

Allied Sportsmen Club of Western New York SPRING 2025

Please check out our website ... www.alliedsportsmen.com

SPECIAL ELECTION ISSUE!!!

SEE ALL THE CANDIDATES' BIOS IN THIS EDITION.

VOTING WILL BE SUNDAY, APRIL 6, FROM 10 AM – 2 PM AND WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, FROM 5 PM – 7 PM. Election results will be announced at the member meeting.

Gun/Cash Drawing

**BRING YOUR MONEY/STUBS AND/OR
UNSOLD TICKETS TO THE MEETING ON
MARCH 12!**

*Drawings will be April 1 – 30 based on the
Pennsylvania Big Three Evening Drawing Straight
Numbers.*

*Ticket donation is \$25 and are available from Gary
W. at Club meetings or call him at 716-989-7227.*

*1000 tickets will be sold. Winners must present a
valid ID, Drivers License, NYS Pistol Permit and are
subject to FBI/NICS Background Check.*

*Incentive: There are 4 tickets per book, \$25 per
ticket. A member sells a book of tickets **AND**
returns the stubs and money. The day after the
meetings in January, February, and March, Gary W.
will look at the PA lottery numbers (Big Three,
Evening Drawing, Straight Numbers). If the winning
number is one of the tickets that has been returned,
the seller of that ticket will get 4 free tickets.*

APRIL 1 ST	WINCHESTER SXP HYBRID 12GA
APRIL 2 ND	\$250.00 CASH
APRIL 3 RD	HENRY CLASSIC RIFLE .22LR
APRIL 4 TH	\$250.00 CASH
APRIL 5 TH	RUGER 10/22 TAKEDOWN RIFLE .22LR
APRIL 6 TH	\$250.00 CASH
APRIL 7 TH	SIG P322 PISTOL .22LR
APRIL 8 TH	\$250.00 CASH
APRIL 9 TH	WINCHESTER SXP UPLAND FIELD 12GA
APRIL 10 TH	\$250.00 CASH
APRIL 11 TH	HENRY GOLDEN BOY RIFLE .22LR
APRIL 12 TH	\$250.00 CASH
APRIL 13 TH	MOSSBERG 500 COMBO 12 OR 20GA
APRIL 14 TH	\$250.00 CASH
APRIL 15 TH	KILLER INSTINCT CROSSBOW PKG.
APRIL 16 TH	\$250.00 CASH
APRIL 17 TH	RUGER PC RIFLE .9MM
APRIL 18 TH	\$250.00 CASH
APRIL 19 TH	S&W EZ SHIELD 2.0 RANGE KIT .9MM
APRIL 20 TH	\$500.00 CASH (EASTER SUNDAY)
APRIL 21 ST	SAVAGE AXIS II XP RIFLE PKG. .270 WIN
APRIL 22 ND	\$250.00 CASH
APRIL 23 RD	RUGER AMERICAN RIFLE PKG. .308 WIN
APRIL 24 TH	\$250.00 CASH
APRIL 25 TH	MOSSBERG 935 TURKEY .12GA
APRIL 26 TH	\$250.00 CASH
APRIL 27 TH	HENRY HOMESTEADER RIFLE .9MM
APRIL 28 TH	\$250.00 CASH
APRIL 29 TH	DEL-TON ECHO AR15. .223/5.56
APRIL 30 TH	\$250.00 CASH

ARCHERY NEWS: (John Floriano, Chair) Call John with any questions at 716-725-5822.

Indoor Thursday night 3-D is in full swing and starts at 6:15 PM, 2nd line at 7 PM. This league runs through the end of March. Thanks to Kevin and Brian.

Summer league starts April 15 and runs for 18 weeks. You need 13 weeks to qualify; walk-ons are always welcome. Once again, thanks to Brian and Kevin for changing the course weekly.

ASA 3-D archery qualifier will be June 21 and 22; shotgun start at 10 AM. Check flyer for details. All hands on deck for this one. We will need some help on that day. Expect a good crowd.

All-Deer 3-D shoot will be September 14. It's a must shoot for all archers – 12 downhill shots in hunting scenarios will be on the course. Starts at 8 AM. Ed and Chris thanks for all the help setting up this course.



**ASA QUALIFIER AT
ALLIED SPORTSMEN
ON SATURDAY JUNE 21 ST
& SUNDAY 22 ND 2025**

Shot Gun start on both days is at 10 am sharp.
Safety meeting will be at 9:45.
Sign in is at 8:30.
Practice range will be open at 8:30 also.
Please give yourself enough time to sign in practice before the safety meeting.



