

Newsletter of the Helderberg Rod & Gun Club

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The RUFFED GROUSE.

March 2024



Helderberg Rod & Gun Club Game Dinner Sunday, April 28, 2024 1:00 pm – Eat at 1:30 pm Auction Immediately Following the Dinner

The Helderberg Rod & Gun Club Game Dinner will be held at the Club on **Sunday, April 28, 2024**. We will be starting at 1:00 pm and will begin eating at approximately 1:30 pm. Family members, guests and friends are welcome.

Please bring a favorite dish to share for about 35-40 people buffet style. It can be a game dish (venison, wild turkey, rabbit, pheasant, grouse), fish dish (fried or baked

fish, clam, or fish chowder) or other meat dish (turkey, ham, chicken, pork), entrée (scalloped potatoes, salt potatoes, lasagna, baked beans, mac & cheese), side dish (chili, soup), appetizers, or dessert. The club will provide table settings, salads, coffee, canned soda, and bottled water. You may bring your own alcoholic beverages or other bottled drinks. We will have electrical plug-ins for crock pots and warmers.

If you are planning to come to the dinner, please contact **Carol Whaley** or **Terry Morseman** to let us know how many are coming in your party and what food item(s) you would like to bring or ask what type of food may be needed. **Please contact Carol or Terry by April 21st** so we can have an approximate number of attendees to plan for table settings, etc.

Carol: (518) 279-9446 or (518) 858-4432 (c)

Terry: (518) 872-0450 or (518) 368-6119 (c)

As in past years, following the dinner, we will have an auction of **donated useful items** with the proceeds going to the Club's DEC Summer Youth Environmental Education Camp Fund. **Please bring items you would like to donate for the auction** with you to the dinner and some extra money for your auction tickets. Items you bring that are not won in the auction drawings must be taken back home with you. We always have an entertaining time with this auction, and it is for a great cause – sponsoring kids to summer environmental education camps.

The Game Dinner is always a great opportunity to get out for a cabin fever break. The food is delicious, and the company is fantastic. Come meet your fellow club members, their families, and friends, and have a great afternoon of feasting and entertainment. See you there!

Conservation Pledge

I pledge to protect and conserve the natural resources of America. I promise to educate future generations so they may become caretakers of our water, air, land, and wildlife.

2024 Sporter Rifle League- We opened a 10-week trial Sporter Rifle league this January. Sporter Rifle uses .22 caliber rifles to shoot at 3 1/4" targets at 50 feet. Rifles may be iron sighted or scoped. All shooting is done off-hand - no supports. It is a great indoor winter event. We had about 20 folks express initial interest and about a dozen folks shot for scores. There are two weeks left in the season.

Based on the interest and, even more so, the fun we plan on expanding the league to 15 weeks for next season. More information will be available in the fall.

Special thanks to Steve Baker and Jan Hornbach for volunteering their time to help qualify shooters for the indoor range.

2024 Trap League March Report- We had good attendance at our first two shoots of the year. Our New Year's Day shoot and our President's Day shoot had 20 folks combined and a total of 45 rounds were shot. We took in \$219.00 of which \$197.10 was deposited into the Trap Fund and \$21.90 was deposited into the Trap Equipment Fund. Our estimated "profit" was about \$88.

We have arranged to have a Pat Trap mechanic service our trap in April or May, and we have requested a quote from him for a wired voice release system.

Trap season will open officially on Wednesday, April 3rd at 6 pm. For anyone interested we plan on having a "competition" for high score. Basically, shooters will have to shoot a minimum of 10 Wednesdays and their 10 highest scores will count for the final average. Other details are still being worked out.

BKW Trap -The spring BKW Trap season will open with practice sessions on April 2nd and 9th with the league shoots to follow on Tuesday nights at 6 pm. The season will end with a fun shoot on May 28th.

DEC Camp Kids Sponsorship Approvals- Five youths (3 from the club and 2 from the BKW Conservation Club have been approved for the 2024 camp! Camp Pack Forest will have great HRGC representation this year! A special shout out to **our own Miss Reckner** who will not only be attending but will be assisting the program in leadership roles! This is what it is all about!
Congrats Teagan—well done!

New Large Caliber 200-yard Rifle league to begin this year—More info soon!

Register and VOTE—Election Day Tuesday, November 5, 2024. Is you candidate PRO 2A? We need to be sure!

Exciting and new!

In the month of May, we plan to have a “LearnAbout the League’s Day”—This will be a FUN time to learn more about the leagues the club has to offer. More info and dates to be determined, but this exciting concept will be a day where you can experience and learn about all the current (and maybe future hopeful) leagues that the club has to offer!

The mowers are service and ready for spring! We always need help maintaining the grounds through the seasons.

Stay tuned for scheduled workdays too! We have a lot of projects that we hope to achieve this year—and YES, the BRIDGE to the 200’ is still on the list!

