

March 2009

## VP's Message

Bill Blotney - Vice President

Well here it is, early March and hopefully it means the return of nice weather. I know that I have certainly had enough of the winter of 2008-2009. Cold, windy, and snowy, enough is enough.

With the coming of the warm weather and Spring comes many activities at WR&G club. The stocking of the pond is coming soon. With that trout season will begin. This year, along with the limit of trout that you are allowed to keep, you will also be allowed to keep bass. Make sure that you are aware of the rules for not only the methods of catching both species, but also the limits and any length restrictions pertaining to both. If you are not sure of any of the rules, ask the fish chairman John Stevens. He will be more than happy to bring you up to date on the rules governing the pond.

At the March meeting the Nominating Committee was selected. Any member who wishes to be considered for an officer of the club, these are the people to talk to about the position that you are interested in. If any other member wishes to suggest a name for consideration for an office of the club again these are the people to talk to. Their names will appear elsewhere in this newsletter. Nominations will also be taken from the floor at the May meeting. Elections will take place, as always, at the June meeting.

In the month of April we will again begin with our sporting clays shoots. These shoots are our biggest source of income for the club. It requires a serious amount of money to keep this club operating each month. The success of these shoots is essential to making sure that the club has sufficient funds to operate. The success of the shoots also depends a great deal on the members. Chairman Joe Conte is always looking for people to help work these shoots. You can sign up at the clubhouse, sign up on our website, or

you can call Joe. His phone number is both posted on the wall near the bar and also on the website.

For the members who have joined the club in this the 2008 -2009 club year, you are required to put in 15 work hours each year or you will be assessed an hourly fee for any hours not worked. This assessment will appear in the bill you receive prior to the September meeting. You have until August 31 of each year to fulfill your requirement. This time of year offers many opportunities to meet this requirement. Along with sporting clays, John Stevens always needs help with the children's trout derby. Doug Stender, and Frank Downing can always use help with the building and grounds at this time of year. There is a large amount of grass to be cut and trimmed on the club grounds. There is always some sort of project taking place which requires member participation. By becoming involved with the workings of the club, it creates opportunities to meet other members. Remember this, each person that you see that is an officer, committee chairman, or just someone who is always taking part in club activities, was at one time a new member. Get involved, it is your club.

In closing I take this time to inform those of you who were not aware of this, that long time member and club caretaker John Florkoski passed away on the night of February 15, 2009. John had just returned home after a very lengthy illness earlier the week before.

### Range Reopened

*The use of any steel targets is prohibited*

### Opening Day

*April 5th - 8:00 a.m.*

### Next Meeting

*April 9th - 7:30 p.m.*

## Nomination Committee Named

In accordance with the Club By-laws a Nomination Committee was named at the March meeting. The committee's job is to recommend a slate of officers to the membership. If you would like to nominate another member or have an interest in running for an office yourself, please contact one of the committee members listed below. Candidates for office must be a voting member of the club and must have expressed a willingness to carry out the duties of the respective offices.

Bill Holyrod  
Ray Ericson  
Jim Shadish  
Bob Bennett  
Ernie Trowbridge

### 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](http://www.wallingfordrodandgunclub.org)

## Help our Veterans

There is a large "Drop Box" in the Club House where you can donate Socks; Toiletries; T-Shirts; Underwear; Gloves; Hats for homeless and needy Veterans. All items donated will go to the South Park Inn shelter in Hartford. Thank you for your help. For more information, contact Skip Koch, 203 213-4146

## 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](mailto:jegreenwood@comcast.net)

## New Member Orientation

A new member orientation is being scheduled. Please check the website or the club for the date. It is now required for all new members to attend an orientation to ensure they are aware of all the club has to offer and the regulations for safe use.

## 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**

## Sporting Clays

There will be a trapper certification class on April 11 at 10:00. You need to have this certification to operate the machines either during a shoot or to trap your own.

## Fishing



The Benefit Game Dinner for the Children's Fishing Derby was a big success! Thank you to everyone that helped out and donated gifts! We are still short on money and we will be having a Ziti & Meatball Dinner, all you can eat on May 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$8.00 each and you can get them from Eric the bartender or John Stevens.

