



2023/2024 MEMBER NEWSLETTER

1525 GREATSINGER ROAD, ELMIRA, NY 14901 Phone: 607-733-2928
Web Site: strgc.org Email: Sullivan_Trail_Rod_and_Gun_Club@aol.com

OVERVIEW:

Beginning January 1st, 2024, our annual membership dues will be \$55. If you pay next year's dues prior to January 1st, you will pay only \$50. So, pay early and save! Also, when you pay your dues for the coming year, we ask that you provide your most recent email address so that we can make sure our mailing list is up to date. Remember, our dues rate still remains a bargain compared to other clubs in the region and for the activities that we provide! And welcome to all of our new members who have joined us this year!

IMPROVEMENTS:



This past year, our facility saw continued improvements on our clay target fields. The Shooter's Shack finally had its viewing deck completed, allowing for a nice overlook of the skeet shooting activities below. Gutters have been installed on the building, and church pews were repurposed for some nice additional seating inside. One of our hardwood trees fell across the road during a storm, and thanks to our members, we now have a nice supply of seasoned split firewood for our woodstove.

The Skeet Fields also saw some improvements this year. Our older Winchester skeet machines have all been replaced with newer GMV Super Star machines. We got a great deal on the newer machines, including an extra machine for use as spare parts.



We installed a new wooden fence between the Skeet Fields, replacing an old fence that was beginning to decay. Thanks to all of our members who volunteered their time to make all of these improvements possible!

Other improvements under consideration for the coming year and into the future include a new staircase from the road down to the Shooters Shack, significant upgrades to our Clubhouse, ATV/UTV trails through our woods and a perhaps a few other surprises along the way.

Finally, throughout 2023, our Board of Directors have met several times to formulate a new set of Bylaws & Standard Operating Guidelines for the operation of our Club. The old "bylaws" were severely dated, and needed upgrades to comply with State guidelines. These new documents should also make it easier to

secure grant funding for some of the bigger projects we have planned for the future. With the membership's approval, we hope to have the new Bylaws in place by the beginning of 2024.

CLUB EVENTS:

HUNTING - Our 120 acre Club facilities are popular for hunting and they are available exclusively to our members only - no guests are allowed to hunt! The first weekend of regular Deer Season begins on November 18th and 19th this year. Because of this, we are not scheduling any shooting events for this weekend, and ask that our members refrain from using all ranges on these two days as well.

FLAT LEAGUE - The regional Finger Lakes Area Trap (FLAT) League was held again this year, with the usual 8 Clubs participating. 37 shooters participated on behalf of our Club year. At the end of the regular season, Sullivan Trail finished in a tie with Lansing for fourth place at 1871 points. We hosted 157 shooters at our facility on our weekend on February 18 & 19. Colby Howard was our team's high gun champ, beating out Curt Robbins by a single point. The FLAT League will be held once again in 2024 with the schedule of events to be released soon. As always, we will need all the help we can get from our membership on the weekends that we host as we could potentially see up to 200 Trap shooters from around the region.

CAMERON LEAGUE - This Trap League is open to the public and normally runs from April into June, with 8 weeks of Wednesday afternoon shoots followed by a shoot-off and steak dinner. The 2023 League ran as scheduled, and was well attended. The schedule for the 2024 Cameron League will be announced soon.

PISTOL SHOOT - From Spring through Fall, STR&G puts on a series of monthly competitive pistol shoots. These shoots are open to the public and are NRA-sanctioned Special Tournaments allowing out of State shooters to bring their handguns into NY State & compete. Due to illness, we only held two events in 2023, and our popular Halloween Monster Shoot had to be cancelled. We expect to return next year with a full slate of pistols shoots.

ANNUAL ROSSI SHOOT - This successful annual national NSSA event always draws talented registered Skeet shooters from across the region. This year, the Rossi Shoot returned to celebrate its 30th year on June 24 & 25, 2023. In 2024, our Rossi Shoot will be held on June 29 & 30. Save these dates, as we will need all the Club volunteers we can get to help in the kitchen, at the barbeque pit and loading the skeet houses!

FALL BREAKFAST TRAP LEAGUE - This Trap League is open to the public and runs from October through November, with 8 weeks of Sunday morning shooting. This League coincides with our Sunday Morning breakfasts, enabling our shooters to get a hearty breakfast before hitting the fields for a frosty shoot.

DAVE FLEMING TURKEY SHOOT - Due to a scheduling conflict with our Fall Trap League, our annual Dave Fleming Turkey Shoot was not held this year. Look for it to possibly return on, November 3rd, 2024.

DEC HUNTER SAFETY CLASSES - There were no DEC Hunter Safety Courses held at the Club in 2023. We hope to resume them in the future, perhaps in 2024, as we know demand has been high for these courses.

NRA BASIC PISTOL COURSES - No NRA Basic Pistol Courses were held in 2023. If enough interest is generated, we will hold another course in 2024. We are also working on an NRA Basic Shotgun Course. Details to come soon.

BOY SCOUT CAMPOREE - There is a Boy Scout weekend event in the works for our Club for 2024. Planning is underway now as we need range instructors, safety officers and other volunteers for this event.

SUNDAY BREAKFASTS & CHICKEN BARBEQUES - The Club continues to raise funds by holding Sunday Breakfasts for the general public from the beginning of October through the end of April. And our summertime barbeques featuring "Richie's Awesome Chicken" continue to be a big hit with the local public. We did 3 Chicken barbeques in 2023. We plan on continuing these money-making events into 2024, but we need the help and participation of our volunteer membership to make them a success. And THANKS to all who helped with these events this year!

MONTHLY MEETINGS - Our monthly Club membership meetings take place on the first Wednesday of every month at 7 PM. Many of these meetings offer a meal beforehand, beginning at 6:00 PM. These meetings are your opportunity to participate in the decision-making and direction of YOUR Club!

OTHER NEWS:

CLUB APPAREL: - As usual, STR&G has apparel available for sale. Apparel sales include hats and T-shirts. We also plan on doing special orders for sweatshirts, hoodies, and vests periodically. Contact Club President Richie Rice for price and availability, and to get put on the order list for special purchase items.

SKEET MACHINES FOR SALE - As a result of the upgrade of our skeet machines, we now have 4 Winchester V1574A Skeet Machines for sale. \$300 each. Contact Scott Beach here at the Club if interested.

KEY CHANGE COMING - The Clubhouse key will be changing during the last week in December 2023. New keys will be available starting January 1st, 2024. This key opens the Clubhouse door and the Shooters Shack doors. To get a new key, see Richie Rice at Quality Car Care. If you trade in your old key, there is no fee for the new key. Otherwise, there will be a \$5 deposit for the new key. As always, the key will remain the property of Sullivan Trail Rod & Gun Club.

TRAP FIELDS ARE NOW ATA REGISTERED - Our Trap Fields have now been registered with the ATA. Any ATA trap shooters desiring to have their trap targets registered with the ATA may pay an additional \$7 per league. See Mike Dipetta for details.

We at Sullivan Trail Rod & Gun Club would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our active participating members for all you do to make this Club a success. From construction crews, administration, event planning, coordinating & execution, registration, scoring, instructing, moving clay birds, cooking, facility maintenance and grounds keeping, and so on ... We could not do what we do without your efforts!!!

Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and prosperous and healthy 2024 New Year to all of our members and your families!!!