



Hamilton/Wenham Rod & Gun Club



Newsletter – October 2014

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

The next meeting will be October 21, 7:30 PM @ the Hamilton Legion, 37 School St., Hamilton, MA

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

Club Website - www.hwrclub.org

2014 Club Calendar - <http://www.hwr.org/calendar/HWRG2014Calendar.pdf>

Inside This Issue

President's Message:

- Longtime member, past Club President and avid shotgunner Thom Smith recently passed away. Thom was instrumental in the development of our shotgun and Five Stand program. A plaque and a photograph of Thom will be placed in the shotgun warming shed in his honor. The Club has made a donation in his memory to Massachusetts General Hospital. Please remember Thom and his Family in your thoughts and prayers.
- If you had a good time and plenty to eat at the Club Clambake and Steakfest then you should thank the usual people. Bob Young coordinated the event as well as the raffles.

Chef Phil Maney and son Mark did the shopping and also cooked up two delicious fried turkeys. John Russo and Dave Killam worked the grill cooking up burgers, dogs and steaks. Mike Tolvanen, Bob Hannah, and Tony Jack cooked up the corn, lobsters, and steamers. Bob supplied all the lobsters for us. Mike also kept the crew entertained with his keen humor and rapier like wit. They also helped with setting up and cleaning up when everyone else left. Dave Pinciero and his wife Lise helped with the set up, the serving and the clean-up. Frank Cook and Lenny Sousa helped with the clean-up, while Jim Maccarone and Keith Martin were helping with whatever needed to be done. Ronayne Schild was there to write out checks for all the raffle winners. I am sure that I probably missed someone; I apologize if your name

was included. You all deserve a good round of applause! My heartfelt thanks goes out to you all.

- At the last General Club Meeting members voted to allow the Marsh Rats to use our Five Stand shotgun range on Saturday mornings. As you are aware the Marsh Rats were less fortunate than us when the Town of Hamilton began the dump capping project. Their leased land was directly impacted and they had to vacate. We are storing their equipment and property and have full use of it. Hopefully the Marsh Rats will be able to continue as a Sporting Club in the future. For now I believe we should do what we can to help them out. Understand that during the Saturday morning shoot the Marsh Rats will use their own supplies and the range is still open to all Hamilton Wenham Rod and Gun members to shoot with them. The Marsh Rats will not even charge our members for any clays used.
- December is fast approaching. The annual election will be held at our December meeting and Christmas party. The open positions are Range Construction Officer, Chief Instructor, Vice President and President. All are two year terms. At the October meeting we will be calling for volunteers to be on the Nominating Committee. If you are interested in volunteering for the Nominating Committee or running for one of the elected positions come to the meeting. We will send out an e mail notifying all members of who has been assigned to the Nominating Committee and how to contact them if you wish to be nominated for office.
- This newsletter is for our members by our members. Feel free to write something and send it our Newsletter Editor in Chief Kevin Street at hwrgclub@gmail.com Write about a hunt, a guided fishing trip, review a sporting product, or just brag a little. If you have a sporting item you no longer want or need, feel free to put it in the newsletter. Please do not leave these items at the Club. We have found a tree stand, a pellet gun, ammo and other good stuff left at the Club. Remember, although we are a private Club, access can be gained easily, especially during the construction.

- We are in contact with Mr. Lombardo, the Hamilton Town Manager. I expect news soon that we will have better access to our Club. I was hoping it was going to be in time for this newsletter. Keep an eye on your e mails for the latest!
- Thanks to Matt Cardello for running our Topsfield Fair booth once again this year. Matt did a great job staffing and stocking the booth. In case you didn't know we run a free raffle for kids at our booth. This year we gave away 2 fishing rods. The idea is to engage the kids and also get parents interested. If a child can name five of the many animals in our booth they get a free raffle ticket. All kids end up getting their ticket; some just need a little coaching. One such youngster stopped by our booth while I was working. He needed a little more coaching than others, but he got the black bear and he got the rabbit after I told him it hops around the yard and stops by at Easter. I pointed to the white tail deer and he was not quite sure what it was, so I gave him a hint. I told him it's what his Mom sometimes calls his Dad. "It's a bastard!" he says! He had a huge smile when I gave him his raffle ticket. Gotta love kids!
- I have included a summary of the most recent firearm law updates. It will be with this newsletter in a separate attachment.

