

**OWLKILL ROD & GUN CLUB**  
APRIL 2016



*President: John D'Allaird*

*Vice Pres.: Bret Seiler*

*Board of Directors: Mark Mahoney (Chairman), Tim Barry, David Langlois, Lance Allen Wang*

*Treas.: Randy Burgoyne*

*Secretary: Tom Duclos*

***There's nothing else to see on the internet, anyway. Right? Might as well check out our fine, fine website!!! Check out [www.owlkill.org](http://www.owlkill.org)***

**Monthly Meeting:** The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Owlkill Rod & Gun Club will be held on Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m. All members are invited and encouraged to attend.

**Board of Directors:** Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Thursday April 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m.

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**President's Comments:**

**So it's back to snow and ice for a while, eh?** Springtime in New England, anything can happen with the weather. But, we are intrepid and hardly fazed by little things like snow, ice, rain or ruinous storms. I will go out on a limb now with a prediction: ***Spring will soon give way to summer!***

**Spring brings us back to the steady work necessary to keep our club running!**

***The Comment this month is more a report of the 'doings' accomplished and yet to be done here at Owlkill R&G. This is the time to gear up!***

***Club members make up our work parties so as specific details are announced, step forward to the effort. The rewards are the comradery in the work and the satisfaction in the tasks accomplished.***

**Work parties are already in motion** and details are being arranged for further additions, upgrades and necessary maintenance to the club physical plant for the 2016 calendar year. note below:

**-The skeet pads were poured and placed and the parking area extended on 3/30-** to accommodate

more vehicles by spreading packing gravel in front of the Pistol Shed and extending the coverage fronting the Rifle Shed. pic of the pour below:



The Master at work... and many more hands making light work. Thanks to all who came out on this first of many work details this season.

**-The ranges are being used steadily** and planning for the year is ongoing:

**-The Skeet Schedule** is posted on the webpage and is well underway.

**-The Silhouette Shoot Schedule** [will be posted on the webpage probably by the time this is released-](#)

(the dates can be viewed currently imbedded within the posted 2016 Skeet Schedule).

**-We've added a new event to the range offerings- the High Power Rifle Shoot.** There are currently

three different categories planned: **Military, Hunter and Open** classes. Look on our webpage for

dates and further information. John Kapitan is spearheading this effort.

**\*Club Apparel will be available at the April Meeting.** To save the cost of shipping, all web ordered parcels will be picked up and transported to the clubhouse to be available for pick-up on Thursday at the monthly meeting. [Come pick up your order on 4/14.](#) **All orders unclaimed on 4/14 will be available for pick-up at the next monthly meeting on May 12<sup>th</sup>.**

**Note the new signs on the buildings and the ranges:** Bob Preble made them and put them up on the work day on March 30<sup>th</sup>. Thanks Bob. There are a couple more to come.

**New item of note: Cambridge Valley Machining has donated two large pieces of plate steel to Owlkill:** a 4' x 8' x 1/2" piece and a 5' x 10' x 1/2" welding table sheet to be used for **back stop material**. Thanks go out to Jim Moore, owner of CVM and to all who will aid in the transport of this HEAVY material. The move is scheduled to coordinate with the arrival of 2 pallets of skeet birds from **Beikircks** on Wed. 4/13.

Lloyd Wetsel has stepped up yet again with his time and heavy equipment to do it. Thanks Lloyd.

**See you at Thursday's meeting.**

**John D'Allaird, President, Owlkill Rod & Gun Club**

## EDITOR'S COLUMN

I need to be careful about guaranteeing what our visitors from Albany will do – needed to shuffle Sen. Marchione to our July meeting at her own request, but suffice to say that we're looking for interesting speakers to come out and talk to us during this election year!

In other news, I know that we're all alternately both compelled and repelled by election year coverage this year, and indeed this has been one of the more bizarre election seasons – certainly of my lifetime. And in all of it, it is important to perform your own mental calculus of what is important to you and what isn't. No one can answer that for you. What are your important issues that you won't compromise on? What are the ones that you will? And where do the candidates stand on those issues? Don't just vote – be an informed voter, and vote your conscience this year.

