



ROD & GUN GAZETTE

VOLUME 21 | ISSUE 1 | MARCH 2020



MAN OF THE YEAR

2019 Man of The Year was award to David Jones. David's activities for the Club as shine through the year, running 5-Stand, taking the position of Secretary, working on mechanical equipment, and his overall desires to help the Club run. President Quick on the right is congratulating David Jones. Thank You David.

During the Game Dinner the Club presented two special recognitions, the first one was to Paul Parrow, recognized for his work and equipment use on the middle fish pond and surrounding areas. The last award was to Ted Powell for stepping up and being the Bar Permittee, and helping to reorganize the bar operation. The award was presented by President Quick on the left to Ted Powell on the right.



PRESIDENTS CORNER

Dear Members!

I just wanted to start off by saying a big thanks to Clayton Coogan and his crew for making a great start to the new year by all their hard work towards making the Annual Game Dinner such a success. I would also like to give a big shout out to Man Of The Year, David Jones.

With the Spring Season approaching, there are many events and activities planned such as the 3-D Archery Shoots, Sporting Clays, 5-Stand, Spring League Skeet Shoots, and pistol and rifle events. Summer Skeet League is right around the corner as well.

There is a lot of work to be done around the club to get it ready for all of the upcoming year's events. The Club needs your help! We have a club-wide work day set up for April 18th at 8am. All skeet, gun and trapping ranges will be closed until 12 noon that day to ensure our club and all other areas are cleaned up for the new year and would love to see all of you out here supporting the club.

There are a lot of events and dinners already scheduled for the year. These events help keep your club running without having to raise the amount of dues. Please come and support our beloved club by trying to attend some of these great dinners and events planned. Another big Thank You goes out to Bell Neff and his crew for selling up this year's raffle.

Reminder to members, please remember to sell your raffle tickets because they are a big help to the club as well as your attendance to the above events and activities. Deadline for tickets is April 14th, 2020.

Troy Quick, President

CLUB WIDE CLEAN UP DAY

Members every year we have a Club Wide Clean Up Day to get rid of winters left overs. This year it's schedule for April 18th. Starting time is at 8 am, please bring your lawn equipment, if you have a dump trailer, that helps out a lot, likewise if you have a small dump truck, that be so useful in moving product around and filling the holes that tend to pop up annually. Any questions call President Quick.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

- 26th** 1st Stocking No Fishing
- 28th** All Ponds no kill
3-D Archery set up, help needed
- 29th** 3-D Shoot at 7 am

APRIL

- 5th** 3-D Archery Shoot at 7 am.
- 7th** 6:30 Board meeting
- 11th** Opening day of Fishing, Follow the club rules.
- 14th** Raffle tickets need to be turned in, drawing during the meeting.
Membership meeting at 7 pm.
- 18th** 8 am, Club Wide Clean up day.
- 25th** Prime Rib Dinner, tickets at the bar.

MAY

- 2nd** Sporting Clays setup 9 am, easy work hours, set up the course.
- 3rd** Kids Fishing Derby.
- 5th** Board Meeting at 6:30 pm.
- 9th** John Shea Annual Fishing Tournament, sign up, nice prizes.
- 12th** Membership Meeting at 7 pm.
- 17th** Sporting Clays, registration 8:30 till 11:30, shooting at 9 am.

JUNE

- 2nd** 6:30 Board Meeting.
- 7th** Club is sponsoring Take A Vet Fishing, **ALL RANGES ARE CLOSED THIS DAY.**
- 9th** 7 pm Membership meeting.
- 14th** Sporting Clays, registration 8:30 till 11:30. Shooting at 9.



APRIL 18TH

CLUB WIDE CLEAN UP

RAFFLE TICKETS

This is a reminder that you are responsible to sell or purchase 8 of the 12 tickets that you received for the Club Raffle. All tickets and money must be turned in before the drawing on April 14th at 7 pm. Please remember to keep your receipt.

This Raffle helps the Club financially as Club Dues does not support the Club activities for the year. Please remember to turn in your tickets.



HUNTER EDUCATION COURSE

The Fin Fur and Feather will be hosting a Self-Study Firearms hunting course April 26th. The club has 10 reserved seats available for club members who are interested. All non-members can sign up through the State Of Connecticut On-line sportsman's web site. Registration will open March 26th. Any member who is a state instructor and wishes to assist or any member who would like to attend please contact Corey Curtis-Gray at 860-576-1214.

