

November 2024
Annual Newsletter

FISH & GAME NEWSLETTER

Officers, Directors & Committee Chairs:

President:

Brad King
717-645-7842

1st Vice President:

Terry Starner
717-266-6676

2nd Vice President:

Jeff Black

Recording Secretary:

Eric Wickline
717-528-8296

Financial Secretary:

Tim Wentz

Treasurer:

Dave Meloy

Board of Directors:

*Chairman of the Board of
Directors/Cliff Faircloth Jr. -
717-414-6981*

Buzz Fry – 717-528-8749

Bob Redmond – 717-486-461

Gary Criswell

Vacant

Committee Chairs:

*Building & Grounds
Vacant*

Rifle Range

Gary Criswell

Block Shoot

Cliff Faircloth Jr.

Brad King

Running Deer

Brad King

Bob Redmond

Archery

Bob Shields

Website/Newsletter:

Rebekah DeMarcantonio

Club Phone – 717-486-7710

***Anyone interested in helping or serving on the committee, see any officer or committee head*

Message from the President

I am writing this with a heavy heart. Long time and heavily involved member Brian Starner passed away Saturday, September 28, 2024. Brian was instrumental running our Kitchen for all the shooting events for several years. He certainly, along with the rest of the kitchen help fed a lot of people over the years. He really loved our Block Shoots. He will be sorely missed. Our prayers are with his family.

We had a great year so far in 2024. Hopefully the rest of the year will continue that same line. Our shooting events went well with positive results. Kids Fishing Derby that is run by Mount Holly Lions Club had a huge showing in April to the point they are out of room. They might have to look at pre-registration with a limit on the number of kids so that they can properly accommodate the amount of people that attend. We will post that information if they decide to make changes.

Our Block Shoots went well this year. Attendance was pretty much back to normal. Cliff Faircloth did a great job filling Terry Starner's shoes. Missy, his wife, did a fantastic job running the back-room paperwork during the shoots. We still greatly appreciate Terry's input as we continue this transition. Thanks to all our helpers with the Block Shoots. Again, this is our biggest money maker for our club. I was told that a local Fish & Game club stopped holding their Block Shoots. The result was their membership dues almost doubled for the following year. Dave Meloy, Our Treasurer, ran some numbers using our current income and expenses. If we would stop holding our shooting events, we would have to raise our current \$35.00 dues to \$97.00 to just cover our basic expenses. We certainly don't want to do that and besides the Block Shoots along with the Running Deer and Varmint shoots are a great way to spend time at the club. We are always looking for help so if interested just let either Cliff Faircloth or myself know.

The Running Deer and Varmint Shoot attendance continues to pick up this past year but still not up where we were before Covid and the ammo shortage. We do allow the use of rimfire ammunition for the Running Deer matches to help those that are having trouble getting or affording ammo. In addition, due to several people inquiring about having an A/R rifle class like another local club has we have decided to have a semi auto class. This would also include rimfire rifles. Rules for this class will be basically the same as the other rules. This semi-auto class will be all one class and not based on shooter averages. Updated rules for Running Deer will be posted by the end of December.

Varmint shooters had a substantial increase this past year which we are happy about but still would like to see more younger shooters. These shoots are a great way to teach young people proper safe competitive shooting. There are 4 Friday night shoots starting in January. Any questions contact Bob Redmond or myself.

Financially we again have done well this year meeting our expenses and again having a healthy year-end balance in our checking account. We have set aside in our checking account an emergency fund. We have \$ 10,000.00 in it for emergencies and future large ticket expenditures. Our heating boilers continue to operate ok but at some point, they will need to be replaced. We plan on adding to this fund by the end of the year. One big financial concern in the coming years is the cost of liability insurance for the club. There aren't many companies that will insure gun clubs and the costs keep going up. Pretty much the same deal as homeowner insurance for Florida homes due to the hurricanes with many companies not selling policies there.

I again want to Thank the Board of Directors, officers, and Committee Chairmen for their time taking care of our club. Dave Meloy our Treasurer Dave Meloy continues taking a considerable amount of time taking good care of our financials and future projection spending and budgeting. Tim Wentz has also done a great job as the Financial Secretary. As a reminder send your renewal applications directly to Tim. His address will be on the applications.

We elect new officers at our January Monthly meeting. Due to Brian's passing we will have to vote for two Board of Directors. Cliff Faircloth's term expires along with someone to finish the remainder of Brian Starner's term. I will say it again. We sure could use some new blood in these roles. New people to fill these roles are essential for the future of our club. Most of our current officers have been in their positions for multiple terms with some of them needing a break. They have been willing to keep serving since new people are not willing to step up and serve. The future of our club will be determined if the younger generation steps up and fills these positions. If not, I don't see how it would continue to survive. I want you to think about this. It's rare that you see new gun clubs formed but some fold up due to lack of members or people to run them. Eventually there won't be any and every one would have to go to a Game Land range or have property big enough to shoot on it.

