



# Riverside

*Located in the densely wooded New England countryside with facilities to support our members whether your interests are competitive shooting, breaking clays, fishing, plinking, sharpening your skills for hunting or just socializing.*

## Quarterly Newsletter

April 2017

### Fish & Game

The trout are jump'n in our fully stocked trout pond. Badges available at the clubhouse.

### Gun Laws

The education of new and experienced shooters  
Gun Laws

See on page 7

### Clubhouse

Outdoor Patio, Horse Shoes, Trout Pond, Sports Bar Big Screen in the Smoke free Club House, Banquet Hall dates available.

### Pistol Team News

Year end results and upcoming events page 8

### High Power Rifle

A variety of programs for a range of shooting interests including participation in the Highpower, CMP Civilian Marksmanship Program events and the NRA Jr Rifle Program

on page 5

### Skeet & Trap

Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday Shoots every week. Three fields are configured to support different shooting programs including skeet, trap and 5 stand with lights

See on page 2

### Archery

Year round programs for both junior and adult archers. USA Archery, State Assoc., National Assoc., and the Junior Olympic Archery Development (JOAD) program.

See on page 5

### Banquet Facility

Large function hall, dance floor, band stand and attached kitchen area with a separate entrance area and full function bar has a capacity of 150. Rental includes bartender and cleanup. Caterer and DJ available for functions.

## 2017 Fishing Trout Pond Raffle (on page 8)



## 2017 Indoor Archery



See more on page 5

## Skeet & Trap Spring updates

See article on page 2

## from the PRESIDENT'S DESK

By having a foundation of dedicated club officers, executive board members, coaches and volunteers we have initiated a lot of improvements in our facilities, programs and operations. We've had very good success and plan to build on that momentum.

Bill McDonough has a very robust training and education program schedule for the year. There will be eight (8) Home Firearm Safety and five (5) Basic Pistol Skills classes. He

developed an enhanced pistol skills class-- "Beyond Basic Pistol Skills," which will be offered three (3) times--the course teaches, expands and builds upon the basic knowledge, skills, and attitude learned in the Basic Pistol Skills course. There will also be courses taught by Jon Green, Gun Owners Action League (GOAL). You can find more information in the Education Director's article in this newsletter or you can email Bill for course information and/

See on page 2

## GUN LAWS

from the Riverside  
Education Director

See article on page 7

High Power Rifle  
Shooting

See article on page 3

HELPING  
NEW SHOOTERS

See article on page 6

# RGC SKEET & TRAP NEWS

## SPRING

Hopefully we've seen the last of Old Man Winter, and the warm temps and greenery will be upon us soon.

Despite the occasional snow storm, the fields remained open and the clays flying this season, although at times the wind made for rather interesting and challenging experiences. Did you know... orange clays become highly visible in a blizzard? Just ask those who braved several storms on



Peter Catinella shoveling fields.

the field. I would like to thank you all for your help in clearing the fields



Ken Blomquist shoots a perfect 25

this winter. It's a lot of work, but with enough help, it goes quickly. We now have a snow thrower fleet, thanks to Peter Catinella donating a second machine. Also a big thank you to Jeff Chicoine for keeping our snow throwers and mowers in good health. The preventative maintenance has gone a long way toward extending the life of our equipment, freeing up funds to make other improvements. New shooters continue to visit the fields, many of which have become regulars, and are getting quite good

**PRESIDENT'S DESK** *continued from page 1*

at breaking clays. As a reminder, we have several NRA-certified shotgun instructors always willing to help, so feel free to bring along guests.

Now that Spring is on the horizon, come on out and enjoy the fun. Our 2017 shooting events schedule is posted on the Riverside Gun Club web site, here:



Ken B & Andy M snow blowing fields

<http://www.riversidegc.org/Skeet.shtml>

Looking forward to seeing you soon.

