

The Nimrod League Newsletter October 2016

Monthly Meeting

The opening of bird season comes in October. Here is why some of Nimrod's many hunters are some of the best people we know...

"Isn't there a time or two you can remember when somehow an animal you've hunted has done something to make you let him vanish in the woods? ... Isn't there a bird or covey that somehow always manages to catch you with your gun on safe — even when you know it's there?"

"I think we all know times that for almost certain we gave the hunt to the quarry."

— **Gene Hill, "Mostly Tailfeathers," 1975**

Monthly Meetings are always the 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Clubhouse – next Meeting is September 13, 2016. 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. Home in bed by 9:00.

Speakers

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

Monthly Safety Tip

Posting this reminder for another month. For the Rifle Range, "Remember to hoist the flag when the rifle range is being used, also take it down after you're finished shooting."

New Business

The purchase of a 40 foot box at a cost of approximately \$2,000 to \$2,500 was raised and discussed. Tina Gianos brought up the possibility of using a metal tractor trailer box for storage of clays and archery equipment. The unit is used and needs a roof. The units come with doors on the end and/or in the middle and can be wired for lighting. Forming a committee was discussed to investigate the feasibility for the club's use. The unit is located in Chicopee.

Eric Johansen raised the idea of waiving the rental fee for the Wachusett Football Dinner.

Membership

We have received one new application from Rudy Hudson of Princeton. The application was accepted and will be voted on at our general meeting. Waiting until October for accepting any more new members to be read was discussed. The applicants could then be brought in under 2017. The committee chair people were requested to provide names of people that have volunteered their 8 hours. This was started as an "honor system," but the committee heads are being asked to check on this issue. Members not complying will be billed \$150 for dues. Finally, we have 3 people up for Senior Membership. They are Don Doherty, Howard Gelles, and Gary Hough. Their names were voted on and accepted.

Executive Board

Executive Board Meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month.

Board of Trustees

A trustees meeting date needs to be set for December. We also need an audit done. A December meeting will be forthcoming for an Auditing Committee to discuss expected recommendations for reducing our tax burden.

Trap/Skeet

This past Thursday was busier. Maybe as fall approaches everyone is trying to brush-up on their shooting skills? A member raised the question of where the money goes that is collected for the food on Thursday nights. All proceeds are handed in as part of trap revenue. Larry has been busy the last few months but has plans to start up the kitchen again soon. A good suggestion was raised that we have leftovers from our barbecue and they can be used for Trap. We encourage everyone to come out on Thursday evenings for a night of shooting and fellowship. Every Thursday night from 6-9!

Kitchen

The kitchen was cleaned on September 17. Many thanks to Bruce Ebbeson, Al Afonso, Chris Erali, Gary Hough, Ed Reitz, Damon Sloan and others for volunteering. We broke down the stove and exhaust system. All parts were power washed and cycled through the dish washer and sanitized. All areas of the kitchen were also cleaned. Sinks, ovens, prep stations, Hobart slicer, and other equipment were washed, sanitized and dried. The Nimrod kitchen now and always meets all FDA Food Code Requirements. To ensure the

health and safety of Nimrod members and guests, please leave the kitchen in this condition when you are done using it. Thank you.

Game Dinner

We need big game meat for next year's Game Dinner. Please leave it in the kitchen freezer and call Bruce Ebbeson at 508-853-1589. He will package and vacuum seal the meat. We also need squirrels and rabbits for Brunswick stew. Please follow the same procedure regarding the meat. Donation buckets for pheasants will again be in the parking lot on Saturday mornings during bird season. Please donate a bird or two that is in good condition for the table. Birds blown apart from shooting too close are not fit for the table. If you don't want to eat it, we certainly don't want to serve it at our Game Dinner. Isaac Houston and Bruce Ebbeson will clean and vacuum seal the pheasants. If you have extra striper or bluefish fillets that you would like to donate, please put them in the freezer and contact Bruce. We do not have any as of right now. Thanks!

Rifle Range

Things have been very busy at the rifle range. A big thank you to Kevin Chviruk's work party. We had Ron Ermignon come out with a skid steer that had a brush hog on the front. This made the work at the range go fast and easy. We have discussed getting groundwork done. We met Chris King at the range and he will start on October 1 weekend with a mini-excavator pulling stumps and leveling the affected portions. Tom Wiegand also reports that he had plans done for benches and has met with some members who built those and some more targets. Many thanks to Tom for the planning on this project. Amounts of lumber, screws and such have to be ordered and delivered. The benches are now finished. Thanks go out to those who served on this project as well. We will be organizing a work party to stain the benches. The date has not yet been set, but will take place under the picnic pavilion. This will deplete any remaining funds of the NRA grant money that Nimrod received for the project. In recognition, Gary Hough and Joe Afonso painted NRA decals on our new target bases. Finally, when the burn season starts this fall we will do a burn at the Rifle Range to get rid of the remaining brush and wood.

House

Summer Function

Thanks to everyone who helped with the grounds clean-up before the event. Our chicken barbecue was a success. Fifty-five people, a small turnout, but a big thank you to Larry Josti

and all the members who helped and attended, especially new members! We discussed having a door prize for your ticket. This might entice more people to attend. We took in approximately \$450 and it is usually a break-even affair. Another thought brought up by attendees was next year to accept donations for dessert.

Grounds

The missing hand-held power brush cutter appeared out of thin air and is now back in the barn! Thank you to whoever returned it. We are considering getting new locks for the tool crib. **Finally, we are still looking for bids for snowplowing.**

Finance

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

Bar

No report

Birds

Kevin Chviruk is working on permits for the pheasant season. Kevin Whitmer painted the bird boxes last weekend. Thank you, Kevin. We are to receive 460 pheasants from the prison. Safety is always a concern during hunting season, so we'll start with another safety tip regarding bird hunting: "Don't shoot birds on the ground!"

Youth Bird Hunt

We are looking for Pointing Dogs for the Youth Hunt – The Youth Hunt is scheduled for Sunday October 23, 2016, from ages 13-17, contact Kevin Chviruk, the Rifle Range will be closed that Sunday Oct. 23rd 2016 until at least 1:00 PM.

Revenue

Roland Morse was not able to attend the Executive Board meeting. We are still looking for a Treasurer to take over for Roland. He will be happy to share some tips on the logistics of the position. If you are unsure about being able to do the job, please have a chat with Roland. He may be able to set your mind at ease.

Archery

We have a locked area downstairs now. Classes have started on Saturdays. There will be 2 sessions for 6 weeks. Tina reports that there is a nice mix of adults and young people, both

members and non-members. Nimrod will be hosting the IBO again this spring on May 13-14, 2017. We now have new life-sized targets including moose. It is too bad the targets aren't eatable. We could solve all our supply problems for our Game Dinner! Tina will be repairing targets throughout the winter. She has a metal detector to locate and pull out tips. Help is always welcomed. Archery is another way for members to put in some volunteer hours. Even if you are not an archer, events like the IBO are always in need of help from inside the kitchen to outside directing traffic and parking. If you cannot make both days, come on in for a couple of hours. It will be most appreciated and you get some of your volunteer hours completed. Thanks!

Worcester County League of Sportsmen

The Big MOE was cancelled a week before the scheduled date. There were insurance issues that needed to be addressed.

Good and Welfare

Our condolences to the Migdelany family with the passing of a former member, Ted Migdelany. We sent a card to John Migdelany. We will also send a card to Roy Baer who suffered a heart attack recently. Keep him in your thoughts and prayers as well.