

May 2010

## VP's Message

Michael Shewokis-Vice President

Hello all, I hope you are enjoying the fantastic spring weather we are having. I took a walk around the club property last week, and the grounds are in pretty good shape. If you drive to the Trap field you will notice our new Christmas Tree plantation on the east side of the road, more about that later in this issue. The Club bird fields have been mowed and sprayed, and the Switch-grass is starting to grow, the fields will be in great shape come this fall.

The Sporting Clay Course is looking good, Ed Copperthite and Mike Falcigno go to great lengths to change the target presentations and keep the course fresh and challenging. Great job!!

The Fishing at the Club has been by all accounts outstanding, a number of large fish were put in the with the last stocking, including a 6lbs. Brown trout, to date it has not been caught, it has been hooked at least twice. Oh, and by the way if you do catch this fish, Dave Bradanini would like his Mepps lure back!! All joking aside I must thank Ray Garceau who paid for this fish out of his own pocket, that was very generous-thanks Ray. If you plan to go fishing, mealworms and nightcrawlers fished on the bottom seem to produce the best results. Flyfisherman have been having good luck with woolly buggers and various nymphs on sinking tip line.

There are a lot of activities coming up at the Club, Kid's fishing derby, sporting clay shoots, and the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary picnic, and help will be needed for all of these events. These are good events for new members to get involved with and get to know some of the members.

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](mailto:newsletter@wallingfordrodandgunclub.org) I am planning on getting the next newsletter out in mid-July, so until then, get out there!

## Getting Ready for Archery Season

*No matter how much you practice, you are not completely ready to head afield until you change from practice mode to hunt mode.*

By Mike Schoby

Bowhunters, as a whole, are pretty diligent about practicing with their chosen hunting tool. A good number of them attend either formal or informal 3D shoots each summer in addition to regular backyard practice. However, to be a truly effective stick-and-string hunter, your pre-season game plan needs more than just 3D courses and backyard shooting.

To help hunters make the switch from summer practice to fall success, Game & Fish offers seven excellent ways to be more effective in the field this season.

### *NO. 1 REALISTIC PRACTICE*

While any archery practice is good, realistic archery practice is the best. I prefer three-dimensional targets to target bags or flat foam-core targets. They not only help get me in the mood for hunting but also assist in visualizing arrow placement at the angles necessary to make a clean shot.

These targets are now available in a wide range of animals and styles for a fraction of what they cost only a few years ago. Now it is feasible for single hunters to have an entire mini-3D course in their own backyard.

### *NO. 2 ELIMINATE NOISE*

Noise is a major issue for bowhunters, and yet relatively few give it the attention it deserves, believing that a deer cannot possibly "jump the string" when an arrow is shot from one of today's "fast" bows.

Since the speed of sound at 68 degrees F is 1,127 feet per second, an arrow from even the fastest bow takes 3 to 4 times longer to reach the animal than the noise from its departure. Deadening this noise is necessary to successfully and consistently harvest big-game animals, especially such noted "string-jumpers" as whitetails.

To effectively quiet their bow, hunters need to address all of the culprits that make noise. This calls for the employment of string silencers, cable slides, arrow rests and creaky limbs. It is also a great idea to soundproof your bow in case of collision with other objects. The biggest noisemaker in this arena is the arrow-to-riser

*Continued on Page 7*

## Range Report

I would just like to remind those who use the rifle range to please put the target frames back in the shed when you are done, and pick up your spent shells and such, leave the range in good shape for the next person. Spinner type targets are now acceptable for use at the range with **RIMFIRE AMMO ONLY**, please remove your targets when you are done shooting. One last note, the range will be closed during the following events, The Kid's Fishing Derby (May 30), the Disabled Veterans Fishing Derby (June 19) and for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary picnic (June 27). Remember, safety is no accident!!!

Ray Ericson – Range Chairman

*Reminder - There will be no Newsletter in June. The next scheduled edition is July.*

### OFFICERS 2009 - 2010

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

## Bird Report

Not too much going on this time of year, the bird committee has ordered the birds for next year. I would like to thank Chris Holcomb and Nick Ranalli for putting down the lime in the bird pen, it is a dirty job.

