

GEORGIA SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL

Sporting Clays Tournament
Golf Tournament
Christmas Dinner
Annual Show

APRIL 26, 2008
September 12, 2008
December 4, 2008
February 7, 2009

Food Plot Seed - CERTIFIED SEED AT HUGE DISCOUNTS - James Lakeman has an incredible opportunity for our members and other hunters in Georgia. James has certified Sorghum, Corn and Soybean seed for food plots. This seed is coated, so it cannot be used for bait. He has several thousand 50# bags of seed for less than \$10 each for pick up in Greensboro. Steve Burch is also involving the GONetwork to ensure adequate food for our wildlife. First come, first served. Buyers must sign a certificate that the seed cannot be used for commercial purposes and specifically for wildlife benefits. Contact James for more information or to buy seed jlakeman@gasci.org or (706) 454-1701.

APRIL 26 SPORTING CLAYS TOURNAMENT & ANNUAL MEETING – The Annual Meeting/3rd Annual Sporting Clays Tournament is returned to Cherokee Rose in Griffin. Registration form enclosed. We use Lewis Class scoring, so if your shotgun skills are as lacking as your golf skills, you can still win a prize. For those more competitive this is a registered shoot, and it helps you qualify for the State Championship. Registration begins 8:30 & shooting at 9. Our annual meeting and elections begin 12:30, so you can shoot before and/or after the meeting. Last round is 3PM and awards at 5.

BIG BUCK – Submission Deadline is April 12, 2008. We are accepting entries for the best deer taken by a member this hunting season in Georgia or a surrounding state. The deer must have been legally hunted. If you have an entry, please let us know and we try to help you score and enter it. Contact Rex Baker, Jr at rbaker@gasci.org or 770-645-9411 X 102.

Sept 12, 2008 Safari Wish Golf Tournament: Tom Vitale and John Morely will host the 4th Annual Safari Wish Golf Tournament. Shotgun Start is 11AM. Last year's funds supported Safari Wish and Eagle's Watch, a foundation that supports veterans and their families. We also fund deserving individuals and various programs including the Daggerhorn "Golden Rules" Hunt for veterans and terminally ill kids. The entire Georgia Chapter owes gratitude to Tom and John for continuing to make these deserving peoples' dreams a reality. We encourage you to enjoy a round of golf. This is a great chance to mingle with friends and community leaders. Member support helps us fund these worthy causes. We ask that you come and/or support the tournament by sponsoring a hole. Check the website this summer for more information.

DEC 4, 2008 - Wild Game Christmas Dinner: Member feedback from the 2007 Wild Game Christmas Dinner was so positive we reserved December 4 at the 173 Carlyle House in Norcross. Will Janosuek, an internationally acclaimed chef,

will prepare a feast with such delicacies as Gemsbok and Desert Bighorn Sheep. The website is www.173carlylehouse.com. We have limited plates available, so make reservations early. The meal and facility were first class and this year we have different meat to sample. With the selection of meats, prepared by an acclaimed chef, this is a dinner you will not forget. If you wish to donate meat, please contact Rex Baker at rbaker@gasci.org. We owe Rex Baker, Sr. special thanks for donating the Gemsbok and Desert Bighorn.

ANNUAL SHOW 2008 - A great time was had by all at the Century Center Marriott. The return to the Marriott was well received and substantially cut costs. We were able to honor Bert Collins with the Crockford Award. We are lucky to have a man with Bert's commitment and talent on our team. Great Job, Bert! The last total says we made over \$20,000 during an excellent party. Gross income was down 50% (\$90,000), yet we still made a solid profit. A steady stream of people built through the afternoon and we had 185 people at the dinner. The new venue made the show and dinner smaller and more personal; though we need more people attend this year. The generosity of, and the atmosphere created by our exhibitors, donors and all who came made the show a resounding success. We wish to offer a special thanks to Northern Giants Trophy Ranch for a Safari Wish donation at our Show. They offered a Safari Wish hunter an elk hunt. This generous gift is greatly appreciated and shows the quality of people at North Giants. We wish to thank Jason Smith and Dean Busat for this awesome opportunity for our Safari Wish Program.

