



## Letter from the President

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### Special points of interest:

- Bob Cooper Trap Seminar
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- Calendar of Upcoming FFF Events
- Rifle Report
- Pistol Report
- R&GG Advertisers

In this issue of the R&GG, I would like to write about the future of our club and its activities. Lately, I have been hearing the usual complaints about this and that, so I'll take the occasion to address some of these complaints.

Recently, the club had the opportunity to host the winter league skeet shoot. This shoot is held over a two day period, on a Saturday and Sunday. The skeet committee offered to hold the shoot at the club as a one-day shoot only, for a number of reasons, but especially because there is a very poor turnout of volunteers, it's always the same people doing all of the work, and because this event doesn't return a very big profit. The winter league decided to give the shoot to another club instead of having it become a one day event. Now, what I don't understand is we have one of the best—if not the best shotgun facility's around—at a cost of \$238,000, and few years back we purchased \$50,000 worth of new skeet machines. Also, we continue to purchase at least one machine per year for shotgun sports, and will probably do so again this year. I believe the skeet chairmen are doing as much as they can, but members need to understand that these guys can't do it alone. They need our help and our

support continuously.

People have come to me and said "I would have helped, but nobody asked me." Well, these members need to understand that should not think that they have to be asked by anybody. Instead, volunteers should be asking the committee chairmen if they need help. At the last skeet committee meeting about FOUR people showed up to attend this meeting. Drive by the skeet fields on any Saturday or Sunday and see how many people are using the facility. Although the winter league event would not be a big money maker, it nevertheless draws people to our club who may like what we have to offer here and may very possibly become members in the near future.

Also, the kitchen and bar will surely profit from any event.

I sincerely hope that in the future we take advantage of every opportunity we have to promote our club and its activities.

On another note, a member asked me why the pheasant program lost \$1,920.81 last year. All I could say in response was that we stocked 2,045 birds last season with a value of \$17,382.50. I don't consider that to be a loss. We shouldn't expect committee's, like pheasant and fish, to make

a profit every year. The pheasant committee could increase its profits by selling more birds, of course. But that means less birds would be stocked. Like the fish committee, the pheasant folks could have fund raising events, and they have done so in the past to try and offset the cost of these programs. I hope they will continue to do so in the near future, so that members can enjoy these activities without any additional costs and/or fees, which has been a long-standing tradition of the Fin.

We need people to show up and help with these Club activities and work details. Wouldn't it be remarkable if we had a turnout for a work detail or activity the same size as the one we'll get for opening day of fishing or pheasant hunting? You know what I mean: when the members you never see show up. If you enjoy more than one activity at the Club, try and give the committee chairmen a little of your time. Also, don't be afraid to go over your ten hours. There is no penalty for working overtime!

So, quit your whining about skeet going up fifty cents a round, and complaining that we are selling so many birds, and carping about the Club not

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## *Charles Popple Receives Lifetime Achievement Award*



At left you see Attorney Charles Popple receiving the Club's coveted Lifetime Achievement Award for 2003, which was presented at the 2004 Annual Game Dinner.

Charles has a long history of helping the Club deal with any number of issues, but especially when it comes to providing expert legal advice--and he does it without complaint or the expectation of financial gain. This past year, he was instrumental in helping the Club with purchasing the last

piece of contiguous undeveloped land available, which can now be used for shotgun sports, hunting, and kicking around. Many members may not know how cautious the Club must be in dealing with major purchases and/or disputes. Charles Popple has stepped up to the plate for our interests many times and for his expertise, timely commitment, and unselfish work we are very grateful. Congratulations and best wishes Attorney Popple!

Somebody who attends the High Power matches should capture the events with a digital camera for everyone to enjoy.

## *Rifle Report*

As winter winds down and spring approaches, I am anticipating a good year of competitive rifle shooting. Hopefully, we will have better weather than this past year.

Of nine matches scheduled for 2003, four were rained out, but the five that were held fielded 46 shooters and brought in over \$500 to the Club.

For 2004, we have seven matches scheduled, including the 6th Annual MI Garand Match to be held on D-Day (June 6). Shoot this match and you qualify to purchase an MI from the CMT. Rifles will be available to use if notice is given in advance of the match.

Lastly, CT has a very active Junior High Power Program.

Two juniors from CT won 1st Place Whisler Boy at the 2003 National Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio. If anyone has juniors interested, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Mathewson

Rifle Committee Chairman

## *2004 High Power Rifle Schedule*

Test your skills with high power rifle shooting this 2004 season at the Club. Mark these dates on your calendar.

- May 2
- June 20
- July 18
- August 15

- September 19
- October 3

Also, if you have the stuff of a winner or at least the basic interest, then be at the Club's rifle range on June 6 (D-Day Memorial) for the 6th Annual MI Garand Match, shooting 30 rounds at 200 yard targets.

