



## Ruffed Grouse Society News Letter Page

*njgrouse.com*

*Ruffed Grouse Society Skylands Chapter 1355 Rt. 23 Sussex N.J.07461*

For Chapter information. Call 973-702-8380 or email [jjdesaye@yahoo.com](mailto:jjdesaye@yahoo.com)

### Success Sort of

Two weeks ago I went Woodcock Hunting in Flatbrook WMA. I only had a couple of hours before dark, but fortunately I had success early three quick points by my dog, a little lucky shooting and it was all over but the shouting in about an hour. I decided to take a walk up to one of the areas Grouse project site where over a year ago we planted pines for winter cover. Upon arrival I found some of the thickest nastiest (good) cover I have come across in New Jersey in years. My poor dog had hunted hard two days in a row so he was a little apprehensive about going through some of the real thorny areas they were in penetrable for a person. I decided to walk back to the most remote cuts where we have yet to get back to to plant any windbreaks. Some of these cuts are seven years old and really growing in nicely. In a couple of years as the newer cuts grow in these will definitely be prime cover.

As I worked back through the cover we planted I noticed several groups of evergreen windbreaks we planted doing very nicely, now about two and a half feet tall with little sign of deer damage. It began to grow into twilight when my dog began to work hard becoming very birdy, pointing hard twice only to find no bird in the thickets in front of him. I recalled my ill fated trip to New Hampshire with him as a puppy when wildly running Grouse caused the same thing to happen. So I took his bell off and quietly sat on the logging road between two cuts. It only took a minute or two before I heard a familiar shuffle I remember from my childhood when hunting without my dad and his dog. Then I saw it a Grouse walked out across the road from the cut area into the hemlocks about 15 yards away. By now it was getting dark so satisfied I leashed my dog and headed out.

Next Meeting Thursday Dec 2, 7:00PM Lafayette House. Banquet meeting very important!

Banquet Date Saturday Jan 29, 2005 Lafayette house Rte 15 Lafayette. Call 973-702-8380 for info.