

OWLKILL ROD & GUN CLUB

July 2019



President: Bret Seiler

Vice Pres.: Ray Phillips

Board of Directors: John D'Allaird (Chairman), David Langlois, Mark Mahoney, Phil Couch, Heath MacNeil

Treas.: Randy Burgoyne

Secretary: Tom Duclos

Please note our new website address: www.owlkillrod-gunclub.org

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

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

President's Comments:

First off I want to say happy 4th of July to everyone and I hope you all had a fun and safe holiday weekend. Next I would like to talk to you about our Silhouette shoots that we have at our club every month. For those that have come to shoot at these informal matches know just how much of a great time you can have just shooting a .22LR. In the past couple years the attendance has fallen off on these Saturdays and I'm afraid that if more people don't start to show up and shoot, then it won't be worth the range officers coming to open up the range anymore. It is a lot of work to pull out and set up all these little steel targets to only have a couple people to show up to shoot.

For those of you that are unfamiliar with small bore silhouette, I'll explain it quickly. You shoot small steel animals at four different distances. The animals look like the steel silhouette targets found at fair shooting galleries. There is a chicken, pig, turkey and ram silhouette. The distances are 40, 60, 77, 100 yards and you shoot offhand standing up in the rifle shack. Normally everyone throws in a couple dollars and there are some prizes for the winner. I know that people are busy during the summertime, myself included and I haven't made it to a silhouette shoot for a while but I am going to make an effort to attend them from now on.

When I first joined the club I basically only shot bigger rifles on at the 100 and 200 yard backers. I hardly shot my .22LR's at all. Then I heard about the silhouette shoots that were going on and decided to check it out. At my first silhouette shoot I think I had more fun than I've ever had at a gun range before. I'm not saying I shot very well but it was so much fun to pull the trigger and hear those little steel targets make that "plink" sound when you scored a hit. It is also a great way to learn to shoot more accurately, learn how to control your breathing, and just firearm safety and handling in general. It is also a great way to meet other members of the club. I first went there hardly knowing anyone and everyone was welcoming and taught me a lot. Sometimes you'll shoot well and sometimes you won't, but I guarantee that you will always have a good time. Please if you're looking for something to do on a Saturday towards the end of each month consider going to a silhouette shoot at our club. .22lr ammo is cheap compared to blasting away with a large caliber rifle and I know if you just try it you'll have just as much fun. I don't want to see this program go by the wayside.

Bret Seiler

President, Owlkill Rod & Gun Club



EDITOR'S COLUMN

I want to give my thanks to the Board for supporting a shooting event being held at the Club on Sunday, July 14, by Scottish Rite Masons including members of local Lodges in Cambridge and Greenwich. These opportunities to support our local communities are priceless for the Club – it entrenches the Owlkill as part of the local community, it gets our name out there, and it also gives us more avenues for gaining membership for the Club. This event, just like the golf tournaments that Bret Seiler set up at Dutchhaven to support 4-H shooting sports make me even prouder to be a member of our organization. While we are not designed specifically as a “community organization,” the fact is that in a small rural area, we all treat the local community as if we have a stake in it – because we do. Let’s keep up the great work!

See you out at the range!

Lance Allen Wang, Editor



WEBSITE

Our website www.owlkillrod-gunclub.org has been revised and updated.

We’re looking for more pictures of people utilizing the different areas of the club. If you have some that you feel would be appropriate please send them to Jeff Richards twinsfather.jeff@gmail.com

Jeff Richards



TRIVIA

Now let’s dive into last month’s questions... the topics were Founding Fathers, Firearms, and the US Marine Corps.

1. Founding Fathers of the United States for three points. The first to use the term “Founding Fathers” was future President Warren G. Harding in 1916. Prior to that, they were referred to as “the Fathers.” Historian Richard Morris identified seven Founding Fathers in 1973. Can you name them?

The seven founding fathers were – John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, John Jay, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and George Washington.



This “Committee of Five” developed the Declaration of Independence and presented it to Congress – John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman, and Robert Livingston. But there are seven founding fathers.

