

# Boone County Sportsman's Club

## 2010 Fall / Winter Newsletter

October 15, 2010

### Editors Comments:

It seems as though I just finished updating you on coming events in the spring newsletter a couple of weeks ago. Now here we are again coming up on the various fall hunting seasons and a cluster of holidays that mark the end of another year.

2010 has been a mixed bag of blessings and challenges. With the exceptional quantity of snow and rain this year we have had to postpone some of the projects that we wanted to do around the shooting bench areas due to soft ground. We have also had a greater issue with insects, due to standing water than in most other years. On the plus side there seems to be a greater interest from those wishing to learn about shooting sports and firearm safety. Our membership has grown again this year to about 320 plus members. Attendance for bench shooting activities as well as for Skeet & Trap has been steady throughout the summer in spite of the large volume of rain that we have had. As usual the benches for rifle and pistol continue to see the most activity.

We continue to get many compliments on the appearance of the facilities and grounds. We are continually striving to make things better and more user friendly for all of our members. With that in mind I would like to take some space here to thank a core group of people who always make themselves available when there are things that need to be done. Firstly, Jake Hull for all of the time that he spends out at the club seeing to it that the grounds are mowed, manicured, neat & well maintained. It has been no easy task to keep up with the grounds maintenance this year. Pete Lonergan is also very active helping Jake and with seeing to it that construction projects are done and done properly. The Trap & Skeet machines have been a constant challenge for most of the season so that Steve Gus and I have put in quite a few hours trying to keep them running and available for duty on Tuesday & Thursday nights. Some major overhaul of several of the machines may be necessary this winter. As usual Steve & I have run the shotgun fields on Tuesday nights while Mark Hasstedt and Tom Snow run things on Thursday evenings. Mark Hasstedt was also chiefly responsible with assistance from Duane Ely, for putting on another very successful Gun Show in August. I would like to say a special thank you to Jeff Van Pelt. Jeff provided and operated a sprayer unit that he donated to the club. It can be hooked on behind our small tractor and used to control the bugs and insects. It has been a real blessing this year. And finally I would like to say thank you to all of you who have made your selves available on work, days and for unloading and putting away of clay targets when they are shipped in. It takes a lot of people to make this club what it is and there are no paid or salaried positions here. All of the work, that is done, to keep our club a pleasant place to come to is done completely by volunteers.

We are fortunate to have this beautiful, private facility here in our own back yard and we encourage all of our members to take full advantage of the different activities (Pistol, Rifle, Bow and Shotgun) that our facility offers. We also encourage you to invite others who are responsible sportsmen or shooting sports enthusiasts to become members for the coming year.

Rick Howell – Secretary, B.C.S.C.

## **Memberships:**

If you have not become a member for 2011 yet, please take note that a blank 2011 membership application form is attached for the convenience of anyone who needs one. **PLEASE YOU MUST PRINT LEGIBLY.** If you check the NRA box, you must provide your NRA number. **No Exceptions. NRA numbers are not kept on file by the BCSC from year to year!**

The gate combination will change on Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>. 2011. Memberships for 2011 will remain the same price as the last number of years. It is always our goal to keep membership fees down for as long as we possibly can. (NRA Member \$ 50.00 / Non-NRA Member \$60). The reason for the difference is that the NRA helps us with our insurance costs based upon the percentage of our members that are also members of the NRA. You must provide a CURRENT membership number in order to qualify for the reduced annual dues. No Exceptions! You can become a member of the NRA by going to <http://membership.nrahq.org/>

As usual you may renew your membership to the BCSC in one of four ways.

1. Fill out the attached application and mail it with your check to the address on the application and your membership, card will be mailed to you.
2. Catch an officer out at the club anytime you see one there, or on regular Tuesday or Thursday trap & skeet nights May through October. When you turn in your application and appropriate membership fee you can receive a temporary membership card. (Good until you receive your regular card in the mail).
3. If one of the above won't work for you, Steve Gus has agreed to take applications and issue temporary memberships at Bacon Jewelers, but you may have to be patient and wait for him to finish with customers first. If this gets abused, it will be discontinued.
4. Get a membership application from the clear plastic box at the front gate, fill it out & send it with your check to the address at the bottom of the form. Your card will be mailed to you.

Since you never know if Steve may be taking an afternoon off or may be on vacation, your best bet is to mail in your application early. Most of you know ahead of time if you intend to join. Don't wait until the day you want to sight in your rifle or shotgun just prior to hunting season.

**No longer will memberships be issued from anyone's home!!!**

All current members were mailed a new Rule Book in June 2009. Please hang on to it, as we will only be sending them out to new members. If there are any changes a revised page or a new booklet will be sent to you.

## **Gun Show:**

August 27<sup>th</sup>. - 28<sup>th</sup>. - & 29<sup>th</sup>. 2010 were the dates of our seventh annual gun show. We continue to refine and target our advertising dollars and solicit some of the best dealers in and around Iowa. Careful cultivation of this event has caused us to gain a reputation for conducting a high quality & very desirable show! Again this year we conducted a drawing for new 22 cal. Rifle. We gave away at the end of the show a Savage Arms, Model "Mark II BSEV" rifle with a Stainless Steel barrel, "Accu Trigger", and a laminated thumb hole stock. The winner of the drawing for the rifle was Brian "Smitty" Smith. We extend our congratulations to Brian. We would also like to extend congratulations to Emily Duckett and William F. Holtz who each won a \$25.00 cash prize. They were chosen from amongst respondents to our advertising survey. We will be putting on our "Eighth Annual Gun Show" at the end of August of 2011. We anticipate that we will continue to conduct the show on the Friday, Saturday & Sunday preceding Labor Day weekend, At the Boone, Fairgrounds. That would make the dates of the show the 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>. & 28<sup>th</sup>. Of August 2011. Please put it on your calendar and don't be afraid to volunteer!

