

# THE QUAKER HILL ROD & GUN CLUB

PO Box 80, 261 Oxoboxo Dam Road, Oakdale, CT 06370  
<http://quakerhillrodandgunclub.org>

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Many thanks go to Hap Rocketto, Editor in Chief

From all of our readers and members Hap please accept our great appreciation for all of your hard work in putting together the newsletter time after time. Hap has stepped down from his newsletter duties and we hope that we will be able to continue his outstanding legacy. Again way to go Hap!

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## CLUB POSITIONS:

We are currently looking for members willing to fill positions within the club. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Jack Santo, President to discuss open positions and related duties. Currently we are seeking a secretary, committee chairs for Open Game and Indoor Range.

Charlie also is looking for volunteers for the next club dinner. If you haven't made it to one of Charlie's fine meals – make it a point to go. Each month prior to our general membership meeting we are treated to a feast by Charlie and his kitchen gang.

## CLUB APPAREL:

If you can't give us some of your time, support the club by purchasing and wearing club jackets, hats and t-shirts. See Doug Britt who is usually at monthly meetings or in the skeet house or. We have summer and winter items. They also make great gifts for members and future members!

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## WHO WE ARE

Quaker Hill Rod and Gun Club is a private sportsmen's organization whose stated purpose is to "assist in any way feasible in promoting programs for the improvements and development of hunting, fishing, wildlife conditions and shooting sports in this area".

## JOIN US!

### 3rd Thursday of the Month

General Membership meetings are held each month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday except in July & August. We meet at 7 pm in Sullivan Hall at the Club. See you all there!

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## CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Jack Santo  
860 608 4395  
[JDJSANTO@aol.com](mailto:JDJSANTO@aol.com)

Vice President: RichardCivitello  
860 464 1697  
[Rcc627@comcast.net](mailto:Rcc627@comcast.net)

Treasurer: Robert Giffen  
860 608 7137  
[robertgiffen@me.com](mailto:robertgiffen@me.com)

Secretary: Vincent Walker  
860 8483478  
[v54k52@sbcglobal.net](mailto:v54k52@sbcglobal.net)

Steward: Charlie MacLean  
860 8482798

Trustees: Ralph Jackson, Bob Birge,  
Tony Goulart, Jeff Urgitis & John  
Holmes

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## Membership News

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

On 1/16/14 we approved the following newest members:

Ronald J. Benedict of Uncasville, Donald A. Correia of Preston, Daniel A. & Charlene Correia of Waterford, Donald A. Correia, Jr. of Voluntown, Paul J. Ciesinski, of East Hampton, Jason C. Haner of Uncasville, George G. & Jessica Heuschele of Gales Ferry, James A. Kelly of Uncasville, Paul S. McGuirk of Quaker Hill, Leslie A. Obert of Mystic, Kevin A. Roe & Jessica C. Bennett of Oakdale, Robert z. Sims of Uncasville, NaftaliSostre of Oakdale, Ryan A. Wilson of Groton, Bruce A. Tolhurst of Marlborough and Timothy J. Young of Waterford.

### CANDIDATES FOR NEXT MONTH:

Darren T. Hall of Oakdale, George J. & Laura Krisanda of Oakdale and Sean M. Siefert of Norwich.

If any members knows of any reason why an applicant does not meet club standards for membership, please notify a member of the Executive Board immediately.

### NEW MEMBERS WORK:

New members are required to perform 12 hours of community service at the club. Contact any committee chairman to see what projects are in the works and where you can help. Frank Torchia (860) 376 9455 / [ftorchia@ct.metrocast.net](mailto:ftorchia@ct.metrocast.net) is looking for a pin setter on match days at the practical pistol range. Gary Owen (860) 912 3278 / [m1911a1288@aol.com](mailto:m1911a1288@aol.com) is looking for help maintaining the archery range shed, compound and recurve bows and at matches.

### OFFICER AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

When making contact with officers and chairman please be sure to leave your full name, contact information and membership number to help expedite their replies to you.

### IDENTIFICATION:

All members are required to display membership cards and range certification cards while on club property.



## SCHOOL TIME

### Utah Winter Class 2/16/14

There will be a Utah pistol permit class at 9 am. Cost is \$115.00 per person. Contact Jack Santo to sign up.

