



# RANGELEY REGION GUIDES' & SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 244  
RANGELEY, MAINE 04970

OUR MISSION IS THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND RESTORATION OF WILDLIFE FOR SPORTSMEN, SPORTSWOMEN, AND FUTURE GENERATIONS.

## 2019 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Regular membership potluck supper & meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of each month. No meeting in April. Potluck dinner at 5:30 p.m., followed by Club meeting and guest speaker, at the Clubhouse.

- o May 18: Rifle & Pistol Range opens for season
- o May 18: Shotgun Range opens for season
- o June 1: Archery Range opens for season
- o June 15, 16, 22, 23: Hunter Safety Course
- o July 3: Town Park Event
- o July 4: Shotgun Tournament -Shotgun Range
- o July 8: Junior Guides begins, 6 consecutive Mondays, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- o July 11: Strawberry Festival
- o July 18: Annual Meeting at Clubhouse
- o August 24, 25 : Shotgun Tournament
- o October 6: 11th Annual Turkey Shoot
- o October 19: Youth Hunt Breakfast
- o October 26: All Ranges Close
- o December 12: Christmas Party

## OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

We thank Harold Fay and Sheri Oldham for their wonderful efforts serving on our Board. This year we welcome new board members Jack McNulty, Rob Thorndike and Danielle & Courtney Ellis.

### The RRG&SA Board of Directors

PRESIDENT – Gary Langille  
 VICE PRESIDENT – Kevin Sinnett  
 SECRETARY – Elaine Holcombe  
 TREASURER – Raymond Roy  
 DIRECTORS – Danielle and Courtney Ellis, Joyce Fay, Jim Gaul, Scott Hatfield, David Kretzing, Nick Leadley, Jack McNulty, Dick Moore, Sam Spaulding, Rob Thorndike, Jack Tourtillotte, and Gerry White

If for any reason you need to contact a board member, please send an email to [info@rangeleyoutdoors.org](mailto:info@rangeleyoutdoors.org).

### STAY CONNECTED ON LINE

Stay up-to-date on the Club activities by frequently visiting our web site: [www.rangeleyoutdoors.org](http://www.rangeleyoutdoors.org) and Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/RangeleyRRGSA](https://www.facebook.com/RangeleyRRGSA).



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Winter 2018 - 2019

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation and thanks for all the Board of Directors in allowing me to become your new interim President of the RRG&SA.

I also extend a warm welcome to all our new BOD members Ron Thorndike, Courtney and Danielle Ellis, Jack McNulty.

I want to thank Sheri Oldham for doing an amazing job over her past tenure on the Board and as our President. It was great to see a large turnout for her night to step down and a special dedication by our Wildlife Commissioner Chandler Woodcock, who awarded her a Commissioner's Kathadin print of a beautiful Brook Trout.

Sheri had great success in building our membership and events and simply made the Club a fun place to work and gather. She will be missed but remains ready to assist should the need arise.

As the new President I want to thank all the many volunteers, contributors, and new & old members for another very successful year. This year we started a scholarship fund for outgoing Rangeley High School Seniors. Applications were reviewed by the Board and this year's recipients were Natasha Haley and Chloe Talbert.

Congratulations and we wish you well in your future endeavors!

We enjoyed another great year for our Junior Guides Program collectively run by Elaine Holcombe and Joyce Fay and a new addition for advanced Jr. Guides leader Sue Lewis. We'll look forward to a new and exciting 2019!

Although we had another difficult summer weather wise, our events were all well attended. We look forward to another great year of activities next summer and hope to add some special events that we will promote over the winter and spring.

Our hopes are that this coming year we will be able to combine the hunter safety classes to include firearm, archery and crossbow. We have continual request for these types of educational courses and are working to make this happen.

Our monthly Potluck suppers will continue to go on as usual with the addition of some exciting keynote speakers to feature our surrounding environment, rebuilding of Middle Dam, Conservation Efforts of extending the list of our Heritage Waters, and events we can host for our community, especially the youth, that will continue to reinforce the outdoor heritage and traditions that makes our Rangeley Region so special.

