

# OWLKILL ROD & GUN CLUB

December 2018



President: John D'Allaird

Vice Pres.: Bret Seiler

Board of Directors: Mark Mahoney (Chairman), David Langlois, Ray Phillips, Heath MacNeil

Treas.: Randy Burgoyne

Secretary: Tom Duclos

**Our home on the Web - [www.owlkill.org](http://www.owlkill.org)**

**Monthly Meeting:** This month's meeting will take place on Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m.

**Board of Directors:** **NOTE CHANGE!!!!** Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for **Thursday December 27th at 6:00p.m.**

## **President's Comments:**

**Regular deer season ends today at the writing of this comment- then late muzzleloader and archery seasons follow until 12/18-** all in force at the time of you reading this. It does seem that regular big-game season came and went so quickly- and very early- but time waits for no one. If you plan to hunt the muzzleloader or archery season then you have plenty of time yet to fill the freezer. Small game hunting will still be available for the committed and hearty hunter through to the end of February. I hope you found what it is you seek so far this year from the hunt- venison, pleasure outdoors in the field, time with hunting partners/the traditional gang at camp or the annual time off from the daily grind- and good luck to you within the next ten days should that be your time to wrap it up!

**When the hunt is done- happy hunkering down for the winter!**

**Range Safety:** Running through the back of my head these past weeks and months has been the necessity of using careful good sense in all things- especially **SAFETY at the ranges here at OR&GC.** Since the extra range upgrades we've added the past few years (with more coming), our shooting and practice is always becoming more tuned to our own range situation and conditions. Spring is to get out on the range, warm up, break in new gear and try new loads, practice and take in the sounds and smells of spring. Summer is great for all range activity, shooting competitions and practice. Early fall is a time to sight in for big-game season. Now is the time of year when many use the range to check accuracy during season or after season check-ups before putting the rifle away for the long winter nap.

Any time seems good for shooting on the pistol range. **All require good range habits, manners and practice.**

**As good habits are the fruit of practice and repetition, SAFETY on the range is like any other good habit's development- we improve with repetition and emphasis.**

We sent out an e-blast on 11/15 regarding two of the most necessary components of safety on the ranges:

**1. Adherence to all rules and 2. Communication between shooters on the rifle and pistol ranges and with anyone who may be on the skeet range as well.** This is not just a recommendation from a menu of considerations but is **essential and mandated by the Club Range Rules we all sign annually to perform,** assuring that all shooters are on board with a system designed to protect all. See several critical points

below:

- *Opening shutters on BOTH ends of the pistol shed when using it is a rule and is necessary for good visibility which will prevent unsafe situations from developing.*
- *A pre-emptive walk from range to range to communicate and prepare for any possible down-range activity- like checking targets- is a rule that must be exercised to assure safety for all on all ranges.*
- *Unloading and racking firearms before heading down-range is required as well.*

**Think... SAFETY.**

**NOTE:** *The 200 yard range will be closed for maintenance and upgrades effective immediately and until further notice. Several items require service and attention and since this is the best time of year to close the 200 yd. range for that service- now is the time.*

See you at the meeting, 7:00PM Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>.

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



### EDITOR'S COLUMN

I have attached the 2019 membership/renewal form and the 2019 range rules. For those of you who are renewing, and I do hope it is all of you, remember you must complete both forms and send in with your payment (or turn them in at a club meeting or Board of Directors meeting). It's been a great year at the club. We continue to have new, motivated membership joining the club as well as an active group of "old standbys" who welcome the support both on our committees and in our various endeavors to keep the club functioning, up to date, and improving. Thank you all!

And to all my friends at our Owlkill Rod and Gun Club – a Happy, Healthy, and Blessed holiday season and best wishes for 2019!

