

# OWLKILL ROD & GUN CLUB

NOVEMBER 2015



*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*

***Always feel like you're the last to know? Check out [www.owkill.org](http://www.owkill.org)***

**Monthly Meeting:** The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Owlkill Rod & Gun Club will be held on Thursday November 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m. All members are invited and encouraged to attend.

**Board of Directors:** Board of Directors meeting will take place at 7:00 p.m. on **November 19<sup>th</sup>**.

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## **President's Comments:**

Fair weather projects done, clocks set back, leaves raked, gardens tilled under/canning finished, storm windows in/ panes pointed and puttied, firewood in/along with oil, propane and pellets too. We're ready.

A sweet summer has yielded to a pleasant autumn here in White Creek and surrounds. We've had a reprieve from the encroaching cold this past week and many hunters have enjoyed an extended summer for going afield- or have used up some of the time for exterior catch-up work like painting or other such foolishness. The low, harsh, direct and in your eyes bright sun of November is still ever present as usual though.

**Are we settling in for the subsequent, inevitable winter? NO WAY - NOT ON YOUR LIFE!!!** The hunter in us is just warming up for the season we all look forward to. All the shooting sports, sightings-in and practice will now pay off with the comradeship of the hunt, joy of the New England Autumn and- hopefully- plenty of game in the freezer.

-Bow season has been running since Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>. Regular deer season is less than two weeks off!

Small game is plentiful and the dastardly coyotes are daring to be thinned out. **Our turn to howl!**

**-Work Day, October 17<sup>th</sup>:** The work day was very productive. Between 20 and 30 members were able to join in the fray during the course of the day- even if only for an hour or two - making it light work to finish the list of tasks. Many new members came, some towing along their own heavy equipment, and several of them cleaned the kitchen cupboards and organized the kitchen! Lunch was provided by the club with some generous add-ons: thanks to Randy B. for getting the food, to Richard Jordan and his crew for cooking it, and to Randy's wife for the great pasta salad.

Lots of other jobs were easily handled by the busy crews and the whole club's buildings and grounds show it.

**-Thank you** to all who attended, worked hard and had a blast accomplishing the assignments.

You deserve the satisfaction of a job well done.

**-Turkey Shoot, October 31<sup>st</sup>:** Our first like it as far as I know of. The fact that it hadn't been in our long term plan for 2015, not until a month or so before we had it and that we pretty much broke even

dollar-wise our first time out of the blocks is all great encouragement for next year's Turkey Shoot, which will be a main event. With a word of mouth campaign and advertising it abroad it will easily double the traffic and add to the club's coffers for 2016. **Thanks to Mark Mahoney for getting this ball rolling and organizing the event with the Chairs of Rifle, Pistol and Skeet Committees.**

**Note:** There are several Turkey Certificate prizes leftover from the shoot and the Board of Directors has decided to donate these to the Food Pantry in Cambridge, which is associated with The Regional Food Bank. If anyone would like to make a further donation of canned or boxed food please bring it with you to the Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup> Club Monthly meeting. The donations and extra certificates will be packaged up and given to the Board of Deacons of the church across Rt. 22, The Center White Creek Baptist Church, who will bring the donation to the Food Pantry when their own weekly donation is delivered, indicating that it is a donation from the Owlkill Rod & Gun Club.

Thank you in advance for your generosity in this donation.

**THE PISTOL SHED NOW DECLARED TO BE COMPLETE!!!** Bill Zeppetelli, John Kapitan and Lloyd Wetsel put the ridge cap on the roof Wednesday making it the official crowning touch. Thank you to them and to all crews for their work!

**-All things considered, this fall is off to a great start, so let's get into the woods, take in the fresh air and the wonder of it and be thankful. Have a safe and productive hunt!**

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

**P.S. Congratulations to our Editor, Lance Wang, for winning the election to the White Creek Council seat!**

## EDITOR'S COLUMN

Greetings sportsmen and women one and all....

We are maturing as a club. This means that there are certain areas we are now in a position to "tighten up" that perhaps we couldn't before. One of the important areas is in membership dues and processing. In the past we were a bit loose in enforcing deadlines on dues payments, but that's been beginning to bite us in the tail, because when we need the ready cash to pay bills, its not there – and that does not serve the interests of our club well.

Another area is providing an alternate way for members who can not support work parties to still support our growth and maintenance efforts.

