



ZBA Meeting

Thank you for the great turnout at the ZBA meeting to get the variances needed to proceed with the sportsmen's club as planned. Below are the resolutions as proposed to the Board for their discussion and approval.

JOHN & SHEILA MORSE, APPELLANTS/REPUTED OWNERS - 2416 Stafford Road - TM

#118.00-01-27.100 - Use Variance GRANTED to operate a sportsmen's club in an ARC District, as requested, incorporating Items 1 thru 9 of the Cortland County Planning Board's

Resolution No. 15-3 of 18 March 2015.

JOHN & SHEILA MORSE, APPELLANTS/REPUTED OWNERS - 2416 Stafford Road - TM

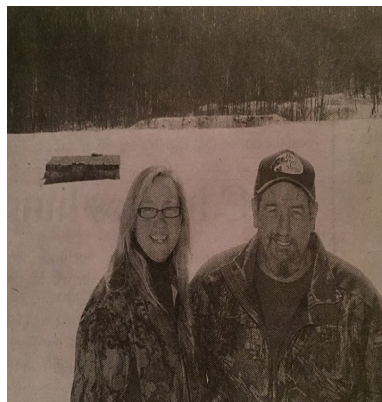
#118.00-01-27.100 - Based on the information and analysis of the SEQR concerning this

appeal for a Use Variance, the Town of Virgil Planning Board has determined that the

proposed action (a sportsmen's club) will not produce any significant adverse

environmental impact, resulting in a Negative Declaration.

With approximately 25 members at the meeting and many who spoke up in support of the club and the interest in having a safe place to shoot, bring kids up with the appreciation for hunting, trapping or shooting at targets for fun truly shows we're here for club.



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Special points of interest:

- Ticket sales
- Training
- Sunday Breakfast
- Grand Opening

Breakfast Crew

As some may know the kitchen at the club has been very busy throughout the winter months, with an all you can eat breakfast buffet. We've gone through a lot of eggs and pancake flour and don't forget that incredible sausage gravy. Now that everyone has had the Summer off it will soon be time to start the breakfasts

again. A lot of work has been done in the kitchen to make it more efficient. Come see us on Sunday mornings for breakfast starting on September 13. If you're interested in helping in the kitchen on a Sunday, let the kitchen crew know, I'm sure they would like a break occasionally.

Project aims to reopen vacant sportsmen's club

This is as it appeared in the Cortland Standard

The Virgil Zoning Board of appeals will consider a project that would reopen a vacant shooting range and sportsmen's club on Stafford Road near Skyline Raceway.

NRA Range Safety Officer Class

The first NRA Range Safety Officer Class was held on Tuesday, June 23 and Thursday June 25 with 12 people successfully completing the course. Thank you to Jamie for the donation of the projector and the screen for our visual aid for our trainings. Watch your e-mail and the newsletter for upcoming trainings.



Gun Raffle

*Banning guns addresses
a fundamental right of
all Americans to feel
safe.*

Dianne Feinstein

At the first official meeting it was decided to run a raffle to help to raise the much needed money to build berms, trap houses, parking lot, fix the roof and the back deck and numerous other projects. It was decided to raffle an 887 Nitro Mag 12 gauge as the first prize. 500 tickets were

printed and distributed to members to sell. The tickets sold quickly and the drawing was July 1. The winner of the gun was Jim Murphy, 2nd prize for a brick of 22 shells was Mike Holmes, and 3rd prize for shooting targets was Dusty Bush. Thank you to everyone who sold or bought

tickets, if you missed out on this, please see a member soon since we are now working on the 2nd gun raffle and tickets are going fast. Tickets are \$3.00 ea or four for \$10.00. drawing will be September 8.

Need a Place to Hold an Event

June was a very busy month for the club. It was decided during the first club meeting that the club would be a good place for people to hold parties of all kinds, but some rules would have to be set.

Club members would pay \$150.00 to use the facility, and a \$100.00 refundable deposit would be required.



Blodgett Mills Sportsmen's Club, Inc.

ESTABLISHED 2015

Virgil Couple reviving gun club for community

27-acre facility to operate as charitable organization. Just to give a little overview of the article that appeared in the Cortland Standard. Sam and John both used to come to the gun club formerly known as the Blodgett Mills Rod & Gun Club Inc., which was established in the late 1940s. John mentioned the fun that he remembered at the club and wanted that same thing for the club now, and that is why they decided that they wanted to purchase this property.

