



# Southern Chester County Sportsmen's & Farmers' Association

*Kennett Square, Pennsylvania*

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## Secretary Position Open

**This Board Position is open.** Due to family circumstances and commitments our elected Secretary has had to step down. This is an important position and requires a high level of commitment. The club has two meetings per month throughout the year. The club bylaws state:

*It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep a complete record of the proceedings of the Association and conduct correspondence.*

In practice the secretary must elicit agenda items, prepare an agenda, attend most meetings, record minutes and handle club correspondence.

Please forward an email to [president@sccsfa.org](mailto:president@sccsfa.org) if you are interested in helping with this position.

## Committee News

### Archery Report

If you enjoy archery, you should make time to try out the 14 target outdoor course which you can access from Byrd Rd.



**Outdoor Archer Course**

Target distances range from 20 feet to 80 yards with plenty of distances between. Our archery committee, with the help of some volunteers has been busy weed whacking and cleaning up the course.



We have just started (June 11<sup>th</sup>) weekly organized shoots on the outdoor archery course starting at 5:30 p.m. Bow hunters are welcome. You will only have to shoot out to 50 yards. The cost per night is only \$5.00. Contact the archery committee if you need additional information at: [archery@sccsfa.org](mailto:archery@sccsfa.org).

If you need to sight in your bow, you may want to try our outdoor practice range behind the clubhouse. Targets there have been placed from 20 yards out to 60 yards in ten yard increments. New target faces were recently installed, so feel free to give them a try.



**Outdoor Archery Range**

## Camping

Last month the new Camping Committee, chaired by John McNicholas, was formed and is currently working on improvements to our camping facilities. Over the next month they'll be adding additional picnic tables and fire pits along with repairing our park grills. They'll also be adding limited RV and lake camping sites that will be available by reservation due to limited availability.

If interested, keep an eye out for additional information in the near future. Anyone wishing to volunteer for this committee can contact [camping@sccsfa.org](mailto:camping@sccsfa.org).

## Field Day

Vice President Mark Rowles reports that this year, our annual Field Day will take place on **Saturday, October 3rd**. Mark your calendars. As always this event will be open to the public and there will be activities for the whole family. Rumor also has it that the Flea Market and Halloween party will occur in parallel. Watch for more new to come.

**Fish & Lake**

Over 30 volunteers came out to help stock the lake with 800 fish in preparation for Trout Day. "With so many volunteers, the process was easy." Says Fish & Lake committee chairman Mark Fenster.



**Volunteers stock the lake**

Opening day, Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> started at 7 a.m. with breakfast served by Lt. David Ham and his kitchen volunteers. Juniors started fishing at 8 am and everyone else joined in at 9 a.m. Many juniors reached their 3 fish limit before 9. Fishing start times were updated based on the concerns that had been expressed to the Fish & Lake committee and were approved by the Board of Directors.



**Lt. Ham in charge of breakfast**

On behalf of everyone who came out to enjoy the day Mark expressed his thanks to the kitchen committee that served breakfast and lunch. He says he personally enjoyed the pancakes and bacon. Lt. Ham arrived at 5:20 a.m. to start preparations.



**A great day for family fun**

Also of note, the portable restroom was delivered to the lake on April 11<sup>th</sup> alleviating the need to climb up hill to the trap range restroom.

The fish fund box located in the clubhouse by the kitchen received \$55.95 US and \$1 Canadian, a? These contributions do help the budget and permit the committee to purchase more fish.

Mark is working on ideas for next year and encourages feedback on things that went well and suggestions for how to improve things. Please contact him at:

[fish-lake@scsfa.org](mailto:fish-lake@scsfa.org)

**Rifle**

The SCCSFA Rifle committee will be holding the first silhouette rifle match in many years on **Saturday July 25<sup>th</sup>**. This is a club fun shoot, bragging rights only for winning.

We will be shooting official scaled steel silhouettes at 50 yards to make things a little easier on both the shooters and chicken runners (target setters). This is an 'any rifle' match, the only restrictions being that the rifle caliber is .22 rim-fire and you are capable of holding and safely handling the firearm.

Shooting will be from the standing position with all targets at 50 yards. Each round will consist of 4 stations with 10 targets (40 target total).





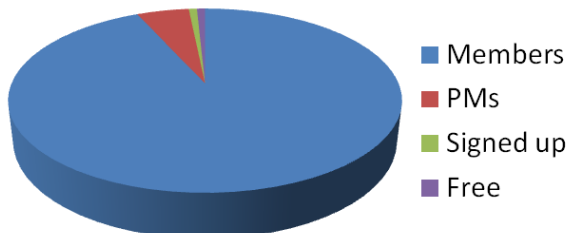
Steel Targets

Targets are steel Chickens, Pigs, Turkeys and Rams. They make the most satisfying ping as fly through the air when hit, the most difficult part is not smiling ear to ear as they go airborne off the target stands.

