

The November meeting of the Eight Point Sportsmen's Club was called to order by President Baker at 8:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance. The secretary's and treasurers' reports were read and accepted. The following people have completed orientation and were voted in as new members. John Beukema, Peter Deprospro, Linda Godard, Michael Hart, Richard Thomas Jr. Congratulations and welcome to these new members.

### **Board of Directors**

The BOD has been researching replacing the beverage cooler behind the bar. The kitchen committee presented that with increased food costs, they were no longer breaking even with the cost to provide meals. Lastly the board was informed that out temporary caretaker will be moving out of state. After some productive discussions, the determination was made to continue the caretaker replacement under executive session. The BOD met under two executive sessions to compile a caretaker job description. This position is now posted until filled.

### **Trap Committee**

Trap committee report was read.

### **Fish Committee**

**ANGLER OF THE MONTH** - Additional award for the month of June, a later submission, goes to Jameson Bastarche for his 44" Striper caught out of Newburyport. So he will be recognized in a tie with a saltwater entry, with all the other June winners. No submissions yet for July. August award to Cameron Pierce for 2 very large largemouths caught on the 27th. September award to Brian Baird for his 14lb., 30" Laker from Lake Erie. Honorable mention to Carl Hewitt for his 2.7 lb. 18" Rainbow from the Quabbin. Congratulations to all. Please continue to submit entries to Greg at 508-868-4060 or [gplafamme@comcast.net](mailto:gplafamme@comcast.net).

**ANNUAL ONE HOLER ICE FISHING CONTEST**- will be held, tentatively, on Saturday January 27th, pond conditions permitting. Members only. \$5 entry toward a 50/50 raffle as in the past. See Greg to enter.

**BLOCKHEAD ICE OUT CONTEST 2024**-will be held again, pond conditions permitting. Members only. \$5 entry also toward a 50/50 raffle as in the past. Pick a date for "ice out" of the Club Pond when the "block" falls through the ice. Block will be placed on One Holer fishing day. See Greg to enter.

Again, the Club is looking for a replacement Chairman for the Fish Committee. Please see President Charlie Baker. I will be around to help in transition and staying on the Fish Committee. Looking for some new blood and maybe some new ideas.

### **Worcester County League**

The last meeting was held at the NORCO club with 24 clubs present. Dick spoke about MassWildlife's Hunters Share the Harvest program provides an outlet for hunters to donate venison to Massachusetts residents facing food insecurity. Then candidate Peter Durant spoke on changes to 4420. The league will be sponsoring a seminar on club operations.

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The Club will be holding the Annual Elections at the January 2, 2024 General Membership Meeting. All elected positions are open.

The executive board is made up of the President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. All but the 2<sup>nd</sup> VP is voted on. The President runs the meetings and is ultimately responsible for all Club business. The 1<sup>st</sup> VP runs the Club in the absence of the President. The 2<sup>nd</sup> VP runs the Club in the absence of the President and 1<sup>st</sup> VP. The Treasurer is responsible for keeping financial records and is in charge of the checking account and all other accounts. The Secretary records the minutes of meetings, does outside correspondence and maintains records.

The Board of Directors is made up of 8 members. Meetings are held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month and votes are taken for suggested actions, and/or to send along to the General Membership, especially for large expenditures. The Executive Board is considered part of the Board of Directors.

To run for office a member must be in good standing, with dues up to date. He or she must also have been a member for at least 2 years. If you are considering running for office, please contact Greg at 508-868-4060 or at [gplafamme@comcast.net](mailto:gplafamme@comcast.net) This is for first time runners and for incumbents as well. Time will be made available at the December General Membership Meetings for anyone who would like to speak on their own behalf on why they should be considered for election. The ballot will be closed at the end of the December General Membership Meeting.

To vote in the election a member must be in good standing, with dues up to date.

Submitted by,

Greg LaFlamme Nominating Committee Chairman

## **Old Business**

The Ernie StThomas Big Buck and Doe contest has begun. Sign up with Rich Pineo at the meeting. Cost is \$5 and is limited to club members only and must be a New England harvested animal.

2024 Game supper tickets will be available at the December meeting. The supper will be held on Saturday March 2, 2024

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Marion Larson added the following information to Dick's report on sharing the harvest. As of early November, through MassWildlife's Hunters Share the Harvest Program, deer hunters in Massachusetts have already donated hundreds of pounds of venison amounting to 3,000 meals to communities facing food insecurity. Hunters can choose to donate a portion of their harvest or their entire deer. Processed venison from the Hunters Share the Harvest Program is distributed through partnering food programs, including the Massachusetts Military Support Foundation's [Food4Vets](#).

In 2022, MassWildlife launched the Hunters Share the Harvest Program with a single venison donation site. For the first pilot year, generous hunters donated more than 1,500 meals of venison to families in need. The venison donation

program is slowly but surely growing with 3 participating meat processors located in Hanover, Fall River, and Groton. There is also a separate venison donation program on Martha's Vineyard. The Groton location is Country Butcher at 68 Boston Rd Groton, MA. Phone is (978) 448-9300.