*Frank Harrington*  
Chairman

or registration packages on any of these programs: [BMcDonough@riversidegc.org](mailto:BMcDonough@riversidegc.org)

I am looking for someone to manage the trout pond and the related activities. The fishing derby will not be scheduled this year; otherwise, we will operate the trout pond as usual. We will stock the pond several times during the summer and a trout pond sticker is required---members can obtain their season trout pond permit in the club for \$15. Look for the first trout stocking Wednesday, April 25th. Trout Pond opening day is Saturday 29 April.

We are supporting our Youth Programs and Trout Ponds with proceeds from a Raffle for Fishing Equipment Package---See flyer in this newsletter for details. It is a very generous package, featuring an 8-foot pontoon boat with full array of fishing equipment for a nominal ticket-cost and the odds to win are excellent. Drop by the club

and buy a ticket. Drawing is 7pm, Friday, April 28th in the Club Lounge, which is the day before the Trout Pond Opens for the season.

We are refurbishing the back office in April and we will clean the indoor pistol range pits and replace the backstop matts during the summer. There will be security surveillance camera system installed though out the clubhouse and all the outdoor ranges; some modification to the outdoor pistol range shelter; and installation of cease fire light system. These work projects may create some short-term inconveniences; never the less, it's all for the better.

We will continue delivering on our commitment to facilitate your recreational activity. I'm looking forward to the spring weather. See you on the range

*Mike Connelley*

# High Power Rifle

## High Power Rifle & Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP)

The High Power Rifle Team provides CMP training sessions 3 times each year—you will find the complete schedule on the Riverside Facebook and Website. These events are open to the General Public who are US Citizens.

The CMP is much the same as a High Power match except the format is tailored for instructional purposes. We provide each shooter a WW-II vintage M1 Garand at no charge. There is a charge for the ammunition

only (at our cost.) The cost to you is \$75 for 60 rounds. You will need to bring ear and eye protection...it is a great experience and everyone has a good time. The CMP sessions are scheduled Sunday May 7th, Sunday August 20th and Sunday October 1st on the 100 yd. range.

Contact John McGrath: [jmcgrath@riversidegc.org](mailto:jmcgrath@riversidegc.org) for detailed information and registration.

The Riverside High Power Team completes in the New England High

Power Rifle League (NEHPRL) Matches. The schedule for the home shoots on the Riverside 100 yd. range in 2017 season are as follows: April 23rd, June 4th, August 6th, and Sept 17th. See Riverside Gun Club Facebook or Website for schedule changes. The 100-yard range will be closed from 9am until 1pm on each of the above appointments. For additional information on how to belong to the Riverside High Power Team contact John McGrath.

## Training Information



The Riverside Gun Club, and  
GOAL (Gun Owners Action League)



Present:

**Progressive Carbine**

with

**Scott Germain** of Center Mass Weapons Training

Progressive Carbine Training is a two-day (9 am – 5 pm both days) course for those who have the basic fundamentals yet wish to improve their tactical skills. This is a hands-on, fast paced, live fire course with minimal time spent in the classroom. Starting with the combat mindset, the training covers specialized topics such as shooting and moving, barricade drills, strong and support side shooting, target discrimination and transition training.

**Saturday/Sunday, April 29/30, 2017**

**Riverside Gun Club**

**16 Wilkins Street**

**Hudson, Massachusetts**

The cost for this event:

\$275 for Riverside members, \$300 for GOAL members, \$350 for non-members

Class size is limited to 12 students

## Principles of Concealed Carry

This is a great class for someone who wants to learn best practices for carry. Principles of Concealed Carry is designed to provide a solid foundation for defensive and counter ambush firing skills. This live fire course will provide students an opportunity to learn various methods for presenting a concealed firearm during a dynamic event.

