



SHERWOOD PARK FISH AND GAME ASSOCIATION

APRIL—MAY 2014

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It's April 14th and 9°C as I sit at my computer writing up this report. Spring is slowly coming but open water and fishing is still a long way off. I have already heard of some bears out of hibernation so that will make the

bear hunters happy and getting ready to go.

The AFGA annual conference was held in Fort MacMurray on February 20th to 22nd and our club had lots of representation at it. All resolutions that SPFGA passed at the club level were also passed at the provincial level. Now it will be a matter of waiting to see how the government proceeds with our input. It is never a fast process but often times an effective one. Jason Caswell (provincial game bird biologist) was there and he reiterated that there would be an increase on the Snow goose limit to 50 birds per day and there will also be a spring hunt in 2015 for Snow and Ross geese. The North American biologists are obviously very worried about the damage being done to the Arctic nesting grounds by this extreme overabundance of white geese. So get out there and do your part, have lots of fun, and get some good eating geese.

The Zone 5 spring meeting was held at our clubhouse on April 12th with AFGA president Gordon Poirier in attendance along with representatives from many of the affiliated clubs in the North East portion of Alberta. Some highlights included in the meeting were all of the environment representation we have through Andy Boyd on various topics from regional land management to the AFGA stance on the Northern Gateway Pipeline proposal (page 15). Also noted among many other things was the increase of walleye lakes that now have tags before fish can be kept. Make sure you renew your Alberta RELM internet connection as ESRD has switched suppliers on that and we all must reregister and

that's where you apply for the tags. On that note it was brought up that the new system is having difficulties and that it has been shut down sporadically. We were told that it is taking time and please have patience until all the wrinkles are ironed out.

There was a recommendation to the Government of Alberta brought forth by the club's executive and then on to the Zone 5 meeting (see page 4) that you should be aware of. Recommendations are usually made with reference to small areas rather than at the provincial scale and are used for expediency. In this case it was for expediency to get to the upcoming AGMAG meeting to be held shortly. The recommendation involves the problem that resident waterfowl hunters are having in gaining access/permission to hunt on private lands in areas where there is an over abundance of waterfowl outfitters and guides. In some areas of Alberta, most notably east-central WMUs in the parkland areas and the Peace River area, it has been drawn to the attention of AFGA and ESRD that outfitters are tying up all waterfowl shoots by unethical means and at times illegal means such as rumored leasing of land. This has left resident hunters without any possibility of getting a shoot on lands they once accessed. The recommendation calls for ESRD to do something about this such as limiting the number of days outfitters can operate, limiting the number of days that a season may have for non-resident aliens, or any other means to ensure that we resident hunters aren't cut out of our sport for the benefit of a few outfitters pay cheques. If you have been having the same frustrations with the outfitters we told that the best way to get this rectified is to write your local MLA and to Robin Campbell - Minister of Environment, his email address is west.yellowhead@assembly.ab.ca. The more complaints we send in the better chance that there will be a resolution. Your email has as much effect as does a club email so please write.

Continued next page

President's Report continued.....

The awards night dinner went off very well and all in attendance had a great time and walked off with some great prizes and silent auction items. It was great to see lots of familiar faces there but we would be extra delighted in seeing more of our members come out to the event. It isn't solely for those of the club members that were fortunate in taking the largest fish, heaviest bird, or biggest set of antlers. It is a time to enjoy the company of our fellow members. I would like to personally thank all the volunteer members who donated their time and effort in making this a great event. A big congratulation to the fortunate winners of their category. Hope to see more of you at next year's on the last Saturday in March.

A little more on the awards night. There is always a rotating video of photos sent in by the members and organized by Dean Bromberger and shown throughout the night's activities. Dean encourages us all to take more pictures of any aspect of the outdoors, hunting, fishing, shooting and submit them so that we can all enjoy them. Scenery, wildlife, "grip and grin" are all encouraged. Contact myself or Dean on where to send them. We also had a dramatic drop in entries this year and that was the case with other organizations I have been in contact with. I think the past few hard winters have decimated our deer herds and antelope herds as well. Soooo if you catch a good fish, shoot a long tailed pheasant, big duck, large goose, or get fortunate and get a large antlered or horned specimen of the cloven hoofed ungulates, or a big bear, get them weighed or scored and enter them for next year.

I personally (with the help of my understanding and long suffering wife) went through all 907 returned questionnaires about activities at the club's property. A big thanks to the 25% of the members that took the time to fill in the forms and return them. I assume that the 75% that didn't respond are totally happy with the club and willing to let the executive members make all decisions for them. The compilation of the statistics and a summary of activities on the ranges from 2012 are on page 8 that our first vice president Gary Chambers compiled with suggestions on how to use that knowledge. Thanks again Gary!

I would like to address a few of the most repeated comments from you, the members:

Guest Privileges -Allowing of guests to come with members and shoot for a daily fee or a special guest membership.

Unfortunately for all of us with relatives, friends, and anyone of importance to us, this activity isn't allowed because of our insurance policies. The insurance for this would require a full time qualified range officer on each of the six ranges at any time a guest was present -- otherwise the club would be held liable for any mishap. Hiring six people for every hour our ranges are open would result in your fees going up at least ten times the amount they are now.

Extending the ranges outwards to 900 metres. This could be possible to about 600 metres but once again the cost is prohibitive at the present time. Most members are content with the 300 metre length for hunting ranges and the comparatively few members that would use that distance wouldn't be supported monetarily by the rest of the members.

Volunteering -- Of the 907 responses received 761 replied that they never volunteered. This percentage of volunteers who did is probably skewed way too high from what I see as the 3,100 non responders probably did not volunteer either. I am incredibly thankful to those volunteers that donate their time but wonder where the rest of you think all the great things you have at the ranges come from? Santa doesn't exist for anyone over six years of age.

How to Volunteer -The comments on volunteers usually repeated that some of you would like to volunteer but how do I go about that? Phone any of the exec members but especially me and I will find a spot for you. Spots for exec members and volunteers who can only help out once a year are available.

I just finished talking to the Gunnebo crew that are installing our new surveillance cameras and they are all installed, working, and recording what happens on the ranges. This will greatly help with dealing with any infractions that are reported or done and not reported. The electric gate, key pad and proximity card/computer recorded access cards are coming and all will hopefully be finished by August. We will keep you aware of updates as they happen.