FOOD, SNACKS AND BEVERAGES WILL BE AVAILABLE ON BOTH DAYS

Cost to qualify \$30 PLEASE HAVE YOUR ASA NUMBER
Walk on shooters welcome \$15.00



Free Bottled water will be available on the 20-target course

ALLIED SPORTSMEN
12846 Clinton St.
Alden N.Y 14004
More information call

John Floriano
725-5822
Kevin Ulrich 430-1059
Brian Paszt 251 9589

JOAD (Dale Hoffman, Chair) This great program (Junior Olympic Archery Development) runs every Saturday.
9 a.m. for novice and beginners;
11 a.m. for advanced.



**Allied Sportsmen
2025 Spring Trap League**



- Start: Tuesday, April 1
- End: Tuesday, June 10
- Banquet Date: June TBD
- League shooting
 - Sundays 11:00 am – 2:00 pm
 - Tuesdays 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- Sign-up in trap barn
- Individuals league shooting 250 birds for class, then shooting 50 birds for position.
- April 1—May 27 (9 weeks)
 - Shoot 250 birds to establish class
- June 1—June 10 (2 weeks)
 - Shoot 50 birds to establish position within class.
- June 15
 - Shoot-off if needed
- \$5.00 league fee / person
- \$8.00 trap fee / 25 rounds
- Unlimited shoot ahead except for the position round. Must have 10 scores (250 birds) by May 27

TRAP NEWS: (Neal Rainey, Chair)
WATCH THE WEBSITE FOR ALL THE DETAILS ON UPCOMING SHOOTS:
June 1 – 2nd Annual High School Trap Shoot
June 8 – ATA Allied Club Champion Shoot
August 3 – ATA Barb & Jim Rosowski Memorial Shoot
August 31 – ATA Labor Day Shoot

Trap can always use volunteers to complete some work hours by scoring and loading the trap houses. See Neal for more information!

OPEN TRAP is held year round (weather permitting) on Sundays 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. and Tuesdays 6 – 8 p.m.



Upcoming work projects

Clubhouse Cleaning March 21 @ 6:30 p.m.

Driveway trees in March – date TBD

Property cleanup in April – date TBD

Attic insulation - TBD

As some of these items are weather dependent, keep checking our website for further information on the dates.

PISTOL NEWS: (Brienne Wittmeyer, Chair)

Niagara Frontier Pistol League:

Allied Sportsmen had a team of approximately 21 members representing our club in the Niagara Frontier Pistol League this year. While we still have a few more weeks to go to our 24-25 season, check out our standings as of February 20th. Great job to all our shooters! Way to make the club proud!

Standings	Wins	Losses
Actual Score	6	6
Handicap Score	8	4

Double Tap League:

Double Tap League is averaging about 20-25 shooters a night- wow! Special thanks to Fred, Rich & their crew for its success! The season is set to conclude at the end of March. If you'd like to see what it's all about, stop in. Remember, you are always welcome to come and shoot the Double Tap format without shooting for league scores on scheduled days.

Informal Pistol League:

The IPL is going strong with about 15 shooters this year. Great job to Terry & Steve for keeping the league running smoothly on Wednesday nights, and thank you to those who have jumped in to help score targets. The IPL will conclude at the end of March, but non-league shooters are always welcome to come and practice, following the IPL format until then.

PPC:

The last day for PPC will be March 31 (which is a Monday rather than last Tuesday of the month). Be sure to thank John F for all his efforts for this fun league! As with the other leagues, shooters are always welcome to come and shoot the PPC format on PPC night, without having to shoot for league score. The banquet will be on April 22 ending 41 years of the PPC league.

Family Night at the Range:

Family Night at the Range is the 2nd Friday & Last Saturday of each month, now through May, beginning at 7:00pm. We take off the months of June, July & August for the summer, and resume again in September. Family Night is intended for those who may be looking for a safe, relaxed, and

non-competitive environment to practice their shooting skills. Bring a dish to pass! We shoot for about an hour and then pig out.

Open Range:

Open Range is every Sunday and Thursday morning year-round, and begins around 9:30am from the 50 ft. firing line. Benches are moved up to the 7 yard line around 10:30am/10:45am for those who want to practice with their CCW. Basic defensive drills from the holster will be run every other week if there is interest, following shooting from the 7 yard line.

A few other reminders:

Target Holders: We've all done it- anticipated the recoil the moment you get to *that* part of your trigger squeeze, and instead of making a nice hole in the x ring of your target, you smack the target holder square on, causing your target to float down to the floor and the target holder to sit slightly crooked. **Whatever you do, DO NOT manually turn/force the target holder back straight.** The target holders are all connected to each other as a part of our target turning system for leagues, and you will damage the connections on all of them if you try to force one back. Refer to the notice on the door to the range, or let Brienne know if one is misaligned so it can be fixed properly. Shout out to the Sunday morning crew for taking the time to straighten them all out a few weeks ago.

