



# ROD & GUN GAZETTE

VOLUME 20 | ISSUE 3 | SEPTEMBER 2019



## THE FIN'S HUNTING SEASON OPENS OCT. 19! BE PREPARED. KNOW THE LAWS!

**NEW  
TO THE FIN!  
GUN DOG  
CHAMPIONSHIP**  
Details on page 6

- You are responsible for reading, understanding, and abiding by all CLUB and Connecticut State Hunting Laws. **No Sunday Hunting on Club or lease lands AT THIS TIME.**
- **You must purchase your button prior to October 1st; NO buttons will be sold after October 1st.**
- Cost is \$25 for regular members and \$10 for a junior member.
- Because of the numbers of hunters, Pheasant Hunting is divided into three (3) groups, you must choose one either Wednesday, Saturday A or B. Saturday group rotates every week. Pheasant hunting starts at 8 am on Wednesday and Saturday stocking days.
- Wednesday group starts at 8 am, and must finish by 10 am, after that time all fields are open, on Saturday hunting starts at 8 am, A or B group, and finishes at 10 am, then at 10:30 am the opposite group can hunt till 12:30 pm, after that all fields are open. Those other days follow the State Hunting Laws.
- **Junior members can only hunt with either of their parents or sponsor, and they can't sign up for either stocking days or group.**
- **All hunters, hunting on Wednesday or Saturday must sign in and out, other days and after those hours on Wednesday/ Saturday, must sign in their birds in the LOG BOOK EITHER AT THE FIELD OR CLUB HOUSE.**
- **No Hunting is allowed in any Red Zone areas.**

# PRESIDENTS CORNER

*Troy Quick, President*

Dear Members,

It has been a great pleasure for me to serve as your President during the past year. I personally wanted to thank the current executive board and all you members for your hard work and dedication to our beloved club, and for making my experience as president so wonderful.

I will be running for President again this year and hope to have your support. We will be holding elections at the Membership meeting on October 8th, 2019 at 7:00 PM. Remember only Life and Regular members can vote at the meeting.

With the new hunting seasons beginning, if you don't have your work hours in, or have paid your raffle obligation you are running out of time. If you want to contact me the President, or any other committee chairman and ask if there's anyway you can help feel free. There is also plenty of things that can be done to get your hours in. I would also like to remind any members partaking in the new hunting season to visit our website and refresh themselves on our club rules.

Fall is a time of year when there are a lot of activities approaching at the fin. For instance, we will be stocking the upper pond with fish at the end of October. There is also the 9th annual Flipping The Bird Festival, and The Great Pumpkin Festival, along with The Club Championship coming up and Skeet league starting. Without your support, these activities would be hard to make happen. So please come out and support your club.

In conclusion, good luck to all of the club skeet teams that will start shooting soon and to all you hunters out there, may you have a great hunting season!

Thank you.



## OCTOBER ELECTIONS

Members, October's regular meeting is the Club's Annual meeting for electing Executive Officers and Executive Board members. You must be a regular member to vote, and your must have your membership card with you to vote. There are no nominations at this meeting, those have taken place in September.

Please come out and vote.

### Executive Officers are:

**President** – Troy Quick

**Vice President** – Dick Palmer

**Secretary** – David Jones

**Treasurer** – Tom Hoagland

### Executive Board Members are:

Wayne Mather, Paul Cardinal, Ted Powell, Dudley Brand, Bob Mullins, Bob Chalifoux, Glen Heinonen, Mike Nowosielski, and Cory Curtis-Grey.

These members are running for a position on the Executive Board. The seven with the most votes will be full Board members, and the remaining two will be Alternates

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

- 14** Annual Chicken BBQ to benefit the Pheasant program.

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- 15** Final Sporting Clays Shoot. Starts at 9 am.

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- 21** Club's Annual Shotgun Championship, you must pre-register at the bar. Non-members are allowed to shoot but are not eligible for awards. BBQ dinner after.

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- 28** Swap Meet. 8 am – 12 pm. Member's tables are free. See Huff.

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- 29** Pheasant/Dog trails. See Cory for sign up.

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- 29** 3-D Archery Shoot, starts at 7 am.

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- 30** Last day to purchase Hunt Badges and work hours.

### OCTOBER

- 1** Executive Board meeting at 6:30 pm.

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- 8** Membership meeting with Elections at 7 pm.

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- 19** **OPENING DAY OF HUNTING.**

### NOVEMBER

- 5** Executive Board meeting at 6:30 pm.

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- 12** Membership meeting at 7 pm.

