

Taft Sportsmen's Club

P. O. Box 1245
Taft CA 93268



Months of October, November, & December 2011

17TH ANNUAL JC CHITWOOD MEMORIAL JUNIOR PHEASANT HUNT

Our 17th Annual JC Chitwood Memorial Junior Pheasant Hunt is behind us now, and it was one of the best. We were pretty lucky to have one day of good weather, but the second day was a little wet. 400 pheasant roosters were purchased and planted in the fields, and kids from as far north as Santa Rosa and as far south as Pacific Palisades showed up for the hunt. We had 179 that signed up for the hunt. **Tom Brown's** hard work and all his diligent efforts were quite evident plus we had such a fantastic crew to help out. What would we do without all of you? The kids hunted on **Western Sky Dairy's** land again this year, and we are most grateful to them for letting us use their fields. It was very gratifying to have so many people come up to us after the hunt and let us know how much their kids enjoyed our event. We want to thank **Levi Shaw** and **Tim Croaker** with the **Department of Fish & Game** for all their assistance that was given to the club for this hunt. We don't want to forget the many individuals, organizations, and businesses that have shown their support throughout the years for this hunt with a special "thanks" **Gary Morris**, Taft's local representative of **Taft Friends of the NRA**, **Mark Plantenga** of **Western Sky Dairys**, and **Matt Henry** with the **Daily Midway Driller**. Thanks, **Matt**, for the fine coverage of the hunt. We want to also give recognition to the **Lions Club of Taft** for setting up their food booth and serving up some great food for everyone that attended. Thanks for all your help. We held a raffle for two shotguns donated by **Becky Sharp**, **Dean Rowden**, & **Wes Morris** of **Ten Percent Firearms** and by **Chris Gonzales** of **Patriot Environmental Services**. We also gave away \$100 cash donated by **Charles Chahlah** from the **Jug N 'Rose**, gun scabbard & hats donated by **Melanie & Wayne White**, \$50 Home Depot gift card donated by **Sheila Buoni** of **Baker Corp.**, and a

\$50 gift card from **Dick's Sporting Good** donated by **Ed Rodriguez of PROS Inc.** Congratulations to all our winners! We're sure that everyone will have some great memories. Special thanks to all that brought their dogs out to hunt. Sure helps us out to have them there. The junior hunters had such a great time, and that's what is most important. **Melanie & Wayne White** got some great photos at the hunt. **Tom** kept everything organized and running smoothly with the help of his great crews. Thank you guys. I would like to personally thank **Marina Johnson, Melanie White,** and **Karen Chitwood** for being such great help to me. Thanks ladies! Most of all – we want to give all of our members that showed up to lend a helping a hand a big **"THANK YOU"**. **You're the greatest!!!** Without you, this hunt couldn't keep going. Each and every one of you is greatly appreciated! We also had the **FNRA Outdoor Channel** film crew with us. Portions of the hunt were taped and will air in late February on the Outdoor Channel. Thanks to their contribution to our event. Again, we must commend **Tom** for his efforts and his dedication to this hunt and give him a great, big **"THANKS"**.

We appreciate all of you and the support given to the Taft Sportsmen's Club!



MEMBERSHIPS

Sue Brown gave us the latest update on memberships at the last meeting. We now have **249** members. Membership renewal is closer than you think (January), and we encourage all to be thinking about getting your memberships in early. We will include the application in an upcoming newsletter.

TRAP SHOOTS

With the new lights, the weekly trap shoots are going to continue on after the time change. There have been good turn outs for the weekly shoots, and hopefully, this will continue. The shoots take place every **Thursday around 4:30 p.m.**

NEXT MEETING

The next club meeting will be on **Tuesday, November 22 @ 6:30** at the **Pizza Factory**. Now is the time to get involved with your club; so, come join us. There's a lot of stuff coming up. We need your input and support. Hope to see you then. After the club's **November** meeting there will be an **Award's Committee meeting**. To all of you that are on the **Award's Committee**.

The next meeting date is:

Tuesday, December @ 6:30 at the Pizza Factory
Nomination of club officers and Sportsman of the Year
as well as board members

MEMBER UNDER THE WEATHER

One of our special members, **Bill Asserson**, has been under the weather. The Taft Sportsmen's Club members would like to wish **Bill** a speedy recovery and hope to see him up and about real soon. Also send well wishes to **Theodore Enrique and Gene Shugart**.



BEREAVEMENT

The members of the Taft Sportsmen's Club would like to extend our deepest sympathy to the families of **Ray Mortimer and Dean Perry**. These were two of our life members who will be dearly missed by everyone. More condolences to **Wes Morris and Mark Potaczala** for their recent family loss.



