



ONEIDA RIFLE CLUB NEWSLETTER

Oneida Rifle Club, Inc. • P.O. Box 411 • Oneida, NY 13421 • October 2011

Visit our website at --- www.oneidarifleclub.com

Letter from your president:

The summer months have moved on, fall is moving away quickly and the inevitable snow season is in the wings. Now is the time to set your sights on the indoor leagues - Sporter Rifle, .22 Bullseye, Defensive Pistol, Action Pistol and Junior League. The Bullseye League begins in December and all of the others begin in January. Sign up time is now and, as always, new shooters are **encouraged** to join.

Don't forget the **annual membership meeting on October 10th** - new officers will be elected at that time. There is still a need for a **secretary** and at least one more member for the **board of directors**. If you are interested in any officer position in the club, make your interest known. Also, the deadline for the annual membership **dues for 2012** is fast approaching; make sure you get it to **Ed Trombley** on time. **You can pay up at the annual meeting!**

Sight-in day on Saturday, **September 24th**, was very successful - many new shooters joined in on our hospitality. A thank you goes out to those members who helped in this annual event.

The **2012 NRA Grant** has been submitted and we are awaiting approval. Again, we are asking for more supplies and equipment for our Junior League. Future Grants will be used to supply other leagues in need of upgraded equipment as well as any needed range improvements.

In the months ahead, we plan on making the necessary repairs on the indoor range and replacing the ballistic curtain with a new one. Also, a clean up committee will be needed at that time.

In reviewing the summer season, it's been sadly noted that the outdoor range has been **abused**, for lack of a better term, and some of our members are guilty of being the **abusers**. Damage to the rifle steel has been repeatedly welded and, as of now, it is beyond repair. It shouldn't have to be displayed in a sign stating that **armor piercing ammo is not allowed**, for common sense tells us that if it damages the steel, it is not a good idea to use it. The bottom line is that now, we have no steel left to shoot - what was once there is beyond repair and there are no replacements.

Also, members using the range should police it before leaving, retrieving personal targets, shell cases, empty boxes and any other items. There are trash receptacles in the pavilion for disposing of these items. Soda cans and water bottles also have a container for deposit return.

Compliance with this shows common courtesy and respect for fellow members. Any act of **vandalism** is inexcusable and immature. No one has any respect for this type of behavior. I can't understand why anyone would pay dues to an organization, become an active participant in it, have a financial stake in the building and grounds and deliberately cause destruction to it. I don't believe there are any words to get through to a member who abuses our property, but if you are listening, **please note: "It is never the right time to do the wrong thing."**

Ron Mandronico

Letter From The “Editor”

This is the time of year that things slow down at the ORC. Thanks to the continuation of the trap league and the start-up of the bullseye league the Tuesday after Thanksgiving there will be some league activity before the flurry of league activity after New Years. I'm sure the outside range will begin to see lots of sight-in activity. Please be sure your shots impact the bunkers or the berm and don't go skipping off the lawn to who knows where.

Now after a summers practice is the time when we can take to the field competent in the safe handling of our firearms and confident in our accuracy on game. Other than a firearm or a bow what other sports equipment is so useful in play, can be used to provide for a family, be used in defense of our country, and in dire circumstances be a means of protection. Although I like archery I'll count on my firearm in the deep woods. Firing three shots in the air with a bow doesn't seem to be a way to get quick rescue. Tomahawk and knife throwing are fun activities too, but when mama bear and her cubs get too close in the woods I like something that goes “bang” in my hands instead of “whoosh”. Having a hobby that is useful in almost all facets of life just seems to be common sense. Okay, a badminton racket is handier in the house than a 12 gauge when a bat gets in and won't fly out, I'll give you that.

We have a lot of members in the club, but participation seemed to be down in all leagues. As Jim said about trap, none of the shooting has to be tense or competitive. It can be an easygoing learning experience. As far as participation, better attendance at the meetings and more help in the workings of the club would take some of the pressure off the small number of people doing the majority of the work. As an example, I'm being pushed beyond my level of competency as temporary acting secretary (executive assistant?). My hand, my mouth, and my brain don't always work together to get an accurate record of what goes on at the meetings. And you can be sure these ramblings are easier to read in print than in my handwriting. If you have any interests or talents you can share get with the officers and find out how to help. Attend the meetings when you can. You might be the one that can take the meeting from (I hate to say dull, but I will) to an extremely lively discussion of the way the club is headed in the future. October 10th is the monthly meeting and the annual meeting where the leaders for the next years are picked and ideas for the future can be brought up. Put it on your schedule.

