

Marin Rod & Gun Club



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www.marinrodandgunclub.com

MAY 2007

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By **Todd Meyer**

\$40,000 in Picnic Tables, You must be Fooling???

The price of things these days is really getting out of hand. Believe it or not, when we did the math, the cost of replacing our picnic tables came to over Forty Thousand Dollars!!! (140 tables at \$290 each). So it was not a difficult decision to take a close look at how we could preserve our existing tables and have them in shape for our annual picnic, and to also have them more attractive for picnic ground rentals.

This process actually started prior to last years picnic with **Ron Potter** power washing a large number of the tables, and then with **Ron & Dianne Rodrigues** and **Rich & Kathy Stephenson** moving the tables so that the picnic area can be built up for proper drainage and their initial marking of those boards that need to be replaced on each table. **Bill Irons** then followed up by completing the task of marking the boards to be replaced. So now we're ready to finish the job of repainting our tables to have them to enjoy for decades to come.

Bill Irons also agreed to be the lead project manager for this picnic table repainting effort. He has identified the following steps in the process:

1. Power wash the remaining tables that need it and remove any rotted boards.
2. Rough sand and/or wire brush any remaining surface areas that require it and replace the boards.
3. Prime.
4. Paint.

Bill will be posting sign-up sheets for these various tasks for different days and times over the next few weeks and I highly encourage you to find a slot that works for you and come down to help in the effort, or if you receive a call to fill one of the crew spots please do your best to work a shift into your schedule. Many hands not only make for light work, but it's a lot more fun too. And while you have your calendar out, be sure to plan on attending the picnic this year on Sunday July 29 and enjoy our improved picnic area and tables. Let's make the 2007 picnic the biggest club turn out of any event this century and set the stage for a real resurgence of group activity here at the club.

I also want to take a moment here to thank **Larry Howard** the club treasurer now for the past year and a half who regrettably had to resign last week for family health reasons. Larry leaves

behind an impressive set of accomplishments from his tenure, including: clean-up of our chart of accounts, transfer of accounting software, improved tracking process for club investments and cash accounts, and well done Profit and Loss statements for every club event and basic function. Larry you will be missed, we appreciate all your efforts and we wish you well.

I also want to announce a new club function that's different from anything we've done in the past - **BREAKFAST**. **Louis Huerto-Rojo** and **Bill George** conceived the idea, which was presented and approved at the last general membership meeting. Every third Sunday each month from 8:00 to Noon a team of volunteers led by Louis and Bill will offer up Breakfast at the Club. Tickets will be on sale only at the event for just \$7 for adults and \$2.50 for children 16 and under. The menu will include an Egg Dish, Pancakes, Sausage, Bacon and/or Ham, a Potato dish, toast, OJ and coffee. Not to mention some scrumptious special Bloody Mary's and Mimosa's at the bar. The kick-off breakfast is Sunday, May 20th. We hope to see you there.

PIER REPORT

By **Mario Perrando**

April started with a few nice size Striped Bass being caught. By that we mean fish that weighed from 3 to 5 lbs. We also noted the increase of small fish in the area, including a few flounders. The little bullheads and smelt eat your bait as fast as you can put it on the hook. You might catch some 10 inch smelt as they are back and will normally increase in the coming months. By mid month along came the Rays. They will be with us for the next few months, unfortunately. In many cases this past month it was either real good fishing or not even getting a bite. Let's call it spotty. In any event, you will enjoy your day, so "give it a try" and see what you might bring up. Can't beat it for spending the day.

Membership Applications are available at the bar. The cost of \$150 includes the initiation fee of \$75 plus \$75 for current year dues.

Thought for the Day

Strange how much you've got to know before you know how little you know.

Helping our Heroes from Home

MRGC teams with Operation
Triple H to support our troops in
Iraq

Club member **Tom Burford** (USAF Veteran) knows what it's like to come off duty in the middle of a war zone, he lived it in Vietnam, and he wants to make a difference for our troops stationed in Iraq today. Beginning last November he and **Greg Allen** (USMC-Special Forces Veteran) began sending care packages to troops who came off duty into R&R at the US Central command in Qatar, and, given the appreciative comments from the soldiers who have received them, these packages really make a big difference.

So, when Tom approached the membership with his need to have more room to store and package the donated items, his request was met with unanimous approval. A temporary container has already been placed on the back lot where the items will be stored and a set day of the week will be announced for volunteers to come to the club to help compile these items into individual packages to then be sent off to Iraq. Very special thanks to **Chuck Bradley of American Storage** for his generous donation of a rental container for this storage.

Tom is seeking additional support from the membership in two specific ways:

1. Volunteers to come down and assist with the packaging.
2. Donations of the individual items and/or cash.

To volunteer or for a list of items to donate, simply give Tom a call at 415-847-1592 or send him an email at marinbackroads@comcast.net.

