

OWLKILL ROD & GUN CLUB

November 2019



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.owlkillrod-gunclub.org

Monthly Meeting: This month's meeting will take place on Thursday, November 14th at 7:00p.m.

Board of Directors: Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 26th** at **6:00p.m.**

President's Comments:

Hello Everyone,

I just have a couple things to touch on this month. The big project that is going on right now is the Range Light System. With this system there will be a light at each separate range along with the skeet field. When a range is in use the other lights will let shooters know this. We have seen similar systems at different clubs and they seem to work well. This past week I was able to get the trenching done while Don Capafranco and some of the High School Skeet shooters did the electrical work. With luck we will be able to complete the project soon and have the lights up and working. I would like to give a very big THANK YOU to Don Capafranco and everyone else helping on this project. I also want to remind everyone to be careful while walking around the grounds and around where we have just trenched in wire. There may be holes or rocks that can be tripping hazards. In the spring time I will spread seed and grow grass on the trench lines.

On a more somber note I would like to let everyone know that one of our members, John Sheaff has passed away. John was a great man and a great member who was involved in the club for many years. I remember the first club meeting I went to about seven years ago John was there and welcomed me. He was involved in the cabin fever event and club flea market, as well as doing our yearly audit with Randy Burgoyne. John was a school teacher as well as owning an antique shop north of town. John was also heavily involved with the Battle of Bennington battlefield and the reenactments that take place there. I have ordered flowers and they will be sent to his wife, Lois, from the club. John will be missed very much.

With deer season right around the corner the range has been quite a bit busier than normal so please keep that in mind. As we look back over this past season I would like to thank Charlie Kovage for all his hard work behind the scenes. For those who don't know Charlie is in charge of buildings and grounds. He is the one that makes sure we have someone to mow our lawn and plow our parking lot when it snows and even finds someone to service our furnace so we have heat in the winter so thank you again Charlie for everything you do!

Bret Seiler

President, Owlkill Rod & Gun Club



EDITOR'S COLUMN

I just want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the passing of John Sheaff, a member and good friend of the club. When I was President he was always encouraging and the first to support new ideas that he felt would advance the interest of the club. He was also very encouraging of the newsletter, and I appreciated his support. As this is Veterans Day weekend, I also do wish to point out that John was a former US Navy officer. A salute to you my friend – we will meet again.

Thanks to all who have been putting in efforts over the past couple of months to make improvements at the club. For those who have not been here in a while, you may not recognize some of the changes – the range safety lights going in, the new 200 yard target – but you may very well recognize others. The new siding on the clubhouse is going to improve our club's "curb appeal." Well done!

Lance Allen Wang, Editor



TRIVIA

Now let's dive into last month's questions... Topics were America at war in the 70s, pistol hunting, and the Supreme Court.

1. America at War in the 1970s for three points: During the 1970s, the United States and South Korean military executed a real-world operation called OPERATION PAUL BUNYAN in response to a significant provocation. What was the provocation?

Operation PAUL BUNYAN was a heavily armed expedition into the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) in 1976. On August 18, 1976, two US Army officers were part of a work party to trim a poplar tree in the Joint Security Area. The tree was obstructing the view between a checkpoint and one of its observation posts. A North Korean force attacked the US officers and their South Korean and American enlisted detail. The two American officers were killed. Although American forces increased readiness to DEFCON 3 after the North Korean attack, a restrained show of force was the primary response. A heavily reinforced US Rifle Company, with engineers equipped with chainsaws, returned to the Joint Security Area and removed the tree, a while seven Cobra attack helicopters and transport helicopters with another infantry company embarked circled behind them.



The remains of the poplar tree in the Joint Security Area of the Korean DMZ, eight years after OPERATION PAUL BUNYAN. A monument to those killed now stands at this location.

2. Pistol hunting for one point: In 2003, Smith and Wesson unveiled what would be the largest pistol hunting cartridge, suitable for everything in North America and African wild game. What was the cartridge?

The .500 S&W Magnum was designed as a handgun cartridge capable of taking all North American game, and be the most powerful production handgun cartridge to date. It succeeded on both counts!



.500 S&W Magnum compared to a .44 Magnum

3. The United States Supreme Court for two points: The oldest justice to serve on the Supreme Court served on the court for almost 30 years, retiring in 1932. He was also a thrice-wounded Civil War veteran who was a brevet Colonel at the war's end. Who was he?

Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. was an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the US from 1902-1932, serving as Acting Chief Justice briefly in 1930. He retired from the court at the age of 90, the oldest justice in the Court's history. During the Civil War, he served as an officer of the 20th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, eventually serving on the staff of VI Corps during the Battle of

the Wilderness. He was wounded at the Battle of Ball's Bluff, again at Antietam, and again at Chancellorsville.

OK, for this month, since it is Veterans Day weekend, I'm going to ask some questions about some famous veterans.

1. For 2 points - This famous photo was taken during the 1976 baseball season – a couple of protestors decided to burn a flag in the outfield during a game. The flag was rescued before the deed was done by one of the players in that game who happened to be a veteran. Who was the player, and what was his branch of service?



2. For 3 points - This famous actor had an extremely distinguished record during World War II, but also flew one mission as an observer during the Vietnam War.
3. For 1 point - Although his daughter would become infamous for her anti-war protests, this famous actor refused to serve in World War II by making films, he wanted to join the Navy and fight, saying “I don't want to be in a fake war in a studio.” He received the Bronze Star during his three years and an enlisted sailor and then officer.



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