

# PIEDMONT HUNT CLUB, INC.

## NEWSLETTER

*A SOUTH CAROLINA NON-PROFIT CORPORATION  
MANAGING AN ORGANIZED HUNT CLUB LOCATED IN  
FAIRFIELD, RICHLAND & KERSHAW COUNTIES OF SOUTH CAROLINA*

Established in 1986 – Excels in both Quality Deer & Turkey Hunting

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

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Vice-President: Sam Shillinglaw (803) 366-6551

Sec/Treasurer: Butch Huffman (704) 556-0354

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### **May 1, 2005 is the date for Final Payment of all Dues**

We have leases in hand and we are starting to pay for our hunting land now. All members need to pay in full for dues, campsites, etc now. Guest Days can be purchased until September. Failure to pay on time will jeopardize your membership standing.

Make the checks out to Piedmont Hunt Club, Inc. and the mailing address is:

Piedmont Hunt Club, Inc.  
c/o Butch Huffman  
3357 Stocktie Road  
Charlotte, NC 28210

(Include your 2005 Liability Form, find attached as back page of this newsletter)

Thanks to all of you who have already mailed in your full payment for the 2005-2006 hunting season.

Butch Huffman – Secretary/Treasurer

### **New Members**

With new land and more acreage we have a need for new members. This is the time of year that we open the club membership up to new members. Due to word of mouth and our web site, we have a very high interest in the club for 2005. If you have any family members or friends who may be interested in joining our club, now is the time to contact Butch Huffman or Wayne Archie. Otherwise, we have to fill our open slots with prospective members who call with interest.

Each year the club accepts many of our new members from referrals you have directed to us. Please be

proactive in promoting and supporting your club. If you would like to have some brochures to hand out, call and we will mail them to you. The members we sign up from your referrals, save the club time and money that can be transferred to club improvements.

Butch Huffman – Secretary/Treasurer

### **White Oak & Tri-County Tract Up Date (maps are attached)**

The new White Oak Tract consisting of 2,019 acres is located in Fairfield County near the community of White Oak on Hwy 321. It is approximately 14.5 miles west from the Fairfield Hunt Camp. It has an access road, which runs through the center of the property that is 4.7 miles long. We have a lock on the entrance gate and a couple of landowners have a combination lock on our chain. We ask that everyone keep this gate locked at all times. Please be cordial and friendly with these folks, as they have promised not to interfere with our hunting. The White Oak tract has been posted; hunt unit and parking signs installed. Maps have been made. We have 20 hunt units, most of which are 100+ acres apiece. Food plot locations have been determined. The White Oak Tract will be included in our QDM Program this coming season.

The new Tri-County tract consisting of 2,064 is located in Fairfield, Kershaw and Richland Counties and is approximately 20 plus miles south of the Fairfield Hunt Camp off Hwy 34. It has several access gates on which PHC locks have been installed. A few gates still need attention, Dub Mayes our Gate Work Leader is working on that issue. The power line, which traverses the tract, has just been cut. The Tri-County has been posted; hunt unit and parking signs installed. We have 17 hunt units; most are well over 100+ acres apiece. Food plot locations have been determined. Remember

deer season starts here August 15<sup>th</sup> with baiting allowed on only the Kershaw and Richland county portions of this tract. The Tri-County Tract will not be in our QDM Program this coming season. Any deer is OK to harvest.

Both the White Oak and Tri-County tracts will have separate 18 x 20 sign in sheds, with maps, membership lists, magnets, boxes etc installed by the fall. No water or Porta-Jons provided. No camping is allowed on these tracts. If you camp you must utilize our Fairfield or Kershaw Hunt Camps per club rules.  
Wayne Archie – President

## Sale of Blue Sky Tract #1397

We have been notified by Blue Sky Timber that the subject tract which is located north of the Fairfield Hunt Camp is being sold and will not be available for lease for the up coming season. This tract consists of Hunt Units 100 thru 116. If you have any portable stands on this tract please remove them by May 7th. We have negotiated with the new landowner the sale of our club tower stands on this tract.

Wayne Archie – President

## Deer Harvest 2004

Even though our overall harvest numbers were down from last season, our quality buck numbers remained the same at (15) with several very nice bucks being harvested. Gary Cline in Fairfield on 11/14, hunting in Hunt Unit 20, took a long tined thick antlered 17 1/2" inch wide 165 pound 10 point buck, which will make the state record list, but to date has not been officially scored. Sam Shillinglaw on 10/15 hunting in Hunt Unit 16 took a long tined 16" wide 165 pound 10 point which scored just under 122 Boone & Crockett points. We also had some very nice quality bucks taken in Kershaw. Although our numbers were down in Kershaw the guys hunting there did a great job on saving many small bucks and taking a good number of does. In the future we can expect some good bucks to come from Kershaw, especially if we continue to save these young bucks and harvest ample does. Each season, we are moving more and more bucks into the mature 3 1/2 + age class. We are seeing larger scrapes and rubs on 8" to 10" diameter trees that we did not observed 3 or 4 years ago.

