



# ISA OnTarget

Irwin Sportsmen's Association Newsletter

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Issue 17-01  
January 2017



## Spotlight on Our ISA

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I am not quite sure why you joined ISA, but there seems to be many valid reasons. Perhaps you just wanted a place to zero in your hunting rifle before stalking that trophy deer. Perhaps you just wanted to put a few rounds through that shotgun before you wait on Mr. Turkey to come within range. Perhaps you just enjoy shooting at targets on the pistol or rifle range. Perhaps you enjoy shooting your .50 caliber muzzle loader to make others jump. Perhaps you wish to be educated on proper handling of a firearm, how to zero a rifle/scope, or to enjoy shooting with others of the same interest. Or perhaps it was a gift with great rewards.

Our club has the potential of about 641 members. Some are life members, having completed 10 years of consecutive membership and at least 65 years of age. Some are new members who desire to join in the various shoots (competitive or not), and/or just have a place to shoot. Some are women that have purchased their first pistol and wish to learn self defense and the proper handling and shooting of their prize. Others just want to enjoy shooting with others that enjoy the same thing. Come down to the ranges when the weather is more balmy to join in with those folks. You won't regret it.

Our club has rules that need to be enforced to provide a safe environment for others. Pay attention to the newly enumerated safety rules that are common sense, but too easily forgotten. Other rules provide upkeep of our club (work parties) so that we can continue to provide a useful club facility. Thanks to those who have volunteered to chair certain functions and those who join in to help when required.

We have a number of shoots of various kinds including pistol, rifle, and shotgun. Some are competitive and some are just for fun. The dates and times are announced in this newsletter as well as on our website (irwinsportsmen.com). The best thing about the shoots are that most are also open to non-members, so you can invite a friend and/or family member to those shoots. Club membership allows you to bring your significant other as well as any child under 18 to our club. You are responsible for them and it is a good opportunity to teach them gun safety and the proper method of holding and shooting a weapon. They will do as you do, so it is best to follow the rules. So enjoy your club and join in the many opportunities awaiting you.

Its that time of year, no deer season is closed, but really, **due** you remember that your **dues** are **due**. At least one work party credit is needed before **dues** can be accepted. **Dues** are \$30 annually plus \$10 each for up to two more work parties not completed. If sending in your **dues** by mail, you **must include** a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope to receive your new membership card. The card will have the access codes for 2016 and 2017 on the back and you will need them to get into the facility. Access

### From Your Presidents Family to Yours

Happy New Year to all... may 2017 be a joy with good health and full of great things. Stay safe and hold love ones close. Let's make America a place to be proud of. As Always... D&J

### New Members

Welcome to you all and may you find our facility and fellowship to your liking.

Ed Pecora – North Huntingdon  
 Melissa Pecora – North Huntingdon  
 Cary Good - Irwin  
 Kevin Crblskey - Greensburg  
 Don Castro - Penn  
 Michael Landi - Murrys ville

### For Sale

Rassi Wizard Rifle, Single Shot, .243 Win, 23" Barrel, Fiber Optic/ Adjustable, Scope, Wood Stock, New Condition.

Diana 54 Air King Rifle, Side Lever One Stroke, .22 Caliber, Adjustable Open sights, Scope, Wood Stock, Good Condition.

Call Ron Watkoski at 724-523-3325 for questions or to discuss sale.



There is no need for anyone to work alone. Please call one of the following so that they can assist and provide additional safety. They have volunteered to be "on call" to assist.

John Bell [724-374-5024](tel:724-374-5024) Almost anytime

Smokey Burdin [724-396-9627](tel:724-396-9627) M-F 9-5

Kevin Kennelty [724-493-9565](tel:724-493-9565) Almost anytime

Joe Curran [724-744-4329](tel:724-744-4329) or [412-610-3692](tel:412-610-3692), Except Thursdays

At each membership meeting we offer 50/50 tickets for sale. If you don't play, you cannot win. Come to our membership meetings and buy one or more of our 50/50 chance tickets. This weeks winnings were \$23.

At each membership meeting we draw a member name, and if present, the member receives the current value of our pot. Tim Watson name was drawn, but not present. Better luck next time.

