

NORTH SPORTSMAN'S CLUB

The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

By John Hudson-CSRO

THE GOOD: We have over 400 members in our Club to date and the majority are good shooters that follow the rules and enjoy our sport on a regular basis at the facility. They practice safe and responsible use of firearms and should be viewed as ambassadors of firearms use. Our ranges are class A facilities; well built, safe, and maintained regularly. The membership dues we pay are very reasonable for the quality of the facility. The money from the dues are re-invested into improvements and maintenance of the Club facilities.

THE BAD: Not everyone is in favor of gun clubs and shooting facilities; especially if they exist in an area where they live (in spite of the fact that the Clubs may have been in the area long before they chose to build their houses or move there). This segment of the population has a very negative view of firearms in general and are convinced that "gun nuts and commandos" inhabit the land behind the gates of every club and are a danger to the entire population in general. They have an on-going mission to rid the world of such dangers as assault rifles, commando training camps, lead filled toxic waste sites and gunpowder fueled maniacs running rampant amongst the "civilized population".

THE UGLY: Actions by a minority of our membership support the accusations and assumptions of those people described above. Some of these things may be unintentional, others are blatant and inexcusable. Some examples include violations of the Range Rules, (which are posted in the Range House and are sent to all Members with their Membership card). Specific examples include rapid fire sequences of more than 10 rounds without the specified 5 minute waiting period, shooting silhouette targets and leaving them posted on the range when you are finished, (if you want to

Club Officers

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Sgt At Arms: John Geis

Membership: Dorothy Merrill 315-698-0389

Board of Directors

Dick Merrill

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Don Wehrung

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Bill Benedict

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Greg Jones

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Visit us on the web at: <http://www.northsportsmansclub.net>

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shoot “man targets”, please remove them when you are finished shooting), shooting from in front of the firing line (223 rifle casings were found on the ground 25 yards in front of the 50 yard target line. This is not a combat range. All shooting will be done from firing points behind the firing line.), shooting of unauthorized firearms or ammo on the ranges (410 birdshot is still birdshot even if you shoot it from your pistol. Buckshot is a form of birdshot, shotguns, AR-15s and AK47s aren't handguns.), shooting at wildlife on the range (animals are not acceptable targets, not to mention, it's probably illegal) and unauthorized guests, (this is an insurance issue). I want to emphasize that these actions are being committed by a **MINORITY OF OUR MEMBERS**, but they unfortunately speak for and endanger the existence of our entire Club. Range rules and By-Laws were written to ensure a safe and enjoyable facility. Please follow the rules and extend common courtesy to your fellow shooters and our neighbors when on the range.

Range Maintenance

The 50 yard berm on the rifle range will be re-built. After extensive research was conducted, a more permanent solution was found that will help keep the berm more stable and assist in cutting down on yearly costs for purchasing dirt. A

timber crib of 8 x 8 inter locking beams will be constructed around the berm forming a solid back wall and wings. More timbers will span across the berm at different levels to help hold the dirt in place. A ramp built off of the back will allow for the addition of dirt when needed.

The re-construction will begin in mid-September and will take 1 to 2 days. During this time, the rifle range will be closed. If anyone can assist with this project, contact John Hudson at airboss2140@yahoo.com. Earth moving equipment such as a tractor, backhoe, dump truck or trailer would be a great help in completing the work in a shorter period of time.

Smile You're on Camera

The club will be purchasing eight security cameras to help improve the safety and security of the club grounds. They will be installed in late September or early October.

Summer Trap League Ends

A banquet was held on August 21st for the North Sportsman's trap team, signaling the end of the 2012 summer league competition. The team competed in 8 shoots against other northern zone clubs throughout the summer. A big thanks goes out to John Geiss for running the league as Captain and to everyone who helped to make this a successful season.

Quick Notes

Welcome to all of our new club members!

A big thanks goes out to **Henry Gass** for building the score keepers houses on the trap fields!

