

# BINGHAMTON GUN CLUB



WINTER 2025

## A RECENT SUCCESS

The Binghamton Gun Club hosted a slew of events in 2025! These usually sell out so look forward to more in 2026.

In 2025 we had TWO BBQ Fun shoots, a Sub Gauge Shoot, FIVE Galactic Clays nighttime 5 stand shoots and a 3 Bird Event. Wow!

In addition, we had the Empire Grand Prix Olympic Trap championship and the Youth State Sporting Clays championship for the Scholastic Clay Target Program.



*Smashing Clays Never Gets Old!!*

## THIS IS A VOLUNTEER CLUB

Look what it costs to shoot skeet, trap or sporting clays at other clubs. Add in OLYMPIC trap and skeet and you will not find anything like this within a day's drive. We are a BARGAIN. This is a volunteer club which means that EVERY MEMBER (and even non-members) are asked to help at work parties and whenever they can. The only way we can keep your experience affordable is if people chip in to help. We are looking for someone who can dedicate perhaps a half to one day a week to help mow our facility. We thank Willie Soule for his years of service keeping our grounds so nice. This person should have experience with a zero turn mower. Experience with brush hogging is a plus. Pay is competitive with other volunteer clubs ; )

Mail to [info@binghamtongunclub.com](mailto:info@binghamtongunclub.com) if interested.

## NEW PELLET STOVE IS HERE

For those who have felt the brutal cold of a winter wind ripping through your panties, we are happy to announce we have a larger, warmer pellet stove to warm you between rounds of skeet, trap and five stand. Gather around and make excuses for your miss on low 7. We won't believe you, but we'll be warm.

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*“You missed that overneath...”*

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## SPORTING CLAYS TRAINING

Full member and AA class sporting clays shooter Ted Bryant will be offering wintertime “sporting clays training” sessions. The cost is just for your birds, there is no lesson cost. The sessions are limited to four members and is designed to keep you “in shooting form” during the long winters we endure. If you are interested email to: [info@binghamtongunclub.com](mailto:info@binghamtongunclub.com). These are planned for the first Saturday of each month on our 5 stand field.

## SHOOTING TIPS FROM OUR MEMBERS

From Art Ruck comes this gem....

*“Just shoot the damn bird...”*

## EDITORIAL

As your self-appointed Editor in Chief and Grand Poohbah of All Things Opinionated I will say: remember we are a GUN club. Your personal enjoyment of the shooting sports is always under attack. Therefore, I am making a personal plea for folks to join the NRA or any other gun advocacy group of your choice. This can all be taken away from us tomorrow. In my view, you have zero right to complain about the laws and regulations in this state or this country if you don't contribute, join and make your voice heard. And for God's sake, VOTE. *Yours from the pulpit*, Andrew Sacco.

## MEMBER PIECE

### Off Season Training By Ted Bryant

If you've lived in Upstate NY, a while, you're aware that the months that end in "-ber" (October, November, December), drastically change our outdoor activities. The temperature drops, the days get shorter and snow starts falling. Our thoughts turn from clay shooting to getting gear ready for hunting season, skiing, ice fishing, and snowmobiling. It's an interesting change of events that never ceases to take me by some degree of surprise, even after 51 winters in the Northeast.

For me, the winter season becomes a struggle. Although I enjoyed winter activities in my younger years, my passion and resources are now almost entirely dedicated to clay shooting. My wife and I enjoy camping with friends, but somehow, we always end up clay shooting during our camping trips. I started my addiction shooting trap in the early 2000's with a Remington 870 at the Greene Rod and Gun Club on Friday nights and shot my first round of sporting around 2008 at the Binghamton Gun Club.

In the height of the pandemic, I demoed a new gun at Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays and realized that when the gun fits, you don't shoot like crap. I shot my first registered tournament in 2022 and was hooked. This is the sport I wanted to become a student of and I began reading, watching videos, and learning from everyone who was kind enough to share wisdom. Fast forward to summer of 2025 and I'm now in AA class and on my way to Master class, which is my personal goal by the end of next year. So, how do you get there and how do we all continue to improve our skillset this time of year?

Here are some ideas:

**Sign up for a winter trap or skeet league:** Pulling the trigger is better than not pulling the trigger. I'm a firm believer that the skills learned in trap and skeet make you a better sporting clays shooter, and being in a league has a way of getting you out there when you'd rather stay warm inside.

**Watch some training videos:** There are great free resources out there. For the novice shooter, Gil Ash has some great videos to practice your mount and train you to get away from watching the barrel. Google "flashlight drill" and "3-bullet drill", both are key to understanding how to NOT look down the barrel and can be done safely indoors. I used to do the flashlight drill until my arms were tired. [www.claytargetinstruction.com](http://www.claytargetinstruction.com) is an excellent resource to learn from the greats like Anthony Matarese, Zach Kienbaum, and George Digweed. Also visit TGS Outdoors on YouTube for some well produced training videos with ShotKam footage.

**Shoot some 5-stand:** Practice breaking these targets where you see them the best (at your ideal break point) until you can't miss 10 times. Then shoot them quick out of the trap. Shoot the teal on the way up and then as close to the ground as you can. These are not shots you'd try in a tournament, but it's good to be able to make them.

**Attend a clinic:** Head south in the winter and attend a clinic or take a lesson. Come to one of our training days at Binghamton Gun Club! Instead of shooting the whole course, we will work on specific targets and warm up in the clubhouse in between.

**Shoot as many local tournaments as you can:** Remember, when the weather is terrible, everyone shooting the tournament is dealing with the same challenges. It's a good opportunity to test your abilities in harsh conditions so that it feels easier when it's 72 degrees and sunny in June.

You might enjoy winter shooting as half the fun is warming up around the pellet stove and reliving the past shots, hit or miss! See you at the club.

## CLUB CALENDAR: EVENTS AT BINGHAMTON GUN CLUB \*THIS IS FLUID CHECK DISCORD!

SATURDAY DECEMBER 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2025:	GALACTIC CLAYS	Register on Score Chaser or pay in the office
SATURDAY JANUARY 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2026:	GALACTIC CLAYS	Register on Score Chaser or pay in the office
SATURDY FEBRUARY 7 <sup>TH</sup> , 2026:	GALACTIC CLAYS	Register on Score Chaser or pay in the office
SUNDAY APRIL 26 <sup>TH</sup> , 2026:	SCTP BUNKER PRACTICE 1	
SUNDAY MAY 3 <sup>RD</sup> , 2026:	SCTP BUNKER PRACTICE 2	
SUNDAY JUNE 7 <sup>TH</sup> , 2026:	SCTP BUNKER PRACTICE 3	

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open annually from February to February. We do NOT pro-rate membership so try to renew it on time! If you are interested email inquiries to [info@binghamtongunclub.com](mailto:info@binghamtongunclub.com) and include your name and address. Thank you!

## THIS NEWSLETTER

Would you like me to continue this newsletter? Let me know! *Andrew Sacco*

## WELCOME! (PLEASE LET US KNOW IF WE MISSED YOU!!)

*ANGELO TOTO* is our newest FULL member voted in unanimously by the board of directors

## IMPORTANT!! UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION!!

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 Costantino

Scott Jones

Andrew Sacco

### OFFICERS

President: Bill Barrows

1<sup>st</sup> VP: Ken Hildebrandt

2<sup>nd</sup> 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](http://binghamtongunclub.com)

Follow Us on Facebook at  
Binghamton Gun Club

Join us on Discord

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## BINGHAMTON GUN CLUB

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

Mailing Address is:  
Binghamton Gun Club  
PO Box 126  
Johnson City, NY 13790