



ROD & GUN GAZETTE

VOLUME 11: ISSUE 2

DECEMBER 2009



THE PRESIDENT'S SPOT

T.C.B. Larry

In this, my first President's column, I am pleased to share with you that I consider the Fin the best club in New England and am humbled by the opportunity to work for the membership during the next year. In the two months since officially assuming the presidency, I have gained important experience and it has been very interesting to say the least. The officers and Board of Directors are some of the most talented people the Club has had in a long time and it will be a joy to work with them. Remember, these folks along with our committee chairpersons are here for you.

I am establishing a committee for planning the 50th anniversary celebration of our club's presence at the current location. This event will take place this summer and I will be in touch as details emerge. In closing, I want to thank the Ice Man and last year's officers and directors for a job well done.

Thanks and happy holidays.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Be sure to record your upcoming events on the bar calendar as far in advance as possible. The events normally listed here are taken directly from that calendar.

Jan 31	Deadline for membership dues
Feb 27-28	Appleseed Shoot
Mar 15	Deadline for March newsletter contributions
Apr 24	3D Archery Shoot



Joy & Peace to all in 2010

TREASURER'S REPORT

Tom Hoagland, Treasurer

Here we go again; it is time for the newsletter and another treasurer's report. Each month at the meetings we discuss that the Fin is responsible for two large loans. One loan allowed us to purchase a large piece of land bordering the Fin and is payable to Murray Ostrager. The other loan is with The Savings Institute and it allowed us to renovate our skeet and trap fields. Ostrager's loan has \$32,000 left to pay; we currently make a double payment each month which is about \$1,100 in principal and ~\$200 in interest. At this rate, this loan will be paid off in less than two years. The other loan is much larger and we send a check for ~\$1,700 each month with ~\$925 going to the principal and ~\$700 towards interest. This loan will be paid off in about nine years. Everyone hates owing money but without these loans the Fin would not have been able to purchase the land or make renovations. So, we have to deal with the payments and interest to be able to enjoy the club. The holidays are coming soon and I wish everyone good tidings and joy. Please come to the club and partake in the festivities. As always, if you have an idea that can make money while we enjoy ourselves, please let us know

MEMBERSHIP

Bob Hruskocy, Membership

By now you should have received your 2010 invoice. Payment is due by Jan 31, 2010. Please update any information on the invoice that is incorrect and send it to me. If you feel that you were billed for work hours when in fact you did work a function or an event, please indicate this on your return invoice and specify the activities/dates that you helped with. Any "short pays" on your invoice must be accompanied by a note explaining the short pay. This helps the bartender and me rectify why the invoice is not being paid in full. If you are claiming a hardship, please contact me before the Jan 31st deadline – a payment schedule can be arranged. Your dues can now be paid by credit card (the club does not accept Discover card). Please provide the necessary information.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Cameron Faustman, Newsletter Editor

Please note that the deadline for material to be submitted for the next newsletter will be March 15th. Written submissions and photographs can be dropped off at the Bar and added to my folder.

OUT IN THE FIELD

SPORTING CLAYS

Dick Palmer

Happy Holidays to all. Pretty soon spring will be right upon us along with thoughts of breaking sporting clays targets. We are planning to have the same number of shoots (i.e., 5) in 2010. There is one change; Ducks Unlimited will not be back this coming year. However, the Connecticut Waterfowler's Association will take their place with the same format, same last Sunday of June, and the same good people shooting. And, we will need the same amount of help to continue the tradition of this enjoyable event. More details will be forthcoming in the spring newsletter. The Club has authorized the purchase of a new electric trap machine for our presentation of targets and a big thank you for that. This will help ensure many different target presentations to keep the shooters 'on their toes'. I hope everyone has a healthy and enjoyable holiday season. Make sure your Christmas list includes lots of sporting clay ammo, and dreams in your head of sporting clay targets breaking. Again, a big thank you to all of our club members who were able to help trap through the 2009 Sporting Clays shoots. Looking forward to seeing you again in 2010. THANK YOU. Until spring, stay safe.

