

STONEY CREEK FISHING & HUNTING CLUB

WWW.SCFHCLUB.ORG

SPRING 2020



From the Club President

Fellow members,

We have been through a very tumultuous few months with the Covid-19 shutdown and ensuing rules and regulations. It has been very challenging for the officers, Board of Directors, committee chairs and myself trying to figure out what is in the best interest of the club and our members. I want to thank all of you for the support and patience you have shown all of us.

Moving forward keep watching the emails for updates as to the status of the club and any events which may occur.

Thank you,

Raymond Ten Kate
Club President

News



A Special Meeting is being called, pursuant to Article VIII of the Bylaws, on Friday, June 19, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.

The Agenda is to present the slate of nominees for Officers and Board of Directors and take nominations from the floor. Remember, in order to be nominated from the floor, you must be present. The next general meeting will be on June 26, 2020. The June 26, 2020 meeting we will hold our election. The Special Meeting and the June 26, 2020 meetings will be open to members ONLY. All members having at least 6 meetings are allowed to vote and any member having at least 12 meetings can run for an office. If you are on the cusp of those numbers, this special meeting will suffice.

Members are reminded to maintain social distancing. If you are sick, please stay home. If you have been exposed to COVID-19, or potentially exposed, please stay home. Masks are encouraged, but not mandatory. We are all adults, please be responsible. I look forward to seeing everyone on Friday, June 19, 2020. Pursuant to Governor Hogan's Order, we are allowed 50% capacity of the building. The Fire Marshall has indicated that we have a capacity of 142. Therefore, only 71 persons are allowed inside. However, if we hit that capacity, we can spill outdoors.

Anyone wanting to pay dues on either night, Karl Sovik will be stationed outside at a picnic table to collect such.

Ray Ten Kate President

Dear Members:

I am happy to report that we are finally able to open the club back up to somewhat normalcy. Governor Hogan's last order allows us to open the clubhouse to 50% capacity and removes the 10 person restriction. Therefore, we are open for fun again. Unfortunately, this late opening has devastated our calendar. The Board of Directors has decided, in the interest of the club, to cancel the scheduled leagues for the year. The Club Shoots will remain on the calendar. Given that we have been shut down for so long, we felt it would not be fair to the members to crowd the calendar with the leagues. There will be no Hunter Safety until cleared by the State. The NWTF Family Fun Day is canceled. The rest of the calendar should go forward as scheduled, including the fall flea market. Whether or not there will be a fall trap league is up to the incoming Board of Directors to decide and if there is someone who is willing to run the league.

Along with opening the club comes the responsibility of each member to use common sense. If you are sick, please stay home. If you have been exposed to COVID-19, please stay home. Wash your hands, use the sanitizer that has been provided. If you want to wear a facemask, that is up to you. This is OUR club and it is every member's responsibility to take care of it.

I want to note that Jon Schweitzer has two more meetings as the Kitchen Officer. Pursuant to Governor Hogan's Orders, persons in the kitchen must wear gloves and mask. No eating is allowed in the kitchen. There will be no self-service for the near future. That means, members working in the kitchen will give you your plate of food. If you get seconds, it has to be on a new plate. John will need 2 members to help him in the kitchen. Clean up after yourself.

Lastly, I want to thank Jon Schweitzer for being the Kitchen Officer for the past 2 years. The meals were outstanding. As of this point, no one has stepped up to run for Kitchen Officer. If no one does, we may not have food for our meetings, nor worry about workers wearing masks and gloves in the kitchen. Up to you guys.

Be safe and shoot straight.

Sloane Franklin Chairman of the Board

News

Tuesday Night Trap is now open to the public. The Clubhouse will be closed, and all persons shooting can utilize the port-a-pot located at the trap range. Social distancing is to be maintained. The use of masks is encouraged. Follow the directions of the members working the trap.