The new kitchen in the clubhouse is up and functional if not quite complete on the past weekend and all looks great. Especially happy are Elaine and her "galley slave" Tassi Xenos, our forever cherished cooking duo! If you use the clubhouse and kitchen please make sure you leave it cleaner than you found it and put back anything you use. We are not allowing the members to use the new dishwasher so please do your dishes by hand.continued next page

2014 EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT

PAT HARRIS

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

GARY CHAMBERS

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

To be announced

PAST PRESIDENT

RICHARD ROTHWELL

TREASURER

ROBERT LOEWEN

SECRETARY

LEE HORNE

MEMBERSHIP

DEANNA LOEWEN

NEWSLETTER

RICHARD ROTHWELL

ARCHERY

GORDON KERR

BIG GAME

DOUG BURTON

BLACKPOWDER

TASSI XENOS

CONSERVATION

FRANK LEE

FACILITIES COORDINATOR

(TEMPORARY)

DEANNA LOEWEN

President's report continued.....

Last thing to note in this marathon of writing and reading for you: steel core/magnetic ammunition is no longer allowed on any range under 100 metres. This definitely includes the handgun range and the 25 metre sighting in target on the big bore range. We have had a tremendous amount of problem with the users of this ammunition not picking up their casings which results in treacherous footing for all. The continuation of this neglect to pick up these casings will result in the banning of all steel core/magnetic ammunition on our ranges as has been the case in a majority of ranges in Alberta. Keep it clean guys!

That's all I will report but there was way more. If you have any questions or suggestions feel free to contact me or the chair of whatever aspect of the club you are wondering about. Until later, tight lines and straight shooting. *Pat Harris.*

Recipe for Corned Beef and Jigs Supper—From Dennis Ewanyk

Corned Beef.

At this time of year hunters are going through their deep-freeze and finding left-over roasts that are old or they do not know what to do with. This recipe solves your problem. This corned beef is equal to that of the corned beef that you will buy in a deli. You can eat corned beef in the traditional way, but I have added a recipe that I have used to entertain people, and I have never received a negative comment. I know this meal as "Jigs Supper" and I think it originated in Newfoundland. Let's start with making the corned beef. You can buy all of the ingredients at the local spice barn or other stores that sell spices in bulk. Halford Hides also handles all of these spices and you can order them online or by visiting their outlet. You will need a large plastic tub or stone crock. This recipe can handle 25 pounds of roasts, but you do not need that much meat to use the recipe just add what you have and don't be shy.

5 quarts cold water.

8 ounces rock salt (non-iodized salt)

3 ounces Prague powder

3 ounces powdered dextrose.

Huge handful of pickling spice.

Place the water in your container, then add all of the above ingredients. Stir the mixture to dissolve the salt. Add your roasts and ensure that they are covered with water. Place the container in a refrigerator for 3 to 4 days (3 to 4 inches of meat thickness, 4 to 5 days; 4 to 5 inches thick, 5 to 6 days, etc.)

When this process is complete, you can bag the meat in plastic bags, but do not wash the spices off. Capture the spices with the meat upon bagging. You can freeze these pieces for up to 8 months.

Jigs Supper.

Place your corned beef into a very large pot and cover with water. Add cloves of garlic, a few peppercorns, cover and allow the meat to gently boil/bubble for approximately 2 to 3 hours. Then add turnips, carrots, potatoes, onions, shredded cabbage, and cobs of corn. Bring to a boil, reduce heat to a simmer for one hour or so until the vegetables are done. Serve with butter, slice the corned beef and serve with an assortment of mustards (hot mustards, English mustard, honey mustard, course deli mustard etc.). This corned beef can also be cooked, then thinly sliced for Ruben sandwiches or cubed for a corned beef hash breakfast.

Wildlife Recommendation
Submitted by Zone 5
Drafted by Sherwood Park Fish and Game Association

Waterfowl Outfitting Restrictions

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the Alberta Fish and Game Association request that Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development increase resident waterfowl hunting opportunity by restricting the number of days that an outfitter may operate, reducing non-resident alien seasons, or other means.

BRIEF: In the last 15 years the amount of pressure on Alberta's waterfowl resource by waterfowl outfitters has increased dramatically. This increase has led to unfair and intolerable competition with resident waterfowl hunters --- especially young, inexperienced want-to-be hunters. The waterfowl outfitters are managing to get sole access to private lands by various means including virtual leasing of land access from landowners. This problem has resulted in resident hunters in the East Central area of the province (most notably WMUs 204,206,226,230,240,242) and the Peace River country not being able to get permission to hunt public birds on private lands. A reduction of the huntable days for outfitters to operate, or reducing non-resident alien seasons would be the first step in alleviating this problem.

Range Orientation Sessions ..for New Members in 2014 are on the last Sunday or each month at 10:00 AM at the shooting ranges. Contact Pat Harris to confirm attendance at



Thank You Jordan Sharpe

Advertisements are not normally carried in our newsletter. This ad is an exception to acknowledge the support of club member Jordan Sharpe and his company AAA-Signs Inc. Jordan's company has provided SPFGA with professionally designed signage at the Shooting Ranges, Campground and at the Entrance. Jordan's generous contributions have saved us thousands of dollars. Thank you, Jordan! Your help is very much appreciated.

