



Langley Rod and Gun Club

3854 - 208th St.
Langley, BC V3A 4X7
604 - 534 - 3525



NEWSLETTER**May, 2012**

President's Report Ken Holmberg

Welcome to all our new club members! And welcome to our new and returning board members!

As you will read in this newsletter - your 2012 LRGC Board of Directors is actively seeking your input. Please take the time to reply to our request for your ideas as outlined in the Planning Committee Report in this newsletter. This is a great opportunity for you to help us shape our club's future development!

We are very proud of our club members who have won awards or are off to compete in Provincial, International and Olympic events as mentioned later in this newsletter! Safe journey to all and we wish you every success!

Our caretaker Ray Mulholland is retiring. Ray has been employed for over 50 years, working in the trucking industry, at the Mission Gun Club for 7 years, and as our caretaker for the past 10 years. We wish Ray and Darlene a long and enjoyable retirement, and would like to thank him both for his many years of service and for assisting us with the transition as we find and train a replacement.

Note that we are actively looking for a suitable replacement should you know of someone potentially interested.

And finally: Thank You to all the volunteers who put more into the club than they take out!

See you at the club!

Cheers!
Ken

New Members Corner

By Doug Romilly

Ok - I've joined the LRGC - Now what?

Chances are that if you have just joined the LRGC, you are in one of two situations: 1) You are a new shooter that has found a place to practice your particular discipline of shooting (be it handgun, shotgun or rifle), or 2) you are an experienced shooter that has either relocated or expanded your options by joining another club. Either way - WELCOME!

Now that you are here, the next step is to get to know the available LRGC activities that interest you, the facilities the club has to offer, the club events you might want to participate in, and of course, the people! You might want to start by doing the last one first, seeing as the existing members are the ones that can inform you about all the other stuff! And our members are great - so don't be afraid to ask questions or start up a conversation with one of them (the fact is that most are just looking for an excuse to talk!) With that in mind, and being a member that has been around for a while (no - I am certainly not the oldest or the resident expert), I thought I might get you started by sharing some of what I have learned while I outline some of the facilities, activities and events the club has to offer. So let's start with the basics.

First - I have found that most people join with the idea of shooting in only one discipline (for example - .22 cal rifle) because they either can only afford one, or are only interested in that one right now. However, shooting is addictive,

and very soon you may be looking to expand your horizons (I certainly did)! I shoot everything now except Fast Draw, but I'm getting equipped for that now too (thanks to Dennis and Karen Robinson)! So I am going to cover it all in this column in the coming newsletters (with a little help from my friends), with the hope that you will look beyond your current focused discipline and seek out new challenges - as I can tell you now - it is very rewarding to do so.

In this article I am going to start with the outdoor facilities - which in our club currently means "shotgun". In the coming newsletters I will cover the indoor facilities - i.e. 22 rifle and handgun (including Fast Draw).

LRGC Outdoor Facilities and Activities

The LRGC outdoor facilities are all shotgun related (no rifle at present, although there used to be a 100 yard rifle range as long-time members will recall, and there was an initiative started towards a .22 caliber silhouette range - but we will save all that for another article). There are currently three different activities supported by our facilities, these are skeet, trap and five-stand sporting clays. Note that before you shoot any of these activities you must sign-in and provide your member number, and then display your membership card on your person when shooting so that we can see that you are a club member. If you bring a guest - a guest day pass needs to be purchased and displayed.

Skeet: There are two skeet fields each with two clay pigeon skeet target throwers located in houses (i.e. the three grey/green wood buildings - see Figure 1), i.e. one

low house and one high house (the low/high referring to thrower height - see Figure 2 and 3). These skeet machines (see Figure 4) throw the clay targets across the field in front of the shooter the same way each time, while the shooter moves around to various shooting positions between shots. These positions are indicated by seven square concrete pads located in an arch, plus an extra - position #8 - in the centre (see Figure 5 (a & b) - note that the pads are adjacent to each of the white shot shell hull buckets). Shifting positions changes the angle of each shot thus creating the challenge of skeet shooting! A round of skeet can be shot with any gauge or type shotgun that can load and fire two successive shots (i.e. needed to shoot doubles), but there are competitive events in 12, 20 and 28 gauge plus also .410 cal (the latter being the smallest shot shell size and thus the most challenging). Guns will typically be equipped with skeet chokes (thus shooting a wide pattern). Skeet shooting is theoretically available whenever the office is open (i.e. Tuesday - Sunday) - but someone has to open the skeet house and load/prepare the throwers, etc., so it is more common that the club skeet shooters gather at the fields between 11:30 and noon on Wednesdays and Fridays and shoot well into the afternoon in squads (groups of 4-6 or so). Note that a minimum of two people are needed as someone must trigger the thrower for the active shooter. This is the best time to come and shoot as everything is typically open and made ready, you can meet the other skeet shooters and even get some pointers (look to Bob Hunter as the go-to guy here!).



Figure 1 - Three skeet houses (green) that hold four skeet target throwers - i.e. two per field, one low house (right side) and one high house (left side).



Figure 2 - High house on closest skeet field. Number 3 sign shows high house thrower opening (shown here closed) for target exit on middle skeet high house. Note concrete shoot pad on ground below - this is Shoot position #1. Bucket at each position is for shotgun hulls.



Figure 3 - The number 5 labels the low house opening on closet skeet field. Number 4 and number 6 (rabbit) target throwers are dedicated to five stand sporting clays.



