



# Gunsmoke



Quarterly Newsletter of the Cheshire County Fish & Game Club, Inc.

## SUMMER 2015

### President's Message

- Michael Hagen -

The important vote we had on June 20, 2015 was one of our better attended general meetings. There was 83 memberships represented at the meeting, more than the minimum 10% needed to have a vote. (Keep in mind we have family memberships and each membership only gets one vote, so there were many more people in attendance.)



Mike Hagen

The final vote was 134 for the merger and 22 against. The other votes were received through absentee ballots. I would like to thank the Board of Directors and all of the volunteers who have worked so hard to make this possible and a special thanks to the By-Law Committee and the Nomination Committee for all their hard work.

So what does this all mean for the Members and where do we go from here? It will be business as usual in many ways. You will still come up to the club house on Saturdays, eat some of Jim Bob's famous food, and use the ranges for whatever shooting discipline you enjoy most. The Membership has done their part.

Now the Board will need to file the paperwork with the State of New Hampshire. This process can take some time, about a month and a half. After the paperwork is filed we will start negotiations with the City about property taxes.

Members will also see some new updates to our website. Mark Carey

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photo by Al Patnode

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## Family Day & Swap Meet = Fun for All!

- Lori Catozzi Cook-  
Family Day Coordinator

Family Day and the club's annual Swap Meet will take place on Saturday, August 1st from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Attendees will be able to shoot rifles, pistols, black powder, trap, and take a shot at a running deer target, among other activities, all at minimal cost. (See the back page for info on the Swap Meet.)

Grandparents... Bring the grandkids! Parents... Bring the entire family. The BB Gun and Archery events are free

and are perfect for tiny tots who aren't quite ready to handle a firearm.

Food and tickets for the various events will be provided for an entry fee of \$20. Door prizes are also part of the event, and there will be ice cream from the Walpole Creamery. "Ribby," from the Keene Swamp Bats, will be stopping by from 10 a.m. to noon.

The club could still use a few members to volunteer some time to make Family Day a success. Contact Lori Cook at [advertising@ccfandg.org](mailto:advertising@ccfandg.org), or call 603-852-0119.



2011 Family Day photos by Al Patnode.

## GM's Notes

- Larry Parker, Sr. -

Check our web site calendar for all activities, hours and scheduled events ([www.ccfandg.org](http://www.ccfandg.org)). 2015 has many scheduled activities. Watch for notes as we consolidate our web sites.

Thank you to all 83 members who attended the June 20th Member's Meeting at Stonewall Farm (and the 73 absentee voters too). The administrative proceedings for merger will take place over the next several weeks. A lot of work has gone into this transition so far and there are still several details to wrap up.

To help with this work, as well as everything else I do, we're looking to get a new laptop computer. The one I have is from 2007 and is about ready to die.

### 300 & 600 YARD ACTIVITIES

Be mindful of the long distance events on Thursdays and weekends. Remember that these events close the rest of the ranges. Both the 300 and

### MEMBERS ONLY PAGE

Log in on the club's web site (lower left hand corner of the page). In addition to the minutes are the Facilities Manager's and GM's Monthly Reports. Our 2014 and 2015 Budget summaries are on the page too. The user ID is "Member." PW is CCF&GXXXX. (The X's are the current year's gate combination.)

### CALENDAR CHANGES

Except for Training Classes, are coordinated through this office. Training Classes are entered by Sophie Chapman (313-5838 or [training@ccfandg.org](mailto:training@ccfandg.org)) Please help us keep the web sites up to date. If you see anything that should be updated or corrected, please let me know. You can contact me at the Club at 352-8563 or by email at [gm@ccfandg.org](mailto:gm@ccfandg.org).



photo by Al Patnode

## A Very Good Year for WOT

- Laurel Csenge -  
WOT Director

Our one and only *Women on Target* program this year went off on May 17th and a great time was had by all.

As usual, and I am not sure how, we had great weather... in the high 80's! Four of the WOT participants joined the club that day.

We have instructed over 900+ women through WOT in its 9+ years at CCF&G.

I want to expressly thank all of the volunteers, past and present, who have helped me run a very successful

program in the years I've directed the program. I could not have done it without you.

And on that note, I want to let everyone know this was my last WOT event as Director. I sincerely hope that someone else will step up to the plate and pick up where I'm leaving off. We need new volunteers and ideas to continue its growth and success.

