

Crooked Creek Conservation Club Newsletter

SPORTSMANSHIP ON THE JOB – AFIELD – 24 HOURS A DAY

January 3, 2009

HAPPY NEW YEAR

CLUB DUES for 2009: Included in this mailing is your dues statement. Please return the entire statement with your payment as soon as possible, but no later than **February 28, 2009**. Delays in returning dues creates delays in getting membership cards out and causes significantly more work on the part of the club. Please remember there is a \$25 penalty fee on late dues not received by February 28, 2009.

THE ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: The clubs annual membership meeting will be held on **February 8, 2009** in the Main clubhouse at 1:00 p.m. No Trustee elections need to be held this year. Major completed projects for 2008 were: Rebuilding the outhouses and building an additional one by the short range shooting bays, Replacing the pavilion roof with a metal roof. Replacing concrete under Field Trial Clubhouse open area, Building a new shooting shelter at short range bay. **Please bring treats to share with fellow members at the meeting.**

Winter Schedule for the 5-Stand: We are going to open the 5-Stand the first and third Sundays of the month, January thru April. The winter hours of operation are 10 AM -2 PM.

This is the first time we have attempted to open the facility in the winter. As you all know, our winters can be fairly snowy at Crooked Creek. We lose several shooting Sundays per year to heavy snow. We suggest you call the club, 440-474-4201 during periods of bad weather to make sure we were able to open. You can also check the club web-site, *crooked-creek.org*, for a calendar of trap, skeet and 5-Stand operation.

Trap and Skeet will be open on Friday nights again in 2009. We will be open April thru September, 4 PM til Dusk. Two dedicated volunteers have committed to run this activity for us.

Turkey Shoots: The 2009 shotgun turkey shoots will be November 8, and December 6. This is a day to have fun. The game is simple. Squads of 10 compete to win a turkey. Each person shoots one shot at a target with an "X" in the middle. The person with a B-B closest to the center of the "X" wins the turkey. No Skill-All Luck!! Shoot trap, skeet and 5-stand, too.

Trap, Skeet and 5-Stand Volunteers Needed: First, **this is a reminder that everything we accomplish here at Crooked Creek is the result of volunteer support.** Archery, Pistol shoots, Dog Trials, the Steak Roast, the Clambake, grass cutting, all building and grounds maintenance, new facilities construction, etc., all require volunteers. **Every member of this club should be doing something that contributes to the continued success of Crooked Creek.**

A specific call is for new volunteers to join our faithful group of "regular volunteers" that open and operate our three clay target shooting fields. It is simply not right to expect the same small, dedicated group to keep these facilities open for everyone else's enjoyment. We need new volunteers to join the group.

People frequently ask why we open clay target venues only on Sundays, and now Friday evenings in the summer of 2009. **The answer is that we can be open any and every day of the week if we have people willing to be responsible, committed volunteers.** The "Open Fridays" announcement for Trap & Skeet is an example of this concept in action.

Our first priority is to have all three venues open on Sunday. That is the day the vast majority of club members want to shoot Trap, Skeet or the 5-Stand. Volunteer for the Sunday activities first. We train you so that you are comfortable with the activity.

We have sign-up calendars at the club. The Trap & Skeet calendar is in the main clubhouse. The 5-Stand calendar is at the 5-Stand control room. Sign-up directly on the calendar. Call Bill Vandever @ 440-974-0857 if you have questions about volunteering.

HUNTING ON CLUB GROUNDS: Please remember the following rules while hunting on club grounds. Only members and family members can hunt, NO guests. Anyone hunting must follow all Ohio game laws and possession limits. No Sunday hunting is allowed East of the swale and the old duck pond. No waterfowl hunting is allowed on the main pond.

FIREWOOD: Firewood that has been cut, split and stacked by clubhouses is **off limits for any use other than heating clubhouses.** This wood is not to be moved or used by campers. Any misuse of wood, that others have prepared for clubhouses, will be considered theft of club property and result in loss of membership. This has been an on-going problem and will not be tolerated in the future.

Reloading supplies can be ordered twice a year. Order forms will be available in the main clubhouse in April and September. Alex Thomas leads this activity

Woman in the Outdoors: The Woman in the Outdoors committee is looking for help in coordinating this event and also in need of helpers. If they get help their annual event using our club grounds is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, **April 11, 2009.** This event introduces women to many outdoor activities such as Hunting, Fishing, Camping, Archery and other Shooting sports to list just a few. The cost of attendance is \$50.00 with proceeds going to the Wild Turkey Federation.

Civilian Marksmanship Program: Anyone interested in volunteering to help plan, organize, and run rimfire sporting rifle and military rifle events for the 2009 season is welcome to join the Crooked Creek Rifles. Contact, Don Helwick at dhelwick4@mailbag.net or (440-354-9984). **Scheduled CMP matches** are 4/18, 5/16, 6/20, 7/18, 8/15, 9/19 & 10/17. Hunters fun shoot July 11 & Hunters match on 9/19. **Rimfire Shoots:** Shoots are scheduled for 4/18, 5/16, 6/20, 7/18, 8/15, 9/19 & 10/17.

Practical Pistol Shoots: Pistol match dates are 3/29, 4/26, 5/24, 6/28, 7/19, 8/23, 9/27 & 10/25. Come join in and make use of our pistol bays. The rifle ranges will be open on these dates for green badge members use. **Falling Steel** matches are scheduled for 4/4, 5/2, 6/6, 7/4, 8/1, 9/5, 10/3.

Archery: Scheduled 3D Archery Shoots will be next newsletter. Please contact David Buck 440-257-5384. David could sure use some help setting up targets the day before these shoots.

Work Detail Dates: Spring 5/3, Fall 10/18 and Winter 12/12/2009. MARK YOUR CALENDARS.

Steak Roast: Saturday July 11, 2009. This event, done by club members, is a good opportunity to share experiences with fellow club members. The food is excellent and all who attended have a great time. Please make an effort to attend.

Youth Weekend: The Youth weekend will be the **July 24-26, 2009.** There is no cost for individuals age 10-15. To sign up a youth, contact Cindy Rogge at 440-858-2855.

Clam Bake: Clam Bake will be held on **Saturday September 12, 2009.**

Field Trials: Saturday morning dog training year round. This years Trial dates are **9/13, 10/4, 10/25, 11/22, 12/13/2009.** To sign up, please call Cindy Rogge at 440-858-2855

Rifle Range Safety Course: The range safety course, required for all members who wish to use the rifle and pistol ranges, is conducted on the **Second Sunday of every month at 12:00 p.m.** Members need only attend once. A green badge will be issued and then you are welcome to use the ranges.

Visit our Club web page at <http://www.crooked-creek.org>