

❖ The North Berwick Rod & Gun Club Newsletter ❖

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January 2020

2020 RENEWAL APPLICATION ATTACHED

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As in years past we have had many events and classes available for our members and guests,

We have scheduled our youth Hooked on Fishing not on Drugs fishing day for June 6, 2020. Put it on your calendar and bring your kids and your neighbors for a fun time with real nice trout waiting to be caught. There are many other classes and events available to you such as Pistol classes, Hunter Safety, Archery Safety and hopefully coming soon Cross Bow safety. If there is a specialty class you would like to have available let us know and we will see if we can arrange to have it here. We have done such classes as bleeding control and the Coast Guard Safe Boating class. We do two Women on Target Shooting Clinics each year as well as Hunter Trap, Falling Plates, Club level IDPA, MMA Archery Shoots, Bench Rest Air Gun Matches to name a few. Check the web site for dates and times.

We send two youth to the U-Maine 4-H Camp at Bryant Pond each year. We will be looking for interested youth to attend camp. See article by Ralph Gamache.

Club Activities

Steve Rand

As usual the club has been a hub of activity in the shooting sports this year. You will see the extent of new and improved additions to the club in the other articles in this newsletter. Much has been done to the Archery indoor and outdoor ranges. See Bob Pelletier's piece. Bench rest air gun has come to the club in a big way with Howard William's guidance. The club purchased a compressor to fill the new PCP air guns thus making it easier for our air gunners to move up to the pre charged guns. These have come down in price to make them a good choice to shoot. No more spending much sweat and mussel to pump them up to 3000 pounds! See Pete Waterman's piece.

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The annual meeting will be
January 23 at 7 PM.

The meeting will be held following a bean supper for members, 6 PM, at the N. Berwick Recreation Center. The Recreation Center is on Lebanon Road just south of 5 Corners. This is the annual election of officers for the coming year and board members for 3 years. All positions are up for vote so if you have a desire to be considered for any position please let a board member know.

Air Rifle/Pistol

Pete Waterman

Air gun activities at the Club are enjoying the winter days with the usual members. Still on Monday nights at 6 until 7-7:30 pm in the indoor range. \$1 for the evening and you can shoot as long as you want. If you have an air gun and want to shoot just show up. Can't get a better bargain. If you are thinking of buying an air products come down first and learn about them by looking and maybe trying one so you can be better informed for your purchase. Air rifle or air pistol, bench or offhand. We have targets being bullseye or novelty for shooting pleasures. Air guns of all types are welcome in the 17 and 22 caliber size. The larger calibers are too powerful for our setup so we limit it to these calibers. Benches are provided with sand bags and target boxes to catch the pellets.

Howard Williams, who has become an ardent bench-rest competitor has recently requested that the Club host the Regional Indoor Championship March 20-22 of this year. This is competition at the highest level. The Board of Directors of the Organization have fully endorsed the effort and will be supporting our event on their website and forums. Huge win for the Club to get the recognition as this will be the first indoor event in the history of the bench-rest organization. Howard already has several shooters coming to the monthly shoots including 3 time world champion Paul Bendix. The club will be adding to its assets 10 benches that will be acceptable for the regional competition. All of these will be paid for with the bench-rest proceeds. This will be a very enjoyable event to witness. If anyone has any interest in helping out

at the 3 day event please speak up and let the club know as it will be a very busy event.

NBRGC Archery

Bob Pelletier

The North Berwick Rod & Gun club indoor and outdoor facilities continue to offer some of Maine's best archery shooting opportunities for members and guests as discussed in this section below. In March of this year, the club hosted the Maine State Indoor Archery Championship held in York County for the first time. During that two and one half day event, we were able to accommodate 68 shooters. These State Championships are coordinated through the Maine State Archery Association (MAA) and follow the National Field Archery Association (NFAA) rules. NBRGC is a member of both the NFAA and the MAA. The next state shoot will be held at Lakeside Archery located in North Falmouth on March 20, 2020. Looking at the rotation, NBRGC should be given the opportunity to host another Maine State Championship in 2023 or 2024. In addition, we also hosted two regular MAA indoor shoots and two outdoor shooting events. Our next indoor MAA shoot will be on Sunday, February 3, 2020 which is open to the general public.

During 2019, the NBRGC continued improvements to their archery assets. After 10 years of use, the existing indoor bales were getting very dilapidated. Big Boy Target Company was able to build larger 50"X50" layered bales where the old bales were only 36"X48". These new bales will allow a

shooting line of 16 archers compared to 12 before. We did however, keep 4 of the old bales for continued traditional style shooting with wooden arrows. These used bales are still fine for this style of shooting and do not create an issue when some glued points become unglued and remain inside the bale. In addition, we are in the process of building two "Crossbow" box bales rugged enough to stop the heaviest of crossbow arrows with easy arrow removal. People can now hunt with crossbows during the regular archery season on deer so we anticipate an increase in that sport.

The outdoor range was also improved by making it wider and longer. We will now accommodate up to 40 archers in a tournament. This improvement will also allow us to move the shooting lines away from the building and push the bales further back so we can shoot longer distances up to 80 yards. All members now have full time use of the outdoor archery range along with the outdoor rifle/pistol ranges.

