

Newsletter of the Helderberg Rod & Gun Club

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The RUFFED GROUSE.

May 2023

This month's meeting held on the 11th was attended by about 23 members including 5 new sponsored members. This brings total to 247 with one more applicant not in attendance needing second night to become a member...making total # 248. Not including lifetime and honorary we are very close to our current cap. Treasurer report shows the club is decently funded, but fundraising needs to occur to support our many projects. We are waiting for the **Henry Rifle** to arrive and be engraved so we can hold that raffle.

Franks Trap Report: As of May 1st, the league took in \$464.00 of which \$417.60 was deposited in the Trap Fund and \$46.40 was deposited into the Trap Equipment Fund. This resulted in an estimated "profit" of about \$180 to the club. Shooting for April averaged 16 rounds per week. This was bolstered by several BKW trap club members joining us for practice on Wednesdays.

Frank Fuss shot our first perfect round of the season on April 12th. While this was the only perfect round so far there were three 23s and one 24 shot during April.

We had to make several repairs to the Pat-Trap in April. The trap stopped oscillating several times (a persistent problem) resulting in having to replace the relay and socket that controlled the oscillation. This solved the problem until the end of the month when we discovered the bolt holding the oscillating cylinder to the carousel worked itself loose. The bolt was screwed back into the cylinder and the retaining nut tightened.

BKW Trap Team: Practice started on Tuesday, April 4th and the official competition started on April 18th. Shooting averaged about 14 students per week. Shooting is also taking place at The Westerlo Basic Valley Fish and Game Club for BKW trap club members that live in that area. Some of the team members are taking full advantage of both nights and are shooting twice a week.

Most of the shooters have shown improvement from the first practice. One student recently shot a 22 and a 24. In other cases, one student who shot a 3 and a 5 in early practice moved up to double digit scores for their last rounds. In another case a shooter who started off hitting just one bird shot a 9 and an 11. Many thanks to the coaches who have volunteered their time and patience in making the BKW team a reality.

Conservation Pledge

I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of America. I promise to educate future generations so they may become caretakers of our water, air, land, and wildlife.

Charlie Fairman Memorial Trap Shoot: This year's Charlie Fairman Memorial Trap Shoot will be held on **Wednesday, June 14th (rain date June 21)**. This year will feature a new prize format, the Ed Schleier Challenge.

1st Round - A designated shooter will set the Challenge Score. All shooter scores that match, or exceed, that score will win \$20, all others will win \$10. Any perfect score will win \$30.

2nd round - only to determine the Blind Score winner.

Prize money will be donated in honor of Lyle Newcomb. Blind score and trap fee monies will be donated in memory of Ed Schleier.

Range Update: Outdoor pistol range is moving, albeit slowly. We are trying to locate more dirt for the berms without breaking the bank. If you are interested in being part of this committee, contact Gianluca. Indoor range is very close—A big thanks to those that have been working so steadily behind the scenes on this!! We are very close with one more large test to be conducted by the EC and some others. Stand by and thanks for your patience. Also, being developed are the new qualification and application processes to ensure the ranges are being used safely and properly. We will roll this out as soon as it is complete.

DEC Camp: Pack Forest and Rushford will be open this summer, Colby is not staffed and will not open. We are contacting the waitlisted youth to see if they want to attend Pack Forest...reg opened Monday May 15 @10am.

ARCHERY: It is that time of year again. Last year, Mike Pagano and I set up the 3D trail. It was used very lightly, and we did not receive any feedback for ways to improve. We still would like to set up a committee for this and see if we can get more involvement in an actual program. Please let me know if you are interested and if someone would want to step up and chair this and run with it.

Rifle League: Recently a member has contacted us about starting up a rifle league. The EC is excited about the possibility of starting this with a 22lr league. We are awaiting this member's "synopsis" for the EC review and hope to get this developed. If this is something you want to be part of, including **helping on this new committee being formed**, please let me know and I will make those connections. As this comes together more info will be shared. We are hoping that this could also bring some new events open to our community and as potentially raising funds, mainly range improvements.



DON'T FORGET We are hosting a trapping course at the club! There is still **room for three more!**

Share this with anyone you know that might be interested!

The course will be conducted by Gary Graver on **Sunday June 4, 2023, from 9am to 5pm**. The class will utilize the pavilion, the trail from the bridge, and the woods surrounding the pond.

A New York State Trapper Education Course is required to purchase a trapping license in New York and set traps to catch wild game. Topics covered include:

- Trapping safety, techniques, ethics, and responsibilities.
- Techniques to avoid catching non-target species.
- Preparing pelts to produce marketable furs.
- Trapping laws and regulations.

There are 3 spots left, sign up is through the DEC Education site.

Follow the link below to register <https://register-ed.com/events/view/198502>



Respectfully submitted: Eric Chamberlain, Secretary echambe4@nycap.rr.com

Do you know your club's Officers?

President -Mike Hoffman mhoffsixman@gmail.com

Vice president - Frank Fuss ffuss@nycap.rr.com

Secretary -Eric Chamberlain echambe4@nycap.rr.com

Treasurer -John Whaley whalemeet@aol.com

Directors:

Gianluca Alonzi gianlucaalonzi@gmail.com

Ray Haines aussieshepmax@aol.com

Michael Pagano mjpcpo@gmail.com

Membership Director- Carolyn Reckner crreckner@gmail.com

June 2023

June Monday Nights – Outdoor Pistol Shooting @ 7 pm
June Wednesday Nights - Trap Shooting @ 6:00 pm
June 1 Executive Meeting – 6:00 pm
June 8 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm
June 14 **Charlie Fairman Memorial Trap Shoot (Rain date June 21)**

July 2023

July Monday Nights – Outdoor Pistol Shooting @ 7 pm
July Wednesday Nights - Trap Shooting @ 6:00 pm
July 13 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm
July 15 **Private Function Ranges Closed**

August 2023

August Monday Nights – Outdoor Pistol Shooting @ 7 pm
August Wednesday Nights - Trap Shooting @ 6:00 pm
August 3 Executive Meeting – 7:00 pm (Proposed Annual Calendar)
August 10 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm (Election Committee, Picnic Committee)
August 31 Last Day to Meet 5 Hour Work Credit Requirements for Work Assessments
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September 2023

September Wednesday Nights - Trap Shooting @ 6:00 pm
September 7 Membership Meeting / Annual Business Meeting – 7:00 pm
(Election of Officers & Directors, Annual Committee Reports, Approve Annual Calendar, Budget Proposal, Renewal Forms & Dues Collected, 2023/24 Cards & Pins Available)
September 11 Indoor Pistol League 2022-23 Season Registration & Meeting – 7:00 pm
September Monday Nights - Pistol League @ 6:30 pm
September 23 Annual Club Picnic