Lance Allen Wang, Editor



### TRIVIA

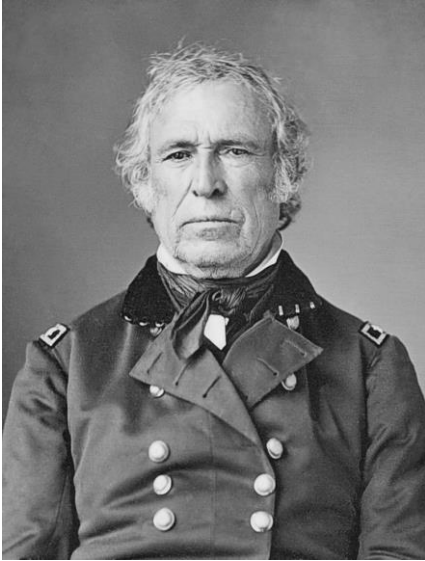
Now let's dive into last month's questions... topics were Elections, Thanksgiving, and Immigration.

1. Quick round on elections – 3 trivia questions, for three points:
  - a. Felons in these two states are allowed to vote – and have been since those states were founded in 1791 and 1820 respectively:

*In the states of Maine and Vermont, a felon never loses his right to vote, even while incarcerated.*

- b. This President never ONCE voted in an election prior to his electoral victory in 1848.

*Zachary Taylor never voted prior to his electoral victory in 1848. It is not uncommon for professional military officers to decline to vote at the time, as many considered it a “conflict of interest” to involve themselves with politics while serving in uniform.*



*General Zachary Taylor, a hero of the Mexican War (1846-47), in particular the Battle of Buena Vista (1847) who not long after became President of the United States, winning the Election of 1848. He never let the public know of his political beliefs prior to running for President, and so shunned politics while in the Army that he didn't even vote until his own candidacy.*

- c. Who was the youngest person to become President of the United States?

*The youngest person to become President was Theodore Roosevelt when he rose to the Presidency following the assassination of William McKinley in 1901. He was 42 years old. John F. Kennedy was the youngest to be elected President. He was 43 years old when elected in 1960.*

2. When the religious group later known as Pilgrims left England to practice religion freely, where did they first go for one point?

*The Pilgrims first went to Holland, settling in a city called Leiden. They got plenty of religious freedom, but didn't have a whole lot of luck making a living. They headed to America where they felt they could better retain their English identity and have a “better and easier” time working.*

3. During the earliest 20<sup>th</sup> century waves of immigrants, many changed their names for various reasons, but often to assimilate or to make their names less foreign sounding for American audiences. Who were these immigrants for two points?

- |                          |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| a. Julius Marx           | “Groucho” Marx    |
| b. Jerome Horwitz        | “Curly” Howard    |
| c. Issur Danilovich      | Kirk Douglas      |
| d. Adolph Marx           | “Harpo” Marx      |
| e. Jennifer Anastassakis | Jennifer Anniston |

On to this month's questions! Let's go with firearms manufacturing history, bolt-operated rifles, and predator hunting. You'll see why in the next section of the newsletter!

1. For 2 points – this manufacturer led the US firearms industry with 15.3 million firearms produced between 1986 to 2010. In addition, they were the top seller of handguns between 2009-2012.

2. For 3 points - What was the first rifle to utilize a bolt action for opening and closing the chamber, and who was the first country to adopt it for service and when?
3. For 1 point – these predators have greatly increased their range because of deforestation and human intolerance for wolves, their natural enemy. Their scientific name is literally translated as “barking dog.” They naturally hunt during the day, except when near human populations, in which case they become nocturnal.



*The law of unintended consequences: By overhunting the wolf, we have increased the population and reach of one of its natural enemies, which happens to be a predator in its own right...*



### **LAST BUT CERTAINLY NOT LEAST**

We are holding a *special holiday lottery* for a Ruger American Predator 6.5 Creedmoor bolt-action rifle. We're selling tickets at the December meeting and drawing for a winner at the January meeting! Tickets – 1 for 5, or 3 for 10....

