



# ROD & GUN GAZETTE

VOLUME 19 | ISSUE 3 | SEPTEMBER 2018



## The Hunt Begins

Our Pheasants Have Arrived





# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Members, it has been a great pleasure for me to serve as your President during the past year. 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 Oct 11th 2018 at 7:00 PM. Remember only Life and Regular members can vote at the meeting. I need to thank the existing Executive Board for their hard work and commitment to our Club.

Fall is approaching fast. Before you know it, hunting season will be upon us. There has been a lot of things happening at the Club this year. First, Bill Schultz and his crew did an amazing job remodeling the kitchen. If you haven't seen it, stop by and take a look. Second, the Club made a major purchase and bought a new Kubota Tractor to help maintain our grounds and unload our targets. There have also been lots of dinners and functions this year with still more to come. The chicken BBQ, Club Championship, sporting clays and archery shoots are still to happen. So come to the Club and spend some time enjoying the facilities. Watch your emails for updates on these and other functions that will be happening. I would also like to take this time to Thank all the committee chairmen and their families for all they do for this Club. Without these dedicated members the club would not function as smoothly as it does. So please, when they set up a work party, try to help out.

**In closing I need to remind everyone that all obligations must be met before you are allowed to purchase your hunting badges. The badges must be purchased prior to October 1st. NO EXCEPTIONS.**

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## SEPTEMBER

- 15th Annual chicken BBQ; tickets at the bar.
- 15th Wood cutting day for our winter heat at 8 am.
- Final Sporting Clays Shoot at 9 am.
- 16th If you need work hours, contact Dick Palmer at 860-933-4768.
- 22nd Benefit dinner for Crystal and Clayton.
- 30th 3-D Archery Shoot at 7 am.
- 30th Last day to purchase Hunting Badges.

## OCTOBER

- 2nd Executive Board meeting at 6:30 pm.
- 9th Membership meeting with elections at 7 pm.
- 20th State Opening Day of Hunting – "A" group starts at 8 am.
- 24th Wednesday Group starts at 8 am.
- 27th Saturday "B" Group starts at 8 am.

## NOVEMBER

- 6th Executive Board at 6:30 pm.
- 13th Membership Meeting at 7 pm.
- 24th Thanksgiving Day. Clubhouse closes at 1 pm.

## DECEMBER

- 10th Newsletter Deadline
- 11th Membership meeting.
- 24th Annual Membership Christmas get together at noon, Club closes at 5 pm.

# OCTOBER ELECTIONS

At the regular meeting on Sept. 11th, the Nominating Committee submitted names for the upcoming elections in October. The membership also provided names to place on the ballot as well. The following is that list for nominations; being that there wasn't multiple members running for the Officer's positions. Your Officers for the coming year are President Kevin Theriault, Vice President Troy Quick, Secretary Mark Holland, and Treasurer Tom Hoagland. Now for the Executive Board, these are the names that were either submitted by the nominating committee or through nominations from the floor; Bill Schultz, Tom Potter, Wayne Mather, Paul Cardinal, Mike Nowosieski, David Jones, Dick Palmer, Matt Halloran, Glen Heinonen, Ted Powell, Dudley Brand, Shawn Covell, and Bob Mullins. There are only nine(9) voted in, seven(7) of which are on the Board, and two(2) are Alternates.

Remember only Regular or Life members can vote, please bring your membership card to receive a ballot. If you can't attend this meeting, you can submit a proxy vote, by contacting the Nominating Chairman and following the By-Laws.

## MEMBERSHIP

*Bob Hruskocy, Membership Chairman*

So far to date the club has added 78 members, which is slightly more than last year at this time. The club's membership categories are as follows: Regular 349; Associate 242; Junior 24; and Life 162. 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 2018 invoices in mid-November. If there are any discrepancies, please let me know.

# HUNTING

All work hours and raffle obligations must be completed by September 30th.

The Club still has functions going on, plus the stocking roads need to be cleared of fallen trees or over grown brush. Remember when filling out the permission slips that ALL information must be on it, if not they can't be processed. If anyone is willing to take over the Hunt Chairman position, please contact Wayne Mather or Kevin Theriault.

Reminder that the deadline for your hunting badges is Sept. 30th



## 5TH CONNECTICUT VOLUNTEERS

At the end of July the 5th Connecticut Volunteers Civil War group was here for their competition using Civil War era guns. They had a great turn out, the weather was dry. Our Club has two members Nick Lucas, and Bob Grogone who belong to this group and reflected their member's comments that the Club is a great host. Couple of our members while watching the competition were given the opportunity to fire these guns, wow, they were impressed.

If you didn't have the opportunity to watch the action, they only come around once every two years.

## BENEFIT DINNER

Members are sponsoring a benefit dinner starting at 2 pm on September 22nd for Crystal Gebhardt and Clayton Coogan. Crystal is a bartender for the Club and Clayton is a member. Crystal has endured a medical condition during this past year, and we're all hoping that the light at the end of the tunnel will be getting brighter. Our members have gotten together to host a beautiful benefit for them both and their family. Please check at the bar for tickets and information to support this benefit.

There is a pot luck dinner, live music, those attending please bring a food dish. Members helping out members, thank you.



