



NIANTIC SPORTSMEN'S CLUB INC.

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

Coming up!

April 2009

- Smallbore Rifle Championships, Indoor Range – Saturday, April 4
- Last Sunday Breakfast – April 5
- Meeting Night Prime Rib Dinner – Friday, April 10
- BBQ Rib Dinner – Saturday, April 18
- 3D Archery Match – Sunday, April 26
- New London Friends of NRA Dinner – Thursday, April 30



May 2009

- Meeting Night Prime Rib Dinner – Friday, May 8
- Skeet Beginning Shooter Day – to be announced
- Pistol League Banquet, Groton Inn – Saturday, May 16
- NSC Muzzleloader Pistol Match – Sunday, May 17
- 3D Archery Match – Sunday, May 24

June 2009

- Last Meeting Night Prime Rib Dinner – Friday, June 12

July-August 2009

- Newsletter Publication Suspended for Summer (information continued on website)

Meeting Dates

Executive Meeting
Tuesday, April 9, 7:00 pm

Regular Meeting
Friday, April 12, 7:00 pm

NSC Website: www.nianticsc.org

Ribs!

BBQ Dinner Set for Saturday, April 18

Those who attended last spring's cracklin'-tasty BBQ Ribs Dinner will remember the good eatin' and friendly talk. This year's BBQ will also feature a full dinner spread – all you kin eat, and that's a lot – for \$20, with only 150 tickets available. The Menu: BBQ ribs 'n' boneless pork shoulder...red bliss country potato salad, coleslaw, Tuscan bean salad, baked beans, garden salad, rolls and butter, coffee...and strawberry shortcake for dessert. And there may well be some more home-cooked surprises from our Masters of the Kitchen Arts.



Breakfast and Prime-Rib Dinner Schedules Will Wind Down Soon

Sunday morning, April 5, will be the last scheduled breakfast for the 2008-2009 season. Friday evening, June 12, will be the last prime-rib meeting night dinner until the fall. However, there will be special dining events scheduled from time to time so keep your eye on the newsletter and on the bulletin boards. It's been a very successful year for the kitchen cookery crew...and its loyal customers!

Skeet Looks to Summer, Plans Beginners' Day

Commissioner Bill Boehning reports that our winter skeet season ends on April 12 – which means that the skeet field will be available for open shooting all day on weekends, starting at 9 a.m., and on all weekdays. In May the skeet community plans a Beginning Shooter Day to familiarize members with the operation of the skeet machines and offer instructional shooting skills. The times will be posted in the skeet

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Skeet Looks to Summer ...from page 1

house and in the May newsletter.

Keep in mind that the summer league will be starting in June; there will be a signup sheet in the skeet house and your early registration will help teams get organized. The summer league is open to all members, spouses, sons, and daughters who can handle a shotgun. When you finish your shooting, you are required to refill the machines, make sure the motor is turned off with the toggle switch, and sweep off the broken targets from station 1 and station 7 – the brooms are in both skeet houses. For more information, contact Commissioner Wild Bill at 434-2336.

Thanks!

Volunteers and Donors Made 2009 Game Dinner a Success

The Annual Game Dinner was a great success, thanks to the good work of our kitchen crew, servers, cleaner-uppers – and hunters. The crew included Amy Stone, George Stone, Laura Bradley, Jan and Pete Falluco, Farmer Korineck, Dick Younger, Al Cocola, Bruce Gagliardo, Mike Scott, Judy LeBlanc, Craig Coleman, Tony Cutone, Bill Boehning, and, yes, many others. And what was on the menu?

Here's a taste...

Appetizers: Sweet and Sour Moose Meatballs, Salmon Dip, Goose Liver Pate, Cheese, Pepperoni and Crackers, Hunter's Stew, Venison Chili, Goose Stew, Stuffed Clams, Smoked Moose, Smoked Turkey, Smoked Venison; Dinner: Corned Venison, Pheasant Pot Pie, Goose Cassoulet, Goose l'Orange, Sausage and Peppers, Moose Pepper Steak, Moose Meatballs, Squirrel in Sauce, Rabbit, Rice.

And here are our generous donors who made possible the exciting door prizes and drawings (don't forget to thank them again with your patronage!):

Fishing Trips —

MFly, Matthew Fleisher
Dot E Dee, Kerry and Jack Douton
Ray Eustace

Keeper, John McVeigh
Sunbeam Fleet, Bob Wadsworth

Other Items —

Cash Home Center, Hugh Durham
Ron's Guns, Ron Rando
L&L Electronics, Dave Laska

New Stainless Stoves Shine in Kitchen



In late February NSC took delivery on a set of shining stainless-steel commercial stoves to help our events run more smoothly and make cleaning up a lot easier. Purchase of the South-bend units was made possible through the self-supporting kitchen fund. A new restaurant-grade toaster also keeps the breakfast orders hopping out to the tables on time.