Archery in New England typically consists of four different types of shooting ranges and NBRGC now has two of these all set up, the indoor 20 yard range and the outdoor 80 yard range. In the future as participation increases and more members become active in archery, the club will attempt to move forward and set up the other two ranges which would consist of a 14 target field round and a 3D animal round both located along wooded trails on club property. During the past few years, we

have been successful in earning enough funds from these MAA shoots to pay for all these capital improvements and operating expenses relating to archery. We are thankful for the support given by the archers and gunners in this club along with the MAA members.

In August we held our annual Bow Hunter Safety class with 27 in attendance. While we do not charge for the course, many donated funds for the purpose of improving the outdoor archery range. We will host another Bow Hunter Safety course probably this coming August. If anyone wishes to be on the register, just contact me. In addition this year, Gary Rohm, Chuck Barto and myself donated our time to the Kittery Trading Post (KTP) and held a bow hunter safety course along with a crossbow hunting safety course sponsored by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. As a result, KTP donated three, high quality 3D archery animals to the club worth approximately \$700.

If you already shoot a bow and want to hone your skills, or if you would like to try shooting and need some instruction, visit us on Thursday evenings between 6:00 pm and 9:00 pm as we have plenty of room for more.

Bob Pelletier
Archery Director
email: bobang1973@yahoo.com

Membership

Ralph Gamache

For the first time in close to 30 years that I have been membership chairman, the membership of the club has declined from the previous

year. At the end of 2018 we had 915 members and this year we finished with 855. I can't really explain this; we had an outstanding year in new memberships and more past members reactivating than in previous years. This slight decline in membership is not a concern. We are a strong active club and will continue to be so. If you don't think that joining together in support of our sporting traditions is important, just look to Virginia. This year, being an election year, could be a very interesting one. Please continue to support the club and renew your membership. Also consider an NRA and a Sportsman's Alliance of Maine membership.

Please note that if you joined as a new member at this year's August meeting or after, your membership is paid through December 31 of 2020, so you don't need to send in a renewal. For everyone else, other than life members, your renewal is due now. For uninterrupted access to the club, please send in your renewal form as soon as possible. If there is no change to your information, please check the "no change" box on the application. It really saves time if I don't need to review everyone's information. If you have questions on your renewal status you can e-mail me at rgamache73@gmail.com.

Youth Activities

This year the club will again be offering two (2) Anthony M. Dyer scholarships to the Bryant Pond 4-H Camp and Learning Center. The

winners may select from the following camps:

- Conservation camp: Hunter Safety: Firearm, Archery
- Fishing Camp
- Rivers and Rapids
- 4H Shooting Sports Archery
- Natural Explorer

Candidates who are chosen will be responsible for transportation and a little snack money, but all other costs for the school are covered. For more information see the school's website at:
<http://extension.umaine.edu/bryantpond/>

This scholarship is open to all Maine residents ages 10 to 15 years old. To apply for a scholarship, send the applicant's name, address, age, and phone number to the club mailbox: PO Box 33, North Berwick, ME 03906 or e-mail rgamache73@gmail.com. All entries must be received by March 20th. The drawing will be held at the March meeting and winners will be notified after that.

Due to changes in the tax laws, we are no longer able to run a raffle to support these scholarships. Please consider making a small donation in addition to your membership dues in support of these valuable youth programs.

We will be holding our annual "Get Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs Kids Fishing Day" at the beginning of June. It's a great event for all of the kids and for the members who work the event. We can always use extra hands, so please consider helping out. See photos from prior years on the club website.

**North Berwick Rod & Gun Club 2020 RENEWAL Membership
Application** REV: 10/09/19

Thank you for your membership. Please print clearly.

Check if no changes

Key card number _____

Name	
Street	
City	
State/Zip	
Phone	
Email *	

Membership Options - Please circle.

Membership Type	Membership Fee	Total Due
Adult – 1 Yr	\$60	\$60
Life – Under 65 yrs	\$600	\$600
Life – 65 yrs and over	\$420	\$420

Total enclosed \$ _____ ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP TERM RUNS TO DECEMBER 31ST

MEMBERS WILL NOT BE BILLED FOR RENEWALS AND NO REMINDERS WILL BE SENT.

ANNUAL RENEWAL APPLICATION <http://www.nbrgc.org/index.php> “About Us”

Please circle area(s) of interest:

Archery - Action Pistol - Air Gun -Target Pistol - Ladies Pistol League - Rifle - Hunters Trap - Acton Fair
- Youth Activities - Venture Crew - Appleseed - NRA member - SAM member

Mail to: North Berwick Rod and Gun Club, PO Box 33, North Berwick, ME 03906-0033 or
bring application to meeting night **prior to 7:00.**

For all club monthly meetings see www.nbrgc.org/index.php/about-us/about-us

***By providing your email you grant permission for the club to email you with club business and to provide you with a log in pass code to the club website. Your e-mail will not be sold or used for any other purpose**