



RSC NEWSLETTER

RAYMOND SPORTSMAN'S CLUB

WWW.RAYMONDSPOETSMANSCLUB.COM

PO BOX 725 RAYMOND, NH 03077-0725

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April, 2011

OFFICERS

President: Norm Pinard
Vice President: Brian Quist
Secretary: Terrence Mulligan
Treasurer: Frank Knowles
Sergeant of Arms: Bob Hartford

ADVISORY BOARD

Richard Gorman: Thru 2012
Bill Lane: Thru 2013
Tim Layman: Thru 2012
Steve Robbins: Thru 2012
Nick Wason: Thru 2012

COMMITTEES

Archery: Bruce Winchell
Boy Scouts: Tim Layman
By-Laws: Linda Wason
Building: Brian Quist
Grounds: Richard Gorman
Hunter Ed: Brian Quist
Kitchen: Norm Pinard
Newsletter: Tim Layman
Range: Bill Lane
Spacetown Beagle Club: Richie Houde
Town Fair: Norm Pinard
Ways & Means: Elected Officers
Web Site: Rob Pini

My Hunting Buddy

By: Cally Lighthall

For several years I bird hunted, sneaking up to apple trees in the fall in hopes of spotting a hungry bird. I often sat among the pines waiting for a bird to show up looking for a nap. One afternoon I even convinced my husband to "push" through the pines. I had several successes on Ruffed Grouse using these methods. I decided, however, that I could be even more successful if I had a bird dog. I spoke with several friends who owned bird dogs, and I did some research on the different hunting breeds. I decided my hunting buddy would be an English Setter.

The first step in the process of finding my dog was to locate a breeder. Several phone calls later we had located a breeder in Maine, and as fate would have it, she had a litter of 4 week old pups. We took the trip to Maine and found there were several pups to choose from. I selected the one that had selected me.

For 4 weeks I read all the bird dog training books I could lay my hands on and I was ready. We picked Lily up at the end of April and she was 8 weeks old. We trained hard all summer, I had Lily in the woods every chance I got. One of the most important tools used in training a bird dog is the whistle. I decided on the double ended type with one end holding a bead the other end does not. This feature allows you to produce several different sounds. Lily learned quickly just what I expected her to do by the tone of the whistle.



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2011 Membership Dues

Per Raymond Sportsman's Club by laws, annual dues are due and payable April 1st. If dues are not received on or before May 15th, the individual's membership will need to be cancelled to accommodate the waiting list of new candidates.

In order to rejoin, the former

member will need to re-apply as a new candidate following the standard application procedures. Applications will always be accepted, but a new associate membership can only be granted if space is available. Currently, Raymond Sportsman's Club is at capacity for Associate membership.

Committee Reports March 2, 2011

- Archery: Bow hunter's Ed course on May 14th. Next 3-D Archery Shoot is on Sunday July 3rd
- Boy Scouts: Troop 101 Scout Master Marc Zahler told the club that after their next Monday night, Troop 101 sweep and mop the floor upstairs in an effort to help prepare for the Game dinner on Saturday night.
- By Laws : The changes to Article 8, proposing that Junior members be removed from the Associate member headcount and to change some of the wording, will appear in the April Newsletter for the membership to view.
- Building: Brian will come up with a list of projects for the Boy Scouts and work parties.
- Grounds: Bring Loppers, shovels, rakes, etc. for Spring Clean up Day on Saturday May 7th.
- Hunter Ed: April 23rd and August 27th are the dates for the two hunter education field days that will be held at RSC this year Two awards were issued to RSC members by the State of New Hampshire.
Frank Knowles was recognized for 5 years as a Bow hunter Ed Instructor
John Lighthall was recognized for 10 years as a Hunter's Ed Instructor
- Kitchen: The RSC annual Game Dinner will be held Saturday April 16th at 5pm. The kitchen committee needs help prior to the dinner on Saturday to help for set up and also needs help on Sunday for cleanup.
- Newsletter: Went out on schedule.
- Range: Bob Hartford noted that shooters are climbing up on the shooting berms to set up clays as targets. No one is allowed to climb on the berms!
- Space Town: The Annual Spring Beagle Trials will be held from April 30th through May 1st. The raffle will be drawn on May 1st. Richie will notify SBC members of spring clean up day. Also, Richie warns that you may need 4WD to get up by the breeding pens because it is very muddy.
- Town Fair: Will be held on July 8, 9 & 10 on the Town Common. Our Bingo tent at the Town Fair is RSC's biggest fund raiser. Lots of help is needed for the Bingo Tent and sign-up boards will be posted as the event nears.
- Way & Means: Nothing to Report
- Web site: Nothing to Report

