



On Target



Volume 1, Issue 3

May 2002

New York State
4-H Shooting Sports
Newsletter

September National Workshop Postponed!

Inside this issue:

NYS SS Banquet 2003	4
National Workshop Postponed	1
Success Story	2
Good Friends	3
Thank You!	4
Coordinator's Workshop	1

Who would've thought the death of Lord Howe, again, last year would be affecting us? Well...Bob Bearor and a lot of other terrific folks staged a reenactment that brought people out of the woodwork.

How does that affect our September 2002 national workshop? Response to the 225th anniversary celebration of the Battle of Saratoga has been tremendous. Want to guess the dates? Yep...

Now add the Eastern Rendezvous in Pennsylvania. The "eastern" poses a conflict as well.

Initially these activities hadn't loomed quite so large as conflicts. However...much of our target audience will be involved in these activities. So...we've decided to postpone our September workshop. We're rescheduling for a "better" date in 2003.

Coordinator's Workshop

Special points of interest:

© New York State 4-H Shooting Sports Recognition Banquet & Auction
2003

© September National 4-H Shooting Sports Instructor Workshop **postponed**

So you want to be a coordinator? Or, worse yet, you have been volunteered. Maybe you are already a coordinator. Well...we're here to help.

Responding to a perceived need, we have put together a workshop designed with coordinators in mind.

Appropriate for extension professionals and volunteer coordinators, this workshop will focus on the reality of running a successful program. If you've already gone through a coordinator workshop, this is designed with you in mind as well.

We're going to establish a self help mentoring network. There will be a focus on club development. How do you raise money, make presentations, find places to host programs, address liability issues, equip your program, etc? We'll cover these issues and more.

Cont'd on page 2

April in Branchville, New Jersey

Jim Tavares, Director of Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp and New Jersey 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator, hosted a New Jersey 4-H Shooting Sports training workshop. Unseasonably cold for the first weekend of April, the workshop was successful despite the chilly weather.

Jim gathered a dynamic group of volunteers. A first for us, there were more women instructor candidates than male. Eleven

participants were certified in archery and nine were certified in riflery.

Part of a collaborative effort amongst programs in the Northeast, New York's 4-H Shooting Sports program helped neighboring New Jersey by providing a teaching team. Archery was taught by Dick and Glenda Smullen, rifle by Wesley Hurd and Ron Surdyka, and coordinator support came from Russ Lehr and Phil Sisson.

Brian McCormack set up a Revolutionary War era camp and gave presentations on the muzzle-loading discipline. Brian's presentations gave workshop participants a view of 4-H Shooting Sports "outside of the box". A colorful camp, lots of neat stuff, and bacon rapped pineapple. It's no wonder Brian usually generates a lot of interest.

Well Done Team!!

New York & New Jersey

New York and New Jersey will be working together on more projects. The Lindley G. Cook 4-H Camp is about three and a half hours from Ballston Spa. The camp is located on a beautiful site. If you have a chance to attend any programs there, by all means, go!



Coordinators' Workshop Cont'd

If you have special issues, concerns, and questions, let us know. This will be a practical program providing coordinators with tools to build and maintain a successful program.

Dates and location are under consideration and will be announced in a future issue.

Another Shooting Sports Success Story—And the Winner is...

3 Gun Drawing:

Savage .270 - Andy Tillman

Knight .50 cal. Inline - Jerry Larrow

Savage—Mark II .22 cal. - Jerry Larrow

Bullet Pull Rifle winner—Rick Saunders

Card Game Shotgun winner—Larry Winslow

NMLRA Jr. Memberships: Ethan Saville and Dawn Weatherby

If I hadn't seen it...Our ticket taker was Ethan Saville, a young lad from the audience. After the tickets had been tossed, turned, mixed up and stirred, Ethan stuck his hand in and pawed around three different times. In drawing only three tickets who would've thought that one person could win twice? Jerry had quite a night.

***Congratulations to
All Winners!***

April 20th—Earthquake Day!!

What a way to start the day. After months of planning and countless volunteer hours folks'll remember April 20th for an earthquake instead of the *3rd Annual* New York State 4-H Shooting Sports Recognition Banquet and Auction.

We had a great evening! With 160 folks in attendance we had

the "best" event so far.

The Queensbury Hotel went out of their way to help us stage a successful event. Auction manager, Kevin Baskin did an outstanding job. Deserving recognition: Octave Flores, Rick Saunders, and Bob Schupp were responsible for many of the terrific items that made for such an

interesting assortment. They had help from supporters all over the state. What a selection of stuff!

Proceeds from the auction will go to support our state program. Loaners, seed money, support, we're growing, now we can offer more support to county programs.

PHOTOS are Needed

We can use hard copy photos for the newsletter, posters, and other publicity. We're working on the Web site—that will handle digital images.

Send hard copy photos to Kenyon Simpson at 50 West High Street, Ballston Spa, NY 12020. Digital images may be emailed to Kenyon at krs36@cornell.edu.

