



ROD & GUN GAZETTE

VOLUME 25 | ISSUE 1 | MARCH 2025

Spring at the FIN:

CLUB
DINNERS

SPRING
CLEANUP

SPORTING CLAY
SHOOTS

3-D ARCHERY
SHOOTS

EASTER EGG HUNT

SET BACK CARD GAME

STOCKINGS & DERBIES

SIGN UP
TODAY

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Spring is right around the corner.

And that means the shoots, dinners, and work parties will be starting up again very soon. Please take the time to attend any or all of these. Work parties not only get you the work hours you need, but you also get to meet other members. Being involved in your club is crucial to the club itself, it can also be rewarding to you as a member. Watch the upcoming emails about all the things going on at the Fin. Thank you as always to all the members that work hard for our club, getting the job done day in and day out. Also, a BIG thank you to the club's bartenders, as we just finished membership dues and are in the middle of the raffle season, they process all the payments along with attending to their day-to-day bar duties. I look forward to seeing you all out at the upcoming events and dinners.

Be safe, David Jones, *President*



Spring CLEAN UP

Saturday April 26th 8am

We're close to a month from spring, which we're planning our Big Spring Clean Up to rid those branches, leaves and prep our lawn for the coming of the growing season, and staining the pavilion. This year our clean-up day is April 26th, report time will be 8 am in the main parking lot. Work hours are given. The following Saturday will be the rain date if the 26th has to be cancelled. **Work Hours will be given!**

We need members to bring rakes, shovels, hand-held or backpack blowers, dump trailers, and if you're able to bring small tractors with a bucket loader that would speed the clean up along. We need a couple of 24 ft extension ladders for staining the pavilion, gable ends, fascia, support posts, and both sides of electrical panel wall. It's pretty easy, we'll have all the materials.

This clean up usually takes about 3-4 hrs, depending on how many members can help to make their club look outstanding.

If you can bring a dump trailer, small tractor with a bucket, and extension ladders, please contact me at **860-933-4768** or email rpalmer12@snet.net.

Dick Palmer, *Bldg. & Grounds Chairperson*

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 15	Annual Corn Beef & Cabbage dinner. 6 pm. Tickets at the bar.
March 30	3-D Archery Shoot. 7 am
April 12	Easter Egg Hunt. Starts at noon. There is an age cut off, & sign up.
April 13	3-D Archery Shoot. 7 am
April 18	Good Friday Fish Fry. Starts at 1 pm. This is always a sellout dinner.
April 19	Set Back card game. Starts at 4 pm, bring pot luck food.
April 26	Prime Rib Dinner. 6 pm. * This is always a sellout, watch your emails.
May 4	Kids Annual fishing Derby. Sign up is a must.
May 17	Set up the Sporting Clays course for the season. 9 am. Easy Work Hours. Contact Matt Halloran, 860-428-1818.
May 25	Sporting Clays Shoot. Registration at 8:30 am. Shooting at 9 am. Easy Work hours. Contact Matt Halloran 860-428-1818.

Executive Board Meetings –
the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm.

Membership Meetings –
the second Tuesday of each month at 7 pm.



MEMBERSHIP

Currently, the club membership has:

Regular - 348

Associate - 369

Junior - 14

Life - 167

The club added 118 new members in 2024. However, 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

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*



TRAP

The FFF will also be holding two **Registered Trap Shoots** this year. The dates are **May 10th and September 14th**. I will need a few people to help cook at the field kitchen. Help will be needed with scoring and keeping the machines loaded. I will have a work party the week before to prepare for the shoots. 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 or a reason.

If there are any issues with the trap equipment, please contact me asap.

Regards

Bob Hruskocy, *Trap Chairman*

860.250.1086 cell bhruskocy@finfurfeatherclub.com

5 STAND

In the upcoming months as the weather improves there will be a work party prior to our first shoot of the season. There is some general maintenance that needs to happen, along with clean up, staining, some repairs to the field, shooting stands and the building. Watch out for an email with the time and date.

DAVIDSON OPEN

The 2025 Jim Davidson Shotgun open will be held **July 12th, starting at 9am**. Pre-registration squad board will be posted in the bar a few weeks prior to the shoot. The format will stay the same as the previous years. 25 rounds of Sporting Clays, 5 Stand, Modern Skeet and Skap. Special class for anyone shooting a side x side. And a lunch to follow.

SPORTING CLAYS

The sporting clay season is right around the corner. I can't wait to see everyone, I have so much fun spending time with all the shooters and workers. Sporting clays is such a fun game, you get to shoot some clays, eat some food, and socialize with like minded folks. It is a good time whether you are working the event or shooting it. Busy days at the club are the best of times and sporting clays draws a crowd.

For the Shooters:

The price of the shoot is \$20 for 50 targets and is open to both members and non-members, so bring your friends and show off your club. There is no need for advanced registration you sign up on the day of the shoots, registration starts at 8:30 am, shooting starts at 9:AM. Expect a wide variety of targets designed to simulate hunting, rabbits, squirrels, and birds of all kinds.

