

August 2010

VP's Message

Michael Shewokis-Vice President

Hello all, I hope you are all having a great summer! I have been out on the club property, and the bird fields are in great shape, we should have good cover for the upcoming bird season. Speaking of bird hunting, Rocco Iasparra has put about 30 or so young pheasants in the pen. He paid for these birds out of his pocket and is willing to sell them to club members for dog training. If interested contact Rocco at chuckkerri@hotmail.com or by phone 1-203-468-2132.

I need to take a moment to recognize a few members for their service to the club. Joe Vecchitto and Carlo Sarmiento have stepped up to help out Tom Riley at the Trap Field. Thanks a lot guys, I know Tom appreciates the help. Also, I would like to thank Vincent Vecchitto (Joe's father) for the job he did on the fireplace, it looks great thanks.

In the past month we have had a lot of activities take place at the club. The Kid's fishing derby was held at the end of May, and was a huge success, we had about 150 kids show up, the biggest turnout for a derby to date. We also held a fishing derby for the disabled vets, by all accounts it was a very good event, more on that in an upcoming newsletter. Lastly, we had our 75th anniversary club picnic, and I must say it was a great event. I think we had between 300-350 people turn out, by far the largest turnout for a club picnic that I can remember. A big thanks to Mike Falcigno, John Wolcheski, Junior D'adio, Mark Hacku and all of the members who pitched in to make these events happen- Well done!!!

We have a few Sporting Clay Shoots coming up over the summer, and trappers will be needed, get your work hours in for the upcoming year early. There are sign up sheets on the table in the clubhouse.

Just a reminder, your work hours must be completed by July 31, in order to avoid an assessment. If you are unsure how many hours you have put in there is a roster of names and hours worked on the wall behind the coffee pot. Keep your articles, suggestions and questions coming I can be reached at newsletter@wallingfordrodandgunclub.org

Summer Training Tips :

I know hunting season seems so far away, and the temps are in the 90's, but you can do things to keep your dog in shape thru the summer months, work that will pay off when hunting season rolls around.

Water Work:

I like to take my dog to the pond and let her swim and run around on the mowed lawn, she isn't laboring thru heavy cover and can cool off in the pond.

This is a good time to work on obedience drills, come, stand/sit, and down commands as well as walking at heel. If your dog is a retriever/spaniel this is a good time and place to do retrieve drills with bumpers etc. The idea is to keep your dog active during this time of the year, without too much stress. I tend to try and do this sort of workout about 3 times a week, usually in the early morning or early evening.

Field Work:

When September rolls around, we get a few cool mornings and evenings, on those days I plan to do a little bird work. The idea is to set up a hunting scenario, and run your dog on those birds, in a controlled manner either on a check cord or with an E-Collar. This way you can assess your dog and make corrections etc. I like to keep these sessions short perhaps 15-20 minutes, so as not to stress the dog too much. This can be done solo, or in a group. I prefer working with a few other people, you can really work on your dog if you have one person planting birds and another gunning.

Shooting:

During the off season, it is a good idea to do a little Trap Shooting and/or Sporting Clays, this keeps you sharp, and will pay off in the fall with fewer missed birds, it is the least you can do to honor your dog's hard work finding game.

These are but a few things you can do during the off season to keep your dog in shape, just remember to bring plenty of water for your dog as well as for yourself, and pay close attention to your dog. Be safe and have fun.

Your Attention Please

If there are any Senior Members who know that they are definitely not going to renew their memberships for the 2010-2011 club year, please contact me (Barbara Lagerstrom) either via phone at 1-203-265-4740 or via e-mail at codderwannabes@att.net or leave a note in the black mailbox next to the coffee pot in the clubhouse. Just provide your name and member number. This will save time and postage when the invoices are generated in August, and will allow us to offer memberships in September for those who are on a waiting list.

When you receive your renewal notice, please put your e-mail address in the space provided. Please print the information neatly and completely so we can update our records or confirm the existing records. The purpose for this is to be able to e-mail the newsletter and blast e-mails to you. Thanks

Barbara Lagerstrom

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Contact information for Club Officers and Committee Chairmen is posted in the Club and on the Club website:
www.wallingfordrodandgunclub.org

Getting Ready for Archery Season

Continued from May Issue

NO. 6 GETTING CALM

So you've practiced with all of your gear on in numerous different shooting positions, and you know your bow is shooting well. Now how do you defeat your own body's production of adrenaline?

