



P.O. Box 145 • New Richmond, WI 54017 • (715) 246-4884 • [www.willowriver.org](http://www.willowriver.org)

### **Willow River Rod & Gun Club News**

**Archery:** The summer league is now complete and the August 3rd shoot-offs were well attended. The roast pork served over the weekend was very well received. The "arrow trophies" also provided very positive response. Thanks goes out to Tom Krueger and Ron Roettger for the construction of these unique awards! Sponsor plaques are being designed also. The 3D Archery shoot held on August 2nd drew 80 shooters.

**Rim Fire:** The next rim fire shoot is scheduled for August 30th. Sound abatement panels will be installed at the rim fire range similar to those at the rifle range.

**Rifle Range:** Work on the rifle range is almost complete and the range is now open. Fencing, signage and seeding will be future projects. Thanks goes out to all the helped in this very important project. Without volunteer help the range would never have taken shape and be as impressive as it has become!

**Land Development:** The parking lot has been lowered to improve drainage. Plans for ditching along the road and crowning of the driveway will also help with drainage problems. Additional lighting is being considered with new signage planned throughout the club land and ranges. A list for signage is being compiled with an emphasis on keeping things uniform throughout the club land. An expanded list of club projects was provided. Some of the items had been completed while others were prioritized. An automatic gate with key cards is under consideration.

**Education:** Alex Frinack, son of Jeff and Barb Frinack was selected by the club to attend an environmental workshop this summer. Alex provided the club with a summary of his experiences at the camp. He thanked the club for allowing him the opportunity to participate in exceptional educational outdoor activities.

The New Richmond Hunters Ed group has access to the New Richmond Armory for classes this fall. Registration for the class is set for September 11th. For more information contact Ron Roettger at 248-3883. The fall course is projected to be larger than normal. A long term agreement with the NR Armory similar to that in

place with other parts of the state is needed. Help from our political representatives will be sought to get this accomplished.

### **Old/New Business:**

The WRR&GC'S New Richmond Fun Festival booth was a huge success and thanks goes out to all that helped at that event! Club member and long time Board of Director Bob Peterson was recognized with being the driving force in getting this event to the level it now enjoys. Thanks Bob!

Federal Cartridge has agreed to furnish targets for our annual sight in days scheduled the three Sundays preceding the opening of the deer gun season. Workers to help on these days are needed.

A rifle Raffle is being considered as a fund raiser this summer and fall.

Money for the seeding of the rifle range with matting and work up was approved.

The John Zinsmeister Family Day is scheduled for Sunday, September 7th starting at noon. Roast pork is on the menu and a good time will be had by all.

A bow hunt opportunity on the club land is being considered. Potential hunters could be chosen through a raffle drawing. Present make up of this hunt and raffle will be finalized soon.

### **Star Prairie Fish & Game Association News**

*(From Mike Kelly's July Meeting Minutes)*

**Senior Pontoon Ride:** The outing was held Tuesday, June 17th with over 100 seniors attending.

**Fisheries/Habitat:** Rich Miller reported on USF&W activities for the past year on Stanton Prairie, Flatters and Bierbrauer WPAs including prairie plantings, brush control and burning.

**Park Party:** The gala occasion is scheduled for August 12th. The new club polo shirts will be worn at the party with club workers receiving a free shirt. Orders for Leopold benches at \$25.00 will be taken at the party. Club Logo hats will also be for sale at \$10.00 each.

**McMurtrie Property/Land Trust:** The Jack Hayes memorial located near the dam on Cedar Creek was dedicated on

Saturday July 19th at 1:00 with a group of about 50 people enjoying refreshments after a brief ceremony.

Outreach/Youth: Money has been allotted to the KYI (Keep Youth Involved) group for their activities and for club shirts.

**Buck's Night:** Prizes including a number of quality firearms have been purchased for the annual fundraiser. The club has 73 members in good standing.

**Old Business/New Business:**

Phyllis Menke attended the July meeting and spoke about the history of the eagle's nest on the property which was first observed in 1976. One year, a rare brood of 3 eaglets was fledged. The nest was abandoned for a year in 1996, but the next year fledglings were again observed. Phyllis also made a monetary donation to the club.