I will be available to help anyone who wants to be the next director. Thanks again to everyone who's been involved with this wonderful effort.



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## Upcoming NRA Classes

### Why NRA Classes?

The NRA has put a lot of work into lobbying for our constitutional right to own firearms and continues to do so. They provide scholarships and grants to many organizations including some of our popular programs.

When you take an NRA class, not only are you learning from certified instructors with specific training in established, recognized, and proven curriculum, but you also help support the NRA and our programs. Certificates earned are recognized nationwide.

### Upcoming classes include:

#### **NRA Basic Pistol**

July 10th, 17th, & 24th Session –  
Instructor Dan Hackler

#### **NRA Personal Protection Inside the Home** (prerequisite NRA Basic Pistol)

July 20th, 22nd, & 25th Session –  
Instructors Sophie Chapman & Rick Fuller

Additional classes are added upon demand. Contact an instructor with your request!

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## Range Safety Report

- Larry Parker, Sr. -

We encourage members to seek out our RSO's and have them assist you when-ever needed. If an RSO is not able to answer your question they'll do their best to direct you to someone who can.

Volunteer Range Safety Officers will be out on the range Saturday and Sunday from mid morning through early afternoon.

If you would like help with a new firearm or even an old firearm's performance, contact the Club ([gm@ccfandg.org](mailto:gm@ccfandg.org) or 352-8563) to arrange a time when an RSO will be on the range so you can review the item with them.

If you would like to become a Range Safety Officer, contact Chief Range Safety Officer Jack Commerford, [selfdefense@ccfandg.org](mailto:selfdefense@ccfandg.org) to find out when the next RSO Class is scheduled. The plan is to hold an RSO Class at least once a year.

Remember, place your targets high enough on the ranges, especially the 100 yard Rifle Range, so that your bullets hit the impact berm--NOT the ground. We're looking at changing the berm system to prevent the possibility of projectiles escaping this range.

Thank you all for your efforts at making our facility a fun and safe place to shoot.

# Junior Rifle Team Update

- Larry Parker Sr. -

2015 Junior Sectional Match scores are posted. Our 3 Position and 4 Position scores put us 11th in 4-Position and 13th in 3-Position of 95 and 99 Teams respectively for our national ranking.

2015 NRA Sectional Matches results are posted at the web sites noted here: <http://competitions.nra.org/championship-results/nra-national-indoor-rifle-pistol-championships-results.aspx>

Here's our starting Gold and Silver Travel Teams for the 2015 - 2016 Match Season:  
Grace Hackler, Tobin Sanctuary, Lucas Maxfield, Lucas Beteau, Olivia Beteau, Hunter Lang, Aidan Bradley, Matt Bechard, Evie Proctor, Joey Wilson, Jeremiah Huntley, Noah Car, Rachel Brown, Natalie Davidson, Ashley Sprague and Darren Dumont. Our 2015-16 season will start up on Saturday September 12th.



THANK YOU to the Youth Shooting Sports Alliance again in 2015 for their generous support of 26,000 rounds of .22 caliber ammunition through their Grant Program.

Our NRA Foundation grant has been approved this year. Three Air rifles and 35,000 rounds of ammo received! They have given us outstanding support in the past.

AGAIN, A BIG THANK YOU to all our other 2014/2015 donors. They include: Youth Shooting Sports Alliance (YSSA), Federal Cartridge /CCI, the NRA Foundation, Steve Bittel of Bittel Financial Services, Al & Dan Warner (Warner Tool), Ted & Irene Sands, Bob Felock, Dave Swenson, Dan Shepardson, Victor Lawrence, Bill Tuttle, Vern Peterson, Fred Breton, Al Bertin, Chris Brown, Earl Nelson, Steve Goldsmith, Dave Fitts, Larry Parker Jr, Dennis O'Brien, Conn River Sportsmen's Club, Paul & Kathy Nikiforakis, Jay & Allison Davidson, Gene & Sharon Cleary, Al & Karen Giles, Mike Korpi, Keene Chrysler Dodge Jeep, Edson & Ginger DeAngelis, The Ryan Family of Alstead, Liz Henderson, Wayne Wheelock, Allison & John Solomonides, Tony Souza, and Eversource Energy

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

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## Jr. Rifle Team... from page 4

We are sending 4 shooters to Camp Perry in July for the NRA's Smallbore Camp and at the end of July we will be holding a Day Camp here at the range for the Junior Rifle Team. We sure could use some financial support for these two programs. Thank you to Jim Devine for getting that started.