2014 EXECUTIVE

FISH

VERN McINTOSH

HANDGUN

GARY CHAMBERS

SHOTGUN

LEE SIMPKIN

MERCHANDISING/SHOW

DION PARK

POLITICAL ACTION/ENVIRONMENT

ANDY BOYD

RIFLE

PETE BEAUVAIS

SERVICE AWARDS-CLUB & PROVINCE

CASINO

STEVE WITIUK

SONG BIRDS

RON DURSTLING

SPECIAL PROJECTS

GAETAN RICHARD

TELEPHONE

BILL MISSEN

TROPHY COMMITTEE

RICHARD ROTHWELL

WATERFOWL

JIM ROMANIUK

WEB SITE

DEANNA LOEWEN

YOUTH COORDINATOR

DANIEL VERHOEFF

RANGE SUPERVISOR

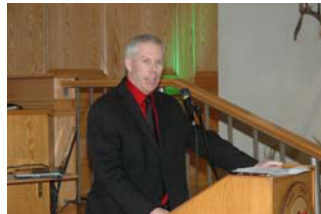
JIM CLARKE

AWARDS NIGHT BANQUET

The annual awards night banquet and trophy presentations went off very well this year. Attendance was 140-150 persons. Jack Graham filled in as Master of Ceremonies for Ray Mackoweicki who injured his Achilles tendon playing hockey. I told Ray to save his good jokes for next year. The service and food prepared by the German Canadian Cultural Centre was excellent. The Silent Auction and raffles were well attended. Eugene Bromberger's cedar built bird houses and feeder were a real hit. Dale Atherly won the draw for the 270 Savage with scope. He must have a strong rabbit's foot as he won the rifle draw two years ago.

Todd Zimmerling, President of the Alberta Conservation Association, was our guest speaker. He gave an

excellent presentation on some of the things that the ACA is doing and the importance of getting youth out on the land and into the forests for hunting and fishing. Thanks very much Todd.



Jack Graham the Master of Ceremonies did an excellent job for award presentations and as usual kept the audience very attentive with his special brand of humour.



The award for Master Hunter this year went to Craig Temple for his Bighorn Sheep that scored 166 5/8. Results for all awards are listed on the following page.

Merits Awards were granted to Lyall Kortzman, Steve Witiuk, Ron Durstling and Deanna Loewen for exceptional service to SPFGA. A Life Membership was awarded to Richard Rothwell for outstanding long term contributions to the SPFGA. The Charlie Roberts Award was given to Vern Patterson for his long term contributions to SPFGA and AFGA and in particular for the construction of the Norm Honish Memorial cairn last summer.

If you did not attend the Awards Banquet you missed out on a night of good fun. Remember it is usually on the last Saturday of April each year. Make of point of attending next year, you won't regret it.

2014 TROPHY SCORING RESULTS					
BIG GAME	SPONSORS	WINNER	WINNING ENTRY	MIN/PRO VRECORD	WINNING %
Whitetail Deer	Butcher Block & Smoke House	Pat Harris	163 1/8	160	101.95%
Non-typical Whitetail Deer	Widynowski's Sausage House Ltd.	Eugene Bromberger	166 5/8	185	90.07%
Mule Deer	Lee Horne	Stephane Titley	153 4/8	180	85.28%
Non-typical Mule Deer	Canuck Industrial Sales (1982) Ltd.	Dale Atherly	167 4/8	215	77.91%
American Elk	W & R Foundation Specialists Ltd	Dwayne Zuzak	239 1/8	360	66.42%
Canada Moose	Southtown Auto & Industrial Supply	Rob Billington	192 3/8	185	103.99%
Pronghorn Antelope	Kerr Interior Systems Ltd	Zed Freudenreich	73	80	91.25%
Bighorn Sheep	Home Hardware Sherwood Park	Craig Temple	166 5/8	175	95.21%
Black Bear	D Vales Ltd.	Luc Preteau	18 9/16	20	92.81%
County of Strathcona Big Game	Slager Outdoors	Stephane Titley	127 4/8	125	102.00%
Largest Big Game Archery	Trophy Book Archery Ltd.	Craig Temple	166 5/8	140	119.02%
Largest Big Game Black Powder	Edmonton House Brigade	Brian J. Maciej	117 6/8	130	90.58%
Master Hunter	D Valves Ltd.	Craig Temple	166 5/8	140	119.02%
BIRDS	SPONSORS	WINNER	SCORE		
Goose	A-1 Tire & Battery & Service Ltd	Pat Harris	13 4/16 lbs	na	na
Duck	Milarm Co. Ltd.	Pat Harris	3 3/16 lbs	na	na
Pheasant	Guardian	Dwayne Zuzak	42 inches	na	na
FISH	SPONSORS	WINNER	SCORE		
Cold Water Fish	The Fishin Hole	Uldis Silins	4 3/16	20 4/16	23.77%
There were 3 no entries for the Strathcona Big Game Junior – Under 18 years (Sponsor – Slager Outdoors), Warm Water Fish (Sponsor Dean MacKenzie Family), Fish and Junior Fish under 12 (Sponsor Gordon and Marilynn Kerr) and 13-17 years (SPFGA). We thank these sponsors for their support					

SPFGA 2014 WINNING TROPHIES



Big Horn Sheep—Archery—Master Hunter



Non-Typical Whitetail



Mule Deer



Non-Typical Mule Deer



Canada Moose



Black Bear



Cold Water Fish Rainbow Trout



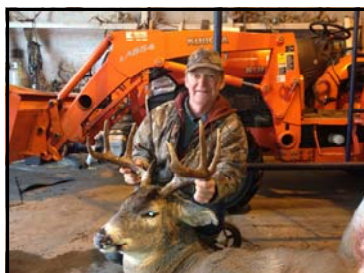
Prong Horn Antelope



Strathcona County –Whitetail Deer



American Elk



Black Powder—Whitetail



Pheasant



Whitetail Deer

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY AND RANGE USE

In an effort to gain a better understanding of how the members of SPFGA are using our facilities and what improvements they would like to see, we recently put some energy into compiling some data and comments regarding the Ketchamoot property.

- Firstly, association President Pat Harris solicited member input in a survey that was sent out with all the membership renewal notices at the end of 2013.
- Secondly, association 1st Vice President Gary Chambers went through the sign in log books for the entire 2012 year. 2012 was a significant year because it was the last year that memberships were sold at multiple retailers, with most people being unaware that a membership cap was imminent. For this reason, 2012 gives us a nice snapshot of how the range was used in the pre-cap days, and we will use that as a baseline in future years to see how the implementation of the cap has affected our users. Visits by Day in 2012

Firstly, looking at the 2012 log books we see that the range was used on at least 353 of the 366 days. The days with no usage were all in the dead of winter, and probably represent days when it was too cold for even the hardest of shooters. On the other hand, take a look at the busiest days (Table 1), and see what they have in common. Clearly, Sundays during pleasant weather are the most popular shooting days, especially those in late spring. I also noted that people tend to shoot in the mornings, with over 75% of shooters signing in before the half way point (2pm) of a typical busy Sunday. So, if Sundays are the busiest, when should you shoot to avoid the crowds?

