

# BLACK ASH SPORTSMAN, INC.

8410 Clark Rd.

Guys Mills, Pa. 16327

Summer Newsletter 2012

## HANDGUN ADVENTURE TRAIL

Competition on the Handgun Adventure Trail is off and running for 2012. For those of you who have never done this, it is about as much fun as you can have (legally) with a gun. Events are available for .22 rifle and handgun and centerfire handguns. There are separate classes for open sights and scopes. We even have a Golf Course for .22 long rifle. Events are usually the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month. The last shoot will be on October 28<sup>th</sup>. Courses are open for practice except for the week preceding each competition shoot. Practice rounds are \$1. each.

As with other events at the club we can use some member support as range officers, target painters, and at the registration table. Contact John Scheuer (814) 476-1189 or Carl Pelino (814) 333-6533 or [silhouette@blackashsportsman.org](mailto:silhouette@blackashsportsman.org) if interested in helping. You can also talk to someone at the registration table if you can help.

*"Americanism means the virtues of courage, honor, justice, truth, sincerity and hardihood, ---the virtues that made America." Teddy Roosevelt*

## WINTER SKEET 2012

The final shoot of the 2012 Winter Skeet Classic resulted in a shoot off between top shooters Chuck Isaacs and Dick Adams. When the powder smoke cleared Chuck Isaacs emerged as the Top Gun for the year and Dick Adams as the Runner Up. Congratulations to these exceptional shooters. Our thanks to Clyde Courtwright and Tom Mattis for putting on the Classic and a great steak dinner.

*"What is ominous is the ease with which some people go from saying they don't like something to saying that the government should forbid it. When you go down that road don't expect freedom to survive very long." Thomas Sowell*

## PISTOL LEAGUE

Black Ash participates in the multi-county VIP League (Very Informal Pistol League). The league was established to be a fun shooting experience for

new and experienced shooters. Shooters can participate in the .22 rimfire class, centerfire class, or both. The league ends in September with all teams getting together for the only joint competition of the year. In 2011 the Black Ash Team won the overall championship and took possession of the traveling trophy. The much coveted rubber chicken again resides in the Black Ash Clubhouse and we hope to keep it at Black Ash after the September match. The shoots have already started but we can still accept new shooters, including ladies and juniors. There are no fees but shooters must provide their own handgun(s) and ammunition. Contact Carl Pelino for more information.  
*"One loves to possess arms, though they hope never to have occasion for them." Thomas Jefferson to George Washington---1796*

## SUMMER SKEET

The skeet and trap fields are now open every Tuesday evening from 6:00 p.m. to dark. This is a great opportunity for practice and for new shooters to learn the games of skeet and trap. Beginners are welcome and free instruction is available. The cost remains at \$3.00 per round of 25 targets. Shooters must provide their own shotguns and ammunition.

*"Liberals, it has been said, are generous with other people's money, except when it comes to questions of national survival when they are generous with other people's freedom and security."*

*William F. Buckley, Jr.*

## NRA SILHOUETTE SHOOTING

We are hosting monthly NRA Rifle Silhouette Matches at Black Ash. The plans are to keep this relatively simple, fun and safe. For those of you who are not familiar with this sport, steel targets are shot offhand at 40, 60, 77, and 100 meters. Ten targets are shot at each distance with a .22 rimfire rifle. The 40 meter targets are chickens (pretty small ones), the 60 meter targets are pigs (not too small), turkeys at 77 meters (pretty tough), and rams at 100 meters. Rams are the largest targets but they look small at that distance.

Targets must be knocked off the stand to be scored as a hit. We follow NRA rules but for now the shoots will not be sanctioned to qualify for higher levels of competition. We shoot four classes—an open class which allows heavy barrel rifles up to 10 pounds 2 ounces, a hunter rifle class which must be a hunting style rifle weighing less than 8 pounds 8 ounces, a cowboy class for open sight hunting style rifles, and a rimfire handgun class. We do not have a regular schedule for these matches so watch for e-mails or articles in the Meadville and Titusville newspapers to announce the shoot dates. If you have questions contact Carl Pelino at (814) 333-6533 or you can send us an e-mail at [silhouette@blackashsportsman.org](mailto:silhouette@blackashsportsman.org).

