



ROD & GUN GAZETTE

VOLUME 14: ISSUE 4

JUNE 2013

Reel in the Summer!

Take part in the many activities happening this year at the Fin.



Above: Another great turnout for the Fin's Annual Fly Fishing Tournament

Left: Dakota, Faith and Emma with their catch at this year's Kid's Fishing Tournament. Great day for all the young anglers at the FIN

THE PRESIDENT'S SPOT

Members, the Club has a lot of activities going on, and help is always needed to make them a great event. They are easy work hours, so please look over the schedule and call that chairperson to help out. The Club has been working on repairing some of the skeet buildings, the worst one is completed with a few others on a scheduling time frame. Please set aside some hours and help with these repairs, the more hands the quicker it goes. Many thanks to those members who have worked events, Club clean up and skeet house repairs just to mention a few. Our Club is only great because of your involvement.

Thanks again.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JUNE

- 23 CWA Sporting Clays
- 29-30 N-SSA 5th Regt. Conn Vol. Inf Skirmish
- 30 3D Archery Shoot – Fathers ½ Price

JULY

- 6 Rifle Match
- 7 Registered Skeet Shoot
- 14 Sporting Clays
- 28 3D Archery Shoot

AUGUST

- 11 Sporting Clays
- 17 Rifle Match
- 18 Family Picnic
- 24-25 Johnny Appleseed Shoot

SEPTEMBER

- 7 SATURDAY-- D.U. Sporting Clays
- 9, 11, 12, 14 Hunter Safety Course
- 14 Rifle Match
- 15 3D Archery Shoot
- 21 3rd Annual Flipping The Bird Feast
- 22 Sporting Clays
- 28 Annual Club Shotgun Championship

OCTOBER

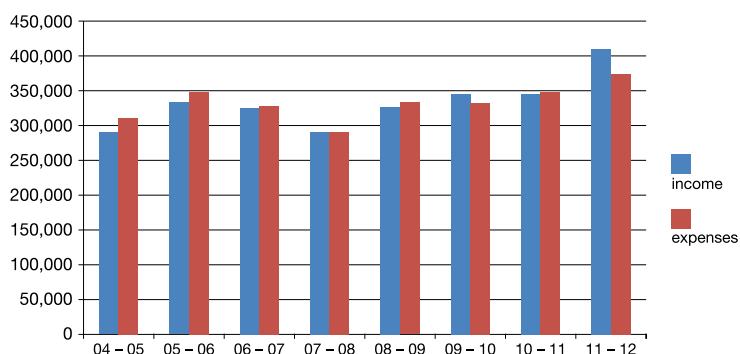
- 12 Great Pumpkin Festival
- 12-13 Johnny Appleseed Shoot
- 13 3D Archery Shoot

TREASURER'S REPORT

Tom Hoagland, Treasurer

Well it is time for another newsletter. I thought you might want to look at the history of income and expenses at the Fin over the past eight years. Clearly there are some ups and downs. Not sure why but hosting large shoots and functions brings in income and also expenses. So probably the big differences can be attributed to hosting various events. What I like to see is the steady increase we are seeing over from the low in 2007 to 2008. Last year was great with over 400,000 in income but we hosted two big skeet shoots. I hope we can keep pass this year.

Financially, the Fin is doing great but we can still use additional moneys. If you have an idea to host a function please bring it to the board and we can all enjoy the activity and make a little money to boot.



MESSAGE FROM THE VP

Well here we are, it's June already. Half the year is gone by. Boy time flies when your having fun. The fishing at the club is starting to wind down, and the pheasants will be here soon. Paul is going to need your help in the coming months. Work has started on repairing the skeet houses, the attic above the kitchen was cleaned out and shelving was put up to hold all the pots and pans and I am working on cleaning the basement out next. Sporting Clays, Five Stand, Archery and Practical Pistol are up and running their events for the summer and there are plenty of other events happening at the Fin. So come on down and enjoy what we have here, and remember you need to purchase you hunting badge prior to October 1st.