No surprise that Tuesdays and Wednesdays are the slowest days on the ranges, but what might be a surprise is just how much less range traffic there is on Saturdays vs. Sundays (1733 vs 2452-Table 2). So even if you are strictly a weekend shooter, there are choices you can make to ensure there is room for your targets when you come to the range.

On average the number of visits per member was 2.2 in 2012, but a few people were quite the powder hogs. I tip my hat to our Top 20 members in terms of visits made in 2012 (Table 3), who clearly have their priorities correct.

Based on these numbers we suggest that members make more use of the available facilities. Come out and camp for the weekend, use the clubhouse, and do your shooting during the day. The hiking trails are groomed and easy to hike on and wildlife in the area is abundant. The fish pond will be stocked again this spring after ice off so bring the youngsters and teach them how to fish, catch and release only. The upgraded archery range is also another option for members.

Pat Harris President

Gary Chambers 1st Vice President/Handgun Chair

TABLE 1

10 Busiest Dates in 2012

Date	Day	# Visits
June 17	Sunday	104
April 29	Sunday	102
May 20	Sunday	96
August 12	Sunday	94
Sept 23	Sunday	91
August 26	Sunday	89
April 22	Sunday	88
March 25	Sunday	84
May 27	Sunday	81
June 3	Sunday	81

TABLE 2

Visits by Day in 2012

Monday	1170
Tuesday	741
Wednesday	748
Thursday	865
Friday	1187
Saturday	1733
Sunday	2452
Total Visits	8896

TABLE 3

2012 Top Members

	Sign In ID	Total Visits in 2012
1	444	95
2	3855	66
3	720	60
4	1251	55
5	42	47
6	1009	46
7	91	37
8	705	35
9	786	33
10	94	32
11	1589	32
12	93	31
13	539	30
14	1961	29
15	313	28
16	2047	28
17	642	27
18	1500	27
19	1828	27
20	540	26

CRITERIA AND NOMINATION FOR THE NORMAN HONNISH MEMORIAL

Steve Witiuk—Awards Chair



The Norm Honish Memorial was established to recognize and remember deceased members for outstanding contributions to the Sherwood Park Fish and Game Association. Norman Honish for whom this award is named is a worthy example of sustained and long-time contributions to the Sherwood Park Fish and Game Association made by past members. Recipients of this award will have their names placed on a brass plate on the cairn recently constructed adjacent to the clubhouse.

Norm was a “man for all seasons” who served as a member of the Executive and President of the SPFGA and volunteered his time and skills in the operation of SPFGA, the construction of shooting ranges, campground, club house, road and range maintenance and upgrades, clearing and maintenance of fence lines at our Ketchamoot Recreation Facility. He also helped out at casinos, trade shows and sat on planning committees. Norm continued to help the Association in later years when he stepped down from his Presidency and the Executive. Norm was a life member of SPFGA and received the Charlie Roberts award three times for his outstanding contributions to the SPFGA.

Recipients of this award will normally have been a long term member of the SPFGA (>15-20 years). However members with less than 15-20 years membership will also be considered for this award. Recipients of this award will have made significant contributions in time and energy to the SPFGA. Examples of such are one or more of the following:

- Member of the SPFGA Executive
- President of SPFGA
- Sustained volunteer work in Association programs and activities
- Serving on SPFGA committees (e.g. Awards Night, Awards Committee)
- Organizing, planning, participating in SPFGA activities (shooting events, tree planting, range improvements, conservation (AFGA stewardship programs), casinos
- Serving on external committees (Cumulative Effects Management Association, Narrow Lake Conservation Centre)
- Donation of materials and equipment to maintain or improve facilities at the Ketchamoot Creek Recreation Facility (Annual Spring Clean-Up, Fence line clearing and maintenance)
- Representing SPFGA at public hearings and deliberations

Nominations for this award can be made at any time in writing to the Chair of the Awards Committee for consideration. The members of the Award Committee will judge the validity of an application and must be in full agreement before presenting it to the Executive. Composition of the Awards Committee is two members from the Executive and two life members to provide historical input of member participation.

Approval of an application requires a quorum of the Executive in meeting with 75% or more voting in favor. Announcement of awards will be made at the Annual Awards Banquet and in the SPFGA Newsletter following approval.

Following the announcement of awards a ceremony and luncheon at the Ketchmoot Recreation Facility, with family members and friends in attendance, will be held in spring/summer to place member names to the monument.

Steve Witiuk ..

HANDGUN RANGE REPORT

Gary Chambers—Handgun Chair

Thanks to our President Pat Harris, a range use survey was included with membership renewals at the end of 2013 and has been compiled. This generated many comments about the handgun range. In fact, given that 68% of respondents reporting used the handgun range sometime in 2013, I suspect that hand gunners were among the most vocal group within the SPFGA.

The most popular comment was that additional reactive targets would be desirable. I agree wholeheartedly, the big issue is finding a ricochet proof design. At short range, most any metal construction is out of the question, which leaves the question, what do we make it out of? I intend to do some thinking about this in the near future, and would welcome any suggestions. Requests for a longer range are also understandable, I have more than one pistol that feels significantly underutilized at 25m. Maybe we will be able to improve on this in the future.

A number of people requested that some kind of league shooting be brought in, with the action games (IPSC/IDPA) getting the most suggestions. I think it's safe to say the executive as a whole is open to that, so let those who want it, step forward and organize! I'll find you a range slot, and might even join a time or two, but I really don't have the time or the knowledge to become the key person for such a league. If you're into it, drop me your contact info that I can share with everyone else who is into

it. They lack the formality of a proper league, but please remember that I do host an eclectic selection of handgun shoots the second Sunday of each month, starting in May. The schedule for this year is listed below.

