

January 17, 2010

All,

The new electric card swipe gate is now active at the club nearly 18 months in the making. Many thanks to Jerry Van Houten, Jon Nysse, and Scott Freer for their time put into this project. Only 2010 paid members have access currently as we started handing out cards with memberships at the annual meeting last week. 38 members attended the annual meeting, and remember, monthly meetings are every 2nd Thursday of the month at 7pm. Its your club, please come on out.

The gate will help us know several things and aid us with insurance cost through controlling the property more closely. Also we will know when a person comes and when they leave as the cards are tied to your names. This serves 2 puproses, we know who is there in the case of an accident or issue and it acts as a deterrent for those intentionally breaking range rules. Despite the range rules, their posting, and every member getting a copy with their application we still have numerous violations. The card system will also help us look at usage statistics which should prove very interesting.

As a non profit, the club is doing the most good when we put the money it earns back into the club and the community. The gate is a great example of this, as are the other capital projects we have tackled in the past several years. In 2010 we have 2 small scale projects planned that were discussed at the annual meeting. We are aiming to replace the upper trap thrower this year. This will require some labor, but for the most part is an expense. The current upper trap is older than anyone can say for sure and of course parts are no longer made for it. We have nursed it along the last 2 years and it is time to replace it. The other project is lighting. We wish to provide overhead lights for each trap, the archery practice range and the parking lot. We can accomplish all this with just 5 light poles and 6 light banks. Trap lighting has suffered since well before my time here. Improving our trap lights and equipment will help the club provide a better experience and allow us to make more money through enhanced shooting time.

As always I am open to any suggestions, ideas, or questions. Have a great 2010!

Shoot straight>>>

Brian Headlee

President, Willow River Rod & Gun.

PS: A range safety addendum and clarification. The picture show proper and appropriately hung targets. Target are not to be hung on the RR ties of the bunker, ONLY on the backer. Extra backers are stored in the metal shed by the trap shed.