AWARDS BANQUET

We've got some important news about our upcoming banquet that will be held on **Saturday, January 21, 2012, 6:00 p.m.**, at **OT's Cookhouse on 10th St.** We've got a great evening planned with lots of prizes, raffles, as well as gun raffles, and lots of prizes for the kids. We've accelerated our membership drive in order to get as many members to pay their **\$25 dues** before the banquet. **Our life members and their spouses will receive a free dinner. The cost of the dinner this year is \$15 for adults and \$8 for kids 16 and under.** Let's get the new year off to a flying start by getting your memberships renewals in early. With all of our members, we hope to start seeing more of you attend the meetings and support our club. We always welcome your participation at the meetings as well as at our events throughout the year, and we will need your help and support at the events that are slated for **2012**. Remember that the dues are **\$25 for a regular membership and \$45 for our advertisers**. I've enclosed an application for both in this newsletter. If you need additional applications, just give me a call, **Sue Brown, at 765.2704**.

HORN MEASURING

Tuesday, January 3 @ 6:00 at the **Pizza Factory** is the day for the **horn measuring**. Mark this day on your calendar for the measuring of horns, antlers, etc. All entries must be registered to be eligible for any award at the banquet. Also, bring your photos in, any fishing entries, etc. that you are entering for an award this year. **Don't miss this date!** Just a reminder - the monthly meetings are held the 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:30 at the **Pizza Factory**.

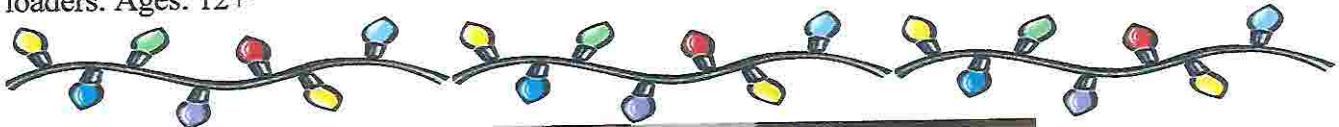


HUNTER'S SAFETY COURSE

Here's a reminder for the next Hunter's Safety Course that will be coming up in **February, 2012**. The instructor for these classes is **Larry Heptinstall**. Materials and instruction for obtaining a California Hunting License are available approximately every three months. No fee is required for the class itself, but a \$5 facility fee (per person) will be collected the first night of class. Our instructors teach this class in three mandatory sessions. The classes are held at the **Community Center, 500 Cascade Place**, from **6:30 to 9:30 p.m.** Mark these days down on your calendar and tell a friend.

IDPA SHOOT

The next IDPA shoot will be held on **Saturday, December 17** beginning at **8:00 a.m.** at the Taft Sportsmen's Club Range. 7 a.m. registration - 8 a.m. start. \$25 non member, \$20 TSC or IDPA member, \$15 with both memberships Bring Handgun, 100 rounds of ammo, holster, three magazines or speed loaders. Ages: 12+



TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS (PATRIOTIC VERSION)

Twas the night before Christmas; lights lit on the tree, someone is missing, and I think it is thee.
The stockings all hung by the chimney with care: but we were still wishing that you would be there.
We were all nestled all snug in our beds, with thoughts not of Santa, but a soldier instead.



I wonder how lonely this Christmas will be for our loved one who's stationed away overseas.
Christmas for families is not quite the same. Because terrorists to our country came.
Brave Americans answered the call; against cowards and evil that were showing such gall.
You have taken the challenge and chosen to stand; for goodness and justice and protecting our land.
We pray for your safety and peace on this day, we are honored and blessed to be able to say;
How proud and grateful we truly are, Of YOU brave soldier serving our country afar.



Does the sand look like snow? Do the stars twinkle bright? Are you cold and lonely on this most blessed
night?
Do you know that you're loved? Do you know that we care? When you feel all alone, know we will
always be there.
Feel all our love, get strength from our prayers, miles cannot separate or keep us apart.



And although you're not with us you're here in our hearts. Stay true to your values steadfast to your faith.
Come home to us soon, God's speed in your race.
Does the Jolly Old Man with the sack on his back; remember to visit our troops in Iraq?



He will be there for you, tonight in your dreams, good home cooking all part of the theme.
Visions of presents and other good things; all the fond memories this holiday brings.
Warmth to your heart and a smile to your face; tonight find your peace in this far away place.
Remember you are part of a new history; helping Iraqi people learn to be free.
For this is just a caption in time, a small mountain for you to steadily climb.
Remember what is important to you will bring something worthwhile and new,
And it's all because of the things you do.

**MAY ALL OF GOD'S BLESSINGS
BE BESTOWED UPON YOU!**



*From all of us at the Taft Sportsmen's Club
to all of you - we wish you a very
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*



