



Shongum Sportsmen's Association

P.O. BOX 431
 Hackettstown, NJ 07840
 www.shongum.org
 Monthly Newsletter
 2017.Vol.:XXXIV.Issue:XI

Member:
 NRA: #CO-469
 CMP: Y1511
 ANJRPC
 ATA
 USPSA/IPSC
 NJSTA

**15 November 2017
 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:
 Jack Bowden 973-366-4053
Pistol:
 Jim Owings 973-383-3208
Membership:
 Vince Martino 973-598-0211
Range Safety:
 William Fusco 908-637-8487
 (cell) 908-914-5105

Events, Good and Welfare:

Hank Rehm 201-998-3860
Operations:
 Wayne Jarvis 908-256-1588
Hunting & Archery:
 Rich Montgomery 908-310-4899
NRA Training:
 Bob Ross 973-224-0731
Legislative:
 Deborah Smith 973-989-1942
Immediate Past-President:
 John Gumann 973-933-2764

Committee Chairpersons

Cowboy Action:
 John Seal 973-601-0397
Federation:
 Tony Wonsala 908-879-6321
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:
 Christine Fortunato 973-978-3082
Black Powder:
 Steve Serna 973-601-3779

Phone Numbers

Message Center: 908-637-4991

President Richard Gajda opened the meeting at 7:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. **Rich** asked all members to please remain standing for a moment of silence to remember and pray for our US military personnel.

Rich thanked all the well-wishers and those in attendance for his recent surgery and recovery from a serious facial / eye injury. **Rich** thanked **VP John Gumann** for the extra efforts **John** made during his absence.

The **President** reminded all in attendance that Only Regular members can vote and that we follow the Robert's Rules of Order.

The **President** commented again on the need for all members to read the minutes of our meetings either on the Shongum website or within the emails that they receive with the minutes attached.

The minutes, as they are posted in the Website were (motioned to accept by **Sam Figueroa**, 2nd by **Dave Petillo**) accepted and approved by the membership.

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

Bank Balance (as of October 18th, 2017): \$90,204.24
 Receipts: \$15,950.60
 Disbursements: \$20,102.46
 Excess Disbursements Over Receipts: \$4,151.86
 Bank Balance (as of November 15th, 2017): \$86,052.38
 Money Market Fund:
 Available for use: \$34,695.98
 Restricted for Contingencies: \$52,351.00
 Balance as of October 31, 2017: \$86,046.98

George Rutkowski Fund Balance as of October 31, 2017: \$2,082.99

Imre Von Balinth motioned to accept the report, **Robert Giel** 2nd the motion. A vote by the membership accepted and approved.

Officers & Committee Reports:

VP John Gumann — No Report.

Shotgun — No Report.

Rifle — **Nick Dewar** reported that next weekend **Saturday, November 26, 2017**, will be the last Hi-Power shoot outside on the 100-yard range. This event will start sharply at 10:00 AM. Dress warm. It is recommended that all competitors arrive by 9:30 AM to set up so that the event can finish as planned around noon. The **January 21st** match will be 22LR rifle, Iron Sights on the Indoor Range.

Pistol — **Jim Owings** mentioned that the Halloween Shooting Event went very well, with 19 shooters and 25 scored events. Attendance had been the best in a very long while. The Pistol League is going to run another novelty match and in two weeks there will be a Postal Match conducted. Everyone, from beginners to experts are welcome every Tuesday night to come and shoot. If you want to be a better pistol shot, come out and practice. Look to the SSA Website for more information and the schedule.

Range Safety — No Report. **President Rich** mentioned that safety is going great, with no major infractions noticed. The only criticism is people are forgetting to wear their membership Id in plain sight.

Nick Dewar noted that attention **MUST** be paid to the placement of mid-range targets on the outdoor range. The sight line must place the shots into the center of the dirt berm backstop.

Events — No Report. **Nick** mentioned that the 2018 schedule is being developed. If you desire an event date, please submit as soon as possible to get the date you want.

Building & Grounds — No Report.

Hunting — No Report.

NRA Training — **Bob Ross** commented that 2017 training went very well. Bob thanked all the volunteer instructors that contributed to make these training events successful. The 2018 schedule is coming together, if you want to attend a particular training class, mention that class in an E Mail or call and talk to **Bob** directly.

Legislation — **Pete Hefferan** addressed the membership, and as he put it, there is nothing good to say about the election of Phil Murphy for Governor of NJ. Look for gun ownership restriction bills coming up in January 2018. The Right-to-Carry bill is dead now. Expect tax increases too. Did you know that only 37% of the NJ NRA members voted in the last election? You get everything you vote for.

Cowboy Action — **John Seal** mentioned that the recent cowboy action shooting event was a great turn out, the Cowboy Action holiday dinner was well attended. Looking forward to 2018, there will be a Cowboy Action training event early in the year. If you want to know what this CA is all about, please come out and attend.

Federation — No Report.

USPSA — **Ron Gumann** informed the membership that the November event had 44 shooters. **December 2nd** will be the next event date. More detailed information and a description of the events are available on the Shongum website. Get in touch with me, my number is always printed on this newsletter.

Woman's League — **John Cooke** explained that the Women's League meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month. The next event will take place on **Wednesday, November 29th**. Preceding the shoot is a potluck dinner beginning at 6:30 PM. It's five dollars to participate in all are welcome. There is a flyer campaign going on, advertising this valuable SSA Club asset.

Juniors — No Report.

