

Newsletter of the Helderberg Rod & Gun Club

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# *The RUFFED GROUSE.*

January 2023

Greetings and Happy New Year—wow here it is another year for the HRGC Ruffed Grouse. We wish you the very best!

**Frank's Trap Report:** While trap season is still several months away, we held our Annual New Year's Day Trap Shoot. Again, the weather gods favored us with above freezing temperatures but some gustier winds at the start of the session. Fortunately, the winds slowed down as the day progressed.

We had a good turnout with 11 shooters and 27 rounds shot. Mike Galusha shot the first 25 of the year in round 3 and had the best overall score for the day with an outstanding 97/100. Several of us attempted to keep the pace, but we fell short. One third of the rounds shot were 20 or higher. Thanks to all the members and guests who supported us.

Our demented trap setter lowered the Pat Trap one notch from last season to throw a "flatter" target than the nice, loftier birds we threw last season. This didn't seem to do much on the first couple of rounds as the prevailing Knox tailwinds picked up several birds and certainly lofted them skyward. One veteran shooter did comment that he seemed to miss several birds by shooting over them. The trap will remain one notch lower until after the President's Day shoot after which a decision will be made as to whether to raise the trap or leave it set where it is.

Hopefully we'll have a pleasant day on Sunday, February 19th for our President's Day Trap Shoot. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us.

**DEC Camp\*:** Registration for the 2023 DEC Summer Camp season will open on Sunday, April 2, 2023, at 1:00 PM. Updates and changes can be found on the [Camps main web page](#) and on both [DEC's Facebook](#) and [Summer Camps' Facebook](#) pages.

**\*The Executive Committee of HRGC** will discuss adding to the camp funds for sponsorship at the February EC meeting—we also hope to put priority on youth that were scheduled to go last year and were unable due to the camps closures.



### *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.*

**Join us for the February membership meeting on February 9**—The lion’s share of this meeting will be a special guest, and he will be giving a talk and fielding some questions about the NYS Gun laws and “safe” act. Hopefully this will clear things up a bit as many of us struggle with knowing what is what, as it seemingly changes from week to week, law suit to law suit, newscast to newscast.

**HRGC member Philip Fouche'** has agreed to share with us his knowledge on the current status of the recently enacted gun laws that are regarded by many gun owners as quite confusing. Phil is affiliated with the New York State Police but will not be addressing our Club in his official capacity. Instead, he will be presenting and answering questions as a fellow Club member to provide important information intended to help us understand and comply with these new and still developing standards.

**INDOOR RANGE DEVELOPMENTS:** Well it seems like it has been a LONG time coming, but we have been doing extensive research and testing. We will be making another announcement at the February meeting along with some demonstrations on how everything will work. A very special thanks to the team of folks that worked on this live fire testing 100’s of rounds of many different kinds of ammo and calibers to come up with safe standards on allowable use. We are counting on you to strictly adhere to what is laid out in the policies, because a lot of research has been done for your safety. New cameras are installed, and the window coverings are complete so both ranges can now operate simultaneously.

**DEC Summer Camps are looking for staff at all positions for 2023!** Do you know someone who has a passion for working with and supporting youth in the outdoors? We'd love to hear from them! Applicants must meet minimum qualifications for a position to be considered. Details for minimum qualifications for all camp positions can be found at <https://www.dec.ny.gov/education/1869.html>. We are searching for qualified applicants for ALL positions.

- Directors (\$24.11/hour)
- Assistant Directors (\$21.12/hour)
- Health Directors (\$24.11/hour)
- Waterfront Directors (counselor with additional waterfront duties) (\$21.12/hour)
- Counselors (\$19.21/hour)
- Camp Aides 1 and 2 (\$14.63/hour and \$14.83/hour respectively)
- Cooks (\$19.27/hour)

If you or someone you know is interested in applying, please submit a **resume, cover letter, and unofficial transcript (Directors, Assistant Directors, Waterfront Directors, Counselors, and Camp Aides)** to [campemploy@dec.ny.gov](mailto:campemploy@dec.ny.gov). Applications are open and interviewing is occurring now until all positions are filled. Please send application materials via email (PDFs preferred). If you are unable to send by email, then use the address below:

Tom Shimalla, Camps Administrator  
NYSDEC Summer Camps, 2023 Staff Application  
625 Broadway, 3rd Floor  
Albany, NY 12233-5256

Please refer to the 2023 Summer Camp Certifications at the Employment at Education Camps [webpage](#). If you have any questions regarding the application process, please email us at [campemploy@dec.ny.gov](mailto:campemploy@dec.ny.gov) and we will be happy to assist you.

We look forward to reviewing your application!

**Who doesn't love a HENRY?**

Stay tuned for our next fundraising raffle! We are planning on running a series of raffles for **custom engraved** Henry Rifles of various calibers. This will be an exciting raffle for a sought after heirloom rifle.

**More information very soon!**  
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**We need to seriously unite** across

this State and the Country and HRGC has always suggested being involved in protecting our 2A rights. Our rights are under attack more and more every day. Meanwhile the unlawful are gaining traction with the same bus that is running over the lawful gun owners. If you are not already members of NY and National pro-firearm affiliations, it is in our collective interest to do so.

NRA- <https://home.nra.org/>

SCOPE- <https://www.scopeny2a.org/>

NYSRPA- <https://www.nysrpa.org/>

NYSCC- <https://nyscc.com/>

Consider membership or renewals to one or all these organizations—or at the very least be familiar with the issues that they advocate in their mission to preserve and protect our rights and promote lawful and safe firearm ownership, sports and self-protection. **United we Stand!**

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

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

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

**Directors:**

Gianluca Alonzi [gianlucaalonzi@gmail.com](mailto:gianlucaalonzi@gmail.com)

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

Michael Pagano [mjpcpo@gmail.com](mailto:mjpcpo@gmail.com)

Membership Chair- Ruth Pollard [rmsp52@yahoo.com](mailto:rmsp52@yahoo.com)

**February 2023**

February Monday Nights - Pistol League @ 6:30 pm  
February 2 Executive Meeting – 7:00 pm  
February 9 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm  
February 19 Presidents’ Day Trap Shoot – Sunday - 12:00 noon (Tentative)

**March 2023**

March Monday Nights - Pistol League @ 7 pm  
March 9 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm  
TBA Cabin Fever Shoot

**April 2023**

April Monday Nights – Outdoor Pistol Shooting @ 7 pm  
April Wednesday Nights – Trap Shooting @ 6:00 pm  
April 6 Executive Meeting – 7:00 pm  
April 13 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm

**May 2023**

May Monday Nights – Outdoor Pistol Shooting @ 7 pm  
May Wednesday Nights – Trap Shooting @ 6:00 pm  
TBA Pistol League Banquet  
May 11 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm  
May TBA Annual Club Banquet – 6:00 pm (at ?)

**June 2023**

June Monday Nights – Outdoor Pistol Shooting @ 7 pm  
June Wednesday Nights - Trap Shooting @ 6:00 pm  
June 1 Executive Meeting – 7:00 pm  
June 8 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm  
June 14 Charlie Fairman Memorial Trap Shoot (Rain date June 21)