

NEWSLETTER



Association

2011 OFFICERS

President Mike Ansel (Acting)
1st Vice President Mike Ansel
2nd Vice President Jon Higginbotham
Trustees..... Paul Lyons
Mel Weise
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President's Message

It has been a pleasure serving as 1st vice president for 2011. It is hard to believe another year has gone by so fast. I would like to thank the officers, trustees and all the volunteers that helped at the club.

I want to invite all members to the regular monthly meetings the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM.

Our club does need more volunteers. If the same people do all the work, they will burn out! There are some people working at the club four to five days a week. Please contact your club and help out. The definition of club is: "an association of people with the same common interest who meet periodically." More participation in our association is vital for your club to survive.

We still are collecting e-mail addresses. Please put yours on your application. The e-mail address for the club web site is www.cocalicosportsmen.org. GET INVOLVED!

Message from the 2nd Vice President, Jon Higginbotham: It seems that most places I go, I inevitably stumble upon someone who has been a member of Cocalico Sportsmen's Association at some former time in their life. As conversations of the "good ole days" naturally ensue, my friends recount stories of intense shoots, friendly social gatherings and tales of incredible marksmanship abilities. Unfortunately, the memories typically end with a revelation of how things have changed. After quickly determining that it has been years since many of my friends have been back to the club, I inform them that thanks to the voluntary efforts of numerous dedicated members, we still have regular competitive shoots, social events filled with camaraderie and fellowship and well maintained range facilities. And sure, some things have changed, but change is not always a bad thing. Typically, I end the conversation by inviting them back to see how the club has evolved over the years and experience all we have

to offer. I also extend an invitation to you. Please come out and participate in all that we do. And for added convenience, we plan on enhancing the promotion of our events through the use of e-mail and social networking sites in the near future.

Treasurer's Report

We finished the 2010 year with a small and budgeted loss of \$4176 due in part to several significant capital expenditures, including a new John Deere tractor with mower and snow blower to replace an aged model and to allow volunteers to more efficiently handle the grounds-keeping tasks, HVAC upgrade, and other improvements to the building and grounds. Membership income increased and fund raising activities were quite successful and profitable and help to mitigate the deficit due to continually declining clay target activity. The Voting Membership approved an Operating Budget for 2011 with a planned increase in reserves of approximately \$5000 with no significant planned capital improvements. Despite the economic challenges the Club faces, our mid-year position was strong due to expense control and continues to look so for the rest of this year. Our financial position remains fairly stable, with minor cash flow difficulties in the summer months, but we maintain reasonable investments. We continue to bolster our investments to safeguard against future negative circumstances and to be prepared for opportunities to expand our property and buffers to our shooting ranges.

Trustee's Report

The Trustees are doing their best to keep the property looking good. We'd like to send a special thank you to the new members for volunteering their four hours to help keep the club looking nice.

We need volunteers for a snow removal crew of 4 to 5 people. If anyone is interested in helping out with this, please contact Mel Weise at 717-336-3926.

We are also looking for someone to take over the kitchen breakfast on trap Sunday. Again, if anyone is interested in helping the club out in this way, please contact Paul Lyons at 717-336-7493.

Shoot Committee

Minor range improvements continue to be made to the facilities along with regular maintenance handled primarily by a small group of valued volunteers who keep the property in great shape.

The clay target shooting activity and income decline of recent years has seemed to stabilize this year. Skeet and trap remain a keystone of income and recreational fun for so many of our members and guests.

The Environmental Stewardship Plan (ESP) was completed last year and we have begun implementation of some of the initiatives this year. An important segment of the ESP includes lead shot reclamation and range relocations which we are diligently evaluating and soon hope to be close to finalizing our strategy.

The archery range is busy this time of year and the rifle ranges should soon be as well in anticipation of the big game seasons. The Skeet fields will be closed on three Saturdays in November to allow rifle shooters time to prepare for these seasons. There are other skeet field restrictions of use in November and December as well. Please note that anytime skeet fields are in use during the regularly scheduled times, you may still use the upper rifle ranges. Rifle shooters must yield the lower range at the designated skeet shooting times. Remember, rifle, trap, and skeet ranges may be closed at other times due to mowing or other maintenance. Please obey all OPEN/CLOSED signs.

Please follow all posted safety signs on the ranges and remember: Safety First, then Good Shooting.

NEW HUNTING REGULATIONS:

Typically, changes to our club policies are necessitated by current regulations, other times they are required for the betterment of operating policies and principles. The latter best describes our most recent amendment to hunting the club property. Please note that at the discretion of the officers and trustees, the following changes will be in effect for this year's hunting season.

1. The club property is open to hunting by current members only. Please carry your membership card at all times while hunting.
2. Hunters are allowed to erect ONE tree stand only.
3. Tree stands are no longer allowed to be left on the property. Hunters are permitted to position their tree stand in a location of their choice on September 1st but must remove it by January

31st. Any stand left in place between February and August will be removed.

