



NIANTIC SPORTSMEN'S CLUB INC.

P.O. Box 122 • Plants Dam Road • Niantic, Connecticut 06357 • 860-739-5322

Coming up!

December 2008

- Dues and Fees for 2009 due December 30-January 31
- Junior Rifle Tournament – Saturday, December 6
- Sunday Breakfasts – December 7, 14, 21, 28
- Meeting Night and Prime Rib Dinner – Friday, December 12
- “Iron Sights” Club Pistol Match – Monday, December 15
- Holiday Party Potluck – Friday, December 19

January 2009

- Meeting Night and Prime Rib Dinner – Friday, January 9
- Sunday Breakfasts – January 4, 11, 18, 25
- Polish Dinner – TBA
- Blackpowder Muzzleloader Match – TBA
- Youth Pistol-Match Night – Thursday, January 29
- Dues due by January 31

Board and Officer Election Results

Five members were elected to the Executive Board for the 2009-2010 two-year term at the meeting of November 14. They are: Stan Bowdish, Al Cocola, Tom Davis, Al LeBlanc, and George Stone. The current club Officers ran unopposed for the 2009 one-year term

Meeting Dates

Executive Meeting
Tuesday, December 9, 7:00 pm

Regular Meeting
Friday, December 12, 7:00 pm

NSC Website: www.nianticsc.org

and were re-elected. The new board will become active at the January 2009 meeting. As petitioned per the bylaws, members will vote on bylaw changes and amendments at the upcoming December 2008 meeting.

Committee Chairs for 2009 are: Judy LeBlanc—Finance; John MacDougall—Membership; Stanley Bowdish—Outdoor Range; Peter Edmondson—Indoor Range; William Boehning—Skeet; Mead Close—Archery; Tom Snow, Craig Grimord—Black Powder; Anthony Cutone—Kitchen; Charles Chambers, George Stone—House; Jay Cole, John Dube—Youth; Bruce Vandal, Jeff Schwartz—Conservation; John Stratton—Newsletter; Emil Tillona—Website

Winter Skeet's on the Wing

The winter skeet season has started and the skeet field is in use on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. There is a schedule posted in the Skeet House and in the Lounge. At all other times the rest of the membership is welcome to shoot: the range is always open on Sundays after 1 p.m.

If you are a new member, or unfamiliar with the operation of skeet machines, you should hook up with someone to show you how to turn the machines on and off properly. Come and see the league matches and get involved, bring a hot dish for the shooters, and learn all about the skeet happenings. Check out the Eastern Connecticut Skeet Club (winter league) website at www.ecscskeet.com. For any info on the skeet field contact Commissioner Bill at 860.434.2336.

Pistoleers Schedule “Iron Sights” Match

NSC pistol competitors will hold an “iron-sights” bullseye match on Monday



NSC Holiday Potluck Set for December 19

The annual club potluck Holiday Party will be on Friday evening, December 19. Take a break from the holiday stresses with your friends and guests...and bring something good to share: Cocktails begin at 5 p.m.; dinner is underway at about 7 p.m. Jingle, Jingle, Ho Ho Ho!

evening, December 15, using the standard National Match Course format...but open to pistols and revolvers of all calibers as long as they do not use optical or “red dot” sights. The first relay of the event begins at 6:30 p.m. It's a chance to test your skills against the scores of the “great ones” of the past and have some fun as well. Classes will include .22 rimfire pistols, .22 rimfire revolvers, and centerfire pistols and centerfire revolvers. There will be an entry fee of \$5 for each class entered; a small shooting-related gift donation of equivalent value will be accepted in lieu of cash. The Lounge will be open for after-match scoring and relaxation.

Junior Rifle Tournament to be Held December 6

NSC is hosting the 22nd Annual Quaker Hill Rod and Gun Club Junior Rifle Tournament on Saturday, December 6; this event is an honor for the club and a recognition of the success of its own youth programs. About 90 young marksmen from Connecticut are expected to attend, competing in relays from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the indoor range under NRA Smallbore rules with .22 rimfire target rifles. The club will offer breakfast and lunch service that day. The tournament is coordinated by NSC member Lisette Grunwell.

On January 29, 2009, NSC's youth will participate in a bullseye-pistol competition with one-on-one instruction. The group will use the match targets and ammunition donated by the former Pfizer pistol team. NSC pistol-league competitors are invited to attend and work with a junior. April 30 will be the annual scoped-rifle night; it's always a favorite when the youth find that they can split playing cards edge-on.