Each shooter will be allotted 5 minutes to fire 10 rounds at 10 targets. Only targets knocked down will count as a hit. We will be running a morning and afternoon session and slots are limited. Shooters will register online for either the AM session (starts at 10am) or PM session (starts at 2pm). Entry fee is \$10 with additional rounds at \$5 if time allows. Juniors (under 18) must be directly supervised by a parent/guardian. Juniors are free of charge to encourage families to come out and shoot. Shooters will supply their own rifles and ammunition. Use of eye & ear protection and chamber flags is mandatory. Questions may be directed to [rifle@scsfa.org](mailto:rifle@scsfa.org).

### Membership

Our membership currently stands at **1,399**. We have some prospective members in the intake pipeline and another dozen signed up for the next intake. If everyone completes the process we will reach 1,488. Our membership is capped at 1,500 so we're right about at maximum.



### NRA Membership

Maintaining current NRA membership is a requirement of SCCS&FA club membership. No exceptions. We work in conjunction with the NRA to verify NRA membership numbers, expiration dates, names and address. Sadly there are a few club members who have let their NRA membership lapse for a number of years. The policy this year, with board approval, is **anyone without an NRA membership current by the end of August will not be renewed.**

[Discount NRA membership](#) and renewals are available on our web-site. Click on the link.

### Safety Conscious Experienced Shooters Wanted

We instituted a Mentoring program about 3 years ago designed to ensure new prospective members got a jump on learning the club rules as well as confirming they were aware of safety aspects of the shooting sports and our club in particular. If you are a new member who joined within the above mentioned timeframe you know about this; if you joined before this time you may have seen "Mentors" doing this instruction in the clubhouse and down on the ranges.

While we do have a good number of mentors available, depending on work schedules and vacations, there has been periodic shortages - more mentors would certainly help us out; many hands make light work.

Ultimately, we would like for all Mentors to become NRA certified Range Safety Officer's (RSO's) however those that may be willing to step up and volunteer to give back and don't have this certification yet will be accepted. Opportunity to get this training and certification is periodically offered at the club at cost (recently \$20).

Mentoring sessions are typically 1 hour or less and are pre-scheduled. Half the time is spent talking in the clubhouse and half of the time is on the range shooting. This has all been worked out and pre-scripted and we can provide you with more information via e-mail to provide you with more insight. What kind of time commitment would this involve? That is entirely up to you. There are no commitments or requirements for mentoring a certain number of people per week. If your schedule allows you to come once per week, every other week or several times per week that would be appreciated and entirely your decision. On a personal note,

it is a very satisfying endeavor which the Mentoring Coordinators enjoy a great deal.

If you would like to learn more or volunteer to become a Mentor please contact the Mentoring Coordinators at [MentoringCoordinator@SCCSFA.org](mailto:MentoringCoordinator@SCCSFA.org).

## The "Ceasefire" call

### "Ceasefire!" – What exactly am I expected to do?

You may have seen mentors on the range and heard the command "Ceasefire". Apparently there is some confusion as to what exact action is required when a ceasefire is called. Simply it is for **everyone** on the range to stop shooting:

- Take your finger off the trigger and clear of the trigger guard.
- Maintain a safe muzzle direction – pointed down range.
- Wait for further direction.



You do not need to unload, make safe or bench your firearm. If that is required the RSO will issue further commands as necessary. Look at whoever called the ceasefire (while maintaining a safe muzzle direction) and wait for further instructions.

Please bear with the process. It is slightly irritating for existing members – we know, especially during busy periods with larger groups being mentored. However, it is an important step in the mentoring process and helps us all in raising the level of safety awareness on the ranges.

Note that **anyone** may call, and should be ready to call, a ceasefire if they observe an unsafe situation. e.g. someone enters the range without hearing protection while the range is "hot" (active shooting condition).

## 15/7 Yard Range

As a side note, all members should be aware and similarly instruct their guests that the 15 and 7 yard range is NOT two different ranges. It is one range and no one should go down range to address targets unless all those on the range – on both the 15 and 7 yard sides, have benched their firearms with chamber flags, have stepped back from the bench, and all agree the range is "cold".

## Treasurer's Report

Current balances on hand, as of May 12<sup>th</sup> 2015:

Checking Account	\$	17,611
Savings Account	\$	175,510
Other Accounts	\$	21,777
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>214,898</b>

## Announcements



Dave Hutchins presents **Mark Fenster** with the Winchester/NRA **Distinguished Expert** Marksmanship Qualification. Congratulations Mark!

## Your Thoughts

Have an idea for an article? Is there something you'd like to see covered in the newsletter? Please share your thoughts and pictures with us at: [newsletter@scsfa.org](mailto:newsletter@scsfa.org)

Parting shots

