

Monthly Meeting

Happy St. Patrick's Day to everyone! We'll start this month's newsletter with a little trivia, and I bet many of you will know the answer! Where does this quote come from?

“March is a green and muddy month down below, some folks like it, farmers mostly.”

I'll put the answer at the end under Good and Welfare.

Please send me any outdoor stories 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 Monthly Meetings are always the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Clubhouse – next Meeting March 14, 2017. 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 - 8:30 ish. It is usually an early night unless someone gets long-winded...

Speakers

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

Monthly Safety Tip

“Watch out for thin ice.”

New Business

We still have been unable to schedule our Ice Fishing Derby. A Fishing Derby on open water was proposed. We will need to have parking and picnic tables. If anyone has ideas please contact John Meyer. Also, we had a lively discussion regarding communication. Members need to make an effort to read the newsletter and check the calendar. We all agreed that we must do a better job keeping the calendar up-to-date.

Membership

Paul Fraser reports that 58 members have not yet paid their dues. We have 10 people that are leaving the Club. There are a number of members who have not paid, but still want to renew. This is typical at the dues cut-off date, and the committee is being patient and persistent in getting everyone signed up and paid. With our newly expanded enrollment numbers, we have no waiting list this year. We have been averaging about 3-6 new applications per month. This information prompted a discussion of insurance premiums changing because of increased enrollment and varied types of membership, be it a life

member, junior member or whatever. Our insurance agent reports that this is a non-issue. Premiums are set by the “total number of members” regardless of type. Only major changes would affect the premiums.

Board of Trustees

No news at this time.

Trap/Skeet

Attendance has been up and down. We had a good week when the weather improved, not so much on the windy cold days. Our little friends the mice have made their presence felt and created lighting issues. The damage is such that there will be a cost incurred to the club that is not in the budget. Amounts should range \$1500 to \$2000. 15 pallets of targets are being delivered on Tuesday, March 7. Any members who help unloading and storing get many thanks from the entire club.

Kitchen

Volunteers for cooking at upcoming general meetings are as follows: March: Cindy Smith, April: Bob Horgan, and May: Pat Orrell. We are still looking for chefs for the months of June and July. And finally, Kevin Chviruk will be our chef for the WCLS dinner on March 25.

Spring Cleaning is set for April 22, 2017 Volunteers are welcome!

We will start after coffee and donuts at 8AM and be done by noon, when we'll have elk burgers for lunch.

Bruce purchased a new instant thermometer as well as more vacuum sealer bags. He's been busy sealing packages of meat for the game dinner. **Remember when you donate! Label with a “game name” and date!**

Remember... Paul Frasier always needs help setting up and cleaning up afterwards. This also is a good way to earn work hours. Bruce and Larry appreciate the regulars in the kitchen who produce one of the best Game Dinners you can find.

We are still looking for donations for our game dinner. If you have any game, please label it and leave it in the refrigerator and call Bruce at (508) 853-1589. He will vacuum package it for the freezer to prevent freezer burn and keep it fresh for our dinner. Thanks!

Upcoming Event: Game Dinner is on May 20, 2017. Tickets are \$25.

Get your tickets early as this event will be sold out!

Rifle Range

Tom Wiegand reports the range is messy and not up to our usual Nimrod standards.

Members need to pick up spent shotgun shells, brass, used targets, cardboard, and the like. Please understand that if each individual member doesn't work to keep the range clean and maintained then that work must be completed by someone else. We are not a private

enterprise that pays a maintenance person. If you are using the range, please make an effort in this regard. Take 5 minutes after you have cleaned up your own materials and look around. Notice something awry? Have the initiative to take care of it. If everyone who uses the range takes responsibility for it, then the range will easily be maintained. Thanks to all who help keep up the quality of our range. The club is purchasing cardboard which is "cut to size" for our target holders. Uniform-sized cardboard will help with maintenance. The committee may have a source. News is forthcoming. There is also talk of a "burn day." Neal Whitehead is checking on a burn permit. By the way, help is welcomed. These kinds of projects make for great social events as well. Plenty of pontificating on various topics and nobody is ever thirsty!

No news on the NRA grant.

The range will be closed May 13-14, 2017 for the Archery IBO Shoot.