As a final note for this edition of the newsletter, I will gently remind everyone that the SPFGA is in search of a new volunteer for Handgun Chair, as I am vacating the position to move up the ladder. Anyone interested in giving some time to the club in this way can contact me or any other executive member. I formalized the job description, and it is on the following page. Maybe all those points are a bit intimidating, but just to put your mind at ease know that I typically attend 8 meetings a year, host or co-host 7 events over a summer, write four newsletter articles, and handle at most a half dozen inquiries a month, mostly by email. It really is a rather gentle introduction to the executive.

See you on the range.

Gary Chambers



2014 HANDGUN EVENT SCHEDULE

May 11- Bulls eye	August 10- Action Pistol
June 8- Rimfire Fun	September 14- Bulls eye
July 13- Silhouette	October 12- Rimfire Silhouette

All event dates are Sundays

** Shooting starts at 10am ***

Sherwood Park Fish & Game Association

Handgun Chair, Purpose and Expectations

The purpose of this position is to provide a focus for planning and delivery of handgun shooting activities within the Association.

The duties of the Handgun Chair include:

Attend executive meetings and report to the executive any developments relating to the handgun range and use of handguns at the club.

Become informed of any issues before the executive that may impact handgun users at the club and vote on those issues in the best interests of handgun owners; and communicate necessary information to handgun users.

Determine any necessary expenses for handgun activities at the club and come to the executive to request the money be figured into the annual budget.

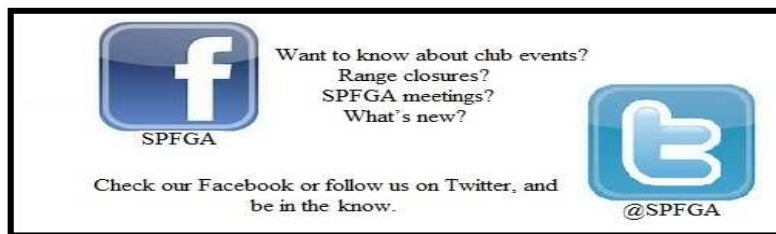
Attend the handgun range regularly and contact maintenance personnel and/or the executive if you identify any required repairs or possibility for upgrades.

Communicate with club members who use or are interested in using handguns at the club to let them know of events or conditions that may impact their use of the range and to discover their ideas on how the facilities may be improved.

Help coordinate and publicize events that involve handguns at the SPFGA ranges.

Answer queries from current and potential members regarding the range facilities, rules for use, and many other questions related to handguns and the SPFGA in general.

Gary Chambers



Big Game Chair Report from the 85th Annual Alberta Fish and Game Conference Fort McMurray, February 20-22, 2014

Doug Burton—Big Game Chair

This was the first time that I have attended an Alberta Fish and Game Annual Conference. The conference was well run and very informative and I would recommend that people attend a future conference if the opportunity presents itself. I was impressed by the amount of information presented by the various government speakers on subjects ranging from habitat and environment issues through fishing and hunting concerns to threats from invasive species.

As I said there was a great deal of information from people who obviously work at it full time. If possible we will try and get copies of the presentation for our general meetings or better yet get some of these people to attend and to present their information. Until then I have attached a short summary of the notes that I took concerning big game issues as presented at the conference.

Hunting Stats

The computerized licensing system allows for the collection of data and there was some interesting stats presented with respect to resident/non resident hunters.

The government target is for 90% of big game to be taken by resident hunters with 85% taken by rifle and 15% by archery hunters. For the period 2008 to 2012 resident hunters took 92% of big game harvested with non residents taking 6% of trophy antelope, 8.7% of antlered mule deer and 7% of antlered moose. Included in these totals are animals taken by outfitters that were reported as 5% of trophy antelope, 7% of antlered mule deer and 5% of antlered moose. These data can help make better decisions on game management and I would encourage everyone to fill in the game harvest survey on line.

Chronic Wasting Disease

So far there have been 39 animals from 2013 that tested positive for CWD with 500 more heads to be tested. Prevalence of the disease is low, app. 1% but it is spreading along specific watersheds affecting mainly older bucks. The other common feature that quite often affected deer are related to each other.

Suggested treatment to slow the disease includes reducing deer density by removing adult males and eliminating some social groups of animals. Hunter harvest can do some of that and the concept may be tested in the future.

Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan

The 5 year recovery plan expired in 2013 and stakeholder meetings to help determine the next steps will begin in March 2014.

One of the stumbling blocks is simply how many grizzly bears are there in Alberta and are they resident bears or part of a much larger southern Rocky Mountain population. DNA studies are providing some of the an-

swers. Barb wire is being attached to trees that bears are using for scratching posts and hair samples are collected. DNA analysis is used to identify and count individual bears and helps to determine if they are resident bears or not. This information may help with the discussion but there is no indication either if or when a grizzly bear hunt will be allowed in Alberta.

Hunting Regulations: 2014 and Beyond

Approximately \$ 800, 000 was spent for big game aerial counts this winter but so far there is little information available. We will be following up to try and get that information for you.

We were told that there will be only minor changes in regulations for 2014. There may be some increased opportunities for cow elk as they are becoming more of a nuisance in some of the agricultural areas.

The regulations may be changed to define what equipment may be used for hunting rather than specifying what is not allowed. It appears that the list of what you cannot use can't keep up with people's imaginations and ingenuity.

Options are being identified to determine what to do for those draws that don't lend themselves to a priority system. For example in WMU 437 the wait for a sheep draw exceeds 400 years and the wait time for trophy antelope is app. 25 years. Despite this some people have been drawn several times in succession. A motion was passed at the conference stating that these draws should be once in a lifetime and this will be passed on to Alberta environment and Sustainable Resource Development.

There is also a good case being made for a spring snow goose season and increased limits to try and control the population of these birds. As well there is every reason to believe that a Sand Hill crane hunt is sustainable in eastern Alberta. Despite that data there was no indication of if or when those changes will take effect.

Over twenty wildlife resolutions were presented at the conference and all but one went as we had voted at our January General Meeting. The AF-GA position is that in cases where mule deer are on a draw and archery hunters are taking more than 15% of the deer then you will have to apply to for a special license regardless of whether you are hunting with a rifle or a bow. That is the same as it was done in the 2013 season.