Family Picnic Time

The Family picnic is fast approaching. The picnic is set for August 16th. There will be a work day on August 15th at 8 am to set up for the picnic. This is a great time and way to get your work hours in before hunting season starts. If you want more information on helping at the picnic please call me at **860-428-5519** or send me an email at wfdktheriault@gmail.com.

21 and Older	\$15.00
12 to 21	\$10.00
6 to 11	\$5.00
5 and Under	FREE

Thank you
Kevin Theriault, Vice President

MEMBERSHIP

Bob Hruskocy, Membership

As of 6/1/13 the club has added 50 new members. Here is a breakdown of the membership: Regular 354; Associate 165; Junior 39; Life 134. If you know of anyone that would be a good member, please invite them to the club and show them the facilities. This is the busy time of the year with lots of functions. Now is the time to get in your work hours. Do not wait until the last minute. Every year I get calls or e-mails in September from members looking to get in their work hours.

Last year the club collected \$19,130.00 in non-completed work hours. Since 2001, the club has collected \$171,910.00.



SKEET HOUSES REPAIRS

High 6 (Field #6)

The repairs to skeet house high 6 which were approved for \$2,500 were actually near \$3,100. The cost overrun was due to replacing the double doors which wasn't seen until their removal. That cost was about \$875. All the repairs that were outlined were completed, as well as paint. We worked Friday and Saturday, and had a total of 19 members working either or all days.

Work Date

Members, the date of June 28th, Friday and 29th, Saturday will be working on the skeet houses on field 7 & 8 if the weather is dry. We are going to try and complete both houses.

We need members who can put in either half days, full days or both days to help in minor repairs to the siding, trim, and then brush and roll paint. We have enough staging, some ladders, but additional ladders would be helpful. Starting time will be 9am for both days and will go until either 2 or 3 pm. Please set these dates aside so we can get these two houses done.

If any member has a commercial paint sprayer that can used, please contact the President. Thank You.

EASTERN CONNECTICUT SKEET CLUB AWARDS BANQUET

The Awards Banquet was held on April 27th at the Bozrah Moose Club and the teams of Fin did very well in this years Winter League.

Division One team, The Bad Boys, came in at 2nd place with the Division High Average. Bad Boys Steve Krukoff coming away with The Leagues High Average and David Held with division One High Average.

Division Three team, The Hot Shots, placed 1st in there Division and held the division High Team Average. Hot Shots team member Tossos Gavrilis also had the Division Three High Average.

Division Four Team, 2 Intense, had one great year finishing in First Place with a perfect 12-0 Record also finishing with the Division High Average. Team members Cory Dancosse had the Division High Average and Dan Conderino won Most Improved Shooter in the League.

Division Four team, Station Nine, finished in 2nd place.



Team 2 Intense – 1st Place Division Four .L-R: Doug Kramer, Capt.; Chris Knight; Cory Dancosse, Div High Avg.; Rob Rogers; Dan Conderino, Most Improved; and Norm Slater. Missing: S. Peach.



*Bad Boys – 2nd Division One
L-R: David Held Div High Ave, Steve Krukoff; High League Ave, Larry Shewokis; Capt., John Mathewson; and Jason St. Lawrence.
Missing: N. Wippert and Frank Decker.*



*Station Nine – 2nd Place Division Four
L-R: Dick Palmer, Capt.; Bill Spears; Dave Fromerth; and Tom Potter.
Missing: Tom and Jim Skoglund.*



*Hot Shots – 1st Place Division Three
L-R: Robby Frankland; Bill Dixon; Artie St. Lawrence; Bob Frankland; Tossos Gavrilis, High Div Avg; and David Volz.
Missing: Capt., Al Perry.*



L-R: Dan Conderion, Most Improved; Steve Krukoff, League High Avg.; Tossos Gavrilis, Div Three High Avg; and Cory Dancosse, Div. Four High Ave.



One of the many shoots at the sand pit. Watch your e-mail for up coming pistol events at the FIN.

OUT IN THE FIELD

TRAP

Bob Hruskocy, Trap

The club held a registered trap shoot on May 11th. Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate and most likely kept away a few shooters. There were 27 people that shot the singles event and 12 shot the handicap event.