Sloane Franklin Chairman of the Board

We are currently looking for four (4) volunteers to man a temporary (for now) cleanup crew for the clubhouse. The committee will be responsible for cleaning the clubhouse and bathrooms on the Wednesday or Thursday before club meetings. The Kitchen will be the responsibility of the kitchen staff.

This is for preventative maintenance and will continue until the "emergency declaration" or Phase 3 ending, and thus its continuance will be decided at a later date. Hours will be earned with this committee. This is a great way to earn hours since the Tuesday Night Trap season has been shortened, few big club events have been canceled and we aren't sure if/when we'll be holding hunter safety classes this year. If interested, contact Scott (club VP).

Fishing Report

Fishing Report:



Forecast Summary: June 10-16:

Warm, sunny days continue as we approach the longest daylight hours of the year. Main bay water temperatures warmed considerably to the mid 70s and will continue rise the next week. Some of the deeper waters from Swan Point to Bloody Point are starting to show <u>unsuitable oxygen conditions</u> for bay fish. For information on oxygen conditions, see our latest <u>hypoxia report</u>.

With rivers reaching the mid-70's, striped bass still remaining in the spawning rivers to feed near channel edges and points will begin to move to cooler river mouths or main bay structure. Keep in mind that surface waters are about 4 degrees warmer than bottom waters. White perch are done spawning and have moved out to tidal creek mouths on mud, sand or clay bottoms near structure in waters less than 20 feet deep. Adult spot continue moving towards upper Chesapeake Bay mainstem and tributaries in areas with salinities greater than 5 ppt (currently south of the Bay Bridge). Spot will be found on oyster bars, sand, and mud bottom feeding on benthic worms and small clams.

Expect reduced water clarity from algal blooms on the mainstem Bay from Middle River down to the Bay Bridge. The poorest water clarity will be found on the Susquehanna Flats and the mouth of the Chester River, and on the western shore from the mouth of the Patuxent River to the mouth of the Potomac River. In addition, expect poorer than normal water clarity from Cobb Island down to Coles Point.

Expect normal flows all week from most of Maryland's rivers and streams, however there may be elevated flows in some streams due the predicted thunderstorms for the upcoming week. There will be above average <u>tidal currents</u> as a result of the June 6 full moon.

For more detailed and up-to-date fishing conditions in your area of the bay, be sure to check out <u>Click Before You Cast</u>. Get regular updates on Maryland's waters sent to your inbox with our Eyes on the Bay newsletter. <u>Sign up online</u>.

Legislation

2020 Session - *Gun Bill Veto*Legislative Report #12 - May 7, 2020

Greetings!

Governor Hogan has issued a veto of HB 4 / SB 208 - Public Safety - Rifles and Shotguns - Sales Rentals and Transfers. Click here to download the Governor's Veto Letter.

You can safely share this email by copying and pasting the link below into a standard email to fellow gun rights advocates:

Click here for the link to Legislative Report #12 on 2A Maryland's home page.

Stay safe and healthy!

John H. Josselyn 2A Maryland Click here to send your comments or suggestions.

2020 Session Senate and House Voting Records

The report on the voting records of the Senate and House is now available. Download the report to see how your legislators voted on the 2020 Session gun bills.

Click here to download the 2020 Session Voting Report.

Maryland General Assembly & Committee Contact Information



Information Needed to Locate & Communicate With Your Legislators in Annapolis

This PDF contains a condensed list of the Maryland General Assembly members, room assignments and phone extensions which are very useful in navigating the offices in Annapolis.

It also contains Committee assignments and hyperlinked email addresses for the entire House & Senate.