Safety Tip: It is important to wear a personal flotation device if you go out on the water during cold weather. This applies whether you are going out in the open ocean or putting in a canoe at our Club. ***This is not only common sense, it is the law!***

See you around the Club!

~ Bill Terry

Video of the Month:

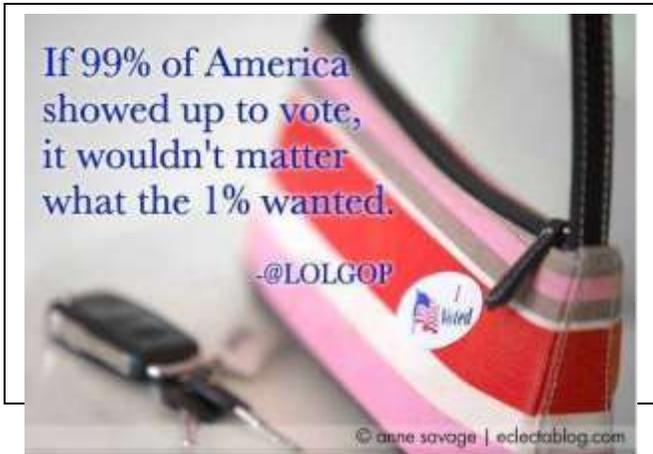
http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=7n2m-X7OluY

Quote for this Month:

"A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul."

~George Bernard Shaw

DON'T FORGET TO EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE!!



General Membership Meeting Minutes September 16, 2014:

- Meeting came to order at approximately 7:45 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 served in the armed services; that have lost their lives; or are still fighting for our freedom. Past President Thom Smith, is not well and is presently in Hospice. Club members are asked to keep Thom in their thoughts and prayers.
- Board members present were Jim Maccarone, Joe Santarelli, Paul Rullo, Ronayne Schild, Mike Pelonzi, and Bob Young. 35 members attended the meeting. Please remember to sign in prior to the meeting.
- The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Secretary Report:

- The Club has approximately 325 members.
- Motion made and accepted to approve the meeting minutes from the prior month as presented in the Newsletter.

Treasurer's Report:

- The Treasurer announced the account balances and recent account transactions.

Range Officer Report:

- The blue buckets at the shotgun range are for hulls only. No trash please. The fields are nice and clean, please keep them that way.
- A lot of shoots are scheduled in the near future.
 - Veterans' Day Shoot on Nov. 8
 - Turkey Shoot on Nov. 23
 - Jingle Bell Shoot on Dec. 21
 - Kielbasa Shoot on New Year's Day.
 - See the calendar!!!

Range Construction Officer

September Meeting Minutes:

- The Club had a good turnout at the last Work Party. The upcoming work party projects will include building target bases and building of a second float for the pond.

Newsletter Contribution:

- Next work Party is October 25th at 9 AM
- We had one of the best turn outs this year for the September work party. Several different projects received attention from a dozen volunteers.
- 78 lbs. of lead and mixed metal was recovered from the pistol house earth berm.
- 24 new target stands were assembled and many were put in storage.
- A partition wall frame was installed in the pistol house as the first step in creating secure storage for the steel target systems that the club has purchased.
- Brush cutting along the access road was done in preparation for winter conditions.
- A new target stand system is being built on the archery range and the old frames were disposed of during the work party.
- Looking forward, we will need to make the pond ready for winter by removing the float systems. We will continue with the steel target storage in the pistol house.
The installation of a new target system on the shotgun range is in progress.
 - Anyone looking to get WIP hours in for the end of the year has only the October and

November work parties left to do so. Come on down, get WIP hours, pick a project and help out.

