

**Next Monthly Meeting**  
**March 1st 2021**

**Monthly General membership**  
meetings are held on the  
**1st Monday of the month**  
**Start Time Is 7:30pm**

**PLEASE CALL**

If you live a great distance from  
the club, call prior to leaving home,  
to verify the ranges are open.  
(215) 624 9454 8am to 4pm

### **Club Shooting Hours**

**6am To 11pm**

**Weekly Activities**

**Saturday And Sunday**

Skeet And Trap

**Winter Hours**

9:00am To 2:00pm

**Monday (Daytime)**

Open Skeet And Trap

9am To 1pm

**Monday Night Sr Rifle**

(Indoors)

7pm To 10pm

**Tuesday Night Open Trap**

6pm To 10pm

**Jr Rifle (Indoors) From**

7pm To 8:30pm

**Wednesday Night**

Open Skeet 6pm To 10pm

**Friday Night**

Jr Skeet & Trap

**DUES ARE \$100:00**

**DUES not paid by JANUARY**  
**31st 2021 are Delinquent. Your**  
**Holmesburg News will not be**  
mailed until your dues are  
current.

**After April 30th there will be a**  
**\$10.00 late charge added to**  
**your dues each month.**

**Do NOT send CASH!**

Send a check, payable to the club.  
Mail To:

**Mike Hamilton**  
**HF&G.PA Membership**  
**Chairman**

**5100 Pennypack Street**  
**Phila PA 19136**

Newsletter Published by  
Holmesburg Fish & Game  
Protective Association, Inc.

# **Fish & Game**

**HOLMESBURG**  
**PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION**

5100 Pennypack Street Philadelphia Pa 19136-1620

Organized 1930 Incorporated 1942 NRA Affiliated

*An equal opportunity recreational facility*



**February 2021**

**www.holmesburgfishandgame.com**

**Issue No.2**

## ***The President's Column***

### ***Valentine's Day Reminds Us to Love Our Club!***

*By President: Kevin Kubacki.*

Like no other time in our 91-year-old history, do we anticipate having to protect and defend our beloved HF&GPA. To be clear, we are **NOT** talking about an armed and or violent rebellion, but we are saying we need to resist by all the political and social means at our disposal. I'll cut straight to the chase, and then I will get on with our usual business. This means funding the club and those organizations that protect us from those that would rather not have us around. It means paying your 2021 club dues ASAP. If you can't get to the club on a Sunday morning, then print the renewal form off our website home page, fill it out and return it with your \$100 dues, proof of NRA membership and a stamped, self-addressed envelope so we can send back your 2021 badge sticker. Remember, starting this month, if your dues aren't paid, you have no shooting privileges. If you have any Covid stimulus money left, wouldn't it be sublimely ironic to donate some to the NRA or other pro-gun organizations? Other ways to show you care? You can volunteer time and/or materials. I know the weather may not be conducive to doing much outdoors for a while, but you can still pitch in. Maybe it's just running garbage to the dumpster when you notice the trash can is full or a little smelly. Look around and see what you think needs doing and work with a club officer or director to form a work party and get 'er done! Maybe you could build a few target frames for the pistol or rifle ranges, or donate some lumber or cardboard so the club can construct them. There's no shortage of ways for you to show the love. Now a little about what's going on... Access to HF&G from Pennypack Street is closed and detoured through the Police Academy off of State Road. The City (PWD and its contractors) have told us they expect it to remain closed for a couple of months. As we access HF&G from the Police

Academy entrance on State Road, PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY and SAFELY! There is nothing new from PWD on a shot curtain replacement. Work on the Indoor Range continues. We purchased three auxiliary heaters to replace the broken and failing ones behind the firing line. The air-handling system was updated so the intake louvers open automatically when the ventilators are switched on. Thanks to No "H" and Tom for getting that done. Other reminders - Our regular shooting hours of 6AM until 11 PM are still the rule rather than the exception, but always check the club web site first so you aren't surprised by any last-minute closures.

