

OWLKILL ROD & GUN CLUB

OCTOBER 2016



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, October 13th, at 7:00p.m.

Board of Directors: Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday** October 25th at **6:00p.m.**

President's Comments:

Fall is here!

Hunting season has started!

Small game, waterfowl and an earlier than usual bow hunting deer season are well under way, fall turkey is soon to follow. Many have ventured out with successful results and many are still looking for bright feathers, fur and big racks- or just more meat for the freezer. Spending time in the woods is a pleasure for sure and the many days left of this season still hold the promise of great memories.

Here's to a safe and productive time afield this year for all hunters.

Elections on November 8th We've all been bombarded by the campaigns, news, rhetoric and quite a display by this time and we know already the importance of this election, for president and all other offices.

-No public office in our land is held under the terms of the elected but the elected serve under the terms already enumerated as a condition of the office and they take an oath to uphold it on the basis of law. That is because we are a **nation of laws- not men**, not to be led by the hubris and caprice of mankind's imagination, empty promises, idealism or selfish ambitions.

-That is the miracle of our system of governance - when adhered to. When law is ignored, abused or broken, it leads to a free-for-all decline in all the blessings intended from proper governance by our founders.

Witness: the lawlessness springing up in recent years.

-Constitutional Law is one of our nation's greatest blessings. Those laws have proven to work and when upheld- to prosper our nation, leading to the blessings of "*Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness*".

-Take advantage of our opportunity to vote on 11/8.

THE WORK DAY WAS A BIG SUCCESS! **A hearty thank you goes out to all who joined the effort!** All the work slated for the 9/24 Work Day was completed- even while the DEC Hunter Safety Course was being held in the clubhouse- a '**two birds with one stone**' day!! We had a good turn-out of members and even a non-member donating their time and equipment (a special thanks to Brett S., Lloyd W., Steve Watykus, Art Erbe and all other tool bearers).

-Skeet machines tuned- up and running: thanks to Bob Preble, Tom Duclos and others.

- Skeet grounds cleaned, raked and smoothed- Randy B., Bill Z., Lloyd W. and others.
- Skeet net put up- a **big day-long** effort (8:30AM – 6:00 PM) requiring moving or shoring up poles, lots of high work and many hands. This effort required a bucket lift and that was provided by Steve Watykus from Hoosick Falls. Steve is an electrician, friend of Frank Sheldon (and former member of OR&G) with the equipment for field work and his service was vital in this effort. Thanks to Art Erbe, Rich Allen, Duke and many others and Frank for engaging Steve.
- Skeet area and behind old net - broken birds policed up- Ray Philips
- 200 yard range graded and seeded- Brett S. and Bill Z. with others.
- Painting, staining, sealing, weed whacking, spruced up and cleaned up grounds- Charlie K., Dan Wright, Brian Bliss and others too many to mention.

I hope I have not left anyone out, though I surely must have. *See photos below in the ‘More News’ section. And all that on a couple hot dogs a piece!

***-Thanks also to the member who donated \$30 towards the hot dog lunch- wants to remain anonymous!**

See you at the meeting on Thursday, October 13th.

John D’Allaird;

President, Owlkill Rod & Gun Club



EDITOR’S COLUMN

Its my time of year – my spirits go up as the temperature goes down. The ticks and mosquitos go into hiding, the deer start moving, sleep gets better, and I get ready for walking in the woods with a rifle, or sitting in front of a wood stove and perhaps even a taste of Bailey’s which seems to go nicely with the fire.

Thanks to our President John D’Allaird for the pictures later in this newsletter from the work day and hunter safety. Makes the newsletter better and for those of you who don’t get out here as much as you’d like, it’s a chance to see familiar faces and what they are doing to help improve our club.

About one month left until the election. Register now if you haven’t already – Washington County Commissioner of Elections phone is (518) 746-2180 if you are a Washington County resident and are unsure if you’re registered or need to know what to do to get yourself registered quickly. This IS an important election for a variety of reasons. Do your part and engage with the process.

