



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

Coming up!

January 2009

- Meeting Night and Prime Rib Dinner – Friday, January 9
- Blackpowder Line Shoot – Saturday, January 10
- Sunday Breakfasts – January 4, 11, 18, 25
- Italian Dinner – Fourth Friday, January 23
- Youth Pistol-Match Night – Thursday, January 29
- Dues due by January 31

February 2009

- Meeting Night Prime Rib Dinner – Friday, February 13
- Sunday Breakfasts – February 1, 8, 15, 22
- NSC Annual Game Dinner – Saturday, TBA (Note: no breakfast following Game Dinner)

March 2009

- Meeting Night Prime Rib Dinner – Friday, March 13
- Interleague All-Star Pistol Match – March 29

Winter Skeet Results Posted

The NSC Winter Skeet League is in the third month of competition and the team positions are: Capt. Mike Foley, “Early Birds” 3-3 Div. 2; Capt. George Stone, “Porky’s Pals”

Meeting Dates

Executive Meeting
Tuesday, January 6, 7:00 pm

Regular Meeting
Friday, January 9, 7:00 pm

NSC Website: www.nianticsc.org

2-3 Div. 3; Capt. Chet D’Agostino, “Wad Squad” 4-2 Div. 4; Capt. Bob Prentice, “Crushers” 2-2 Div. 5; Capt. Dave Wollman, “Bird Busters” Div. 5. On December 21 the Club received a truckload of clay pigeons, unloaded with plenty of needed help. Come down on Sunday mornings and watch the teams shoot; there is plenty of heat in the skeet house. “We are looking to keep the high and low houses extra-clean, so sweep them out after you shoot,” says Commissioner Bill Boehning. He can be reached at 434-2336.

Smokepolers’ “Line Shoot” Set for January 10

Winter weather did not discourage our New England forebears from taking to the field in search of family food with their flint or percussion hunting rifles. So, whatever the weather is on Saturday, January 10, so be it: NSC’s muzzleloader shooters will gather on the Upper Range between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. for a “line shoot” (not a “trail walk”) against traditional and fun targets – organizer Al Cawthra is dreaming up some tough ones. A small entry fee of \$5 or so will go toward prizes. All muzzleloaders are welcome!

Raffle Committee to Work Out NSC Procedures and Prizes

As discussed at the December 12 monthly meeting, a committee has been named to set up and operate the club’s first major raffle in some years. It will establish and seek prizes, manage and secure tickets, and meet all state regulations. Present members are Chairman Tom Davis, Clay Caras, Joe Koziatek, Ron Michaels, John Stratton, Mike Bromson, Tom Kalal, and Hal Burr. The drawing and leadup events should be an enjoyable event for all members – and all ticket purchasers.

Curtains Brighten Lounge

Helen Younger’s seamstress skills have resulted in new curtains for the club Lounge. Featuring woodland and animal themes, they add a warm note to our winter gatherings around the crackling fireplace. Much appreciated!

Italian Dinner will Add Zest To January

There’s an old TV ad that says, “Close your eyes, and you’re eating in Italy!” – so come on over to NSC’s own Italian Dinner on Friday, January 23, the Fourth Friday of the month. As set out by Chef Tony Cutone, the menu currently reads lasagna or chicken parmigiana, green salad, garlic bread, and a dessert delicacy: ricotta cheese pie. There may be more treats too, so read the posters in the Lounge, and practice up: mangia italiano, bevi italiano, ama l’Italiano!

Game Donations Sought for Dinner

One of the club’s premier events, the Annual Game Dinner, is coming up in February or March. It’s tasty and fun and there are great drawings, too. Set aside the time for that Saturday evening. Hunters: have a choice bit that you’d like to share? Cook it up yourself, or drop it off in plenty of time for our chefs to do their usual great job. Check in the Lounge for details. And, if you have an item or two that might make a nice donation to the raffle drawings, please leave it off in the Lounge with your name and/or business name.

