



Karl Fabry and Karen Gerbensky enjoy the ESPN Radio Broadcast

**THE WAUKESHA GUN CLUB
-SINCE 1936-**

**TRAP — SKEET
5-STAND — SPORTING CLAYS**

**February
2009**

Spring is on the way!

The WGC News

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Special Points of Interest:

Annual Meeting will set up 2009 Events

The Radio Broadcast and Advertising Exceeded All Expectations

Safety Upgrades and Emphasis

Winter and Super Bowl Shoots brought the Crowds

Communications Changes Necessary

ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR MARCH 10th

Our annual meeting is set for Tues March 10th at 7:00 P.M. Please plan to arrive early to register, get your ballot and get settled in so the meeting can start on time. As always, your attendance is important as it allows you to have a voice in the elections of officers and board members, and to be kept up to date on the club's achievements in the past year and learn about plans and events on the drawing board.

This is also a good time to remind us all that The Waukesha Gun Club has a long and storied history. It is a member-owned and is operated by members. We do have a small paid staff, but virtually all manual, safe labor is done by members. We hire out very little in the way of maintenance. Did you know members like **Neil Nikkila, Pete Schraufnagel, Andy Busalacchi, Jim Lechner** and others own and operate heavy equipment? Did you know they come here in the heat of summer and the cold dead of winter to plow, scrape, dig and move snow and earth, all on a volunteer basis? Did you know **Jeff Hautimaki, Joe Baker** and their crews do an awful lot of hammering, sawing, concrete laying, etc., all on a volunteer basis? Now you do. We can add to the list **Pete Williams, Jeff Guenther, Dave Erickson** and others who keep our machinery humming, including our vehicles and landscaping equipment. There are others like **Jack Tans** and **Mark Wisinski** who keep our ancient Skeet machines working. And, we don't want to forget **Dick Otto's Tuesday Crew** who police the clubhouse and grounds weekly. The point is, if you have a skill and some time, talk to me or Karen and feel free to help out. With a very busy 2009 coming closer every day, there is plenty to do to get ready for the several big events on the schedule.

As for the elections, due to the retirement of two of our hard-working and loyal board members we need to have two members step up to fill their shoes.

Our Treasurer, **Bob Gundrum**, has decided to retire after three years of handling our finances. In this past three years Bob has been directly responsible for controlling and reducing many of the escalating costs we face. Thanks to Bob, his hard work and leadership will provide a secure future. Under his watchful eye we have saved thousands of dollars. Without his tireless attention to detail and fi-

nancial expertise we would not be where we are today.

Director, PR guru and newsletter editor, **Lowell ("LC") Carl** will also be stepping down. In my opinion, our newsletter is one of the several reasons the club has been able to grow over the last three years he has been a director. Two years prior to that he reshaped the newsletter and made it more formal and appealing to you readers. With an emphasis on photography and member recognition for their contributions to our operations, I feel it has made our membership more enjoyable, as well as keeping you posted on what is happening here.

If you have the time and the ability to do either of these jobs, please feel free to contact **Jeff Guenther** or **Ron Rousseau** and get your name on the ballot. Being an Officer or Board Member is another way you can contribute directly to the success of the club. It is not only rewarding, but we can use your skills.

We have been making many improvements around the club this winter. These include a new roof on the garage and new roofs on the skeet houses which were long overdue. We have also purchased four new Skeet machines, four new Sporting Clay machines and two new wireless voice releases for Trap. Most of this was made possible from the lead reclamation which took place over the summer. Planned is a replacement of the old pipe fence this year. Other cosmetic changes are being discussed.

We hope you are on board with all of these overdue remodeling projects, and will be proud of how things are shaping up. Do your part and bring your friends (especially those youngsters) out to the best shooting club around. That is one more way you can contribute to our growth and success.

This next year is projected to continue these tough economic times, unseen by most of us in our lifetimes. Please do not forget your club. Shoot as often as your budget allows and try to bring a couple of new people who just may become members. If we all would do just this one little thing, our club will grow and be stronger then ever.

See you at the annual meeting. Pat Gerbensky

Check the website Photo Gallery for all the terrific photos Deb Douglas has contributed.

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PATRICK A. GERBENSKY

ESPN RADIO BROADCAST A RATINGS SMASH

Okay, so we took a touch of literary license with our headline. But, when a couple showed up right after the broadcast, said they heard it and bought a membership for their son for Christmas, we'd say that was a symbol of success, wouldn't you?

After consulting with member, Rick Panten of Staples Marketing on ways to increase our public profile and grow our membership, he suggested we take advantage of current radio ad rates and cultivate the younger audience at ESPN Radio 540 AM. Over 100 ads ran in December and January and at last count over 50 new members have signed up

A nice crowd, in spite of the cold, showed up on December 21st to clap and cheer as Steve "The Homer" True (Radio voice of Marquette Basketball), Mark Chmura and Engineer C.J. Knee kept our name in the mix on The Miller Lite Football Show. We were given a substantial amount of time to promote the club as a way to stay active in winter.