Opening Day of will fishing will be April 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. Breakfast will be served in the clubhouse and fish pool tickets are \$10.00 each for the fist tagged fish turned in and you can get your tickets from John Stevens.

## KIDS FISHING DERBY

### All You Can Eat PASTA DINNER

*to support the Fishing  
Derby*

**May 16, 2009  
7:00 pm**

*Tickets \$8.00 per person  
See Eric, the bartender;  
or John Stevens for your  
tickets.*

*Can't make it? There is a donation  
jar behind the bar.*

## Barbecued Breast

(goose, pheasant, duck chukar any will do)

Cut the breast of 3-4 birds into long strips, with the grain. Cover the Bottom of a slow cooker (crock pot) with your favorite barbecue sauce. I prefer Jack Daniels Grilling Sauce for this. Place the Breast in the slow cooker season to taste with salt; pepper & minced onions then cover with remainder of barbecue sauce. Cook on low for 4-5 hours then on high for one additional hour. Serve over wide egg noodles or over rice. (Note: noodles are the way to go)

## Pheasant Stew:

1 or 2 cans of mushroom soup (cream of mushroom works best)  
Celery stalks 2 chopped  
1 handful of green beans  
Salt and pepper to taste  
1 small bag of baby carrots  
2 or 3 potatoes diced  
1 white onion chopped

Wash game in vinegar and water. Boil game for 10 minutes. Put game in crock-pot on high or large stew pot medium heat. Add mushroom soup and a cup of water. Add onions, celery, salt and pepper. Cook a while add carrots and green beans, if using canned green beans add to stew last 10 minutes. Add cubed potatoes last ½ hour when the other vegetables are almost tender. Cook to desired tenderness. Serve with white rice or Hot rolls.

## Joe's BBQ Rub (circa 2007)

This rub is to be used with a low temperature of 200-225 F can be used on all types on Meats and Fowl

½ Cup Light brown sugar, packed  
½ Cup White Vinegar  
¼ cup Seasoned Salt  
¼ Cup Onion powder  
¼ cup Paprika  
2 Tablespoons White pepper  
2 Tablespoons Chile Powder  
2 Tablespoons Dry mustard  
1 Teaspoon Poultry Seasoning  
1 Teaspoon Thyme  
1 Teaspoon Tarragon  
1 Teaspoon Ginger  
½ Teaspoon Allspice

Vinegar can be added into the rub to create a mild paste or can be rubbed or brushed on the meat before massaging in the rub.

\* Meat is then wrapped in plastic and refrigerated for 6 to 12 hours \*



**CLUB INFO LINE**  
All the information  
you need  
when you want it  
**203**  
**265-1012**

## Member Services

Tri-Tronics  
Electronic Dog Training Equipment  
Member Discounts courtesy of John DeSandre  
<http://tritronics.com>

Zoel's Body & Auto Center  
19 Hall Ave  
Meriden  
Dave Sirois  
203 237-6464  
"Collision Specialists & Full Auto Service"

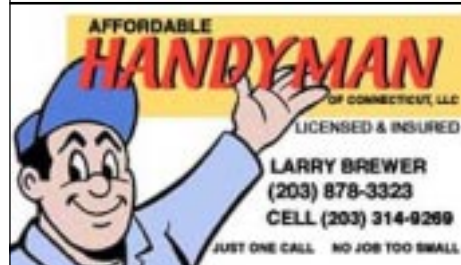
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E & B Graphics Associates  
8 Fairway Drive  
Wallingford, CT 06492  
Tom Boyle  
203 265-2298



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JUST ONE CALL NO JOB TOO SMALL

# Spring Cleaning Your Fishing Equipment

By Justin Hoffman

As we bid farewell to winter and look to beckon in spring, anglers everywhere begin to ready their equipment for the upcoming season. When it comes to importance, the tools you use to catch fish can make or break your day when out on the water. With this thought in mind, I've devised this simple checklist for getting your gear ready and in top condition for the most optimum performance and security. (Kind of like spring cleaning the house, but much more enjoyable and rewarding!)