Rich Meydag – Bird Chairman

## Fishing Report

The fishing has been great! Over 50% of the fish stocked have been caught. John Dow caught a 24 inch rainbow trout. Thank you to Ray Garceau for donating a 24 inch brown trout during the last stocking.....it has been hooked twice but not landed! The next stocking will be for the Children's Fishing Derby, May 30<sup>th</sup>. The pond will be closed the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. If you are bringing any children to the Derby, make sure they sign in BEFORE 9:00 a.m. All children will receive a prize and food will be served. A pancake breakfast before 9:00 a.m. and lunch will be served at noon.

The Ziti Dinner was a huge success! Thank you to Jr., Mark, Debbie, Darcie, Tatria for cooking. Thanks to Gina and Susie for selling the raffle tickets. Also a big "Thank you" to all of the people that donated prizes for the raffle.

The Veterans' Fishing Derby will be held June 19<sup>th</sup>. We need help! Call John Wolcheski at 203-265-2227 if you can help.

John Stevens - Fishing Chairman



## Archery Report

The Archery range is open and in good shape, please remember to cover the targets and pick up your trash when you are done Shooting. The range will be closed for the following Events: Kid's Fishing Derby (May 30), Disabled Veterans Fishing Derby (June 19), and for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary picnic (June 27).

Paul Inserra – Archery Chairman

## FAQ:

**Q:** I signed up to work at a Sporting Clay Shoot, but no one called me- what should I do?

**A:** If you sign up for Sporting Clays or any other work party, the Committee Chairman is counting on you being there, if for some unforeseen reason you cannot make it to the work party, please call the Committee Chairman and let them know.

**Q:** If I catch a trout on bait, can I release it?

**A:** No, trout caught on bait must be kept.

**Q:** What do I do with my work slip after the Committee Chairman signs it?

**A:** The white copy remains with the Committee Chairman, the pink copy gets put into the box marked "work hours" to the left of the coffee pot, the yellow copy is yours, it is very important that you keep the yellow copy in a safe place, as it is the only proof you have that you put in work hours, should something happen the the pink and/or white copies.

## WANTED

Member for Bar Permittee position. Benefits include: Paid Yearly membership dues and Work Hours

If interested contact:  
Doug Stender or  
Jack Krasko

Sunday, June 27, 2010  
1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Wallingford Rod & Gun Club

Club Grounds  
for Members & Guests



# 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Picnic

CHILDREN'S GAMES  
ADULT GAMES  
CANOE RACES  
IN HOUSE RAFFLE

Ticket Price \$20 Per Couple  
Family Rate: \$20 with children under 12 years of age  
\$20 per ticket for individual members & guests  
Each \$20 per ticket will include one WRGC crew neck  
sweatshirt and a chance for a door prize.

## MENU

Hot Dogs  
Fried Dough  
Sausage & Peppers  
Clam Chowder

Hamburgers  
French Fries  
Soda & Water  
Beer

**TICKETS ARE ON  
SALE NOW!**

We will need help SUNDAY, JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup> the day of the picnic to set up the tables and cook.  
CALL: Mike Falcigno (203) 269-7022 or (203) 284-9425 E-MAIL: [michaelfalcigno@aol.com](mailto:michaelfalcigno@aol.com)  
CALL: John Wolcheski (203) 265-2227

## 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary In House Gun Raffle



**1st Prize**  
Mossberg Silver Reserve o/u 12 ga. Shotgun

TICKETS ARE TO BE DRAWN IN PRIZE ORDER

Gun Raffle Tickets \$10.00 each

For In House Gun Raffle Tickets

Call Mike Falcigno  
203-269-7022  
or  
[michaelfalcigno@aol.com](mailto:michaelfalcigno@aol.com)



**2nd Prize**  
Ruger 10/22 Carbine [Model 1140]



**3rd Prize**  
Traditions 1853 3 - Band Enfield .58 cal. Musket  
(This is a factory Second)



## COOKS CORNER

### Sesame Pheasant Strips

6 skinless boneless pheasant breast halves

1 cup sour cream

1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice

2 tsps of Worcestershire sauce

2 teaspoons of celery salt

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon fresh black pepper

2 cloves garlic, minced

1 cup dry bread crumbs

1/3 cup sesame seeds

4 tablespoons (1/2 stick)

butter,melted

cut pheasant crosswise into 1/2-inch strips. In a large bowl, combine sour cream, lemon juice,celery salt, Worcestershire sauce, salt, pepper and garlic. Mix well, add pheasant to mixture,coat well and cover in refrigerator for at least 8hr or overnight for best.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

in a medium bowl, combine bread crumbs and sesame seeds,remove pheasant from sour cream mixture. Roll in crumb mixture, coating evenly, arrange pheasant in a single layer 15 by 10-inch lightly greased pan spoon melted butter evenly over pheasant.

bake for 18 to 25 minutes or until pheasant is tender and golden brown

serve with egg noodles or wild rice

Enjoy !!!