A brief discussion on a memorial for Phyllis's late husband Bob was held. Sate Senator Sheila Harsdorf has requested to address the club at our next meeting. After some discussion, it was decided to accept her request.

The next meeting of the SPF&GA is scheduled for Monday, August 18, 2008, with the 6 pm social hour and the 7 pm regular meeting at Don Madsen's on Cedar Lake.

**Blast from the Past (Part 6)**

Earlier in a few past newsletters we had featured the "Blast from the Past" section up to the year 1998. In the next couple of issues we'll continue forward to keep the historical perspective intact.

1999

Craig Warren was president with 350 members on the mailing list.

A plan for expanding the current clubhouse with the addition of an indoor archery range was formulated. Work was started on the expansion.

Support by the club for the casino in Hudson was an issue for heavy discussion in 1999.

The winter fishing contest was held on Cedar Lake and as usual there were more fishermen than fish at the event.

The 20th annual Sports Show sponsored by the club was held.

The Deer 2000 event held at the Hudson Government Center brought in 91 people to express their views.

In April the club sponsored an adult hunter's education course.

The 1999 trap league had 13 teams competing while the archery league was made up of 26 teams.

John Oman assumed responsibilities for the trap league.

A John Deere mower was purchased for ground maintenance.

| Willow River Rod and Gun Club Board of Directors |               |                 |                |               |                     |               |                 |
|--|---------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Year   | President     | V. Pres.        | Secretary      | Treasurer     | BD 5                | BD 6          | BD 7            |
| 1968   | Loren Pracht  | R. Fisher       | G. Johnson     | Don Holmberg  |                     |               |                 |
| 1973   | D. Adams      | Dan Richter     | R. Davis       | B. Preckers   |                     |               |                 |
| 1979   | Al Benson     | Greg Warner     | G. Johnson     | Keith Swiggum |                     |               |                 |
| 1980   | Greg Warner   | Bob Peterson    | H. Ammerman    | Keith Swiggum |                     |               |                 |
| 1981   | Bob Peterson  | Bob Duis        | H. Ammerman    | Keith Swiggum | Mike Reiter         | Mike Kelly    | Chris Lundell   |
| 1982   | Bob Peterson  | Bob Duis        | Mike Reiter    | Keith Swiggum | Chuck Magoon        | Mike Kelly    | Dave Johnston   |
| 1983   | Dave Johnston | Craig Warren    | Mike Reiter    | Keith Swiggum | Chuck Magoon        | Mike Kelly    | Bob Duis        |
| 1984   | Dave Johnston | Craig Warren    | Mike Reiter    | Keith Swiggum | Chuck Magoon        | Mike Kelly    | Bob Duis        |
| 1985   | Bob Peterson  | Craig Warren    | Mike Reiter    | Keith Swiggum | Tom Harder          | Mike Kelly    | Bob Duis        |
| 1986   | Mike Reiter   | Mitch Kittel    | Tom Harder     | Bob Duis      | Bob Peterson        | Mike Kelly    | Larry Suennen   |
