

Windage

Benton Gun Club Newsletter September 2015

Newsletter Editor Wanted

After 15+ years, ye olde editor is hanging up his spurs, and we're looking for someone to take over as newsletter editor beginning in January. If you're interested in the position, please contact club president Paul Stiedle, or if you have questions about how the newsletter is produced, please contact the editor.

Range and Match News

Let's start off with a little match news. Charlie Baxter reported that the turkey shoot was a great success. Twenty shooters participated and all had a good time.

In more match news, Lucas Howard reported that he heard back from Glock regarding our inquiry about holding a GSSF action pistol match in 2016 (approved previously at the April club meeting). He gave them three sets of dates (March 5-6, January 16-17, and December 3-4). Glock should be getting back to us in October with a confirmation of the dates.

And there were three new match-related motions at the September meeting. Dan Wagner made a motion to spend up to \$300.00 on a second set of equipment for falling plate matches. Leroy Squires made a motion to hold a half-scale small bore rifle silhouette match on November 14 on range 2 at 9:00 a.m., as a make-up for the match that was cancelled in August due to the heat. And Charlie Baxter made a motion to hold a "top shotgun shooter" contest on October 31 at 9:00 a.m., and requested up to \$80.00 to get a trophy and some drinks. All three of these motions were seconded and passed.

And Paul Stiedle reported that we are still waiting on cameras for the new 600-yard F-class match on range 1. They are in high demand, but we will report back on our progress in attempting to obtain them.

Moving on to range news, Paul Stiedle reported that the new Conex container is on site and locks have been installed. By the time you read this all of the shotgun and falling plate match equipment will have been moved into it. (Our thanks to everyone who helped move everything.)

Paul also reported that there was a fire on range 1 on August 30. No one was firing on the range at the time of the fire. It appears some exploding targets were used and may have been the source of the blaze. Please refrain from using any exploding targets until we are no longer under a burn ban and the risk of fire has decreased.

And a friendly reminder from club member Forest Kessinger. He's noticed a significant increase in the number of times that the range gate is unlocked and even left standing open at times when there are no matches, safety orientations or work days. He asks that

club members remember their obligation to lock the gate behind them when they enter or leave the range, unless there is a public event being held on the range.

Match Director's Meeting Oct. 19

The annual match directors' dinner, when the match schedule for the coming year is worked out, has been tentatively scheduled for October 19 at 5:30 p.m. at Brown's Country Store & Restaurant in Benton. Once the date is confirmed with the restaurant we will notify the match directors.

2016 Dues Set

At the September meeting we took up the August motion to increase the annual club dues to \$80.00 (\$64.00 for those over 65). The motion was seconded and passed, approving the increase.

Paul and Sarah Hendrix also reported that we are getting everything in order to support credit/debit card payments via PayPal for membership renewals in 2016, in addition to our existing payment options of cash, check or money order. PayPal will charge 2.9% plus 30 cents for each renewal, but the dues increase will easily cover this. A new club email address will be used for PayPal payments. Instructions for all methods of membership renewal will be sent to all club members, and they will be discussed fully at the October club meeting.

2016 Officer Nominations

At the September meeting we opened the floor to nominations for the offices of club president and vice-president for 2016. Motions were made nominating Craig Bowlby and Lucas Howard for president, and George Craig for vice-president. These motions were seconded and passed, and then motions to close the nominations were seconded and passed. The vote for club president will be held at the October meeting. Since George was the only nominee for vice-president no vote will be required and he is automatically elected.

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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 Hotline.....501-602-2228

Club Meetings

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

Officers

PresidentPaul Stiedle (517-0756)
Vice-PresidentGeorge Craig (351-4948)
Secretary-Treasurer.....Sarah Hendrix
Range & Safety OrientationJames Squires (847-2147)
Youth Director.....Culley Majors (870-210-6756)

Rifle Class Scheduled

We are holding a basic NRA rifle class on October 17, as approved by the club in February. The class will be held on ranges 6 and 4B from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The cost will be \$30.00 per class, with a family discount. Rifles, ammo and materials will be provided. Bring your lunch.

Safety Reminder

Range safety is every member's responsibility! Keep this in mind every time you are at the range. Just a few things to think about: when you are on any range and there are other members setting or removing targets downrange **DO NOT HANDLE ANY FIREARMS, NO MATTER WHAT!** This would seem like common sense but for some reason there are members that seem to think that it is okay to handle their rifles while other members or down range just because they have their bolt open or out of the gun. Keep in mind that if you were the person downrange you would have no idea that the firearm the person under the shed is handling has the bolt removed. A cease fire should be called and all weapons should be holstered or racked before anyone attempts to go downrange. It is just good SAFETY and manners to not touch or handle your firearms in any way while others are downrange and is Rule #1 on the Clubs Range Rules!

Also it is incumbent upon all members to get the name of persons who may violate these safety rules and report them to the club officers as soon as possible. If you could get a photo of them and their vehicle this would help us in ID'ing them and addressing these issues.

So please help to keep our range a fun and safe place to shoot! <http://www.bentongunclub.org/files/BGC-RangeRules-2011-06-27.pdf>

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.

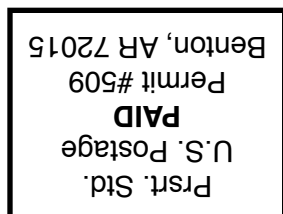
New Members

We welcomed 19 new members at the September meeting. They are David Atherton, Rick Biggs, Marty Boren, Randy Brooks, Caleb Caldwell, Stephen Coleman, Michael Cozart, Jared Culp, Scott Curtis, David Howard, Chris Kirk, Dennis Lynn, Will Moore, Al Morales, James Parker, Michael Philpott, Phil Richardson, Sam Spears, and Matt Teale. Welcome to the club!

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.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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