



ROD & GUN GAZETTE

VOLUME 26 | ISSUE 1 | MARCH 2026



SPRING INTO ACTION

PRESIDENTS CORNER

Dear Members,

As winter transitions to spring, we anticipate warmer weather and increased activity. The past winter has been productive for our organization, starting on January 3rd with the attendance of Executive Officers at the property auction for 150 Lynch Road. We successfully secured the winning bid at this auction, and following court approval, we have finalized the acquisition of an additional 6.3 acres. Further details regarding this acquisition, including subsequent steps, will be communicated to the membership via mail and email.

The arrival of spring also marks the resumption of various programs. We will need assistance across all programs, and committee chairs will be distributing information regarding work party schedules and dates. Participation not only contributes to fulfilling annual work hour requirements but also provides an excellent opportunity to connect with fellow members and make lasting relationships.

I look forward to seeing everyone out and about as the weather improves.

Sincerely,

Jarrett Meacham, *President, FFF*

MEMBERSHIP

Currently, the club membership has:

Regular - 364

Associate - 366

Junior - 13

Life - 159

The club added 73 new members in 2025. However, there were 67 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

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 14	Annual Corn Beef & Cabbage Dinner 6 pm. Tickets at the bar.
March 29	3-D Archery Shoot Starts at 7 am
April 7	Executive Meeting 6:30 pm
April 12	3-D Archery Shoot Starts at 7 am
April 14	Membership Meeting 7 pm
April 18	Prime Rib Dinner Tickets at the bar. 6 pm
May 3	Kids Fishing Derby Prior sign up required in the bar. Starts at 9 am
May 5	Executive Meeting 6:30 pm
May 9	Sporting Clays Set up at 8 am. Need members to help move machines and clean each station. Contact Matt Halloran.
May 12	Membership Meeting at 7 pm Raffle Drawing
May 17	First Sporting Clays Shoot Registration at 8:30 am
May 23	Northeast Register Skeet Open See President Mecham for details.
June 2	Executive Meeting 6:30 pm
June 9	Membership Meeting 7 pm
June 14	Sporting Clays Shoot Registration starts at 8:30 am
July 12	Sporting Clays Shoot Registration starts at 8:30 am

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Well, it almost looks like the winter might be behind us. Reminder that there are logs up on the power lines that are available to our members for their own use. All we ask is that you keep the area neat.



Another reminder: **please keep the grounds clean of litter**, there are enough trash containers to put your trash in.



Please follow the posted speed signs!!!
Member's children and pets are always running around the parking lot and grounds.



Due to lots of melting, our road ways are extremely muddy. Please don't drive over them, wait until they start to dry out. The lower skeet fields will be blocked off.

SKEET REPORT

The Winter Skeet League is moving along nicely. All of our teams are in position to win honors and some for individual shooters. The ECSC Spring League Shoot is scheduled for April 26th, here at the Fin. The awards banquet is May 2nd at the Niantic Club.

Until February our inventory/loss control was doing fine. However, we lost 55 rounds in February. Please remember to pay for your rounds before leaving the Club grounds. Please limit your look see targets and only shoot 25 targets per round. If you shoot extra targets pay for them!! If you are caught abusing this policy. You will be subject to disciplinary action. Target pricing is raising, so please pay for your rounds.

All members should monitor emails and bulletins boards for all shotgun events, as we have upcoming shoots.

- **May 23rd Northeast Open**

- **August 7, 8, & 9th the Zone 1 shoot is here,**
lots of help is needed.

Please attend the monthly membership meetings, and the last Tuesday of each month is the Shotgun Committee meeting.

The Skeet Committee

TRAP

The FFF will also be holding two **Registered Trap Shoots** this year. The dates are **May 9th and September 13th**. 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, *Membership Chairman*



SPORTING CLAYS



The sporting clay season is fast approaching, and I'll tell you that I sure am ready to spend more time outside with my friends shooting some clay targets. Don't get me wrong I love shooting skeet all winter long, but I sure am ready to change it up a bit by shooting at some different targets in some better weather.

For those of you that don't know, when shooting sporting clays, you walk through the woods and shoot at targets designed to mimic actual hunting scenarios, you can expect to see targets flying and rolling in all directions. If you have not had the opportunity to shoot sporting clays at the Fin, you are missing out.

The game accommodates all skill levels and a wide variety of guns, just about any old shotgun will do. Pair the experience with a friend or two and you are sure to have a great time at your club. Some of the best days at the club are when most people are around. Our members are what makes the Fin a great place to be and sporting clay shoots draw bunches of us together.

I will be sending emails requesting helpers to trap for each of the shoots. As always you will get work hours and lunch. So, sign up to trap early and plan your dates to shoot so that you don't miss out.

2026 SEASON DATES:

- **May 17**, 50 target shoot
- **June 14**, 50 target shoot
- **July 12**, 50 target shoot
- **August 9**, 50 target shoot
- **September 12**, (100 target shoot Ducks Unlimited) - register with DU
- **September 13**, (100 target Fin shoot open to all shooters)

Details:

- Shoots are open to both members and non members
- No pre registration required (except Sept 12)
- 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
- Questions - Matt Halloran 860-428-1818

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



FISH COMMITTEE

Reminder that you need to register your children prior to the Kid's Fishing Derby May 3rd at 9 am.

The Fish Committee has a Corn Beef & Cabbage dinner on the 14th at 6 pm.

There is also a Prime Rib Dinner scheduled for April 18th at 6 pm. Both of these dinners are always a sellout, get your tickets early from the bar.

Stocking dates will be forth coming, due to ice on the ponds.

GOOD FRIDAY 2026
FISH FRY!

DELICIOUS MENU!

- ✓ FRIED FISH
- ✓ SHRIMP SKEWERS
- ✓ CLAM FRITTERS

FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD, 2026

FEATHER CLUB
CAMP, MISSOURI

Starts at 12:30 pm until sold out or by 4 pm. Pay at the bar

CONGRATULATIONS



Feb. 22, 2026 – Winners of the Great Fin Chili Cookoff

1st place Nancy Davidson, 2nd place Bob Santa, 3rd place Steve Alexson. Nice cooking folks!

Glenn M. Heinonen

WWII Historian
Collector of Military Memorabilia

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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

Jarrett Meacham, President 860-966-7230
David Jones, Vice President 860-230-5975
Rob Brooks, Treasurer 860-208-4517
Kevin Theriault, Secretary 860-428-5519

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dick Palmer 860-933-4768
Jon Mosely 860-818-1564
Wayne Landon 860-377-8250
Steve Alexson 860-281-8373
Matt Halloran 860-428-1818
Andy Dowd 860-639-6642
Shawn Covell 860-428-0041

ALTERNATES

Jeff Lepak 860-372-7426

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 860-250-1086

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
Jim Hooper 860-208-0329

SKEET

Glenn (Huff) Heinonen

SPORTING CLAYS

Matt Halloran 860-428-1818

TRAP

Bob Hruskocy 860-250-1086