Ceiling Shots: If you've ever looked up when you're headed down range to change your targets, you'll notice that there are clear signs of rounds that were way too high. This is a friendly reminder to understand the distance capabilities of your firearm as well as your shooting skills. CCW & newbie shooters may likely see

better accuracy from the 7-yard line, and more holes on the paper in tighter groups always equals more fun. Be mindful & be safe.

Practice Targets: Thanks to some helpful collaboration from the Elma Press, we have been able to have targets printed at a significantly lower cost than the official NRA targets. When practicing, please use the white bullseye targets first before reaching for the "official" tan-colored ones. As always, please make sure you have at least 10 shots on a target before reaching for a new one.

Pro tip: pack a colored sharpie in your gear and mark your shots with the sharpie during target changes, as opposed to hanging a fresh one. You'll get more use out of a target while still being able to differentiate between the old shots & the new ones.

Range Qualification:

If you are looking to complete your range qualification in order to be eligible for the key class, you must have three full sessions completed. Come during the Sunday Morning or Thursday Morning Open shoots or at either Family Night at the Range event. You will need to be present from setup to teardown for full credit, but partial credit can be given if you are not able to stay the whole time. Any questions, please see Doug Wittmeyer.



WHAT'S COOKIN' IN THE KITCHEN? (Lynette DePlato, Chair 716-432-3500) – **ITALIAN NIGHT has been scheduled for Saturday, March 22, 5:00 p.m.** The cost will be \$15 per person. Menu: spaghetti, ravioli, lasagna, chicken piccata, meatballs, sausage, antipasto, cannolis, and cheesecake. There will be 2 bottles of red wine at each table, then cash bar for beer, pop, hard lemonades, and hard iced teas. **NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR – PRESALE ONLY...**last chance for tickets is March 10. You can Venmo @Lynette-Deplato or send a check to the Club and tickets will be mailed to you.

ELECTION NEWS

Candidates listed in alphabetical order. Incumbents are indicated with an “ * ”

***JOHN BLIZNIAK**

To whom it may concern,

My name is John Blizniak, and I am looking to be re-elected as a member of the Board of Directors. I've been a member of Allied for over 10 years and a Board member for one year. Over the years I have donated my time and equipment for many projects at the Club, including most recently the installation of the new air handler in the pistol range. I have been a chairman of our very successful chicken BBQs (Blizniland) each year. This past year I also did the pig roast during our gun raffle/pig roast event. I am active on the trap team. I look forward to the next term and your vote in support to continue to be a Board member.

Sincerely, John Blizniak

***ED ENGELS**

Dear Fellow Members,

My name is Ed Engels, and I am the current President of the Club. The first year of my two-year term as president will be completed in April. To allow me to stay on as President for my final year, I will need your vote to maintain my position on the Board of Directors.

During my first two years as a Board member, I served as Vice President of the Club. Since joining the Board, my focus has been to assist in sound financial decisions, constitution and by-laws revisions and improved membership communication. I have also provided leadership in improving how the Board operates by creating job descriptions for all Club positions, documenting many of our operational procedures and creating a forward-looking project sheet to allow us to be ready for Club improvement projects when the funds are available. Many of the operational improvements go unnoticed by the membership, but they allow for the Board to perform its duties with consistency and some improved efficiency.

With your vote, I will continue those efforts to keep our Club a great place to enjoy all our Club has to offer.

Background information:

I have been associated with Allied since the late 1980s. My involvement over the years has been in shooting trap, indoor archery, traveling 3-D archery, and now also some pistol. I am also a life-long sportsman whose activities have included hunting waterfowl, upland game birds, turkey, deer (bow, shotgun, muzzleloader, crossbow), fishing, and trapping.

In the late 1990s, the indoor 3-D archery league was in danger of being discontinued. I joined the Club to ensure its survival and ran that league for approximately 10 years. Due to time constraints and greater family obligations, I paused my membership, however, I still participated in the Allied archery leagues. I rejoined the Club about four years ago after I retired. My wife, Renee, also joined at that time and is our current Recording Secretary and Publicity Chairman.

I enjoyed a lengthy career at Cobham/Carleton Technologies where we manufactured aerospace and defense hardware. For over 25 years, I was one of the managers for the operations team responsible for the production work force and product delivery. My management experience serves me well as part of the leadership team of the Club.

