

# OWLKILL ROD & GUN CLUB

August 2017



President: John D'Allaird

Treas.: Randy Burgoyne

Vice Pres.: Bret Seiler

Secretary: Tom Duclos

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

***The lottery may be over, but the Summer has only just begun! See how we're spending it at the Owlkill - [www.owlkill.org](http://www.owlkill.org)***

**Monthly Meeting:** This month's meeting will take place on Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m.

**Board of Directors:** Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday** August 29<sup>th</sup> at **6:00p.m.**

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## **President's Comments:**

**-Where has most of the summer gone?** *The wet conditions delayed many farmer's plantings but made a lush beginning for the summer greenery. The hot, dry, dog days of August are upon us. The shift in foliage coloration indicates that we are on the down side of the apex of summer heading to the time we like best- the cool of autumn and hunting season!*

*There are many deer and rabbits without number this year and plenty of bear sightings in the area. We need to get our reloads in the trim and our skills and stamina honed before venturing into the woods. **See you at the range.***

- **Follow-up on last month's garden comment: the rabbits have been persuaded rather than defeated!** *Blood Meal around the victimized plants and garden patches has given a new lease on life for our lettuce and bean plants! It smells awful but works because of it! **Note:** No rabbits, woodchucks, chipmunks, squirrels or deer were harmed- or even harshly addressed in an unreasonable or threatening tone- in the successful defense of the 30' x 50' patch of vegetables we call garden-wascally wabbits and Elmer Fudd notwithstanding.*

**Speaking of fishing- as the summer is speeding by-** *how many of us have been out wading the running waters as much as we'd like? I imagine there are lots of the 26,000 stocked trout still swimming the waters of Washington County, not to mention the native trout who are able to be angled by the skillful.*

**Fishing season is waning fast so now's the time.**

**I'm sure many have noticed the neat general appearance of the club and grounds recently.** *As we noted in the Newsletter last month, the new 25 yard backstop is in place and the 50 yarder is in process; building repairs are scheduled for the Work Day, and our Grounds Committee chair Charlie Kovage keeps all in the trim with weed whacking and debris and general clean-up by doing it himself mostly with some help from other members. No magic or mysterious midnight working gremlins but getting it done by doing the work.*

**With this in mind...**

- **There will be a Work Day, Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>.** *A Task List is being developed, materials are being gathered, **the last ingredient being your committed hearts, minds and hands!** Sign up and mark your calendars! We'll start at 8:30 AM. Rain date TBA if needed.*

## What's-up at the club:

- August 12<sup>th</sup> is a benefit shoot for the Cambridge Valley Rescue Squad. Come and take part in the fun and games knowing that the proceeds of your participation will help defray their growing operational expenses. Check website: <https://www.eventsoja.com/us/white-creek+ny/e8531879>
- Skeet, Silhouette and High Power Rifle shoots are on the calendar and have room for many more participants. Join in the spirited fun and learn the craft from the experienced practitioners. **See website.**
- **See website for DEC Hunter's courses this fall. Click Education tab.**

**-THE ARCHERY COMMITTEE IS UP!** Archers, get in touch with the new Chairman, Heath MacNeil.

**-CLUB SEW-ON PATCHES ARE IN!** -\$3 each, buy at meetings and at skeet shoots. Contact me or Tom Duclos.

**-Our illustrious Editor Lance would like to publish some of your stories in the Newsletter. Get them in!**

**-THE LOTTERY: Tim Barry is seeking a Sales Manager to handle Lottery Ticket Sales and Distribution. Tim will still be involved. Talk with Tim and see how much can be done with a little bit of effort. Please consider your part in the Lottery and contact Tim or me.**

See you at the meeting, 7:00 PM Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup>.

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



## EDITOR'S COLUMN

Maybe you don't have any stories or photos to share in the newsletter. Well, that's a shame. But maybe you have some ideas? If you do – send them my way. Maybe I can do something with them. I'm always looking for ways to improve this monthly communication!

Hunting season is coming. Is your rifle zeroed with your ammo of choice? Hmmmm.....

