



# Southern Chester County Sportsmen's & Farmers' Association

*Kennett Square, Pennsylvania*

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## New Officers and Directors

At the general members' meeting in December, we elected a new panel of Officers and Directors, to begin service on January 1, 2014.

### Officers

- President David Hutchins
- Vice President Mark Bubel
- Secretary David Jahn
- Treasurer Steve Bunnell

### Directors serving till December 31, 2014

- Larry Bickings
- Rich Debacco
- David Ham
- Percy Reynolds

### Directors serving till December 31, 2015

- Charles Beatty
- Amy Hutchins
- Patti Bubel
- Warren Goodwin

Congratulations to all and thanks for being of service to the Club.

## A Member, a Mission, a Flag

### The Burton Hall Flag Flies Over Kuwait

Club member Drew Clauhs, a sergeant in the Army National Guard, took our prized "Burton Hall" American flag on an interesting trip last year.

Thanks to Drew's good work, our Club's flag flew over the largest military seaport in the world from about 0100 hours to 2300 hours on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2013. That period of display covered most of the clock that hot (104 °F), windy day. It's a distinct honor for us, especially to be part of such a remarkable testament to America's reach, purpose and commitment.

The port in question is the Seaport of Debarkation and Embarkation, near the city of Al Shuiba, Kuwait. SPODE Kuwait handled all US and allied material in and out of

Kuwait and for much of the Iraq theater of operations. If it got to the fight in Iraq, it came through the SPODE.

Drew's unit, 104<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, Pennsylvania Army National Guard - the "Black Jack Troop" - had security and surveillance duty for the port as well as the southern half of Kuwait, as Security Force, South. He was in the sandbox for nine months on his tour.

His story, and that of our flag, has been featured on several media outlets. We are grateful to him for his efforts, not only in serving the nation but also in arranging a distinctive honor for the club's national flag.

## We're Open for New Members

With the annual membership renewal effort behind us (Amy Hutchins and Chris Carapellucci lived to fight another day), we can now re-open our rolls for new members.

As of March 1st, we begin processing new applications and will restart our monthly orientation classes for new members. We'll be using a new online method to process applications.

At the end of February, we had just over 1260 active members and a waiting list of new potential members of about 240.

If you are interested in serving as a mentor for one or more of our new members (remember, our club rules require that each prospective member visit the club with a mentor), please contact Amy at [membership@scsfa.org](mailto:membership@scsfa.org).

## Club Members Rally for 2nd Amendment

The people who want to take our guns away or otherwise limit the right to keep and bear arms enshrined in the Constitution will never stop trying. At the federal, state and local level, they are always looking for ways to pry our guns out of our homes and hands. Sometimes their tactics are overt and direct; sometimes they are subtle and disguised, often under the label of "common-sense gun laws" or "sensible" legislation.

The truth is, the only thing that stands between them and a catastrophic diminution of our ability to defend ourselves

and our other freedoms is the concerted commitment of free citizens like you.

Several of your fellow club members demonstrated that commitment on a bitterly cold January day, when they rallied to support one of the elected officials who sees things our way.

State Representative **Steve Barrar** (R - 160<sup>th</sup> District) has come under pressure from a group called Delco United for Sensible (there's that word, again) Gun Policy. The group's complaint is that Steve has not chosen to co-sponsor (or support) House Bill 1010, which would prohibit the sale of long guns among private individuals in the Commonwealth without an NCIS background check.



Steve's position is much like ours: that there are plenty of gun laws on the books already and that the Federal government has no brief in getting in the middle of a private transaction between free citizens, especially one enabled under current state law.

We couldn't agree more and the turnout among club members and other interested parties in support of Steve at his offices on Route 202 was remarkable. So was the reaction of the drive-by crowd, which was obviously and audibly on the side of the U.S. Constitution.

## Additional News Links

[Delco Times](#) (includes a brief video)

[Chadds Ford Live](#)

## A Fitting Tribute to Charley Fountain

**Our club runs on volunteer service.** Our members do the work here.

With rare exceptions, everything you see on our grounds or in our physical plant has been built, and is maintained, by our members. We have no paid staff and no "management" in the normal sense. Our programs and committee initiatives depend on the efforts of committed volunteers: from cutting the grass to running educational programs, we rely on members to do the work.

Nobody embodies the volunteer spirit at SCCS&FA better than Charley Fountain.

For years, Charley has been pivotal in helping improve the club's grounds and infrastructure, keeping what we have up to snuff and ensuring a safe and comfortable experience for members and guests. His efforts on our behalf have been tireless.

As a token of our appreciation, the Executive Committee has voted to name the 100-yard range in Charley's honor. The next time you shoot at our long-range facility, you'll be shooting on the Charley Fountain Range.

Congratulations, Charley.

## A Trip to the NRA Convention

**Getting Ready for Indianapolis with a Look-Back at Houston.** Last year Club member Mark Garfinkel attended the NRA annual convention in Houston. Here are his thoughts and observations:

Houston was my third Annual Meeting in four years and to date, the best and largest by far. Thank you, Houston. After three such trips, I am just now learning the lay of the land - NRA land, that is. With seven days of meetings and events scheduled, I would like this article to be a "How To Guide" for all of you planning on attending future NRA conventions, and a report of what I learned from the Houston convention, last year.

With exhibit space exceeding 639,000 sq. ft., and another 600,000 sq. ft. of meeting rooms, classrooms, ballrooms, theaters, 240 NRA staff, 500 NRA volunteers, over 450 exhibitors and their staff and, most importantly, the friendliest 86,228 attendees (NRA official count) from all over the country, you can easily see that all this can be overwhelming at first.

