

PIEDMONT HUNT CLUB, INC.



A South Carolina Non-Profit Corporation

www.piedmonthuntclub.com

NEWSLETTER

*A SOUTH CAROLINA FAMILY ORIENTED HUNT CLUB
LOCATED IN FAIRFIELD & KERSHAW COUNTIES OF SOUTH CAROLINA*

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

2007, No. 1

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Land Resources - New & Present Leases

We recently acquired an additional 1,449 acre tract located in Fairfield County approximately 8 miles west from our Fairfield Hunt Camp between I-77 and Hwy 200 on Minton Creek. The habitat is similar to our White Oak Tract as it has a road over five miles long through the center of the property. It has a 70' wide transmission line (Same Line which runs through the camp) that traverses a good portion of the tract. Of the 1,449 acres over 473 acres is hardwoods. It has two major creeks with a 10 to 12 acre beaver pond. Of the few reconnaissance trips we have been on the property, we have observed deer and turkey from the road and flushed ducks off the beaver pond. This land is very remote and surrounded by privately owned property. We are excited about this tract as it has a lot of future potential. Unfortunately the lease on this land does not start until June 1, therefore members are not permitted to be on the property until after this time. Any changes to this schedule will be immediately conveyed to you.

For 2007, we plan to remove 481 acres in Kershaw County. This acreage is either small standalone tracts from the main tracts or has access problems and is not being utilized by our members. This reduction and the loss the 723 acre Dutchman Creek Tract in Fairfield gives us the following breakdown of existing acreage and hunt units for 2007:

Fairfield 6,035 acres, 78 hunt units

Wateree Creek Tract = 1,728 acres, 34 hunt units

White Oak Tract = 2,858, 28 hunt units

Minton Creek Tract = 1,449 acres, 16 hunt units (NEW)

Kershaw 3,605 acres, 44 hunt units

Boise Cascade Tract (Dwelle and Jones Tracts) = 2,234 acres, 31 hunt units

Little Egypt Tract = 1,371 acres, 13 hunt units

Total Club 9,604 acres, 122 hunt units (Average of 79 acres per hunt unit)

Timber Harvest and Thinning in White Oak

Beginning in mid March and continuing through the summer months timber will be harvested and thinned in the following White Oak Hunt Units:

Clear cutting will take place in units 14W, 15W, & 17W.

Thinning will be done in units 4W, 5W, 6W, 7W, 8W, & 9W.

The cutover portion of unit 7W will be site prepared using herbicides in late summer for tree planting in 2008.

Please remove all personal stands from these areas as soon as possible. The Timber Company has committed to give us more advanced notice in the future.

Last Day to Scout before Turkey Season - March 15th

No scouting or access is allowed on the club after **March 15**. This will let the woods settle down before our spring turkey season begins. Also for the ones who may not know, no one should be turkey calling on our property at any time prior to turkey season. Our turkeys are already hunter wise. We do not need to add to this by calling to them before the season begins. Please note that this year the regular season begins on **March 31** and ends on **May 1**.

Turkey Season - Only One Hunt Unit Selected When Signing In

Due to the increased number of Turkey hunters and the current timber harvesting plans on White Oak, only one hunt unit may be selected by a member when signing in. Another hunt unit may be selected as many times as required only after appropriately signing out of the previous one each time. This applies to all tracts in both Fairfield and Kershaw. If you plan to hunt with another member, please sign in for the same hunt unit. We do not want members who are hunting together to block or save hunt units for later in the day by having one member sign in for another hunt unit.

Youth Turkey Hunt, Cookout and Membership Meeting Scheduled at Fairfield - March 24

Youth Turkey Hunt A statewide youth turkey hunt is set for **March 24**. Youths participating must be age 17 or younger. The 16 or 17 year olds do not have to obtain a license or big game permit to hunt on this day but all youths must have turkey tags, which are free and can be obtained from any check station. We will have our standard procedure drawing at **5:00 am** at both Kershaw and Fairfield. Only the youths will be allowed to carry a gun.

Experienced Turkey Hunters Needed--We have invited potential members and their sons/daughters to our Youth Turkey Hunt. We will need experienced hunters to assist these prospects. If you wish to volunteer please contact Curtis Piper (curtispiiper@bellsouth.net) (803) 222-0659)

Cookout and Membership Meeting We plan to have a Fairfield camp cookout at **11:00 am** for all Club members. Please bring your own drinks and chairs. **James Strack**, who is the Work Leader for Events/Outings/Activities will be in charge of the cookout. Donations for the cookout will be collected and appreciated. **Following the cookout** we will have a short membership meeting to cover the revised sign-in procedures, New land and answer members questions.

