

OWLKILL ROD & GUN CLUB

January 2018



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

Have you visited our home on the Web lately? www.owkill.org

Monthly Meeting: This month's meeting will take place on Thursday, January 11th at 7:00p.m.

Board of Directors: Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday**, January 30th at **6:00p.m.**

President's Comments:

Happy New Year! *The New Year is starting off very cold, but it is winter after all and cold is integral to the ecosystem, plus- we haven't had much bitter weather in several years. ... It is now 2018, an 8, not a 7!*

*The past year has been a very good year for OR&G as detailed in the Dec. 2017 PresComm. We've improved and added to the club programs, venues and grounds and will continue this year **as we pursue the goal of bringing more education and interest in our sport to more people- considering especially more young people.***

*One means in the effort started this year is the 4-H backed High School Skeet Shooting Club developed by OR&G and 4-H (led in Washington County by Chrys Nestle and in Warren County by John Bowe, a former member of OR&G). As you know, it would not have gotten off the ground without several of our members to propose, man and lead it, especially Mark Mahoney and Tom Duclos with several others teaching the young 'skeeters' and funding start-up from the Greenwich Rod & Gun Club providing the ammo. We have others certified to teach and more members planning to take the 4-H courses in February to be certified for this and other disciplines. We even have candidates for membership already involved in this effort looking to deepen the team here! **Get on board and sign up for the 4-H classes too!!!***

This type of outreach can be duplicated in the other disciplines of rifle/ pistol/ musket marksmanship, archery, woodsmanship and in whatever other field we can fulfill this call of ours to bring interest and education in our sport! It has always been sportsmen who have taken care of the natural resources we have and that is a universal benefit!

February Elections: *As you know, the OR&G Club full Board is comprised of the four elected officers (Pres., VP, Treasurer and Secretary) plus four elected Board members. The BoD Members (currently Tim Barry, Dave Langlois, Mark Mahoney-Chairman and Lance Wang) stand for election on even years and the officers on odd years, so this year at the February monthly meeting we will vote for our BoD members. Mark, Tim and Dave are going to stand for re-election and Lance has decided to step down from this office to allow another to run.*

Ray Phillips has been nominated by the Nominating Committee and has offered to stand for election and the Board heartily endorses him. He has served the club faithfully as a member enjoying work days,

work parties and in special events as well. He works hard and smart and will bring added dimension to our Board.

The Board and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Lance for his much work and organizational skill which has enriched OR&G Club over the many years he has served as Secretary, President and on the Board of Directors.

Thanks Lance.

-LOTTERY TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE! The prizes are great! Support the club with a possible prize to boot!

***The Lottery needs a Sales Manager now to handle Lottery Ticket Sales and Distribution.** Tim is still involved but another is needed in this capacity to make the Lottery function. **Contact Tim or me.**

See you at the meeting, 7:00 PM Thursday, January 11th.

John D'Allaird

President, Owlkill Rod & Gun Club



EDITOR'S COLUMN

Well, as I type this we're heading for a low of minus nineteen, I believe. We're outdoorsmen and outdoorswomen. We know the outdoors. Love the outdoors even. Most importantly we respect the outdoors. Be safe – this Arctic weather is not subtle, but cold weather injuries make subtle approaches and before you know it you're a casualty. Be aware of the weather, be aware of your surroundings – and respect dangerous conditions and know the signs of cold weather injury.

I will be stepping away from the Board of Directors at the end of February, but I look forward to continuing to support the club through work on the newsletter, attending Directors meetings as I can in a non-voting capacity, and taking the time to enjoy my membership in the club. I don't have the time I used to, but that doesn't mean I can't contribute to our beloved club as I can, when I can. And my thanks to all of you who already do that. We have something special, and our dedicated members keep it that way.

L. A. Wang, Editor



TRIVIA

Last month's topics: Heavily Armed Recreational Vehicles, Sporting History, and New York Governors! Thanks to Rich Allen for his answers to last months questions!

First – Recreational Vehicles for 3 points. The 1980 movie "Stripes" featured the "EM-50," which the Bill Murray character referred as "... 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?

While it was no “Urban Assault Vehicle” like the EM-50, meet the Vespa 150 TAP:



The Vespa 150 TAP also known as the “Bazooka Vespa” was basically a motorized scooter set up as a pack mule for a 75mm recoilless rifle and ammunition. While not the heaviest gun in the inventory, with its High Explosive Anti-Tank (HEAT) round, it could penetrate 100mm of armor. But as stated, it was a pack mule – it could not fire on the move. I would imagine if it did, its uncontrolled reverse speed would be greater than its maximum controlled forward speed.... Anyway, introduced in 1956 this was a weapon for airborne troops, the scooters would be dropped in pairs, one gun vehicle, one ammo bearer vehicle.

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

Dr. Saxton T. Pope (1875-1926) is known as the “father of modern bowhunting.” His book “Hunting with the Bow and Arrow” remains in print today. The Pope and Young Club, an organization dedicated to bowhunting, is named after him and maintains a North American game record book.



Saxton Pope grizzly hunting at Yellowstone

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?

Governor Charles Poletti, 46th Governor of NY, served in office during 1942. After he left the post of Governor, he was appointed a Civil Affairs Officer and was assigned in Italy during WW2 from 1943-1945.

