



ROD & GUN GAZETTE

VOLUME 15 | ISSUE 2 | JUNE 2014



Don't Forget to Order Your HUNTING BADGE

Read how – page 2

Winter Skeet League

Divisions 1, 2 and 3 Winners – page 4

FISH TALES

Vets and Kids Enjoy a Day of Fishing

Photos – page 5

Tony Quick with his son looking like the largest fish.

UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE

21st	CWA 100 target Sporting Clays event @ 9 am, help is needed please sign up at the bar Rifle Match
22nd	3-D Archery Shoot

Don't forget:

Pick up your pumpkin seeds for Oct 4th Pumpkin Festival

Build your bird houses for the contest at the Family Picnic

JULY

5th	Rifle Match
12th & 13th	Register skeet shoot, "The Fin Open"
13th	Sporting Clays 50 target shoot @ 9 am
27th	3-D Archery Shoot

AUGUST

3rd	The No Name Open, register skeet shoot
10th	Sporting Clays 50 target shoot @ 9 am
17th	Family Picnic @ 12 noon
23rd	Rifle Match

SEPTEMBER

6th	Saturday Ducks Unlimited Sporting Clays 100 target shoot. Help is needed, sign up at the bar.
7th	3-D Archery Shoot
9th	Membership meeting @ 7 pm. Nominations for Officers, and Board
13th	Rifle Match
14th	Sporting Clays 50 target shoot, last one for the year
20th	Annual Chicken BBQ to benefit the Pheasant program.
27th	Club Shotgun Championship @ 9 am, sign up in the bar.
30th	Last day to pay for all obligation's, and purchase Hunting Badges.

OCTOBER

4th	The Great Pumpkin Festival great family activity
7th	Board Meeting @ 6:30 pm
14th	Annual Elections of Officers and Executive board members

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dick Palmer, President

Members,

The club has had a lot of activities, from Winter Skeet league to Practical pistol. It is doing a great job and looks to continue that way through the summer. 3-D Archery is well attended and our Fish program hosted the annual Kids Fishing derby. The "Take A Vet Fishing" program was well attended by the Vets. This summer rifle matches are scheduled, we already had two Sporting Clays events with additional ones on the board. The register Trap shoot was outstanding, 5-stand has opened, and there is an upcoming register skeet shoot. All of these activities can be found on our web site under the activities link. I want to thank all of those members who came out and helped with the club wide clean up. The grounds look great. The lawns are getting cut with a brand new mower, our first new one since 1993! We provide a lot of information about programs at the Club via email, if your e-mail address has changed, please make sure that our membership chairman gets that information. We will continue to repair the remaining skeet houses, need to replace the front half of the roofs, trim and some T-1-11, and finally paint them. Those work days will be announced. Please mark your calendars for the family picnic which will be held on August 17th.

In closing I need to remind everyone that all obligations must be met before you are allowed to purchase your hunting badges. The badges must be purchased prior to October 1st.

Be safe and enjoy the summer.

MESSAGE FROM THE VP

Kevin Theriault, Vice President

First off I would like to thank those members who nominated me for The Man of the Year award. As most of you know I don't work around the club for awards but it was nice to be recognized. I do everything I do around the club because this is the greatest club around and I want it to stay that way. So again thank you for the recognition.

Well here we are, it's June already. Half the year is gone by. 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 with them. Sporting Clays, Five Stand, Archery and Practical Pistol are up and running their events for the summer and Frank has a few skeet shoots planned for this summer also, so there are plenty of events happening at the Fin. So come on down and enjoy what we have here, and remember you need to purchase your hunting badge prior to October 1st.

THE FAMILY PICNIC

The Family picnic is fast approaching. The picnic is set for August 17th. There will be a work day on August 16th 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	12 to 21	6 to 11	5 and Under
\$15.00	\$10.00	\$5.00	FREE

Thank you.



HUNTING BADGES

Please mark your calendars as you will need to purchase your 2014 badge prior to October 1st. After that date, no badges will be issued. You must fill out your permission slips, for selecting the type of hunting activity you would like, selecting your fall hunting group, and finally purchasing your badge. Come September, if you have not completed your work hour requirement, or paid your obligations, you will be notified. You must pay for those work hours, and outstanding obligations or you will lose your hunting privileges and your badge. Tremendous amount of work goes into this program from permission slips, organizing forms, verifying information on the permission slips, notifying members that information was incorrect or left out, cross checking work hours, obligations paid for, and finally issuing badges. This is to ensure that everyone is eligible to hunt, after meeting all these requirements.

It is your responsibility! To make sure that information, work hours, obligations, and payments have been completed so to purchase your badge. Please keep your receipts. It is not the Hunt Chairman or the Club, it is you.

