

President's Update

-By Bill Ahearn

Congratulations to the 2024 Board of Directors! I'm looking forward to this coming year as your newly elected president. As we work towards short and long-term goals, I'm eager to continue with positive changes in our club while working with you to achieve our objectives. This takes a lot of work, and your participation is most welcome. Please do not hesitate to let us know where your interests lie or what suggestions you may have. Your new board looks forward to your support for a successful and productive year. (508) 400-5986

"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself." - Henry Ford

Vice Presidents Update

-By David Manseau

Greetings Everyone,

I'm looking forward to a great 2024 and helping with whatever I can. If you have any questions for me, I can be reached at 508.615.1033.

From our Treasurer

-By Alison Ahearn, Treasurer

Singletary Rod and Gun Club is extremely excited to be sponsoring 2 campers between the ages of 13-17 for the Massachusetts Junior Conservation Camp 2024. This sponsorship is open to children/grandchildren of members.

To be eligible, please have the child submit a letter by February 15th including the following:

- Contact Information
- Parent's Contact Information
- Member's Name and Number
- Why would you like to attend this camp?

The letter, in a sealed envelope, Attn: Alison Ahearn, can be submitted by either:

- Drop it off at the bar.
- Mail it to:

Singletary Rod and Gun Club Inc. 300 Sutton Ave Oxford, MA 01540 Attn: Alison Ahearn

If you have any questions regarding the experience of attending Massachusetts Junior Conservation Camp, please feel free to reach out to Brendan Ahearn (508) 887-3568. He will be happy to answer any questions you have and share his experiences while attending the camp.

Additional information regarding the camp is below:

Campers

Boys and girls, ages 13 to 17, who enjoy outdoor activities and want to learn more about the environment. Although some campers have considerable experience, others are only beginners. The camp program is designed for both. Parents and organizations are encouraged to send campers who have a sincere interest in learning more about the outdoors.

Session

Dates: August 5-17, 2024 (Full 12-day residential camp)

Location: Horace Moses Boy Scout Reservation, located in scenic Russell, Massachusetts. The facility offers two-person tents with cots atop raised platforms, a modern dining hall, a fully equipped medical lodge, a beautiful waterfront, several classroom buildings, shooting ranges, and a variety of sports facilities.





Junior Conservation Camp Continued:

Program

The Massachusetts Junior Conservation Camp was founded in 1949 and continues to offer a unique two-week experience providing a balance of conservation education and instruction in outdoor recreation skills. Through their curriculum, campers are introduced to the ethical concepts and knowledge essential to a lifetime of properly enjoying the natural resources and leisure activities that depend on their careful stewardship.

Enthusiastic young outdoorsmen and women of today will become tomorrow's leaders and will be essential in preserving outdoor traditions and safeguarding our natural heritage. Campers enjoy traditional summer camp activities such as swimming, fishing, boating, and volleyball. However, it is the Massachusetts Junior Conservation Camp's core curriculum that sets them apart. Their program features:

Archery ~ Basic Camping ~ Fish and Pond Life ~ Fly & Spin Casting ~ Forestry ~ Handgun Shooting ~ Hunter Education ~ Map & Compass ~ Muzzleloading ~ Riflery ~ Shotgun ~ Survival ~ Wildlife Management

Staff

Resident counselors are experienced outdoorsmen and women with a strong commitment to conservation. Certified lifeguards and medical personnel are on staff. All instructors are certified in their respective fields. Many of their staff members are previous campers themselves and have a strong dedication to the campers and their camp experience.

If you have any questions about the program or process, please call me at 508.277.4794.



Members helping with voting at the General Assembly Meeting. Thanks to everyone who helped!

Membership Update

-By Kristine Smith

Hi everyone, I'm excited about my new role in Membership and the opportunity to support our club in this position. I want to thank Deb for all her hard work over the years and for assisting me as I learn and ask a million questions in the process. I ask that you all please bear with me as I learn the ropes and membership system.

The 2024 Membership Renewal is closed. If you missed renewing, you must complete a new application and be voted back at a future General Assembly Meeting. We will be accepting new members again at the March General Assembly Meeting. If you have any questions, please give me a call at 978-804-3692.



Al Walker stocking trout for the Winter Fishing Derby! Some NICE fish were stocked!

Fish News

-By Al Walker, Fish Chairman

For the Winter Fishing Derby fish stocking will be held Saturday, January 27th at noon with the fishing derby on Sunday, February 4th. Breakfast starts at 6:00 and the derby starts at 7:00. If there are any changes to these events due to ice conditions, it will be posted at the bar and on our Facebook page. If you wish to eat breakfast at the derby, tickets are available at the bar for \$8.00. We will be raffling off the 3 Cabela/Bass Pro gift cards at the winter derby (\$200.00, \$200.00, \$100.00). You may purchase tickets in advance at the bar. This derby will have our standard fish stocking plus an additional \$500.00 spent on large fish that are approximately 18". Any questions call me at 508-980-9112. Thank you.

