

Windage

Benton Gun Club Newsletter

December 2011

New Meeting Location

Just a reminder that we are now holding our monthly club meetings at Peaceful Haven Funeral Home, 322 North Market, in Benton. We will be meeting at this new location throughout 2012.

Range and Match News

Cully Majors made a motion to purchase four new shot timers for the club to use in the Ruger rimfire match, IDPA, multi-gun, and speed steel matches. One of the shot timers we have now does not work and with the Ruger, IDPA and multi-gun matches we need at least five. The motion was seconded and passed. The purchase will be made from Midway USA at a the cost of \$125.00, including shipping.

Paul Stiedle reported that the road on the range has been graded and a load of gravel has been placed on it. This should stop further damage prior to the wet season. The work was done by Russell Brown Construction with maintenance account funds.

It's Membership Renewal Time

2012 club membership renewals are now due. If you have not received your renewal please contact the secretary/treasurer. It can be sent by email to you and you can print it yourself, fill it out, and return it to the club P. O. box along with your payment. If your NRA membership comes due before the end of 2012 you must renew that along with your club membership. Remember that renewing your NRA membership through the club entitles you to a \$10.00 discount. (\$25.00 versus \$35.00.) If you have changed your address and the club secretary has not received a change of address your renewal may not have gotten to you.

2012 Officers Installed

A motion was made to install the President and Vice-President candidates chosen last month for the 2012 year . The motion was seconded and passed. The club president is Paul Stiedle and the Vice-President is George Craig.

Front Gate Lock Changed

The 2012 lock was placed on the street side of the front gate after the December club meeting. However, keep your 2011 keys until after the January 2012 meeting to use on the trauma boxes. The inside gate lock and trauma box locks will be changed to the 2012 lock after the January 9, 2012 meeting.

2012 Match Schedule

The 2012 match schedule was approved at the November club meeting. The new schedule is included in this issue of *Windage* and can also be found on the club website. We hope you'll come out and give some of our matches a try in the new year!

Range Maintenance Person Needed

The club is looking for a new range maintenance person to replace one who is resigning. The job requires one week per month for approximately four to six hours. The pay is \$100.00. Interested applicants (club members only, please) should contact Paul Stiedle at 501-517-0756. We have had two persons express interest but no replacement has been chosen yet. This job will begin in January.

Paul adds: "A big THANK YOU to all of the range maintenance guys! I hear a lot of compliments on the appearance of our range. Please keep up the good work."

New By-Laws Available

Paul Stiedle would like to remind the membership that the recently updated club bylaws have been posted on the club website and have been sent to all members with a valid email address. You may print a copy for your records, or you can pick up a hard copy at the club meetings. Those members who do not attend meetings may request to have a copy of the bylaws sent by regular mail.

Any Day Is A Work Day

There's no reason to wait for an official work day to help keep the range in shape. Please help police it. If you see someone leaving behind some trash, ask them politely to pick it up. Sometimes all it takes is a gentle nudge to help people remember that we are all responsible for the condition of our range.

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

www.bentongunclub.org

Range and Club Information Hotline501-602-2228

Club Meetings

The monthly club meetings are held at Peaceful Haven Funeral Home, 322 N. Market, in Benton.

Officers

PresidentPaul Stiedle (517-0756)
Vice-PresidentGeorge Craig (351-4948)
Secretary-TreasurerCheryl Craig (602-2304)
Range & Safety OrientationJames Squires (847-2147)
Youth Director.....Culley Majors (870-260-2824)

Range property continues to be destroyed on all ranges. Paul Stiedle reported at the November club meeting that our gate sign has been shot multiple times. Club members are reminded that they are equal owners of club property, and this continued destruction is costing all club members. If you see someone destroying club property please get a license plate number and contact a club officer.

BGC T-Shirts For Sale

We are taking orders for Benton Gun Club t-shirts. If you are interested please go to our forum at <http://bentongunclub.org/smf/index.php?topic=642.0> for more information, or send an e-mail to Pat Holsted at patrick@shooters101.com, or call him at 501-766-4942.

NRA Membership Confirmation

Club members are reminded that if their NRA membership information changes, they need to send a copy of their NRA membership card or a copy of the mailing label from the NRA magazine to the club P. O. box. If not they will be sent an NRA renewal form for the following club membership year.

Change Your Address? Let Us Know!

If you change your mailing address please let us know. Some membership renewal notices and newsletters have been returned to us marked "Moved, no forwarding address." Each returned item costs the club 44 cents. To ensure that you keep receiving the newsletter and stay informed on club activities, please file a "change of address" request with the post office when you move, and let the club secretary know, too.

The same goes for changed email addresses: please send us note when you switch email addresses so that we can update our records. Thanks!

