



ROD & GUN GAZETTE

VOLUME 24 | ISSUE 4 | DEC 2024

Share the Joy of Giving

Happy Holidays
the Fin

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Members, 2024 seems to have flown by. The Fin has had another amazing year, numerous successful shootings events, social events, works parties, all combined to show a large support from our membership. I cannot thank you all enough for participating in all these events. As I have said before it takes our membership being involved to help continue moving our club forward.

Thank you is due as well to our Chairman of each program. This is often a thankless job; not enough people recognize all the hours and effort that goes unseen that these members put into the club for your enjoyment of the programs. In 2025 I hope to see this trend continue. If you're not already, I encourage you to get involved in the programs that you are most passionate about. This is the best way to meet other members that share the same interests. Be a member of the club, not just a user of the grounds. Through the winter months the events slow down some, but come springtime, they will all start up again and give numerous opportunities to be involved. Please take the time to attend these work parties and functions. I assure you; you'll get out of your club what you put into it.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Be Safe,

David Jones, President Fin Fur & Feather Club

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 14	Kids Christmas Party. Must sign up by December 9.
Dec. 24	Annual members Christmas Party, Pot Luck at noon.
Jan. 7	Executive Board meeting at 6:30 pm.
Jan. 14	Membership meeting at 7 pm.
Feb. 14	Executive Board meeting at 6:30 pm.
Feb. 11	Membership meeting at 7 pm.
Mar. 4	Executive Board meeting at 6:30 pm.
Mar. 11	Membership meeting at 7 pm.
Mar. 15	Corn Beef & Cabbage Dinner at 6 pm.
Apr. 1	Executive Board meeting at 6:30 pm.
Apr. 8	Membership meeting at 7 pm.
Apr. 18	Fish Fry Dinner at 5 pm. Watch for flyers/emails.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

The new roofs on the Club house and Pavilion look fantastic and will serve well for years to come. There are also new larger rain gutters around the Club House. The old fireplace chimney was removed down below the roof line, as that was a constant water leakage, and that means the hall fireplace isn't operatable, and doors are secured.

If a member wants to start on their work hours, gutter inspection and removing any leaves that are collected there, please go for it, and remember to get your number and name to me.

Any member that has a log splitter and can cut firewood to length, there's wood to be split and stacked under the metal shelter, and there are logs that can be cut, split and stacked near the burning barrel. Again, please give me your name and club number to credit your hours.

If you see trash lying on the ground, please pick that up and the dumpster is right in the parking lot.

Anyone who has any questions please contact me.

Chairperson Dick Palmer 860-933-4768

ANNUAL ELECTIONS

The results of the Annual Meeting with Elections are in, the following are your 2024-2025 Officers and Directors.

Officers

President

David Jones

Vice President

Dick Palmer

Secretary

Kevin Theriault

Treasurer

Robert Brooks

Board of

Directors

Matt Halloran

Glen Heinonen

Wayne Mather

Jon Mosely

Troy Quick

Wayne Landon

Jarret Meacham

Alternates

Shawn Covell

Steve Alexon

TREASURER TOM HOAGLAND

Tom has stepped down as the Club's Treasurer after 25 years of service to our Club. During the Club's Annual Elections/meeting, Tom was recognized with this plaque presented by President Jones, and a standing round of applause for his commitment to our Club.

Thank you Tom



MEMBERSHIP

The membership categories are as follows:

- Regular: 377
- Associate: 364
- Life: 163
- Junior: 15

There were 118 new members in 2024. The 2025 dues invoices were mailed in late November, if you have not received an invoice by now, please notify me ASAP. Payment must be made by January 31st, 2024. If you were billed for work hours in error, please let me know the function/ event you worked so I can correct your file. Update any information on your invoice and return with your payment. When making payment at the bar, be sure that either your name or membership number is on your receipt. Please bring in your invoice so the bartender can apply your payment correctly. If you are mailing in your payment and want your membership card mailed, enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope. Please pick up your cards to save on postage costs for the club. If you are planning on not renewing your membership, please contact me so I can remove you from Club membership list. If your home or email address has changed, please send me the updated information.

Reminder: Non-completed work hrs are assessed at \$20.00, get in your hours by Sept 30th.

Regards,

Bob Hruskocy, *Membership Chairman*

SKEET REPORT

Winter has arrived! Clay target venues have slowed down except for the ECSC Winter League. By the time this newsletter goes out to the members, we'll be at the half way mark with some of our nine(9) teams are shooting extremely well, and some not so much, but all our teams are having fun and representing our club well.

Please be advised that the Winter conditions have an adverse effect on our skeet/trap machines. They **MUST** be started up correctly and warmed up sufficiently. Remember to load the machines after you have completed shooting, please report any malfunctions, and pay for all targets thrown, this includes look see's, or additional targets practiced on.

Above all, maintain **ALL** safety protocols regarding firearm handling and safe muzzle control. Please respect your fellow club members, guests, family members, and other shooters.

