



# ROD & GUN GAZETTE

VOLUME 24 | ISSUE 2 | JUNE 2024

## HONORING THE PAST CELEBRATING THE FUTURE

JOIN THE FIN  
THIS SUMMER FOR:

- Steak Night
- Annual Family Picnic
- Ducks Unlimited
- Annual Chicken BBQ
- 2024 Club Championship
- Larry Shewokis  
Memorial 50 Bird Shoot



John Shea's granddaughter, CiCi, already to tackle the big one, Grandpa is looking down.

Photo taken at the John Shea Memorial Fly Fishing Derby



# PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Members, Summer is here! And the events have begun. By the time you're reading this, all of the clubs programs have had at least 1 event so far this year. And there are so many more events scheduled over the course of the next few months. Please consider attending, participating and helping out where needed. The club grounds are looking great as always. Special thank you to Gary Charron and Dick Palmer for keeping the grass mowed all around the property. I wanted to again remind everyone about driving around the club grounds, please slow down, take your time. There is no need to be speeding. If you're late for a shoot, well sorry but you should have left earlier. The ranges will be there when you get there. Let's not take a chance of hitting someone or something. We have children, adults and dogs around the property all the time. Let's be safe and courteous to each other. I hope to see you all at the events and dinners that are scheduled over the summer months. Be safe and enjoy!

President Jones

# MEMBERSHIP

The club has added 93 new members to date. A small increase from this time last year.

**The breakdown of members is as follows:**

- Regular - 366
- Associate - 356
- Junior - 13
- Life - 165

Reminder that the work hour fee is now \$20.00/hr, work hours must be completed by Sept 30th.

**DO NOT** wait until last minute to get your hrs in.

We need more members to step up and help with functions/events. Please get involved with your club!

Regards

Bob Hruskocy, *Membership Chairman*

# CLUB WIDE CLEAN UP

The Club Wide Clean Up Day went well, after rescheduling our April 20th date because of rain, 26 members showed with tools and tractors in hand to spruce up the Club and grounds on April 30th. New bark mulch put down, the leaves and branches all removed, thatching the lawn, and then the old club signs for identifying the ranges were replaced. A very special thank you goes out to those who donated their tractors, dump trailer, and all the power lawn tools, and most importantly their time. Thank you

Dick Palmer

# MAN OF THE YEAR

**This year's Man of the Year was Wayne Landon.**

Thank you for all you do for the Club.



## Glenn M. Heinonen

WWII Historian

Collector of Military Memorabilia

1-860-423-8144

Wanted: Military Uniforms, Patches, Insignia, Helmets, Weapons, Equipment, Souvenirs, Etc. From WWI, WWII, Korea, Vietnam.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

June 15	5 pm. <b>BBQ rib Dinner</b> , tickets at the bar.
July 2	6:30 pm. Executive Board Meeting
July 6th	9 am. <b>2nd Annual Jim Davidson Memorial Shoot</b> , information in the bar.
July 9	7 pm. membership meeting
July 14	<b>Sporting Clays Shoot</b> . Registration starts at 8 am, shooting at 9 am.
July 29	4 - 7 pm. <b>Annual Steak Night</b> , tickets at the bar, there is a deadline.
Aug 6	6:30 pm. Executive Board meeting
Aug 11	<b>Sporting Clays Shoot</b> , registration starts at 8:30 am, shooting at 9 am
Aug 13	Membership meeting
Aug 18	Starts at noon, <b>Annual Fin Family Picnic</b> . Watch for notices for set up.
Sept 3	6:30 pm. Executive Board meeting
Sept 7	<b>CT. Ducks Unlimited Sporting Clays shoot</b> , see their flyer for Information.
Sept 8	<b>Last Fin Sporting Clays Shoot</b> , registration at 8:30 am, shooting starts at 9 am
Sept 10	Membership meeting. On this night, nominations for the coming year Executive Board and Officers will be received. Members nominated, <b>Must be present to accept their nomination</b>
Sept 14	5 pm. <b>Annual Chicken BBQ</b> , help support the Pheasant program
Sept 21	<b>Fin's Annual Shotgun Championship</b> , please watch for the flyers

## NEW SIGNS

New signs are being installed by the bar entrance, and toward the ranges. Mike Sobol spent many hours creating new range signs and is finalizing the Fin logo sign that will go on top. A huge thank you to Mike for his skills. Thank you Michael.



*This new Fin Fur Feather Club logo was completed by Mike Sobol. Please stop and see Mike's design and craftsmanship.*



## RAFFLE COMMITTEE

Annual Raffle was held on May 14th, the winner's are:  
 1st prize - **George Amenadar**  
 2nd prize - **Trish Leonard**  
 3rd prize - **Tony Messa**  
 4th prize - **Craig McMahon**  
 5th prize - **Matt Dingle**

Bill Neff Committee chairperson thanked all the Club Members for selling these raffle tickets.



# DAVIDSON OPEN

Members, the 2nd Annual Jim Davidson Shotgun Open is scheduled for July 6th. Sign up board is posted in the bar. Please sign up and pay early to make sure you get your shirt and lunch for this shoot.

