

# OWLKILL ROD & GUN CLUB

June 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

*Have you seen the latest and greatest at... [www.owkill.org](http://www.owkill.org)*

**Monthly Meeting:** This month's meeting will take place on Thursday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m.

**Board of Directors:** Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday**, June 26<sup>th</sup> at **6:00p.m.**

## President's Comments:

*Just a couple brief mentions...*

*June 9<sup>th</sup> WORK DAY...Here's a pic of the crew:*



Pictured above, left to right: Phil Couch, Art Erbe, Bob Preble, Ray Phillips, Marianne D'Allaird, yours truly, Mark Mahoney and Tom Duclos.

Missing from the photo but joining in the fun: Charlie Kovage, Joe Ahrberg and Jim Clark.

## *The Work day went very well and much was accomplished:*

- New High House doors/trim installed and painted.
- Intrusive tree limbs trimmed and clearing of nuisance trees and shrubs all through the grounds.
- Weed-whacking, raking and sprucing up of the grounds.
- Painting the kitchen (*thank you to Marianne D., a deft hand and hardworking volunteer.*)

- Window washing and general Clubhouse clean-up (*ditto to M.*).
- New lock on Conex.
- Clearing of all skeet ‘stuff’ out of archery shed.
- Cleaning and servicing skeet equipment.
- Servicing range targets.

**-These tasks seem mundane** but must be done with the end result being the whole place sparkles more than it did at 7:30AM this morning and is prepared for action. Great for the upcoming 4-H Graduation and all other events.

-The crew was kept very busy for the long morning and then after taking a break for lunch (hot dogs and chips) wrapped it all up and departed as necessary to catch up with tasks at home.

-Unable to attend because of other commitments, Brett Seiler worked on the grounds Friday 6/8 and will be doing some **HEAVY** work with his big equipment on Tuesday so more is in the works and will get done.

**A great day was had by all and there were no injuries which makes it even better. Thank you to all who came.**

**Lottery:** The Lottery is under way with some happy winners already receiving the good news of a win-including two club members! There are still 21 days to win so keep tracking the results for your prize!

See you at the meeting, 7:00 PM Thursday, June 14<sup>th</sup>.

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



### EDITOR’S COLUMN

Every now and then, I might slip on a mental banana peel when putting together the newsletter. And I’m happy to report I’ve been corrected – and I like that. It means you folks are reading. So this month, a tip of the cap to Jay Bellanca who took issue with my mention of the NB-36H “Crusader” in the trivia section. Indeed – I mentioned that the propellers were driven by turboprop engines. In fact, it was actually powered by 6 Pratt and Whitney reciprocating engines (later augmented by four jet engines). So to Jay, thanks for the correction, and keep reading!

Have a great month!

Lance Allen Wang, Editor



### TRIVIA

OK, lets dive into last month’s questions:



1. INVENTORS (3 points): This famous American inventor, who had never made a gun in his life, received a contract for the manufacture of 10 to 15 thousand muskets for the United States in 1798. Part of his pitch was to provide interchangeable parts – an idea he did not invent, but did popularize. Who was this famous inventor?

*This fellow was Eli Whitney, commonly accorded honors for the invention of the cotton gin in 1794. He demonstrated interchangeable parts manufacturing of firearms to Congress by taking 10 of his muskets apart, throwing all the parts in a pile, and reassembling 10 out of the pile.*

2. PRESIDENTS (1 point): What was “Seward’s Folly” and who was the President when it took place?

*“Seward’s Folly” was the purchase of Alaska from Russia in 1867. Seward referred to Secretary of State William Seward, part of President Andrew Johnson’s administration. The \$7.2 million cost seems like an absolute bargain considering the oil, gold, and strategic placement of Alaska. Folly indeed!*

3. WEAPONS OF WARFARE (2 points): The following words were recorded by Lieutenant John Parker during the first use of what weapon by the US in an offense role?

**"The guns were pushed right up in the hottest place there was in the battle-field...and put into action at the most critical point of the battle... [the guns] so successfully subdued the Spanish fire that from that time to the capture of the practically impregnable position was only eight-and-one-half minutes. The expenditure of ammunition during this time, in which a continuous fire was kept up from three guns, was 6,000 rounds per gun..."**



*Gatling Guns supporting the attack on Kettle Hill during the Spanish-American War in Cuba, 1898*

*Lieutenant John Parker demonstrated the advantages that the Gatling Gun, a late 19<sup>th</sup> century hand cranked machine gun could bring into the offense as opposed to using them as a defensive weapon from fixed position. He brought his carriage mounted Gatlings on the attack supporting the*

*“Rough Riders” of Colonel Theodore Roosevelt in their attack on Kettle Hill in Cuba (often mistakenly referred to as “San Juan Hill.”)*

All righty, then.... Lets move on to this month. Lets go with the same three topics....

First of all, inventors for two points.

1. A Sergeant from the 102<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry, 2<sup>nd</sup> Armored Division is credited with creating this lifesaving modification to the Sherman Tank which helped the Allies get out of the thick hedgerows in France, where they had been held up since the invasion of Normandy.



Lets go on to Presidents for one.

2. Among numerous other ventures, this President ran a distillery in his home state of Virginia, where he made apple brandy, peach brandy, and rye whiskey.

And weapons of warfare for three points:

3. The six-pound M1 carbine was meant to be a lightweight sidearm with a bit more power than the .45 automatic pistol, used by officers and others who didn't carry the M1 Garand. However, when the M1 carbine was converted into the M3, it suddenly weighed almost 35 pounds and served an entirely different purpose. What was the purpose and components of an M3?



#### **4-H SHOOTING SPORTS HIGH SCHOOL SKEET**

We are proud to report that the 4-H shooting sports youth program is complete for this school year. 22 Students participated. 4-H High School Skeet Teams are shooting every Wednesday afternoon. 15 Students from Hoosick Falls and 8 students from Salem and Greenwich. There will be a competition between the two groups before we close for the summer season and there will be a Golf Fundraiser at Dutch Haven Golf course on June 30. Help support this program! Many of us lament about the decline in youth participation in shooting sports – at the Owlkill, we've decided to do something about it!

- Mark Mahoney