Palmetto Sportsmen's Classic - March 23, 24 & 25

The PHC, will participate in the **Palmetto Sportsmen's Classic** in Columbia, SC on the above dates. This is a great way to promote our club and get information out to prospective members. The show is held at the State Fairgrounds in Columbia, SC. If you would like to help staff the booth and help recruit new members, please contact Wayne Archie for details. Help staffing the booth is needed and will be appreciated. For more information about the show go to: www.psclassic.com

Doors will open from:

12:00 PM until 8:00 PM on Friday 23rd
9:00 AM until 7:00 PM on Saturday 24th
11:00 AM until 6:00 PM on Sunday 25th

Admission Fee:

Adults: \$6;
Seniors (60 and above): \$5
Children 10 and under Free

Membership Status

Thanks to all of the members who paid their membership dues in January! Having these funds made the acquisition of the new 1,449 acre Minton Creek Lease possible.

Our Current Membership Status:

At this time 74 members have paid their dues

New Members - 27

2006 Members that have renewed - 47

Members who have committed to renew but have not paid - 23

Members not returning - 11

Members who have yet to commit that they are returning - 13

If you have not conveyed your intentions regarding your membership status, please let us know you're your status as soon as possible.

If you have not paid your dues, please understand that they **MUST** be paid no later than **May 1**. (If you have not paid your dues and campsite fee (if applicable) by **May 1**, you will lose your position in the membership and your campsite will be reassigned).

\$100 New Member Recruiting Fee

At this time we anticipate that we will need additional members. The \$100 new member recruiting fee will continue until **May 1**. This only applies to members you have personally recruited and does not apply to members acquired from our website, shows or call in inquiries.

Mail Checks to:

**Paul Wittfeld
5920 Summerston Place
Charlotte, NC 28277**

**704-975-2280
paul@appliedcd.com**

Daily 5:00am Sign-in Procedure Revised

The Officers and Work Leaders have determined that the process for our Daily 5:00 am Sign-In during deer and turkey season needs to be revised to better allow priority sign-in for only those members who really need special consideration in selecting hunt units versus allowing all members with associates to have a priority sign-in.

The new Sign-In process will provide "**Priority Sign-In**" for the following: **The physically challenged, members with their spouse and/or children who are age 12 or younger and members who are age 65 and older.**

As with the original Sign-in System, all remaining members at the 5:00am sign-in will then draw a number to determine the order for hunt unit selection.

As more of the members reached age 65, we may need to reevaluate the process so we will not have so many members signing in under the First Priority. This revised procedure will be implemented immediately and will be used for the 2007 turkey season.

The Club remains very committed to Youth success. Many of our teenagers have become experienced hunters who have harvested Deer and Turkeys. We will continue to help **all** of our youth associates achieve success. Don't hesitate to ask any of the Club officers or one of our long term members for assistance.

Additional Campsites - Fairfield

We have an overwhelming demand for campsites at the Fairfield Camp. To provide more campsites the club has contracted to have a new road cut from the Archery Range to the Sight-in Range paralleling the current road. The Archery Range will be relocated and the ATV trail realigned to accommodate the new road.

Deer Harvest 2006

The harvest sheets for Fairfield and Kershaw will be placed on our website in the next few weeks and a brief summary is noted below: A more detail harvest summary will be indicated in the next newsletter.

145 Deer Harvested

31 Quality Bucks having over 15" wide racks or weighing a minimum of 150 lbs

Fairfield -110 Deer

29 Quality Bucks

Kershaw - 35 Deer

2 Quality Bucks

Many of these Bucks will make or be close to making the state record list.

Officers & Work Leaders Meetings Schedule

Work Leader meetings are scheduled on non-hunting months to discuss and plan up-coming work tasks, activities and club improvements. In addition, the current Membership & Financial Status is presented and discussed. The purpose of these meetings is to allow the Work Leaders to report on status of scheduled tasks and if needed, to request help in completing up-coming work assignments. Hopefully the results of these meetings will keep us on tract with our work plans as we move forward through the year.

These meetings will be held generally on the first Saturday of the month at Fairfield at 9:00 AM on the following dates:

February 3, 2007

March 10, 2007

May 5, 2007

June 2, 2007

July 7, 2007

August 4, 2007

From the Chaplain's Stand Dick Pope - Chaplain/Counselor/Bereavement

Proverbs 27:17: *As iron sharpens iron, So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.*

Thought: Godly communication between friends involves sharing common interest, giving and accepting advice, giving and accepting criticism and giving and accepting encouragement. A healthy relationship among club members requires both giving and receiving, with the primary emphasis on the way of giving to others. Keep all these things in mind as you interchange information and greet fellow outdoorsman in our club.

GPS knowledge needed

Andy Barnett has a Hand Held Lowrance i Finder GPS unit and needs a little help with operation of the unit. If you have experience with GPS products please contact Andy (Andy Barnett [ambarnett@comporium.net]).