

Windage

Benton Gun Club Newsletter

July 2009

Range and Match News

Pat Holsted reported that Herman Reeves, the contractor we had hired for the dirt work on range 4A, has been unable to begin work. He is on a big job and has two others ahead of us.

Due to the extensive delays in the start of this work, and our desire to get it underway as soon as possible, we have decided to award the work to the other bidder, H. Excavating of Star City. They are honoring their original bid and intend to start work by July 27.

Please remember that while the dirt work is going on all ranges will be closed during weekdays from 7:30 a.m. until 4:30 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.

In other news, we are still discussing alternatives for building a fence along Mt. Olive Cutoff. The idea of planting bamboo has been mentioned, but no final decision has been made yet. We'll keep you posted.

In match news, James Squires made a motion to move the shotgun matches from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. from now through October. The motion was seconded and approved.

Mr. Squires made another motion to hold a CMP starter rifle match, at 25- and 50-yards, to be held the 4th Saturday of the month at 8:00 a.m. The cost will be \$5.00 for members and \$2.00 for juniors. The match will be held July through October, and CMP rules will apply. James Squires and George Toney will be the match directors. The motion was seconded and passed.

Lastly, Greg Sullivan made a motion to trade our current target animal trailer and \$150 for a much larger one. The new trailer will include the racks and is coming to us courtesy of Mason Sickle. The motion was seconded and passed.

For Sale

Two club members have a number of items for sale.

First, we have a set of items that are being offered through the club. If you are interested in any of these items please call the club information line and leave a message, and we will put you in touch with the seller. Remington Model 11 20 ga. shotgun with 27-inch barrel, stock is chipped, \$150.00. Browning square back 12 ga. Light 12 shotgun with adjustable rear sight and 23-inch barrel, \$300.00. Browning square back 12 ga. shotgun with 26-inch barrel, Belgian made, \$300.00.

The second item is being offered by Dennis K. Thomas. He is selling a Ruger .380 LCP, with Crimson Trace laser, De Santis pocket holster, 250 rounds of .380 ball and 22 rounds of .380 Blazer ammunition. He's asking \$600.00 for the package. If you're interested, please contact Mr. Thomas at 501-219-0064.

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.

New Online Feature Offered

We now have another way for you to keep up with what's happening in the club. We've started a discussion group, hosted by Yahoo.com. It's free and it's easy. Just go to the club web site at bentongunclub.org, scroll to the bottom and look for the "Subscribe to Benton Gun Club Online" box. Then enter your email address and click on the "Join Now" button. That's all there is to it.

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.

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

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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 Hotline501-315-3071

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

PresidentPaul Stiedle (517-0756)
Vice-PresidentPat Holsted (766-4942)
Secretary-Treasurer.....Rex Gismond / Bryan Hendricks
Range Maintenance Officer.....Bob Elrod (778-2165)
Range & Safety OrientationJames Squires (847-2147)

any other range rule, may result in revocation of your membership.

New Members

We welcomed 11 new members at the July meeting. They are Stanley McPeak, Chris Hodo, Lawrence Spence, Burney DeMaine, Dean Fullerton, Betty Ferguson, Ed Bush, Gene Bethards, Adam Stuart, Benjamin Washburn, and Eric Odom. 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 page, www.nraila.org. Reprinted with permission.

23 State Attorneys General To Attorney General Holder: "No Semi-Auto Ban"

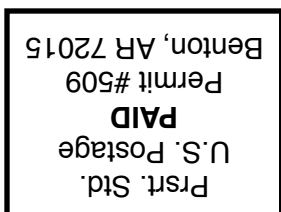
On June 11, the top law enforcement officials of nearly half the states signed a letter to U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, expressing their opposition to reinstatement of the federal ban on semi-automatic firearms.

"We share the Obama Administration's commitment to reducing illegal drugs and violent crime within the United States. We also share your deep concern about drug cartel violence in Mexico. However, we do not believe that restricting law-abiding Americans' access to certain semi-automatic firearms will resolve any of these problems," the letter said.

The letter notes congressional opposition to bringing back the ban, and calls for increasing enforcement of existing laws.

We encourage NRA members to let these state officials know we appreciate them standing up to the incessant clamor for gun control that is currently coming from anti-gun groups and their media allies.

To read the letter in its entirety, go to <http://www.nraila.org/media/PDFs/SemiAutostateAGsLetter061109.pdf>.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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