

Newsletter of the Helderberg Rod & Gun Club

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[www.helderbergrgc.org](http://www.helderbergrgc.org)



# *The RUFFED GROUSE.*

APRIL 2022

**It has been a busy few months** so much is going on—so much that I don't know where to start!

**The Executive Committee met on April 7-** There were **also** several members in attendance as we had Steve Baker and Matt Hoffman help us discuss on what to do with the indoor target traps. Steve led a committee that visited several other clubs researching different trap styles. Based on this research, it was voted unanimously to move forward with the project. The goal of these backstops is safety, using larger calibers, using jacketed ammo which will lower maintenance and offer a cleaner environment. The traps are currently being fabricated and seven traps will be ready for installation very soon. The installation will be a big project and we will need some help. Additionally, the lexan is being installed and the solid hardwood and hardware for the door covering has been purchased. This will greatly improve the functionality of the club. Funds were discussed and there is almost enough money in the range fund, work assessment fund, etc. that it could almost be paid for without denting our checking



**Outside-** The berm is being constructed to separate ranges. There is still work to be done but you can start to see what the future holds.

**Also, a big thanks to Bruce Lasher** for making the new casing buckets for the outdoor range. Please make use of them when picking up after range use.

At the membership meeting on April 14, George Gebe gave the **Pistol League report**. The league ran from September to March, and they found that members like a 7pm start time over 6—so looks like that will be adopted moving forward. Over this time the league took in 735 dollars through brass and the 11 total shooters with at least 5-6 shooters every week. The league will be holding their banquet at the Babbling Brook in Berne.

Also, at the meeting there was no opposition to the **implementation of the revised constitution/bylaws**. The motion was so carried and is now in effect. Copies will be available once the formatting is complete. It is a job where we are getting a professional to make it just right! Thank you to all the people that helped bring this project to completion. Additionally, it was brought to membership a motion to increase the **membership cap to 250** to allow us to bring in the folks that are on the wait list. After a brief discussion this motion also passed. The membership cap will be watched closely by the EC and can/will be raised or lowered as the need arises to control club use. Currently only about 30% of our members use the club—so raising it at this time will have little/no affect on how “busy” the club is. **We look forward to welcoming some more new members!**

**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.*



**After the meeting Frank Fuss gave an AWESOME presentation on reloading shotgun shells.** This was very informative and anyone that knows Frank it was also entertaining. Great job Frank and thank you for kicking off what we hope will be an ongoing club offering. **Do you or someone you know** have an interesting topic or skill that would make for one of these workshops? If so let us know.

**On April 15 and April 16, we hosted both a NYS Pistol Safety course and Hunters Ed.** We had several attendees for both! Also, a reminder the **Bow Safety course will be offered on May 14.** Thirteen of the 20 seats for this class are filled but there is still room for a few more. Visit our website for more information and links to the DEC website for registration. [www.helderbergcgc.org](http://www.helderbergcgc.org)



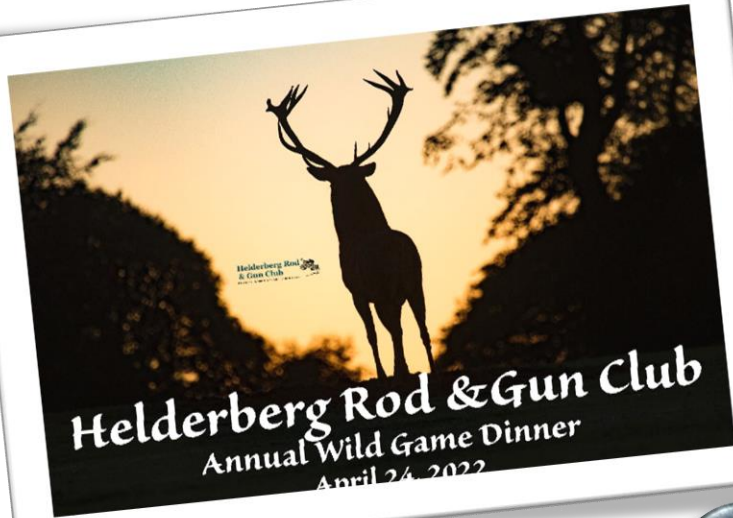
**We are getting set up for the LOGO wear.** A “Store” will be set up on the website where you will be able to order and pay in advance. Stay tuned for that as we will get that underway asap.