PLEASE FILL OUT THE APPLICATION BELOW AND RETURN IT TO THE BAR.

# FIN FUR FEATHER CLUB HUNTING/FISHING APPLICATION

**You Must Purchase a Hunting Badge to hunt any game on Lease or club property.**

Hunting Pheasants?

YES  NO

If hunting pheasants, please select one group:

A  B or  Wed

**Please check off all that apply:**

Method of Hunting:

Shotgun  Archery  Muzzleloader

Lease Land:

Pheasant  Deer  Turkey  
 Waterfowl  Other

Club Land:

Pheasant  Turkey  Archery  
 Deer Only  Fishing Only

**Fill out the information below. Please Print**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Club Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

License Plate # \_\_\_\_\_

Connecticut Conservation # \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

**Signing this form means you have read and understand all the Club and State Hunting rules.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## 2019 HUNTING BADGES



Please mark your calendars, as you will need to purchase your 2019 badge prior to October 1st, from the bar. After that date, no badges will be issued, unless you are a new regular member. You also must fill out your permission slips, select the type of hunting activity you would like, as well as choosing your fall hunting group: (A, B, Wednesday). And finally, purchasing your badge.

Come September 30th, if you have not completed your work hour requirement, or paid your Raffle obligations, you will be notified. Failure to meet the required work hours, and any outstanding obligations, will result in the loss of your hunting privileges and your badge. A tremendous amount of work goes into this program from permission slips, organizing forms, verifying information on the permission slips, notifying members that information was incorrect or left out, cross checking work hours, obligations paid for, and finally issuing badges. This is to ensure that everyone is eligible to hunt, after meeting these requirements.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation. Happy hunting!

## MEMBERSHIP

*Bob Hruskocy, Membership Chairman*

So far to date the club has added 61 members. The clubs membership categories are as follows: Regular 329; Associate 243; Junior 22; and Life 173. For those that have not completed your 10 hour work requirement, you have until September 30th to do so. If you have not completed your work hrs and are planning on hunting, you need to pay for your hrs at the bar. You can email me to see if I have your hours recorded. Also if you did not purchase your Spring Raffle tickets, you need to pay for those before you will be issued a hunting badge. I will be mailing the 2019 invoices in mid-November. If there are any discrepancies, please let me know.

## BAR

The bar has a new permittee and we have hired four (4) more bartenders. The bar is looking for things to do on Friday and Saturday evening for members. If you have any ideas please get a hold of Ted Powell and we can try it out. More changes are on the way, it's your bar, come on down and have fun.

# SKEET REPORT

*The Skeet Committee*

Fall is arriving quickly and that means the start of the ESSC Winter Skeet League which begins on the first Sunday of October. We have six teams shooting out of the Fin. Good Luck to Everybody.

There is a roofing/siding issue on Skeet Field 5 Low House. This is an ongoing problem. We are looking for Fin members with construction, roofing, siding experience to help with this project. We would like to do this with in-house labor. Please contact 860-559-5021 for further information.

The Skeet Committee is looking for a Co-Chairman to help with all duties pertaining to the Skeet Program. Please attend the Skeet Committee meetings held on the last Tuesday of every month at 7 pm., if interested. Everybody is invited to attend these meetings.

Please take care and use proper procedures in operating the skeet machines. Please report any malfunctions, broken parts or bad cords ASAP. Leave messages/notes at the bar or on white board or call any skeet committee member/chairman or any club officer.

Remember...keep shooting and practice, practice, practice.

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# SUMMER SKEET

I would like to thank all who participated in this year's 2019 Summer skeet league. This year we had 16 teams which included several youth members.

I would like to recognize the following:

**1st Place** – Eric Hooper and Katie Hooper

**2nd Place** – John Holmy and Nate Holmy

**3rd Place** – Bob Santa & Al D'Antonio

**Youth High Average** – Brandon Jones & Erica Oliver

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# SPORTING CLAYS

*Dick Palmer*

By the time the Newsletter is out, we probably have completed our events. I need to give a big shout out to all of our members who came out and trap for these events. Without you, these events wouldn't work. Thanks again. For the past twelve years I have been running these events, and a lot of changes have occurred. I couldn't have done this without the committee members jumping on board to help. We've kept the shoots fun, interesting, and have brought members together. Through the years, committee members Matt Halloran, Mike Fromerth, Bruce Macaro, Mark Holland, Dave Fromerth, Mike Holland, Ron Palmer, Jim Skoglund, Shawn Spears, have been setting up and running these events, so shooters can have a good time afield. Matt Halloran has indicated that he will step up to coordinate this important shooting sports event for the club for 2020. If anyone is interested in helping out, we sure could use your help. Contact, Matt or myself.

