



Hamilton/Wenham Rod & Gun Club



Newsletter – March 2024

President	Bob Young	Chief Instructor	Michael Pelonzi - (978) 993-3337
	E-mail - pres@hwrclub.org		E-mail - instructor@hwrclub.org
Vice-Pres.	Bill Terry	Range Officer	Mark Szczechowicz
	E-mail - vicepres@hwrclub.org		E-mail - range-off@hwrclub.org
Secretary	Cory Daras	Range Const. Officer	Dan Marchand -
	E-mail - secretary@hwrclub.org		E-mail - range-const@hwrclub.org
Treasurer	M. Giardina -	Newsletter Editor	Kevin Street -
	treasurer@hwrclub.org		newsletter@hwrclub.org

The Hamilton Wenham Rod and Gun Club meets on the third Tuesday of each month.

**Monthly Meeting will be held March 19th at 7:30 PM – Hamilton Legion Hall, 37 School St., Hamilton
Meetings are Always Held on the 3rd Tuesday of Each Month**

Visit our website for club news and to see updates to the club calendar:

**** Club Website ** - www.hwrclub.org**

**** 2024 Club Calendar ** <http://www.hwrclub.org/calendar/HWRG2024Calendar.pdf>**

Inside This Issue

Vice President’s Message:

- Great big shout out to member John Chiavacci! John has hosted our Annual Game Dinner for the past few years. He has put in a huge effort making arrangements for the hall and bartender, getting the hall ready, making announcements and coordinating the food. There was plenty of great chow and camaraderie! There were about 25 in attendance. I was hopeful that more members would turn out, but the steadfast regulars were there along with a few newcomers.

- The trout will be traveling from their home in Plymouth, MA on Saturday March 16th to their new home in our pond for a 12 pm arrival. It’s always a fun time especially with the kids helping to move the trout from the truck’s tank to the pond. If we are lucky John Chiavacci will be manning the grill again this year so stop by to welcome the trout and have a bite to eat. Give the fish a week to settle in before fishing in the pond. Remember: No live bait, single barbless hooks, catch and release only! And ... Teach a Kid to Fish!

- This from GOAL:

House and Senate Appoints Conference Committee on H.4139

The Massachusetts House and Senate did not agree on a version of the "Lawful Citizen's Imprisonment Act". As a result, each named their members of the "Conference Committee" GOAL is urging all of our members to contact the Conferees and oppose any new restrictions on lawful citizens! There is nothing in any of the language that will reduce violent crime or address the mental health epidemic.

[Go to GOAL's Resource Page for Conference Committee contact information and sample email/letter language!](#)

This bill will affect all of us so it is imperative that we fight as hard as we can!

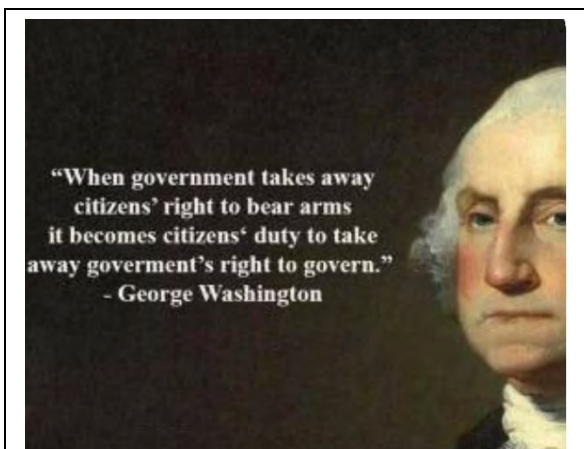
- Reminder:

It is approaching the season where our Club supports local law enforcement by leasing our Club facilities for their training and qualification. This is limited to 2 days per week and never on a weekend. It is also in our lease that the Hamilton Police have the use of our Club the "second week of May" and the "second week of September".

These dates are posted in advance on the Club calendar on our website so make it a habit to check there before heading out. During law enforcement training days, the Hollow, our Waterfront, and the Archery Range are still available to members!

