



Richmond Rod & Gun Club

P.O. Box 26551, Blundell Centre P.O. Richmond BC V7C 5M9

Vol. No. 59 Issue No. 1 2016 Established 1955

Our 61st Year

2016 Club Directors & Committee Chairmen

President	Mike Thorne	604-272-3037
Immediate Past President	Bill Alexander	604-943-3211
Vice President	Evan Le Gal	778-865-3826
Secretary	Pete Jansen	604-765-7324
Treasurer	Kathy Stephens	604-272-3037
Bookkeeper	Josh Kositsky	-
Trustee	Bill Alexander	604-943-3211
Membership	Dave Howell	604-946-5459
Publicity & Public Relations	Barb Howell	604-946-5459
C.F.S.C. & CORE	Open	
Archery	Hugh MacDonald	604-733-8650
Editor-Newsletter	Dave Howell	604-946-5459
Fishing: Fresh Water	Brendon Tijman	778-865-3826
Tidal Water	Norm Richards	604-946-2933
Entertainment	Open	
Good & Welfare	Shirley Alexander	604-277-0248
Hall Management-Rentals	Mike Thorne	604-272-3037
Historian	Scott Alexander	604-946-4247
Conservation & Permits	Richard Thorne	604-551-7379
Hunting & Trophy	Norm Richards	604-946-2933
Air gun/ Rifle	Open	
Air Gun Match Coordinator	Open	
Trap & Skeet (sports clays)	Norm Mains	604-277-5233
Club Photographer	Ron Graham	604-559-7662
Dike Beautification	Gerhard / Heidi Rueter	604-278-8547
New Building Committee	Open	
Phone Committee	Karen Mennitti	604-277-5233
Nominating Committee	Evan LeGal	778-865-3826
NFA liaison	Garry Harding	604-277-8406

Richmond Rod & Gun Club Hall, tel. 604-278-2142,
 7891 Cambie Rd. (just West of 3 Rd by the dike)
 General Meetings 1st Tuesday each month 7:30 PM
 Executive Meetings 4th Tuesday each month 7:30 PM.

Archery, Air Gun ranges are located in Sportstown BC at
 4991 #5 Rd. (between Cambie and Westminster Hwy.)
 Trap & Skeet shoots are held at Vancouver Gun Club,
 7340 Sidaway Rd, Richmond.

General Meetings are usually held
 On the first Tuesday of the month
 Except for July and Aug (summer
 Recess) Doors open at 7:00 PM.

Check our Web Site:
www.rrgc.homestead.com

MOVING??

If you are moving or if
 any information on your
 mailing list is incorrect,
 please call me so I can
 correct our files.

Dave: 604-946-5459

Calendar of Events

Regular Shooting Schedule – as noted

Air Pistol & Rifle

Range Temp Closed. Range Chairman Req'd.

Archery

Sunday	7:30 PM – 9:00 PM
Tuesday	7:30 PM – 9:30 PM
Thursday	7:30 PM - 9:30 PM

Regular shooting schedule subject to closures
 on long weekends & stat. holidays.
 Please check with Range Officer ahead of time.

TRAP DATES

Sundays, 12:00 (Noon) at the Vancouver
 Gun Club range on Sidaway Rd. Richmond.

Dates:- Apr 30 Sat., May 29, Jun 26, Jul 31,
 Aug 27 Sat. , Sep 25, Oct 30, Nov 27, Dec 18.

Note: 2 dates changed to a Saturday.

Info– Norm Mains 604-277-5233.

****NOTE**** Members wishing to shoot at the
 Vancouver Gun Club on days that are not
 our scheduled shooting days are required to
 pay the daily range fees posted by the VGC.

FIREARM SAFETY & CORE

Non-restricted and Restricted Firearms
 Courses are held every six to eight weeks
 throughout the year to assist individuals
 obtain their Possession and Acquisition Li-
 cence (PAL). CORE Courses are conducted
 twice annually. For more information con-
 tact Albert Wood. 604-940-0042.