We should be hosting PA Hunter/Trapper Education classes in April and again in September, but we have to figure out what that's going to look like and how many attendees we can accommodate. Watch the Game Commission web site and sign up as soon as they post it if you need to take the class this year. Also watch for an announcement concerning the annual Friends of the NRA banquet and auction in the spring. My calendar says the last Tuesday in March is the 30<sup>th</sup> this year, but who knows whether they'll be able to pull it off this time. Hope so, as the FNRA (and your club) could sure use your support this year more than ever! Thank you for whatever you can do.

### ***Notice***

I would like to apologize for not posting Robert Stewart's obituary in last month newsletter. It totally slipped my mind, and thanks to Anna Mae Guille who shot me an email to remind me.

### ***Obituary***

Holmesburg Fish and Game Protective Association would like to offer our condolences to the family of Robert Stewart his friends knew him as Sprinkler Bob, who passed away December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Bob was an avid Shotgun shooter and also loved to shoot Pistol and Rifle. Bob was a longtime member of Holmesburg Fish and Game. Again, we would like to offer our condolences to Bob's family.

## Editor

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Cell Phone (267) 968-6564  
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## Vice President

Frank DelaCruz (215) 478-1926

## Treasurer

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## Club Comptroller

Terry Wenger (215) 570 6666

## Directors

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John Cannon (215) 806 2863  
Patrick B Clarke (267) 968-6564  
S D Arcangelo (215) 613-6943  
Ron Steinbrecher (215) 836-7184  
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Joe Siegle (215) 426-1719

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## Membership Chairman

Mike Hamilton (267) 258-6319

## Club Manager

Jerry McGinniss (215) 342-9831

## Divisions

### Shotgun Division Chairman

(John Lanzara)

### Skeet Trap. & 5 Stand

John Lanzara (215) 742 5757

Alt J Lanzara Jr (215) 742 5757

### Juniors Division Chairman

Tim Anderson (267) 596-3081

### Junior Shotgun Coordinator

Tim Anderson (267) 596-3081

### Rifle Division Chairman

(R Steinbrecher) (215) 836 7184

Alt S D Arcangelo

(215) 613-6943

### Sunday Rifle League

#### Coordinator

John Johnson

Alt R Steinbrecher (215) 836 7184

## Senior Indoor Rifle

### Coordinator

Joel Jackson (215) 331-8070

### Plinking Shoots

#### Coordinator

Sam Henderson (215) 744-4534

Alt John Cannon (215) 806-2863

### Pistol Division Chairman

(M Hladchuk) (215) 880-4453

Alt (Frank DelaCruz)

(215) 478-1926

### Bullseye Matches & Pistol

#### Team Caption Coordinator

Mark Hladchuk (215) 880-4453

Alt Steve D'arcangelo

### Military Pistol League

#### Coordinator

Brian Applegate (215) 806-2419

E-Mail bass6621@verizon.net

### Summer League Coordinator

Tom Scollon (215) 725-2958

### Black Powder Chairman

Patrick B Clarke

#### Primitive

Patrick B Clarke (267) 968 6564

Alt Jim Shomper (215) 338-5770

### Training Division

Chas O'Connor

### 1st Steps Rifle Shotgun &

#### Pistol

Chas O'Connor (215) 427-0536

Alt John Cannon (215) 806 2863

### Archery Division Chairman

Andy Meehan (267) 679-2263

**Monthly General membership meetings are held the First Monday of the Month 7:30pm Start Time**

### **Regular Hours of Operation:**

Holmesburg Fish and Game Ranges open at 6 AM and close at 11 PM Restricted range hours may be reinstated should PWD work behind our bullet impact berms resume. Watch this space for more information.

## **Bear Hunters Post State'S Six-Best Harvest**

Pennsylvania's hunters took 3,608 black bears in the 2020 seasons, the state's sixth-best bear harvest ever.

