



HOURS OF OPERATION: APRIL THRU OCTOBER -- 8:00 AM - 9 PM • NOVEMBER THRU MARCH -- 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Volume 39

June 2006

No. 6

## President's Corner

### *My fellow Sportsmen,*

Last month I spoke to the accomplishments we've made and the opportunities that are knocking on our door. I truly believe these opportunities offer the club and the sporting world such an extensive look into the future that it would be remiss of any sportsman or organization not to answer these knocks. The BGSJ is first and foremost a conservation club. We were founded on conservation and our constitution is full of articles that are supposed to compel our membership to be conservationists. I've always thought that the first priority in conservation is to make certain that we pass the heritage of the shooting sports to the next generation, the future sportsmen that will continue the work we have accomplished and the goals we are pursuing. In order to do this, we must at a minimum, exhibit a work ethic that is an example and we must at a minimum, live by the rules we impose on ourselves. Living by these rules means we police ourselves for we are the ones that are affected by the breaking of those rules.

We must pay attention to the fundamentals of those rules. We are typically the safest participant sport going. There is reasons for that, most of the rules we impose upon ourselves have to do with safety, sportsmen also know that ethics are very important and impose ethical rules in all our venues especially in the hunting portion. But what we need to focus on, is the fundamental rules that govern the BGSJ and what is inside our gate.

Recently, I was told that rules were made to be broken. While there is more to the story where these words came from, it got me to thinking. **NOT IN OR ON A GUN CLUB!!!! The rules that govern conduct of "all" on a shooting range were never "meant" to be broken and I reject the notion entirely.**

Now that "that" is out of my system, let me apologize to the members of the League. The clubs signage has been at best

**Living by these rules means we police ourselves for we are the ones that are affected by the breaking of those rules.**

### **Next Meeting**

**Tuesday — June 6, 7:30pm**

Please direct any membership concerns to the BGSJ bookkeeper at 859-858-4060 or e-mail at BGSJinc.com

shabby, what was once new and shiny has become some what dilapidated with age and down right remiss on the clubs part. This will be corrected as soon as we can. The lack of range rules signage is starting to affect conduct and safety along with forming bad habits.

We will start with the major problems and work toward an ongoing signage maintenance program. The first steep now that the problems have been identified will be the new front gate and then the General Purpose Range. These two venues affect the most members and or our biggest recruiting and revenue generators. Now, we have the equipment, and a committee of volunteers is assembled. There will be a learning curve to overcome before you see results but **"results is what you will see"**.

In the meantime and always, we need to be diligent about policing ourselves. It is the duty of all sportsmen to do this. It is easy to be a sportsman and help out and educate the new guy and it's easy to let the new guy to ask for help.

These are a couple of the fundamentals and fundamentals will help us answer the knocks of opportunity and secure the future.

### **You are "BLUE GRASS"!**

**Hope to see you at the club! (With a guest)!**

At Your Service,  
Greg Delabar  
president@bgsjinc.com

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **League Officers:**

**President** Greg Delabar ..... 523-0250  
**Secretary** Terry Hagar ..... 885-3058  
**Treasurer** John Burke..... 312-9165

### **Directors At-Large:**

Bill Blackburn ..... 278-1486  
Claude Jacobs..... 608-1215  
Mike Kass ..... 887-1742  
Earl Mewhorter ..... 271-0975  
Terry Morgan ..... 858-4630

### **Division Directors:**

**Archery** Robert Burgess ... 887-5752  
Ken Maness ..... 885-9443  
Steve Cox ..... 263-8378  
**Air Gun** Jamie Piotrowski... 948-3321  
**Bass** Walter Bowman.... 223-1572  
Mike Tester ..... 255-5304  
**Casting** Dan Fister ..... 245-2459  
Jackie McClanahan 523-2552

