



ROD & GUN GAZETTE

VOLUME 19 | ISSUE 1 | MARCH 2018

JOIN QJS

MAY 5TH

CLUB WIDE CLEAN UP DAY

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Kevin Theriault, President

So it's March already as I write this and it will be soon time to start fishing. The Club ponds will be getting stocked soon and the Pheasant committee will be starting to get ready for the arrival of the birds. Sporting Clays, Five Stand and 3D Archery will be starting soon. There is a lot of work to be done around the club to get it ready for all the upcoming year's events. The Club needs your help. There are many committees that have plenty of work to get done, making it easy to get your 10 hours in. At the back of the newsletter is a list of all committee chairmen and their phone numbers. Give them a call I'm sure they can tell you what you can do to help them out. There will be a work day on May 5, 2018 starting at 8 am. All ranges including skeet and trap will be closed until 12 noon that day so we can clean up around the club and all other areas. 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 dues. Please help out and try to attend some of these great dinners and events we have. Remember to get your raffle tickets sold for this year, as always there are some great prizes to be won.



UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

- 17th Annual Corn Beef Dinner at 6 pm.
- 25th 3-D Archery Shoot.
- 29th First Fish Stocking.

APRIL

- 3rd Executive Board meeting at 6:30 pm.
- 8th 3-D Archery Shoot.
- 10th Membership Meeting at 7 pm.
- 12th Second Fish Stocking.
- 14th Opening Day of Fishing Season.
- 15th Annual Chili Cook Off at 1pm.
- 21st Prime Rib Dinner at 6 pm.

MAY

- 1st Executive Board Meeting at 6:30 pm.
Third Stocking – for the Kids' Derby.
Fly pond is closed till the Kids' Derby.
- 4th Friday Sporting Clays set up at 9 am.
Easy work hours.
- 5th Annual Club Wide Clean-Up Day.
Meet at 8 am. Bring lawn tools,
should finish by noon.
**ALL RANGES WILL BE CLOSED
WHILE WORK DAY IS GOING ON.**
- 12th First Annual John Shea's
Largest Trout Derby.
- 20th Opening of Sporting Clays,
shoot starts at 9 am.

JUNE

- 3rd 3-D Archery Shoot.
- 5th Executive Board Meeting at 6:30 pm.
- 10th Sporting Clays Shoot at 9 am.
- 17th Membership Meeting at 7 pm.

JULY

- 21st Annual steak dinner,
you can cook it or
the crew can cook it.

MAY 5TH – ANNUAL CLUB WIDE CLEANUP DAY

The Club Wide Cleanup Day starts at 8am and runs through noon on Saturday, May 5th. We need members to bring all types of lawn tools, carts, trailers, saws, leaf blowers, ladders, and anything else that will help in refreshing our grounds after winter's mess. It's a chance to earn easy hours and we'll have refreshments.

UPCOMING DINNERS/KITCHEN

Members, our Club puts on some real great dinners through the year to help offset the cost of running some of our programs. If you haven't tried one of these dinners you must come out, you definitely won't go home hungry.

The Annual Corn Beef & Cabbage – March 17th.

Starts at 6 pm, and the cost is just \$12.00.

The Annual Chili Cook Off – April 15th at 1pm.

Members cooking Chili is no charge. All taster's (members or non-members) is \$5.00. This is a fun event; years past there were over 15 cooks trying for the top prize. Contact John Pawelec for details

The Annual Prime Rib dinner – April 21st at 6 pm.

This dinner usually sells out quick so keep checking the bar for tickets They go on sale before the end of March.

The 2nd Annual Steak Dinner – July 21st.

16 oz Rib Eye. You can either cook it yourself or have the staff do it. Again, limited tickets, check the bar like in June for tickets.

The Annual Flick' in The Bird Chicken BBQ dinner – Sept. 15th.

Watch the newsletter and e-mail.

The Annual Roast Pork dinner – Dec 8th at 6 pm.

Tickets go on sale in Nov.