Hillyer's Tackle Shop, Matt and John Hillyer
The Grouse Perch, Tom Davis
Doug Lafaille
North Cove Outfitters, Brian Owen
Traditions Performance Firearms, Tom Hall
Marine Structures, Bill Martin
Boats Inc., Don MacKenzie
Mystic Stainless, Charlie Marques
Yankee Peddler and Pawn, Chad LaPlante

Pistol Team Finishes Season with Solid Scores

NSC's pistoleers finished the 2008-2009 winter-league season in a solid fourth place overall and first place in the second division. The nine-team New London County Pistol League saw Niantic with a 15-win, 9-loss record, behind N2 (hosted by NSC), Nutmegs, and first-place Pachaug. This year's effort saw some exceptionally high individual scores and close matches, and was also highlighted by much-improved depth, with some 24 regular team members offering vital backup.

NSC and N2 will continue to practice in-

formally over the summer and compete in relaxed evening matches at Mystic Rod and Gun Club – new shooters are very welcome. Looking ahead, anyone who wants to participate in next year's 27-match season should contact Myron Kavgian, Niantic Team Captain, or Jeff Schwartz of N2, now. The teams need to submit the complete rosters early and arrange for targets and other equipment. The official season starts September 14. Myron can be reached at kavgian@comcast.net or 860.434.6889. Potential N2 competitors should contact Jeff at jhschwartz@att.net.

NSC hosted a major statewide event on March 29: the fifth annual Interleague All-Star Pistol Match involving about 70 competitive bullseye shooters. In preparation, a team led by NSC indoor-range chairman Peter Edmondson spruced up the area with a thorough sweeping and cleaning, and repainted the backstop and columns. A continuing program plans to paint the ready room and floors. Lookin' good!

The New London County Pistol League's annual awards banquet will be on Saturday, May 18, at the Groton Motor Inn.

Youth Program Moves Toward Season's End

The youth program does not meet during school vacations, so there will not be a rifle night and NRA Marksmanship Qualification on April 16; however, there will be competitive-shooter practice during the regularly scheduled times and spectators are welcome. Stop by and see our competition shooters and coach Lisette Grunwell-Lacey in action in this demanding sport.

At the end of the month the kids will enjoy the annual scoped rifle night on April 30, taking on challenging targets in the spirit of an old-time carnival shooting gallery. If you have any suitable targets...please bring them! This is the night we also shoot playing cards "on edge;" it's a real confidence-builder. The program also offers a big thank you to Craig Lennox for his donation of a youth compound bow.

The overall program finishes up its regular Thursday evenings in May, but there may be special activities listed in the May newsletter. NSC youth ages 8 to 18 can join at any time. A parent or other 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, Lisette Grunwell-Lacey
- 6:30-8:30 p.m. 2nd and 4th Thursday: indoor archery – John Dube

On months with "fifth Thursdays," special events are planned.

Friends of NRA Banquet Will Be on April 30 in Groton

The annual Friends of NRA banquet will be Thursday, April 30, starting at 6 p.m. at the Groton Motor Inn. This is a charitable event – part of any money which you spend is tax-deductible. Proceeds are used to fund firearms training, safety, and competition programs within Connecticut.

In addition to camaraderie and updates by NRA and regional experts, the evening features a large array of door prizes, prize games, and auction items. The 2009 Gun of the Year tickets will be drawn for a matched set of Ruger Vaqueros, along with drawings and auctions for several other quality arms. Additionally, a wide range of art, hunting accessories, and merchandise is auctioned, raffled, or given away.

A banquet ticket is \$40. A Benefactor ticket is \$125 and will get you the dinner, a listing in the program, and \$80 worth of tickets for the bucket drawings. A Sponsor ticket costs \$250 and gets

two dinners, a listing in the program, \$200 worth of bucket-drawing tickets, a hat, lapel pin, decal, and Traditions magazine – as well as the inspiring 2009 NRA sculpture for your mantel. Sponsors can upgrade to \$275 and receive \$200 worth of bucket tickets. "Table Tickets" for eight dinners are \$320 and the individual sponsoring the full table receives \$100 worth of bucket tickets.

Further information is posted on the NSC website and on club bulletin boards. For more data, contact Steve Rocketto, Chairman, 928 Old Colchester Road, Oakdale, CT, 06370; telephone 860.848.9578 (srocketto@aquilasy.com).

