

Windage

Benton Gun Club Newsletter

January 2009

Range and Match News

The new target thrower, approved at the December club meeting, has been purchased and already put to use. James Squires reports that it works great.

In other shotgun related news, Charlie Baxter was chosen as 2008 Shotgun Shooter of the year. Congratulations, Charlie!

In match news, we'd like all 2009 match directors to know that the 2009 plaques are in the shed. Please let us know if you need more.

In other news, a motion was made at the January meeting to have a load of gravel put in at the front gate. The cost will be approximately \$350 to \$400. (But not to exceed \$500.) The motion was approved.

Also, Paul Stiedle suggested creating a match submission form, to be filled out when someone submits a new club match proposal. That way we'll have all of the details in writing. The form will be available on the club website and at the monthly meetings.

Work Day January 31

The club will hold its first work day of the year on Saturday, January 31, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Weather permitting, we'd like to install the remaining falling plate racks. Greg Sullivan will have a crew there setting stakes for the 600-yard range. We could certainly use your help. Hope to see you there.

Secretary-Treasurer Candidate Nominated

Bryan Hendricks has stepped forward and volunteered to serve as the new club secretary-treasurer. A motion was made, seconded and approved to nominate Bryan. His nomination will be voted on at the February club meeting.

Bryan Hendricks, 45, is Outdoors Editor for the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, a self-supervised position he's held since Feb. 2005. He was formerly a project leader for the Missouri Department of Conservation, where he was business manager for the Missouri Conservationist, one of the most widely circulated outdoors magazines in the nation. He was a former information specialist for the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. He has been a small business owner since 1992 and is involved with many areas of the outdoor recreation market.

Club Joins ARPA

Paul Stiedle spoke at the January meeting about efforts to rejuvenate the Arkansas Rifle and Pistol Association. The ARPA has gone through various levels

of activity through the years, but they are currently experiencing an upswing in participation. A motion was made and approved to make the Benton Gun Club an official member, at a cost of \$50 per year. If you are interested in joining, or if you'd like more information, you can visit ARPA at their website, www.arpa-online.org.

A Safety Reminder

Just a reminder that 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.

It is just good SAFETY and manners to not touch or handle your firearms in any way while others are downrange.

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.

So please help to keep our range a fun and safe place to shoot! --Pat Holsted, Vice-President, Benton Gun Club.

2009 Renewals

The 2009 membership renewals have all been sent out. If you have not received your renewal form, leave your name and address on the club answering machine (315-3071) and another form will be sent to you.

Please remember that if you do not renew before the February meeting, or if your renewal is postmarked after February 9, you will be considered a new member and

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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.....501-315-3071

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..... OPEN
Range Maintenance Officer..... Bob Elrod (778-2165)
Range & Safety Orientation..... James Squires (847-2147)

will be required to pay the \$100 range maintenance fee when you rejoin. Club memberships are for a calendar year, running from January 1 through December 31.

If you're a new NRA member be sure to include a copy of your NRA membership card or the address label from your NRA magazine with your club renewal form. This is required to confirm your membership in the NRA. If you don't include this information, your club renewal form will be returned.

From now through January the newsletter will be sent by regular mail only. (In other months you only get the newsletter by email if you specifically requested it by checking the appropriate box on your membership form.) If "NS8" appears after your name on the label then you have not taken the Range and Safety Orientation and will not be sent a 2009 renewal form. If a "9" appears after your name then the Club has received your 2009 renewal and a new gate key will be mailed to you. An "8" behind your name indicates that the Club has not received your 2009 renewal as of the date this newsletter was printed.

The front gate lock was changed to the 2009 lock on December 8, 2008. The 2009 gate keys were mailed on December 22, 2008. The back lock was changed on January 1, 2009. Try your 2009 key before you toss your 2008 key. The 2009 key is the reverse of the 2008 key. The 2009 key will not fit the 2008 lock, and vice versa.

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.

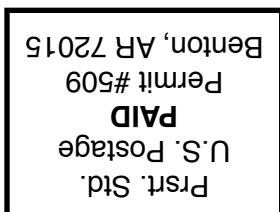
New Members

We welcomed 23 new members at the January meeting. They are Steven Jones, Richard McCool, Lois Burks, Michael Phifer, Kevin Ledbetter, Larry White, Jr., Larry Morrison, Jr., Steven Turner, Marc Milner, Derek Lambert, Larry Henderson, James Willbern, Larry Morrison, Sr., Robert Bench, James Hayes, Keith Phifer, Phillip Newcomb, Lowell Underwood, Kevin Clark, Charles Stewart, Michael Roberson, John Braun, and Gregory Smith. 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.



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