

OWLKILL ROD & GUN CLUB

January 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

What's happening at the Owlkill? Check out www.owlkill.org

Monthly Meeting: This month's meeting will take place on Thursday, January 12th at 7:00p.m.

Board of Directors: Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday** January 31st at **6:00p.m.**

President's Comments:

Holidays past, big game hunting is over for this season and we are tempted to hibernate - until the restless winter's doldrums set in! Many of us will use this time to go afield for small game: rabbit, squirrel, grouse, or to focus on adding to field equipment for the coming seasons.

This is a good time to consider the coming year and our club goal to educate.

The Owlkill Rod & Gun Club values, and has historically supported educational programs in the shooting sports and this is still a very important part of the club's current plans for the near and distant future. It falls to us to encourage each other and new members into involvement in and enthusiasm for our sport.

4-H, Cornell Cooperative Extension and NY State DEC courses are offered here and every effort should be made to expand and draw young - and even not so young - people into taking part, learning to properly handle firearms and shoot, to hunt, compete in shooting, to fish and value the outdoors and in turn pass this onto succeeding generations. The Board and the instructors at the club are actively planning for this coming year to be sure we are doing all we can to promote and teach the shooting sports and a good use of our natural resources in our own environment.

Our reaffirmation to educate and draw people to our sport is the main point of this message this month, because there is all the potential of a new year on the horizon and the time to plan is now. If we hope to see shooting sports, hunting, fishing and all that results from the applied knowledge arising from these activities pass on to future generations, we must make that effort and take our enjoyment in the activity at the same time we are initiating others to the full measure of satisfaction in these sports.

Those people who use the outdoors take the best care of it as well, and they apply the knowledge gained in using it to manage those natural resources. This benefits the entire region and gains new recruits along the way, teaching them to do the same. **We are those people!**

-The On-line Apparel store did well this winter and we hope all ordered and received what they hoped for.

-The Lottery is moving along for 2017 and we expect to see it grow again this year on up to the drawing in June. Proceeds from this Lottery will be used to side the clubhouse- the next big initiative on the

approved 'to-do' list.

Tim has designed a great lottery and he is in his **4th** year running it but is seeking to step down from the admin-chair.

***This is the second appeal for a volunteer (or volunteers) to pick up the mantle and carry the Lottery.**

Tim has agreed to remain an active advisor and aid the transition without skipping a beat.

Please consider your involvement in this effort and contact Tim or me.

See you at our meeting on Thursday, January 12th.

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



EDITOR'S COLUMN

Welcome to 2017. Funny, so far it feels a whole lot like 2016 but that's the way it is here, sometimes!

Great things in store for this year at the Owlkill. Somehow, we're slowly evolving from a club to a "Club!" Sometimes even if I had no intention of shooting that day, if I see folks out at the range as I'm driving by, I'll just stop in to shoot the breeze. That's how we become a "Club" with an upper case "C" – its more than a range, it's your neighbors and friends – people you like seeing. People who you share a common interest with. I hope all of you develop that relationship with your "Club."

Remember to get your dues in (WITH your renewal form and signed copy of the safety rules) – if you don't want to mail it, run it down when we have a club or Board of Directors meeting and we'll get you taken care of on the spot! Don't get saddled with late charges, don't wait so long you have to resubmit as a new member....

L. A. Wang, Editor



TRIVIA

No takers on last month's questions... but I owe you an answer!

We'll talk about something that I'm rather fond of, which are single shot rifles – two very popular actions in the 19th century were "Rolling Block" and "Falling Block" rifles.

1. *What is the difference between a "Rolling Block" and a "Falling Block" rifle?*

In a "falling block" action, the breech block seals up the chamber with a heavy chunk of metal sliding up on grooves. In a "rolling block," it seals up the chamber with a piece of metal which pivots into place on a pin.

2. *Which is the stronger action? Why?*

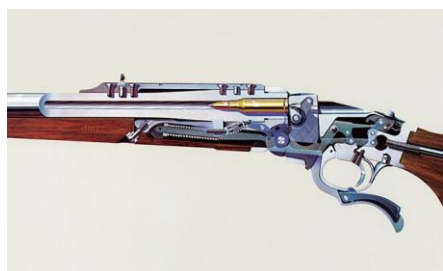
The falling block, as it is a piece of metal which slides into place, not hinged on a weaker link like a pin.

3. *Name a popular rolling block action rifle*

There are not many popular rolling block action rifles anymore, although many Remington rifles in the late 19th century used this type of action.

4. *Name a popular falling block action rifle*

The two most popular are the Winchester High and Low Wall (Model 1885) and the Ruger #1.



Cross section of a Ruger #1 – the “block” is visible behind the cartridge; it is lowered when the lever is thrown forward.

This month’s question is about anti-aircraft weaponry. Throughout World War II, all major armies fielded anti-aircraft weapons, either machine guns mounted in pairs or quads, or cannons such as the American 3” gun or the feared German 88mm FlaK. However, American B-24 pilot Owen Baggett claimed a kill during a mission over Burma with a most unusual weapon. What was it?



**FROM TIM BARRY, OWLKILL LOTTERY CHAIRMAN AND SIRIUS, THE UNOFFICIAL
OWLKILL MASCOT AND HONORARY LOTTERY CHAIRMAN**

Early Ticket Sales are Very HOT!!! One of our retailers requested an extra 40 tickets one day into sales. They have received requests for large quantities of tickets (one for 30). Club members are encouraged to request tickets with their membership renewals or purchase them at our meetings.