

Rangeley Region Guides' & Sportsmen's Association

P.O. Box 244

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www.rangeleyoutdoors.org

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Fall 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



2020 has been a year like none other for your RRG&SA organization. As the Covid-19 situation became clear, we have consistently elected to prioritize the safety of our members and

participants. That means that a lot of things that we love to do – didn't happen this year. Unfortunately, we cancelled nearly all of our annual fundraisers: the Strawberry Festival, July 3rd in the Park, and most raffles. We love conducting these events as much as you enjoy participating – but gathering large numbers of people together wasn't prudent. One of our core programs, the Junior Guides, had to take a year off. Our monthly meetings in the clubhouse were suspended.

While much changed, we went forward with those things that we could safely do. As if we needed a reason to get outdoors! All our ranges (Rifle and Pistol, Archery, and the RRSTA's Shotgun Range) functioned, with safety protocols in place. Our scholarship program operated normally. Events that encouraged people to be outdoors in small groups, such as the Tim Baker Trail and Storybook Walk, were well received.

Our normal governance process would have had us voting at an in-person meeting during the summer. Your Board has nominated new Board Members, as well as officers for the 2021 year. For this year only, we're providing you a mail-in ballot attached to this mailing. We're asking you to mark your ballot and return it via mail at your convenience.

In response to the loss of a significant part of our budget, the Board has been cautious with expenditures. Your membership participation has remained very strong, allowing us to operate at close to break-even this year.

While 2020 has been quite a challenge, we are optimistically looking forward to 2021. Your Board has continued to operate and plan via Zoom. 2021 will be our 125th anniversary as an organization. We hope to conduct a major fishing derby next year. We are cautiously optimistic that much of our regular calendar can resume. So, thank you for your support and your understanding. We very, very much look forward to seeing you at an event next year.

Stay safe. Stay healthy.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Gary Langille

2020 has been a year marked by difficult choices and changed plans. Through all this, RRG&SA has maintained its membership and continued several events following safety protocols.

I offer many thanks to our Board for their support and hard work. Through many ZOOM meetings, phone calls, and emails, the Board has done the hard behind-the-scenes work and kept our operations going. We have continued to plan future activities. Looking ahead to 2021, we are very excited to plan a fishing derby on Mooselookmeguntic.

I want to express my personal appreciation to both Kevin Sinnett and Dick Moore for contributing many, many years of service to RRG&SA. We wish them both well in their new endeavors.

Thank you to Dave Kretzing for stepping into the Vice President position and a warm welcome to Vincent Catrini and Patrick Hayden, two new members of the Board.

Thank you to all for your support. Wishing all our members health and safety through the coming months.

TIM BAKER TRAIL – STORY TRAIL WALK

By Elaine Holcombe



The RRG&SA Tim Baker Trail Storybook Walk remains open featuring the book I AM BIRCH by Scott Kelley. The short walk embraces the nature of the area as hikers learn about the wisdom of this amazing birch stump. Visitors are given the opportunity to write a reflection of their experience in a notebook and take away a special piece of birch bark to draw Indian designs reminiscent of the storybook pages seen. The trail is open daily and it is located behind the Rangeley Region Guides and Sportsmen’s Association clubhouse on Old Skiway Road in Oquossoc.

JUNIOR GUIDE PROGRAM

By Elaine Holcombe

The RRG&SA Junior Guide Program will start on Monday July 5, 2021 and run for six consecutive Mondays, 9am-3pm. The Basic Program is for children aged 9-10. This is a 2-year program that builds upon the previous year's activities. The graduates 'move-up' to the Advanced program the following year.



Pre-registration is mandatory and will take place in the spring of 2021. Please call Joyce Fay to register at 864-2651.

JUNIOR GUIDES' SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

By Elaine Holcombe



Congratulations to RLRS student, Keegan Austin, who was the 2020 recipient of RRG&SA 's Junior Guides' Scholarship. He was awarded \$1,000. We wish him well as he continues his education at the collegiate level.

STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

By Joyce Fay

Save the date – July 8, 2021. We were unable to have our annual Strawberry Festival in 2020, but it will be back in 2021. Many of our popular vendors have already locked in their spots and there will be new features added to our usual craft fair, strawberry shortcake table and Guide fries! Planning has begun to make this the best year ever. For more info call 864-2651.



