



Eau Claire Rod & Gun Club **NEWSLETTER**



JANUARY 2020

"Wisconsin's Oldest and Finest Gun Club"

DOUG BURROWS

With a heavy heart we are saddened to inform our Eau Claire Rod and Gun Club family that we recently lost Doug Burrows. He served as Club President from August 2000 to December 2010. He was passionate about conservation issues and spent a lot of time at the club for many years. He will be dearly missed.

Memorials for Doug can be directed to St. Matthew Lutheran Church; Pheasants Forever for habitat/pollinator projects c/o Jim Murray, 700 S. 57th Avenue, Eau Claire, WI 54703; or the Community Table online at www.thecommunitytable.org.

CLUBHOUSE OPEN WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

The clubhouse/bar continues to be open on Wednesday nights from 6:30PM until "close." There is **no shooting**.

Super Bowl Sunday

The bar will be open for Super Bowl LIV on February 2nd. Please stop on out to say hello and pick up your 2020 Membership!

2020 MEMBERSHIPS

Memberships to the Eau Claire Rod and Gun Club are currently only available for purchase in the clubhouse/bar, or at the rifle/pistol range when the range is open. Historically memberships were sold at various retailers in the area. However, these were removed due to the issues we were having at the rifle/pistol range. Now that the rifle/pistol range is no longer unsupervised, with RSOs now on duty when the range is open, we are exploring the option of allowing membership sales at local retailers again. We are reaching out to retailers to gauge interest; more to come.

Memberships are valid 1/1/20 – 12/31/20. Prices of memberships will be the same as prior years at: \$35-Family; \$25-Adult; \$5-Youth; Senior Free (if a member the last 5 years). Please note: Family Memberships only include yourself, your spouse, and your children under 18-years of age.

18th ANNUAL SPORTSMAN DINNER AND GUN RAFFLE

The annual Eau Claire Rod and Gun Club Banquet will be on March 12, 2020 at the Westgate Sportsman's Club. Social hour starts at 5:00PM with dinner and drawings at 7:00PM. Invites have been sent out. If you are looking for tickets, please contact Mike Johnson at 715-579-5707 to get on the waiting list as seats are limited.

SCTP SIGN UP

Sign up for SCTP will be at the club on February 9th 4:00PM – 6:00PM. Trap shooters 5th Grade – Collage age are welcome to join.

What is SCTP? The Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) provides kids from elementary grades through high school and college with the opportunity to participate in the fun and challenging sports of Trap, Skeet and Sporting Clays, as well as the Olympic disciplines of Bunker Trap, Trap Doubles and International Skeet.

For more information about the program please contact:

- Ron Bowers
(715) 271-4447
rjabowers@msn.com

2020 GENERAL SHOOTING SCHEDULE

The 2020 yearly schedule is almost complete – waiting on a couple benefit shoot commitments. Once completed, we will post the schedule on our website as well as include it in a newsletter.

We do know for certain the following:

- 1st day open for trap shooting is Sunday, February 23rd
- Handicap league meeting is on Tuesday, February 25th at 6:00 PM (see more detail below)
- The 2020 Handicap Leagues will start on Tuesday April 28th and Wednesday April 29th
- 16 yard league starts on May 18th
- 2020 ATA shoots at the club: April 18th & 19th; May 16th & 17th; June 6th & 7th
- Corn Day is on Sunday August 9th
- Handicap league 'Shoot Off Day' is August 22nd

2020 LEAGUE ORGANIZATION MEETING

The annual Trap League meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 25th** at 6:00PM.

Team Captains: If you have not been contacted by or spoken with Bob Webber about your team shooting for 2020, please contact him immediately (715-723-7419 or email at: ranlwebber@msn.com). We would like to have the handicap league schedule out as early as possible so shooters can coordinate bank scores, shoot aheads, and other plans they may have around the schedule. Additionally, we do have a waiting list of teams who would like to join one of our leagues and we need to let them know if they have a spot this year or not.

Interested in Shooting: If you are interested in signing up a team of your own for trap shooting, please send us an email and we can add your team to our waiting list. Or, if you would like to shoot but do not have enough people to make up a complete team, please let us know. Occasionally we do have existing teams looking for shooters and can keep your name available if there is a need for another shooter.

EAU CLAIRE ROD AND GUN CLUB BENEFIT SHOOT

We host several benefit shoots during the year for various causes. A question was recently raised, "why doesn't the Rod and Gun have their own benefit shoot to raise funds?" This sounds like a great idea!!! We are exploring options, availability, and dates. More to come...

2019 ANNUAL MEETING

Our Annual Club Meeting is scheduled on the second Monday of December annually. This year it was held on December 9, 2019 and highlights include:

- **Financials** (thru 11/30) – Revenues were down about 5% at \$340K versus \$359K over the same time last year. Trap shooting saw marginal decreases with bar, loading supplies, and membership see the largest decreases. Operating expenses continue to be well controlled. Less was spent on targets, shells, and trap wages as less slightly less shooting occurred. Less was spent on maintenance/repairs – last year we had several expenses tied to the new shed and concrete loading dock. Thank you to all the volunteers who donate their time to help keep our expenses as low as possible.

In summary, despite the lower income, expenses were controlled with a surplus being seen through 11/30/19 – minimal change is anticipated through the end of the year as not much is going on in December. We started the year with \$115K in cash balances and have just over \$118K in the bank at 11/30/19. We have no debt.

- **Election of Officers** - This year we had two Board Member terms come due: Tony Owen and Dan Creviston – both of whom wanted to continue to volunteer on the board. Nominations were requested from the floor with no other nominations being made. Both Tony and Dan were re-elected for three-year terms.

Officer Position Votes – officer positions were voted on at the January 13, 2020 board meeting with no changes made to the prior year and are as follows:

President – Tony Owen	Vice President – Jason Berry
Secretary – Derek Prock	Treasurer – Andy Cohen

RIFLE/PISTOL RANGE

We had six new RSOs at the December RSO class. The RSO group continues to grow as more interest is being seen in getting the range open. Thank you to all have volunteered to be RSOs.

There will be another RSO class offered this spring if you're interested in helping the club get the rifle/pistol range open more (dates TBD). A few RSOs will be working towards becoming "Lead RSOs" and that will allow them to teach and certify future RSOs, versus having to go through outside third parties.

The RSOs have indicated they are working to open the range weekly on the following days (weather permitting):

- Monday afternoons
- Tuesday for most of day

The RSOs are coordinating their schedules to work towards this goal. Please continue to check our website (www.ecrodandgun.com). You can find the dates and times on the Rifle Range Calendar. Also, we post known open dates on our Facebook page and try to do so a couple days in advance.

In addition to an ECRG Club Membership, there is continues to be a \$5.00 daily fee to shoot on the range. These funds will be used to cover RSO certification costs as well as range upkeep (repairs, targets, portable toilet rental, etc.). We are considering an annual range pass for \$75. This will be separate from the standard ECRG Club Membership, for those interested.

WE THANK ALL OF YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN 2019 AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR

CONTINUED SUPPORT OF WISCONSIN'S OLDEST AND FINESET GUN CLUB IN 2020!!!