All high power rifle matches have registration beginning at 8:00 a.m. and running through 8:30 a.m. Firing begins at 9:00 a.m.

Hope to see you there!

Peter Mathewson

Rifle Committee Chairman

## Annual Game Dinner a Success

As is the custom at the Fin, January always marks not only a new year but also the club's Annual Game Dinner. And, as in the past, this event is well-attended by members, with great food and fun-times aplenty.

This 2004 dinner was no exception. From the first salad and soup to the main dishes and desert, it was without question a sumptuous feast. No one deserves our thanks more than the Kitchen Crew, led by Chef Skip Dillon. Thanks very much, guys!

Peter Rich held forth as Master of Ceremonies at key intervals, adding his usual high class act for members and special

guests. Thank you Peter.

John Postemski took the microphone to present the 2003 Man-of-the-Year Award to Don Bajger, our Club President. Don's family, beaming with pride, was nearby. Thanks Don for your tremendous assistance with all of the Club's needs during the past two-plus years.

Next, John Postemski presented the 2004 Lifetime Achievement Award to Attorney Charles Pople for his outstanding work, especially on the recent land acquisition. Check out the Fin's website for photos captured artfully by Sharleen Sobol. Now, get ready for 2005!



*The FFF 2004 Annual Game Dinner Chef with Kitchen Crew. Thanks guys for all the great-tasting food--and personal service.*

## Don Bajger: 2004 Man-of-the-Year

You read in the President's column his expression of thanks for receiving Man-of-the-Year from the Club. It's not certain that he was surprised, but he definitely deserved the award. Here is an excerpt from the Board's petition.

"As President of the Fin, Don has very effectively:

- Managed all difficult aspects of this organization, including supervising the Board's activities and various committees, hearings, executive sessions, and special events.
- Managed the Hunting Committee.
- Managed the Pheasant Raising Program.
- Made improvements to the pheasant raising facility.
- Put in untold hours of work well beyond what the

great majority of members commit to the club.

- Maintained a keen eye on the club's income and expenses.
- Pursued with Board approval purchase of critically important 26 acres of adjoining land.
- Monitored completion of Skeet/Trap Field renovations.

Supported and monitored development of Sporting Clays area.

As President, Don Bajger always answered the call for help no matter what the request and typically without regard for the extent to which these requests cut into his time for enjoying club facilities and recreational pursuits.

Don Bajger continues a third consecutive term as President of our club, which in and of

itself is a significant achievement, indicating how much the general membership and Board appreciate his strong and effective leadership.

For all of these reasons and more we believe **Don Bajger** is the individual most deserving of the Club's highest annual award—**Man of the Year for 2003.**"





## *The Future of Hunting in Our Neck of the Woods*

Recently, articles appeared in the *Willimantic Chronicle* focused on an issue developing in the Town of Mansfield that should be of concern to every resident and hunter in this bucolic Quiet Corner of CT and statewide.

A group in Mansfield hopes to persuade fellow citizens to prohibit firearms deer hunting in the Mansfield Hollow Recreational Area. A petition is being distributed (using the Internet) to change the park's status to No Firearms Deer Hunting--which should raise questions about the petition's likely underlying purpose.

The Mansfield Hollow Recreational Area is managed by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) under license from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. That lease expires April 2005 and its renewal could have new terms and conditions applied--such as No Firearms Deer Hunting. Deer hunting with a gun is not allowed in that park, so why the fuss over changing the lease? Ultimately, the petition to change the language in the lease would take a large piece of CT public land (in this case 2,300 acres) away from hunters and away from real multiple use for the foreseeable future, restricting land use there basically to hiking, biking, and picnicking.

Anti-hunting arguments are often written to mislead or misinform readers. This petition, with accompanying letters to the editor, should be seen for what it is: an attempt to persuade unsuspecting readers that hunters are evildoers, that hunting is unsafe for everyone--even hunters, and hunting should be outlawed.

In a recent letter supporting the Mansfield Hollow Recreational Area petition, the writer described shotgun hunters using "buck shot" on deer and thereby endangering the lives of anyone who would walk in those woods. It is illegal to use buckshot when hunting deer. Pheasant hunting--where shotguns are used, is allowed in the park, but takes place in fairly remote areas of the park where brush provides cover for the birds and is practically impassible except for pheasant hunters and their dogs. Other less remote areas of the park, which are located away from hunting areas, have trails to facilitate hiking and walking.

