

SPRINGS ROD & GUN CLUB NEWSLETTER - WINTER 2012
DEDICATED TO YOUTH AND THE FUTURE OF OUTDOOR SPORTS

MAILING ADDRESS FOR THE CLUB IS: P.O. Box 115, Cambridge Springs, PA 16403

OFFICERS 2011/12: Pres.	John Anderson	andersonjohn63@gmail.com
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	Treas. Vacant	

Meetings are the second Wednesday of the month at 7 pm during EST and 8 pm. when on DST.

THE WEBSITE: The club website is www.springsrodandgunclub.org. Look for current information there!

BE SURE YOU SIGN UP FOR 2011/12 - \$20 INDIVIDUAL, \$25 FAMILY, \$80/100 five yr, \$200/250 life. You can sign up at Edinboro Outdoors, Finck Tire, Hendrickson's True Value and John's Barbershop or print the application on the web site and email/mail it to the secretary.

- **NOTICE:** Membership year is July 1 to June 30.

PURPOSE OF THE CLUB – The Articles of Incorporation of the Springs Rod and Gun Club state that the purpose(s) of the corporation, in brief, is to promote the highest standards sportsmanship among its members, to foster and promote programs in relation to hunting and fishing, stocking of game, legislation and conservation.

The incorporation documents and the bylaws of the club are posted on the club website. Please take the time to read them.

MEMBERS: the 2011/2012 membership card is BLUE, no other card is current! Renewal sites are listed above. Note that a number of 5 yr. memberships expired this year. **IF YOUR MAILING LABEL HAS A RED DOT ON IT YOU ARE NOT A CURRENT CLUB MEMBER.**

The club membership stands at 132 as of the January 2012 meeting. It is interesting to note that about fifty 2011 members have not renewed for 2012. Going back to 2010 records gain about fifty members did not renew for 2011. This seems to be a pattern with our membership. The fact seems to be that a lot of our membership is hit and miss. That is they sign up one year then skip a year or two and then sign up again. We had 300 members a few years ago, now we can't come up with 200.

Any suggestions? An initiation fee?

SPRING PARTY – the spring party will be held on Saturday March 24 this year. It is critical that the membership steps forward to help at this and other events, We must sell 800 tickets to make this a success. As usual you can pick up tickets to sell at Hendrickson's True Value. We also need people to circulate on the floor selling tips and so on. This is a good job for ladies and older children.

GUN PARTY – last fall's gun party didn't go over very well. Ticket sales were down as was attendance at the event. The exceptionally nice weather must have had folks doing something outside that day. The food was excellent as usual and those that did come didn't have to leave hungry.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Dave Dunkle took it upon himself and redid the sealing of the roof gables and ridge on the new building. We had been having leaks – it appears the contractor did a poor job with sub-standard materials. Dave has also led the charge on the construction of the pistol range canopy which awaits better weather to complete.

HIGH POWER RIFLE – records show we have been holding high power rifle matches for eight years. At this point we normally draw enough shooters to make the matches worthwhile. In some ways it is nice that we have never had to turn away shooters or make them wait for another relay. Isn't it about time you shot that military type rifle you bought, inherited or found? Just come and watch if you can't get up enough courage to shoot. We are an easy bunch to get along with as long as you obey the safety rules.

VIPL PISTOL LEAGUE – everybody who owns a handgun should be shooting in the VIPL. We call it the Very Informal Pistol League (VIPL) for the simple reason that it is informal. If you envision defending yourself and family with a handgun, you should practice – the VIPL is a good place to get some of that practice. You can shoot at the club or anywhere else, you can shoot your monthly targets as many times as you wish, turn in one score for rimfire and another for centerfire. Scores are submitted via email to mike@crestintegrators.org by the 25th of the month. Mike posts the scores on the SR&GC web site. You can jump in any month. There is no cost other than your targets which can be bought from the club. You can also use the targets stored in the outhouse at the club.

If nothing more, the monthly shooting makes you a better shot. Who knows when you might need to make some good shots?

Look on the club's web site for more information about these unique, non competitive, fun "matches".

RIFLE/PISTOL RANGE – DON'T FORGET TO SIGN IN WHEN USING THE RIFLE OR THE PISTOL RANGE!

A few requests to range users:

1. Make certain there isn't anybody down range or fishing before firing.
2. Make certain that your bullets end up in the dirt backstop!
3. Never handle rifles/pistols/shotguns when somebody is down range!
4. Keep your action open other than when firing!
5. When shooting at targets closer than 100yds try not to line up with and destroy target carriers down range. Use the 25 yd. or 50 yd. pistol ranges for short range shooting.
6. If you bring it, take it with you. We don't have garbage pickup!
7. Clean up after yourself.

We use large clamps to hold our high power targets on the carriers with the targets glued on cardboard backers for the high power rifle matches. It saves a lot of staples and makes the targets easier and safer (less cuts and punctures from the staples) to handle. May we suggest you try the same? Bring a roll of masking tape and a roll of electrical tape and you can paste up your targets so you can use the same one over and over.