(a)



(b)

Figure 5 (a & b) - The arc of skeet shooting positions (concrete pads) are adjacent to each of the white buckets - positions 1 (starting at the high house), 2, 3, 4, 5 and 8 can be seen in (a) while the remaining positions 6 and 7 (at low house) can be seen in (b). The green concrete centre unit is the #5 trap house.



Figure 4 - The LaPorte skeet thrower in the low house - note opening for target exit near skeet shooting position #7. This is one of the newest machines!

Trap: There are six trap houses at LRGC (look for a square pillbox-shaped dark green structure - see Figure 6), two of which (i.e. traps #5 & 6) are located on the skeet fields (see again Figure 5), thus only traps #1 - 4 (numbered from right to left) are typically used for normal daily shooting activities (trap #2 most often for daily use and trap 4 most often for doubles). In trap, the clay target is launched away from the shooter and towards the soil berm, and the shot variation (i.e. changing angle and distance) comes from three sources: 1) the launcher continuously oscillates back-and-forth about 60 degrees so thus changing the angle of each target thrown (see Figure 7), 2) the shooter changes their position every five shots in an arch made by five defined positions (again look for connected concrete pads running radially away from the trap house - see Figures 8 and 9), and 3) the shooter can shoot at any one of various arch distances (from 16 to 27 yards) each round. All of these variations mean each shot will be different - thus making for some challenging shooting! Most trap rounds can be shot with a single-

shot shotgun, and most shooters use 12 gauge shotguns (i.e. one of the largest and most far reaching) as most competitions employ this gauge. Trap doubles can also be shot when the trap house is set to throw two targets, which of course means a multi-shot shotgun is then required. Guns are typically equipped with modified chokes for short range trap, or up to a full choke for longer distances.

Trap is available to shoot any time the office is open and voice-activated units are used to launch the targets (see Figure 9 and 10) - so you can shoot on your own or in groups up to five. Tokens are used to feed the trap machines (see Figure 11) so buy them in the office when you sign in prior to shooting. If it is busy, you need to indicate you want to shoot and be scheduled on a squad by Ray. This will be done according to arch distance being shot (16 yards being closest - to 27 yards being farthest). Longer distance (or handicap) shooters will shoot together in a squad while 16 yard shooters (or closer positions to the trap house) will be scheduled in a squad. This is done for safety reasons as no shooter can be in front of a handicap shooter on the range. In my opinion - shooting single trap targets at 16 yards (rather than skeet) is probably the best way to start if you are new to shotgun shooting as it will give you the opportunity to become familiar with your gun, i.e. the fit and sighting, without the rapid response needed for skeet (there is certainly more rapid gun movement involved in skeet shooting), plus, you can practice on your own if you want. However, it is always more fun and better paced shooting with at least one or more other shooters.

Be careful not to talk while the voice activated units are turned "on" except to call for a target - or it will launch all your targets away while you aren't looking! BTW - if you



Figure 6 - Trap houses on fields #1 - 4, note that fields #5 and 6 are between the skeet houses seen in the distance.

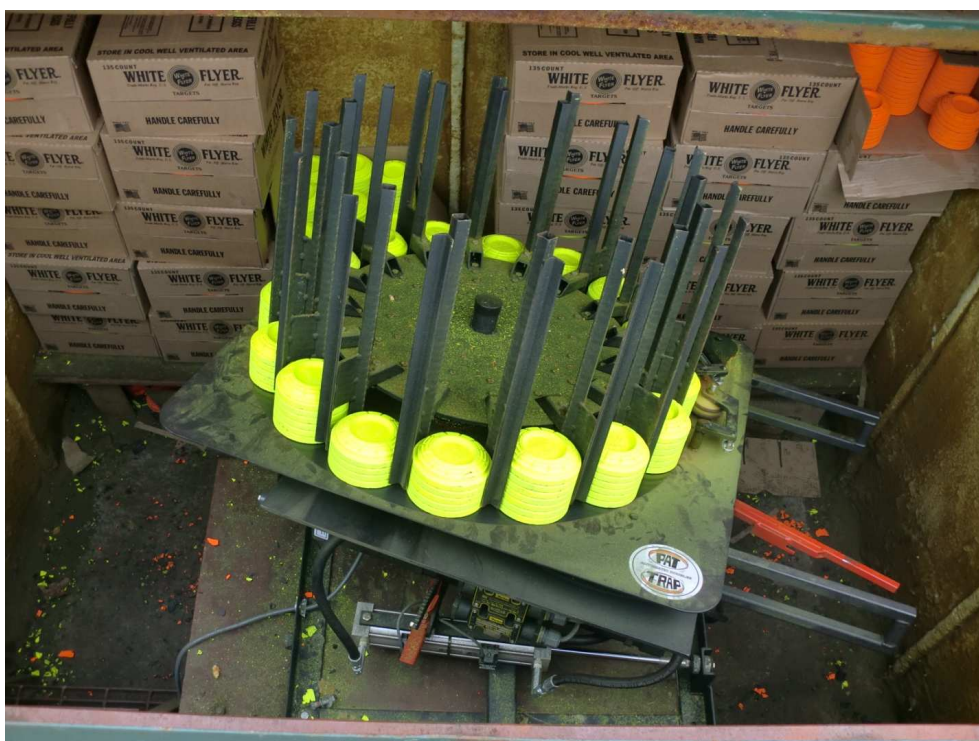


Figure 7 - Target thrower in Trap house #2. Note that the targets come out in direction of camera at varying angles as the machine oscillates back and forth.

find the voice activated launchers finicky, try speaking louder and deeper, lowering your voice and drawing out the call - i.e. change "pull" to "PUUUULLLLL" but an octave or two lower in tone. Note that picking-up and physically throwing the unit in a fit of frustration certainly won't help the situation - as one member has already found out! ☺ Instead, it will just get you a strange look from your fellow shooters, and quite likely a bill to pay!