The petitioners also argue that, if deer hunting reduces the deer herd in that park, there should not be regular hunting of any kind (even bowhunt-

ing). Instead, in this case, they recommend a "controlled deer hunt like the one conducted periodically on Bluff Point by the DEP." But anti-hunters by definition are against hunting of any kind. The petitioners are turning a scientifically proven effective technique around and using it against not only hunters but also the DEP. Anti-hunters know that the Bluff point controlled hunt works well there because of the unique configuration of land--a peninsula--thus making it not only easy to contain the deer during the hunt, but also the process is relatively inexpensive. (Anti-hunters protest against a controlled hunt wherever it is held.) At the Mansfield Hollow State Park, by contrast, a controlled hunt would be inordinately expensive, and for all practical purposes impossible to control escaping deer--the basic purpose of the hunt--and as DEP duty calls: to protect infiltrating anti-hunting protesters.

The DEP, like most state agencies today, is struggling with a significantly reduced budget, making it difficult to address even ordinary office and field operations. Anti-hunters know this to be a fact, also.

What to do? Thoughtfully and patiently we should prevent changing the park's status to No Firearms Hunting. Archery and firearms hunters should remind the general public of the important roles hunters play in wildlife conservation, safe hunting practices, and safe firearms use. They should stress the importance of hunting and fishing traditions for family values, youth activities, and to preserve what is "pastoral--of or relating to typical rural life" in our state's Quiet Corner. The real meaning of bucolic is not new age suburbia.

And let's ask: Should a relatively small contingent of Mansfield residents exercise political authority to determine how the rest of the state's citizens and all visitors to the Quiet Corner use that sizable piece of land?

Hunting is a long-standing privilege and an honorable tradition. To shoot what you eat and eat what you shoot is good. Giving food to Hunters for the Hungry is good. Help keep the Mansfield Hollow Recreational Area a multiple use park for everyone. That is the greater good.

CSam Bridger

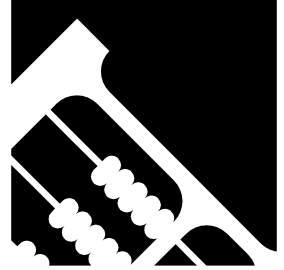
If you choose to write a letter to the Editor of the *Willimantic Chronicle*, do it with careful choice of words and logical argument. Don't inflame the readership because most of your audience is on our side already, they just need reminders and a gentle nudge.

## Accounting/Math Skills? Your Club Needs You!

The FFF is looking for a member who would be willing to get familiar with the club's bookkeeping work so that when Jon Guarino, our current Treasurer, chooses to stop doing this work—which may be this fall—we have someone

who is qualified for the job. Jon has had that responsibility for a few years now and has maintained the records with distinction (2003 Man-of-the-Year). The time is drawing near for someone else to help the club. If you have ex-

perience in accounting or bookkeeping and would like to do this important work, please contact President Bajger or another Executive Committee member as soon as possible.



*Get out your calculator and go to work for the Fin.*

## Pistol

The first thing is I want to thank Mike Gurnack for keeping the range in shape and also Gerard Pelletier for making new frames and cardboard. Needless to say, we needed new frames and the grounds are always nice when shooting.

The summer pistol league will be on Wednesday evenings. We start at 6:00 p.m. and shoot for 20 Wednesday evenings throughout the summer. We follow the NRA course of fire, which is 50 yards slow and 25 yards time and rapid fire. Scores will be submitted for classification, if you are a NRA member. The

only difference is that we allow the use of either rimfire or centerfire for all line of fire. The course of fire is 30 rounds centerfire, then 30 rounds rimfire. We allow this and we accept the use of rimfire for both courses, so don't worry about having to use 2 guns unless you want to. The cost is \$2 for members and \$3 for non-members each.

You turkey hunters looking to match up your chokes/shot/shotguns before the season starts remember to use port 12 and that ALL individuals are responsible to pick up their cases, hulls, and targets

after shooting. And remember to sign in, so we can understand the number of times the range is used.

We will have a spring cleanup on April 24th, starting at 10:00 a.m., with a rain date the next day. Bring rake, shovel, and cutters. If anyone has a rain gutter, we need it over the entry area.

Until next time: "Keep 'em in the ten range."

--Dick Palmer



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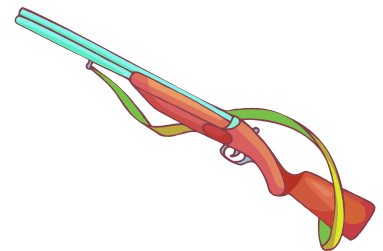
139 Center Street  
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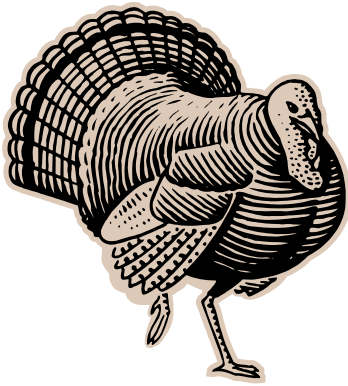
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We look forward to helping you with all of your graphic needs.