For the Workers:

I need about fifteen members to run each shoot. We start at 8:AM and finish up early in the afternoon, usually around 1:PM at which point I buy you lunch. Work hours are required for all members and sporting clays is probably the easiest and most fun way to get your hours in. No experience is required and for the most part all you have to do is push a button and or pull a lever, plus you get to watch all of the shooters. Virtually all the people that work sporting clays, eventually become shooters themselves.

So, break out your calendar and plan your shooting and your work hours. You must email or text me to get on the work list for each date. Sign up early, now is ok.

Matt Halloran birdhunter312@gmail.com 860-428-1818

Course Set up

Saturday May 17, 2025

Shoot dates

May 25

50 target shoot

June 22

50 target shoot

July 27

50 target shoot

August 10

50 target shoot

September 6

100 target shoot Ducks Unlimited
register with DU

September 7

100 target Fin shoot
open to all shooters

SKEET REPORT

Spring is around the corner and the Winter Skeet League will be ending on April 13th, with shoot offs and the league Spring shoot schedule for that Sunday.

We have several of the 9 teams and individual shooters are running for the top honors. Good Luck to all.

Upcoming events will include a 2-gun registered skeet shoot on Sunday, June 1st. This will be 12 ga. and 20 ga. event. Help will be needed for the field kitchen and on-field activities.

A reminder to all shooters to please be aware of all safety procedures, correct trap/skeet machine use, do not throw extra targets and kindly pay for rounds/targets shot after you shoot and before leaving the club grounds.

Safety for our shooters, spectators and guests is of the utmost importance. Please monitor emails, and club bulletin board for info, scheduling, events and cancellations.

The skeet committee holds a meeting the last Tuesday of every month at 6:00 pm. Thank you.

The Skeet Committee

NORWICH 410-GAUGE SHOOT



*Mike Sobol shooting,
Dave Jones, Mike Sobol
Sr., & Dave Frankland
all from Station 9.*

The Norwich Gun Club on New Years Day hosts a 410-skeet shoot, with many of the Fin's skeet shooters go, and have fun for top positions, and refreshments. This year weather was dry and they had a good turnout, Fin members shooting having lots of laughs.



FISHING COMMITTEE

The first three fish stockings will be held on **MARCH 22nd & APRIL 12th, MAY 2nd**. Everyone (Kids included) is more than welcome to join in stocking the fish, typically at 3:30pm. **Catch and Release opens on March 22nd**, and starts at 8am.

Opening Day is April 12th, fishing starts at 6am.

The annual **Prime Rib Dinner** to raise money for the fishing committee, and fishing events will be held **APRIL 26th**, tickets are 25\$.

Kids fishing derby will be, MAY 4th, 9am-11am. AGES 1-15 years old. Lunch and prizes to follow the event. Signups/Donation sheets for the kid's derby will be in the bar after St. Patty's Day. (Donations will help with purchasing kid's prizes)

Shea Biggest Trout Derby MAY 10th, 5pm-7pm. \$10 Entry Fee. Open to all members, and guests. Biggest Fish WINS cash prize! Potluck style! Please bring a dish, dessert, or something for the grill!

LET'S HAVE A GREAT FISHING SEASON!!!

-Troy Quick

PHEASANT COMMITTEE

The winter cold is receding and it's now time to start preparing for the pheasants again. As with every year, help and participation is needed in the pens for a successful upcoming fall season. I will be sending out emails and Facebook posts for the upcoming work parties to get the new nets installed along with our normal yearly chores. In these times of the Avian flu epidemic, I have reached out to Mahantongo farm that supplies our 8-week-old birds, and he has assured me all is well at this time. With the help of our membership, we will have another great season!

Jonathan Moseley

Pheasant Chairman

UPCOMING DINNERS AT THE FIN

Corn Beef & Cabbage Dinner

March 15th at 6 pm. There is a ticket deadline.

Fish Fry

April 18th, Good Friday, at 12:30 pm.

Prime Rib Dinner

April 26th at 6 pm, There is a ticket deadline.

*Save the date Sept 13th Annual chicken BBQ

Watch emails for ticket sales or call the bar 4 weeks before

SAVE THE DATE!

June 22 Sporting Clays

July 12 Jim Davidson Open
watch for e-mails and squad sign ups.

July 20 Sporting Clays

Aug 10 Sporting Clays

Sept 6 Ducks Unlimited Sporting Clays
Shoot sign up is through them.

Sept 7 Final Sporting Clays Shoot

Sept 13 Annual Chicken BBQ

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.



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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
Robert Brooks, Treasurer 860-208-4517
Kevin Theriault, Secretary 860-428-5519

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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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

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FIVE-STAND

David Jones 860-230-5975

HUNTING

Corey Curtis-Gray 860-576-1214

KITCHEN

Steve Alexson 860-218-8373

MEMBERSHIP

Bob Hruskocy 860-250-1086

MERCHANDISE

NEWSLETTER

Dick Palmer 860-933-4768

PERMITTEE

Dick Palmer 860-933-4768

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Jon-Paul Mucha 860-874-1291

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Bill Neff 860-573-1126

RIFLE/PISTOL

Paul Arildsen
Jon Paul Mucha

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SKEET

Glenn (Huff) Heinonen

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