**Kitchen** Russ Steel ..... 277-2672  
Dennis West ..... 277-2672  
Bruce Shaeffer .... 259-1866  
**Muzzle Loader** Marvin Inman ..... 885-7327  
**Pistol** Brenn Combs ..... 259-1866  
Richard Gehlbach.. 269-6658  
**Pointer & Setter** Mike Pinkston ..... 548-3608  
**Rifle** Steve Martin ..... 858-2880  
Jason Garrett ..... 254-8179  
Jack Lyons ..... 266-0234

### **Skeet & Sporting**

**Clays** Robbie Mulcahy ... 885-5301  
Danny Barnes..... 881-4200  
**Trap** Bruce Sanders..... 219-9414  
Tim Ore ..... 223-6358

### **Past President**

John Burke..... 312-9165

### **BGSJ Chaplain**

## BOARD MEETING MINIUTES

### 1. ROLL CALL

President Greg Delabar called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. Secretary Hager called the roll and a **quorum was present**.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Delabar, Hager, Burke, Blackburn, Jacobs, Kass, Mewhorter, Morgan, Burgess, Maness, Cox, Piotrowski, Fister, McFadden, West, Inman, Shaeffer, Gehlbach, Combs, Pinkston, Barnes, and Mulcahy

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bowman, Tester, Steel, Garrett, Lyons, Martin, Pinkston, Ore and Sanders

STAFF PRESENT: O'Neill and Riffell

### 2. READING OF MINUTES

**Motion #1 by Fister, second by Mewhorter to dispense with reading the minutes and make two noted changes: page 2 should be steers instead of seers and page 2 roll call vote needs to reflect the members vote. Motion carried unanimously.**

### 3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer John Burke presented the Treasurer's Report. **Motion #2 by Fister, second by Cox to accept the Treasurers Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

### 4. SECRETARY'S REPORT – Secretary Hager stated there was no report.

### 5. OPERATIONS MANAGER REPORT

Ben Riffell, Operations Manager, reported on the improvements made to the General Purpose Range, painting of the clubhouse and Air Gun division. Earl Mewhorter complimented Mr. Riffell on the improvements made to the General Purpose Range.

### 6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Delabar noted that the general purpose range improvements are continuing. President Delabar asked Board members to assist in selling advertising space in the bulletin.

### 7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Clubhouse and Lodge President Delabar stated that improvements are continuing at the General Purpose range.

Constitution and Bylaws President Delabar asked for volunteers to work with Steve Cox on the Constitution and By-Laws Committee. The following Board Members agreed to serve on the Constitution and Bylaws Committee: Greg Delabar, John Burke, Brenn Combs, Rob Mulchay, and Mike Kass.

Farm Secretary Terry Hager reported that \$14,171 hay had been sold to date. Secretary Hager reported that 40 steers and 8 heifers have been purchased and delivered.

Finance. Treasurer John Burke reported that the budget process will start on September 1, 2006 but Divisions can prepare for that process by compiling their requests for capital items.

Farm Truck – Treasurer Burke noted that a motion to spend up to \$12,000 had been made at a previous Board meeting. Secretary Hager stated that it has been hard to find a truck for \$12,000. President Delabar stated that the motion needs to be amended to also include the purchase of a gator or utility vehicle. There was much discussion by the Board on this matter. **Motion #3 by Burke, second by Blackburn to approve expending \$19,000 for both a farm truck and gator/utv for farm use. Motion carried unanimously.**

Full time position – Ben's Assistant – President Delabar stated that a full-time position is needed as assistant to the Operations Manager. President Delabar stated that he should consider consolidating several of the part-time positions into a full-time position. President Delabar stated that he has asked

Ben Riffell to write the job description for the position and bring back to the Board. President Delabar stated that both rental properties could be considered as part of the benefit package for the position. Dan Fister stated that if an employee is provided a house at reduced rent or free rent it is taxable to the employee but if you require them to live on the property, it is not taxable to the employee.