~ Thanks Jim M.

Chief Instructor

- Upcoming classes are posted on the Club Calendar.
- The Club will offer the Utah Conceal Carry Class on Sunday, October 26 from 9:00 to 1:00. Cost will be \$100. \$25 will be given back to the Club and used for the Veteran ATV Wheelchair Fund. More information to follow.

Newsletter Contribution:

- The next pre-licensing classes will be held on November 2 & 16 / 9AM 'til 2PM – Contact Mike Pelonzi for more details.
mike@mabs777.com or 978-815-6989
- Utah Licensing Class: Student openings still available. Contact Mike

Call for New Members

- Two applications for membership were received, reviewed, and unanimously approved by general vote. The new members are:
 1. Jesse Spause of Beverly
 2. John DeBernadi of Beverly

New Business

- A motion was unanimously approved for \$800 to fund a rimfire and skeet event on November 8. Half the funds will go to the Veteran Wheelchair fund. Food will be served, guests will be welcome. Details to follow.
- \$500 was unanimously approved to fund the upcoming fish derby.
- Clays need to be transported from Danvers Fish & Game to the Club.
- The Marsh Rats have requested to use the Club on Saturday mornings during the fall and winter. They will provide their own trap machine and clay targets. All members are welcome to participate in the shoots. The request was voted on and unanimously approved.

- A motion was made and unanimously approved to allocated \$725 for archery targets.

Old Business

- No report

Good of the Order

- A second reminder to keep Thom Smith, past President, in our thoughts and prayers.
- See Matt Cardello for parking and entry information for the Topsfield Fair.

Environmental Stewardship:

- Requesting quotes for liming.

Essex County League:

- No Report / Next meeting is September 18.

GOAL:

- No report

Veterans' Day Salute and Wounded Warrior Fund Raiser:

- Mark the date and plan to attend / November 8th 2014.
- The H-W R&G Club has taken up the cause to raise funds to purchase a Track Chair to allow our Wounded Warriors to be outdoors and hunt. These AWD Chairs are specially designed to navigate terrain safely.

Registration opens at 8:00AM

Coffee and Doughnuts will be served.

Ranges open at 9:00AM

Ranges close promptly at 12 Noon

Lunch will be served at 1:30 PM

Menu:

The club will roast a Pig along with;

Hot Dogs

Hamburgers

Baked beans

Potato salad

Specialty sauces to complement the Hog

Cole Slaw

Baked Potatoes

Rolls

Soda and water

- “The Hollow” will offer a colored bird shoot. “The Brass Factory” will be in full swing & The Brass Masters have several surprises in store.
- Conclusion and clean up 3:00 PM
- The cost is \$40.00 for Pre-Registration & day of the event Walk-ups are \$50.00. All proceeds will help to achieve our goal to purchase a Wounded Warrior Track Chair.
- All shooters are required to bring wraparound eye protection, and hearing protection.
- Both Center and Rim fire shooting is expected. Those that bring their own Ammo will be asked certify velocity with the Brass factory Range officers.

Watch your email for the Event Flyer with registration details.

~ Joe S.

Fishing Derby Results:



- It was a perfect day for fishing. The bonfire was going at 6am, donuts and coffee were on the table ready to greet the arriving fishermen. The first fisherman arrived around 8 am. Fly fishing went on without any results. I fished with a lure and had three bites and landed a rainbow trout. More fishermen arrived around 10 am for a total of ten fishermen for the day. Mike Beskid was the 1st Place winner with the largest fish, a large mouth bass, winning the \$50 prize. 2nd Place / \$30 went to a young boy for catching the most fish.

- Lunch was prepared at noon, by Keith Martin, which consisted of burgers and hotdogs. We could not have asked for a nicer day. More club events are being planned for the pond with ice fishing being discussed. Member input is always welcome.

~ Keith M.