5-STAND

Jim & Nancy Davidson

5-Stand recently concluded another very successful year and is now closed for the winter. Thanks to everyone that participated – no one has gone 'straight' yet and we are looking forward to that day! The battle at the club championship resulted in a high score of 21 by Mike Sobol Sr, an especially impressive score given the weather conditions. We look forward to seeing you all in the spring.

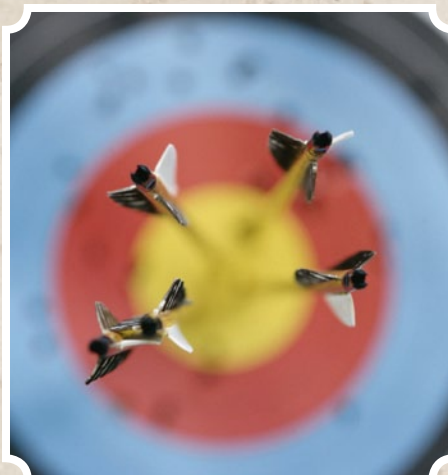
APPLESEED SHOOT

The Fin, Fur and Feather Club will be the site of the "Appleseed Shoot – 2-Day Marksmanship Clinic" sponsored by the Revolutionary War Veterans Association (a 501(c)(3) organization). The event will take place on February 27-28, 2010. Additional details and a registration form are available online in the Forum Section of the Club's website, or by going to "http://www.appleseedinfo.org/as_schedule2.php" (scroll down to the indicated dates).

TRAP

Bob "Moon" Hruskocy

The club will have two registered trap shoots this year, the dates are April 18th and August 8th. Mark your calendars, help will be needed.



ARCHERY COMMITTEE

Jim Michaud

The Fin, Fur and Feather Archery Committee is coming along. We now have an approved budget from the Board, and our new Archery Target Frames are being built. Many thanks are expressed to Larry Shewokis and his crew for building the three new frames. We have 12 members signed up to assist in various ways. If you are interested, please e-mail me at NRA.Pistol.Instructor@Comcast.net or call me at home 860-871-9179 or on my cell at 860-402-4155.

The Fin has five 3-D Archery shoots scheduled for the 2010 season. They will be held on Saturday April 24th, Sunday May 9th (Mother's Day when Moms shoot free), June 20th (Father's Day when Dads shoot for half price), September 19th and October 17th. We will need lots of help to get our course back in shape, so please consider lending a hand. This should start in late February and early March. As part of this revitalization, we will also be fixing up the club's archery range. This will entail turning it 90 degrees toward the woods and setting up our fixed shooting line. This too will be part of the 3-D setup. Keep watching for firm dates and times.

2009 CLUB SHOTGUN CHAMPIONSHIP

The end of the summer shooting season was celebrated on September 27th with the championship shoot. In the rain, we shot 125 targets; 25 each of skeet, modern skeet, trap, 5-stand and sporting clays. An excellent steak barbeque capped off the competition. Thirty-six shooters participated with the following results:

1st place	107	Paul Prevost
2nd place	105	Dick Palmer
3rd place	104	Larry Shewokis
4th place	100	Charlie Connell
5th place (tie)	98	Bill Spears
	98	Rich Lyman

Low score this year was a 58 and this shooter had just as much fun as the top placers; so, plan to participate next year regardless of your skill level. Thanks to all who worked the event.