4. Doe hunting is prohibited. This includes mentored youth hunts. The expectation is an attempt to enhance the current deer population for future years.

Please notice that there are no planned range closings during the hunting season. If you anticipate shooting during this time, please consider the hunters and use discretion in planning your range time.

Youth .22 Rifle League

It's been another great year for the .22 League and a great experience for all participating. We are very proud of the boys and girls who made up our team. These are great kids who were willing to learn, be safe and still have a good time.

Thanks go out to all the parents for their support: Len & Sherry Kirkner, Michael Laws, Tom Logue, Shana Jacobs, Dave Long, Jean Hutchison, Chris Howells, Nevin Schlegel, Menno Young, Chris White, Chris Reich, Wayne King and Doug Redcay, with a special thanks to our assistant coaches Neal Showalter & Dennis Moyer.

The 2012 season begins in April and concludes in August. Weekly practice sessions are on Wednesday evenings beginning at 5 PM. No experience is required and anyone age 11-18 is welcome. Please contact Jim & Diane Haller at (717) 336-5265 or email dhaller@dejazzd.com for more information.

We would also like to thank Cocalico Sportsmen's Club for all their support.

Fund raising for 2011

We will hold a Block Shoot on September 23, 2011. Shooting hours are 6-9 PM. All shooters welcome. Ammo provided by the club.

Raffle Calendars are available NOW for the month of December 2011. Please see Mel Weise or Diane Haller for your Raffle Calendar for December 2011

On Oct. 15th we will hold a Drive Thru Roast Beef Dinner at Weaver Markets at the 272/897 store in the banquet side parking lot. Time: 11 AM until sold out.

Fund Raising 2012

We will hold block shoots on the following dates in 2012: April 13, June 15 and Oct 12. Shooting hours are 6 to 9 PM. All shooters welcome. Ammo provided by the club.

We will have Raffle Calendars for the months of May and December in 2012. Please see Mel Weise or Diane Haller for a calendar.

The 2nd Sunday every month is Trap Sunday. Come on out and have a great breakfast. Everyone is wel-

come and we will continue to raffle off several meat trays during these breakfasts.

The club fund raising activities are ongoing and new activities are planned as we can. To keep up with our activities please go to the club web site at www.cocalicosportsmen.org and check the "Breaking News" tab. If you don't have access to the internet you may contact Mel and Sandy Weise or Jim and Diane Haller for fund raising information.

Fish Pond

The fish rodeo was held on April 9, 2011, with approximately 138 children participating. There were 89 door prizes awarded with the Grand Prize going to Caitlin Trickett for the largest fish of the day at 19.5 inches in length! The grand prize was a rod and reel combo.

The club would like to send a big "Thank You" to Musser's Outdoors in Ephrata for donating some of the door prizes and for giving an additional 10% off on the prizes that were purchased.

Thank You to Mike Kunkle for cleaning fish the day of the rodeo and for donating ALL of the proceeds to the club.

We will be stocking the pond with 300 14" fish and 600 11-12" fish in September of 2011. Fishing after stocking will be catch and release only, fly fishing with barbless hooks only.

Thank you to all who participated and helped at the pond this season!

****SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR CLUB MEMBERS, THEIR CHILDREN AND/OR GRANDCHILDREN!**

Master fly fisherman Edgar Payne will donate his time to conduct a fly fishing seminar at the club pond on September 24, 2011, from 9 AM until noon. A current membership card must be displayed to participate.

Please bring whatever fly fishing equipment you may have, including fishing or safety glasses, a hat, rod, reel, lures, etc. Equipment will be provided for those who have none to bring. Edgar will be assisted by Ms. Julie Fox and Ms. Carol Nichols.

The kids fishing rodeo will be held on April 14, 2012, from noon until 3 PM. There will be many prizes, lots of big fish and plenty to eat and drink. The rodeo is open to member's children and/or grandchildren free of charge.

Web Store

We would like to remind everyone that we have club logo merchandise available on the internet at our web store. The club gets a small percentage of the profit from sales at the site.

Our next special will be scheduled for the month of November. All orders received November 1st through November 30th will be marked down 10%.

Members must type in the words (all small case and one word): "getyourten" at the bottom of the "shopping cart page" in the Coupon box. The system will apply the 10% discount to their orders. But remember, it is not automatic – members must type in getyourten.

2012 Membership Information

2012 Annual Dues are \$20.00. Current 2011 member renewals for 2012 membership must be received before January 31, 2012. Otherwise you must submit this as a new member application with the \$30.00 fee and you will be required to meet the work party requirements outlined below. For renewal of 2011 membership, enclose with this application the 2012 annual dues of \$20.00 by January 31, 2012. No exceptions will be made for late renewals.

New member applications include a non-refundable application fee of \$10.00 for a total of \$30.00 per applicant. New member applications will be submitted for approval by the membership at the next monthly meeting after receipt and if approved you will receive your membership card within two weeks. If membership is denied you will receive a refund of the \$20.00 annual dues paid, less the \$10.00 application fee.