Bar News

-By Ron Normandin, Bar Manager

Hello everyone, We have the giant meat raffle February 4th at 2:00, early bird at 1:30. The recreational fire is February 17th, (weather permitting) rain date is March 2nd. Come buy a raffle ticket for the 64-gun safe. The game dinner is February 24th, tickets at the bar, \$40.00 each. We have tickets for the ice fishing tilts at the bar, one set to be raffled at the fire and one set at the game dinner. Come down and visit. Any questions call 774-272-1270. Thanks.



Pictured: Members at the January General Assembly Meeting.

Archery News

-By Cole Bromley

The Spaghetti Dinner to support the Youth Archery League will be on Saturday, March 23rd. Cocktails start at 5 pm with dinner being served at 6 pm. Tickets are \$20 and will be available at the bar the first week of February. Please reach out to me if you have any questions at 774-482-0597.

Rifle Range News

-By Tom Dolan, Range Chairman

Results of this month's rifle range shoot for January 2024.

On January 14th, we held a pistol shoot for rimfire and centerfire pistols. The winners for the rimfire shoot are 1st - Mike Blanchard, 2nd - Tim Mahoney, 3rd - Nick Hankey. The winners for the centerfire shoot are 1st - Tim Mahoney, 2nd - Mike Blanchard, 3rd - Steve Virgillio. Congrats to all the winners.

On January 28th, we held a pistol shoot for both rimfire and centerfire pistols. This was a teamed event with your partner changing each round. The winners for the rimfire shoot are 1st - Tim Mahoney, 2nd - Matt Rezuke, 3rd - Tied: Nick Hankey, Steve Virgillio, and Mike Blanchard. The winners for the centerfire shoot are 1st - Nick Hankey, 2nd - Tim Mahoney, 3rd - Tied: Shane Fungfat, Mike Chludenski, and Tom Dolan. Congrats to all the winners.

Upcoming Shoots in February! **All shoots listed are open to the public**

February 11th - Pistol Shoot. Includes Rimfire and Centerfire competitions run back-to-back. Registration opens at 8:30 am, and first shots at 9:00 am.

February 24th - Pistol Shoot. Includes Rimfire and Centerfire competitions run back-to-back. Registration opens at 8:30 am, and first shots at 9:00 am.



Ava Lundin and Katie Smith caught a nice perch through the ice!



We have 2 sets of Indian Hill Ice Traps for raffle at the bar!

Entertainment and Communication News

-By Kristine Smith, Entertainment and Communications

Hi everyone,

January 12th was our General Assembly Meeting where over 180 members cast a ballot for the 2024 Board of Directors. Many thanks to all those who helped make the voting a smooth and efficient process! Thank you to our 2023 Board and Congratulations to our 2024 Board!

Nominations for 2024 Office:

President: Bill Ahearn

Vice President: Dave Manseau
Treasurer: Alison Ahearn
Asst. Treasurer: John Grande
R- Secretary: Kent Vinson
Rifle: Tom Dolan

Archery:

Fish: Al Walker

Bar: Ron Normandin Membership: Kristine Smith

Trap: Joe Miller

Director at large (3): Tom Cunningham, Ray Ludvigson, Bob Manseau

I have been working with Wachusett Firearms Training and have spoken with the Rifle Range and am looking at putting together Defensive Handgun Safety training at the club. This will be a 12-hour program consisting of 4 hours of classroom and 8 hours on the range. There is a Defensive Handgun Safety 1 and 2 class and which classes we hold will depend on member interest. Membership interest forms will be available at the next meeting and on our website, please email completed forms to singletarycommunications@gmail.com.

The recreational fire and potluck will be coming up on February 17th with a rain date of March 2nd, starting at 5 p.m.. Bring a dish to share and a chair to sit by the fire. We will have burgers and hot dogs available as well. We will be raffling off a set of 5- Indian Hill Ice Traps, a 64-long Gun Fireproof Safe and have a 50/50! Come out and support your club. All welcome!

The Game Supper will be on February 24th. We will be raffling off another set of 5- Indian Hill Ice Traps, have a 50/50 and other raffles at the table. Tickets are \$40 each and on sale at the bar now.

We will be having our Kids Easter Party on Sunday, March 24th. Come on out and see the Easter Bunny, decorate eggs, play games, and have some snacks! Make sure to RSVP by Friday, March 15th with how many children will be attending to <u>singletarycommunications@gmail.com</u>. This event is open to children 10 years old and younger.

