

Dear members,

Spring is here and the 2017 shooting season is upon us. During the past winter, our club membership and executive board put together a long range plan for the club. Part of that plan, going forward, is to replace the current trailer with a new building. As most of us know, we surely need a new clubhouse! It has been decided to move forward with this project.

Also, there has been discussion between the Alexandria Bay School District and our club in regards to the local school's trap league. Several local school districts are currently in the league and there is an interest in Alexandria Bay joining in. As we speak, there are numerous students in Alexandria Bay that want to participate in the league. These kids are the future of shooting sports.

That being said, it has been decided by our club to support the Alexandria Bay School Trap League. Part of the league requirements is that students who shoot must receive classroom safety training. So, the first phase of a new facility is to build a classroom. Not only will the classroom be used for the kids; it can also be used for hunter safety training, NRA pistol training, law enforcement training or other club functions. Included in this classroom is an additional bathroom, handicapped accessible. This classroom will be a great asset to the club.

To raise funds to build the classroom, the club has embarked on an ambitious fund raising campaign. Part of this campaign is an evening river cruise aboard Uncle Sam's Alexandria Belle. This cruise event will include 50/50 raffles, wine pull, and bell jar auction. Some of the highlights of the auction include jewelry, a guided fishing trip, washer & dryer, a guided duck hunting trip, overnight stay and concert tickets at Bonnie Castle. Tickets will be \$30 per person. Included is appetizers/hors d'oeuvres, soft drinks, coffee, deserts. A cash bar will be on the cruise. The cruise is August 2, 2017. Cocktail hour will start at 6:30 pm on the boat, Departure is 7:30.

In addition, there is currently a 10 gun raffle going on. Tickets are available now @ \$10 each. There is a limit of 850 tickets being sold. The drawings for the guns will take place on the boat cruise. You do not have to be present to win. Tickets are available at the club and at Garlock's Lumber. There is also a raffle for a Ruger mini 14 .223. Only 100 tickets will be sold. Tickets are \$10 and are also currently available at Garlock's Lumber, Alexandria Bay. The Ruger is on display there.

**To purchase Tickets for either gun raffle or for the August 2<sup>nd</sup> boat cruise, call John Barhite at (315) 729-3318.**

There is a lot going on at the club this season. I encourage members to attend the monthly meetings, second Saturday of the month at 11am. We look forward to your input and ideas. Most importantly, we need your support. It is requiring a lot of help organizing this campaign and selling tickets. Donations of items to raffle and/ or cash donations to help underwrite items would be greatly appreciated. All money we raise will go 100% to the building fund.

I am looking forward to seeing all. Thank you for your support.

Regards,  
Geoffrey Hillick