Thank you and I hope to see you around our Club,
Bill Terry
Vice President

Quote of the Month:



This Month's Link:

https://youtu.be/DC9Lg5Zi98k?si=_KcBJ8MjwczF2YXi



General Meeting Report of February 20, 2023:

- Meeting came to order at 7:30 PM. In accordance with Custom, the meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence to honor all our deceased members and for all men and women who have served in the armed services.
- All Board Members were present; Bob Young, Bill Terry, Cory Daras, Mark Szczechowicz, Mike Giardina, Mike Pelonzi, Dan Marchand. Please remember to sign in.

Secretary Meeting Report:

- A motion was made to accept the meeting minutes for the previous meeting as prepared in the Club Newsletter. The motion was unanimously approved.
- Club Membership Renewals have been mailed out. Renewals are due by the March General Meeting.

Secretary Newsletter Contribution:

- Renewals are coming fast and furiously; thank you to everyone that has supported our Veteran's fundraiser, your generosity is

overwhelming and this is clearly a cause that is near and dear to the hearts of our members.

- If you have not yet received your renewal form; please contact me right away. I may be missing part of your contact information and am happy to get it squared away via email or phone.

Treasurer's Report:

- The Treasurer read aloud current expenses, income, and account balances. The treasurer hand delivered the reports to the Secretary.

Range Officer Report:

- An Action Pistol Shoot is scheduled for March 10. More information to follow.

Range Construction Officer Report:

- A Work Party occurred in January.

Range Construction Officer Newsletter Contribution:

The February work party was fairly well attended, with 9 members participating. The weather as seasonally brisk, but nice. The usual task of assembling fresh targets, breaking down and burning the old ones was accomplished. The remainder of the pallets were cut up and stacked in the pistol house for firewood as well as a general clean-up of the area behind the pistol house. A few of the archery targets had broken free of their moorings, they were reattached and some were swapped around so as to have the targets in better condition at the more popular stations to shoot at. Some general maintenance of the riding lawn mower and the chainsaw took place. A recent discovery with the big generator revealed that mice or some kind of rodent decided to make home in the filter and such and just raised havoc with the unit. It will require some repair, which should take place in the next few days. We thank all who attended the February work party and remind everyone that the next work party is Saturday, March 23, 9-12. Come and help out and get your WIP hours in.
Dan M.

Range Construction Officer

Chief Instructor Report:

- The next Safety Class is Scheduled for Sunday March 23rd at 9AM
- For club members or their immediate family members there is no fee for the Firearms Safety Class taught at the Club by our Chief Instructor.

Immediate family of Club members, please contact Mike Pelonzi at 978-993-3337 to reserve a spot for all classes, rather than signing up on the website.

Environmental Stewardship Report:

- No report

Call for New Members:

- Five applications for new membership were received, reviewed, and unanimously approved. Orientation will take place at the Club following the February Work Party.

New Business:

- A recommendation was made to consider an improvement to the Rifle House for something similar to the Pistol House. Members were enthusiastic about the concept. Both houses have similar sound insulation. Further discussion to follow.
- Members do not clean up after shooting at the pistol or rifle house. Please be considerate to other members and clean up after yourself.
- The POW MIA flag will be replaced.

Old Business:

- Fish Socking on March 16.

Good of the Order:

- The Club recognized John Chiavacci for organizing, and preparing dishes, for the spectacular wild game dinner that occurred prior to the February General Meeting. Thank you!

- Wounded Warrior Ability Ranch will be the recipient of this year's major charity raffle. The President will fly up from Florida to Massachusetts to meet with us.
- Be sure to keep your contact information up to date with the Club Secretary or Kevin Street. If your contact information changes and we do not have it, we may not be able to get your annual renewal application to you. There is also a link on the Club website for updating your information as well.

Essex County League Report:

- The Essex County League of Sportsman Banquet will be held on March 23 at Danvers Fish & Game. Contact Pat Baker and Pat Cullen for information and to purchase dinner and or raffle tickets.

