



The Dead Clay Journal

January 2012

Official Newsletter of the North County Sportsman's Club

January Annual Meeting Update

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM with Mike Weaver, Geoff Greene, John Vibber, Tim Davis, Tim Riddle, Mike Pelletier, Terry Jerolman, Bob Otty, and Tom Blair present.

The December minutes were not available and were passed over.

The Treasurer's report was presented. The annual results showed a moderate loss due to somewhat reduced shooting revenue and some additional one-time expenses and increased insurance costs. Overall our cash position is positive and the club is in reasonably good financial condition.

The officers for 2012 was presented, and the following officers were officially installed: President- Tom Blair, Vice President – Mike Weaver, Treasurer – Tim Riddle, Secretary – John Vibber, Greg Beshore – co-Secretary/member at large, the other members-at-large are Mike Pelletier, Geoff Greene, and Terry Jerolman.

The status of our 2010 Fish and Wildlife grant was discussed. ATC has completed water sampling and the final report has been received. A building permit application has been approved by the Town of Williston. We have also received a letter from the Act 250 Regional Coordinator confirming that an Act 250 review is not required. Mike Pelletier is scheduled to meet very soon with a representative from Ireland to plan fill delivery.

Bill Boyce, Vermont State Delegate to the National Sporting Clays Association was present and briefed us on NSCA issues in general, and the status and plans for Sporting Clays in Vermont during 2012. NCSC will hold our "Frozen 100" registered sporting shoot again on February 25th, 2012 and there will be a joint NCSC and Underhill Rod and Gun Club 5-Stand Shoot on March 31st, starting at Williston with breakfast and 50 targets, and then moving to Underhill for lunch and 50 more targets. Tim Davis will submit the shoot

application to the National Sporting Clays Association for both events. (see article below).

Bob Otty gave us a brief update on the NCSC Facebook Fan Page. Activity is building slowly, but it is an important component of our web presence and we hope to make it a primary source of current information on the club in the future. In the interest of control and consistency, Bob and Kelly Otty will maintain administrative responsibility for the account at this time. We urge anyone with a Facebook account to please check it out and become a "fan" by checking the "Like" box on the page. Anyone who has material to submit to the Fan Page should submit it to Kelly.

It was reported that we still have no results of the water testing done by the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation on November 30th.

Tim Riddle is back and is once again serving as our club manager. Please be kind! Thank you Tim!

The drawing for the Tri-Star shotgun raffle was held, and the winner is Ben Cotton of Shelburne. (see article below)

The computer system donated by Doug Allen is seeing good usage, significantly simplifying the end of day reporting, and we hope it will become a useful tool for recording attendance. (See article below)

NRA Foundation Grants have been requested once again this year for the Women on Target and Trap Camp programs. We anticipate that the grants will be products in lieu of cash again this year.

Operating hours were discussed. It was agreed that it makes sense for the club manager to close early on days when the weather is not good and we have no shooters in the afternoon. (See article below)

The club needs to raise some capital for replacement of our aging traps. Several ideas were discussed. Tim Riddle will come back with ideas next month

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20pm

Tri Star Shotgun Raffle

Taylor Buckner of Hero's Arms donated a brand new Tri Star single-barreled Trap Gun to the club, which we decided to raffle as a fund raiser. Approximately 175 tickets were sold at \$5.00 each. Bob Otty (who did not have a ticket in the bucket) drew the winning ticket at the Annual Meeting on January 11th. The winner was Ben Cotton of Shelburne. Ben is Boy Scout with Troop 692, and he purchased his ticket during the Scouts Shotgun Merit Badge day on November 12th. Ben, his dad, and his grandfather, came to the club on January 15th and were presented with the gun. You can see pictures on the NCSC Facebook Fanpage. Congratulations Ben!

Facebook Fanpage

Thanks to the efforts of Bob and Kelly Otty, the club now has a Facebook Fanpage. This is a Facebook account for an organization as opposed to an individual. We already have a lot of really great content to view, including the video from the Summer Fun Shoot, and some recent pictures of the Boy Scout merit badge event (and Ben Cotton receiving his new shotgun!) If you have a Facebook account, check it out, and feel free to leave comments on the wall. If you have pictures that you would like to post, you can email them to me, and I will get them to Kelly for posting, or you can simply upload them with your comments. And feel free to tag pictures on your own site that you feel would be of interest.

