

Fredericton Trap & Skeet Club
Presidents Report for 2011
Presented at the January 8th, 2012 AGM

Our Club has experienced another successful year. The established structure of shoots and programs remained much the same as the previous year. Our mainstays of trap and skeet shooting allows us to be active year round with sporting clays being shot from May to October. The Tuesday evening sporting clays and Wednesday afternoon and evening skeet and trap are proving to be more popular every year. The social aspect of shooting is enhanced considerably with barbecued meals being served after the shooting is over on both evenings. We are fortunate to have the facility infrastructure and amenities in place that allow us to enjoy and appreciate what our membership has built.

The Youth Novice program was again held in April with a good turnout of young shooters. Bev Bacon and Brian Lewis instructed the course with an emphasis on safety and shooting enjoyment. The Local Chapter of the Ruffed Grouse Society (John Lockerbie) and Winchester Ammunition (Darren Hasson) along with the FTSC helped to sponsor and subsidize this annual program. A first ever novice shoot was also held this year with Kyle Stairs being the lead organizer for this event. We again helped to host the Annual DNRE Youth Field Day in June with Bev Bacon, Mike Stairs and Guy Lafranchise (instructors for the Canadian Firearms Safety Course) assisting as our club organizing representatives. The youth are so important to the future sustainability of the shooting sports.

Our shooting season starts off each year with a registered skeet shoot. The George Lindsay Memorial Skeet Shoot is held around the last of April and consists of 200 skeet targets. FTSC is a member of the NSSA and Gerrit van Raalte is the official Director for New Brunswick.

The past year has seen a number of improvements in regards to the grounds and roadways on the property. Culverts were installed and drainage ditches were dug in areas that have experienced problems over the years. The fields in front of and at the rear of the clubhouse were bushhogged along with the road that goes to the back of the property. A number of trees that were close to the clubhouse were removed and the parking lot was enlarged. An additional sporting clays station access road was created on the south side between stations # 9 and # 11 to expand the variety of presentations that we can offer. Mike Stairs General Contracting was hired to perform this work. Mike and his son Kyle are members and have a genuine interest in helping to improve our club and to see it succeed.

The club purchased a new pair of Laporte skeet machines for use on Skeet # 3 and also for use on the mountain station during the SC season. A pair of Promatic Pro Skeet machines were purchased to replace the old Winchesters on Skeet # 1.

The sporting clays shoot sponsors contributed to another successful year of events. The Ruffed Grouse Society (John Lockerbie) started the season off with a well attended and bountiful prize table. The Gun Dealer (Ross Faulkner) has been instrumental in growing the sporting clays shoots with the following participating companies, Beretta (John Day), Browning (Jack Keeley) and Winchester Ammunition (Darren Hasson). Our club hosted the second annual RNBRA Provincial Shotgun Championship in September to wrap up the larger shoots of the year. In December a 50 clay skeet shoot was held with the profits donated to the "Feed a Family Campaign" charity.

I have been especially pleased with the increased number of hits that our website has gotten over the last year. Hardly a week goes by without 1-2 emails inquiring about the club and what we have to offer.

Thanks to all members who contributed their time and energy to improve and maintain the viability of our club. We are only as strong as our member participation. I would like to thank my fellow Executive and Board of Directors for their input and guidance over the past year and look forward to a prosperous 2012.

Laurence Gilbey
President