



ROD & GUN GAZETTE

VOLUME 21 | ISSUE 3 | SEPT 2021

IT'S THE SEASON...
**HUNTING
SEASON!**



Say Goodbye to Summer with a BANG

REMEMBER: purchase your 2021 badge prior to October 1st

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear members, another year is upon us; it has been an honor serving the club and members as your President. I would personally like to thank the Executive Board and committee members for all their hard work and dedication this past year.

The new hunting season is upon us, if you do not have your work hours in, you're running out of time. Feel free to contact me or committee members if you have any questions.

I'm happy to say all events this past month, and months prior, have all been a great success. Teamwork truly does make the dream work, this includes Frank Decker and Glenn Heinonen and for all their hard work during and after the State Skeet Shoot. Their dedication did not go unnoticed or unappreciated.

Covid-19 unfortunately is still a part of our daily lives. Please stay safe and aware of your surroundings.

In conclusion, I would like to wish all skeet teams and all my fellow hunters a winning season.

Good Luck to all.

Troy Quick, *President*

IN MEMORY

During the year we lost members who made a huge impact on the Club's operation.

One was Bill O'Hara, Bill was the Club's Secretary for many years. He also started the Club's Annual Sportsman Tag Sale, and had provided many vegetables for our members. He was a true Coast Guard veteran, and had a voice you could hear over a crowded room.

The other member was Arnie Postemski, Arnie was a huge provider of version for the Club's Annual Game Dinner every year for many, many years. Arnie also was involved with the Hunter Safety Program run by the State and held here at the Fin. Arnie started as an instructor and worked his way up to Chief Instructor.

Thank you to these two individuals and the others who have gone as well.

VOTE



TE

CLUB ELECTIONS

OCTOBER 12, 2021

REMINDER ANNUAL ELECTIONS

Members the regular meeting on September 14, 2021 is the only night that members can be nominated for either an Officer or Executive Member at large. That member must be present at the meeting or submit a letter indicating his or her acceptance. The Elections are October 12, 2021 during the membership meeting at 7 pm. Only regular and Life members can vote and you must have your membership card with you to receive a ballot.

MEMBERSHIP

So far to date the club has added 120 members. That is an all-time high! There are a lot of new gun owners that are looking at a place to shoot. If you happen to meet any of the new members, please welcome them to the club.

The club's membership categories are as follows: Regular 362; Associate 319; Junior 14; and Life 163.

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 hours and are planning on hunting, you need to pay for your hours 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 2021 invoices in mid-November. If there are any discrepancies, please let me know.

Regards

Bob Hruskocy, *Membership Chairman*

TRAP

Please fill the machine after you are done shooting. In colder weather, please let the machines warm up before shooting. Also, DO NOT adjust the height of the targets. They are set at a specific height for a reason. Reminder: Field 5 is set for trap doubles; Field 6 and 7 are for regular trap; Field 4 is set for "Skap".



Long time club member Bob Cooper was inducted into the Connecticut Trapshooting Hall of Fame at the 2021 CT State Shoot. Bob has shot over 170k registered targets in his career. He has won numerous State & Regional titles as well as being on the ATA All-American team.

Congrats Coop, a well-deserved honor!

Bob Hruskocy, *Trap Chairman*

SKEET REPORT

Skeet is alive and well at the Fin. The Winter League will start on Oct. 3rd, the Fin will be well represented and hopefully we will do as well as last year. Good Luck to all the Teams. The monthly inventory control is closely monitored by the Skeet Committee, and the Executive Board. Please pay for your rounds shot in a timely fashion and if the bar is open please go inside and pay, and only use the drop box when it's closed. Gun safety is of extreme importance, please watch your muzzle direction and shoot safety and often.