| 1987   | Mitch Kittel  | Tom Harder      | Larry Suennen  | Bob Duis      | Bob Keating         | Bob Peterson  | Phil Stener     |
| 1988   | Mitch Kittel  | Larry Suennen   | Steve Frey     | Bob Duis      | Bob Keating         | Ron Roettger  | Phil Stener     |
| 1989   | Mitch Kittel  | Chuck Magoon    | Steve Frey     | Bob Duis      | Craig Jameson       | Ron Roettger  | Bob Peterson    |
| 1990   | Mitch Kittel  | Larry Suennen   | Steve Frey     | Bob Duis      | Chuck Magoon        | Ron Roettger  | Bob Peterson    |
| 1991   | Mitch Kittel  | Ron Roettger    | Mike Reiter    | Bob Duis      | Chuck Magoon        | Mike Kelly    | Bob Peterson    |
| 1992   | Mitch Kittel  | Ron Roettger    | Mike Reiter    | Bob Duis      | Chuck Magoon        | Mike Kelly    | Bob Peterson    |
| 1993   | Mitch Kittel  | Mike Reiter     | Ron Roettger   | Mike Kelly    | Chuck Magoon        | Russ Lefler   | Bob Peterson    |
| 1994   | Chuck Magoon  | Bob Peterson    | Ron Roettger   | John Oman     | Jay Ditlefsen       | Russ Lefler   | Mitch Kittel    |
| 1995   | Chuck Magoon  | Russ Lefler     | Ron Roettger   | John Oman     | Jay Ditlefsen       | Larry Suennen | Bob Peterson    |
| 1996   | Ron Roettger  | Bob Peterson    | Larry Suennen  | John Oman     | Jay Ditlefsen       | Russ Lefler   | George Gfall    |
| 1997   | Larry Suennen | Bob Peterson    | Russ Lefler    | John Oman     | Jay Ditlefsen       | Ron Roettger  | George Gfall    |
| 1998   | Bob Peterson  | Craig Warren    | Jay Ditlefsen  | John Oman     | Russ Lefler         | Ron Roettger  | George Gfall    |
| 1999   | Craig Warren  | Ron Roettger    | Steve Scherber | John Oman     | Jay Ditlefsen       | Bob Peterson  | George Gfall    |
| 2000   | Craig Warren  | Ron Roettger    | Steve Scherber | John Oman     | Jay Ditlefsen       | Bob Peterson  | George Gfall    |
| 2001   | Craig Warren  | Ron Roettger    | Steve Scherber | John Oman     | Russ Lefler         | Bob Peterson  | George Gfall    |
| 2002   | Craig Warren  | Ron Roettger    | Steve Scherber | John Oman     | Russ Lefler         | Bob Peterson  | George Gfall    |
| 2003   | Craig Warren  | George Gfall    | Steve Scherber | John Oman     | Rich Vetterkind     | Bob Peterson  | Frank Hegner    |
| 2004   | Brian Headlee | George Gfall    | Steve Scherber | John Oman     | Rich Vetterkind     | Bob Peterson  | Craig Warren    |
| 2005   | Brian Headlee | Craig Warren    | Chris Polfus   | John Oman     | Rich Vetterkind     | Bob Peterson  | George Gfall    |
| 2006   | Brian Headlee | Jerry VanHouten | Chris Polfus   | Bob Peterson  | Rich Vetterkind     | Jessa Nelson  | George Gfall    |
| 2007   | Brian Headlee | Jon Nysse       | Chris Polfus   | Bob Peterson  | Rich Vetterkind(BO) | Jessa Nelson  | George Gfall    |
| 2008   | Brian Headlee | Jon Nysse       | Chris Polfus   | Bob Peterson  | Bill O'Rourke       | Jessa Nelson  | Jerry VanHouten |
| 2009   |               |                 |                |               |                     |               |                 |

