



HSA News



An Official Publication of the Hellertown Sportsmen's Association
February 2009

President Jim Bambu 610.691.0449	Membership Blair Ferguson 610.438.8885	Training Paul Piscator 610.847.5396	Newsletter John Meka 610.865.6309	Monthly Membership Meeting Third Tuesday of every month 7:30 PM Excellent refreshments by Janet Hoffert
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From the President

Mark your calendars! February 17th is a very important meeting at HSA. We will be appointing our 2009 committees and delegates. It's your chance to help out your club while making some new friends. We are trying to fill a few positions for the upcoming year. We need help on the following committees: House & Grounds, Special Activities, and the Kitchen committees. None of these take up a lot of time and the club could really use your help.

It's time again to pay your 2009 membership dues. Dues will be accepted with no penalties until the day of our Spring Ham Shoot on Sunday, April 5th. We would appreciate if you'd mail your dues ASAP but if you are forgetful, as I am at times, stop down the day of our Shoot. You can pay your dues and join in on the fun and games of our annual Spring Ham Shoot.

Raffle Tickets!!!!!! You received them in the mail last month. Please turn them in as soon as you can. There are plenty more available by contacting any board member or stop down to the club on meeting night and pick some up.

We are looking for Silent Auction items for our Spring Shoot. It's about time we all clean out the basement and garage and get rid of those old sporting items that have not been moved since who knows when.

Remember, HSA is your club. If you have any ideas on how to make it better for all of our members, please come to a meeting and we'll gladly let you put your 2 cents in. Remember, you have to put your 2 cents in but it's only a penny for your thoughts, so somewhere someone's

making a penny.
See you at the club,
Jim Bambu

L.V.P.R.L

Chuck Adams - 610.252.3169

Our secretary, Bill Books, has received information from the NRA about members joining the NRA or renewing their membership through the pistol league. Each NRA membership made through L.V. P. R. L. brings money to our league and gives you the NRA discount price. If you need your NRA membership renewed or if you need a new membership please see Bill books for an application.

Hellertown Sportsmen has approved the installation of radiant heaters above the shooting positions in the indoor range. This will really help those of us who come out in the cold of winter to shoot. The installation will begin as soon as the contractor has an opening.

All 2009 applications have a spot for your email address. For those of you who can actually read your own email Bill Lambert will be sending information via email about our league, including cancellations due to bad weather, special events, etc.

Thanks to all the die hard shooters who have been coming to shoot even when the temperature dips below zero. We appreciate seeing everyone and getting together no matter what the weather. For those of you who can't make it in the winter we look forward to seeing you when the weather thaws!

Shoot Safe,
Chuck Adams
President, L.V.P.R.L

Monthly Meeting Reports

- Don Jenny reported that the Jr. Archer's Tournament will be Saturday February 14th.

Also there will only be one Hunter Trapper Education class running at the club this year due to a conflict in dates with the Game Commission. The class is scheduled for March 14th & 15th. Anyone interested in signing up can do so on the Game Commission's web site.

Don has Whitetail Banquet tickets for sale. The banquet is Saturday February 21st and is the fundraiser for multiple youth events.

- Brock Williams shared that the Al Stair memorial fishing tournament for kids will be Saturday May 16th this year. Brock added that he is also looking for t-shirt sponsors again this year as well.

- Paul Piscator & Jim Bambu reported that a local attorney will be giving a three part legal lecture on concealed carry laws on February 8th, March 8th, and April 12th. The sessions will deal with both PA and Federal laws.

Geyer's Corner

Richard Geyer

Jim, who is our club president appeared in the kitchen for his morning breakfast, said to his wife Sally "You know, whenever I shave and shower in the morning, I feel ten years younger!" Sally, barely looked up from her grapefruit and said "If that's the case, why don't you shave at night? If you feel a bit in the experimental mood, I'd ask if you've ever heard of a .22 WAD-CUTTER? Well, most shooters haven't... that is unless they have had the opportunity (or misfortune) to shoot alongside of me on occasion... if you have a sharp knife or a decent diagonal cutter... simply (my stuff again) nip off a small portion of the bullet... just forward of the grooves. No, you are not gonna get hurt... you are not messing with the priming material. When you shoot these into paper, you will see the niftiest neat little .22 hole ever! That brings to mind a very old story or wives tale of long ago. Please see Guyer p.3

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www.hellertownsportsmen.com

Range Hours and Rules

9:00 AM – 9:00 PM Every Day

Use of Ranges Limited to
Members Only

When using any of our outdoor ranges you must have your membership card visible.

Due to insurance requirements and liability issues guests are not permitted to use the facilities except for organized events.