Figure 8 - Trap field #2 - note five shooting radially-oriented positions with concrete shooting pads at marked distances from trap house. Each shooter moves around to the five positions at the assigned distance after every five shots.



Figure 9 - The five 16 yard shooting positions on Trap field #2 - these pads are located in front of voice/sound activated target triggers. Trap fields #3 & #4 can be seen in the background.



Figure 10 - Voice/sound activated target puller. You need to be quiet around these unless you want to see targets flying! When you do call for a target - be sure to use a loud low pitched tone.



Figure 11 - Token machine for activating a trap round - buy your tokens in the office before trying to shoot! Each token gives 25+ targets - a couple extra if you need them to account for possible broken ones.

Sporting Clays - Five Stand: Even if you are new to shotgun shooting, you may have heard of sporting clays, but you are probably saying to yourself - what is five stand? Well, in sporting clays you have a variety of targets launched from different positions at different angles thus providing a variety of shooting challenges - but usually they are set up as one or two per station as you walk through a defined course, stopping to shoot at a variety of shooting stands. Well, we don't have a course, so the variety of shooting situations are provided by setting up five stands across the back of skeet field #1 (i.e. the field closest to the office - see Figure 12) and shooting three combinations of two shots from each of the five stands. So how does this work? Well, using eight target throwers (labeled 1 through 8 on those big signs mounted near them - see again the previous figures and the thrower control unit in Figure 13), combinations of targets are created and called at the time of shooting. The first target is launched and the second is launched "on report", i.e. launched once you fire the first shot. This makes the shooting quite challenging as targets are thrown at many different angles and speeds, i.e. away from you, towards you, from behind you and also across your sight line. There is even a clay target (i.e. from thrower #6) that is bounced along the ground like a jumping rabbit! And the one that comes over your head (i.e. from thrower #8 positioned on the top of the tower in Figure 14) is really hard to hit. Now put two of any of the shots in combination and it's a real challenge! You can try to shoot this with any shotgun capable of two fast successive shots, but I recommend a 12 gauge as it will give you an advantage starting out. I have only shot this twice as it takes a while to setup and get running, and someone must operate the system while others shoot. The fact is that I have only seen this set up occasionally

for practice on Fridays after skeet shooting has completed (necessary seeing as it uses the same field and the skeet throwers), but it would certainly be nice to have it more regularly available as it is a lot of fun to shoot!



Figure 12 - One of five stands which make up shooting positions in "Five Stand Sporting Clays". These are positioned in a line near the back fence on the skeet field and combinations of thrower numbers are placed in front for the shooter to call to the operator.



Figure 13 - Control unit for eight sporting clays throwers. Operator hits buttons for numbers called by shooter at position. First thrower is activated and second is activated "on report", i.e. once first shot is fired. This gives a wide range of combinations. You need to be quick on tracking that second target - but always make sure you get the first one first!



Figure 14 - Thrower #8 is located in the rectangular covered shelter at the bottom of the tower. This shelter with the thrower inside is raised on the vertical tracks to the nearly the tower top by cable where it launches targets out over the shooter's head and flying away from them. Very challenging shooting indeed!

Additional comments: Trap, Skeet, and Five-stand Sporting Clays

Equipment: I wanted to mention a bit about the equipment needed. For the most part it includes a suitable shotgun (see previous comments above), i.e. 26" length barrel(s) or longer are best as a longer barrel means a greater sight distance. (Note that short-barreled tactical-style shotguns are not permitted on the range to shoot these activities). If you are starting out and want to try to do it all with a single shotgun, a 12 gauge with either multiple or replaceable fixed-choke barrels, or screw-in chokes is best. Everyone will have their own preference, but generally speaking one uses modified to full chokes for trap, skeet chokes for skeet (hmm - sounds right), and skeet to modified chokes for five stand. Any centered shot will hit a target, but using the proper choke will increase your chances of a hit

should you be off-target a bit! Either a semi-auto or over-under style shotgun will work; The semi-auto will reduce felt recoil but with more mechanism to clean after use, and provide only one choke selection due to the single barrel, while the over-under is simpler and more reliable (especially if you are not someone that is rigorous in your gun cleaning habits) and offers two barrels - each with a choke option. Go for a good quality gun, a well-built used shotgun is likely a better choice and value than a cheap poor-quality new one, just be sure it fits you properly (your eye should be level and looking straight down the barrel or barrel rib to the front sight with your cheek firmly pressed into the rear stock mounted solidly into your shoulder)! Two things to remember if you are just starting out: First, if you want the recoil to hurt you, be sure to hold the gun loosely and just get your cheek just close - that way the gun has a chance to really accelerate and smack your shoulder and face when it recoils from the shot! You will only do it once! 😊 Second, you should find out how your shotgun "patterns" - i.e. where does the shot pattern actually hit when you aim it (mostly high, low or centered). To do this, use the patterning board (see Figure 15) which will allow you to see the shot pattern produced at either 30 or 40 yards. I was a bit puzzled by some unexpected misses when shooting the single-barrel shotgun from a combo set I bought, until found out that the single-barrel portion shot over a foot low on the patterning board! (I had some words with the seller about that one and ended up not paying for the single-barrel portion of the combo set!)



Figure 15 - Pattern board for checking your shotgun's pattern at 30 or 40 yards. Large paper sheets are available in the office and are held to the board by magnets while shooting. Be sure to remember to put a target on the paper before shooting it to check the pattern position relative to point-of-aim!

