



# ROD & GUN GAZETTE

VOLUME 23 | ISSUE 1 | MARCH 2023

Rainbows, Brooks and Browns

**WE'RE STOKED TO BE  
STOCKED**



See page 6 for Stocking Dates and Derby Dates



# APRIL 22 CLUB CLEAN UP DAY

Members, each year the Club has a Clean-up around the Clubhouse and area. This year it will begin at 8m on Saturday, April 22, and will end around noon. We need members with leaf blowers, rakes, shovels, and chain saws to clean up after the winter season. We also need members with a dump trailer and small tractors to help move wood chips and trees. If you have one and can bring it, please call Dick Palmer at 860-933-4768 so we don't get too many pieces of equipment.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Members,

As we close out our winter, and move into our spring season, the club has seen many great events, and projects over the past few months. The upper pond project, Setback is BACK and going very well. The 2 guest bartender nights were very well attended. Friday and Saturday Lunches. Skeet league in full swing. Our annual raffle tickets were distributed and drawing is coming soon. As we head into spring we will begin seeing more and more of our wonderful dinners start to hit the schedule. Please keep an eye on your email and Facebook page, spring holds some of the best opportunities to get out and meet fellow members. Thank you to all our members for participating in the events over the winter. I look forward to seeing you all out on the ranges in the warmer weather!

David Jones, *President*

## MEMBERSHIP

Currently, the club membership has:  
**Regular - 347; Associate - 333; Junior - 14; and Life - 165.**

The club added 124 new members in 2022. Unfortunately, there were 101 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. Remember the non-completed work hour fee is now \$20.00/hr.

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.

Regards

Bob Hruskocy, *Membership Chairman*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

March 12	<b>3-D course set up and clean up</b> at 9 am.
March 18	<b>Corn Beef &amp; Cabbage Dinner</b> at 6 pm. Yummy! Tickets available at the bar. If you haven't been to this dinner put it on your bucket list, excellent meal.
March 26	<b>Club's first 3-D Archery shoot</b> at 7 am. This is open to everyone.
April 1	<b>Fill the Wood Shed, Splitting Wood and Tree Removal Day</b> at 9 am. Log splitters and help needed. Contact Dick Palmer: 860-933-4768.
April 4	<b>Executive Board meeting</b> at 6:30 pm
April 11	<b>Membership meeting</b> at 7 pm.
April 16	<b>3-D Archery shoot.</b>
April 22	<b>Annual Club wide Clean up.</b> Starts at 8 am, bring tools. Work hours will be given. Dick Palmer is your contact if you can bring a tractor or dump trailer: 860-933-4768.
	<b>Annual Prime Rib Dinner</b> at 6 pm, Tickets at the Bar
May 2	<b>Executive Board meeting</b> at 6:30 pm.
May 9	<b>Membership meeting</b> at 7 pm.
May 13	<b>Sporting Clays set-up</b> at 8 am. Work hours will be given. Contact Matt Halloran 860-428-1818.
May 21	<b>Sporting Clays Shoot</b> , registration at 8:30 til 11:30.
June 6	<b>Executive Board meeting</b> at 6:30 pm.
June 11	<b>Sporting Clays Shoot</b> , registration at 8:30 til 11:30.
June 13	<b>Membership meeting</b> at 7 pm.

## NEW FOR 2023

Hunting and Fishing Badges cost will increase for Jr. and Regular Members. **The new Jr. member price for hunting badges will be \$20.00 and Regular Members \$50.00.**

**The new Drain Street Property will be closed to all hunting until further notice.** Although this is an exciting addition to our club, there is still a lot of work to be done. The executive board and land committee are working hard to make sure the property is posted, and there is adequate and safe parking for members. Please keep an eye out for future communication via e-mail

**Hunting Badges and Permission slips will be available in the club house during open hours. Please remember to only park in designated areas on the lease property and make sure you have your parking permit displayed.** 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 Chair*. 860-576-1214



Please reduce your speed driving on Club Grounds, as posted is 15 mph. There are dogs, and children running around.

**There is no reason to drive over the 15 mph. Use Caution, PLEASE!**

## SUPER BOWL WINNERS

Congrats to the following winners: Larry Barrett, Gary Charon, Twig, Jill W. Huff, Tom Potter, and twice for Andy Dowd Huff, Sanborn Grand Kids, Moon, and Jeff Butterfield.

