



NIANTIC SPORTSMEN'S CLUB INC.

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

Coming up!

December 2007

- Meeting Night Prime Rib Dinner – Friday, December 14
- Sunday Breakfasts – December 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
- Annual Holiday Party – Friday, December 21
- Annual Dues Due before January 31, 2008

January 2008

- Sunday Breakfasts – January 6, 13, 20, 27
- Meeting Night Prime Rib Dinner – Friday, January 11
- Fourth Friday Dinner – Friday, January 25
- Indoor Range Work Parties – dates to come

February 2008

- Sunday Breakfasts – February 3, 10, 17, 24
- Meeting Night Prime Rib Dinner – Friday, February 8
- Fourth Friday Dinner – Friday, February 22
- Annual Game Dinner – date to come

March 2008

- St. Patrick's Day Friday Meeting Feast (corned beef or fish) – Friday, March 14
- Fourth Friday Dinner – Friday, March 28

Meeting Dates

Executive Meeting
Tuesday, December 11, 7:00 pm

Regular Meeting
Friday, December 14, 7:00 pm

NSC Holiday Party Potluck Feast on December 21



The annual club potluck Holiday Party will be on Friday evening, December 21. Unwind 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.

Cutillo, Tony Cutone, Peter Edmondson, Jack Douton

Dinners Expanded to Include Fourth Fridays

The Friday "Meeting Night" prime-rib dinners on the second Friday of the month have been a success, and the club dinner schedule will be expanded starting in January to include a similar feast on the Fourth Friday of the month. Plan to stop in...the price and quality are excellent. A footnote: the hot-dog option on Friday will be, alas, removed, but trusty hamburgers and fixin's will still be there.

While you are planning your mealtimes, remember that NSC serves a good lunch on Fridays from about noon to 1:30 p.m. The menu is simple...with some nice surprises.

Election Results

At the November 9 club meeting, the unopposed Officer slate was elected by voice vote; the empty Treasurer slot was filled by the former Treasurer, Rick Pape, by voice vote as well. The five Executive Board openings for the 2008-2009 term were contested by eight candidates; the votes were very close – and their candidacies and interest are appreciated by all NSC members.

Officers 2008:

Matt Fleisher, President
John MacDougall, Vice-President
John Santos, Recording Secretary
Judy LeBlanc, Financial Secretary
Rick Pape, Treasurer

Executive Board:

Term 2007 through 2008 – Bob Clark, Tom Davis, John LaChapelle, Al LeBlanc, George Stone;
Term 2008 through 2009 – Charlie Chambers, Jack

Photo-Badge System to be Inaugurated

Starting with the December meeting, a new system of photo-ID membership cards will begin. Members should be prepared to get their photo taken for the new cards at a meeting over the next several months – we can't do them all at once. The new system will be more efficient and ultimately allow the club to provide more member services.

3D Bowmen Contemplate Major Event

The 3D Archery group plans to acquire several new and improved targets in 2008, and may host a major "Reinhart 100" match here in the coming year. The competition is a big event which would attract some 300 partici-

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3D Bowmen...from page 1

pants from the region. Six 3D matches are on the coming schedule, and club members are reminded that Tuesday-evening indoor shooting is available in the meeting room.

Rutigliano Honored in Rangeside Ceremony



The last wishes of Jack Rutigliano were honored November 11, when some of his ashes were scattered on the Outdoor Range by his family members.



Several speakers recalled him – both solemnly and humorously – and a three-gun salute was fired in his remembrance. The family extended its thanks to the entire club membership for making Jack's years of experience here happy ones. The best from us all, Jack.

Outdoor Range Offers Winter Warmth

The north end of the Outdoor Range has been partially buttoned up with plywood, plastic, and a storm door that will permit relatively cozy sighting on those cold days to come. Nice work by the Over the Hill Gang! In addition to the names reported for last month's work party, members John Cutone, Holly Foster, Ray Estes, Al Cocola, John Stratton, Chet D'Agostino, and Howard Beers were among those who helped out.

Junior Program Doing Fine

NSC's youth membership has increased and the kids are doing well, reports coordi-

nator Jay Cole. Rifle, archery, and special activities keep the Thursday evenings interesting. Jay notes that the program's affiliation with the CMP (Civilian Marksmanship Program – www.odcmp.com) could lead to some registered outdoor matches for all club members. The CMP offers many benefits to all competitive shooters at all levels. The youth group can use contributions of youth-friendly bows for archery instruction.

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

Note: Please do not plan to use the range at this time!

