

Newsletter of the Helderberg Rod & Gun Club

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The RUFFED GROUSE.

January/February 2024



Helderberg Rod & Gun Club Game Dinner Sunday, April 28, 2024 1:00 pm – Eat at 1:30 pm Auction Immediately Following the Dinner

The Helderberg Rod & Gun Club Game Dinner will be held at the Club on **Sunday, April 28, 2024**. We will be starting at 1:00 pm and will begin eating at approximately 1:30 pm. Family members, guests and friends are welcome.

Please bring a favorite dish to share for about 35-40 people buffet style. It can be a game dish (venison, wild turkey, rabbit, pheasant, grouse), fish dish (fried or baked

fish, clam, or fish chowder) or other meat dish (turkey, ham, chicken, pork), entrée (scaloped potatoes, salt potatoes, lasagna, baked beans, mac & cheese), side dish (chili, soup), appetizers, or dessert. The club will provide table settings, salads, coffee, canned soda, and bottled water. You may bring your own alcoholic beverages or other bottled drinks. We will have electrical plug-ins for crock pots and warmers.

If you are planning to come to the dinner, please contact **Carol Whaley** or **Terry Morseman** to let us know how many are coming in your party and what food item(s) you would like to bring or ask what type of food may be needed. **Please contact Carol or Terry by April 21st** so we can have an approximate number of attendees to plan for table settings, etc.

Carol: (518) 279-9446 or (518) 858-4432 (c)

Terry: (518) 872-0450 or (518) 368-6119 (c)

As in past years, following the dinner, we will have an auction of **donated useful items** with the proceeds going to the Club's DEC Summer Youth Environmental Education Camp Fund. **Please bring items you would like to donate for the auction** with you to the dinner and some extra money for your auction tickets. Items you bring that are not won in the auction drawings must be taken back home with you. We always have an entertaining time with this auction, and it is for a great cause – sponsoring kids to summer environmental education camps.

The Game Dinner is always a great opportunity to get out for a cabin fever break. The food is delicious, and the company is fantastic. Come meet your fellow club members, their families, and friends, and have a great afternoon of feasting and entertainment. See you there!

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.

From Frank Fuss: 2024 Trap League January Report- While trap season has not arrived, we held our Annual New Year's Day Trap Shoot. Again, the weather gods favored us with reasonable temperatures and a mix of sun and clouds. We had a good turnout with 12 shooters and 30 rounds were shot. Grayson Weil shot the first 25 off the season and just missed a 50 straight when his last bird escaped the carnage. Last year 33% of the rounds scored 20 or higher. This year we raised that number to 43%.

Thanks to all the members and guests who supported us.

Hopefully we'll have a pleasant day on **Sunday, February 18th** for our President's Day Trap Shoot. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us.

Sporter Rifle Report: The 10-week Sporter Rifle league started in January. The league is shooting on **Tuesday nights at 7 pm through March 26**. Grayson Weil is working with Frank in running the league. The league is open to all Club members and to students from the BKW Conservation Club. Shooters must be 12 or older to participate. Shooters wishing to participate in Sporter Rifle should e-mail Frank at ffuss@nycap.rr.com in advance.

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**Armed Women of America provides a safe and comfortable environment for women to gather, learn, train, and discuss issues important to women gun owners.**

The Albany/Knox, NY chapter is meeting the first Fri of each month 6-830pm at Helderberg Rod and Gun Club. Carolyn Reckner and Crystal Wetherington lead the chapter. Each month will be a different topic, with classroom discussion and practical range training time. There is a \$5 cash range use fee monthly.

Our first meeting was held Fri Jan 5 and 11 ladies attended. We used this meeting as a meet and greet, range safety orientation and qualification for indoor range use. Club members Steve Baker, Jan Hornbach, and Vice President Frank Fuss assisted in qualifying chapter members for shooting on the indoor range, using the trap field with its lights and warming hut.