### Club Constitution & Bylaws

The Officers and Board have finished the changes to the constitution and bylaws which will be voted on during the February 2014 general meeting.

## CLUB SECURITY

### ENTRANCE GATE

Club locksmith, Jeff Urgitis reminds all that with snow, ice and subzero weather, locks can freeze up, please use the LAST LINK on the gate chain to facilitate Jeff in repairs when necessary.

### CLUB KEYS

Keys may be picked up at the Skeet House or Montville Hardware. Your current Membership card and old key are necessary to receive your new key for the year.

## SAFETY / LAWS/ RULES & REGULATIONS

### SAFETY FIRST:

There are 3 basic rules of safe gun handling:

1. Always point the muzzle in a safe direction; never point a firearm at anyone or anything you don't want to shoot.
2. Keep your finger off the trigger and outside of the trigger guard until you are ready to shoot.
3. Keep the action open and the gun unloaded until you are ready to use it.

### LAWS:

Connecticut has recently passed a ban on high capacity magazines. You may not carry concealed more than 10 rounds in your magazine or pistol. We are hoping this law will be repealed but until then please be aware that you will be subject to arrest if you fail to comply. We have donated to the CCDL in the past and approved another donation in January to help their efforts. Check CCDL out at [ccd.us](http://ccd.us) and the folks over at [CTCarry.com](http://CTCarry.com) have a wonderful website with lots of information. Keeping informed and raising your voice will help save our rights as legal, law abiding gun owners!

### RULES & REGULATIONS:

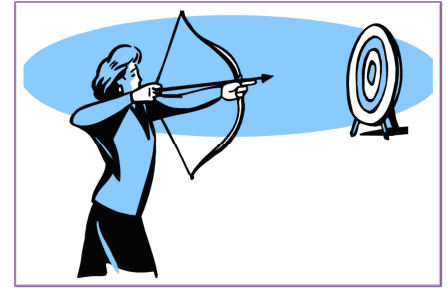
**Hunting on Club Property:** Hunters are to abide by all rules in regard to entering and exiting the hunting grounds. Range operations are not to be interfered with in any way, shape or form.

**Misfires and Debris:** Misfires, live ammo and trash have been found on our ranges. Members must make sure to police their shooting area of all debris. This is **OUR** club and **WE** are all responsible for its upkeep. There are Misfire Cans and expended brass buckets on all ranges. A misfire is any cartridge that does not go off when fired. Misfires are considered live ammo and must be taken home or placed in a club Misfire Can for disposal. The residue from a fired cartridge is an expended brass or hull, in the case of shotguns, place any expended brass or hulls you are not taking home to reload in the brass bucket provided.

**Drugs and Alcohol:** are strictly **FORBIDDEN** on any club property!

**Patterning Board:** This is only for shotguns. Anyone caught using a pistol anywhere other than the pistol ranges will be expelled from the club.

**Archery Hanging Targets:** No broadheads of any type including but not



## CLUB AMENITIES

The Club offers its members and their guests access to 2 skeet ranges, a trap field, an outdoor multipurpose rifle/pistol range, a 200 yard high power range, outdoor practical pistol and plinking ranges, an archery range and an indoor shooting gallery.

The Club supports a variety of junior and women's activities.

Shooting competitions in numerous disciplines are held at the club on a regular basis as are training programs in firearm and hunting safety.

## HUNTING FACTS

Contributions in the form excise taxes paid on sporting firearms, ammo and archery equipment benefit every state and have generated approximately \$5.6 billion for wildlife conservation since 1939. The contribution for 2009 was a record at nearly \$336 million according to the US Fish & Wildlife Service which recently announced the Wildlife Restoration apportionment.

An average hunter spends \$1,638 every year on the sport

limited to practice board head tips both fixed and expandable. Broad head practice targets are in the shed at the archery range. One is for compound and recurve bows and the other for crossbows. Keys for the shed are available from Chairman Rick Davidson (860 705 2447 / [rdavidson8985@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rdavidson8985@sbcglobal.net))

## CLUB ACTIVITIES - ALREADY UNDERWAY

Carroll Range: We have begun the indoor rifle and pistol season. All members are reminded that this range is reserved for team use as follows:

Monday:

3 p.m. To 6 p.m. Montville High School  
7 p.m. to 10 p.m. New London County Pistol League

Tuesday:

3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Grasso Technical High School

Wednesday:

3 p.m. To 6 p.m. Montville High School  
7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Mohegan Rifle League

Thursday:

3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Grasso Technical High School

Friday:

10 a.m. to Noon Southwestern Rifle League  
6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Quaker Hill Junior Program

The Carroll Range is closed on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month during Executive Board and General Membership meetings.