- 6:30-8:30 p.m. 2nd and 4th Thursday: indoor archery – John Dube

Lounge Menus Offer Treats

Full-service family Sunday breakfasts are served between 7:30 and 10 a.m. (except for some Sundays following major club events). The can't-be-beat prices range about \$5 to \$6, plus a little bit more if you choose sideorders. Our informal Friday lunches are cooked from 12 to about 1:30 p.m.; and our good-eatin' Friday dinners on the second and fourth Fridays are ready from about 5:30 to 8 p.m. Lounge hours are every Tuesday evening from 5 to about 10 p.m., Friday from noon to about 11 p.m., Saturday from noon to about 6 p.m., and Sundays from 7 a.m. to about 6 p.m. Special menu items are often posted in advance in the Lounge.

Remember that the kitchen crews always need hands-on help doing dishes and serving breakfast. The prime-rib dinners on meeting nights also welcome help starting in the late afternoon.

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 toasts or pancakes, choice of meat
 11. Egg sandwich...two eggs, choice of meat on a hardroll, homefries
- Sideorders available...Corned beef hash; extra sausage, ham, bacon; coffee (free); juices and other beverages*
12. Spectacular Super Specials [as available on that particular day].

A View of the U.S. from Abroad, 1828

"The new world is dedicated to the cause of liberty, and from that good seed is now springing forth fruit an hundred fold; the progress of civilization, of knowledge, of virtue, and happiness in the United States, is, by every recent traveller there, proved to be immense. The example of her own children is becoming an additional security for right principles to the mother country [England!]; and long may it so continue:

Yes! in that generous cause, for ever strong,

The patriot's virtue and the poet's song,

Still as the tide of ages rolls away,

Shall charm the world, unconscious of decay!

NSC to Benefit from Sales of Quality Gun Safes

Posters describing the gun safe program will be up in the next few weeks. The club is working with The Grouse Perch and its owner, member Tom Davis, to make Browning safes available at very attractive prices. Members will also save the substantial shipping costs: about \$250 to \$375 for these very heavy items! Inquiries can be made directly to Tom Davis at 860.388.2277 (thegrouseperch@sbcglobal.net). Browning information is on the web at <http://www.browning.com/products/catalog/safes/category.asp?value=F>.

Air Rifle/Pistol Shoots Explored

If any members are interested in setting up informal air-rifle or air-pistol indoor practice, contact the Newsletter at nscnewsletter@snet.net or leave a note in the Lounge. No special or extreme match equipment is required. Anticipated range distance will be the International 10 meters (33 feet) with some commercial bullet traps provided. Members willing to share prior air-gun competition experience are very welcome.

European Union May 'Fast Track' Gun Control

November 13, news.bbc.co.uk – A British member of the European Parliament is hoping to "fast track" a new European Union deal on gun control and says last week's school massacre in Finland should act as a wake-up call. Last week, the BBC reported that police in Britain, faced with a flood of easily convertible replica guns, want changes to European laws. ...The new directive would make it harder to buy guns across the EU.

[Editor's Note: Good Ol' Europe. We figure that they think they can get all they need from us, if they ever need them. Just like in WWII.]

Shooting at the Popinjay

– from "The Mirror," England 1828

"The Popinjay or Poppingo (signifying painted bird) is a very favourite and popular diversion in Denmark, and of which it may be interesting to give some account. A society is constituted of various members, called the "King's Shooting Club," who have a code of laws and regulations drawn up for their observance; and are under the direction of nine managers. The entrance-money is 60 dollars. Members are admitted by ballot, and on election receive a diploma on parchment, with the seal of the society...

"In the month of August, when the amusement commences, the members meet in their hall, and proceed informal procession to an adjoining field

on the western side of the city; where arrangements are previously made for the numerous spectators. The bird to be shot at is about the size of a parrot, gilded, and placed on the top of a high pole. On their way to the field they are attended by a band of music, which precedes the members as they march with their pieces over their shoulders.

"According to a law of the institution, the competitors fire at this mark with large rifle pieces charged with balls, and rested on triangular stands. Whoever is so fortunate as to strike the wing of the Poppingo first, is entitled to a prize. This is sometimes a pair of handsome candlesticks, or a silver tea-pot and spoons. Whoever hits the tail is entitled to another prize not inferior to the last; but he who wounds the body of the bird is complimented with the principal one which weighs at least 65 ounces of silver, and is honoured with the title of the 'Bird King.'

"These prizes are surmounted with the royal cipher and crown. His Danish majesty opens this ceremony in person, and is entitled to the first shot, and the queen to the second, then they are followed by the other branches of the royal family in succession. The firing continues until the bird falls. In returning to the hall, the 'Bird King,' accompanied by the procession, first enters the room, and is placed at the head of the table laid out for an entertainment, even in the presence of his majesty.... The practice of shooting at the Poppingo or Popinjay, however, is not peculiar to Denmark. In Scotland a nearly similar amusement is observed, where the head marksman receives the title of 'Captain.' In a

future paper, perhaps, I may notice the subject again, as it may prove interesting."

– W.H.H.