Rental Properties Treasurer John Burke stated that the amount of rent presently charged for the rental properties has not included the cost paid by the club for garbage pick up or the water bill. Steve Cox stated that he has provided a draft rental agreement for implementation for both properties. Treasurer Burke requested that the rent be raised in June to cover the aforementioned expenses and notify the occupants that an additional rent increase will be forthcoming when the lease agreements are signed. Mike Kass stated that the electrical service in the white house needs to be brought up to code prior to executing the lease agreement. **Motion #4 by Burke, second by Pinkston to increase the rent on the rental properties to \$50/month each with a negotiated lease agreement within 90 days. Rent increase will become effective June 1, 2006. Motion carried unanimously.**

Treasurer Burke apologized to the Board for the 2005 taxes not being filed and stated he would be checking with the auditor to see that they are filed as soon as possible. Treasurer Burke stated he did not anticipate any taxes being owed.

Water Meter Treasurer Burke stated that there continues to be high water bills and problems with the utility company reading the water meter. Treasurer Burke stated he would like to see individual meters installed at each division to regulate water flow. Dan Fister stated that cut-offs could handle the water flow without meters and isolate the problem if there is a leak. There was much discussion by the Board on this issue. Treasurer Burke stated that the issue would be dropped since the Board was not in favor of it.

Security Mike Kass noted that the Infractions Voice Box has not been installed but will be installed soon.

#### Front Gate

Mike Kass reported that the front gate will be shut as soon as the contractor meets with Ben Riffell which should be sometime before the General Membership Meeting next week. Mike Kass stated that the pucks and the fobs will not work. **Motion #5 by Blackburn, second by Fister to reimburse the members that have pucks and fobs the difference between the cost of a card and the cost of the pucks or fobs with the old one being turned in. The amount reimbursed will be \$5 for the fob and \$40 puck. Motion carried unanimously.**

Wildlife Committee No Report. President Delabar asked that the hunt information folders be removed from the hallway.

Youth. President Delabar reported that the Youth program during the May 2 General Membership Meeting would be casting. President Delabar stated that the outbuilding for storage at Delabar Lodge would be delivered in two weeks. President Delabar reminded the Board of Family Fun Days scheduled for June 2, 3 and 4, 2006.

Membership President Delabar announced that the attrition figures were available for January which will reflect the new membership increase is included in the packet.

Training Committee Brenn Combs requested that the Board approve the first instructor to teach classes held at the BGSL. **Motion #6 by Combs, second by Gehlbach to approve Brenn Combs to be added to the BGSL approved instructor list to teach NRA Basic Pistol, Personal Protection and Home Firearm Safety – Instructor Application is attached. Motion carried unanimously.**

**9. OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Fish Fry Tickets.** President Delabar stated that the Fish Fry tickets are available.
2. **Sign Equipment** – President Delabar stated that the sign equipment has been ordered and the signage would be forthcoming.
3. **National Archery in the Schools Program** – President Delabar stated that a meeting was held with the Coordinator of the National Archery in the Schools Program. President Delabar requested that a motion be made for the BGSL to host an outing for children that participate in the NASP program. **Motion #7 by Burgess, second by Maness to allow the National Archery in Schools Program use of the Clubhouse, Kitchen, Picnic Area and Archery Ranges on May 9, 2006 and to be fee exempt Motion carried unanimously.**  
**Motion #8 by Fister, second by Cox, to add NASP to the fee exempt list on the Facility Use Policy. Motion carried unanimously.**

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Ice Machine.** Patrick McFadden stated that the old ice machine is unserviceable and requested approval for a new one. Mr. McFadden stated that three quotes were received. **Motion #9, second by Burke to purchase a new ice machine at a cost not to exceed \$3400 from Brock McVey Company with installation by Marty's refrigeration. Motion carried unanimously.**
2. **BSA Eagle Scout Presentation and Request.** President Delabar stated that has a request for Mike Michalski for use of the club by BSA Eagle Scouts on April 29 and 30, 2006. **Motion #10 by Fister, second by Maness to allow use of the Rifle Range and allow Eagle Scout leaders to camp on April 29<sup>th</sup> and 30, 2006. Motion carried unanimously.**
3. **4-H Shooting Sports. Motion #11 by Fister, second by Cox to allow the dates requested by 4-H which are:**
  - **Archery Range: 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month 10am-12-Noon**
  - **Pistol Pit #4: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays @ 6p.m. and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday from 10 am –12 Noon**
  - **Black Powder Range: These dates are still being ironed out. Motion carried unanimously.**

**State 4-H Storage Request** - President Delabar stated he would investigate further the request made by the 4-H for storage.

