



Fall 2007

# OUTDOORS BUCKS

Newsletter of Bucks County Fish & Game Association

www.bcfg.org

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I hope everyone enjoyed his or her summer; personally I am glad it's over. It's been a hot one. I am a great lover of the fall. This is the time of year that we really can get out and enjoy the great outdoors. In some areas early archery season will have opened up by now and the fishing should be getting better.

As far as the club goes everything is going along smoothly and our treasurer reports that we are right on target with our yearly budget.

Right now the biggest task we have at hand as I am writing this article is the Youth Field Day Program. At the present time we have forty plus youngsters that have registered for the program and by the time you get this newsletter the program will be history. The biggest thing that we are hoping for is good weather.

State senator Chuck McILhinney (R-10) has been a real contributor to the program. The senator is covering all the expenses to make the program a success. Senator McILhinney has been a real friend to the club and the sportsman of this state and you may want to file this in your memory bank so when he is up for election you will know who to vote for. We need people like the senator in our corner.

As president and a frequent visitor to the range, there seems to be somewhat of a question as to the dues increase. The board tries it's best not to have a dues increase, but it's impossible the way inflation keeps going up. It cost the club \$75,000.00 a year to operate provided that we don't run into any unforeseeable problems. Taking all this in consideration it's not a bad deal after all, considering what you have for facilities.

A couple of other problems that I have witnessed are, some members bringing a guest to the range and not paying for a guest pass. You are not only cheating other members, but you are also cheating yourself. Each one of those backers cost \$20.00 a sheet and if you shoot there a lot you will see that they get changed often. Secondly some people like to short change the club for guest passes by not putting in the correct amount. Remember its \$10.00 for a guest pass. If your guest can't afford it tell them to go elsewhere. At \$10.00 you can shoot all day long. Go to any indoor range and you probably pay \$15.00 or more an hour. If you get caught doing this you will be brought before the board and more than likely you will receive a suspension or depending what mood the board is in a loss of membership. Just remember when you bring in a guest first thing you will do is to get a guest pass, not go to the range and set up and then come back for a pass. Ask yourself is it worth it?

Once again on a much more sad note we have lost two Life Time Members. Harold Harpster and Bill Kohn. Harold was a lifetime member for many years. I can remember him telling me that the range started at the last trap house by the garage and you shot down towards the 50 yd berms. After Harold retired from his business he worked for the club as grounds keeper. He eventually decided to retire all together. Harold was eighty-one years old when he past away and we can thank Harold for the turkey population that abounds around the club. Harold had a real love for turkey hunting and raising them.

Bill Kohn served on the board for over thirty-five years and eventually decided to leave the board and let the younger fellows take over. Both of these fellows have made the club what it is today and I hope if they are looking down and listening the board is committed to keeping BCFG one of the finest shooting clubs around. May both of you rest in peace and thanks for giving us such a great organization. That's all I have for now - Get out and enjoy the great outdoors.

Art Forgione

On August 17, 2007, President George W. Bush issued an executive order directing Federal agencies to work more diligently to facilitate the expansion and enhancement of hunting opportunities and the management of game species and their habitat.

TIAHRT AMENDMENT to the Commerce, Justice and Science Appropriations Bill for FY '08 was approved by the House on 7-26-07 and the US Senate Committee on 6-28-07, the full Senate must still vote on the Bill. This amendment maintains the current policy of keeping firearm trace information within the law enforcement community and out of the hands of politicians, trial lawyers and special interest groups.

S. 1237: DENYING FIREARMS/EXPLOSIVES TO DANGEROUS TERRORISTS ACT OF 2007: This Bill was introduced by Senator Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ), at the behest of the Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, and would give the Attorney General total discretionary power to make firearm or ammunition possession a felony by a "designated individual". The Attorney General would be empowered to designate certain individuals to a "list" of prohibited persons, which would put them on par with a convicted felon or fugitive from justice, all done in complete secrecy. The Bill also provides that "...any information which the Attorney General relied on for this determination may be withheld from the applicant if the Attorney General determines that disclosure of the information would likely compromise national security." The passage of this Bill would be an egregious violation of our Second, Fifth and Sixth Constitutional Amendments.