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Once again, I want to thank everyone that helped with our shoots this past year. We can't run these shoots without you. I say this every year but it's true. We rely on your help to operate this club so I can't say enough how much I appreciate the time you have given helping with these shoots. It's a great way to meet new people and get plugged into the club. We again are anticipating that we will need help with our Running Deer and Varmint Shoots. Please let us know if you are interested in helping or if you have any questions.

Thanks again to our Building and Grounds team. The look of our Club House and Grounds continues to improve every year with the work that they do weekly on Wednesday mornings. Currently we are looking for someone to be the Chairman of our Building and Grounds Committee. Some of the Grounds team have shared some of the responsibility of overseeing the Grounds but it would be great for someone to take over. If interested contact one of the Board of Directors or myself.

The cabin that was in the woods behind the rifle ranges was torn down in October. As I stated in last year's newsletter a tree fell on the roof causing damage to the point it's not worth fixing up. This eliminates possible liability problem with someone getting into it and getting hurt or setting it on fire. Also, by tearing it down this will reduce our property taxes for around \$ 300.00 a year,

Again, as a reminder, please have your membership card with you while on club property. Only members are allowed to use the ranges and fishing pond. Ranges are closed Wednesday from 8am to noon spring to the fall so the Building and Grounds team can do their work. Also, NO alcohol is allowed on club grounds. Alcohol and gun use do not mix. Please abide by all our club rules.

In closing I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Hope to see you at the coming shoots in 2025.

Brad King, *President of Mt. Holly Fish & Game*

Financial Secretary

Tim Wentz is our Financial Secretary. As a reminder renewal 2024 annual dues must be paid by end of February. After that it is considered late, and you will have to pay the new member's rate. Missing a year as a member will have an effect when calculating Golden Age eligibility so make sure you don't let it lapse.

Regarding existing Golden Age Life and Lifetime members, we are asking those members submit the application enclosed with their newsletter with any revised information so we can update our files. Home addresses, phone numbers and email addresses change over time, and we want to have the most current info possible. Also, if you can volunteer your time for any club functions-shoots, work parties, the fishing derby, etc. Please mark the items you can help with and the best way to reach you. Golden Age and Lifetime members do not need to submit a self-addressed stamped envelope when they return the form for this update.

The application form has applications for 3 people with 2 of them on the back. This will help with paper and postage costs. To keep costs down for the club and expedite processing of membership applications please include a self-addressed stamped envelope with your membership renewal application. Mail applications to Tim Wentz at 91 Spur Road Carlisle, PA 17013.

Tim Wentz, Financial Secretary

Block Shoots

Block shoots are planned to start Saturday night, January 4th running every Saturday through March 29th. Registration starts at 6:00pm and we start shooting at 6:30pm. Cost is \$ 8.00 per shot in each of the 4 rounds. Maximum barrel length is 36". Again, we are looking for help. Particularly people to set blocks. Not hard. We will teach you. If interested in helping call either Brad King at 717-645-7842 or Cliff Faircloth Jr at 717-414-6981.

Running Deer Shoots

Running Deer shoots are scheduled to be held Saturdays January 18th, February 1st, 15th, March 1st, 15th, 29th. We will start shooting around 11am. Rules will be soon updated to include a semi-auto class. They will be posted on the website and in the Club House. We can always use the help...If interested in helping or if you have any questions, please contact Bob Redmond at 717-486-4619 or Brad King at 717-645-7842

Varmint Shoots

Varmint Shoots are scheduled to be held Friday nights January 24th, February 7th, 21st, and March 7th. We start shooting as soon as it gets dark which is typically around 7:00pm. There are restrictions on calibers that are allowed due to the noise. Rules were updated in 2019. They are posted on the website and in the Club House. We need help. If interested in helping or if you have any questions, please call Bob Redmond at 717-486-4619 or Brad King at 717-645-7842.

Building & Grounds Committee

Almost all Mowing and Maintenance is done April thru October on Wednesday's 8:00am to noon weather permitting. NOTE! Most of the time ranges are closed during this time. A big THANKS to the entire crew that has been showing up. Also, thanks to any others that have helped out from time to time and with special projects.

Always looking for more help. Just show up Wednesday mornings 8am to 11am April to October. If available for special projects, please check "Work Party" box on your membership application. Also looking for someone to take over the Chairman of Building & Grounds.

Children Fishing Derby

The annual Childrens' Fishing Derby is scheduled for April 2025

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Financial Information

Expenses

Block Shoot	45.05%
Insurance	12.55%
Utilities	9.61%
Kitchen	7.90%
Taxes	7.32%
Building & Grounds	7.14%
Running Deer & Varmint	4.27%
Miscellaneous	2.97%
Donations	0.90%
Tax Preparation	0.84%
Printing Expense	0.84%
Security	0.60%

Income

Block Shoots	64.04%
Membership	14.32%
Kitchen	9.55%
Running Deer & Varmint Shoots	7.38%
Shell Sales	4.10%
Miscellaneous	0.32%
Contributions	0.30%

