



MARSHFIELD ROD & GUN CLUB Newsletter

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SPRING 2017

OF SPECIAL INTEREST:

The Officers and Board of Directors are concerned with the increase in safety violations.

When you fish Clark Pond, please remember that all Massachusetts fishing laws apply.

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Around the Ranges

John Barilaro

McCarron Indoor Range

Indoor range use has significantly increased. It has become a challenge to keep it clean. Please clean up after yourselves by picking up brass, targets and any debris coming off the targets. Leave the range better than when you came!

Outdoor Range

New gong stands have been installed, Thanks Jim McDonald and Chris Dicenso! Let's see how long these last! Hopefully Jim's new design will stand up.

Williams Archery Range

We are pleased with the use the Archery range has had through the winter. The condition is holding up nicely and regular maintenance will be done on cleanup day.

Craig Shotgun Field

Two new machines were purchased and are up and running. Next year we plan to budget for an additional two machines. This season we will be installing an irrigation system and landscaping.

From the Range Officer

John Barilaro

The Officers and Board of Directors are concerned with the increase in safety violations being observed on our ranges. Round count violations, people handling firearms while the warning lights are on and people not observing the warning lights and going down range. The rules are there for everyone's safety!

Recently there was a serious incident that cost someone their membership. The Officers and Board have been lenient as far as revoking memberships and has been giving warnings. The incident was such a gross series of violations that revoking a membership was warranted.

The member in question

brought two guests to the club. The three proceeded to set up bottles and pumpkins as targets. Our range rules are clear that target stands with paper targets are designed to prevent rounds from leaving the range. This violation alone might have just been a warning and probation to the member. Fortunately another member stopped these three before the illegal targets could be shot. While reviewing the camera recordings we witnessed very serious unsafe firearm handling that resulted in the membership loss. The three were seen handling handguns while people were down range and the warning lights were on. One individual was leaning on the bench while standing on the range side facing the park-

ing lot loading and racking a pistol. The member explained that this person was a guest. We stress that the member is responsible for their guests and their actions.

The Officers and BOD are here to protect our club. One individual or accident can affect the club's future. Our instructors have agreed to randomly stop by the ranges and offer coaching if they see a violation. We do not want this to be a confrontational situation. We want to just remind shooters to be safe and follow the rules. Remember you are always on camera. We may not see every violation but eventually you will be caught.

Hannah & Maeve Biviano



“...see you in June 2017!”

“...all you need is a .22 caliber pistol and the desire to learn and improve”

2016 Kids’ Fishing Derby

Steve Prouty

A forecast of isolated thunderstorms and heavy down pours for June 5th 2016 caused MRGC to postpone the annual Kids Fishing Derby to June 12th 2016. We ended up with a beautiful warm spring day. Several families entered comprising a total of 52 children all trying to catch the largest trout and take first place. I believe samples of all species in Clark Pond were caught. Eels, Sunfish, Crappies, Pickerel, and of course Large Mouth Bass and Trout were the highlights.

Collin Derby, the youngest fisher took First Place with his 2 pound 2 ounce rainbow trout. Congratulations to Collin! Special thanks go to Ray and Mark Gajewski for their fine grill work; Brian MacFee for the announcements and photos; George Thibeault for controlling the traffic; Kim Derby for managing the fish board; Trish Reilly handling sign ups; and Steve Trindall on the scales. We had many other volunteers who wore many hats to keep the day flawless. Thank you to Russ

Davenport, John Adams, Jim Aiu, Carl Campagna, Joe McDonald and James and Matt Santaniello for all of your contributions. I apologize for any volunteers who I did not mention. A special thank you goes out to Belsan’s Bait & Tackle for providing the worms. Sixteen prizes were handed out and the day ended with many smiles. Thank you to all and see you in June 2017!



2016 Winner—Collin Derby



Derby kids and helpers

Bullseye Pistol

Bernie Patriacca

Bullseye is a shooting discipline in which competitors shoot handguns, using only a one-handed grip, at fixed distances with varying time limits based on the paper target.

This year was our team’s most successful season where we finished with a

14-7 record. The team is comprised of about 18 active shooters who are more than willing to help any and all newcomers. For league matches, all you need is a .22 caliber pistol and the desire to learn and improve. The success that we had this year was a direct result of several of our new team

members. We have a summer schedule that will be announced shortly once the league sets the dates. This summer league is less formal and all the matches are shot at our range, no travel involved. So watch the weekly email for updates on the summer schedule.

Help preserve and defend our Second Amendment rights. If not a member, please join:



Clark Pond

Steve Prouty

Clark Pond was stocked in December with the hopes of an ice fishing derby. Yet again, Mother Nature was against us when it came to providing safe ice. The pond is now open for all to enjoy and will be restocked at a later date for our Annual Kids Fishing Derby on June 4th . This year we are not

going to close the pond before the Derby so members can fish over Memorial Day weekend. Please remember that all Massachusetts fishing laws apply, so you may want to review those laws before fishing. Enjoy one of MRGC's assets and come for a picnic even if you don't fish! Last summer we had a drought

and the pond was down 6-7 feet. Water temperature was no doubt elevated. I know this put a lot of stress on the fish! So, if you fish this summer, I would like to know what you catch. Please email me at sdprouty@hotmail.com if you wish. Your comments are always welcome.