Do you have something you want to share in next month's newsletter? Maybe you are raising money for a great cause, have a dart tournament coming up at the club, or have a cool hunting story or picture to share with us! If you have something you would like to share, please email it to singletarycommunications@gmail.com

Worcester County League News

Brendan Ahearn, Representative for Singletary Rod & Gun

Hey everyone, I hope all is well, I ask if there are any questions about my below report or any info I provide please call, I will help you to the absolute best of my ability. (508-887-3568).

Worcester County League Notes January 2024 Meeting Summary:

- Grant money is being awarded towards simple property development and maintenance.
 - o Construction of wood duck boxes
 - o Cutting of select trees to promote habitat
 - o Invasive plant removals
 - o Robert Purcell (774) 764-1258 Or E-mail at robert.purcell@usda.gov



Pictured: Bob Larson



Pictured: Bob Manseau

While we were all here freezing and getting on the first ice of 2024, Bob Larson and Bob Manseau went on a trip to Costa Rica for 2 weeks! They had the opportunity to catch some awesome fish including this Marlin and gorgeous Mahi-Mahi. They have some stories of chasing fish around the Pacific that will make us all jealous!

Calendar of Meetings and Events

Friday, February 2nd- Friday night meat raffle at 6 p.m.

Sunday, February 4th- Winter Fishing Derby, Breakfast starts at 6 a.m. and is \$8, the derby starts at 7 a.m.

Tickets for breakfast go on sale at the bar on January 4th and must be purchased before the derby.

Sunday, February 4th- Gigantic Meat Raffle, early bird at 1:30 p.m., raffle starts at 2 p.m.

Friday, February 9th- Friday night meat raffle at 6 p.m.

Friday, February 9th- General Assembly Meeting at 8 p.m.

Sunday, February 11th-Pistol Shoot- Registration opens at 8:30 a.m., and first shots at 9:00 a.m.

Friday, February 16th- Friday night meat raffle at 6 p.m.

Saturday, February 17th- Club Recreational Fire and Potluck, starts at 5 p.m. Bring your favorite dish to share and a chair. All welcome!

Friday, February 23rd- Friday night meat raffle at 6 p.m.

Saturday, February 24th- Game Supper, TBD (more details to come)

Sunday, February 25th- Pistol Shoot- Registration opens at 8:30 a.m., and first shots at 9:00 a.m.

Thursday, February 29th- Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

Friday, March 1st- Friday night meat raffle at 6 p.m.

Friday, March 8th- Friday night meat raffle at 6 p.m.

Friday, March 8th- General Assembly Meeting at 8 p.m.

Sunday, March 10th- Pistol Shoot-Registration opens at 8:30 a.m., and first shots at 9:00 a.m.

Friday, March 15th- Friday night meat raffle at 6 p.m.

Sunday, March 17th- Pin Shoot, Sign up at 8:30 a.m., Shoot starts at 9:00 a.m.

Friday, March 22nd- Friday night meat raffle at 6 p.m.

Saturday, March 23rd- Archery Spaghetti Dinner, cocktails at 5 pm, dinner at 6 pm

Sunday, March 24th- Kids Easter Party, 1 p.m. RSVP by March 15th to <u>singletarycommunications@gmail.com</u>

Thursday, March 28th- Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

Friday, March 29th - Friday night meat raffle at 6 p.m.

Friday, April 5th- Friday night meat raffle at 6 p.m.

Friday, April 12th- Friday night meat raffle at 6 p.m.

Friday, April 12th- General Assembly Meeting at 8 p.m.

Saturday, April 13th- Fish Stocking, time TBD

Sunday, April 14th- Pistol Shoot- Registration opens at 8:30 a.m., and first shots at 9:00 a.m.

Friday, April 19th- Friday night meat raffle at 6 p.m.

Sunday, April 21st- Rimfire 2 Gun, Sign up at 8:30 am, Shoot starts at 9:00 am.

Sunday, April 21st- Spring Fishing Derby, breakfast at 6 a.m., derby starts at 7 a.m., breakfast tickets must be purchased in advance. Ticket sales will start one month before the derby and end the Wednesday before the derby.

Thursday, April 25th- Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

Friday, April 26th- Friday night meat raffle at 6 p.m.

Friday, May 3rd- Friday night meat raffle at 6 p.m.

Sunday, May 5th- Kids Fishing Derby, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Friday, May 10th- Friday night meat raffle at 6 p.m.

Friday, May 10th- General Assembly Meeting at 8 p.m.

Friday, May 17th- Friday night meat raffle at 6 p.m. (LAST ONE!)