

September Newsletter

A publication of the MWA for it's members

www.manhattanwildlifeassociation.com
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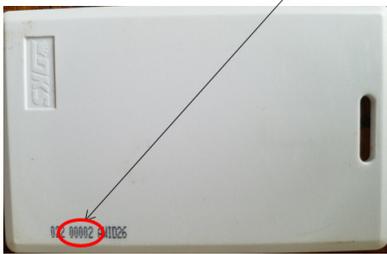
September, 2018

Special Notices to all Members

2018 Membership renewal and purchase

There have been significant changes in purchasing membership this past year and everyone has been very understanding and patient during this transition. The new entrance gate in combination with the permanent membership electronic gate cards has made access more convenient.

This year, renewing memberships will be easier for everyone with several ways to accomplish this. The electronic gate card is your **permanent** membership card and has your member number on the card. Located on the front in the lower left are a series of numbers. 022 00002 AWID26 The second set of numbers is your membership number (in this case it is 00002).



Renewals may be sent in as in the past to the club with Payment and all you will need to do is complete the renewal form. It will be very helpful if you will include your membership number from your card. You do not need a replacement Electronic Gate card, we will renew the membership of your current card. Once your renewal has been received your electronic card will be updated for another year on the system. Please remember that you will have to **allow at least ten days** for mailing and processing for your renewal to be completed.

Purchase of new memberships and membership renewals will also be available once a month at the range in the west clubhouse. See the schedule listed and on the MWA web site.

New Membership

New Memberships to the MWA must be done in person at one of the membership days, as the new members will need to watch the video and pickup their new Electronic Gate Card. These dates will be at the West Club House from 12:00pm – 5:00pm and the main gate will be open for these time frames.

The remaining dates for this year for NEW Members to obtain their membership and to Watch Video and get their electronic Gate cards are as follows:

October 14th (Sunday) 2018
November 11th (Sunday) 2018
December 16th (Sunday) 2018

Please reference the MWA Website for next years date coming at the end of January 2019.

Sight In Days

MWA will not have a public sight in day
Sight in will be by appointment ONLY.

If you need assistance sighting in please contact the below people for an appointment.

Kurt Bennet 406 580-6223
Dick DeBernardis 406 539-9400

**General Membership
Meeting Tuesday, January 08, 2019
at 7:30 PM at the
MWA Clubhouse at the Range
Calendar planning meeting
January 22nd, 2019 at 6:30 PM at
the MWA Clubhouse at the Range
Mandatory for anyone with events or shoots on
the calendar!!**

Elections

The nomination committee has not received any names for submission for any of three positions up for election this year. The incumbent individuals have been contacted and are willing to accept appointment to another term of office. The two board members are Nick Pipinich and Eric Gilbertson and the land board member is Nick Pipinich. All nomination are required to be submitted to the nomination committee. If you wish to be considered or know of someone they need to submit their intentions to a board member prior to December 1, 2018. Their candidacy information will be posted on the website.

This is important, as nomination for the boards can not be accepted from the floor at the annual meeting.

Nominations

Nick Pipinich

My Name is Nick D. Pipinich. I would like to announce my intention to run for re-election of the General Board and to re-election for the Land Board. I have been a member of the range since the early nineties and have served on the General Board for many years in the position of the Club Secretary. I have participated in most shooting disciplines at the range and was one of the primary directors of the Action Pistol sports for many years. I assisted on the planning and deployment of all of the pistol and rifle bays as well as the new Club House. I have actively participated in all of the Club Clean Up days and headed up the donation and door prizes for the Club Picnic. I also have put out the Newsletter and run the Webpage. I have assist on membership and working with the vendors. I have been instrumental in getting the new electronic gate and the provisioning of that the Electronic gate card system operational. I have seen a lot of development and improvements on the range over the past 20 years. I would like to serve and help with the aspects of the Land Board for the overall improvements of the range. I would like to continue assisting with the General Board in my position as the Secretary. I feel I have a bit of history with the MWA and feel I would be an asset if elected to the Land Board.