**9:00 AM – 5 PM**

**Tuesday, May 25, 2017**

**Riverside Gun Club**

**16 Wilkins Street**

**Hudson, Massachusetts**

The cost for this event is \$75 for GOAL members, \$125 for non-members

Class size is limited to 8 students

Pre-register for either course by email: [bmcdonough@riversidegc.org](mailto:bmcdonough@riversidegc.org)

## 2017 Riverside Gun Club Basic Firearms Training Schedule

### NRA Home Firearms Safety course

The NRA Home Firearm Safety course is a non-shooting course which teaches students the basic knowledge, skills, and explains the attitude necessary for the safe handling and storage of firearms and ammunition in the home. This course is for safe gun handling that is conducted in the classroom only. Students are taught NRA's three rules for safe gun handling; primary causes of firearms accidents; firearm parts; how to unload certain action types; ammunition components; cleaning; care; safe storage of firearms in the home; and the benefits of becoming an active participant in the shooting sports. Students will receive the NRA Home Firearm Safety handbook, NRA Gun Safety Rules brochure, Basic Firearm Training Program brochure, course completion certificate. In addition to the classroom materials, at Riverside, an optional live fire session is offered at the end of the classroom work.

Saturday, February 4 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Saturday, March 18 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Saturday, May 6 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Saturday, June 10 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Saturday, July 29 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Saturday, September 16 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Saturday, October 28 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Saturday, November 18 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

### Basic Pistol Skills course

This course teaches the basic knowledge, skills, and attitude for owning and operating a pistol safely. This course is 2 ½ -hours long and includes classroom and range time learning to pistols. This course is for people who have their License to Carry (LTC) or are in the process of getting one. The NRA's rules for safe gun handling are reinforced and practiced on the range. The skills practiced include; pistol parts and operation; ammunition; shooting fundamentals; range rules; shooting stances, and cleaning the pistol. This is a hands-on course which is best if done with the students' own handgun, however "loaner" guns are available. Fundamentals of shooting are taught including, the grip, the stance, sight alignment/sight picture and trigger control. This course is intended for shooters who have their license and may have a gun or are in the process of buying one but are unsure of your basic abilities or need a refresher on basic pistol skills.

Thursday, February 16 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 PM – 9:00 PM
Thursday, May 18 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 PM – 9:00 PM
Thursday, July 13 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 PM – 9:00 PM
Thursday, September 14 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 PM – 9:00 PM
Thursday, November 2 <sup>nd</sup>	6:30 PM – 9:00 PM

### Beyond Basic Pistol Skills course

This course teaches expands and builds upon the basic knowledge, skills, and attitude learned in the Basic Pistol Skills course. This is a shooting course, during which the students will learn and practice drawing from a holster, presenting the gun and shooting with accuracy. Drills will include multiple shots on a single target as well as engaging multiple targets. This course is 2 ½ -hours long on the range experience. Fundamentals of shooting are reviewed including, the grip, the stance, sight alignment/sight picture and trigger control. This course is intended for shooters who have experience with their own guns and want to further their abilities. The Basic Pistol Skills course is a pre-requisite for this course.

Thursday, May 25 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 PM – 8:00 PM
Thursday, July 20 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 PM – 8:00 PM
Thursday, September 21 <sup>st</sup>	5:30 PM – 8:00 PM

Email [BMcDonough@riversidegc.org](mailto:BMcDonough@riversidegc.org) for information and/or a registration packet.

All courses can be provided at other times for groups.



# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE RIVERSIDE ARCHERY ROAD TEAM'S 2016/2017 INDOOR ARCHERY SEASON

By Megan Regensburger, Riverside Archers Road Team Member and Level 2 Certified Archery Instructor



The Riverside Archer's Road Team is happy to welcome O. Rush (compound) and S. Jafarov (recurve) to the team! The Road Team currently has 9 members ranging from ages 10 to 18. These archers receive high-level instruction and training in shooting recurve and compound bows from USA Archery certified instructors.

The results of our hard work and dedication paid off as seven of the archers were recently rewarded with certificates from the State Archery Association of Massachusetts for ranking first, second or third place in their respective divisions during the 2016 indoor and outdoor season.