  

| Terms Expire | 2009          | 2010          | 2011            |  |  |  |
|--------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--|--|--|
|              | Jessa Nelson  | Brian Headlee | Chris Pulfus    |  |  |  |
|              | Bill O'Rourke | Jon Nysse     | Jerry VanHouten |  |  |  |
|              |               | Bob Peterson  |                 |  |  |  |



*The Club's newly expanded and now open for business rifle range*



*The new patio addition to the Clubhouse plus horseshoe pits*

Discussion was held to raise the membership fees to \$30 (active) and \$50 (non-active for the coming year. 2000

Craig Warren continues as club president.

The 21st annual Sport Show was held at the old armory on March 18th and 19th.

The cost for a round of trap is \$3.00.

2001

The 3D club archery tournament featured the new "Stegosaurus Course" with 30 targets at a cost of \$8.00 per round.

Star Prairie and Somerset townships each donated \$200.00 to offset the cost of our deer carcass dumpsters.

Brian Headlee takes over writing the newsletter in June of 2001.

Team Laser, Maynard's, Bullseye and Gold Wings lead their respective classes at the end of week 5 as well taking the final league spots at season's end.

Eighty-five shooters participated in the 2001 trap league.

The club hosted the Indianhead Archery League 3D Tournament in June 2001 with Gene Drinkman, Wade Vertina and Jody Smith taking the Men's Unlimited Division. Lance Perroni, Brian Headlee and Dan Loney rounded out the Mens 2 Aid, Kevin Lunsman and Bill Prigge took tops in the Mens 1 Aid and Rick Roettger tops in the Mens Barebow Division. The Men's Traditional was won by Eldon Broose and Ted Droneck while Judy Hegge took the Women's Unlimited and Linda Key was tops in the Women's 2 Aid.

The 2001 Fun Fest concession booth was a big hit.

In July of 2001 another 3D Indianhead Tournament was held with Rich Vetterkind, Joe Hegge and Scott Urhammer taking tops in the Men's Unlimited, Brandon Glor, Brian Headlee and Dean Spears taking the Men's 2 Aid, Kevein Lunsman high in the Men's 1 division and Jeff Scherz high in the Men's Traditional Division. Sarah Boucher was high in the Women's Unlimited and Lisa Dabruzzi took top honors in the Women's 2 Aid Divisions.

Team 12 made up of Jerry Bramucker, Joel DeKock, Tony Doehrmann, Chris Geertz, Keith Hanson, Brian Headlee and Kevin Klingbeil took the 2001 trap league

top spot while Doug Johnson narrowly edged out Tom Frey for Top Gunner.

Club jackets were on sale for \$50.00.

2002

The club has a new web-site thanks to Dan Michaelis at St Croix Valley Computer Services.

Mike Reiter takes over newsletter writing duties in September of 2002.

With highway construction the club has lost 2-3 acres of land but retains the right to harvest the pine trees growing there.

Spring Viremia of Carp (SVC) is identified in Cedar Lake and Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) was first identified in Wisconsin less than a year earlier.

Over 1900 pheasants were released into the wilds of St Croix County by area sportsmen on August 24th.

An aeration system is now in place at Hatfield Lake near New Richmond.

The club had 315 members in December of 2002.

Summer Archery League top teams were Valley Oak Cabinets, Maynard's Bar, Knights of Columbus and B&J Hardware in their respective divisions. Top shooters were Jason Eccles, Kim Vetterkind and Dan Loney. The League's MVPs were Brandon Glor and Scott Beauvais.

*(To be continued....)*

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## Upcoming Events...

- August 23rd (Saturday) .....Willow River Rod & Gun Club land closed, private party Antlerless deer permits for regular deer management units go on sale at noon
- August 23rd (Saturday) .....Wildlife biology talk at Willow River State Park, Nature Center, 7 pm, Mike Reiter Speaker, Contact: WRSP 715-386-9340
- August 30th (Saturday) .....IR50 Rimfire Shoot on Club land, 9am – 2 pm, Contact: Brian Headlee at 246-5322
- September 6th (Saturday) .....After drawing fall turkey permit sale starts at 12 noon
- September 11th (Thursday).....Willow River Rod & Gun Club's September Meeting, 7 pm, Club land, Contact: Brian Headlee at 246-5322
- September 13th (Saturday) .....Deer Bow Season Opener (See Regulations)
- September 13th (Saturday) .....Ruffed grouse season opener in Zone A, through January 31st 2009 (See Regulations)
- September 13th (Saturday) .....Turkey fall season opener, through November 20th, (See Regulations)
- September 13th (Saturday) .....Walk/Run Along the Willow, Willow River State Park, 9 am – 1 pm, Contact: WRSP 715-386-9340
- September 15th (Monday).....Star Prairie Fish & Game Association September Meeting, 6:00 Dinner & Social, 7:00 Meeting, Don Madsen's on Cedar Lake, Contact: Dan Bygd 715-246-6477
- October 11th - 12th .....Youth Deer Hunt, Saturday and Sunday, (See Regulations)
- October 16th – 19th .....Herd Control DMU antlerless deer hunt, (See Regulations)  
(Thursday through Sunday)
- October 18th (Saturday) .....Pheasant season opener at noon through December 31st
- November 22nd (Saturday) .....Open of Deer Gun Season through November 30th
- December 10th (Wednesday).....Deadline for spring turkey application  
Bear deadline to apply for drawing or preference point

Comments, criticisms or input, please contact Mike Reiter 246-6643 or Jessa Nelson 246-0266

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