Corey Curtis-Gray

BAR NEWS — CREDIT CARDS

Members, over the past years the Club has seen credit card usage go up. The Club is access each month for credit cards usage and it has been pretty substantial, our losses are rising. It's just not a couple hundred bucks or less, but how about thousand dollars or more. The Board agrees that we need to break even and start accessing each user a small percentage, no different than at the gas pumps. We need to implement this starting May 1st. if someone has a better solution, please approach the Board. The Bar also has a new credit card reader, either by swiping or inserting the card's chip reader, there shouldn't be any problems. Within the next week an ATM machine will also be install as additional convenience to our members.

MEMBERSHIP

Currently, the club membership has: Regular - 311; Associate - 263; Junior - 15; and Life - 167. The club added 59 new members in 2019, there were 40 people that did not renew their membership to the club this year. If you know of anyone that is interested in becoming a member, I can email you an application. If your email has changed, please send me the updated address. I send out several emails during the year about work parties and events. Don't wait until September to get your work hours completed. I will be holding a Range Safety Seminar sometime this Spring, once the Covid-19 outbreak gets under control.

Bob Hruskocy, Membership Chairman

KUBOTA TRACTOR FOR SALE

Members, the Club's older diesel lawn mower with a 3 pt hitch will be going up For Sale. This unit is 4 WD, has a 60" mower deck, and it's a 15 HP diesel motor, with about 1280 hours on it You can view this mower in the lower level of the brown skeet Buidling. Seal bids will be received up to May 5th, at the 6:30 pm Board meeting. They will be open and your mower could be yours if the price is right. This mower is as is. Any questions, contact Dick Palmer.



RIFLE TEAM REPORT

March 10, 2020

A new shed, in which to store target frames, has been installed on the South end of the rifle range.

In the interest of safety to all, and to keep all rounds fired from ricocheting off the ground, only 7 ft. target frames are to be used at the 100 yard and 200 yard lines. All shooters are reminded to pick up after themselves and to leave the area clean.

If anyone is interested in firing a 50 Rounds Across The Course Match with military or match rifles, please contact Peter Mathewson at 860-456-8588. These matches will be scheduled, if there is enough interest.

*Be Safe,
Peter Mathewson*

PHEASANT COMMITTEE

I would like to thank all who helped with the pheasant program: feeders, stockers, bird catchers, delivery people and the Hunt Committee for keeping me on track.

There will be a work party day late March early April, I will let you know by club email.

Once again, help will be needed in July when our 3800, 8-week old pheasants are being delivered. Date and time has not been firmed up yet. I will let you know by club email.

Remember to sign up to feed birds on the calendar in club house bar.

Keep in mind the Pheasant Program is only successful if we all pitch in and help.

Let's do it again this year!

Remember to support the pheasant functions to help keep our costs down and our stockings up! Pheasant functions include: Setback, SCAT, Flippin Chicken BBQ.

Thanks, Paul Cardinal

GREAT JOB MEMBERS!

TRAP

Remember to let the pump on the machines warm up before shooting in colder weather. PLEASE do not adjust the machines. They are set at a specific height for a reason. If there are any issues with the trap equipment, please contact me asap.

If anyone is interested in learning the basics of trapshooting, I might be holding a trap shooting seminar sometime late Spring. Details to follow

Bob Hruskocy, Trap Chairman

SPORTING CLAYS

Folks, 2020 Sporting Clays season is almost upon us, so dust off your laughter, shells and get ready for another great season. Anyone wanting to help trap, it is super easy work hours. You report by 8 am and usually the course is closed by 1 pm. Arrive a little early and get a free breakfast sandwich or wait till after the shoot for a burger or dog. If you can work any of the events please contact Dick Palmer at rpalmer12@snet.net or 860-933-4768 to sign up. We have a trapper list for each shoot; you need to contact me or Matt Halloran.

On May 2nd Saturday at 9 am there will be a course set up, clean the stations and set up the machines. We're doing this on a Saturday this year, hoping to see more members. Please bring leaf blowers, snips, chain saws, usually takes about 2-3 hours. Event registration starts at 8:30 am, and shooting at 9 am. Breakfast sandwiches and burgers and dog are available. These are the dates for the Sporting Clays events; May 17th, June 14th, July 12th, August 9th, Sept 13th. Ducks Unlimited will have their Annual Sporting Clays event on September 12th, again the Club will host their shoot and members are needed for this event to help trap, it's a Saturday and report time is at 8 am, usually finish about 1:30 pm.

Again, look at your schedule and sign up for a trapper position.

Matt Halloran

5 STAND

The Club's 5-stand shoots will be scheduled two weeks in advance. So everyone needs to watch their e-mails. One thing for certain July 4th is on the scheduled and after this event there will be a cook out. September 19th is the Club Championship. There will be others throughout the summer, those will be put out on the email group mailing.

