

President's Message

I hope this newsletter finds everyone doing well, and I apologize we did not get one out sooner this year, but the good news is, we've been busy getting stuff done at your club and making improvements that the board of directors and I feel are not only great investments in our club, but things that will benefit our membership.

New Roof!

I am very excited to let you know that our clubhouse has not only a new roof, but thanks to a suggestion from one member, and a clever bit of drawing by another, and with the approvals of our members, our builder put on a new front gabled porch covering that modernized the look of our clubhouse. We also have a beautiful new Lana Florio Memorial back porch! You can read more about this and other updates about our club in this edition of Member Matters.

Thank you for your membership and support!

-Chris



Remembering Lana Florio

Some of our newer members may not be aware, but we lost a dear friend and longtime board member/treasurer AND avid skeet shooter and sportswoman 2 years ago this month. Lana Florio is missed by us all, and was taken from us in a senseless act of violence. We decided not long after her death that we would find a fitting way to remember her, and given her love of skeet shooting and how much time she spent out back on our clay target field, it was decided to dedicate the new back porch in her memory.

We have planned a memorial dedication and afternoon celebration to remember Lana for **Sunday November 3rd at 1pm**. Tickets are available by contacting Vice President John Reifenberger (contact info is on the website). Tickets are non-refundable and \$35 each and include a catered meal from Joe Cristiano's (Jeremy Ryan, co-owner, is a member of CESA). The meal will include a choice of chicken francaise or marsala, pasta, sausage & peppers, meatballs, garden salad, garlic knots, bread&butter, hors d'oeuvres, coffee & dessert. Spouses and guests are welcome.

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Pistol Shooters – a slab is coming!

As I pen this update, the concrete may actually be pouring at the pistol range. The covered pistol shooting area needed to have this done so that the mud and ice in winter issues can be remediated. With donations from the membership and Dave Cerasaro's judicious budgeting skills, the money for a proper slab is available, and we're excited this project is underway. With cold weather coming, it's just in time too! We hope this improvement is the last major project for this year, and are looking ahead at range projects for 2020 next.

Membership is growing!

Did you know that in the past 24 months we have gained 51 new members? And, did you know that at least 1 new member has joined at every single regular meeting for over 2 years straight now? Well, all but November last year, when the meeting was cancelled due to a snow storm. And, we aren't losing as many members as many people think. We lose about 12 members annually, and ½ of them leave in good standing and could return one day. With 182 regular and life members, there's still room for more! Invite a friend to join today – we'd love to have them.

Clay Shooting at CESA wildly popular!

Clay shooting at CESA continues to be very popular. Our new "Modern Skeet" or simply wobble skeet, offering has grown in popularity with both members and guests. The additional challenge of not knowing the exact angle of trajectory of the bird coming out of the houses makes it fun.

Our 5-Stand Friday's are also still well attended, and along with all the income from regular skeet, trap, and wobble skeet shooters, the club has already surpassed this year's revenue targets, while maintaining our expenses within our approved budget.

We made some improvements this year to our clay target range by providing more clay presentations. We have added a "tower" bird by putting a trap on a 20-foot ladder creating quite a challenging presentation. The teal/chandelle trap that we added last year also provides some unique presentations that challenge our clay shooters. We also now have the ability to calibrate our skeet and trap machines using a laser gun procedure. And we also checked our skeet machine speeds with a radar gun and verified they are throwing accurately to the standards required!

The switch to biodegradable clays has worked out quite well with liming the skeet range. The clay debris disappears and the grass likes it. So far, buying our clay targets in bulk has worked out well with considerable cost savings. As long as we can continue to borrow a tractor/fork lift and have adequate storage we will take advantage of the savings afforded by buying in bulk.

As we look toward next year, we have submitted a proposal for an NRA Foundation Grant to replace and upgrade our aging trap machine to a new doubles trap machine. This will expand our capability to shoot doubles trap in addition to ATA trap and wobble trap. We hope to hear if we are awarded a grant by the end of the year for installation in the spring.

Other future planned projects include excavating in front of the trap house and building new doors to allow walk-in entry, installing a garage door on the back of the range garage to allow drive-thru ability when we tow our trap machines up for 5-Stand, and replacing our two unsightly trailers with a single, larger cargo container for our clays and equipment storage.

Fishing Day 2019

Once again, our club hosted a fishing day for the children and grandkids (and neighbor's kids) of our members. This is truly a fun time for the kids and their families. Introducing a child to fishing in our stocked trout pond is a memory that lasts their lives. If you didn't know about this benefit of our club, you should look on our club website for the photos of this past year's event, and consider bringing a kid next year and let CESA be where they catch their first fish!

The pond had a nice make-over this year, thanks to chairman Ken Ward who installed a new fence and removed those old rotten logs. The pond has also had lily pad removal (ask Ken how deep the mud is!) and continues to be a source of bluegills, bass, and of course, stocked trout for our members to enjoy.

Haven't been to the clubhouse lately?

We realize not everyone has the chance to get out to the clubhouse, and sometimes you only get down to the rifle/pistol range and don't even bother to stop into the main building, so we thought we'd just make sure everyone is aware of what's going on up at the 'big house'.

The roof project is completed except for some paint and sealing of various surfaces, and a little bit of aluminum wrap for the soffit on the front porch. Our kitchen downstairs has seen some demolition and prep work for what we hope will be a full restoration project in 2020, so if you peek in there and it looks messy, now you know why. The pavilion has new lights, the pavilion kitchen is getting repairs, and we are working on repairing the picnic tables. More to do, but we're making progress!

Hunting Season

2019/2020 schedule:

What's open now? Rabbits, Pheasant, Grouse, Squirrels

What about Deer? Bow Season is open now.

Deer Rifle/Shotgun opener in the Southern Zone is Saturday, November 16th. Is your gun sited in and ready to go? Our range opens at 9am Mo-Sa, and 10am on Sunday.

If you plan to hunt Athanas' land, please check in with Posting Chairman, Mitch Shron.

Thank You!! And good luck in all your hunting ventures this season!!

— your Board of Directors

Upcoming Events

November 3 – 1pm at the clubhouse, Lana Florio memorial dinner and dedication. Get your tickets from VP John or any board member.

November: Deer Hunting! Arrange now to scout locations on Athanas farm or on the club's property.

November 21 – regular Club meeting

December 19 – regular Club meeting

Got a Party?

Members can rent our clubhouse for parties. Check the website for pricing and talk over your party needs with our rental chairman, CJ Rovere (his contact info is on the website).

On behalf of the officers and directors of CESA, we are so happy you are a member and hope you find time to enjoy our club. Thank you for your membership, because... Members Matter!!