The other basic items you need are a shooting vest or pouch to hold at least the 25 shotgun shells you will need per round, (note that a good vest will also have a shoulder pad which will reduce felt recoil), ear protection that fits when the gun is mounted on the shoulder you're your cheek on the stock (note that some earmuffs are too big and interfere with the stock, so be sure to try them before you get to the range), and a pair of shooting glasses for eye protection (note that yellow tinted lenses will enhance target visibility). I also prefer to have a hat (that works with your ear protection), a mesh shot shell hull bag (to hold my empty hulls for reloading - note use an ejection port capture clip on semi-autos to catch the hull on ejection), and a bore snake of the proper size for quick barrel cleaning before I return the shotgun to its case (i.e. get that corrosive gun powder residue out before it bonds to the metal). In terms of ammo, I

prefer target shotgun loads, i.e. #9 shot for skeet and #8 shot for short range trap, and a mixture of these for 5-stand depending on the thrower. I typically use #8 shot handicap loads for longer range trap shooting. All of these are available for purchase from the LRGC office. Be sure to ask more seasoned shooters why they chose their particular shotgun, equipment and ammo and I am sure they will be happy to share their thoughts with you!

Club Events: At present, I am pretty sure that trap is the only activity which has a league and hosted events here at the LRGC, and these include both the Pacific International Trap Association (PITA) and the International League shoots. The LRGC typically has club trophy matches for trap and skeet in the fall which attracts up to 20 or so shooters, and I seem to recall a sporting clays - five stand trophy around the clubhouse but don't remember a club match recently for this activity - maybe it's time again! These are fun matches for anyone at any skill level to participate in - so don't be shy - remember - everyone had to start sometime! There are usually draw prizes as well for those new shooters that are just starting in the sport - so you too could win something!

The last event I MUST tell you about are the "Meat Shoots", which occur the third Sunday of every month at the LRGC. What the "X%@#" is a "Meat shoot" you ask? Well - that was the same question I asked (crudely picturing strung-up deer or other animal carcasses being blasted by multiple shooters with waves of shotgun pellets)! Well no - nothing like that! Actually the "meat" part comes from the select cuts of

"meat" that constitute the prizes for the match - and believe me, the shooting is much more fun than I ever pictured! In a "Meat shoot" you pay to enter (usually \$5 or \$6 per game), then six or more people line up in a row facing the trap house at a distance and position selected by the first person in line. This person selects the game to be played (just like in poker where the dealer selects the game). The general idea of the game is - break the target - stay in the game, miss the target and let someone else (shooting at the same target after you) hit it instead - and you are out of the game! Last shooter remaining is the winner of a meat prize! But wait - it gets much more involved! You could be shooting from way back at the rear fence, or maybe right up next to the trap house - two totally different shooting situations! Then there are the various games to be played - such as "2, 3 or 4 gun Annie" where each sequential person in the line (up to the quoted number) can only shoot at full unbroken targets in an attempt to knock-out previous shooters that have missed. Or the more deadly game of "2, 3, or 4 gun Bushwacker", where each sequential person in the line can hit either full targets or even "pieces" of targets and thereby knock-out all previous shooters in line! To make it even more confusing - you can even have combinations of these - for example a "3 gun Annie Bushwacker" - where the second person can only shoot at a full target but the third person can shoot at any piece! Believe me - it is both fun to shoot and to watch as the consequences are immediate and the results deadly to your chances for any prizes! I am certainly no expert - as I have only participated in two days of Meat shoots. The first time I tried this activity I was so focused on

just getting the game right - and making sure I shot in order and with enough time delay to separate our shots - that I barely hit any targets and went home empty handed. The second time however, knowing the games a bit better, switching guns and buying proper ammo (thanks to Gord Van Dokkumburg for his advice on this topic), and being able to concentrate a bit more on my shooting - I came home with three meat prizes - and were they ever good!! (Always seem to taste better when you win them!) But the fact is - both times were an absolute HOOT! I look forward to doing it again very soon!

Note: Look for my follow-on article covering LRGC indoor facilities and activities in the next LRGC newsletter! Happy shooting!

Handgun Shooting

By Terry McCarthy

The handgun fraternity continues to attend our designated days at the range. Monday nights are reasonably busy with new shooters showing up almost every week. Our range officers take the new shooters in hand, even if they proclaim proficiency and take them through the safety rules. We make certain they sign and understand the safety form as well and have them fill out the form for the insurance coverage.

They are then supervised, loading and firing one round at a time until the range officer can see they are aware of safe firearm handling, and that they can at least hit the bedsheet target from a rest. All this is handled in a friendly manner with the range officers making sure the new shooters are having a good time. We have heard that the sessions other than Monday

nights are busy as well, with Saturday afternoon having wait times in fact.

We have been talking for some time about having the range officers get together again to talk and refresh our procedures, thus making sure we are all on the same page when dealing with safety on the range. Your board will be making these arrangements in the near future. We are looking to train some new range officers and are also hoping to have coach training supported by the club as well. Please let us know if you would like to be considered for training as a new range officer.

The Western International Pistol League (WIPL) competitions have come to an end for the summer (last one April 15) and will start up again in September. We compete at the Langley, Abbotsford and Pt. Coquitlam ranges. Our own David Grant placed second for the year. Congratulations David!

Our other competitive programs continue as well. As Doug Romilly mentions, stealing my thunder, our Dorothy Ludwig has been chosen as the sole Canadian representative in Women's 10 meter air pistol to represent Canada at the Olympic Games in London.

