

www.irwinsportsmen.com P.O. Box 225 (995 Oakside Drive) Irwin, PA. 15642 724-863-2478 Issue 19-05 May 2019



Spotlight on the NRA

NRA stands for National Rifle Association. The group was founded in 1871 as a recreational group designed to "promote and encourage rifle shooting on a scientific basis". The NRA's path into political lobbying began in 1934 when it began mailing members with information about upcoming firearms bills. The association supported two major gun control acts, the National Firearms Act of 1934 (NFA) and Gun Control Act of 1968 (GCA), but became more politically

active in the 1970s following the passage of the GCA.

In 1975, it began attempting to influence policy directly via a newly formed lobbying arm, the ILA (Institute for Legislative Action). In 1977 it formed its own PAC (Political Action Committee), to channel funds to legislators. The NRA is now among the most powerful special interest lobby groups in the US, with a substantial budget to influence members of Congress on gun policy. It is run by executive vice president Wayne LaPierre.

The NRA spends about \$250m per year, far more than all the country's gun control advocacy groups put together. But the NRA has a much larger membership than any of those groups and disburses funds for things such as gun ranges and educational programs. In terms of lobbying, the NRA officially spends about \$3m per year to influence gun policy - the amount spent on lobbying in 2014 was \$3.3m. That is only the recorded contributions to lawmakers however, and considerable sums are spent elsewhere via PACs and independent expenditures - funds which are difficult to track.

Analysts point out that the NRA also wields considerable indirect influence via its highly politically engaged membership, many of whom will vote one way or another based on this single issue. The NRA publicly grades members of Congress from A to F on their perceived friendliness to gun rights. Those ratings can have a serious effect on poll numbers and even cost pro-gun control candidates a seat. Estimates of the NRA's membership have varied widely for decades. The association claimed that membership surged to close to five million people in response to the mass shooting at Sandy Hook school, but some analysts put the figure at closer to three million. The organization has been accused of artificially inflating the figure.

Current members include former vice-presidential candidate Sarah Palin, and actors Tom Selleck and Whoopi Goldberg. The late actor Charlton Heston was president of the NRA between 1998 and 2003. The NRA has lobbied heavily against all forms of gun control and argued aggressively that more guns make the country safer. It relies on, and staunchly defends, a disputed interpretation of the Second Amendment to the US Constitution, which it argues gives US citizens the rights to bear arms.

(continued on page 3)

Did you change your phone number, email account, or address? Please tell us so that we can communicate with you.



ISA Activities

- Action Pistol, 5 PM, \$3, 1st/3rd Thurs
- Daisy BB Training Classes 2nd Saturday each month 2-4 PM
- Daisy BB All Shoot each Saturday 5-7 PM
- Ladies Instructional Pistol Shoot, 1st and 3rd Tues 6:30 PM
- Pistol Pin Shoot 5 PM, \$3, 2nd/4th Thu
- Silhouette Shoot, 9 AM, 1st Sat monthly
- Work Party 9-11 AM second Wednesday, next one on May 8th
- Work Parties 5-7 PM each Wednesday, next ones May1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th
- Saffari Shoot, June 2nd, 1 PM
- Zombi Shoot, starts in Fall
- Officers Meeting, 7:00PM, 2nd Thursday each month May 9th next
- Member Meeting, 7:30PM, Last Thursday each month, May 30th next
- GAFASTA Class on property, Saturday June 22nd, Rifle/Pistol/Clubhouse closed
- Hunter Safety Course hopefully August
- All Times, No Dumping on Property
- Gate open whenever anyone is on property
- Gate closed if you are the last one to leave

Musings from Our President

I hope everyone had a nice Easter and was able to spend time with their families.

As we enjoy the nicer weather – when it's not raining – comes more activity at the club and that brings more use of the ranges and more time and effort to keep them running.

There is nothing more inviting then to pull up to the range and it be ready for use. Please think of others when leaving the range by picking up your garbage, paper targets as well as resetting the targets.

Let's all be the good sportsmen and sportswomen that we can be and make our ranges cleaner than we may have found them. Thank you.

Joyce



Come see our like new (demo only) ATV that ISA purchased to replace the old one. The old one had so many things wrong that it was not operating and several shoots had to be cancelled.

HAPPY 72ND BIRTHDAY IRWIN SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION!!!!

"The only thing that stops a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun."

PA Deer Harvest for	2018-19 Season
Total Door Estimato	274 600 (+10%)

Total Deer Estimate	374,090 (+10%)
Bucks	147,750 (-10%)
Antlerless	226,990 (+10%)
Archery	110,719 (-13%)
Muzzleloader	23,909 (+1%)

Membership Cards

A membership card will have the new code to unlock the entry gate and the clubhouse. If you did not get your card, come to a meeting, come to the clubhouse when an activity is going on, or have another member with a card let you in. Cards not distributed are in the medicine cabinet beside the phone.



(Spotlight on the NRA - from page 1)

The association faced criticism from both sides of the political spectrum in the wake of the Sandy Hook shooting, when Mr. La Pierre said that the lack of an armed guard at the school was to blame for the tragedy.

It staunchly opposes most local, state and federal legislation that would restrict gun ownership. For example, the NRA lobbied for guns confiscated by the police to be resold, arguing that destroying the weapons is, in effect, a waste of perfectly good guns.