*Fine-grit sandpaper works wonders for turning old cork handles into new again.*

## Rods and Reels

Your rods and reels take a lot of abuse over the course of a fishing season, yet they are often overlooked when it comes to proper maintenance and care. This can be costly, as a breakdown in one of these components could cause you to lose that trophy fish of a lifetime.

**Rods** - A visual inspection of the rod itself is an important part of the spring cleaning process. Keep an eye out for cracks, breaks or weak spots that may result in poor performance or complete failure. If damage is present, it's time to

repair or replace the rod altogether. Another area to inspect is the rod guides. Take a cotton ball or Q-Tip and run it around each and every guide. If any cotton remains intact, your guide has a rough spot or burr, which will ultimately lead to a frayed and broken line. Replace any suspect guides for your own peace of mind.

Rod handles can also be spruced up before the upcoming season. If the cork on your rod is full of dirt and grime, simply rub some fine grit sandpaper (220 works best for me) along the length to get it looking like new again.

The last step I like to take is to wash the entire rod with mild soap and water and a soft-sided sponge. This will take off any water or dirt build-up from the previous year, and will leave you rod looking spiffy and full of shine.

**Reels** - Reels are an integral part of your fishing set-up and should never be overlooked. Start with a visual inspection, keeping a close eye out for broken, loose or worn parts. (Areas of concern for me would be the bail spring, washers, handle and the drag.) The next step is to take a small screwdriver or Allen key and tighten all of the mechanisms. You'd be surprised how loose some of these screws get over the course of a season!

Lubrication should be your next plan of attack, and by following the manufacturers instructions, it should be quite an easy task. One piece of advice I can give is to go sparingly on the grease or oil - when it comes to reels, a little is usually better than a lot.

Unless you are using one of the superlines or braids, your monofila-

ment fishing line should be stripped from the reel and replaced. Old line can degrade over time due to the elements, so starting off the season with fresh line is always the way to go.

Finish the reel off with a quick soap and water wipe down, and you're ready to take on your tackle box.

## Tackle Box

To some anglers it can be a scary proposition opening your tackle box in the spring, unsure of the state you left it in the previous fall. Regardless of what lurks inside, the first step to take is to dump everything out. Much like you would the dishes, place your tackle box in the kitchen or laundry sink and give it a good cleaning and rinse. (Dish washing liquid works great for this.) Place your clean box on towels and allow it to dry thoroughly before placing anything else inside it.

Now, let's turn our attention to those lures and baits. Look closely at each individual lure for signs of cracking, worn or broken lips and bent or rusty hooks. If a bait is cracked or is missing parts, it's time to toss it into the garbage can. If the hooks are extremely dull, bent or rusted, replacement is your only option. (Excalibur and Owner make excellent replacement trebles that are both sticky sharp and strong - I like to replace most of my damaged metal with these high-quality hooks.)

Plastic baits are another area that will need your undivided attention. Worn or ripped baits should obviously be discarded, as should any torn or grimy storage bags. (Zip-lock sandwich bags are great for

storing plastics in, as the see-through plastic allows for easy identification of baits.)

How many of us have lures and baits in our boxes that haven't touched the water in years. We're all guilty of hanging on to tackle for the sake of hanging on to it, although all it really accomplishes is wasted space. (Are you ever going to use that Hoola Popper from the 1980's??) Take out all of these "virgin" lures and place an add online or in the newspaper advertising their sale. Better yet, pass them on to a child who I'm certain would love to give them some use.

Once your tackle has all been sorted and put back into your box, it's now time to take an inventory. Make a list of lures that you are missing or that need to be replaced, and make it a priority to get out to the tackle shop at your earliest convenience.

Don't forget to check on the status of hooks, weights and other terminal tackle. (The last thing you want to do is start the season off missing some vital lures that will help you catch fish.)

### Miscellaneous Equipment

1. Check to see that your net and/or cradle is in good-working condition and free of holes and rips.
2. Oil and lubricate your pliers and hook removers, or replace if needed.
3. Check on your fish scent and add to your collection if supplies are running low.
4. Give your fishing glasses a good cleaning, and check for cracks or

breakage.

