

# RICHMOND HUNTING CLUB, INC.

P.O. BOX 6718  
VACAVILLE, CA  
95696-6718



707-451-1690 for  
Membership & Water  
Blind Information

[www.richmondhuntingclub.com](http://www.richmondhuntingclub.com)

*December 2011 Newsletter*

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

It has been a good year. We have been able to overcome many difficulties and are looking forward to an even better year in 2012. Most of our dove hunters had a good shoot, our pheasant hunters we able to take most of the birds planted and took numerous wild birds from our properties. The duck and goose season has started out very well with a lot of successful hunters in spite of the fact that most water blinds did not receive water until a little latter due to the late harvest.

IT HAS BEEN A PRETTY GOOD YEAR SO FAR. SOME OF OUR MEMBERS HAVE DONE WELL AND WE HAVE THE PHOTOS TO PROVE IT.





## FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope this communication finds everyone out in the field hunting. I want to take a few minutes of your time to let you know what is going on with our club.

It has been a very long year and the Board of Directors have been putting in a lot of time trying to make changes to the direction we have been headed over the last several years. We know that not everyone has the time to attend our monthly board meetings (second Saturday of every month) so I will summarize what we have been working on to make the club stronger and provide a better hunting experience to all members.

**Policy and Procedures** - One of the first tasks taken on by the board was to review the various documents that were being circulated around the club as the “rules” of the club. Many versions of several sets of rules existed and the board felt it was necessary to collect all the existing information, revise and develop policy and procedures to handle the many situations that seem to come up from time to time to assure that every member is treated fairly and equally. The Policy and Procedure Manual is now posted on the web site for everyone to view.

**Finances** - The second issue addressed by the board was that of our financial situation. First and foremost it was agreed to by all board members that they were voted into their positions by you the members and hence should be held responsible for the financial success or failure of the club. To that end the Finance Committee was disbanded. The expenses incurred each month are presented and must be approved by the board at each of the monthly meetings.

Research showed that for a variety of reasons many of our hunting areas operated in the red and those areas were dropped or changes made to assure they could at least break even. We were not 100% successful with this endeavor due to multi year leases we had to honor but will address the issues as the opportunities arise.

Another major problem is the fact that the current board of directors inherited a debt totaling approximately \$135,000 (\$97,000 mortgage and \$38,000 line of credit). Records showed that in 2000 the club had approximately \$20,000 in assets and by 2010 the club had a liability of \$135,000. In order to keep club financially solvent the property on Maxwell road was refinanced in 2005 with approximately \$60,000 of equity being used to keep the club financially sound. In 2008 additional

money was needed and the club negotiated a \$40,000 line of credit, with the president at the time, Les Edwards, personally guaranteeing the loan. The good news is that in addition to acquiring several new leases for needed property the club was able to purchase badly needed gravel for several of the parking areas, repaired the woodstove at Headquarters, and replaced the wells at Arbuckle and Headquarters at a cost of \$28,000. We have been able to meet all of our financial obligations in a timely manner, have a financial liability of approximately \$26,000 through the end of February and have approximately \$73,000 in the bank to cover that liability. It is the intent of the board to pay down the line of credit in March to significantly reduce our liability.

I also want take this opportunity to clarify some of the information that has been passed around the club regarding the "line of credit". First and foremost, no single member of the board has the authority to commit club monies without board approval. Secondly I want make it clear that your board is acting in the best interest of you the members of the club. The line of credit has existed for several years and was partially paid down each year but ultimately monies had to be taken against the line of credit in order to assure the club could meet its financial obligations through March 1<sup>st</sup> when water blind fees are due. The current board made a commitment that until our financial situation clearly demonstrated that we had sufficient capital to pay our bills through March 1<sup>st</sup>; we would only make the required monthly payment on the line of credit. This has been difficult in light of disgruntled members leaving the club and those same members trying to dissuade others from joining and the numerous repair projects that we have had to undertake in order to assure the hunting experience of our members.