Our juniors have done well in competitions also. We have two juniors striving to make it to the Canada Winter Games in Prince George in a couple of years. We expect to have several entries from the junior ranks as well our adult shooters entered in the Provincial Pistol Championships as well as the Canadian Pistol Championships this year. Both juniors from our club medaled at the Canadian Pistol Championships

last August.

We have five air pistols from the Modern Pentathlon on hand for any junior members that would like to take up the sport. Juniors shoot at 5:30 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays. Sean and Terry McCarthy are the junior coaches and would be pleased to see more young people coming out. A junior at 11 or 12 years of age is about the right age to start. Three of our juniors are also now competing in sport pistol matches (i.e. 22 cal). For shooting in this category, an accompanying adult relative that is a licensed pistol shooter is pretty well necessary.

That's all I can think of for now. See you at the range!

Terry McCarthy

Skeet

By Bob Hunter

The skeet and trap season is underway again and lots of shooters coming out for practice. We have 2 new LaPorte skeet machines in the first field and they are up and running after a little TLC to the low house. We have been trying some pink coloured targets and they seem to be easy to see. We have a few more left so we can give them a good work out.

Surender Sra shoots international skeet and is on the Canadian Team currently shooting in Italy. We wish him good luck and hope he does well. International skeet targets are a little faster (American skeet is 60 yard targets and International is 72 meter targets) and you must shoot gun down (you can't start with your gun at the shoulder) and there is a random delay in the target release system up to 3 seconds. Slow pulls are not

an excuse, because they all may be slow.

Skeet is getting more popular, Courtenay is putting in 2 more fields (total of 4 skeet fields) and the other clubs are experiencing more shooter turnout. There is a 4 gun skeet shoot in Kelowna on June 2/3 and it's booked up right now, I got the last spot. Some of the club members, Bruce Peter, Bob Marshall, Lloyd Wilson, Tony Antao, and Ken Griggs made it to Duncan in April and performed well. Bob Marshall got D1 in the 12 ga., yours truly Bob Hunter scored B1 in the 20 Ga., A1 in the 28 Ga. And A1 in the 410 and Lloyd Wilson got B1 in 12 Ga. I didn't shoot the 12 Ga. event...I ran out of steam... so I went home. It was a good shoot though.

See you on the range!

Sporting Clays

No Report

What's New at LRGC!

By Doug Romilly

Topics and information our members might like to know about!

- First: **Dorothy Ludwig is going to the Summer Olympics in London, UK! Our congratulations to her on successfully winning the only spot to represent Canada in the 10 m air pistol competition in the Summer Olympics. Way-to-go again Dorothy!! Fantastic!!**
To read more on this see:
<http://www.langleytimes.com/sports/143855546.html>
- We are now well into 2012 and you should all have your new membership cards and or renewal stickers (as of Feb 1, 2012) which will allow you to shoot without paying for a

Day Pass. Please give your continued cooperation to Ray by both signing in "before" shooting (trap, skeet and 5-stand) and displaying your membership card on your person so we can easily identify you as a "paid-up" member.

- If you have been out trap shooting, you have noticed that the club has installed new "token" operated systems that will allow you to only shoot 25+1 targets for each "token" inserted. This was instituted to reduce the club's costs due to "extra" targets being thrown above-and-beyond those being paid for by shooters. These systems will be added to the skeet fields in due course. As expected, the tokens are \$5 each and must be purchased in the office prior to shooting. You may buy as many tokens as you want - but keep them safe as they won't be replaced if lost.
- Two of the skeet houses (the far skeet field) have just received new target throwers to replace the older worn systems which were requiring excessive maintenance and constantly being readjusted to provide a proper trajectory to the target's flight. I know all the skeet shooters will certainly enjoy having these new machines!
- A covered lean-to structure is planned for construction on the site of where the small shed use to be in front of trap #5 to provide cover from the elements for waiting shooters. Expect to see a new structure there soon!
- You may have noticed some large panels stored and partially mounted along the sides in the indoor range. No - we are not becoming "fashion conscious" or "going pink"; they are actually acoustic panels which will be mounted inside the range along the wall between the range and the outer foyer and office to reduce the sound transmitted between these rooms when shooting. This will benefit Ray and other people present in the adjacent rooms - since if you have not yet experienced it - the

sound of multiple large caliber handgun rounds being fired can be quite loud in both the foyer and office areas.

- It is about time for another indoor range cleanout and rebuild as we don't want it getting too full - that just makes it that much more work as the lead packs its way in! Thanks to those that assisted last time - we would certainly appreciate your continued service if you are available. If you are a new shooter - please volunteer to come and assist us, no experience needed. Please contact any of the range officers, or Ray, tell them you want to assist and provide your contact info with an email address. We will put you on our contact list and let you know the date for the cleanout.
- As reported in the last newsletter, we are still in the planning stages for replacing the indoor range backstop, but are getting closer. We have received quotes on commercial systems (quite high) and are now looking to design and build locally. We have found some suitable steel plating material that seems to resist our largest caliber impacts (yes - we had fun testing it!) and are moving forward on new conceptual designs for the backstop to reduce the effective impact loads, improve access and cleanout, and reduce our maintenance costs. As previous - we welcome any new ideas!
- As noted in this column in the previous newsletter, the LRGC has teamed up with the faculty and students at the UBC Department of Mechanical Engineering to assist us in reducing the environmental footprint of the club. This has produced several initiatives currently in progress - 1) investigating a method to recover lead shot from soil/lead mixtures, and 2) a method to recycle shotgun hulls by breaking them down into their basic elements (thus eliminating the need for landfill disposal). Some of the LRGC Board members recently had presentations from the students on

these projects and I hope to be able to bring you a more in-depth article on these initiatives in a later newsletter!