Trap League 2011

The trap league is still shooting on Sunday afternoons from 1-3 PM. We will continue (as weather permits) for a few more weeks into October. This is a good opportunity to sharpen wingshooting skills for the Fall hunting season-or just to have a little shooting fun on a Sunday afternoon. Competition is friendly and low key, and you can get all kinds of free advice and help to improve your shooting skills. If you have never shot trap before, someone is always willing to loan you a gun to try out. Everyone is welcome.

Jim Pawlika

-Results- ORC - Summer Rifle League – 2011

(I) .22 Rimfire Any Sights

1st Place - Dave Lang 192.3 Avg -32X's

2nd Place – Al Owen 186.6 Avg

(II) .22 Rimfire – Iron Sights

1st Place- John Russage 195.0 Avg

(III) Sporter Rifle – Any caliber/any sights/under 9 lbs.

1st Place – Bill Held 184.0 Avg-12X's

(IV) Super Sporter Rifle-Any caliber/any sights/barrel rest

1st Place- Bill Held 200 Avg-100X's

2nd Place- Mark Smith 200 Avg-94X's

3rd Place- Don White 199.5Avg-83X's

There were 10 participants and 6 qualifiers.

Don White and Tom Parmeter

Co-chairs

2011 Summer Bullseye Pistol League

.22 Caliber

Open Winner	R. Corr	262.0	15 Matches
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Open Second	B. McMullen	232.7	15
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Open Third	R. Zurek	228.8	20
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Expert & Sharpshooter----No Competitors

Marksman First	S. Evans	227.3	16
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G. McMullen	211.6	16
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C. Grabow	179.6	22
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R. Perry	110.7	14
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The Following Shooters Did Not Fire The Necessary 12 Matches

D. Thursten	266.9	11
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J. Rightmier	260.0	11
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D. Mckendree	249.8	10
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Center Fire

No Shooter Qualified For Award

J. Rightmier	260.7	8
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D. Thurston	251.2	11
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D. Mckendree	219.4	10
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B. McMullen	104.0	1
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Ed Trombley Jr.

Black Powder League 2011

We had eleven registered shooters with five to six active shooters most every week. We paid \$25.00 for membership in the New York State Muzzleloading Association. The rest of our monetary intake was \$229, all of which was turned into the ORC Inc.

Scoring:

Big bull target

Dave DeFrees	44.2
Rick Rodgers	40.8
Don Pisaneschi	40.0
Walt Kramer	38.7

Small bull target

Mike Hasenstab	36.1
Dave DeFrees	35.7
Rick Rodgers	31.6

Thanks to Walt Kramer for the use of the Spring Chicken with all its various plumage patterns. A real test of shooting ability with lots of dancing action as a reward for a hit. Thanks to everyone who participated and who helped to feed the Triple EEE'ers and West Nile'ers.

Advertisements

Club members can put business or personal ads in this newsletter for free. Please send ads to ddefrees@twcny.rr.com for inclusion in the next issue.

Sight-in Day 2011



Black Powder Concentration Match

by Dave DeFrees

600 rounds in 6 hours from 6 shooters at 200 yards. It didn't seem possible.

I really didn't believe we could get through it before it started. George Buskey put on a 100 round 200 yd black powder shoot, shooting offhand at a rate of 25 rounds per hour. There was minimal time between 25 shot relays to change the targets and prepare for the next relay and a bit longer between the second and third relay for a bit of lunch. If Tom Henley had had his way the shooting would have been nonstop to duplicate the schuetzen matches of the black powder era.

I doubted we could stand that many shots in such a short time. Usually in a match of that many shots there is bench shooting involved which is hard on the shoulder with the charges I need to shoot. Offhand shooting and being able to move with the rifle is so much less abusive that the pain and bruising were not a factor. Not to say I wasn't feeling it the last relay. We had all slowed down the last 25 shots in the last hour to just finishing with a minute or so to spare.