**GUN RAFFLE!** Five firearms have been purchased and we need to sell 250 raffle tickets at \$20 each. This is a great way to raise funds for the club and the winner might be you! We will announce as soon as we get the tickets from being printed.

**Trap league** started a couple weeks ago and is off to a BRILLIANT start! The new trap machine and lighting is really paying off. We are also still on track to host BKW trap league. Frank is planning an “orientation session” for students and their parents. More details on this as it unfolds. In the meantime, come on out on Wednesday nights starting at 6pm. All are welcome! New shooters are encouraged to come as there are many seasoned shooters to help coach you along!

**DEC CAMP!** HOORAY! We have 4 campers all registered and will be attending this year’s camp. We look forward to hearing from them later this year with their exciting report about all they did and learned.

**The process for the logging** is underway. Contract is signed and work will commence very soon. Watch for signs and range closures when there are men working in the range zones. We will do our best to limit the impact of range use. This benefits us both as conservationists as well as fiscally.



Contact Carol if you want to attend the Dinner on APRIL 24<sup>th</sup>. We haven't heard from many of you, so if you are interested let her know asap.

518-858-4432

See the website for more details.

THE GRASS is starting to green up—you know what that means! Mowing season is soon here! **We need your help** to maintain your club and the grounds. Many hands make light work—and BTW it is rumored that the crew has fun at the same time. Please consider helping. Contact us for details.



**Are you interested in being a range officer? Committee work? We have openings in several areas.**

Respectfully submitted: Eric Chamberlain, Secretary [echambe4@nycap.rr.com](mailto:echambe4@nycap.rr.com)

**Do you know your club Officers?**

President -Mike Hoffman [mhoffsixman@gmail.com](mailto:mhoffsixman@gmail.com)

Vice president -George Gebe [rfsggebe@yahoo.com](mailto:rfsggebe@yahoo.com)

Secretary -Eric Chamberlain [echambe4@nycap.rr.com](mailto:echambe4@nycap.rr.com)

Treasurer -John Whaley [whalemeet@aol.com](mailto:whalemeet@aol.com)

**Directors:**

Frank Fuss [ffuss@nycap.rr.com](mailto:ffuss@nycap.rr.com)

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Ray Haines [aussieshepmax@aol.com](mailto:aussieshepmax@aol.com)

Membership Chairman- John Parker [jrdaparker@gmail.com](mailto:jrdaparker@gmail.com)

### **April 2022**

- April Monday Nights – Outdoor Pistol Shooting @ 7:00 pm
- April Wednesday Nights – Trap Shooting @ 6:00 pm
- April 7 Executive Meeting – 7:00 pm
- April 14 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm (Shotgun Shell Reload workshop w/ Frank Fuss)
- April 15 NYS Pistol Safety Class
- April 16 Hunter Education Course 8AM-4PM
- April 24 ANNUAL WILD GAME DINNER - 1pm-4

### **May 2022**

- May Monday Nights – Outdoor Pistol Shooting @ 7:00 pm
- May Wednesday Nights – Trap Shooting @ 6:00 pm
- TBA Albany County Pistol Safety Class – 7:00 pm
- TBA Pistol League Banquet
- May 12 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm (Sportsmen’s Auction)
- May14 Bow Hunting Education- 8AM-4PM
- May TBA Annual Club Banquet – 6:00 pm (at ?)

### **June 2022**

- June Monday Nights – Outdoor Pistol Shooting @ 7:00 pm
- June Wednesday Nights - Trap Shooting @ 6:00 pm
- June 2 Executive Meeting – 7:00 pm (Approve Renewal Form, Approve New Member Application Form)
- June 9 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm
- June TBA-Charlie Fairman Memorial Trap Shoot

### **July 2022**

- July Monday Nights – Outdoor Pistol Shooting @ 6:00 pm
- July Wednesday Nights - Trap Shooting @ 6:00 pm
- July 14 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm
- TBA Hunter Education Course