Membership dues are not prorated. New membership applications received and approved starting at the October 2011 monthly meeting, and anytime up to and including the September 2012 monthly meeting, will be good through December 31, 2012. New membership applications received after the September 2012 monthly meeting and approved at the October, November, or December 2012 monthly meetings will be good through December 31, 2013.

All newly approved members must participate in at least one (1) scheduled work party in their first year of membership. Failure to do so will result in denial of renewal of your membership for the following year. You must then wait one (1) additional year to reapply as a new member. Exemptions are available for active duty military service and physical disabilities preventing manual labor.

Prospective new members making application may pay a \$50 Work Party Exemption Fee in addition to the initial \$30 Membership Fee to waive the above noted work rule requirement. Payment of the Fee eliminates the requirement to attend one scheduled work party and will insure you are eligible for membership renewal for the 2013 year.

2012 work parties are tentatively scheduled for January 7, March 17, June 9, and September 8. Please see www.cocalicosportsmen.org for final dates. Work parties will run from 8:00am until 12:00pm. No reservations are needed; simply show up prepared to work. All members are welcome to participate and all help is appreciated.

Membership applications and renewals should be mailed only to Cocalico Sportsmen's Association, P.O. Box 140, Schaefferstown, PA, 17088, or they can be dropped off at the clubhouse during scheduled events. Checks returned from the bank for any reason will be returned to the applicant and require the applicant to pay the bank service fee in addition to the annual dues and must be resubmitted by certified check or money order.

You must display your current Membership Card when using the rifle, pistol, and archery ranges, and fishing pond. If your card is not displayed and you are questioned by a Trustee, Officer, or any member of the club and you do not respond with a civil answer you may be subject to dismissal from the club. Absolutely No Guests may use the range or pond facilities. Children of members under the age of 18 may use the facilities only under the direct supervision of the parent.

No shooting is allowed before 8:00am, or on any ranges when indicated "Range Closed" by the signs. No shooting at anything other than paper targets fastened to the target racks provided with a proper backstop, and only the provided steel targets on the pistol range. No shooting at posts or cross bars of the target racks, targets set at mid-range, nor cross shooting on ranges. No shooting of full automatic weapons of any type. Eye and ear protection REQUIRED when shooting Trap or Skeet and HIGHLY RECOMMENDED for rifle and pistol shooting and for spectators on any range. Observe all safe gun handling rules and especially keep all gun muzzles pointed downrange with the action open and safety on until ready to fire. Absolutely no loaded guns in the clubhouse.

As always, we encourage you to patronize the local businesses who support our club by offering us discounts and donating prizes for the fish rodeo and other functions.

Musser's Outdoors
Richland Shooter's Supplies
Darryl's Gun Shop
Cabela's
Bass Pro Shops

2012 SCHEDULE of EVENTS

- Annual Kids Fish Rodeo, Saturday, April 14...12:00 to 3:00pm...Open to children and grandchildren, age 15 years and younger, of members in good standing and under their supervision. The pond is stocked with plenty of trout, and snacks and drinks are provided.
- Monthly Meeting...the second Wednesday of each month beginning at 7:00pm. Open to members and guests.

- Breakfast is served the second Sunday of each month from 6:00 to 10:30am. Open to the public.

TRAP SHOOTING

- Monthly Trap Shoot the second Sunday of each month from 8:00am to 3:00pm. Open to the public.
- ALL Rifle and Pistol Ranges Closed during Trap Shooting.

BLOCK SHOTS

- Block Shoots tentatively scheduled for April 13, June 13, and October 12 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Open to the public.
- Shells provided and no chokes tighter than standard full choke allowed.

SKEET SHOOTING

- Practice Tuesdays 4:00 to 7:00pm, Wednesdays from 12:00 to 3:00pm & 5:00 to 8:00pm, and Saturdays from 12:00 to 4:00pm.
- Club Championship...Saturday Sept. 22...Noon to 3:00pm. Open to the public. High Member, Open, & Lewis Class Prizes.
- Groundhog Day Shoot...Saturday Feb. 4...Noon to 3:00pm. Open to the public. High Overall & Lewis Class Prizes.
- NSSA Registered Shoots may take place with schedules to be determined. Please see Bulletin Board and website for schedules. These events are open to the public, but only NSSA registered shooters.

Lower Rifle Range Only Closed During Skeet Shooting. Upper Rifle and Pistol Ranges are Open.

OTHER RANGE CLOSINGS

From Nov. 5 to Dec. 10, 2011 these special range closings apply to accommodate as many rifle shooters as possible in preparation for the rifle deer season: Trap...open only Sunday Nov. 13th...Skeet... open during daylight hours only on Wednesdays from Noon to 3:00pm, and Sat. Nov. 5 from Noon to 4:00pm. Skeet fields closed Saturday Nov. 12, 19, and 26 all day. For 2012 closings, please see our website.

Schedule of Events are subject to change without notice. Please see www.cocalicosportsmen.org or the bulletin board at the clubhouse for updates.