

Rutland Sportsman's Club, Inc.

January 2014 Newsletter

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The Rutland Sportsman's Club wishes all a Happy New Year!
- The Rutland Sportsman's Club voted in 10 new members in December. Please welcome Thomas Fleming, Susan Rooney, Bernardine Birch, Dianne Cardoni, Alexander (Lex) Kappos, Nathan Murphy, Heidi Floyd, Peter Michaelian, and James Fleming.
- If you are looking for ways to put in volunteer hours there is lots of work that can be done. Please contact any of the committee members that are posted at the club.
- A Meat Raffle will be held at the club on January 24th 2014 at 7 pm. There will not only be tables with big meat prizes but our kitchen will be open serving burgers and hotdogs and the bar will be serving liquid refreshment. This is a family event and it is open to the public. Anyone that has been to our meat raffles will tell you it is a fun time, so get your family and friends together for a good night out. Chris Wylie will be heading up this raffle and can be reached at 774-364-2028. Help is needed at this event and is a good way to put in your hours. More details can be found on our website at (www.rscma.org).
- The Indoor Pistol League will be starting in the middle of January. We will be having a meeting Wednesday, January 15th @ 7am to determine the indoor shooting activities this winter, such as junior .22 cal rifle, .22 pistol bull's-eye, action pistol, and women's defense shooting. The shoots will begin the following Wednesday. Check our website for more details following the meeting for the schedule shoots. (<http://www.rscma.org/committees/range-indoor>).

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- The Annual 2 Day Ice Fishing Derby will be held on January 18th and 19th 2014. You can fish through the ice at any legal waters in the state of Massachusetts. There are 4 categories: bass, pickerel, yellow perch, and pike. There are 4 winners in each category: 1st place \$300, 2nd \$100, 3rd \$75, and 4th \$50. There will be hourly drawings each day from 10am – 4pm for \$50 with the last 2 drawings each day for \$100. You don't need to catch the big fish to win money in this derby. Fish check in times will be 1pm – 5pm on Saturday and 11am – 4pm on Sunday at the Rutland Sportsman's Club and the winners will be announced after the check in time on Sunday. There will also be other raffles held. There is a \$20 donation to get into the derby. Tickets are available at the club any day after 3pm. For more information contact the club at 508-886-4721 or Ron Howe at 774-696-6465. The "no ice" date for this derby is February 8th and 9th. This is a fun derby for all ages and is open to the public. We welcome members from other sportsman's clubs. Get your family and friends together and get out for a weekend of laughs and some friendly competition.

Club Hall Rental:

Accommodations: 190-people (120-Hall + 70-Bar) – Birthday Parties, Family Reunions, etc... Contact Person: Bob Hoch @ 508-886-2584 THESE RENTALS ARE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.

Monthly Meetings:

- General Meeting: 1st Tuesday of Every Month @ 7pm
- Executive Board Meeting: 2nd Tuesday of Every Month @7pm
- Range Safety Class: 2nd Tuesday of Every Month @6pm - Tony Miller / Ed Cortellini

Continuous Events:

- The Season Long Ice Fishing Derby sign ups have started and anyone interested in signing up can do so at the club during club hours. It is a \$10 donation to get into the derby and includes an awards dinner at the end of the season. More details will be announced in the next newsletter, or you can contact Dan Whitner at 508-688-4716.
- The 120 Club every Friday at 6pm there will be a dinner offered for a small donation.
- FREE Pool: Every Wednesday - Regulation size, open to all members all day, come on down!
- Pitch Night: Every Thursday @ 7pm – Come on down and have some fun! THIS EVENT IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

NEWS:

The 3rd Annual Christmas Miracles and Magic was held on December 7th at the club. It was a very successful fundraiser for the Rutland food pantry and the First Congregational Church Angel Tree. The Senior High Youth Fellowship and the Glockner Family would like to thank all of the people that helped with open hearts. Thank you to "The Otters" for volunteering their time and playing such great music, the sponsors that provided the nice prizes for the silent auction, to all that brought food for the food table, and to everyone who gave with generous hearts. We would like

to send the thanks back to the Senior High Youth Fellowship and Al and Shelly Glockner and everyone else who help put on this fundraiser for giving of themselves to fulfill the needs of others. That is the true meaning of Christmas!

