



Abe Lincoln Gun Club News

www.abelincolngunclub.com

May, 2018

June 10, 2018- Annual Meeting and Work Day at the Abe Lincoln Gun Club

Spring is taking its sweet time this year, but the calendar marches on. Before we know it, it will be time once again for our Annual Meeting and Work Day. The annual spring work day will kick off at 8:00 AM on Sunday, June 10, with the annual club membership meeting to follow at approximately 11:00. Your presence is requested. We have some important work to accomplish to put the club in shape for the new shooting season:

- Hang new doors on the skeet houses;
- Cut limbs over-hanging buildings and the road;
- Clean out the backstop area of the indoor range and hang new dust mats;
- Spread additional gravel;
- Rebuild outdoor target backstops and frames as needed;
- The usual cutting weeds and brush.

Please look at the jobs, think of appropriate tools and equipment that you might have, and bring them along. There is always a need for wheelbarrows, rakes, and shovels, as well as weed-whackers, chain saws, and hand tools.

Dues - As you should all know by now, dues for the upcoming fiscal year are to be paid by July 1. If you pay at the Annual Meeting/Work Day, your dues are only \$100.00 instead of the usual \$125.00.

Election of Officers - We will elect a slate of officers for the next two years at the annual meeting. These include the offices of president, vice-president, treasurer, secretary, and executive officer. Although the present officers are willing to serve another term, all members are welcome to place themselves in nomination for any of these positions at the meeting.

Proposed By-Laws Amendment - The Board is recommending for your consideration amendments to the “Article IV- Fees and Dues” section of the By-Laws, as shown below:

ABE LINCOLN GUN CLUB
BY-LAWS

ARTICLE IV – Fees & Dues

- 013 The annual dues for Regular Members shall be \$100 if paid in person at the Annual Meeting/Work Day. Annual dues not paid at the Annual Meeting/Working Day shall be \$125 (Effective FY2010).
- 014 A one time, \$100.00 initiation fee in addition to the annual dues shall be assessed against new regular members at the time of their acceptance into the club. This fee is waived for ~~the~~ minor children (Under 21) ~~and spouse~~ of a regular member in good standing.
- 015 Annual Dues, shall be payable no later than June 30. Dues not paid prior to July 1 shall be considered delinquent **and the member shall be expelled from the club.**
- ~~017 Any member whose dues become sixty (60) days delinquent shall automatically be expelled from membership for non-payment of dues.~~
- 016 It shall be the duty of the Secretary or Treasurer to promptly notify such member of his expulsion and the reason therefore, **and offer an opportunity for re-admission.**
- ~~017 That upon request for re-admission, such an expelled member shall~~ **A member expelled for non-payment of dues may** make application **within 30 days** and pay the initiation fee as a new member. (Meaning that if the expelled member wishes to reapply, he/she will have to pay not only the over-due annual dues, but will also pay a new initiation fee.). **The application for immediate readmission will be considered at the next regular meeting of the executive board.**

Explanation of proposed changes: In recent years, the club treasurer has provided early written notice to members that dues need to be paid by July 1. We also annually announce this in a May newsletter. Unfortunately, a number of members annually put off payment for as long as possible, which under the current by-laws is September 1. This puts an unnecessary burden on the Board chasing down delinquent members and is unreasonable given the early notice provided and given the fact that so many members make payment at the June meeting. The Board therefore desires elimination of the 60-day grace period for payment of delinquent dues. This language also attempts to clarify the process of reinstatement for persons dropped for nonpayment.

The Board also recommends elimination of the initiation fee waiver for spouses of members who join the club. This waiver has only been used once in memory and is an anachronism from the days when women did not work outside the home and had no resources of their own. Times have changed, and this rule needs changed also.

HELP WANTED

The Abe Lincoln Gun Club badly needs a few club members to step forward and lend assistance in several key areas:

First Aid Kit Maintenance- The club tries to provide first aid materials for everything from a bug bite to major trauma. However, none of us have expertise in this area and we are hoping that someone with a medical or EMT background will take responsibility for maintenance of the first aid kits. This means checking them periodically and replacing as necessary items that are exhausted or out of date. The club will pay any expenses, but needs someone knowledgeable to take charge.

Grass Cutters- The club has two excellent zero-turn mowers that make quick work of cutting the grass, but we don't seem to have enough guys willing to operate them. What we would like to have is a pool of cutters familiar with these machines, so that crews can be scheduled to mow in a given week and avoid the current situation where one or two guys are doing all of the mowing, all of the time. If you are willing to help, please contact Dan Croll (836-7663) for training and scheduling. By and large, mowers can arrange to mow on a schedule that suits them.

Juniors Instructors: Our Juniors program is on hold due to a lack of volunteers to come out and assist. Certified instructors are highly desired, but we also need adults who are simply willing to help keep a close eye on these kids and keep them out of trouble as they learn to shoot .22 rifles. Juniors shooting events are typically scheduled for Sunday evenings. If you are willing to serve in a pool of Juniors Instructors, please contact Steve Rowoldt (787-8493).

Legislative Officer: There is obviously a growing need for someone to keep an eye on firearms related legislation in the Statehouse. Some of you are very active in the NRA and ILSRA and probably track everything that goes on down there. We need someone in the know to keep the club president informed of developments so we can get information out to our members. If you are interested in this appointment, please contact Jim Johnson (652-4564).

Other Goings On

Danger! Attack turkeys! There seem to be a substantial number of nesting turkeys in the wooded area around the 200- yard berm, and they have their own Home Defense Force composed of a pair of rather large and belligerent toms. A number of our members have ventured too close to the hens while hanging targets and have been chased/pecked all the

way back to firing line by these two fearless guards. So take warning and don't loiter around the 200-yard frames. Above all, don't hurt the turkeys. They are protected residents.

Jim Johnson has set out to improve the electronics at the club. Because cell phone service is so bad for users of the AT&T system, he is putting up a signal booster which should greatly improve service. At the same time, our old camera security system is currently being updated with higher resolution cameras and a better recording system. No one was ever too thrilled over having to install security cameras, but we also know that we have had few problems at the club since their installation.

We want to remind you all once again that we have a newly redesigned website which is being continuously updated. It is now our primary means of communications with our members and you are all urged to check it out frequently.

See you all in June!

Jim Leinicke
Club Secretary

2018 Officers and Committee Chairs

Jim Johnson, Pres.- Ph: 652-4564
Bill Piester, VP - Ph: 652-4564
Jim Leinicke, Sec.- Ph: 525-3725
Dick Alcorn, Treas.- Ph: 299-0580
Todd Rankin, E/O - Ph: 629-8683
Steven Rowoldt, Chief Instructor- Ph: 787-8493
Dan Croll, Facilities- Ph: 836-7663
Pat Malone, Acres for Wildlife – Ph: 498-8739