HALL MANAGEMENT

Our hall is looking good with all the renovations done during the past while and is available for rentals. So, the next time you are planning a function and are wondering where to hold it, give a thought to your own club hall. The rates \$350 + GST are reasonable and the hall accommodates 149 people. For more information and to make a reservation give Albert a call at 604-940-0042.

HISTORIAN

Our club historian is always looking for photos or items of interest to our members for insertion into our current club year history books. Please bring items to our monthly meetings with all pictures and items identified as to "where" "what" "who".

AIR-GUN MATCH



There was an omission of an award and photo of new club member, Naz Goli who won the Ladies Gold award for air pistol at the match held in Nov. 2015. It was mentioned that Brooke Ashcroft won this award, actually Brooke won the Ladies Jr. award.

The air gun registered match to be held during March 2016 and renamed to honour Paul Alexander had to be cancelled due to our shooting range in Sportstown BC being demolished. The City of Richmond was trying to find a new temp. location for us but the time to find something suitable and notification to the shooting competitors just did not work out. Hopefully our new location on River Road which the City has leased to our club will be ready well in advance of the Nov. match.

It was Saturday morning as Jake, an avid hunter, woke up raring to go bag the first deer of the season. He walks down to the kitchen to get a cup of coffee, and to his surprise he finds his wife, Erin, sitting there, fully dressed in camouflage.

Jake asks her, "What are you up to?" Erin smiles, "I'm going hunting with you! The kids are with their granddad."...Jake, though he had many reservations about this, reluctantly decides, to take her along.

Three hours later they arrive at a game preserve just outside of Malta, Montana. Jake sets his lovely wife safely up in the tree stand and tells her "If you see a deer, take careful aim on it and I'll come running back as soon as I hear the shot. He walks away with a smile on his face knowing that Erin couldn't bag an elephant - much less a deer. Not 10 minutes pass when he is startled as he hears an array of gunshots.

Quickly, Jake starts running back. As he gets closer to her stand, he hears Erin screaming, "Get the hell away from my deer!" Confused and frightened, Jake races faster towards his screaming wife, and again he hears her yell, "Get the hell away from my deer!" followed by another volley of gunfire! Now within sight of where he had left his wife, Jake is surprised to see a Montana game warden with his hands high in the air. The game warden, obviously distraught, yelled, "Okay, lady! You can have your deer! Just let me get my saddle off of it!"

ARCHERY

Richmond Rod and Gun Club Archers bring home Medals.

On the Easter long Weekend six archers from Richmond Rod and Gun Club travelled to Armstrong BC to Compete at the BC Archery Association Indoor Provincial Championships. In the Men's senior recurve category we had George Mak, Kyle Jung and Mang Zhu. Stephanie Lee competed in the Women's senior recurve category and Ron Graham competed in the Masters Men's-50 recurve class. Momoko Irie one of our JOP athletes competed in the Recurve Cub Women's division.

The competition was hosted by the Armstrong & District Fish & Game Association and attracted 132 competitors in 48 different categories. The competition consisted of 2 days of shooting of 60 arrows per person at an 18-meter distance. The two rounds are totaled and the results are tabulat-

ed. After two days of shooting RRRG members came home with 4 medals. Stephanie Lee and Momoko Irie both won gold in their categories and Mang Zhu and Ron Graham both earned silver medals.



Ron Graham, Silver medal in Master men's 50 re-curve.



Mang Zhu, Silver medal in Senior men's recurve



Momo Irie, Gold Medal in Women's Cub Recurve.



L. to R. RRG members. Mang Zhu, Kyle Jung, George Mak, Stephanie Lee and Ron Graham.

Congratulations to our Archery Section members, well done! Thanks to Ron Graham for this report.

MEMBERSHIP

The AGM saw new Chairmen appointed, welcome and thank you for letting your names stand.

There are several positions still open and the Club could sure use volunteers from our membership to help fill these vacancies. Please contact our Club President if you can assist and take on a position, without Chairmen to run a section our club loses out by having to drop the section as an active one.