David Jones

SUMMER SKEET LEAGUE

The summer skeet league will start the week of June 7th and will run for 10 weeks. All members including Jr members are all welcome and encouraged to participate. Sign up for the league will be posted in the bar early May. If you have any questions please contact me at 860-576-1214 or email corey.curtisgray@gmail.com

Thank you

Corey Curtis-Gray

FISH COMMITTEE REPORT – 2020

- All fishermen and women must purchase a badge for \$25 which entitles them to fish and hunt.
- All Junior Members must also purchase a badge for \$10. The badges are available at the bar.

Fish stockings will take place on the following dates:

1st stocking – March 26th (weather permitting)

2nd Stocking – April 9th

3rd Stocking – April 30th

The stocking will start around 4:30pm each day and we would appreciate any volunteers who can make it. Buttonball Trout Hatchery located near the club will supply the fish. The fish will be in good shape since they only have a short trip from the hatchery to our ponds. Brook and rainbow trout will make up over 90% of the fish stocked, with 12" – 14" fish being the minimum size with a good number of 16" fish added as well. Brown Trout will make up the remaining percent of fish stocked at the last stocking as they are more temperature resistant.

FYI – The Upper Pond will be CLOSED from April 30th until May 3rd, the day of the Kid's Fishing Derby. The Fly Pond will be closed IMMEDIATELY following the Kid's Fishing Derby and will reopen after John Shea's Biggest Trout Derby on May 10th.

The Kid's Fishing Derby will be held Sunday, May 3rd, from 9am – 12 noon at the Fly Pond. Sign up sheets for kids who will be attending will be located on the message board in the bar. The maximum age limit for participants is 15 years of age. Members who don't have children within this age limit can bring a relative (niece, nephew, grandchild) instead. Lunch will be provided free to the children and the kitchen will be open for adults to purchase food and drinks.

We are seeking donations so we can purchase additional fish and prizes for the derby. There will be a sign up sheet located in the bar. Please donate and help make this event fun for all participants!

All ponds open for fishing (catch and release) on March 28th at 8am.

Middle and Skeet Pond open for fishing (catch and keep) with 2 fish limit on April 11 at 6am.

Upper Pond opens for fishing (catch and keep) on May 10th after John Shea's Biggest Trout Derby.

ARCHERY 3-D STARTS MARCH 29TH!

March is here and our first archery 3-D event will take place the end of the month. (3-29). We have been adding some nice new targets, and new for this year, we have added some cool Rinehart targets to the mix. They should make for some fun shooting.

It would be great to see more members come out and shoot again this year. Kids 12 and under shoot for free, so bring the kids and get them out shooting archery. It's always nice to see the kids out enjoying the shoots. It's all for fun so come on out and enjoy it.

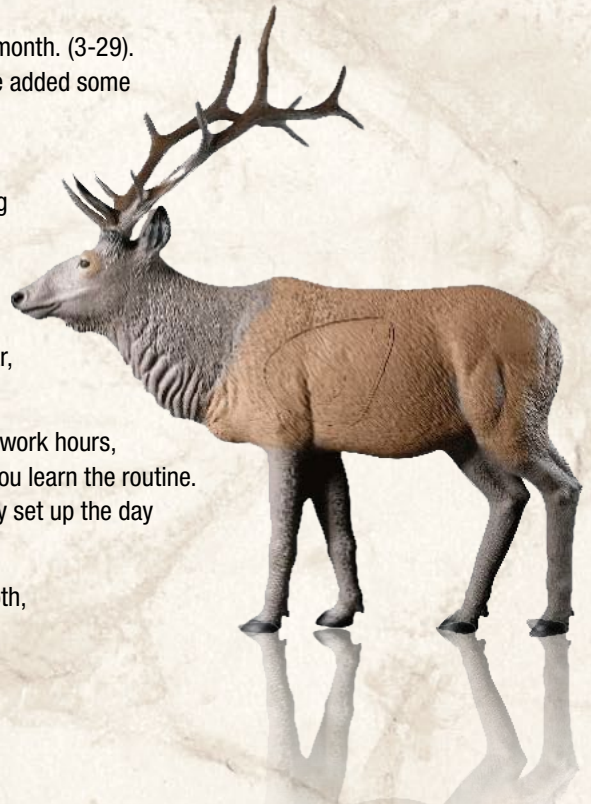
We also have an archery practice range located to the left of the driveway as you're driving in to the club. We have targets set up there most of the year, and I will be adding targets, longer shots, and improving the range.

