

Monthly Meeting

Wow! Can you believe the last time that I wrote a newsletter was in March! Enough with the pandemic stuff! It has been a long haul has it not? And it sounds like we are not done yet. Fishing is open and turkey season is complete. Hopefully, our fellow Nimrodders have had some success on those fronts. Many thanks to our President Chris Craigie for his responsible decision to let the club know that we are continuing to follow state guidelines as issued by Governor Baker. I have taken advantage of our Nimrod property and ran my dog on several occasions. Vinnie has had fun albeit a bit muddy sometimes. I took a walk out to the small meadow beyond the rifle range, but that was still damp. It looks good but will not be completely dry probably until mid-summer. Some signs of beaver activity, but that could be old. I was not in boots and did not investigate beyond noting from a distance as to whether it was recent or not.

The ticks are active so take precautions if you decide to venture out. Sprays, repellents, proper clothing, and post inspection are all recommended. It is interesting that hiking and outdoor activity have become so popular. With Major League Baseball looking less and less like it is going to be held this year, perhaps we will see a big shift toward spending time in the outdoors on a more permanent basis. It reminds me of Robert Frost's poem "Birches". In it he was describing birches bent over from ice storms and his poem continued:

"I should prefer to have some boy bend them
As he went out and in to fetch the cows—
Some boy too far from town to learn baseball,
Whose only play was what he found himself,
Summer or winter, and could play alone."

__from "Birches" Robert Frost

Perhaps there may be a "silver lining" to all this social distancing. Perhaps more young people will figure out what is available outdoors! I hope you enjoyed Frost's words. Anyway, enough of my rambling. On to the newsletter!

To everyone, please send me any outdoor stories that you may have. We would love to hear about your latest exploits! I will 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

Monthly Meetings are always the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Clubhouse – June meeting has been cancelled. **Next Meeting: TBA.** 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...

I did not attend the Eboard meeting, so I am especially grateful to Maryanne for her minutes of the meeting. Otherwise, you might have to bear more inconsequential verbosity from me! Due to the long absence from club activity there were no minutes from previous meetings. For Communication we received "The GOAL News", "American Hunter", "Massachusetts Wildlife", and a request letter from the Sportsman's Alliance of Maine.

Our finances are all in order and despite a rather volatile period in the stock market our investments look satisfactory as well. Thank you to Pat Orrell for that bit of important news.

Speakers

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

Monthly Safety Tip and Topic for Discussion:

The safety tip was passed over at the Eboard meeting and last year's June safety tip had to do with ticks. I have already mentioned the bugs so I checked June 2018. That one was to only use paper targets at the rifle range. Since we just received an email from our Range committee I will make an executive decision and repeat the summary here.

Please Observe the Following When Using the Rifle Pistol Range:

THERE IS NO TRASH SERVICE AT THE RANGE - HAUL IT OUT!

- Users **MUST** haul out ALL of your trash. This includes spent targets, shotgun hulls, and any other trash.
- Only brass cases may be left in the buckets. Please haul out and discard your spent steel cases.
- You may dump your range trash in the big green dumpster by the main gate when leaving the facilities.

PLEASE MAINTAIN PROPER SOCIAL DISTANCING ETC AS REQUIRED

- It's up to us to preserve the safety of our fellow members.

APPROVED TARGETS ONLY!

- Nimrod only allows paper targets. **NO STEEL TARGETS / PLATES**
- Please place targets so that all shots impact a berm.
- Clays may be placed on the berms for plinking, but **DO NOT** place them on target frame holders **NOR** the poles that protect the frame holders.
- Please help to preserve the target frames by placing targets in center of backer.
- If you are shooting the wood frames, you are doing it wrong. Move the target closer or slow down.

THANK YOU AND BE WELL!

Trap:

We were lacking someone to run Trap at the time of the meeting. Since that time, Adam Goodband and his wife Etta have joined forces with Paul Fraser and Dave Fillow to get this going again on JUNE 11th with hours being 4-9 PM. It was a rainy night so there may have been a slight delay. We also would need to have hand sanitizer, ask for exact change, etc. See below for more specifics. There was some discussion on trap at the board meeting. We have been looking for a Trap Chairman for several years. One thought was to go to a weekend day to get better numbers. However other clubs are on weekends which is why we have been on Thursday nights. With so many people away on weekends, the club tries to accommodate those interested with a better time slot.