Looking forward to seeing you all in 2020.

# TRAP

The 103rd CT State Trap shoot was held at the Hartford Gun in East Granby, CT on June 21-23rd. Club member Bob Cooper won the States Singles title on Saturday with a score of 198/200. This was one heck of an accomplishment considering the windy conditions.

In Sunday's Doubles event, Bob won the Sr Vet Class with a score of 91/100. He was the Sr Vet Champ in High All-Around with a score of 379/400. Great shooting Coop!

For those that shoot trap at the club in the Fall and Winter, please remember to let the pump warm up a few minutes before activating the machine. If anyone notices any equipment issues, please let me know. Shoot safe.



Bob Cooper



Left to Right: Dan Gutt, Bob Hruskocy, Alan Gnann

# 2019 DUCKS UNLIMITED SPORTING CLAYS SHOOT

2019 was a great year for Sporting Clays. We had many shooters at each event and the sport continues to grow. The photos below were from the Sept. 7th Ducks Unlimited Shoot. Everyone was worried about the hurricane, but it turned out to be a beautiful sunny cool day, great for shooting targets. Ducks Unlimited has already reserved a date for 2020. All of our shoots are open to members and non-members.



## FISH

*Chairman Troy Quick*

Pond cleanups have been going very well! A big thanks to Paul Parrow and all the members who have taken place in making are ponds great again, for all your hard work. I am pleased to inform you that there will be a fall fish stocking of the upper pond that will take place around the third week of October.

Thank you again.

# PHEASANT COMMITTEE

*Paul Cardinal, Pheasant Committee Chairman*

We had 3800 6-week old pheasants delivered July 17th. We had approximately 34 members help to unload the truck and crates. It was an amazing turnout as usual. We really couldn't have done it without all the help. Since then, all weeks to date have been covered for feeding, watering and checking the pens. We still have a few weeks to the end of November/beginning of December that need to be covered. We have a long bird season for all the bird hunters but we need the pens and feeding covered every week until they are all stocked. Please sign up for a week. The calendar is under the TV in the bar. Take a look, sign up! The more help we have to the end of the season, the easier it is on all the bird hunters and we all can enjoy the program.

The Flippin Chicken is another successful event that the Pheasant committee sponsors. Thanks to Wayne Mather and his crew for doing this every year! It is a FUN time every year,

A special thanks to Dudley Brand for building a new gate into the pens so the tractor now fits through the entrance! It is a huge help when trying to maintain the pens.

Thanks to Rojo Mullen for the continued relentless support he gives the pheasant committee. We couldn't do it without all the help.

Did you notice the shiny new grain bin? The old bin had fallen apart and couldn't keep the grain as it should be. We purchased a new one and had it installed. Grain is now perfect.

Thank you to everyone that has helped out with the pheasant program so far. We have some fine pheasants to stock this year again. We have a lot of weeks ahead. We have plenty of hunters, try to give a morning or two to ease up on the members that help every week. It is a GREAT program and we want to keep it that way!!

The hunt committee will need help catching, loading and stocking the birds. Contact Bob Chalifoux to sign up to help stock the birds!



## PHEASANT FUN TRIALS

Please mark your calendar. September 29th we will have a preseason warm up for the pheasant season. We will offer one Pheasant fun trial from 9am-12pm.

# CE/FS FIREARMS HUNTING SAFETY COURSES



The Fin Fur and Feather hosted a CE/FS Firearm Safety Class on Sunday August 25th to a class of 38 students. Twelve students who were between the ages of 11-16 completed the course which was taught by a new team of instructors. A special thanks to members Mike Peretto, Dudley Brand, Corey Curtis-Gray, Chris Zins, David Jones, Steven Carpenter.



## NEW THIS YEAR FIN FUR & FEATHER GUN DOG CHAMPIONSHIP

**Concept.** A team of two hunters and one dog will enter a field in which four pheasants have been planted. They have 25 minutes to find and bag all birds. Points will be accumulated based on the number of birds flushed, bagged, shells remaining, and time remaining. We will have a division for pointers and flushing dogs. All registrations must be in before Saturday October 5th. There will be no same-day registration. All the information can be found in the flyer in the bar or you can contact Corey via email at [corey.curtisgray@gmail.com](mailto:corey.curtisgray@gmail.com)

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# GREAT PUMPKIN



# FESTIVAL

**October 12th, 6 pm**

Time to bring those pumpkins in!