**4. Facility Event Scheduling**

Terry Morgan expressed concern about keeping the website calendar updated for scheduling and cancellations of events. Mr. Morgan volunteered to help with the updated of the calendar.

**11. OTHER BUSINESS:****Pistol Rules Committee Proposal**

Richard Gehlbach presented proposed new rules that the Pistol Rules Committee comprised of Mike Foley, Tom Griswold and Clay Caudill has finalized for use at the Pistol Division. John Burke asked if Board approval is being requested. Richard Gehlbach stated that he could not find anything in the by-laws that required Board approval. Dan Fister stated Board approval is required. **Motion #12 by Gehlbach, second by Maness to accept the rules as presented and currently written.** Motion was not voted on. John Burke spoke against the new rules because they are confusing, too detailed and there were some rules that needed further discussion. Steve Cox

offered a friendly amendment to table the rules until the next meeting. **Motion #13 by Cox, second by Burke to table the proposed pistol division rules until the next meeting. Motion carried unanimously with Gehlbach, Maness and Burgess opposed.**

**12. MOTIONS:**

**Motion #14 by Blackburn, second by Kass to divide the attrition list among the Board members and make personal phone calls regarding renewal of membership. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion #15 by Burgess, second by Maness to approve the following dates for the Archery Division to have open shoots: May 13, 2006, June 17, 2006 and July 8 and 9, 2006. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion #16 by Blackburn second by Kass to allow Nora Martin to hold trapshooting clinic at the Trap Division on May 13-14, 2006. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion #17 by Mulcahy, second by Barnes to allow Skeet and Sporting Clays Division to host open date NSCA shoots on the following dates September 9, 2006 and October 21, 2006. Motion carried unanimously.**

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

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## Casting Division News

As we begin our season one thing becomes apparent. Although our division is now smaller, this sport is growing by leaps and bounds in other areas. There are more casting clubs across our nation and more tournaments to attend than in recent memory.

The clubs in the west, Golden Gate and Long Beach, held tournaments in January and February of this year. Although our club did not attend, we want to congratulate Steve Rajeff on his impressive 6 overall wins and near perfect casting in the accuracy events at the 2006 Winter Tournament. This record will prove to be hard to beat at the national tournament this year. Henry Mittel also deserves applause for his All Around Champion honors at the Southwestern Casting Tournament.

Our tournament set for May 20th & 21st is shaping up to be a great success with casters expected from many of the Midwest casting clubs (see next bulletin for results). Although our tournament is the first this year in the Midwest (The Spring Classic in Chicago was cancelled), it is only one of many to come. June has a completely full schedule for those needing a little weekend travel:

- Scarborough Casting Club's annual tournament will be held in Scarborough, Canada on June 3rd & 4th
- Toronto Sportsmen's Association & the Westhill Angling and Casting Club will sponsor the Canadian Casting Championships in Toronto, Canada on June 10th & 11th
- The Cincinnati Casting Club holds their annual tournament in Cincinnati, OH on June 17th & 18th
- The Chicago Casting Club holds the Illinois State Championships in Chicago, IL on June 24th & 25

This looks to be an exciting summer. Hopefully we can attend some of these tournaments and assess the competition for this year's top honors at the ACA National Tournament to be held in Long Beach, CA. Come join us on Thursday nights, share in the excitement and support your home team—it's fun for the whole family.



**RICK ALLEN**

**2005 BGS� SPORTSMAN CITIZEN of the YEAR**

The May 2<sup>nd</sup> General Membership Meeting brought the club its newest award recipient. Most of us know Rick Allen and all that he does for Blue Grass and the shooting sports. Rick has been instrumental in the forming of many youth programs and is one of the founding members of the BGS� Youth Committee. Currently Rick is your Director to the League of KY Sportsmen from the 6<sup>th</sup> District Federation and serves as the League's Vice President.