Although we are not considered a trophy managed club we have struck a balance on the PHC. We are practicing QDM, which means we are reducing our herd and getting our buck/doe ratio more aligned. At the same time we are creating great hunting opportunities for the youth/inexperienced hunters and simultaneous raising some record class bucks for the more avid/mature hunters.

Wayne Archie – President

## 2004 TOTAL DEER HARVEST ENTIRE CLUB

Total Deer Harvest	= 132 (100% of Total Harvest)
Total Buck Harvest	= 53 (40% of Total Harvest)
Total Doe Harvest	= 79 (60% of Total Harvest)
Total QB Harvest	= 15 (11% of Total Harvest)

## 2004 DEER HARVEST FAIRFIELD (4,935 ACRES) QUALITY MANAGED TRACTS (97 Deer = 73% Total Harvest)

Total Deer	= 97 (100% of Fairfield Harvest)
Bucks	= 45 (46% of Fairfield Harvest)
Does	= 52 (54% of Fairfield Harvest)

QB'S	= 11 (11% of Fairfield Harvest)
NQB'S	= 17 (18% of Fairfield Harvest)
SPIKES	= 11 (11% of Fairfield Harvest)
BB'S	= 6 (6% of Fairfield Harvest)

## 2004 DEER HARVEST KERSHAW (6,056 ACRES) QUALITY MANAGED TRACTS (35 Deer = 27% Total Harvest)

Total Deer	= 35 (100% of Kershaw Harvest)
Bucks	= 8 (20% of Kershaw Harvest)
Does	= 27 (80% of Kershaw Harvest)

QB'S	= 4 (11% of Kershaw Harvest)
NQB'S	= 2 (5% of Kershaw Harvest)
SPIKES	= 1 (2% of Kershaw Harvest)
BB'S	= 1 (2% of Kershaw Harvest)

The following harvest is noteworthy:

- 12 youths harvested one or more deer
- 3 youths took their first deer
- 1 adult (Lady) took her first buck
- Heaviest buck from Fairfield = 200 lbs
- Heaviest buck from Kershaw = 175 lbs
- Widest antler spread Fairfield = 17 1/2 inches
- Widest antler spread Kershaw = 19 3/4 inches
- 4 bow kills in Fairfield (3 bucks, 1 doe)
- 2 bow kills in Kershaw (2 bucks)
- 11 deer taken with muzzleloader (5 bucks 6 does)
- No quality bucks taken in Fairfield after 12/30/04
- No quality bucks taken in Kershaw after 11/18/04

Note: The harvest sheets can be viewed in detail on the website @ "[www.piedmonthuntclub.com](http://www.piedmonthuntclub.com)".

Wayne Archie – President

## Fairfield Hunt Camp Purchase

On January 21<sup>st</sup> we closed on the purchase of our Fairfield Hunt Camp, which consists of 19.2 acres. This will give us piece of mind and control of improving our camp infrastructure.

Wayne Archie – President  
Sam Shillinglaw, Vice President  
Butch Huffman – Secretary/Treasurer

## Kershaw Hunt Camp Transfer

Presently the deed and associated paper work has been signed/notarized and sent to the attorney for recording for the transfer of the subject property consisting of 3.2 acres into the Piedmont Hunt Club, Inc.

The campsites are owned and controlled by the non-profit Piedmont Hunt Club, Inc.

Wayne Archie – President  
Sam Shillinglaw, Vice President  
Butch Huffman – Secretary/Treasurer

## Operation Manager for PHC, Inc.

Due to the growth and physical size of the club, the corresponding number of land leases and the number of members required to maintain the club at a high quality level, the board has made a decision to create a position that will focus on overall management of the club. This will be considered a part-time consulting position with a minimum salary base, reporting directly to the Board of Directors.

The club has many day-to-day issues, some needing immediate attention. The first and primary focus of this position will be on land leases and membership. Both of these areas require a huge amount of time and we can't rely on volunteer help to get the job done. Our budget continues to grow with the increased land lease costs and associated expenses to run a club. As you know, we need land to hunt and members to pay for our leases and other expenses.

The Board of Directors therefore has negotiated with and appointed Wayne Archie as the Operation Manager. Wayne is available to dedicate the time required for this function and has the working knowledge of the club's requirements.

The goal is to continue to provide our members with a quality family hunting/outdoor experience in today's changing land/use environment we live in.  
Butch Huffman – Secretary/Treasurer

## Work Day Schedule

A good bit of our work will be accomplished by many of you prior to this Work Day Schedule. Work

Leaders will be calling on many or you for help in getting tasks completed on days, which are not on this schedule. On the following Work Day Schedule many members are needed to perform general work needed around the camps and providing help in planting our food plots. We ask all members to volunteer to help our Work Leaders when asked and also to work as many Scheduled Work Days as you can. Your help and support in this area is greatly appreciated.