**REMEMBER
OCTOBER 1ST IS
THE DEADLINE.**

TREASURER'S REPORT

Tom Hoagland, Treasurer

Here it is June 12th 2014. Another news letter article is due. As you can see from our monthly report, our club is in great fiscal shape. We are saving money and paying off the only loan we have. The skeet field loan is now ~\$42,000. If we keep paying extra each payment that loan should be paid off by August 2015 or so. We have cash on hand of about \$130,000. I was taking to people from another organization I belong and they think they are in good standing if they have enough money in reserve to pay the operational costs for one half year. As it stands for the Fin our annual operational costs are about \$270,000 which \$130,000 is just about one half. So at least in the eyes of the other organization the Fin is in good standing. In the past and probably in our future, the Fin will not be so lucky to have this much money on hand. If we take on a large loan to be able to purchase property we won't have this cash reserve but we will have property.

At any time you think you have an idea that could make money for the club please step up and initiate it. The Fin has not had a diner in a while it would be a money maker.

MEMBERSHIP

Bob Hruskocy, Membership Chairman

The clubs current membership remains steady. There have been a total of 53 new members that have joined the club in 2014. Here is the breakdown of the membership categories; Regular 348, Associate 180, Junior 40, Life 142. I have received the list from the raffle committee of the members who did not purchase their 2014 raffle tickets. Invoices will be going out to those that owe for their tickets.

All fees need to be paid in order to remain a member in good standing, hunting badges will not be issued for those that owe for raffle tickets. This is the time of year to get in your work hours, there are many events that are going on. Work hours need to be completed by September 30th. Don't wait !!

THE CLUB SHOTGUN CHAMPIONSHIP

Jim & Nancy Davidson

This year the Championship will be held on Sept. 27th, starting at 9 am. It's 125 targets, skeet, trap, modern skeet, sporting clays, and 5-stand. There is a BBQ lunch, awards, and refreshments. It will be a celebration of the end of the summer shooting season. So practice those skills and we will see you in September.

Watch the e-mails, and posted notice in the bar for squad sign ups.

FAMILY PICNIC

Members, this year family picnic is on August 17th at noon, so mark your calendars as time seems to creep upon us so quick. Additional announcements will be through the June newsletter and e-mails. The Family picnic raffle is always looking for items if you like to donate, contact Frank and Connie Mauri.

BAKEOFF NEWS

Nancy Davidson

At the Family picnic on August 17th we will be running the 8th annual Bakeoff & Raffle. We are offering a \$50 REWARD to the baker who's non-refrigerated dessert gets the most tickets votes. I encourage you to get involved and get your kids involved also. It's fun to check your can and compete for the reward.

BIRDHOUSE NEWS

Jim & Nancy Davidson

Running in conjunction with the Bakeoff, we will have our 3rd annual birdhouse Event. Make them big-small-skinny or tall, anything goes. Most votes get the master builder REWARD of \$50. A great project to do with your kids!

ANNUAL CHICKEN BBQ SEPTEMBER 20TH

The Pheasant Committee annual Chicken BBQ will be held on this date, this is to benefit the Pheasant program, and you really need to attend this BBQ as the meal is fantastic. Check the information in the June newsletter, and through e-mails as to ticket sales.

PUMPKIN FEST

Jim & Nancy Davidson

By now your pumpkin plants should be growing well. Let's hope for some great results this year! See you at the Great Pumpkin Festival on October 4th.



In Division 1 from the Fin's Bad Boys II, John Mathewson took high Division average with a 49.2.

WINTER SKEET LEAGUE

The 2013-2014 winter skeet league came to a conclusion on April 14, 2014, with many shoot offs for either division standings or averages, more than in years past. At the banquet on the 27th our Rich Rushman from Fin's Skeet Delete taking 2nd high league average with a 49.4, with the high league average going Norwich's Willie Clark during a shoot off.



In Division 2 from the Fin's team Team-to-Intense with a 11 wins, 3 loss record for 1st place. Team members were Doug Kramer-Captain, Cory Dancosse, Mike Sobol Jr., Chris Knight, Tim Slater, Rob Rogers, Mike Sobol, and Shawn Peach.



In Division 3 from the Fin's team Station Nine with 12 wins and 2 losses for 1st place. Team members are Dick Palmer-Captain, Jim Skoglund, Tom Potter, Tom Skoglund, Bill Spears and Don Shea.

SPORTING CLAYS

Dick Palmer, Sporting Clays Chairman

Sporting Clays has already had two events and I want to thank those who came out to shoot and those members who worked as trappers. By the time this newsletter comes out, the CWA annual Sporting Clays event will have gone by, this is always a fun time. Our schedule has us hosting three more shoots on July 13th, Aug 10th and Sept 14th. These are easy work hours and we usually send an e-mail about 2 weeks in advance soliciting members to help trap. Please contact me through rpalmer12@snet.net or calling 860-933-4768 to sign up.

We are also hosting the Connecticut Ducks Unlimited Sporting Clays shoot here on Sept 6th, a Saturday, and we usually need about 26 members to help trap and score for this day. The event runs from 8 am to about 1 pm, rain or shine, and the sign up list will go up in July. So please look at your calendars and set aside some hours to work one of these shoots.

Keep breaking those targets.



TAKE A VET FISHING DAY

April 27th the Club again sponsored "Take a Vet Fishing Day". This organization receives donations to allow a day of fishing for veterans. They go all over the State looking at Sportsman Clubs to host this event for the veterans. This year there were approximately 80 veterans, two years ago there was about 35. They were provided with bison burgers, pizza and of course fish that was caught. Thank you to all of our veterans.