A note to our members.....We're all involved with outdoor sports, whether it's only hunting, or fishing, or trapping, or target shooting, or maybe you enjoy them all. That's why we joined the Club, so we can get together with like minded people. The point I want to bring up is that we are in this together and we need to support the Club. One of our biggest (if not the biggest) fund raising event is quickly approaching, I'm talking about the annual Ice Fishing Derby taking place on January 18th and 19th, 2014. This two day derby has traditionally been a big source of revenue for the Club since its inception many years ago, but it needs your help. If every club member purchased a ticket (I know, wishful thinking) the Club would be well on the way to a large financial gain that would be beneficial to all of us. The tickets are \$20 each. (Keep in mind that you don't have to actually fish to win the hourly cash drawings.) It's a great way to support the club. Well that's my two cents for what it's worth. Remember this is our Club and we're in it together.....C'mon, grab a ticket! Thank you, Doc Murphy.

As the Vice President of the club I wanted to remind our members that we have a new President for 2014. I want to welcome Tony Miller and thank him for stepping up to take over this position. I know Tony will do a good job and he has already started rolling on some projects.

Our former President Bill Gonzalez held this position for 2 years and needed to step down. To be the President of this club takes a lot of time and effort on a daily basis. In the 2 years Bill was President he has done a lot to move our club in the right direction. One of the first things he did was take a hard look at our finances and the ways to better them. He took a special pride in making club improvements such as working on the club appearance including projects inside and outside. Bill made improvements to the inside and outside shooting ranges which resulted in regular trap shoots, outside pistol competitions, and inside pistol leagues. He also got a club website up and running. Bill organized and ran our first gun raffle that was such a big success it will be done annually. He also wanted to make sure the sports of our club were being passed to the next generation and worked to put more focus on that within the club. Yes this does take more than one person to accomplish and Bill had the support of many in the club. It takes vision to be able to direct a club and Bill had that vision and was able to communicate it to the other club leaders and make things happen.

I want to say THANK YOU BILL for the sacrifices you made in your life, to take the time, to lead The Rutland Sportsman's Club for the past 2 Years. NICE JOB!

Hunting Stories

Danny Suchocki and Matt Brown took this monster 11 pointer weighing in at 155 pounds on Saturday December 7, 2013 in Rutland. It was a crazy day hunting with his group and we also took a small buck and a doe earlier that morning but nothing tops this monster!!!



My son Joe is in his second year of hunting. A member of RSC, he completed his hunter safety course there 2 years ago. He enjoys bow, shotgun and muzzleloader seasons, and had yet to harvest a deer after 2 seasons. He was fortunate to draw a pass for the 2013 Quabbin hunt in Petersham and also received a doe tag this year. On December 12th Joe's luck was about to change. At 10:30 am on a frigid morning a 4 point buck walked within 50 yards of Joe and he let his instinctive shooting skills kick in. He dropped the 117 lb. buck with 3 shots. I sat about 200 yards away and the Mossberg pump shotgun rang like a semi auto! I instructed Joe on how to properly field dress his harvest, which he did a great job of. He was on cloud 9, and refused any help to drag the deer approximately a half mile to his truck. It was a day I will never forget to witness the smile of a young man who diligently put in time to harvest his first deer.

To add to original story... On the second day of the Quabbin Deer hunt Joe added to his prize. At 7:40 a.m. a group of 5 does worked towards Joe crossing a brook. As they edged closer, he said to himself if one comes over this stone wall I will shoot. Well, she did and he shot at about 40 yards. I went to see his deer and all we could find was a tuft of hair. Knowing the deer was hit and his persistence that it was a well-placed shot we searched. No blood was found. I suggested we zig zag from brook up the hill. As we began this I looked about 20 yards up the hill and noticed a funny looking rock. It was not a rock. It was Joe's second deer in as many days. The plump doe dressed at 133 pounds. Now Joe is becoming a seasoned hunter! I gutted this one and he dragged it all the way out again.

Joe now has a new nickname...Dragger!

Congratulations Joe, I am proud of you! Love Dad



Jason's first small mouth. Taken this summer, fishing at Wachusett Reservoir. He had two more bites that day but this was the exciting catch. The fish was fighting and flipping. It was a great experience.

