

July 2009

VP's Message

Bill Blotney - Vice President

I would like to start this, my last newsletter as Vice President, by congratulating the recently elected officers for the upcoming 2009-2010 club year. It is quite refreshing to see a new group of members stepping forward to assume the duties of officers. I am sure that they are all more than capable of performing the duties of the positions they were elected to serve. The list of new officers will appear elsewhere in this newsletter.

More congratulations go out to longtime member Mark Hacku, aka (The Stinger Drone) on his forthcoming retirement. Mark will be retiring after 36 years of teaching school. A party was held at the club on June 5, 2009 and a good time was had by all. If you see "Stinger" wish him well. I know that he is looking forward to spending more time on his boat fishing.

You will notice in the next few weeks that there will again be a Caretaker/Purchasing Agent occupying the A-frame. Longtime member Gene Tucceri has been appointed by the Board of Directors to fill that position.

Although regular meetings are not scheduled again until September, the club will continue to have activities all summer. There are several Sporting Clays shoots that are scheduled. The pond still has plenty of fish to be caught. All the shooting facilities are still available for use. Basically, what I am saying is it is your club, take advantage of what is offered by the facilities. Enjoy your membership.

In closing, I would like to express my gratitude to you, the members, for allowing me to serve as Vice President for the past 2 years. I have truly enjoyed the time spent. I also enjoyed the challenge of setting up this newsletter and I do hope that it continues to progress. Again, I ask that you, the members, offer stories, photos and any other input to this publication.

Marine License Requirement in the Works

Connecticut lawmakers have passed a bill that includes the addition of a Marine License requirement. The bill, which was slated to be effective in June has yet to be enacted due to the Governor's veto of the budget. While some licenses were sold prematurely, the DEP has stopped sales and the requirement is not in place.

If you visit the DEP web site you will find the following message.

Marine Waters Fishing Licenses are not yet available. Please check back periodically.

- A marine waters fishing license is currently not required.
- The bill that establishes a marine waters fishing license has been passed by the legislature but will not be effective unless and until the Governor signs it into law.
- If and when the Marine Waters Fishing License (MWFL) bill becomes law, Environmental Conservation Police efforts with respect to the license will be focused on education and outreach during the remainder of 2009.

Below is some information that the DEP published to explain the change.

WHY A MARINE FISHING LICENSE IS NEEDED

■ The Federal Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act requires establishment of a registry of saltwater recreational anglers by 2009. This registry is needed to provide better data on marine recreational fisheries. The federal government plans to charge a fee for the registry after January 1, 2011. States that collect the required information through a license system will be exempt from the federal requirement. The Department wants to retain license revenue that would otherwise go to the federal government in order to utilize it to improve Connecticut's natural resource programs.

■ All anglers and hunters in Connecticut purchase a license except for those anglers fishing in marine waters. Freshwater anglers contribute approximately

Elections held

Annual Elections were held at the June meeting and the following members are the new slate of officers for the upcoming year. Congratulations!

President - Doug Stender

Vice President - Mike Shewokis

Membership \

Secretary - Barbara Lagerstrom

Recording

Secretary - Rich Bennice

Treasurer - John Ciaglo

Caretaker/Purchasing Agent Named

The Board of Director has appointed member Gene Tucceri to fill that position. Congratulations Gene.

OFFICERS

2008 - 2009

President

Paul Uhlan, Sr

Vice President

Bill Blotney

Recording Secretary

Rich Bennice

Membership Secretary

Sue Delelys

Treasurer

Jack Krasko

Board of Directors from the Membership

Ray Ericson

Mike Schewokis

Doug Stender

Steve Szypulski

John Wolcheski

Contact information for Club Officers and Committee Chairmen is posted in the Club and on the Club website:

www.wallingfordrodandgunclub.org

Grounds

The Bird fields are in good shape, Ed Copperthite and Crew cleared the small area between east and west Sport Clay fields and Junior D'addio graded it off, the area has been seeded with Tri-Rye and Switchgrass. Thanks to all that participated.

Wallingford Rod & Gun Club Jackets

Black, 3 Season, Fleece lined jackets are available for order.

The prices are as follows:

Jacket with Pheasant logo on back, Same (smaller) logo on chest, sizes small to XL \$89.95

For 2XL and 3XL add \$ 3.00

4XL add \$ 4.00

Embroidered name on front \$ 3.85

As always 6% CT Sales Tax on total

Contact Jim Greenwood

203-269-0740 or 203-213-4735

jegreenwood@comcast.net



Range Hours

Range hours have returned to non-hunting hours.

9:00 AM to 1/2 hour before sunset.

Please be sure to sign in before and out after using the range.

***Remember Safety First
Steel target are prohibited***



Mark (The Stringer Drone) Hacku

\$2.7 million dollars per year in support of fishery programs. Approximately 25% of this amount is used to support marine programs. Creation of Marine and All-Waters fishing licenses will eliminate a long-standing inequity, allowing fuller use of freshwater angler fees for freshwater programs and provide additional funds for marine programs.

