



ROD & GUN GAZETTE

VOLUME 22 | ISSUE 1 | MARCH 2022

In a Fowl Mood?

HUNTING SEASON IS HERE

Spring Turkey Season
Starts **April 27th.**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Members,

The Spring Season is approaching; we have many events and activities planned. We are going to be looking for volunteers to help get the club and grounds ready for all the great things we have planned.

The events help to keep our club running without having to raise the amount of our dues. Please come out and support our beloved club, attend the fantastic dinners and other special events we have planned.

I personally would like to thank all the members and their families for all their support and help over the past few events we have had. We had great turn outs and a lot of good times and memories to add to our club pictures!

Sincerely,

Troy Quick, *President*

MEMBERSHIP

Currently, the club membership has: Regular - 342; Associate - 326; Junior - 14; and Life - 168. The club added 124 new members in 2021 which was an all-time high. Seems more and more people are looking for a place to shoot.

Unfortunately there were 70 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 or you can download one from the club's website. That information is under the Members Only Section.

Just a reminder the user name and password are case sensitive.

User name: fffclub

Password: chaplin

We have added additional information to that section as well. 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 this Spring, this will cover the use of the Skeet & Trap machines as well as the rules for the pistol/rifle range.

Bob Hruskocy, *Membership Chairman*



Each year the Fin has a Club Wide cleanup day. This year it's April 23rd (we do have a rain date of April 30th). **Start time is 8 am and it usually ends about noon.** After winter's aftermath, we need to blow leaves, pick up fallen branches, refresh mulch, thatch and vacuum lawns, and trim branches; whatever it takes to beautify the Club again. We need members with back pack blowers, saws, rakes, shovels, maybe a Little Giant ladder or two, dump trailers and a few small tractors with bucket and back hoe. Last year we had over 20 members helping with equipment – unbelievable.

If you can help, and have the ability to bring a dump trailer or tractor, contact Dick Palmer 860-933-4768. As always, work hours will be given.

UPCOMING EVENTS

*I'd like to send out a big thanks to everyone
for the support and dedication to our club!*

Troy Quick, *President*

DINNERS:

CORN BEEF
March 19th

PRIME RIB
April 23

EVENTS:

KIDS DERBY
May 1st

**JOHN SHEAS BIGGEST
TROUT DE RBY**
May 7th

plus

Mother's Day Brunch

Sunday, May 8, 2022
10:30 AM to 2 PM

Tickets:

Adults: \$18

Children under 12: \$6

- One mother's ticket is included with each adult ticket sold
- A complimentary mimosa is included with adult ticket
- Bloody Mary's and other drinks will be available at the bar

Tickets will go on sale April 1, 2022,
and will be available at the bar

Family PICNIC

Sunday, August 21, 2022
12 PM

This is a great way to get your work hours in for the year, and one of the last few remaining large events before your hours need to be done for the Hunting Season. It takes about 40 to 50 members between Saturday and Sunday to make this event happen.

I will be sending out notices and e-mails at the beginning of August.

I am also looking for donations for the picnic raffle. If you don't want to purchase something, but would rather donate money to buy something, please contact me and I can make it happen.

Thanks, Kevin Theriault

SPORTING CLAYS

Tired of shooting skeet, looking for a new activity, come on down and try your hand at Sporting Clays. All of the dates are set for the season. Almost everyone needs work hours this time of year and I will need plenty of help to run the shoots. It requires around 15 members to run sporting clays on each given day. Don't wait until the last minute to sign up, plan your work hours and your shooting to get the most out of both.

Sporting Clays Set Up

May 14th is the scheduled set up day for the 2022 sporting clays season. It will be nice to get all the machines dusted off and set out. As always help will be needed, come on down if you are available, it should be about a half a day's work. I plan on meeting up in front of 5-stand for 8:30 AM.

Sporting Clays Shoot Dates:

- **May 22, Sunday**, registration starts at 8:30 am, shooting starts at 9 am
- **June 12, Sunday**, registration starts at 8:30 am, shooting starts at 9 am.
- **July 10, Sunday**, registration starts at 8:30 am, shooting starts at 9 am.
- **Aug 7, Sunday**, registration starts at 8:30 am, shooting starts at 9 am.
- **Sept 10th Saturday**. This is ***Ducks Unlimited Shoot***, you'll need to register through them.
- **Sept. 11th Sunday**, this is our last shoot of the season; registration is at 8:30 am
- **Registration ends at 11:30 am**

Matt Halloran, *Sporting Clays Chairman*
860-428-1818 birdhunter312@gmail.com

TRAP

The club recently purchased 2 new Trap machines. They will be installed within the next month. Eventually there will be machines on fields 3 thru 8. Help will be needed installing the machines, an email will be sent.

