

ANNUAL CARDHOLDER PARTY:

This is your invitation to attend the annual Holmen Rod and Gun Club card renewal party. This event will be held on the evening of January 29th, 2005, at the Holmen American Legion. The doors will be opened at 6:00 PM and the catered buffet style dinner will be served at 7:00 PM.

This event promises to be one of the best ever with many door prizes donated by local HRGC supporters.

There will be music for your listening and dancing pleasure. Free beer and soda will also be served.

The all you can eat hot meal will cost \$7.50 per person plus \$20.00 for your 2005 family participation card.

Please be aware that there will be some changes in the dues structure in 2006. These changes will be addressed in this issue of "The Firing Line."

NUMBERS FOR
YOUR
INFORMATION:

There are a total of 2339 names in the HRGC database. Of these, there are 167 life members, 1,066 who had acquired a 2004 card, and 640 who had not renewed for 2004. The remaining 466 are those who have not renewed since 2002 and will be removed from the database.

This issue of "The Firing Line" will be sent only to those who were cardholders in 2003 and 2004. The names of those registered in 2003 will be kept in the database for only another year if they do not renew for 2005. The 2005 cards are now available at Holmen Pawn, Smokey's Bar, Holmen Hardware Hank, Wiebke Fur, Gander Mountain, and

Ace Hardware in South La Crosse. Also, Steve Kadera, our grounds caretaker, voluntarily and very graciously provides cards from his trailer home on the grounds.

You can also acquire a 2005 card by completing the registration form that accompanies this newsletter. Complete and sign the registration form, fold it in thirds so the HRGC address shows, staple in your check or money order for \$20.00, affix a stamp and mail to Holmen Rod & Gun Club, P.O. Box 442, Holmen, WI 54636. Once the registration form is received, your card will be mailed to you.

The businesses that handle the HRGC cards for your convenience are

doing so voluntarily. It requires time and effort by their employees and we appreciate this service very much. Keep this in mind when you shop, and patronize them.

OFFICERS &
DIRECTORS:

In the spring of 2004 elections were held for the offices and director positions of the HRGC.

Those elected are as follows:

President: Ben Gappa
526-3912

Vice Pres: Tony
Bennett 526-6767,

Secretary: Tom
McGowan 608-317-
5451,

Treasurer: Guy Daniels
779-4562,

Directors:
Steve Call 715-597-
5070,

Greg Gentry 787-5933,
 Tony Bennett 526-6767,
 Jeff Hansen 608-317-
 6073,
 Dick Hellerude 526-
 4687,
 Craig Nagel 783-5522,
 Roy Oines 526-3727,
 Dan Hansen 526-4525,
 Ricky Larson 526-4642,
 Dan Rentschler 783-
 5221,
 Phil Scholze 526-3139,
 John Alseth 525-2132.

RANGE CAPTAINS:

The following persons have volunteered to be responsible for the respective ranges, and coordinate the activities and maintenance of those ranges. Please keep the names and numbers of the range captains and those of the officers and directors for easy reference.

Rifle range: Phil

Scholze 526-3139,

Archery: Tony Bennett
 526-6767,

Trap: To be announced,

Action pistol: To be
 announced.

Silhouette: Dan

Rentschler 783-5821,

Tony Willemarck

213-7228, and Jeff

Braatz 526-2741,

Small bore: Joe

Kawatski 526-9477,

Muzzleloader: Stan

Richason 526-6727

and Gary Butterfield

781-0149,

Cowboy Action: Keith
 Anderson 788-6966 and
 Dick Hellerude 526-
 4687,

IDPA: Steve Dickow
 788-9700.

MAILING LABELS:

The "file card" end of your participation card is used to enter your name, address and phone number into the cardholder roll. If you did not print your name and/or address legibly on the file card and it could not be deciphered, you may see only an initial or question marks on the label of your newsletter. In some cases the printing is so poor that a label cannot be generated.

When you complete the registration form and file card, please show some respect for your name and print legibly to insure that the mailing labels are accurate and you get club news that is disseminated by mail.

Every effort is made to maintain an accurate database to insure that you are kept informed. The accuracy can only be as good as the information you print legibly on the file card.

CLUB WEBSITE:

If you haven't already heard, the Holmen Rod

and Gun Club now has a place everyone can access for the latest information about the club:

<http://www.holmenrodandgunclub.com>

Just enter that address, all one without spaces, into your Internet browser to view a calendar of upcoming events, review the range rules and learn where to purchase a HRGC card.

There are some exciting changes to the website coming shortly, so keep an eye on it.

Many thanks to our avid and very knowledgeable participant, Mark Thole, Mark supports and maintains the new website. His Email address is mpthole@hotmail.com

2005 CALENDAR:

In this issue of "The Firing Line" you will find a calendar for the whole year. This calendar is formulated in December at a special meeting of the Board of Directors, range officers, and others who volunteer expertise.

Formulating a calendar for an entire year is an awesome task, but it has worked out well in the past.