## FFF 2004 JUNIOR TURKEY HUNT



On Saturday May 1<sup>st</sup>, your club will offer you the chance to bring a Junior Hunter out on a fantastic turkey hunt. The hunt will take place on the Bass Farm leased property only. There will be no hunting on the club property due to the kids fishing derby taking place on the same day.

To take part in this great opportunity, you only need to know a hunter aged 12-15 who would like to hunt one of the most challenging game birds anywhere. These young sportsmen and women are the future of our sport, so please do your part by providing them this opportunity.

You do not have to be a Turkey Hunter to participate. If you do not have any turkey hunting experience, all you need to do is provide the junior hunter. The club will do its best to provide a knowledgeable turkey hunter to guide you and your junior on the day of

the hunt. So far, Patrick Enright and Dick Palmer have volunteered as guides and I ask that anyone else who can participate as a guide contact me.

You will need to take care of the following requirements:

- The junior hunter must have his/her own Spring Season **Private Land** Turkey Permit. Apply through the DEP.
- The Junior Hunter must have a written consent form signed by the land owner. FFF Junior Members consent form will be valid for the year. All others will only be valid for the day of the hunt. This will be handled through Don Badger.
- The Junior Hunter must be either a Junior Member of the club or a relative of a club member.
- Adult Mentors must be Club members, at least 21 yrs. old, have a valid spring turkey permit, and a written consent

form signed by the land owner. The adult mentor may not carry a firearm.

- All participants must sign up on the sheet located on the bulletin board in the bar no later than April 17<sup>th</sup>. A pre-hunt meeting will take place either April 24<sup>th</sup> or 25<sup>th</sup>. You will be contacted.

I hope that after the hunt you will go to the Fishing Derby to make the day a true 'Cast and Blast' experience. Let's work together to give these Junior Hunters a day they will never forget.

If you have any questions regarding the hunt or can volunteer as a guide, call me, Patrick Enright, at 429-0172.

Pat Enright is offering a great opportunity for our youngsters to learn the sport of turkey hunting. Bring your kid and bag a turkey.

## Skeet & Trap Field Rules



1. EYE AND EAR PROTECTION AT ALL TIMES
2. NO ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION BEFORE OR DURING SHOOTING
3. NON-MEMBERS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A MEMBER AT ALL TIMES
4. AFTER COMPLETION OF SHOOTING, TURN OFF MACHINES, RELEASE THROWING ARM, REFILL MACHINES WITH TARGETS, PUT AWAY CORD, TURN OFF LIGHTS AND LOCK DOORS.
5. PICK UP ALL HULLS ON FIELD
6. BRING EMPTY TARGET BOXES TO BURN AREA

*VIOLATIONS OF THE ABOVE WILL RESULT IN PENALTIES UP TO AND INCLUDING EXPULSION FROM THE FIN FUR AND FEATHER CLUB*

CFFF EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE

## New Pheasant Chairman & Schedule

As you may already know I have volunteered to take over the pheasant program. Four thousand birds have been ordered to arrive in two shipments. The first chicks will arrive April 26th to get ready for them there is a lot of work to be done in and around the pens. Please bring tools for general carpentry any cordless tools are a great help for this, also yard tools for weeds, brush, and leaves. We will also need people with power washers to clean the coops watering troughs, feeders and jars. Last year we also roto-tilled and seeded the pens which was a great help so anyone who can bring one would be one greatly appreciated.

--Thomas O'Neill

Pheasant Committee Chair

### Pheasant Work Dates:

March 27, Saturday, 8:00 a.m.

April 10, Saturday, 8:00 a.m.

April 17, Saturday, 8:00 a.m. (Rain Date)

April 26, Monday, Chicks Arrive

May 14, Friday, 4:00 p.m., Debeaking

May 28, Friday, 4:00 p.m., Blinders on

June 1, Tuesday, Chicks Arrive

June 18, Friday, 4:00 p.m., Debeaking

July 2, Friday, 4:00 p.m., Blinders on

Members should contact Thomas O'Neill at 860-546-9741 or at [toneill@mptn-nsn.gov](mailto:toneill@mptn-nsn.gov)

As President Bajger noted recently, if you want to hunt birds, you got to do your part taking care of the birds. Be there!

### Letter from the President, (continued from page 1)

stocking more fish in this pond or that pond. Instead, come on down and help keep these activities running smooth. Additionally, if you are interested in certain activities you should try and attend those committee meetings. That way you will know what's going on and you can share you ideas and offer your assistance to help with upcoming events.

In closing, I want to thank everyone for presenting me with the 2003 Man-of-the-Year Award. It is an honor and is very special to me to be recognized by my fellow members.

