



MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER July 2010

SOME IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Membership initiation fee waived until December 31

The \$150 initiation fee of new members is being waived for all new members that join between July 1 and December 31 of this year. The Board is making this offer to encourage new membership, and to assist new members in this down economic time. Please notify anyone who might be interested in joining. For those members who joined the Club in 2010 *and paid the \$150 initiation fee*, the Club offers you a 20-round shoot card. Please see the Manager to claim your card.

Price changes

The Board and the Management of the Club have held prices steady for a number of years. In response to changes in the cost of running the Club, the Board has reluctantly voted to increase the price on non-shooting items by an average of 10 percent. The Board and the Management have over the past few years managed increased costs in a variety of ways to keep the prices you pay constant. We simply are unable to continue doing so. Let me repeat: ***Shooting prices will not be affected.***

Even with our price change, our prices remain quite competitive. On a recent fact-finding trip, I found that when compared to our competition, ammunition prices are significantly lower at the Club. And, according to those who know better than I, our new prices for shotguns still make us more than competitive. Just more reasons to become a member.

SAVE THE DATE REMINDER!!!

July 18

The Club is a business, but it really is more than just that. Since the 1930s it has been a club, a place for shooters—whether your interests are in trap, skeet, sporting clays or 5-stand (or all of them)—to gather. In appreciation for your support through the years, the Board invites you to attend **Member Appreciation Day**.

From 11 to noon we will be serving hot dogs, brats and the fixings. Board members will be circulating and will be available to answer your questions. Best of all, from noon until close members and their guests can enjoy ***half-price shooting in all disciplines.*** Ever

wanted to try one of the other shooting sports? Now is your chance, at half the price! Want to introduce a friend to the Club? Now's your chance, at half price! (Notice a theme?) All members and their guests are welcome. Watch your email and the bulletin board at the Club for any additional information.

September 10-12

On September 10-12 the instruction team of Gil and Vicki Ash will hold shooting classes. This is an exciting opportunity for anyone, beginner or advanced shooter alike.

The instructional day runs from 8:30 - 4:30/5:00, with about an hour for lunch (everyone provides their own). Everyone attending a clinic will meet at the clubhouse, fill out a card (even if you have shot with them before) that asks about 15 background questions. Then a group of 5 students and Gil will head to the course. Each shooter is checked out with a few shots, a review with everyone as to their goals, and then the fun begins. Gil and Vicki will teach their methods to each student -- at that student's level. From Master class to the novice, students will learn from Gil and Vicki, but also from watching each other shoot, and talking with the group. Board member Brien Koppe, who made the contact and also is signed up to take 2 days of lessons, is more than happy to provide further information about his experience. You can reach him at brienk@att.net.

The cost of this exciting opportunity is a bargain at only \$385 for a full day of instruction. More information will be provided in future newsletters, and make sure to check out the banner in the clubhouse. If you'd like more information about Gil and Vicki, their methods, and just how in-demand they are, check out their website at <http://www.ospschool.com>.

Register now to ensure your spot!

SHOOTING NEWS

• TRAP

The Club held its monthly trap shoot on June 27. If I read the score sheets properly, the winners were:

Doubles

Larry Prior and Rebekah Lowen (Junior champ)

16-yard

Jacob Wideman and Logan Napoli (tie, Champ); Geoffrey Jackson (Junior Champ); Marvin Beumer and Tom Rombach (tie, A Class); Samantha Foppe (B class); Curtis Barker (C Class)

Handicap

Curtis Barker, Marvin Beumer, Samantha Foppe and Logan Napoli all shot a 93 to tie for top honors.

Congratulations to these participants. As always, thanks to the shooters, to volunteers and to the Club Manager and his staff for their efforts in making this a successful shoot. We look forward to everyone at this month's shoot on the 25th.

- **SKEET**

The next skeet event at the Club is scheduled for July 17. This is the St. Louis Open. Watch for more information at the Club and through an email announcement.

Some kudos for our skeet shooters:

Richard Rapp took gun champ with a 99 in 28 gauge and a 95 in 20 gauge at the June 5 shoot at Prairie Grove near Columbia, MO. Way to go Richard!

Carter Finnell, Vice-president of the Board of Directors, and Mike House were both named to Missouri State Teams by the National Skeet Shooting Association. Carter was named to the 12 gauge, .410 and HOA Second teams. Mike was named to the Second team for 12 gauge, 20 gauge and HOA. Mike also was named to the First Team for the .410 and doubles. Selection to these teams is based on minimum targets shot in registered shoots and by scoring average.

Although it is short notice, on July 10 the Missouri Show-Me Games will once again be held at Prairie Groves Shooting Sports outside of Columbia, MO. This is a 50-bird event, all gauges and doubles. Shooters get a t-shirt, a chance to win a medal and a great dinner following the day's events. The fee is \$18.50 per event. This includes fees and dinner. For more information, visit their website at www.prairiegroveshooting.com.

- **SPORTING CLAYS**

The Club held its Second Annual SXS-Pump Gun Fun Shoot on Sunday, June 13. (Pictures are on the Photo Gallery at the Club website.) What a great time and an opportunity to talk about vintage and new side-by-side and pump shotguns.

With the temperature in the 90s and the heat index over 100 nearly 20 sports ventured out in conditions that matched anything found in Serengeti plains of Tanzania. But the conditions did not stop the true pump gun experts from registering some impressive scores on a tough course: Terry Wriley from Park Hill turned in a score of 84 and John Loughlin from Creve Coeur a 74 on the Sporting Clays course. Both walked away with boxes of shells and congratulations from the other shooters. The two high SXS shooters, Hunter Davis 87 and Mark Thompson 85 also took home some shells and the plaudits of the troops. Brian Hoppe took 5-Stand honors with a 19. Mark Thompson was high over all in Sporting Clays and 5-Stand with a score of 103.

Check the calendar on the website or at the Club for future events. We have quite a full slate of shooting events so take advantage of what we have to offer.

THE ST. LOUIS SKEET AND TRAP CORPORATE PARTNER

In the last few newsletters I have discussed the Club's new Corporate Partner Program. The objectives of the program are to increase member and non-member awareness of your business; and to raise funds to help ensure continued investment in infrastructure and programs offered by the Club.

A Gold Partner has been secured from Remington. Several members have stepped forward and you will be seeing their signs around the Club in the near future. Other Gold Partners include by Board members Carter Finnell (Marco Polo Outfitters); Mark Johnson (Sportsman's Resource Connection); and Karl Schoenbeck (ON TARGETSTL.COM). Due to the generosity and good business sense of these individuals, not only will you see their advertising, but you also will see a new sign at the entrance to the Club. When the Board asked for suggestions on how to improve the Club, this came up several times. And now we have kept our promise to listen and act upon your input to help improve the Club.

As a reminder, the Corporate Partner Program calls for three partner levels. The **Gold Partner** is available for \$1,000; the **Silver Partner** is available for \$500; and the **Bronze Partner** is available for \$250. Each level of support carries with it benefits that includes signage around the Club, and may include a prominent link to your company's website in our "Corporate Partner" section on the Club.

If you or your friends and business associates who might be interested in the program, please contact the co-chairs of the Marketing Committee, Board members Mark Johnson or Karl Schoenbeck at the email addresses listed on the website.

I STILL NEED PICTURES!

Whenever we have an event, if someone is taking pictures, please send me copies so I can put them in the newsletter and in the photo gallery on the Club's website. C'mon, help me out folks!

See you at the Club.

Respectfully submitted: Rik Hafer