Our memberships continue to grow thanks to the amazing efforts of Paula and Scott Hatfield's, especially their efforts establishing our online renewal options.

If for any reason I have missed your volunteering, contributions, donating please accept my apology and know that we welcome all that you do for us!

I look forward to meeting all of you and will, with every effort, continue to keep RRG&SA on the road to accomplishing our mission of conserving, protecting, and restoring our wildlife for sportsmen, sportswomen, and future generations.

Thank you, Gary Langille

## IN APPRECIATION TO OUR PAST PRESIDENT

In July, Sheri Oldham formally resigned as our Club President. Sheri had been a board member for 10 years with the last 5 years serving as our President.



During her tenure as President the Guides membership increased from 596 to over 1,000. The Club has never been in better financial shape.

She was diligent and unrelenting in going after significant grants to renovate and improve our pistol range as well as the sporting clay site leading to the addition of new skeet houses, 6 throwers and 5 stands.



Sheri initiated the Club's participation in the Annual "July 3rd in the Park" event hosted by the Chamber of Commerce and changed our Outdoor Sporting Heritage Day into a theme oriented event.

In 2012 Sheri coordinated the 1st Moose Lottery Festival. This festival, centered on the MDIF&W annual moose lottery, has now become the standard for any host Town.

She is currently serving on the Department of Inland Fisheries Advisory Board bringing current and necessary information to the Board of Directors.

The Board of Director's and entire membership thank Sheri for her dedication, energy, and guidance.

### RIFLE AND PISTOL RANGE

by Joyce Fay

We had great weather for the 10th Annual Turkey Shoot which was held on October 7, 2018 at the Association's rifle and pistol range. Many returning marksmen attended along with several new shooters this year. There were 7 winners of a gift certificate redeemable for a ham or a turkey. Our wonderful group of volunteers helped to make the event a fun day for all.

### JUNIOR GUIDES PROGRAM

by Elaine Holcombe



The Junior Guides summer program completed its 21st successful year. Both the basic and advanced groups were engaged in challenging and fun experiential indoor and outdoor activities. This year the program culminated in a visit to the Rangeley Forestry Museum where the group was treated to a presentation and movie about the history of logging in the Rangeley area. They toured the museum, hiked some of the trails and ended up with a hands-on wood burning craft.

The Club was happy to award a \$250 scholarship to Max Close who attended the 2018 SHOOTING CAMP at Bryant Pond this past August. Max was a past participant of our two year summer Junior Guide Program.

The Junior Guides thank all of our volunteers who have offered their time and talent to make our program such a success. We look forward to a great 2019 summer program.

Preregistration for the basic program is required. The ages are 9 and 10 year olds. When the basic program is completed our participants move into the advanced program but the requirement is to complete the basic program first. We look forward to meeting our new junior guides.

For preregistration please contact Joyce at 864-2651.



### STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

by Joyce Fay

The weather cooperated for our Annual Strawberry Festival in July. There were several new vendors joining our popular returning artists and crafters. Renee Sopel continues to do a superb job of coordinating the craft section of the show. Carol Harvey has stepped down as head of the Strawberry Shortcake committee and we cannot thank her enough for her 20+ years of dedicated service. As always our team of volunteers served up delicious strawberry shortcake and our grill masters stayed busy offering up selections from the grill. The success of this event is made possible with the support of all who attend and our wonderful club members who volunteer their time. A big thank you goes out to Mike Koob and the Rangeley Fire Department for the use of their properties. The festival is always the 2nd Thursday in July, so mark your calendar for July 11, 2019. For more info call 864-2651.



### TIM BAKER TRAIL – STORY TRAIL WALK 2018

This summer's storybook walk called ANIMAL HIDE AND SEEK by Dahlov Ipcar.



This award winning Maine author offered detailed portraits of woodland animals, setting them into their natural setting, camouflaged for the careful reader to find.

Ipcar described the habits of animals from deer to rabbits, squirrels to salamanders and more. The first edition of this book was published in 1947. It has since been wonderfully re-

stored and reissued emphasizing Ipcar's crisp colors and bold lines. In a career spanning 60 years, she had written and illustrated more than thirty children and young adult books.