While the harvest is about 20 percent lower than last year's record harvest of 4,653 bears, it aligns with the annual average of 3,675 bears taken over the past five seasons, and it's the second-highest harvest in that period.

In the bear archery season, which benefited from a one-week-longer season, bowhunters set a new harvest record of 948, breaking the former record of 561 set in 2019. Harvest numbers in the other bear seasons fell, which is not uncommon. The two-year-old muzzleloader/special firearms seasons harvest slipped from 1,340 to 1,038, the general firearms season harvest went from 1,629 to 1,170; and the extended season harvest, which typically is inconsistent, went from 1,117 to 432.

Often influenced by fall food availability, weather and hunter actions, bear harvests historically have changed abruptly from one year to the next. The harvest decline from 2019 to 2020, marks the second time in 20 years the bear harvest in back-to-back years has decreased by 1,000 or more bears. The annual bear harvest also has increased by 1,000 bears four times over the same period.

Three times in the past 20 years, Pennsylvania's annual bear harvest has exceeded 4,000 bears. In each subsequent harvest year, the harvest dropped by hundreds of bears. After the record harvest of 4,311 in 2011, the harvest dropped to 3,632; after 2005's record harvest of 4,164, the harvest slipped to 3,124 in 2006.

"This ebb-and-flow has appeared in Pennsylvania bear harvests for the past century," noted Emily Carrollo, Game Commission bear biologist. "It's the nature and reality of bear hunting."

The agency will analyze factors that might have affected last fall's bear harvest in the months to come through surveys, field work and research projects, Carrollo said. That work seeks out hunter preferences, examines fall food availability and measures the effectiveness of the state's slate of bear seasons on black bears, particularly pregnant females.

### **HARVEST REPORT**

Bears were taken in 59 of 67 counties and 22 of Pennsylvania's 23 Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) in the 2020 season.

The largest bear through all 2020 seasons is the 719-pound male taken with a crossbow on Nov. 7 in Ayr Township, Fulton County, by Abby Strayer, of McConnellsburg.

The heaviest bear ever taken in Pennsylvania was an 875-pounder harvested in 2010 in Middle Smithfield Township, Pike County. Since 1992, seven black bears weighing at least 800 pounds have been lawfully harvested in Pennsylvania hunting seasons.

Other large bears taken in the 2020 bear seasons include: a 657-pound male taken with a muzzleloader in Lehman Township, Pike County, by Zachary Seip, of Schnecksville; a 656-pound male taken with a shotgun in Penn Forest Township, Carbon County, by Stephen Strzelecki, of Albrightville; a 633-pound male taken with a muzzleloader in Cooper Township,

*Continued on page Four*

## Obituary

Holmesburg Fish and Game Protective Association would like to offer our condolences to the family of Betty Alexy. On January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Betty passed away. She was married to Thomas Alexy who ran Trap for the Club until 1997 when he moved to Florida. Betty also helped to run the traps and was the Cashier and made up the Squads as well as being the Cashier on Tuesday Trap Shooting. They also ran the Special Fun Shoots several times a year. Again we would like to offer our condolences to Tom and his family on Betty's passing.

### Continued from page Two Six-Best Harvest

Clearfield County, by Mark Gritzer, of Clearfield; a 633-pound male taken with a muzzleloader in Stewardson Township, Potter County, by Conrad Miller, of Hanover; a 621-pound male taken with a rifle in Shrewsbury Township, Sullivan County, by Jeffrey C. Kratz, of Collegeville; a 610-pound male taken in Middle Smithfield Township, Monroe County, by Keith Davis, of Harrisburg; a 607-pound male taken with a rifle in Lake Township, Wayne County, by Seth A. Curtis, of Waymart; a 607-pound male taken with a rifle in Abbott Township, Potter County, by Robin Levengood, of Fleetwood; and a 607-pound male taken in Lehigh Township, Wayne County, by Joseph Sledzinski, of Lake Ariel.