Your vote would be greatly appreciated. Ed Engels

***JOHN FLORIANO**

I am a 44-year veteran at Allied. I have run the PPC Pistol league for 40 consecutive years. I was on the Board for 10 years 20 years ago and have been on the Board for the last four years. I have run the pistol vs. archery shoot for the last 40 years, most of that time being the pistol chairman. I have been the archery chairman for the last eight years. As archery chairman, I have purchased over \$20,000 in targets (paid by the shooters range fees) and have turned over to the club over \$30,000 in range fees.

We are currently running events and leagues all year long, indoor and outdoor, with the help of a bunch of dedicated archers. Couldn't do it with them! We also have special event shoots, all-deer shoot in the fall, and an ASA qualifier shoot in the summer each year.

I also am the president of the Niagara Region 3-D League that brings in over \$2,000 a year to the Club.

Our/my goal is to have a new archery range added to our existing building. It would be an asset to the building, we would be able to use the space for gun raffles and bigger parties and gatherings. This would also draw more archers to our club because it would be a longer range than 20 yards as most are in the area.

Thank you. John Floriano

TOM GERSITZ

I have been a member of the Club since 2016. I worked on pistol range lead cleanup three times. Note; I am not a pistol shooter, but feel it's my responsibility to help out other disciplines. I am an active trap shooter, have worked on the pond, repaired gun racks on trap fields, and ground out a tree stump, with my son, after large tree by clubhouse was taken down. I have worked on meat raffles and gun raffles and volunteer as needed with club events.

Tom Gersitz

***WALT SENKO**

I am Walter Senko, and I am very excited for the opportunity to run for a second term on the Allied Sportsmen Board of Directors (BOD). I have recently retired, and I am looking forward to directing my energy and skills to keep Allied Sportsmen one of the Premier sportsmen clubs in WNY.

I have lived and worked in WNY for my entire life of 61 years. My introduction to the club was as a guest to try some of the shooting sports I enjoy such as trap and pistol. This initial experience taught me that this was more than a place to shoot but a welcoming and family-oriented organization, so I joined the club back in 2018. Over the last 2 years, I have recruited my wife, son, and son-in-law to join the Allied family.

Having participated on the current Board of Directors and serving as the Membership Committee chairman since 2020, I have assisted with upgrading the membership process, welcoming new members at each meeting, fielding calls and answering questions for prospective new members. I worked with the Board on updating/restructuring dues by researching all the local sportsmen clubs and ensuring alignment with the changing times. As a Board member, I want to be sure that all members have a voice, and can approach me so I can listen to concerns with regards to the club.

Also, since joining, I have tried Trap Shooting, Double Tap, Archery and currently participate in the open pistol shoot as well as the PPC league. In 2019, I organized a Range Medicine class for our members and assembled Range Medicine Trauma kits in the clubhouse and trap barn to ensure everyone's safety. Over my 7 years at Allied, I have spoken to many potential members about what Allied offers as club, emphasizing Allied Sportsmen as one on the Premier clubs in WNY.

Before joining Allied, I created and chaired a Shoot for a Cure Trap Shooting event for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) at the Buffalo Shooting Club, with the proceeds of this event funding research to fight Leukemia. Over the 10 years that the tournament took place, the event helped educate the media and the non-trapshooting community that sportsmen are concerned about their neighbors. In addition, I volunteered for other events for LLS over approximately 10 years including serving as Chairman of the Annual Gelatin Splash event. As a result of my Project Management experience, I have developed organizational and conflict management skills.

By serving on the BOD, I would like to expand the Allied Sportsmen community and increase the working relationship between the BOD with our membership. I would also like to help educate the community that we are an organization concerned about the environment and how we can contribute to our local area. I believe I can bring new ideas and continue the growth and success of the club, as without our members, we would not maintain this organization that is Allied Sportsmen.

Walter Senko

ANNUAL CLUB CHICKEN BBQ –

Set up, Club cleaning, and “packing the sides” – Friday, May 30, 6 p.m.

Chicken BBQ Dinner – Sunday, June 1, 10 a.m.

There will also be a HIGH SCHOOL TRAP EVENT the day of the BBQ Dinner.

***Many hands* will be needed for both events at the Club! Trap help – scorers, runners, registration, etc. BBQ help – dinner packing, runners, ticket sales, traffic control, etc.**

Come and get some work hours in and meet fellow members.

We now have a “Good and Welfare” person for our Club. Beth Lancaster has volunteered to send cards to members, or immediate family members, when the need arises. Please contact Beth if you know of any instance when a card is needed.

UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETING DATES

March 12

April 9 – Voting 5-7 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m.

May 14

Ideas for the newsletter? Text or call Renee Engels at 716-864-2989 or 16wnyfan@gmail.com



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@alliedsportsmen

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