



The Defiance Co. Fish and Game Board of Directors 2009 Summer Newsletter



Board of Directors

A lot of things have changed in and around the club in the past few months. To name a few... application of floor epoxy to the hall, kitchen and restrooms. Cleaning of the walls and the re-shaping and enlarging of the rifle / pistol back-stop have been completed. Lawn mowing, snow removal and general cleaning have been broken down to each club in a schedule each month to share the work load of keeping the club in good order. In the beginning of the year we welcomed 3 Rivers Conservation as a new club that has joined the association. More information on this club is included in this up-date letter.

Many of our 400 renewing and life members like to hunt at the club. With the membership increasing their needs to be rules that govern hunting on the property. Safety for the hunter and others, protection of the building and grounds and giving member's opportunity to see game is the goal of the new policy on hunting. If a member wants to hunt the property in 2009 written permission will be required. To obtain written permission a member will need to attend a special meeting on Saturday August 1st at 2p.m. or be at the fish and game meeting on Thursday August 13th at 7pm where the rules will be covered on hunting the club. If the member in good standing agrees to the rules, written permission will be granted. Hunting without written permission a member has the possibility of losing their "good standing status" in the club, future permission to hunt the grounds, loss of club membership and legal action can be taken against them.

Soon you will be seeing signs being posted around the grounds. "Members Only" and "No Alcohol Permitted, Rentals Excluded" will be posted at the entrance drive. Also a chain and sign "Shooting Range Closed Due to Rental" will be at the entrance to the outdoor range. When the building is rented outdoor shooting is not permitted. The chain and sign will be taken down when the rental is over. If a member wants to shoot... look at the club calendar on the website to see if the building is rented before you make the trip.

All members are asked to pay \$20.00 each year or become a life member to have the privilege to be on the grounds, a small price to pay for all that is available at the club; but people have been caught shooting without a membership lately. Most have joined the club when questioned, but might not have joined if they had not been asked. You have paid the price to be a member and so should everyone else. Please take the time to inquire with anyone you see shooting or fishing on the grounds. Ask to see their membership card if you can speak to them, or write down the license plate and call any board officer if you can't speak with them directly. Thank You!

In the rest of this letter you will see reports from each of the clubs operating at the fish and game. If you know of a club that is looking for a home have them contact any board officer for information on joining the association.

This letter, current dates and much more current club information is available to you every day by visiting your website at www.dcfishandgame.com

Defiance County Fish & Game Association

Jerry Latta, President

I want to thank all of the members who have been attending the monthly meetings (second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.) and also invite those of you who have not had a chance to attend to come. The actual meeting has been lasting about 30 minutes with a program after that for another 15 to 30 minutes. Then the “fun” begins as the refreshments start and people really have a chance to sit or stand around and talk. It is great to see the members enjoying themselves.

As mentioned, we have been trying to have a program at the meetings. We have had a description of the clubs housed at the Fish and Game, Eric Nethercutt talking about taxidermy, Andy Driskel on turkey hunting, Joe Daly on handgun reloading, and Rick Mohr telling us about black powder shooting. If you have a program that you would like to present or if you have something that you would like to see presented at a program, please let me know.

Stop out and see the clubhouse improvements. The Board has had an epoxy coating put down on the floors, the restrooms have been updated, and the walls have been washed down.

Range improvements are starting. First off, I would like to thank Larry Fritch for making a donation to get started on replacing the benches at the range. Hopefully the bench replacement project will get started soon. Another improvement to the range has been the mounding of the backstop and the target holders that the Rifle and Pistol Club installed. While accidents can always happen, please try to not shoot the holders while shooting. If you see people shooting that you don't know, feel free to ask them if they are members (which they should be to be on club grounds) of the Fish and Game. If not, encourage them to join – after all you are paying your dues for the upkeep of the range and they should as well.

Kids Day planned. Please mark your calendar for the Fish and Game's Kids Day on August 16. This is a Sunday so we will be starting at either 12:30 or 1:00 p.m. with food for the kids and the adults that come along. After lunch the kids will be divided into groups to go to various activities. Right now this is still in the planning stages, but it looks like the kids will be having a chance to shoot rifles, bows, black powder guns, and possibly pellet guns. Kids Day will be discussed at the next meetings and help will be needed. This will be open to any child and the parents do not need to be members of the Fish and Game. Since the hope is to have many kids participate, you are encouraged to bring your kids/grandkids, or even neighbor kids.

Defiance County Rifle and Pistol Club

Joe Hiler, President

The Defiance Co. Rifle and Pistol Club began its summer pistol Leagues Tuesday June 2nd at the Defiance Co. Fish and Game. This is an eight-week league, shooting once a week on Tuesday nights, with participants using their six best scores. The Pistol Club wishes to thank Steve and Travis Snyder of Snyder Brothers Construction for renovating the backstop and making it possible for us to shoot our leagues at the Fish and Game. Fall leagues will begin the first Tues. in October. Shooting starts at 7:00 p.m. preceded by a 6:30 p.m. business meeting.

Straightened Arrows Archery Club

Allan Hansford, President

The archery club is in the middle of its 3D archery season. The turnout to the shoots has been terrific. I was skeptical with the economy that we would not see as many shooters this year. But I think folks are taking time they just didn't have before and getting back in touch with things they hadn't done for a while in coming to the shoots. We also just finished the archery league with the largest turn out ever in shooters and people willing to help do the work it takes to run the archery club.

This year we have gotten to the point where we have replaced all targets with Rinehart targets. These targets are top of the line in looks, stopping power and longevity. Also the upkeep is much less on this type of target. We have decided to leave some of the older targets up behind the white building and along the drive for anyone to shoot and tune up your bow. But to shoot targets in the woods across either bridge you need to be a member of the archery club. These targets are expensive and the \$20.00 to be a member of the archery club helps defray some cost.

We still have 2 shoots left in the 2009 season. For July 25th and September 19th if you bring a child to the shoot you will get to shoot for free. Kids always shoot free, but the adult will also at these two events. Also all the food and drinks will be free as well. The September shoot is our "Hunter Special" at this shoot we will have a 40 target course set with many and I mean many shots from hunting conditions... tree stands (about 20) and many ground blinds. We have a limited amount of bows and related equipment for anyone to use if needed. If you have any questions go to our website at www.straightenedarrows.org or to the fish and game site and click on straightened arrows or call me at 419-439-3155.

3 Rivers Conservation Club

Steve Flory, President

The Three Rivers Conservation Club is a newly formed non-profit group aimed at helping local youth and conservation-based projects, with all proceeds staying in the area. 3RCC is presently running a membership drive / gun raffle that runs from May 1-Aug. 31. Every new member will receive a 3RCC hat, a one-year membership, and be automatically entered to win his/her choice of a Remington 870 Express 20 Ga shotgun, or a Thompson Center Omega .50 cal. muzzleloader. The cost is only \$10 to join. (Those who are not currently a Fish and Game member will be required to join there also for \$20)

As a fun way to meet other members and enjoy some fellowship, 3RCC is hosting a Hog Roast at the Defiance Fish & Game Saturday Oct. 10th with the doors opening at 5:30. Your ticket will get you all you can eat BBQ pork, pop, and entry into a gun drawing that evening. There will also be pull tabs, 50/50, and \$1 beer. The cost of your ticket is \$10 for members and \$20 for non-members. For more info contact: Steve Flory 419-769-1133, Josh Burkholder 419-782-9538, Jim Gares 419-576-8940, Mike Schnipke 419-439-3603, or Trent Hesselschwardt 419-769-0691