After all expenses were paid, the club still made a profit of \$552.00. I would like to thank the following people for their help at the shoot. Without their help, the event could not have been possible. Dan Gutt, Brian Scussel, Dave Rorrio, Mike Ford, Shawn Peach, Don Nichols, Gary Palmer, & Rich Bentley.

If anyone is interested in learning the basics of trapshooting, please contact me.

SPORTING CLAYS

Dick Palmer

Members, we have 2 large shoots coming up, June 23rd is the CWA and Sept 7th is Ducks Unlimited, 100 targets, and they require about 30 Club members to run both events. Please sign up there, easy work hours; there are also 3 – 50 target shoots left July 14th, Aug 11th and Sept 22nd. Please contact Dick Palmer at [860-933-4768](tel:860-933-4768) or e-mail rpalmer12@snet.net. If you want to shoot any of the 50 target events, registration starts at 9 am till 12 noon. The CWA and DU are through each organization informational sheet is at the Club house. Until next time *"Keep breaking those targets"*.

5-STAND

Jim Davidson, Chairman

5-Stand is up and running well. Keep checking your e-mails & the Bar wipe board for when we are open. Come down and give us a try

ARCHERY

Jim Michaud, Chairman

The new targets are a big hit with the archers at the shoots. The T-Rex, Dragon, Alligator and Lion are especially well liked.

Our first three shoots had a combined total of 134 shooters. The estimated shooter for this year was set at 158, so we are well on target (pardon the pun) for the year. To date, archery has an income of \$1,224 with four shoots left.

To date we've had great assistance from the club members in setting up and taking down the targets. It is much easier job doing both with the new 3D Target Stands.

Our next archery dates are June 30th, July 28th, September 15th and October 13th .

The setup dates will be on the Saturday before, unless otherwise published, starting at 8:00 am. We will take down the targets on Sunday of the shoot, starting at 12:00pm. If you can assist with the Set Up or Take Down please call me on my cell [860-402-4155](tel:860-402-4155) or e-mail me at James.E.Michaud@Comcast.net or jmichaud@sscinc.com.



Tom Potter teaching reloading at Venturing Crew 15

VENTURA CREW 15

Trish Michaud, Crew 15

Venturing Crew 15 would like to thank the Fin Fur and Feather Club and its members for their help and use of their property for the Skills weekend held on April 12th to the 14th. Everyone who attended had a wonderful time and truly enjoyed themselves. There were a total of seven Crews, which is four more than last time we did this.

There were a total of 48 Teens with 25 Adults for a total Scouting attendance of 73 Crew members. During the weekend, the youth were able to try Fly Fishing, Archery, 3-D Archery, Skeet Shooting, Trap shooting, High Powered Rifles, Pistols, and Black Powder. There was also instructors teaching Fur Trapping and Ammo Reloading, Plus the DEEP trailer was here for demonstrations and to answer questions. There was a sporting dog demonstration too.

Several Crew members worked on their Shooting Bronze award with three completing the award that weekend. One family liked our club so much they joined, and I know of at least two youth who went home and talked parents into purchasing their own firearms.

Of the many people who volunteered to assist the youth with the skills we had 16 Fin members, of which one is a Junior Fin Member, 5 were NRA Instructors, 7 were DEEP Instructors one of which was a Junior Instructor, 2 were from the Boy Scouts, 4 were from the Crews, 3 were Police Officers and 1 was a Department of Defense Range Officer. This totaled out to adults who had a total of 38 qualifications to assist the youth.

Our club members who donated their time and much needed ammunition and equipment:

- Jeff Robbins donated their time, firearms and numerous types of ammunition.

- Dan Quinlan and Ray Mott donated their time, firearms and numerous types of ammunition and were instructors on the pistol range.
- Pete West donated his firearms, ammunition and his time as our medical personnel.
- Michael Sobol donated his firearms, ammunition and his time as our lead skeet instructor.
- Randy Russo donated his time and equipment as a skeet instructor.
- Rick Turcotte donated his time as our lead archery instructor.
- Martin O'Rourke and John Goddard donated their time and equipment teaching fly fishing.
- Tom Potter donated his time and equipment teaching reloading, and Tim Michaud assisted by teaching how to cast bullets.
- Pete Cafazzo donated his time and equipment as the Pistol Range Safety Officer.
- Kevin Segar donated his time and equipment as the trapping Instructor.
- David and Dale DeMontigny donated their time and equipment as the Black Powder Instructors.
- Our newest club member, Bob LaChance was the skeet Range Safety officer. Bob joined the club right after this event.