## BAR HOURS

Tuesday: 2 pm to 5 pm, unless meeting night.  
 Friday: 12 pm to 8pm, unless there is an activity.  
 Saturday: 9 pm to 6 pm, unless there is an activity.  
 Sunday: 9 pm to 6 pm, unless there is an activity



*Station 9 at Norwich Fish & Game*

## NEW YEAR'S DAY 410 SHOOT IN NORWICH

Norwich Fish & Game holds a 410 shoot on New Year's Day, this year Fin members joined this fun shoot, Station 9 shooting was Mike Sobol Sr., Mike Sobol Jr, Matt Halloran, Dave Frankland, David Jones, Paul Provost from the Orange Crushers, and Chris Knight from the Irish Birds.

After all the cheering and laughing was over, our own Mike Sobol from Station 9 was victorious as Top Gun. Well done Mike, and to the other Fin Shooters. The weather was perfect which provided for a great day.



*Mike Sobol*

## 5 STAND

The 2023 5-Stand season is approaching! As soon as we see a solid break in the weather, cleanup and setup for the season will begin. There are a number of things to be done at the field to get ready for our upcoming shoots. Watch your emails, I will send out info for a work party likely in late April. We will stick with our 7 trap set up like last year, but there could always be a surprise trap #8 that pops up into play. Anyone interested in getting more involved in the 5 Stand program, with set up and learning to help run shoots please contact me directly. The more members we have involved the more we can get the field open. Anyone new to 5 Stand interested in trying it, please don't hesitate to stop down to a shoot. There is always someone that can talk you through the game, and show you the ropes. Also on most 5 Stand days you will find the Modern Skeet Field open and in use. Last but not least, a 100 target shoot in being planned for the spring of 2023. This would consist of 5 Stand, Modern Skeet, Skeet and Trap – 25 clays at each. Information on this will be sent out as soon the details are finalized.

David Jones, *5 Stand Chairman*

## PISTOL RANGE

Members and your guests, reminder that the pistol range only supports pistol shooting, and only RIM fire rifles are allowed on this range. There has been spent rifle castings found at this range. **All center fire rifles, muzzle loaders, and shotguns shooting MUST be done on the rifle range.** Member's guests fee's are \$5.00 payable at the bar or in the drop box.

# SPORTING CLAYS

## Shooters:

The Sporting Clays season is right around the corner. For those of you that don't know Sporting Clays is a shotgun sport that presents clay targets in various hunting scenarios. We run six shoots starting in May and finishing up in September. All shooters are welcome, skilled or unskilled, member or non member. The events seem to be quite popular and draw pretty big crowds so come on down and check it out regardless of your skill level.

## Workers:

The season kicks off with a work party (May 13th at 8:30AM) to put all of the traps out on the course. Help is always needed and if you have a landscape type trailer a couple of those makes the job much faster. Let me know....

I need 12 to 15 people to trap on each of the shoot dates. I am generous with the work hours and the job consists of pushing a button or pulling a lever when the shooter yells "Pull", I think you can handle it. As a reminder the work hour obligation is now \$200. Please don't wait until the last minute to sign up to work. I am accepting helpers on all dates currently simply send me an email with the date or dates you would like to work. Thanks in advance.

## 2023 Season Dates:

May 21	50 target shoot
June 11	50 target shoot
July 23	50 target shoot
August 6	50 target shoot
September 9	100 target shoot – Ducks Unlimited
September 10	100 target – Fin shoot open to all shooters

Matt Halloran

# SKEET REPORT

The Winter league is processing nicely as the weather has been cooperating. We have several teams poised to take home honors. Our newest and youngest team "Young Guns" have been tearing up Division 6. Good luck to all.

The Clay Targets inventory control has been up and down the past few months. We can't stress enough that all targets thrown MUST BE PAID FOR. Skeet and

Trap rounds are 25 targets only not 28, or 30. Any additional targets thrown must be paid for before you leave the grounds by using the drop box in the door by the bar entrance or paying in the bar when it's open.

Reminder we have cameras that record vehicles entering and leaving the grounds,

Remember the Skeet committee holds a monthly meeting at the last Tuesday of the month at 6 pm.

Please always exercise safe gun handling, and be respectful of other shooters, members and their guest. Please monitor the club emails, inside bulletin boards for further info, events, schedules, and changes.

## Events Schedule

April 23	Winter League Shoot
June 4	FFF Open Skeet Shoot (2 guns only)
August 11, 12, & 13	Zone 1 NSSA Skeet Championship Shoot
TBA	Larry Shewokis Memorial Shoot

# TRAP

The FFF will also be holding a registered Trap shoot on Saturday May 13th. Help will be need with scoring and keeping the machines loaded. I will have a work party the week before to prepare for the shoot. An email will be sent with details.