Major milestones were achieved recently as R. Green (compound) scored 286 out of 300 and H. Do (recurve) scored 280 out of 300 entitling each of them to a JOAD Bronze pin. This reward is issued directly by USA Archery. Two more of our archers are currently closing in

on this goal as our new Bronze pin archers hone their skills to take them past the JOAD Silver pin requirements.

The Riverside Archer's Road Team participated at the 48<sup>th</sup> US National & 2017 JOAD National

Indoor Championship in Sturbridge, MA resulting with 1 - 1<sup>st</sup> place, 3 - 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and 2 - 3<sup>rd</sup> place awards.

Before the last snow of spring has melted from the shadows, we will return to the outdoors.

As we train and get stronger for the longer distances required during the outdoor season, we look forward to a fun filled and warmer spring and summer.



# BRINGING NEW SHOOTERS TO THE RANGE

I'm following through with Part-3 of the article, "Bringing New Shooters to the Range" by Blogger-- Straight Shooter Jake. The article is divided into four parts so that it can more easily be fit in our newsletter. Part 1 and Part 2 were included in the Oct 2016 and Jan 2017 newsletter respectively. You can read the full article at the following website: <http://straightshooterjake.blogspot.com/p/part-i-bringing-new-shooters-to-range.html>

Whether you are new to shooting or a veteran, you can benefit from the article. Chapter focuses on the fundamentals of shooting—namely safety. It's a great read—check it out!

## HELPING NEW SHOOTERS PART 3: TEACH THE BASICS AND NOTES ON SAFETY

### 1 Teach the basics in a safe area

One of my points at the beginning of this article is that you should teach an introductory lesson before going to the range. You can teach this lesson just before going to the range, but doing it a day or two in advance can also be effective.

I often see people bring new shooters to the range, unpack their gear, and then give an introduction on each firearm. The range is a loud and distracting place, especially for beginners. It works much better at the range if you are reviewing material that everyone is already familiar with. Also, at the range the RSO is required to respond to any firearm with the action closed as though it were loaded. This fact can complicate demonstrations.

There are many things you may want to discuss with new shooters before you get to the range. I have written a separate article with a basic lesson plan. For now, here is a general overview. While unloading, keep the muzzle in a safe direction and keep their finger off the trigger.

- Have no live ammunition in the practice area.
- Gun Safety. I recommend using the NRA's three rules of gun safety.
- Function of the firearms which will be used.
- How to load, unload, and make safe. Dummy rounds are required for this. Every student should practice loading and clearing the guns before getting to the range. Declare a safe direction and practice safety rules.
- Dry fire with dummy rounds. You should cover the basics of shooting and position. My article about the basic lesson plan covers this area in more detail.
- Range commands and procedures. Describe the commands used at your range and any range specific procedures. Cover the commands you will use and any commands the Range officers will use.

Obviously, the above list is a brief summary. As an experienced shooter, you should be prepared to speak a bit about each of these points.

### 2 Safety gear

You should have enough eye and ear protection for everyone in your party. Make sure people keep their safety gear on if anyone is firing in the area. Beginners often take their ear protection off without realizing who else is firing nearby.

Ear protection has a number rating called NRR that tells how much sound it reduces. Get the highest NRR rating that you can. Sound causes flinch at least as much as recoil. Better hearing protection is an advantage, especially for beginners. Some people may also want to use double protection with ear muffs over foam ear inserts. Make sure people can still hear commands, but they usually still can.

Double check ear protection on children. Ear muff type protectors may not seal correctly on children. Children may also have trouble getting foam ear inserts in place properly. Also, children often won't say anything if there is a problem, but they may tell you by putting their hands over their ears. It is a good idea to protect children's hearing by using both ear muffs and foam ear inserts.

Proper clothing and footwear are also an important type of safety gear. Everyone at the range should wear shoes and clothes that provide reasonable coverage and do not have openings that will catch spent brass. Open toed shoes do not provide enough protection at the range. Baseball caps help keep brass off your head and face and are a good idea.

### 3 Lead safety

When you bring new people to the range, you aGenerally, lead safety is a very minor concern for shooters, but it still deserves its own brief section. Lead is different from most of the safety concerns in this article because its affects are long term, rather than immediate and acute.

