

# Grrr! Gear NEWS

Give it your best shot

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## Serving Early Birds and Late Risers Alike

Come stop by and visit us, and get your holiday shopping done early! We have new store hours: Wed-Fri 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., as well as Saturdays, 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. Check out our events sidebar for some great deals and events to help you ease the pain of getting gifts for all your loved ones. We'll even be open on Christmas Eve until 4:00, in case you're not the early bird type!

Also check out our website, [www.grrrgear.com](http://www.grrrgear.com), for our complete inventory available at the click of a mouse. Enjoy the autumn season while it lasts – and have a safe and happy Thanksgiving. See you soon – at the store or online!

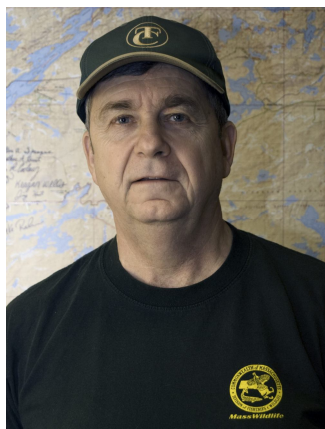
*Chris and Al*

Chris and Al Noyes, Proprietors

*Grrr! Gear Spotlight Interview:*

## Mike Roche

R.C. Mahar High School Fish & Game Club



*"If our resources are well taken care of, then it's good, and if not, everybody suffers."*

**By John W. DeWitt and Jake Ware**

This month, we bring you the first of a two part interview with Mike Roche, club advisor for the Fish & Game Club at Ralph C. Mahar Regional High School in Orange, MA. Mike is also a member of the board of directors for the Mt. Grace Land Trust, as well as a revered longtime outdoor columnist for the *Athol (Mass.) Daily News*. This month we discuss

Mike's role with the Fish & Game Club, and the value of introducing our kids to the enjoyment of nature.

**Q: Tell us about your outdoor programs with Mahar High School students.**

**A:** I am a social studies teacher and department coordinator at Mahar High School and am the club advisor of the Mahar Fish & Game Club. The club was established when the school opened in 1957 and the first co-advisors were John Roche, my

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## News & Events

### Black Friday

November 27<sup>th</sup>

We open at 7:00 am the Friday after Thanksgiving. Come by for early riser bargains!

### Midnight Madness

December 12<sup>th</sup>

6:00 pm to Midnight

The later it gets, the more you save!

## Featured Products



### Frog Toggs Chilly Pad

Internet Special

The Frog Toggs Chilly Pad keeps you cool during a shoot, workout, hard ride or any other strenuous activity. **Buy 3, get 1 Khaki free! (Online purchases only)**

### Under Armour

Evolution Camo Crew

Super soft feel for maximum comfort. \$57.99

### Evolution Camo Legging

Coldgear double-knit fabric transports moisture to keep you warm and dry. \$59.99

### Denison Jacket

Waterproof, breathable, fully seam-taped. \$174.99

### Denison Pants

Hand and rear pockets, thigh high zips, cinch bottom leg hem with elastic waist. \$174.99

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father, and George Darey. George has left and went to teach in the Berkshires and currently is chairman of the Fisheries and Wildlife Board. It's only two of the original clubs in the school, along with the Key Club. Over the years there's been an evolution, but some things have maintained constancy. We have a trap shooting competition at the beginning of the year, which gives the kids a chance to learn safe gun handling and compete in trap shooting. We do it at the Orange Gun Club. They have provided us with great support over the years. Participation varies from year to year, but we usually have 15-20 shooters in the high school.

**Q: What other events and activities does the club participate in?**

**A:** We always have an ice-fishing derby, and most years we charter a boat and go deep sea fishing. We've gone out of Newburyport most years, as we did in May last year. It's mostly bottom fishing for cod and haddock. And six times we've gone on trips at the end of the year, five times to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area of Minnesota and once to Alaska, where we rented RVs and traveled around for ten days back in 2001. We started going to Minnesota in 1999, and have gone 5 times in the past ten years. The kids are in the wilderness for five days, where they really learn to depend on each other. It is a tremendous experience

Our big event of the year, every year for the last 7 years, is a game supper which we typically sell out. About 325 people in the cafeteria for a game supper every spring, with meat donated by local sportsmen, and that has evolved. It used to be a father and son banquet, then family banquet, and then a game supper.

**Q: Have you dealt with controversy as a club involving guns and hunting?**

**A:** Years ago, we had a new principal. The school has always had a program where on the first day of shotgun season, students are given a permission slip for an excused absence so they can go hunting. He said, "This is not going to work." We said, "We've been doing this for years, would you rather they call in sick?" All the kids make arrangements in advance to make up work, we explained, and then he understood.

**Q: What is the value of having a Fish & Game Club in a high school?**

**A:** Hunting and fishing are lifelong activities. Kids that play football or basketball or field hockey do that for a short period of time. Kids develop an appreciation for outdoors and can do that for all their life, and programs that educate about wise use of the outdoors makes them better community members, as well as members of the electorate who make better decisions about preserving and using outdoor resources. We are now three generations: we have kids whose grandparents and parents were in the club. There is a long-held understanding of what we do in the community. It's very important to the fiber of the community that everybody has an appreciation for the outdoors. We have kids who join who don't hunt or fish or shoot, because that's only part of the use of the outdoors. If our resources are well taken care of, then it's good, and if not, everybody suffers.

## Chris' Andy's Recipe Corner

### Roast Venison

#### INGREDIENTS:

Boneless venison leg (*top round, bottom round or knuckle*)  
Worcestershire sauce as needed  
Chopped garlic as needed  
Lowry's seasoning as needed  
Black pepper as needed  
Oil

#### METHOD:

1. Sprinkle with Worcestershire sauce
2. Rub with remaining dry ingredients
3. Add oil to coat
4. Prepare charcoal fire as hot as can be
5. Seer meat, but do not cook through as some charring is desired. (This can be done up to one day ahead of time).
6. When ready to roast, bring meat to room temperature.
7. Roast at 400°, until internal temperature reaches 110°.
8. Remove from oven and let rest for 30 min.
9. Slice and serve. No gravy is needed.

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