More importantly, my friends – don't allow yourself to be sucked into the 24/7 election coverage. Despite what you may hear – the sun will rise tomorrow. Not everything they say is a crisis. The fact is that the coverage is enough to make anyone cynical about this nation and its prospects. To the networks that sell the advertising, the most important election is the current one. The biggest crisis is the current one. What advertiser wants to pay for ads during coverage of an “unimportant election”? Or buy news advertising when there's “nothing going on”? The news you watch is packaged and marketed to advertisers before the story scripts are even written, folks.

So what I'm saying is – don't let this year make you cynical. I fight it all the time. What I'll say is we live in the greatest country in the world. We are resilient, and however bad it gets – or SEEMS to get – our grandparents and great-grandparents had it worse at times. At best, the 2016 election could result in an optimistic new day. At worst, the 2016 election will result in four years that have to be “endured.” Either way, we will get through it. We're Americans. It's what we do.

L. A. Wang, Editor

### **2016 OWLKILL LOTTERY!!!**

Members can turn in any completed slips and funds at all regular meetings. As always you can purchase tickets on the spot, when renewing your membership or you may pick up folders of tickets to sell over the winter as your time permits. Ticket stubs that are returned are subsequently listed and may be viewed from our [Fundraising](#) page by clicking the [2016 Numbers in Play](#) button. The web page gives club members and the general public a view of how our sales are progressing. Updates to our numbers in play file will regularly take place shortly following monthly meetings and at other appropriate times as ticket stubs are returned. As always the Club thanks all of our retail vendors and ticket sellers for their efforts in making this year's fundraiser a success.

Tim Barry

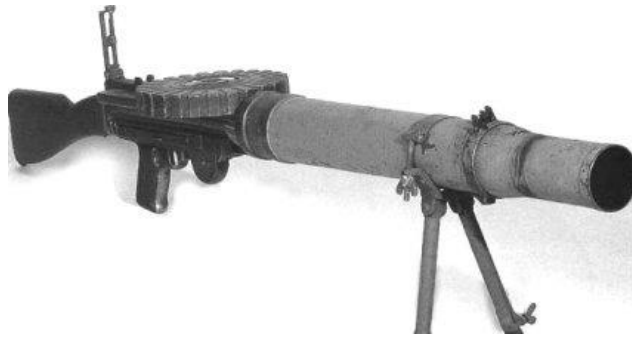
### **TRIVIA**

OK, so last month's trivia was a bit “wacky.” Let's review it real quickly.... This month is a matching test! With the release of the new Star Wars film late last year perhaps we can have some fun and take a look at the firearms which were the MODELS for the weapons used in the original trilogy (1977-1983). See if you can match the actual firearm named below with the picture of a Star Wars weapon shown after the list:

#### Star Wars (original trilogy) Weaponry



*T-21 Blaster was actually modeled on a World War I Lewis Gun.*



DL-44 Heavy Blaster Pistol *was actually a Mauser C96.*



X-30 Blaster Pistol *was actually a Vostok Margolin .22 Target Pistol.*





E-11 Blaster Rifle *aka Sterling L2A3 submachine gun.*



SE-14C Blaster Pistol *aka Rexim Favor Mark V.*



So, lets go to this month's question. Lets leave the world of sci-fi, and move to the world of "almost" sci-fi - current developments in firearms. Firearms are generally based on the principle of accelerating a projectile (a bullet) through the use of an explosive (gunpowder) to eventually project energy onto a target. However, let us talk about ways of projecting energy without the use of a projectile, and ways of accelerating a projectile without the use of an explosive. Here are four technologies currently being tested by the military which either eliminates the projectile or the explosive. See if you know what they do....



“Active Denial System” – Afghanistan, 2010



“Laser Avenger System”



“Personnel Halting and Stimulation Response” (PHASR) Rifle



Electromagnetic Projector (aka "Rail Gun")

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And a final word, forwarded by our Owlkill President John D'Allaird, who thinks he may have figured out why things in Albany and Washington tend to be less than efficient. I spent a lot of time, in uniform and out, around Government. I have no information which can call any of John's speculation into question.....

***Administratium: A New Element Discovered!!!***

A major research institution has recently announced the discovery of the heaviest element yet known to science... tentatively named 'Administratium'.

Administratium has no protons or electrons and thus has an atomic number of 0. However, it does have 1 neutron, 125 assistant neutrons, 75 deputy neutrons and 111 assistant deputy neutrons, giving it an atomic mass of 312. These 312 particles are held together by a cohesive force called 'morons', which are surrounded by vast quantities of meson-like particles called 'peons'.