H.R. 2640: THE NICS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2007: This Bill was introduced by Representative Carolyn McCarthy (D-N.Y.) and provides for an effective mechanism to help screen would-be gun buyers with adjudicated mental illness records. H.R. 2640 doesn't ban anyone from owning guns or establish new law--it only makes records available on those who are already "prohibited persons." When it comes to mental health conditions, the only people who can't own a gun under federal law are those who have "been adjudicated as a mental defective or . . . been committed to any mental institution". Basic legal definitions mean that an "adjudication" can only come from a court or similar body. This Bill was passed in the House on June 13, 2007, and was referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

Please be sure to contact your U.S. Senator and Representative and urge him/her or her to oppose S. 1237 and support H.R. 2640.

#### PENNSYLVANIA

West Virginia Attorney General Darrel McGraw (D) announced on Saturday, August 18 that West Virginia has entered into a concealed handgun reciprocity agreement with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. West Virginia and Pennsylvania residents age 21 or older, holding a valid permit in their home state, may carry in each state. Remember, you must be in possession of your permit when traveling in a reciprocating state and are bound by the laws of that state pertaining to concealed firearms. Pennsylvania now has reciprocity agreements with 21 states. They are: Alaska, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia and Wyoming.

H.B. 13 LANDOWNER LIABILITY PROTECTION ACT: This Bill was introduced by State Representative Harry Readshaw (D-36) and signed into law by the Governor on June 30, 2007. The act ensures that landowners, who allow public hunting access without charging a fee, incur no liability for property damage or personal injuries caused by the hunters regardless of whether the damage occurs on or off the landowner's property.

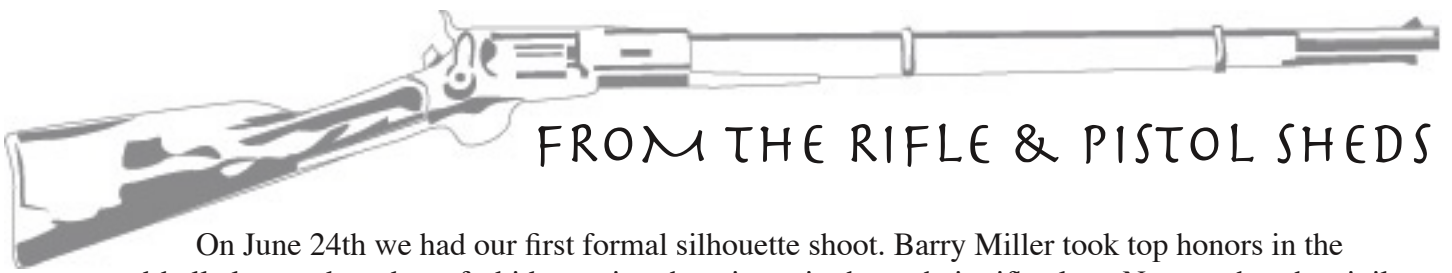
H.B. 29 LOST OR STOLEN FIREARMS: This Bill was introduced by State Representative Jewell Williams (D-197) and would make it a crime to fail to report the loss or theft of a firearm to police within 24 hours of discovering the firearm missing. The Bill was referred to the Committee on Judiciary on January 30, 2007.

H.B. 1161 PROHIBITION OF STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES FROM MAINTAINING REGISTRIES OF LEGAL FIREARM PURCHASES: This Bill was introduced by State Representative Daryl Metcalfe (R-12) and would make it unlawful for law enforcement agencies to maintain a register of legal firearm purchases and has been in the Judiciary Committee since 4-25-07.

S.B. 580 PERMITTING USE OF DOGS FOR FALL TURKEY HUNTING SEASON: This Bill sponsored by State Senator Roger Madigan (R-23) was signed into law by the Governor on July 5, 2007.

H.B. 881 KILLING GAME OR WILDLIFE TO PROTECT PRIVATE PROPERTY: This Bill which was introduced by Representative Gary Haluska (D-73), and amended by Senator Chuck McIlhinney in the Senate, allows farmers to designate an individual to shoot deer that cause crop damage. Under previous law only a family member or employee could be authorized to take a deer because of crop damage. Under this law deer taken for property damage must be sent to the Game Commission. This bill was signed into law by the Governor on July 3, 2007. City of Philadelphia filed suit on 7-11-07 against the PA State House and Senate. It is asking the Common Pleas Court to allow preemption from State law and allow seven city gun-control ordinances to be implemented without approval from the legislature. Governor Rendell continues to promise audiences in his statewide speeches that he will pass legislation to restrict firearm purchases during the fall legislation session.

Please contact your State Representative today and ask him/her to support HB 1161 and oppose HB 29.



