

Cherokee Rod and Gun Club  
Bays Mountain Bugler  
Winter 2005

50 years of serving the community!

The crisp air that we experience on these winter mornings brings a new excitement to those that enjoy the outdoors and practice the art of hunting. It is traditional that outside activities at Cherokee slow a bit when the weather turns colder and hunting season falls upon us; but it also gives us a chance to safely use the skills we have practiced all year on the range, a chance to gather and prepare for events that will resume in the Spring, and a chance to reflect on our blessings and cherish family and friends during the holidays. Our extended family at Cherokee is in the thousands of people, and we wish each and everyone peace and happiness during this season.

This past year at your Club has been a busy one! So many people have contributed so much of their time and knowledge into making this the best family oriented club in the State. Just to recap some changes that occurred: painted and stained clubhouse; range benches and work areas created and fixed; covered ranges were painted and stained with steps installed; archery ranges improved and a static one added; picnic tables made and placed; pond pier improvements; sound amplification system in clubhouse installed; new signage; an event board at the entrance; range distance markers installed; upgraded electrical work; range officer program activated to ensure safety and that there is minimized vandalism; new T-shirts, caps, patches and pins available for Members to display Club pride are available; a new refrigerator; work on the erosion spots on the roads; new mowers and grounds maintenance equipment bought (and being diligently used by Members!); and a brilliant, tall flagpole constantly displaying a large American flag was installed. These are only some of the highlights of the physical changes that have occurred because of the volunteer work of the Members who are trying to make your Club better, and let you be even more proud of your Membership.

When Spring comes around, we will begin a new flurry of activity with programs ramping up such as the big bore silhouettes, vintage military shoots, skeet and trap leagues, black powder and metallic cartridge events, High Power Clinics, Women on Target, catfish derby for children, pistol shoots, archery, Civilian Marksmanship Programs for adults and children, barbeque dinners, and the Second Amendment Banquet - just to name a few. But during the winter months, we have plenty of activity to interest your family.

This is a great time to attend a sanctioned NRA shooter development class that we offer and are taught by any of the several NRA Certified Instructors in our Club; Bob Camponovo is our Senior NRA Training Counselor and can be reached at [camponov@tricon.net](mailto:camponov@tricon.net) or (423) 239-3843 for information on classes, as well as any youth or Scouting training needs. We continue to have a safe learning environment for youth to learn safe gun handling and marksmanship skills every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday starting at 2PM. During winter months we provide the air rifles; during summer we provide the .22 rifles. All the equipment is provided without charge by our Club. Please allow any interested children from age 6-18 to attend. We also are having a wonderful turnout for the popular Turkey Shoots that Gary and April Mumpower (423) 279-9021 are conducting; they are almost every Saturday night starting at 6PM with plenty of fun, food, and fellowship. Gary is also starting the Archery Tournament season on February 11-12, 2006 and has an exciting schedule planned for archers of all skill levels.

Recent changes in some of the rules and some significant events that are of interest: Membership monies are only to be given to a member of the membership committee or mailed into the Club. Our mailing address is POB 954, Kingsport, TN 37662. Membership forms are also available online at [www.cherokeerodandgunclub.com](http://www.cherokeerodandgunclub.com). This will save on confusion and potential delays of new and renewing members getting their cards. Also, the Board of Directors has voted to install a new card reader at the front gate which will allow a Member to activate an automatic gate opener without having to leave the vehicle. This will be a benefit to those who may have physical difficulties and will be easier on everyone to enter the property while still limiting access to unauthorized persons. The existing metal gate will then be moved to the pond area to prohibit unauthorized entry to the pond. Your Membership cards will activate both gates. Please remember to always display your Membership Cards while on the property. Range Officers will be checking to insure that we do not have uninvited 'guests'. The Members have paid to have the privilege of using the facilities, and the Officers and Board are trying hard to use our finances wisely to make needed improvements and provide amenities that make you proud to be part of the Cherokee family.