## Winter Pistol and Rifle Leagues

The winter pistol and rifle leagues are underway. Just show up on the scheduled night or call the following. Interested pistol shooters should contact Quaker Hill captain Bob Gesiak, ([rjgesiak@snet.net](mailto:rjgesiak@snet.net)) or Nutmeg Captain Bob Drosch, ([rdrosch6301@charter.net](mailto:rdrosch6301@charter.net)) for the Nutmegs to compete on Monday nights.

Rifle shooters who wish to shoot in the Mohegan League on Wednesday nights can call Mark Wujtewicz, ([mwojo@ct.metrocast.net](mailto:mwojo@ct.metrocast.net)) for Quaker Hill and Steve Rocketto, ([srocketto@aquilasys.com](mailto:srocketto@aquilasys.com)) for the Magnums.

Rifle shooters interested in the Southwest Three Position League on Friday mornings need to contact Ernie Mellor. ([emellor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:emellor@sbcglobal.net))

## New London County Pistol League

The New London County Pistol League is well into its 2013-14 season and the Quaker Hill Nutmegs are currently at 10-4. Bob Drosch leads the team with a



## Range Certifications

Range certification is required in order to use a range unsupervised and are good for life. A range certification card will be issued to each member detailing those ranges that the member has been certified for.

To obtain certification to use a range unsupervised, please contact the appropriate range chairman:

Rocketto Outdoor Range – Gary Owens (860 447 1092  
[m1911a1288@aol.com](mailto:m1911a1288@aol.com))

Carroll Indoor Range – Mark Wujtewicz  
([mwojo@ct.metrocast.net](mailto:mwojo@ct.metrocast.net))

Practical Pistol Range – Frank Torchia  
([ftorchia@ct.metrocast.net](mailto:ftorchia@ct.metrocast.net))

High Power Rifle Range –

Archery Range - Rick Davidson  
(860 705 2447  
[rdavidson8985@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rdavidson8985@sbcglobal.net))

Skeet – Doug Britt (860 448 0308  
[dwb@tvconnect.net](mailto:dwb@tvconnect.net))

Please note that these are all volunteers and appointments must be made for certifications. Arrangements may be made for before or after our regular monthly meetings as range chairmen's schedules permit.

277.33 average with Brian Watrous 275.3 in second.

The Quaker Hill Team is now 2-13 on the year, but still, unfortunately, at the bottom of Class B. Phil Kohanski is shooting a 277.23 average for the team lead and is supported by Lance Johnson with a 276.13.

## Quaker Hill Juniors

The Junior program is well underway. The juniors are beginning their fourth week of practice and are starting to get into the swing of things. With over 40 kids participating, roughly half of them are first time participants, the program shows solid growth. The robust nature of junior activity bodes well for the future of the club. A large and active membership lays the ground work for them growing into senior members who will make significant contributions to Quaker Hill when they are adults. Just one look at the roster of current officers and committee chairs who started out as juniors drives the point home. The juniors are the seed corn of the shooting sports and the club and we must nurture them accordingly.

The Junior club begins its match season in December and will close out the year in March.

## PRACTICAL PISTOL

**Winter shooting:** When shooting on the right hand bay in the winter, please make sure when you leave you place all tables, chairs, etc used to one side of the range. This will allow the range to be plowed out when it snows and keep it cleared for everyone's enjoyment year round.

**Winter Pin League:** The winter outdoor league has started. It shoots on Saturdays at 1 PM and will run until the end of March. This is a .22 pistol (semi-auto and/or revolver) event. Entry fee will be \$10 per gun. This will be a bowling pin style league. The targets will be the special steel pin racks we have for the pin tables. Bowling pin league match rules apply. Contact Frank with any questions.

