



NOVEMBER 2017
GROTON SPORTSMEN'S CLUB
NEWSLETTER



Stonington Clubhouse

421 Al Harvey Road

Stonington, CT 06378-9512

Voluntown/North Stonington Clubhouse

237 Tom Wheeler Road

North Stonington, CT 06359

GSC Website: <http://www.grotonsportsmen.com>

Stonington Clubhouse

(860) 535-2077

Voluntown/North Stonington

(860) 599-5902

Newsletter Headlines

- ***Youth Deer Hunt November 4th***
- ***Invite Your Friends & Family to the Field Day November 19th!***

Greetings fellow members,

It is my sad duty to tell you we lost another member. Donald Walsh, life member, passed this summer. Don joined the Club in 1992. His contribution to the Club spanned many years which included serving on the Board of Directors as Financial Chairman. Don was a well known securities broker and was always willing to lend the Club his professional opinion on financial matters. He will be missed.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Member Dave Peikes who lost his wife JoAnn recently. Our condolences to Dave.

As was announced at this past general meeting long time Stonington Grounds Chairman Bud Brovero is retiring. He is passing the reigns over to Bob Folger. Bob's contact info will be listed on the Officers and Chairmans page. Bob, thanks for stepping up and tackling a big job! The Club gives a hearty thanks and job well done to Bud for his many years on the job! Happy retirement!

A few weeks ago the Women's Group met for the first time. The meeting was attended by a few members and the group discussed ideas for future meetings and activities. We look forward to the Committee updating us on future plans.

The big news is the surf and turf dinner put on by the Scholarship Chair Jeff Pollard! The dinner packed the room and all were treated to lobsters and steaks. A few ordered a surf and turf combo - and I do believe that most could not finish the meal! The food was great and the dinner a huge success for the fund. Jeff Pollard and family, as well as all the volunteers, deserve a well done from the Club.

This month we are continuing our Meet the Chairs section to help the Club to get to know our dedicated chairpersons and committees. Take a look at their snapshots and their respective committees. This is a great feature for newer members. If you would like to become more involved, please reach out to them directly as we are always looking for help and you can get in your work hours!

As a reminder the Club will be accepting donations for the Hurricane Harvey fund until November 8th. On that date the BOD will decide on the charitable vehicle to distribute the funds. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

See you around the Club

John Stevens

President GSC

The Chuck Chenette Scholarship Committee

The Chuck Chenette Scholarship committee put on a very successful fund raising dinner. Over 60 people enjoyed wonderful appetizers from homemade stuffed clams, shrimp cocktail, cheese and crackers with soup, and a veggie tray. For dinner there was NY sirloins or boiled lobsters. Some people had both! Numerous people donated prizes for a raffle, even a .410 from the Riley collection!

The Scholarship committee awarded seven scholarships to sons and daughters of members this year. We are already planning to have our annual fish fry during lent next year. Be on the look out for a notice in the newsletter. Thanks to all for the support!

Thanks, Jeff Pollard, Scholarship Committee

Game Committee News:



The Club's Upland Bird Hunting Season Is Underway

The Club's upland birds hunting season is underway. We stock pheasants Saturdays (except during the shotgun/rifle deer hunting season) and Sundays plus some holidays. We'll be stocking November 13th, for Veteran's Day. If you're interested in bird hunting but haven't visited our North Stonington/Voluntown property, give it a try.

As usual, members earn work hours by stocking our birds. Contact me (Ray Thiel, prmal@comcast.net if you want to help stock. You can also sign up to stock when you're available on the stocking schedule, which will be in the upland bird hunting log book in the North Stonington/Voluntown clubhouse. No experience necessary; I'll make sure that new stockers get teamed with an experienced person so you can learn the process.

Remember that all members using the property for any purpose during hunting season (September 15th through March 31st) must wear 400 square inches of hunter orange clothing above the waist AND an orange hat. Archery hunters must wear orange moving to and from their stands.