The affects of lead are of particular concern for children because lead affects development. It is commonly recommended that pregnant women should not shoot. Children who cannot keep their hands out of their mouths should not handle guns or even visit the range.

Most ranges prohibit any eating on the ranges and this is an important safety issue. After shooting, make sure everyone washes thoroughly before handling food.

### 4 Handgun Safety with Beginners

There are two safety issues about teaching beginners which need special mention.

- Do not have two people's hands

on a loaded pistol.

- Do not have a discussion while a gun is loaded.

If a beginner has loaded a pistol and is ready to fire, you can give them quick cues like "check your grip" or "finger off the trigger". If they are not sure what to do, then have them clear the gun and start again. If they cannot clear the gun, have them put it down pointing downrange and review how to clear it. Do not reach over and touch the person and the loaded gun to correct their grip. There is a saying that "If no one is specifically in charge of something, then no one is in charge of it." If two people are touching a loaded handgun, then no one nearby knows who is in charge of controlling the muzzle.

Also, if a new shooter has a substantial question while holding a loaded pistol, like "How is the sight picture supposed to look?", then clear the gun before reviewing the answer. Very quick questions are fine, but if the person is not really ready to shoot, then clear the gun before discussing the answer. Beginners do not yet have safe instincts, so if they are holding a loaded handgun, their full attention needs to be focused on it.

If children are learning to shoot a rifle from a rest, then it is OK for an adult to keep a hand on the rifle. In this situation it is OK for two people to touch the firearm because the muzzle is firmly controlled.

I should also mention again, that the RSO is required to respond to any firearm with the action closed as though it were loaded. If you clear the gun and then work with a new shooter to correct their stance and grip, you must keep the muzzle downrange. However, it is still important that the gun be unloaded, since you are not ready to shoot during this discussion.

If it is necessary to clear guns several times and review the fundamentals, do not become frustrated or let your students be discouraged. If your students learn to clear guns while maintaining muzzle control, then you are an excellent teacher and a worthy mentor. Actual shooting skills will follow soon enough.



from the **Riverside Education Director**

In almost every article I write for the newsletter as the Riverside Education Director I include some statement to the effect that every Massachusetts gun owner needs to get a periodic review of the gun laws in our crazy Commonwealth. The law does change, but more importantly, we all tend to forget some of the less intuitive features of our loopy laws. I always offer for any member to join in one of my **NRA Home Firearm Safety** courses (scheduled published on the website) from 10 AM till 12:30 or so when I cover **Massachusetts Gun Law**. (\$25 donation to the club.) That offer always stands.

We had to reschedule Jon Green's **Massachusetts Gun Law** seminar which had been scheduled for April 4th. The new date has not been set yet. This is an absolute must for all gun owners. The new date will be published on the Riverside website and send out in emails.

We have an incredible educational program this year. I have been teaching the **NRA Home Firearm Safety** course about every six weeks or by request. The last one was on April 1st and the next is on May 6th. Tell your unlicensed friends. We have a very comprehensive course that has been extremely well received. Unlike many licensing courses we can offer a shooting experience, not just shooting 5 rounds, no, we shoot multiple guns of different calibers. Every student has a blast! Every couple of months, I put on the **Basic Pistol Skills** course which is

intended for newer shooters who have a gun but need to learn how to shoot, loading/unloading, gun SAFETY, range etiquette and more. Whenever I am at the range, I watch the other shooters. Watching new (and not so new) shooters inspired me to put this course together. This course is all about getting a good, solid foundation for your shooting. The next course in the sequence is **Beyond Basic Pistol Skills**. This is the basic level of defensive pistol shooting. In this course, students work on defensive shooting drills, engaging multiple targets, some