We doubled the number of hikers on the trail this year.

### 2nd ANNUAL SHED HUNTERS GATHERING

by Elaine Holcombe

We hosted this event at our clubhouse in June. A large moose skull was gifted to the Junior Guide Program. When Hal Dougherty saw it, he felt that the entry fee should be made so that the skull could be considered a qualifying trophy for the end of March voting. With a spread of 53 and 5/8 inches and subsequent measurements of palm width, number of points, and circumference of the beam, the scoring by Hal Doughty determined a final score of 177 and 3/8. This resulted in the mount being registered with the Maine Antler and Skull Trophy Club.



### RANGELEY SKEET and TRAP ASSOCIATION

by Dave Kretzing, President RRSTA

We closed out the 2018 season on October 21st before the early season snow arrived! Thanks to all who braved the thirty degree temperature and 25 mile/hour winds to help with "but-toning up" the range for the winter.

This year, 276 individuals took part in the variety of clayshooting opportunities that RRSTA offers. New additions to the range this year were benches for the skeet range and improvements to the 5-stand shooting stations and sporting clays course.

We continued our efforts to be a positive community resource by providing silent auction items for the Chamber of Commerce and the Rangeley Public Library. We also provided clayshooting instruction for the RRG&SA Advanced Junior Guides and participants at the 20th anniversary celebration of the Maine Casting for Recovery program. Our 4th of July and year-end tournaments continue to produce closely contested events and great comradery among the shooters.

On the last Saturday in September, RRSTA hosted our first wedding! Three generations of the Venditto family have been long-time supporters of the range. Grandfather Richard, parents -Tom and Lorraine, and sons - Andy and Dan, always do some clayshooting when they visit their home on Dodge Pond. Groom Andy, with a flowered shotshell boutonniere, and his bride, Kelsey Hazeltine exchanged their wedding vows under an arbor on skeet station 8. A wedding reception followed at the beautifully decorated RRG&SA clubhouse. Congratulations and best wishes to the bride and groom!

Please remember that your RRG&SA membership allows you to shoot at RRSTA member rates. RRSTA is a lead-free clay-

shooting facility. You can check our website [www.rrsta.org](http://www.rrsta.org) for further information about our 2019 events and shooting schedule.



### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

By Paula Hatfield, Membership Chair

I am pleased to report that, once again, our membership count has reached the 1000 mark. Over the past three years we've consistently hit this amazing level. This could not have been achieved without the enthusiastic and faithful support of so many. Membership dues and gifts constitute the majority of our income. We could not execute on our critical mission if we did not have the support of each of you.

One of the big changes that we made last year was to direct all gifts in excess of dues towards our new scholarship fund. It is our objective to endow this fund with enough support that we can provide aid to several graduating seniors each year. I am pleased to report that we're off to a very good start. In addition to direct donations, the funds contributed via membership renewals added approximately \$3,700 towards this fund. The Board has elected to continue our practice into 2019. All gifts in excess of dues will be allocated to the scholarship fund. We thank you for your generosity. In these days of rising college costs, we believe that supporting these young adults in their pursuit of relevant degrees in environmental and natural sciences is very much in keeping with our mission and goals.

2019 will mark our third membership campaign using our electronic renewal system. All those members with an email on file received an invitation to renew online. We have had a very good response to that program with about a third of our members opting for electronic renewal. Remember that our membership year runs from January 1 through December 31, regardless of when you actually make your payment. Whether you choose electronic or paper renewal, you always have a chance to review and update your information. Please keep this up to date so that we can continue to know your interests and have a way to get you your membership card and receipt for tax purposes.

All membership dues will remain the same as last year, \$25 for individuals, \$30 for family memberships and \$10 per person for senior memberships. If you are able to renew at a higher level, such as Contributing or Business for \$50, Sustaining for \$100, or Sponsoring for \$500, it will help us to improve and provide programs and activities for our membership and the community. You may also renew in person at River's Edge in Oquossoc or at most club events. I hope to see you next year at one of our monthly meetings or events. If you have any questions regarding your membership, please contact me at [membership@rangeleyoutdoors.org](mailto:membership@rangeleyoutdoors.org).