For those of you that would like to help set up the 3-D course and get some work hours, I can really use more help. It's outside in the fresh air, and fairly easy once you learn the routine. If you would like to help, I really look forward to hearing from you. We usually set up the day before the shoots, and I put out a request for help about a week before.

So whether you are interested in shooting, helping out, or hopefully doing both, I look forward to seeing you out there.

Thanks,

Jim Dowd, archery chairman



HONOR THEIR
COURAGE

FIN, FUR & FEATHER CLUB, INC.

23RD ANNUAL M-1 GARAND MATCH

SATURDAY, JUNE 06, 2020 REMEMBER D-DAY

Place:	Fin, Fur & Feather Club, 213 Chewing Rd., Chaplin, CT**
Registration:	8am to 8:45 am. Match begins at 9am. NO LATE ENTRIES
Fee:	\$20. Includes 32 rounds, 30-06 ammo
Course of Fire:	2 sighters in 5 minutes 10 rounds slow fire prone 10 rounds rapid fire prone 10 rounds slow fire standing
Total:	20 record shots fired – 200 yards SR Target NO ALIBIS OR REFIRES
Rifles Permitted:	30-06 Caliber M1 Garand Standard Grade or Match Grade SPFD 1903/A3 1917 Enfield NRA RULES & CMP RULES WILL APPLY

For information,
call Peter Mathewson
at 860-456-8588.

** Chewink Rd is at the junction
of U.S. Route 6 and CT Route
198 in Chaplin, CT



TAKE A VET FISHING

Members, the Club is sponsoring "Take A Vet Fishing" again, the date is June 7th. They usually arrive about 8 and stay until 5pm. They provide food, gear, and we provide the facility and fish. One important item, when the Vets are there can be no shooting on any range, so please be aware, we will have monitors to ensure no activity on the ranges. **ALL RANGES WILL BE CLOSED SUNDAY JUNE 7TH.**



KIDS' CHRISTMAS PARTY

Children's Christmas party was held on Sunday, December 15th with 47 excited children and family attending. The Children decorated Christmas cookies and made ornaments for their tree and then a great potluck and pizza lunch awaited all. Santa and Mrs Claus arrived to distribute gifts to all the children. We would like to thank everyone who donated food for the party and miscellaneous donations throughout the year to the kids fund as well as the 9 volunteers who helped put this altogether. And a special thank you to Mr. and Mrs. Claus!

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Our Purpose: To Promote The Conservation of Fish, Game, and Other Natural Resources, To Practice and Teach the Highest Degree of Sportsmanship and to Promote Safe and Proficient Use of Sporting Equipment.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Troy Quick, President	860-933-2585
Dick Palmer, Vice President	860-933-4768
Tom Hoagland, Treasurer	860-208-4477
David Jones, Secretary	860-230-5925

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Wayne Mather	860-942-3385
Paul Cardinal	860-377-0453
Glen Heinonen	860-559-5021
Bob Mullen II	860-306-6691
Ted Powell	860-908-4906
Dudley Brand	860-967-8568
Bob Chalifoux	860-642-4614
Cory Curtis-Grey	

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

ARCHERY

Jim Dowd	860-537-2986
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BAR

Ted Powell	860-908-4906
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BUILDING

Open Position

CHILDREN'S FUND

John & Laura Pawelec	860-429-7033
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COMPONENTS

Jim Skoglund	860-992-9779
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FAMILY PICNIC

Kevin Theriault	860-429-1792
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FISHING

Troy Quick	860-933-2585
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FIVE-STAND

David Jones	860-230-5975
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GROUNDS

Tom Hoagland	860-208-4477
Dudley Brand	860-967-8568

HUNTING

Bob Chalifoux	860-642-4614
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KITCHEN

Bill Schultz	860-377-2191
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MEMBERSHIP

Bob Hruskocy	860-569-1592
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MERCHANDISE

Mark Holland	860-617-3750
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NEWSLETTER

Dick Palmer	860-933-4768
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PERMITTEE

Ted Powell	860-908-4906
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PHEASANTS

Paul Cardinal	860-377-0453
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PISTOL/PRACTICAL PISTOL

Paul Arildsen	860-508-1132
Jon-Paul Mucha	860-874-1291

RAFFLE

Bill Neff

RIFLE

Peter Mathewson Sr.	860-456-8588
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SHOTGUN

Glen Heinonen	860-559-5021
Bob Frankland	860-690-4149
Jim Hooper	

SKEET

Bob Frankland	860-690-4149
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SPORTING CLAYS

Matt Halloran	860-428-2828
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TRAP

Bob Hruskocy	860-569-1592
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