Youth Deer Hunt November 4th

There will be a youth deer hunt held on the North Stonington/Voluntown property on November 4th. During this youth hunt **NO OTHER ACTIVITIES ARE ALLOWED ON THE PROPERTY**. Normal bird stocking will resume on November 5th.

There Are Still Openings for Our Youth Pheasant Hunt

There are still openings for our annual youth pheasant hunt. This hunt will be held on Sunday, December 3rd. The first 24 applicants will be accepted. Hunters must be no older than having turned 16 in 2017 and must have completed a hunter safety course. Contact Tim Millette (tdmillette@comcast.net or 860-376-4274) for more details and to sign up. A flier is attached in the digital newsletter.

We need lots of help to support this event. If you can spare a few hours we need help in the clubhouse with registration and food, we need people to be bird stockers and safety personnel in the field and we need dog handlers with pointing dogs to "guide" the young hunters. This is a fun way to earn your work hours. Contact Ray Thiel (prmal@comcast.net) and let me know what job you're interested in and what hours you're available.

Bird Dogs for Veterans Pheasant Hunt December 9 and 10, 2017

This year the Club will be holding a special pheasant hunt for veterans. This will be a 2-day event and will be run similar to our youth pheasant hunt. We'll need lots of help to be able to provide a quality experience to the veterans. We're going to run this event just like we do our youth pheasant hunt so we'll need help in the clubhouse with registration and food, we need people to be bird stockers and safety personnel in the field, and we need dog handlers with pointing dogs to "guide" the veterans. This is a great way to earn your work hours and to honor our military veterans. Contact Ray Thiel (prmal@comcast.net) and let me know what job you're interested in and what hours you're available.

There are 4 openings reserved for Club members who are veterans so if you're interested in participating, contact Mark McNeil ((860)460-5173, or fivemcneils@gmail.com) for more information.

A flier for this event is included in the digital newsletter.

Bird Hunters E-Mail Group

If you are interested in the Club's hunting programs or things going on on the Club's North Stonington/Voluntown property in general, you should join the GSC Bird Hunters e-mail group. This e-mail group has over 110 members. I use the e-mail group to make members aware of work hour opportunities on the North Stonington/Voluntown property, and I usually announce news to the e-mail group before it shows up in the Club's newsletter. I also use the e-mail group to make timely announcements concerning changes in bird stocking plans due to weather. If you want to be added to this e-mail group, send me an e-mail at prmal@comcast.net and you'll start getting all the up to date information.

Thanks and see you in the fields this fall.
Ray Thiel, Game Committee Chairman

Attention membership,

Effective **immediately** all dogs are prohibited from being in the kitchen area (**this means at all times**) as well as in the general meeting room when food is being served. This policy is to comply with Public Health Code Regulation 19-13-B42 (q)(1). I have enclosed a copy of the regulation for your perusal.



58. No live birds, turtles, other animals (except police guide dogs) (1 demerit)

a. No live birds or animals shall be allowed in any area used for the storage, preparation or serving of food, or for the cleaning or storage of utensils, or in toilet rooms, employees' dining rooms or areas, in vehicles used for transporting food, or in any other area or facility used in the conduct of foodservice establishment operations: Provided, That guide dogs OR ASSISTANCE DOGS accompanying blind, deaf, or mobility impaired persons AND DOGS ACCOMPANYING PERSONS TRAINING SUCH DOGS AS DEFINED PURSUANT TO THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES SECTIONS 46a-42, AND 46a-44, may be permitted in dining areas.

b. Birds and other pets sold in stores where food is also prepared for sale, must be physically separated from the food. Pet area should be exhausted outside the building.

Public Health Code Regulation 19-13-B42(q)(1)

References: 1962 USPHS Food Service Code Section F.5.d

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

John Stevens
President GSC

Meet your Committee Chairs

To help the club get to know our hard working club chairs we will be adding in notes from the Committee Members once in a while. This month meet Keith, Mike, Richard, Chris & Tom.