## FROM THE RIFLE & PISTOL SHEDS

On June 24th we had our first formal silhouette shoot. Barry Miller took top honors in the round-ball class and modesty forbids naming the winner in the archaic rifle class. No one shot the civil war musket class. The July shoot results will be posted soon.

On July 14th, we had the "Buffalo Wallow Shootout". It was a real hoot with some participants allegedly firing almost 100 rounds in their lever rifles. The shoot was won by Phil Flanders with his 1874 sharps.

The silhouette shoots will continue to be held every fourth Sunday and our next specialty shoot is scheduled for September 15. This will be a Victorian rifle match and buffalo shoot. We will be shooting at actual Victorian era class III 1882 targets. Plus our special BCFG buffalo sized to represent the critter at 500 yds. You will need 40 rounds. Any rifle type and sight in use during the Queen's reign is allowed. Also smokeless propellants and jacketed bullets are ok. Victoria reigned from 1837-1901. This permits a great deal of latitude in rifle types, from flintlocks through bolt guns. Examples: mausers, mosinnagante, lever guns, ect., ect. Most of the match can be shot from oval and crosssticks are ok.

Our BCFG shoots are designed to be zero pressure, fun events that give our members and guests an opportunity to use their firearms under realistic circumstances in a safe environment.

So come out and join us. Non-members are welcome and no guest fees are charged for these shoots. If you have any questions please contact Earl Whitmore 215-766-9075 or Ed Sandy 215-793-4341

yr obt svt. Earl Whitmore

**News:** County Commissioner Charles Martin will be at the Sept. 27 membership meeting. Commissioner Martin has been a real friend to the club, so please come out that night and show your support.

The Board of Governors



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## BASIC RIFLE

Kevin and I hope everyone had a great summer. We will starting the Basic Rifle program again on Friday September, 21 and 7:00 PM. The cost will be three dollars per child or five dollars for families. Our program is open to anyone who is interested if your a member or not. We would like to thank the kids that came out for the Saturday Fun Day on July, 28 they had a great time fishing, shooting, and shooting archery. We hope to see old and new faces starting Friday September 21.

## OCTOBER 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Youth Archery	2 Trap, Indoor archery	3 Indoor Pistol	4 Trap, archery	5 Trap, Basic Rifle, archery	6 ATA Trap, CMP
7	8 Youth Archery	9 Trap, Indoor archery	10 Indoor Pistol	11 Trap, archery	12 Trap, Basic Rifle, archery	13 ATA Trap
14	15 Youth Archery	16 Trap, Indoor archery	17 Indoor Pistol	18 Trap, archery	19 Trap, Basic Rifle, archery	20
21 ATA Trap	22 Youth Archery	23 Trap, Indoor archery	24 Indoor Pistol	25 Trap, Membership meeting 8pm	26 Trap, Basic Rifle, archery	27
28 ATA Trap, Silhouette Shoot	29 Youth Archery	30 Trap, Indoor archery	31 Indoor Pistol			

## NOVEMBER 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Trap, archery	2 Trap, Basic Rifle, archery	3 ATA Trap, CMP
4	5 Youth Archery	6 Trap, Indoor archery	7 Indoor Pistol	8 Trap, archery	9 Trap, Basic Rifle, archery	10 ATA Trap
11	12 Youth Archery	13 Trap, Indoor archery	14 Indoor Pistol	15 Trap, archery	16 Trap, Basic Rifle, archery	17
18 ATA Trap	19 Youth Archery	20 Trap, Indoor archery	21 Indoor Pistol	22 Trap, Membership meeting 8pm	23 Trap, Basic Rifle, archery	24
25 ATA Trap, Silhouette Shoot	26 Youth Archery	27 Trap, Indoor archery	28 Indoor Pistol	29 Trap, archery	30 Trap, Basic Rifle, archery	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 ATA Trap, CMP
2	3 Youth Archery	4 Trap, Indoor archery	5 Indoor Pistol	6 Trap, archery	7 Trap, Basic Rifle, archery	8 ATA Trap
9	10 Youth Archery	11 Trap, Indoor archery	12 Indoor Pistol	13 Trap, archery	14 Trap, Basic Rifle, archery	15
16 ATA Trap	17 Youth Archery	18 Trap, Indoor archery	19 Indoor Pistol	20 Trap, archery	21 Trap, Basic Rifle, archery	22
23 ATA Trap, Silhouette Shoot	24 Youth Archery	25 Trap, Indoor archery	26 Indoor Pistol	27 Trap, Mem- bership meet- ing 8pm	28 Trap, Basic Rifle, archery	29
30	31 Youth Archery					

