



Langley Rod and Gun Club

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NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER, 2008

President's Report Gord VanDokkumburg

Well, here we are almost another year over and it has been very busy around the club. There have been some changes and upgrades including 3 new automatic trap machines installed and they're working very well. Also the roof has been replaced and is no longer leaking. Within a couple of weeks the new heating and air conditioning systems will be installed and the indoor shooters and guests should be more comfortable with this new furnace and better ventilation. The exhaust fan should provide a smoke free environment.

As the year nears the end it also brings a few very important events for the club and its bank account. The Boxing Day Shoot is the busiest and the biggest money maker for the club which helps to pay for upgrades and repairs that are needed. But in order to make this Boxing Day Shoot a success, we need as much help as possible. The indoor events need 10-15 volunteers for .22 Shooting, dice table and turkey shoot cards. The outdoor events need at least 15 volunteers for parking, trap help, pig shoot, marking, pulling and signing up. So if you can lend a hand it would be very much appreciated just call the club and leave your name and number and we will contact you. No special skills are required and nobody will be turned away (we will even feed you).

Also the memberships are almost due, so be sure to renew yours and encourage a friend to join.

I would like to take this time to thank all those members and directors who have helped out throughout this past year, we can't be successful without you. Your time and effort is much appreciated. I would also like to wish all of you the very best for this Holiday season, be safe and I look forward to seeing you on Boxing Day.

Thank You,
Your President,
Gord Van Dokkumburg

MEMBERSHIP

Gordon Taschuk

It's that time of year again, 2009 memberships are now available. Your 2008 membership expires at the end of January, 2009. Enclosed is the membership form, please complete it and drop it at the club with your payment.

Please take the time to complete the form. The club just recently got a computer to keep track of everything, and some of our older records are incomplete. This is especially true for some of the old timers. So even though you have been a member for years and years, and we "should" have all your current info, chances are good that we don't. Your cooperation is certainly appreciated. And make sure you give us your email address, it saves the club a lot of money by not having to print and mail newsletters and communication to you. Remember, your email address is safe with us - we will never sell, rent, give or lend your email address to **ANYONE**.

Indoor Shooting

No Report

Air Pistol

No Report

Senior .22 Rifle

No Report

Annual Awards Banquet

Saturday, February 28th

Mark it on your calendars.

Langley Rod & Gun Club

A great meal, cash bar, door prizes and lots of fun!!

Watch for more details at the club and by email.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Gordon Taschuk

There are 2 huge events coming up that really help put our club in the public eye. The success of these events contribute to the reputation that our club has out in the community, which critical to our club's survival. The LRGC is a good neighbour and a responsible contributor to our community, and we need to let our neighbours know this.

Boxing Day Shoot

This is our biggest fund raising event of the year, how well we do on this single day in raising operating funds for the club can affect our budget for the year. Remember, our club is a NON PROFIT club, run almost exclusively by volunteers. Your annual membership fees pay for the basics, like insurance, taxes, utilities, wages, etc. The club generates additional revenue through its profitable operation of the outdoor fields, day fees and fund raising. So, Boxing Day isn't just a trap shoot, it is an opportunity to raise money for the general operation of the club, which keeps our annual membership fees below most clubs and our day fees below most clubs. We need volunteers to help make the day a success – volunteers from both the indoor and outdoor shooters. If you can spare a few hours on Boxing Day, come on out. Watch for more details at the club.

Annual Awards Banquet

Every year we hold an Awards Banquet to honour the top shooters in our club, and also those who volunteer endless hours to making our club a success. It is well attended by government officials at all levels of government. Last year we had the mayors from both the City and Township, an MLA, an MP and even a Senator. It is a great opportunity to showcase our club to the community, and it pays off. It is also a chance to have a little fun, a great meal and meet some of the other club members. It is being held on February 28th, put it in your calendar now, you won't want to miss it. More details will follow.

