

# LEYDEN RIFLE CLUB NEWSLETTER #5

## Leyden, Massachusetts

Affiliated with the National Rifle Association &  
the Civilian Marksmanship Program

- ✓ **The Leyden Rifle Club's Fund Raiser was a success !** On Saturday December 3<sup>rd</sup> at our Annual Christmas Party, the winners were drawn for our *First Annual Fund Raiser*. Winners for the gun prizes were: 1<sup>st</sup> - Dan LaChance, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Brad Baker, 3<sup>rd</sup> - Richard Kovalsick, 4<sup>th</sup> - Dick Beasley, 5<sup>th</sup> - Emil Demars, and 6<sup>th</sup> - Ernest LaPlante. As your President, I'd like to thank all those who supported our Club by purchasing raffle tickets; a special "Thanks" goes to Elwin Barton & Herm Drost for organizing LRC's first fund raiser. By-the-way, over 500 tickets were sold. (Outstanding.)
- ✓ **Speaking of our Annual Christmas Party,....** It was held at the Bernardston Veterans Club with many LRC members and their spouses attending. The dinner, prepared and served by the Veterans Club, was superb. The meal was followed by the exchange of gifts, -which always has some unexpected surprises and laughs. Why not plan on attending our 2006 LRC Christmas Party? We'd love to see you there; I know you'd have a good time and be amongst some really good friends.
- ✓ **Club Elections :** Our 2005 Annual Meeting was held at our Clubhouse on Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Aside from the normal club business, the election was held for the 2006 LRC Officers. The election results were: President - Joe Sipitkowski, Vice President - Eric Goodchild, Treasurer - Elwin Barton, and Secretary - Priscilla Mauro. To the members who attended the annual meeting, your presence was greatly appreciated. Lastly, a special note of appreciation goes to out-going Vice President, Jim Collins, for his service and the support he has always given to the LRC. Great job Jim and the Club thanks you.
- ✓ **Unannounced Work Bee :** There was a small gathering of LRC members on October 1, 2005 who helped to mow grass at the Rifle Range as well as cut brush about the grounds. 'Many thanks' go to: Elwin B., Carey B., Scott H., Rick H., and Mark for their time and effort. (BTW, the Rifle Range looked really nice after the Work Party. -JS)
- ✓ **Annual Fall Work Bee :** Another work bee was held on October 23, 2005, to clean up the Fall leaves at both the outdoor rifle range and the Clubhouse's grounds. The work bee began in the morning and was completed just before the start of our annual meeting. As usual, a sumptuous luncheon (prepared by Mary Lou Barton) was provided to the members who worked. I want to thank those who helped that day: Mike C., Elwin B., Herm D., Joe B., Eric G., Charlie, Chuck, and, of course, Mary Lou.
- ✓ **2006 LRC Memberships :** Our membership annual dues are still \$25.00 per year. If you haven't renewed, please contact Elwin Barton. Also, as a reminder, be sure to carry your current LRC membership card with you while on the Club grounds; it is for your benefit as well as the Club's.
- ✓ **Indoor rifle range update :** We finally have a new roof on the indoor range! From a suggestion by one of our members, a local vocational school was used to install the new roof. LRC paid for all the roofing materials and the labor was free (thanks to the students). A special thanks goes to Elwin Barton for making the contact with the school.
- ✓ **Reminder :** The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Franklin County Friends of the NRA Banquet is being held on Friday, February 17, 2006. (See attached flier.) It would be great to have good representation for the LRC at this NRA fund-raising function.
- ✓ **Four match tournament :** There were only 2 winners of our 2005 high power rifle tournament: 1<sup>st</sup> place - Joe Sipitkowski and 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Eric Goodchild. To qualify for the tournament, rifle shooters must complete one match in the following: bolt action rifle, high power rifle, M1 Garand rifle, and reduced target (any rifle). For 2005, there were only 2 shooters that did all 4 matches; some only did 3 out of the 4 matches. Perhaps we will have more shooters participating in the LRC 2006 four match tournament?
- ✓ **LRC Time Capsule:** I came across an article from the (Northampton) *Hampshire Gazette* newspaper dated Sept. 14, 1993. Its title said, "Leyden rejects machine gun ban". The article reported on the Town's vote, 61 to 38, against a proposal to ban fully automatic weapons at our Club. In light of the more recent Planning Board's and abutters' issues, I can honestly say, for a small club, we're *always* in the middle of a hornets' nest. (Its probably just in our nature....)

A very 'Happy New Year' to all,

*Joe Sipitkowski*, LRC President

January 2006