We've all felt it, that fast-pulsed rush and shortness of breath we call "buck fever." If you're like most of us, you too have a hard time controlling your excitement as you draw on a buck or bull. While the rush is never something you can completely get over (and I personally wouldn't want to), there are ways of keeping it at a manageable level so that you can make an accurate shot.

I try to get out several times during winter to hunt predators, varmints and small game with a bow, not because it is an effective way to hunt, but because it helps to simulate big-game hunting situations. This type of practice is as real world as it gets. In the summer, I likewise try and get out in the field a bit, but this time it is after carp with a bow and arrow. While carp don't quite get the heart pumping as much as a Pope and Young bull, they will make you concentrate, pick a spot and get a clean release in a short time span (before the fish swims off). These are all desirable skills to hone before the big-game season rolls around.

Another great technique is running a 3D course. This can be done if you live in a rural area and set a course up on your own property, or during off-hours at a local club.

I like to put on my pack and my jogging shoes, carry my bow (arrows secured in the quiver, of course) and take off at a medium pace, jogging

through the 3D course. It is important to do this either on your own private range or when no one is using the public range, as it can interfere with other shooters.

When you reach a shooting station, allow yourself 5 to 10 seconds to catch your breath, nock an arrow and get off a good shot. Retrieve your arrow and set off for the next target.

The combination of physical exertion and time constraints helps simulate actual hunting, especially elk hunting, and will not only get you in shape but will make you a much better shot under pressure.

NO. 7 PRE-SEASON DE-SCENTING

Really, removing human scent from your clothing and equipment should go without saying, but many bowhunters are either not aware of their own human scent or choose not to believe it matters.

Believe it: Scent control matters. Deer, elk and bears have first-rate noses. That fact simply cannot be debated, and their sense of smell is many multiples better than any human's nose is capable of detecting. If hunters fail to do everything possible to prevent detection by smell, their hunt is most likely to turn into yet another A.C.T. tale (Almost Came Together) and little else.

There are two main ways to de-scent. The first involves washes, and the second utilizes activated carbon clothing. Between the two I prefer the latter, for its performance and simplicity, but either gets the job done.

Concerning washes, it is my opinion that an entire gamut of products needs to be used to be effective, including those to use on your body and working outward.

I start with scent-eliminator shampoo

Continued on Page 7

Fishing Report

The Children's Fishing Derby was a HUGE success! 153 children signed up for the derby. Everybody had a good time and 200 hundred fish were caught. All children that stayed till noon went home with a prize whether the caught a fish or not. The "Big Fish Winners" that won the bicycles were: Ages 1-4, Carli Sheffele with a 16 inch trout, Ages 5-8, Jaden Leigh with a 19 inch trout, Ages 9-12, Riley Wolcheski with a 16 inch trout. The 13-16 age group winner was Amos HocComb with a 19 ½ inch trout and his prize was a kayak, life vest and paddle.

A special "Thank You" goes out to the following:

The kitchen crew:

Mark Hacku, Eddie and Debbie Copperthite, Darcie and Mike Shewokis, Barbara Lagerstrom, Tatria and John Ciaglo, Bobby Reig and especially Jr. D'Adio

Shopping crew:

Ricky Dighello, Bobby Reig, Tatria and John Ciaglo, And myself

Sign In:

Tatria Ciaglo, Ann Marie Stevens

Fish measuring Crew:

Doug Stender, Bob Boutieller Al Douville

Thank you to everyone else that helped to make this day possible for the children!

The next stocking of fish will be in November.

Effective June 20th a limit of fish will be 8 trout a week instead of 6 and will return to 6 fish effective November 1st

John Stevens
Fishing Chairman

Kids Fishing Derby



75th Anniversary Picnic



On June 27, 2010 we celebrated the 75th Anniversary of the Wallingford Rod and Gun Club, early in the day it really looked as though it was going to rain, but the sun came out and we really had a great day. I believe the attendance was between 300-350 people, the biggest turnout of any club function that I can remember. I would like to take a moment to thank Mike Falcigno and John Wolcheski for organizing this event, they did a great job. As usual the food was excellent, thanks to Junior D'adio and his crew, they did an outstanding job. The day was filled with events for the kids, egg toss, water balloon toss and a pie eating contest. The Adults also took part in the games along with a canoe race. We burned the mortgage for the Orchard Property, and the day ended with a silent auction, a general raffle and then the gun raffle. I would like to personally thank all of the members who pitched in to help on this event on a very hot and muggy day. Thank-you.

