

BLACK ASH SPORTSMAN, INC.

8410 Clark Rd.
Guys Mills, Pa. 16327

Winter Newsletter 2014
Black Ash Sportsman, Inc

YOUTH PHEASANT HUNT

A youth pheasant hunt was held at Black Ash on October 18th with 20 youth participating. Not everyone managed to take home a bird but everyone did get a chance to shoot at a bird. Our thanks to the dog handlers and property owners who helped make this event possible,

Dog owners and handlers; Mike Fisher, Rob Bush, Alan Hudock, Scott Kerr, Denny Lyons, Gary Glunt.

Property Owners; John Reese, Clint Brown, Dave Webster, John McKellop.

Special thanks to Gary Glunt for planning and organizing this event and the Pa. Game Commission for providing the birds.

"There are more instances of the abridgement of freedoms of the people by the gradual and silent encroachment of those in power than by violent and sudden usurpations."

President James Madlson

BIG TREE SKEET MATCH

The annual skeet competition with teams from Big Tree and Corry was held at Black Ash on October 12th. After the smoke cleared from the field it was evident that the shooters from Black Ash had claimed the traveling trophy for the fourth straight year. The final scores were; Black Ash 376/400, Big Tree 353/400, Corry 281/400. High scorer for Black Ash was Rich Gaw who broke 49 of his 50 targets. Cole Holthause, Mark Holthause, and Warren Berry led the Big Tree effort by posting scores of 47 each. The team from Corry was short one shooter and was never in contention for the top spot. Joe Fisher and Brad Schweitzer posted team high scores of 43 each for Corry.

Congratulations to the Black Ash shooters and thanks to Clyde Courtwright for organizing this event.

"The only problem I have in filling my leisure time is preventing others from using it."

Anon

HUNTER TRAPPER EDUCATION

Thirty one students successfully completed a Hunter Trapper Safety Education Class held at Black Ash on July 9th and 12th, 2014. Black Ash is one of the few clubs in Northwest Pa. that offers an expanded version of the

General Membership Meetings are held at 7:30 P.M. on the second Thursday of each month.

basic class. The class is "expanded" by adding four hours of time and including skills stations where students get "hands on" training in hunting skills and firearms safety. The stations are located at various spots on the club grounds and the students engage in simulated hunting activities such as practicing safe zones of fire, target identification, shot placement, etc. This is the "fun" part of the class at Black Ash and gives students the opportunity to learn and practice basic skills while they have a good time. The instructor-student ratio for this class is 1/5. Black Ash currently has five certified instructors and that is the minimum number required to present the basic class with skills stations. We would like to have one or two more certified instructors. The training for certification is local and is done in one day or less. If you are interested in becoming an instructor, or would like more information, contact any club officer, current instructor, or your local WCO.

"The democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work and give to those who would not."

President Thomas Jefferson

DUES

Dues for 2015 are now payable. Annual membership fees are unchanged for all member classes in 2015. The membership year is from January 1st to December 31st of each calendar year. Range and club privileges for members in the annual class end on the last day of the year for which dues have been paid. A renewal form is included with this newsletter. The form can be copied for additional renewals or new applications. Please list the names of all household members for whom you are paying dues.

"Where books are burned, they will, in the end, burn people, too."

Heinrich Heine, German poet, 1823

WINTER SKEET CLASSIC

The 2015 Winter Classic Skeet League will start on January 3, 2015. Shoots of 50 birds each will be held every other Saturday through March 14th with the post season shoot and banquet on March 28th. The cost for a round of 50 targets will continue to be \$10. for adults and \$7. for youth under 16. Practice rounds are \$3.50 for 25 targets. Shooting hours are from 8:00 A.M. to

3:30 P.M. You can shoot ahead or back any number of weeks. See the Classic Winter Skeet rules for handicap scoring info and procedure. This is a fun shoot and even though the crowd is large everyone has a good time.

We are in need of volunteer help that can be counted on to show up and help with pulling, loading targets and the food concession. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Tom Mattis at (814) 720-5045 or at winterskeet@blackashsportsman.org.

"Gun control is like trying to reduce drunk driving by making it tougher for sober drivers to own cars."

Anon

SKEET/TRAP TEAMS

The possibility of sponsoring a skeet or trap team to participate in league competitions is currently being considered. Black Ash has had skeet and trap teams in the past but none are actively involved in league competition at the present time. Anyone interested in joining a youth or adult skeet or trap team is asked to contact Gary Glunt at 814 720-9899 or send him an e-mail at gjglunt@windstream.net.