Thank you

The Skeet Committee

TRAP

There will be two Registered Trap Shoots this year at the club. The dates are May 10th & September 14th. Help will be needed with scoring and loading the machines. I will need cooks for both events, please let me know if you can assist.

Fields 5 thru 8 are set for regular trap shooting. Field 4 is set for Doubles. Field 3 is set for Skap.

Just a reminder, during the colder weather, please let the pump warm up on the trap machines. This will prevent the machine from throwing targets unnecessarily. Any issues with the equipment, please let me know.

Please take every precaution to eliminate wasting targets. **Do not talk while on the line while using the Voice Release System.** (Canterbury).

PLEASE fill up the machine after each use, all too often, the machines are left empty.

Regards

Bob Hruskocy, *Trap Chairman*

REMEMBER:

**Please Warm Up the
Machines during the
Winter Months**



CLUB SHOTGUN CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday the 21st of Sept. was the Club's Annual Shotgun Championship. The event showcased 58 shooters, shooting 125 clay targets through 5 different disciplines, 25 targets 5-Stand, 25 targets Trap, 25 targets Skeet, 25 targets Modern Skeet, and 25 targets Sporting clays. After the shoot, a delicious sausage peppers, onion grinder, with pasta for lunch was served.

The Top 5 shooters:

- 1st place**, with a 114, Mike Sobol
- 2nd place**, with a 110, Alex Vierra
- 3rd place**, with a 109, Spencer Shirhac
- 4th place**, with a 108, Scott Shirhac
- 5th place**, with a 108, Mike Mastalerz



Alex, Mike, Mike Sobol, and Spencer. Missing is Scott Shirhac.

THIS ONE DIDN'T GET AWAY AND IS NOT A FISH TALE

Clayton Coogan and his younger sons were wetting their lines at the fly pond on the 21st of Sept. when this huge catfish weighing 9 lbs. 8oz was caught by Finn Coogan. After parading this fish around, Finn went back and catches another catfish weighing just over 6 lbs. There is no photo for that one but you can see their overwhelming joy.

Finn on the right, brother Colton, and happy dad Clayton



PHEASANT COMMITTEE

Hard to believe it is almost the end of another great hunting/pheasant season for the club. It has been a pleasure to work with club members this year and raise healthy pheasants. There are too many names to list that make the pheasant program successful each year but without them it just wouldn't exist. I would also like to thank the hunt committee for all their efforts catching and stocking the birds. It takes a lot of dedication and work from all those members and is appreciated. A fantastic job done by all. The plans for the 2025 season are in the works. We will be replacing the nets and fenceposts along with a few other improvements. Email and Facebook posts will be sent out when the dates can be set but are contingent on the winter weather. I hope everyone has a happy and safe holiday season. See you soon in the pens!

Jonathan Moseley

Pheasant Chairman

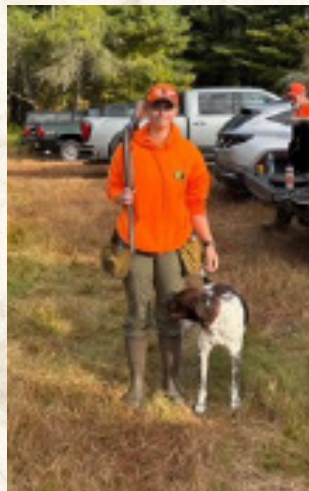


A successful morning pheasant hunt, by Glen, Owen, and Matt, and of course Stella

PHEASANT FUN TRIALS

Saturday, September 28th, was the first Pheasant Fun Trail here at the Fin, Oct. 12th was the final event. Great turn out and great time to start tuning up the dogs for the upcoming season.

Thank you to Andy Dowd and Shawn Peach, and others for running these events.



CHILI COOKOFF

Chili Cookoff, organized by Vickie, was held on Saturday Nov 2. After the votes were counted, the winners were, right to left: 1st place Roger Phillips, Vickie, 2nd place Erin Jones, and 3rd place Dave Larson. Congratulations to all! And the tums were free.



NORTHERN LIGHTS

Beautiful night to observe this special display, here at the Fin Skeet fields

Glenn M. Heinonen

WWII Historian
Collector of Military Memorabilia

1-860-423-8144

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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
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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

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FAMILY PICNIC

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FISHING

Troy Quick 860-933-2585

FIVE-STAND

David Jones 860-230-5975

HUNTING

Corey Curtis-Gray 860-576-1214

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Steve Alexson 860-218-8373

MEMBERSHIP

Bob Hruskocy 860-569-1592

MERCHANDISE

NEWSLETTER

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PERMITTEE

Dick Palmer 860-933-4768

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PISTOL/PRACTICAL PISTOL

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Jon-Paul Mucha 860-874-1291

RAFFLE

Bill Neff 860-573-1126

RIFLE/PISTOL

Paul Arildsen
Jon Paul Mucha

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SKEET

Glenn (Huff) Heinonen

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TRAP

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