Doug Burton

Sherwood Park Fish and Game Association

Memberships

Sherwood Park Fish and Game Association (SPFGA) consists of a variety of age groups, special interest groups, target shooters, hunters, fishermen/women, bird watchers, conservationists, etc. Members can enjoy the facilities and nature, can assist with conservation efforts and can share their interests with other members. Members can hike, camp, participate in archery, and use firearms (rifles, handguns, shotguns, black powder guns). Youth under 18 years of age can learn how to fish in the stocked fish pond.

The Club WILL NOT tolerate any behavior that compromises the safety of our members, neighbors or the general public. Members must adhere to general rules regarding firearms and ammunition. Range rules are posted at shooting ranges and on the website (www.spfga.org). Members must observe posted shooting times.

SPFGA is affiliated with the Alberta Fish and Game Association (AFGA). Part of your membership fees are paid to AFGA. These fees provide members with Accidental Death and Dismemberment coverage from 2 insurers (contact the AFGA office for details), \$5,000,000 Personal Liability insurance, the Outdoor Edge Magazine, discounts at various businesses, and a combined voice on matters of common interest to government and other groups.

Membership Classifications

Regular Membership - No access to Shooting ranges.

Range Membership - Full access to all facilities including shooting ranges.

Family Regular Membership - one regular member, a spouse/partner and their dependent children under 18 years of age with no access to shooting ranges.

Family Range Membership - one range member, a spouse/partner and their dependent children under 18 years of age with access to shooting ranges. Youth Membership is open to all young people under 18 years of age.

Note: All youth under 18 years of age must be supervised by an adult.

Family Range Memberships and Family Regular Memberships DO NOT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Parents, brothers, sisters, grandparents, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and in-law relations.

Children who live at home but are over 18 years of age.

Other family members e.g. siblings/parents who reside with a member.

Effective October 2013, all renewing members must submit a Membership Application Form to the Membership Chair as follows:

Mail a completed application with appropriate payment to the Club. Mailing address is: SPFGA, PO Box 3098, Sherwood Park, AB T8H 2T1

Email the Membership Chair at: membership@spfga.org

At General Meetings

2014 Membership Fees are as follows:

ONLY REGULAR, FAMILY REGULAR AND YOUTH MEMBERSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE FOR 2014.

Range.....\$110

Family Range..... \$150

Regular..... \$55

Family Regular..... \$75

Youth.....\$20

Replacement of lost cards: \$20 per individual membership and \$50 for an entire family. Contact the Membership Chair for replacement of lost cards. Replacement fee for lost access card: \$20.



Deanna Loewen Membership Chair

SHERWOOD PARK FISH AND GAME ASSOCIATION

PO Box 3098, SHERWOOD PARK, AB T8H 2T1

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

2014 Membership Fees

- ☐ Regular \$ 55 Member benefits for one person. Does not include range privileges.
- ☐ Family Regular \$ 75 Member benefits include spouse/partner, dependent children under 18 years of age. Does not include range privileges.
- ☐ Range \$ 110 Member benefits for one person. Includes all privileges and use of shooting ranges.
- ☐ Family Range \$ 150 Member benefits include spouse/partner, their dependent children under 18 years of age. Includes all privileges and use of shooting ranges. Children under 18 years of age must be supervised by a Range Member.
- ☐ Youth \$ 20 Open to any young person under 18 years of age. Children under 18 years of age must be supervised by a Range Member.
- ☐ \$ 10 ACCESS CARD FEE (One time charge)
- ☐ Lost Card A replacement fee for lost cards is \$20 per individual memberships and up to \$50 for an entire family.

- ☐ NEW
☐ RENEWAL
☐ MALE
☐ FEMALE

BIRTH YEAR

Name

Mailing Address

Town/City Province Postal Code

Phone (.....) Email

Note: Email address is used only for emailing Club information such as notices of Meetings. NO SPAM advertising will result.

PAYMENT METHOD

☐ ☐ CHEQUE, MONEY ORDER OR BANK DRAFT

☐ VISA Name On Card

☐ MASTERCARD Card No.

☐ AMEX Expiry Date Security Code Signature

Amount Enclosed

\$

NAMES AND INFORMATION ABOUT ALL DEPENDANTS LISTED UNDER FAMILY REGULAR AND FAMILY RANGE MEMBERSHIPS

This information is essential for dependant members under Family Memberships to qualify for Club Insurance.

Name	Birth Year	Relationship
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

Note : Our membership cap was reached in late February. Range and Family Range memberships are no longer available for purchase. Regular, Family Regular and Youth Memberships can still be purchased.

SPRING AFGA ZONE 5 MEETING—ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

REPORT ANDY BOYD—Political Action-Environment Chair

1) Land Use Framework- As work on implementing the Lower Athabasca and South Saskatchewan Plans progresses, the North Saskatchewan Regional Plan has finally started with the call for nominations for the Regional Advisory Council. It is critical that the AFGA puts in a nomination. I suggested Doug Butler would be an excellent choice but Doug countered by recommending I could fill that role. We will work this out before the April 23 deadline and get a nomination in, although the final decision on the RAC membership will be made by the G of A. Whether we have a representative on the Council or not we will actively participate in the NSRP process to ensure F&G's interests are accommodated in the Plan.

2) Northern Gateway Pipeline Project- Now that the Joint Review Panel has announced its' decision in favor of the project the next step will be Federal Cabinet's endorsement which is expected in June. There are several court challenges to the JRP's decision brought by environmental and Native groups in BC, which have the possibility of delaying the project, but I expect these appeals will be fast tracked.

If the go ahead is given AFGA will be active in ensuring all practical efforts are made to protect fishery resources along the right of way. I continue to represent AFGA on the Northern Gateway Regional Advisory Council for North Central Alberta.

3) Cumulative Environmental Management Association- The future of CEMA, the Ft McMurray based environmental management group, remains uncertain in light of the start-up of the Alberta Environmental Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting Agency (AEMERA) with its' mandate to manage environmental issues province wide. For 2014 at least CEMA's work will continue and the Lands Working Group, on which I represent AFGA, has been given approval to move ahead on three projects;

- Draft the final report to the CEMA Board of the Stony Mountain 800 Linear Footprint Management Plan which was completed last year.

Using Natural Disturbance Templates" project which will study the use of forest harvest techniques to mitigate the impact of linear disturbances, i.e. using logging cutblock layout to "erase" cut lines and temporary roads.