NRA: Our Defense

A good many of the newly elected representatives from the President on down have legislative histories that can be termed anti-sportsman

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NRA: Our Defense...*from page 1*

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 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.

Fourth All-Star Match Coming Up

The New London County Pistol League, the Metropolitan Revolver League of Hartford, the Bridgeport Rifle Club Winter Pistol League, the Revolver League of Connecticut of New Haven, and the Southwest Pistol League of Fairfield will again vie for state honors at a one-day Interleague All-Star Pistol Match on Sunday, March 29. The 90-shot, 900-point match is attended by about 70 competitors who will vie for statewide league and individual honors in the nationally standardized .22 rimfire "bullseye" format. In the past three years, the Metropolitan league edged out the other leagues, but the margins have been growing ever closer and New London stands a good chance of winning!

Target Frames Available For Outdoor Range

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. Pin or staple targets some distance away from the wooden frames to avoid damage to them.

Junior Rifle Tournament Was a Major Club Success

What can you say about a .22 rifle match that attracted about 100 Junior-class marksmen for a day and a half of precision indoor shooting: A winning experience, a character-building experience, a learning experience? Three of NSC's youth-program shooters participated along with most of Connecticut's finest. Kimberlee Grohocki, Drew Denno, and Andrew Walker did very well indeed in the 22nd Annual Quaker Hill Junior Rifle



Match, which NSC hosted on December 6. The club also provided many support services, including the kitchen crew, Lounge, and range officers.

Full results are posted on the club's website, www.nianticsc.org, under the Youth Programs button.

Club coordinator Lisette Grunwell, herself a national-level competitor, offered "congratulations to all the shooters and our match winners and top teams: Mike Burzynski (Junior/3-Position match winner), Erin Lee (Sub-Junior match winner), and Anne Marie Blake (Tyro match winner). Team Blue Trail Range Gold took top honors in both the Sub-Junior and 3-Position matches, narrowly edging out a crack team from Avon Old Farms School."

Grunwell added that, "I would like to thank Quaker Hill's Junior Director Jen Sloan as our sponsor and for helping me pull things together, as well as Shawn Carpenter, the Grasso Tech Coach. Another big thank you goes to Niantic's Junior director Jay Cole for making new wooden target frames and helping as a range officer and a work-party crew member. Other thanks go to Niantic's other range officers, Jeff Schwartz and Ron Michaels; Niantic's kitchen crew including Tony Cutone, Howard Tinguie, Stan Bowdish, and Judy LeBlanc; Niantic's work party headed by Peter Edmondson and Frank Zito; Niantic's membership, its president Matt Fleisher, and its club officers for the use of the facility; the stat-office and registration run by Quaker Hill's Kent Lacey and Jen Sloan; and all our Juniors' parents and coaches for taking the time and supporting their Juniors in the sport of precision shooting."

She pointed out that this event attracted many favorable comments from competitors, and may be the start of regular tournament events at the club which encourage sports-

manship and skill in younger participants statewide.

As a prelude to the tournament, NSC volunteers stepped up to the plate December 3 for a detailed preparation of the club's indoor range. A new ceiling for the ready room was installed, and thorough sweeping and mopping cleaned up the nooks and crannies. Coordinated by Frank Zito and Peter Edmondson, the cleanup was part of a year-long refurbishing of the range, which is used by hundreds of members and their families every year, and hosts league pistol matches and the club's youth program every week.

In other youth news, coordinator Cole notes that "we received an ammo donation – three bricks of CCI from Bill Blencoe – and the annual NSC youth pistol match is coming up on January 23 with ammo and targets donated from the former Pfizer team. NSC pistol-league competitors are invited to attend and work with a junior. April 30 will be the annual scoped-rifle night."