You know, a lot of my articles got very political around the time that the SAFE Act was passed. Maybe a lot of my emotion no longer runs high on the issue – largely because I was more comfortable as I saw how much pushback came not just from shooters, but from local government and even law enforcement. But just because I don't get fired up, it doesn't mean that I'm not going to remind you to GET INVOLVED. Election Day is coming up in about 90 days, believe it or not. Get out there and vote. 2017 is primarily local elections. Remember that much of the pushback came at the local level. So whatever your issue – and whatever your stance – get out there and work the democratic process.

L. A. Wang, Editor



## TRIVIA

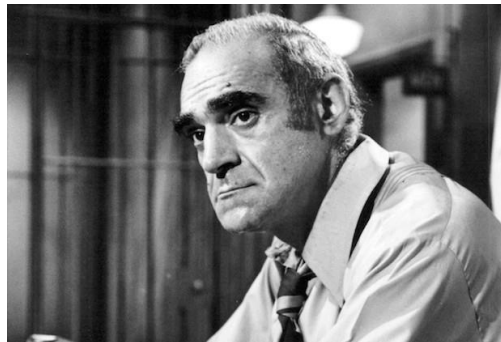
Last month's questions – and thanks to John Wiley and Rich Allen for their answer submissions! Last month's topics were Fish, Senators, and Music! Here's the answers....

First of all, fish.



This bugger, known colloquially as the “Frankenfish” started to greatly concern those who ran aquaculture farms in Florida because it is quite the predator when it encounters fresh fish stocks. What is it actually called?

*The Frankenfish is actually *Clarias batrachus*, a walking catfish which breathes air and can make short migrations across land by stiffening its pectoral fins and rocking.*



Bonus question – what type of Fish is this?

*This Fish, on the other hand is Abe Vigoda, starring as Detective Fish on the police sitcom “Barney Miller” back in the 70s (and he later briefly had his own spin-off show). If he ever stiffened his pectoral fins and rocked, it was never on camera. However, he did often complain about stiff joints, as well as Sergeant Nick Yemana’s legendary atrocious coffee.*

Okay – second topic – Senators.

Alright, I tricked you here, but its in good faith, since it involves the Washington Senators baseball team and it ties in with one of the legends of Pres. George Washington. In 1936, a former Senators pitcher, known as

the “Big Train,” attempted to duplicate a legendary feat of General Washington. Who was the pitcher, what was the feat, and did he succeed?



*The pitcher was the great Walter “The Big Train” Johnson, who attempted to duplicate the feat attributed to George Washington of tossing a silver dollar across the Rappahannock River – the actual feat was a myth, of course. However, in 1936, on the 204<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of George Washington’s birth, the Big Train succeeded two times out of three. Yankee Lou Gehrig poked fun at Johnson by attempting to throw a silver dollar across the Hudson River at a point where the river was 400 feet wide. He had five silver dollars, and after missing four times, succeeded on the final toss!*

*Walter Johnson, Senators, 1910*

Okay, last topic is music. Johnny Cash, George Strait, Willie Nelson, George Jones, and Kris Kristofferson were all famous stars from what some would call the “Golden Age of Country Music” in the 1950s and 60s. They share one honor in common as musicians, and another title in common as Americans. What are the two titles they share?



*They are all members of the Country Music Hall of Fame – and they are also all veterans.*

← *Willie Nelson, United States Air Force.*

Okay, this month’s trivia questions – topics will be World War II, hunting, and rock and roll...

First question: World War II can be considered our last “total war,” where the industrial might of our country contributed along with almost all citizens. This included motorcycle manufacturers. Which of the following manufacturers did NOT produce motorcycles for the Allied forces – Harley Davidson, Victory, Indian, Royal Enfield, or Triumph?

(\*\*\*) Bonus: The Harley Davidson 1942 XA had an interesting pedigree – what design did it ironically copy?

Second Question: What was the first shotgun chambered for the 3½ inch 12- gauge cartridge?

(\*\*\*) Bonus: Who invented the shotgun choke?

Third Question: In OPERATION URGENT FURY, the United States’ invasion of Panama in 1989, the deposed dictator, Manuel Noriega, hid in the Vatican embassy. United States troops blared music at extremely high volumes in an attempt (it turned out, successfully) to drive him out of the embassy. Name at least five songs on the playlist...!

Have fun, and see you next month!