Those who formulate the calendar are not clairvoyant, so some changes may occur, and some events may be added or canceled. At any rate, the calendar gives a good idea of what the HRGC has to offer, and when.

DUES STRUCTURE FOR 2006:

The HRGC is finding it increasingly difficult to acquire volunteer help for Field Days, Youth Day, Hunter Sight-In, building projects and general maintenance, etc. This leaves much more work for the few who perform all of these duties.

Also, property taxes, insurance, and other cost of living expenses will increase over the years.

In light of these facts, the board of directors and members at large, at the November meeting, elected to have a two tier participation involving a dues increase to \$40. However, any participant who volunteers 4 hours of work in 2005 will receive a \$20 discount on the 2006 dues.

Range captains and officers will record the volunteer hours and

submit this information to the agent or treasurer.

The dues for those who use the ranges only in Oct. & Nov. for sight-in will remain at \$20.00 in 2005, but will be \$40.00 in 2006 without evidence of volunteer work in 2005.

In addition to this dues change, the life member card has been reduced from \$500.00 to \$300.00.

To learn where and when you can volunteer your four hours of work, contact your preferred range captain or officer/director. The names and numbers of these people are included in this issue of "The Firing Line."

MEETINGS:

Remember that the Holmen Rod & Gun Club meetings are held at the Holmen American Legion during the months of January, February, March, and April. The meetings begin at 7:00 PM.

FRIENDS OF NRA:

The annual Friends of NRA banquet was held at the Pettibone Resort in November. Again, it was very successful with approximately 115 in attendance.

At the banquet there were over 30 quality firearms as door prizes and as raffle items. With just over 100 in attendance and 30 guns available, your chances of winning a gun are very good compared to other local banquets. Remember, also, that the firearms offered are the better/best available.

You can attend the next Friends of NRA banquet on November 12th, 2005, by getting on the mailing list. Contact Craig Nagel at 783-5522 or write to "Friends of NRA, c/o Craig Nagel, N5384 HWY 53-35, Onalaska, WI 54650.

Your attendance at this function helps fund range improvement, firearm education/safety classes, and other modalities related to firearm ownership and 2nd amendment rights.

In the past, the NRA Foundation has granted funds to the La Crosse Rifle Club once and to the Holmen Rod & Gun Club twice. Your attendance at the banquet does have local impact!!

YOUTH DAY:

The annual Youth Day held in June was, again, very successful

with 77 youths in attendance. This day, along with the Hunter Education classes, is probably one of the most beneficial to our youth regarding the knowledge and safe use of firearms.

The next "Youth Day," as listed in the enclosed calendar, is scheduled for June 25th.

SILHOUETTE RANGE:

The HRGC silhouette range is being developed to host state matches. Dan Rentschler and Tony Willemarck have been diligently hauling materials to the range.

In 2005 the HRGC is joining the International Handgun Metallic Silhouette Association (IHMSA). We will be hosting registered matches, so you will see some changes to the range and some new targets. For IHMSA matches we will have two competitions with many classes in each. There will be a "field pistol" class for pistols using a straight wall center fire case of 1.290 inches long or shorter, and a small bore class with .22 rimfire short, long, or long rifle.

For more information on this new shooting sport come and see our

range or visit the web site at

www.IHMSA.org.

Please note that the IHMSA changes will not affect our Field Day Silhouette shooting. That will remain the same.

In light of the recent work on the silhouette range, we would like to extend a hearty "thank you" to Don's Truck Repair & Services for allowing us to use a 48 foot semi trailer over the New Year weekend, and to Willemarck Trucking for the use of Tony Willemarck's semi tractor. The use of this expensive equipment was donated to transport the materials for the new silhouette range cover and the new tables and chairs for the recreation center.

NORTH AMERICAN SQUIRREL ASSOCIATION:

In keeping with our mission to enhance the shooting and fishing sports, the HRGC has been supporting the North American Squirrel Association.

This organization promotes hunting and fishing opportunities for the physically challenged and elderly

to help them enjoy the outdoors.

For a hunting buddy or information on this organization contact:

Nasa Squirrel
P.O. Box 186
(608) 781-3636

Or Email at:

nasasquirrel@yahoo.com.

Visit the web site at:
www.nasasquirrel.org

SIGHT-IN DAYS:

In 2004, over 1000 shooters sighted in their hunting firearms at the HRGC ranges. Many of these renewed their cards to current status.

Many thanks to the 20+ members who volunteered as range officers during the heavy range use before the gun-deer season.

Thanks, also, to Dick Hellerude and Phil Scholze for coordinating the range officer schedule.

FOR SALE:

Mod. 10 F P Savage in .223 Rem., adjustable trigger, Choate stock, 24" bull barrel, Bausch & Lomb 6x24x40 scope with target dot and sunshade, Harris bi-pod, only 1000 rounds fired.

Asking \$1200.00 (negotiable). Call Bob Nontelle at 786-4452 evenings.