MEMBERSHIP

Bob Hruskocy, Membership Chairman

Currently, the club membership has:

Regular – 342

Associate – 224

Junior – 21

Life – 165

The club added 74 new members in 2017, however there were 71 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 in April for those that need to get their range safety cards. An email will be sent to notify the date.

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SPORTING CLAYS

Dick Palmer

The 2018 season is upon us and I hope everyone is looking forward to another great season outdoors, shooting at those pesky sporting clays targets. First, I want to thank everyone who has worked our shoots in the past, for without them, there wouldn't be Sporting clays. Working these events is fun and is an easy way to collect your work hours. Report times are 8 am; shooting starts at 9 am and pick up is about 1pm. After looking at the schedule, call me at 860-933-4768 or email me at rpalmer12@snet.net to ink in your availability to work. Last year our members had contacted me in advance to indicate their availability to work which was a great success, and I hope that it can continue again this year.

We need 7 trappers for each shoot except Ducks Unlimited, for which we need about 17 trappers. On Friday, May 4th at 9 am, we will set up the Sporting Clays course. Help is needed. We will work until the seven stations are done but won't go beyond noon. We'll need blowers, snips, shovels, rakes, and couple of chain saws.

2018 Sporting Clays Schedule

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| May 4th | Friday 9am sporting clays course set up. |
| May 20th | Sunday 9 am. |
| June 10th | Sunday 9 am. |
| July 8th | Sunday 9 am. |
| Aug. 5th | Sunday 9 am. |
| Sept. 8th | Saturday Ducks Unlimited Shoot.
Shotgun start at 9 am. |
| Sept. 16th | Sunday 9am. Last shoot of the year. |



PHEASANT REPORT

Paul Cardinal again has done an outstanding job in our Pheasant program. The final outcome of 2017 program was that it cost the Club \$2.91 to raise 3,800, 8 week old birds. One of the bigger expenses this year was the cost of grain. We had stocked 1,925 birds and sold 1,700. Our losses total 180 with about 25 unaccounted for. We had gone through the stocking days sign in and non-stocking days to total the hunters and birds signed in. These results are as follows; Saturday "A" total 154 hunters with only 215 total signed out. Now Saturday "B" total 174 hunters with only 195 total birds signed out. Our Wednesday group had 122 hunters with only 176 birds total signed out. Then on the non-stocking days 69 hunters signed out 44 birds, and Thanksgiving saw 44 hunters, with only 63 birds signed out. It's every hunter's responsibility to sign out your birds. So this shows we had a total of 563 hunters, and only 693 were signed in. Members purchase birds and Fun trails accounted for some additional totals, but there are a lot of birds not signed in.

GAME DINNER



Awards were presented to Troy Quick for "2017 Man of The Year", President Theriault, Troy Quick, and vice President Tom Potter

On January 28th, Club members were hosted to an excellent game dinner. Bar none, this was a fantastic meal. Members were served venison meat loaf, stuff mushrooms, pheasant pot pie, bear chili, sea duck soup, mash potatoes, French green beans, goose kielbasa, other delicious items, and dessert. Special guests were area state politicians and our First Selectman from Chaplin. During the dinner, raffle tickets were sold for some great prizes from goose decoys, fly pole, gift certificates, and many outdoor items, which all cumulated with a 50/50 raffle. Thank you to all who donated prizes and congratulations to all the winners. Thanks to Bob Baird, who stepped up to coordinate and cook this event, and to all our chef members: Mitch Dominique; Kevin Goodell; Vickie Mathieu; Dean McKusick; Hal Nelson; Shawn Peach; Mark Peters; Bill Schultz; Ed Smith Sr.; Dick Palmer; Bruce Macaro; and Bill Spears. If I missed anyone, I apologize; contact me and I'll make sure your name is in June's newsletter.



President Theriault presents the "Special Appreciation Award" to Dick Palmer for being President in 2017



Here's one of the many cooks, Bruce Macaro, preparing the goose kielbasa

FISH COMMITTEE REPORT – 2018

All fishermen must purchase a badge for \$25.00, which entitles them to fish and hunt.