If we left anyone out, we are truly sorry. So many gave so much to make this event a success it got difficult to keep track of. We want to thank everyone whom made this event possible to the youth who attended. Thank you so much Fin Fur and Feather and her members.

CLUB SHOTGUN CHAMPIONSHIP

The Club Shotgun Championship will be held Sept. 28th at 9am. 125 targets – 25 of each of skeet-trap-modern skeet- sporting clays & 5-stand, a great meal, beer and awards.

Due to the congestion last year at 5-stand we are offering squads the option of pre-shooting 5-stand the month before the shoot. See Jim Davidson for details.

The Club Championship is a celebration of the end of the summer shooting season. It is for fun, all are welcome. Sign up will be in the Bar. This is a pre-pay event.

THE NORTHEAST OPEN SKEET SHOOT

Frank Mauri, Skeet Chairman

Our annual NEOPEN was held the weekend of May 31, June 1 & 2. The Doubles event was held on the 31st with 7 participants and Charlie LaPointe shot a 95/100 and emerged as champion with Paul Brulotte also with a 95 as runner-up. Rob Frankland posted a 92 to take B1 with Rich Civitello at 90 settling for B2. Dan Krouse had a 79 good for D1.

On Saturday morning the 12 Ga. event was shot and 33 shooters participated. John Mello posted a 100/100 to take the championship and class AA1. Willie Clark's 98 was good for AA2. Paul Brulotte also posted a 100/100 but lost the shoot-off to John and settled for Runner-up and A1. Doug Britt's 99 was good for A2 and Paul LaChance with a 97 took A3. Tom Fontaine with a 97 took B1, Dan Krouse with a 96 was B2 and Geoff Turner took B3 with a 95. Chris Knight started off a good weekend shooting a 94 and taking C1 with Paul Jezierski C2 and Doug Kramer C3. Mark Watson with a 93 took D1 and Joe Canzanello was D2. Charles Bruckerhoff's 88 earned him E1 and Norm Slater with an 85 settled for E2.

The 20 Ga. was shot Saturday afternoon with 25 participants. John Mello shot another 100/100 to take the championship and AA1 with Charlie LaPointe's 99 good for AA2. In a shoot-off on 99's Rich Civitello became A1 and Winfield Danielson A2, Paul LaChance's 97 garnered him A3. Rob Frankland shot a 95 good enough for B1, while Chris Knight's 94 got him B2. Dan Krouse shot a 93 good for C1, while Cory DanCosse's 90 was good for C2. Dick Burke's 88 beat out Doug Kramer's 85 for D1 with Doug settling D2.

Sunday was the day for the 28 Ga. and the .410. 15 shooters toed the line for the 28 and John Mello kept the string going with another 100, the third of the weekend. He was the champ and AA1. In a shoot-off of 98's Dennis Jolley became the Runner-up and B1, Rich Civitello got B2 and Charlie LaPointe AA2. Geoff Turner with a 96 took A1 and Paul LaChance with a 95 became A2. Doug Kramer (93) and Chris Knight (91) shooting the 28 in competition for the first time were the C1 and C2 winners respectively.

For the .410 the Fin wind appeared in all its force. Targets flew every which way. Charlie LaPointe (95) took Champ and AA1 while John Mello (92) settled for AA2. Paul LaChance (91) and Dennis Jolley (91) shot off for A1 & 2 with Dennis winning the first place spot. Paul Brulotte (88) was B1 and Geoff Turner (86) was B2. Mark Watson took C1 and Dan Krouse was D1.

The High-Over-All shooter was John Mello with a 392/400.

