

The Nimrod League Newsletter

April, 2019

Monthly Meeting

I missed the Board meeting this month so many thanks to Maryanne for her notes that help me put this newsletter together. After the Pledge and a moment of silence we as usual began with Maryanne's Secretary's report which was detailed and otherwise unremarkable. Cindy then gave her Treasurer's report which was equally thorough and orderly.

To everyone, please send me any outdoor stories that you may have. We'd love to hear about your latest exploits! I'll serve as editor and get the story into a presentable format, subject to your approval before publishing. Please email me, Chris Erali, at eralic23@gmail.com

This month we have another literary contribution from our Alaskan Nimrodder, Jim Crystoff. This one I have had in the larder since deer season, so my apologies go out to Jim for taking much too long to get it into print. This latest story from Jim is a bit of nostalgia mixed with childhood memories. It is posted under Good and Welfare. Enjoy!

Monthly Meetings are always the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Clubhouse – **Next Meeting: April 9, 2019**. Make it a point to attend if you can. From 6:00 – 6:45 pm for a cocktail and socializing – then we serve the best \$5 meal in town! Club business discussed with occasional guest speakers from 7:15 - 8:30ish. It is usually an early night unless someone gets long-winded...

Communications

We received the 8-Point Sportsmen's Club newsletter and a notice for an Open House at Padula Brothers. We also received a thank you note from Chris Zins. Trap is accepting donations for any deserving youth.

Speakers

Please let us know if you have a suggestion for a speaker at a future meeting.

Monthly Safety Tip and Topic for Discussion:

“Wear your life preserver.”

New Business

We are still looking for donations for the Game Dinner Raffle. The clubhouse is continuing with renovations. We took down the bulletin board and picture board. We haven't decided where to put them yet? Suggestions are welcome. The **Cigar Smoker Dinner will be April 13, 2019**. Ticket price is \$80.00. Contact Kevin Chviruk via email, text, or phone if interested. We will need a final count a couple of days prior to the date. We may have 25-30 people. Barbara French will be

bartender. This is a club sanctioned event, not a rental. The bartender will be paid from the proceeds.

Summer Function

The Summer Function is not being held this year.

Old and Unfinished:

The By-Law changes will have a 3rd and final reading at the upcoming April 9 general meeting.

Conservation Camp

We have 2 spots filled and payment has been completed.

Scholarship

Applications are out and due on April 15, 2019. We will award 3 scholarships in total. One will be in Leadership with all three in memoriam of passed members.

Membership

Member Robert Queiros is adding sons, Kyle and Ryan, to the roll which will convert his participation to a Family Membership. To Kyle and Ryan, **please join us at our next general monthly meeting, Tuesday, April 9, 2019**, when we welcome you to our club.

We have Game Dinner Tickets available. See Paul Fraser.

By the way, **Paul is looking to hand off Membership Committee responsibility.** Paul has been serving in this capacity for many years along with Thursday night Trap and Skeet. We thank Paul for an outstanding job with Membership! You deserve a break. His decision creates an opportunity for someone to become more involved in our club. Volunteers are welcome for this position!

And one FINAL opportunity, if you have not renewed your membership, your dues check must be in by the end of the general meeting on April 9th. Not in the mail! In Dave Fillow or Paul Fraser's hand! This is the FINAL, FINAL, NOTICE!!!

(Dave Fillow is poised and ready with his "delete key.")

Board of Trustees

No Report

Trap/Skeet

Thursdays have been picking up the last couple of weeks. The Trap league is starting June 6, 2019. The proposed date for the Young Guns Championship is June 18, 2019. Joe Afonso will check to see if that works for the committee.

Remember, Trap and Skeet is every Thursday afternoon/night (afternoon until the daylight hours get longer). It is open to the public, so bring a friend and join in a night of good fellowship and shooting.

Important Date: ***May 5, 2019 Ham Shoot***

We are looking for someone to run the kitchen for this event???

Kitchen

The lunch at the Hunter Safety event went well. Kitchen is staying clean. We will have a Kitchen ***Cleaning Day for a general sprucing up on April 20, 2019.***

Scheduled Cooks

Sam and Robin Ganesan are scheduled this month of April, Pat Orrell again in May, Bob Horgan in June, Linda Brewer July, and Bruce Ebbeson again in August.

Many thanks to these folks for volunteering to serve as cooks. **Please remember they can use HELP!** Contact them for times if you can come help prep before, and during the meal. **Clean-up help is even more appreciated. Most times people have already been at the club for several hours. Clean-up is the last thing they want to do. If you have 30 minutes or so after dinner, come in to the kitchen.** Someone will show you the routine for washing dishes, the tables, and the floor. Many hands make light work and it is much appreciated! In most cases you only miss a little info from the general meeting. And not listening can be a bonus for your digestion!

Thanks to all!

Game Dinner

This Event is SOLD OUT! Our 2019 Game Dinner will be held on *Saturday April 6, 2019.* We could still use more volunteers. We are still looking for help afterwards. This will be Bruce Ebbeson's last game dinner as head chef! Many thanks to Bruce for years of service.

WE NEED RAFFLE DONATIONS! Gift cards, bottles, guns, any and all items. Think an upscale yard sale! We will do all legal transfers on firearms and ammunition. Plants, fishing rods, or re-gift a thoughtful but unused Christmas gift. 100% of proceeds go to our club! Be a supporter! Contact EJ with your loot!

As usual, apps, chowder and chili at 5 PM and entrees at 6PM. Come hungry and bring zip locs for take-home.

Rifle Range

The sum of \$1,200.00 for surveillance was approved at the last meeting.

Women on Target—May 4, 2019

.22 Rimfire Bench Rest Rifle Competition—May 18, 2019

House

No report. Two smoke eaters are coming in.