July 23<sup>rd</sup>: at Kershaw – General Work Day

July 30<sup>th</sup>: at Fairfield – General Work Day

August 13<sup>th</sup>: at Tri-County – Food Plots

August 20<sup>th</sup>: at Kershaw – Food Plots

August 27<sup>th</sup>: at White Oak – Food Plots

September 3<sup>rd</sup>: at Fairfield – Food Plots

We will gather at the appropriate sign-in area at 7:00 am each workday to get organized and delegate assignments.

Bring gloves, chain saws, axes, shovels, posthole diggers, hammers, etc. We will be adding new gates, clearing food plots for planting and posting new land, cleaning campsites etc.

Bring your own lunch and drinks each workday. Please plan to work all day or as needed.  
Wayne Archie – President

## Scouting

Members can begin scouting and riding ATV's again on May 3<sup>rd</sup> after turkey season goes out. Remember to not be on the tracts #100-116 as that land is sold.

For our new members if you would like some help with general scouting and a chance to get acquainted with the land consider joining us on the following dates.

Wayne Archie - President

- \* May 14<sup>th</sup> at Fairfield campsite @ 7:30 AM
- \* May 28<sup>th</sup> at Kershaw campsite @ 7:30 AM

## 2005 Orientation & Cook out will be held at Fairfield campsite on August 6<sup>th</sup>

This orientation is mandatory for all new members.

Formal meeting will start at 9:00 AM and will be followed by a cook out and fellowship.

This meeting is important to the club, as it prepares our new members to better understand our rules and how to access the land to hunt safely. We will review the Quality Deer Management rules, sign in/out, parking areas, and safety issues. It also gives the new members a chance to meet our existing members and get to know them and their families.

Plan to attend and please be on time. Many of our members will be camping out the night before, if you want to join them. Bring your own chairs, drinks and a dessert to share. Your family is welcome.

Wayne Archie – President  
Sam Shillinglaw – Vice President  
Butch Huffman – Secretary/Treasurer

## Youth Turkey Hunt & Cook Out at Fairfield - March 26<sup>th</sup>

On March 26, 2005 we had our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Youth Turkey Hunt with 22 youths participating. For lunch, Tim Shultz & Rusty Fulmer cooked quail with baked beans, slaw & potato salad. And of course, Tim's wife, Judy made the best in the world banana pudding, as usual it was great. All participated had a great time and the youth harvested 4 gobblers which were first time kills and we also had some misses. This was a great outing for our youth. Wayne Archie – President

## Turkey Harvest to date for 2005

Harvest data to follow, but so far we have had a great year with 50 gobblers taken, 22 birds have been harvested in Kershaw and 28 in Fairfield.  
Wayne Archie – President

## Current Lease Status

Presently the Piedmont Hunt Club, Inc. (PHC) has 21 leases totaling 13,677 acres with 181 Hunt Units.

Of this acreage 5,557 acres are located in Fairfield County, 6,056 acres are located in Kershaw County and 2,064 acres are located in the Tri-County Tract which is predominately located in Richland County.

Our goal is to keep our land base to approximately 10,000 acres. As land becomes available we will review it very carefully for how it can enhance our hunting capabilities for the club. Only small tracts which are adjacent to our existing leases will be considered. Small disjunct tracts not adjacent to our present leases will not be considered. Large stand alone tracts which have good habitat and hunting potential which are a reasonable distance to our hunt camps will be considered. As we acquire these large tracts which are substantially distant from our present Fairfield and Kershaw Hunt Camps, we plan to install a small shed with a sign in area at each, which will include a locked

cabinet which will contain our tract map(s), membership pins, sign-in log, harvest sheets, weighing scales and measuring tape. Tracts will be sub-divided into hunt units, roads gated, boundaries posted and hunt unit & parking signs installed as we have done on all our past leases.

Wayne Archie - President

## Quality Deer Management and Piedmont Hunt Club, Inc. (Reprinted in part from previous newsletter)

Over the last several years we have come to realize many benefits of practicing Quality Deer Management (QDM) on the Piedmont Hunt Club, Inc. (PHC). As expected, we have observed more deer and have harvested better bucks due to our QDM Program but the PHC also has benefited by:

- Achieving a better buck to doe ratio
- Attracting more ethical/educated members
- Acquiring some hard to get leases by being a QDM club
- Gaining respect by state agencies & outdoor organizations and others in the hunting community

Some people confuse QDM with "Trophy Management" which it is not. The definition of Quality Deer Management per the Quality Deer Management Association is.....