FISH REPORT

The final report for the Fish indicates that a total of 643 fish was stocked through four stocking days for a total of \$5,374.39. The first stocking because of the ice was on April 4th total number was 288 fish of various lengths, 82 in each lower ponds and 124 in the Fly pond. On April 18th the stocking total 134 fish, with 40 in each of the lower ponds, and 54 in the Fly pond. On April 25th the stocking total 184 fish, 40 in each of the lower ponds and 54 in the fly pond. Now, the donations of \$195 allowed for an additional 20 fish for Take A Vet Fishing in the fly pond. Finally, on May 2nd a stocking of 42 fish for the Kids Derby, and additional 45 fish which then totaled 87 fish.

The Kids Fishing Derby had just under 50 attendees, the following are the results of the derby; largest trout Josh Quick, smallest trout Mason Mascoro, largest bass Matt Bogdon, longest combine trout length Jackson Lee, most fish Chris Palomar, smallest fish Chris Palomar, and Todd Bacon came in second with the most sun fish.



Huff with his granddaughter



Pat, Tyler, son, and Betsy Lynch

CHARITY TRAP SHOOT



The Club was host to a Charity Trap Shoot that money was donated to the Bridgeport Burn Center through a union in Northeast Utilities. Looks like they had a fun day.

TRAP

Bob Hruskocy, Trap Chairman

The club held a registered Trap shoot on May 18th, there were a total of 35 shooters that participated. A few more than last year. After expenses and targets, the clubs net profit was \$720.00. I would like to thank the following people for their time, without them the shoot could not have been possible; Mike Ford, Bob Cooper, Brian Scussel, Shawn Peach, Gary Palmer, Jeff Davis, Barb Willard & Pete Kasacek. Special thanks to Connie Mauri for opening up Connie's kitchen !

PHEASANT COMMITTEE

Paul Cardinal, *Pheasant Chairman*

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

It doesn't seem possible that our pheasants will be arriving very shortly, the pheasant pens are all ready to go.

We will be needing help the week of July 14th 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.

Thank you.

MOWERS BID NOTICE

Dick Palmer, President

Attention Members,

The Club is putting out bids for the following items:



ITEM #1 — 1993 FORD 3 CYLINDER DIESEL TRACTOR MOWER W/48" DECK

Mower and tractor have been maintained, last service was March 2013.

Starting bid price is \$300.



ITEM #2 — UNKNOWN YEAR LARGE ECONOMY KING GASOLINE TRACTOR

Runs, has a mower deck installed, guess it's about 48", with a manual transmission. **Starting bid price of \$300.**

All mowers can be seen, the Economy King is in the pheasant Bldg, and the Ford mower is inside of low house 1 at the skeet field. Bids must be marked as Mower Bids on the envelope. You must be clear as to what item you are bidding on and you can bid for both.

All Bids must be received by July 1st Board meeting by 6:30 pm.
The Board has the right to reject any or all bids.



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&
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Robert Cardinal
Owner



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John Mathewson

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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

Dick Palmer, President	860-933-4768
Kevin Theriault, Vice President	860-429-1792
Bill O'Hara, Secretary	860-872-3558
Tom Hoagland, Treasurer	860-455-0641

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Matt Halloran	860-429-1897
Mark Holland	860-617-3750
Shawn Koehler	860-810-4050
Will Lucier	860-455-9117
Wayne Mather	860-423-0450
Keith Morehouse	860-647-1333
John Postemski	860-423-9396
Tom Potter	860-212-6573

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

ARCHERY	
Jim Michaud	860-402-4155
BAR	
Don Bajger	860-423-6693

CHILDREN'S FUND

John & Laura Pawelec	860-429-7033
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COMPONENTS

Jim Skoglund	860-992-9779
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FAMILY PICNIC

Kevin Theriault	860- 429-1792
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FIELD TRIALS

Tony Kubasek	860-944-6716
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FISHING

Frank Mauri	860-974-1425
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FIVE-STAND

Jim Davidson	860-456-8782
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HEALTH/WELFARE

Dick Palmer	860-933-4768
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HUNTING

Wayne Mather	860-423-0450
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INSURANCE REVIEW

Eugene Lewis	860-423-3341
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JUNIOR PROGRAMS

Pat Enright	860-429-0172
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KITCHEN

Clayton Coogan	860-221-5653
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MEMBERSHIP

Bob Hruskocy	860-569-1592
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MERCHANDISE

Bill Spears	860-822-6567
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NEWSLETTER

Dick Palmer	860-933-4768
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PERMITTEE

Brenda Liappes	860-455-0521
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PHEASANTS

Paul Cardinal	860-455-0255
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PISTOL/PRACTICAL PISTOL

John Lonergan	860-643-7453
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RIFLE

Peter Mathewson	860-456-8588
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SHOTGUN

Frank Mauri	860-974-1425
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SKEET

Frank Mauri	860-974-1425
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SPORTING CLAYS

Dick Palmer	860-933-4768
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TRAP

Bob Hruskocy	860-569-1592
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