All Junior members must also purchase a badge for \$10.00. The badges are available for purchase at the bar.

Fish stockings will take place on the following dates:

1st stocking – March 29th (Weather Permitting)

2nd stocking – April 12th

3rd stocking – May 3rd

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 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 May 3rd until May 6th, the day of the Kid's Fishing Derby. The Fly Pond will be closed IMMEDIATELY following the Kid's Fishing Derby and will re-open on May 12th for the John Shea Biggest Trout Derby.

The Kid's fishing derby will be held Sunday, May 6th from 9am – 12 noon at the fly pond. Signup 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.

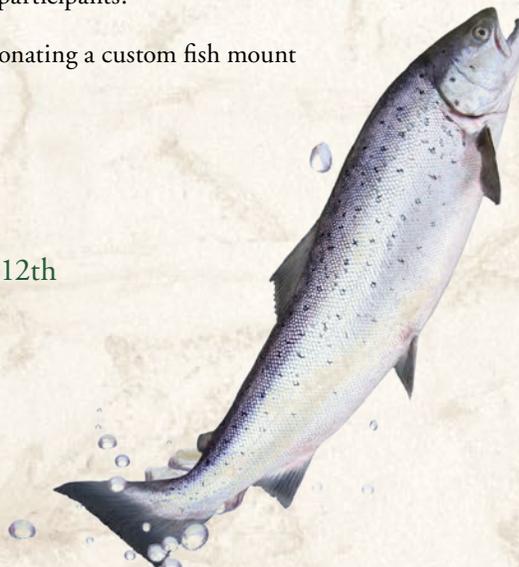
We are seeking donations so we can purchase additional fish and prizes for the derby. There will be a sign up sheet located in the bar. Please donate and help make this event fun for all participants!

This year, Outdoor Adventures from Tolland, CT will be donating a custom fish mount to the derby goer who catches the biggest trout!

Upcoming Events

- Corned Beef Dinner, Saturday, March 17th
- Prime Rib Dinner, Saturday, April 21st
- John Shea Biggest Trout Derby, Saturday, May 12th
- Roast Pork Dinner, Saturday, December 8th

MORE DETAILS COMING SOON!!!



2018 FIN FUR FEATHER CLUB APPLICATION TO HUNT TURKEY/DEER

Members, you need to complete this application for hunting privileges on FFF owned and leased land for the 2018 season and you must return it to the bartender in a timely fashion. Deadline is April 11th. Your application must be completed in full and your signature must be clearly readable. If you do not want to hunt turkey or deer, don't fill this form out.

- I wish to hunt Turkey on lease land.
 I wish to hunt deer on lease land
 I wish to hunt Turkey on Club own property.
 I wish to hunt deer on Club own property (Archery Only).
 Method(s) of hunting deer: Shotgun Archery Muzzleloader
 I understand that only portable tree stands are allowed. My name and Club Number must be on each stand, and I need to remove them at the end of season.
 I have read all State laws and regulations, all Club rules and agree to abide by all hunting laws and regulations.

This application must be returned to the clubhouse by April 11th to be considered. After this date the applications will be reviewed, slips will be available at the bar.

Name _____

FFF Number _____

Your current address _____

State _____

Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____

Signature _____

Date _____

NOTICE

- * You must purchase a valid 2018 badge to hunt Turkey, Deer, Waterfowl, and Pheasants etc. on Club or lease property.
- * Members are hereby notified that they must observe ALL State Hunting laws, regulations, and follow All Club rules.
- * Failure to abide State laws/regulations, or Club rules may result in your forfeiture of Hunting badge, suspension of privileges, or both.
- * All Deer and Turkey harvested must be reported within 24 hours by signing the book by the bar Door.
- * Sunday Bow Hunting is for lease land "only". **You need to have met all work hours and to have purchased your badge.**

IMPORTANT NOTE

When purchasing your badge and you plan on hunting pheasant in the fall, please be certain of which group you plan on hunting with. Once these buttons are purchase you will not be able to exchange them to another hunting group. The groups are Wednesday, Saturday "A", and Saturday "B".

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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.*

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