Thank you for your support. Nick D. Pipinich

Nominations

Eric Gilbertson

My name is Eric Gilbertson I would like to announce my intention to run for re-election to the MWA board. Since, 1980's I have been actively involved in some aspect of most of the shooting sports at the MWA range. My interest in shooting sports beyond those available at MWA has provided me with the opportunity to see what is successfully working on other ranges. My interests are to help improve the overall function of the range for all of our members. Without everyone's support, the range cannot provide a quality facility for all members to enjoy and use. During my term on the board I have continued to pursue these principles and still supporting the many varied range groups.

I am asking for your support in the upcoming January election.

Range Maintenance / Self Help

Every effort is made through volunteers and trap help to keep the shooting bays clean, organized and target frames ready for everyone. During this time of year it is not always possible to have all of the bays up to speed. We are asking for members to help in maintaining our shooting bays.

Backer boards and wire are available outside the large shop building on the north west corner. Please help maintain our shooting bays by replacing backer boards which are no longer serviceable. Pile up the wood scraps from the old backers near the trash cans where it can be picked up or stack it next to the dumpsters at the shop building.

Move any spools back to the shooting lines. Remove targets left on backers. Generally clean up the bay after you are done shooting.

If everyone will try to help in the up keep of our bays, next time you come out to shoot the bay will be ready for you to use thanks to the help from our membership.

Guest Policy

Due to the many questions, we are again publishing the Guest policy for the MWA.

Guests (nonmembers) will only be allowed on the Manhattan Wildlife Association facility when accompanied by a current member or participating in a club sponsored event.

1. General Provisions. This policy does not apply to nonmembers during open trap and skeet shooting held on Wednesdays and Sundays. Guests participating must complete liability waiver forms and pay nonmember fees associated with these activities. Sponsored shoots and other events are also required to have all participants complete the waiver form. These activities usually occur when the main gate or the event gate is open.

2. Periods of use. Members may bring guests to the range without limitation. **Exception: No guests are permitted on weekends from August through November.**

3. Procedure. All guests are required to complete a MWA waiver form and pay a fee for the day they are using the range with a member. **The liability forms are located in the drop box on the East Club House, outside next to the bathroom entrance.** The signed completed form will be deposited in the box along with the day use fee. The guest will retain the stub indicating payment for the day and will have it available to show as proof of payment.

4. Fee. The fee will be \$10 per guest.

Guests under the age of 18 are exempt from the fee but must complete the waiver form and have it signed by the legal guardian. Active Duty Military guests are exempt of the fee.

5. Member's responsibility. At all times the club member will be responsible for the conduct of their guest. Members will remain with their guest for the entire time they are on the range. No guest will be allowed on the range unless accompanied by the member.

6. **During periods of high use members and their guest are limited to one shooting point on the long range and pistol bays.**

7. Members may not bring guests to the range for training as a business or for profit.

Safety Reminders

Safety will be of primary concern throughout all aspects and activities of this shooting range. It is each person's responsibility to conduct him or herself in a safe manner at all times, and not endanger anyone else. This includes shooters, workers, and spectators; and covers gun handling, driving, equipment use, and maintenance, and any other dangerous activity. Safe operation of our shooting ranges requires strict adherence to the following safety protocols. All people using the range are always responsible for safe facility use and must take action to stop an unsafe situation.

General Gun Safety

Always keep firearms pointed in a safe direction.

Always keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.

Always keep firearms unloaded until ready to use.

Know your target and beyond.

Know how to operate the firearm.

Ensure firearm is safe to operate.

Ensure use of correct ammunition in the firearm.

Eye protection is required for all persons on the firing line and hearing protection is **STRONGLY** recommended

Be aware that certain types of firearms and many shooting activities required additional safety precautions.

All guns are to be unloaded, completely clear of ammo at all times except when on the firing line ready to be fired.

At all times, except when on the firing line ready to be fired, all firearms shall have actions open with magazine empty. If the firearm is equipped with detachable magazine the action shall be open and the magazine shall be removed or be holstered with magazine removed. If not then they shall be unloaded and cased. Firearms with break-open type actions may have their actions closed if in a gun rack or cased.