**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*

# FISH COMMITTEE

Dear Members,

Fish Stockings this season will take place on the following dates (Weather permitting):

- March 16th, 2023
- April 6th, 2023
- May 5th, 2023

We start stocking around 4:30 pm, if anyone is interested in volunteering we can always use an 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% of 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 May 4th - May 7th, opening day of the kids fishing derby.** It will then be closed after the derby till the John Shea's biggest trout derby on May 13th, 2023.

**This year the kids fishing derby will be May 7th, 2023 from 9-11 AM, at the fly pond.** Signup/donation sheet will be on the message board in the bar. We are always seeking donations to purchase additional prizes for the children at derby, any amount would be greatly appreciated. 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.

**All fishermen and women must purchase a badge, which entitles them to hunt and fish. All junior members must also purchase a badge, all badges available at the bar.**

**All ponds will open for fishing (catch and release) on March 18th, 2023 at 8 AM. Middle and skeet pond open for fishing (Catch and Keep) with a two fish limit April 8th, 2023 at 6AM. Upper pond opens for fishing (catch and keep) May 14th after John Shea's Biggest Trout Derby.**

**Annual Prime Rib Dinner to support the fishing committee will be held on April 22nd, 2023.** Please come out to support the program!

Thank you.

Sincerely, *Fish Chairman Troy Quick*

# HUNT COMMITTEE

It's hard to believe that the 2023 Hunting season is starting in just a few short weeks.

**The Hunter Education Instructor Team for the Fin Fur & Feather will be hosting a Self Study Firearms class this spring as well as an Archery Class, March 18th.**

Some important dates to remember.

**Youth Spring Turkey starts on April 15th - April 22nd and the regular Spring Turkey season starts April 26th - May 27th**



## 3-D ARCHERY

**The dates for this 2023 season dates are selected; March 26th and April 16th.** All starts at 7 am.

**March 12th at 9 am, there will be a clean-up and set up day, please come out and support this fun activity, plus earn your work hours.**

# 2023 Family Picnic

August 20<sup>th</sup>

The Family picnic is set for August 20th. There will be a work day on August 19th at 8 am to set up for the picnic. This is a great time and way to get your work hours in before hunting season starts. I am looking for a couple of members who would like to get some games put together for the kids to play. Looking for someone with some new ideas and willing to take charge of this part of the picnic. I also am looking for members to donate prizes for the raffle. If you want more information on helping at the picnic please call me at 860-428-5519 or send me an email at wfdktheriault@gmail.com.

Thank You

Kevin Theriault, Family Picnic Chairman

ST. PATRICK'S DAY  
CORN BEEF AND  
CABBAGE DINNER

MARCH 18<sup>th</sup>  
AT 6 PM

\$15.00 – Tickets at the Bar

This has always been a delicious meal, don't miss out.

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### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Dave Jones, President 860-230-5975  
Dick Palmer, Vice President 860-933-4768  
Tom Hoagland, Treasurer 860-208-4477  
Corey Curtis-Gray, Secretary 860-576-1214

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Wayne Mather 860-942-3385  
Glen Heinonen 860-559-5021  
Jon Mosely 860-818-1564  
Matt Halloran 860-428-1818  
Troy Quick 860-933-2585  
Bob Frankland 860-690-4149  
Kevin Theriault 860-429-1792

### ALTERNATES

Steve Alexson 860-218-8373  
Shawn Covell 860-428-0041

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

#### ARCHERY

Jim Dowd 860-537-2986

#### BAR

Bob Frankland 860-690-4149  
Erin Jones 860-230-4015

### BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Dick Palmer 860-933-4768

### CHILDREN'S FUND

Vacant

### COMPONENTS

Jim Hooper 860-208-0329

### FAMILY PICNIC

Kevin Theriault 860-429-1792

### FISHING

Troy Quick 860-933-2585

### FIVE-STAND

David Jones 860-230-5975

### HUNTING

Corey Curtis-Gray 860-576-1214

### KITCHEN

Steve Alexson 860-218-8373  
Charlie Gagne  
Vickie  
Tom

### MEMBERSHIP

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Erin Jones 860-230-4015

### NEWSLETTER

Dick Palmer 860-933-4768

### PERMITTEE

John Fitch 860-460-0797

### PHEASANTS

Don Bajger 860-617-3399

### PISTOL/PRACTICAL PISTOL

Paul Arildsen 860-508-1132  
Jon-Paul Mucha 860-874-1291

### RAFFLE

Bill Neff 860-573-1126

### RIFLE

Peter Mathewson Sr. 860-456-8588

### SHOTGUN

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### SKEET

Bob Frankland 860-690-4149

### SPORTING CLAYS

Matt Halloran 860-428-1818

### TRAP

Bob Hruskocy 860-569-1592