Our 2015 membership year ended on 31 March 2016. A number of members have not sent in their renewals and we hope this is only an oversight. Please renew and support your club, we need all of



Stephanie Lee, Gold medal in Senior women's recurve.

of you to keep our club alive. For those not yet renewed I will include a membership form in this Newsletter and hope you will renew.

The following also included a donation to our building fund along with their renewal payment, many thanks to these members:-

Garry Harding, Doug Fiddick, Eric Stewart, Tony Vilardi, Gordon Young, James Lawson, Zoltan Nemeth, Mike Popoff, Ken Thorton, Ron Macht, Russell Janes, Ronald Keasberry, Norm Couttie, Carl Estabrook, Bill Andrews.

RESTRICTED FIREARM LICENCE RENEWAL

A short time ago members Jack Harrison and Albert Wood attended a meeting with the RCMP, Chief Firearms Division. New information obtained was our club could apply for an Approved Gun Club without a range. This is something fairly new that was not available in the past. Jack, Albert and I are in the process of completing the required items, one more item is required and at this time it looks like we will have everything in hand and can then proceed to complete the application and send it in for approval. Once this happens our club will once again be on the RCMP approved Club Lists. This will allow our members to renew the Restricted Firearm Licence along with a transportation permit to attend approved ranges in the Prov.

This will be a huge gain for our club and we can retain members who need to renew these permits. After losing our range and the Grand-Fathered clause we had for a number of years, a lot of members had to join other clubs with approved range in order to renew their permits; this over time caused a huge reduction in our membership.

BCWF

Online Limited Entry Hunting (LEH) Application System Launched

Effective April 25, 2016, the Province has launched a new online portal that makes it easy for hunters to access a range of e-services, including applications for limited entry hunting (LEH) draws. The B.C. hunting portal gives hunters instant access to apply for their resident hunting credentials and the new Fish and Wildlife ID (FWID), which replaces the old hunter identification number. Hunters without Internet Access can still visit a Service BC, FrontCounter BC or an authorized vendor to apply in person for the Fish and Wildlife ID or an LEH draw.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I was talking with Greg Wheeler from the city yesterday and was updated on the progress of our new indoor shooting range. The building is starting to take shape, the interior walls are now up and the ceiling for the indoor walls are the next thing that will be installed. Once the ceiling is finished the rest of the building will come together in good time. June is our expected time to take possession of this new range, I was informed that we should be able to enter by the middle of June as opposed to the end of June.

There is another item that has to be resolved before the Air gun range can be opened. The city wants the range to be certified by the Chief Firearms Officer. We informed the city that our Air guns do not exceed 500 feet per second and therefore our range does not need to be certified.

The city sees this as a grey area and they want clarification from the CFO. They are requesting either certification or a letter stating that our range does not need certification from the CFO. This request was only put forward to us this week and we will be attending to this matter as soon as possible.

I would like to thank our range officers and members for their patience and understanding over the past months. With the closing of Sportstown our club has faced some difficult challenges while waiting for our new facility to be ready for occupation. We hope to be in our new facility soon. The new and improved range will be better suited for our needs and will be our new shooting facility for nearly the next decade. I am looking forward to the move and a new beginning with more programs and better hours of operation for our members.

Thanks again for your patience.

Mike Thorne
President RRGCC

CLUB AFFILIATION !!!

Many thanks to Jim Helsdon, life member who assisted in arranging an affiliation with the Semiahmoo Fish and Game Club. With this, our club can now proceed with our application to the RCMP Firearms Div. so we will be an Approved Club without a range designation. Our members will now be able to renew their Restricted Firearm and transport permits.



Little Campbell Hatchery

**1284 184th Street
Surrey, B.C.
V3S 9R9**

April 24, 2016

**Dave Howell
Membership Chairman
Richmond Rod & Gun Club
7891 Cambie Road
Richmond, B.C.
V6X 1J7**

Dear Dave

At our monthly General Meeting the Richmond Rod & Gun Club's request to be an affiliated club was approved.