The FFF will also be holding a registered Trap shoot on May 22nd. Help will be needed with scoring and keeping the machines loaded.

Now that the weather is getting a little nicer, I am sure members are anxious to get out of the house and start shooting! PLEASE remember to let the pump on the machines warm up before shooting in colder weather. This should eliminate wasted targets. PLEASE do not adjust the machines. They are set at a specific height for a reason. If there are any issues with the trap equipment, please contact me asap.

Bob Hruskocy, *Trap Chairman*

SKEET REPORT

The Eastern CT. Skeet Club winter League is winding down, and our Teams are all in the position to win honors with 3 matches remaining. We also have several shooters who have a good shot at individual honors. Good luck to all shooters and teams. There will be an award banquet this year, please contact your team Captains for details.

Reminders to all skeet shooters, please adhere to proper on field etiquette, and respect for other shooters. Please take care in proper operations of the skeet/Trap machines, report any problems immediately. Please refill the machines after use, Remember, a round of skeet is 25 targets....not 26, 27, or 28. Please pay for your round of skeet/trap either at the bar if open, if not use the drop box in the door next to the main bar entrance. Cost per round for members is \$3.25, and guests are \$4.25, there are envelopes there.

All shooters are reminded that we have other shotgun venues, like 5-Stand, Sporting Clays, Modern Skeet, Trap. At the end of summer there is a Shotgun Championship with meal, very cool. Please join in, you don't have to be a good skeet shooter, it's fun, and most important it's about the FIN Fur Feather Club.

Upcoming events are: April 17th is the ECSC League Shoot, June 5th is a Skeet Shot "Fin Open" 12 and 20 gauge.

