

OWL KILL ROD & GUN CLUB

DECEMBER 2014



President: Lance Allen Wang

Treas.: Randy Burgoyne

Vice Pres.: John D'Allaird

Secretary: Tom Duclos

Board of Directors: Mark Mahoney (Chairman), Bill Zeppetelli, Tim Barry, Bret Seiler

*** www.owkill.org *** OWLKILL ONLINE IS NOW LIVE!!! *** www.owkill.org ***

Monthly Meeting: The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Owkill Rod & Gun Club will be held on Thursday December 11th at 7:00p.m. All members are invited and encouraged to attend.

President's Comments: For those of you hunting, I hope your season is going well. For those of you who are women hunters – good for you! You're one of the largest growing groups of shooters in the country. And for those who are introducing your kids to the sport, enjoying an outdoor family activity, better for you! You are ensuring the future of shooting sports, and teaching kids safety and respect for firearms. The overall number of hunters is dropping, which is very unfortunate. Not only is unfortunate for management of the herd size, but its also unfortunate as hunters are an important demographic to challenge ongoing efforts by less-than-knowlegeable legislators to whittle away at Second Amendment rights. "No one needs 10 bullets to kill a deer!" – Gov. Andrew Cuomo, 2013. "As though that was the point!" - Lance Allen Wang, 2013.

THE OWLKILL LOTTERY

We are going to build on the success of our lottery – and hold it in the Spring this time. The month of May (NOTE THIS IS DIFFERENT THAN ORIGINALLY ANNOUNCED – I originally stated April) will be prize-a-day drawings – and yes, we're changing up the roster of prizes. Different gift certificates, different firearms, different swag. Buy tickets. Sell tickets. You can even pre-purchase them with your membership renewal. Support your club!!!!

ELECTIONS

Folks, our February meeting will be our Annual Meeting which will include elections. Want to get more involved? I'll say you do! So consider joining our Board of Directors, or running for a position. We'll be looking for a new President, as I'm completing my fourth year and we have term limits you know..... If you're interested in a position reach out to me or John Wiley.

BUDGET

Also at the Annual Meeting we will vote on the Budget. Committee chairs are providing their priorities for improvements and maintenance – committees, you may recall are: Rifle (Chair: Brian Bliss), Pistol (Randy Burgoyne), Archery (Bill Zeppetelli), Skeet (John Wiley), Grounds (John Wiley), and Legislative (Alex Hillis). Reach out to your committee chairs if you have any ideas, and if you can't reach them, feel free to contact me.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

We have new membership application and renewal forms. Make sure you use the new forms! And make sure you include signed safety rules with the forms! You are required to recertify your understanding of these rules annually. Be safe. Protect yourself. Protect the Club. Everybody wins....

TRIVIA

Trivia question from last month. Billy Dixon was a famous scout and buffalo hunter in the Old West, not least for his being one of eight civilians awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. He also held a shooting record not matched until the Vietnam War. What was this record, and what was the weapon he used to break this record?

Billy Dixon's claim to fame was that he made the longest sniper kill (well, it wasn't technically a kill, though it took the enemy out of action with a broken arm), knocking a Indian chief Quanah Parker off his horse at 1,578 yards in 1874 at the Second Battle of Adobe Walls. The bullet took almost five seconds to arc to its target. This record was not beaten until the Vietnam War. The weapon he used was a borrowed .50-90 Sharps "Big Fifty" rifle.



Billy Dixon – early pioneer of the ridiculously long sniper shot

Extra credit: Who broke the record, and what unusual choice of weapon did he use for this purpose? Marine sniper and legend Gunnery Sergeant Carlos Hathcock set the new record in 1967 using an M2 Browning heavy machine gun with a telescopic sight, killed a Vietcong guerilla at 2,500 yards.



Gunnery Sergeant Carlos Hathcock, 93 kills as a sniper, using one of his more "traditional" tools.

Next month's question: Almost a year ago to the day, a firearms legend passed away. He had several inventions to his credit. One of his most famous inventions was a rifle which he stated was "a weapon of defense," and "not a weapon for offense." Indeed, while accuracy is not the hallmark of his most famous rifle, reliability was.

Board of Directors: Board of Directors meeting will take place at 6:15 p.m. prior to the regular membership meeting on Thursday December 11th.

*** Got something you want to contribute to the newsletter? Better yet – are you willing to step up and edit this monthly communication? Let me know, I always appreciate someone who is ready to grab on to an opportunity to excel and help the club.

Lance Allen Wang
President and acting newsletter editor