ANNUAL SHOW 2009 – On February 4, 2009 we will have more exhibitors and members who were unable to attend last year show due to schedule conflicts. We will strive to keep the awards and auction under 90 minutes again this year, so you can spend more time socializing. We plan several improvements in the silent auction, raffles, layout and are searching how to cut some costs while maintaining the fun and quality. Log into the website to pre-register and purchase raffle tickets ahead of the event. We will likely have a special offer combining the Christmas Dinner, Raffle Tickets and Dinner tickets for the show, so check the website for more in the coming months.

CLUB SPONSORS - Carl Black GMC/Hummer, Adventure Outdoors, and Chucks Firearms have supported us for years. Carl Black in North Fulton County has again sponsored us with a generous check. Adventure Outdoors continues to provide the guns for our raffles and auctions for great deals. They have a variety of hunting and shooting goods at the Smyrna store, as well as a wide variety of other sporting goods. Jack Leshner at Chucks Firearms in Buckhead has been a supporter and member for many years. Chuck's customers know the excellent quality and selection of firearms, accessories, and expert advice they offer. We greatly appreciate these companies for their loyalty and continued generosity. We encourage everyone to support these fine stores, and mention you are a member of the GA Chapter.

Special Thanks - A special note for those who helped make the show a success. Table sponsors include Newton Beasley, Drs. Dave & Jim Goodchild, Jim Freeman, Clark Ellard, and Rex Baker, Jr. & Rex Baker Sr. Lastly, we give special thanks to Karen & Fred Parker for their huge help with the hospitality room & Kay Bennett for helping with supplies and the silent auction. Patti Fuller, Brock Gooden and others also contributed greatly and we sincerely thank them.

MAGAZINE - From the days of "Scoop" Osborne to Jeff Rapoport and Rob Williams today, the magazine has been a primary benefit of the club. Jeff and Rob did an excellent job and we appreciate their efforts and ad sales. The magazine is a very expensive item to produce with the level of quality we demand, and we need the support of our members in article, pictures and ads. It is the primary reason for our higher chapter cost, and we need you help to make it the best possible magazine. We encourage you to submit articles and photos throughout the year. This year it was late due to delays in finalizing the show and including it in print. We will get it out earlier this year. Most of you have a hunt this year and we cannot emphasize how strongly we want you to contribute photos and articles for the magazine, as well as purchasing ads.

STEVE SCRUGGS - Steve is well known by our members from his "Lets Get Wild" show for school children through out the South. We are hoping to sponsor Steve this year with funds to help him purchase a new truck. Thanks to his tireless work, Steve is the face and name that most kids will associate with wildlife and its management. Steve teaches ethics, habitat conservation and renewable resource management. The large majority of our population does not hunt, though they support the ethical hunting for herd management and as a food source. We help Steve use science and modern management practices to educate the kids, instead of emotion. We have also raised several thousand dollars from private donors for this truck and encourage those who wish to help Steve to write us a check and we will forward the funds to him. You will need to coordinate this in advance by contacting Rex Baker Jr. at rbaker@gasci.org.

WEBSITE – Doug Boyle, a new member to our chapter, has volunteered to remodel the website. Over the next couple of weeks he will make much overdue updates to the website. We encourage you to check it out after you receive this newsletter and keep checking in for more new updates. We should have the ability to buy seed, register for events, and to renew your membership. We are working to correct the club's biggest problem for our members and want you to help us keep it updated with fresh data and pictures. Thanks Doug.

MEMBERSHIP – We are making a concerted effort to get more members. We are down from our all time high of 400 members and we need you to introduce us to a friend and bring them along when you come to events. Also, please renew your membership if you have let it lapse and continue to be an active member of our club. We are working hard for you to make the events notable and fun while promoting hunting, hunter's rights, youth education and the Safari Wish Program.