Plymouth County League

Jason Zimmer

On Wednesday, February 15, the Marshfield Rod & Gun Club hosted the monthly meeting of the Plymouth County League of Sportsmen. Volunteers from MRGC worked to set up the hall for the meeting, provided dinner, dessert and coffee and welcomed the PCL to Marshfield. The Plymouth County League was established in 1927 to promote the conservation, restoration and management of fish, game and other wildlife and their habitat in Plymouth County, to seek to procure bet-

ter hunting and fishing access and opportunities for sportsmen and women, to promote and maintain friendly relations between landowners and sportsmen, to cooperate in obtaining proper respect for and observance of fish and game laws and to keep member clubs apprised of issues that affect gun owners and sportsmen and sportswomen in Massachusetts so that they may be proactive in fighting for their rights. The PCL consists of delegates from 19 rod & gun clubs throughout Plymouth

County. They meet on the third Wednesday of each month, rotating among the various member organizations. Their annual banquet was held on April 8th, 2017 at the Monponsett Inn. For more information on the Plymouth County League, go to their website at <http://www.plymouthcountyleagueofsportsmen.com/>



Action Shooting

Meredith Knowles

Action shooting is a defensive pistol discipline focusing on accuracy and safe gun handling while engaging a prescribed course of fire. MRGC's Action shooting program practices twice a month on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 7pm. Monthly matches are held on the second Sunday of the month. The program is growing! The last match was attended by many visiting shooters. The recent Introduction to Action Shooting event drew almost 20 participants.



Skeet

Don Carl

So far, the skeet field has been busy this year, but we are always looking for more participation from club members. We have installed the two new throwers in the field #1 houses and they are working very well. We don't have any events planned but will

probably do a learn-to-shoot skeet sometime this summer. We are also looking for members who would be interested in becoming a committee member which includes opening, closing, collecting money and overall oversight of the fields. Usually once a

month but there are always other members who show up and help. We also have the trap set up for use to anyone who may be interested. Looking forward to a good summer season. Come on up and shoot.

Archery

Robert Kirkaldy

For all the new members out there we have a Learn to Shoot Archery class most Friday nights, check the events calendar before heading down. This event is also open to the public so tell your friends and neighbors. This event goes over the basics of archery, learning how to get an anchor point, safety. We also supply the bows and arrows to use. If you are thinking of purchasing your first bow and are not sure, come on down ask us questions. We will be glad to answer them. The class runs from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. So far we have had a great attendance at the Friday night LTSA. We get some regulars and new ones from time to time and more people have been hearing about this through our members and other means. This year so far we had two 3D Archery shoots. MRGC has teamed up with the Tri County Archery League. Tri County Archery League, for those who don't know, is a group of rod 'n' gun clubs that got together to bring a 3D shoot every Sunday all year long. Just pick up one of the red Tri county booklets at the club or look for them on Facebook for a schedule. Our last turnout for archers was 96, biggest turnout in a while. All of which couldn't be possible without volunteers like you! I would like to thank all of the volunteers that I got so far. It means a lot to me, so thanks.

Youth Rifle

Ernie Studley

The Youth Rifle programs have been busy this winter and spring, with about a dozen new shooters for Jr Rifle, and two joining the South Coastal Team. Most nights saw anywhere from 6 to 10 young participants almost all fall and winter long. In December Aly Reynolds from Quincy and Mikaela Richards from Marshfield were both in the 2017 Massachusetts State Junior Olympic Rifle Championship in Reading Mass. Mikaela was also in the U.S. Army Marksman's Unit Eastern Junior small-bore/Air Rifle Championship. There will be more shooters like Dan Butka coming up thru the ranks for future big matches. There are 2 new small rifles for the smaller shooters, Savage Rascals, with peep sights and 2.5lb triggers. An old Remington '513-T Matchmaster rifle hiding in the back of the safe has been tuned up and is now one of the favorite rifles, despite being made in 1940-41, over 9 pounds and the original Redfield peep sights. Gloves for right and left-handed folks, new slings, new rifle sling stops, blinders, spotting scopes, offhand stands, mats, and shooting jackets. Full sets of new medals, certificates, pins and awards for both Jr Rifle and South Coastal participants in the NRA/Winchester Rimfire Prone qualifications. Check out the qualification board in the club lobby to see the progress. Earlier in April, Mikaela became the first one on the Team to earn the Expert qualification, shooting over 180 out of 200 on A-17 Targets 6 times. She is a junior member of the Club and will get her medal and certificate at the next members meeting on May 10th. A special thanks to the family of long time member that passed away, Boyd E. Tolman. The family donated \$600 to our Youth Rifle programs in his memory, and the club matched the donation to bring \$1200 to the Junior Rifle budget!!!

Check out the Youth Rifle pictures on the next page

MRGC Jr Rifle shooters (the smiles say it all).



South Coastal rifle team shooters.