FRONT GATE

Because of construction at the front gate, access to the club during construction hours (7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.) may require up to a fifteen minute wait. Please be patient with the construction crew. They are doing the best they can.

MRGC BOAT RAMP

The boating season at the MR&G Club officially opened as of March 17th. The floats were installed by a group of members who use and appreciate this asset. I would like to thank the volunteers who donated their time and energy to make this possible: **Don Dickey, Mel Columbo, Mike Radmilovich, Bill Craig, Bob Bradford, Lee Poldino and John Otero.**

This summer the old creosote piles that hold the floats in place will be replaced with new concrete piles. We have all the necessary permits and a signed contract with a pile driving company. This means the launch facility will continue to be an asset to the club for many years to come.

That is the good news. As for the bad news, we have lost the use of the dirt parking area adjacent to the boat launch.

If you haven't been to the club lately, the dirt area to the right of the boat launch is being converted into a mini park. Cal Trans thinks this is an appropriate way to spend a million dollars of our tax money.

That being said, we need the cooperation of all our members and guests to **park all boat trailers in the rear parking lot.**

Also, it has become necessary to eliminate several parking spaces near the boat launch area in order to give our members enough room to launch their boats. Please don't park in the designated **"No Parking" areas near the boat ramp.**

Boaters, please use common sense, don't leave your boat tied up and go have lunch. This is not a docking area. You are in the way. Have a safe and enjoyable boating season. If you have any questions or comments concerning the boat launch, call me at (707) 548-2942.

Paul Tarzia, Boat Ramp Chairman

25 and 50 Year Members

The list of **25 and 50 year Members** is at the bar and also in the office. If you have not already received your pin, you may pick one up at the bar or leave your name and member number at the office and we will mail it.

Bar (415) 456-8142
Office (415) 456-3123

Editor's Note

Newsletter Deadline is the third FRIDAY of every month.

Recreational Fishing Alliance

Awards Dinner - May 11th

Reception - 6pm

Dinner - 7pm

Fabulous Raffle Prizes

Guest speaker, former Congressman Richard Pombo will talk about the new federal fisheries law. As Chairman of the House Resources Committee, he played a key role in the passage of the Magnuson-Stevens reauthorization. The RFA worked closely with him to make sure our interests were protected. This event is a benefit for RFA which is a national 501(c)(4) non-profit grassroots organization formed to safeguard the rights of salt water anglers and insure the long-term sustainability of our nation's marine fisheries.

Volunteer? Provide Raffle Prizes?
Call (707) 964-8326 or (707) 357-3422
Jim Martin, RFA

SAFE BOATING CLASS

The Marin Power & Sail Squadron is offering a U. S. Coast Guard approved safe boating class, "Boat Smart", at their Kell Educational Center, 789 North Hamilton Drive, Novato, on May 15, 16, 22, 23, 2007. Registration and questions, leave a message at (415) 883-6777.

WOMEN ON TARGET BASIC HANDGUN CLINIC

The NRA's Members Council of Marin offers a two hour, practical, pistol-shooting clinic. This clinic is designed for women who have never shot a pistol before, or want a refresher course because they have not shot for a long time.

Wednesday, June 6.....6:15 pm-9:00 pm
Sunday, July 15.....8:00 am-10:00 am
Wednesday, Sept. 19....6:15 pm-9:00 pm
Saturday, Nov. 17.....8:00 am-10:00 am

Questions & reservations - Peter Petrakis

(415)302-1035 or
marinm-c@comcast.net

Bullseye Precision Indoor Shooting Range

1281 Andersen Drive, San Rafael
Must be 18 years old

are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Membership.

Gun Notes From Here & There

By Fielding Greaves

Bad news. The lawsuit by Russ and Sally Nordyke vs Alameda County's banning gun shows on county property was rejected by a third court. Good news: They will probably appeal. The Nordykes used to do the Marin gun shows until they were banned because of belief in the nonexistent "gun show loophole." (In fact, **every** gun transfer (outside of immediate family) must by law be done through a licensed dealer and subjected to a background check of buyer.)

Hopeful news. Alan Gottlieb, honcho of Second Amendment Foundation and CCRKBA, speaking at San Jose recently, said he had had nearly a half hour chat with Supreme Court Justice Scalia at a meeting overseas, and that Scalia told him that if the Washington DC Parker case reaches the high court, he expects it will be upheld by six, possibly seven votes. Scalia said he had taken Justice Ginsburg shooting, and he thinks even she might support Parker.

