

# Windage

Benton Gun Club Newsletter

February 2009

## Range and Match News

The load of gravel for the front gate (approved at last month's meeting) has been put in. The final cost was \$270.00.

Also, a motion was made and approved to purchase two new batteries for the shotgun target throwers. The cost will not exceed \$200.00.

In other news, Pat Holsted made a motion and presented a layout for the new range 4A plinking range. (The existing range 4 will become 4B.) The layout was altered slightly from the original plans to account for changes needed after doing detailed analysis at the range. The new plan includes more target boards and the shed will be 80 feet long. Bids for the work will be obtained by Pat and presented to the club at the March meeting. The motion was approved.

Next, Pat made a motion to allocate an additional \$10,000.00 for construction of range 4A. Now that the plans have been worked out in detail it's possible that the costs could exceed the originally approved amount. This motion was approved but will need to be ratified at a follow-up vote to be held at the March club meeting.

A motion was also made to purchase new IDPA safety officer shirts. The shirts will cost a total of \$108.00, plus \$50.00 for embroidering. The total amount requested was \$190.00, to cover the cost of the shirts and taxes. The motion was approved.

Finally, a couple of financial items. A motion was made and approved to donate \$50.00 to the Arkansas Sherriff's Youth Ranch, as we did last year. Also, a motion was made and approved to obtain a surety bond in the amount of \$50,000.00 from Stillwell Insurance, at a cost of \$233.89. The bond protects the club from losses due to theft of funds.

## Secretary-Treasurer Elected, But...

As announced in last month's issue, club member Bryan Hendricks volunteered as a candidate for the Secretary-Treasurer position. He has impressive qualifications, and was voted in at the February meeting. However, since that meeting, unforeseen circumstances have arisen that prevent Bryan from serving at this time. The club officers appreciate his situation and understand that he should be able to assume his duties later this year. In the interim, Rex Gismond has agreed to continue to serve as Secretary-Treasurer until Bryan can take over.

## Work Day May 30

The January range work day was a success. About 40 people were on hand to replace target boards, pick up trash, and perform other tasks. Our thanks to everyone who turned out.

We will hold our next work day on Saturday, May 30, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. There will be plenty to do, so please come out and help us keep your range in top condition. Hope to see you there.

## BGC Service Rifle Matches

There have been numerous questions concerning what rifles and ammunition are going to be allowed in the upcoming service rifle matches. For the first few matches you can shoot what you bring, but it should be a military or commercial reproduction of a military rifle with military style iron sights. Examples of the guns I have envisioned would be Mausers, Springfields 1903's 1903A3's, M1A's, AR-15's, Swedish Mausers, Swiss Schmidt Rubins, etc. This does not limit you to no modifications to the sights or triggers such as found on National Match guns, but no scopes or other optics.

The answer as to ammo is that you can use any safe factory or reloaded ammo.

If the three matches are successful and the Matches continue, I would like to have the rifles eventually conform to the standards set out in the CMP Rulebook in Section 6: <http://www.odcmp.com/Competitions/Rulebook.pdf>

By conforming to the CMP standards we will be able to establish a program to hold CMP Matches with attendant awards and qualifications as well as being able to compete in Matches at other Clubs and have other Club's shooters compete with us on a level playing field.

--George Toney, Match Director, Service Rifle Match

## Concealed Carry Refresher Course Planned

We would like to hold a refresher course for current concealed carry license holders. The intent is to get folks up to speed on changes in the laws and regulations. The cost would be \$5.00, to cover the cost of the materials. If you are interested in attending, please send a check for \$5.00, made out to Benton Gun Club, to the club P. O. Box. Class size will be limited, with spots filled on a first-

Copyright © 2009, Benton Gun Club, Inc., P. O. Box 139, Benton, Arkansas 72018-0139.

**Newsletter Editor:** Craig Boyd. Send newsletter submissions and "for sale" notices to the club P. O. box.

[www.bentongunclub.org](http://www.bentongunclub.org)

Range and Club Information Hotline..... 501-315-3071

### Club Meetings

Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Econo Lodge in Benton (I-30 Exit 117).

### Officers

President..... Paul Stiedle (517-0756)  
Vice-President..... Pat Holsted (766-4942)  
Secretary-Treasurer..... Rex Gismond / Bryan Hendricks  
Range Maintenance Officer..... Bob Elrod (778-2165)  
Range & Safety Orientation..... James Squires (847-2147)

come, first-served basis. If there is not enough interest all checks will be returned. If you have questions, e-mail us at [bgc139@yahoo.com](mailto:bgc139@yahoo.com) or leave a message on the club information line.

## Shooters Corner, Vol. V

Range membership. Should there be a limit?

I asked this question at the February monthly meeting and now I am asking you. Should we place a cap on the number of members who can join the Club? At what point do we reach a limit where there are too many members using the range and we are unable to keep the range maintained? We ended 2008 with 786 members and as of February we have 698 members. On average we gain 50 members per year. Some years more, other years less.

I ask you this is because I believe we may be at that point. After looking at the rate the Range, especially the Plinking Range, has deteriorated over the last two years I think we may be over-utilizing the Range.

With still ongoing construction projects taking a large amount of the Club's funds each year we are not able to spend the amount needed on maintenance needs of the Range. I hope that once the new Short Plinking Range is completed it will help expand the number of members our facilities can accommodate. But I think we need to look to the future and know that at some point we need to have a limit so we can continue to offer a great maintained and well-kept range for our current members.

Another topic that was discussed was at what point the Club would be completed with new construction so a majority of our funds from the yearly dues would be able to go to maintenance. This is a hard question to answer because every Member has a different vision on where the Club is and where we could be. I will name a few projects that I have heard other members talk about during my conversations with them. One of the most

requested projects is restrooms with running water. Others include adding pits and more shootings positions to Range 1 so the Club could host 600-yard Prone Matches or Across the Course Matches. And others have talked of one day having our own Club House with power, water and other amenities to host our monthly Club meetings. Also I have heard members ask about being able to have the roads paved, maybe having a low and high house on the Shotgun Range to hold Trap Matches. And others have stated they are completely happy with the status of the Range as it is today.

I would like to think that in the next 7 to 10 years we would be able to have all of these projects completed and many more. But even then there will still be some point that we might over-utilize and deteriorate the Range.

Please let me or the other officers know how you feel about this. You can find all of our contact info on the Club's website, [www.bentongunclub.org/contactus.html](http://www.bentongunclub.org/contactus.html)  
--Patrick Holsted, Vice-President, Benton Gun Club Inc.

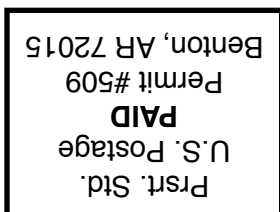
## New Members

We welcomed five new members at the February meeting. They are Jerry Lee Remenschneider, Ronald Corley, Mark Witham, Rick Lee, Judy Manes, and Clint Butler. Welcome to the club, folks!

If you are a new club member and a new member of the NRA, please send a copy of your membership card or the label from your NRA magazine to the club post office box. This will enable the club secretary to update the files with your NRA number and correct expiration date.

Please note that all new members must attend the mandatory range and safety orientation before using the range. You are not a fully qualified member until you attend the orientation.

Also, don't forget that all new members are entitled to shoot in one club match per shooting discipline free of charge. Look over that match schedule, and come out and experience the fun of competition shooting.



Benton Gun Club  
P.O. Box 139  
Benton, AR 72018-0139