Members who permit guests to use the ranges will immediately lose their membership for a minimum of one year. *Guests may observe but under no circumstance may participate or take an active role in use of the ranges.*

USE PAPER TARGETS ONLY

After shooting, please take off all used targets and pick up your spent brass.

Observe all club/gun safety rules printed on the back of your membership card and also posted at the ranges. You will lose your membership privileges for not obeying the rules.

Calendar of Events

Monthly Membership Meeting
Third Tuesday of every month 7:30 PM

Action Pistol

1st, 4th, & 5th Tuesday - 6:00 PM
Ken Ortbach 908.310.2079

L.V.P.R.L. Bullseye

Wednesdays 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Chuck Adams 610.352.3169

Hellertown Archers

Wednesdays 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Dave Schweisgut 610.838.0723
Leon Deleon 610.868.8745

Jr. Archers

Mondays 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Don Jenny 610.691.1903

Trap Shooting

Tuesdays 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Thursdays 6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Rich Geyer 610.838.8908

2009 Firearms Training Schedule

NRA Basic Pistol Shooting Course
Sat-Sun, Feb. 21-22, 2009

Introduction to the Handgun
(One day program)
Sunday, February 15, 2009
Saturday, June 13, 2009
Sunday, October 25, 2009

Concealed Carry Level I
(Day and half program)

Saturday, March 7 & 14, 2009
Sunday, July 19 & 26, 2009
Saturday, November, 14 & 21, 2009

Concealed Carry Level II
(Two day program)

Saturday, May 16 & 23, 2009
Sunday, December 6 & 13, 2009

Private instruction is available.

For further information on these courses and other programs available, please contact Paul Piscator, S&W Certified Instructor at 610.847.5396 or padona@epix.net

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Geyer's Corner cont..... We were loading some .22's into a tubular feed rifle and one fellow pointed out that "Better not put any in backwards... you'll get shot!" Where in the hell do some of these stories come from? For starters, there is **no way** that round of ammo will FEED! It can't go into the chamber rim FIRST! And a bump on the bullet will result in... nothing. Priming in .22 rimfires is deposited in the case in a LIQUID state. If you "pull" a bullet from a rimfire, you will see a greenish deposit in the base. Occasionally, when you get misfires, it is the result of improper or insufficient priming material. Many times, as kids, if we got a misfire, we would rotate the round a bit to punch a new area and it would usually eventually fire. We have on hand at the league several misfires that have been hit many times... to no avail. There are a few shooters??? who have gone to the extra trouble and expense to have a "DOUBLE" firing pin system to eliminate these problems. Properly loaded "center fire" ammo will practically ALWAYS be more reliable than rimfire ammo.

For the benefit of some of our new REVOLVER shooters some time ago I suggested a simple (yeah, again) method of REMOVING that crud that builds up between the chambers of the cylinder. Now, you probably WON'T find it in the gun books... THEY want to SELL stuff to remove that gunk... like good "old Hoppe's #9." Well this is cheaper and more efficient! Take a brass case... and you 'DID' know that brass is softer than steel... right... take an empty case and just rub it against the grooves. It will scrape that black crud off... now, you should have a few different sizes of empties around. That way, you are sure to find one that just fits nicely.

In my years of messing around reloading tools... molds etc... I have occasionally "invented" or improved things. It's been said that improvements are a result of the un-satisfied man. I have a STAR progressive tool... well, several... but the one for .45's gave me trouble because the finished round DID NOT DROP THROUGH THE MACHINE like .38's did. This was because the case was held by the rotating plate. I drilled a hole in the base... on a small post I used a jeweler's saw to make a thin cut to hold a thin strip of spring steel... properly located and shaped... this FLIPPED my loaded .45's into a small funnel I attached... presto... sped up reloading a-plenty! Old as it is... the star machine is one great tool... smooth... no junky parts. However, I am of the honest sort... and will admit it has some shortcomings. It WILL DROP POWDER even if there is NO CASE in position! The DILLON's are great in this respect! Any close-by spectators may have the opportunity to learn a few new words when powder drops without a case in position!

And if you are using priming tubes for your reloader, take the time, now and then to push a small cotton swab through... at times small particles of dirt may prevent primers from dropping... and you MAY end up with a few dozen rounds without primers. I know!

Play a country/western record backward... and you'll get your wife back... your job back... your dog and your truck back.

Seems as though this month's stuff has a bunch of reloading info... if you can call it that. You just may find some .45 empties on the range... note I didn't say BRASS... during WWII (it was in all the papers) due to the shortage of BRASS... eventually they came up with STEEL .45's. Well, these were tough to manage as far as ejecting... brass has the property of shrinking a teeny bit when fired... steel was presenting a different problem. In Phil Sharpe's book on "The Complete Guide to Handloading" tells of the method they used to solve the problem. With a big batch of empty .45 cases... heated... they dumped a bit of shellac... at high temperature this vaporized... coated the cases with a very thin film... and THAT solved the problem. Now, I believe they have used a similar idea and/or material to coat nails used in nail guns... not necessarily for the operation... but they certainly stick better!