NSC youth ages 8 to 18 can join at any time. A parent/adult must attend with the Junior — just show up on Thursday evenings. Here's the general schedule:

- 6:30-8:30 p.m. 1st and 3rd Thursday: indoor range – Jay Cole, Ron Michaels
- 6:30-8:30 p.m. 2nd and 4th Thursday: indoor archery – John Dube

On months with “fifth Thursdays,” special events are planned.

East Lyme Tidbits: The Smith Homestead

– by Tom Kalal

Across from the club eastward on Plants Dam Road stands the Samuel Smith homestead. This historic home is named after the man who built it in 1685. The current owners of record are Stephen and Carolyn Huber. From its construction in 1685 until 1919 the house remained in the Smith family, passed on from son to daughter, etc.

Samuel Smith was a noted housewright in the area; and some of Samuel's homes can still be seen along the Connecticut River in Old Lyme and Lyme. At that time, in fact until 1839, East Lyme was part of the town of Lyme.

1700's; in addition to farming the land the Smith family also boarded horses for the “muckety mucks” of the area. One such noted client was the Thomas Lee family, whose historic home is at the junction of Bride Brook Road and Route 156.

The Smith home has been listed since 1979 on the National Historic Register of Historic Places, which thereby offers some limited protection and has drawn the attention of the East Lyme Historical Society. The fact that for many years the home stopped at the chimney conferred a form of preservation for the house, for the bigger, more grand, homes were often exten-



Back then, there were two distinct, and unrelated, Smith families living in the area, those of Samuel Smith and those of Nehemiah Smith, who was originally from Groton. Nehemiah's son, Richard, was known locally in the boatbuilding business—the present Smith Street and Smith Cove are named after him.

Samuel's home was considered a “poor farmer's house.” The original portion was called a “one over one” gambrel design. As you observe the house from the road, what is now the center chimney was once at the left end or gable of the home. Around 1730 the first of several additions was added to the home and around 1812 the L-shaped wing was put on. The barn was added in the

sively updated and modernized. The Smith family descendants never seemed to have money to do much to the dwelling, so the interior and the exterior remain largely untouched today. The original paint and whitewash can still be seen throughout the home.

The family had more-or-less 20 acres of land, and relatively recently 1.5 acres was carved out for an adjacent home owned by the late Jim Marshall, who was a long-standing club member and officer. The soils of that land are extremely rich and organic from the centuries of farming. Of the 18 acres remaining, most are now covered in forest. Behind the house are three Indian graves. They can be seen easily, for each grave occupies an area of three by eight feet and is piled high with small rocks.

I feel fortunate to have learned about this old home, and now have a high respect for it and its rich history. For more information about old homes of East Lyme, you can check the website of the East Lyme Historical Society at www.eastlymehistoricalsociety.org.

NRA: "More Than Ever"

With every election, the specter of ill-advised and un-informed legislation comes to the fore. Many of the newly elected representatives from the President on down have legislative histories that can be termed anti-sportsman as well as anti-Second Amendment. As sportsmen we have to keep a sharp eye out for proposed laws which affect us unfairly; the NRA is our principal line of information and defense and we need it more than ever. Are you a member? Can you encourage a friend to join?

NSC's conservation and legislative bulletin boards cover the highlights of state-level legislation and rulings: take a look at it when you come in, and take note of email addresses and websites. Another very helpful resource is the Coalition of Connecticut Sportsmen's site at www.ctsportsmen.com.

CDC Study:

No Health Risk from Game Taken with Lead Ammunition

NSSF, Newtown, November 7 – The National Shooting Sports Federation (NSSF) has summa-

rized a just-released U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) study on human lead levels of hunters in North Dakota. The study has confirmed what hunters throughout the world have known for hundreds of years, that consuming game harvested with traditional ammunition poses absolutely no health risk to people, including children, and that the call to ban lead ammunition was and remains a scare tactic being pushed by anti-hunting groups to forward their political agenda.

Information became available about the CDC study, originally released November 6, that is important to disseminate to hunters, their families and the general public about the total and complete lack of any evidence of a human health risk from consuming game harvested using traditional ammunition. For instance, in the study the average lead level of the hunters tested was lower than that of the average American.

In the CDC's study, the North Dakota children's lead levels had a mean of just 0.88 micrograms per deciliter, which is less than half the national average for children and an infinitesimally small fraction of the level that the CDC considers to be of concern for children (10 micrograms per deciliter). To further put in perspective the claims concerning the safety of game harvested using traditional ammunition, consider this statement from

the Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) – a state agency that has conducted an extensive panel of blood-lead testing for more than 15 years: "IDPH maintains that if lead in venison were a serious health risk, it would likely have surfaced within extensive blood-lead testing since 1992 with 500,000 youth under 6 and 25,000 adults having been screened." It has not.