No cross shooting, your bench must be in line with your target. Shoot only proper targets set directly in front of berm. Bullets should not hit the steel target supports. Bullets must impact the BERM. Be aware of the fact that bullets striking the ground in front of a berm may ricochet over the top of the berm creating an unsafe condition for anyone behind a berm (such as in the easternmost pistol bay when people are downrange changing targets on the rifle range). Always set your targets directly in front of the berms and ensure that your bullets impact the berm and not the ground. Do not shoot glass

Cease-fires, Before going down Range:

Verify the calling of a cease-fire with every shooter on the firing line, be cognizant of all people and their locations on the range at all times.

Make all firearms safe with actions open, magazines removed, and completely clear of ammunition. Do not handle firearms in ANY fashion on the firing line while anyone is down range. When more than one person is on the range, those present may appoint a Range Officer to give "Cease-fire" and "Commence-fire" commands. Shooters on the range must ensure that everyone is back from down range before the "Commence-fire" command is given. Please be courteous when you ask other shooters for a cease-fire. Ask for cease-fires at appropriate times and frequencies. Always give the other shooter the opportunity to complete his string of fire before commencing the cease-fire.

NO tracer ammunition may be used during high fire danger.

Alcohol and Gunpowder don't mix. No alcohol is permitted on the firing lines. No one visibly impaired by alcohol or drugs will be allowed to shoot. Let's help each other keep shooting sports safe by correcting any unsafe condition that may arise due to alcohol or drug use. Do it now. Later may be too late!

Always control your muzzle. Point your gun down range and into a berm during loading, unloading, or when making adjustments or repairs, remember we have safe gun handling area, PLEASE USE them. Dry firing is to be in a down range direction and only from the firing line.

Clean up after yourself. Pull your targets after use and police your brass. Put all dud ammunitions in specially marked containers

Club President News

Hello MWA Members,

Well here it is September and fall is in the air. We all know what that means, hunting seasons. Some bird hunting and archery seasons are already going on with big game rifle hunting not far off.

Another thing this time of the year brings is increased activity on the rifle range at the MWA. It seems in recent years, it gets busier every year. Lots of people are setting up new scopes and or rifles or just fine tuning old reliable. It is a time when a lot of our members do most of the total shooting they do all year, getting ready to hunt. We all know safety is the job one, every time we are at the range but at this time of the year, with all the increased usage, we all have to be extra vigilant about it. Make sure you and your parties abide by all of the safety rules as well as keep your eyes on other shooters. If you see someone bending a rule, please courteously bring it to their attention. If the firing line is extra busy, use just one bench for you and your party to help all of the members have a chance to do their shooting. Remember the no guest rule on weekends this time of year. If possible, due your shooting on weekdays instead of weekends to help the crowding situation. Always set up in the shortest bay that will suit your needs if available rather than set up to shoot handguns at 10-20 yards in the back of a 100 yard bay.

This range belongs to all of us members. Let's try to use it as safely, and as efficiently with as much courtesy as possible to our fellow members not just at this extra busy time of the year but year round.

This will ensure we have the safest range possible, with everyone having a good time and getting whatever they want out of their shooting time on the range.

Be Safe and Shoot Straight

Gary Delin

Range Security

All members,

Remember pack it in pack it out ,put your trash, everything you bring out to shoot in the blue dumpster by the large storage building and your cardboard in the recycling bin by the big building. A reminder for everyone to shoot into the berms and not on the ground in the middle of the bays.

Shooters please refrain from shooting shotguns at plywood targets in all bays as it tears them up. Bring your own cardboard target backing to pattern shotguns or practice with them, please make sure to remove your targets from the backer boards when you are done and take them back with you or throw them away in dumpster and cardboard in recycling bin.

Please DO NOT shoot the pools these are meant for placing your shooting items on top of and for rests NOT for target to be shot at in the bays.

Be respectful to other shooters if requesting to shoot in the same bay and reciprocate to them if they ask to shoot along with you.

Adopt a Bay

Dawn Pipinich
ndpdlp@littleappletech.com

Please take care as not to hit the Adopt a Bay signs with your vehicle and or shoot at them. If you see one that has been damaged or hit by a vehicle please contact me as soon as possible.

Please remember to take care of your adopted bay. Please regularly clean up and replace the backer boards. With fall around the corner the bays will need extra attention. The trap personnel have been trying to keep up with replacing the backer boards but do not always get it done.

Please let me know if you no longer want the bay your have adopted and I will find someone else to take it over.

Thank You,
Dawn

Please PICKUP your trash!

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