Thank you,  
*Donald A. Bajger*  
*The Iceman*

## Trap Seminar Offered by CT State Champ Bob Cooper

The Fin will be hosting a two-day seminar on trap shooting on Saturday and Sunday April 24th and 25th. We will start at 10:00 AM and end at 2:00 PM each day. You will be aided in patterning and fitting your gun, taught hold points, leads, and follow through. Targets will be shot while you are being coached. Bring lots of ammo (10 boxes) 12 Gauge 1 1/8 oz #8 shot. It is best to have a trap gun, but a sporting or skeet gun will give you a feel. You will HAVE TO HAVE

full or improved/modified chokes—any choke that is more open will not work. The seminar is free, but you will have to supply your ammo and pay for the birds that you shoot at. There will be Fin ammo for sale. Maximum number of participants will be 15. A second seminar will be scheduled later, depending on response.

Call Don O'Neil at 860-642-6805 to reserve a position

Remember to take photos, preferably with a digital camera, and send them my way for the newsletter and club website. Editor



Join Bob for a great seminar. Remember: empty hulls should not be left at the ranges. Clean up!



## 2004 Hunting Rules & Regulations

### OBSERVE ALL STATE HUNTING LAWS

**500 Foot Zone:** It is prohibited to hunt with, shoot, or carry a loaded firearm within *500 feet* of any building occupied by people or domestic animals, or used for storage of flammable material.

**Hunting Near Roads, Buildings, People, and Domestic Animals:** Hunting or shooting from or across the traveled portion of any public roadway is prohibited. Shooting toward any person, building, or domestic animal when within range is prohibited.

**Sunday Hunting Prohibited:** Possession of hunting implements on Sunday in the open is *prima facie* evidence of violation. Sunday hunting is allowed on licensed private shooting preserves when the operator has permission from the town.

**Motor vehicles:** Hunting or shooting from a motor vehicle is prohibited (except under Handicapped Hunting Opportunities, see p. 22 in *2002 CT Hunting and Trapping Guide*)

**Firearms in Vehicles:** It is prohibited to carry a loaded firearm in a vehicle.

**Fluorescent Orange Requirement:** During the period September 1 through the last day of February, hunters are required to wear at least 400 inches of fluorescent orange clothing above the waist and visible from all sides (for exceptions applied to archery deer and archery and firearms turkey hunters and others, see *2002 CT Hunting and Trapping Guide*).

**Legal Shooting Hours:** Do you know when it is legal to start and stop hunting? It is your responsibility to consult the *2002 CT Hunting and Trapping Guide!*

### OBSERVE ALL CLUB RULES AND REGULATIONS

**Field Dress Game Only.** Hunters are allowed to field dress game (remove entrails) only. Do not completely dress your game animal until you reach home. Also, dressing of game animals at the Club is prohibited.

1. Pheasant hunting will start at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday and Wednesday, and in accordance with State Law during the week.
2. Members are allowed two (2) pheasants per day. Junior Members are allowed one (1) pheasant per day. A Junior Member may pick his/her own A, B, or Wednesday season, but must hunt with a Club member who has a valid CT hunting license and is over 21 years of age.
3. Hunting or training of dogs near or around the pheasant pens is prohibited.
  - ◆ There shall be no hunting on the Clubhouse side of the rifle/pistol range access road.
  - ◆ All dogs must be leashed on the mowed grass area on the clubhouse side of the driveway.
4. 400 inches of fluorescent orange clothing must be above the waist and visible from all sides at all times while hunting.

5. No hunting waterfowl on Club-owned property.
  - ◆ Turkey and deer hunting is allowed on Club-leased property, with a Club Permit and a valid CT hunting license and tags. Junior members may apply for deer and turkey permits to hunt on Club-leased and Club-owned property and must hunt with a Club member who has a valid CT hunting license and is over 21 years of age. All season and bag limits are in accordance with CT state laws and regulations.
  - ◆ Turkey hunting is allowed on Club-owned property, with a Club Permit and a valid CT hunting license and tags.
  - ◆ Archery deer hunting only is allowed Club-owned property, with a Club Permit and a valid CT hunting license and tags.
  - ◆ Waterfowl hunting is allowed on Club-leased property. All state and federal hunting regulations and bag limits in addition to Club rules must be observed, with the exception being on Saturdays. Waterfowl hunting on Saturdays during the upland bird (pheasant) season is not allowed before 1:00 p.m. on Club-leased land. There will be no permanent blinds or dug pits allowed.
6. No parking in the skeet field parking lot until 10:00 a.m. on Saturdays during the hunting season, unless you have a handicapped permit vehicle.
7. Parking is allowed only where directed.
8. All pheasants must be signed in immediately after hunting.
9. Rifle & pistol ranges and skeet fields are closed on Saturdays and Wednesdays until 10:00 a.m. Use extreme caution when hunting near these areas.
10. Pheasants shot on Club-owned or Club-leased property do not have to be tagged with state tags, but must be signed in.
11. No shot size larger than #6 chilled shot shall be used while pheasant hunting on Club-owned or Club-leased property. Ammo to be checked at sign-in.
12. All dogs must be kept on leash or must come to heel after your party has taken its limit of pheasants.
13. Observe all state rules and regulations when hunting.
14. Use of motorized ATVs (All Terrain Vehicles) is restricted to Club-owned property.
15. On Thanksgiving Day fields will be stocked. All hunters are welcome.
  - ◆ Group A will hunt Club-owned property.
  - ◆ Group B will hunt the leased farms.
  - ◆ Wednesday group can hunt leased property.
  - ◆ All hunters must check in and get armbands before hunting.
  - ◆ Hunting starts at 8:00 a.m.
16. Pheasant harvest record weekday sign-in book is located inside the Clubhouse at the bar entrance.
17. No hunting on Wednesday until 10:00 a.m. on any Club-owned or Club-leased property, except by allowed Wednesday morning hunters and Turkey and deer hunters. Observe Red Zone signs without exception.





