

# Windage

Benton Gun Club Newsletter September 2009

## Range and Match News

Pat Holsted reported that H. Excavating needs one more day without rain to finish up items that have kept the ranges closed. Once that work is finished the only ranges that will be closed during the week will be 4A and 4B until 4A is completed.

Please remember that while the dirt work is going on all ranges will be closed during weekdays from 6:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. The ranges will be open on Saturday and Sunday. Always be sure to call the club information line at 315-3071 to get the status of the range before driving out. That's a long way to go and not be able to shoot.

A discussion was also held concerning possible solutions for problems with mud on range 4A. It can be a little tricky walking out to the target boards at 10 and 25 yards after it rains. Laying a gravel path was suggested, but there is concern that the silt would just swallow it up. Constructing a concrete walkway was also suggested. For now, we will continue to analyze possible alternatives.

We had two match-related motions at the September meeting. The first was to move the starting time of the September 19 Cowboy Rifle match from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and to cancel the October 17 match. The other was to cancel the October, November and December speed steel matches. Both motions were seconded and passed.

A motion was also made to hold a match directors' dinner at Brown's Country Kitchen in October to set up the match schedule for 2010. The motion was seconded and passed.

In other news, Paul Stiedle reported that Greg Sullivan compiled a report on NRA requirements and recommendations for the construction of pull-down target carriers. The report covers safety berms, pits, and more. This report was given to Harlan Glover for the range 1 committee to review, and a copy will be placed in club records.

Finally, a reminder for deer hunters: ranges 1, 4 and 5 will be closed on November 6 and 7 for the 3-gun IDPA match.

## 2010 Officer Nominations

The floor was opened at the September meeting for nominations for club officers for 2010. The nominations were Pauyl Stiedle for president, George Craig for vice-president, and Bryan Hendricks for secretary-treasurer. Elections will be held at the October club meeting.

## The Shooters Corner. Vol. VI

Wow it is already September 2009! What a year this has been, and we are only months away from 2010. We as a Club need to start thinking about and planning projects for the upcoming year. So with that said what do YOU want from the Club in 2010 and looking further into the future what improvements would you like to see at the club in the next 3, 5 and 10 years?

One of the items I think that should be on top of the list in the short term is a Club House. I'm not talking some \$100,000.00 facility but a nice metal building approx 40' x 60' with a main hall to hold our monthly meetings a few rooms for storage, a small kitchen and most importantly bathrooms. Some will read this and think it is a far reach but I think we could do this in the next few years. With a building we would have power, water, telephone and a security system. Other advantages to having our own building besides not having to rent a place to hold meetings as we do today is that Club members could rent the building to use for their family gatherings and holidays. This would be a great way to offset the cost of upkeep and utilities. We

could also use this facility to hold our CCW classes instead of having to hold the classroom portion offsite as we do today. One of the most important things to discuss at this time would be where on the property would we want to place a Club House?

We really need to think long term and need as much feedback as possible for a project like this. In the past we have learned that the more the Club members are present at meetings and give the Club Officers their input on design and planning the better we are able to design a plan that will fit the Clubs needs for today and more importantly tomorrow! So please let myself and the other Club Officers know what you think!

Please visit the Club website ([www.bentongunclub.org](http://www.bentongunclub.org)) and click on the "Contact Us" tab and you will be able to see all the contact info for your Club Officers. -Patrick Holsted, 501-766-4942, [Patrick@shooters101.com](mailto:Patrick@shooters101.com)

## Any Day Is A Work Day

We held our most recent work day in May, but 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. 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 one of the club officers.

We are also looking for some young, strong maintenance people to help keep the range in shape. A lot of the folks who do the regular care of the range are getting older and they can't do all of this hard work forever. If you're interested in helping, please contact club president Paul Stiedle.

## Change Your Address? Let Us Know!

If you change your mailing address or your email address please let us know. The club secretary reports that a few 2009 renewals have been returned marked "Moved, no forwarding address." He's also noticed that some 2009 renewals have a different email address from the one we have on file. To ensure that you keep informed of club activities, please file a "change of address" request with the post office when you move, and let us know when you get a new email address.

## Youth Director Wanted

We are looking for a person (or persons) to plan and coordinate youth-focused shooting and training activities for the club. If you would like to volunteer, please contact one of the club officers.

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**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)

## **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).

Someone has caused severe damage to some of the target board posts on the plinking range. Hidden, motion-sensitive security cameras have been installed to find out who is doing this. James Squires once again asks that shooters PLEASE stop shooting at the posts. If you need a practice target, contact James and he'll get you one.

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 range rule, may result in revocation of your membership.

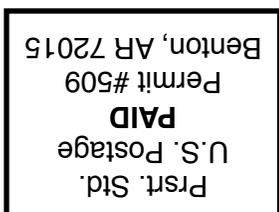
## **New Members**

We welcomed 10 new members at the September meeting. They are David Presley, Greg Richter, Daniel O'shea, Edward Morris, Timothy Hennelly, Fred Lamaster, Joel Broach, Dustin Wheeler, Larry Reynolds and Harold Brawshaw. 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.



**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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