

August, 2018

The Game Reserve Association Inc.
PO Box 8467
Canton, Ohio 44711

www.gamereserveinc.org
www

Game Reserve Association Newsletter

Tony Girard, President
330/823-4890

Roger Long, Vice President
330/313-1106

*Shane L. Johnson, Recording
Secretary*
drshaneljohnson@gmail.com
330/327-7804

*Troy Hendershot, Membership
Secretary*
330/815-4042

Richard Longfellow, Treasurer
330/878-5971

Bob Black, Sergeant at Arms
330/878-5294

New Raffle Ticket Rule- 2018 HUNTING CHANGES

By action of the Trustees at the 2/18 meeting, this year (2018) all members that choose to hunt on any GRA properties are required to purchase or sell all assigned gun raffle tickets. This amounts to \$80. When you have purchased the \$80 worth of tickets your membership card will be stamped, entitling you to hunt pheasants. This means that you will need to have purchased or sold both rounds of tickets (40+40=\$80 worth) prior to hunting pheasants during the 2018 season. We ask that all members that hunt support the club and we think this is a fair way of doing it. If you have been buying your tickets you will not be spending any more money than in the past. As trustees of the club it is our responsibility to ensure the financial stability of the GRA. Any member that hunts without having their card stamped will be expelled from the club.

“Encouraging good relations, sportsmanship and co-operation between landowners and other sportsmen...”

President’s Message

Hunting season is right around the corner; are you ready? Now is the time to get our guns, dogs, trucks and ourselves in shape for the season. Of course, that’s easier said than done. Have you and you hunting partners remembered to pay your dues? Don’t forget hunters must buy or sell \$80 worth of raffle tickets this year. As we explained this spring this is the only way we can continue operating the club and providing the level of hunting to our members as we have in the past years. We receive no outside money from the state to help with expenses.

Speaking of the State of Ohio, they have cut our grants by 50%. It’s not just our club; some club grants were cut by 60%. This year we applied for the grants to release pheasants on the Beach City Wildlife area and the youth hunt. So, remember, when the DOW tells you how they want to gets kids interested in hunting, keep in mind THEY cut the youth hunt grants by 50%. The youth hunt and release schedule for the state land will be determined in Sept. Please feel free to call Division of Wildlife and ask them the reason for the cuts.

The farm property is ready for the season. Our great volunteers have worked hard this summer getting things in order. The clubhouse and trailer have been maintained, the pens were cleaned and new feeders were built. The fields have been cut and briars were sprayed. A sincere thank you goes out to all that helped. If you have time, please consider volunteering. Your help and opinions are always needed. Also, try and attend club meetings; we try to keep them short and to the point.

This November brings more than hunting, Nov 6th is election day. On behalf of the Board of Trustees and Stark County Federation of Sportsman Clubs I encourage you to get out and vote. Needless to say, we need to find the PRO GUN candidates and elect them. The future of our sport is in our own hands. Gather up everyone you know and get to the polls this November. There are over 80 million gun owners in the United States. If 75%, or 60 million, get off the couch on election day and vote the RIGHT way, our sport and the Second Amendment will be safe for many years to come.

Tony Girard, GRA President

2018 Spring Gun Raffle Results

A great big thank you to all who sold tickets for the spring raffle. Because of your efforts we had the most successful raffle since 2012. We made a profit of over \$6000. If we are going to continue with our present level of programs we must continue to have raffles that bring in this much profit. Remember this is our biggest fundraiser. Our other fundraiser, the lucky X shoot, is not doing well at all. In fact, we have not had a full shoot this year. Every shoot it is the same few club members who are supporting it. Consequently, our gun raffle is the only true money maker we have.

As Tony stated in his remarks, to hunt, members must sell \$80 worth of raffle tickets. We have 24 members who sold \$80 or more during the spring raffle. These people are ready to hunt; however, we would appreciate it if they still sell raffle tickets for our fall raffle. So, you hunters who still have not sold your \$80, you still have an opportunity to do so with the fall raffle coming up.

The winners for the spring raffle were as follows:

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| 1 st place Terry Schoeppner | Sold by Gary Baxter |
| 2 nd place Merv Hendershot | Sold by Merv Hendershot |
| 3 rd place Ralph Salvino | Sold by Ralph Salvino |
| 4 th place Rick Gibbs | Sold by Rick Gibbs--- donated \$100 back to club |

Carl Hendershot sold \$855 worth of raffle tickets and Troy Hendershot sold \$260 worth of raffle tickets. For their efforts, they received \$250 and \$50 respectively.

Bob Black

2018 Fall Gun Raffle

Until someone comes up with a better idea we will continue to have our gun raffles. Our Fall gun raffle will be held Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at Sippo Lake club house. You are receiving 11 raffle tickets. Sell 10 raffle tickets and you receive a free ticket. Just remember, to hunt this year you must sell \$80 worth of raffle tickets. Your membership card will be stamped once you sell \$80. Those hunting without selling \$80 worth of raffle tickets will be expelled from the club. Obviously, this new ruling has helped our ticket sales since we had an excellent spring raffle. Please continue to support the club by selling you tickets.

If you need additional raffle tickets please contact Bob Black at 330-878-5294, 6285 Race Rd. NW Strasburg, OH. Also, please return you ticket stubs and money to Bob. Thanks for your help.

Again, to encourage ticket sales, we are going to give the person who sells the most tickets \$250 while the person selling the 2nd most tickets will receive \$50.

Bob Black

2018 Wildlife Conservation Grants

Again, this year I applied for two grants—one for our annual youth pheasant hunt (which we have held for the past 18 years) and the other for a public pheasant hunt at the Beach City Wildlife Area. I applied for \$7700 for these two grants. We were awarded both grants, however they only awarded us \$4263 for the two grants instead of the \$7700 requested. This is 55% of what we requested. This is the first time we have ever received less than what we requested. We understand that many clubs that applied did not receive the amount requested. I think it is time we make our voice heard and call the division office in Akron and the headquarters in Columbus and let them know how we feel. Our grants are very worthwhile and encourage hunting for both youth and the general public.

We are still going to conduct our two hunts, however, obviously, we are going to have to cut back on the number of birds we release. The youth pheasant hunt will be held on the two weekends of the youth small game season—October 20-21 and October 27-28, 2018. We will release birds Friday October 19 and Friday October 26. Our public pheasant hunt will require three releases—November 1 (day before 1st day of pheasant season opening), November 21 (day before Thanksgiving) and Dec 14. We will release birds around 4PM these days so plan on being at the club around 3:30 if you can help. If you have an ATV or UTV plan on bringing it.

I have applied for grants for many years and it is now time to pass the torch. Shane Johnson has graciously agreed to take over the grant application process. Shane and I will be working together over the next few months to get Shane up to speed. I'm sure he will do a great job.

Bob Black