Likewise, it strongly supports legislation that expand gun rights such as "open-carry" laws, which allow gun owners to carry their weapons, unconcealed, in most public places.

(article from BBC News)

Thank God for the NRA!



Please do not shoot rifles or pistols in the air (its going to come down somewhere) or into the ground (ricochets) to prevent costly accidents. Thanks! Jackets with ISA logo are available to order. Prices start at \$62 and increase with larger sizes up to 5X. A sample is expected to be available at our April membership meeting.

Try out your shotgun on our Shotgun range (a single lane located between our rifle and upper pistol range). That way you can see the spread of your shot. Try different size shot to document their performance. Please use only shot shells on this range. Shot shells have BBs of various sizes and does not include slugs, fire breathing dragons, etc.



Please do not put your archery targets on the door of the shed or shoot into the door. Open door fully and use the hay bales for back stops. Thanks!

There is no need for anyone to work alone. Please call one of the following so that they can assist and provide additional safety. Joe Curran 412-610-3692, Except Thurs Smokey Burdin 724-396-9627 M-F 9-5 Kevin Kennelty 724-640-0726 Rich Boehm 724-953-4778

ITEMS FOR SALE, FOUND, LOST OR WANTED

RCBS Jr. Reloading Press, RCBS 44 Mag die set new in box, RCBS 30-06 die set new In Box, \$100, call 724-689-5586 (5/19)

Sig Sauer 516 AR15, Ten Point Crossbow, and 8 sealed tan bags of PMC 5.56 62gr ammo, 120 rounds per bag, so 960 total. Eric Betz 815-315-2206 (7/19)

Send info to ourisanews@gmail.com to list. Items will be posted for 3 months unless renewed.



Our Great Sponsors

A Better Choice Inc., Richard Pack 724-516-5000

ChooseAVintageLife, Bill & Rose Omalacy, 724-880-5832

Dominic Surace Automotive, Dominic Surace 724-527-5011

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

> David L. Holloman Tree Service, Dave Holloman 724-863-9082

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

Harper Electric, Tom Harper, 412-378-4757

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

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

KC Express Vending, Ken Carasia, 724-527-5233

Lenhart's Service Center, Nick Lenhart, 724-863-4000

> Manor Grille, Derek Gutkowski, 724-861-3404

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

Pete's Firearms, Larry Weightman, 724-515-5417 and 724-787-1023

Varine-Slavin Insurance, Niles Slavin, Agent, 724-527-2802

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

Revolation Arms, Charles Laughery, 724-527-2045

Scott Electric, Chuck Konkus, 412-389-9181

Westmoreland Equipment, Rental Sales & Service, Ernie Graham 724-744-3130

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

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

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



Vasko Tree Service, Robert Vasko, 724-515-7823

Welcome New Members

Ed Bryne	Export	
Denny Borbonas	Irwin	
Gary S. Proskin Jr.	Jeannette	

More than 60 members attended our March membership meeting (last Thursday each month). The 50/50 netted \$56 to a lucky member. The membership drawing was not collected, so next month it will be \$100 to the drawee.

***** 2019 ISA OFFICERS *****

		201913	AOFFICENS		
PRESIDENT		JOYCE L	ICHTENFELS	724-86	3-6940
VICE PRESIDENT		KEVIN K	KENNELTY	724-64	0-0726
FINANCIAL SECRE	TARY	SMOKE	Y BURDIN	724-39	6-9627
RECORDING SECF	RETARY	DAN NA	AVE	724-86	3-1392
TREASURER		MICHA	EL SERLO	724-52	3-3748
,	***** 20	019 ISA (COUNCIL *****		
JOE CURRAN (21)	412-61	0-3692	JOHN RUFFNER	(19)	724-744-2514
JON GILMORE (21)	724-43	3-9854	ED GOLLINGER (19)	724-864-0687
LAUREN WEST (21)	724-24	4-9053	LARRY LICHTENF	ELS(19)	724-863-6940
AL CEOL (20)	724 39	6 7010	RICH LINDH(19)		412-817-4074
JIM FISHER (20)	724-86	3-3764	RON COINER (21	.)	724-396-4971
RICH WEAVER (20)	412-63	8-3063	KEN GRAY (21)		412-610-2963

***** 2019 ISA Contact Persons *****

ACTION PISTOL	Vince Benkovich	724-744-4437
ARCHERY	John Reed	724-864-2488
COUNTY LEAGUE	Samuel Petrill Smokey Burdin Kevin Kennelty	724-523-9216 724-863-7365 724-640-0726
JR RIFLE TEAM	Paul Angelicchio	724-864-2026
KITCHEN	Lauren West	724-244-9053
LUCKY BB SHOOT	Al Ceol	724-396-7010
MEN'S PISTOL/SELF DEFENSE	Larry Lichtenfels	724-863-6940
NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE	Ron Coiner	724-396-4971
NRA	Smokey Burdin	724-863-7365
PISTOL PINS	Rich Weaver	412-610-2388
PISTOL SILHOUETTE	Ed Onder	724-989-6595
RIFLE	John Ruffner	724-744-2514
TRAP SHOOT	Lauren West	724-244-9053
WOMEN'S LEAGUE	Joyce Lichtenfels	724-863-6940
YOUTH DAISY BB COURSES	Ken Guidas	724-864-7318