



Southern Chester County Sportsmen's & Farmers' Association

Kennett Square, Pennsylvania

Top Stories

Officer Elections Coming in December

Your vote counts. Join us on December 30th to be heard.

Indoor Range Survey and Research Report

High expense. Low support. Details page 4.

Field Day Review

No better time to be at the Club. Page 5.

Treasurer's Report and Committee Comments

See Page 9.

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Election of Club Officers, 30 December 2014

At our general member's meeting on 30th December 2014, we will hold an election for our all of club's officer positions and four positions on our board of directors.

The terms, eligibility requirements and duties for these positions are detailed [here](#). If you would like to nominate someone or are interested in running for any of these positions, please complete the [Candidate Nomination Form](#) and contact nominations@scsfa.org.

The current nominees for the positions are:

President (1 position)

□ Derek Strine

Derek Strine has served on the Board as well as serving as Vice President and President for 2 terms each. During this period, he was a driving force behind the expansion of 15/7 yard range, baffle completion, parking lot expansion, and lake road. He lives in the township and attends our local board of supervisors meetings regularly.

□ David Jahn

David joined the club in 1999, and began working as a volunteer. He was elected as a Director in 2003, and has been serving on the board since then. David has served as the club Secretary since 2007 where he supported many of the club's improvements including the range baffles, restroom & office renovations, parking lot expansion, technology advancements and improvements to the pond. Looking ahead, he would like to see us expand our ranges, improve the clubhouse and initiate an environmental stewardship plan to continually improve the club for our members.

David says as President he will assure we adhere to our bylaws, follow good business practices and assure that we hear the voices, not only of our Executive Committee but of the General Membership, especially those in the minority on any issue. David's experience and background in both his professional and private life assure he's up for the challenge, and he is looking forward to serving the club in the capacity of President. David asks for your support in this endeavor.

Vice-President (1 position)

□ Mark Rowles

Mark has served us as the I.T. committee chairman for the past 3 years, served as IPSC Assistant Match Director, Mentored new members and coordinated the Steel Challenge & 3 Gun club matches.

Secretary (1 position)

□ Alexandra Parks

Alexandra says she enjoys going to the club, respect fire arms, honors the US Constitution and will defend our freedoms against terrorism and enemies of our country. She is proud to be an American and has similar interests and opinions with the members of our club.

□ Chris Carapellucci

Chris has been a member of the club for several years and an active volunteer since the day he joined. He is currently the chairman of the Legislative Action committee and is a regular attendee to all board meetings. He is an NRA certified RSO (Range Safety Officer). On any given Sunday you can expect to either see him in the club house helping administratively or on the 75 yard range assisting with the junior rifle program. He is versed in Robert's Rules of Order and has discussed a succession plan with our current club secretary - thus ensuring a seamless transition in the event of his election.

Treasurer (1 position)

□ Steven Bunnell (i)

Steven is currently serving the club in his 5th term as Treasurer. Steven also serves as the chairman of the Shotgun Sports Committee.

□ Charlie Beatty

Charlie is a board member, an active volunteer, Range Safety Officer and mentor for new members. He has many years of experience as a small business owner working with Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable and managing budgets. He feels he will be a valuable asset to our Club in the role of Treasurer.

Director (4 positions)

□ Larry Bickings (i)

Larry is a current club director in good standing and would like to continue his service to the club in that capacity. He has attended the club board meetings and general meetings regularly (only missing 1 of each this year). He is familiar with the operations of the club and believes he's a voice for those members who may not be able to get to meetings on a regular basis. He will try to make sure that club funds are spent wisely.

□ Lt David Ham (i)

Lt Ham has served us as the Kitchen committee chairman and is a current club director.

□ Percy Reynolds (i)

Percy is a current club director. He has assisted with the planning of projects and understands financially what takes to run the organization. He has served on the executive board. Percy has assisted the archery committee over the past years and is a USA archery instructor.