Potter County finished with 188 bears to take the top county bear harvest. It was followed by Lycoming County, with 185. Other top counties for bear harvests in 2020 were: Tioga, 184; Clearfield, 157; Monroe, 152; Clinton, 149; Elk, 140; Luzerne, 125; and Carbon, 117.

Final county harvests by region (with 2019 figures in parentheses) are:

**Northwest – 472 (557):** Warren, 86 (146); Venango, 84 (80); Jefferson, 76 (65); Forest, 61 (69); Clarion, 59 (65); Butler, 42 (44); Crawford, 41 (65); Erie, 18 (16); Mercer, 4 (7); and Lawrence, 1 (0).

**Southwest – 258 (347):** Somerset, 69 (124); Fayette, 43 (62); Armstrong, 56 (58); Indiana, 29 (42); Cambria, 24 (29); Westmoreland, 32 (29); Allegheny, 3 (2); and Greene, 2 (1).

**Northcentral – 1,305 (1,609):** Potter, 188

(174); Lycoming, 185 (284); Tioga, 184 (267); Clearfield, 157 (103); Clinton, 149 (267); Elk, 140 (101); Centre, 117 (146); McKean, 87 (129); Cameron, 61 (80); and Union, 37 (54).

**Southcentral – 416 (731):** Huntingdon, 90 (180); Bedford, 82 (156); Perry, 36 (68); Juniata, 34 (42); Fulton, 31 (80); Franklin, 31 (47); Mifflin, 30 (54); Blair, 29 (40); Snyder, 20 (25); Cumberland, 6 (27); and Adams, 7 (11).

**Northeast – 987 (1,228):** Monroe, 152 (130); Luzerne, 125 (163); Pike, 105 (161); Wayne, 99 (131); Carbon, 97 (88); Bradford, 82 (128); Sullivan, 71 (87); Lackawanna, 56 (79); Susquehanna, 54 (82); Columbia, 53 (64); Wyoming, 42 (82); Northumberland, 22 (26); and Montour, 3 (7).

**Southeast – 170 (185):** Schuylkill, 78 (79); Dauphin, 37 (67); Berks, 15 (17); Northampton, 23 (16); Lehigh, 7 (4); and Lebanon, 9 (2).

The final bear harvests by Wildlife Management Unit (with final 2018 figures in parentheses) were: **WMU 1A**, 22 (20); **WMU 1B**, 119 (167); **WMU 2A**, 9 (11); **WMU 2B**, 6 (3); **WMU 2C**, 175 (292); **WMU 2D**, 190 (189); **WMU 2E**, 74 (82); **WMU 2F**, 277 (351); **WMU 2G**, 626 (712); **WMU 2H**, 141 (111); **WMU 3A**, 199 (268); **WMU 3B**, 272 (427); **WMU 3C**, 170 (224); **WMU 3D**, 408 (493); **WMU 4A**, 175 (308); **WMU 4B**, 112 (192); **WMU 4C**, 228 (254); **WMU 4D**, 234 (370); **WMU 4E**, 135 (139); **WMU 5A**, 13 (25); **WMU 5B**, 0 (1); **WMU 5C**, 22 (14); and **WMU 5D**, 1 (0).

## Notice

I am asking for everyone's help that if you hear of a member or family member passing away, to please send me an email at the time. I like to announce the Obituary notices in a timely manner but there are times where I don't know of someone passing until months later.

Happy  
Valentine's  
Day



Photo sent in by Gary Nickerson

Gary shot this 8 point buck in Monroe County Pa with 10 minutes left in the Muzzleloader season. This is the first buck Gary shot with his flintlock. He has been hunting every year since 1980 without any luck until this year. Congratulations Gary on your nice buck.