I began by setting several goals for the meeting. My first was to learn more about our organization. I attended the entire Membership Meeting on Saturday and the Board of Directors meeting on Monday. I would like to thank John Sigler for answering all my endless questions. On Monday, at the Board of Directors Meeting, it was announced that the Harrisburg, PA Outdoor Show (formerly the Eastern Sports and Outdoor Show) is going to be sponsored by the NRA.

The next goal was to organize my time around the different seminars being offered on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. My passion is education and training, and my choices were directed by those seminars that fit the bill.

The next goal and biggest challenge was navigating the exhibit hall. In advance, using nraam.org I mapped out a plan of attack targeting exhibitors with whom I wanted to spend time. The Excel spreadsheet that I developed kept us on track, and I would recommend you doing the same.

The last and most important goal was to have fun, which was easily available to anyone who did a bit of planning.

Yes, Houston, we have a problem, but our politicians did not count on you, members of the NRA and defenders of our Constitution, standing up for your 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment and your freedoms. So, set a goal for April 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and let's see if we can have an attendance of over 100,000 in Indianapolis.

MARK GARFINKEL

## Get Ready for Fish Day

Like Christmas, Fish Day comes but once a year. Which is a pity, because they're both such a blast.

This year, Fish Day falls on March 29<sup>th</sup>.

Plan your Saturday around the fun and join us for the kickoff of the fish and lake season.

Bring your gear.

## Committee News

### Education

#### Utah/Arizona Carry:

The Education Committee is sponsoring another Utah/Arizona concealed carry training class, scheduled for Saturday March 8th.

Please see our [website](#) for details about this valuable course.

## Range Safety Officer Training

Twelve of our members completed a Range Safety Officer training course in late February. All of the attendees passed the RSO test.



Congratulations to them for their commitment to safe shooting and a safe club.

## Pistol

The Pistol (IPSC/USPSA) 2014 match schedule is the same as previous years: matches will be held on the third Saturday of the month, March through October. Here are the dates:

- 15 March
- 19 April
- 17 May
- 21 June
- 19 July
- 16 August
- 20 September
- 18 October

Committee Chairman Graham Smith has announced that this will be his final year acting as match director. If you are interested in assuming the duties he will be vacating, please contact him through the Club website, using the Pistol Committee link: [pistol@scsfa.org](mailto:pistol@scsfa.org).

## Black Powder

The Black Powder Committee will be active at SCCS&FA again this year.

The following dates (also published in Muzzle Blasts, the NMLRA magazine) will be match or event dates for muzzleloader fans at the Club:

- Sunday March 30, 2014 – currently reserved for the Delaware 1st Regiment Training
- Sunday June 1 2014 – Target Match
- Sunday August 31 2014 – Target Match
- Sunday October 26 2014 – Target Match

Target matches are open to any muzzle-loading rifle, Inline rifles welcome. Open sights only, peep-sights acceptable.

Matches begin at noon until 4pm. Targets at 25 and 50 yards. Three prizes awarded for each target.

We plan to offer a mid-September muzzle-loading sight-in day, open to all members. Open sights at 50 yards, scopes at 75 yards. There will be an informal target match with small prizes. Fee: \$5.00.

We are also considering sponsoring a Junior rifle-kit building course. The idea is to build a kit rifle with Mom, Dad or other interested adult, with the course running over several weeks. Kits would cost in the \$250 range.

Basic Muzzleloading class - NRA/NMLRA. According to NMLRA field rep and training counselor, Richard Neikamp, The NRA and NMLRA have entered into an agreement to update their Basic Muzzleloading training courses. The course will now fold rifle, pistol and muzzleloading shotgun programs into one class. Instructors will receive certification from both associations simultaneously.

Please contact the Black Powder Committee through the Club's website if you have an interest in any of these courses or events: [blackpowder@scsfa.org](mailto:blackpowder@scsfa.org)

## Newsletter

Some stats and things we learned from our tongue-in-cheek prototype Newsletter Survey last quarter were:

2014 Newsletter Stats	Q4	
	#	%
E-mail messages sent	1214	100%
E-mails bounced	33	3%
E-mails opened	510	42%
(Calculated not opened)	671	55%
Newsletter link clicked	288	24%
Survey Responses	16	1%

- All but one respondent was happy with the online format of the Newsletter - the one hold-out wanted it read aloud.
- The majority 56% (okay 9 of the 16) said they read it avidly while 31% browse every issue.
- Some suggested the inclusion of class schedules.  
*Please see **Education** in the Committee News section above for the most recent class notice.*

The Newsletter Survey was a prototype to help us test the concept of a full Member Survey, which leads us to...

## Member Survey Now Available

Take a chance on winning a free annual membership renewal!

On February 20th, we sent a blast email to all members for whom we have an address, alerting them to the availability of our first Member Survey.

We are undertaking this survey to examine how our members currently use the Club, what they (we mean, you) would like to see added to it and how their (we mean, your) skills and interests can help us move the Club forward.

The survey is short, sweet and web-based. And since this is a private undertaking not managed by the federal government, this is one website that will work.

You have until the end of March to submit your response and put your hat in the ring to win a free membership renewal for 2015.

Send an email to the newsletter committee if you can't access the Survey: [newsletter@scsfa.org](mailto:newsletter@scsfa.org).

## Treasurer's Report

Current balances on hand, as of February 25<sup>th</sup>:

Checking account     \$    6,775  
Savings Account       \$ 130,344

## Thanks and Thoughts

### Our Thanks

This quarter, we express our thanks to our avid readers and survey responders, our new and serving officers/directors, and to Mark Garfinkel for his article.

### Your Thoughts

Please share your thoughts on the Newsletter with us at: [newsletter@scsfa.org](mailto:newsletter@scsfa.org)

Parting shot



January 30th 2013 was a cold day but the display of support for our 2nd Amendment Rights was heart-warming