Rick is doing things a little different than some as he is following in his daughter Jamie's footsteps. She was the first recipient of the BGS� Junior Sportsmen of the Year for 2000. Rick has served the club in many different ways but mostly behind the scenes and out of the spot light. A huge asset of the BGS� and the shooting sports world. Thank you Rick!



## **2005 LKS Squirrel Rifle State Champions**

The 2005 champs were awarded the hardware at the Salato Education Center in Frankfort on May 12<sup>th</sup>. The trophies were handed out by Commerce Secretary Charles Ward and KDF&WR's Commissioner Doctor John Gassett and the ceremony MC was Jim Straeder.

The winners pictured are Breanna Cooke, **Katy Blankenship (BGS�)**, **Jade Bemis (ACSC)**, Kaitlyn Choate, Wade Meredith, Jason Egan, Matt Prater and Brandon Crawford. Unable to attend were Tyler Wells and Taylor Wheeler. Over 130 kids from all over the state attended the ceremony through their school classes. The kids had a full day of several venues put on

through the League of KY Sportsmen and the KDF&WR. They shot archery, threw tomahawks, shot muzzle loaders, toured the Salato Center and fished the lake. BGS�'s own Rick Allen and Rolly Beers cooked and served lunch. It's always great to see **Big Yellow Buses** bring kids to a shooting sports event!

## **BGS� FISH FRY**

**Saturday June 24<sup>th</sup>**

**Come on Down to the Club and meet your fellow Sportsmen**

It's that time again! The annual Fish Fry will be held June 24<sup>th</sup> 5PM thru 8PM at the Main Clubhouse. This event has always been about a good time and meeting new friends. Traditionally, this is a recruiting event; we are supposed to bring friends, and neighbors, co-workers and any non-member you think would have an interest in a club membership.

Tickets are \$6.00 and can be obtained from any Director or operations personnel. You can also receive them through the mail by sending \$6 each and a SASE to: Russell Steel, 2432 Heather Way, Lexington, KY 40503.

**BGSL Youth Committee (S.C.O.P.E.)**

**June 2006**

**Bring-A-Kid / Teach-A-Kid**

JUNE 2nd, 3rd and 4th  
9th Annual FAMILY FUN DAYS

This event is sponsored by the LKS and NTWF and is open to anyone. Join us Friday evening for a potluck dinner and Saturday morning with breakfast. The entire day is stacked full of shooting sports and other events. Saturday evening is a HUGE pig roast, mmm... Sure is GOOD! This is one of the biggest events for the BGSL all year. Five meals, all equipment provided and no cost. So, bring your campers, tents and a hungry belly on down for a good time. This event is funded by donations and any are appreciated.

Fun, Camping, Fishing, Shooting, Fun, Archery, Black Powder Muzzle Loading, Fun, Tomahawks, Fun, Conservation Education, Bio-Diversity Bus, Fun, Hay Rides, Campfire, Smores, Clinics, Fun

This event is an annual and has always been held at the Blue Grass Sportsmen's League. This will be our 9th and promises to be the biggest and best. We camp (not required but recommended); we try to open as many venues of the club as possible. We bring in several different conservation education venues. The opportunity to meet people from the sporting community and learn from people from the conservation community is unsurpassed. We look forward to seeing everybody at this one! You don't want to miss it!

July 8th Saturday 9:30 AM... @ the GP Range then the Stone Lodge

First LKS Squirrel Rifle Shoot of 2004

Basic marksmanship, that's what this is all about, we teach the fundamentals of rifle marksmanship, standing off-hand, and open iron sights. This is the best venue for an introduction to the shooting sports there is. This is a competition also, but more of a training and teaching environment. This has brought success to our kids and club through this League of KY Sportsmen event as we have produced several State and District Champions over the past several years. We can supply any or all equipment.