- Remember - The clubhouse is now posted as a "NO SMOKING" environment. If you feel the need to smoke please do so outside and well away from the doorways as per municipal by-laws.
- The club had their Annual General Meeting (AGM) and elections on Feb 8, 2012 with some new Board members being elected. For the information of new members, each year the Board executive and approximately half of the Board Director positions are re-elected, with the other half of the Director positions carrying on for a second year for continuity. This is your new LRGC Board and they are enthused about making some changes this year!

President: Ken Holmberg

1st Vice Pres.: Gord Van Dok-kumburg

2nd Vice Pres.: Sonny Zappone

Treasurer: Tom Wallis

Secretary: Terry McCarthy

Past-Pres.: Dave Zappone

Directors: (in alphabetical order)

Joseph Paul Breaks

Barrie Brown

Wayne Burns

Ron Geering

Gord Goranko

Gerry Greshuk

Brian Hazen

Al Kannianen

Grant Kiengersky

John LeBlanc

Kathie MacFarlane

Sean McCarthy

Steve McLean

Dennis Robinson

Karen Robinson

Doug Romilly

Harry Sullivan

Joe Tecklenborg

John Trca

Lorne Walper

Caretaker: Ray Mulholland

- Don't forget - the general meetings are posted on the website (typically the second Wednesday of selected months) and are your opportunity to have provide input to your club. Remember we are all volunteers so please come out and participate in your club's activities - we welcome your input!
- With the idea of getting increased member input and your thoughts on how to improve the club, the Board has created a series of discipline and administrative committees to hear and respond to your ideas. Please see the article (LRGC Board Report) within this newsletter on this topic! We are also contemplating creating a member survey in the future to be emailed to all listed members. If you feel this is a good idea and a preferred way to have your comments heard - please mention or discuss it with any Board member, or drop an email to lrgcplanning@gmail.com.



The food was amazing with a giant roast beef buffet and endless desserts. All of our dignitary guests took turns helping to present the awards to our many recipients, but special thanks to Mary Polak and her office for providing the personalized award certificates.

Awards Banquet

The club's annual Awards Banquet was again held at Newlands Golf Course on February 11th. As always, it was very well attended by members, guests and dignitaries. In attendance were Senator Gerry St. Germain and his wife Margaret, MP Mark Warawa and his wife Dianne, Mary Polak, Provincial Minister of Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation and Langley MLA, and her assistant Cathy Gibbs, City of Langley Mayor "Pistol" Peter Fassbender and his wife, and Langley Township Deputy Mayor Steve Ferguson and his wife Denise. We are very grateful for the continued strong support of our local politicians as our club continues to evolve.



John LeBlanc receiving his certificate and trophy from MP Mark Warawa and LRG VP Gord Van Dokkumburg.

This year, banquet attendees raised money to support 4 young shooters on their way to competition. Brooke Ashcroft, Thomas Van Dokkumburg, Jessica Auton and Dorothy Ludwig split the pot to help defray their training costs.



Left to right - Brooke Ashcroft, Jessica Auton, Thomas Van Dokkumburg and Dorothy Ludwig.

Competition is a healthy and rewarding part of the enjoyment our sport, and it is always wonderful to recognize those among us who have risen to the top of their categories. Congratulations to all the winners.

Shotgun Report

by Gord Van Dokkumburg

Wow we made it through another winter! Boxing Day Meat Shoot was another huge success with us giving away over 400 prizes as well as 2 - \$250.00 gift certificates for the Pig Shoot and we were done and cleaned up by 5:00 pm. I would like to thank all of the volunteers for their time and help, you were all great and I hope to see you all again next Boxing Day.

Next we go to this year's International Shoot. What a year Langley had. We had more shooters and support than we have had in quite a few years. Every shoot had at least 50-65 shooters from the different clubs. Langley took 4 out of the 6 team trophies. What a crew and a lot of fun. The other clubs sure knew the Langley Shooters were there and sure didn't like how we shot skeet. I do believe we were 150 birds ahead of the 2nd place team. Awesome job guys.

We wrapped up the season's meat shoots on the third Sunday of April. It was a great season and profitable for the Club. Be sure to come join us in September when we start it all over again. Joe T. and I have a surprise for all you turkey shooters next year and it will really separate the men from the boys!! You better bring an extra full choke gun, it will be a blast. It will keep Hazen and Sparky honest. Wednesday night shooting started on April 18th and the club is open till 7:30 pm for outdoor shooting every Wednesday.

May 5th & 6th is our first PITA Shoot of the year, hope to see you there.

This past weekend we had the BC High School Rodeo kids at the Club shooting trap and 22 Rifle. This was the first year shooting was introduced to the High School Rodeo Program in BC. We had eight kids competing for top 4 spots in each event. We were hoping for a few more kids but I'm very sure we will have a lot more next time as the kids had a lot of fun. Top 4 in each event qualify for the National Finals in Rock Springs, Wyoming on July 15th to 22nd.

Trapshooting:

- (1) Thomas Van Dokkumburg, Langley
- (2) Jessie Morriss, Langley
- (3) Cole Churchill, Westwold
- (4) Brook McFarlane, Langley.

Rifle:

- (1) Celest Windmill, Vernon
- (2) Jessie Morriss, Langley
- (3) Brook McFarlane, Langley
- (4) Cole Churchill, Westwold

Thanks, Gord Van Dokkumburg

Board of Directors

Report:

By Doug Romilly

Increasing Access to the LRGC Board - We want YOUR input!