NRA News.com

MEDIA BIAS by Marshall Lewin

If you ever needed proof that the media ignore or suppress stories that don't fit their anti-gun agenda, here it is. When the so-called "mainstream" media completely ignore an important firearm study by the FBI, there's got to be a good reason--doesn't there? Forget the old New York Times slogan "All the News that's Fit to Print." When it comes to the conflict between your firearms, your freedom and the media's bias against both, their slogan ought to be "Only the News that Fits, We Print." How else could the national establishment media outlets -- right down to the last one -- have completely ignored a recently released FBI report that demolishes many of the anti-gun articles of faith that they've printed and parroted without question or conscience for years? The 176-page report is titled "Violent Encounters: A Study of Felonious Assaults on America's Law Enforcement Officers." Although it was written by three of the FBI's most respected researchers -- recipients of the University of Virginia's Jefferson Award for Research -- and although it represents the culmination of more than 15 years of inquiry into violence against law enforcement officers, the report was received by the media with abject silence. Why? Maybe because, among other things, the FBI report shows that many of the media's banal bromides regarding guns and crime are false:

- \* Criminals do not get their guns through gun shows.
- \* Criminals do not find "loopholes" in the law through which they get their guns.
- \* Anti-gun laws do not stop criminals from getting guns; in fact, they don't even appear to slow criminals down.

15 Years of FBI Research ... Ignored

"None of the rifles, shotguns or handguns connected with this study were obtained from gun shows or related activities."

Indeed, while anti-gun groups and the media wring their hands, complain about "lax laws" and claim that criminals obtain firearms by exploiting deficiencies in current law, the convicted criminals interviewed for this most recent study made it clear that:

- a) At the time of the incident under investigation, they were already prohibited from purchasing firearms because of criminal convictions, illicit activity, underage status and other disqualifying factors; and
- b) Those disqualifying conditions didn't make a bit of difference, since the criminals didn't, and wouldn't, attempt to obtain firearms through conventional sources.

To read more on this article check out the archives at [www.nra.org](http://www.nra.org)

Some great articles are posted.





# WORDS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CREW

Well summer is almost over & renewal time is here. The Board of Governors has made some changes to our DUES for 2008; they are going up for New Members as well as Renewals. Other changes are; late fee increased to \$20.00 for single membership & \$40.00 for family membership. DUES NOT PAID BY MARCH 31 WILL BE DROPPED FROM CLUB MEMBERSHIP AND WILL HAVE TO REJOIN THE CLUB AS A NEW MEMBER. We are charging \$25.00 on all returned checks. Renewal forms are in the newsletter (Summer & Fall), on our web site (starting in August) WWW.BCFG.ORG and at the club house. We will be at the General meetings at 7:00 PM, to take memberships, also on Sept 1st, Oct13th and Nov. 10th from 9am till 12pm for RENEWALS ONLY. New members MUST COME TO THE GENERAL MEETING TO JOIN BCF&G. When you renew your NRA membership if you would mention Bucks County Fish & Game club number B6311 the club will get a \$5.00 rebate from the NRA. This will help with our finances. We have over 900 members that belong to the NRA. When you fill out your renewal form if you have an E-Mail address, please list it and if you are an NRA member please check the NRA box.

I would like to remind all that when on the club grounds & using the ranges YOU MUST HAVE YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD WITH YOU AND MUST BE VISIBLE. Have it on a neck chain, pinned on a lapel or hat. The card must be visible to see. Make sure you know the RANGE RULES! NOT HAVING YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARD AND NOT SIGNING IN WHEN USING THE RANGE IS AN AUTOMATIC SUPENSION. All four ranges have sign in sheets to use.

We have a new procedure when signing in. You need to write in your membership card number as well as sign your name DO NOT PRINT. We are having a problem with non club members using the club & using club member's numbers to sign in. By your signing your name we can tell if your signature does not match your membership application form.

NEW MAILING ADDRESS FOR YOUR RENEWAL FORMS.

SEC'Y / BCF&G, P.O. BOX 465, RICHBORO, PA. 18954

Have a safe Fall. Jim and Dick

## **Bucks County Fish & Game Association, Inc.**

P.O. Box 462

Doylestown, PA 18901

Organized 1894

FALL 2007

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