3D Archery Schedule Continues April 26

After its kickoff match March 29, the 11 clubs of the Southern New England 3D Archery circuit will meet on the Sundays of April 26, May 24, September 27, October 18, and November 29. Signups are from 7 a.m. till 12 noon, with all scores in by 2 p.m. Lunch and refreshments are served. Our contacts are Mead Close (203.988.2782) and Rich Salza (860.608.2897). The full event booklet is available in the Lounge. Remember that the outdoor range will be closed for shooting until about 2 p.m. when all archers will be out of the woods.

Six-Shooters and Classic Duelers Welcome at Muzzleloader Match

Pirates of the Caribbean, Lewis and Clark, Yank and Reb, Card-Shark Gambler, Keen-Eyed Marshall, or simply settling a Dispute of Honor: whether its a single-shot "boarding-pistol" flint or caplock, or one of those new-fangled revolving Colts from Hartford, you're welcome to try your luck at NSC's first black-powder muzzleloader-pistol match. It's currently set for Sunday morning, May 17 (the date may change). The match will be on our new, 25-yard outdoor range where traditional, fun targets will be set up at varied distances.

Come prepared to reload, and to fire at least ten shots with your revolver or five shots with your single-shot pistol. Speed will not be a factor! Flintlock, caplock, 1836 Paterson, 1847 Walker, 1848 Baby Dragoon, 1848 Whitneyville Dragoon, 1848 Dragoons models 1, 2 and 3, 1849 Wells Fargo, 1851 Navy, 1858 New Army, 1860 Army, 1861 Navy, 1862 Pocket Navy, 1862 Police pistols. (Got

an original made by Colt or Remington? Don't bring it. Don't shoot it... but bring the replicas made by Armi San Marco, CVA, Lyman, Midland Arms, Navy Arms, Pietta, Traditions, or Uberti to name a few.)

Registration will start at 9:30 a.m. and the final rounds will be before noon. If one match isn't enough, you can re-enter for more fun.

Ruger Reports Earnings and Healthy Backlog

Sturm, Ruger & Company, Inc. reported on February 24 that it reached net sales of \$181.4 million and earnings per share of \$0.43 for 2008, compared to net sales of \$156.5 million and earnings per share of \$0.46 in 2007. Firearm sales grew from \$144 million in 2007 to \$174 million in 2008 on the strength of new product shipments and overall demand, particularly in the fourth quarter. Just as important, new firearm orders received grew from \$156 million in 2007 to \$234 million in 2008. The order backlog at December 31, 2008, was \$48 million, up from \$18 million at December 31, 2007. Firearms unit production increased 29 percent in 2008 compared to 2007. Sturm, Ruger was founded in 1949 and has its headquarters in Southport, Connecticut, with plants located in Newport, New Hampshire, and Prescott, Arizona.

Spring...

...The violet and purple morn, with just-felt breezes;

The gentle, soft-born, measureless light;

The miracle, spreading, bathing all—the fulfill'd noon;

The coming eve, delicious—the welcome night, and the stars,

Over my cities shining all, enveloping man and land.

— Walt Whitman, 1865

Club Notes

- **PARKING:** When you are parking your car at the club, please park well off the roadways – do not ever obstruct any traffic on Plants Dam Road or in the loop driveway in
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Club Notes...from page 3

front of the club. Emergency vehicles must have access to these roadways! Overflow parking is generally available in the skeet or outdoor range areas.

- The NRA is our principal defense against legislators and laws which would unfairly and unjustly take away sportsmen's freedoms and responsibilities. Join up, if you're not already a member. Check the legislative bulletin boards frequently and stay involved – there's a lot at stake.

- 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 applications. 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 must produce proof of citizenship when you appear to renew. This ID 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!

- The Over the Hill Gang has built sturdy target frames for your personal, all-weather, marksmanship pleasure; these are on sale in the Lounge or on most Friday mornings at the outdoor range. Members are reminded that any frames which have been set up for permanent use are to be treated carefully.

- 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! Remember that members are responsible for their guests and family members. Children must be closely supervised at all times.

- NSC Website: www.nianticsc.org
- Newsletter email – nscnewsletter@snet.net

Executive Board 2009:

Term 2009 through 2010 – Stan Bowdish, Al Cocola, Tom Davis, Al LeBlanc, George Stone;

Term 2008 through 2009 – Charlie Chambers, Jack Cutillo, Tony Cutone, Peter Edmondson, Jack Douton

Committee Chairs 2009:

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; Tom Davis—NSC Raffle Planning



NEXT MEETING:
Friday, April 10, 7 p.m.

Prime Rib Dinner Service Starts at 5:30 p.m. (non-meat entree available)

Officers 2009

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

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STANDARD
Permit No.
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