

### Monthly Meeting

The December Eboard meeting started with a Christmas present for our Historical Records Committee and for anyone interested in our club history. Kurt Pearson displayed and filled several tables of photographs from his childhood, taken by his mother or father when Kurt's father, Rudy, was president of NIMROD in the 70's. The treasure for any historian was exciting to see. We probably have some photos of youngsters who are now members. You have to realize the 70's was 40 odd years ago. Most kids enjoying outdoor activities then are now in their 50's! Our historian in-residence, John Meyer, was eagerly and busily labeling and trying to date as many as he could. We tried to recognize some of the faces but were generally unable to do so. The best will be on display in our Photography Hall at some point so that everyone can enjoy them. Be sure to check them out!

Maryanne and Cindy started off with their usual reports. Cindy reported we paid \$8,000 in bills last month and we still had a balance of \$4,000 in the checking account. She also informed the board that we have tax bills to pay this month and expect the balance to be eaten up quickly. As usual, both reports were on point and detailed.

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](mailto:eralic23@gmail.com)

Monthly Meetings are always the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at the Clubhouse – **Next Meeting: December 11, 2018**. 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. The board also received a ballot for the US Agriculture Delegate election. There was a certificate of inspection from the Town of Princeton that will be forwarded to Ralph Cochran, who oversees the club's House Committee. Finally, our dues of \$75 is due to the Worcester County League of Sportsmen's Clubs. There are numerous areas to contribute if members desire. We traditionally have supported a 4-point Action Fund with \$25 to promote conservation and outdoor education.

### Speakers

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

We now have a new big screen television for all to see and use!

## Monthly Safety Tip and Topic for Discussion:

**“Wear orange! Be sure of your target.”**

### New Business

## December 11, 2018 Election!

We will be holding the election of club officers this month.

All our present officers have expressed interest in continuing their leadership positions.

President: Chris Craigue

Treasurer: Cindy Smith

Vice President: Kevin Chviruk

Secretary: Maryanne Lane

The above “fearsome foursome” is willing to serve for another year if no one else volunteers.

We have not received any notice from other members who would be willing to take any of these positions. Please understand that if someone else would like to take a turn, please let us know. I am sure that there are positions available if someone wants to take on the responsibility. I believe it was Chris Craigue who said at the Eboard meeting, “I’d like to look around this room and have most faces be under 65 years of age.” Please indicate any interest by emailing our two election officials: Chris Erali ([eralic23@gmail.com](mailto:eralic23@gmail.com)) or Ralph Cochran ([ralph.cochran70@gmail.com](mailto:ralph.cochran70@gmail.com)).

Social and fellowship activities were suggested. Normally, the summer function fills that void in our club, but this year it didn’t work out that way. If any member would like to organize an event, be it small or large, please contact a board member with the idea. Looking at the old pictures from the 70’s may have prompted this discussion. NIMROD has had everything from card games to clambakes! Let us know. Wintertime after the new year is always the best time!

### Old and Unfinished:

Bruce Ebbeson reported that the bear meat he received for the game dinner is too large to fit in our vacuum sealer. He asked if anyone had a “saws-all” that he could use since the kitchen does not have its own band saw for butchering. He was quickly offered one.

### Conservation Camp

No report.

### Scholarship

No report. There is an idea to have a memorial scholarship. Further discussion is forthcoming.

### Ice Fishing Derby

Once again it is scheduled for **Super Bowl Sunday, February 3, 2019!**

## **Membership**

Renewal packets have been mailed out soon for all members for the purpose of keeping their membership status current for next year. Raffle tickets are included in the mailing.

**All ticket stubs and/or money as well as membership dues have January 1, 2019 as a deadline.** Please get them in. Thank you.

We have 1 new member to bring before the membership this month. He is Theodore Peterson of Holden. Theodore, please join us on **our next general monthly meeting, Tuesday, December 11, 2018**, when we welcome you to our club.

## **Board of Trustees**

No Report

## **Trap/Skeet**

The trap committee would like to thank everyone who helped on the Turkey Shoot. The kitchen was manned by Dave Fallow, Phil Goodman, and Ken Werme. Our range scorers were Carlo Cappuccio, Neil Hassett, Dave Wilson, Steve Gogos, and Kevin Chviruk. And finally, Ron Lesniak made sure everyone was properly registered for the shoot. Thanks to all of you! As reported last month, the day was a wonderful success!

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

## **Kitchen**

Bruce Ebbeson reports that Dave Oriol came by and fixed the oven temperatures so that they are now operating at the precise temperatures that match. The kitchen is being kept clean and all equipment is in perfect working condition. Thank you, Bruce and Dave.

There was some discussion of turning the gas off and on. The valve may be damaged from improper use of a wrench. Greg McIntyre will be recruited to lend his expertise. Replacing the master valve remains an option.

Pat Orrell is scheduled for January with Bruce is doing February.

## **Game Dinner**

**Pheasant donation bucket** will remain out for special bird hunts. Please donate. We have about 35-40 pheasants and need more plus some deer and moose meat. **Please put any donations in the freezer and let Bruce know at (508) 853-1589.** Bruce will vacuum seal it to be ready in the

spring. **Do not put unbutchered game in the cooler or freezer.** Thank you. Raffle tickets for the game dinner were in the Membership Renewal packets.

### **Rifle Range**

Pictures of the .22 caliber rifle match are on Facebook. The range is generally in good shape. Plans for future matches are being discussed. More news to come.