Michael Shewokis-Vice President



Ducks Unlimited 15th Annual Sporting Clays Fun Shoot

We held an NSCA sanctioned shoot to benefit Ducks Unlimited, many thanks to all who helped out to make this a successful event. We had 38 registered shooters, and the winners of each class are listed below. We look forward to hosting this event next year.

Lewis Class Scoring:

Class	Name	Score
HOA	Ted Knapp	82
RU	Bob Kimball	77
HLC	Amy Stegall	59
AA1	George Bartlett	70
AA2	Paul Criscuold	70
AA3	James Koslowski	69
A1	Mike Shewokis	66
A2	Glen Silverman	66
A3	Larry Davis	62
B1	Nile Pulin	56
B2	Sam Acquaviva	56
B3	Jim Tappero	55
C1	Dave Lowry	50
C2	Dave Simon	47
C3	Manny Gutierrez	46
D1	Ken Hogan	40
D2	Hunter Geslien	36
D3	Charles Hilton	35

HOA = High Overall Champ
 RU = Runner Up
 HLC = High Ladies Champ



Archery *Continued from Page 2*

and body soap before I hunt. I wash my clothes in scent-eliminating clothes wash and liberally use scent killer spray while afield. Watching many keen-nosed bears around my stand over the years attests to the effectiveness of this three-part system.

The second method is quite a bit simpler and equally effective. I start with the shampoo/body wash and then wear a full set (top, bottom and hood) of Robinson Labs Scent Blocker activated carbon clothing. The nice thing about activated carbon clothing is it is easy to maintain - simply throw it in the dryer for a half- hour and it is ready to start absorbing odors again. This procedure needs only to be done every couple of weeks.

Regardless of what type of scent elimination strategy you employ, I believe one of the biggest keys is keeping your clothes scent-free. Even if you have de-scented or are wearing carbon, your hunting clothes should not be worn until you are afield. If you wear your clothes on the way to the field, you are more than likely going to pick up a lot of unnatural odors along the way. Gas, exhaust, greasy food odors from a truck stop - all kinds of smelly things surround hunters on the way to the field.

The best method is to treat your clothes (either with wash or in the dryer in the case of carbon), and place them immediately into a scent-proof plastic bag, and only put them on when you have reached your destination and are outside the vehicle.

American Woodcock

(Scolopax minor)



- Woodcock prefer a mix of forest land and open areas, such as woodland edges, forest clearings and regenerating clear cut areas
- They have a long bill which enables them to probe for their favorite food earth-worms.
- Woodcock are migratory in nature, summering in the eastern US and southeast Canada, and wintering in the southeast US
- Also known as "Timber-doodles" due to their erratic flight pattern.
- In the spring, male woodcock attract their mates by exhibiting an elaborate mating ritual, which take place in small clearings called "singing grounds"

Member Services



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Jason G. DeGenaro
Attorney at Law
(203) 874-7110
jdegenaro@jacobicase.com

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Wallingford, CT 06492

★ Monthly Membership Meeting ★

★ September 9, 2010 ★

Back tags will be available.

Early Birds !!!

I will be at the club from 9am til noon
On Sunday August 29, 2010 for those members
who wish to pay their dues, and avoid the mad
rush at the September & October membership
meetings. I look forward to seeing you.

Barbara Lagerstrom - Membership Secretary.

Trap Shooting Fall League

Join us this fall for fun and competitive trap shoot-
ing. Shoots to be held on Wednesday evenings,
7pm – 9pm and Sunday mornings, 9am – 11 am.
Fall league begins September 22nd 2010 and will
run for five weeks. Cost is \$50 per member and
includes t-shirt. Contact Cario Sarmiento at
203.449.1991 or Birdhunter5918@gmail.com if
you are interested or would like more information.