



# WILDLIFE ACTION

## PEE DEE CHAPTER

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**MAY 2019 NEWSLETTER**

### EVENTS CALENDAR

- **Bring your shotgun and shells to try out the new trap machine on Sunday, June 9, 2019 after the meeting.**

### OPEN HOUSE

K. Casper reviewed plans for upcoming open house on Saturday 5/11. Given the current situation with the FCSO, the annual Pioneer (Family) Day has been postponed until the Fall.

This will give us more time for planning different activities and scheduling the related resources. This Saturday's activity will be an opportunity for the Maranatha Trap team and school families to visit the facilities and use the ranges. Goal is to keep these younger family groups involved (and recruit new ones) in WLA as the children grow. Free hot dogs and drinks will be provided. Cash donations were received today for the food.

Volunteers are still needed for trigger coaches and food service.

Note-->There will be normal range operation for PDWLA membership this day.

### BLOCK HOUSE & GROUNDS

K. Casper shared that the landowner Jimmy Lee visited Saturday 5/4 and was pleased with the improved housekeeping efforts he observed and the youth emphasis underway with the Maranatha Trap Team. He also indicated that he was not fond of the block house and would like to tear it down.

Kevin asked if he would consider allowing the club to use it if was suitable for future use as a meeting or related (non-storage) facility. Jimmy was agreeable to this proposal.

D. Wade made the motion that if the club elects to assume control of the building, that we would also assume responsibility for the house's monthly electric bill (which also operates the water pump we rely on for water to the park, located adjacent to the house)

C. Adams seconded the motion. It passed unanimously by voice vote.

Note-> Kevin and several members went to the house after the meeting and performed an initial inspection.

D. Wade also voiced concern with ruts in the access road to the park and possible roof deterioration on the Training Trailer since it has been over 3 yrs since last recoating.

After discussion, Dennis asked that the ruts be filled from the sand pit material adjacent the Rifle Range and regraded when equipment comes in to do the 200 yd expansion. He also asked if this same equipment can help set some culverts around the Hunt Club grounds.

S. Cox volunteered to perform a visual inspection of the Training Trailer roof to better understand its current condition.

K. Casper asked if there was any personal supplies or equipment still being stored on grounds. Other than the floor buffer reported by D. Wade, nobody knew of anything else.

Kevin discussed the need to update the clubs Fixed Asset list and write-off /dispose of damaged items that are no longer used. This will also help housekeeping efforts to continue..

## **CMP**

Civilian Marksmanship Program Certificates were distributed for the distinguished winners of the 22 Rifle match held last February 17th. Category winners included R.Burrows, S.Rath, R. Lochner, N.Osorio, and K.Wyrick. We will continue to have similar CMP events in the future.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Larry Davis gave a financial update. The club took in \$3546 this month, of which \$2350 was from Trap machine pledges.

Hunt Club checking balance is \$2189. Club checking balance is \$7231. Club Savings Account balance is \$3500. The new Atlas trap machine purchase has not been posted yet.

There are still member pledges for the trap machine that have not been remitted.

Larry will be redeeming the balance from our USPS bulk mailing account and closing it.

## **MARKETING**

K.Casper and Larry Davis shared comments from a recent meeting held at National. WLA Chapters are closing from dwindling interest and membership. National has recognized the changing landscape from rural to urban requires a revised plan to attract and retain youth in the organization.

Kevin had made a presentation to National Leadership showing how shooting sports is one way of accomplishing this. PDWLA is making this a continued focus with our recent recruitment of the new Maranatha Christian School Trap Team and their respective families memberships.

We will also be supervising the 22 Rifle Range for the Fork Retch campers this June. As Kevin said, "It's all about the Kids".

## **TRAP MACHINE UPDATE**

K. Casper updated the membership on the trap machine situation. The initial agreement was to purchase a refurbished heavy duty 4 yr old Promatic thrower for \$3500 from the local factory serviceman with a 6 month warranty. However the delayed mid June delivery was deemed inadequate by the Board to meet the timing needs of the Maranatha Team for competitive scoring.

An attempt to mount our Bowman thrower on a oscillator base built by D. Wade was found to be underpowered. A (new) Atlas commercial duty trap machine (AT300) with 300 clay capacity and ATA compliance was offered by Howell Trap Company with reduced pricing (\$3225), quick delivery, and a 5 yr warranty. The order has been placed and delivery is anticipated this week. Funding is still being solicited to build a trap hose....hi spot material cost has been estimated at \$1000.

## **HUNT CLUB**

Pond access for the general membership is still being limited due to close proximity to the landowners residence.

Dennis Wade shared his interest in doing pond stocking and opening it for special events such as Pioneer Day or groups doing overnight camping. K. Casper shared there is

increased activity at other chapters with predator hunting for coyote or boar. Members are encouraged to contact Dennis if interested in predator hunting at PDWLA.

## **FISHING REPORT**

Ken Welsh gave a fishing update. Shellcrackers and bass activity is strong

at Santee right now with the full moon. Fishing the flats and vegetative areas is recommended for best results.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Bill Bessenger gave an update on our Facebook activity. He has set up a new page that we can control content. After discussion, it was noted that the new page as well as the historical page ( with over 500 likes) are still linked to an individual's personal account. D.Wade offered to contact the former administrator (no longer a PDWLA member) for access to the historical Facebook page. Bill offered to investigate what it would take to setup a "stand alone" Facebook page for the club. The club .com home page shares a similar administration issue. L. Davis shared that we pay Go Daddy for these services.

No other business was pending. A motion was made by C.Adams to adjourn at 3:10 pm. Seconded by K.Wyrick. Meeting was adjourned.

