

Board Members

President: Tom Taylor
 Vice President: Alex Pocs
 Recording Secretary: Tom Bruley
 Financial Secretary: Donna Willinger
 Sgt. at Arms: Gary Proy

Trustees:

Trustees:
 Dudley Harris
 Gary Howell
 Wayne Mankin

Brad Baumgardner
 Norma Minor
 Ken Pelletier

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419-499-2400
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 email:
eriecountycl@yahoo.com

September 2009

The ECCL Fall Gun show

October 10th is fast approaching, meaning that it is time for you to make your plans for our first Fall Gun Show.

We've had great success with our Winter shows and now we're going to try it without the snow blower.

The past has seen our clubhouse chock-full of vendors, goods and crowds--which leads to a profitable day for all. Even in these difficult financial times everyone seems to be very satisfied with the results.

The doors will open at 9 a.m. and close at 4 p.m. Light breakfast munchies and heavy-duty lunch eats will be available. The show is open to the public so bring some friends.

To rent your table (\$25) or ask your questions, email: TomBruley@eriecountycl.com or call 419-499-0206.

ECCL M-1s for Vets donations

On Saturday August 15th I had the pleasure to present ECCL's monetary donation to J.J. O'Shea, organizer of the M-1 for Vets program. Let me state that after meeting several of those wounded veterans, I came away with some tears in my eyes, but their attitude toward life was amazing! I had the opportunity to present the donations totaling over \$6000 dollars to Mr. O'Shea and the members of this fine organization. J.J. was overwhelmed, and the shooters were very appreciative of the monies.

I would like to thank everyone who donated and or helped in any way to make this possible. Also I think we as a club should support this organization again next year.

Thank you.

--Gary D. Howell

For Sale

Window air conditioner, 6,000 BTU unit size= 25" to 38" 14" height. Used only two seasons at the old clubhouse; very good condition. Asking \$150.00

Contact Donna at: DonnaWillinger@eriecountycl.com

Clam Bake!!!

On **October 17th at 6 p.m.** There's a great menu (CLAMS!!!) including clams, chicken, chowder, sweet potatoes, corn, burgers and dogs. We have an experienced "clammer" in board member, Tom Bruley and superior help in his "first mate" Martha.

As clams (not to mention chicken and such) are expensive, we absolutely MUST insist on reservations (we don't want to be stuck with a truck-load of leftover clams!).

You can obtain tickets from Tom Bruley or send in the coupon in this newsletter--your tickets can be waiting for you at the door so long as they are prepaid. Cut off for sales to the clam bake is October 2nd

Please consider bringing a tasty-treat to sell on the dessert table...This looks like a real "Frankie and Annette"

kind of evening!

The 52-Gun Raffle is back!

Long a fixture at the ECCL, the widely popular 52-Gun Raffle has been on hiatus for the past couple of years but is being brought back by popular demand.

To make this work we need the support of all of our members. We need you to **SELL** tickets and to **BUY** tickets (if each adult member will buy one ticket, we will have to fight over the few tickets left over!!!). Our prizes are great; our prices are right and our enthusiasm is unbeatable!

Tickets are \$25 each. Call Jim Dee or Dudley Harris for tickets and more information. Jim Dee 419-625-5412 or 419-357-6990; Dudley Harris 419-626-6562 or 419-621-6544.

In the past this has been a fine fundraiser for our club and it will benefit all of our members if we can return to that success.

Official notification

Due to increased costs the ECCL Board of Trustees has voted to request an increase in yearly ECCL dues. The increase would be \$25 per year, per Senior Member.

A vote was taken, among the membership present at the September General Meeting, that resulted in approval of this proposal but, in accordance with the current by-laws, notification must be given to the General Membership, then a conclusive vote will be taken at the October General Meeting.

Also on the agenda for the October meeting are requests to spend money in excess of \$10,000 (which requires notification and a vote by the membership) for heating repairs and for the purchase of birds for the Trap & Skeet program.