The Fin hosted the CT State Skeet Championship this past Labor Day weekend, the committee wishes to thank our 45 members who volunteered their time over the course of 3 days to make this a successful shoot. The Fin received high marks and compliments from the shooters and the State administration. Thank you all, listed below are the results from the shoot involving our members participating in the different categories,

- **Starting on Friday afternoon, the Doubles Event.**
Our members; Josh St. Lawrence finished at Runner Up with a 99, Class "A" John Mathewson was 1st with a 97, Class "B" Kyle Hooper was 2nd with a 92.
- **Saturday morning was 12 gauge.**
John Mathewson was State Champ shooting 100, Josh St. Lawrence finished 1st in Class "A" with a 99, Kyle Hooper finished 1st in Class "B" with a 99, Robert Frankland finished 2nd in Class "B" with a 99, Chris Knight finished 3rd in Class "C" with a 95, Charlie Cornell finished 2nd in Class "C" with a 95, David Frankland finished 1st in Class "D" with a 95.
- **Saturday Afternoon was 20 gauge.**
Josh St. Lawrence was Runner Up with a 99, and Kyle Hooper finished 2nd in Class "B" with a 96.
- **Sunday morning was 28 gauge.**
Josh St. Lawrence finish 1st in Class "AA" with a 99, Kyle Hooper finish 1st in Class "B" with a 99, Eric Hooper finish 2nd in Class "C" with a 95.
- **Sunday Afternoon was 410 gauge.**
Josh St. Lawrence was 1st in Class "A" with a 97; John Mathewson finished 3rd in Class "A" with a 94, Kyle Hooper finished 1st in Class "B" with a 97; Eric Hooper finished 2nd in Class "C" with a 89, and Chris Knight finished 3rd in Class "C" with a 88.
- **High Overall Average:**
Josh St. Lawrence with Runner Up shooting 394 out of 400 targets, John Mathewson finished 1st in Class "A" shooting 387 out of 400 targets, Kyle Hooper finished 1st in Class "B", shooting 391 out of 400 targets.

Fantastic Shooting Folks, well done.

SPORTING CLAYS

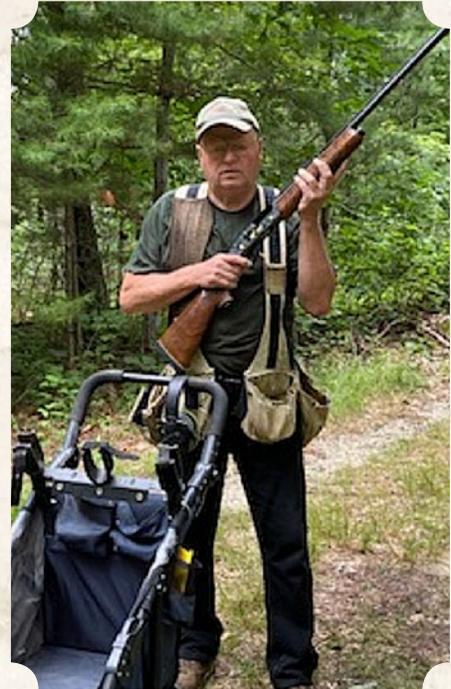
I am writing this article as I prepare for the final two shoots of the sporting clay season. By the time the newsletter gets distributed the season will have ended.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members that have helped out as trappers. The program is labor intensive and I have expanded the course to include more stations which in turn requires more trappers to throw the targets.

The 2021 schedule required 75 trappers to run the program each earning 6 hours per shoot for a total of 450 hours worked. Coordinating the help is by far the toughest part of the chairman's job.

There are a few individuals I would like to recognize who worked all of the shoots and are what I consider our core crew. Thanks to Dick Palmer, Bruce Macaro, Mark Holland, Dave Macarthy, Shawn Spears, and Kevin Segar. These are the folks that make running this program fun, without them it would just be a headache and a chore. These guys work way more than their 10 hour work requirement in fact several of them are life members who don't need the hours at all but continue to give anyway so thanks guys!

Matt Halloran
Birdhunter312@gmail.com, 860-428-1818



Larry



Bunch of Happy Shooters



David, John, Rob, Brandon



Patchque Outdoor Club visiting and having a great time



Family Fun Time



John, Matt, John, Bob



Couple enjoying the shoot



Ed & Amanda



Corey and his son Norah



Wade The Target Avenger

HUNT COMMITTEE

Please let me start and say a thank you for all who have been involved so far this year with the pheasant and hunting program. Your hard work doesn't go unnoticed and without your continued support we would not be where we are today.

