

IMA Annual Meeting Minutes, 02/28/2009

Attendees: Jamie Gould, Don Hyde, Gary King, Kim Tish, Mike Murray, Greg Kershul, Tonna Kershul, Dan Wells, Jeff Caddy, and Cal Gillis

The meeting was held at the F&G Hunter's Education building @ 109 W. 44th St. in Garden City.

Old Business: Jamie discussed the Sportsman's Show, March 5-8, 2009. A 50-caliber Traditions Hawken muzzleloader rifle was purchased as a raffle item. Ticket prices will be \$5.00 each or five tickets for \$20.00. After discussion a motion was made and passed to draw for the muzzleloader after the sale of 500 tickets, or Wed. July 29th, 2009 whichever came first. An IMA meeting at Jamie's was scheduled for July 29, 2009. A nod of appreciation was given to Jeff for the outstanding raffle posters he designed, printed, and published to the IMA website: <http://www.idahomuzzleloaders.com/>

Thanks to Mike Murray for donating a well made haversack and Jamie Gould for donating a fire starter kit. These items will be raffled at the Sportsman's show at \$1.00 per ticket, with the drawing to be held on Sunday, the last day of the Sportsman's Show. Thank you also to Steve and Barbara Stadely at Powerbelt for the donation of 6 packages of Powerbelt bullets arranged by Dan Wells, to be included in the muzzleloader package being raffled. Thank you also to Charlie Stark for the donation of a beautiful handmade short starter.

Jamie asked for volunteers to man the IMA booth at the Sportsman's show and a number of volunteers signed up to cover the various times and days. Jamie also asked members to bring their muzzleloading weapons for display and many of the attending members agreed.

Jamie asked that the members approve an expenditure to copy handouts for the Sportsman's Show. A motion was made and passed to approve the spending of monies for handouts.

New Business: Jamie asked the members to consider Article III, Members, Membership, and Dues, of the Bylaws of the Idaho Muzzleloader Association which states:

3.01 Membership shall be open to any interested person 18 years of age or older, who is a citizen of the United States.

Jamie suggested that the IMA consider reducing the age requirement as it would be to IMA's advantage to interest the youth in the sport of muzzleloading at an early age. Mike indicated that if we accepted members less than 18 years of age, they would have to be accompanied by a legal guardian. Kim suggested having a Junior Membership category with written parental consent or children of adult members. Kim added that there were firearm laws and other legal considerations to contend with. Jamie pointed out that kids can hunt the youth hunts at 12

IMA Annual Meeting Minutes, 02/28/2009

years of age. Both Don Hyde and Kim suggested that the completion of a Hunter Education course be a qualifier for membership.

Jamie reiterated that getting youths involved in muzzleloading at an early age would benefit the IMA and the sport and tradition of muzzleloading in the long run. Jamie also suggested that if the youths become involved, it may also entice their parents to become involved. Greg Kershul indicated that at the Gem County Shooting Range, youths are allowed to participate when accompanied by a parent or guardian. Tonna Kershul expressed that in her experience, kids are really intrigued by muzzleloading.

Jamie asked what activities or opportunities are out there for IMA to participate with interested youth. It was suggested that we continue and increase our activity with Hunter Education. Mike suggested that there were a lot of misconceptions about muzzleloading out there and IMA's participation with youth could correct those misconceptions because of the knowledge the members have.

The process of amending the By-laws was discussed and it was decided to continue this discussion in future meetings.

Jamie indicated that IMA needed a liaison with the Fish & Game Department (F&G) as indicated in ARTICLE VII Officers, Officials, and Appointees, 7.09 Liaisons, which states:

The President shall appoint at least one (1), but not more than four (4), persons residing in each of the Fish and Game regions as liaisons, to represent the Association in matters which are relevant to the Interests of the Association.

Jamie talked about how former member Burk Schindel served as the liaison with F&G and built a rapport with F&G staff so that he was privy to information at an early stage in F&G's decision-making process, which allowed IMA to prepare responses. Discussion was held and the consensus was the IMA need a liaison that would centralize the information flow.

Mike indicated that he had a discussion with a F&G Region 3 supervisor that indicated Mike should get a hold of Al Marion to discuss proposals he is supporting to change muzzleloader rules again. Mike indicated his attempts to meet with Marion have not been successful. Mike indicated the F&G Commissioners are sick of hearing about muzzleloading and would like to be done with it. Much of the opposition to the current bullet and powder restrictions are coming from north Idaho. Jamie reiterated that this was all the more reason to have an IMA – F&G liaison. Kim Tish volunteered to act as the IMA liaison with F&G.

IMA Annual Meeting Minutes, 02/28/2009

Jamie also asked for a volunteer to act as an Activities Coordinator to come up with and organize activities the IMA may sponsor or participate in. Past activities such as lobbying the F&G, the Sportsman's Show, Hunters Education, sponsoring muzzleloader informational sessions for F&G and Sportsman's Warehouse staff, and the Marsing Free-fishing day were discussed. Jamie indicated that these were good opportunities for IMA to disseminate information with regard to the tradition of muzzleloading and more opportunities were needed. Kim suggested that the IMA create goals with regard to activities IMA will participate in and/or sponsor. Jamie suggested that IMA could piggyback on F&G events as it would be a good avenue for IMA to get out in the community and get the word out. Jamie indicated the IMA must be a dynamic organization and be passionate about muzzleloading.

Greg Kershul invited the IMA members to attend and participate in the muzzleloader shoots at the Gem County-Emmett Rod and Gun Club. The muzzleloader shoots are held the third Sunday of every month from 1:00 – 4:00 PM. Greg suggested that if the IMA wanted to get together to shoot that they request range time. Greg indicated that range time was harder to get as the weather warmed up. Thanks to Greg and Tonna Kershul for the invitation.

Greg also informed the attending members about the Snake River Sportsman's Club shoot in Vail, OR, to be held Sunday, March 1.

Election of Officers was held and Jamie Gould was reelected as President. Gary King was reelected as Vice-President. Gilbert Hardy was reelected as Treasurer. Dan Wells was elected Secretary to replace Cal Gillis.

The following IMA Treasurer's report was submitted by Jamie for Gilbert.

Jeff Caddy reviewed the new IMA website with the attending members and a few suggestions were made. Kudos go out to Jeff for the outstanding work he has performed on the website for IMA. All IMA members are encouraged to visit the site, as the website is attractive and very functional. Jeff asked that members contribute information to post on the website by clicking on the [Web Master](#) link at the bottom of the page.

The IMA website is located at: <http://www.idahomuzzleloaders.com/>

These will be the last minutes submitted by me as Secretary of IMA. I am stepping down to allow myself more time to concentrate on finishing my Masters degree in the next year. I have enjoyed my time as Secretary and the opportunity to contribute to the IMA. Dan Wells will take up the pen/computer as the new Secretary and I wish him well.

Respectfully submitted,

IMA Annual Meeting Minutes, 02/28/2009

Cal Gillis