RANGELEY SKEET and TRAP ASSOCIATION

by Dave Kretzing, President RRSTA

Please remember that your RRG&SA membership allows you to shoot at RRSTA member rates. We offer trap, wobble trap, skeet, 5-stand, and traditional sporting clays. You can check our website, www.rrsta.org, for further information about our 2021 events and shooting schedule.



RIFLE AND PISTOL RANGE



Our Rifle and Pistol Range continues to see heavy use this year. We've made some nice improvements. We added additional benches to hold

all the gear we tend to lug along. We also replaced all the target bases. Shooting Instructor Dave Kretzing advises shooters to aim a little higher so that these bases will last longer.

In all seriousness, please only use suitable targets and stands. Debris from clays or other breakable targets can create a safety or clean-up issue for us. Thanks for your cooperation.

Please note the questions on the attached ballot that seek information on range utilization. We are in the process of gathering usage data to support our insurance needs. If you visited in 2020, please be sure to fill this out and return it, along with your vote.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

By Paula Hatfield, Membership Chair

I need to start by thanking all of you for continuing to support RRG&SA despite the challenges of Covid. Our membership has hovered around the 1000 mark for the past five years. Amazingly, as of the end of September, we are slightly ahead of our all-time membership level. We hope that more and more people will come out and bring friends to access our outdoor resources. Thank you!

Our membership program will remain unchanged in 2021. Rates remain the same. Our membership year runs from January 1 through December 31. You will be able to use either electronic or paper systems. As a reminder, you can always point prospective members to our website which has a membership tab. You can also point them to River's Edge Sport Shop where they are always happy to take a membership in-person.

If you have any questions regarding your membership, please contact me at membership@rangeleyoutdoors.org

2020 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Regular membership potluck supper & meetings are currently suspended. When they resume, they will normally be 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.

- May 15: Rifle & Pistol Range opens for season
- May 15: Shotgun Range opens for season
- June 1: Archery Range opens for season
- June 26: Tim Baker Nature Trail and storybook walk opens
- July 3: Town Park Event
- July 4: Shotgun Tournament -Shotgun Range
- July 5: Junior Guides begins, 6 consecutive Mondays, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- July 8: Strawberry Festival
- July 15: Annual Meeting at Clubhouse
- August 28-29: Shotgun Tournament
- October 3: Annual Turkey Shoot
- October 23: Youth Hunt Breakfast
- October 31: All Ranges Close
- December 16: Christmas Party

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

This year we welcome two new Directors – Vincent Catrini and Patrick Hayden. Both elected to three-year terms.

We want to express our most sincere thanks to two long-serving Board Members who are departing. Dick Moore has had multiple terms on the Board and provided countless Hunter Safety programs for us. Kevin Sinnett ends 14 years of service and as our Vice President. Thanks to both of you for your service and your friendship.

The RRG&SA 2021 Board of Directors

PRESIDENT – Gary Langille

VICE PRESIDENT – Dave Kretzing

SECRETARY – Elaine Holcombe

TREASURER – Scott Hatfield

DIRECTORS: Vincent Catrini, Butch Desanctis, Joyce Fay, Patrick Hayden, Nick Leadley, Jack McNulty, Bill Richards, Sam Spaulding, Gerry White

STAY CONNECTED ONLINE

Stay up to date on the Club activities by frequently visiting our web site: www.rangeleyoutdoors.org and Facebook page: www.facebook.com/RangeleyRRGSA.

Ballot - 2021 Board and Officers

Please mark and return via mail to:

Rangeley Region Guides' and Sportsmen's Association
PO Box 244
Rangeley, ME 04970

1) In favor of the nominated Board Members: Vincent Catrini and Patrick Hayden

Yes No

2) In favor of the slate of officers: Gary Langille as President, Dave Kretzing as Vice President, Elaine Holcombe as Secretary, and Scott Hatfield as Treasurer.

Yes No

During 2020, how many times did you visit the Rifle and Pistol Range? _____

With how many people in your party, on average? _____

Anything else you'd like to share with your Board?