

OWLKILL ROD & GUN CLUB

December 2017



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

Special Membership Renewal Issue! www.owkill.org

Monthly Meeting: This month's meeting will take place on Thursday, December 14th at 7:00p.m.

Board of Directors: Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday**, December 26th at **6:00p.m.**

President's Comments:

Today is the end of regular deer season in NY State at the writing of this PresComm. So, I'm sure you all have filled your tags and are observing a well-earned rest from hill trekking, tree climbing, stand sitting and deer dragging. There are still several hours left of regular season today, not forgetting the remaining deer hunts left to us during the extended muzzleloader and bow seasons. We're quickly coming to the end of another calendar year though, the time where many activities slow down a bit for the winter months. Pursuing small game during the winter is fun and is a good way to get some fresh air and exercise. Ice fishing is a major part of the winter for many of our active members and the yield from some of our local lakes can be massive and overwhelming when one arrives at home with a hundred or more fish to prep for the freezer before retiring for the evening to thaw yourself out!
On second thought, the winter is as fertile a time for outdoor sports as any season!

The club has had a very good year, though looking ahead to next year in anticipation of an even better year is natural. We are financially solvent, maintaining our facilities and advancing in available venues offered and capabilities, appealing to a wider cross-section of member's needs. This is due to the hard work of many members, Committees and Chairs, Board Members and Officers all committing time and energy to make it so- from the B.O.D. and Officers who are very attentive to detail- doing the admin work without a whimper, to the Editor of this *fantastic* Newsletter, Secretary, Treasurer, the Lotto-Master, Web-Master, Grounds-Master, Range-Masters, work-day volunteers and all who do the behind the scenes work we don't often think about... *...unless of course it doesn't get done!*

I WANT TO SEND A HEARTY 'THANK YOU' TO ALL WHO HAVE PUT THEIR TIME AND EFFORTS INTO MAKING OR&G CLUB SUCH A GREAT ORGANIZATION TO BE PART OF FOR YET ANOTHER YEAR.

-So, we look forward to next year's range shooting for fun, competition and hunting practice- and to all the recreational events at the club. This is the stuff we all look forward to. Eager anticipation is very healthy!

Around the Club:

- Our parking lots were recently edged with the road, leveled and resurfaced. Thanks Lloyd for the great job leveling the hard-pack.
- We are currently arranging the purchase of an 8' x 8' x 20' shipping container for storage space. **LOTS of room-** just what we need as there is little here presently. It is gray in color and we can camo paint it later if we like.

The container in question is no 'salty' - never been to sea can so is less apt to rust through quickly! The hard-pack pad it will set on has been laid already behind the fence near the archery range where the construction steel was stored for so many years and the details are nearly finalized to get it on-site.

- Speaking of steel- the 50 yard steel back-stop is still in process of being built. The fabricator assures it will be there for next year's shooting and with a channel system for sliding ¾" or ½" backer-boards in for easy replacement.

Membership: As you all know, our memberships run from Jan. 1st until Dec. 31st and are Family memberships. Yearly dues are due in January with an extended grace period through the month of February without added dollars for the extra month. Please send your dues in as early as possible- our year's budget is heavily burdened in the winter and early months of the year. Early sign-up settles your membership for twelve months!

We have new Membership forms this year giving ample available space to put down the names of family members- dependents living under your roof- who will use Club facilities in 2018. Required on the form, each name assures their place as a member to use the club venues and to cover them under club insurance policies on club grounds.

-The 4-H High School Skeet Shoot Club is a great program, is growing and promises to be a boon for the kids. We hope to see many more youngsters taking part in the year to come. Participants must be a Junior or Senior and certified with a course to take part. Contact Mark Mahoney for details.

- See our website Calendar for all scheduled events.

-GET A CLUB SEW-ON LOGO PATCH! \$3 each; buy at meetings or at skeet shoots. Sew one onto your favorite shirt, hat, coat or jacket. Contact me or 'Duke'.