L. A. Wang, Editor



TRIVIA

First of all, last month’s questions: Thanks, Rich Allen, John D’Allaird, Alex Hillis, Rich Norman, Mark Mahoney, and George Sigut for their responses.... The Riches, John, and Alex – perfect score.

Since this month is about ducks at the Owlkill, thanks to Steve Sanford, let's see if you can identify the duck-related images here.



EASY!

Of course, the duck is Donald Duck. I think Alex H. dug out that this was the patch for Torpedo Squadron 8 (VT-8), famous for their ill-fated attack at the Battle of Midway, flying hopelessly obsolete Douglas TBD Devastator torpedo bombers without fighter escort.



MEDIUM!

The DUKW, more commonly known as the "Duck," was an amphibious modification of the six-wheel 2-ton truck in common use by the Army at the time. These were used throughout World War II by the United States, and also provided to Britain, Canada, Australia, and Russia.



DIFFICULT!

Ah, yes, "Duck and Cover." This is how schoolkids were taught to react to the flash of a nuclear bomb throughout the 1950s and early-mid 1960s. Elementary school children were taught it by "Bert the Turtle." It was based on the experience of Britain under the blitz – the desks could protect them from falling debris. However, "Duck and Cover" didn't really address the issues of bombs that were capable of vaporizing people, creating firestorms, and irradiating areas with lethal fallout for extended periods.

Extra points for precocious schoolboy Mark Mahoney asking his teachers, “Are you serious?” No wonder some of the parody civil defense posters of the period cautioned people to prepare for nuclear attack by loosening all tight fitting clothing, placing the head firmly between the legs, and kissing your a—goodbye.”



DIFFICULT!

The correct responses on this one pleased me no end! In addition to being a firearms enthusiast, I’m also a hack musician, so knowing that there are members of this club who remember Donald “Duck” Dunn just warms my heart. Bass player “Duck” Dunn was one of the members of one of the first integrated rock bands, Booker T and the MG’s although many now remember him for his appearance in “The Blues Brothers.” Booker T and the MG’s biggest hit was the instrumental “Green Onions,” although I am partial to “Time is Tight,” released a couple of years later.

So now that we’ve got that out of the way – here’s this month’s questions.

1. Name the first handgun made mostly from plastic.
2. While the legal definition of “assault rifle” is a point of contention, this firearm can rightfully be called the first one.
3. This flintlock shotgun was popular in the 18th century and had a flared muzzle.
4. This self-loading pistol established the “parabellum” round as a world standard.
5. What does the “AR” in “AR-15” stand for?
6. BONUS – In 1835, an assassination attempt was made against President Andrew Jackson with two derringers. Obviously it didn’t work. What happened?





More News... and photos courtesy of John D'Allaird!



The 'Net Raising' with Art Erbe, Dan Wright, Tom Duclos, Ray Philips and Steve Watykus in his bucket wrapping it up at day's end!



'York' raking skeet field with Randy...



... having way too much fun!

The steel donated to the club by Cambridge Valley Machining has proven a valuable asset for OR&G. The stack was traded for two rifle range backstop sleds and the removal of all leftover materials which was bought by the fabricator for \$500.00! Great deal, a win/win situation: the club gets two very needed, professionally designed and fabricated backstop sleds, the \$500.00 and removal of left over material- a couple tons or more- which will now be put to good use, and the fabricator gets the remainder of the materials for much less than the cost of the steel new- the very definition of a symbiotic relationship. Keep a lookout for the sleds to be put in place later this fall.

The Hunter Safety Course was successful with some new and even young people now ready to enter the ‘field’ of play. Thanks to John Wiley, Mark Mahoney and George Sigut for their effort. The recruits have had the very best training possible under their care. See a couple pics below.



John W. showing students how to cross a fence with a firearm and Mark M. and George S. showing proper field use of a shotgun.