5. Replace batteries in electronic scale if necessary.

6. Treat yourself to a new fishing hat - you deserve it!

Spring-cleaning your fishing equipment helps in alleviating the chance of mechanical breakdown while out on the water. It also ensures that your time spent fishing will be as productive and enjoyable as possible. Have fun sorting through your gear this spring, and be thankful that none of it involved picking up a vacuum cleaner! Here's to a productive and safe fishing season...

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## Humor

A guy returned from flyfishing one day and was approached by his wife: "Dear, the washing machine broke." The flyfisher: "Honey, call the repair man and have it fixed!"

The next day upon returning home from another outing: "Dear, the TV is broke." The flyfisher: "Honey, I'm not a repairman. I have to go fishing. Call the repairman and have them fixed!"

The third day: "Dear, the fridge doesn't work anymore." The flyfisher: "Honey, I told you I'm not a repairman but a flyfisherman. Call the repairman and have everything fixed!"

Finally, on the fourth day the flyfisher returns home to find his wife with a smile on her face. "Did the repairman come, honey?" "He sure did, dear. And he repaired everything just like you said." "And how much did he charge, honey?" "Nothing, dear. When I asked him for the bill he told me that I either had to bake him a big chocolate cake or go to bed with him." "Honey, what did you do?" "Dear, I'm not a baker!"

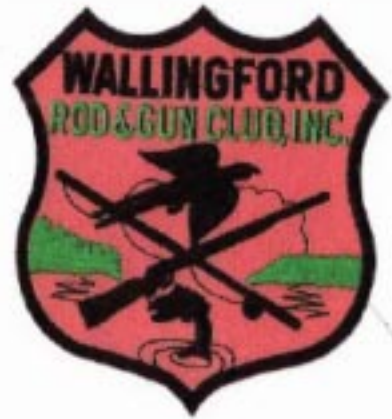


## High on the Hog

Photos from a February trip to South Carolina. Bill Blotney, Vinnie Zalenski, and Tom Donlon made the trip to Deerfield Plantation in St. George, S.C. for some free range hog hunting. A great time was had by all.



# SO ! YOU THINK YOU CAN SHOOT ?



Do to our Club Policy we are un able to Accommodate the use of motorized Golf carts or ATV's, we Apologize for any Inconvenience

Date: 6/14/2009

Wallingford Rod & Gun Club 1st annual SO ! YOU THINK YOU CAN SHOOT?

This is a Registered NSCA shoot of 12 stations with 100 of our Toughest targets .

Shotgun Start

Cost is \$65.00 (Includes Breakfast)



SCHEDULE	
Time	Event
8:00am	Breakfast Registration and Check-in
10:00am	Squaded Start
All Registration must be Received By 6/2/09 NO Walk-On's (Limited to 100 shooters)	

Wallingford Rod & Gun Club, Inc  
411 N. Branford Road  
P.O. Box 322  
Wallingford , Ct. 06492

Club House Ph: 203-269-9444

[www.wallingfordrodandgunclub.org](http://www.wallingfordrodandgunclub.org)

Please Send Payments to

Joe Conte  
75 Old Point Rd  
Milford, Ct. 06460

Email: [jconte229@aol.com](mailto:jconte229@aol.com)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Registration Form

### PLEASE SQUAD ME WITH

	NSCA #	Price
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>MYSELF</u>	_____	\$65.00
<input type="checkbox"/> _____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> _____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> _____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> _____	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> _____	_____	_____

Subtotal: \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

## First Hunt



Anthony Stasulli a JR. after shooting his first pheasant this past November . Anthony participated in a Jr Hunter's Event at the Torrington Rod and Gun Club at the beginning of this last year's Hunting Season. Anthony successfully participated in his first year as a Pheasant Hunter at the Club, bagging several pheasants.

## What are you doing this season?

A graphic with a parchment-like background and a torn edge. It contains the title "The Anglers' Legacy Pledge" and a pledge text. At the bottom is a red button with the text "TAKE THE PLEDGE".