This is such an exciting time of year. Temps are cooling, Leaves are changing, and daylight is getting shorter. This can only mean one thing. **Hunting Season is HERE!!!**

Please mark your calendars, as we ask that you purchase your 2021 badge prior to October 1st. September 30th, is the last day to complete work hours for the 2021 year. If you have not completed your work hour requirement, or paid your Raffle obligations, Please do so ASAP. Unfortunately if you fail to complete or pay for your outstanding obligations, it will result in the loss of your hunting privileges and your badge. Thank you in advance for your cooperation. Happy hunting!

Before you hunt this year please make sure that you have all necessary permits and licenses for the game you are hunting. State tags, HIP permits, Federal Duck stamps. Etc... Please remember to make sure you are aware of ALL property lines for club and leased property and if you have questions please reach out and ask. There are nearly 1000 acres of property between owned and leased.

It is extremely important that we do NOT drive through or over planted crops or hay fields on our leased property and only park in the designated parking areas. This also means there is no driving through fields to hang tree stands or pick up harvested game. The property is saturated with so much water from the excessive rain this year and we need to be mindful that driving can cause a great deal of damage. Although we have the privilege to use the land it is not ours. We are extremely grateful for the opportunity to lease such a great property and we must be respectful to the land, and land owners. Maps can be found on FB under files, at the bar or I can email you a digital copy if needed. I encourage members new and old to please review the clubs hunting rules as well as the state hunting rules and regulations for any new changes.

Sept 26th once again we will be holding a hunter safety program for firearms. It will be listed on the state Website and registration opens on Sept 5th. We have a limited number of spots reserved for club members. If you are a member who needs the class please contact me and I will give you a specific registration code.

Once again we will have a Pheasant Fun Trial Sunday Oct 3rd from 9am-noon. Pheasants will be \$15.00 per bird.

Our 3rd Annual Bird Dog Championship will be held Sunday October 10th. Registration starts at 0800 and the event starts at 0900. Members are needed to work both events. Work hours will be given.

I wish you all a safe and successful season.

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THE FIN HOSTS THE SCOUTS



Mike Sobol Sr, Mike Sobol Jr., and The Boy Scouts' June Norcross Webster Scout Reservation, Ashford, CT

For the 9th 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 and Skeet. Fin members Mike Sobol Sr, Mike Sobol Jr. 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.

Bob Hamilton, JNW NRA Shooting Sports Coordinator

AUTUMN HAPPENINGS

Fin Fur Feather

CHOWDER COOKOFF

TICKETS
\$10 ea



INTERESTED IN
BEING A
CONTESTANT?

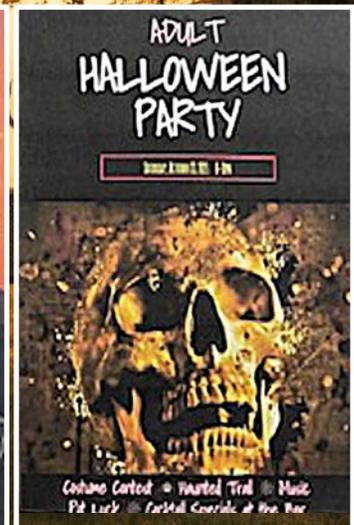
SIGN UP AT THE BAR!

Saturday, October 9, 2021
4pm-7pm

Clam Fritters • Corn on the Cob
Blind Competition

Drinks available for purchase at the bar

213 Chewink Rd. Chaplin, CT



HALLOWEEN PARTIES

CHILDREN'S | Sat Oct 23, 1 – 4 pm
Games, Activities, Pot Luck, Wear a Costume

ADULT'S | Sat Oct 23, 6 – 9 pm
Costume Contest, Music, Pot Luck,
Cocktail Specials at the Bar



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.*

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