



Shongum Sportsmen's Association

P.O. BOX 431
Hackettstown, NJ 07840
www.shongum.org
Monthly Newsletter
2025.Vol.:XLII.Issue:II

Member:
NRA: #CO-469
CMP: 015111
ANRPC
ATA
USPSA/IPSC
NJSTA

19 FEBRUARY 2025

7:30 PM

Officers

President:

Rich Gajda 908-892-5422

Vice President:

John Gumann 973-933-2764

Treasurer:

Mike Fortunato 973-927-3088

Secretary:

George Wagner 973-927-7616

Shotgun:

Don Mercovich 908-319-4478

Rifle:

Bill Murphy 973-713-1600

Pistol:

Jim Owings 973-383-3208

Membership:

Greg Forte 201-376-0182

Range Safety:

Gregory Lynch 908-619-9601

Events, Good and Welfare:

Robert Miranda 908-798-0315

Operations:

Wayne Jarvis 908-256-1588

Hunting & Archery:

Tom Hill 908-637-4665

NRA Training:

(Open)

Immediate Past-President:

John Gumann 973-933-2764

Committee Chairpersons

Cowboy Action:

John Seal 973-601-0397

USPSA/IPSC:

Ron Gumann 973-478-7018

Pistol League:

Jim Owings 973-383-3208

Woman's League:

Elizabeth Mackee 973-303-3207

By Laws:

Pete Hefferan 973-702-0904

Newsletter Editor:

George Wagner 973-927-7616

Juniors:

Bill Murphy 973-713-1600

Black Powder:

Steve Serna 973-601-3779

Phone Numbers

Message Center: 908-637-4991

Vice President John Gumann started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. He then led our club in a moment of silence in memory of all our departed members. John also reminded those in attendance, that our meetings are governed by Roberts Rules of Order.

The minutes for the January meeting were deemed to be correct by the attending membership.

Officers & Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Mike Fortunato read the Treasurer's Report aloud:

Bank Balance (as of Jan 15, 2025): \$29807.84

Receipts: \$12,329.09

Disbursements: \$15,763.01

Excess Disbursements Over Receipts: \$3,433.92

Bank Balance (as of Feb 19, 2025) : \$26,373.92

Money Market Fund:

Available for use: \$31,077.81

Restricted for Contingencies: \$105,705.00

Balance (as of Jan 31, 2025) : \$136,782.81

George Rutkowski/Jack Bowden Fund Balance (as of Jan 31, 2025) : \$7,088.90

President—Rich Gajda Not attending.

Vice President—John Gumann reported that the apartment is still available to be rented and we continue to actively look for a new tenant. John reminded everyone that the tenant must be a member.

Secretary—George Wagner No Report.

Pistol League – John Gumann reporting for Tom Stapleton The Pistol League Shooting Programs are now shown on the Website under Activities, Pistol League, icon Upcoming. Check it for upcoming activities

The Pistol League is conducting an NRA Sanctioned League now. Twenty one Pistol League Members are participating in this Event The course of fire is a 30 shot National Match Course which consists of 10 shots of Slow Fire in 10 minutes, 10 shots of Timed Fire in two strings of 5 shots fired in 20 seconds per string and 10 shots of Rapid Fire in two strings of 5 shots fired in 10 seconds per string. Either 22 cal or Centerfire guns may be used. At the completion of the League members may have enough shots fired for record that will give them NRA Indoor Pistol Classifications. As of this writing we have 12 members who have met the 360 shot requirement for Classification and we are hoping to get two more shortly.

The third phase of our Waiting List Recruitment Program for the Pistol League is now underway. Four Waiting List members had their First Reading at the January meeting. They are Bill and Mary Wintermute, Chris Clark and John Davis.

SAFETY ITEM: Empty Chamber Indicators (ECIs) are required on all uncased firearms on the shooting benches and they must be pointed down range.

We continue to extend an open invitation to club members to join us on Tuesday nights. Please call Tom Stapleton at 908-852-3901 for information on how to become a League Member.

Submitted 02/18/25 by Tom Stapleton

Reported 02/19/25 by John Guman for Nick Dewar

Pistol – Jim Owings reminded the membership the Empty Chamber Indicators are required for every gun that is exposed on the firing line. He sells them for \$1 each, and you can also buy them from the vending machine in the clubhouse.

Shotgun—Don Mercovich No report.

Rifle—John Gumman reported for Bill Murphy. There is a 22 rifle stake cutter match on Sunday in the indoor range. Arrive by 930am to get ready, shooting begins at 10am. Bring lots of ammo and magazines. Goal is to cut the wooden stake in half with the fewest shots in the quickest amount of time.

Safety—Greg Lynch There is a Fundamentals of Pistol class coming up May 10th, taught by Jim. We have an NRA RSO Training Course coming up March 29th. Also an Emergency Preparedness class on April 26th. If you don't know CPR, tourniquets, and Isreali bandaging; it's a great class to take.

Events—Bob Miranda No report. John Gumman reminds everyone to please check the calendar if you are planning to visit the club to check for both last minute cancellations and events which may limit your availability to the ranges.

Operations—Wayne Jarvis No report. John Gumman reported that there was some wind damage to the aluminum fascia of the building and access to the club was limited for a time due to downed trees on the road.

Hunting—Tom Hill. No report. Hunting season has ended.

Cowboy Action—John Seal Cowboy action holds a regular event every third Sunday of the month as long as weather permits. We shoot pistols and rifles from the 1800's, use leather holsters, shotgun shell belts, and cowboy hats and boots. Everyone is welcome to come and just watch if you'd like.

USPSA—Ron Gumann reported that a match was held earlier this month in February with a turnout of 51. Next match will be March 1st, depending on weather. There is also an Intro to USPSA class planned for May 31st this year.

Women's League—Elizabeth Mackee No report.

Black Powder—Steve Serna No report.

John Gumman also reminded the membership about the **Junior Program** that the club is required to have to maintain it's NRA certification. This program teaches kids how to properly shoot a 22 rifle. It runs every other week on Friday evening, please check the calendar.

Membership —Greg Forte read in the following Pledges for their 1st reading: Lucas Kofedantes, Tom Fresnel, Mike Backing, Will Summers, Aziz Shika, Drew Iglesi, Fracis Palieu, Russ DeFalco, Anthony Germain, Sam Berholt, and Chris Clark.

New Probationary members: Dave Fiore, Mary Wintermute, Bill Wintermute, John Davis, and Sherry Harvey.

New Life Member: Steven Mazanek

Greg mentioned that we are getting close to placing a catch up order for anniversary pins.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

John Gumman made an announcement about Steve Zaikowski (who

is a club member) and how he manages our Woodlot Management program. Steve is a forestry person who schedules a review of our property at least once or twice a year, and files our farmland assessment paperwork that saves us a tremendous amount of property taxes. For example, the club pays some \$12,500/yr in property taxes for the 5/6 acres containing the clubhouse and ranges, but for the 94 other forested acres we pay only \$400.

A lot of members don't realize that we have this additional property, and that it is utilized in many ways— as a buffer from our neighbors, for hunting, for archery, and it can even be used for hiking.

Steve maintains portions of the property—a 4 wheel drive road, and some paths and fields that are periodically cut and trimmed. So, please consider checking this out if you have an interest.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

GOOD & WELFARE: Will mentioned that the Forks of the Delaware Historical Arms Society has an upcoming gun show in Allentown on May 10-11, 2025

Meeting adjourned @ 8:00 PM

Next Members Mtg on 3/19/25