### Activities at ISA

Jan 5 - 6PM, NRA Pistol Safety Course  
**Jan 12 - Officers Meeting**  
 Jan 19 - 6PM, NRA Pistol Safety Course  
**Jan 26 - Membership Meeting**  
**Feb 9 - Officers Meeting**  
**Feb 23 - Membership Meeting**

### Representative Ryan Zinke Selected as Secretary of the Interior

The selection of hunter/angler Rep. Ryan Zinke, R-Mont., as Secretary of the Interior has a good reputation among outdoor writers, and he's a much better choice on our issues. A one-term congressman from Montana's at-large seat, Zinke, 55, served as a Navy SEAL for nearly two decades and sat on the House Natural Resources Committee. He's broken ranks with fellow GOP congressmen on public lands issues and been a staunch supporter of the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Zinke even quit his post as a member of the GOP platform-writing committee this summer at the RNC Convention after the group included language that would have transferred federal land ownership to the states. Per a quote on that matter from the Washington Post: "What I saw was a platform that was more divisive than uniting," Zinke said at the time. "At this point, I think it's better to show leadership." Trump deserves credit for the Zinke selection, though maybe not too much, because he's ultimately fulfilling a campaign promise. In an interview with Outdoor News earlier this year, Donald Trump Jr. told us that public lands would be a priority for this administration. His father said the same thing in interviews with other hunting publications

## GAME COMMISSION TO CLOSE TWO PHEASANT FARMS

The Pennsylvania Game Commission announced plans to close two pheasant farms – the Western Game Farm in Crawford County and the Northcentral Game Farm in Lycoming County. As a result of the closures, 14 employees were notified their positions are being eliminated, effective Jan. 27. The decision to close the farms strictly is a financial one.

Revenue from the sale of hunting and furtaker licenses makes up the majority of the Game Commission's budget. Legislation that would have provided a much-needed increase in license-fee revenue was not approved in the General Assembly's 2016 session. The Game Commission now is preparing to enter a third decade without an increase in the cost of a hunting or furtaker license, and the agency faces an \$8 million budget shortfall in the coming fiscal year. Game Commission Executive Director R. Matthew Hough said closing the two pheasant farms figures to save the agency about \$1.5 million in the next fiscal year.

"It's a difficult decision to make," Hough said. "Our employees at the Western Game Farm and Northcentral Game Farm have worked hard throughout their careers to make our pheasant propagation program the best it can be. They've done an outstanding job, and it's tough to look them in the eyes and tell them their positions are being eliminated – especially at this time of year. But, as an agency that has not seen its primary revenue source increase in almost 18 years, it – unfortunately – is necessary to make these types of reductions."

The Game Commission will continue to operate two pheasant farms – the Loyalsock Game Farm in Lycoming County and the Southwest Game Farm in Armstrong County. Bob Boyd, who heads up the Game Commission's pheasant propagation program, said the agency will strive to produce the same quality birds it has. Obviously, pheasant production will decrease overall in 2017-18 due to the closure of the two farms, Boyd said. But the agency has hopes to release about 170,000 pheasants for hunting in the fall of 2017, he said. ➡

Meanwhile, the Pennsylvania Board of Game Commissioners is considering adopting regulations to create a "pheasant hunting permit" as a requirement to hunt Pennsylvania pheasants. The current proposed cost of the permit is \$25 for adults, and \$1 for junior hunters. Revenue from the permit fees could sustain the program into the future. While the Game Commission is permitted under law to create new permits, hunting and furtaker license fees must be approved by the General Assembly. For several years, the Game Commission has sought to increase license revenues through pursuing legislation to increase the cost of a hunting license, or allow the agency's Board of Commissioners to set license fees. However, neither proposal has been approved by the General Assembly. The latest attempt, Senate Bill 1166, expired in the House of Representatives at the completion of the 2016 legislative session, despite near-unanimous approval in the Senate.

Senate Bill 1166 also was supported by all major statewide sporting groups, such as the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, the United Bowhunters of Pennsylvania, the Quality Deer Management Association, the National Wild Turkey Federation, the Keystone Elk Country Alliance, Pheasants Forever, Ducks Unlimited, the Pennsylvania Trappers Association and the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy. Hough said that, without legislative support to increase revenues, the Game Commission will have no choice but to continue to curtail programs. "While making program cuts is very difficult for me because of the impact those cuts have on our employees, all reductions in the programs and services the agency provides affect our hunters and trappers, and every citizen of the Commonwealth," Hough said. "And unfortunately, without a license revenue increase, additional programs will have to be reduced or eliminated."