Fin Fur & Feather Club
2004 Application to Hunt Turkey & Deer

Use this form to apply for hunting privileges on FFF-owned and leased property for the 2003 season.

- I wish to hunt spring turkey.
I wish to hunt fall turkey.
I wish to hunt turkey in the following fields on the Bass Property. I have indicated my preferences for fields to hunt by circling the numbers below:

Table with 2 columns: My Preferences on Bass Property and My Preferences on Bass Property. Rows include 1st-4th East Field, 1st-4th Green Barn, 1st-4th Tomecko's, 1st-4th West Field.

- I wish to hunt turkey on Club-owned property. I have indicated my preferences for fields to hunt by circling the numbers below:
I wish to hunt deer on Club-owned property--archery only. I have indicated my preferences for fields to hunt by circling the numbers below:
I wish to hunt deer in the following fields on the Bass Property. I have indicated my preferences for fields to hunt by circling the numbers below:

Table with 2 columns: My Preferences on Bass Property and My Preferences on Bass Property. Rows include 1st-4th East Field, 1st-4th Green Barn, 1st-4th Tomecko's, 1st-4th West Field.

Method(s) of hunting deer: Archery Shotgun Muzzleloader

- I understand that no tree stands may be used on Club-owned or Club-leased land at any time.
I understand that this application must be returned to the Clubhouse Bar by April 21, 2004 in order to be considered; and that once all applications have been reviewed, permits to hunt will be available at the Clubhouse Bar by April 28, 2004.
I have read State law and regulations and Club rules and I agree to abide by all hunting laws and regulations.

Name: FFF Membership ID Number:

Street Address: Town:

Phone: Signature: Date:

APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 21, 2004

Notice: Members are hereby notified that they must observe all State hunting laws and regulations in addition to Club Rules.

Failure to abide by State law and regulations or Club rules may result in Board action against the offending member, including action subsequent to court rulings against the member.

—FFF Board of Directors

## Fin Sporting Clays in 2004



The sporting clay season is fast approaching at the Fin. Again this year we are part of the Eastern Connecticut Sporting Clay League and have four home shoots.

Ducks Unlimited will be back this year on June 19th.

The format will be the same as last year. League shoots are 50 birds starting at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 1:00 p.m.

The Ducks Unlimited Shoot will be 100 targets with starting time at 9:00 a.m. and finishing after lunch.

As in the past, all workers are welcome to lunch and to shoot the course in the afternoon at no cost.

### 2004 Dates

**March 18 - East Glastonbury**

**April 18 - Colchester**

**May 16 - Fin Fur Feather**

**June 6 - East Glastonbury**

**June 19 - Ducks Unlimited, FFF**

**July 11 - Colchester**

**July 25 - Fin Fur Feather**

**August 29 - East Glastonbury**

**September 19 - Colchester**

**September Club Shotgun Championship details to be announced.**

**October 3 - Fin Fur Feather Season Finale**

Jim, Nancy, and I thank you for your help and support over the past years in making this program a growing success. We ask for your help to make this year even better than the past.

If you can help be a trapper on any of the shoots, please call Dick White at 860-456-4382 and leave a message. The Ducks Unlimited Shoot will again provide a chicken BBQ for lunch, so BBQ-skilled cooks will be needed. Please call if you can help.

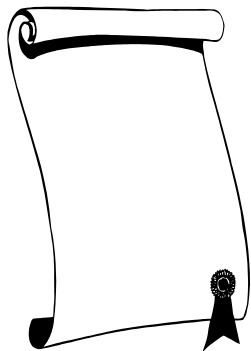
This is a great opportunity to get your work hours in early and have some fun at the same time!

Thank you,

Jim & Nancy Davidson & Dick White

Co-Chairpersons

When that next sporting clays event takes place, take some great digital photos and send them to the Editor.



