

Newsletter of the Helderberg Rod & Gun Club

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The RUFFED GROUSE.

November 2021

On 11/11/21 President Mike Hoffman called meeting to order at 7 PM with the pledge of allegiance and conservation pledge. There was so much to talk about this month so let's get started.

It is notable to mention we had a nice sized group with approximately 26 people present—12 of them being new prospective members. Oh, and CONGRATS to new member Ruth Pollard for winning our 50-50 drawing. YAY Ruth!!!

Treasury report was given as usual. Note that there is still 613 dollars earmarked for conversation camp. Money will be held as we are still unsure it will take place this year due to COVID. Mike Hoffman asked those present if this report as given was relevant. Answers were given that it needs to be part of the meeting and maybe shortened or summarized. Question from floor: Where are we compared to what is budgeted? Mike answered that dues cover expenses, and we are operating within budget.

Internet/phone is expensive, but necessary and we are limited to AT&T which seems to be our best option. Overall, we are not over budget but raising more funds would be helpful. That said we are actively looking for a fundraising committee!

Up in Smoke! The trap league concluded their 2021 season (where does the time go?) and we are



looking forward to our annual New Years Day trap shoot at 12 noon on January 1, 2022, and a Presidents Day shoot at noon on February 20, 2022. Let's see if we can get a great showing at these events and really kick off the 2022 season, which starts on Wednesday April 6, 2022. Come and see the many improvements the league has done and see the recently installed state of the art PAT Trap machine in action. Maybe even see a couple more perfect rounds as were accomplished by Steve Smith, Jerry Seyboth, and Bill Film this year. All are

welcome, shooters or not—the more the merrier! Contact the Club or Frank Fuss for more info.

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.

Pistol league has been meeting regularly and is considering looking at changing hours for the winter. More information soon. If interested in the pistol league, please contact the club.

Pistol safety class held last month had 9 people in attendance. Five of those people signed up online—We recognize more focus to having online information is needed and will be addressed in the future. April pistol safety course is in the process of being scheduled—more information to be announced soon.

Much going on with “Building and Grounds”. The Executive Committee is looking into some needed improvements for the safety and security of the property and the membership, including improved camera system and access controls. The roof is finally fixed and seems to be functioning well. The lady’s room is almost done, and the floor will soon be painted which should complete the project. Snow plowing this year will be the same as last year, we are fortunate to have a member clear the snow as needed and is donating this service at no cost to the club. This is awesome and a big savings—THANK YOU! The indoor range improvements are progressing—we need to do this right, and cost and time are a factor. Additionally, we are looking seriously at ways to allow the indoor and outdoor ranges at the same time. More on this soon!



Heard from the floor: It is difficult to use the 200-yard range due to difficulty crossing the creek. Is a bridge possible? This has been considered in the past as well as currently and is a legitimate issue. Mike Hoffman noted that this along with other projects are on a list being discussed and prioritized by the EC.

New Members with sponsors were approved this month. Please welcome Gino Serafini, Kevin Rogers, Ruth and Jim Pollard, and Jessica and Jason Wright to the club. We are glad you are here. We are still looking to approve more new members to fill any openings. More to come as the new membership drive progresses.



Southern Zone Rifle Opens! Season opens **November 20—The OUTDOOR Range is closed all day through 1/1/2022**. Good luck to all the hunters out there! Hope you fill that freezer! Did you know-hunters contribute nearly 40 tons of venison each year to needy families across the state? Visit <http://venisondonation.com/> for more information.

The club is considering changing the format of the monthly meetings to spark interest and potentially increase attendance. A possible proposal is to hold interactive or topical workshops/talks i.e., bullseye shooting, reloading, forestry. George Gebe also suggested fishing, boating, making lures, and black powder shooting. IDEAS ARE WELCOME! Contact the club with your thoughts. Additionally, for the club to move forward and to grow—we need more involvement, and we need your help! We are looking for

and need committee members. Sign up for one that you are interested in or suggest something new you would like to start.

Current committees seeking members are:

- Indoor Pistol League
- Membership Committee
- Trap League
- Archery
- Building and Grounds
- Forest Management
- Fundraising



Many hands make light work. The more people that get involved the more fun, informative, and successful the club will be. This is your club so let's make it better together!

HAVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Lastly, allow me to introduce myself—My name is Eric Chamberlain and I live right here in Knox, about a mile from the club with my wife Kayla. I was asked to step up for the club as Secretary and I humbly agreed. At the 11/4/21 Executive Committee meeting with a motion from Ray Haines and a second from Frank Fuss the motion passed and here I am writing my first newsletter! I have a lot to learn, and I hope to serve you and the club well. Thank you.

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



Do you know your club Officers?

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|----------------|-------------------|--|
| President | -Mike Hoffman | mhoffsixman@gmail.com |
| Vice president | -George Gebe | rfsgebe@yahoo.com |
| Treasurer | -John Whaley | whalemeet@aol.com |
| Secretary | -Eric Chamberlain | echambe4@nycap.rr.com |

Directors:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Frank Fuss | ffuss@nycap.rr.com |
| Gianluca Alonzi | gianlucaalonzi@gmail.com |
| Ray Haines | aussieshepmax@aol.com |
| Membership Chairman- John Parker | jrdaparker@gmail.com |

November 2021

Please Note:

Outdoor Firearm Ranges Closed Until 12:00 Noon November 1st thru November 19th

Outdoor Firearm & Archery Ranges Closed All Day November 20th thru December 21nd

SZ Muzzleloader/Archery Big Game (12/26-1/1) (Outdoor Ranges will be closed)

November Monday Nights - Pistol League @ 6:00 pm
November 2 Election Day (Remember Your Second Amendment Rights!)
November 6 Crossbow – Deer/Bear (11/6-11/19)
November 7 Southern Zone Big Game Hunting Crossbow Seasons Open – Deer & Bear
November 11 Veterans Day – Honor Our Veterans
November 11 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm
November 20 Southern Zone Big Game Hunting Firearms Seasons Open – Deer & Bear

December 2021

December 1 Last Day for Receipt of Membership Renewals / No Renewals After This Date
December Monday Nights - Pistol League @ 6:00 pm
December 2 Executive Meeting – 7:00 pm
December 9 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm
December 12 Last Day Southern Zone Big Game Regular Firearms Season
December 13 Southern Zone Big Game Late Muzzleloader Seasons Open – Deer & Bear
December 21 Last Day Southern Zone Big Game Late Muzzleloader Seasons
December 22 Outdoor Ranges Reopen for All-Day Shooting
December 26 SZ Muzzleloader/Archery Big Game (12/26-1/1) (**Outdoor Ranges will be closed**)

January 2022

January 1 New Year's Day Trap Shoot (tentative)
January Monday Nights - Pistol League @ 6:00 pm
January 13 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm (DEC Environmental Summer Camp Approvals)

February 2022

February Monday Nights - Pistol League @ 6:00 pm
February 3 Executive Meeting – 7:00 pm
February 10 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm
February 13 Presidents' Day Trap Shoot – Sunday - 12:00 noon (Tentative)