**The Anglers' Legacy Pledge**

"I, as an Anglers' Legacy Ambassador, do pledge to introduce at least one acquaintance to fishing each year who has not yet had the pleasure of participation.

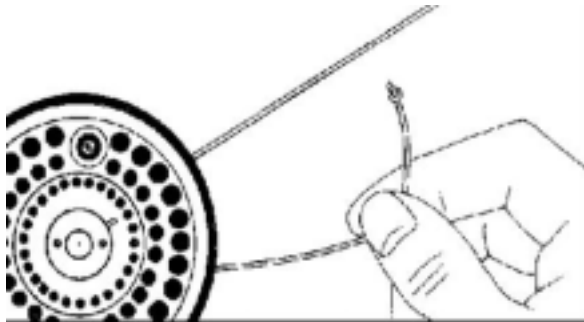
To deliver a quality introductory experience by sharing my patience, skills, knowledge and equipment.

To help the first-time angler understand, appreciate and value what fishing is all about. And I promise to do these things because I want to give back what someone once gave to me – the special gift of fishing."

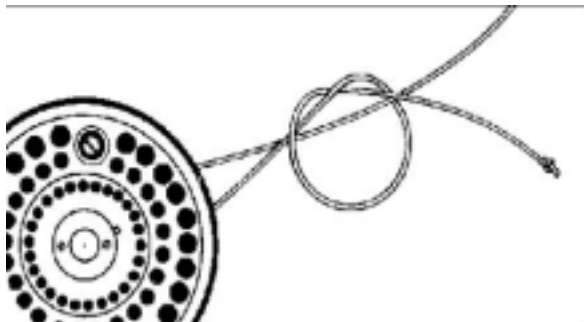
**TAKE THE PLEDGE**

## Backing to Fly Reel

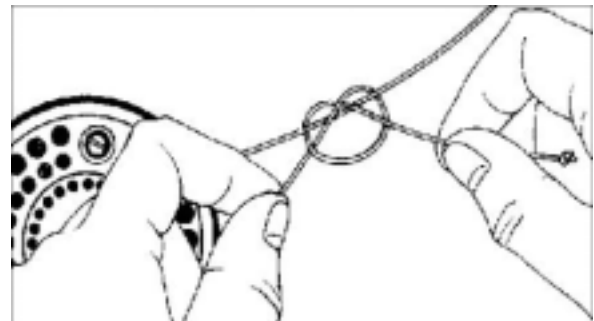
Use to attach backing to fly reel.



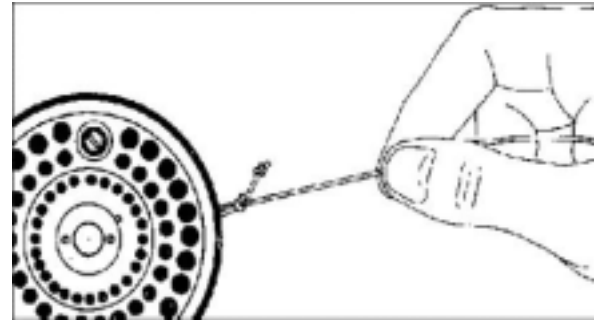
**step 1:** Pass tag end of backing around spool hub two times and bring it out again between the same set of reel pillars. Tie an overhand knot in end of line and tighten.



**step 2:** Tie a second overhand knot around the standing part of line.



**step 3:** Draw second overhand knot tight.



**step 4:** Pull on standing line until the overhand knots tighten against reel hub. Spool backing on tightly.

**note:** It is important to take two turns around spool hub and to wind backing on tightly; not doing so can cause the entire mass of backing to rotate freely on the spool.



411 North Branford Road  
Wallingford, CT 06492



## 2009 Sporting Clays Schedule

April 19th	September 13th
May 3rd	September 27th
May 17th	October 18th
June 14th <i>NSCA Registered Shoot</i>	November 8th
July 12th	November 22nd
July 26th	December 6th
August 9th	

*Trappers are needed for all shoots!*