



Winter Newsletter, 2023

# BLACK ASH SPORTSMAN, INC

8410 Clark Rd · Guys Mills, PA · 16327 · (814) 789-2443 · blackashsportsman.org

*General membership meetings are at 6:30 PM on the second Thursday of each month at the clubhouse.*

**RENEWAL FORM IS INCLUDED—2023 DUES ARE DUE NOW. THERE IS NO GRACE PERIOD FOR USE OF FACILITIES.**

Dear Members,

Happy New Year!!

Our Fundraiser was a huge success again this year. We made over \$12,000! That's the best we've done since we've started having them. We owe a lot to Mark and Carol Bellini who coordinated the effort again this year. They did such a great job we're hoping they will handle things again next year. Our members also deserve credit for this success. Seems like everyone pitched in to make it a success. We had a number of members who sold 20 or more tickets. Great job! We have several items on the wish list for using this money. We still need to do work on the parking lots that was halted because of the logging activities. We are also seriously looking at replacing our ancient skeet machines, they have been in use since the club formed and are showing some signs of their age. We will also be discussing some changes at the handgun range to allow shooting at varying distances from behind the shooting tables. If you think of anything else we should do please send your comments. We are also interested in any comments on our fundraiser in general. Should we continue doing it? If so, should we do it the same way we have in the past or go one step more and have a day with food, beverages, and more options for raffles?

We are again scheduling activities as we normally would for 2023. If you plan to spend the day, pack a lunch and enjoy it in our picnic pavilion. At the present time we are not planning to provide any food for activities. As always, drinks will be available in the kitchen. Schedules and some brief descriptions are in this newsletter. If you want more details either check our website or call the contact person for the activity.

Please remember that it's time again to pay annual dues, a membership application is one of the pages for this newsletter. 2022 dues expired December 31, 2022. Please note the mailing address for applications. **PLEASE DO NOT MAIL APPLICATIONS TO THE CLUBHOUSE ADDRESS, THIS WILL VERY LIKELY DELAY GETTING YOUR NEW MEMBERSHIP CARD.**

Lots of good information follows – stay safe and healthy and enjoy your time spent at Black Ash.

Black Ash Board of Directors

## **MEETING TIME CHANGE**

**In 2022 we changed our bylaws to allow the Board of Directors to set the meeting day and time each calendar year. For 2023 the meetings will still be the second Thursday of the month but will begin at 6:30 p.m.**

## **WINTER WORK DAY**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 8AM - NOON**

We hope to complete a number of projects including cleaning along the road by State Rte 27, deep cleaning the clubhouse, and picking up the garage and basement target room.

## **CLASSIC WINTER SKEET LEAGUE**

Shooting every other Saturday beginning at 8AM and ending at 3PM. Shoot 50 skeet targets each week, and shoot ahead or back any number of weeks. OPEN TO MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS.

JAN 7 – JAN 21 – FEB 4 – FEB 18 – MAR 4 – MAR 18

Postseason shoot and banquet is April 1st.

More information - check out our website or contact Eric Messner at (814) 827-9708 or winterskeet@blackashsportsman.org.

## **HANDGUN ADVENTURE TRAIL**

Monthly matches begin at 9 a.m., all scorecards must be returned by 3 p.m. We have added a new class for pistol cartridge carbines. MATCHES OPEN TO MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS.

MARCH 26 – APRIL 23 – MAY 28 – JUNE 25 – JULY 23 – AUG 27 – SEPT 24 – OCT 22

The trail will be open for practice rounds in early March.

More Information - Check our website or contact Carl Pelino (814) 573-2355

## **NRA SILHOUETTE MATCHES**

Monthly Matches beginning at 9 a.m., usually finish around 1 p.m. or when all shooters are finished. OPEN TO MEMBERS AND NON-MEMBERS

APRIL 29 – MAY 13 – JUNE 10 – JULY 8 – AUG 12 – SEPT 9

More information - Check our website or contact Carl Pelino (814)573-2355

### **PISTOL LEAGUE (VIPL)**

Shoots are monthly starting in April. Shoots are 4:30PM on the second Thursday of each month, before the monthly membership meeting. **MUST BE A MEMBER TO PARTICIPATE – NO FEES FOR MEMBERS.** Contact Fritz Brown if interested at [jfritzbrown@yahoo.com](mailto:jfritzbrown@yahoo.com)

### **MONDAY NIGHT TRAP LEAGUE**

Monday night trap will be back for 2023, running from May through August. There will be no shoot May 29th for Memorial Day or July 3rd in observance of Independence Day. Registration is from 4pm to 7pm.

The league is open to all shooters, no need to be a member to participate.

More information will be on our website.

### **SHOOTING RANGES**

We have been experiencing a little more damage than usual at our ranges, especially on the rifle range. Please follow all range rules to help keep our ranges safe and in good shape for all shooters. **REMEMBER – NO PELLET SHOTGUN SHELLS SHOULD BE FIRED AT EITHER THE RIFLE OR HANDGUN RANGE BACKBOARDS. BESIDES DAMAGING THE BACKBOARDS, THEY ALSO POSE A SAFETY THREAT OF PELLETS BOUNCING BACK TOWARD THE SHOOTER!** Please remove all targets after you are finished at the ranges. Don't leave targets hanging "for the next guy" just because you didn't shoot at them or they just have one or two holes. They just blow off the target boards and become litter on the range!!

Please follow all range rules, especially safety rules and rules for target placement. We have had some problems with shooters hanging targets on upright posts and crossbars and shooting the cables at the pistol range.