Renewals are coming

Donna has been working on the postcard renewal notices, so they should be showing-up in your mail boxes late-October to mid-November. They are going out by bulk mail (this saves the club a lot of money) so it is even more important that you watch for them. It is the responsibility of each member to see that the proper renewal information is returned to us on time.

It is also important to note that Life members must return all the forms (properly filled out) in order to receive your renewal materials, stickers, and to be counted as a member.

The ECCL membership year goes from January 1st through December 31st...this means that your membership dues should be to us before January 1st, after that date a penalty (equal to your regular membership fee) is automatically added to your cost.

If you have not received your renewal card by December 1st, please contact Donna Willinger@eriecountycl.com.

If you do not renew within the fiscal year and wish to return as a member, you will be required to go through all the formalities that a new member is subjected to (including a sponsor, notarized releases and initiation fees). So you can see the value of returning your membership package on time.

A remarkable day for all assembled



M1s For Vets Presentation

August 2, 2009 started out as an average day except ECCL was having a flag raising and was presenting an M1 Garand to a vet. At least that is how it started. The flag raising was very nice with a boy scout troop doing the honors of raising the United States flag and a "Missing in Action" flag. An honor guard representing the VFW in Sandusky was present which gave a great patriotic feeling to the proceedings.

Then things changed as a M1 Garand was presented to a Marine that was hurt two years ago in Iraq defending the United States against terrorists. The young fellows name is Dan Priestly and he was a Gunnery Sergeant on patrol when his group was hit. His Hum V was hit with an explosive device. Several of his people lost their lives or were wounded and he was given the last rights as he was that critical.

He was very appreciative when he received the M1 and at the same time very humble. As the day proceeded and I got to talk to and listen to this American hero I realized that I was standing next to an outstanding person.

He was set up at the 25 yard range to zero in the M1. His 1st two shots were dead center in the target. His wife was than convinced to shoot a 22 caliber rifle as she had never shot a rifle and she even shot the AR15 and put all shots on



target. He was than set up at the 200 yard and proceeded to sight in the M1. All shots were on paper.

This young fellow has been through, if I remember correctly, twenty-five operations and will have several more on his left leg. As he walked he would step on a stone and it would give and you could see the pain in his face, but not a word was said. The same happened when he laid down to shoot prone and the sun seemed to sap the strength from him. His comment when asked was "I'm not the same as I was".

Thank you Dan Priestly for serving and it is an honor to know you!

Story and photos contributed by Bernie Bong

Message from the ECCL President

Hope everyone had a great holiday and enjoyed the good weather and the freedom to enjoy it. Fall hunting season is upon us, so get your kids to a hunter ed. class early so they can enjoy the whole experience, like squirrel, dove, turkey, upland and waterfowl plus deer. ECCL is having a class in Oct., check our web site for the date or call 1.800.wildlife to check dates of a class near you. With the work party scheduled on 9/5, the 25-yd. firing line cover could be finished. That would be the end of major range work for the year. Next year will begin some other projects that are needed/required, which is the reason the trustees are requesting a dues increase--to remain solvent and not fall behind. Prices haven't come down in spite of the economy and this increase is due, if not overdue. If not for a core group of dedicated volunteers, working for the betterment of this club, with no recompence, this increase would have been requested for a couple of years ago. Enjoy the season, be safe in the field and on the range.

--Tom Taylor

Chomp, chomp

Watch for announcements on club dinners to come later in the season. We are exploring ideas, old and new. A pot-luck (with the club providing the meat and the attendees providing the "extras") is one of the things we are looking into and would welcome your thoughts and suggestions.

Please give your opinions to Norma Minor, Donna Willinger, Marie Casper, Cheryl Simecek or any board member with a minute to talk.

We really enjoy these get-togethers and want to give you an evening that you will enjoy.

Trap & Skeet Schedule:

Sundays — Noon to 4 p.m.