Keith Richards: Publicity Co-Chair Social Media

The Club's Facebook page is public, however only items approved by the Directors will be placed on this page. Any messages sent or requested items to share must be approved by the Directors of the Club. In addition to the public Facebook page, there is a private group which will be for members only. The group is linked to the Facebook page and is found by searching "Groton Sportsmen's Club Official Members Group." This will allow posting and sharing of information once a member is approved as a member of the club. Again, this page and the group are in their infancy stages and the Directors will review what is appropriate and set ground rules to be followed. Please have patience while I work with the Directors to meet the needs of the Club.

Facebook URL: <https://www.facebook.com/grotonsportsmenofficial/>

You can contact Keith by email krichards@omfd.org



Mike Kopycienski (Kopy): Indoor Range chairman

Hello I'm Mike Kopycienski (Kopy) currently your Indoor Range chairman and have been for about 12 or 13 years. I've been a club member for 20 years. I joined GSC after retiring from the U.S. Navy. Previously I was co-chairman of the Outdoor ranges with Greg Evans.

A lot of changes have been made on the Indoor Range in that time to include: Range overhead, Booth safety barriers, range sump and drainage system, range flooring, lighting upgrades, range steps, redesigned target holders, Range PA for pistol league and Ventilation upgrades. These are but a few of the upgrades that are most noticeable, but

the credit goes to range committee members for both the ideas and the manpower to accomplish the tasks. Members also help with the scheduled range cleanups the second Tuesday of each month at 6pm. Besides the general cleanup a lead reclamation project is ongoing. Our last recycling effort turned in nearly 2 ½ tons to a local scrapyards and returned \$980.00 to the club treasury. We are nearing another turn in.

Currently additional upgrades to the Ventilation system and a change to the heating system are in progress. When changes are completed the Startup and shutdown procedures will be revised and posted. Please don't forget the donation box when you bring guests. As always if you have questions, suggestions or discover a problem with the Indoor Range please contact me at GSCinrange@comcast.net or use phone number listed in newsletter.

Come out and try the facilities and have a Safe, fun time. You will probably see me at the monthly meetings and Sunday mornings for breakfast.

You can contact Kopy by email GSCinrange@comcast.net

Richard Giudice: Sunshine Committee

Here are my duties as the Chairmen of the Groton Sportsman's Club Sunshine Committee. They are, but not limited to: Acknowledge anyone primarily with a card that is passed around at the monthly membership meeting. I acknowledge any club member who had been hospitalized or injured, suffered a tragic loss, major milestone or achievement, gotten married, had a baby, retired from their job, or had any other significant or joyous occasion. I sometimes will make donations from my budget for worthy occasions on behalf of the club. Any questions, please feel free to call (401) 741-2148 or email rgg427@cox.net

Chris Marquette & Tom Phelps: Chairmen Outdoor Range Committee

Stonington Ranges:

- 100 Yard Rifle Range
- 200/300 Yard Rifle Range
- 50 Yard Multi-Purpose Range
- E. Spear Combat Range
- .22 / Muzzle Loader (Biathlon) Range

Responsibilities: Our job is to monitor range usage, ensure range safety, maintain target berms & associated steel targets, maintain range structures. We also coordinate range work parties for major clean-ups and future upgrades.

Range Conditions: Over the last several years the Outdoor Ranges have undergone major renovations regarding updated berms, safety barriers, permanent reactive targets and the installation of the 200/300 Yard Range walkway.

Range Future: Our goal is to provide members with a safe & enjoyable experience on all the outdoor ranges. Maintenance and range upgrades are ongoing and will continue to address each range on an as needed basis.

If you should have any questions feel free to call us: Tom Phelps (860) 376-5680 tpoutdoor@comcast.net or Chris Marquette (860) 694-8145 jingles373@yahoo.com

Donate to the victims of Hurricane Harvey

In the past, we, as a Club, have donated to charities when a natural disaster has struck. I would like to start a fund to donate to the victims of Hurricane Harvey. I have checked with Stewart, our treasurer, and he is on board and willing to track the donations. The Board will decide the appropriate charity to donate the proceeds to, but, please free to offer suggestions to legitimate charities. You may mail checks to the Club, drop them in the mailbox or safe in the meeting room or turn them in meeting night, just please put a note on the envelope Attn: Harvey Fund. Please make checks payable to Groton Sportsmen's Club.