The station executives have promised to hold an event here for all on-air personalities, at which time Homer and Mark can resolve the smack talk about who is the better shooter.

Now if we can get those D-List guys out, that will be a real coup!



Mark, Steve and C.J.



Mark braved the cold and was 2x4 using an improvised target setting



Deb Douglas took all the great pics.

SAFETY

In keeping up with a growing membership, new members need to be informed of our safety policies, Dan Sanford and Ricky Wicklund have updated our existing policies. New and renewing members will be asked to acknowledge this document. The details on how this will be accomplished are being finalized, and will be presented at the annual meeting.

The emphasis is on our need to adhere to absolute safety with the handling of firearms, and conduct of shooters. We do know our youngsters get excellent training through Hunter Safety/Education courses. Ricky and his crew do an excellent job shepherding these neophytes through the classes which end with a field day held right here, as are their classes.

What all of us have, as members, is an obligation to be observant when on the grounds and bring any issues to the shooter's attention. Do so in a positive, non-confrontational manner. Our experience is that newer shooters are open to suggestions regarding how they conduct themselves and do understand the need to maintain our long running safe record.

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Improvements and Upgrades Continue

Despite the less than good weather conditions, a group of hardy volunteers have braved the snow and cold to work on the recently approved improvements. These were made possible by astute financial management, and the lead reclamation. By the time the good weather gets here, many of them will be up and running, or completed. In addition to the improvements and machine acquisitions in pro-



Ray the Roofer!

gress, plans are to keep spiffing up the grounds where possible, like replacing the iron pipe railings, which are frankly an eyesore.

To improve our “street appeal” the clubhouse will be dolled up with some cosmetic upgrades and landscaping.

If you have suggestions, or can donate time or materials. Let us know.

Chili Shoot / Basket Shoots / Bucket Shoots

Our annual Chili and Basket Shoots bring crowds and lots of togetherness. Add the Bucket Shoots and you can see how these are excellent ways to keep Old Man Winter at bay. It is no secret that the cold has put a dent in our revenues and dispositions, and the way Karen has chosen to deal with it has sure shown to work! It appears that lots of valuable door prizes, giving all a chance to walk out with some booty have also increased attendance.

The January 4-5 Bucket Shoot used a combo of the Radio Broadcast prizes and

prizes already in place amounted to 38 people walking out with great merchandise. Our thanks to our wonderful sponsors for providing the high-end prizes.

Chili Shoot Winners included:

- Skeet — **Lawrence Pentlar**
- Trap — **Steve Ebsen**
- Sporting Clays — **Jeff Hautamaki**
- 5-Stand — **Joe Baker**

Check the website for all winners.



You think Karen can't wait to get to Tucson?

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Shooting Community Bands Together to Help Zarling Family

Glen Zarling was a Certified Hunter Safety Instructor, DU Member, Board Member of The Menomonee Falls Rod & Gun Club, a volunteer in his community and a long-time Trap shooter. Glen was known to us also as a loyal friend and family man. Many of us also belong to the MFR&G, and have pleasant memories of our association with him. Glen unexpectedly passed away at the young age of 46 on November 8, 2008. On a personal note, he was in the same business as your WGC News editor, and was always available to consult with on matters of mutual interest. Glen is survived by his wife and two young children. To help support the Zarling Family, a 9-pin No-tap bowling tournament, silent auction and fund raiser will be held March 15, 2009 at Sussex Bowl. All proceeds will go to the family. Donations to the silent auction are welcome, as are cash donations. Questions can be directed to the event coordinator, Diane Wendel, at 262-246-6661. Donations can be mailed to Diane at N91W24160 Crooked Bridge Court, Sussex, WI 53089. Checks should be payable to: The Zarling Family Fund. All of us who knew Glen, and those in the sport shooting community who support and care for their own, wish Glen's family all the best as they deal with his loss.

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GET THE LEAD OUT SALE!!

We are having a "Get the Lead Out Sale" this month at the clubhouse. There is a supply of reclaimed lead that we are offering to our members and friends on a first-come, first-served basis. This lead is available at the very reasonable price of \$25.00 for a one-gallon jug which is approximately 50 pounds. To take advantage of this special offer, bring in your empty one-gallon milk jugs, if you have some.

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Super Bowl Shoot as Good as the Game!

With weather helping good scoring and before what some say was as good a game in years, 265 rounds of all venues, plus one a result of some smack talk, were shot. It was one of those days when all was in place to have a great time. Elaine and Terry Neuhaus cooked up the ham she won in the Basket Shoot, lots of others brought different dishes and no one went hungry.