<u>Download Maryland General Assembly 2020 Session</u> Contact Information

Club Shoots 2020 Buffalo Shoot held on 01/12/20 Sniper Rifle Shoot held on 02/09/20 High overall – John Grainger 36 **Open Prone** Vintage Prone **Unlimited Prone** John Grainger 196 **1**st John Grainger 188 John Grainger 197 <u>Smokeless</u> **300 YDS Black Powder** 2nd John Russo 185 1st Sloane Franklin 11 Richard Brooks 5 George McCauley 19 Open Chair **1**st George McCauley 195 Fred Fischer 5 Pistol - 1st Frank Burger 7 2nd Frank Burger 170 3rd Richard Books 166 Lever Action Rifle Shoot being held on 05/31/20 .22LR Rifle Shoot being held on 06/14/20 **Iron Sight** Scope **Optics** Open Sights 1st 1st 2nd ANCELED 2nd 3rd 3rd Pistol Shoot being held on 07/12/20 Military Rifle & Pistol Shoot being held on 08/09/20 High Overall -High overall -Open Sight Center Fire Rim Fire **Scoped Sight 1**st 1st 2nd 2nd 3rd 3rd Trap Shoot being held on 08/02/20 High Overall -Class A Class B Class C Class D **1**st 2nd 3rd Archery Shoot being held on 09/XX/20 All-Gun Shoot being held on 09/27/20 Compound Crossbow High Overall - John Grainger 1st Rifle <u>Pistol</u> **Shotgun** 2nd 1st 3rd 2nd 3rd Side X Side Trap Shoot & 20 Gauge Challenge being held on 10/25/20 Side x Side Trap Shoot Results High Gun -Class A Class B Class C Class D $\boldsymbol{1}^{\text{st}}$ 2nd $\mathbf{3}^{\text{rd}}$ 20 Gauge Challenge Results High Gun -Class B Class D 1st 2nd 3rd Rifle Shoot being held on 11/01/20 1st 2nd 3rd

The Master Naturalist

The Eastern Wild Turkey

With most businesses shut down over the past several months, it's no surprise that there were more turkey hunters in the woods this spring than in previous years. Experienced hunters and new hunters alike were motivated to get out of the house and try something new. It goes without saying that an important part of being a successful hunter is knowing well the game you intend to target. Here are a few interesting facts about our Eastern Wild Turkeys;

- Habitat loss in the 1700s and 1800s resulted in the near extirpation of turkeys in Maryland by the start of the 1900s. Garrett county even banned turkey hunting between 1920 & 1933. After an unsuccessful pen-raise-and-release program that aimed to reestablish natural turkey populations from 1930 1971, Maryland moved to a trap-and-transplant program with assistance from The National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF). Between 1979 2001, 1,129 turkeys were captured and relocated across the state. This program has been largely successful, with a current estimated population of over 40,000. *
- Wild turkeys are dark brown to black in color with many feathers that are an iridescent, metallic green and bronze color.
- Male turkeys are called gobblers and average around 18-22 lbs. During breeding season, their heads turn various shades of red, white, and blue. Female turkeys (called hens) are about half the size of gobblers, their plumage is duller, and they lack the bright head colors. Adult gobblers have spurs, a sharp, bony spike on the back of each of their legs. They also have a rough, black 'beard' feather that protrudes from its breast. The beard can grow up to 12 inches long. Hens do not have spurs and usually do not have a beard, although bearded hens are not exceptionally rare.* (Sloane will gladly tell you about the bearded hen he got)
- Turkeys can run up to 20mph on foot and fly over 50mph.
- Turkey droppings tell a bird's sex and age. Male droppings are J-shaped; hen droppings are spiral-shaped. The larger the diameter, the older the bird. **

*Maryland DNR, **USFWS



Male wild turkeys (left) have more colorful plumage than females (right).

Male turkey photo by Tim Lumley, Flickr CC BY-NC-ND 2.0. and Female photo by David Kazak.

Season Yields Record Harvest Numbers

Spring 2020 Turkey

Maryland hunters reported harvesting 4,303 wild turkeys during the 2020 regular spring and junior hunt turkey seasons, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources announced. This year's harvest surpassed the previous high of 4,175, set in 2017, and was 8% higher than the 2019 harvest of 4,002 turkeys. This suggests a very successful 2019 hatch as well as an increase in hunting participation. Check out the harvest by county here; https://news.maryland.gov/dnr/2 020/06/04/spring-huntersharvest-a-record-4303-wild-

To learn more about turkeys and turkey hunting, contact your local NWTF chapter and get involved! I am the current president of the Central MD Chapter for those of you close by the club!