This competition is 4 months long and involves kids from all over the State. It is broken down into age groups, girls against girls, boys against boys. The age groups are: 9 and under, 10 to 12, 13 to 16 and 17 to 20. We give awards for each group at 3 different levels: BGSL, 6th District LKS and State LKS. Also any ammo needed and we have some rifles to use. It is .22 caliber only (long rifle, long or short) no magnums.

As always S.C.O.P.E. and BGSL youth events are open to you and any friend's, families and groups that you want to bring or let know about our program.

(Feel free to pass this flyer along to anyone you may feel is interested.)

And there are usually no costs. Come on down to the club and let's have some fun!

Sportsmen, Conservationist's & Outdoorsmen Pursuing Excellence

Don Young 859-608-7843 youth@bgslinc.com

Rebecca Young 859-887-3464 / Jim & Amy Yeager 859-936-6937 / Greg Richardson 859-885-7471

S.C.O.P.E. Email Newsletter www.bgslinc.com / 859-858-4060

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## School Buses on the BGS�

### Opportunity “NOCK’s”

May 9<sup>th</sup>, the BGS� hosted the 1<sup>st</sup> of what I hope will be many “opportunities” with the (NASP) National Archery in the Schools Program. Our new found friend Jennie Richardson the NASP State Coordinator asked the BGS� to get involved with the program from the “what’s next for these kids” prospective.

BGS� hosted schools from Franklin, Laurel, Pulaski, Mercer and Jessamine Counties for an introduction to 3-D archery targets. Each school got a guided tour of the property and we served them a hotdog lunch, setup a NASP range and they shot their venue. We then setup an introduction 3-D course at the Main Clubhouse then moved them to the Archery Division for a real 3-D course in the woods. 135 kids along with about 25 coordinators and several BGS� members had a blast!

**This Opportunity “Nock” was answered!**



These kids came every walk of life, from the inner city of Frankfort to the country side of Somerset. All had a great time and were impressed with the BGS�.

The club will recruit 4 to 6 new members from this “opportunity” alone and that’s the goal. As well as the exposure for these kid’s into the shooting sports world.

**The club has a big investment in this program and we are now realizing the gains it will produce.**

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## BGS� Front Gate

The front gate is now operational and each of us will need to bring our gate cards with us when we come to the club. If you have one of the old cards with the blue arrow on it, you will need to change it out for the new “prox card”. If you get to the club and can’t get in, don’t worry we have a keypad and instructions there to access operations to get you in and get your card changed out. Please be patient and we will get this behind us and our gate secured again. This should raise guest revenue and some of the riffraff out.

## Morgan's Meanderings

**Oh! For pity's sake!** You should have seen and heard it.

Now, I know you have heard the old expression "*the last prevaricator wins*" (you can insert 'liar' anywhere in there you want to, if you are so inclined).

Let me start out by saying that I, personally, see a difference between a liar and a prevaricator. The former is usually a chronic condition and uses his abilities with utter abandon and with little regard for consequences of any sort and always for personal gain. The latter is usually someone who is goaded into such a condition by honest effort to better his companion(s) in a fair game of imagination using whatever imaginative tools he can muster to best the competition.

Well, we were gathering for a meeting to try to solve some problems of the good ole BGSL. To try to get things moving and off center (*that means getting a conversation started so we don't all sit around looking at each other in a dumb fashion*) I thought I would relate a story told to me by one of our shotgun clan who is also a fisherman. Now I like to fish but don't get to do much of it anymore so I thought this story would elicit some interest from the gathering because I was really impressed when I heard it.

**"Hey! Old so and so told me he caught a 21" Crappie down in Alabama the other day. Have you ever heard of such a thing as that?"**