Any group or individual can support the Share the Harvest Program to help cover the processing and packaging costs for donated meat. By making a monetary donation to the Massachusetts Outdoor Heritage Foundation. A donation of \$50 will provide about 75 servings of meat for families in need.

#### Donating Your Deer

To be eligible, the deer must be:

- Recovered and field dressed within 4 hours after shot unless the ambient air temperature stays below 37°F.
- Dropped off field-dressed or whole with a participating processor within 24 hours after it is killed.
- Legally reported and tagged with a confirmation number.

#### Donation Cost

- With the support of donors, hunters who donate their full deer don't pay any processing or packaging fees.
- Hunters can choose to donate a portion of their deer as long as it is processed entirely at an approved processor following all program requirements. Some processors may choose not to accept partial donations.
- Hunters that choose to donate at least 15 pounds of processed venison from their deer will have their deer processing costs reduced by \$50. The processing cost is set by the individual processor.
- Hunters must still purchase required licenses/permits. The costs may be tax deductible as a donation. Discuss with a tax professional.

A motion was made and seconded to spend up to \$6,500 to replace the beverage cooler. After a brief discussion the motion was passed and will be voted on at the December meeting.

As noted under the Board of Directors report we are actively hiring a new caretaker. This is a unique opportunity for the right person. The caretaker is required to live on site and provide their own residence. The club provides a cement pad suitable for a mobile home and septic. The caretaker is responsible for the costs of utilities. In lieu of salary for this position, there is a yearly rental lease of \$1.00. Imagine living rent free? Responsibilities include daily inspection of club buildings, cleaning and stocking of rest rooms, setting up hall for rentals and meetings and cleaning of hall after. Routine ground care to include lawn care, driveway maintenance and snow removal as needed using club provided equipment. Average time required is around 10 hours weekly.

Full job description is available by contacting President Baker at [chuckrbaker@comcast.net](mailto:chuckrbaker@comcast.net)

The next meeting will be held on December 5, 2023.  
Dinner will be served at 7pm and the meeting will begin at 8pm.  
[chuckrbaker@comcast.net](mailto:chuckrbaker@comcast.net)

## Membership renewals

Casey Kruger is accepting 2024 membership renewals. There is a \$5 early bird discount for adults and seniors that renew by December 5, 2023. Renewals can be paid in several ways 1) Payment directly to Casey Kruger, 2) Send a check to Eight Point Sportsman's Club, PO Box 235 Sterling, MA 01564, 3) deposit payment (along with application) at the clubhouse in the mail flap labeled "Membership" located at the bottom of the handicap ramp, 4) deposit payment (along with application) in the membership lockbox located inside the Trap house.

<b>The Eight Point Sportsmen's Club, Inc.</b>			
PO Box 235 Sterling MA 01564			
<b>2024 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION</b>			
Please allow 4-6 weeks for processing			
<input type="checkbox"/> New Member		<input type="checkbox"/> Other Change	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement		<input type="checkbox"/> Donation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal			
Membership #: _____		(Please print clearly)	
Name: _____			
Address: _____			
City: _____		State: _____	Zip: _____
Phone: (____) _____ - _____		Birthdate: ____/____/____	
E-Mail Address: _____			
E-Mail Again: _____			
Prefer Newsletters via? E-Mail <input type="checkbox"/> US Mail <input type="checkbox"/>			
Is anyone else at your address an Eight Point Member? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			
Have you ever been an Eight Point Member before? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>			
The \$2 Sportsmen Rights Fund is included in these Fees			
INTERESTS	Class	New or Reinstatement	Renewal
<input type="checkbox"/> Rifle/Pistol <input type="checkbox"/> Trap/Skeet <input type="checkbox"/> Archery <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing	<input type="checkbox"/> Junior <small>(under 16)</small>	\$25.00	\$25.00
	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular <small>(16 to 64)</small>	\$100.00	\$75.00
	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior <small>(65 &amp; up)</small>	\$100.00	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular and Senior only, \$5 Early Renewal discount by Dec 5, 2023			
Sponsoring Member: _____		#: _____	
Please Print			
I have READ, UNDERSTAND and will ABIDE by the Club's RULES.			
Applicant's Signature: _____		Date: _____	
RECEIPT			
<b>The Eight Point Sportsmen's Club, Inc.</b>			
PO Box 235 Sterling MA 01564			
Receipt for:	New members will be voted on at the regular club meeting immediately following completion of orientation. Meetings are held 1 <sup>st</sup> Tues of the month		
<input type="checkbox"/> New Member	Date	____/____/____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reinstatement	Member #	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	Amount \$	_____	
_____		_____	
Applicant		Processed By	
This is a RECEIPT only NOT an ID Card			