I am enclosing the updated membership renewal forms with this newsletter, along with the safety rules forms. Here's a summary of what's new:

1. Dues and renewals are due no later than the 1<sup>st</sup> of March. On that day, the combo to the clubhouse and ranges changes.
2. Renewals received between 1<sup>st</sup> of March and 1<sup>st</sup> of June have a \$20.00 penalty.
3. Renewals received after the 1<sup>st</sup> of June will be treated as a new membership, which means that the applicant will have to appear before the Board of Directors' Meeting and then the next Membership meeting before approval.

Please understand – *the goal is not that we want to collect penalties or have anyone jump through hoops.* The goal is to get membership renewals in before the 1<sup>st</sup> of March so we can manage our finances and pay the Club's bills. I'm sure I speak for our Chairman of the Board of Directors and our President when I say we would be happy to collect no penalties next year!

4. For those who are unable to participate in work details and/or committees, we have provided the OPTION to donate an additional \$25.00 with your renewal which will be allocated towards supplies and materials to support our work parties. In other words, if you can't do some of the physical heavy lifting, let Jackson and Lincoln do the lifting for you.
5. As with last year, we are offering the opportunity to pre-purchase Owlkill Lottery tickets for next year. The tickets have been printed and will be ready as stocking stuffers if you like! Pre-purchase, make your life easier, and we'll mail the tickets to you with your new membership card.

As always, please sign and date a copy of the enclosed safety rules and submit with your renewal form! They have been updated to correct a couple of typos from the earlier edition

Rut is coming folks! Have a good hunt.

L. A. Wang, Editor

### **2016 OWLKILL LOTTERY!!!**

The Club has accepted a quote from *American Trade & Goods, Inc.* to supply the firearms for our next lottery. For our GPS users the store is located at 1213 Louden Rd. Cohoes, NY 12047. That's US Route 9 a bit South of the Mohawk River on the East side for our dead reckoning navigators. Stop in to check out their store, they're open Mon-Sat 10-6. Tickets go on sale December 1<sup>st</sup> for the June 2016 Gear and Gun Lottery. Give Santa a hand, stuff a few of these in stockings this Holiday Season.

### **TRIVIA**

A few answers to this past month's trivia question!!!

As you may recall last month's question... Due to disagreements with Winchester, John Browning broke away and negotiated his own manufacturing contracts in 1898. In the past, Browning got a flat fee for his designs. He decided he wanted per unit royalties, so if the firearm was a hit, he got a piece of the profits. Winchester disagreed. The weapon that this disagreement surrounded was a new semi-automatic shotgun design which would end up called the Browning Auto-5. When Browning broke away from Winchester, who did he award the manufacturing contract to?



*The Browning Auto-5, the first mass produced semi-automatic shotgun*

John Wiley got the answer right – the answer was FN – Fabrique Nationale, the Belgian manufacturer

which still maintains a relationship with Browning to this day (check out the BAR and then look at the FNAR – very similar, right?). I will give partial credit however, to Mark Mahoney, for “Remington,” as the Remington Model 11 was the same licensed design – however the Remington was not made until about 40 years after FN was making the Auto-5. Ironically, he was going to cut a deal with Remington before FN, however, the president of Remington passed away before the deal was complete! Additional trivia – Savage also licensed the design and manufactured it as the Model 720 and 745.

This week’s question – John Browning, designer of the famous Colt 1911 “.45 Auto” was later commissioned to produce a pistol for the French Army. Of course, he’d signed his patents over to Colt for his auto pistol design, so he had to start from scratch in some ways. He died in 1926 before the design was complete. What was the pistol that he came up with, and who finished the design after his passing? Hint – the alternative French name for the pistol they wanted was “*Grand Puissance*.”

## LAST BUT NOT LEAST

And as it is hunting season, this pearl from Club Member Rich Allen can serve as a cautionary tale....

*I had everything planned and had told my wife I would not be going to church with her on Sunday.*

*My wife reminded me that Sunday was the Sabbath Day and hunting a trophy buck should not be part of the Sabbath. However.....*

- 1. I scouted the area all summer.*
- 2. I searched out the best location for my tree-stand.*
- 3. I set it all up a month ahead of time.*
- 4. I trailed the deer herd.*
- 5. I picked out a trophy buck.*
- 6. Two days before opening day I rechecked every aspect of the hunt.*
- 7. Everything was in place.*
- 8. Sunday morning, I woke up at 2 am.*
- 9. I put on my camouflage, loaded my pack, set out for my deer stand.*
- 10. This was destined to be an epic hunt.*
- 11. As I approached my stand, I called my wife and told her I had decided not to hunt on the Sabbath and would meet her at church.*





*The Sunday sermon was entitled "The Lord Works In Mysterious Ways".*

**SCENES FROM "TURKEY SHOOT" AT THE OWLKILL ON OCT 31**