GOAL:

- GOAL website has information regarding the proposed H4139 legislation.
CLICK HEAR for the current recap:
<https://goal.org/gunban>
- Check GOAL website for training opportunities, and GOAL Summer Fundraiser, podcasts and the Gun Law Listening Tour taking place around the Commonwealth.
- Consider Signing up for the GOAL weekly Friday Newsletter!
<http://goal.org/>

Meeting Adjournment:

- The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Annual Summer Cookout:

- Save the date! Our annual Summer Cookout will be held on August 10th. In addition to the raffle drawings, we're planning lots of fun family activities.

Annual Scholarship:

- Scholarship applications are due by May 1st. The E-board is looking forward to reviewing requests

from local students that are interested in pursuing majors that are commensurate with our Club charter. If you have a child applying to college, please inquire for an application for our Annual Club Scholarship.

Family Fish Day:

- Saturday March 16th at 12 noon.
Rain date: Sunday March 17th

Club President Bob Young has once again secured a supply of extra-large trout for the Club Fish Pond, so come on down with the kids and or grandkids and help stock the pond. Please bring a bucket or net to transport them from the truck to the pond.

This will be a fun filled event with a cookout of hamburgers and hot dogs to be enjoyed by all of those who attend.

News from the Hollow / 5 – Stand / Shotgun:



**THERE WAS NO TURNING
BACK AFTER THIS**

Reminder: Non-Toxic Shot Only

- Regular Sunday morning Shooting begins at 10 a.m. It is appreciated when shooters arrive early to help set up and to open and load the traps as well as to stay for a short time afterward to help close up.
- **A round of 25 clays is \$4.00. Please help out the shotgun coordinator by bringing single**

dollar bills. Consider keeping a supply in your range bag.

Member Trap:

- Members that have received Safety Training and a key to the Member's Trap are welcome to utilize this equipment at any time that the club is open for range hours. Remember, you must provide your own Bio-Degradable Clays.
- If you would like to get a key for the members trap, you will need to complete a safety training at the shotgun range. Please call, text or email Shotgun Coordinator Michael Giardina to arrange for a Safety Meeting appointment.

email: mrgiardina@msn.com or mobile & text: 978-578-1169

Carry In, Carry Out:

- Please help us keep the Dog House and the grounds neat by carrying out all of your trash.

There are no trash barrels in the Hollow on purpose. Remember, Carry In, Carry Out! Do not leave your empty shell boxes and other trash behind.

- Reminder: The barrels at next to the warming hut at the shotgun range are for expended shotgun shells only / not trash!!!!!! If you contaminate the barrels with trash the company that recycles the spent hulls will no longer take them away.

The Brass Factory / News from the ~ The Pistol House & Rifle Shed:

- Remember – Members always have priority at shooting stations over guests.

Always Post the Range Flags When Shooting:

Alert other shooters when you intend to go down range to look at or collect your targets. Shooters at both ranges are to “cease fire” at both sites “before any shooter travels down range”.

Please collect /sweep up your brass after you finish shooting.

Shotgun vs AR-15:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DC9Lg5Zi98k&t=3s>

Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife



Mass. Wildlife for March:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/masswildlife-monthly-march-2024>

2024 Guide to Mass Fishing & Hunting:

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/2024-massachusetts-fishing-and-hunting-guide/download>

2024 Mass Wildlife Hunting Season Summary:

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/2024-hunting-season-summary/download>

Mass Wildlife Zone Map:

<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/wildlife-management-zone-map>

New Mass Hunt/Fish is Now Live – New Licensing website:

Purchase your 2024 Licenses here -
<https://massfishhunt.mass.gov/>

Give a gift of Mass Wildlife Magazine:

<https://www.mass.gov/how-to/massachusetts-wildlife-magazine>

~Member Classifieds – For Sale & Wanted ~

By publishing items For Sale or Wanted in this newsletter, the Club does not warranty, guarantee or endorse any sale that may result. Buyers must do their own due diligence.

Club Clothing with the HWRGC Logo:

Club clothing is once again available through Mike Pelonzi at: <https://www.bigshotlogos.com/shop-1>