

CLUB CALL BY TOM THOMPSON

# ELK CREEK HUNT CLUB



THE CENTERPIECE OF THE ELK CREEK PROPERTY IS THE MAGNIFICENT LODGE FACILITY. THE BEAUTIFUL STRUCTURE OVERLOOKS THE RUGGED TERRAIN OF THE CLUB'S 2000 ACRES AND IS VISIBLE FROM MOST STATIONS ON THE COURSE. THE ELK CREEK LODGE IS ONE OF THE MOST IDENTIFIABLE STRUCTURES ON ANY SPORTING CLAYS COURSE IN AMERICA.

GARY KATHMAN, ELK CREEK MANAGER, POSTS SHOOTING RESULTS.



JIM THOMPSON SHOOTING THE ELK CREEK RIDGE COURSE.

Owenton is located in the gently rolling hills of Northern Kentucky's tobacco country, less than an hour drive from Cincinnati. The earliest German settlers in the area dubbed the Ohio River valley

the 'American Rhineland' for its similarities to the wine producing Rhine River valley of the old world. Elk Creek Hunt Club and Sporting Clays Resort is located a stone's throw from the edge of Owenton,

Elk Creek offers one of the busiest shooting schedules in the Midwest. Two high profile events each month are not uncommon. The Hawaii-themed Big Kahuna is the centerpiece competition event of the summer (July 28-30). Two additional big blasts were added to the '06 schedule – in early June, the Zone 3 Championship and in July the Kentucky State Championship.

The magnificent lodge is one of the most identifiable structures on any sporting clays course in America – ranking alongside the Homestead and Pintail Point in recognition. The beautiful woods course is a delight for shooters of all abilities. The gravel hills offer plenty of variation in terrain, while the woodlands keep the shooting windows fairly close. At least two stations present opportunities to shoot over water. The woods

course is a favorite day-trip destination among convention goers in Cincinnati.

The Ridge course, developed while Jon



Kruger was club pro

there, is a true championship competition course. Wide-open meadows that undulate away from the target make reading the line a real challenge. Two towers pitch clay birds out over wildlife cover crops. The tall sturdy tower in the middle of the Ridge stretches to serve targets to four separate shooting stations at once – making it one of the best-utilized towers in the Midwest.

among picturesque grape arbors.

This is a public access club that boasts two 100 bird courses designed by NSCA Hall of Fame member Jon Kruger. A fully automatic 50 bird 'mini' course challenges small gauge shooters or those looking for a quick shooting opportunity. A 5-stand rounds out the clay shooting opportunities at this outstanding facility that has been considered for a US Open bid. A five level tower dominates the center of the club's open ridge course.

FOR DETAILS ON THE CLUB'S OFFERINGS, CONTACT ELK CREEK HUNT CLUB, 1860 GEORGETOWN RD., DEPT. SC, OWENTON, KY 40359; (502) 484-4569; WEBSITE IS WWW.ELKCREEKHUNTCLUB.COM.



Elk Creek ranks in the top 25 high volume courses in the country, throwing 1.5 million registered targets annually. The club regularly features some of the best-known shooting instructors in the nation. Wendell Cherry comes in from his home in nearby Tennessee for clinics three to four times a year. Gil and Vicki Ash conducted a school in mid May and Bruce Shultz will conduct Level I instructor classes in July.

The Boomer Esaison Pro-Am is perhaps the most important event staged at Elk Creek. Over the past seven years these 'Boomer Shoots' have contributed to more than 2.5 million dollars generated by the Boomer Esaison Foundation for the fight against Cystic Fibrosis.

Elk Creek's vineyards produced their first wine crop last summer, and the limited edition wine was released to the market in April. Appropriately titled 'Our

First Shot', this American Rhineland product is a hit among 'those who know'. Stop by the winery located on the property and they will offer you a taste and a tour after the shooting is done.

Gary Kathman, manager at the club, and club owner Curtis Sigretto, are great hosts. Course setter (and co-owner) Chris Koziol and his staff keep the courses well groomed and in good working order. The entire staff deserves to be proud of their role in the high quality events and great shooting experience they provide to both competitors and casual shooters.

The club also offers a wide variety of upland bird hunting, including pheasant, quail and chukar hunting in the fall and spring turkey hunts. Two thousand acres dedicated to shooting sports makes this a favored destination of shotgunners from 300 miles in every direction. ■

**MARKING THE ENTRANCE TO THE CLUB,  
ELK CREEK IS ONLY A STONE'S THROW  
FROM OWENTON, KENTUCKY, AND AN  
HOUR FROM CINCINNATI.**