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 Tidbit:

Hyman's Farm Is Our Heritage

– by Tom Kalal

Our former neighbor to the south and east was Hyman Salowitz of Bridebrook Road. Known locally as "Hymie," he owned the house, barn, and adjoining land next to the club. The club secured about 70 acres of this land in December 2003, a tract which included the barns, but not the farmhouse across the street.

Born in 1913, Hymie came with his family from

Russia in 1919. They were Jewish immigrants who at the time were persecuted in the Old Country for their beliefs and their ways. They arrived here with absolutely nothing but the clothes on their back and a few dollars. Many Jewish families resided in the area between Chesterfield and Colchester as the Salowitz family did. His father had been a tailor, and Hymie himself was one of four children, with his brothers John, Jack, and Lou. He never married. It is believed that two of the brothers – John and Jack – are living in New London.

The home where Hymie lived was built prior to 1855; in that era it had been occupied by Dr. J.L. Smith, a surgeon for survivors of the war of 1812. The good doctor often performed his work in his kitchen; he died in the home in 1866. Dr. Smith was also known for establishing the Stone Church Cemetery in town.

A busy man, Dr. Smith always kept a few animals across the road in the barn; they were often cared for by others because his services were in such demand. That land is known in town for its extremely rich soil, excellent for farming. Another reason the doctor purchased that home is the spring behind the house. It still runs year 'round and is said to have the best water in town. There currently is a small "spring house" over the water where it comes to the surface making it easy to reach, even when everything is frozen in the winter. (Each of my three sources commented on this marvelous spring.)

Hymie had a number of characteristics. Sources say he was "very frugal" — the generous description. (One source said with a smile, "If he owed you a dollar and a quarter, he would round it off to one dollar.") No one complained about penny-pinching back then because there were few jobs. Hymie was often active at town

social events and neighbors learned to expect to see him there; he was always known as a polite man.

Hymie kept about 25 milking cows on the property. At the time his brother Lou lived at or near the Thomas Lee house just down the street on Route 156. During summers of the past, both Norm Peck, Jr., and Norm Peck III worked for him. Norm III described riding his bike to the farm in the summer, often baling hay or mucking out the barn. Although the work was hard, he seems to have enjoyed his farm experience for many summers as a young man.

Calving was always an experience to remember, Norm recalls. Dairy cows are different from beef cattle; they always need assistance in birth. For beef cattle, the babies literally just "pop out." Norman remembers tying a rope on an emerging calf and "pulling for what seemed hours" to help the cow give birth. He described it as an exhausting, and extremely rewarding, experience.

Hymie's work ethic was quite simple: work sunup to sundown every day but save time for your faith on Saturdays. After Hymie died on August 10, 1997, Chas. Tinker of 200 Roxbury Road took care of the cows for a number of years.

Hymie had made it clear to his niece that he wanted the land to stay a farm, because he believed so much in the "good life of the land." Though much of his land has become a new neighborhood of houses, I am certain Hymie would be happy that NSC owns, uses, and cares for a good part of his heritage farmland.

Note: Much of this information was provided by Norman Peck, Jr., Norman Peck III, Stephen Huber, and Wilbur Beckwith, East Lyme town historian. Other facts are "bits and pieces" assembled from many sources. If there are any errors or omissions, please e-mail me at tomnancy8934@sbeglobal.net. -TK



About 40 years ago, cows grazed peacefully behind the old red barn on the Salowitz farm on Bride Brook Road. This photo was taken back then by Norman Peck of Waterford, who recently quipped, "Hymie would have thought that I was crazy for taking cow photos. For some reason I thought I should."

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 _____

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. Great Big 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
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



Clothing 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? Or women's or men's or children's clothing? 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. Many items will go to Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc. (TVCCA) is Southeastern Connecticut's Community Action Agency. It's a private, non-profit corporation that has been providing social services to the economically and otherwise disadvantaged citizens of New London County for over 40 years. Some 28 programs currently reach approximately 24,000 eligible clients annually.

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, January 9, 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*

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Niantic, CT 06357

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