Black Powder — **Steve Serna** explained that Black Powder event takes place monthly on the first Sunday of each month. It's a great event, with good company. Events will tentatively be run over the next few months from December through February, weather will be the deciding factor. Dress warm if there is no snow, we'll shoot. There are new targets and course of fire being developed for 2018. Please check the Shongum website for further details.

Membership — **Vince Martino** reported the following:

1st Reading — Applicants

Jesse Amato, Michael Bekiarian, William Bielsky, Peter Burke, Richard Caserta, David Esposito, Angel Febus, Christopher Harrison, Matthew Hopko

2nd Reading — Attended Safety Orientation

Thomas Godwin, Robert Fain, Jeffrey Nurenberg, Christina Schrier, Nigel Smith, Victor Tagliaferro

Probationary to Regular Membership

Nicholas Healy, Rocco Lania, Allison Peters, David Pfeffer, Angela Pfeffer, William Vindler

October – Anniversary Year Pins (* special mentions)

5 years

Joseph Lodato, Daniel May, John Tonking Jr.

20 years

Ronald Antonelli, William Clayton

29 years*

Wm Bruce Howard

33 years*

Robert Cantella

Old Business:

Shongum Range Rules— These updates are complete and can be found on the SSA Website.

Forestry Program—The paperwork with the State of NJ is complete. We had our 10-year anniversary and had to payout the fees to the government. SSA is adhering to the protected farmland guidelines, this keeps our taxes low, and offers a great place to hunt.

Repurposing of the old 100-yard canvas (seasonal) rifle range cover. The SSA Executive Committee indicated that the Archery and Hunting Programs will use the portable covering for their programs, come Spring 2018.

Archery — **Rich Montgomery** indicated that the hunters and bowman can look forward to improved facilities to shoot coming in 2018.

RSO — Since the new firing line cover and concrete pad were installed some issues developed and these specific issues were brought up last month by **Nick Dewar**. The Range Rules Committee addressed these 100-yard firing line issues in the new set of range rules. Please refer to these new rules, posted on the website, before coming out to shoot.

SSA Bylaws — Next year, the Bylaws should be reviewed again. If you would like to assist in this effort, please step up and join the Bylaws Committee.

Ethics Committee — Next year, the Ethics Committee will be forming again. If you have any interest in how The Club handles these issues, please join and help out.

New Business:

NSSF Membership— The National Shooting Sports Foundation membership is being renewed. SSA may opt for renewing at the 'Shooting Range' level membership this year, instead of 'Premium Range' level, to save a little money (more bang for the buck).

NJSP Inquiry— **President Rich G.** mentioned that a member of the New Jersey State Police was at our range recently, asking to talk to the FFL located here. People who where there were questioned and replied properly. There is no FFL (obviously) and to please contact an officer of the club (i.e. The President) for more information.

Outdoor Range Equipment— The shooting benches are getting a facelift in the near future. A craftsman has been contracted, and he will refinish a couple benches to show his competency. Please bear with the potential inconvenience. We are also going to address the chair problem. Beware the plastic chairs, they are in very poor condition. We will be replacing these in the near future, too.

Holiday Party — Yes, the Party Is On! The December General Membership meeting will be the party, essentially. There will be a very brief meeting, starting and ending early. The party fare is going to very similar to last year, buffet style, with a few new items to be sampled.

Range Closure — Hunters will be using the club grounds, so the Outdoor ranges will be closed on December 4th & 5th. Please refer to the information on the website for closure times.

Good and Welfare:

Steve Serna mentioned the recent fire at the **Hackettstown B&R Uniform**, this closed **Hackettstown Guns & Ammo** also. Well, **Hackettstown G&A** has reopened across the street in the old “Box” store.

Steve S. also mentioned **Full Moon Cycles**, in Andover, NJ is going to get their FFL soon. They specialize in Powder Coating and Cerakote Coatings. A place to go if you are thinking about refinishing a firearm.

Pete Hefferan addressed the membership about the declining interest in the shooting sports and hunting in NJ. The youth are just not interested, or perhaps the parents just are not exposing them to firearm ownership. This will not help the politics of gun ownership in NJ. Demographics changes are changing the political climate, and not for the better. IMHO.

NJ S1079 —From The Attending Membership this evening —Look out for S1079 (several similar bills) Regulates sale and transfer of rifle and shotgun ammunition. This would prohibit Online / Internet sale of ammo in New Jersey, requiring face-to-face transactions.

Will Jones — Will mentioned his gun show list that he usually has for the attending members.

Will Jones has recycled brass for sale with all process being returned back to the club.

Motion to adjourn the meeting **Vince Martino**, 2nd **Tom Lambiase** .

Meeting adjourned @ 8:20 PM

Calendar of Regular Events

Club Meeting- Third Wednesday of each month, begins at 7:30 PM.

CMP Rifle Match- Fourth Sunday of each month, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM First shot @ 10:00 AM

Cowboy Action Shoot (CAS)- Third Sunday of each month, 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Executive Committee Meeting- First Monday of each Month

USPSA- First Saturday of the month, January through December, 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM

Junior League- Every Friday evening (indoor range), 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Pistol League- Every Tuesday evening, 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM

Trap Program - Every Sunday 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM (Unless noted on the Web Site)

- Every Tuesday 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- Friday Nights 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM (Through the middle of October)

Women’s League - Final Wednesday of the month 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM

Black Powder- First Sunday of the month, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. In the colder months start time moved forward to 11:00 AM