



**HEIDELBERG ROD AND GUN CLUB
ADVISORY COUNCIL
OFTERSHEIM, GERMANY**



I. CALL TO ORDER: In the absence of President, COL Armon Cioppa, Vice President Rich Ecsodi called the Heidelberg Rod and Gun Club Advisory Council meeting to order at 1858 hours, January 6, 2010.

II. ATTENDEES:

Rich Ecsodi	Vice President
Bob Owen	Acting Rod and Gun Club Manager
Jennifer King	Marketing and Advertising
Laurel Cioppa	Secretary
David Oakland	Outdoor Rec Director
Chuck Gordon	Board of Directors, MWR
James Long,	MWR
LTC Robert White	Garrison Commander
Ralph Santaliz	Deputy Garrison Commander
Reiner Kramer	HD Archers
Mike Sinnema	Member
Brian Demski	Member
Tim Adams	Member
Dom Knoll	Member
Dennis Delhaie	Member
Tanja Taylor	Member
Larry Taylor	Member
Stefan Butz	HD Archers
Klaus Huelter	DAF
Stephanie Dempsey	Member
Davis Norton	Fishermen's Stammtisch
Dave Hullett	Fishermen's Stammtisch
Martin Huber	DAF
Rafael Wunsch	Member
Augustine Olive	Member
Ed Puterbaugh	Shooting Chairman
Al Prucnal	Member
Paul Bell	Hunting Course Instructor

III. REVIEW OF LAST MONTH'S MINUTES AND REPORTS: Rich Ecsodi, Vice President, welcomed everyone to the meeting. The minutes for the month of December were read, approved and seconded as written. Motion made by Jennifer King and seconded by Rich Ecsodi.

IV. REPORTS:

- 1. Financial/Manager's Update:** Bob Owen stated that the club is in the plus YTD by \$2,001.40. The gross for the month of December at this point is 18,037 – these are the preliminary numbers. The club has consistently been operating in the black since June 2009. Club continues to consistently be operating in the black as noted by COL Armon Cioppa at last month's meeting. Bob Owen informed the members that the Skeet Ranges will be closed on 17 January due to the Archery Winter Tournament.
- 2. Shooter's Bar and Grill:** Mr. Rich Ecsodi opened the discussion to address the new policy of dogs not being allowed in the restaurant. It is an Army policy that dogs (other than those assisting the disabled) are

not allowed in MWR facilities. The issue is a two part issue concerning FMWR and USAMEDDAC (veterinary) in regards to policy in food establishments. The issue of dogs in the restaurant was brought to the Command's attention by a concerned patron. Due to the fact that Shooter's serves both American personnel and host country nationals the policy is being reviewed. Members of the Rod and Gun Club expressed their concern about the issue. Due to the sensitive nature of the issue, the discussion was heated and the environment hostile. Members expressed concern over German custom and hunting traditions in regards to the dogs being welcome in the facility. Members also expressed concern over the EURO to dollar exchange rate in the restaurant and pricing. LTC White attended the meeting and addressed the fact that both he and COL Butcher have tried to overturn the decision. They are working with IMCOM to address the issue and attorneys are currently looking at alternatives to satisfy all parties concerned. LTC White pointed out all of the concerted efforts that have been made to improve the facility recently as did Mr. Ralph Santaliz. LTC White acknowledged the concerns of the members and explained to all present that the issue is not closed at this point. He stated that he is working closely both military and MWR attorneys to reach a compromise acceptable to all parties. He acknowledged that he understands the importance of this issue to the membership and that he and COL Butcher have taken the issue to the highest level for a final decision. The dog issue will be addressed at next month's meeting as to the status. Until the issue is resolved, patrons should be aware that dogs are not allowed in the facility until further notice. Regina from CCS – Catering Concepts Solutions attended the meeting to address the members concerns. She stated that CCS – Catering Concepts Solutions is still assessing the needs of the club in reference to hours of operation, pricing and timeliness of food service. Those members who expressed concern and displeasure with recent visits to the restaurant were treated to a free breakfast buffet in response to their concern. All in attendance were treated to a complimentary glass of champagne. Regina assured all that CCS- Catering Concepts will continue to strive to meet all members' needs and concerns. LTC White and Laurel Cioppa addressed the immense improvement in the overall cleanliness of the facility.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Fall Hunting Course:** Laurel Cioppa informed those in attendance that COL Cioppa met with the restaurant contractor and Rod and Gun Club employees on Saturday, January 2nd to finalize preparation for the upcoming graduation. The restaurant will offer a beef entrée and a vegetarian alternative. The graduation will be held on 16 JAN 2010. The cocktail hour will start at 1700 and the ceremony will begin at 1800. Rich Ecsodi asked that volunteers arrive at 1500 on the 16th to prepare for the event and set up the bonfire. Invitations were sent out to the German dignitaries and USAREUR VIPs by Laurel Cioppa. Price and menu will be solidified by Mr. Ecsodi with the contractor at the end of the Council Meeting.
2. **Children's Christmas Program:** The Annual Children's Christmas Program in support of leukemia patients from the Mannheim Children's Hospital was held on December 19th, 2009 at 1500. Several USAREUR community organizations have already made donations in support of the event. Volunteers gathered at the club at 1800 on 16 December to wrap the gifts for the children with the help of the Girl Scouts who completed the task in record time! Several volunteers baked cupcakes for the event and Mr. Ecsodi acknowledged the contribution of cupcakes by members and let the members know that the hospital takes the cupcakes back to the patients that are unable to come to the event. Mr. Ecsodi presented the groups in attendance with Certificates of Appreciation from the American Legion. He also informed the members that he and his wife will leave an SOP on this event for members to follow since he will not be able to lead this event in the future as his job is taking him to another location.
3. **Awards Night:** The Awards Ceremony New Year's Reception, originally scheduled for January 9th, 2010 will be held from 1500 to 1900 at the Rod and Gun Club on February 20th, 2010. Laurel Cioppa stated the need for more time needed to contact all recipients of awards. Event will be coordinated and calendared with the new contractor.
4. **Reloading Course:** Jennifer King informed the club that the recent change in German law requires those that registered for the Reloading Course to have their complete FBI background check in hand prior to the beginning of the course. As of the January 20th registration cut off, we currently have four registered and four pending. We are hoping to proceed with the course and that all pending paperwork will be complete by that time.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Marketing and Advertising:** Jennifer King announced that Gia Oney is on maternity leave and that it has been difficult to promote monthly activities due to the contractor change. Activities must be scheduled at least 6 weeks in advance for MWR to promote them. Jen King suggested that we produce a quarterly flyer with activities and events by week rather than by date. Mr Ecsodi said that Paul Bell will put in a request to schedule the Spring Hunter's Course graduating prior to May 1, 2010. Tentative date for the event is April 24th, 2010. Mr. Ecsodi inquired of Larry Taylor if it would be possible to have support from the Blasers for this event. Paul Bell stated that the upcoming course will begin 25 February and will follow the format of the last course with Thursday and Friday night instruction followed by a Saturday range day. Syllabus for the new course should be ready by the end of next week.
2. **Calendar Update:** The Award's Night will be rescheduled for February 20th, 2010 from 1500 to 1900.
3. **SSV Rot Competition:** Jennifer King stated that we still need to schedule the invitational shoot with SSV Rot. Tanja Taylor stated that the SSV Rot 2010 German Shooting Competition Calendar is now available. Tanja and Paul Woods will work together to schedule a date.
4. **New Awards:** Larry Taylor made a motion that Jose Zamot of the USAREUR HQ Registry of Motor Vehicles be recognized for his support with a Certificate of Appreciation. Jennifer King seconded this motion. Raphael Wunsch will check to see if he has bronze and silver needles available.