Thank you in advance for your generosity,
John Stevens, President GSC

Field Day co-chair position open!

Wayne Carbone is looking for a Field Day co-chair. This person would assist Wayne with planning and executing the two Club field Days. Please contact Wayne if you are interested or have questions about the position. His contact info: 860.599.5504, or waynescarbone2gmail.com. Wayne also can be met at the Club's general meetings on the third Wednesday of the month. You may also contact John Stevens: 860.908.2626, or capitol1918@gmail.com. I can also be met at the Sunday breakfasts, skeet house Sunday mornings and at the General meeting.

From the Membership Directors

Please extend a warm welcome to our new members that joined the club on 10/18/17.

Charles J Rollins
Alexandra M Beverly
Raymond P Protano
Joseph G Kotfer
Paul S Natale
Joseph Spadaro
Everett E Tillinghast
Thomas H Quirk

Frank S Lombardi
Richard P Brouillette
Keith A Tubman
Thomas E Chernesky
Terence J Fedors
David Sitver

For Life Members

I hold the following Brass Life Membership Cards for the following members. Please see me on Sunday mornings or at the Club meetings to obtain your card. Cards are being ordered for Members that have recently achieved life membership status. If you are a Life member and would like a Brass Life Membership Card please contact Tom Barnhart.

Rober Bibber L-028
Van Brown L-906
Hamilton De Souza L-447
Mike Dzurnak L-845
Jeffrey Thomson L-129
Bruce R Smith L-302

Emery Nemeskay L-909
Roman Steblecki L-428
John Whittaker L-452
Durrell Rader L-904
Carl Kimmich L-903
Richard Romyns L-424

Access to the Club

We had to install a new Stonington Gate Controller this past month. It appears to be working well as I have not received any emails or calls stating that members have not been able to gain access into the club.

If you have problems with your key FOBs let me know by email or telephone call.

Contact Information

If you have recently moved, got a new phone number, or have a new email address you need to inform membership so that you can continue to get eblasts, newsletter and other pertinent information with regard to happenings around the club. You can send the information to the Club or to Tom Barnhart via email.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving and see you around the Club.

Tom Barnhart
Membership Co-Director.

Annual Food and Clothing Drive

GSC has started the annual food and clothing drive to benefit the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center. Please bring dry and canned food items and clothing to the club. Please bag these and leave them in the meeting room near the TV.

Web Links for Pro-Sportsmen Organizations

The following web links are being provided to make it easier for our members to support these organizations by joining or making donations so that they can continue the battle to maintain sportsmen's rights.

Jim MacKenzie has signed up to be an NRA recruiter for the convenience of the membership. Members joining the NRA for the first time through Jim will receive a discount relative to the normal NRA membership cost. Jim will be available by email: kelticmac69@yahoo.com or most Sundays from about 10:30 till about 12:00 at the skeet warm up house.