Bring in a new member and sit back to enjoy the year at the club. Your work hours are done.

**BOB'S LAWN & YARD SERVICE**

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## Fishing at the Fin in 2004

**March 18** - all ponds will be stocked

**March 19** - No fishing

**March 20** - fishing opens at 8 AM - fly pond is NO-KILL

**March 27** - work party to clear the brush at the top of the fly pond near the big rock, resurface the docks, clear brush on lower ponds

**April 3** - fishing derby open to all for a fee of \$10 per rod - 9AM to 3PM

Kitchen will be open from 8AM to 3PM - breakfast and lunch will be available

**April 4** - fly pond opens for members - taking of fish is allowable

**April 15** - all ponds will be stocked

**April 16** - No fishing

**April 17** - fishing opens at 8 AM

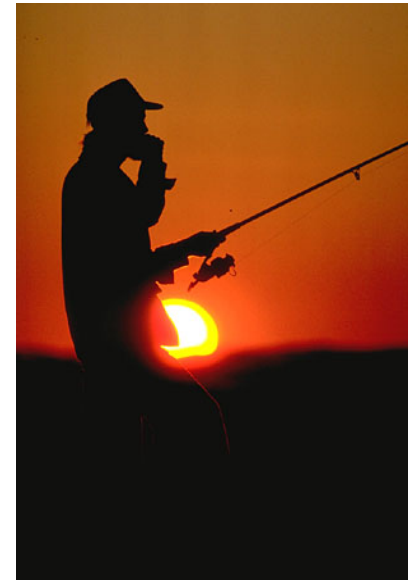
**April 29** - fly pond is stocked for Kid's Derby

**April 30** - fly pond is closed to fishing - fly fishing is allowed in the other ponds

**May 1** - Kid's Derby - Fly Pond - 8AM to 12 NOON


Other ponds are open for fishing and fly fishing in them is allowed

Fly Pond opens to members for fly fishing at 1PM - No fly fishing allowed in other ponds.



Have you ever seen those signs on the highway for how far away it is to Wall Drug? Stop wasting your time reading stupid signs. Take some digital pictures for the Newsletter

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## 2004 Deer, Turkey, & Waterfowl Hunting

This year (2004) your Club will have spring and fall turkey, waterfowl, small game, and deer hunting on Club-Leased property. Also, turkey and archery deer hunting are available on Club-Owned property. All seasons and bag limits are in accordance with CT State laws and regulations. For instance, if you wish to hunt goose on Club-leased land, you must use steel or bismuth shot only. Lead shot is illegal on waterfowl. Thus, if you are caught with lead shot on your person while goose hunting, you will be subject to DEP rulings and may face fines or worse punishment.

All applicants must be members in good standing with all fees paid and work requirements completed by **September 30th**.

Waterfowl/goose hunting is open to all members. There will be no permanent blinds or dug pits allowed. At least 400 square inches of hunter orange must be worn above the waist and visible from all sides while walking to and from your hunting area. Spring and fall turkey hunting will be open to all members. At least 400 square inches of hunter orange must be worn above the waist and visible from all sides while walking to and from your hunting area.

Fall deer hunting by archery, shotgun only, and muzzleloader will be open to all members. At least 400 square inches of hunter orange must be worn above the waist and be visible from all sides at all times while hunting during the shotgun only and muzzleloader deer seasons.

In order to fairly distribute the required permits for turkey and deer hunting, please complete the attached application form and return it to the Club no later than **April 21, 2004**—in care of Hunting Committee. A lottery system by hunting area and species may be necessary, depending on the volume of hunting application forms received from members. Permits will then be available for pick up at the Club on or after **April 28, 2004**.

Mike Sadlak, a member of the Fin and advertiser (below) offers "Quality Innovative Firearm Components, including M14/M1A Rifle Parts. Give him a call at:

860-742-0227.



### Foresight

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## Calendar Of Events Scheduled at the Fin

- March 14: 3D Archery
- March 19: Corned Beef Dinner
- March 20: Set Back
- March 27: CT Trappers Fur Sale
- March 29, 31, & April 2, 3: CE/FS Hunter Safety Course
- April 4: Easter Egg Hunt
- April 18: 3D Archery
- April 24: Set Back
- May 2: National Match Course
- May 9: 3D Archery (Mom's Shoot Free!)
- June 6: M1 Garand Match
- June 13: 3D Archery
- June 19: Ducks Unlimited Sporting Clays
- June 20: National Match Course
- June 23: State Picnic
- July 18: National Match Course
- August 15: FFF Family Picnic
- August 22: Registered Trap
- August 28-29: N-SSA
- September 11: Archery Work Day
- September 12: 3D Archery
- September 18: Polish Dinner
- September 19: National Match Course
- October 3: National Match Course
- November 25: Thanksgiving
- December 25: Christmas

The 2003 Annual FFF Christmas Party may seem like old news, but as these photos show, John and Laura Pawelec and fellow club members gave our kids a great day.