2. For two points: In 1854 the “key gun” was invented to assist jailers should they need rapid self-defense ability. What was the “key gun”?

Exactly what it sounds like – it was a jailer’s key that was also a gun. Originally they were designed that the jailer would touch it off with a lit cigar. Later they were designed with small triggers, which made them much more dangerous to a guard were he to be overpowered... this is another one where I would tell the inventor – “Great initiative! Poor judgment though....”

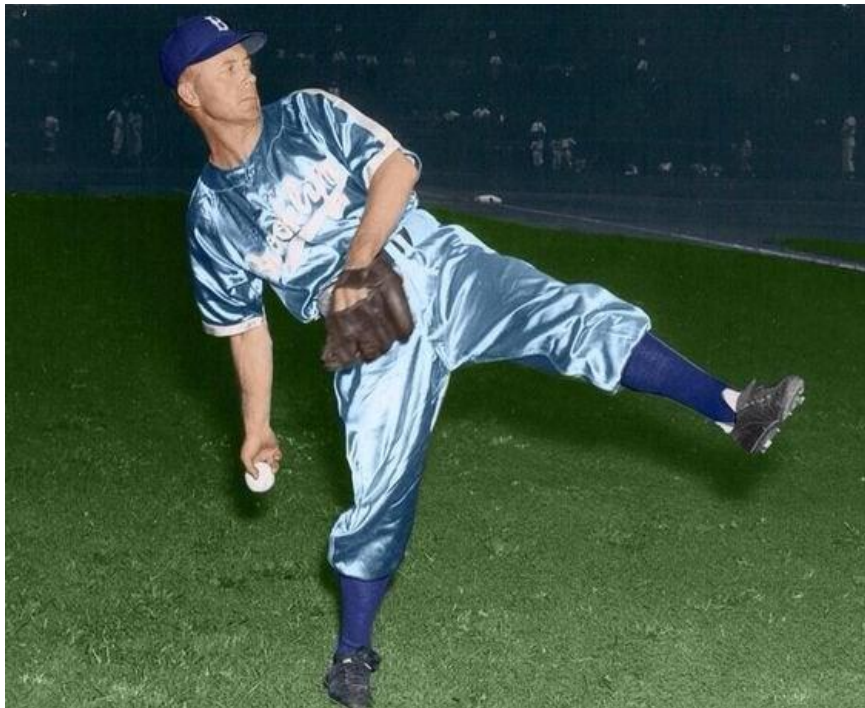


3. For one point: The Marine Corps was formed by act of the Continental Congress on November 10, 1775. Within approximately 90 days, the Marines conducted their first amphibious combat landing. Where did they land, and what was the objective?

In 1776, the Continental Marines landed in the Bahamas at Nassau for a raid to seize gunpowder and munitions. They seized their initial objective, Fort Montagu in Nassau Harbor, but Nassau’s governor loaded his munitions onto ships which slipped away to St. Augustine that night.

Okay, moving on to this month’s questions – veterans and baseball, the machine gun, and small game hunting.

For two points, this native of Salem NY pitched for the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1944 for one game. He was also an artilleryman awarded the Purple Heart during the Italian Campaign in 1943-44. Who was he?



In 1944, the Brooklyn Dodgers tried a satin uniform to replace the heavy wool ones (the military needed cotton and wool). It didn't take. They also tried a pitcher, just back from the war, who was a Salem Central School (Washington Academy) graduate. Unfortunately, he didn't take either.

For one point, this machine gun, sometimes called "Ma Deuce," entered service in 1933 and is still used in the US military as it was originally designed.



The US Army of 1933 (above) introduced a machine gun which is still used today

For three points – in New York, there are specific regulations as to the size of shot you can use when turkey hunting. What is the size range of allowable shot for turkey hunting?



You can't take him with just any old size shot... or can you?



WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR YOUR PICTURES, ARTICLES, AND INPUT FOR OUR NEWSLETTER! ANYTHING TO ADD? LET YOUR EDITOR KNOW!