Andrew Solomonides was just accepted to West Point and will be on their Army Black Knights rifle team. He reports at the end of June 2015.

Joe Bogar just graduated from West Point. He is ARMY 2Lt Bogar starting 19 weeks of officer training at Ft Leonard Wood, MO. His duty assignment after that will be with the 1st Brgd, 4th Infantry at Ft Carson, CO.

Alex Martin is a senior on the NC State Wolfpack rifle team. Tom Csenge continues in the US Army Reserve and the US Army's World Class Athlete Program at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs.

Capt John Nikiforakis is driving a tank around somewhere in the badlands. Wish him well!

Heather Greathouse is starting a family in Utah. Lacey Hamelin is attending college in the Springfield Mass area and was able to still participate with the Team for her last year as a 'junior'. Recruit (Joe) Nikiforakis is now a sophomore at Norwich University's ROTC Program. Lacey & Joe are shooting counselors at the Cape Cod Sea Camp this summer.

The adult smallbore rifle league for 2015 ended on March 27th. If you think you might be interested for next year, the Club has a couple of target rifles with scopes that can be signed out. Contact Larry Parker or Neil Jeneral if you'd like to try Smallbore rifle shooting. Email [smallbore@ccfandg.org](mailto:smallbore@ccfandg.org), [gm@ccfandg.org](mailto:gm@ccfandg.org) or [600yard@ccfandg.org](mailto:600yard@ccfandg.org).



photo by Al Patnode

## Trap & 5-Stand News

- Chuck Tatham -

Is it unusual to have two national-level champions at the same club? Not for CCF&G!

Everyone's favorite veterinarian, Dr. Chuck De Vinne, is one of the best sporting clay shooters in the country. (I'll have a list of some of his accomplishments in a future newsletter.)

And, as I write this, All-American Trap Shooter Mike Blaisdell is competing at the Pennsylvania State Trap Shoot. He is doing well and has won several prizes and titles.

Remember to try our Five Stand course on Saturday's at 10:00 a.m. The target presentations have been reset to keep things challenging. It's never too early to start practicing for bird season!

Also, come out on Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. for trap doubles. I do not know how much longer this will continue, but for now come give it a try. "Doubles are twice the fun."

Also, it is not too early to think about our Winter Trap League. If you would like to join a team or put together your own, please let me or Sally Alexander know.

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## Stop Boredom with Ladies Pistol

- Sophie Chapman -

Ladies, tired of shooting at bullseye targets? Looking for a day out with other women? Come chat and practice with us!

We get together the third Saturday of the month. Two sessions are offered where games and various courses of fire are presented to help you improve and maintain your skills! The first session is for those with more advanced skills, and the second session is for ladies with intermediate skills.

We even explore other shooting activities such as recreational pistol, bowling, and muzzleloaders (Thanks Kim and Jean!)

Certified instructors Rick and Sophie are available to answer your questions. Reservation is appreciated.

To receive our monthly mailing list or learn more about this activity, please contact Sophie Chapman at [mschapman@outlook.com](mailto:mschapman@outlook.com).



photo by Al Patnode

## Thinking Ahead to Winter



photo by Al Patnode

### We could save \$\$\$\$ with DIY plowing

- Larry Parker Sr. -

I know! We don't want to be thinking about this in July. However, we have been considering a change in winter maintenance.

We have been averaging about \$3,000 per year for winter maintenance by contracting the job out.

As an alternative, we believe we can cut that cost considerably if we do the

task ourselves. With our organization being totally non-profit, we could accept equipment for this that would be totally tax deductible for the donor.

The items needed would be a 4 wheel drive truck, plow and even a truck sander. If anyone has any of these items they could donate, please contact the general manager at 352-8563 or [gm@ccfandg.org](mailto:gm@ccfandg.org).

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## Membership Report

- Larry Parker, Sr. -

We recently sent out the 'final reminders' for membership renewals.

Our New Member Safety Video is available for viewing on the web site's Membership page.

I can take care of New Membership Applications & Orientations and Membership Renewals on weekdays during my office hours.

New members have the option of viewing the safety video on the website or when they come in to complete their application and pay their dues & orientation fee and tour the range.