This is my second year as a Director on the LRGC Board, and I am pleased to say that this year there is a new sense of enthusiasm and determination from the Board members to be more proactive in planning for the future of our club! We all recognize the obstacles that both government and society (due to either ignorance or intent) has placed in our path. This has not only made it more difficult for us to continue and enjoy our activities, but also to recruit new people

into the shooting sports. As a result, we need to be constantly ready to defend against those that would try to make us disappear, and be constantly active in educating and promoting our sport to others - i.e. highlighting the achievements of our club and members whenever and wherever they occur, and the benefits of our club activities to the community as a whole.

But I believe that the Board has also recently recognized that - with the demographics and interests of our members changing - we need to look for more effective ways to connect with our membership in order to ensure a healthy growth and future of our club. This means increasing the interaction between the Board members and the membership in planning for new initiatives, and also getting more feedback on what is both working - or not working - within our club. This requires better member access and easy lines of communication to the correct and responsible people on the Board.

To this end, the Board has designated new administrative and shooting discipline committees, with associated chairs and assistants (see list below) to better organize our efforts to connect with you. These are the people to contact with your ideas, concerns and feedback - and to make it easier for you - new LRGC email addresses are being created and assigned to each of these committees to provide you - the members - with direct access to these committees. These new committee email addresses will be listed on the LRGC website and sent out by email to the members as soon as they are functional (estimated date June 1, 2012), as we are currently in the process of switching

our web/email provider now to accomplish this task more efficiently and at reduced cost. In the meantime - we did want to provide an avenue to you for feedback, so a temporary dedicated email

address has been created for the interim period. Please send any comments you have to me at LRGCplanning@gmail.com and I will forward or respond accordingly. The Board is making

changes to the way we operate - and we hope that you as members will support this change and provide us with your ideas and feedback - *may it be good or bad!*

LRGC Board Committee Designations

Administrative Committees	Chair	Assistant
1) Membership Services	WALLIS, Tom (Treasurer)	MACFARLANE, Kathie
2) Communications	McCARTHY, Terry (Secretary)	MACFARLANE, Kathie
3) Health, Safety & Security (HSS)	ZAPPONE, Sonny (2 nd VP)	ZAPPONE, Dave (Past President)
4) Environmental	HOLMBERG, Ken (President)	ROMILLY, Doug
5) Planning	ROMILLY, Doug	GRESHUK, Gerry
6) Training & Programs	ROMILLY, Doug	McCARTHY, Sean
7) Facilities & Maintenance	TECKLENBORG, Joe	KIENGERSKY, Grant
8) Socials & Event Coordination	MACFARLANE, Kathie	WALLIS, Tom (Treasurer)
9) Elections committee	ZAPPONE, Dave (Past President)	
Discipline Committees	Chair	Assistant
10) Trap	VAN DOKKUMBURG, Gord (1 st VP)	BURNS, Wayne
11) Skeet	TECKLENBORG, Joe	ROMILLY, Doug
12) Sporting Clays/5 Stand	BREAKS, Paul	HAZEN, Brian
13) Handgun	McCARTHY, Terry (Secretary)	McCARTHY, Sean
14) Senior Rifle	ROMILLY, Doug	PURI, Kavinder
15) Junior Rifle	PURI, Kavinder	HADDEN, Bob
16) Junior Pistol & Air Pistol	McCARTHY, Sean	McCARTHY, Terry (Secretary)
17) Fast Draw	ROBINSON, Dennis	ROBINSON, Karen

Fast Draw Report

Dennis Robinson

Well, the last report gave you the results and story of the winners and donors of the Canadian Fast draw Championships at Alder-grove Fairdays. That was phase one. In this phase we will report on the WFDA Chairman Sanctioned part of the Canadian contest. This year's event was won by two U.S. Shooters, as Sarah Pantano of Kansas won the Women's Title and Brian Colwell of Colorado was the first repeat winner of this contest. CONGRATS to both, and

CONGRATS as well to the Top Fifteen Men and the Top Seven Women of last year's Canadian Open Index Championships: All winners are listed below:

Top 5 Women's Div.

1st Pl.=Sarah Pantano, Kansas
2nd Pl.=Nicole Franks, B.C.
3rd Pl.=Carla Howell, Oregon
4th Pl.=Peggy Franks, B.C.
5th Pl.=Anita Burnham; Colorado

Top 10 Men's Division

1st. Pl.=Brian Colwell, Colorado
2nd Pl.=Chuck Burnham; Colorado
3rd Pl.=Jon Wilson, California
4th Pl.=Mike Pantano; Kansas
5TH Pl.=Den Robinson; B.C.

6TH Pl.=Bob Edmiston, B.C.
7th Pl.=Glenn Renney, B.C.
8th Pl.=Ioan Nica, Quebec
9th Pl.=Jim Weatherby, B.C.
10th Pl/=Bob Nielson, Colorado

They came from California to Colorado, and many points from the southern States, and, for the first time in the history of the sport, B.C.'s 2011 Canadian FD Championships played host to four of Canada's province's entrants, as Ioan 'Nick The Quick' Nica came all the way from Quebec, and Brian 'The Krosman Kid' Shukin came from Saskatchewan with Bill Duff from Alberta.



Brian Colwell, and Sarah Pantano

Winning the VERY nice Double Holster, valued at \$700 and donated to the contest by The Working Cowboy Gun Leather Shop <http://www.workingcowboygunleather.com> of Ontario was Colorado's Chuck Burnham, with the Western Speed Timer: www.gunfighter.com/timers going to Bob Franks of Aldergrove. CONGRATULATIONS to everyone!