■ Current funding for conservation and management of Connecticut's natural resources is inadequate to sustain these efforts over the long run. The proposed licenses will generate additional revenue that will help ensure adequate funding for both inland and marine fisheries conservation and management programs.

SUMMARY OF KEY PROVISIONS

■ The proposed legislation establishes a license requirement for recreational fishing in the marine district. New licenses will include a Marine license, "All-Waters" license (both freshwater and marine), and a resident One-Day Marine license, as well as several new combination licenses that have been sought by

■ Anglers 65 years of age or older will be required to obtain fishing and hunting licenses annually but will not be charged a license fee. This will enable the DEP to acquire the required federal registry information. Kids will still fish for free - Persons under age 16 will not be required to obtain a license.

■ No marine recreational license will be required for any person fishing as a passenger on a party boat (head boat) or charter boat registered under existing Connecticut law and operating solely in the Marine District. These vessels are already subject to reporting requirements under Connecticut law

and will comply with Federal registration requirements.

■ Allows for reciprocity with the New England states and New York. This provision would allow a Connecticut resident with a Marine or All-Waters license to fish in the marine waters of a neighboring state without having to purchase another license, as long as that state also adopted reciprocal privileges.

■ All revenue from new licenses will be deposited into the Conservation Fund as per section 22a-27h (b) of the Connecticut General Statutes and must be used by the DEP to support conservation and preservation programs.

Keep checking the DEP website for information on when this becomes effective.

Existing and Proposed License Fee Structure for Residents

Inland fishing license	20.00	Inland fishing license	20.00
Firearms hunting license	14.00	Firearms hunting license	14.00
		Marine fishing license	15.00 <i>New</i>
		All-Waters fishing license	25.00 <i>New</i>
		One-Day Marine license	5.00 <i>New</i>
Combination License (Inland fishing and firearms hunting)	28.00	Combination License (Inland fishing and firearms hunting)	28.00
		Combination License (Marine fishing and firearms hunting)	25.00 <i>New</i>
		Combination License (All-waters fishing and firearms hunting)	30.00 <i>New</i>
Archery hunting and deer permit	30.00	Archery hunting and deer permit	30.00
		All-Waters fishing license and archery hunting permit	42.00 <i>New</i>
		Firearms Supersport:	
		Firearms hunting license, private land deer permit, wild turkey private land permit (spring only) and All-Waters fishing license	56.00 <i>New</i>
		Archery Supersport:	
		Archery hunting and deer permit, wild turkey private land permit (spring only) and All-Waters fishing license	52.00 <i>New</i>
Trapping license	25.00	Trapping license	25.00
65 or over (lifetime)	0.00	65 or over (must obtain annually)	0.00 <i>New</i>

NSCA Shoot

Our first NSCA registered shoot took place on June 14, 2009 and was a great success.

Special thanks to Ed Copperthite, Joe Conte, Mike Falcigno, Tom Boyle and Ralph Lowry for their tireless efforts on the clay course and with all the paperwork. In addition I would like to thank all of the trappers and safety officers who worked so very hard to put on a first class shoot. Finally, I would like to thank Junior D'addio and the kitchen crew for feeding everyone.

Results:

HOA Champ-Kurt Anderson 84

HOA RU-Mike Primavera 78

M1-Mike Greco 72

AA1-James Muller 77

AA2-John Lawlor 74

A1-Dennis Dwyer 70

B1-David Masnato 65

C1-Mike Chappa 73

C2-George Bartlett 68

D1-Thomas Zambardo 71

D2-Charles Ehertraut 66

E1-Larry Slowick 56

E2-Olive Lawlor 55

31 registered shooters.



Bowhunters: Prepare now for antlered payoff

By Lynn Burkhead
ESPNOuthdoors.com associate editor

In my study, sitting inches from where these words are being written, is a clipped advertisement from a national bow manufacturer.



Before taking aim at a big-game animal this fall, bowhunters would benefit from honing their skills on the three-dimensional practice range now.

In the photo, a camo-clad bowhunter kneels at full draw in the woods, his broadhead-tipped arrow aimed at an unseen big-game animal as the sight pin settles in on the exact aiming point.

Next to the kneeling archer is this timeless piece of hunting advice: When the moment of truth arrives, the time for preparation has passed. How true it is.

Across the nation, bowhunters are heeding that message, ending their offseason nap by flinging arrows at a variety of three-dimensional foam targets shaped like whitetails, mule deer, elk and wild pigs.

From sighting in a new bow to tuning new add-ons and accessories to perfecting shooting form in the backyard, the time of preparation is now.

All of this, of course, is in an effort for hunters to have their equipment tuned flawlessly and their skills with a stick and string honed to a razor-sharp edge by the time the first cool breezes of autumn blow.

And that, of course, is when the moment of truth will hopefully arrive for us all — a second etched in time by the glint of big antlers carried by a monster whitetail or a massive, bugling elk.