A reminder for Active Military and 100% Disabled Members that you need to complete and submit a renewal application. These memberships are not renewed automatically.

We ended 2014 with 882 members. We are now at 785 members. Renewals for 2015 were 680.

My thanks to our Saturday Membership volunteers: Sandy Tatham, Ed Csenge, Jack Commerford, Kate & Rick Fuller, Mike Hagan & Jim Mountford.

If anyone would like to assist with Membership, please contact me at [gm@ccfandg.org](mailto:gm@ccfandg.org).

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## North Branch Bowmen

# Summer Archery Fun and the NH Field Championship

- Mike Wright & Dan Deyo -

The 3-D targets have been out on the course for some time now. There are 31 targets at varying distances. We ask that if you use the range that you help with target maintenance fees by putting a couple of bucks in the box in the pavilion so that we can keep upgrading our targets and equipment.

We hope to start getting a few new targets in the future for everyone to enjoy. We can only do that with the help from all of the members who use the range.

We have already had a couple of NH Bowmen shoots. In upcoming events, we have the NH Bowmen State Outdoor Field Championship August 15th & 16th at CCF&G. This shoot consists of a 28 target field round and a 28 target hunter round. You may shoot one or both days and we will take your best scores from each. You must be a current NFAA member to qualify for state champion awards, but guests are always welcome.

If you have never shot field archery before it is a mix of marked distance from 20 feet to 80 yards at varying size targets. The shoot-



photo by Al Patnode

er shoots four arrows per target for a possible total score of 560 points. This is excellent practice for both consistent shooting practice and judging distances in the field.

We gather at the range for practice Tuesday evenings (weather permitting). Although most of us use the practice butts in the parking lot, sometimes we will walk the course and shoot for score.

Whether you're a seasoned archer or beginner needing some help, or a seasoned archer that needs some help there is someone to shoot with and offer advice if you would like.

As we get closer to fall and hunting seasons please be reminded that Broadheads are NOT ALLOWED on any of the ranges as these cause serious risk when we are repairing targets. Additionally the material we use will not allow you to remove your broadhead from the target! We hope to have a target specifically for broadheads made soon.

We'll send out reminder emails for upcoming events for NH Bowmen. If you would like to be included in his mailing list please contact me at [newhampshirebowmen@yahoo.com](mailto:newhampshirebowmen@yahoo.com).



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## Sat. Lunch at Jim-Bob's Grill

Be sure to drop by the Clubhouse on any Saturday between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to have lunch at Jim-Bob's.

Five bucks will buy you a tasty lunch and a soft drink or coffee. And, there are lots of great folks to visit with.

See ya on the range!



## NRA LINK

Remember, when renewing your NRA membership or signing up a new member to the NRA, be sure to use our "Join NRA" link near the bottom of our home page on the web site.

Your support of the NRA is important in the preservation of our 2nd Amendment Rights.

For further details, contact Larry Parker, Sr. at the Club at 352-8563, or by email at gm@ccfandg.org

## President's Message... from page 1

has volunteered to take on the task. This is very exciting!

At the last Special meeting in January there were a lot of questions about what the club will have to offer for all the different shooting disciplines and the indoor range. In May, Mark Timney, Professor at Keene State College "and a great volunteer," conducted a survey with the help of his students, and asked the membership what was most important to them and their thought about an indoor range and if one should be built.

The results were overwhelmingly "yes". There is still a lot of work to be done in order to make this dream a reality.

The other important question in the survey was 'how do people use the club?' The answer was 'pistols.' We currently are working on building 3

more pistol bays and a 50 yard rifle/pistol training bay. This would ensure training classes will not interfere with normal day to day activities.

I hope new and existing members will consider volunteering some time to these projects. We are always looking for people to help, with building projects, membership sign up on Saturdays, RSO work on the weekends, and for special events like Woman on Target and Family day, among others.

There is no better way to contribute to society than volunteering. Members of our Foundation are leaders in the community keeping people safe through education.

I hope this has been informative and if you have any questions please don't hesitate to give me a call. My phone number is 603-313-2542.



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- ▮ Treat all firearms as if they are loaded.
- ▮ Never point a firearm at something you are not willing to destroy.
- ▮ Identify your target, and what is behind it.
- ▮ Keep your finger off the trigger till your sights are on the target.



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