

BINGHAMTON GUN CLUB



FALL 2025

A RECENT SUCCESS

The Binghamton Gun Club, with the help of private donors, announces the purchase of the Bunker Trap Facility at the club. This is the only true Olympic style trap facility in Upstate NY.

Dr. Rick Chordash was an alternate on the 1984 US Olympic Trap Team and built the facility on club grounds to train with. We are the training ground for Albert Fiori, the US and World Paralympic Trap Champion. The facility is open to the public to shoot.

NEWS!

The last election of board of directors and appointment of officers took place on January 20, 2025. Newly elected board members were Andrew Sacco, Scott Jones and Dom Constantino. The officers appointed were Laura Beavers and Ken Hildebrandt as Vice Presidents and Bill Barrows was reappointed as President. In big news, we had a very busy year this year! The club hosted the NYS Championship for the Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) for BOTH sporting clays and international trap. We also hosted a Sub Gauge Fun Shoot, a BBQ Fun Shoot and the Perazzi/Beretta Cup International Trap Tournament. Skeet Field 2 is now full time International Skeet. Come try this challenging game!

COIN SYSTEMS IN OPERATION

Recently we have updated the 5 stand, skeet field 2 and trap field to accept coins for shooting. Coins are available in the office. The coin systems are designed to give a more accurate target count, cut down on waste and abuse, and help keep the club functioning at the lowest possible cost.

“Shoot the bird, don’t fall in love with it...”

Denny Rydos

GALACTIC CLAYS COMES TO BINGHAMTON GUN CLUB

A fun new shooting game was unveiled last year. Galactic Clays is a NIGHT TIME 5 stand shooting experience that must be seen to be believed. Shooters from Rochester, Buffalo, Syracuse, New Jersey and Long Island have attended. Shoot clay targets glowing in the dark for a new level of fun! In the winter, darkness comes early so we can comply with local ordinance and be done by 9:00pm. NOTE THIS SELLS OUT QUICKLY! Register in the clubhouse or on Scorechaser. The next event is November 8, 2025.

SHOOTING TIPS FROM OUR MEMBERS

From Jim Ruth comes an important piece of advice....

“Shoot it where it ain’t before it gets there...” Jim Ruth



Pointing Dog

EDITORIAL

This might be the first newsletter of the Binghamton Gun Club, I don't know. I wasn't around in 1937 when we were founded. Eventually we will transition this to an emailed PDF to keep costs reasonable. Therefore, we need a GOOD EMAIL address. It doesn't hurt to send us an email at info@binghamtongunclub.com with your name and correct email address. This EDITORIAL section will appear in each newsletter as a short piece. The MEMBER PIECE below is open territory and *any member of the club in good standing* may submit their thoughts. It can be advice, a how-to article, maybe some wild game recipes, tips for hitting crossing birds...etc. Like I said, an open palette since our members have a lot to share. The written words will be those of the author, but not necessarily the opinion of the Binghamton Gun Club. Therefore, the editor reserves the right to edit content for legal and riot suppressing reasons. This month will be kicked off by yours truly, the Editor at Large, until someone wants to take the mantle from me.

MEMBER PIECE

What This Club Means to Me

I joined the BGC in the late 90's to help my bird hunting by trying skeet and 5 stand. I wasn't used to shooting in a social setting with people I didn't know. I found it a bit intimidating and only came a few times. Looking back, I guess I was afraid to miss in front of others, like swinging a golf club while people are watching. I should have stuck it out.

Fast forward to a blustery Sunday in March 2020 in the middle of the COVID lockdown. I drove to the club, put a mask on and walked into the clubhouse to join again. My office was temporarily closed-what was I going to do in March in Binghamton? The first person to approach me was Jim Ruth who sneered, *"First thing you're gonna do fella is lose that mask and the second thing you're gonna do is grab your fowling piece and shoot something."* I thought *"Who the hell is this dude?"* So, we went to the frozen tundra of skeet field 3 and I proceeded to show everyone that I couldn't hit crap. Shooting a target flying in 30mph wind is different than killing a grouse. Neither is easy, they are just different games. At one point in my humiliation Jim looked at me and said, *"It appears you have LOFT son..."* I said, *"Oh, the wind is lofting the bird?"* With an Elmer Fudd cap was strapped to his dome and ice in his whiskers, he said, not with a small smirk, *"No, it's a Lack Of F'ing Talent."* I thought to myself, *"Where the hell was THIS guy the first time I came up!?"* I had a great day, broke some birds, and laughed until my belly hurt. Everyone was welcoming and kind. It was *fun*. We talked around the pellet stove to warm up after the legendary BGC winter wind got the best of us. I made new friends. I'm indebted to Jim for welcoming me properly, with awful jokes, dirty insults and a healthy dose of laughter.

