

Newsletter of the Helderberg Rod & Gun Club

Box 151, Altamont, N.Y. 12009

(518) 861-5302

www.helderbergrgc.org



The RUFFED GROUSE

October 2023

How is it almost November already?

We had about 35 people attend the October meeting and were present for the raffle drawing!

HRGC's Fall Raffle winner!

Congratulations to Robert Zuckerberg Sr. on winning the HENRY!

Enjoy your new rifle!



On top of that we are all winners as all the money goes back into the improvement of the club. Fundraising is a necessary component to meet club needs and to keep our membership fees as low as possible. Stay tuned for future raffles!

Membership renewals are due, and the deadline is fast approaching. Log in to our website (if you have forgotten your password follow the prompts to reset it). You will see your invoice in your profile and can pay right online. We hope that you will renew, but if you are not renewing, please let us know and return your access card. We also have quite a few new members this year—WELCOME! If you have any questions just ask!

BKW Trap team: There are 11 students participating for the fall session. We have received several generous donations to support these youth and as a reminder if you wish to help them specifically there is a donation box on the wall in the club. 100% goes directly to the student's needs for this sport program.

BIG GAME HUNTING SEASON is fast approaching in the Southern Zone. We will continue the odd/even days for range closures except for opening weekend. The weekend of November 18 -19 we will close the ranges for BOTH Saturday the 18th and Sunday the 19th.

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.

The .22 Rifle League wrapped up this month and will start focusing on organizing for next season! If you are interested in being involved, please contact Jeremy Tryon ugadawgs90@gmail.com

The Budget passed by membership vote. The executive committee will work on adding lines for 50/50 income, leagues, etc. We do our best to ensure that what is available is a good snapshot of what is being done and where. Also, the ability to juggle as new things take priority over others as needs are always arising. We remain healthy financially amidst a whole lot of improvement and growth.

Once again, NYS DEC used our facility for training purposes and wanted to formally thank us as a club for doing this each year. Hosting groups and organizations is helpful to

"To conserve, improve and protect New York's natural resources and environment and to prevent, abate and control water, land and air pollution, in order to enhance the health, safety and welfare of the people of the state and their overall economic and social well-being."

build relationships and strong ties in the community. Most importantly is the fact that the mission of the DEC lines up with ours and we aim to continue working with these agencies.

Forest Management project is not getting off the ground. Prices for the types of wood we have available are very low and foresters are hesitant to take on a job of this small scale. Good news is because we have actively been making attempts to accomplish this, we will continue to reap the tax benefits. Work is continuing but there is nothing on the horizon for this project.

No conservation report or trap report given this month.

Do you know your club's Officers?

President -Mike Hoffman mhoffsixman@gmail.com

Vice president - Frank Fuss ffuss@nycap.rr.com

Secretary -Eric Chamberlain echambe4@nycap.rr.com

Treasurer-John Whaley whalemeet@aol.com

Directors:

Ray Haines aussieshepmax@aol.com

Michael Pagano mjpcpo@gmail.com

Jeremy Tryon ugadawgs90@gmail.com

Membership Director- Carolyn Reckner crreckner@gmail.com

New York's Forests at a Glance

New York Land Area: 30.2 million acres. State Population: 19.4 million

- New York State Forest area: 18.6 million acres, 61% of land area, about one acre per resident
- Publicly owned Forest land: at least 3.7 million acres
- Privately-owned forest land area: 14.4 million acres;
76% of forest land; owned by 687,000 landowners.
- Number of tree species: more than 100 commercial and non-commercial
- Most common forest type: maple/beech/birch (53% of forest land area)
- \$300 million in annual payments to private landowners
- 488 million board feet of logs
- 2.1 million green tons pulpwood and wood chips
- 25% of New York timber harvest is exported for processing
- Economic contribution of forest products-related manufacturing and services: \$14 billion (US Census)
- Forest-related tourism: \$1.9 billion



Why Forests are Important **Forests cover 31% of total global land area.**

- Forests are home to 300 million people around the world.
- Forests house 80% of our terrestrial biodiversity.
- The livelihood of over 1.6 billion people depends on forests.
- Approximately 60 million people, mainly members of indigenous and local communities, reside in forests.
- Forests store more than 1 trillion tons of carbon.
- Over 40% of the world's oxygen is produced by rainforests.
- More than 1/4 of modern medicines originate from tropical forest plants.
- 32.5 million acres (roughly the size of NY State) of forest continue to be lost worldwide per year.
- Deforestation accounts for 12 to 20% of the global greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change.
- The five most forest-rich countries (Russia, Brazil, Canada, United States of America, and China) account for more than half of the total forest area in the world.
- More than 60 million people are employed by forest-based industries. The annual value of wood removed from forests is estimated to be more than \$100 billion.

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/309.html>

Exercise your RIGHT and Responsibility to vote. <https://www.elections.ny.gov/>

November 2023

- - Please Note: Outdoor Firearm Ranges CLOSED on ODD days OPEN EVEN days Starting October 1st thru January 1, 2024

November Monday Nights - Pistol League @ 6:30 pm

November 4 Southern Zone Big Game Hunting Crossbow Seasons Open – Deer & Bear

November 7 Election Day (Remember Your Second Amendment Rights!)

November 11 Veterans Day – Honor Our Veterans

November 9 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm

November 18 Southern Zone Big Game Hunting Firearms Seasons Open – Deer & Bear **Outdoor Range Closed opening weekend 18 & 19 **OUTDOOR RANGE CLOSED!!!****

December 2023

- - Please Note: Outdoor Firearm Ranges CLOSED on ODD days OPEN EVEN days Starting October 1st thru January 1, 2024

December 1 Last Day for Receipt of Membership Renewals / No Renewals After This Date

December Monday Nights - Pistol League @ 6:30 pm

December 7 Executive Meeting – 6:00 pm

December 14 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm

December 11 Southern Zone Big Game Late Muzzleloader Seasons Open – Deer & Bear

January 2024

January 1 New Year's Day Trap Shoot (tentative)

January 2 Ranges Re-Open

January Monday Nights - Pistol League @ 7 pm

January 11 Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm (DEC Environmental Summer Camp Approvals)

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