*"We should not forget that the spark which ignited the American Revolution was caused by the British attempt to confiscate the firearms of the colonists."*  
*Patrick Henry,*

#### **2012 DUES**

Dues for the current calendar year are now past due and members are urged to renew their membership before they are automatically removed from the active member roles. If you don't know if you have paid your 2012 dues just check your last membership card for the year printed on the card. The dues structure remains unchanged for 2012 and a renewal form is included with this newsletter. Please examine the form carefully and be sure to include the right amount for your class of membership. Renewals for men are \$20. and ladies and juniors are \$2.00. The form may be copied if you need more.

*"Wrinkles should only indicate where smiles have been."*  
*Mark Twain*

#### **TAMARACK LAKE NEEDS OUR HELP**

On Nov. 20, 2011, Tamarack Lake was partially drawn down by about four feet after an inspection revealed seepage at the northern end of the lake. The PFBC decided to draw down the lake after consulting with the Pa. Dept. of Environmental Protection. The lake will be drawn down indefinitely and further drainage is possible. Tamarack is classified as a high hazard dam due to its close proximity to populated areas. The PFBC has a current list of seven lakes in need of repairs with an anticipated

cost of \$34.5 million which is currently unfunded. Tamarack is not on this list. The trend has been to drain these lakes indefinitely. Lakes already drained include Glade Run in Butler County and Upper and Lower Hereford Manor in Beaver County.

This may be the time for individuals to contact the PFBC and state representatives about the status of Tamarack and other PFBC lakes in need of repair. It may be time for you to come to a Black Ash meeting if you think it is in the interest of the club to make its voice heard about this matter.

*"Compassion is a reflection of our heart. Conviction is a reflection of our soul. A clean environment is the reflection of our intellect."* Jim Slinsky

#### **BLACK ASH APPAREL**

Hats and jackets sporting the Black Ash logo and made in the U.S.A. are now available to members. The jackets are medium weight, forest green in color and can be embroidered with your name and "Life Member" if applicable at no extra charge. The baseball style hats are of good cloth material and are available in both annual and life member styles. Jackets are ordered in multiples of six and must be paid for in advance. Orders are placed as soon as the minimum order size is reached. A sample jacket is on display at the clubhouse. Hats are on hand at the clubhouse and can be purchased at any time. The cost of the jackets is \$70. and the hats are \$19. for life members style and \$16. for the annual member style.

*"Islamic terrorists are like King Salmon—Life is good until the Seals show up."*

#### **2012 BUDGET ADOPTED**

The members of the Board of Directors have adopted a club budget for the current calendar year. The budget projects an income of \$18,601. and general operating expenses of \$14,812. Capital improvements are projected to cost an additional \$3,788. These improvements include gravel for the parking lot and handgun trail and new floors and light fixtures in the clubhouse. Copies of the budget are available at the monthly general membership meeting.

*"Before a standing army can rule, the people must be disarmed; as they are in almost every kingdom*

*in Europe. The supreme power in America cannot enforce unjust laws by the sword because the whole body of the people are armed."*

*Noah Webster*

#### **HUNTER ED**

Twenty eight students completed a Hunter Trapper Safety Education Class at Black Ash on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The class consisted of eight hours of classroom instruction and five hours of "hands on" training at four skills stations located on the club grounds. The Black Ash and Sparta clubs continue to be the only clubs in Crawford County offering the expanded class which includes the skills training segment. This may change in 2013 as the PGC is proposing a reduction in the required hours of instruction to six with "on line" study. The wisdom of this change remains to be seen. The program began in 1959 with a voluntary six hour course for new hunters. The program was expanded and made mandatory in ensuing years. There were a total of 530 hunting/trapping related accidents in 1959. This number was reduced to 36 with 2 fatal accidents in 2011.

*"There are four boxes to be used in defense of liberty: soap, ballot, jury, and ammo. Please use in that order."*

*Unknown*

#### **BIG TREE SKEET MATCH**

The annual skeet competition with the Big Tree Sportsman Club has been expanded to include a team from Corry. The shoot will be held from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. on September 30<sup>th</sup> at the Corry club. The traveling trophy is presently held by Black Ash and we would like to keep it. We need a good turnout from Black Ash to do that. This is a fun shoot with good food and company. If you're a skeet shooter be sure and put this on your schedule. Contact Clyde Courtwright for more information.