I had a lot of help from Todd Quackenbush, Ryan Spencer, Josh St. Lawrence, Neil Wippert, Bill Dixon, Mike D'Amato, Bob Frankland, Art St. Lawrence, Elmer MacCluskey, Rob Frankland (in between shooting), Dan Conderino, and Mark Gallagher & Son. If I missed anyone I'm sorry, let me know and I will correct the oversight. Connie cooked at the field kitchen all day Sat. and Sun. leaving the shooters well satisfied. We served a small buffet Sat. after the shooting was done and many of the shooters came and enjoyed a small meal. Most of the shooters commented to me on how well are referees performed. So Mike, Neil, Bill, Josh take a bow!

ATTENTION HUNTERS

Make sure you buy your **Hunting Badge** before OCT. 1st 2013. After that date only new members will be allowed to purchase a badge.

FLIPPING THE BIRD CHICKEN BBQ

Date: Sept. 21st 2013

Time: 5pm.

Price: \$15 per person

Support your pheasant committie.

AUGUST 18TH F.F.F. FAMILY PICNIC

We are offering two \$50 Rewards!!!

1. Bake & donate your best non-refrigerated dessert for our **7th Annual Bake-off**. The dessert with the most ticket votes wins the Baker \$50.
2. Our **2nd Annual Birdhouse Event**. Build and donate a neat birdhouse. The one with the most ticket votes wins the builder \$50.

Try your skills at building or baking or both. Sign-up sheet at the BAR or call Nancy at **860-456-8782**.

THE GREAT PUMPKIN FESTIVAL NEWS

Well by now your pumpkin plats should be up and flowering. Hope everything is looking good. The Great Pumpkin Festival will be on Oct. 12th at 6pm. Mark your calendar for a great family event. Crafts and activities for kids-pot luck dinner-pumpkin judging and carving contest. More details to come.

CLUB RAFFLE WINNERS

Congratulations to the winners of this years Club Raffle, thank you for all your support.

1st Jason Adams	4th Curt Lang
2nd Artie St Lawrence	5th Matt Halloran
3rd Joanna Litke	

PHEASANT COMMITTEE LETTER:

I would like to start by saying, the Fin Fur Feather Club has lost a hard working member of the club and pheasant program, Pat Buckley, you will be greatly missed.

The pheasant pens are all set and ready for the birds this year. Thank you to Steve Sanborn and Wayne Mather for fixing the water lines, valves and hydrant.

We will be needing help the week of July 16th when the 3800, 8-week old birds arrive. We won't know the exact day until its gets closer to the delivery time. We will need about 30 people to help unload and uncrate the birds. Last year was great, we had a lot of people and the birds were unloaded in record time.

If you think you can be free the day they arrive please send me an email and I will notify you of the date as well as send out an email through the club email.

Also, we need people to sign up for feeding and watering the birds. Sign up at the bar for 1 week or more, if you can. We need all the help we can get, the more people that sign up, the less work we all have to do. If you want to email me a week that will work for you, I can sign you up at the bar.

Thank you to everyone that has helped in the past and to those who can help this year as well. We have a very successful pheasant program because of the people who pitch in to make it so. The FFF pheasant program is only successful if we all HELP. Let's make the pheasant program fun for everyone. Let's make it successful again this year.

Setbacks are over until the fall. SCAT tournaments have started. We have been combining a Friday Night Potluck with the SCAT tournaments. It is fun, fast and enjoyed by all that played and those who come for the food (which is always good). Join us for the next night, watch your emails or email me to be put on the notification list.

*Thank you,
Paul Cardinal, Pheasant Chairman*

Email: Cardinalservice151@yahoo.com
Phone: 860-377-0453

NEW LONDON COUNTY PISTOL LEAGUE TO HONOR DR. MARY GOSS

Fin, Fur, & Feather former pistol chairperson to be honored with a prestigious annual award being named after her. Dr. Mary Goss will have the annual High Scoring Women's Award named for her in recognition of her many accomplishments throughout the years. on June 1, 2013 at the Groton Motor Inn to mark the occasion. Everyone at the FFF want congratulate Mary on her fine accomplishments and recognize her for her efforts.



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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.*

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