House

Ralph not present, No report

Projects are on-going. Camera security system and cell phone booster, among others.

Executive Board

This month's meeting adjourned at 8:53 PM. There were some lively exchanges. Much discussion and decision-making on a variety of issues. 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'd 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.

Special Committee (Scholarship)

We have applications on the bulletin board. The process is moving forward.

Grounds

Neal Whitehead reports that new batteries have been installed. We have reached out to Del Dion in regard to an upcoming CPR class.

Please remember that we always can use plenty of volunteers for shoveling and snow blowing. Many hands make light work! We may not have heard the last of "old man winter."

Finance

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

Bar

Gary Girardi is back from traveling. He had a question on the budget. There was no issue and his concerns were alleviated.

Birds

A clean-up work party is in the future. The hunting area is shaping up into very good bird cover. There is however, a lot of timber lying on the ground that needs to be picked up and piled. Keep this party in mind for volunteer hours. Date is forthcoming.

Revenue

Ralph Cochran is looking for someone to co-chair our 30 Guns in 30 Days fund raiser. Please don't be afraid to "volunteer" someone.

Cindy Smith has taken the reins as our new treasurer. If the last few weeks have been any indication, we are in good hands. She or Chris Craigue are the designees for moving money between accounts, and Cindy will deposit all scholarship donations.

Archery

There was no formal report as Tina could not make the E Board meeting. There was a rumor she was attending a Hawaiian luau in Hawaii... A good reason to miss an E Board meeting! The issue of Saturday morning use of the indoor range was discussed. This was where we discovered that we all, as members, need to work at communicating as efficiently as possible. All members need to help. This includes dissemination through our various channels and reception through those same avenues. Nimrod is a busy place!

Shooting on Friday nights has been going well. This is our Open League Night, every Friday at 7pm. This is open to all for a \$10 fee. (Group snacks are always welcome. Thanks!)

Upcoming Event: Nimrod will host the IBO Shoot on May 13 & 14, 2017. **Volunteers needed!** Don't feel you must commit to the whole weekend. Give us a couple of hours. It's a great way to fulfill your volunteer obligation. The Rifle Range will be closed that weekend.

Worcester County League of Sportsmen

Our Kid's Day went very well. Joe Afonso reported after expenses, a net of about \$64. There was food, prizes, wood duck boxes, walking sticks, archery, and bird houses. All the participants had the opportunity to take home a bird house, a walking stick, or a prize! The wood duck boxes will be installed at various sites at a later date. Plans for a Youth Trap Event are ongoing. Contact to the different area clubs to serve as hosts is being made by the League. The finals will be held at NIMROD sometime in July or August. We will need volunteers for the championship. WCLS will provide 12 and 20-gauge ammunition. The League is also actively involved with the idea of using dogs to track wounded deer. This entails some legislative work and the WCLS is lobbying on behalf of the Massachusetts sportsmen.

WCLS Dinner will be held March 25, 2017.

Kevin Chviruk will be our chef.

This next item could have been placed under the Rifle Range.

The Nimrod League of Holden and Gun Owners' Action League present a women's only instructional shooting clinic.

When? April 29, 2017

8:30am to 5:30pm

Where? The Nimrod League of Holden
168 Coal Kiln Rd Princeton, MA 01541

www.nimrodleague.org

Ladies, if you have ever thought about trying your hand at recreational shooting, here is your opportunity! Come and join us for a women's only instructional shooting clinic. You will receive hands on instruction in archery, shotgun, rifle, and pistol by the fun, friendly and knowledgeable folks at our club. All women are invited to participate regardless of skill level. No previous experience is necessary; just the desire to learn and have fun. There will also be a lecture on state and federal gun laws. Successful completion of this event exceeds the requirements for application of a Massachusetts Firearm Identification card or a License to Carry if you are interested in either of those. All equipment and student texts are included. Lunch and refreshments will be served! The event fee is \$60 and is limited to 24 people. You must be at least 15 years of age to participate.

To register online & for more information:

<http://www.nimrodleague.org/women-on-target.html>

Good and Welfare

Member Scott Nelson's brother passed away. Our deepest condolences are sent to his friends and family.

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

The answer to our trivia quote of the month: The film "Jeremiah Johnson"

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.