## Give Our Sponsors Your Business

RE/MAX Realty Access, George/Dana Kendall, 724-864-2200x20

All Vehicle Service, Shawn Mason, 724-863-6424

Bell-View, Lee-Thompson-Fawcett Co, Robert Fawcett, 724-523-5406

Buchanan's Auto Repair and Sales, LLC, Bill Buchanan, 724-744-3055

K.C. Express Vending, Kenn Carasia, 724-527-5233

Norwin Rental & Outdoor Power Equipment, 724-864-1150

Revolution Arms, Charles Laughery, 724-527-2045

Robert Sandrick Excavating, Grading, Ditching, Bob, 724-863-5221

Fix's Body Shop, Inc., Insurance, Collision Work, 724-863-9305

Manor Grille, Derek Gutkowski, 724-861-3404

Varine-Slavin Insurance, Eric M. Slavin, Agent, 724-527-2802

PA Group Fitness, Jason Serbanjak, 724-261-7171

Westmoreland Equipment, Rental Sales/Serv 724-744-3130

David L. Holloman Tree Service 724-863-9082

Howard Gasoline & Oil Co, Thomas Howard, 724-864-5210

Industrial Tractor Parts, Jim, Bev or Jon, 724-424-1200



## ISA on Target Newsletter

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### ISA 2017 Officers

<b>PRESIDENT</b>	<b>JOHN REED</b>	<b>724-864-2488</b>
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	<b>KEVIN KENNELTY</b>	<b>724-527-1629</b>
<b>FINANCIAL SECRETARY</b>	<b>SAMUEL PETRILL</b>	<b>724-523-9216</b>
<b>RECORDING SECRETARY</b>	<b>SMOKEY BURDIN</b>	<b>724-863-7365</b>
<b>TREASURER</b>	<b>MICHAEL SERLO</b>	<b>724-523-3748</b>

### ISA 2017 Council Members

<b>AL CEOL (17)</b>	<b>724-744-3693</b>
<b>JOE CURRAN (18)</b>	<b>724-217-2069</b>
<b>JIM FISHER (17)</b>	<b>724-863-3764</b>
<b>JON GILMORE (18)</b>	<b>724-864-8572</b>
<b>ED GOLLINGER (19)</b>	<b>724-864-0687</b>
<b>JOHN JANITOR (18)</b>	<b>412-638-3063</b>
<b>JOYCE LICHTENFELS (19)</b>	<b>724-863-6940</b>
<b>LARRY LICHTENFELS (19)</b>	<b>724-863-6940</b>
<b>DAVE MARSHALL (18)</b>	<b>724-527-5226</b>
<b>MIKE McCAULEY (19)</b>	<b>724-527-3055</b>
<b>DAN NAVE (18)</b>	<b>724-863-1392</b>
<b>JOHN RUFFNER (19)</b>	<b>724-744-2514</b>
<b>RICH LINDH (19)</b>	<b>412-817-4074</b>
<b>ANDY VALENTINE (18)</b>	<b>724-454-1847</b>
<b>LAUREN WEST (18)</b>	<b>724-244-9053</b>

### ISA 2017 Responsibilities

<b>COUNTY LEAGUE</b>	<b>SAMUEL PETRILL</b>	<b>724-523-9216</b>
	<b>SMOKEY BURDIN</b>	<b>724-863-7365</b>
	<b>KEVIN KENNELTY</b>	<b>724-493-9565</b>
<b>NEWSLETTER</b>	<b>RON COINER</b>	<b>724-863-8707</b>
<b>WEBSITE</b>	<b>RON COINER</b>	<b>724-863-8707</b>
<b>ARCHERY</b>	<b>JOHN REED</b>	<b>724-864-2488</b>
<b>PISTOL ACTION</b>	<b>VINCE BENKOVICH</b>	<b>724-744-4437</b>
<b>PISTOL PINS</b>	<b>MIKE McCAULEY</b>	<b>724-527-3055</b>
<b>PISTOL SILHOUETTE</b>	<b>ED ONDER</b>	<b>724-989-6595</b>
<b>RIFLE</b>	<b>JOHN RUFFNER</b>	<b>724-744-2514</b>
<b>WOMEN'S LEAGUE</b>	<b>JOYCE LICHTENFELS</b>	<b>724-863-6940</b>
<b>KITCHEN</b>	<b>LAUREN WEST</b>	<b>724-244-9053</b>
<b>NRA</b>	<b>SMOKEY BURDIN</b>	<b>724-863-7365</b>