

President's Corner

April 2021



Hi All

Well Spring is finally here! The grass is greening, allergies are in full swing and it is time to start shooting outdoors again! I apologize that it has been so long since the last Shavings, we will try to do better. Since this is my first time writing the President's message, I am hoping you forgive me if I wander a little.

As I am sure you are all aware the Derecho had a devastating effect on our club grounds. (Please see Carl's message for more on the cleanup). We are fortunate to have had several people work tirelessly to open enough trails to hold our first outdoor shoot of the year this month. The Spring Strut will be April 17th and 18th and we hope you all can come out and shoot it with us. Yes, even I am going to try it. I am not an outdoor shooter and have never shot an outdoor 3 D so it will be a new experience for me. (Check back next month to see how I like it).

The next membership meeting will be held on the 21st of April at 7 PM at the Clubhouse. We hope to see you there.

A Work weekend is scheduled for May 1st and 2nd. We hope to work on cleaning up part of the Orange range and part of the White range. We could definitely use some strong backs to help with this. We will also be making more silver broadheads on Sunday the 2nd to be given out to winners of the Silver Broadhead shoot in May. if you have any experience in silver casting please come see Eric Bisinger at the pavilion that day. We only need one or two more people to help with this project. If there is anything else, you think we should consider working on that weekend please let Carl or I know, and we can add it to our list.

I am very excited for what Spring has in store for us. Please come out and shoot with us in the outdoors!

Thanks

Mary Bisinger Co-President Waltonian Archers of Linn County



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Derecho Recovery April 2021

As most of you know our club suffered a lot of damage in the Derecho windstorm August 10th of last year. Our cleanup and recovery currently has two groups working on it. I would like to relate what work has been done and what our future plans are. If any of you not now involved would like to help or be added to the update e mail lists please contact myself, Carl Mally, if you wish to be involved in the Conservation and Forestry planning and work or Eric Bisinger if you wish to be involved in the Building Committee, working on roof and building maintenance and contracting.

The building committee has been meeting with roofing contractors. They have quotes for repair of the damage but are still trying to work on details and obtain additional quotes. The two quotes are significantly different in the scope of repair and cost. We have received insurance payment for the building damage. Fortunately it was not severe. There are holes to be repaired in the pavilion, machine and animal sheds and the screws holding the roof have been pulled up and loosened in the other buildings. One leak has been tarred but probably was leaking before the storm.

The grounds have far more extensive damage and will require very long term work. Immediately after the Derecho, REC opened our road and restored power, burying the cable along the road. A large group of club members came out for two weekends and cleaned up the flats and area immediately around the buildings to make them usable for State Target. In the following three weekends a smaller group opened up about 16 target positions on the field and bowhunter ranges, which gave us enough to shoot 20 targets at the Deerslayer shoot last year.

Our longer term recovery plan has involved several aspects and is ongoing. We made an initial application with the US Department of Agriculture Extension Office to participate in their Emergency Forest Recovery Program. This program will reimburse 60 to 75 percent matching funds for costs and labor involved in cleanup and replanting trees and rebuilding fence in our woodland. However it will be offset by any money obtained from logging and selling timber. Mark Vitosh, the DNR District Forester inspected the property to develop a plan for clean up and recovery of the woodland. Mark's plan has been filed with the USDA.

The next portion of the project has been to meet with logging companies to get bids to remove the large marketable logs from the property. This will also involve cutting standing trees that have been severely damaged and are unlikely to recover. We will lose over half of our timber when these are removed. The lower pines, which were planted in 1957 are almost 100 percent broken off or fallen. The second half of the orange course is 95 percent destroyed or fallen. Other areas will have 40 to 75 percent loss. We met with seven different loggers and three of them gave bids on the work. We will be contracting with Bill Miller Logging from Dubuque. They have worked with Linn County in Wickiup Hill Park and Wanatee(Squaw Creek) Park. The work will start in late October or early November. It will require at least six to eight weeks to complete, depending on the weather. We will not be able to allow hunting on the club grounds as this is going on this fall.

The grounds recovery will be a very long term project. Once the logging has been done we will have to decide how to relayout and rebuild courses, remove remaining brush, pine logs and tops, decide where and how much to replant, repair fences and redo roads. We have spoken to Dana Kellogg, the Natural Resources Manager for Linn County Conservation Department. He emphasized that the woods look much worse after timber removal than before but it is a necessary first step to recovery. At our work weekend, in May we will try to open up a few more targets for the outdoor shoots this year however any work will be temporary because the timber removal will affect all the courses. Next spring and summer will require quite a lot to make courses usable again. We hope to see the grounds put on a path to recovery so future generations can have a bit of undeveloped forest land to enjoy with their families and practice archery.

Thank you

Carl Mally



Event Calendar		
April		
Saturday 17th	7AM-3PM	Spring Strut 3D
Sunday 18th	7AM-1PM	Spring Strut 3D
Мау		
Saturday 1st	8AM-5PM	Club Work Weekend
Sunday 2nd	8AM-5PM	Club Work Weekend
Saturday 15th	7AM-3PM	Silver Broadhead 3D
Sunday 16th	9AM Start	International Round
Sunday 16th	7AM-1PM	Silver Broadhead 3D



Open House -April 3rd Thanks to all who came out to help!

2020-2021 Club Officers

President:	Carl Mally 319-365-4311 mallycj@aol.com	
	Mary Bisinger 319-350-5021 mbisinger.mb@gmail.com	
Vice President:	Tom Mally 319-350-3722 tom31678@msn.com	
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Board Member:	Craig Waite 319-363-6314 cawaite456@gmail.com	
Board Member:	Eric Bisinger 319-350-0051 e.bisinger.1961@gmail.com	

Ways and Means

HATS, SHIRTS, ETC. FOR SALE!!!

Around the Area -

Johnson County Archers -Dan Heitzman JCA Operations/PR/Web

"The University is working diligently to make the park safe for public use. The JCA will then work diligently to repair the archery range and we hope to be having 3D shoots yet this summer. No plans or schedules are made yet but we will strive to maintain a schedule of events similar, though abbreviated, to previous years. This is our 20th year and it's a milestone we very much wish to celebrate."

Shavings Editor Bob Schell, rschell5gmail.com

Newsletters are important to a club, that's why I volunteered to become the Shavings editor. I've been looking back at past issue to get an idea of how it looked in past years. The Presidents corner is always there, as is the club shoot schedules and there's also news/photos of club events, pictures and stories from member at shoots or on hunting trips. And the occasional remembrance. Sometimes more, sometimes less. My hope is to keep up that tradition and ask that you all please keep the Shavings in mind and send me a note.

Thanks! Bob