Tuesdays — 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Fridays — 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Weather Permitting

Open to the Public

The "Back" Ranges

Little is known about regularly scheduled events at the ECCL outdoor ranges (25 yard, 50 yard, 100 yard, 200 yard, and 300 yard) in terms of regular events which are conducted every month: so here is an update:

High Power Match

This event is held twice a month on either a Saturday or a Sunday starting at approximately 8:30 a.m. Check the ECCL web site calendar for particular information on these events. Matches are open to club members and the general public provided they follow safety requirements. Preceding each match, competitors are permitted 5 sighting shots in a time limit of five (5) minutes. The match consists of forty shots.

Stage one, "slow fire prone" consists of ten (10) shots fired in a time limit of ten (10) minutes. Rounds for this stage are "single loaded".

Stage two, "rapid fire prone" consists of ten (10) shots fired in seventy (70) seconds with a mandatory reload.

Stage three "rapid fire sitting" consists of ten (10) shots fired in sixty (60) seconds with a mandatory reload.

Stage four "slow fire off hand" consists of ten (10) shots fired in ten (10) minutes. Rounds for this stage are "single loaded".

The targets are 200 yards from the firing line. Sighting shots and record shots are marked with golf tees placed in bullet holes which can be viewed with binoculars or spotting scopes. Scores for each target will be marked on a chalk board placed on the target and are to be viewed by the shooters through their scopes. Each competitor records his/her score on a score card handed out during registration.

Military and match type rifles, 30 caliber or smaller with "open sights only" may be used. Some examples are the AR 15, M1 Garand, 1903 Springfield, M1A etc. This event is very enjoyable (except on those hot and humid 90+ degree days we sometimes encounter. Shooting high power matches will acquaint you with knowledgeable and friendly people who are willing to share their experiences and techniques to assist new shooters. The marksmanship and safety skills learned in high power competition will make you better hunter and more confident with your firearm.

300 Yard Match

This event is held on Saturdays starting at approximately 8:30 AM (check the ECCL web site calendar). The match is open to club members and invited guests.

There are numerous categories and shooting positions per-

mitted in the match. If you have a safe rifle, we will have a classification that fits your situation. You can shoot from a bench, prone position using a soft support or a sling. F-Class is shot from the prone position using a bi-pod or front rest. There are classes for iron sights, scope sights, factory stock rifle, or custom rifle in the above classes.

The match starts out with a ten (10) minute sight in period with unlimited sighting shots. Sighting targets are marked with golf tees placed in the targets to mark shots. Sight corrections can be made after reviewing the initial sighting shots. The match will commence after all targets have been examined and corrections to the sights have been made.

You will be required to fire 20 shots in a 20 minute time limit to complete the match. At the conclusion of the 20 minute firing time, your targets will be returned to the line for scoring. Once the targets are scored, they become the property of the shooter and should be checked for any scoring errors. If an error in scoring is discovered, it should be brought to the attention of the range officer before you leave the range.

You will meet friendly and knowledgeable people in this event who are more than willing to assist new shooters with helpful hints and suggestions for improving their skills. Give it a try, you'll really enjoy the challenge!

Action Shooting Match

This event is held on a Saturday and is open to member and non-member shooters.

The event is in two (2) parts which is Pistol and Rifle. You have the choice of shooting both or either of the events. Each event is run twice so you have an opportunity to improve your 1st score as only the best time and score is used.

The events represent a simulation of what could happen if you were in a self defense situation. The distances of the targets in the pistol event are from three (3) foot to about twenty (20) foot while in the rifle event they are from ten (10) foot to about forty-five (45) foot. Sometimes the targets are stationary and sometimes they move. Sometime the shooter is stationary and sometime they move. It is very interesting hitting a target while you are moving especially when the target is only about 3"-4" in size.

The course of fire usually changes from month to month, starting easy in the start of the year to more difficult as the year progresses. You will meet some interesting people who are willing to assist new shooters with helpful hints suggestions for improving your game.

