

OWLKILL ROD & GUN CLUB

March 2020



President: Bret Seiler

Treasurer: Randy Burgoyne

Vice President: Ray Phillips

Secretary: Tom Duclos

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

Check in and see what's happening! www.owkillrod-gunclub.org

Monthly Meeting: This month's meeting will take place on Thursday, March 12th at 7:00p.m.

Board of Directors: Board of Directors meeting date – Tuesday, March 31st at 6:00p.m.

President's Comments:

Hello Everyone,

I know in my last month's message I talked about the Bennington Police Department using the club for their cold weather and night pistol training class and I just wanted to let everyone know how that went. I spent about six hours on both nights of the 17th and 18th with last month with the BPD and was very impressed with them. Chief Douscet really put his men and women through the paces and made the situation as life like as possible. They were very respectful of our facilities and just couldn't say enough nice things about our club. They are unable to use a gun club in Vermont to do their training because their club doesn't let them shoot after dark so they are very thankful that we will open our club for them. I was able to sell some of our gear and gun lotto tickets to them and I even had four of them ask me for applications to join the club. The Chief took a lot of amazing pictures and promised me he'd send them to me so as soon as I get them I will get them to Lance for the newsletter. Also if anyone reloads 9mm pistol rounds there will be a lot of brass around the pistol range if you want to take a look!!

As the weather starts to break and the temperatures start to climb as get closer to spring just keep in mind that the range traffic will increase. The safety light system that we trenched in last fall right before the weather turned is getting closer to being done. Don Capafranco is going to be finishing that up as the weather gets nicer and as the ground thaws we will be able to touch up the trench lines and tidy things up a bit. Please be careful crossing those trenches as some of them can be soft and I don't want anyone falling and hurting themselves while shooting skeet or just getting to the pistol or rifle shed. Don has worked very hard on this project and I can't thank him enough for the effort he has made to get this safety light system up and going. I've also been waiting for the ground to thaw enough to use a post hole digger to put a new backer out at the 200 yard berm. We are going to shoot it with two different range finders and get it as spot on as we can for you members who like to use that aspect of the range. I know I use the 200 yard range more than any other part of the club and I can't wait to have a good backer out there again.

I'm sure everyone is aware that this is the last month of the gear and gun lotto ticket sales and I just want to thank everyone who has sold tickets we really appreciate the effort. I know that we have more tickets out right now than in any of the previous years we ran this lotto so that is exciting. There is a few more at Ace Hardware store still available and our businesses that help sell them such as Bensons Restaurant and the

Cambridge grocery store still should have some available as well. If anyone has tickets that they would like to turn in you can come to the meeting this coming Thursday night or there will be times that Tom Duclos will be available to meet at the club some evenings before the end of the month.

Thank you,

Bret Seiler

President, Owlkill Rod & Gun Club



EDITOR'S COLUMN

I hope this note finds all well, and in good health (and if not that, at least good spirits). As the temperatures should peak out today at 62 degrees as I write this, I look towards the imminent return of warm weather with great anticipation! The Washington County hibernation season should be coming to an end for those of us who don't participate in winter sports, and we look forward to a return to the rifle range.

It will also return us to our projects as we continue to improve the club – to add the words of author Margaret Atwood, “In the Spring, at the end of the day, you should smell like dirt.” We always offer the opportunity for those who wish to live those words – if you wish to help with any of our projects or want to know more, talk to our club officers.

Lance Allen Wang, Editor



TRIVIA

Now let's dive into last month's questions... topics were – the American Civil War, the United States Flag, and pistols! And a salute to

1. For two points – Union General Ulysses Grant, was known to wear a common soldier's clothing, not particularly fond of all of the decorum and trappings of being a General. He also hated ceremonies and military music. He said he could only recognize two tunes. What were they?

General Grant said he could only recognize two tunes. As he described it, one was “Yankee Doodle.” The other wasn't.

2. For three points - The Pledge of Allegiance was first written in 1891 by a Mr. Francis Bellamy, a former New York minister who was trying to sell American flags to public schools to get subscriptions for the Youth's Companion magazine. The Pledge was accompanied by a salute, called the “Bellamy Salute,” which has long since been replaced by the hand over the heart. What could be considered odd (or perhaps alarming) about the Bellamy Salute?

The “Bellamy Salute,” which was taught in public schools for years, bore an uncanny resemblance to another salute which became a symbol of everything America stood against. Its use was discontinued in 1942.



Students give the “Bellamy Salute,” discontinued for obvious reasons in 1942

3. For one point - In 2017, the Army selected a replacement for the Beretta M9 (civilian 92FS) pistol, its standard pistol since 1985. What was the replacement, and what is its civilian model?

The Army replaced the Beretta M9 with the M17, a military version of the Sig Sauer P320 pistol.

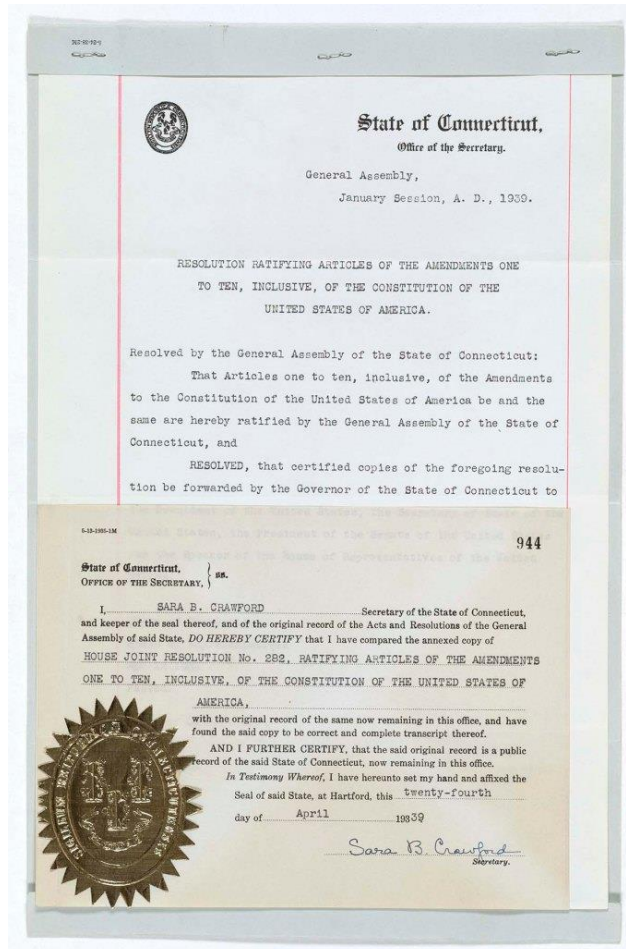


Okay, this month’s topics are: Veterans in government, Browning rifles, and the Bill of Rights.

1. For two points - In the history of the Senate, there have been seven Senators who were Medal of Honor awardees. Five for the Civil War, one for World War 2, and one for the Vietnam War. Who was the Vietnam awardee?

2. For one point – which of these firearms companies - Winchester, Ruger, Colt, Remington.- did John Moses Browning not work for during his career?

3. For three points – why did Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Georgia not finally ratify the Bill of Rights until 1939?



Connecticut's ratification of the Bill of Rights – dated April 24, 1939



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