Another issue that I would like to clarify is that of trailer parking fees and when they are due and payable. The current board inherited a policy where for a number of years the off season parking was from March through August and the hunting season parking was from September through February. Please read the attached letter, sent out early in the year to those that had trailers parked on RHC property, that addressing fees for the 2010/1011 year. At the January Board meeting this policy was changed to \$700.00 for the year. The current board felt that \$700 on top of the water blind fees would be difficult for many of our members and approved dividing the amount into two payments, moved the due date for the first payment of \$350 back to May 1<sup>st</sup> and allowed the second payment of \$350 due on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Club Clean-up** – The general condition of club properties have gone through a major clean-up. Numerous club members pitched in and assisted with the task of hauling off tons of junk from Headquarters, Arbuckle, Old Maxwell and the Knowles Ranch. Dumpsters full of carpet buried 12 inches deep were dug up and hauled off at Old Maxwell, scrap metal was collected and hauled off from every trailer park and numerous trailers, campers and abandon structures were dismantled and hauled off in an effort to make the club grounds more presentable to the landowners and perspective members. The clubhouse at Headquarters was cleaned up, the bunk house room was cleaned and beds installed for members use and gravel was spread at all of the club properties. The water heater in the caretakers residence was replaced at Arbuckle. Our members in Arbuckle area pitched in and are holding raffles to repay the club for the replace cost of both the water heater and cooking stove at Arbuckle. As previously stated the wood stove has been repaired at headquarters and the well at both Arbuckle and Headquarters have been replace and a clean drinking water permit has been issued by the State of California.

**Non-Profit Status** – There has been a lot discussion regarding the clubs tax status. The Internal Revenue Service has designated Richmond Hunting Club, Inc. as a "non-profit" corporation, which exempts RHC from paying income taxes on any profits made. The rumor that this status prevents the

club from making a profit is in error. We would not be able to keep the doors open if we operate in the red every year.

## **WE NEED YOUR HELP**

Land owners take a lot of pride in their properties and we have had several reports of RHC hunters traveling across farm roads and in some cases leaving deep ruts. It is against club policy to travel on any farm road without permission from the Area Manager, Vice President or President of the club. If you observe any violations of the rule we ask that you contact a board member immediately with vehicle description, license number, etc. This practice must stop immediately as we have been put on notice that we might not be offered the property for lease in the upcoming years.

A couple of incidents regarding exchanges between land owners, farmers or those stating they represent these individuals have occurred over the past few months. If you should become involved in an incident such as this, even if you believe you are in the "right", please do not get into a confrontational role with them. Listen to what they have to say, attempt to the best of your ability to resolve the immediate situation, and report the incident the Area Manager, Vice President or President as soon as possible.

We have also received several reports of individuals that were not members or no longer members of the club hunting on RHC properties. If you observe a violation of this rule please gather as much information as possible, without becoming confrontational. REMEMBER anyone can be brought onto club property by a member holding a valid guest card. If the person is trespassing, we ask that a phone call to both Fish & Game 1-888-DFG-CALTIP and the club Vice President 707-853-1323 be made with time, date, location (include county), vehicle description and vehicle license number(s)

## **FINANCIAL STATUS**

Our highest priority is to place RHC on a solid financial footing. Payments for the leases we hold for hunting rights to our properties are due and payable in June and again in September.

All members **MUST** meet the following deadlines or they will place themselves in a position of having their blind or trailer space filled by someone else.

**Water Blind and Membership      March 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Trailer Parking  
General Membership**

**1<sup>st</sup> 1/2 May 1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> 1/2 August 1<sup>st</sup>  
May 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Returning members will be assessed a \$75.00 late fee if General Membership dues are not received by May 30<sup>th</sup>.**

The club can no longer afford to borrow money to cover those that have not paid.

***Memberships are always OPEN  
Hunt approximately 15,000 acres, seven days a week***

**DUES for the 2011-12 Season \$500.00 WIVES – Free JUNIORS - \$5.00 GUEST CARDS \$425.00**

**DUES ARE DELINQUENT JUNE 1, 2011**

**\*\* AFTER JUNE 1, 2011 a \$75.00 Late Fee is due (Does not apply to a new member) \*\***

**\$250 LIFETIME INITIATION FEE**

Credit Card / Payment accepted; Visa/MasterCard

**A “YOUNG ADULT GUEST PASS” is available for members with YOUNG ADULT HUNTES**

**Between 16 and 18 years of age (proof of birth date required) Call for information.**

RHC one time initiation fee is deferred (with proof of birth date) for persons applying for membership who have NOT reached the age of 19 by September 1 of the year applying

### **CLUB WEBSITE**

**Check out our website at the address above to get the latest on club events and general information. Applications for Membership, Policies and Procedures, RV Parking Agreement, Old Maxwell Parking Addendum, Arbuckle Parking Addendum and Water Blind Change Request forms are also available on our website.**

### **IMPORTANT DATES & INFORMATION**

- **RHC Annual Meeting January 28th**

# **RICHMOND HUNTING CLUB NOTICE**

## **2010/2011 TRAILER PARKING FEE**

The Richmond Hunting Club is a not for profit hunting club and as such is dedicated to keeping dues and fees low for its members. As a consequence the club has provided members with a unique and economical hunting experience for over 50 years.