Executive Board

This month's meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM. We aim for the newsletter to convey the highlights. E Board meetings are held at 7 PM the last Tuesday of the month. Members are welcome if you would like to come and observe our club's operation. Our membership can be very proud of the board and the time and effort that is made by everyone to keep our club running smoothly. Member concerns are always addressed. Many times, one board member will inform others that a single club member voiced a certain matter that he/she found troubling. Our club can rest assured that any points brought up by a member are ALWAYS brought to the attention of the entire board.

Grounds

Grounds Spring Clean-up! May 19, 2019! 9:00 AM start time.

There is a DCR field land locked by beaver ponds. It may make good pheasant and turkey habitat. Nimrod has good access to it. There is not much timber. It is small, and we would have to take out trees to get to it. More news to come.

Land Use

We have finalized language for markers and boundary signs. The committee is trying to determine the correct number of signs that we need. Discussion was between 500 to a 1,000. Regarding the gate, we may be looking into putting up our own gate.

Finance

The market fluctuates as we all know. Smart investors stay the course.

Bar

Gary reports there has not been much happening but there are two big events upcoming. The Game Dinner is April 6, 2019 and the following week is the Cigar Smoker Dinner.

Birds

No report.

Revenue

No report and no current projects listed.

Archery

Jason reports things are a little slow.

Worcester County League of Sportsmen

NIMROD had 2 tables and we had a great banquet!

Business Records:

Linda Brewer is setting up infrastructure for use in the cloud. Then she will work with Committee Chairs to upload documents. She has created a "Committee Document Organizer" to preserve and organize the files. Committee heads are encouraged to meet with Linda when both you and she are ready. Finally, at some point a scanner will be needed. We have hard documents to preserve without a digital file. The scanner will make the digital file which we can preserve in the cloud.

Historical Records:

John Meyer's committee is continuing to gather old documents and photos. The Gale Free Library of Holden is providing access to old records for NIMROD information via their microfiche system. For our history buff's this can be an exciting and fascinating project. As you sit scrolling through old newspapers, documents, etc., you get to read about not only early days of NIMROD, but you'll find other topics, people, pictures and articles about our town's past that are quite intriguing. There is always some event that you perhaps know a little about and for just a few minutes of your time you get to learn the details. If you have never done this, it can be very rewarding and eye-opening. I'm sure John would love an extra pair of eyes to help. No heavy lifting, you sit at a desk and look at a screen of documents on film. It is "older" technology from "pre-computer" times. Now in the computer age, microfiche is being converted into digital documents. That is what we will be doing for our Archives. Paper documents are converted via the scanner discussed above in Business Records. There is always a story, person, or some tidbit of history that you'll share with friends and family from just a couple of hours sitting at a desk. Neat stuff!

Photography

Linda continues to post amazing photos of club events. A reminder: It's not too early to get your trail camera up and operating. The Trail Camera Photo Contest is coming!

Grant Writer

Tina Gianos has applied for 3 different grants. The results are pending.

Tina is the person to see if you have a source of funding. Even if you are not sure, please contact her so that she can research the entity. If a committee wants to have a program for kids or a community, she can look for grants in those areas too. Time can be a factor. She needs at least 3 months to complete the application process. Thanks!

Good and Welfare

Al Afonso has sent cards out on behalf of several members.

Dave Fillow made a donation in the name of club member, Fred Milton, who passed recently.

Don Sr. is doing okay. He has been laying low with a cold but is looking forward to the Game Dinner.

Birthday Rifle by Jim Crystoff

Forty years ago, on my 16th birthday, my father gave me a rifle. When I got home from school that day Dad was waiting for me. He said he had gotten me a birthday present and sitting next to his chair was a second-hand Marlin 30-30. For those of you not lucky enough to have known my father, he wasn't much on giving presents. His example was to earn what you got. Looking back on it, I had mostly stayed out of trouble (I used to sneak into the reservoir to fish), had 2 jobs, okay grades, and passed the hunter safety course. Maybe this fit the requirement? Still it was a big departure from the family way. It isn't lost on me that it was a prosperous time for my family. I didn't know what to say, up until then "the gun" was Gramp's break open 20 gauge. You can hunt anything you can legally hunt in Massachusetts with such a weapon, and we did.

I had no ammunition for the 30-30 and it would be a long time before I was to hunt with it, but the rifle turned out to be a magic key to a whole new world of dreams. I'm pretty sure my Dad knew how the brain of a 16-year-old boy worked. I read too many hunting magazines in those days and determined "my rifle" needed to be a .270 Winchester. I saved my money, got a .270, and relegated the beloved 30-30 to the life of a gun safe prince. The Marlin turned out to be a rare version, so it went deeper in the safe. I almost lost it when I left it with a friend for safe keeping while I built my cabin. The day I went to retrieve it he tried to switch it with a different gun. I got the gun and lost the friend.

Since my dad has gone West, hunting with the Marlin has become my favorite way to remember him. The first time I took it out after he died was a perfect November peak rut deer hunting day. I was thinking about Dad and enjoying the comfortable heft of the Marlin. Poking along, I saw a deer leg move in some alder 30 yards off. I stopped to look closer and saw the rest of the deer, a dandy buck. The rack was really big! With my heart pounding I got down on one knee to shoot. My first shot hit the base of the left antler, turning the deer, the second shot was true, and the buck was down. I walked over, put my hand on his white muzzle and thanked him for giving me his life. He was the first deer I killed with the birthday rifle and the finest buck I have ever gotten. Thanks Dad, for giving me life—the best birthday present ever.



Please if you have any news that you would like to have included in this section, good or bad, contact any member of the Executive Board, and we'll see that it is included.