NRA Protects Sportsmen's Rights

If you are not already an NRA member, pick up an application in the Lounge area. There are direct benefits to our club if you do: The NRA yearly membership is \$35, but NRA will only charge you \$25 and then turn back \$10 of that fee to NSC for our use, so it benefits all gun owners and the club as well. If you have questions, contact your in-club recruiter, Bob Sutcliffe, at 860.964.0580. In unity there is strength, and the NRA is our united voice; as we enter a big election year in 2008, we should be at peak strength. "The NRA is our 'military,'" says Sutcliffe. "They are fighting for us in D.C."

Supreme Court to Hear Key 2nd Amendment Case

Fairfax, Va., November 20 (NRA-ILA) – The United States Supreme Court today announced its decision to take up District of Columbia v. Heller – a case in which plaintiffs challenge the unconstitutional gun ban in the nation's capital. The District of Columbia appealed a lower court's ruling ear-

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NSC DUES NOTICE

Your 2008 Dues MUST BE RECEIVED BY JANUARY 31, 2008. 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 2008 membership year. The \$200 dues are subject to a reduction of up to \$40 for up to four hours of service. These work hours must be attested to by a chit (signed by your work-party leader/officer) submitted by you with your 2008 dues. All Life and Senior members are required to submit the \$40 service assessment fee or perform the volunteer work. 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 2008 the following schedule applies: Late Dues – \$300 ; Service Fee Reduction – \$40

NSC DUES RENEWAL FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2008

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

Name _____

Mailing address, including Zipcode

Member Number _____

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Service Fee Reduction Chit Attached _____

Phone _____

Email _____

NSC, P. O. Box 122, Niantic, CT 06357

Supreme Court...from page 3

lier this year affirming that the Second Amendment of the Constitution protects an individual right to keep and bear arms, and that the District's bans on handguns, carrying firearms within the home, and possession of loaded or operable firearms for self-defense violate that right.

The NRA will participate in this case through briefs as a friend of the court. Oral arguments are likely to take place in early 2008.

In March, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit held that "[T]he phrase 'the right of the people,' when read intratextually and in light of Supreme Court precedent, leads us to conclude that the right in question is individual." The D.C. Circuit also rejected the claim that the Second Amendment does not apply to the District of Columbia because D.C. is not a state. The decision marks the first time a Second Amendment challenge to a firearm law has reached the Supreme Court since 1939.

Club Notes

- Volunteers are the heart of our club: what you get out of the club is what you put into it. There are major events and ongoing maintenance activities that will benefit from your assistance...and there's also the small stuff: picking up a bit of litter, raking, trimming, sweeping. Every bit helps.
- The skeet range opens daily at 9 a.m. and closes at dusk. All shooters are required to pick up shell casings, reload the high and low houses, break up the cardboard boxes, and use the refuse barrels to keep the skeet house clean.
- 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.

- A new walk-in cooler for the kitchen will be installed in April, after regular meal service has been concluded. Fundraising still is underway.
- Switch off lights when not in use...please. A committee is examining energy-conservation possibilities for the club that will yield long-term savings.
- New brooms and a bucket/mop have been provided for the skeet house. Use them. Skeet Range dollar-chips are available in the Lounge for \$20 a batch. Schedules and league standings are posted in the Lounge and you can check out the Eastern Connecticut Skeet Club (winter league) website at www.ecsc-skeet.com.
- Good Ol' USA: Members are invited to submit websites and sources for "Made in America" union-made products and clothing that might be of interest. Email the Newsletter or leave a note with the website in the Lounge. Here's one that's been suggested: www.kinglouie.com/kinglouie/default.asp.
- 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.
- The NSC Newsletter always welcomes photos, short stories, and observations from members...just email them or leave them in the Lounge.
- Remember that it's OK, and encouraged, to introduce yourself to other shooters on the ranges. Only members and escorted guests are allowed there.
- Members are reminded that the consumption of alcoholic beverages on our ranges – indoor, out-

door, skeet, archery – is not permitted. Alcohol at casual picnics and after-event gatherings next to the ranges is included in this prohibition, with the exception of scheduled club events in which the range is completely shut down during and after the event. Questions and event plans should be directed to the Executive Board.

- Please be sure that you send in (or attach) your email address when you renew your membership. The Newsletter is available on the website in text-only and full-graphics formats. If your email address changes, please notify us at nscnewsletter@snet.net and include your full name and member number.
- NSC Website: www.nianticsc.org
- Newsletter email – nscnewsletter@snet.net

**NEXT MEETING: Friday, December 14,
7 p.m. Prime Rib Dinner Service Starts at
5:30 p.m.**

Officers 2007

Matt Fleisher, *President*
John MacDougall, *Vice-President*
John Santos, *Recording Secretary*
Judy LeBlanc, *Financial Secretary*
Rick Pape, *Treasurer*

The *Niantic Sportsmen's Club, Inc.*
Newsletter is printed monthly, except for
July and August. Copy deadline is the
15th of each month.

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Niantic, CT 06357

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STANDARD
Permit No.
31
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