Having stared down both critters with a bow in his hand — and tagged each — is Orvie Cantrell Jr., owner and operator of “Big O’s Archery Shop” in Sherman, Texas. Not just content to preach the preparation gospel, Cantrell knows from firsthand experience that offseason 3-D practice can bring big dividends come fall.

“The main thing I like about 3-D is that it keeps you in touch with your equipment and shooting form during the offseason,” Cantrell said. “It also helps you keep your shooting muscles toned.”

With his hunting experience ranging from wily Texas whitetails to burly Rocky Mountain elk to sneaky wild pigs on the prowl, Cantrell suggests there are other reasons for sending arrows down-range at a glorified piece of foam during a summer-evening practice session.

“From an accuracy perspective, shooting 3-D certainly helps you

judge distances better,” Cantrell said. “Plus, it helps you learn to hold on a specific spot on the target.”

Aside from such physical benefits, Colorado Springs bowhunter Brian Strickland is another archer who spends time shooting at animal-shaped 3-D targets during the offseason months.

His primary reason, aside from developing his shooting form and sighting in his equipment, is that it serves as a realistic rehearsal for an adrenaline-charged moment that he hopes to find himself in later this autumn.



Hey, couch potatoes, now is the time to get off the sofa and start honing bow-shooting skills in preparation for this fall.

“I will actually act like I’m stalking or sneaking up on it,” Strickland said.

Such summertime “dress rehearsals” specifically help Strickland to work on perfecting his spot-and-stalk shooting technique when the time comes to slowly rise, draw his bow and loose a shot — all with his pulse throbbing in his ears after

a lengthy, strenuous stalk to get into position.

In Strickland's mind, such realistic 3-D practice now certainly pays dividends later, especially big-antlered ones.

He should know, already tagging four record-class animals, including two Kansas whitetails, a Colorado trophy bull elk and a fine New Mexico pronghorn antelope.

That collection of bowhunting trophies is made even more impressive by the fact that Strickland has only been carrying a stick-and-string for five years.

Such realistic practice also helps to get Strickland into the proper state of mind for those heart-pounding moments when a Pope & Young trophy slips into range.

"I think a lot of it is a mind-set," Strickland said. "I think a lot of people miss shots because of the mental aspect more than anything else."

"I'm already thinking about next fall's elk season and (shooting at a 3-D target) helps me get into the mental frame of mind to go through the proper shot preparation and hopefully execute a shot at a 320-inch bull."

Keep in mind that Cantrell advocates that there's far more to all of this than simply flinging arrows mindlessly at 3-D targets in the backyard, at a local archery club, at a bow shop target course or on a tournament shooting range.

"Perfect practice makes perfect, but

bad practice makes bad habits," Cantrell said. "I tell guys don't shoot 200 shots but, instead, go out



Spending summer evenings shooting at a backyard 3-D target can pay big-antlered dividends this fall.

and shoot 25 really good shots."

"If you start to get tired, put it down and come back a half-hour later or even tomorrow and make sure that you're executing really good shots."

After all, executing really good shots — or specifically, executing one great shot during the sport's moment of truth — is the whole point of off-season preparation on the 3-D range.

That's because when you find the Booner buck of a lifetime strolling by your treestand during the November rut or if you find yourself settling the sight pin onto the vitals of a monster bull elk screaming out his amorous intentions come September, don't expect a second chance.

Big bucks and bulls seldom, if ever, give an archer such an undeserved reprieve.

And you can take that to the bank.

Or, better yet, take it to the 3-D archery range.

UKC Hunt Test

UKC hunt test was held on May 10th at WRGC. The next hunt test will be held in October.



UKC TAN & FIELD TRIAL

SPONSORED BY



October 4, 2009

**Wallingford Rod & Gun Club
411 North Branford Road
Wallingford, CT**

****Entries Close** September 30, 2009**

**All dogs must be UKC Registered
Judges – to be determined**

FEES:

Test of Natural Ability \$40.00

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ALL FIELD TRIAL HANDLERS MUST WEAR BLAZE ORANGE HAT

EVENT GUNNERS WILL DO ALL SHOOTING OF LIVE AMMO

NO WATER ON PREMISES-BRING LOTS OF WATER FOR YOUR DOG

ALL DOGS RUN SOLO.....BITCHES IN SEASON RUN LAST

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411 North Branford Road
Wallingford, CT 06492



BBQ at the Club

July 12, 2009

12 NOON

RAIN OR SHINE

Tickets \$12

must purchase in advance

For Ticket info call Ed

Copperthite (203)481-9614

or see Junior D'addio or Eric

at the bar.

Menu:

1/2 Chicken

1/2 Rack of Ribs

Potato salad

Macaroni salad

Baked beans

Come on out and Support the Club!!

Next Meeting

Sept 10th

Dinner @ 6:00PM; -

Meeting @7:30 PM

**Have a great
summer!**

2009

Sporting Clays Schedule

July 12th

July 26th

August 9th

September 13th

September 27th

October 18th

*Reminder: work hours are due by the
end of August and trappers are
needed for all shoots.*