Understanding this, the club must reluctantly inform those members who wish to park trailers on club properties that it must increase the trailer parking fee for the 2010/2011 hunting season. The increase in fees is a result of the increase the club has experienced in the cost of electricity from PG&E; on average 6% per year for the past five years. This in combination with the increased usage of electricity, by those members who park their trailers on club properties, has made electricity the club's third largest expense and the single largest expense for trailer parking. Consequently the club can no longer absorb these trailer parking expenses and must pass them on to those who use this service.

Therefore, effective for the 2010/2011 hunting season (September — February) the club will charge \$700.00 (\$116.66per month) for trailer parking with hookups and \$350.00 (58.33) per month for trailer parking with no hookups. The fee for off season trailer parking will remain unchanged at \$450.00 (\$75 per month). All trailer parking is subject to availability and the rules the club establishes.

Although it is regrettable the club has been forced to raise trailer parking fees a survey of other trailer parking providers reveals that the club continues to provide a bargain to its members which is consistent with the club's mission to provide its members with a cost effective hunting experience.

The club would also use this notice to request those members who take advantage of trailer parking on club properties to be conscientious about their use of electricity. Please do not leave appliances and lights running when trailers are not occupied. If through conservation practices the club can reduce its cost of electricity it will pass on this savings in the form of reduced parking fees in the future. You should also know that in an effort to keep trailer parking fees down the club is currently investigating the possibility of installing individual meters to record the use of electricity at each trailer. If such an action proves to be feasible this would allow the cost of electricity to be billed to those who use it and would be a more equitable method to distribute this expense. Those members who use more electricity would pay more to park their trailers than those who use less.

**ATTACHMENT #1**



**YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS COMMITTED TO  
MAKING THINGS BETTER**

**Remember it is your club, get involved, and come to the board meetings!!!**

**PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, CONCERNS OR COMPLAINTS**

**OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

Ronald Glantz – President - (707) 479-5916  
Bill Schuette – Vice President – (707) 853-1323  
Keith Lay – Secretary – (650) 520-1096  
Don Frana – Treasurer – (650) 200-5388  
Ian Smith – Financial Secretary – (707) 451-1690  
Dave Garcia – Guide – (916) 201-1356  
Mike Bish – Guardian – (530) 647-1406  
Curt Anderson – Director – (530) 514-8540  
Tim Bush – Director – (707) 490-7629  
Rick Garcia – Director – (408) 593-7791  
Leonard Guidici – Director – (707) 678-1309  
Larry Martin, Jr – Director – (530) 401-0834  
Dave Owen – Director – (530) 200-2989  
John Owen – Director – (530) 228-3948  
Mike White – Director – (707) 849-6663

**GENERAL PROPERTY MANAGER**

Bill Schuette – ((707) 853-1323)

**TRAILER PARK MANAGERS**

MAXWELL – Jim McCormick – 415-850-8714  
ARBUCKLE – Mike Bish (530) 417-1479  
OLD MAXWELL – Mike White (707) 849-6663

**AREA MANAGERS**

ARBUCKLE - Mike Bish (530) 647-1406  
BUTTE CITY - Bill Schuette – (707) 853-1323  
Curt Anderson – (530) 514-8540  
OLD MAXWELL - Mike White - (707) 849-6663  
MAXWELL - Bill Schuette – (707) 853-1323  
PRINCETON - Mike Smith - (530) 624-3775  
John Owen - (530) 228-3948  
WILLIAMS - Mike Bish - (530) 417-1479  
ZAMORA – Rich Goodrich – (925) -818-1044

**POND COORDINATORS**

BUTTE CITY NORTH - Curt Anderson – (530) 514-8540  
BUTTE CITY SOUTH – Bill Schuette – (707) 853-1323  
BUTTE CITY EAST - Mike Smith - (530) 624-3775  
FUNK CREEK POND – Ward Blanchette – 925-325-2711  
HEADQUARTERS POND – Bob Wartburg–(530)990-0759  
JOANN POND – Rich Goodrich – 925-818-1044  
LURELINE EAST POND - Rich Goodrich – 925-818-1044  
MAXWELL POND – Don Balding- (916)726-0872  
PRINCETON POND - Mike Smith - (530) 624-3775  
REFUGE POND - Leonard Guidici – (707) 678-1309  
SECTION 19 POND - Bill Schuette – (707) 853-1323  
TWO MILE ROAD POND – Greg Walker – (707)449-9158