*"A sword never kills anybody; it is a tool in the killer's hand." Lucius Annaeus Seneca 4 B.C -65 A.D.*

#### **WARNING SIGNS POSTED**

Thanks to the efforts of volunteers from the membership the perimeter of the club grounds are now marked with signs designed to warn people that they are entering a designated shooting area. The signs read "**DANGER SHOOTING AREA**" and are

posted along the boundaries of the club but not always on the exact property line.

*"When fascism comes to America it will be wrapped in the flag and carrying the cross."*

*Sinclair Lewis*

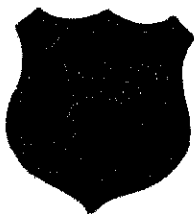
#### **ATTACK ON FREE SPEECH**

U.S. Rep. James McGovern, Dem. Mass., with the support of House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, Dem., Calif., has introduced House Joint Resolution # 88 in an attempt to amend the U. S. Constitution by adding a proposed "People's Rights Amendment." This amendment would limit, or eliminate, the individual right to free speech if the individual joins together with other like minded people to express their opinions in a unified manner. The Amendment states "People, person, or persons, as used in this Constitution does not include corporations, limited liability companies, or other corporate entities..." Rep. McGovern has stated "all corporate entities – for profit and non-profit alike- are not people with constitutional rights." The Amendment also states that all corporate entities would be "subject to such regulation" as Congress deems "reasonable." In other words, Congress, and thereby the political party in power, will have the right of censorship of organized groups.

This amendment, with its potential for selective enforcement by Congress, would give immense power to the prevailing political party to control free speech. Every organized group, including Black Ash Sportsman, Inc, would be subject to this control. Your local organizations would not be able to endorse candidates or express support or opposition to proposed legislation such as firearms laws. In reality, that is the purpose of this amendment and its main target is the National Rifle Association and other gun rights organizations. The NRA would no longer be allowed to endorse or "rate" political candidates. This amendment is so inclusive that it can also be interpreted to allow control of the news media as they are all "corporations" and as such do not have "Constitutional Rights." This amendment may well be the forerunner of the next attack on the Second Amendment.

*"If freedom of speech is taken away, then dumb and silent we may be led, like sheep to the slaughter."*

*George Washington*



**BLACK ASH SPORTSMAN, INC.**  
**8410 CLARK ROAD**  
**GUYS MILLS, PA 16327**  
**814-789-2443**

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL**

DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) MALE ( ) FEMALE  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*NEW MEMBER APPLICATION\*\*\*\*\*

\$20.00 ANNUAL MEMBER FEE  
\$25.00 ANNUAL MEMBER PAID BETWEEN SEP 15 THRU NOV 30 \*  
 • Pays balance of current year and the following year

NAME OF SPONSOR \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 (A current member in good standing of Black Ash Sportsman, Inc. or two (2) character references)

REFERENCE #1 \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

REFERENCE #2 \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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\*\*\*\*\*RENEWAL APPLICATION\*\*\*\*\*

\_\_\_\_\_ \$400.00 LIFE MEMBER \*                      \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 2.00 LADY  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 20.00 ANNUAL MEMBER                      \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 2.00 JUNIOR - (18 AND UNDER)

\* see bi-laws

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The purposes of the Corporation are to promote the welfare of and conservation of the natural resources in wildlife in the community; to provide for instruction of and education of the youth of the community in good conservation practices and in good hunting and fishing practices; to provide recreational facilities for members and to promote hunting, fishing and shooting sports.

Article 2 of By-Laws: Membership – Any person of good moral character and in agreement with the mission statement of the Corporation shall be eligible for membership regardless of race, creed, color or national origin, pending majority vote at the next general meeting.

**SURVEY: AREA OF INTEREST – SELECT AS MANY THAT APPLY**

\_\_\_ TRAP SHOOTING    \_\_\_ SKEET SHOOTING    \_\_\_ HANDGUN SHOOTING  
 \_\_\_ VIP RIFLESHOOTING    \_\_\_ RIFLE RANGE    \_\_\_ CONSERVATION    \_\_\_ HORSESHOES

Mail this form and a self-addressed, stamped LETTER SIZE envelope to:  
 (Make check payable to): **BLACK ASH SPORTSMAN INC.**  
**C/O Carolyn Zur**  
**13532 Walker Street**  
**Meadville, PA 16335**

(Revised 11-2009)

RECEIPT

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ \$400 LIFE, \$20 ANNUAL, \$2 LADY, \$2 JUNIOR  
 CIRCLE ONE: \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 NEW (SEP 15-NOV 30)