As has been discussed this will not give the Richmond Rod & Gun Club members any special privileges. Your club members are permitted to attend our indoor range as guests with the expectation that they pay our posted guest fees. It should also be noted that the number of guest visits is limited. When this limit is reached the guest will be required to become a member of the Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club.

Our indoor gun range schedule allows for .22rifle use on Tuesday evenings starting at 7:00pm . Hand gun use is scheduled on Wednesday evenings at the same time.

Regards

**Bob Donnelly
President, Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club**

NATIONAL FIREARMS ASSOCIATION

Dear Members,

I'm your new National Firearms Association liaison member for the club. I am making my first commentary through the club's newsletter because there's little point in making it to just the 20 or so faithful who attend every meeting and keep the club operational while the rest of you stay at home watching TV.

We now have a new government headed by Mr. Trudeau who may be basking in his new-found popularity. Let's hope he doesn't see this as a potential endorsement to enact some anti-gun laws. To that end, I'm going to address my first commentary as your NFA liaison member. Bear in mind that the NFA is the only lobby group registered as a gun lobby in Ottawa. It speaks for you. But do you ever speak for it? You can and quite easily. You can take just a half hour and write to the Minister of Public Safety and ask him to remove all vestiges of the C-68 Firearms Act and start fresh by at least listening to the NFA. If you write only to your MP your letter may go 'into a file if he or she does not agree with your views. Send photocopies of your letter to the Prime Minister, the Minister of Justice, the Solicitor General, and the Leader of the Opposition, your MP, and any senator you may know. No postage stamp is required to write to those people.

When you want something done, always write your letters to the person most likely to be the prime mover on the subject in question. An ordinary MP is not a prime mover, but a cabinet minister is because s/he has the power to act unilaterally. An ordinary MP could, of course, initiate a Private Member's Bill, and speak on your subject, but the speech may fall on deaf ears, so to speak, and his Bill may die on the Order Paper. Some people say that writing to a politician does no good. Those who say that are usually people who never write and are trying to justify their inaction. No intelligent politician who gets a raft of letters on his desk on one subject is going to ignore them. For example, when the Open Learning Institute started up, I completely changed how it was being operated by the principal by sending two letters to the Minister of Education. I pointed out that no other correspondence school in North America operated the way the principal was operating it. The Minister heeded my advice. Here's another example. My sister had a tax on home dressmaking materials removed by writing to a provincial cabinet minister in Victoria. Another example is a Congressman in Washington changed his vote on a Bill because he got six letters opposing it from his constituents. His backroom people told him that in his riding each letter he got represented 6,000 votes because for every letter he got there were 5,999 voters who agreed, but were too lazy to write or thought it would do no good.

A typical letter might look something like this, but don't just copy this one, draft your own.

Dear Minister of Public Safety,

I urge you to remove all vestiges of the C-68 Firearms Act and start fresh with a common sense Act by at least conferring with the National Firearms Association. In the past, it seemed as though only anti-gun people, police, and feminists were allowed a voice. Bear in mind that many people who are anti-gun are against guns simply because they don't like guns, not because they can show, statistically, that guns are dangerous.

Insurance companies know better than anyone else as to who is a danger to public safety because their money is riding on the issue. In that regard, licensed gun owners pay the lowest price of anyone for public liability insurance. Through the NFA, a licensed gun owner can buy \$5,000,000 worth of public liability insurance for \$10 right across Canada. Yet, as ironic as it may seem, even you as the Minister of Public Safety, if you drive a car, belong to a group which the car insurance companies consider a far greater threat to public safety than the average licensed gun owner. That's why you pay many times