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## Recipe: Hot Licks

- 1 jar (10 oz.) apple jelly
- 1 jar (10 oz.) pineapple preserves [I've used apricot when I can't find pineapple]
- 5 oz. prepared horseradish
- 1 small can or 1/2 of 1.55 oz. can dry mustard powder
- 1 brick of cream cheese

### INSTRUCTIONS

- Mix first 4 ingredients together
- Pour over brick of cream cheese (not the entire mix, because it makes a lot; you can probably get 2 or 3 dishes out of the mix to 2 or 3 bricks of cream cheese).
- Spread on your favorite crackers

ENJOY

—Marie Bajger

## Recipe: Crab Delight

- 1 bottle Heinz Shrimp Sauce
- 1 can crab meat (Or use equivalent in fresh meat if you're so lucky as to have it.)
- 1 brick cream cheese

### INSTRUCTIONS

- Place brick of cream cheese on 6 inch platte
- Drain crab meat of water and spread evenly (thickly) over cream cheese
- Pour most of the shrimp sauce over the crab meat
- Serve with your favorite crackers

*Live it up a little...You earned it!*

—Sam Bridger

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**Stop in and visit! We love our "guests" and their pets!**

# Fin Fur & Feather Club, Inc.

P. O. Box 81 Chewink Road  
North Windham, CT 06256

Phone: 860-455-9516

Fin Fur & Feather Club Mission Statement:

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.

## We're on the Web:

[www.finfurfeatherclub.com](http://www.finfurfeatherclub.com)

Fin Fur & Feather Club Mission Statement:

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.



## U.S. Constitution

### Bill of Rights Amendment 2

**“A well regulated militia,  
being necessary to the security  
of a free State, the right of  
the people to keep and bear  
Arms, shall not be infringed.”**

**In God we  
trust....**

**With  
liberty and  
justice for  
all**

**Bring on justice!**

### Executive Officers

Don Bajger, President	860-423-6693
Charles Bruckerhoff, Vice-President	860-455-1229
Dick Palmer, Secretary	860-487-0388
Jon Guarino, Treasurer	860-423-3347

### Executive Committee

Steve Davis	860-558-1890
Bob Hruskocy	860-569-1592
Ron Mott	860-742-6372
John Pawelec	860-429-7033
Joe Pirolo	860-742-5003
John Postemski	860-423-9396
Bob Theriault	860-456-3431
Keith Morehouse (alternate)	860-547-1333

### Committee Chairpersons

Archery: Rick Turcotte	860-742-6353
Bar: Steve Davis	860-558-1890
Black Powder: Charles Bruckerhoff	860-455-1229
Building/Grounds: Ron Mott	860-742-6372
By-Laws Review: Dick White	860-456-4382
Glenn Heinonen	860-423-8144
Bob Theriault	860-456-3431
Mary Goss	860-423-3211
Children's Fund: John & Laura Pawelec	860-429-7033
Family Picnic: Bob Theriault	860-456-3431
Field Trials: Ken Shane	860-456-8315
Finance Review: Ken Shane	860-456-8315
Peter Rich	860-423-6735
James Northrop	860-642-6802
Fishing: Frank Mauri	860-974-1425
Health/Welfare: Mary Goss	860-423-3211
Hunting: Don Bajger	860-423-6693
Insurance Review: Eugene Lewis	860-423-3341
Junior Programs: Charles Bruckerhoff	860-455-1229
Pat Enright	860-429-0172
Kevin Segar	860-429-4925
Kitchen: John Pawelec	860-429-7033
Membership: Bob Hruskocy	860-569-1592
Steve Davis	860-558-1890
Merchandise: John Pawelec	860-429-7033
Newsletter: Charles Bruckerhoff	860-455-1229
Pheasants: Don Bajger	860-423-6693
Pistol: Dick Palmer	860-487-0388
Rifle: Peter Mathewson	860-456-8588
Shotgun: Joe Pirolo	860-742-5003
Sporting Clays: Dick White	860-456-4382
James Davidson	860-742-7676
Trap: Don O'Neil	860-642-6805
Bob Hruskocy	860-569-1592

Let us never forget the men and women who today proudly serve this great country, the United States of America, and all who have done so before them. In our times, these brave soldiers continue to place their lives on the line in Afghanistan, Iraq, and most recently in Haiti, so that the freedoms we enjoy at home are not diminished, and so that the American ideals of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness prevails. That is our gift to the world and as anyone knows who has served, it comes with a high price tag: courage and at times self-sacrifice. We will measure up to our ancestors and we will not let down our children and grandchildren. --Editor

