them feel welcome. Remember we were all new members once, so a smile and kind word goes a long ways.

**W e l c o m e :**    **Dave Aviles**                      **Paul Bunting**                      **Mike Henrich**                      **Ted Krzemen Jr.**                      **Bill Soule**  
                          **James Alm**                                      **Tom Calandra**                      **Mark Hills**                              **Mike Lader**                              **Vicki Vochaska**  
                          **Bill Bowers**                                      **Bob Estes**                                      **Paul Jancha**                              **Lyle Overton**                              **Kris Wnek**  
                          **Jason Buero**                                      **Matt Fisher**                                      **Kris Konneck**                              **Bill Snider**                                      **Martin Newton**  
                          **Nick Romano**

## **Air Rifles for the Youth Programs**



Many of you may know Lyle Overton who has shot in the Rimfire Benchrest events and in our Egg Shoots. He has graciously donated five Daisy M853 .177 air rifles he purchased from the CMP. With the shortage and cost of .22 Rimfire ammunition these are a not only a alternative but a additional method to get beginning and young shooters more involved in the shooting sports. If you happen to see him around the club, tell him thanks for the supporting our youth program. So Lyle, a big thank you from all of us for your generous contribution to the club, again, thank you.

### ***Wish List— Things the club could use that you may have laying around and would like to donate***

- |                              |                        |                  |                 |                      |
|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| Flat Screen Computer Monitor | Radial Arm Saw         | Snow Blower      | Unused Lumber   | Trash Cans on Wheels |
| New Burn Barrels             | Office Desk (lockable) | Extension Ladder | Gas Weed Wacker | Club Room Furniture  |

## ***From the President-***

It is now Spring of 2014 and our main problem of last fall has been eliminated. The motion to amend the club by-laws by dropping the membership limit was passed by an overwhelming majority of the 8% of the members that were at the February meeting. Unfortunately for the club Treasury over 50 previous dues paying members choose NOT to renew. We are NO longer what some perceived as an "Exclusive club". We are a club with 200 members, and NO waiting list, so if you have some idea of how to replace the dues money we were getting please come to a meeting and present it. In the mean time there is some major work to be done on the lower range after this long and harsh winter. If you have a time you will be available to work on the range Please let us know so a work day can be scheduled.

## **Newsletters & Announcements**

Please note we are going to a once yearly mailing of the newsletter with membership cards in January. You that have email will get future notices and newsletter via your email address. We will also post them on the website for viewing. Those without email will continue to receive via USPS (mail) so that you will be informed of club activities.



## ***Clean up / Work Day***



**Saturday May 3rd** starting at 8:00am has been set as a work day around the club. This includes the building and garage inside and out along with the grounds. You can bring any tools you may have ie., rakes, shovels, weed eaters, hammer, cordless drills, chainsaws etc. We never know what we will get into or find that needs work or repair. In addition to the general clean-up are the big jobs of raking and seeding the lower range along with the clean-up of the left over from the former caretaker trailer area and parking lot. May 17th is scheduled as the alternate work day if it should rain on the 3rd or if a additional work day is needed.

Please make time for this needed day of service to club and it's facilities. You may not be aware, but in the club's By-law's which you joined under, each member is required to put in at least one day of work or service to the club each year.

So come on out, start your day with a little coffee and conversation, work alongside your fellow members, get to know them better and have some fun. You can contact any of the officers for further information.

## ***Ladies Day***



A day of introduction to shooting for the ladies is being planned for Saturday July 26th. They will be able to try handguns, rifles, muzzleloaders and shotguns during different sessions. There will also be lady instructors on hand that day to help demonstrate and guide the ladies through the sessions. The day will include a lunch and refreshments for the participants along with all firearms and ammunition. A fee of \$20.00 will be charged to each participant to help defray the cost of the event. There is going to be more information coming out as this event is planned, so please watch for future reports in the next newsletter, newspapers and on our website. For more information you may also call Kristy Young 231-499-7438 or Dave Wiatrowski 269-767-1078.

## ***Proposed By-Laws***

Revised Club By-Laws have been drafted by a by-laws committee and have been presented at the April general membership meeting for review and comments. They have been revised to make them less cumbersome and restrictive for club management. The committee has met a number of times and this is a cumulative work of these meetings. The proposed by-laws are posted at the club and on the club's website for your review. A motion will be made at the next meeting for adoption unless there are comments or proposed changes to the document. You can contact Dave Wiatrowski 269-767-1078, Kristy Young 231-499-7438 or any of the club officers if you have questions or concerns.

**2014 Club Officers**

President -	Earl Akehurst	269-637-5303	akehurst.earl@yahoo.com
Vice President-	Jim Emenhiser	269-427-8293	mjemehiser@hotmail.com
Secretary-	Kristy Young	269-499-7438	kly2286@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Dave Overhiser	269-214-7720	
Director / Trustee	Craig Lewis	269-906-0550	craigl667@yahoo.com
Director / Trustee	Nick Anders	269-208-3662	nickanders@mac.com
Membership Secretary			
Director / Past Pres.	Dave Wiatrowski	269-767-1078	bigboredave@yahoo.com
Dir. Club Development			

**Board Responsibilities**

- ◆ governing the organization by establishing broad policies and objectives
- ◆ ensuring the availability of adequate financial resources
- ◆ approving annual budgets
- ◆ strategic planning and safety

**Club Website - [www.SHRGC.org](http://www.SHRGC.org)**

**South Haven Rod & Gun Club Inc.  
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