National Rifle Association Membership <http://membership.nrahq.org/default.asp>

Connecticut Citizens Defense League www.ccdl.us

National Shooting Sports Foundation www.nssf.org

TO PROTECT THE FUTURE OF OUR CLUB, PLEASE KEEP FIREARMS SAFETY IN MIND AT ALL TIMES!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS (VERIFY DATES AND TIMES BEFORE YOU GO)		
EVENT	EVENT DATE	CONTACT / INFORMATION
GSC General Membership Meeting	Third Wednesday - 7:30 pm	Club Officers
GSC Board of Directors Meeting	Second Wednesday - 7:00 pm	Club Officers and Board Members
Indoor range work party	6pm Second Tuesday of Every month	Mike Kopycienski (860) 536-2541
Sunday Breakfasts	Every Sunday 7:00 - 8:30 am	Susan Pollock (860) 329-6046 Susan.dolce@snet.net
Tuesday Night Trap	Tuesdays – 5:00 pm	Bill Vorra (860) 535-1037 billvorra@yahoo.com
Youth Deer Hunt	November 4, 2017	Held at the North Stonington/ Voluntown Property Ray Thiel, 860-564-2443 or prmal@comcast.net
Youth Pheasant Hunt On The North Stonington/Voluntown Property	December 3, 2017	Tim Milette, (860)376-4274 tdmilette@comcast.net
Bird Dogs For Veterans On The North Stonington/Voluntown Property	December 9 & 10, 2017	Mark McNeil, (860)460-5173 fivemcneils@gmail.com

Contact Information For Club Officers And Committee Chairpersons

Officers:

President	John Stevens (860) 908-2626 capitol1918@gmail.com	
Vice President	Paul O'Neill (860) 599-3607 pfo06379@gmail.com	Michelle Marceau mmarceaugsc@gmail.com Membership
Secretary	Bob Butler (860) 625-1627 butler.nvb@gmail.com	Tom Barnhart (860) 961-7296 Directors nlsxu55@gmail.com
Treasurer	Stewart Pucci (401) 596-1926 stp@pgfcpa.com	Directors-at-Large Mike Riley, skeeta72@yahoo.com 401-596-1660 Bill Salisbury (401) 364-8949 billofarm@cox.net Frank Fox (860) 535-2787 fefox12@comcast.net
Financial Secretary	Bill Isabella (401) 792-0751 b.isabellagsc@cox.net	

Committee Chairmen:

Fish	Henry Thacher (401) 378-4312 stripnic@hotmail.com	N. Stonington House/Grounds	Bill Salisbury (401) 364-8949 billofarm@cox.net
Game	Ray Thiel (860) 564-2443 prma1@comcast.net	Skeet/Sporting Clays	Bill Vorra (860) 535-1037 billvorra@yahoo.com
Stonington House	Brian Kennedy (860) 867-7570 bkennedy145@comcast.net Peter Merritt (860) 536-0598 pkmer@webtv.net Todd Grace, 860.908.8661 Toddmgrace@gmail.com	Legislative Action	Warren Speh (860) 536-6640 sptsmnwgs@gmail.com Tom Maloney (860) 625-2412 maloneyta@comcast.net
Sunshine	Richard Giudice (401) 741-2148 rgg427@cox.net	Kitchen	Sue Pollock (860) 535-4767 susan.dolce@snet.net
Field Day	Wayne Carbone (860) 599-5504 waynescarbone@gmail.com	Outdoor Ranges	Tom Phelps (860) 376-5680 tpoutdoor@comcast.net Chris Marquette (860) 694-8145 jingles373@yahoo.com
Club Photographers	Nick Casiano, ncasiano@gmail.com Andy Bellinghieri, andy@accessaba.com		
Stonington Grounds	Bob Folger (860) 572-9131 folgerrl@gmail.com	500 Yd Range	Jack Discuillo (860) 608-6905 discuillo@att.net
Archery	Peter Trahan (860) 235-1082 gsc.archery@gmail.com	Indoor Range	Mike Kopycienski (860) 536-2541 GSCinrange@comcast.net
Scholarship	Jeff Pollard (860) 235-5714 jeffp1451@yahoo.com	Education/ Instruction	Mike Peterson (860) 443-5567 peter5@atlanticbb.net
Work Hours	Peter Davis (860) 535-2526 peterdavis314@comcast.net	Financial	Greg Thevenet (860) 448-2020 gthevenet@aol.com
Newsletter Coordinator	Mark Bevington (860) 861-2944 newsletter@grotonsportsmen.com	Club Publicity	Keith Richards (860) 449-3363 kwrichards6@comcast.net
Club Historian	Richard Taylor (860) 908-4637 richard.taylorjr1@gmail.com		
Club Apparel and Novelties (pins/license plates, etc)		Don Buchanan (401) 213-6183 or see Don at the club on Sunday mornings during breakfast or in the skeet house	



Groton Sportsmen's Club, Inc

Field Day

Place: Groton Sportsmen's Club, Inc., Stonington

Date: Sunday, November 19th, 2017

Time: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Nothing to do on Sunday ... Tired of watching those same ole' movies on TV ... Come on over, bring your friends, join the crowd, and have a good time.