FAMILY FUN DAY REPORT

Gordon Taschuk

Family Fun Day was held on September 7th and it was another fabulous success. The weather was unbelievable, the food was fantastic and the turnout was even better than expected. Thanks to all the volunteers who come out every year to help kids and families experience the fun of shooting, in a safe and supervised environment. People were able to try their hand at fast draw, skeet, trap, air rifle silhouette and indoor .22 rifle. A special big thank you to Kathie MacFarlane and her team for working all day in the kitchen and feeding the hungry crowds.



left: Cameron Edwards helping out on the trap field.



above: It takes concentration and a steady hand.

right: Mike Le Blanc offers advice to first time Fast Draw shooters.



above: Kathie and her team again made sure no one went hungry.

right: These youngsters got to try air rifle silhouette shooting, under the careful watch of David Grant and Jack McCollum.



below: Our resident skeet expert Bob Hunter (red hat) had plenty of eager customers down at the skeet field.



Skeet Report

Bob Hunter

Sporting Clays Report

No Report

Shotgun Report

Submitted by Gord Van Dokkumburg

Shotgun has been very active this past few months. The new green targets are awesome and the scores prove that. We have had 6 meat shoots since the end of September and are pleased with the turn outs for these events. I guess everyone is practicing up for Boxing Day! So if you need practice we will be having our Christmas Shoot on December 21st. Come early for Boxing Day to avoid line ups, for we are hoping for a big turn out and good weather. There is literally something for everyone to enjoy, so bring the whole family and some friends everyone is welcome. Starting in January the International Shoot begins and everyone is encouraged to come out and shoot for the club. The Junior Trap Shooting program starts up again on the 2nd Sunday in January from 10:00 to noon. We are very pleased with the progress that these young people have shown and they are an asset to the club. So come out for Boxing Day to shoot, to watch, lend a hand or just to enjoy all the activities.

Happy Holidays,
Gord V.

Fast Draw Report

Mike LeBlanc

Well another year has come and gone, and what a busy summer it was.

The Thunderbirds were busy all year with shows, Contest's, and lots of Practice.

We have the Christmas Parade to do in Aldergrove on December 13, and will be stopping for Christmas on December 12 with a fun contest to raise food for the Langley Food Bank.

We are going to put on The Canadian Fast Draw Championship again in the Summer of 2009 with more information on this, come out to the Club on Friday nights between 7 & 9 and find out what it's all about.

Make sure everyone comes out for Boxing Day, and the Year End Awards Dinner. This year the Awards Dinner & Boxing Day will be served up with the cooking done by none other than our own Teresa LeBlanc, long time member of Langley Rod & Gun Club. Members may remember that Teresa had done the cooking for years, but had taken some time off, but now she is back again, so make sure you all come out for one of the best meals you could have.

Mike LeBlanc, Fast Draw Director

This next bit is from Dennis Robinson

WHAT PRICE PUBLICITY?

This is to thank those Fast Draw stalwarts (and any others) who have helped throughout this year - you know who you are - with putting the positive side of guns right into the heart of the general public. For the Fast Draw group, it was during the year's F.D. Demonstrations shows with H.A.C.S shows, Boy Scout demos and several festivals such as Langley's Canada Days. (Not to mention the Canadian Open F.D. Championships, which is to be repeated next year.) Thanks to demos such as these, Langley R&G even went National this year with Fast Draw on CBC's "The Hour" TV show.

Reaching the heart of the public isn't easy - it takes newspapers, TV, radio and other media. As one news reader wrote into a local paper after seeing an article on Nicole Franks said: "It is a pleasure to see a positive side to guns-after all, all we ever usually read about are bank robberies, crime, etc..."

Although our Fast Draw shows mainly attract interest from people who want to know where they can shoot their .22's and shotguns, we do get some limited interest in those who wish to do actual Fast Draw. However, a Gun Club's many members are mainly limited to gun club ranges ONLY, therefore the club(s) depend on a limited 'word of mouth' in order to reach new potential members, and are usually 'out of sight out of mind' of the general public, with the rare exception of any media appearances of the few Olympic Shooters who are connected to the club.

So, I THANK YOU! to those few Olympians and Fast Draw firearms ambassadors who are out on the 'front line' of the gun game - good work, and we NEED your participation even more in the future!

For the Fast Draw members, please don't forget the upcoming Aldergrove Xmas Parade on December 13th, 2008.

Dennis Robinson, Director

Annual General Meeting

Election of Directors
Wednesday,
February 11th
Langley Rod & Gun Club
Watch for more details
at the club.

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 newsletter@telus.net

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