NSC's Wholesome 'n' Tasty Sunday Breakfast Menu

1. Two eggs, homefries, choice of meat (sausage, ham, bacon), toast
2. Three eggs, homefries, choice of meat, toast
3. Texas toast with choice of meat
4. Kingsized pancakes with choice of meat
5. Kingsized blueberry pancakes with choice of meat
6. Eastern omelet, homefries, toast
7. Western omelet, homefries, toast
8. Bacon, sausage, or ham cheddar omelet, homefries, toast
9. "The Mess"...bacon, sausage, ham, peppers, onions, homefries, all "messed up" with scrambled eggs (Yum!)
10. "The Combo"...two eggs, two French



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NSC DUES NOTICE FOR 2009

Your 2009 Dues MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 31, 2009. Please complete the form below and send your payment to: NSC, P. O. Box 122, Niantic, CT 06357

Your yearly dues are \$200 for the 2009 membership year. The \$200 dues are subject to a reduction of up to \$40 for up to four hours of service, payable in NSC Bucks and redeemable in the Lounge and for Club events. These work hours must be attested to by a chit (signed by your work-party leader/officer) submitted by you with your 2009 dues. All Life and Senior members are required to submit the \$40 service assessment fee or perform the volunteer work and receive NSC Bucks. Dues are due January 1, and late after January 31. A \$100 late fee (half the annual membership) will be charged for payments received after January 31.

AFTER 31 January 2009 the following schedule applies: Late Dues – \$300; Service Fee Reduction – \$40

NSC DUES RENEWAL FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2009

Please print clearly; mail or drop off at the Club. Please include email.

Name _____	Mailing address, including Zipcode _____
Member Number _____	_____
Amount Enclosed \$ _____	Phone _____
Service Fee Reduction Chit Attached _____	Email _____
Do you wish to receive your Newsletter by Email? Yes _____ No _____	

Sunday Breakfast Menu...from page 2

toasts or pancakes, choice of meat

11. Egg sandwich...two eggs, choice of meat on a hardroll, homefries

12. Spectacular Super Specials [as available on that particular day].

Sideorders available...Corned beef hash; extra sausage, ham, bacon; coffee (free); juices and other beverages

New Dishwashing Machine



NSC now has a professional-grade dishwashing machine to assist the kitchen crew – and all our members – with cleanup after club events. Funding is from tips and donations accumulated for several months; nice job!

Overcoat Donations Will Keep Needy Folks Warm

Look in the closet: Do you have an old vest, jacket, parka, or overcoat that you don't use any longer? Several area shelters for families and the homeless can use them. Jodi Stone has been collecting coats for these shelters; leave off any extras you might have in the Lounge and she will see that they go directly to local people, keeping them warm over the winter.

Club Notes

- Continuing Reminder: It is the responsibility of membership applicants to be present at the meetings for the read-in and vote-in process; if members are sponsoring an applicant, be sure to inform him or her that our meetings are on the second Friday of the month at 7 p.m. Applicants for membership must submit a \$100, non-refundable, deposit check along with their application. New membership applications and club brochures are in the Lounge and on the website. NSC's 12-minute outdoor-range safety video is required viewing for new members; it can be viewed before their read-in or vote-in meetings at about 6:30 p.m. in the club office.

- Pistol Permit Renewal: the Dept. of Public Safety 1) accepts checks or money orders only for the \$35 renewal fee; and 2) requires that you produce proof of citizenship when you appear to renew. This can be a birth certificate, voter registration card, U.S. Passport or Naturalization papers. Legal Alien Residents must provide Alien Registration Number and 90-day Proof of Residency form. Further information may be obtained

at the website: www.ct.gov/dps by selecting the State Pistol Permit box in the left column, and then clicking on Pistol Permit Renewal in the body of the text. Don't let your permit expire!

- Please be sure that you notify us if you change your your email address. The Newsletter is available on the website in full-graphics PDF format at www.nianticsc.org.

- Safety First on all ranges!

NSC Website: www.nianticsc.org

Newsletter email – nscnewsletter@snet.net

NEXT MEETING: Friday, December 12, 7 p.m. – Prime Rib Dinner Service Starts at 5:30 p.m.

Officers 2008

Matt Fleisher, *President*

John MacDougall, *Vice-President*

John Santos, *Recording Secretary*

Judy LeBlanc, *Financial Secretary*

Rick Pape, *Treasurer*

The Niantic Sportsmen's Club, Inc.

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**AFTER FIVE DAYS RETURN TO:
NIANTIC SPORTSMEN'S CLUB, INC.**

P.O. Box 122 • Plants Dam Road
Niantic, CT 06357

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

PRESORTED
STANDARD
Permit No.
31
Niantic, CT
06357