"Be thankful we're not getting all the government we're paying for."

Will Rogers

VIPL

The Black Ash Club is a participant in the multi-county VIP League (Very Informal Pistol League). The league is a fun shooting experience for both experienced and/or new shooters. Modified rules for NRA Bullseye shooting are used to keep things competitive but still a lot of fun. Shooters can compete in rimfire or centerfire classes, or both. Shoots are once a month at Black Ash beginning in April and continuing until September. The September shoot is the only time that all teams get together for the only joint competition of the year. All members are invited to join our team. This includes ladies and juniors. There are no fees but all shooters must provide their own handgun(s) and ammunition. Our new 50 foot pistol range will allow us more flexibility in getting our rounds shot each month.

Contact Carl Pelino at 814 333-6533 or by e-mail at vipl@blackashsportsman.org for more information.

"The Constitution is not an instrument for the government to restrain the people, it is an instrument for the people to restrain the government--lest it come to dominate our lives and interests."

Patrick Henry

HANDGUN ADVENTURE TRAIL

2015 competition on the Handgun Adventure Trail will begin with a shoot on Sunday, March 22nd, at 9:00 A. M. Events are open for .22 rifle and handgun and centerfire handgun. There are classes for open sights and scopes. The .22 Golf Course will also be open. Summer events are scheduled for the 4th Sunday of each month.

Adventure Trail courses will be open for practice rounds for members and accompanying guests starting in late February and will remain open through the summer except for the week immediately preceding a scheduled shoot and occasionally during special events at the club. Practice rounds are \$1. each. All competition rounds are open to members and non-members.

As with other events at the club we can use some member support as range officers, target painters, and at the registration table. If you can help, contact John Scheuer at 814 476-1189 or Carl Pelino at 814 333-6533 or e-mail at silhouette@blackashsportsman.org.

"Nature gave man two ends--one to sit on and one to think with. Ever since then man's success has been dependent on the one he used most."

George R. Kirkpatrick

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Officers for 2015 were elected on December 11th at the meeting of the general membership. Elected officers for 2015 are:

President	Ed Ferguson
Vice President	Tom Mattis
Secretary	Carl Pelino
Treasurer	Carolyn Zur
Directors	Bob Schoenefeldt
	Gary Glunt
	Mark Mailliard

"When the law disarms good guys, bad guys rejoice."

Ted Nugent

NRA SILHOUETTE SHOOTING

We are hosting monthly NRA Rimfire Rifle Silhouette Matches at Black Ash. The plans are to keep this simple, fun, and safe. Steel targets are shot offhand at 40, 60, 77, and 100 meters. Ten targets are shot at each distance with a .22 rifle or handgun. The 40 meter targets are chickens (small ones), the 60 meter targets are pigs (a little larger), turkeys at 77 meters (pretty tough targets), and rams at 100 meters (larger 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 for these shoots but for now they will not be sanctioned shoots to qualify for higher levels. We shoot four classes – an open class which allows heavy barrel rifles up to 10 lbs, 2 ozs, a hunter rifle class which must be a hunting style rifle weighing less than 8 lbs, 8ozs, a cowboy rifle class for open sight hunting style rifles, and a rimfire handgun class. Cowboy rifle and handgun shooters shoot larger ½ scale targets – but still a bit of a challenge. Matches are usually the **SECOND SATURDAY OF THE MONTH AND START AT 9 A.M. MATCHES IN 2015 WILL BE ON APRIL 11, MAY 9, JUNE 13, JULY 11, AUGUST 8, and SEPTEMBER 12.** If you have questions please contact Carl Pelino at 814 333-6533 or e-mail us at silhouette@blackashsportsman.org. These matches are open to members and non-members.

The rifle on the wall of the laborers cottage or working class flat is the symbol of democracy. It is our job to see that it stays there.”
George Orwell

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

As of November 13, 2014, Black Ash Sportsman, Inc, had a total membership of 554. The membership consisted of 104 life members, 317 annual members, and 133 ladies and juniors. Twenty new members for 2015 were also approved on that date.

“You cannot invade mainland United States. There would be a rifle behind every blade of grass.”