The event that started out as a challenge between Trap and Sporties shooters dragged a whole bunch of sharpshooters out to the 16 yard line with their own or borrowed .410's. (Can you believe an email went out that afternoon touting the fact a Sporties shooter won? Actually two of them tied and a guy named Gerbensky won the shoot-off against a guy named

Lewandowski. Want to take a wild guess who sent the email?)

The turn out, although admittedly aided by nice temperatures and low winds, was well beyond expectations. Thanks to all who helped put the shoot on, especially the kids who pull, score and put up with us.

Congratulations to the winners and all participants for a rousing start to 2009.

Here are your Winners

- 5-Stand 12 Gauge -
Beetle Bailey
- 5-Stand Small Gauge -
Dave Erickson
- Sporting Clays -
Jake Garcia (1st 25)
Matt Dallman (2nd 25)

16 Yard Trap 12 gauge -

Karen Stingl

16 yard Trap .410 -

Pat Gerbensky

Skeet 12 Gauge -

Tim C. Peterson

Skeet Small Gauge -

Dick Schade



Elaine Neuhaus takes a well-deserved break.

John Chojnacki won the grand door prize, a BBQ Grill.



Beetle Bailey and Dave Christopherson

By-law Amendment to be Voted on 3/10/2009

The following has been submitted to the Secretary, in accordance with the requirement that any By-law amendment to be voted on at the annual meeting be submitted to the secretary at least 30 days before said meeting, and the membership be notified of said recommended amendment at least 5 days before the meeting. This notice, on behalf of the Secretary and Executive Board satisfies those requirements:

Article VII, Appointed or Retained Officials

Sec. 2. Accounting, bookkeeping or other professional services. The Executive Committee may engage accounting, bookkeeping, legal or other professionals from time to time to assist in keeping the books and records of the Club or to provide tax or other necessary professional advice to the Treasurer, the Executive Committee or the Board of Directors.

Sec. 3. A Trap Field Captain or Captains may be appointed by the Executive Committee or the manager. He shall have charge of the trapshooting line and shall see to it that targets are thrown according to current trap rules. Any line supervisors at tournaments shall be under his direction.

Sec. 4. A Skeet Field Captain or Captains may be similarly appointed and shall have comparable duties concerned with the skeet fields.

(ED.NOTE—No change was proposed for Section 1.)

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posted here are subject to change
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ODDS AND ENDS

Reminder: Get the Club Championships (Club Shoot) on your calendar. It will be the weekend of May 2-3. The program will be released in plenty of time for you to get your practice in for each event.

The winter Trap Combo continues. There have been Five Rolling Pot winners so far. The last was Karen Stingl who fattened her wallet with a perfect 30 on February 8th.

When Bob Gundrum gives you a final accounting of our finances for 2008, you are going to be pleasantly surprised. In spite of the economic gloom and doom, we held our own due to astute management and watching our expenditures.

The Bucket shoots have been very well received. Karen continues to find ways to keep the interest of shooters of all classes, and for that she deserves your thanks. She also puts in a ton of hours, which is appreciated. Let her know that the next time you step up to the counter.

A special thanks to our advertisers and sponsors whose financial contributions allow us to provide fun door prizes and entertainment for all. Those who chipped in big time for the Broadcast door prizes are Foundations Bank, Hupy and Abraham, LT's Western Towing and The Horton Group.

Finally, we would add to the kudos Bob Gundrum deserves. Having had a chance to work with him and see the absolute dedication he has had to your financial well-being and the amount of time he put in, we second the motion that he is absolutely the best.

NOTE: WGC News Distribution To Change

Beginning with the next edition of The WGC News a charge will be made for copies that are mailed. Email copies, and, of course, the edition posted on the website can be accessed at no cost. If you want to receive a copy by US Mail, the annual cost will be \$15.00. To accomplish this, mail or drop off a check in this amount to/at the clubhouse, indicating you want to be placed on the mailing list. Karen will initiate the process to see that you will continue to be informed. This

begins with the April 2008 Issue.

Many of you belong to organizations that have implemented this change based on a need to control costs, which benefits all members. The Board decided at the January meeting, after much debate, that this move was necessary and prudent. Seventy-five percent of our newsletters are already emailed, and we frankly have a goal to increase that as much as possible. If you have email, and want to not incur the mail cost, call or see Karen when you

are in the clubhouse and ask to receive the newsletter by email.

Keeping our costs in line for these last several years has enabled us to keep your membership and shooting costs at very reasonable levels. Membership dues will not be increased this year as a result of this and many other cost/expense controls implemented under the watchful eye of your treasurer, **Bob Gundrum**, and club management. Thanks for your understanding and support of this change.



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