-Write a story from your experiences hunting, fishing or outdoors-ing for the Newsletter. REALLY!! Let us hear your story, even if it is brief, and with a bit of fiction for 'spice'! I am working on one for the coming months and am recollecting the best I can to keep it from being fiction. Contact Lance.

-THE LOTTERY IS COMMENCING WITH TICKETS TO BE AVAILABLE AT NEXT THURSDAY'S MEETING. The prizes are great and some of your family and friends would be happy to find a ticket in their stocking!

Buy a ticket from Tim Barry at the Dec. 14th meeting!

Tickets are always the right color and fit!

***Tim needs a Sales Manager to handle Lottery Ticket Sales and Distribution.** He will still be involved. Talk with Tim and see how much can be done with a little bit of effort. Consider your part and contact Tim or me.

Finally, in this clamorous and contentious world, let us enjoy the peace and quiet of the Holidays with our family, friends and neighbors, appreciating all that this time signifies to us.

See you at the meeting, 7:00 PM Thursday, December 14th.

John D'Allaird
President, Owlkill Rod & Gun Club



EDITOR'S COLUMN

This issue is the “Special Membership Renewal Issue” – really doesn’t mean much more than we’ve included the new renewal form for you to submit and the safety rules for your annual recertification. What’s “special” is our club! Face it, it is more than a rod and gun club, it is a community organization made up of your neighbors, which makes it as much social as anything else. So stay with the club, stay in touch with the community, and stay in touch with a very special subgroup – sport shooters, hunters, and fishermen and women. Every effort you make at the club – to improve it, to participate in a club activity, to help with the maintenance, and even to offer a word of advice or encouragement to someone on the range strengthens the club – and our community. Thanks for being part of it – **please renew**, and do so before March 31 to avoid paying a penalty!

And of course – a HAPPY, HEALTHY, and BLESSED season to ALL OF YOU!

L. A. Wang, Editor



TRIVIA

Last month’s topics: Optics, the US Air Force, and Presidents! Thanks to President John D’Allaird for his answers to last months questions!

OPTICS (1 POINT): A manufacturer of mass-market rifle scopes is BSA. What does BSA stand for and where were they originally made?

BSA stands for the Birmingham Small Arms Company – maker of firearms and vehicles. Production was in Birmingham, England (in what was known as the “gun quarter”), but later was offshored for scopes when the BSA trademark was sold out to Gamo, which is still a popular manufacturer of air guns.

US AIR FORCE (2 POINTS): Within a year of its founding, the US Air Force was involved in a major strategic crisis and humanitarian operation, which resulted in the loss of 31 Americans. What was the operation?

The Berlin Airlift.

PRESIDENTS (3 POINTS): It’s a well-known bit of law that the President must be born in the United States. Obviously this could not always have been our law. Which Presidents were born British subjects?

Since they were born prior to 1776, the following Presidents were born as subjects of the British Crown: George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson, and, after Van Buren, William Henry Harrison

BONUS PRESIDENTS QUESTION (2 POINTS): It's a historical fact that Presidents Adams and Jefferson died within hours of each other on July 4, 1826. However, one other President died on a July 4th – who?

President James Monroe died on July 31, 1831, five years to the day after Adams and Jefferson.

This month's topics are: Heavily Armed Recreational Vehicles, Sporting History, and New York Governors

First – Recreational Vehicles for 3 points. The 1980 movie "Stripes" featured the "EM-50," which the Bill Murray character referred to as "... one heavily armed recreational vehicle!"



"This is one heavily armed recreational vehicle!"

In fact, there was a heavily armed recreational vehicle, of which 500 were made. It was known as the "150 TAP." What was it, who used it, and what were its capabilities?

Second – History (1 points). Who was Saxon Pope, and what is the "Pope and Young Club"?

Third – New York Governors for 2 points. Three New York Governors served in uniform during World War II, two in the Army and one in the Navy. Two served in uniform before they were Governor, and one did after. Which served in which branch of the service? Who is the one who donned the uniform AFTER leaving office?

Bonus question (2 points) – This founder of a major package shipping company served as a Marine in the Vietnam War as a platoon leader and forward air controller, being awarded a Silver Star in the process. Who was he?