It was a match of preparation and concentration. My concentration slipped in one relay when the breach was fouling and I had to pop clearing caps after cleaning two shots in a row to blow it clear. The loss of rhythm caused me to double load. A quick pull of the top ball and I dumped the powder-ball-powder load into the berm and was back to going. I'm glad it wasn't the last relay or I wouldn't have made the time limit. It did take me a bit of time to figure out an 8/32-10/32 adapter had unscrewed from the puller screw and stayed on the ramrod. I figured out why the jag wouldn't go back in at the end of the relay. The brass end of the ramrod was so black I thought the adapter was the end. I ought to polish it after 4 or 5 years using it. Preparation was having a good idea of my sight setting at 200 and having 100 charges weighted out in tubes to get away from the constant measuring of large charges and the chance of the measure slipping off the barrel or not completely emptying. The other big part of preparation was having a rifle that could be relied on to get a ball to 200 yards with some reliability. My .45 flintlock has a bit of accuracy at 200 but can't be relied on. The Dragonslayer my .54 mule ear has been known to keep all shots in the black at 100 yards (one target being a 10 shot 3-1/8" group) but shoots a shotgun pattern at 200 often not touching paper. A 1 in 66 twist does not seem to be enough. The only rifle I have that I can trust at 200 is my TC Renegade with a 1 in 48 twist.

I was afraid my concentration would leave me and I would blow up on shots like I used to do when chasing Tom to 50 some hits in a row on the gong match in the good old Town of Ohio days. I would get 10 to 20 shots in a row and then mentally lose it and blow up on the shot throwing it who knows where. I was the most settled on this match I have ever been. Out of the 100 shots I can only remember one that I could say I didn't follow through on and call. All the rest were as good as possible at the time.

I read *Advanced Archer* by Thomas Whitney & Vishnu Karmakar for the third time this summer and I think it finally got through to my simple mind. It calls for having a calm and centered mind during the shot. The conscious mind should be relaxed and clear leaving the sub-conscious mind to do the things needed to make the shot. As the rifle was on target it was eerie and scary the way the rifle would fire as the bullseye was right in the sights. For years this would come and go but this was the first time it was there shot after shot. It had finally sunk in that consciously pulling the trigger no matter how good the hold would not work. We all had stiff sore backs and tired feet at the end of the match, but the ease with which

my mind handled the rifle left my holding ability quite strong at the end when other times five shots are exhausting. Rifle shooting may not be as mental a sport as archery, but it's not far behind.

George gave us a perfect day for such an undertaking. Moderate temperatures and subdued sun most of the time kept the valley winds to a minimum which was good since when they did blow they swirled from all directions leaving the wind flags pointing every which way. There were no bugs to bother us at all. The targets stayed well lit.

The targets had scoring rings from 1 to 10. The targets were about two feet square. A perfect score on a target would have been 250 points and the four targets would have been 1000 points. To give an idea of the difficulty of this match the scoring came out Dave 368, George 195, Bona 140, Scott 115, Tom 114, and Gregg 44. After an adjustment on his powder charge Tom was coming on strong at the end. No matter what the scores just to finish such a match where every shot is a reload is noteworthy.

It is possible to complete such a match whether a geezer or a youngster. Like 100 shooters getting off 20 shots each in the Interstate Flintlock shoot in Kentucky in a drizzling rain it can be done. It was a satisfying accomplishment and I would try a similar feat again after a bit of time to prepare and resupply. Shooting in the old time style was a treat. I just wish I could drop back in time to see the methods they used to shoot so well back then.

Website Links

For those members that like to keep up with what is happening in the news on-line subscribe to The Patriot Post the Voice of Essential Liberty. It is a free publication e-mailed daily that has various columnists writings on current affairs in the line of constitutional issues. They are definitely pro-gun and are trying to insure that our representatives are adhering to their oath to uphold the constitution. They are keeping close track of the Fast and Furious and Gunrunner issues which appear to be our tax money authorized to be spent by people high up in the administration to discredit gun ownership and sales to implement a gun ban. They are big fans of Pres. Ronald Reagan.

Issues

By the time this newsletter is read the problem with the septic system that created strange odors in the clubhouse should be solved and the restrooms opened up again.