Country clubs exist so like-minded folks can hang out. I have nothing against them, they're social clubs. I'm not country club material. I can't shoot the geese, chase woodcock in the out of bounds areas with my dog, or hang a buck from the old oak tree at the 18th tee. I find shooting clay targets to be addicting and damn fun and I don't have to wear funny clothes chasing a ball on what would be a great shooting range. While this "ballistic therapy" is therapeutic and fun, it's the friendships I've made the past 5 years that are more important. Shooting flying things is the glue that holds likeminded folks together here. We're really a social club of sorts. I have friends here good enough they'll drop what they're doing to help me out. Likewise, they know they can count on me. As Marlene Dietrich famously said, *"It's the friends you can call at 4 am that matter."* Good friends are rare, but that seems to happen here because we have a common love of safe shooting, camaraderie, laughter, some healthy competitiveness and FUN. We share the goal of making the club a safer, more enjoyable experience for members, non-members and new shooters. When you break your first long crosser and are given high fives all around, by your friends, you'll get it.

If you haven't been here in a while, or would like to come up, please do. Dust off that shotgun and we'll help you get started. Whether it's skeet, trap, 5 stand, sporting clays, or you want to try an Olympic sport like International Trap, we can ignite your fire. It never gets old hitting a flying target and is certainly addicting. But it is not just about the shooting, it's about the people. Inquiries for new shooters are best sent to info@binghamtongunclub.com. Email to that address if you like the newsletter idea, we won't keep it going unless folks want it.

Yours, Andrew Sacco

CLUB CALENDAR: EVENTS AT BINGHAMTON GUN CLUB

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 20 th , 2025:	BBQ Fun Shoot	Register on Score Chaser or pay in the office
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 8 th , 2025	GALACTIC CLAYS	Register on Score Chaser or pay in the office

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open annually from February to February. We do NOT pro-rate membership so try to renew it on time! Associate membership is \$65. If you are interested in joining, please email us for an application or stop by when we're open. Email inquiries to info@binghamtongunclub.com and include your name and address. Thank you!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS SINCE FEBRUARY 2025! (PLEASE LET US KNOW IF WE MISSED YOU!!)

<i>Angelo Toto</i>	<i>Bill Gamble</i>	<i>Chris Lyons</i>	<i>Frank Valentino</i>	<i>Jason Webb</i>
<i>Jim O'Brien</i>	<i>Paul Cesta</i>	<i>Philip Radicchi</i>	<i>Roy Pfoh</i>	<i>Thomas Adornato</i>

IMPORTANT!! UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION!!

Please make an effort to correct any issues on this mailing to you. We assume if you got it we have the correct address, but we would appreciate it if you could email our secretary with your preferred phone number and email address so we can update you on new events, news or promotions. Send updates to info@binghamtongunclub.com Also please follow us on Facebook at Binghamton Gun Club. We encourage members to join Discord, our private message board where you will be kept up to date daily on happenings of the club. This will prevent us from sending out too many emails to members. Scan the QR codes below to be directed to these pages.



DISCORD



FACEBOOK

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

BOARD of DIRECTORS

John Drabo
Ed Moran
Dom Constantino
Scott Jones
Andrew Sacco

OFFICERS

President: Bill Barrows
1st VP: Ken Hildebrandt
2nd VP: Laura Beavers
Treasurer: Sonya Hildebrandt
Secretary: Antoni Koziol



MISSION OF THE BINGHAMTON GUN CLUB

Our mission is to bring people together to enjoy and grow the sport of clay target shooting in Broome County and across New York State. We're passionate about fostering a love for shooting sports, from friendly competitions to skill-building events that welcome everyone—from beginners to seasoned shooters.

Beyond clay shooting, we support a wide range of outdoor activities, including hunting, dog trials, and other time-honored sporting traditions. We're dedicated to preserving these pastimes, protecting the environments that make them possible, and strengthening the bond between sportsmen and their communities.

At our core, we're more than just a club—we're a part of the local fabric of outdoor sports, working to ensure that our traditions thrive for generations to come. Whether you're here to compete, learn, or simply connect with like-minded individuals, we welcome you to join us in celebrating the great outdoors!

Follow Us

On the web at
binghamtongunclub.com

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Binghamton Gun Club

Join us on Discord

BINGHAMTON GUN CLUB

Location is at the end of Quilty Hill Rd in
Kirkwood, NY

Mailing Address is:
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