**Unlike many licensing courses we can offer a shooting experience, not just shooting 5 rounds, no, we shoot multiple guns of different calibers.**

movement and more The **Basic Pistol Skills** and the **Beyond Basic Pistol Skills** courses are intended to give shooters the basic skills necessary to go to more advanced courses and be able to work the drills at the advanced courses. This Spring on Tuesday evenings we will be running defensive/tactical shooting workshops. Each workshop will have three components; accuracy shooting, defensive drills, and working a course of fire. The workshops can be done using pistols, shotguns or AR platform rifles. Perhaps there is 3-gun competition in our future. Watch the website and your email for

more information. Now some very exciting information: Page 2 of 2 Riverside will host two more GOAL courses this Spring. The first one will be the incredible two-day **Progressive Carbine** course with Scott Germain. Expect to shoot up to 1000 (that's right one thousand) rounds of .223/5.56 along with a couple hundred rounds of handgun ammo. This course is limited to 12 students so sign up soon. On May 25th, Jon Green will put on **GOAL's Principles of Concealed Carry** course. This course will be a whole day of learning and practicing defensive and concealed carry techniques. There is a limit of 8 students and there are only a couple of spots left. Better sign up asap. Remember, if it is a gun, it is assumed to be loaded and treated accordingly.

1. Always keep you muzzle pointed in a safe direction
2. Always keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to shoot
3. Always keep your gun unloaded until you are ready to use it.

Regarding #2 above - the great instructor Greg Cruz's motto: On Target - On Trigger, Off Target - Off Trigger.

No Exceptions! You cannot regulate a right - *The right of the people to have and bear arms shall not be infringed*. This seems to be straight forward to me! **Be safe, Be Responsible**

*Bill McDonough*

[bmcdonough@riversideegc.org](mailto:bmcdonough@riversideegc.org)

# RGC PISTOL TEAM NEWS

**Summer Session Begins...What's the Program about and why new shooters need to come out.**

The 2016 – 2017 winter league 20 week season ended March 8th. Twenty-one shooters participated and we accomplished our two part mission—first, have fun and second, improve our shooting skill.

The summer session has begun. Every Wednesday we shoot a practice round or two---scores are not recorded. The idea is to try techniques you wouldn't necessarily do in the scoring season or maybe try a new red dot sight, change ammo, or break in a new pistol. All in all, everyone wants to be a confident, safe

shooter performing at your highest level. Our league is geared toward all levels of experience, everyone can & will benefit from plenty of useful pointers, translating into higher scores. Both men and women shooters are welcome and all of us have started as a novice. Our best shooters have been at this for only 2- 3 seasons. Come on out about 6:00 pm, Wednesday and we will give you some orientation and guidance prior to shooting.

This year the best shooter trophy went to John Reilly with a 264 season average. The most

improved shooter went to Tom Talpey by beating his previous season average by 49.75 points. The top five averages are as follows:

John Reilly.....	264.92
Mike Hoeffler.....	261.47
Tom Talpey.....	256.75
Mike Connelley....	255.00
Ric Plummer.....	252.00



*John Reilly—Top Shooter*



*Tom Talpey—Most Improved Shooter*

## RAFFLE—FISHING PACKAGE

*Drawing—7pm, APRIL 28th.*

*Free Hamburgers & Hot Dogs 5:30 – 700pm*

*Ticket Sales in Club Lounge*

*Proceeds to Jr. Rifle & Trout Pond*



2017 Fishing Derby Raffle – Proceeds to Jr. Rifle and Trout Pond

### PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Creek Country 8 ft Pontoon Boat —(donated—used only 3 times)
- Air Pump—Used one season
- Trolling motor--New
- Portable Fish finder --Hummingbird (Piranha Max 215)--New
- 1 Cabela's Fresh Water Spinning Rod & Reel--New
- 1 Cabela's Fresh Water Bait Casting Rod & Reel --New
- 1 Cabela's Salt Water Spinning Rod & Reel--New

Drawing Takes Place at Riverside Club House April 28, 2017.

Trout Pond stocked for Season –pond opens for fishing Saturday April 29th.

Raffle Tickets: \$5.00 each or 4 for \$15.00.