□ Mark Bubel

Mark has served as the Vice-President for the past year. In this role he chaired the Field Day Committee. He coordinates the Mentoring Program for prospective club members, with his wife Patti, in addition to mentoring candidates himself. Mark also served as interim Forestry Committee chairman and coordinated several tree trimming projects for the club. He serves on the Facilities Committee as well as the Range Reclamation Committee. He would like to continue to serve the club in the Director position.

□ Edward "Doc" Weitzman

Doc has been a club member for 15 years. He served on the board of directors for 2 terms. If elected he would like to see some of the legal restraints put on the club by the township reduced.

(i) Incumbent



Remember:

You must be present and a member in good standing (current SCCS&FA and NRA memberships) in order to participate in this election, so please plan to attend the meeting on December 30th and vote for your preferred candidates.

Indoor Range Research Results

- **The cost of building an indoor range is high.**
- **Support for the undertaking is low.**
- **For the foreseeable future, we'll be shooting outdoors.**

One of the questions (among many) we asked members in our recent General Survey was whether an indoor range would be a valuable addition to our club's facilities. The response to that question was sufficient to have us dig deeper into the costs of building or buying a range and to measure the willingness of our members to support the addition financially.

To understand the cost of establishing and running an indoor range, we contacted the very few companies - Meggitt Training Systems and Action Target/ManCom - that specialize in this market and spoke with operators of indoor ranges about their experiences.

The numbers are daunting.

The cheapest, quickest and surest path to indoor shooting would be to buy a mobile unit, which provides three shooting lanes and is a turnkey solution. This is essentially a range-in-a-53-foot-trailer, ready to roll onto our property and kitted-out with all required ballistic hardening, air handling and noise-reduction features. The cost of that solution would be slightly less than \$300,000.

Building a permanent-fixtured indoor range would be even more expensive - estimates vary between \$50,000 and \$100,000 PER LANE (you read that right) - and would require that we build within our existing structural footprint. That's because we would lose our highly advantageous preferential real estate tax status (under Act 319 - the Pennsylvania Farmland and Forestland Assessment Act of 1974 - we pay a very low tax rate on our 47 acres) if we added a new building to our existing infrastructure.

In order to build up (or down) on our current physical plant, we would have to disrupt either the indoor archery range or the clubroom or, likely, both.

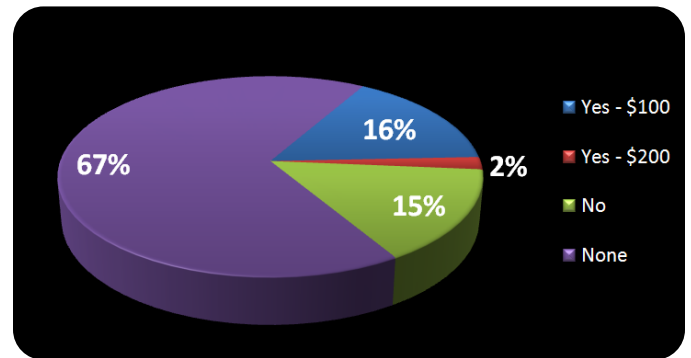
None of those considerations are showstoppers in and of themselves, if we have the money to do things quickly and correctly.

We don't. Our Club generates a small and welcome financial surplus most years but does not have the kind of reserves required to undertake a major project like this.

Just as important, based on the response to our Indoor Range Interest Survey, we cannot bank on sufficient increases in dues from the membership to underwrite an expenditure of that magnitude.

Only 16% of our members think an indoor range is of sufficient appeal to warrant a \$100 increment in annual dues. Just 2% think it's worth an extra \$200 a year.

Overall the vast majority of our members (82%) expressed no interest in an indoor range, either directly (15%) or indirectly (67%) by not even bothering to vote. A breakdown of the survey results is below:



So, for the time being at least, we'll be shooting outdoors.

Our thanks to all the members who assisted with the survey and who took the time to express their opinion on the issue.

Field Day

There's no better day to be at the Club than on Field Day.

Even a frequent visitor to the SCCS&FA is impressed with the range of activities on offer during Field Day. From the most seasoned club veteran to kids and newcomers, there is never more to do at our facility.