Events Include:

5 Stand Sporting Clays

3 Stand Sporting Clays

Pepper Poppers

Falling Plates

300 Yard Gong Shoot

.410 Shoot (Pistol and Doubles) Archery

...and MORE!

Simulated Running Deer

Indoor Range Events

Lucky Square Target

Biathlon

Military Rifle

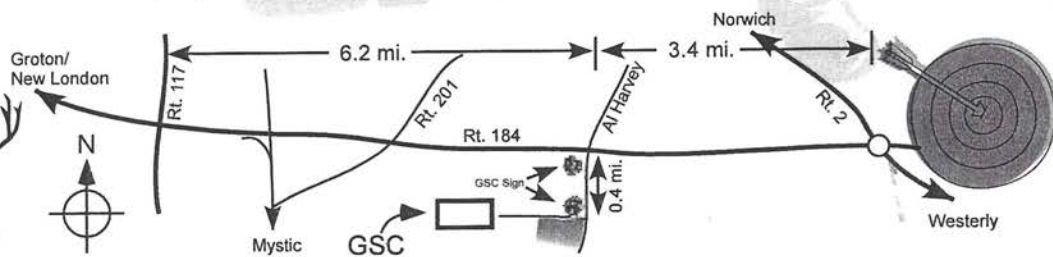
Turkeys to winners of each event.

Food will be available throughout the day (clam chowder, burgers, hot dogs, etc.)

Directions:

From Rt. 117 go East on Rt. 184 for 6.2 mi. Look for GSC overhead sign on right.
Take right onto Al Harvey Rd. Go 0.4 miles and turn right into GSC driveway (Hugh's Way).

From Rt. 2 go West on Rt. 184 for 3.4 mi. Look for GSC overhead sign on left.
Take left onto Al Harvey Rd. Go 0.4 miles and turn right into GSC driveway (Hugh's Way).





JUNIOR PHEASANT HUNTING DAY

Sponsored By The Groton Sportsmen's Club Inc.

Hunt with volunteer Sportsmen over a trained bird dog with handler.

Sunday, December 3, 2017

**At Groton Sportsmen's Club Voluntown/North Stonington Property
(237 Tom Wheeler Road, North Stonington, CT)**

Open to Graduates of the Connecticut Conservation Education/Firearms Safety Program or equivalent.
Kids at least 12 years old and no older than having turned 16 in 2017, and possessing a valid junior hunting license
are eligible.

CT Resident Game Bird Conservation Stamp NOT Needed

Applicants must sign up by contacting:

Tim Milette

(860)376-4274

tdmilette@comcast.net

You must provide the following information: Name, Address, City, State, Zip Code, Telephone Number, **AND your E-mail address (if you have one,)** Connecticut Conservation I.D. Number, Date of Birth, and your Preferred Hunting Session and Alternates (8 a.m. - 10 a.m.; 10 a.m. - 12 noon; 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.; 2.p.m. - 4 p.m.). **The first twenty-four applicants will be accepted.**

<mailto:PaulCurry@IName.COM>

Bird Dogs for Vets



Veterans hunt with volunteer Sportsman over a trained bird dog with handler

Saturday & Sunday, December 9 & 10, 2017

At Groton Sportsmen's Club Voluntown/North Stonington Property
(237 Tom Wheeler Road, North Stonington, CT)

There are openings reserved for Club members who are veterans to hunt in this event.
Contact Mark McNeil ((860)460-5173, or fivemcneils@gmail.com) for more information.