



HARRODS CREEK FIELD & STREAM CLUB

P.O. Box 22592
Lyndon, Kentucky 40222



APRIL MEETING WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15
7:00 PM AT THE NORTH OLDHAM LION'S CLUB

EARLY NEWSLETTER: Please note that you have received your newsletter one week early. This is due to the fact that I am going on vacation and would return too late to get your letter out. Please note the meeting date. It is not the Wednesday after you received this letter.

GUEST SPEAKER: Our guest speaker this month is our own Tom "Moondawg" Ulmer. Moondawg will be giving a demonstration of how a retriever is trained and works. He will be giving this demonstration with his Champion Lab "Blue". This should be one of our better programs. Please make note of the meeting time at 7:00. We'll have to start early to make sure that Dawg and dog have enough light to do their stuff. Please be on time.

SPEAKING OF RETRIEVERS: May ⁹ is the date of the Wildlife Officer's Benefit Hunt. We are committed to throwing the birds for this event. We need all of your help to make this a success. Please sign up and come out and help. We have committed to this project. Let's show everyone how we honor our commitments.

DUES: This is the last whine of the season. Your dues are due and payable now. If you want to be included in the League of Kentucky Sportsmen and continue to receive the Happy Hunting Ground (or whatever they changed the name to), you must be paid up at this meeting. I will be mailing the roster after this meeting. Don't screw up. Get your dues in before it's too late.

CATFISH DERBY: Our annual Catfish Derby will be held the weekend after the June meeting. Just thought I'd give you a little reminder early in this newsletter. We'll be having a river bank clean up before the Derby. Watch your next newsletter for details. JUNE 6

HCFS LOTTO: This month's lotto is \$40.00. You know the rules. Be there!

2 **SPORTING CLAY SHOOT:** We are planning to have our July meeting at the Jefferson Gun Club. Before the meeting we will be having a sporting clay shoot. This night coincides with the league that several of our members are shooting in. This should be a good time. Mark your calendar now.



In Cooperation with League of Kentucky Sportsman (3rd District),
National Rifle Association, National Wildlife Federation



MY TURN: This month's MY TURN column is from gunsmith Gary Roman. Gary writes:

One of the most common methods of cleaning and storage of firearms that we see in my shop is to take your dirty weapon after the season ends and shove it into a dark, moist corner. Then bring it in to 2140 Old Sheperdsville Road to repair all of the damage that your storage caused it. I make a lot of money repairing and restoring firearms stored and cared for in this manner.

An alternative to this method is to properly clean and store your weapon. The most overlooked portion is cleaning of the weapon. Leaving lead, copper or powder fouling in you barrel may trap moisture, causing rust and pitting under the crud that you left. Start by using a strong solvent and some elbow grease. Use an appropriate cleaning rod, patches and brushes to clean the barrel and chamber. A good solvent like Shooter's Choice will remove all types of fouling. Once you have removed all of the crud, dry the barrel and chamber with several clean patches. Once the patches run through the barrel and remain clean, oil the bore. This is done by putting a small amount of a quality gun oil on a patch and running it through the bore. Use a real gun oil. WD-40, 3 in One oil and other multipurpose lubes are not suited for firearms. Use the right product. Remove the stock from the weapon and clean off all of the residue that was trapped by the stock. Take your oily patch and cover all of the metal surfaces. Pay special attention to the trigger group. Clean this area carefully and put a drop of oil on all pivot points. Reassemble the weapon and store it in an area that has constant temperature and humidity. Your weapons should be stored in the fired condition, so that the firing pin spring is not sitting compressed all summer. Guns should never be stored in a vinyl or leather case. They do not "breathe" and can accumulate moisture. A cloth case is preferable. NEVER STORE A FIREARM LOADED. This is a perscription for disaster. Never try to hide your guns from your kids. Better you should teach your kids what your guns are and what they are used for. You cannot hide them well enough to keep them from your kids and the more they know, the less curious they will be. In all gun handling and storage, safety is the first, last and most important rule.

Thanks, Gary. The column for the June letter is open. Let's hear from you.

BULLY PULPIT: Last month, I got a speeding ticket. I really deserved it. I was cooking along when Louisville's finest hammered me. Two days later, one of my co-workers got a speeding ticket in the same spot from the same cop. A few days later, another friend got a speeding ticket.

When I first thought about these tickets, I began to think about how efficient traffic enforcement is in our area. They really pinch those who violate the law. Make no mistake, I was guilty. I don't dispute this. What did occur to me is that perhaps more time should be spent on educating people as to why they should not do wrong and more time should be spent on preventing crime (be it speeding or bank robbery). If people were educated as to the effects of wrong actions and more time was spent preventing crime, less enforcement and punishment would be necessary.

I feel that this is very true of game law enforcement. Our conservation officers do an excellent job of enforcing game laws. They are to be commended. I still wonder if we would need less enforcement if we had a more educated group of hunters and fishers. If the ethics of hunting and fishing were widely known and understood, I am certain that less game law violations would occur.

I am not under the illusion that a certain segment of our population would be criminals under any circumstances. Poachers are thieves, pure and simple. They steal our game. They steal game for future generations. When they do something that feeds the bunny hugger's frenzy for banning hunting and fishing they are stealing from our children's future. They are the lowest form of existence, and should be sought out and punished. Still, a large portion of the population are law abiding citizens. This portion of society will generally do what's right, as long as they understand why it is right. It is not enough to just have laws. The laws must make sense. More importantly, the laws must make sense to the population on which they are enforced. This can be accomplished by educating the public as to the reasons for the laws.

The hunter education courses that are taught by most states spend a small amount of time on the ethics of hunting. Ethics are a very difficult thing to teach. They are generally passed on by example. They are formed, to a large part, by local custom. Although ethics are a very difficult subject to teach, more time and effort should be given to such teaching.

It would seem that if more attention was paid to the teaching of ethics and the explanation of the reasons behind game laws, less emphasis would have to be placed on law enforcement. The men and women who enforce the fish and wildlife laws are to be commended for the work that they do on our behalf. I am grateful for what they do. Wouldn't it be nice if we could raise a generation that would lessen the need for law enforcement significantly.