I had a call from some lady... she said "You know Rich, your hint about closing the drain in the bathroom sink whenever you take pills... well it came a few YEARS too late for me. But, I thought I'd tell you... we now have a beautiful set of twins."

THE FULL MOON AFFECTS THE TIDE... AND THE UNTIED!

About this time of the year we will hear "You'll catch your death of cold." Usually we would be warned about cold, wet feet... sleeping in the cold, etc... etc... Well, years ago there were hunters... a bunch of 'em... near or in the Aleutian Islands... day after day they hunted... their feet were wet... and cold... miserable conditions... no colds... THEN... THEN the supply ship came in with mail... supplies... in short order... they had colds!!!

A young "would be cowboy" was outfitting himself. When he looked at an expensive pair of spurs he told the shopkeeper that "He didn't think he needed both of them. I figure if one half of the horse goes... the other half will go along!" Please see Guyer p.4


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Geyer's Corner cont..... Recently the word got around of some poor trapshooter (well, not too poor as he was shooting a PREMIUM shotgun). Anyway... there was quite a blast heard and felt on the trapline... is always much speculation as to "WHATINELLHAPPENED." Wad stuck... portion of case stuck... double charge... much discussion resulted... and will of course continue. Apparently at this time NO ONE knows just what was the cause. But, I will pass a few lines along for the shooters of ALL types... Whenever... whenever you have a round that "just didn't sound right... or perform right..." STOP STOP STOP and check! Takes a split second... there's were a 'break-open' is a big plus... but, to continue on about the damage done. We have no doubt that the manufacturer performs proof tests beyond normal loads. However... no manufacturer can plan on the wide variety of possibilities that may present themselves. For example... many years ago the Navy department made many tests... of VERY LOW POWDER charges in LARGE CAPACITY cases. Result... one BIG boom! And I need not remind many welders/mechanics/junk yard workers... of the danger of a "little bit of gas" in a 55 gallon drum! Some reloaders, wanting to shoot .30-06's in the cellar would load "one grain" of Bullseye powder... it works... but they filled the case with kapok or some material. There was another potential problem... again, a small powder charge in a large case.

Muzzleloaders may recall that a few years ago the powers to be stated that "bullets" and NOT patched round balls could NOT be used in blackpowder rifles. Their thinking, and likely sensible, was that the bullet could possibly move forward in the barrel... thereby creating a "space" similar to what I described in the "nearly empty" barrel. Again, a pressure possibility problem. I had, around that time a grand idea I thought and still do. It was the SIZING of a suitable rifle bullet for the flintlock system. I lubricated the LOWER portion of the slug... the TOP or forward portion of the slug was NOT sized. This allowed the slug to be properly lubricated... and the forward band maintained enough friction when put down the barrel from the soft lead to stay in place. I THOUGH... **RICH**, THIS IS ONE HECKOFANIDEA! I still think it's a good idea... but by then the rules were set against the bullet system. An added advantage is that it would be faster in re-loading... and less junk to carry along (and flintlock shooters have PLENTY). Guess that's why they call 'em POSSIBLE BAGS.

If you are a cigar smoker... better stock up now... there is a PROPOSED 53% TAX on these stogies... it may very well end up a bit less... but I thought I'd tell you. Forewarned is forearmed. On occasion I can actually enjoy a cigar... like a quiet walk in the woods...or after an enjoyable meal... fly fishing in the evening (helps keep the skeeters away). But does anyone recall the old days when riding a closed trolley car... with some stinkin' seegars... I do. Again, in this world, be considerate.

It is by no coincidence that a man holds his cigar next to his heart.

Badge of his majority it often signals the sign of success and contentment.

It heralds the celebration of the newborn, glows at the wedding... and turns to ashes at the funeral.

A man's smoke.

I'm not going to get into this dumb blonde joke stuff... too many nifty lookin' ones around... but, well.

This secretary happened to see a thermos at a yard sale. Asks "What is that for?"

Was told it was a thermos... kept things hot and cold.

She takes it to the office next day... it's there on her desk.

Boss asks "What's that for. She tells him... "It's a thermos... Keeps stuff hot and cold"

He asks "What do you have in it?"

She replies "Two popsicles and a cup of coffee"

Thank You

The Board of Directors, Club Officers and Club Membership gratefully recognize *Dennis Thomas* for the many years of dedicated service as Membership Secretary and welcome *Blair Ferguson*, as he assumes the responsibilities of this important position as a result of the January elections.

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