

Windage

Benton Gun Club Newsletter

April 2012

Range and Match News

Vice-president George Craig withdrew the motion he made last month to spend \$1,500.00 to have a 15- to 20-foot-wide roadway and approximately 3,000 square feet (100 feet by 300 feet) cleared at the top of the hill to the right of the range roadway after you come into our property. This was to be for the purpose of inspecting the property if a clubhouse or pavilion were to be built on this location. George decided to withdraw this motion after Greg Sullivan informed him that his company would be able to furnish us the layout of the land without clearing it, thus saving the club the expense.

In other news, club member Lloyd Sloan asked when the path on range 4B would have the gravel put down. This project was approved at the February club meeting. President Stiedle said that he would get the underlayment ordered and that it would be up to the volunteers to determine when the gravel can be spread.

Lloyd also made a motion to have range 4B closed on the 4th of July for our annual swap meet and fireworks. The range will be closed to shooting on that day beginning at 9:00 a.m. Personal fireworks (the club will not be providing them) will start at dark and members can cookout if they want to. The motion was seconded and passed.

And finally, President Stiedle announced that the NRA had sent us a certificate acknowledging our position in the top ten clubs for recruiting in 2011. The certificate will be stored with the previous ones.

Club Donations Approved

A follow-up vote was held on last month's motion to donate the \$2,971.00 we received in NRA commissions to the Saline County 4-H group, \$500.00 from the club's general fund to the NRA-ILA, and \$500.00 to the legal defense fund. The follow-up vote was successful and the motion is now confirmed.

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.

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.

Range property continues to be destroyed on all ranges. Paul Stiedle reported at a previous 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.

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.

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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 Peaceful Haven Funeral Home, 322 N. Market, in Benton.

Officers

President Paul Stiedle (517-0756)
Vice-President George Craig (351-4948)
Secretary-Treasurer Cheryl Craig (602-2304)
Range & Safety Orientation James Squires (847-2147)
Youth Director Culley Majors (870-260-2824)

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 20 new members at the April meeting. They are Jana Blackwood, William Dunkum, Lance Ford, Michael Griffin, Jeff Coon II, William Gudino, Brooks

Handly, Dustin Hamm, Earle Hunt, Lee James, Corey Nelton, Jeffery Miller, Justin Monroe, Jeff Morse, Jim Parker, Ms. Donna Schwen, Jeremy Skaggs, James Watkins Jr., Jim Watkins, and John Wyrick. 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 item come from the NRA-ILA web page, www.nraila.org. Reprinted with permission.

[On March 30], a federal district court in Illinois wrongly ruled that the Second Amendment does not protect a right to carry firearms for self-protection outside the home. The NRA funded this challenge to Illinois' ban on citizens' ability to carry firearms legally outside their homes and businesses for self-defense, and will also be supporting an immediate appeal to the Seventh Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals—and to the Supreme Court if necessary.

The decision in the case of Shepard v. Madigan misreads the Supreme Court's Second Amendment decisions and will continue to deprive law-abiding Illinoisans of the right to protect themselves effectively against crime on the streets. It also conflicts with a growing body of case law elsewhere in the country, where courts have increasingly recognized that the right to bear arms for self-defense doesn't end at Americans' front doors.

"The NRA's legal efforts will not end until the right to carry firearms for self-defense is fully recognized throughout our land," said Chris W. Cox, executive director of the NRA Institute for Legislative Action.

