

December 1, 2018

Land Purchase Final Update

On Friday, 11/30/18, the RBGC Executive Committee, consisting of Larry Sollars, David Norcross and I met with the real estate attorney the club has worked with on the land purchase and signed the Lot Purchase and Sales Agreement to finalize the purchase of 54.983 acres of land from Echo Cherokee Properties, LLC. The club paid \$494,847 for the land. \$5,139 in closing costs and \$9,550 for the land survey. RBGC now owns this additional land and it expands the club holdings to approximately 378 acres, total.

Many club BoD members, officers, managers and members contributed to this effort and I sincerely appreciate every contribution made. No one person could have achieved this without the widespread support from so many members that I was fortunate to receive. I would like to thank the following members:

The RBGC Board of Directors who voted unanimously to pursue the land purchase.

Ken Smith, Past President who guided me through the process with his wise counsel and sage advice.

Bill Illg, Club Manager for his enthusiastic and good-natured solicitation of club members to purchase the 67 life memberships sold to raise the funds needed to purchase the land.

Erica D'Amico who worked tirelessly along side Bill Illg and me to record and deposit membership and donation checks, for producing and mailing membership badges and acknowledgement letters and who remained cheerful and enthusiastic throughout.

David Norcross, Annual Director who single handedly orchestrated the two email blasts that went to all members and helped the club inform them of the land purchase and solicit the purchase of life memberships and donations.

Geoff Rhines, Club Treasurer who helped to keep me on track and who handled the financial transactions.

Steve Hardin, Past President who willingly provided institutional knowledge and advice.

The RO's who allowed me to address their assembled competitors prior to their shooting matches.

Randy Gamble, USPSA RO who orchestrated the raffle of a life membership.

Linda Horne, Newsletter Editor who remained patient with me, carefully edited my article submissions and often held up the Bullet-In waiting for me to get the articles in.

Kim Anderson, Webmaster and Bruce Perry, Forum Moderator both of whom diligently posted the articles I submitted in a timely manner.

The 67 new life members who contributed \$507,525 to the land purchase fund.

The 25 members who contributed donations totaling \$7,650.

Ederlin Owensby who stood by me, was patient with me and lovingly supported me even though I was sometimes grumpy, impatient and a general pain in the neck to be around. Thank you, Ederlin. I couldn't have done it without you.

Now, RBGC owns the land free and clear. It's paid for and is unencumbered. All that remains is to file a continuation agreement letter with the Dawson County Tax Assessors Office to continue the conservation status for the property until 2023. This will honor the 10-year conservation status agreement that Echo Cherokee Properties, LLC established with Dawson County in 2013, it will avoid any property tax penalties and will maintain the club's current property tax at a significantly reduced rate.

For the next few years, this additional property will serve primarily as a buffer for the club. However, as the club continues to grow, I suspect there will be new ranges and perhaps a clubhouse in our future. For now, the successful purchase of this additional property is a wonderful Christmas present for RBGC and its members.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you.

Will Owensby