

THE EMBER

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A 'Newsletter' for members and friends of The Black Ash Sportsman Inc.

Edited and compiled by Bob Pease, Secretary, Meadville, Pa. 16335

At the February meeting of the Black Ash Sportsman Inc. it was voted to make available a life membership for \$35.00. Presently we have five (5) life members and would like to have more. You middle age to younger guys can get a real bargain here as once you're in there is no effect to you if the dues go up.

This month we have added an insert sheet of the coming Black ASH events. Save it, pin it on your calendar or take it to work and put it on the bulletin board but by all means talk about it and we can again in 1968 have the MOST ACTIVE sportsman club in the entire area.

red
STOP !!!!! Before you go further.....turn this sheet over and see if your address label is in black ink or RED ink. If it's black.....that means your dues for 1968 are not paid and this is the last message that you will receive from us until you pay your dues. If the ink is black..... you are all set for another year.

No doubt you are aware that the publication and mailing of a newsletter such as the EMBER costs money and we have been wondering how to help subsidize it. I am open to any suggestions and the only one that I can offer is that we add for sale items sheet and charge the guy \$1.00 for the insertion. You might have an extra shotgun for sale, a good hunting dog you no longer need, or a spare scope sight or fishing rod for sale. What better place than a newsletter that is directed to over 200 sportsmen who are interested enough in their sport to belong to this organization. Any comments on this suggestion will be welcomed.

The name of Jim Hogue was inadvertently omitted from the list of the guys who wrote to the Editor of the Tribune regarding firearms - thanks to Jim.

Attention spring turkey hunters 1 1 1 1 1 the game commission has not ruled your O&U combination gun out for this season. You can use it with shotshells only - you must not use the rifle barrel and you must not have any rifle ammo in your possession.

A Deer & Bear harvest map was received from the Penna. Game Commission and will be posted in the clubhouse. Crawford County checks in with a '0' on Bear. 873 on bucks and 897 on doe. Top bear county in the state is Potter with 66 and top deer county is also Potter with 8,170 of the combined buck and doe. With a kill like that in a county roughly same size as Crawford there sure must be a lot of lead flying on those first days of the buck and doe seasons.

Did you know that hunters and shooters spend 1 1/2 BILLION dollars a year in the United States?

There are 40 million gun owners in these United States according to the National Shooting Sports Foundation.

A new supply of BLACK ASH patches have been procured and are available for YOU to buy at \$1.00. The club makes a little on them, they look nice on your jacket, shooting coat and hunting coat and they help to show your pride in your club. These may be had from Paul Walker or at the Blubhouse any Sunday from the skeet boys. Get several - they are nice.

A note from the Editor of the County paper tells us that John Wellington, sports writer for the Meadville Tribune has offered his services free gratis to the County as editor. This is a fine gesture on John's part and we know that he can do the job well. Good luck..John.

Frank Werner of HEMLOCK LAKES has made a very generous offer to our members; if anyone is a beginner trout fisherman or wants to learn more about trout fishing and about trout he will be glad to coach them prior to the April 15th opening at his lakes. A nice gesture by Frank go the fishermen in our family.

Most of you know that I am a rifle and pistol shooter, having little to do with hunting, fishing, dogs, etc. at the present time. This NO DOUBT makes the EMBER lean a bit in the rifle direction. The best way to balance the news it contains is for you fellows to tell me what is going on in the other fields of interest and you can be sure that it will be inserted in the EMBER. If your boy shoots a big gobbler this spring, if someone nails a whopper trout, anyone plans a safari to Canada or Africa, we can let the fellows know about it through the Ember, As compared to a hunting dog I'd make a good trailer but not much of a router so you'll have to put me on the track of WHO and WHAT is the news.

In this same vein our President Rae Smith is going to write a message for you in future issues. He might even plan a special edition entitled "How not to fix your own TV set".

HERE IS A MESSAGE FROM THE SKEET BOYS -
IF YOU WANT TO BE A SKEET SHOOTER:

1. Contact Geo. Piazza or Jack Kelley, both are listed in the telephone book.
2. You should have the desire to meet some good fellows and have fun. Competitive shooting is just that.
3. You really should have a shotgun capable of firing two shots in succession.
4. You don't think you are good enough? We have a method where you don't sit on the bench and just watch. Last year everyone shot a minimum of every other match. If you are sincere, you'll get a change to shoot.
5. Age is no barrier or handicap. We carried Tim Smith at 13 years of age and at the other extreme, Gramps Crist at 79.
6. We try to have something for everyone. The end of the season brings a Trophy Shoot - a Banquet and Dance for the long suffering wives. Last year this was held at Cross Creek Country Club.
7. Come on out. If you give us a chance, we will be glad to give you one.

How many people know that for the second consecutive year the Penna. Indoor State Pistol Championships will be held within 20 miles of Meadville at the Chibridge Rifle Club north of Greenville on Rt. 18. At least two Asher shooters will be participating - yours truly and Bob Hinkson of the Frenchtown area.

ASHERS hit the national news.....should be the title when I mention having seen a piece in Guns & Ammo where Bruce Mellring of the Tribune had offered rebuttal to some nut who thought hunting was cruel. Glad you told him off Bruce. Our own 3½ page spread in the PRECISION SHOOTING magazine listed the results of all the Black Ash benchrest activities held in 1967 and could help us to achieve national status when and as we improve our facilities. The lack of water and toilet facilities are the only thing preventing us from having a NBRSA registered event at the present time.....Still close to home....Ray Graham prompted me to look closely at an article in the HANDLOADER magazine which detailed how some of the first bullets ever made by Sierra were tested out at bench rest matches held at Oil City, Pa. way back in the forties.

COME ONE - COME ALL - ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Field Day

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