The club, now known as the

Blodgett Mills Sportsmen's Club will be a members only club and will be run as a non-charitable organization, which means all the profits made from the club will be put back into the club for improvements.

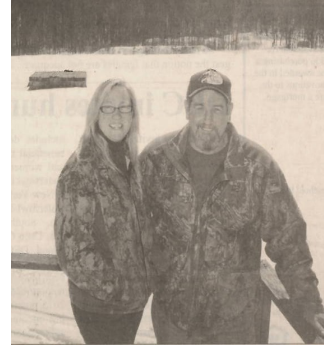
The club is hoping to offer hunter safety courses, archery classes, hunting and trapping classes. The Morse's have three sons who enjoy hunting, "It's a family thing and that's exactly what we're looking for," John said.

Connie Horner, a Virgil resident said that she supports the reopening of the gun club,

noting that she attended the dances and other events at the former club and that she had taken her hunting safety course there too several years ago. Though she now has COPD she is not able to get out and hunt but she can still come to the club and shoot her guns again, which she enjoys.

The Morse's have received support from other clubs in the Cortland and Tompkins county areas, noting that the McGraw Sportsmen's Club has been helpful in telling them how to start up their club. Gary Davis, president of the McGraw club said that he

hoped that they are successful. Davis also mentioned it



would give more opportunities for people to train and practice with guns and a good place to get together

County backs new sportsmen's club

The Cortland County Planning Board unanimously supported the project that would reopen a vacant shooting range and sportsmen's club in Virgil.

Located north of the vacant building is Skyline Raceway, on the east side is a residence and Tuller Hill State forest is

south and west of the property. Applicants John and Sheila Morse of Virgil hope to use the facility as a members only club and also use the facility for dinners or community fund raisers and other events by the membership. The shooting range will be directed toward the southern

end of the property which borders the state forest.

The County planning board did not have any opposition to the shooting range at the planned location because it was previously used for that purpose. Recommendations were made by the planning board to include extending

an earthen wall along the edge of the wooded area to make sure no stray rounds from the shooting range cross onto the state forest land and get consent from nearby residential property owner to permit the use of a firearm within 500 ft. of the property.

There are no dangerous weapons. There are only dangerous men.
Robert A. Heinlein (1907-1988)



Blodgett Mills Sportsmen's Club, Inc.

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TRAINING

The next Hunter Education Course is scheduled for September 19 and 20 from noon to 6 both days. Registration opened on the 19 of August and was filled by 6:45a.m. Remember to sign up early since classes do fill up quickly.



We will be having our first Trapper Education course on September 21 and 23. Registration is open now on the NYS DEC website. www.register-ed.com

For those who have asked we are trying to get a bow course scheduled, so watch your e-mails or come to the club to find out what is going on.



If you have anything you'd like to see in the News Letter , please let Dorothy know. If you don't have a computer, you can write out the information and leave it at the club, those who do have e-mail, you can e-mail your thoughts to: dotandron@frontiernet.net.

We've Been Busy

As you can see, we have been busy at the club. The photo to the right is the 330 yd rifle range just waiting for a shooting house and the targets to be hung.

The photo below is one of the new trap houses. After the long winter and the days of rain the old trap house has been demolished, two trap machines have been purchased and now we have two new ones ready to go. With the clever work of Mike Carroll designing the roofs to slide for easy loading.

This is not all that has been

done. John, Jon and Tom Morse, Larry Hill and others have put in endless hours on dozers, backhoes, excavators, tractors and dump trucks building the berms, clearing shooting ranges, dug ditches for drainage, building the parking lot. There is so much more, you just need to come and see the progress that has been made and see what you might be able to do to help.



It's Time.....

Well, since things are moving along pretty well we have decided to start planning our **Grand Opening** and membership drive. It will be a three day event starting, Friday, September 25 with Karaoke from 7-11 and our usual Friday night snacks that Lori and Dan Allen have been providing.

Then Saturday fun for the whole family. There will be demonstrations, games for kids and adults, raffles, vendors and a pig roast with chicken and salads and much, much more. Cost for the Pig Roast is \$12.00 for adults, \$6.00 for children 4-12 and 3 and younger are free. Sunday will start the day with a trap shoot at 8a.m. and our breakfast buffet at 7a.m. Bring the family for a fun weekend at the club.