April 2024

April Monday Nights – Outdoor Pistol Shooting @ 7 pm

April Tuesday Nights-BKW Youth Trap League @6PM

April Wednesday Nights – Trap Shooting @ 6:00 pm

April 4 Executive Meeting – 6:00 pm (Location TBD)

April 5 Armed woman of America 6pm-830pm

April 11 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm

April 28 Wild Game Dinner and Auction 1PM

May 2024

May Monday Nights – Outdoor Pistol Shooting @ 7 pm

May Tuesday Nights-BKW Youth Trap League @6PM

May Wednesday Nights – Trap Shooting @ 6:00 pm

May 3 Armed woman of America 6pm-830pm

TBA Pistol League Banquet

May 9 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm

May ? Last night for BKW Youth Trap-Make-up/Fun Shoot @ 6pm

June 2024

June	Monday Nights – Outdoor Pistol Shooting @ 7 pm
June	Wednesday Nights - Trap Shooting @ 6:00 pm
June 6	Executive Meeting – 6:00 pm
June 7	Armed woman of America 6pm-830pm
June 13	Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm
June 12	Charlie Fairman Memorial Trap Shoot (Rain date June 19)

Heard from the Floor- With the EC's overwhelming agreement, we will start sharing information on lead exposure. The seriousness of knowledge and precaution in this sport that we all love should be prominent!

Lead enters the body through inhalation or ingestion. Once in the bloodstream, lead can damage various organs and cause health problems.

Among many things, Ventilation Is KEY in the range, which is why the club put so much effort in the vent system and why it needs to be used faithfully when shooting and cleaning!

What else can I do?

- Wash hands and face thoroughly after shooting.

LEAD POISONING: SHOOTING RANGE EXPOSURE



Source: Seattletimes.com
Graphic: Mark Nowlin

- Avoid smoking and do not eat thus avoiding hand to mouth contamination.
- Keep beverage covered and contained.
- Change clothes as soon as possible.

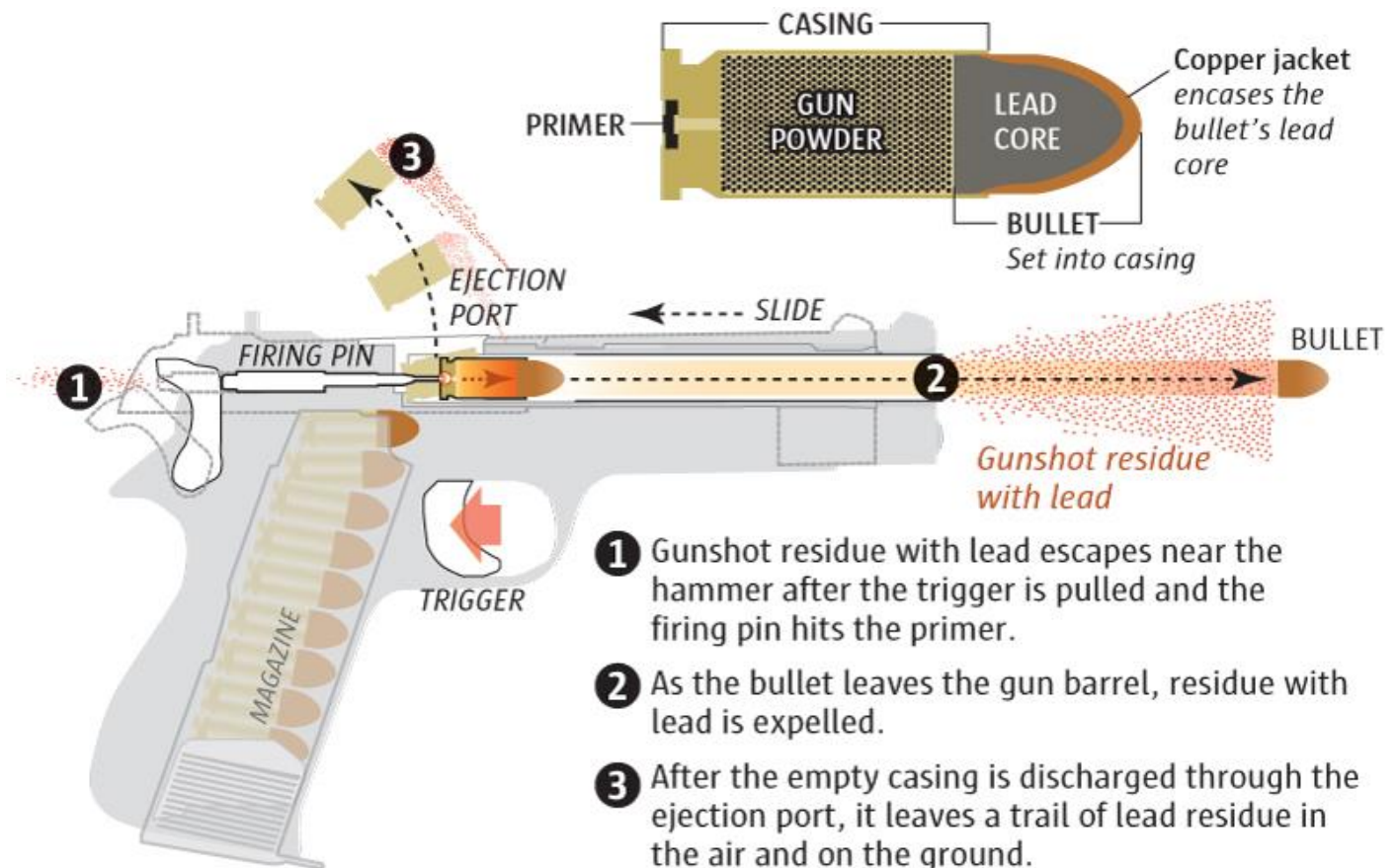


Photo Source: Seattletimes.com/gunranges Graphic: Mark Nowlin

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER! (more on this topic in upcoming issues)

Respectfully submitted: Eric Chamberlain, Secretary echambe4@nycap.rr.com