Please come to our regular business meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month starting with the meal being served at 7PM, with the meeting following. It is a great way to meet like-minded friends and provide your family with a warm environment to enjoy family-oriented activities; plus you get to help decide the direction of the Club's business and activities. Speaking of meals, we'd like to take this opportunity to thank Scott Combs for leading up the kitchen committee for over a decade. He has 'retired' from that spot after getting us fed for all those years; and we will certainly

miss his leadership. If you are interested at all in helping with the kitchen committee, now would be a great time to contact us and we'll answer any questions you may have. Of special interest is the fact that Bob Burgess was this year's recipient of the Sportsman of the Year/ Gordon Dykes Award which is presented annually to an outstanding member for long-term dedication, commitment, and service to the Club. Congratulations Bob!

The Barbeque Dinner was a resounding success this year, and we hope to make it even better next year. This fund raiser deals with one of our favorite topics – food! With so many wonderful cooks in our midst, we have decided to begin work on Cherokee's very own cookbook as a fundraiser. If you have any special recipes to contribute, from desserts to wild game entrees, please contact Ramona Fletcher at [rgfletcher@chartertn.net](mailto:rgfletcher@chartertn.net).

These Officers and Board Members were elected for the 2006 year:

President	Alan Bagley	<a href="mailto:abagley@sullivanhealth.org">abagley@sullivanhealth.org</a>
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Pres.	Wayne Fish	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres.	Terry Fletcher	
Secretary	Ramona Fletcher	
Asst. Sec.	Lida Olsen	
Acct. Payable Treas.	April Mumpower	
Asst. Payable Treas.	Stanley Fish	
Acct. Receivable Treas.	Whit Parham	
Asst. Receivable Treas.	Buzz LaRue	
SGT at Arms	Bob Camponovo	
Chaplain	W.T. Bales	
Asst. Chaplain	Ami Fletcher	
NRA Exec. Officer	Jerry Keener	
Stores Officer	Richard Muzzio	
<b>BOARD MEMBERS</b>		
Larry Frazier	Beth Hobbs	Shawn Frost
Sonny Forbes	Allen Fish	Ron Ligon
Randy Rose	Dennis Gilliam	Fred Martin
Wayne Starnes	Larry Gilliam	Gary Mumpower
Paul Williams	Tommy Snapp	Doug Woods
		Bob Burgess

Don't forget to send in your renewals for the 2006 year! The membership committee will have the office open each meeting night each month, and each 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 2PM for the months of JAN-JUL, then once a month in AUG-OCT, and only by appointment in NOV-DEC for walkthroughs. Of course applications and renewals may be sent anytime to the post office box, or delivered to a member of the Membership Committee anytime. If you have membership questions, please contact Beth at

[korndog@preferred.com](mailto:korndog@preferred.com) . Be sure to take advantage of the opportunity to bring a guest or two out to enjoy the Club with you. Share your love of the shooting sports and the pride in your Club with others who may benefit from the experience.

It continues to amaze me how dedicated our Members are in serving the Club and community with their volunteer efforts. It has been an honor to serve with such a fine staff of Officers, Board Members, and event and committee Chairs that have worked so hard to effectuate so many positive changes this year; I want to offer my sincere appreciation to all that have done so very much. If you have any needs or concerns, please feel free to refer to our website [www.cherokeerodandgunclub.com](http://www.cherokeerodandgunclub.com) , call the Club office (423) 348-8004, or contact me [abagley@sullivanhealth.org](mailto:abagley@sullivanhealth.org) . We will do all we can to address your needs.

Let us keep in our thoughts and prayers all those that are away from their families, those that watch over, care, and protect us, those that make a difference in the lives of others, and those that are less fortunate than we are. All of you that are Members of this Club have been blessed; let's not forget what is REALLY important and let's share our blessings with others – everyone can make a difference in another person's life, if we only try.

Be safe and we look forward to seeing you at the Club! Merry Christmas and have a blessed New Year!