Got a favorite recipe you'd like to share?

Send it to

[newsletter@wallingfordrodandgunclub.org](mailto:newsletter@wallingfordrodandgunclub.org)



*Junior Member Michael Malek – 1<sup>st</sup> Wild Turkey-harvested on youth day in the Orchard-Well Done!!!*

## SPRING TURKEY



*Bill Blontney's opening day bird in New York. 20.20 lbs, 10 1/2 inch beard Notice the unique coloring on 2 of his tail feathers*



*Life Member Russ Anderson – Nice Rainbow Trout!!*

## FISHING



*Life Member William Holroyd Jr. - Enjoying some fishing at the Club*



## Christmas Tree Report

On April 24<sup>th</sup> we planted 700 Christmas trees on the east side of the road to the Trap Field. We are planning to remove the old Christmas tree stumps on the West side of the road and set 400 or so trees in the coming year. If all goes well the trees we planted will be ready in 6 or 7 years. I had a great crew who worked very hard to complete the task. I would like to thank the following members: Billy Cremin, his 2 sons Liam and Tommy, Irvin Leining, Jim Libby, Mike Shewokis, Doug Stender, and Bill Zemina. Special Thanks to Doug Stender for the use of his tractor/ auger which made the job a lot easier. I would also like to point out that Liam and Tommy are junior members, and stayed until the job was done.

Warren Gatcomb – Christmas Trees Chairman

*Top- Doug Stender making holes  
Middle - Billy and Liam Cremin setting trees/ Warren Gatcomb drilling holes.  
Bottom Right - Irvin Leining and Bill Zemina setting trees  
Bottom Left - Jim Libby lugging buckets of trees*



noise that is so common when nocking arrows and when an arrow falls off the rest. These can be avoided by lining the entire shelf and surrounding areas with moleskin or commercial archery fleece.

### *NO. 3 FIELD POSITION SHOOTING*

All too often bowhunters practice only from a standing, upright position. While there's something to be said for shooting with a straight back, your head in proper shooting position and slowly squeezing your trigger release in a controlled setting, the real world dictates that you take field conditions into account and practice accordingly.

To be more effective during the hunting season, hunters need to practice every shot that may present itself. This includes sitting, kneeling and crouching as well as shooting from elevated positions (both topographical and unnatural such as tree stands), from gullies, and through small openings in brush. The list goes on. The positions and situations are limited only by your imagination - and situations you've already encountered.

One thing is sure: The opportunities to shoot deer from an upright position over a perfectly flat, obstruction-free, manicured lawn are extremely limited!

### *NO. 4 DRY RUNS*

Many hunters wonder why they flub easy shots at animals when they can stack arrows on top of each other, Robin Hood-style, on the practice course. Most times, the answer is simple: It's all of that extra gear you carry into the woods that you don't carry onto the practice course.

If you're like me, you'll be decked out in a T-shirt, shorts and a hip quiver when shooting 3D courses or practicing in the backyard. I am not wearing a face mask that obstructs my field of view or interferes with my anchor point. Nor am I wearing a pair of gloves that feel funny on the trigger of my release. And I never have calls, binoculars or rangefinders hanging around my neck, dangling very close to the drawn bowstring.

When you finally get a shot at a buck or a bull - with extra accessories you are not

accustomed to carrying while shooting your bow getting in the way - you quickly realize that drawing on an animal feels nothing like summertime practice. The unfamiliarity suddenly kills hard-earned confidence, leaving a feeling of insecurity and despair. There's only one way to prevent it.

Putting on all of my fall hunting gear in the heat of July is not my idea of a good time, but neither is missing a game animal. The only way to feel confident and comfortable on opening day is to have a dress rehearsal.

I switch from fun backyard practice and 3D competition around mid-July and go into hunting mode. This involves wearing my normal hunting clothes, complete with full gear, every practice session. Now is the time to discover that my bowstring smacks my jacket or that my rangefinder gets in the way - not when I am in the field.