- Modeling and mapping the distribution and quality of aboriginally important, and wildlife supporting fruiting shrubs" project. This work has been identified as contributing directly to the JOSM and AEMERA initiatives.
- AFGA is well represented in CEMA with Richard Roth-

well serving on the Water Working Group, and Ft McMurray F&G, AFGA Zone 5, and AFGA, represented by CEMA Board member Ray Makowecki, all members of CEMA.

4) AEMERA / JOSM programs - AEMERA (Alberta Environmental Monitoring and Reporting Agency) is now up and running as JOSM (Joint Canada—Alberta Implementation Plan for Oils Sands Monitoring) nears the end of its' 3 year mandate. Part of the JOSM initiative includes Component Advisory Committees (CACs) to involve stakeholders. I have been authorized by AFGA to serve on the "Biodiversity Stakeholder Committee" which has also been referred to as the "Habitat Committee" and the "Terrestrial Biodiversity and Habitat Disturbance Component" in some JOSM and AEMERA documents, it's all a bit confusing. Meetings of this Committee have been infrequent, the next meeting date is now being confirmed for mid-May. It appears the work of JOSM/AEMERA is moving ahead within government circles with the CACs playing only a role of receiving occasional updates with little real opportunity for influencing the process.

I will give AEMERA the benefit of the doubt in this early development phase. It is important for the bio-monitoring component to become functional ASAP to counterbalance the "efficiency" energy developers now enjoy with Alberta's new single desk regulator.

5) Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan- To help determine the next steps after the 5 year term of the 2008 Grizzly Bear Recovery Plan, I attended a two day workshop March 25-26. Fish and Wildlife is developing an updated Management Plan which was the focus of the Workshop. The goal is to have a complete draft ready for general public discussion by the end of the summer. In the mean time participants at the workshop are providing input to help develop the draft plan. A few interesting points from the workshop include:

- comment from F&W that the "minimum 1000 independent bears" number, which resulted in the listing of grizzlies as "threatened", is not a realistic number. A healthy, self-supporting population can be achieved at a lower number.
- the target populations for each BMA still have not been established.
- follow up population surveys, necessary to assess population trends, have not been undertaken. In the one zone (6, south of highway 3) where we do have more recent population estimates, the numbers are coming in much higher than the base population estimates used in the 2008 Plan (*..continued next page*)

Spring AFGA Zone 5 Meeting.....continued

- rather than using “open routes” to determine access management thresholds , it looks like “open roads” will be used instead. This is a much more practical and realistic approach.
- population indicators, and other measures of recovery status, will be done on a BMA (Bear Management Area) by BMA basis rather than at the provincial level.

As a workshop participant I will continue to suggest improvements to the early draft over the next few weeks, and when the complete draft is available (possibly by our fall zone meeting) it will be widely distributed for comment.

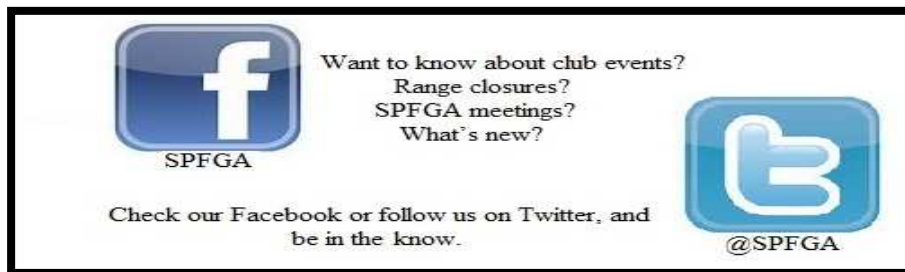
6) AlPac- The AlPac Landscape Advisory Committee (LAG) continues to meet quarterly, overall things have been quite lately. Our main focus is redrafting the Forest Management Plan but, due to the likelihood that the Biodiversity Framework, being developed as part of the Lower Athabasca Regional Plan, will require a rewriting of the FMP, we are calling the plan we are working on the “Transitional FMP.

Caribou management continues to be the most

difficult issue we are dealing with although most of the provincial focus is on the Little Smoky herd in the west. What can be done for the northeastern herds is on the agenda for our next LAG meeting.



Andy Boyd



SPECIAL RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Sherwood Park Fish & Game Association raise the annual membership fees starting with the 2015 membership year. The proposed fees will be increased by \$20 for the Range and Family Range Memberships.

The 2015 fees will be as follows:

Range	\$130
Family Range	\$170
Regular	\$55
Family Regular	\$75
Youth	\$20

If you are interested in learning something about reloading here is an opportunity.....

RELOADING DEMO

SUNDAY, MAY 11 2014 10:30 am

AT THE CLUBHOUSE

Jim Clarke

Bottle-neck center-fire head spacing on the shoulder

- 1. MEASURING FOR SEATING DEPTH**
- 2. PRESS / DIE SET-UP**
 - FL / NK / Standard /Bushing / Collet**
 - Sizer die**
 - Seater die**
- 3. CASE PREP**
- 4. DISPENSING POWDER**
- 5. BULLET SEATING**
- 6. PRESSURE SIGNS**

OPEN TO SPFGA MEMBERS ONLY ... FREE OF CHARGE

REGISTRATION NECESSARY TO CONFIRM NUMBERS

NAME _____ will attend the reloading demonstration at the Clubhouse, 10:30 am, MAY11.

E-mail or Telephone contact _____.

E-mail / Telephone Registration to Jim: csclarke@live.ca or

Coffee & donuts provided. Bring your own lunch.

SCHEDULED EVENTS FOR THE SUMMER MONTHS

- May 10Les Berry Memorial Shoot at the shotgun range, which is the start of summer trap shooting on Wednesday evenings 6:00 pm until dark and Sunday at noon. 5\$ a round for clay pigeons, bring your own target ammo. For more information contact Lee Simpkin

- May 11Reloading Demonstration at 10:30 in the Clubhouse by Jim Clarke. To confirm attendance and more information contact Jim Clarke at —page 17

- May 24-25All weekend The Fourth Annual Skills of the Fur Trade Challenge Organized by the Edmonton House Brigade black powder shooters. This is an interesting and fun event to attend whether you are a shooter or spectator. Contact Tassi Xenos for more information..