**Contact (Concealed Tactical):** Defensive pistol matches are Saturday mornings. NOTE WINTER START TIME is 10 AM. Set up is at 9:30 so come early to help. Matches use IDPA targets and rules except for equipment - any reasonable, concealable carry gun is permitted. Hi-capacity magazines, ported barrels, low profile optical sights, etc. are OK. Usually shoot four scenarios per match, with from 6 to 18 rounds fired per scenario. If the weather forecast is iffy, on Friday email will be sent out to past participants informing them if match will be held or not. Contact Ernie Beckwith with any questions at [tfo44@comcast.net](mailto:tfo44@comcast.net).

**.22 Rimfire Plate Shoot:** Dates will be, April 27, May 25, June 29, July 27, August 24, September 28 and October 26 (charity shoot). Shooting starts at 9:00 AM. Shooting will be one on one with each shooter having four 4"x 6" plates on the lower section, two 6"x 6" plates on the upper section to knock over first and then a 4"x 6" hinged tie breaking plate. First shooter to knock over their plates will win the string. Each shooter will shoot six strings and the one with the most wins gets first place and so on. In the event of a tie there will be a timed shoot off. Pistols will be at 15



## Those who use the Practical Pistol Range!

Please leave the tables to the side after you use the range. The club needs to keep this plowed after the snow falls, and it makes it easier on everyone.

**CERTIFICATIONS:** by email appointment only.

**PRACTICAL PISTOL RANGE:**

Questions except for certifications call:

Frank Torchia  
([ftorchia@ct.metrocast.net](mailto:ftorchia@ct.metrocast.net))



yards and rifles will be 25 yards. Clip fed semi auto pistols and clip fed semi auto rifles are preferred, tube fed rifles and revolvers are welcome. Any sights. Entry fee will be \$5 per relay, payout will be determined by how many shooters there are. Add a \$1 dollar event fee for nonmembers to cover insurance. CHAMBER FLAGS ARE MANDATORY. Flier is on the website or you can contact Allen Crouch at 860-608-7276 or [eacrouch@snet.net](mailto:eacrouch@snet.net) for more info.



## REST IN PEACE

**Thomas Kosch** of Skowhegan, Maine was very active member of our club before he moved to Maine. On January 13, 2014, while loading a tractor on a trailer, Tom suffered a massive heart attack and passed away. There is a service on Saturday, February 1, 2014, at St. Mary's Church, 70 Central Avenue, Norwich, Connecticut from 11 am to 2 pm. Tom's widow, Julie welcomes all club members to attend. We thank you Julie and you have our deepest sympathies.

**Darby Bailey** of Waterford, Connecticut was an avid Skeet shooter and shot on our winter league team for years. Darby passed away on January 14, 2014. He was born Nov. 16, 1946, in Guthrie Center, Iowa, the son of the late Donald and Mary (Bohlender) Bailey. In his early years, he was raised in Groton and graduated from Robert E. Fitch Senior High School. He was united in marriage to the former Cecelia Verosky on July 6, 1968 in the former St. Peter & Paul Polish National Catholic Church in New London, Mrs. Bailey survives him. Darby was a beloved, loving husband, father and grandfather. He was a gifted woodworker crafting furniture and other items. To his family he was the all-around fix it man. He will be missed by all.

## MEMBER SHOUT OUT:

I would like to congratulate my wife, Daphne who recently took the pistol safety course offered at the club. She got an A on the written and was in the black on the range. After class she went home and knit a hat.

Pete Volkmar

## Newsletter Contributions

We value all of our members. Please feel free to submit material for the newsletter no later than the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month for inclusion in the current publication. Send contribution to Pete Volkmar at 860 287 0565 or [ptvolkmar@yahoo.com](mailto:ptvolkmar@yahoo.com).

## EDITOR'S NOTE

My name is Pete Volkmar and I am the "new" newsletter guy. My wife and I joined the club last February and enjoy the new people we have met. I did not grow up in a hunting – gun family. My curiosity grew about guns through appreciation for the US Constitution. My father-in-law, Big Jim Kernozek suggested that I join this club. As an avid sportsman himself, he enjoyed hunting, fishing, reloading and everything that went with it. He taught me a lot and I am learning more through this club. I have some new ideas for the newsletter and will be trying them out. Please bear with me on my crash course of publishing.

If anyone would like to share ideas, stories, community events, etc. please contact me.