Never shot trap before? Take a turn at Field Day.

First time at archery? Then get in line at the indoor range.

Interested in learning to fly cast? Just walk down to the lake.

And have you ever wanted to turn the loud-crank on a Gatling gun?

Well it just so happens that we had one on hand.

We'll let the pictures the pictures below tell the whole story but if you only visit the club or invite a guest once a year, make it on Field Day.

First up, the magnificent Gatling gun



The Archery Committee sowed the seeds of enthusiasm for their sport with young archers.



VP Mark Bubel & "Doc" Weitzman.

See the [2013 Q1 Newsletter](#) for an article on Dr. Weitzman and his Gatling guns.





Fly fishing down at the lake



Lt. Ham kept us fed



The trap range saw some action





Committee News

Rifle Committee

By David Stephens, Chairman

With the increased participation in the small bore program and the availability of 22 ammunition, I have seen a sharp upturn of interest in the rifle program. Combine that with the interest generated by this year’s steel challenge and 3 gun matches we have a lot of members interested in trying new matches. I would like to purchase four (4) sets of small bore silhouette targets. These are manufactured to NRA/IHMSA standards using 1/4 inch A36 steel plate, plasma cut, welded and ready to use.

Each set consisting of 20 targets (5 chickens, 5 turkeys, 5 pigs, 5 ram). Each set cost \$80 making all 4 sets \$320. I am requesting an increase in the rifle budget of \$350 to cover the purchase of 4 sets plus incidentals to build the target stands to hold the silhouette targets. These are a high quality target and ready for use and will last many years. The vendor has several sets on hand and ready to ship. The cost of the targets can be recovered in a couple matches with a modest entry fee.

IT Committee

By Mark Rowels, Chairman

1. Resubmitting 2015 Proposed budget. Added additional \$4000 to the gate software upgrade. I spoke with Amy and she felt we may need to make additional changes to the system in order to upgrade.

Gate software upgrade \$5,000. \$1,000 for software and \$4,000 contingency in case additional changes

Crash Plan \$ 179.00 Yearly off-site backups

Projector & ceiling mount \$ 1,000.00 Projector to be used for training, meetings, orientation, etc.

Kiosk \$ 500. Kiosk in the clubhouse to connect to WildApricot. Will allow users membership. \$69/yr recurring cost to manage remotely.

Firewall \$ 1,000 Backup firewall. We currently have a custom firewall

SSL Cert \$ 150.00 3 year cert

Wild Apricot SSL \$ 50.00 Yearly maintenance

TOTAL 2015 \$ 7,879.00

2. Request approval to host next steel shoot on Jan 17th 2015. Planning to run 3 stages simultaneously on the 75yd (rifle), 50yd (shotgun), and back IPSC A (pistol) ranges. IPSC B range will be set aside as a safe handling area. Will be limiting event to 30 shooters + volunteers

Treasurer’s Report

From Steven Bunnell, Treasurer

Current balances on hand, as of November 2014:

Checking Account	\$	13,226
Savings Account	\$	185,495
Other Accounts	\$	22,720
Total	\$	221,441

Thanks and Thoughts

Our Thanks

Our thanks to Mark Bubel, the Forestry Committee and the clean-up team for making Field Day such a special event. Mark has been hyper-active in his year as Vice President and the results are easy to see all around the Club. We are grateful for his efforts.

We also thank the IT and Membership Committees and the special “Wild Apricot” team for making the conversion to on-line membership renewal a success. Countless hours and high effort went into the project and our Club is the better for it. The credit goes to Mark Rowles, Rich Parkin, Jim Chilcut, Don Sloat, Amy Hutchins and many others who helped with the project.

Finally, we thank Rich Parkin for his excellent work on the Indoor Range Interest Survey and all the members who took the time to respond to it.

Your Thoughts

Please share your thoughts on the Newsletter with us at: newsletter@scsfa.org

Parting shot



Pennsylvania 160th district Rep. [Stephen Barrar](#) (left) visited us on Field Day,