Sporting Clays Events

NCSC will be host to two registered Sporting Clays events this year. The first for us, and the first in Vermont, will be our Frozen 100, to be held on February 25th. This will consist of 50 "walk-through" targets, shot from various non-standard positions with a variety of targets and pairs consisting of birds launched from Trap, 5-Stand, and portable machines. There will also be 50 5-stand targets, presented as three

report pairs and two simultaneous pairs from each 5-Stand station.

The other shoot, which at this point has a working title of either Green Mountain 5-Stand Classic, or March 5-Stand Madness, will be held on March 31st. Two standard rounds of 5-Stand will be shot in the morning at Williston, with breakfast available, and two more standard rounds of 5-Stand at the Underhill Club immediately following, with lunch available at that location. Fees and pre-registration procedures are still being worked out. Sporting shooters – watch your email! If you are a serious sporting clays shooter, this will give you an opportunity to get in 200 registered targets before April 1st!

Membership

We offered some incentives for people to renew their memberships at the annual meeting, and also offered some incentives for people to upgrade their memberships to Lifetime Memberships this year. I am happy to announce that we now have four new Lifetime members. Congratulations to Bruce Bayliss, Mike Pelletier, John Vibber, and Mike Weaver. Thank you. And thank you to everyone who has renewed your memberships for 2012. If you have not done so yet, please plan to do so soon. It is an important source of funding for the club that we count on to cover insurance, taxes, fuel, maintenance, and hopefully some capital improvements.

Club Hours

While there is no official change to the operating hours, during January, February, and even early March, it starts getting dark and cold quite early. On those days when the weather is somewhat inclement and/or we have nobody still shooting at one or two o'clock, the club manager has been directed to commence closing. We don't want to disappoint anyone, or have anyone drive a long distance for nothing. So if you are planning to shoot, please arrive not later than around 1:00pm.

Computer Sign-In

We started the policy of asking everyone to sign in on the computer system located in the clubhouse a few weeks ago. Usage has been a little spotty, but overall, pretty good. As we get into the spring, we would like to ask everyone to please remember to sign in, and update your rounds shot when you leave. This helps us to reconcile our end of day cash on hand with rounds shot, and gives us a record of who was at the club. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Range Improvement Grants

NCSC was approved for a multi-faceted Range Improvement Grant to address range improvement, sound abatement, and lead mitigation. Work has commenced with the completion of the surface water testing. The amount of the approved grant is approximately \$29,000. An additional \$14,000 match will need to be provided by NCSC in cash or contributions in kind. All required permits are now in place. Plans will proceed as quickly as possible. Thanks to the continuing efforts of Mike Pelletier, we appear to have a reliable source for fill.

Legal Defense Fund

A few months ago, NCSC established a "Legal Defense Fund", to deal with the attorney fees that we have already incurred, and those that may be incurred. Everyone is encouraged to "round up" your range fees, or throw in an extra dollar or two each week to support this fund. We thank you.

NCSC Classified

Do you remember that Ponsness Warren reloading press that Claude Perry had advertised in this column for a couple of months? Well, Ira Schiffer is now the proud owner, so it does work!

This is offered as a service to members who have something they wish to buy or sell. If you would like to have something listed, please email Tom Blair at tblairvt@comcast.net.

John's Vibber's Northeast Kingdom Mystery "**Shadow on Cant-dog Hill**", Great read & signed copies make great gifts (Valentine's Day is coming!). See the copy in the club house. See John for copies. \$15.00 (tax included) for club members.

Former club member and board member, Dick Morse has a nice little 28ga Citori Grade III that he is interested in selling. It is LNIB with 26" barrels, great wood and comes with three Browning Midas chokes and two flush chokes, ranging from IC to IM. The original box and all papers are included. Dick is asking \$2,250. If interested, he can be reached at 802-685-7722 or email him at rcm.ebm@gmail.com.

Contact Information

Clubhouse phone (leave a message and someone will call you back): 802-878-0330.

Also see below info at www.shootncsc.com

Tom Blair, President 802 872 8329
tblairvt@comcast.net

Mike Weaver, VP 802 879 3646
mcdmweaver@yahoo.com

Tim Riddle, Treasurer 802 999 4316
Mail@timothyriddle.com

John Vibber, co-Secretary 802 735 0750
jvrollcast@gmail.com

Greg Beshore, co-Secretary 802 244 5655
gabeshore@gmail.com

Geoff Greene, At Large 802 865 2836
ggreene@acm.org

Mike Pelletier, At Large 802 482 6372
mrp154@gmavt.net

Terry Jerolman, At large 802- 864-7945
jeroloman@alumni.neu.edu