Hunting The Eastern Wild Turkey

Turkey hunting in Maryland is best during the spring season, which typically runs from mid-April to the third week in May. The bag limit for the spring season is two **bearded** birds (they cannot be harvested on the same day). Here are some tips for the newer turkey hunters out there;

- Scouting, of course, is very important. Turkeys tend to favor open forest close to a water source and agricultural fields. This type of habitat allows them to move around easily and gives them the ability to see farther when looking out for danger.
- Turkeys roost high in trees from sunset to sunrise. They don't always use the same tree to roost but tend to stay in the same general area. Great places to look for roosting areas include trees close to ravines with open space for flying up and down.
- Turkeys can see extremely well. Head-to-toe camo is very important (avoid the colors red, blue, black and white, which might cause another hunter to mistake you for a turkey). It's also vital to remain as still as possible when a turkey may be in the vicinity. They usually come in dead silent (and from the ONE direction you didn't expect them to!)



Lauren Atwood - Master Naturalist

2020 Hunting, Fishing & Nature Photos



Lauren on the last morning of the 2020 spring turkey season



Lauren, Sloane, Lauren's daughter Illyana and hunting mentee Michelle on youth weekend for the spring turkey season



Snakehead fishing from a kayak on the Chicamacomico



Sloane's late April turkey from the 2020 spring turkey season!



Leo, Lauren's new Chocolate Lab puppy, and Hera, Sloane's new Belgian Malinois, hamming it up for the camera

What have YOU been doing while hunting & fishing is in its slow period? Send in your photos!

Range Rules Review



As we begin operations at the club once again, I implore each and every member to review the range rules and make sure you're conducting yourselves accordingly. In the event that you have any questions please feel free to contact any of the club officers and caretaker.

Two basic things to keep in mind while at the range, be safe and have fun.

General Info

President

Ray Ten Kate

Vice President

Scott Baumgardner

Secretary

Frank Burger

Treasurer

Sloane Franklin

Financial Secretary

Karl Sovik

Sergeant at Arms

Joseph Donley

Range Officer

Lee Moran

Clay Targets Officer

Chris Colvin

Kitchen Officer

Jon Schweitzer

Board of Directors

Club President

Club Vice President

Sloane Franklin (Chairman)

Richard Brooks

Frank Burger

John Grainger

Ted Mathison

George McCauley

Jon Schweitzer

Karl Sovik

Gary Townsend

Membership

Brian Loher

Public Relations

Robert Larsen

Newsletter Editor

Lauren Atwood

ALERT: Following <u>Governor Larry Hogan's emergency actions</u> to protect public health during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Maryland Natural Resources Police is making the following changes to the hunter education course, effective March 16 and until further notice:

ALL FIELD DAY WORKSHOPS, IN ADDITION TO TRADITIONAL COURSES, ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

The minimum age requirement to take the internet-based course has been lowered to **10 years of age**.

Potential hunter education students are encouraged to take the online field of study course (https://www.hunter-ed.com/maryland/), which combined with the field day workshop will satisfy the hunter education requirement.

Upon completion of the online course, students will receive a voucher that is good for one year to take a field day workshop to satisfy the hunter education requirement when field day workshops resume. If the online course is taken between March 1 and May 11 of 2020, the voucher will be valid for eighteen months.

A decision as to when field day workshops can resume will be made later this month.

Letter from the editor:

Hey, guys!

I've missed everyone so much! I'm excited to see you all soon at the next meeting. Obviously it's been a very slow few months for us at the club, so I haven't had enough content to put out a newsletter recently. Now since we're getting back into the swing of things, I'm hoping that changes real quick! Please send over anything you'd like for me to include in the next one! See you all in no time!

Lauren



Contact Stephen Moody

Range Status Hotline (410) 255-2119