VII. SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **DAF:** Klaus Huelter informed the Council that DAF is serious about picking up their brass after a recent incident where brass had been left on the range by DAF. Mr Huelter informed the club that DAF had addressed the issue and was serious about removing the brass from the range after shooting.
2. **IPSIC:** Dennis Delhaie informed the Council that this will be his last meeting as he is PCSing.
3. **Fishing:** Dave Norton informed the Council that there was a great response to the last class. It was suggested that Bob Owen become a certified fishing instructor as Dave Hullett is in a deployable position. Raphael Wunsch said that he will clarify the duties of Uli Sibbers in his new position in Graf at the upcoming January 15th meeting. Dave Norton stated that he is working on a community local fishing venue. Dave Oakland stated that this was at Germersheim Depot. Dave Hullett stated that the Pro Shop was much improved under Bob Owen's tenure and that he had only heard positive comments. Bob Owen stated that he has found the prototype for the old fishing logo and will look to producing a Fisherman's pin as the new Rod and Gun Club pin with the old Hunter's logo has been such a success. Dave Norton added there will be a Memorial Day fishing event planned for the Wiesbaden, Baumholder and Heidelberg communities at a local lake and there will be no need for a Fishing License to participate in this event. It will be open to all ID card holders. Mr. Ecsodi emphasized the importance of this program and all of the interests that families had in it at the recent CARE Fairs. Laurel Cioppa and Dave Hullett discussed a Warrior Transition Battalion fishing event for wounded soldiers in the European footprint. VP asked fisherman's rep to contact the American Legion to set up a members fishing program under R&G watch.
4. **Archery:** Reiner Kramer informed the Council that there will be a Winter Archery Tournament on January 7th 2010. The Archers are hoping for good weather as 150 participants are registered.
5. **OGAHS/DJV:** DJV is informed the Council that they will begin their new season shortly and that shooting with DJV is a great way to meet the shooting requirements for the Sports Shooter's License. The first Needle Shoot is scheduled for the first Friday in March.

6. **MAL:** Dave Oakland informed the members about the upcoming DORTMUND Hunting and Fishing Show on February 6th and asked members if there was an interest in taking a bus to the show. The response was positive and Mr Oakland said that he would look into this and inform the members.

VIII. ALIBIS: None

IX. ADJOURNMENT: The Vice President, Rich Ecsodi, thanked everyone for attending. A motion to adjourn was made by Rich Ecsodi and seconded by Jennifer King. The meeting was adjourned at 2057. The next Advisory Council meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 3rd, at 1900 at the Heidelberg Rod and Gun Club.

// Signed //

COL Armon A. Cioppa

President

Heidelberg Rod and Gun Club Advisory Council