The annual Presidents day Shoot was accomplished this year in fine weather. Bright sunshine, nary a breeze, that was the order of the day...special orders from Chairperson Tony LaTorre. Although the crowd was small we had a super time; it’s too bad that we can’t garner more support for our efforts, from members new and old.

The Gun Show at the Polish Community Center was attended by several Club members, with a few dollars passing from our hands. Three days later a few members traveled to Ballston Spa for the monthly Sportsman’s Auction. A lot more dollars passed hands and we all came home with some goodies, firearms, etc. Tony’s friend is cornering the market on Model 94 Winchesters....I wish him all the luck in the world...it’s a great firearm, have several in my family. (Not for sale).

Take a day of less than 10 degrees in Voorheesville and swap it for a day of 82 degrees in Hollywood beach, Florida....what would you choose? You got it, it was fun and then back to the snow. March used to be a break-up month on the waterways and trapping season was a time of warmer temperatures and fast running streams. We always hoped for a slow melt, to keep the ponds and streams at a reasonable water level. Stepping in over your waders was not a fun thing to do. I miss those days on the trampoline with my Dad and brother and my buddy Gene. A lot of miles on snowshoes with a pack full of traps on your back. It was a super way to see new country and to read the tales of the tracks in the snow. I’m glad I have a number of pictures of our adventures, as Dad and Gene are gone now and I miss them each day.

Thanks to Steve Baker for his herculean efforts in keeping the Club parking lot open this Winter. It was a monumental job after the holidays and he deserves a lot of credit, in spite of having hip surgery. Steve and Tony are two individuals we can always count on when there’s a job to be done.

The Pistol League is fast drawing to a close at the end of March. The usual fine shooters are leading the parade, although the shooter numbers have declined as of late. Tony LaTorre deserves much kudos for his efforts in regard to the League. Hopefully next year ammo won’t be as hard to obtain and more shooters will join our ranks. The Banquet will be on April 21 at 7pm at the Township Tavern. Items will be ordered from the menu as in the past.

Our salute is to Neil Taber, who suffered a heart attack on March 3rd. It just happened to be on Dorothy’s birthday....some guys will do anything to get attention.

Lately I have been deluging my family members with pictures of old. Happily my Mom had a large number of negatives and my cousin steered me to a photo shop that could print the odd sizes. It’s been a blast invoking comments from cousins I have not seen in years.
Again in memory of **Ernie Walk** and **Dan Maikoff**......and to all of you who grew up without indoor plumbing.... “The well was dry beside the door, And so we went with pail and can, Across the fields behind the house, To seek the brook if still it ran, We ran as if to meet the moon, That slowly dawned behind the trees, The barren boughs without the leaves, Without the birds, without the breeze...” Brings back a lot of memories.

A few days of Spring-like warmth have finally suggested an end to this old fashioned Winter must be close at hand. Let’s hope that the below zero days are gone for the season....but maybe we shouldn’t put the snowshoes away just yet.

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The April Meeting will once again be the site of the Annual Sportsman’s Auction...bring all of your Sports related items to donate and your wallet to up those bids for a prize to bring home. In the past there have been some great pieces and with all the new members, we hope to find some really great deals to be donated.

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The Trap Season will open on the first Wednesday (4/1) evening in April. Kick-off time will be 6pm, with hopes of a warm, snow-free opening. The Outdoor Pistol League will open on April 6 and all interested parties should plan to be there at 6pm. These are **Tony LaTorres’** babies and we wish him successful seasons.

The Cabin Fever Shoot is on Sunday, March 22nd, from 10am-2pm. Bring your pistols, rifles and shotguns and have a great time. There will be prizes and food & refreshments will be available. Bring your favorite Turkey loads for shotgun events. No Trap Shooting this time.

Our “Energizer Bunny” **Tony LaTorre** has scheduled a Shotgun Course on April 18th, a Pistol Course on April 26th, a Trap Seminar on May 2nd and a Personal Protection (Indoor) Course on May 3rd. Please check your calendar for opening times. The Club Ranges will be closed to all others on those days. Turkey Hunting will continue on those days in May, as no shooting will take place outdoors until after noontime.

A Muzzleloader Seminar will take place on April 12th, lead by **Jamey Darrah**. Check your calendar for times.

Plan ahead, the Annual Club Banquet will be held on May 14th at the Settle Hill Banquet House. More details will follow in April’s newsletter. **Carol Whaley** will once again chair the event. Her number is 279-9446, if you wish to get a jump on signing-up.

There are reports of a large crowd at the Annual ACCA Ice Fishing Derby at Warner’s Lake in February. Everyone had a fine time and the local restaurant was the site of many a warm-up visit from the contestants. No report of number or size of fish taken, or how thick the ice was.

It’s hoped that the Outdoor Range benches will be provided with a new roof, sometime this Spring. A metal roof is proposed to replace the ragged fiberglass roof that now exists. It has been damaged over the years by hailstorms and heavy snow loads. Further info will be provided in the future, if anyone is interested in helping with the installation.

There will be a Pistol Safety Course at HR&G on May 8th, please call the Club (861-5302) to register early.