Topsfield Fair / Club Booth

- Thanks to everyone who worked shifts at the Topsfield Fair.
- One of the members left a welcome mat (presumably bought at the Fair) in the club booth. If the welcome mat is yours, please contact me and I will return it to you.

~ Matt Cardello cardellom@hotmail.com or 978-766-1721

Newsletter

- **Newsletter Deadline:** The Tuesday 7 days before the monthly membership meeting.

News from the Hollow / 5 – Stand / Shotgun

- Now that Fall is here it's time to trade your fishing rod for your shotgun and come on down to the hollow for some 5 Stand. We've had a few new members show up along with the usual suspects. It's a great time of year to spend a Sunday morning or a Wednesday. Starting in October we're going to start having a "club shoot" on the first Sunday of the month, starting time 9:30AM. Scores are kept and the high gun will get some ink in the following month's newsletter.
- I'm making a schedule to open the range for the next three months and I'm looking for a few volunteers that can commit to opening up one or two Sunday's a month. If interested please contact me at mrgiardina@msn.com or 978-578-1169 (cell).

~ Michael Giardina
Shotgun Coordinator

- **Sunday Morning Clay Shoots at 10 AM** are ongoing. The cost is \$4.00 for a round of 25 clays thrown from the 6 station course. Come on down and break some clays!

- **Wednesday Afternoon Clay Shoots** are being held. Our opportunities are numbered as the sun is setting earlier each week. Each week I send an e-mail notice to the Dogs who have signed up for this informal notification. I do encourage an RSVP via “reply to all” regarding an individual’s intent to attend. This helps to avoid making a trip to the range only to find out that no one will be there. I’m willing to add anyone to this list so long as they are comfortable with receiving e-mail with their e-mail address visible. This allows the “reply to all” method to work. If you are interested contact me or hit reply to Kevin our newsletter editor and email distribution guy and you will be added to the list.

Stay Well!! ~ ED P

- **Reminder:** The blue barrels at the shotgun range are for **expended shotgun shells only / not trash!**

Up Coming Clay Shoots

- **The David & Goliath Shoot** with the Danvers Fish & Game Club has been rescheduled for another time due to lack of sign-up on our part.
- Turkey Shoot – November 23rd
- Jingle Bell Shoot – December 21
- Kielbasa Classic – January 1

“The Brass Factory” /News from the ~ The Pistol House & Rifle House

- On 9/27 the Brass Factory came alive with sound of clanking steel and tinkling brass. The weather was gorgeous and the crew had a blast. A small crowd of Pistoleros showed up to set them up and knock them down. We shot the Gauntlet, but nobody who attended could figure out how to work the timer and nobody really cared about the score so we just shot the course for giggles. That's how we roll at the Brass Factory..... “give the people what they want”.
- We had a couple of newcomers show up and we welcome the new interest. Come on down and check it out. ~ Brian L.

Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife

- Pheasant opens Saturday October 18th
- Archery deer Season opens Monday Oct. 20th
- Fresh water fisheries, hunting & trapping regulations for 2014:

<http://www.eregulations.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/14MAAB-Final-LR.pdf>

- Migratory bird regulations for 2014-2015:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dfg/dfw/laws-regulations/final-2014-15-waterfowl-abs.pdf>

~ 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.

ARCHERY EQUIPMENT FOR SALE!

Due to a Shoulder Injury & Can No Longer Shoot:

1. HOYT – 2011 / 1st Generation Carbon Element:

50 - 60# / 27 – 31” draw

Currently tuned @ 29” & 54#

Whisker Biscuit & Disco Sight

“Low Miles” & Recently Inspected by Hoyt Dealer – Ready to Shoot!

Asking - \$600.00

Call Ron / 978-768-7700

Cell – 978-430-3642 (sorry, no voicemail)

2. Hoyt – HavocTec:

Arrows, Sight & Whisker Biscuit

Ready to Shoot

\$200.00

Call Ron / 978-768-7700

Cell – 978-430-3642 (sorry, no voicemail)