On February 2, we covered the topic of holsters, options and how to choose one. Attendees were asked to bring all holsters they own to "try before we buy". We also had samples of holsters provided by Crossbreed Holsters to try out. We then practiced dry fire drawing from a holster using a Mantis laser targeting system and snap caps/dummy rounds.

Any ladies 21 and over who have a NYS pistol permit are welcome to come to one meeting as a guest and then become a member of the chapter. <https://armedwomen.org/chapter-memberships/#join>



## **New York: Senate Democrats Are Destroying Gun Safety by Removing NRA Trainer Certification**

More proof positive that New York Senate Democrats have never cared about “gun safety.” On Monday, February 5, the [Senate Codes Committee](#) is set to move on [S.138A](#), which strips NRA certified instructors from state statute. Certifications expire Dec. 31, 2026, and the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) will then be responsible for creating curricula and promulgating rules and standards for trainer certification. Of course, there is zero evidence that they are willing or even capable of taking on the task.

This bill passed the Senate last year, but it did not clear the Assembly before they ended their 2023 session. They are now bringing this legislation back early in the 2024 session, and everyone should be concerned. Please contact members of the Codes Committee immediately and respectfully request a “no” vote on S.138A by clicking the Take Action button below.

**CLICK HERE TAKE ACTION**

For decades, the NRA has certified hundreds of thousands of trainers and has been the gold standard for firearms safety programs. There is no rationale for this move to eliminate these trainers, but the motivation is obviously purely political. This ill-conceived bill will impact almost everyone who carries concealed in New York as it will almost certainly throw the entire system into chaos, if not completely shut it down. Arguably every New Yorker is going to be impacted because they are eliminating firearms safety training as we know it.

The agenda of Albany’s anti-gun Democrat Majority has become all too apparent – release criminals and disarm honest, law-abiding citizens. This has proven to be a recipe for disaster. For all their disingenuous talk about “gun safety,” eliminating the best training in the world seems to be more folly.

**Register and VOTE—Election Day Tuesday, November 5, 2024**

**Do you know your club Officers?**

President -Mike Hoffman [mhoffsixman@gmail.com](mailto:mhoffsixman@gmail.com)

Vice president - Frank Fuss [ffuss@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ffuss@nycap.rr.com)

Secretary -Eric Chamberlain [echambe4@nycap.rr.com](mailto:echambe4@nycap.rr.com)

Treasurer-John Whaley [whalemeet@aol.com](mailto:whalemeet@aol.com)

**Directors:**

Ray Haines [aussieshepmax@aol.com](mailto:aussieshepmax@aol.com)

Michael Pagano [mjpcpo@gmail.com](mailto:mjpcpo@gmail.com)

Jeremy Tryon [ugadawgs90@gmail.com](mailto:ugadawgs90@gmail.com)

Membership Director- Carolyn Reckner [crreckner@gmail.com](mailto:crreckner@gmail.com)

**February 2024**

February Monday Nights - Pistol League @ 6:30 pm

February Tuesday Nights- Sporter Rifle @ 7PM

February 18 Presidents' Day Trap Shoot – Sunday - 12:00 noon

**March 2024**

March Monday Nights - Pistol League @ 7 pm

March Tuesday Nights- Sporter Rifle @ 7PM

March 1 Armed woman of America 6pm-830pm

March 14 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm

TBA Cabin Fever Shoot (?)

**April 2024**

April Monday Nights – Outdoor Pistol Shooting @ 7 pm

April **Tuesday Nights-BKW Youth Trap League @6PM**

April Wednesday Nights – Trap Shooting @ 6:00 pm

April 4 Executive Meeting – 6:00 pm

April 5 Armed woman of America 6pm-830pm

April 11 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm

**April 28 Wild Game Dinner and Auction 1PM**

Respectfully submitted: Eric Chamberlain, Secretary [echambe4@nycap.rr.com](mailto:echambe4@nycap.rr.com)