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Newsletter

May 2017

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**Next Board of Governor’s Meeting is June 5th - General Membership meeting is July 3rd.**

**Any member is welcome at either meeting.**

Summer is in full swing now! Saturdays at the club are busy with competitions and full of members antagonizing each other over who’s scores are higher. There are even events during the week. I hope everyone is out enjoying all the club has to offer.

There are lots of organized shooting opportunities available at the club. If you are not participating, just pick an event (or two, or three) and come out and join in on the fun. The first Saturday of the month is AR Benchrest and Tactical Rifle, the second Saturday is IDPA, the third Saturday is 3-Gun and .22 Rimfire Benchrest, and the fourth Saturday is Steel Challenge, NRA High-Power Rifle and Vintage Sniper Rifle. Then there is Skeet on Tuesday and Trap on Thursday. Don’t forget the handgun safety classes that lead to your handgun carry permit. And there are several Appleseed’s during the year that will humble even the most experienced shooter and improve your shooting skills. Check out our website to see the current calendar and descriptions for all the events.

Scores for the different shooting disciplines can be found on the website under that discipline. Hopefully I’ll see your scores at one event or another!

This is your club. The Board of Governors tries to manage the day to day operations of the Club with the best interest of all the members in mind, but if you don’t participate in the meetings we don’t know what you want. Attend as many meetings as you can and let us know how we can improve the club and its facilities. Encourage all your shooting friends to join and participate in this great club too.

**Current Club Actions.** We are considering moving the Trap House closest to the Pistol Range to the far end closest to the clubhouse. This will allow us to reconfigure the pistol ranges with dirt side berms instead of timber. The club when then be able to host more regional/national level pistol competitions. Currently shooters can only shoot in one direction during matches. This action will occur in stages. So far, the BOG/General Members have approved the movement of Trap House. Thanks to Jeff Jones! He is doing a lot of the preliminary leg work so we can figure out how to properly move the trap machine and reset it. As soon as the new container arrives for the pistol range, we’ll be able to remove the trap machine and store it in a shed until we can refurbish the house for use.

It’s been voted on and approved by the BOG/General Membership to replace the Match Director’s shed at the pistol range with a new container much like the one we added to the 600-yard range. These containers hold significantly more equipment and materials, which make it more accessible. The current sheds are so crowded you can’t move in it. These new containers are waterproof and rodent proof, with shelving to hold equipment. The displaced sheds will be moved to the 50-yard range to be used as the Match Director’s shed for .22 Rimfire Benchrest and AR Benchrest Competitions and one will be moved up next to the clay storage trailer for the Skeet/Trap folks to use.

**Please be aware of the club rules.** Club rules strictly prohibit alcohol or drug possession and/or consumption/use while on club property. Please clean after yourself once you’ve finished shooting or using the facilities at the club. There is no one to empty the trash cans or put your targets away but you! All the club rules are listed on the club’s website or posted at the clubhouse.

**Thanks!** Thanks to George Holderer, Ted Williams, Tom Pierce, Dennis Adams, Jeff Jones, and Mike Jenkins for unloading the 41,400 pounds of Lawry Clay Targets when they came in on May 2nd. We appreciate Todd Earhart donating concrete mix to help fill in the pot hole at the front entrance. And to all those who generally clean up the ranges and fix things when they need it.

**New Members.** You must complete your three events and safety brief signed off before you can get voted on during the July 3rd General Membership Meeting. Several officers will be at the club before the meeting to give the safety brief. Please notify me in advance that you need the brief. Attending any of the meetings also counts as an event. New Members up for vote at the July 3rd meeting are:

Michael Breeds, Andrew Coil, Chris Hummer, Williams Jones, Jason Prescott, Angel Cardona, Chad Turner, Matthew Turner, and John Underwood.

If I’m missing someone off this list, please let me know.

**Probationary Members** who are being voted into General Membership are:

Michael Wright, Brian Bishop, Tom Jenkins, Dave Hilton, Tony Keatts, JC Orr, Lonnie Pilkenton, Rodney Maurer, Vernon Miller, and Joseph Gwaltney.

Again, if I’m missing someone off this list, please let me know.

I’ve been working with the BOG and shooting discipline points of contact to improve our website. I’d appreciate any suggestions you may have for improvements. Recommendations will be discussed with the BOG for approval and will be added if I have the experience to do so.

I hope to see you at the range!

Mike Merkle

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