For Sale

“Site Lite” Laser Bore-Sighter

- ◆ SL-100 w/scope, reticle & lever
- ◆ \$60.00
- ◆ Call Steve Robbins @ 978 317 8218

Misc. Notes

50/50 Drawing March 16
 Won by: Joe Brackett.

50/50 Drawing April 6
 Won by: Linda Wason

Welcome New Members:

Joe Latona Associate Member
Chris McKee Honorary Member

Future Event Dates

Wild Game Dinner: April 16, 2011

This is a potluck dinner with entrees that are prepared by members & guests from wild game. This event includes a raffle (following the dinner) sponsored jointly by Raymond Sportsman’s Club and Spacetown Beagle Club. Members are welcome to donate items new & used) to be included in the raffle. There will also be a 50/50 raffle. **Admission: \$5 per adult, children free.**

Spring Clean-Up Day: May 7th

All members are invited to join your comrades and help give your club a not so extreme makeover. This winter was a tough one and it left some scars in a number of spots. Bring yard tools, shovels, rakes, loppers and a willing spirit and show how you care. All those lending a hand will be rewarded with an food and drink for lunch.

Family Campout: July 30—31, 2011

The 2nd annual Family Campout will take place on club grounds and will run from midday Saturday to midday Sunday. There will be with many planned activities for children and adults alike. More details to follow.

Friends, Gifts & Holiday Spirit at RSC



Lily and I had a great first hunting season. We didn't get any birds that year, but we had a lot of fun and it was a learning experience for both of us. It always made my day just watching the dog get excited. The following summer we decided to send Lily back to the breeder for some professional training. She spent 6 weeks at doggy summer camp in Maine. I am glad I had sent her to the training camp even though I missed her terribly.

The following season started off with a bang.....or I should say without one . Lily got her first Woodcock and no shots were ever fired! She caught the bird as it took flight..... straight up. We have enjoyed several successful seasons since the training in Maine and we continue to train her on Quail every summer.

This past fall, I had the opportunity to hunt with Lily for 3 weeks at our property in Upstate New York. Before leaving New Hampshire I checked the New York release sites for Pheasants in our area. We had never hunted Pheasants together, but I thought it would be a great chance to give it a try. Both the dog and I were excited to get the extended hunting opportunity. It was destined to be a great experience.

We hunted Grouse on our property for the first two days without much luck and decided to try the pheasant sites. Armed with my map, I made sure to connect with the farmers and ask permission to hunt their property. These landowners offered some great tips on just where the state had released the birds.

Corn fields seemed to be the bird's favorite hiding spot. I could hear birds taking flight but could never see them because of the height of the corn. After careful consideration, Lily and I finally found the perfect spot to work. Our "honey spot" turned out to be a narrow corn field next to an overgrown field of hay on a slope, followed by a hedge row and another hay field.

The first pass along the hedge row put up 3 deer. It's a good thing Lily knows she is only looking for birds!!! Next, we zigzagged through the corn field even though the corn was too tall for any good shots. I was hoping to at least push some birds out into the hay field for a better shooting opportunity. We did have several flushes and that was a good sign. We carefully proceeded to the lower edge of the hay field and slowly made our way through.