- June 7 ... Annual Spring Clean-Up starts at 9:00 am. This is a big event where members help clean up the ranges and other facilities. Tasks include cutting and splitting firewood for the Club house, clean up of shooting ranges, fish pond, archery range and removal of downed trees on hiking trails. Lunch is provided for members.

- Numerous hand gun events schedules by Gary Chambers.. See page 6 of this newsletter

- August 23Fun shoot where members test their skills at shotgun, handgun and rifle shooting. Winners for each category receive a trophy. Lunch is provided. Registration fee of \$5 for each event. Lunch is included. Contact Pete Beauvais at

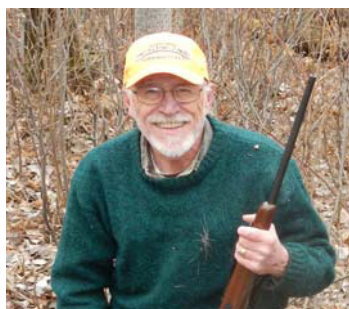
- Lamont Fish and Game Association — 3 –D Archery Fun Shoot June 14- & 15, 2014 Father's Day - Free Pancake Breakfast—Archery Shoot 3:30 PM Both Days—Tw Rounds per day of 25 + 3-D Targets
 Adults \$25.00 per day or \$40.00 for 2 days, Youth (11-18 Yrs.) \$15.00/day, Kids (10 & under) \$10.00 per day)
 Location: 1 mile east of Hwy 831 on Hwy 29 turn north on RR 193 (watch for signs) Contacts:
 Murray , Vince , Ed



Want to know about club events?
Range closures?
SPFGA meetings?
What's new?



Check our Facebook or follow us on Twitter, and
be in the know.



Newsletters are available to members for downloading from our web site. Members will be notified by email when newsletters are posted on the web site. Newsletters will be mailed to members who do not have an email address. The next newsletters will be for September—October and November—December. Special events and scheduled range use for May to August are listed in the Events Calendar; (pages 13– 14). Contributions to the Newsletter by members are welcome. If you have an item for the Newsletter please submit for consideration on or before August 15 or October 15 to the Newsletter Editor .Preferred format is Microsoft Word, double spaced, Arial font double spaced. *Richard Rothwell Newsletter Editor*
 (*Richard Rothwell Editor*

SHERWOOD PARK FISH AND GAME ASSOCIATION

2014 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



SHERWOOD PARK FISH & GAME ASSOCIATION			
EVENTS CALENDAR			
APRIL			
Apr 18		Good Friday	
Apr 20		Easter Sunday	
Apr 24	7:30pm	General Meeting	Old Log Cabin, 50 Spruce Avenue, Sherwood Park
MAY			
May 01	9:00am to 5:00 pm	EPS Tactical Section	Overflow Range
May 3-4	All weekend	38th Garrison Beavers	Clubhouse and surrounding area
May 06	9:00am to 5:00pm	RCMP Edmonton ERT	Overflow Range
May 8-10	4:00pm		Clubhouse reserved all weekend
May 10	11:00am	Les Berry Memorial Shoot	Shotgun Range
May 10	4:00pm	Executive BBQ - closed event	Clubhouse and surrounding area
May 11	10am to Noon	Handgun Range - Bulls eye Style Competition	Handgun Range. Contact Gary Chambers
May 11	10:30am	Reloading Demo	Clubhouse - Contact Jim Clarke
May 13	7:00pm	Executive Meeting	Chamber of Commerce, 100 Ordze Avenue, Sherwood Park
May 15	9:00am to 5:00pm	EPS Patrol Carbine	Overflow Range
May 20	9:00am to 5:00pm	EPS Patrol Carbine	Overflow Range
May 23 to 25	All weekend	Black Powder Spring Shoot	Clubhouse reserved all weekend
May 29	7:30pm	General Meeting	Old Log Cabin, 50 Spruce Avenue, Sherwood Park
JUNE			
Jun 03	9:00am to 5:00pm	RCMP Edmonton ERT	Overflow Range
June 4 to 5	9:00am to 5:00pm	EPS Patrol Carbine	Overflow Range
June 5 to 8	All weekend		Clubhouse reserved for Annual Spring Cleanup
Jun 07	9:00am	Annual Spring Cleanup	
Jun 08	9:00am to Noon	Handgun Event - Rimfire Fun	Handgun Range. Contact Gary Chambers
June 10 to 12	9:00am to 5:00pm	EPS Patrol Carbine	Overflow Range
June 14 to 15	All weekend	Tofield Guides	Clubhouse and surrounding area. Using Archery Range June 14 A.M.
Jun 19	9:00am to 5:00pm	EPS Patrol Carbine	Overflow Range
June 24 & 25	9:00am to 5:00pm	EPS Patrol Carbine	Overflow Range

SHERWOOD PARK FISH AND GAME ASSOCIATION

2014 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



JULY			
Jul 01		Canada Day	
Jul 01	9:00am to 5:00pm	RCMP Edmonton ERT	Overflow Range
Jul 03	9:00am to 5:00pm	EPS Tactical Section	Overflow Range
Jul 04	9:00am to 5:00pm	EPS Patrol Carbine	Overflow Range
Jul 09	9:00am to 5:00pm	EPS Patrol Carbine	Overflow Range
Jul 13	9:00am to Noon	Handgun Event - Silhouette	Handgun Range. Contact Gary Chambers
AUGUST			
Aug 04		Heritage Day	
Aug 05	9:00am to 5:00pm	RCMP Edmonton ERT	Overflow Range
Aug 07	9:00am to 5:00pm	EPS Tactical Section	Overflow Range
Aug 10	9:00am to Noon	Handgun Event - Action Pistol	Handgun Range. Contact Gary Chambers
Aug 23	9:00am to 4:00pm	Fun Shoot	Contact: Pete Beauvais
SEPTEMBER			
Sept 4	7:30 pm	General Meeting "Hunter's Night"	Old Log Cabin, 50 Spruce Avenue, Sherwood Park

RETURN UNDELIVERABLE ADDRESSES TO: Sherwood Park Fish and Game Association