Governor Malcolm Wilson served as a naval officer during WW2, and Governor Hugh Carey served in combat as an infantry officer during the war.

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?

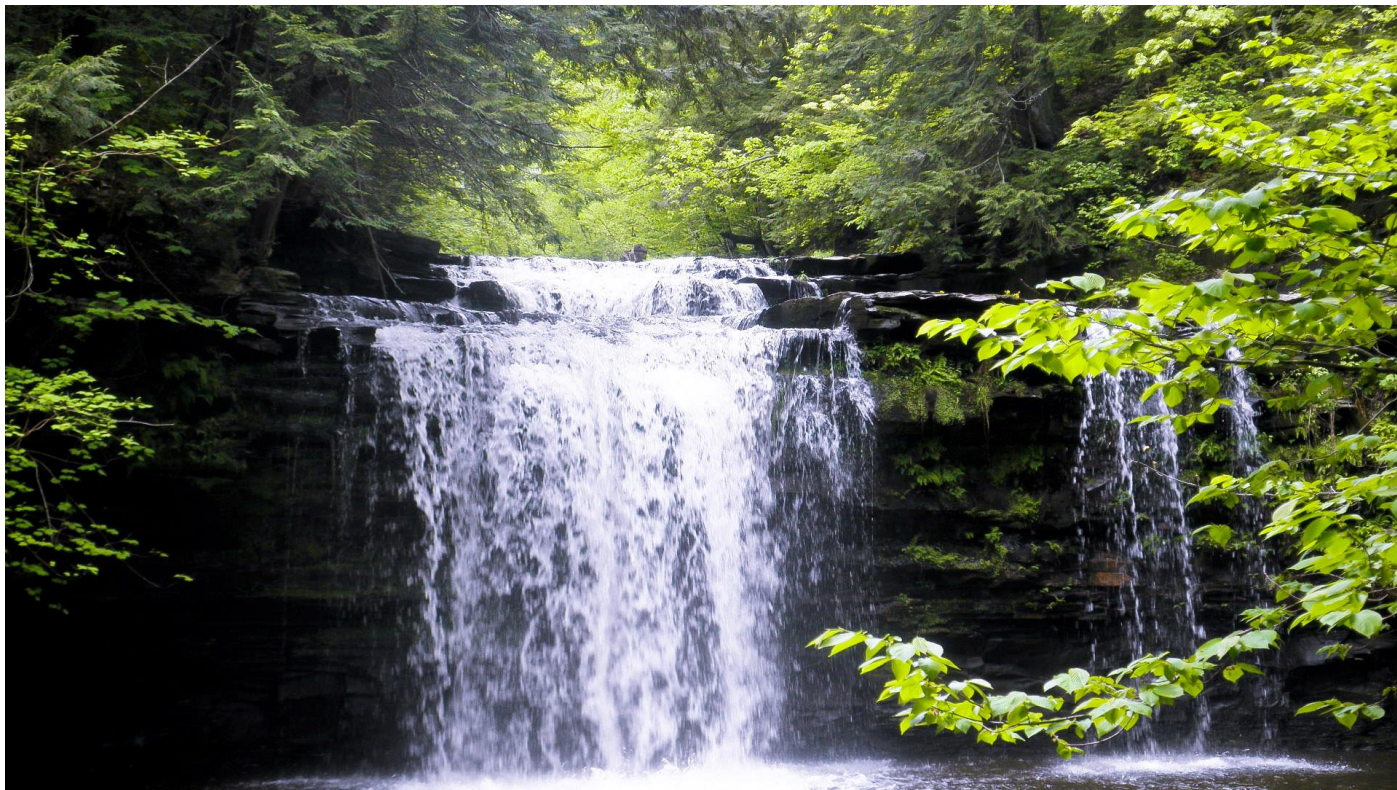


US Marines in Vietnam. Fred Smith, second from right, would later be the founder of FEDEX and serve as its CEO.

This month's questions: meteorology, history, and handguns.

OK – meteorology for two points. In dry places like Death Valley, California, snow can transform into penitents. What is a penitent?

Now history for three. New York's Christman Bird and Wildlife Sanctuary can trace its founding to what significant New York weather event?



The Christman Bird and Wildlife Sanctuary located near Schenectady has its roots in a significant bit of New York meteorological history. This waterfall is about a mile into its main trail.

Handguns – one point. Russian Cosmonauts carried handguns with them in space. From 1986-2006 they carried a specific model called the TP-82. Why?

Bonus – one more point. The TP-82 had an unusual characteristic for a handgun. What was it?



SKEET AND SCHOOLS!

The Owlkill Rod and Gun Club has been on the forefront of trying to return competitive skeet shooting to local schools, and it has not been without success. Salem, Greenwich, Hoosick Falls, and Cambridge are

schools we are working with either to help establish programs, or attempt to assist with logistical, training, and infrastructure support. Do you want to get involved? Do you want to help? Contact Chairman of our Board of Directors Mark Mahoney! Help develop an appreciation for the safe conduct of shooting sports among our youth! Seriously – do you want them learning safety from television....!?



Why you want the Owlkill teaching firearms safety, not TV.



NOW AS FOR INSTRUCTION DONE PROPERLY....

Do you want to get yourself or someone else enrolled into 4-H Shooting Sports? They have a course starting up on 7 March. Sign up by calling Cornell Cooperative extension 518 746 2560