

BERLIN CONSERVATION CLUB
BI-ANNUAL FALL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

October 9, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by President, Don Konen.

Roll Call: Present – Don Konen, Ron Moderow, Dave Polzin, Liza Fritz, Les Fritz, Gary (JD) Ross, Todd Gleisner

Absent: Jerry Reetz, Joe Gozinski, Larry Neuman, Don Metzger, Taylor Wallace

Members in attendance: 9 members

Spring 2023 meeting minutes: Motion to approve by Gene Thom and second by Tyler Thoma to approve the minutes. Passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Motion to approve by Gene Thom and second by Tyler Thoma. Passed unanimously.

Communications: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Pheasant Farm (Dave Polzin): Bird pickup will be Saturday, October 14th from 7:00 am to noon. Please bring your own carriers if you have them. There are extra birds for sale at the price of \$16 for roosters and \$14 for hens. Cannot buy just roosters. Members with a full work card will get 23 birds. We will need to find a caretaker for next year.

Summer Trap League (Liza Fritz): There were 64 teams in the league this year which was 9 more than last year. We had a shoot off for high gun & two team shoot offs. This year we had fun with a few theme nights – Camo Night, Sports Night & Christmas in July on the hottest day of the season. 85 people signed up for the steak fry. Thank you to everyone that helped with the league.

Monday Night Open Shooting (Don Konen): We did not have a lot of participation for open shooting or the Big 50's on Monday nights, so we have decided to move the Big 50's back to Tuesday nights in the Spring.

Tuesday Night Trap/Skeet/5-Stand (Ron Moderow & JD Ross): Trap - Steady following of youth & adults thru July. 5-Stand - Averaged 36 shooters every week with 75 different shooters and a total of 855 shooters for the season which was up from 790 last year.

Winter Archery (Dave Polzin): League will be starting up on Wednesday, January 3rd. It is a 12-week league with 3-5 person teams. Last year we had 12 teams.

Winter Trap League (Dave Polzin): League will be starting on Thursday, January 4th with 2 weeks of practice followed by 12 weeks of league. These are 2-person teams. Last year we had 41 teams.

Summer Archery League (Dave Polzin): Ricky hosted (4) 3-D shoots and a Monday/Wednesday night 2-person league. Looking to improve the course and work on cleanup over the winter.

Youth Archery (Dave Polzin): Will start in mid-January for youth ages 10-12 who are new to archery.

Sporting Clays (JD Ross): We had 477 shooters over the 4 Sunday shoots. We will survey the participants to determine interest in a Super Sport on Labor Day Sunday.

Clubhouse & Grounds (Dave Polzin): New floor in banquet hall with the bar area to be done in December. Adding lighting in 5-stand area. Replaced concrete on Trap #5 to meet ATA specifications. We are planning to add black

gravel to the other traps in the Spring. Cory continues to do a great job keeping the grounds in excellent shape for the summer events.

Hunter's Education: Cody Darnick volunteered to host a class in October. Additional instructors are needed to expand class sizes.

Youth Shooting Programs:

CWYTL (Ron Moderow): The program had 61 shooters, which was down 9 from the prior year. This is an 8-week Saturday morning league. Volunteer coaches & coordinators are key to the program.

Target Terminators (Steve Beres): The youth traveling team had 10 shooters this year which was down 3 shooters from last year. Great representation at the area SCTP and ATA Shoots. The team had 8 shooters competing at Nationals in Sparta, IL. Expecting a distribution from Midway Endowment account for approximately \$7,000. Steve will be holding a meeting later this month for parents and people interested in coaching. The team is also planning to have a table at the banquet.

Kettle Moraine League (Tyler Thoma): This year we had 24 shooters which was more than ever before. We had good support from club members at our home shoots. It was a great year of shooting as the team won the North Conference as well as sweeping the State title.

Banquet (Dave Polzin): The 1st banquet planning meeting will be on October 24th at 6:00pm. Watch the newsletter for the date & time of future meetings. The 10 Gun Raffle tickets will not be sent out in the mail, so we are looking to get more tickets out to the local establishments and promote on social media. The banquet will be held on March 23, 2024 at the Oshkosh Convention Center.

Targets & Shells (Don Konen): We currently have 23 skids of targets on hand. We currently have 50 cases of shells on site with 65 cases to be picked up from Recob. Additional shells are also on order from Recob. The youth programs were able to get shells through the Winchester Shell program for SCTP Teams which covered their needs this past summer.

Wood Duck Houses (Dave Polzin): We have a good supply up in the shed. The group is considering retiring from building, but we hope they will continue to build wood duck, bluebird & wren houses as they are able. They continue to be a great seller.

Memberships & Newsletter (Donna Polzin): Our current membership is 1,156. Last year at this time, we had 1,280 members. 200 memberships have come through the ranges so far this fall. We are always looking for articles for the newsletters. Renewals will be going out to the vendors for ads in 2024 at \$75 per year. The newsletter is sent to 2,000 current and prior members.

Website & Social Media (Gary Ross Jr): Gary is planning to update the website in the coming months. Contact any board member, if you have something to put out there or if there are any corrections necessary.

Rifle & Pistol Ranges (Todd Gleisner): The shooting benches were rebuilt in early Spring. We have replaced the ropes & netting in preparation for the increase in activity and purchased (4) new lead sleds.

ATA Targets (Les Fritz): We are planning (6) Big 50's and 100 target marathon shoots for next year. The Big 50's will move back to Tuesday nights.

Other Reports/Comments (Don Konen): No comments from the floor.

OLD BUSINESS

Trap #5 Concrete: The concrete on Trap #5 was removed and replaced to meet ATA certification in time for the NE Zone Shoot in June.

Hall Floor: The banquet hall floor coating was completed this past summer.

NEW BUSINESS

Bar Area Floor: The bar area floor with BCC logos will be done in December to match the banquet hall. Adding lighting in 5-stand area.

Buildings & Grounds: We are planning to add black gravel to the other traps in the Spring. Adding lighting in 5-stand area.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS, CONCERNS & COMMENTS:

Request from Jill Beres to get better bags for cans to aid in transporting to recycling center.

Report from Steve Beres that he and Ricky Reyes are looking to move 1/2 of archery range to add targets and backstops. They would like to hire someone to come mow/grind new paths for half of the archery course. The board requested that they bring an estimate for the work to the next board meeting.

The club has applied for DNR grants to add (2) new skeet machine, add lighting to traps #1 & 6 along with archery improvements. The grants will be awarded in November. If awarded, we will need to pay for the project(s) and submit them for reimbursement.

Adjourn: Motion made by Gene Thom and second by Greg Junak to adjourn at 7:48 pm.

Meeting minutes by Liza Fritz