## Dues Notice:

The January 31, 2021 has passed this means you are Delinquent if you have not paid your dues. This means you will not be able to use any of the clubs ranges until your dues are up to date. If you are late paying the dues, you have until April 30<sup>th</sup> 2021 before you will be assessed a penalty of \$10 a month, for each month after that. If you need a renewal application, you can download it from the clubs web page. Make sure all of your information is up to date, including phone number, address and email address if you choose to give an email address. The membership chairman Mike Hamilton is usually at the club on Sunday mornings, from approximately 9:30 until around noon. Or you can mail it to

**C/O Mike Hamilton  
5100 Pennypack Street  
Philadelphia, Pa 19136-1620**

**PLEASE CALL**  
If you live a great distance  
from the club,  
call prior to leaving home,  
to verify the ranges  
are open. (215) 624 9454  
8am to 4pm

## ***February***

### **Sunday February 7th 2021**

Rim-Fire Rifle Indoor Range

Offhand 9am Start

### **Monday February 8th 2021**

Firearm Fundamentals Class 6pm Start

You Must Register

### **Sunday February 14th 2021**

Center Fire Rifle League Sniper Match

### **Sunday February 14th 2021**

Rim-Fire Rifle Indoor Range

Offhand 9am Start

### **Sunday March 21st 2021**

Bull Eye All .22, 900 Straight Target

9am Start

### **Monday February 22nd 2021**

Firearm Fundamentals Class 6pm Start

You Must Register

### **Sunday February 28th 2021**

Mil Pistol Unlimitd 10am Start

Mil Pistol & Rifle Awards

Banquet At Noon

## ***Pa Ridgerunner***

It is that time of year, when all our fellow Black Powder Shooters will be bringing out their smoke polls to get ready for our first shoot of the year which is March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Make sure to check your guns if you happen to use them for the Flintlock Season, that you did not leave a charge in the barrel. Hopefully, when March rolls around that most of the snow will be gone. For more information on these shoots, you can contact me at (267)-968-6564 or Jim Shomper at (215)-338-5770

## ***March***

### **Sunday March 7th 2021**

Cowboy .22Pistol/Rifle Pistol Range

9:30 Start

### **Monday March 8th 2021**

Firearm Fundamentals Class 6pm Start

You Must Register

### **Sunday March 14th 2021**

Center Fire Rifle League 9am Start

If Weather Is Bad

### **Sunday March 14th 2021**

Rim Fire Rifle League 9am Start

Indoor Range Offhand

### **Sunday March 21st 2021**

Pa. Ridgerunner Black Powder Meat Shoot

9am Start To 2:30pm?

### **Sunday March 21st 2021**

Tactical Pistol #1 10am Start

### **Monday March 22nd 2021**

Firearm Fundamentals Class 6pm Start

You Must Register

### **Sunday March 28th 2021**

Mil Pistol #1 10am Start

## ***Ice Fishing - Be Aware***

If you do any ice fishing or if you know someone who does, just be aware that if you are using a jaw jacker or anything that automatically sets the hook, is illegal to use in Pennsylvania. After buying three of these several years ago, I did check with the Pennsylvania Fish Commission and they assured me that they were legal to use. The last time that I was out on the ice, I ran into a friend of mine who informed me that he saw a sign in the tackle shop and that the Fish commission will be giving out warnings this year. I did contact the Fish Commission

again and they explained to me that they are illegal. They apologized to me for being given the wrong information. While I was using these, every fish that I caught was hooked in the lips. As I checked with some of my fellow fisherman on the ice that were using the tipups, I saw several fish that swallowed the hook, so the jaw jacker will be going into storage and I will be using my tipups for the rest of the season. I just want to let you know I am not writing this article to discredit the Fish Commission, I think the information I got was an honest mistake.

*By Patrick B Clarke*



*This is the Jaw Jacker*

## ***A wee bit of Irish Humor***

A Kerryman went to London and found himself in the Underground late one night. Seeing a notice "DOGS MUST BE CARRIED ON THE ESCALATOR", he moaned to himself, "And where am I going to find a dog at this hour of the night?" A man hired a Kerryman as an assistant to take phone calls. One day the phone rang and when the Kerryman answered he hung up immediately. "Who was that?" asked his boss. "Some fool saying it was a long distance from New York. I told him everybody knew that."