**Main Event:** Our seeds

**Open Class:** Any seeds

**Carving Event – 3 Classes:**

- (1) Kids up to 8
- (2) 9 to 15
- (3) 16 – adult

Use any pumpkin – you did not have to grow it. Carve them at home and bring them in. Pot Luck Diner – bring a dish to share.

Every growing season has its challenges. If you have a large, small, or no pumpkin at all, come join us for a night of fun and friendly competition. Pumpkin painting, crafts, water balloon chucking, spooky walk, kids costume contest, raffle. Sign up sheet at the bar. Need to sign up kids so we have enough pumpkins. See you there! Any questions call Nancy at 860-456-8782.

## GROUNDS COMMITTEE

*Dudley Brand*

In May, June and July the Grounds Guys were very busy tilling and planting food and cover crops for improving our hunting areas. We have planted silage corn and a hybrid forage called sudax. It is a cross between sorghum and Sudan grass. I have good luck growing this at the other club I belong to by planting several acres in patch like plots. The other major crop is field corn and it is maturing nicely and will provide through mid-March.

All this is a work in progress and will take a few seasons to fully develop our plan for habitat improvement and will look to work with USDA soil conservation service for advice and assistance with developing our plan.

For this hunting season we will have mowed walking paths in our shooting fields, and we are going to reopen the trail from the skeet field to the power line as it has grown in quite a bit.

This year we have used the tractor to assist Archery, Sporting Clays, Pheasants, Ponds and Shotgun sports to do various tasks that needed to be done.

In closing I would ask for volunteers to help with the reposting of the club property for preserve signs and dog training areas, red zone and private property signage. It is a good way for members to learn where the club boundaries are located.

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## ANNUAL CLUB RAFFLE

Members, over the past 4 years, member Tony Rufrano has run the Club's annual raffle, providing the Club with a substantial income to help run our Club activities. Unfortunately he needs to step down. Thank you, Tony! We greatly appreciate all of your hard work and dedication.

Needless to say we are looking for someone to fill Tony's shoes and to continue to run this great raffle. If you are interested, please contact President Quick. Work needs to start soon on this activity. The position doesn't have to be just one member, it can be multiple members as well.

### BOB'S LAWN & YARD SERVICE



- Snow Plowing
- Mowing
- Spring & Fall Cleanup
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- Stone
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Robert Cardinal, Owner | 88 Bates Road, Chaplin CT 06056

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## FIN, FUR AND FEATHER CLUB, INC

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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  
Mark Holland, Secretary 860-617-3750

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Wayne Mather 860-942-3385  
Paul Cardinal 860-377-0453  
Mike Nowosielski 860-884-1824  
Glen Heinonen 860-559-5021  
Bob Mullen II 860-306-6691  
Ted Powell 860-908-4906  
Dudley Brand 860-967-8568  
David Jones 860-230-5925  
Bob Chalifoux 860-642-4614

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

#### ARCHERY

Jim Dowd 860-537-2986

#### BAR

Ted Powell 860-908-4906

#### BUILDING

Open Position

#### CHILDREN'S FUND

John & Laura Pawelec 860-429-7033

#### COMPONENTS

Jim Skoglund 860-992-9779

#### FAMILY PICNIC

Kevin Theriault 860-429-1792

#### FISHING

Troy Quick 860-933-2585

#### FIVE-STAND

David Jones 860-230-5975

#### GROUNDS

Tom Hoagland 860-208-4477

Dudley Brand 860-967-8568

#### HUNTING

Ted Powell 860-908-4906

Bob Chalifoux 860-642-4614

#### KITCHEN

Bill Schultz 860-377-2191

#### MEMBERSHIP

Bob Hruskocy 860-569-1592

#### MERCHANDISE

Mark Holland 860-617-3750

#### NEWSLETTER

Dick Palmer 860-933-4768

#### PERMITTEE

Brenda Liappes 860-455-0521

#### PHEASANTS

Paul Cardinal 860-377-0453

#### PISTOL/PRACTICAL PISTOL

Paul Arildsen 860-508-1132

Jon-Paul Mucha 860-874-1291

#### RAFFLE

Tony Rufrano 860-841-5265

#### RIFLE

Peter Mathewson Sr. 860-456-8588

#### SHOTGUN

Glen Heinonen 860-559-5021

Bob Frankland 860-690-4149

Jim Hooper

#### SKEET

Bob Frankland 860-690-4149

#### SPORTING CLAYS

Dick Palmer 860-933-4768

#### TRAP

Bob Hruskocy 860-569-1592