Jim and Nancy Davidson

SHOTGUN – ZONE SHOOT RESULTS

GUN	PLACE	SHOOTER
12 Ga.	AAA4	Andre St. George
20 Ga.	Runner-up AAA2	Dave Held Steve Krukoff
28 Ga.	Champion AAA3 AA1	Steve Krukoff Andre St. George Dave Held
.410 Ga.	Champion AAA2 B4	Andre St. George Dave Held Ted Naumec
Doubles	Champion AA2 AA3	Steve Krukoff Andre St. George Dave Held
HOA	Champion 3rd AAA3	Andre St. George Dave Held Steve Krukoff

SHOTGUN – STATE SHOOT RESULTS

GUN	PLACE	SHOOTER
12 Ga.	AAA1 AAA2 AA3 B1 D1	Steve Krukoff Andre St. George Dave Held John Matthewson Ethel Murdoch
20 Ga.	Champion AA2 A2	Steve Krukoff John Matthewson Larry Shewokis
28 Ga.	Champion AAA3 AA3 A1 B3 D1	Steve Krukoff Andre St. George Dave Held John Matthewson Charles Connell Ethel Murdoch
.410 Ga	Runner-up AAA2 B1 D1	Steve Krukoff Dave Held Larry Shewokis Ethel Murdoch
Doubles	Champion Runner-up AA3 C1	Steve Krukoff Andre St. George Dave Held Ted Naumec
H.O.A.	AAA1 AA2 AA3 B1 D1 3rd AAA3	Steve Krukoff Dave Held Andre St. George John Matthewson Ethel Murdoch Dave Held Steve Krukoff



5TH ANNUAL FIN FUR & FEATHER PIKE UNDER THE ICE TOURNAMENT

Place: Mansfield Hollow Boat Launch
Date/Time: February 6, 2010, 8am to 1pm
Entry: \$20.00 per person
Prizes: 1st, 2nd, 3rd - based on Number of Entries 50/50

**One Prize for Children Under 16 for
Largest Panfish (weight)**

ALL PIKE MUST BEE RETURNED ALIVE!

All entrants over 16 must possess a 2010 Connecticut Fishing License and obey all D.E.P. Regulations.
The club will be open to all entrants after the tournament Chewink Road, Chaplin, CT.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
Call FFF Club 860-455-0516 or Martin O'Rourke 860-456-2886**



RANDOM SHOTS

Fin members traveled to Chincoteague, VA. for a duck hunt were (left to right) Dick Palmer, Kevin Segar, Tom Skoglund, Matt Halloran & Dave Fromerth.



Looking out of a ground blind over snow geese decoys with background scenery at Chincoteague hunt.

GUESS WHO?



THE ICE MAN!

SORRY!

In the September newsletter, a photo of an individual throwing horseshoes provided incorrect identification. The thrower was Bruce Macaro.



GREAT PUMPKIN FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

Nancy Davidson and the Pumpkin Committee

It was a very tough growing season this past year and though many seeds were distributed, few pumpkins came in. Brenda Liappes won the main event, and Tom Potter the open class. In the 9 to 15 carving class, Amanda Quick placed first, Sarah Potter earned second honors, and Jacob Potter was third. Overall the event was quite successful with many great carved pumpkins, pumpkin painting for the kids and tons of delicious food. We invite you stop down next year and whether or not you choose to grow pumpkins, enjoy an evening of fun and friendly competition. Many thanks to our trio of judges – Bobby T, Uncle Bill and Will. See you next year.

BAKEOFF NEWS

Nancy and Jim Davidson

Belated thank-you wishes to the 17 bakers who made this year's Bakeoff and Dessert Silent Auction such a success at the Family Picnic! People are continually "blown away" by the level of talent and creativity displayed at this event. Congratulations again to Marie Bajger for her prize-winning choc/choc/choc cookie box - her second win-in-a-row despite stiff competition and a close race.

BAR SERVICE (OR NOT!)

Members wishing to be served at the Bar must present their membership card. If an individual is not a member or if they are a member that has forgotten their card, they must sign-in. Bartenders are required to ensure that this occurs so that the club's ability to continue operating is protected. Please be respectful and comply with requests to present proof of membership/sign-in. Thanks.



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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

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