Well, I got a couple of grins and some polite allowances as to how that might have been possible but not too likely even though they do grow 'em bigger down there than we do. The pause in verbal intercourse was quite short before the first prevaricator (*Heck, I don't know. Maybe I should be called the first prevaricator*) decided to cut loose on how he had caught a 24" Crappie that had to weigh at least half again as much as the 21" model because it was nurtured on good old pond food and the catch had been witnessed by a completely honest companion who would never distort the truth about something like this. (Of course, no pictures had been taken). If you looked carefully out of your peripheral vision (we shotgun people can do that better than most people) you could see the hair rising on the ears of prevaricator number two as he rose to the bait and was just being polite enough to not deliberately tread on prevaricator number 1's moment of triumph. Prevaricator 2 allowed as how his Crappie was not any bigger than that of prevaricator 1 but his mighty tussle had been after an all day hunt for fish and it was about midnight and everything was pitch black and all the flashlight bulbs and batteries had burned out and you could not see to tie on a hook or properly thread a bait but true perseverance paid off and this monster fish practically jumped into the boat (probably because it was God's will because this was such a needy fisherman).

By the way. Did I mention earlier that these first two prevaricators are **bass** fishermen? You can see where they got their training in this art. I am not sure how the conversation turned from fish to the boats necessary to catch them but there it was. The boats were growing from small, flat bottomed swamp models to full blown bass boats with probably 800 horsepower motors to get from one place to another while hauling several hundred pounds of fish packed in ice. By this time prevaricators 3 and 4 had already tossed their hats into the ring with variations of everything that was being told and then, without the least bit of warning, out popped the technology ogre. Not only were we finding fish with sonar technology but we were making maps of different impoundments and marking all the good spots with the aid of our GPS units (for the uninitiated, those are Global Positioning Systems). Well, I am kind of a techie nut so I put on my gullible face and basically looked like I was saying "Don't stop now. Tell Me More". I was immediately treated to hair raising tales of making mad dashes down the narrow straights of a body of water to escape the thundering crashes of lightning striking all around the boat, all the lights were out and nothing but the low glow of the LCD screen on the GPS was guiding the boat doing well over 100 miles an hour toward the dock where safety would be found.

Even though I knew there was a slight bit of exaggeration going on, this was fascinating to me because I used to be pretty good at rowing a boat and had always longed for some kind of other motive power. My dad always *allowed* me to row the boat so he could attend to the manly art of catching the fish. It did not take too long to run the gamut of technology stories and it was gettin' time to start club business so we had to put these stories aside. I know there's a passel of you hard cases out there who either feel inadequate or are just too set in your ways to learn to enjoy modern electronic things but they can bring a lot of fun into your life. The older I get the more I find that the ability to find information on the internet and get certain jobs done faster and easier shows me how I can get some fun out of life even after I get to the point where I cannot be mobile enough to get out and participate as I once did. We are trusting that modern electronic communications will make us a better club and a more efficient user of our resources as well as serving our membership better with improved services and communications. My hat is off to those prevaricators and their GPS units as well as their sonar fish finders, electronic worms and rubber minnows.

On another note, I want to say that on one of my regular trips to the General Purpose range I saw an inspiring sight. There were four guys milling around the firing line and one of them had to go down range to place a target frame. He got permission from the others to turn on the "cold range" lights and klaxon and started down range. He had not gotten much more than 10 feet from the firing line when one of the other shooters picked up a weapon and started fiddling with it. Another fellow there on the line immediately called attention to the gun handler and in a very tactful and confident manner explained why it was not a good idea to handle a gun while others are down range and he did it in such a way as not to be the least bit offensive. It made me proud. "Good Work fellow member and congratulations on being a big brother".

I was also quite encouraged to see 10 new shooters on our first mandated Divisional Introduction Day at the Skeet and Sporting Clays Division. One of those was a 14 year old. We would have had two more but they were unfortunate in having been involved in an auto accident on their way to the club. I did not get any particulars so I do not know if anyone was hurt but it did prevent two of our members from having the enjoyable day they were looking forward to. In any case, we had a good day and I trust most of the participants had some fun as well. I really enjoy watching these young teenagers making their dads sweat a little bit. You ought to see the gleam in their eye when they hit a bird their dad missed. Pistol Division was scheduled for a similar event on the same day but I have not heard any reports on how they fared.

I'll be seein' ya. TCM

Blue Grass Sportsman Trails

Please check your mailing label for your membership expiration date.



# Blue Grass Sportsmen's League

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