## 5 STAND

The 2024 5 Stand season opened on Memorial Day; it was a well-attended shoot. The weather held out for us; 65 rounds were thrown. The next shoot is scheduled for July 4th. And as always, if there is a chance to fit in another shoot, an email will be sent to members and posted to Facebook.

**Reminder the 2024 Club Championship is Sept 21st.**  
A squad board will be posted in August.

David Jones 5 Stand Chairman

## TRAP

I would like to thank all the members who stepped up to help with the Trap Shoot on May 11th. For the 2nd year in a row, there were 50 shooters who attended. A lot of compliments on our facility, over 10,300 targets were thrown. After all expenses were paid, the club made \$1,598.00.

Just a reminder of the layout for the Trap fields; **Field 3 is setup for "Skap", Field 4 is set for Trap Doubles, Field 5-8 is setup for Regular Trap.**

Please do not change the height of the targets. When done shooting, please put the equipment into the low house on each field, this way all the equipment will not end up in one house. If there are any issues with any of the equipment, please put a note on it and leave in field 5, low house. **DO NOT leave the machines empty, please fill after use.**

The Trap Summer League has begun, if anyone is interested please let me know.

Regards

Bob Hruskocy, *Trap Chairman*

# SPORTING CLAYS

Sporting Clays season has arrived. Our first shoot was very successful, thanks to all of the trappers and shooters. I want to encourage everyone to come and shoot the course. Sporting clays is a shotgun game where you walk through the woods and shoot at clay targets that are presented in various hunting scenarios. No experience is necessary and good fun is had by all.

The sporting clay program is labor intensive. I need trappers to sit on the machines and throw the targets when the shooters yell pull, it's that easy, simply push a button or pull a lever to release the target. Once again there is no experience necessary, I teach every trapper what to do the morning of the shoot before it gets started. Trappers show up at 8 AM and the shoot is usually done by 2 PM at which time I buy lunch for all of the trappers. I need 15 trappers for each date. I strongly encourage you to check your calendars and sign up to work early. Plan your shooting and plan your work hours!

As you know 10 work hours are mandatory and are billed at \$20 per hour, save yourself the \$200, work the hours and spend the money on shells. I give 6 hours per shoot. You must email me to get on the list of trappers as I need to coordinate the help in advance the more notice the better.

I am looking forward to working and breaking some clays with all of you. Thanks.

Matt Halloran 860-428-1818

birdhunter312@gmail.com

## 2024 SEASON DATES:

<b>May 11</b>	Set up course at 9AM
<b>May 19</b>	50 target shoot
<b>June 23</b>	50 target shoot
<b>July 14</b>	50 target shoot
<b>August 11</b>	50 target shoot
<b>September 7</b>	100 target shoot <b>Ducks Unlimited</b> - register with DU
<b>September 8</b>	<b>100 target Fin shoot</b> open to all shooters put away the course afterwards

- Shoots are open to both members and non-members.
- No pre-registration required (except Sept 7)
- Registration 8:30 - 11:30, shooting starts at 9:AM
- Cost is \$20 per round (50 targets)
- Lunch will be available to purchase afterwards.
- 213 Chewink Road Chaplin CT



# FAMILY PICNIC

This year's **Annual Family Picnic** is on **August 18th** from 12:00 to 5:00 PM. There will be a work party on Saturday August 17th starting at 8:00 AM to prep for the picnic. It takes about 3 hours to set up on Saturday. A lot of help is needed to make this event happen. We also need a lot of members on Sunday starting at 9:00 am to work the picnic. It is a fun and easy way to get your work hours in for the year. This year I am looking for someone who can play some music during the picnic under the pavilion. I am not looking for a band or DJ some just light music. I also need someone who would like to run the horseshoe tournament. If there are a few members who would like to come up with some ideas on games for the kids, please let me know.

Anyone interested in donating items for the raffle can email me to let me know. I will be sending out emails and Facebook posts when the time gets closer to remind everyone. If you have never been to a Family Picnic you don't know what you're missing. It's a great time and there's lots of food, hamburgers, hotdogs, kielbasa, corn on the cob, cherry stones, clam chowder, pulled pork, drinks and a beer trailer. **The Ice Cream Sundae Bar will be back!**

**21 and up – \$20.00**

**8 to 20 – \$10.00**

**7 and under free.**

Kevin Theriault, *Family Picnic Chairman*  
wfdktheriault@gmail.com



## ANNUAL CHICKEN BBQ

Members, the **Annual Flipping the Bird Chicken BBQ** is the **14th of September at 5 pm**. Tickets will be available from the bar. This great BBQ is to benefit the Pheasant program, and if you been to one of these it is a great BBQ, with all the fixings. **Eat in, or take it home this is a fantastic meal.**

# Cook Your Own STEAK NIGHT



**Just the way  
You Like It!**

*or we'll cook it for you  
for \$5 more*

**Saturday, July 27**

4:00 to 7:00 PM at the Pavilion

**Tickets: \$20**

Purchase Tickets at the Bar

**Meal Includes:**

- Steak
- Baked Potato
- Shrimp Cocktail
- Vegetables
- Salad
- Dessert

For More Information Contact:  
Steve/Jessica 605-850-1364



# PHEASANT COMMITTEE

Another pheasant season is upon us! Nets are up and pheasants are on their way. **The pheasants will be arriving the week of July 4th.** The exact arrival date is TBD, I will update members through email and Facebook. As always, help will be needed unloading the birds.