And the after party which was held at Bob and Peggy Franks' place, was TERRIFIC as usual! Peggy sure whips up a Fast Draw feast for the shooters and guests, and Nicole also organized hula hoop and bean bag toss contests, and everyone found out just how competitive shooters can be! WHAT FUN!

The next Canadian Open Index FD Championships is again to be held during Aldergrove Fairdays, this time on July 21-22, 2012 and is hosted by The Thunderbirds, who also now, thanks to Ted Schenkeveld, enjoy a new website at: www.thunderbirdfastdraw.com

Further info on the Canadian Fast Draw Championships at: www.aldergrovefairdays.com

and info on the sport of Fast Draw can be found on World Fast Draw Association website at: www.dancolby.com/wfdainfo

Adios for now,

Den Robinson, Director,
Langley Rod and Gun Club

Planning / Training Committee Report

By Doug Romilly - Planning
Committee Chair & Training
Committee Chair

Defining our Future Plans for the LRGC

As you now know by reading the title - the LRGCB has defined a new committee with a goal specifically to establish two things:

- 1) an annual business plan for the club, and
- 2) a longer-term plan for club development and projects.

As steps towards this goal, the focus and mandate of this committee is to:

- 1) define a proper mission statement for the club,
- 2) develop club objectives based on this mission statement,
- 3) identify potential initiatives to meet these club objectives,
- 4) propose an integrated long-term development plan based on these initiatives, and then
- 5) prioritize action items within each year's annual business plan (with appropriate budget and schedule) to ultimately achieve the long-term plan's objectives.

This development plan is not meant to be just a "physical" facilities development plan - but also a "members" development plan. As such, in addition to facilities improvement, this plan should also include training and other program initiatives to increase safety, encourage and support personal and competitive skills development at all ages, as well as social programs designed to create a more interactive club environment to attract and retain new members.

As progress towards our goal (i.e. completion of Steps 1 and 2 above), the LRGCB has very recently (i.e. April 25, 2012) voted to adopt the following Mission Statement and Objectives for our club based on a proposal put forward by the Planning Committee.

LRGC Mission Statement: *"The Langley Rod and Gun Club's mission is to provide a premier, safe and environmentally responsible facility, which ensures that its membership can pursue their respective sporting disciplines in a safe, professional yet friendly and supportive*

environment that fosters skills development and good sportsmanship for all ages, both now and in the future."

Langley Rod and Gun Club - Mission Statement Objectives

1. Health & Safety - The health & safety of our employees, members, guests and community must be our foremost priority. We therefore strive to provide a safe and enjoyable environment for all the shooting sport activities of our membership.

2. Environmental Stewardship - We recognize the importance of protecting the environment at all times. We have implemented an ongoing environmental plan to identify, assess and reduce our environmental impact.

3. Atmosphere - We strive to promote a friendly welcoming yet responsible atmosphere for members, guests and employees.

4. Communication, Feedback & Member Involvement - We strive to encourage participation and involvement in club activities by all members. We hold general meetings, and publish a newsletter and website with a calendar of events for the purpose of timely notification to the membership of upcoming events, changes to rules/policy/fees, and the reporting of club events and activities. All members are provided with the opportunity to speak their concerns at scheduled general meetings.

5. Families, Youth and Personal Development - We encourage family values, encourage participation by all ages and gender in all types of supported shooting activities, and support training programs for all ages, especially youth development. We will strive to provide opportunities for personal development in the shooting sports. To this end we will train

and maintain a cadre of qualified coaches, range officers and staff to serve our members. We will also strive to assist those club members that are interested in representing the LRGC in regional, provincial, national and international competitions when possible.

6. Facilities - We will provide and maintain clean, smoke-free indoor and up-to-date facilities in support of club activities, with improvements being provided as our budget allows to meet our needs according to our objectives and a developed long-term development plan.

7. Financial Stability - We will strive to offer the best value and facilities for our membership while maintaining a stable and sustainable financial cash-flow position for the club, and ensuring that sufficient financial resources are available for current perceived threats to our club's survival (i.e. legal, environmental, economic, etc.) while working within BC society rules.

This is a major step forward, and it clearly demonstrates a more structured approach to planning than has been utilized here at the club in the past. To continue this approach and to do it properly as we move on to Step 3 (i.e. to identify potential initiatives to meet these club objectives), we need to understand and gather input from our club members - i.e. from people in all disciplines and at all skill levels. This is where you come in! We really need your help!

As part of the input process, the Planning Committee has created a "Committee Input Form" to be submitted by each committee chair person (see LRGC Board Report article in this newsletter for a list of the new LRGC committees), so the best way to provide input is to contact the chair of the appropriate committee

and forward your ideas/comments/initiatives, etc. to that person.

The chair will be looking for ideas to complete their committee's input form, so they should be responsive to your ideas. The second way is to complete and email the form that can be found by clicking the following link "[Member Input Form](#)", this form is available at www.lrgc.com. You can then forward that to me as Planning Committee Chair via email at lrgcplanning@gmail.com (i.e. the temporary email established), or you can leave a copy with Ray at the office addressed to me. Either way I guarantee that the committee will read and consider your ideas. The planning committee is committed to this long-term planning approach - and we hope that you - the membership - will make your ideas for the future of your club known to us!

Newsletter

Gordon Taschuk, Editor

If anyone has any interesting news, articles, Letters to the Editor, classified ads or comments, please email to the newsletter editor membership@lrgc.com

You can receive your newsletter by email. If you received this newsletter in the mail, then we do not have a current email address for you. Save the club some money, and save a few trees - send your email address to membership@lrgc.com We will NOT sell, rent, give or lend your email address to ANYONE.

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