All of a sudden, Lily took off for the hedgerow. I turned to see what in the heck was so interesting and all of a sudden several Pheasants took flight and headed into the field way out in front of me. I whistled Lily back, visually marking the spot where I had seen the birds land. We moved slowly in the direction of the birds and when we got near the area, I whistled to Lily and pointed to the spot where I had seen one land. Sure enough, Lily approached with caution and locked up on the most beautiful point I have ever seen. I took one step, and up shot the pheasant. Up came my gun, leading the bird slightly and BANG. The pheasant glided off toward the hedgerow and off we took.

Lily went right through the hedge row and up to the hayfield on the other side. I, however, had to crawl through the hedge row trying not to get shredded in the process. I walked into the field looking all around for the Pheasant, but no such luck. Then, I noticed that Lily was paying no attention to me, because she was doing a "hey, it's over here dance." As I approached her I saw there was the Pheasant on the ground. Lily was a little apprehensive about picking the bird up, but that is something we will work on. What a thrill to have shot our first Pheasant. I don't know who was more excited..... me or the dog. I do believe we were both doing the "happy dance," and we both are looking forward to seasons to come.

On a side note; we now have 2 English Setters, Lily and Scout. Recently, we were exercising the dogs in the woods, and Scout got a nasty cut on his ear. By the time we got him home he looked like he had been shot. My home looked like a crime scene and every time he shook his head a wall would get splattered with blood. We made a trip to the vet for something to seal the cut and it did heal. I then promptly bought a nice, well equipped first aid kit for dogs. This is one purchase I strongly recommend before you need it.



By-Law Proposed Changes

ARTICLE 8. MEETINGS

Section 8.01 Membership Types

(a) MEMBER: A Member will be defined as a person holding any membership type identified in this section.

i. Voting Member: A Voting Member will be defined as a member holding a Regular, Senior/Regular, or Life Membership.

ii. Non-Voting Member: A Non-Voting Member will be defined as a member holding an Associate, Senior/Associate, *Junior*, or Honorary Membership.

iii. Junior Member: A Junior Member will be defined per Article 8, Section g.

(g) Any individual ten (10) through seventeen (17) years of age will be eligible for Junior Membership in this club if properly sponsored. A Junior Member will not have voting rights, cannot sponsor a candidate for membership, hold an elected office, or have keys to the club house area or range. However, A Junior Member can be appointed to a committee. Junior Members advance to Regular Membership at age eighteen (18) if they have been a Junior Member for at least one (1) year (12 consecutive months of membership) and completed twenty-five (25) hours of service (cumulative since join date) to the RSC with any active committee. If the criteria to advance to Regular Membership have not been met, a Junior Member will advance to Associate Membership.

Section 8.02 Membership Criteria

(a) Any person ten (10) years or older will be eligible for membership.

(b) This club will limit the number of members allowed under each membership type:

i. Voting Membership will be limited to 100 members. When the 100 member limit is reached, Junior (**non-grand fathered**). Associate and Senior/Associate Members looking to advance will be put on a waiting list (first come - first serve basis). In the event that the number of members with the same join date looking to advance is greater than the number of open Voting Memberships, the member(s) with the most work hours in the previous year will advance. Advancement will occur as openings become available.

ii. Non-Voting Membership will be limited to 150 members.

iii. Junior Members will not be included in the total membership count and, therefore, will not affect the Voting or Non-Voting Membership limits as set. There will be no limitations on the number of Junior Members that can be associated with this club provided each Junior Member meets the age and sponsorship requirements.

Section 8.03 Membership Procedures

(d) Regular Members: To advance from Junior or Associate Membership requires an updated application (no fee) and standard voting procedure apply. **Any Junior Member associated with RSC prior to 4/1/2011 wishing to advance to Regular Membership must meet all requirements and will be considered grand-fathered and may proceed to Regular Membership regardless of the current CAP set at that time. Non-grand-fathered Junior Members may advance to Regular Membership providing Regular Membership CAP has not yet been reached. If Regular Membership CAP is filled, the Junior Member will reside on a waiting list until the next Regular Membership opening becomes available.**

BOLD = New wording

Junior = Wording to be eliminated.