### *“QDM - The Philosophy*

*Increasingly, landowners, hunters, and wildlife managers across North America are embracing the QDM philosophy. This is evidenced by the increasing voluntary and regulatory implementation of QDM practices on private and public lands. Hunters are rethinking what constitutes a "quality" hunt and how they can make a positive contribution to the future of the deer herds they hunt. Another benefit of QDM is increased hunter safety. By taking the time to positively identify each deer by sex and age, the likelihood of accidental shootings is even more remote than under current management methods. Hunters participating in QDM enjoy both the tangible and intangible benefits of this approach. Pleasure can be derived from each hunting experience regardless if a shot is fired or an animal is harvested. What is important is the chance to interact with a well-managed deer herd that is in balance with its habitat. A side benefit is the knowledge that mature bucks are present in the herd - something lacking on many areas under traditional deer management. When a quality buck is taken on a QDM area, all property hunters can share the pride because they helped produce it by allowing it to pass as a younger animal.” Source: [www.qdma.com](http://www.qdma.com)*

In working with numerous prospective members, one of their major concerns is: Are we a QDM club? Can

they expect to harvest a nice buck? Do we enforce our rules?

In working with landowners they are aware of the importance of QDM. Their perception is that in most cases QDM clubs have more ethical/educated members who they feel will pay leases on time and take better care of their property. State agencies and outdoor organizations have a very high opinion of QDM clubs and their viewpoints and opinions are well received by landowners, foresters etc. which puts our club in a better position to acquire leases.

We have all hunted on properties whether it has been on private land or on game lands where there has been no regulated restrictions on deer harvest. The results have been very few deer observed and the harvest has consisted of mostly small bucks. In this situation there is a heavy harvest each year on the yearling bucks (1 ½ year old bucks). These deer are the most vulnerable; they are the teen-age deer. On non-regulated hunting areas these immature bucks make up about 85 % to 95% of the buck harvest. On our QDM Tracts in Fairfield on numerous occasions we all have observed these small bucks and the mistakes they make. It only makes good sense not to harvest these small bucks.

So how does this affect the PHC? As land sales in Fairfield affect our leases and more land is acquired in Kershaw or other Counties, we expect more members to migrate to these tracts putting more hunting pressure on these properties. With no QDM restrictions many small bucks will make up a large number of the harvest.

In summary, being a QDM club and truly practicing QDM provides us with better quality hunting. From a political standpoint, being a QDM club helps us continue to attract good ethical members and also helps us have a leg up on our competition in acquiring future leases.

Several southern states (North Carolina, Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi and Louisiana) have put into law, regulations limiting either the size or number of bucks that can be harvested. We fully expect South Carolina to implement buck harvest restrictions in the Upstate in the next few years. The trend is clearly toward better management of the deer herds through QDM style management practices both at the private and government level.

Our successful QDM program in Fairfield speaks for itself, when you look at the results. This decision is being made based on what is best for the future of the Piedmont Hunt Club, Inc. and all our members. We all like to hunt and harvest deer, but it is very important in today's world to review future impacts of our actions and how it will affect our hunting in the future. If our club is to survive so our sons and daughters can appreciate the hunting experiences that we have today, we must not be selfish in our decision/actions. Our club will survive only if we

continue to attract good people into the club and our ability to keep and obtain good hunting land. Practicing QDM makes that work for us, plus improves the quality of our hunting. Your support in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Wayne Archie – President  
Sam Shillinglaw – Vice President  
Butch Huffman – Secretary/Treasurer

## Palmetto Sportsmen's Classic

The PHC, Inc. participated in the Palmetto Sportsmen's Classic in Columbia, SC on March 18, 19 and 20. This was a great way to promote our club and get information out to prospective members. Over all this was a real success and we plan to participate again next year. Thanks to Sam Shillinglaw who provided the deer mounts and everyone who helped make this a successful event as there are too many to mention. Thanks again. Wayne Archie – President

## From the Chaplain's Stand

### Psalms 23

The Lord is my Shepherd  
*Perfect salvation*

I shall not want  
*Perfect satisfaction*

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures  
*Perfect rest*

He leadeth me beside the still waters  
*Perfect refreshment*

He restoreth my soul  
*Perfect restoration*

He leadeth me in paths of righteousness  
*Perfect guidance*

I will fear no evil  
*Perfect protection*

Thou art with me  
*Perfect company*

Thy rod and Thy staff  
*Perfect comfort*

Thou preparest a table  
*Perfect provision*

Thou annointest my head  
*Perfect consecration*

My cup runneth over  
*Perfect joy*

Goodness and mercy follow me  
*Perfect care*

I will dwell...forever  
*Perfect destiny*

*Christian Victory*

Hugging is Healthy

*It relieves tension  
It combats depression  
It improves blood circulation  
It has no unpleasant side effects*

Dick Pope – Chaplain/Counselor/Bereavement