Thanks

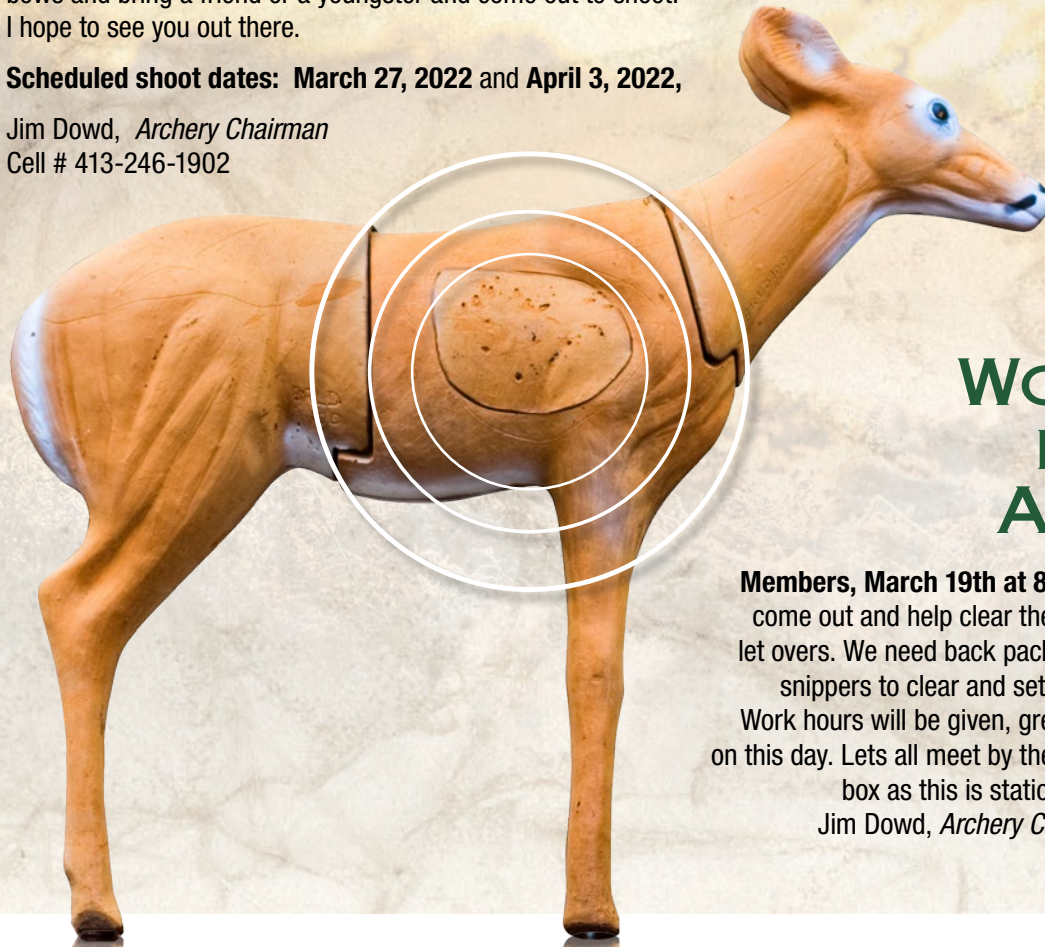
The FFF Skeet Committee

3-D ARCHERY

Spring is here and it is time for our Archery 3-D shoots. I left some 2022 Archery 3-D event schedule books at the club house; the blue books and they are free for the taking. They contain the schedule for our shoots as well as other club shoots that are all open to the public. This year we should be getting some great new targets and also making some improvements to the practice range. So, grab your bows and bring a friend or a youngster and come out to shoot. I hope to see you out there.

Scheduled shoot dates: March 27, 2022 and April 3, 2022,

Jim Dowd, *Archery Chairman*
Cell # 413-246-1902



WORK DAY FOR 3-D ARCHERY

Members, March 19th at 8 am. We need members to come out and help clear the 3-D course of ugly winter let overs. We need back pack blowers, chain saws, and snippers to clear and set up the 30 stations course. Work hours will be given, great way to add to your total on this day. Lets all meet by the Shipping Container/trailer box as this is station 1. Any questions contact Jim Dowd, *Archery Chairman*, at 413-246-1902.

HUNT COMMITTEE

It's hard to believe that the 2022 Hunting season is starting in just a few short weeks. **The Hunter Education Instructor Team for the Fin Fur and Feather will be hosting a Modified Firearms class March 26.** We have several seats available to members on a first come first serve basis. If you are in need of the class please log on to the state DEEP and register. **There will be two classes that day 9am – Noon and 1pm – 4PM.** We are also looking for members who are either certified or interested in becoming certified as an Archery instructor as we are hoping to offer Archery classes this year as well. Any questions please e-mail corey.curtisgray@gmail.com and I will be happy to help.

Some important dates to remember. **Youth Spring Turkey starts on April 16th-April 23rd and Regular Spring Turkey Season starts April 27th.** Hunting Badges and Permission slips are available in the club house during open hours. Please remember to only park in designated areas on the lease property. Maps of the club and leased property can be found on our clubs Facebook page in PDF form as well as a hard copy located in the clubhouse.

Good luck to all who will be going out this spring.

Corey Curtis-Gray, *Hunt Chairman*

FISH COMMITTEE

Dear Members,

Fish Stockings this season will take place on the following dates:

- 3/24/22 (weather permitting)
- 4/7/22
- 4/28/22

We start stocking around 4:30 pm, if anyone is interested in volunteering we can always use a extra hand even it's a little one. Butterball Trout Hatchery supply our fish, and have for years. They are reliable and the fish are always in perfect shape. Brook and rainbow trout will make up 90%o the fish stocked with 12 to 14 inch minimum size up to 16 inches. Brown trout will make up the remaining percentage.

The Upper pond will be closed from 4/28/22 – 5/1/22, opening the day of the kids fishing derby. It will then be closed again till the John Shea's biggest trout derby on 5/8/22.

This year the kids fishing derby will be 5/1/22 from 9-11 AM, at the fly pond. Signup sheets will be on the message board in the bar. Maximum age is 15 years old. Members who do not have children feel free to bring any other family member within the age limit. Lunch is provided to all children participating. The kitchen will be open for adults to purchase food and drinks. We are always seeking donations to purchase additional prizes for the children at Derby, any amount would be greatly appreciated.

All fishermen and women must purchase a badge for \$25, which entitles them to hunt and fish. All Junior members must also purchase a badge for \$10, all badges available at the bar.

All ponds will open for fishing (catch and release) on 3/26/22 at 8 AM. Middle and skeet pond open for fishing (catch and keep) with a two fish limit 4/9/22 at 6AM.

Upper pond opens for fishing (catch and keep) May 7th after John Shea's Biggest Trout Derby.



FIN'S TAG SALE

Thanks to Huff, the 2022 February 19th Tag Sale was a huge success. Enjoy the photos. Doors opened at 8 am and by 9 am it was elbow to elbow.





Paint Night

March 5, 2022 saw a first at the Fin, "Paint Night", with over 36 painters participating and enjoying a fun night for all. Vickie did a fantastic job in arranging and hosting this event. Plans for another are in the planning stage. Judging by the outstanding works of art, lots of hidden talent were present.



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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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Vacant

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