***The Rifle Range chair Ed Reitz sent an email to all members with the latest news. I will repost it here as well...***

Good news- the DCR has approved our plans for the range improvement project. Thank you to all involved with obtaining this approval! I have seen a number of ranges facing serious challenges to remain open after making changes that are not in compliance with DCR regs, so it's great that we were proactive for this. We'll need to update the town permit once we are ready to start, but otherwise should be good to go.

Several people have indicated their willingness to join the range committee, and I'm sure we will need more for the improvement activity. This will be a volunteer-based project, so your brains, skills, and "back" will be needed! I'll send out a request for volunteers once we are ready to start some work. Hopefully we can recapture the group Tom Wiegand organized and pick up many more.

### **Range Condition & Safety**

**Tables have been moved and snow markers have been placed to facilitate snow removal from the range. Please do not remove or shoot the markers nor move the tables so that paths can be cleared without risk of damaging our equipment.**

A reminder that club rules allow for members to bring one guest per visit to the range. Members using the range have reported at least one recent instance of multiple guests using the range- as in three or four guests tying up available shooting lanes on a busy weekend. Also, range users should **NEVER** leave the front gate open or unlocked for others. The gate should only be left open during organized club events and/or rentals.

Please remember to raise the flag at the front gate when the range is in use, and to lower it if you are the last person to leave the range. Especially during hunting season, it's an important signal to others that the range is in use.

**Trash!!!**- If you bring it in, please pack it out. Also, I'd appreciate some help taking the bagged trash from the range barrels to the big green dumpster near the front gate. There are extra bags in the bottom of the barrels.

## **2019 Rifle and Pistol Matches**

Based upon feedback from members, here are the proposed matches for 2019:

- **22 Rimfire Benchrest**- iron sights at 25 yards, optics at 50 yards. Target will be NRA A17 Smallbore.
- **Black powder Rifle and Slug Gun**- iron sights 50 yards, optics at 100 yards. Target to be determined but leaning to a fun "know your limits" or hunting oriented target. This will be timed in early fall to facilitate sighting in for our hunters.
- **Pistol** - any caliber, iron sights and optics/open classes. Target TBD, but I'd like to organize something fun given our paper target restriction.
- **Centerfire Benchrest**- hunter barrel, heavy barrel, and now adding precision pistol class. Rifles shoot for smallest 5-shot group at 100 yards, pistols at 50 yards. Anyone have a Thompson Contender, XP100, or long barrel scoped revolver?

Dates and details TBD, but the plan is to schedule these on Saturday mornings.

\*\* Any interest in an AR / AK / Military Carbine match? I know of several ranges where users enjoy "black rifles".

## **2018 Remaining Range Closures**

Regular bird season has closed, but there will be special permit bird hunts on Sunday Dec 9th and Sunday Dec 23rd. The range will be closed on these days.

## **House**

No report. The television and mounting hardware have been ordered and will be installed forthwith. This is a necessary and exciting investment by the club. We'd love to have more presentations like last month's skull collection by Ken Baer! Thanks again, Ken! The new unit will make viewing and presenting even better!

## **Executive Board**

This month's meeting adjourned at 8:47 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.

## **Important Notice: Due to the holiday season our December Eboard meeting will be held Tuesday, December 18, 2018**

### **Grounds**

No report. Rick Longbottom received the bid for snow plowing.

**Please remember that volunteers are needed to help with clean-up after a snowstorm. The walk-behind snow blower and the plowing still leave our grounds with plenty of shovel work. There are always stairs, doors and the like that need some light attention. Please no need to call or wait for a call, just show up the day after a storm, bring a shovel and pitch in!**

New gates were discussed along with the rifle range. Paul Fraser has investigated the financial aspect. Locations and types were discussed. The subject was tabled for future discussion.

### **Finance**

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

### **Bar**

Gary Girardi reports all is well in the bar.

### **Birds**

The dates of the other **Special Bird Hunts are on Sundays:**  
**December 9<sup>th</sup>, & December 23<sup>rd</sup>**

### **Revenue**

No report.

### **Archery**

**Our Friday night league will start on December 7<sup>th</sup>.** The new bales have been installed. The committee has been cleaning up our downstairs. Our exterminator will be contacted as there is some mice evidence. Range rules are coming, and we have pictures on Facebook.

## **Important Date: January 1, 2019 New Year's Day Archery Shoot**

### **Worcester County League of Sportsmen**

Joe Afonso had a report from Mass Wildlife. They are considering some land acquisition in Hardwick. The fall stocking schedule has been completed. There has been some beaver problems and a sick moose that had to be put down. There was some discussion regarding the moose population in Massachusetts. Joe was informed that the moose population is not expected to grow for the foreseeable future. The reason being that the moose to our north are not going to range this far south due to climate change.

## **Land Use**

No report. The DCR gave us the go-ahead on the Rifle Range renovations.

## **Business Records:**

The Board discussed our need to preserve information and provide access to future committee chairs and members. We don't want our volunteers to repeat work that has already been done. This will help make the transition in leadership much smoother.

**Historical:** See the opening of the newsletter for details on an exciting historical collection!

## **Photography**

Our gallery is up! Linda and the committee have received numerous entries for the contest. Please look at our submissions and other photographs. We'd love to see the hallway become a crowded place prior to our dinner meeting this month. The hope is that you will pick out your favorites! **We need your input for the contest!** In addition, perusing the submissions may spur you to submit a picture that you have somewhere in your household. Even if you have it as a digital photograph, go and search your computer! We'd love to see it!

## **Grant Writer**

Tina Gianos 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**

Don French, Sr. is now at Briarwood.

We discussed past practices for birth announcements. It was decided to give \$75 gift cards to Walmart.

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.