More hopeful news. Jeff Knox, Neal's son and currently Exec of Firearms Coalition, believes the possible "next hero of the gun rights movement" may be Speaker Nancy Pelosi. Though far left and anti-gun herself, she will want to keep the Dem. majority in the House and probably won't risk a "gun fight at the DC corral." She knows the Second Amendment did better than the GOP in November's election, losing only a net of two pro-gun votes in Senate, with three of the four Republicans being replaced by solidly pro-gun Democrats.

"A fear of weapons is a sign of retarded sexual and emotional maturity."

Sigmund Freud

HUNTER SAFETY CLASSES

Fred Bowles (925) 284-2711

Club Gift Certificates in any amount, T-shirts & hats with the club logo, club decals, clocks, pens and club cookbooks are all available at the bar.

The views expressed in this newsletter

MAY 2007

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING - 7:00 p.m.

*Third Friday of the Month
All Members & Guests Welcome*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - 7:00 p.m.

*First Tuesday of the month
All members welcome*

BINGO

7:00 p.m.

Every Thursday night

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served at your seat*

Bring your friends & neighbors

BREAKFAST at MR&GC

Third Sunday of Every Month

Starting May 20

8 am to 12 noon

\$7.00 - Adults

\$2.50 - 16 & under

(all tickets sold at the event)

Egg Dish

Potatoes

Choice of Ham, Bacon,

Sausage or combo of above

Toast, Pancakes

Orange Juice, Coffee

**Club bar open for
refreshments**

*Come down and join us for this new
event. It promises to be a lot of fun.*

**Louis Huerto-Rojo & Bill George
Co-chairs**

NEW MEMBERS

**Jay Brusseau, Tim Cornin
Harry Elefther, Lynne Rieger
Donald Ring, Nicholas Smith**

IN MEMORIAM

**Our condolences to the families of
Members who have passed away:**

**Alfred Nannini
John Velcich**

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

May 13

10 am to 12 noon

Tickets for the **MOTHER'S DAY CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH** are on sale at the bar. Tickets will be \$12 for adults and \$5 for children under 8. The menu will include a buffet breakfast of an egg dish, sausage, ham, potatoes, hot cakes, miscellaneous fruit and pastries and, of course, champagne. That **IRON CHEF STEVE MCKEEVER** and his diligent band of slicers, dicers and hot cake flippers will be at the starting line and ready to serve you the best **Mother's Day Brunch** in the county. There will be seating inside the clubhouse and outside, weather permitting. If you don't have a mother available, don't let this keep you from coming. I'm sure we can find one for you to share. The bar will be open from 9:00 am to 1 pm. The **CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH** will be served from 10 am to 12 noon. Look for **IRISH COFFEE** and **MOTHER'S DAY FIZZES**, along with sodas, wine, beer and drinks. And don't forget we are now serving **DRAFT BEER. TO SPEED UP SERVICE WE WILL HAVE TWO SERVING LINES. CUT OFF DATE for tickets is FRIDAY, MAY 11 at 6 pm!!!** You might want to call the club before you come down for tickets in case the event is sold out. Sorry, there will be **NO** tickets sold at the door.

POT LUCK DINNER

Sunday, June 10

HORS D'OEUVRES - 4:00

DINNER - 4:30

July 22, August 26

WESTERN BBQ DINNER/DANCE

June 23

FAMILY PICNIC

July 29

Clip and Save -- 2007-2008

May 13.....	Mother's Day Brunch
May 20.....	Breakfast
June 10.....	Pot Luck Dinner
June 17.....	Breakfast
June 23.....	Western BBQ
July 15.....	Breakfast
July 22.....	Pot Luck Dinner
July 29.....	Annual Picnic
TBA.....	Kid's Day on the Pier
Aug 19.....	Breakfast
Aug 26.....	Pot Luck Dinner
Sept 10-Dec 17..	Monday Night Football
Sept 22.....	Ladies' Day on the Pier
TBA.....	Oktoberfest
Dec.....	Children's Christmas Party
Jan 12, 2008.....	Crab Feed
Feb 3, 2008.....	Super Bowl Dinner
Feb 2008.....	Men's Night Out

LADIES' DAY ON THE PIER

September 22

Wireless Internet

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in the clubhouse!**

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ONLINE VIA OUR WEB SITE
www.marinrodandgunclub.com
OR RECEIVE IT BY EMAIL**

We're trying to keep our mailing list current, cut down on postage and paper use, and keep our readers happy with timely news. You can easily help by choosing to "opt out" of receiving the printed newsletter, and **view it online** or receive it **via email** instead. Here's how:

Method 1. Use the "Newsletter Opt-Out" form on our website at www.marinrodandgunclub.com, or

Method 2. Call in your request to (415) 456-3123. Please provide your current contact information (name, phone#, email, and current mailing address).

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