Please Observe All Range Rules

Anyone observed violating the club range and safety rules is subject to dismissal from the club. New members, make sure that you know what type of firearm may be used on each range. If you don't know, read your bylaws.

Shotgun shooters on the shotgun range (range 7) should use #4 shot or smaller. Shotgun slugs and shot larger than #4 are absolutely against the rules on this range, but may be used on all other ranges with the exception of the silhouette range (range 2).

We'd also like to remind club members not to move target stands closer to the sheds or pads. All target stands must be placed directly in front of a designated berm or backstop. Failure to comply with this rule, or any other, may result in revocation of your membership.

New Members

We welcomed 17 new members at the December meeting. They are Steve Watson, Gene Butler, Jr., Jack

Wallace, Jr., Nate Smith, Shawn Ragsdale, R. L. Nix, Raymond Moore, Ms. Donna Henigan, Omar Greene, John Forrester, Adam Fish, Jeff Cunningham, Daniel Creasey, Brandon Butler, Ryan Avery, Ian Gamroth and Jimmy Thompson. 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.

News from the NRA-ILA

The following items come from the NRA-ILA web site, www.nraila.org. Reprinted with permission.

U.S. House Passes NRA-backed National Right-to-Carry Reciprocity Legislation

The U.S. House of Representatives has passed an important self-defense measure that would enable millions of Right-to-Carry permit holders across the country to carry concealed firearms while traveling outside their home states. H.R. 822, the National Right-to-Carry Reciprocity Act, passed by a majority bipartisan vote of 272 to 154. All amendments aimed to weaken or damage the integrity of this bill were defeated.

"NRA has made the National Right-to-Carry Reciprocity Act a priority because it enhances the fundamental right to self-defense guaranteed to all law-abiding people," said Chris W. Cox, executive director of NRA's Institute for Legislative Action. "People are not immune from crime when they cross state lines. That is why it is vital for them to be able to defend themselves and their loved ones should the need arise."

H.R. 822, introduced in the U.S. House by Representatives Cliff Stearns (R-Fla.) and Heath Shuler (D-N.C.), allows any person with a valid state-issued concealed firearm permit to carry a concealed firearm in any state that issues concealed firearm permits, or that does not prohibit the carrying of concealed firearms for lawful purposes.

This bill does not affect existing state laws. State laws governing where concealed firearms may be carried would apply within each state's borders. H.R. 822 does not create a federal licensing system or impose federal standards on state permits; rather, it requires the states to recognize each others' carry permits, just as they recognize drivers' licenses and carry permits held by armored car guards.

As of today, 49 states have laws in place that permit their citizens to carry a concealed firearm in some form.

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Only Illinois and the District of Columbia deny its residents the right to carry concealed firearms outside their homes or businesses for self-defense.

“We are grateful for the support of Speaker Boehner, Majority Leader Cantor, Majority Whip McCarthy, Judiciary Chairman Smith and primary sponsors Congressmen Stearns and Shuler for their steadfast support of H.R. 822. Thanks to the persistence of millions of American gun owners and NRA members, Congress has moved one step closer to improving crucial self-defense laws in this country,” concluded Cox.

***Veteran’s Second Amendment Rights Bill
Passes U.S. House, Senate Companion Bill
Introduced***

As we previously reported, on September 9, the U.S. House Veterans Affairs Committee passed an amendment by U.S. Representative Denny Rehberg (R-Mont.) as a part of a larger piece of veterans’ legislation. The “Veterans Second Amendment Protection Act,” which was added to H.R. 2349 as an amendment, will provide individuals receiving veterans’ benefits with added protection against loss of the right to possess firearms due to mental health decisions.

Currently, when a person has a fiduciary appointed to handle his or her veterans’ benefits, the federal

government considers that person to have been “adjudicated as a mental defective” and therefore prohibited from possessing firearms.

The injustice of this process has long been criticized both by NRA and veterans’ groups. The current system disarms veterans and others receiving benefits based on a totally administrative process and without requiring any finding that the person poses a danger to himself or herself or to anyone else.

The NRA-backed bill (also supported by major veterans’ groups such as the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars) would provide that, for purposes of the firearm prohibition, a person subject to a mental health decision by the VA would not be considered “adjudicated as a mental defective” without a court finding that the person is dangerous.

In October, the House considered H.R. 2349, and, we are happy to report, passed the measure by a voice vote.

Also, U.S. Senators Richard Burr (R-N.C.) and Jim Webb (D-Va.), along with 10 other cosponsors, introduced S. 1707—the U.S. Senate companion bill to H.R. 2349.

Please be sure to contact your U.S. Senators and ask them to cosponsor and support NRA-backed S. 1707. You can find contact information for your elected officials by using the “Write Your Representatives” tool at www.NRAILA.org, or you can call your U.S. senators at (202) 224-3121.

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