### *NO. 5 FROM FIELD POINTS TO BROADHEADS*

Changing from shooting practice-range field points to using broadheads for actual hunting is usually the only transition hunters make before hunting season. Unfortunately, most don't do it very well.

When I managed an archery pro shop, it was unbelievable how many people would come in the day before season, buy a set of broadheads, screw them on and go hunting. They were shocked when they realized that their hunting arrows didn't group well, or on the rare occasion that they did make contact with an animal their strike point was two feet different than the strike point they had set with field points. The main causes for the difference in flight are the large surface area of broadheads compared to field points (more exaggerated with fixed heads than with mechanicals) and the different balance point of the arrow. Of these factors, broadhead wind resistance is by far the largest cause of inaccurate shots.

Arrows plane often due to the larger head "steering" the smaller fletching. Try using a smaller profile head or a larger profile fletch (feathers add more drag and more stability than vanes and should be considered if you are having stabilization

problems), or both to get the desired results. You need to experiment with the size of the broadhead and/or fletching to achieve the right combination.

Another broadhead accuracy robber is head misalignment with the shaft. If the broadheads are not centered on the shaft, they will plane and be inconsistent, even if there is enough fletch to stabilize the arrow. This is usually caused by a misaligned insert due either to manufacturing error (very rare) or unequal glue application.

The only way to effectively test this is to spin each arrow on a spin tester or a flat surface such as a table to see if the head wobbles. If it does, it is a matter of heating the insert, rotating it inside the shaft (to evenly distribute the hot glue) and retesting it. This usually fixes the problem. If it does not, it could be a case of bad manufacturing, and you may have to replace the insert, arrowhead or shaft.

Field points have minimal surface area to "catch" the wind, and even a poorly tuned bow can appear to shoot well with them, making most people assume their bow is tuned. However, broadheads bring out the worst in out-of-tune bows. Make sure your bow is punching perfect holes through paper before you try to track down poor arrow flight problems. Paper often tells a lot, essentially creating a snapshot of the arrow in flight.

The last factor to broadhead planing is pure speed and instability. You can only push an arrow so fast before the head starts to steer the arrow, which results in erratic flight and poor accuracy. The magic number is around 280 fps (feet per second) with broadheads. Anything over that and flight can become erratic. Even worse, speeds over 280 fps often generate excessive noise! The best bet is to keep the speed down to a manageable level to avoid many of the problems associated with broadheads in the first place.

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To be continued in the July edition.

Getting Ready for Archery Season is an article from Game and Fish Magazine website. Can't wait for the last two ways to prepare? Go to [http://www.gameandfishmag.com/hunting/bowhunting-hunting/gf\\_aa076504a/#cont](http://www.gameandfishmag.com/hunting/bowhunting-hunting/gf_aa076504a/#cont) for the entire article.

**KIDS CORNER**

# Tree of the Month

## Quaking Aspen

*(Populus tremuloides)*

- Sometimes called trembling aspen because their leaves tremble in a slight breeze
- Has the most extensive range of any tree species in N. America
- A "pioneer species" in that it is one of the first trees to grow back after a fire or other disturbance
- Heavily browsed by deer and other mammals, Grouse utilize the buds as a food source
- Primarily used for paper, pulpwood, boxes, crates and pallets.
- Leaves are green all summer and turn bright yellow in the fall



### Member Services



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- ★ DU Sporting Clay Shoot-June 5
- ★ Regular Club Sporting Clay Shoot -June 6
- ★ Membership Meeting-June 10
- ★ New Member Orientation-June 13
- ★ 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Picnic-June 27
- ★ Wallingford Wishing Well Poker Run-July 11
- ★ Deadline for Work hours-July 31

Ducks Unlimited will be having a NSCA sanctioned fun shoot at the Wallingford Rod and Gun Club on June 5, 2010. If you are a waterfowl hunter and/or conservationist, come on out and shoot a round to support this worthwhile organization. (please see DU shoot flyer in this newsletter)

There will be a **New Member Orientation** on Sunday June 13 at noon, the meeting will take place in the Clubhouse. We will go over rules/guidelines and answer any questions you may have. If you are a new member and have not attended an orientation you must attend.

The Wallingford Wishing Well will be holding it's annual Poker Run on July 11, 2010-and will wind up with a picnic at the Wallingford Rod and Gun Club. The picnic will run from 12:00pm-8:00pm. For information regarding the poker run contact Chris Holcomb or Nick Ranalli.