# SPORTING CLAYS

*Dick Palmer*

The 2018 Sporting clays season is almost over. Our last shoot is Sept. 16th at 9 am. We want to thank all of our members who came out to help with the program. We are already planning the 2019 season, Ducks Unlimited are already on the book for 2019. We are finalizing the dates as we go to press. These shoots wouldn't be possible if it wasn't for our members stepping up to trap. Again thank you to you all. The Sporting Clays are managed by a group of five members, who set up, and adjust machines prior to the shoots, and work each shoot. The team consists of Bruce Macaro, Mike Fromerth, Matt Halloran, Mark Holland, and myself. If any member would like to help and be part of this team please contact Dick Palmer, 860-933-4768.

Thanks again. See you in 2019



*Left to right in photo: Dan Gutt, Pete Kasacek, Alan Gnann, Bob Hruskocy, Brian Scussel*

## TRAP

*Bob Hruskocy, Trap Chairman*

The competitive Trap season is winding down. The CT State Trap shoot was held at end of June at the Hartford Gun Club.

This is the biggest shoot in NE with roughly 275 participants.

The FFF members represented the club well over the 3 day event.

In Fridays preliminary day, Alan Gnann was high score in Handicap with a 97, unfortunately since he did not have enough "registered" targets, he was not eligible for any prizes

In Saturdays 200 Singles event, Brian Scussel was the Class AA champion. He also won his Class in Sundays doubles event.

I was lucky enough to finish 4th in the Sundays Handicap Championship, Pete Kasacek was in shoot off for 6th place but fell a target short.

Dan Gutt and Bob Cooper made their first trip to Sparta, IL to attend the Grand National Championship in August. This event is attending by approximately 2000 shooters from around the world.

Bob shot quite well and is very close to earning All-American status for this year. Dan shot a 98 & 97 in two different Handicap events, once heck of an accomplishment.

He was the Champion for his Category for one of the events. He also won High Over All for his Class as well. I heard they are going back next year !



# PHEASANT REPORT

*Paul Cardinal, Pheasant Chairman, 860-377-0453*

Hunting season is right around the corner. We have approximately 1800 pheasants that will be ready for stocking this fall. We also have an additional  $\pm 200$  birds for sale due to a cancellation order. You can buy birds directly from the club for your personal use, call me directly.

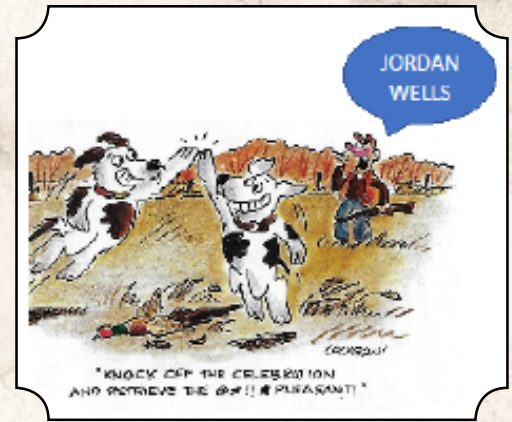
Help will be needed to catch birds on every Tuesday and Friday at 3:30pm and help with stocking on early Saturday mornings. Without catchers and stockers we can not hunt the birds. SIGN UP! Call or text me at 860-377-0453.

I want to thank the 35+ members that showed up to help unload the delivery truck back u1 July and everybody that helps ill all aspects of raising and stocking of the pheasants. This is very important part of the club, we have a very strong pheasant program and without all your, help it wouldn't happen!

Thank you.



*Photos taken by Jeremy Matson*



## DUCKS UNLIMITED SPORTING CLAYS

On Sept. 8th, Ducks Unlimited held their annual Sporting Clays at the Fin. 101 shooters in attendance enjoyed a shotgun start shooting 100 targets, a great meal put on by Ducks Unlimited, an award ceremony, and numerous raffles. Our Club has been hosting them for a number of years, and they enjoy our facility and hospitality. They have already booked the 2019 shoot.



*Shooter on the mark before yelling pull.*



*Target flying out.*



*The target is broken.*



# THE FAMILY PICNIC

This year's family picnic was another great time. The weather gods provided us with cooler temps and lower humidity, and a refreshing breeze which kept your hair flying and napkins blowing in the wind. As usual all the cooks did an excellent job providing loads of food which saw lines that seem to never end. Photos below showed our members enjoying themselves.



*Ron Mott and family enjoying the food and music from the Bruce John group.*



*Looks like Tom Potter is lip syncing to the music, while members are in the food lines.*



*Don't know who's having the most fun, the kids in the egg tossing contest, or John running around passing them out.*



*Everyone's keeping their distance from the Kids egg tossing contest.*



*Here's some happy faces*



# THE FIN HOSTS THE SCOUTS FROM JUNE NORCROSS WEBSTER

*Hoss Haskell,  
JNW NRA Shooting Sports Coordinator*



For the 10th year, the Fin Fur Feather has hosted Scouts from June Norcross Webster's NRA shooting sports week of camp. The Boy Scouts' June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation is located in Ashford CT. Scouts attending this week of camp do so to be introduced to the many shooting sports disciplines. The Fin Fur Feather provided a day away from camp in which the scouts engaged in an introduction to Trap, Skeet. Fin members Mike Sobol Sr, and Randy Russo supported the day with their time, skills and equipment. The scouts attending this week of camp are mostly from eastern Connecticut. These Scouts are the future of shooting sports and potentially future Fin members. Many thanks to the Fin Fur Feather Club for hosting the Scouts from June Norcross Webster's NRA shooting sports week of camp.

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### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Kevin Theriault, President 860-428-5519  
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Tom Hoagland, Treasurer 860-455-0641  
Mark Holland, Secretary 860-617-3750

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Open Position

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