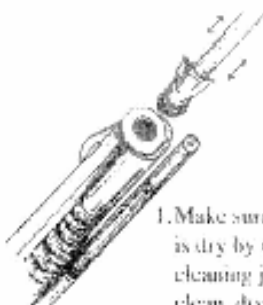

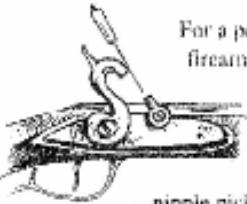




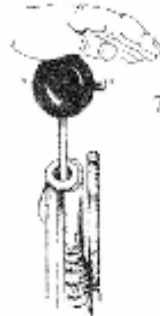

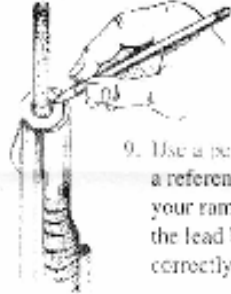
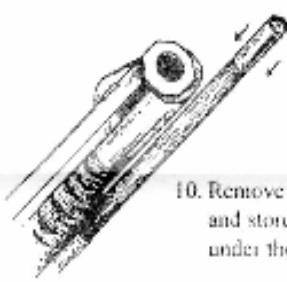





Administratium "can easily be detected as it impedes every reaction with which it comes into contact.". According to the discoverers, the minutest amount of Administratium causes a reaction normally requiring 1 second to take over 4 days, increasing reaction time by a factor of 350,000x.

It doesn't decay, but does undergo 'a re-organization', in which a portion of the assistant neutrons, deputy neutrons and assistant deputy neutrons exchange places. "Each reorganization causes some morons to become neutrons, forming 'isodopes'. This characteristic of moron promotion leads some scientists to speculate that Administratium is formed whenever morons reach a certain quantity in concentration... referred to as 'Critical Morass.'"

Further research indicates that Administratium occurs naturally, concentrating especially in all distant and remote governmental agencies, with highest concentrations found in the newest, best appointed, and best maintained buildings.

Administratium and its effects explains perfectly Albany and Washington DC!

## How to Load a Muzzleloader ©2015

 <p>1. Make sure the bore is dry by using a cleaning jag and a clean, dry patch.</p>	 <p>2. With the hammer down for safety, clean the frizzen, pan, and flint (watch out for the sharp edges on the flint). Be sure the flash hole is clear of obstruction by inserting a vent pick, paper clip, or pipe cleaner. Load a flintlock with the frizzen and hammer all the way forward.</p>	
 <p>For a percussion firearm, inspect the nipple for obstruction by using a nipple pick or paper clip. With an unloaded firearm snap a cap or two. Always point the muzzle in a safe direction.</p>	 <p>3. Pour the powder from a powder horn or flask into a measure. For safety, never pour powder directly into the bore from a horn or flask.</p> <p style="font-size: small;">Powder Measure</p>	 <p>4. Pour the measured powder charge down the bore. Avoid placing hands or face directly over the muzzle.</p>
 <p>5. Center a lubricated or moistened patch over the bore and place the lead ball onto the patch.</p>	 <p>6. With the short end of a short starter, set the patched ball into the bore. Use the palm of your hand.</p>	 <p>7. Push the ball deeper with the long end of the short starter by using the palm of your hand.</p>
 <p>8. Firmly seat the load against the powder charge by using short strokes with your ramrod. NEVER fire a muzzleloader if the ball is not firmly seated on the powder charge.</p>	 <p>9. Use a pencil to make a reference mark on your ramrod when the lead ball is correctly loaded.</p>	 <p>10. Remove ramrod and store it under the barrel.</p>
<p>11. For a flintlock, fill the pan 1/4 to 1/3 full of priming powder, place the hammer into the half-cock position, and close the frizzen. When ready to shoot, bring the hammer into the full cock position.</p>  	 <p>For a percussion-type muzzleloader, bring the hammer into the half-cock position and place a cap firmly onto the nipple. When ready to shoot, place the hammer into full cock.</p>	 <p>12. Be certain of your target and what lies beyond, aim, and fire.</p>  <p>Run a damp cleaning patch down the bore and begin the process again (except for step #9).</p>