As I write this newsletter I am sure that our Trap committee as well as Trap night will remain fluid for the near future. More news to come.

We will be following the CDC Guidelines and here are some of the specifics:

- Wear a mask or follow Social Distancing (6ft apart).
- Club house doors will be open for access to the bathrooms. Main bathroom doors will be propped open.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided at multiple locations.
- Weather permitting, the gun rack will be located outside on the patio. We won't be using the inside tables for staging shooting equipment. We will have picnic tables outside spaced apart and the covered pavilion area available for stage your shooting supplies, people also have the option of working directly from their vehicles in the parking lot.
- When signing up only the person running the table will handle the pen and sign shooters to their squad as requested.
- The Skeet squads will be reduced from 5 to 3 shooters to allow more space.
- The Trap crew will ensure that inside surfaces get sanitized on a regular basis.

House

Ralph Cochran is working on improvements and recommendation ascertained through inspection.

Grounds

Neal Whitehead reports that the grounds are not quite as gussied up as in previous years. There is a long list of things to do. Paint picnic tables and gate to begin with. The tractor has gotten regular use and has been a godsend. The grappler purchase was a big bonus! Lot of use that saves time and manpower! Kevin Chviruk has been working on an area up above and beyond the rifle range. About a ½ an acre has been cleared with stumps removed along with stones. It is now pretty level and looking great after receiving its first lime treatment. There is talk of perhaps a food plot and some fruit trees. Would it be nice to refer to it as “the Orchard.” Time will tell but great job gentlemen!

Rifle Range

The range is in good shape and staying clean. Many thanks to Kevin for laying some logs in front of target stands to protect them from taking a beating from people setting clays on them to shoot. REMINDER: PUT CLAYS IN THE SAND ON THE BERM. NOT ON THE LOGS!

We are looking for bids and commitment to lock in the berms. Construction people are busy so not much progress in that area. It is a definite in our plan.

Archery

From an email to Chris from Chair Jason VanHillow: There will be no organized shoots at Nimrod for 2020. All have been cancelled. The committee is looking as May 1st and 2nd in 2021 for the IBO.

Membership

Isaac Houston is working on quotes for card gate keys. There are a myriad of packages that require various modifications. We are looking at all options at present with an eye on the budget. We may have to make it a two-year project. We will see once the research is complete. It sounds great!

Pat Orrell is being called on for his expertise in finances. Taxes are still being worked on and we have some necessary renovations for access to our basement that need to be made to bring our clubhouse up to code. We will try to finalize the numbers by September.

We had 7 applications for membership that the Board voted to make full members. Patrick Berry, Tara and Michael Horton, James and Sebastian Webb, Adam Goodman, and Christos James. Motions were made, seconded, and a vote was taken. All applicants were accepted as new members. Congratulations to all!

Scholarship

We have 4 scholarships to award this year. Due to COVID19 concerns we will not present them at our June meeting. We will send them the award and the check. The recipients are Kelsea Dowd, Kyra Ceryanek, Jordan Smith, and Ryan McCarthy. All of our scholars are involved in current environmental projects or activities. Congratulations and best wishes to all of you!

Documentation

No report.

Grant Writing

Al Afonso has reached out to Tina and is awaiting a response.

Rentals

We are clear of rentals for the foreseeable future. **Cigar night is scheduled for July 25, 2020.** The Asaiante reception was cancelled and not rescheduled as of yet. **The consensus of the Board was to cancel the June general meeting. Chis Craigue will email and plan for a June 30th Eboard meeting.**

New Business

Joe Aphonso suggested Frisbee Golf. Joe is researching interest and financial expenditures.

There was some discussion of members donating plants as a memorial to a deceased member. Boundaries as to what is donated and location were also discussed.

Maryanne has been working around the clubhouse and it looks nice. We would like to fill in some spots so if anyone would like to donate a plant or time gardening. Please contact Maryanne.

Good and Welfare

Hopefully, everyone is healthy and surviving quarantines, stay at home orders, and social distancing. It has certainly been different and strange. I hate the masks! Hang in there! This too shall pass. Best wishes to all. Until next month...

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 will see that it is included.