

OHIO VALLEY MUZZLE LOADING



GUN CLUB

April, 2014

On Saturday, April 5th we had our April shoot. Well, this time winter was over and it roared like spring. It was damp, chilly and windy most of the day. Just as we were ending the shoot the sun decided to show itself. I believe most of us still had a good time. Thanks to all those that showed up early to rebuild the racks. Also, a special thanks to Ken for getting the materials we needed and prepping them for setup. The racks faired pretty well over the winter and we didn't need to replace any boards. Mike Hill completed his version of a portable 50 yard rack. (Mike, we appreciate all your effort but think it will be very difficult to try to drag on and off the range.)

Larry Bevard was shoot host and did a good job. We had 19 shooters in all (including 2 youth), a great turnout for April. We had several unusual happenings. Bill Grubaugh is our first in the Hall of Shame this year. Bill thought he had dry balled and asked for help. After several of us tried to help we discovered there wasn't a ball in the barrel. How embarrassing it was to try to pull the breech plug out of the barrel. Larry, since he wasn't shooting, doesn't qualify for the Hall of Shame but he was in a funny predicament. Larry started giving out the prizes and after the fourth target realized he wouldn't have enough food. Some places got more than 1 item. So we called all the prizes back. After they were recalled he realized he forgot about his cooler which had some meats in it. Sooo, he wasn't wrong just forgetful. Regardless he held a good shoot. My new rifle was shooting fine at the start of the day. By the sixth target it was only firing about every other pull and it continually got worse. We took the lock out and the lock still wouldn't fire. So now I have a replacement tumbler on order. It appears as if small pieces of steel were chipping off. I am sure all lock builders have problems with a certain percentage of their locks. I just happened to be the lucky one. (Chambers was very gracious about

sending a replacement part.) The free shooter in May is Sis. Ron Goudy took Top Gun.

On Saturday, April 12th we hosted the muzzle loading station at Mt. Vernon's Pheasants Forever/ 4H youth day. Working the shooting station were Dave Nune, Mark Hazel, Rick Harkless, Bob Hurlburt Steve Larue, Bill Grubaugh and Ralph Arms, our resident Indian. We all met there around 8:00. We're thinking we worked with about 140 kids, about 200 shots were fired from our guns. Ralph probably spent 15 or 20 minutes with the first family group that came by. They all loved his getup and his history lesson. The weather was great, it actually got a bit hot. A few shot Bob Hurlburt's flintlock. The youngest shooter was probably 4 and she hit the target. All parents were very appreciative of the time we spent with their kids. Two families gave us their email address to get info on our club. I think we all really felt good after the event.

Sunday, May 4th is our next shoot. Shoot host is Mark Hazel. Remember, Sunday shoots start at 11:00. Hope to see everyone there.

Your pres,

Rick