Just a reminder about our guest policy at the ranges and for Handgun Adventure Trail Practice Rounds. Any Adult Member may bring a guest or guests to use these facilities. There is a \$3 Guest Fee for using the rifle and handgun ranges and a \$1 fee for GUESTS OF A MEMBER for practice rounds on the Handgun Adventure Trail. Fees must be paid before shooting begins.

### **ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION GRANT**

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation is known for its promotion of habitat for elk and other wildlife. They also are interested in promoting the shooting and hunting lifestyle among youth as well as adults. A request was made by Black Ash Sportsman Club for a grant from the RMEF state fund for help in paying for a new trap machine that benefits the Maplewood School Trap Team. A grant was received for \$300.00. Many thanks to RMEF and the many local members that support them, particularly the Corry/Titusville Chapter.

### **BASIC PISTOL CLASS**

We are looking at having another Basic Pistol Class sometime this spring.

It would be taught by certified instructors, \$65 Non-Members - \$40 Members (includes class, lunch, and ammo).

If interested email Eric at [elmessner226@icloud.com](mailto:elmessner226@icloud.com).

### **HELP NEEDED**

All of the work done to get things done at our club is done by volunteers. We are currently experiencing a shortage of workers to help with all of our fundraising activities, especially in major fundraisers for the club – the Winter Skeet League, Summer Trap League, and the Handgun Adventure Trail Matches. We also need additional help to keep the summer skeet shooting and NRA Silhouette Matches going and can always use a hand with the summertime mowing and routine cleaning and maintenance of the club grounds. If we do not get additional volunteers from our members one or all of these activities may end. Please contact Carl Pelino, (814-573-2355) or the club email [blackashsportsman@gmail.com](mailto:blackashsportsman@gmail.com) 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.

### **THANK YOU**

**AS YOU ARE ALL AWARE EVERYTHING WE DO IS ORGANIZED AND COMPLETED BY MEMBERS WHO VOLUNTEER THEIR TIME TO KEEP THINGS GOING AT BLACK ASH. THE LIST IS LONG BUT INCLUDES ALL OF OUR SHOOTING ACTIVITIES – VIPL, WINTER SKEET, SUMMER SKEET, SUMMER TRAP, HANDGUN ADVENTURE TRAIL MATCHES, NRA SILHOUETTE MATCHES, THE YOUTH PHEASANT HUNT, THE BLACK ASH NIGHT SHOOT AND FUN SHOOT, AND TRAINING CLASSES FOR HANDGUN SHOOTERS. WE ALSO HAVE MEMBERS WHO VOLUNTEERS TO KEEP THE FRIDGE STOCKED WITH POP AND WATER, BLOW SNOW, COMPLETE MOWING AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE OF THE BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS, DO RANGE MAINTENANCE, AND ANY OTHER ACTIVITIES WE DO AT BLACK ASH. WE ALL OWE A BIG THANK YOU TO THESE VOLUNTEERS FOR ALL THEY DO.**

**THE LIST OF TASKS IS LONG BUT UNFORTUNATELY THE LIST OF VOLUNTEERS IS NOT AS LONG AS IT COULD BE. WE NEED MORE OF OUR MEMBERS TO STEP UP AND VOLUNTEER. THANKS FOR CONSIDERING BEING A VOLUNTEER FOR BLACK ASH ACTIVITIES!**

### **TOP SHOT FUN SHOOT IN AUGUST**

The Black Ash Top Shot Fun Shoot will happen again on August 19! Lots of fun with multiple shooting games for different guns. More information will be available later. Any questions, email [blackashsportsman@gmail.com](mailto:blackashsportsman@gmail.com) and we can explain more.



# BLACK ASH SPORTSMAN, INC

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General membership meetings are at 7:30 PM on the second Thursday of each month at the clubhouse.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION:** Those who have been members within the last 3 years may renew membership. Others must apply as new members and must name a sponsor. Membership is valid from January 1 to December 31.

**SELECT APPLICATION TYPE:**

- \$25—ADULT
- \$5—YOUTH—18 years or under at beginning of membership year
- \$40—FAMILY—At most 2 adults and all youth at the same address
- \$500—LIFE—3 years of consecutive annual adult membership in good standing required

Our primary mode of communication is **EMAIL**. Please be sure your email address is legible. Select applicant **age level**, whether the applicant is **new or renewing** membership, and **gender** for each applicant. Complete one application per application type. Make copies as needed.

NAME 1 \_\_\_\_\_  ADULT  YOUTH |  NEW  RENEWAL

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ GENDER:  M  F

NAME 2 \_\_\_\_\_  ADULT  YOUTH |  NEW  RENEWAL

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ GENDER:  M  F

NAME 3 \_\_\_\_\_  ADULT  YOUTH |  NEW  RENEWAL

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ GENDER:  M  F

NAME 4 \_\_\_\_\_  ADULT  YOUTH |  NEW  RENEWAL

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ GENDER:  M  F

NAME 5 \_\_\_\_\_  ADULT  YOUTH |  NEW  RENEWAL

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ GENDER:  M  F

\*\*Add additional names for family membership on the the back or a separate sheet.

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW MEMBERS ONLY—NAME OF SPONSOR:** \_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE** \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of one applicant from this form signifies the agreement of all included applicants to abide by the rules and regulations of Black Ash Sportsman, Inc.

Make check a payable to **Black Ash Sportsman, Inc.**  
Mail application, payment and a **SELF ADDRESSED STAMPED ENVELOPE** to:

BLACK ASH SPORTSMAN, INC  
C/O Deanna Messner  
522 Meadville Rd.  
Titusville, PA 16354