Japanese Admiral Yamamoto, World War II

HELP NEEDED

All of the work to get things done at our club is done by volunteers. We are currently experiencing a shortage of workers, especially in two activities that are major fund raisers for the club – the Winter Classic Skeet League and the Handgun Adventure Trail Match. We also need additional help (pullers) to keep offering the summer skeet program. If we do not get additional help from our members one or more of these activities may end. Please contact our Secretary, Carl Pelino, at 814 333-6533 or by e-mail at cpelino@zoominternet.net if you can help out. Volunteers don't have to help at every session but we need to give some of our long term helpers a break in all of these activities.

“The philosopher who said that work well done never needs doing over has never weeded a garden”

Anon

SEND US THOSE E-MAIL ADDRESSES

We are trying to increase contacts with members through e-mail instead of regular mail. This enables us to reduce mailing costs and lets us send out more timely information to members. E-mail recipients get timely notice of special events such as Hunter Education Classes, special shooting events, Concealed Carry Classes, and events such as a pending basic handgun class. Please use the line on your renewal application and **clearly print your e-mail address**. If you are a life member or have already paid your 2015 dues please send an e-mail to Carl Pelino, Black Ash Club Secretary, at cpelino@zoominternet.net to provide your address. If you currently receive this newsletter by e-mail and do not have a way to print out your renewal application just send an e-mail to Carl and he will see that you get an application. If you have sent in your e-mail address and are not receiving club e-mails please send it in again. We were either unable to read it correctly or you may have us blocked. If you are a Life Member and have e-mail please send in your address so we can keep in contact with you. **BLACK ASH DOES NOT SHARE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS WITH ANYONE**

“When the people fear the government there is tyranny, when the government fears the people there is liberty.”

U.S. President James Madison

BASIC PISTOL CLASS

We will again try to schedule an NRA Basic Pistol Class at Black Ash in 2015. We will announce this through e-mails and the Meadville and Titusville newspapers.

“Get yourself a spouse. Some things you just can't blame on the government.”

David Mahoney

RANGE NOTES

Things have gone well at all of our ranges since we have adopted the “Members Only” policy. We have had little or no serious damage of our property, less litter, and lower maintenance costs. We thank all of our members for pitching in. We have applied for an NRA Grant to put a cover or roof over the handgun range. If the grant is approved we hope to complete construction by mid-summer. Public sight in days were held on November 22, 23, 28,29,30, with 75 non-members using the opportunity to sight in their deer rifles. Any member may bring a guest(s) to use these facilities. There is a \$3. guest fee for using the ranges and a \$1. fee for practice rounds on the Handgun Adventure Trail.



BLACK ASH SPORTSMAN, INC.
8410 CLARK ROAD
GUYS MILLS, PA



www.blackashsportsman.org

Meetings are the second Thursday of the month at 7:30pm

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP and RENEWAL APPLICATION

Name _____ () Female () Junior

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

E-mail _____

Make sure your email address is legible otherwise you will **NOT** receive any updates.

If you do not have email please check here ()

Date _____ Signature _____

******* NEW MEMBER *******

____ \$20 Annual ____ \$25 Annual * ____ \$2 Ladies ____ \$2 Juniors (18yrs and Under)

(* If paid between Sept 15th and Nov 30th includes balance of current year and the following year.)

NAME OF SPONSOR _____ Phone _____

(Your sponsor must be a current member in good standing of Black Ash Sportsman, Inc.)

******* RENEWAL *******

____ \$400.00 Life Member (Must be an active member for three consecutive years.)
 ____ \$ 20.00 Annual Member
 ____ \$ 2.00 Ladies
 ____ \$ 2.00 Junior - (18yrs and Under)

******* AREA(S) OF INTEREST - Select All That Apply *******

____ Trap Shooting ____ Skeet Shooting ____ Handgun Shooting ____ VIP League
 ____ Rifle Shooting ____ Rifle Range ____ Conservation ____ Youth

Are you able to help out with any club activities or maintenance? ____ Yes ____ No

Please complete **one application for each member**, copy as needed. Applications are also available for download on our website <http://www.blackashsportsman.org> This allows the club to maintain contact information for each member. Applications can be mailed together. Mail this form(s), with a self-addressed stamped envelope, and check payable to Black Ash Sportsman Inc. to:

BLACK ASH SPORTSMAN INC.
C/O Carolyn Zur
13532 Walker Street
Meadville, PA 16335