more for only \$200,000 worth of public liability insurance to drive your car. And the anti-gun people who drive a car are in the same category, yet they don't think of themselves as being a greater threat to safety than the gun owners, but in statistical fact they are, as far as car insurance companies are concerned. The president of the B.C. Radio-controlled Model Airplane Association told me that the pilots of those airplanes pay \$75 for \$5,000,000 worth of public liability insurance because the insurance companies consider powered model airplanes to be more dangerous to the public than guns; incidentally, he was also a gun owner. As for criminal gun owners, the RCMP here in B.C. has told the public that criminals usually shoot at each other, not at the public. A sergeant in the RCMP also said that in an armed robbery, if the victims don't resist, usually there's no shooting. Some anti-gun person may try to argue that someone may be hit by a stray bullet when criminals are shooting at each other, but I would rather take a chance on being hit by a stray bullet than by being hit by that anti-gun person driving a car. The RCMP has said that some semi-automatic guns can be converted to full-auto operation. I suggest that this is a scare tactic aimed at the gun ignorant. As a teenager in machine shop class in the 1940's several of us knew how to do that with certain makes of rifles. But we didn't do it, and that's the real issue. Many things can be done, but they're not done. 90 % of us drive within the law, but a few don't. Should those of us who do obey the law have our cars taken from us because of a few drivers who risk people's lives? If semi-auto rifles are outlawed, then the private ownership of cars must certainly be outlawed on the basis that we might drive like maniacs.

Laws cannot be based on what could happen, unless that event is so certain as to be inevitable. If we were to base the laws on what could happen then the first thing to be outlawed would be, of course, the private ownership of cars. Most people don't need a car anyway. And no electricity. Someone could be electrocuted. And kerosene lamps would have to be prohibited. Consider what happened in Chicago when Mrs. Murphy's cow knocked over a kerosene lantern. And so on and so on. Finally, I am opposed to the RCMP making gun decisions. I want you, the democratically elected MP, to do that in consultation with the stakeholders such as the National Firearms Association.

Best regards, (Your letter could be much shorter than the above)

**Garry Harding,
NFA Chairman.**

RICHMOND ROD & GUN CLUB
 C/O Dave Howell 4443 64 St. Delta BC V4K 3M2
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FOR 2016 TO 31 Mar. 2017

Applicant's Name (1) _____ Date _____
 (please print clearly) (First) (Last)

Address _____

City _____ Postal Code _____ E-mail _____
 **** (help save us postage, elect email if possible)

Occupation _____ Phone No. (____) _____

New Member ___ Renew Member ___ Newsletter by email *** ___ or regular mail ___

Date of birth. (day) ____ (month) ____ (year) ____

Firearm Licence (PAL or POL) No. _____ Expiry Date _____

IF FAMILY APPLICATION PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SECTION:-

Spouse's Name (2) _____ DOB _____ (day/month/year)

Juniors (under 19 years of age & living at home)

Junior (3) _____ DOB _____ Junior (5) _____ DOB _____

Junior (4) _____ DOB _____ Junior (6) _____ DOB _____

Please circle interests you may have:- Fishing, Hunting, Trap & Skeet, Handgun/Airgun, .22 Rifle,
 Archery, Other _____

NOTE: New Temp. Range only allows Archery & Air gun!

ANNUAL FEE SCHEDULE (membership Year: Apr. 1st of current year to March 31st of
 Following year. Membership fee includes \$5 Million Liability insurance coverage for one
 Member. If your spouse or Junior(s) wish to use the range facilities additional insurance at \$9 per per-
 son per year is required. *** (see below, name the person(s) ***

Membership Fee	\$ _____	Juniors (under 19 Years of age)	67.00
		Senior Citizen & Spouse (over 65)	67.00
Additional Insurance	\$ _____	Single Membership (age 19 & over)	105.00
		Family Membership (includes Spouse & Juniors under age 19 @ same address)	117.00
Total Remitted \$ _____		*** Additional Insurance (per person)	9.00

ABOVE RATES ALL INCLUDE G.S.T. (Our GST Reg. No. is 87296-8011 BC0001)

Any donations toward the New Building Fund are Gratefully Accepted. \$ _____

*** Additional Insurance?? (name the person(s)) _____

Membership No's (1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____ (4) _____ (5) _____ (6) _____