--Contributed by Nick Takacs/Robb Parthemore/Bernie Bong

Buildings and Grounds report

As summer is coming to an end for the 2009 year, many projects big and small were completed through-out the year. The 25yd. range cover, which is near to be completed, puts the finishing touches on the whole reconstruction of that range. I want to thank all the people who helped with the building of the firing line range covers, we can be proud of our accomplishments! There were alot of items completed this past year starting with painting the clubhouse floor, planting bushes by the utility barn, re-building the message sign, fixing the range gate, straightening the wood driveway post and the never ending grass cutting and weed control. Even with everything that was accomplished, the list never seems to get shorter. Thank you for all your hard work.
-- Don Kreidler

Wednesday night at the Range

Join us each week for Wednesday Night at the Range (on the Outdoor Channel) in the ECCL Clubhouse Wednesday nights at 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. Each Wednesday night we roll-out the big tv and cook-up something different (wings, or dogs, or onion rings or t-bones?...donations, please). So come on up and talk reloading, hunting, the weather or just watch TV with friends.

ECCL Members and their guests only, please.

We have a hidden gem...

...on our website www.eriecountycl.com - The Forum - a place you can share your ideas and read up on what's going on at the club. It isn't crowded and you actually know the people who come on-board. Be sure to check it out--we think you will like it.

Clam Bake & Reverse Raffle reservation form

		Erie County Conservation League	
		October 17, 2009	Clam Bake
		6 to 10 P.M.	
Name (Please Print)	("Bake" includes clams, chicken, chowder, potato, corn, "go-withs")		
Address:	Orders x \$ (=)	Cost	
	Bake (includes chicken & the works)	\$16	
	Extra Dozen Clams	\$6	
	Bake without clams	\$10	
	Hamburger/Hot dogs	\$5	
Phone:	Total number		\$
Return to P.O. Box 476, Sandusky, OH 44871-0476 with check made-out to ECCL			

Return no later than October 2nd.

Your prepaid tickets will be waiting for you at the door

ECCL Calendar of Events

September

- 2 ECCL Trustee Meeting 7 p.m.
- 3 ECCL Meeting 7 p.m.
- 6 High Power (Sunday) (sign-up, 8 a.m.)
- 12 Action Shooting (sign-up, 8:30 a.m.)
- 19 300-Yard Matches (sign-up, 8:30 a.m.)
- 26 High Power (sign-up, 8 a.m.)
- 27 Range Officer Training Class (8 a.m.)

October:

- 1 ECCL Trustee Meeting 7 p.m.
- 2 ECCL Meeting 7 p.m.
- 4 High Power (Sunday) (sign-up, 8 a.m.)
- 10 **Gun Show** 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- 10 Action Shooting (sign-up, 8:30 a.m.)
- 17 300-Yard Matches (sign-up, 8:30 a.m.)
- 17 **Clam Bake**-By reservation, ONLY!
- 24 High Power (sign-up, 8 a.m.)

November:

- 4 ECCL Trustee Meeting 7 p.m.

- 5 ECCL Meeting 7pm
- 8 High Power (Sunday) (sign-up, 8 a.m.)

December:

- 3 ECCL Trustee Meeting 7pm
- 4 ECCL Meeting 7pm

January 2010:

- 6 ECCL Trustee Meeting 7pm
- 7 ECCL Meeting 7pm

February 2010:

- 4 ECCL Trustee Meeting 7pm
- 5 ECCL Meeting 7pm

The ECCL General Membership meets the first Thursday of each month

unless that day is a legal holiday, when the meeting is moved to the following week

The meeting comes to order at 7 p.m.

Welcome new members!

ECCL would like to introduce the following new members: David Gibson, Henry Billingsley II, Garry Childress, Michael Oleksa, David Riemann, Kyle Riemann, Glenn Downey, David Katz, Michael Clipson, Michael Tullio, Thomas Kessler, Jason Roesch, James Draper, Thomas Tasch, C. Joe Bader, Forrest Williams, Jeffrey Volz, Doug Michel, Mark Hamilton, Joe Hamilton.

We're glad to have you join us!

Range Officer Training

Range Safety Officer training will be conducted at the ECCL on Sunday, September 27th from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost for members is \$45 and cost for non-members is \$55. You must be an NRA member or be willing to become one prior to completion of the training.

Erie County Conservation League, Inc.
P.O. Box 476
Sandusky, OH 44871-0476



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