Reporting

Keep Track of Those Numbers!

We're working on a standardized report form for recording participation numbers. Accurate reporting of your programs helps all of us. Please, keep us informed of what you are doing and the number of participants.

Good Friends!

We were treated to a great show of dedication at the auction. Quite evident were three outstanding supporters of the 4-H Shooting Sports program. The Adirondack One Shot Chapter of Buckmasters, The NYS Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation and Whitetails Unlimited, Southern Adirondack Chapter.

Buckmasters' local chapter presented a check to the NYS 4-H Shooting Sports Program for \$500. The money is dedicated

for center fire rifles for the expanding hunting program.

The Southern Adirondack Chapter of Whitetails Unlimited sponsored the "bullet pull" game. Their National organization donated the card game shot gun, .44 magnum rifle, a Pentax scope and items for the Whitetail pail.

New York's State Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation has been outstanding in their support. Their donation of \$5,000 will make quite a

difference in our programming.

Not to be overlooked, the Adirondack Chapter of Safari International once again donated a wild boar hunt at Big Horn Preserve. Apparently it's a good hunt because Ed Cerkowski bought it again this year.

It's a comfort to see that we are getting such terrific support from such dedicated quality conservation organizations. Thanks again to our good friends.



* Auction 2003 *

Of course I'm serious! Now's the time to be thinking about next year's recognition banquet and auction.

We are looking for contributions and donations. Hunts and charters work well. Sporting equipment, camping gear and fine art items enable us to present a wide variety of neat stuff.

Donations of simple items help us control our expenses. Several decks of playing cards for the "card games", rolls of tickets to use in the "ticket" drop and bullet pull games, something this simple, if you can find the donation, helps.

Three popular items have been demonstrating a growing interest:

1. The Caller's Special: Each year the selection of calls has grown. This year's choice was a dandy—**Gobbler Goodies**. Neat stuff! Gil DeLude helped put this one over the edge. Not only were there some dandy calls and camouflage equipment, but a New York State National Wild Turkey Federation sweatshirt. Hidden in everything was a dandy shotgun sight. It was a super package.

2. The "Buck Bucket"

3. "Whitetail Pail":

These were the bargain of the evening! Busnell binoculars and a Whitetails' "Guide Set" started this one out and it went up from

there! Knives, thermos, sharpener, gloves, compass, fanny pack, hat, vest, flashlight, camera...the list goes on and on!

These kinds of packages are fun to make. Lots of friends helped to make these items a wonderful value and a huge success. Yes, you can help.

Think of what would help to make these three packages work for you. We gather as many items as we can and put together a quality package. Please help. These are an exciting part of a great evening—for references, ask Rick Saunders' son, Jake. He is still going through the pail.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!!

"Thank You" is a big part of the recognition component of the banquet program. Please, take time to read this list. All of the honorees have contributed above and beyond the call of volunteerism.

Lifetime Achievement: Dr. Ronald Howard, of Texas? Yep, you bet! Ron is the grandfather of N.Y.S. 4-H Shooting Sports. When he was at Cornell, Ron introduced the Shooting Sports Program to New York. Despite his travels, Ron has managed to stay in touch with the New York program. His influence continues to be felt.

Mark of Excellence: It's Thursday night and where is Gary Osterhout? He's working with a group of youngsters, coaching them in preparation for a trip to the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association's National Spring Shoot. Tuesday night? Shooting Sports. Then there are hunter education classes.

Need something fixed? Gary can weld it, and he does. Chances are the iron critters and "wingers" that you shoot at on workshop ranges were made by Gary. He is our weathervane artist as well.

A lot of time, effort and dedication, Gary well deserves this award.

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A Message from the State Coordinator

Dear Friends:

The 2002 Recognition Banquet and Auction was a tremendous success! Congratulations go to our hosts, Warren & Washington County 4-H Shooting Sports Programs. The Queensbury Hotel was a magnificent site, the room was filled with 4-H families and friends who gathered to recognize outstanding volunteers and staff who have worked hard to make the program a success. There were those who were looking for a bargain!

The banquet is a time to reflect on the successes of the past year and the challenges that lie ahead. The number of counties who have trained instructors is growing. The level of programming has increased and the training corps is incorporating the elements to make the program a success in rural, suburban and urban locations.

2002 marks the second year that a 4-H staff member is actively involved in the day-to-day operation of the NYS 4-H Shooting Sports Program. Support also comes from Lillian Grandjean who provides most of the administrative support necessary to maintain a program that will likely reach over 10,000 youth this year!

It is extremely important to document programs and participation in 4-H Shooting Sports activities, projects and programs. Volunteers and youthful participants need to be recorded, just as it is done for all 4-H programs.

Congratulations to all those who are making a difference! Youth Development is an important element to our mission statement. Knowledgeable, safe handling of firearms and the lifetime opportunities are important to the youth and families that we involve in this program.

William M. Schwerd
N.Y.S. 4-H Shooting Sports Coordinator

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