Congratulations to **Gary Rizzo** who is the 2012 NY State Runner Up in the State Singles Event at the Amateur Trap Assoc. Eastern Zone Championship held in July. He shot an awesome 196 out of 200 and during a shoot off to determine placings, he hit an impressive 75 out of 75 clays! Way to go Gary!

The 3D Archery range will close for the season, Sun. Sept. 23rd. The practice pit will remain opened.

Club Calendar

Sep 10th-Membership Meeting
7:30pm
Sep 24th-Board Meeting 7:30 pm
Oct 8th-Membership Meeting 7 pm
Oct 29th-Board Meeting 7 pm
Nov 12th-Membership Meeting 7pm
Nov 26th-Board Meeting 7 pm
Dec 10th-Membership Meeting
7pm
Dec-Board Meeting TBA

***Please remember, beginning in October thru the end of April, all meeting start times will be 7:00 PM sharp!**

Individual standings are as follows:

Award	Shooter	Score
1st Place	Gary Rizzo	96.750
2nd Place	Henry Gass	95.467
High Lady	Patricia Eline	82.462
High Jr.	Kyle Jones	87.500
Sub Jr.	Dave Barley	79.000

Congratulations to Greg Jones for shooting his first 25 on the Tuesday night league, Joe Dano for his first 25 on the Gander Mnt. league and Ron Golden for his first 25 on the Gander Mnt. and the ATA league.

For the big annual shoot off between the North and South zone leagues, the team for each zone was comprised of that zone's top five shooters. NSC's Gary Rizzo was a member of the North Zone team. The first round ended in a tie. On the second round, all shooters for the North shot perfect rounds (25 birds) which has only happened once before. The North Zone won the big shoot off!

Four hundred people attended the event. New York State currently has the biggest trap league in the United States and is 800 members and eleven teams strong.

Rifle Competition Results

Here are the results for the NSC .223 calibre competition that ran from Jul 14th-Jul 29th and the .223 calibre and above

competition that ran from Jul 14th-Aug 5th.

The competitions raised \$45.

.223

Short Range	100 Yards	150 Yards
Stanley Hodge	95	65
Paul Menjik	100	90

.223 and Above

Long Range	200 Yards	300 Yards
John Geiss	55	29
Stanley Hodge	32	31
Paul Menjik	95	60
Rick Sobel	85	75
Dave Talaga	100	100
Dave Tankersley	80	66

Practice Hunter Safety

The 2012 hunting season is quickly approaching. Many of us will take to the woods and fields, once again, in pursuit of small and large game.

Along with the hats, gloves, scent killers, flashlights, guns and bows, every hunter who will take to the trees, should be equipped with and wearing a hunter safety harness system.

At one time or another, we are all tempted to make an excuse for not wearing a safety harness: "I'll only be out for an hour or two", "I've been in that stand a thousand times", my safety vest is heavy and it's hot today", "my buddy knows where I am". Blah blah blah...

The fact is, accidents do happen, no matter how careful we are; and the outcome of these unplanned incidents depends upon our preparedness for them. Safety systems range in price from \$50-\$250. and are a lot less expensive than a hospital bill or even worse, a funeral.

Just as we practice gun and bow safety, we must also practice tree stand safety. So if you plan to "go up", wear your safety system. The life you save will be your own.

Good luck hunters. Enjoy your time in the great outdoors and be safe.

Archery League Results

A nice BBQ wrapped up the summer archery league. Here are the standings.

Award	Archers	Score
1st Place	Mike/Karen Fitzgerald	3,318
2nd Place	Art Heir/Tim Case	3,069
3rd Place	Bill/Cathy Alger	3,060
Youth-1st Place	Eric Davis	1,390
Youth-2nd Place	Nicole Brown	1,321

In 3rd place for the youth was our youngest archer, Lyndsey Brown. Since Lyndsey is just learning archery, her scores were not recorded. Great job everyone!