YOUTH .22 PROGRAM – A youth .22 program is in the works. We have submitted a grant to the Friends of the NRA for supplies to conduct the program. If you have a youngster who might be interested we would like to know. Call Pete Mathews at 398-4368. The objectives of the program are to teach firearm safety and marksmanship. Announcements will, hopefully, be made in local high schools. Watch the marquee out front. Anybody wishing to help can contact Pete Mathews at 398-4368.

NEWSLETTER CIRCULATION - scheduled to be mailed to current members twice a year. Editorials are solely the opinions of the writers. Anyone is welcome to write an editorial or provide news relating to outdoors activities. Submit your news item or editorial, in writing please, to the club secretary.

4H PROGRAMS – the Airgun Program, held at the club is in full swing on Thursday evenings, 6:30 to 8PM. The program started January 5th and will continue through February 9th. We have a standing rule that if Cambridge Springs Schools are closed for bad weather we are also cancelled. We reschedule any cancellations so we could meet after February 9th.

The archery program started January 10th at the National Guard Armory on Center Street Extension.

This is the 16th year that we have run the airgun program and it is the same guys running it! Some new blood would be welcome. Before long the instructors may be hauled off to the old folks home! Seriously, the 4H shooting programs are wonderful ways for young people to be introduced to the shooting sports. They must be continued.

FRIENDS OF THE NRA – perhaps the NRA’s greatest program ever, the Friends of the NRA (FNRA) grants have aided the SR&GC in our range development effort as well as supporting the 4H shooting programs for youth. These grants do not come from the NRA proper, but through funds developed by holding FNRA banquets. I encourage all sportsmen to support this program by attending local FNRA banquets. Most of the money raised stays local. If you can’t attend, ask your employer to underwrite a prize to donate. Consider donating a prize yourself. The FNRA banquet in Meadville was the biggest in the state. Now, due largely to reduced support from area tool shops, it is one of the smallest.

Presidents Message -

Winter news....

I hope all enjoyed good times outdoors and for those who take along a bow or gun may your "good times" be defined as a full freezer. Winter white & cold arrived a bit late and that was a nice break for the Club. The heating system failed with repairs taking nearly a month. Also, Dave Dunkle took advantage of the mild December to work on the new handgun shooting canopy.

Club members still need to be MEMBERS: Show up and help out! Not too often, but on the occasion of a Turkey Shoot, Fishing Derby, local Fair booth or monthly meeting... The Club is sorta getting along, but the potential to be better (more programs, improved facilities, fun) is driven by member participation. Next need? Finish building interior, bring some order to the old club building storage and range improvements.

So, if still looking for 2012 resolutions, you've just read some suggestions. Happy New Year Springs Rod & Gun Clubbers.

FISHING DERBY – May 20th is the date for the next fishing derby. Contact John Anderson for more info or if you are willing to help with the event.

BORROWING CLUB PROPERTY– BUILDING RENTALS - Call Dave Wise at 398-4554. Everything is to be signed out and signed in. Please put things back where you found them, not in the way of others using the area. Building rentals must be approved at club meetings. That means you must plan ahead if you are interested in a rental.

LOST AND FOUND – we have a spotting scope that was left at the rifle range last fall. Come to a meeting and pick it up or call one of the officers and identify it and then make arrangements to pick it up.

BEAR STORY – This happened the first day of rifle deer season 2011. If you recall it rained most of the day. Anyway the VA driver approached the bridge on 6 & 19 just south of Saegertown and there was a bear on the bridge. A car going the opposite direction had also seen the bear and had stopped at the other end of the bridge. The bear ran around a bit, then ran off the end of the bridge into the brush. All in daylight.

Sign up a new/old member for next year!

SPRINGS ROD & GUN CLUB 2012 CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Jan 11	Meeting	Aug 05	High Power Match
		Aug 08	Meeting
Feb 08	Meeting		
Feb 26	High Power Match		
		Sept 02	High Power Match
		Sept 3-8	Waterford Fair
Mar 04	High Power Match	Sept 12	Meeting
Mar 14	Meeting	Sept 15	Gun Party
Mar 18	Ham Shoot		
Mar 24	Archery Party		
Mar 31	Highway Cleanup	Oct 07	High Power Match
		Oct 09	Terry Williams Match
Apr 01	High Power Match	Oct 10	Meeting
Apr 11	Meeting	Oct 21	Turkey Shoot
		Oct 28	Turkey Shoot
May 06	High Power Match		
May 09	Meeting	Nov 04	High Power/Turkey
May 20	Fishing Derby		Shoot
		Nov 11	Turkey Shoot
Jun 03	High Power Match	Nov 14	Meeting
Jun 13	Meeting	Nov 18	Turkey Shoot
Jul 01	High Power Match		
Jul 11	Meeting	Dec 12	Meeting
Jul	CS Fireman's Carnival		

Meetings start at 7 PM when on EST, 8 PM when on DST. High Power Rifle Matches start at 8:30 AM. All other events start at 1 PM.

THE HEALTH OF A CLUB IS ILLUSTRATED BY THE PARTICPATION OF MEMBERS IN CLUB ACTIVITIES.