

The August meeting of the WHC was called to order by President, Mike Bailey, August 16, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the Club Grounds. The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance. The minutes were accepted as printed in the newsletter. There were 30 members and 6 visitors in attendance.

Officer reports

President– Mike Bailey had nothing to report.

Vice President - Bud Freeman had nothing to report.

Treasurer- Jim Bozigar gave the financial report .

Membership Secretary– Mike Boris reported he had copies of the constitution if anyone needed one.

Recording Secretary-Michelle Lance had nothing to report.

Webmaster - Rich Sponsler reported that the website continues to be updated.

Committee reports

Conservation League– Gordon Phillips gave the financial report.

Youth program - Bart Randolph was not present however it was announced that the hunt camp would be the 1st weekend in October and Bart has applications for anyone needing them. Call 330-334-0005.

Range committee– The range will be closed periodically because of tree clearing and dirt being moved. Make sure you look at the open/closed signs!

Building Committee-There was nothing to report.

Pheasant Programs– Wade Bishop was not present.

License Agent-Bill Liska spoke on apprentice licenses that are being considered.

Charitable works-Zane Walker was not present but it was announced that food supply is very, very low. Please consider bringing in a donation.

Unfinished Business

- Permits for range have been received. There is a lot of work being done to the range. Please pay attention to the new open/closed signs.
- We voted on Sportsman of the year and Posthumous and the winners will be announced at the Fish Fry.

New Business

- A motion was made and approved for the club to purchase two tickets to the Friends of NRA Banquet and raffle them.
- A motion was made and approved for the club to also continue the \$ 200.00 sponsorship to the NRA.
- Comments were discussed on the importance of making changes for “The good of the Club” and that not only an officer can make a motion to improve things. Any member with any suggestions should make motions.

Announcements

Range

There is a new open/closed sign up for the range! **Please pay close attention to the sign– there will be times the range is closed because of work being done.**

Pheasant Programs

--Elk Ridge Game Farm-- 419-562-0195 is holding a Youth Hunt October 15, 2005

--Wadsworth Youth Hunt is October 22, 2005 9:00am at the club grounds. Have room for 15 kids. Contact Wade Bishop-- 330-334-5176

--North Industry Sportsman Club will have a youth hunt October 30, 2005-- There is a 5 youth limit.

--Adult Pheasant Hunt-- Wadsworth Hunt Club, November 24, 2005. \$ 10.00 a bird. Have 30 birds promised.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above hunts, call Wade Bishop at 330-334-5176.

Upcoming Fish Fry

Fish fry planning has begun for this year. Please consider volunteering for this event. We need setup and tear down crews, food prep, door prize organizers and ticket sellers. You can also be put on the list to be in charge of the bake sale or getting some of the food we will need. Please contact an officer.

Once again, we will have a ladies table, 50/50, door prizes, bake sale and don't forget: bring non-perishable foods to receive a ticket for a "special raffle". This is our BIG event. Please consider helping.

The fish fry will be at the Wadsworth Eagles on September 25th

Good of the Club

Don't forget, club ground work parties are still scheduled for the first Saturday of each month.

DEER EXPO '05-December 4, 2005 Leetonia Sportsman's Club-- 385 East High Street Ext. Leetonia, OH 44431 Expo opens at 9am.

Mega Giveaway raffle has been postponed again. If you bought a ticket you will be notified by letter of the postponement.

2nd Ohio Valley Big Buck Rendezvous Sportshow is Sept. 17 from 10-6. Free admission. Rogers, OH

The Prez Sez...

I have had more than a few phone calls and inquiries about use of the range and times of operation. Please understand that we all want to be able to make use of the range. It is difficult to schedule work, make sure it can be supervised, and most importantly maintain a safe environment while the tasks are completed. We are again pleading for your cooperation as the project proceeds. I have heard people say they are

thinking about discontinuing their membership because things are not being accomplished in what they consider a timely manner or wanting a years dues refunded because access to the range has been prohibited. From the beginning this was going to be a monumental task and I was of the opinion we communicated the fact clearly. We are making progress and if you take a look at what has been accomplished thus far, I think you will see that the results will be the safest and most neighbor friendly range we can provide for our members. We could also use some volunteers to assist in other phases of this project. Please contact an officer if you wish to be involved. I hope to see everyone at the Fish Fry on September 25th.

Mike Bailey
President

Editor's comments

Just wanted to touch on the phone calls and complaints that I've been hearing about and those of which President Mike Bailey speaks of in his column. I would just like to remind the membership that the range improvements and improvements to the club and for the club are all brought to the floor and voted on. As officers and members of this club we are doing what we can to accomplish major improvements. Although recently some items have been voted against, I find it a great time to recommend some of the previously denied motions be reconsidered. If we had members who would volunteer, suggest things and help out more, maybe our range wouldn't have to be closed for such a lengthy time. If we would consider raising dues— maybe the club wouldn't struggle so much with finding cheaper laborers that don't make our requests top priority. Most of the companies we are dealing with are believe it or not "doing us a favor". Maybe if we opened the application acceptance time frame we could generate more money from dues being collected year round and get more members who are willing to help instead of complain. I know from experience, as well as I'm sure others do, most comparable clubs dues are far more than what ours are and those clubs have stricter policies than what we do. Some clubs require a certain number of hours of volunteer work, We don't. So why not consider helping on a volunteer basis vs. a mandatory basis? I recently went to a seminar and listened to someone speak on how to make your club more profitable, successful and desirable by new members. We are far from accomplishing this. Therefore, one thing I did learn was not to dwell on peoples weaknesses or the clubs weaknesses but concentrate on the strengths! Our club has much to offer. (Especially to our youth, - these people are our future and the ones that will carry out the sport of hunting and fishing.) Without the range, we lose a lot— why can't people see that we are trying to make improvements to keep and find more members? These things can't happen overnight. On this note, - I just want to applaud those who give so much of their time and effort in making this club better. Until Next month,

Michelle Lance-Editor

Next meeting is September 20th, 7:30 pm @ The Wadsworth Hunt Club Grounds