Pheasant feeding calendar is up and we will be needing volunteers to pick a week at a time over the next 5 months. This may seem daunting but the reward is a fully stocked and healthy pheasant population come October! The feeding calendar is now available in the bar to sign up.

This program's success is due to members/volunteers like you! I would especially like to thank the guest bartenders, Jill and Amelia, for their hard work behind the bar raising \$600 for the new pheasant pen netting.

**Upcoming events include the Rib Dinner and Flipping the Bird that support the pheasant program.** All are encouraged to attend and participate. Again, the pheasant program relies on the support of all the club's members. This helps to keep the cost down and our stock up!

There is a need for new fence posts for the netting, ideally old telephone poles, if anyone knows where to find some please contact me. We also have purchased brand new netting that will need to be installed at the end of the hunting season/early Spring.

Thank you again to all the members who participate, as I said before this program's success is because of you, your hard work and dedication to the club. Hope to see you around the pens!



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# SKEET REPORT

The ECSC Winter League is over and here are the final results:

Div. 1	<b>FFF Irish Birds</b>	2nd Place
Div. 2	<b>FFF Orange Crushers</b>	2nd Place
Div. 3	<b>FFF Station Nine</b>	1st Place
Div. 3	<b>FFF Hot Shots</b>	2nd Place
Div. 3	<b>FFF Young Guns</b>	3rd Place
Div. 5	<b>FFF Off the Hip</b>	1st Place

## Individual Honors

Div. 2	High Average	<b>Josh Quick</b>
Div. 3	High Average	<b>Art St. Lawrence</b>
Div. 3	Runner Up	<b>Mike Sobel Jr.</b>
High Average Shooter over 70 years old		<b>Art St. Lawrence</b>
Winter League Spring Shoot Champion		<b>Harry Eaton</b>

Congratulations to all Fin teams and shooters. Well Done!

The Fin hosted the registered **NSSA "Fin Open"** on June 2nd with 30 shooters attending. When the smoke cleared **Patrick Lefenine stood at the top of the leader board with his First registered 100 straight. Followed by President David Jones with a fine 99.** All participating Fin shooters shot well and finished in the money- Congratulations!

## Upcoming Events

- **Connecticut State Skeet Championship**  
August 30, 31, Sept. 1
- **Larry Shewokis Memorial 50 Bird Shoot**  
Sept. 29
- Skeet committee meetings are the last Tuesday of every month. Please monitor your club emails for updates, news, etc.

A reminder to all FFF shooters using the skeet/trap fields. SAFETY is of the utmost importance. Please adhere to all safety protocols while shooting and handling your firearms. Keep safe control of your firearm and watch your muzzle position and direction. Please pay for your skeet rounds promptly. Please pay over the bar when it is open. Remember a round of skeet consists of 25 targets only. If you shoot any extra targets you have to pay for another round. Non-member skeet/trap rounds are now \$6.00/round. The Skeet Committee wishes to thank all Fin personnel who have supported the skeet program.

The Skeet Committee





# BRAGGIN RIGHTS

## KIDS FISHING DERBY

Largest trout caughty at the Kids Fishing Derby



Eric's daughter caught a nice large trout

## JOHN SHEA MEMORIAL FLY FISHING DERBY

This Derby had a large group fly fishing for the largest trout. Rick Turcotte caught the largest.







## FIN, FUR AND FEATHER CLUB, INC

213 Chewink Road  
 North Windham, CT 06056  
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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.*

### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

Dave Jones, President 860-230-5975  
 Dick Palmer, Vice President 860-933-4768  
 Tom Hoagland, Treasurer 860-208-4477  
 Kevin Theriault, Secretary 860-428-5519

### 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  
 Jarrett Meacham 860-228-5021  
 Steve Alexson 860-218-8373

### ALTERNATES

Corey Curtis-Gray 860-576-1214  
 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 860-428-5519

### 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

### MEMBERSHIP

Bob Hruskocy 860-569-1592

### MERCHANDISE

### NEWSLETTER

Dick Palmer 860-933-4768

### PERMITTEE

Dick Palmer 860-933-4768

### PHEASANTS

Jon Mosely 860-818-1564

### PISTOL/PRACTICAL PISTOL

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

### RAFFLE

Bill Neff 860-573-1126

### RIFLE/PISTOL

Paul Arildsen  
 Jon Paul Mucha

### SHOTGUN

Glen Heinonen 860-428-0975  
 Bob Frankland 860-690-4149  
 Jim Hooper 860-208-0329

### SKEET

Glenn (Huff) Heinonen

### SPORTING CLAYS

Matt Halloran 860-428-1818

### TRAP

Bob Hruskocy 860-569-1592