We would like to say "thank you!" to Mark Hasstedt and crew for organizing this event and to all of the people who volunteered to make this year's show another great success!!

## **Trap and Skeet:**

As mentioned previously, we had our share of challenges with keeping the machines fully reliable for much of the season. We were able to keep them going but they were not always as good as they could be. I feel that there may be some overhaul work to be done on them this winter.

We had a very active Trap and Skeet shooting season this year. We had from 15 to 25 shooters out most Tuesday & Thursday nights, weather permitting. Many of the new shooters that came out last year have returned for this season. We have also seen the addition of even more new shooters as we have worked our way through the season.

The market on clay targets has settled down a bit so that we are able to purchase our annual usage at approximately the same cost including transportation as last year. This is one of our biggest expenses next to insurance and a prime consideration in how much we need to charge for a round of Skeet or Trap. So the good news is that we can again get through 2011 without raising those prices.

The cost to shoot a twenty, five shot round of Trap, Wobble Skeet or regular Skeet will remain at \$3.00 for members and \$4.50 for nonmembers. In the grand scheme, this is a very reasonable rate. Other facilities in the area charge much more. It is one of the main focuses of the Officers & Board of Directors to keep the cost of shooting as low as possible, allowing for more people to be able to afford the activity.

Steve Gus & Rick Howell ran the Tuesday night Skeet shooting and Mark Hasstedt, and Tom Snow took care of the duties on Thursday nights again in 2010. They will fill those positions again next year. They look forward to seeing all of our shooters return when we start up again in May of 2011. We encourage you to invite new shooters to come out and experience these informal games. It is a great way to pass a summer evening. All skill levels of shooters are welcome from first timers on up.

We conducted our fourth annual Mike Schmidt, Memorial Tournament on September 28<sup>th</sup>. We finally have a new name too put on the plaque. Steve Gus stood up to stiff competition (not from me) to win the 50 shot tournament with a score of 49. Congratulations Steve!

## **Pistol Shooters:**

Jim Egeland and Todd Bertram are running defensive pistol matches on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month. They would be happy to have you come out to shoot. You do not have to be a member to shoot in one of these matches. If you own a 9mm or larger handgun, and are interested in defensive pistol shooting, or just want to see what it's all about, feel free to stop out and check out their matches. Visitors are welcome. If you have any questions, please contact Jim or Todd, or another club officer. Be prepared by bringing the minimum required safety equipment with you. Shooting glasses and hearing protection are required at all times. These shoots are run as a cold range. No loaded guns allowed until directed by the range officer in charge.

## **Archery Range:**

Fall typically marks an increase in the number of shooters using the archery ranges on the South end of the property. We would like to remind archery people that if you are new or have not been on the archery range for a couple of years, that we have made some changes to the range. Please be aware that we now are shooting from the West to the East. This has become necessary to keep arrows away from buildings and potentially people on our neighbor's property to the south. Please bear with these changes, as we certainly want to be safe and stay on good terms with our neighbors.

## **Bench Shooting:**

The portion of our facility that receives the most use continues to be the benches for 25, 50, and 100 yard shooting. We continue to see a large number of different shooters using the benches and are pleased that they do so. There are future plans to add even more cement pads and benches to this area. We will continue to focus on improvements to these three ranges.

Once again, please be careful not to shoot at or hang your targets on or near the wooden supports as designated by the orange paint on the front of the target supports. This will help us to keep the cost of maintenance, materials and volunteer, man-hours to a minimum. This problem has lessened over the last year but there is still much room for improvement. Let's see if we can rectify this problem or at the least reduce it to a much more manageable level. Seriously this is a real & ongoing problem for our club!

## **General information & safety:**

My annual and constant admonishment about safety still stands. Safety is the responsibility of each and every member using our facility. In addition to performing your activities in a safe manner you should also be aware of those around you. If you ever see anyone doing anything that is not safe, and we all hope you don't, write down his or her license number and leave at once. Then please call one of the officers or directors listed on the sign at the gate and let them handle the problem. Each member was issued a copy of the rules in 2009 or when you became a new member, if that was after 2009. There should be no excuse for not following the rules; they are for everyone's physical protection and to protect the future existence of our club. We recommend keeping your copy handy and to review it every so often. A great deal of thought and attention has gone into its compilation.

Also, as paid up club members, everyone has the right to ask anyone to show their membership card. (Be sure to check that it is for the current year). Our club is for paid up members only! If any member has a complaint about something that has happened at the club, get us names or license numbers of the errant party or parties and turn them in with your name to an officer or director. Then we can effectively solve the problem before it gets out of hand. We will not act on hearsay information. We must have facts! **In past years, we have revoked about one membership per year for misuse of the range or chronic disregard for the rules.**

Reminder: Because the shooting benches get such heavy use, it is likely that you will encounter from time to time, others using the range or ranges that you want to use. If you are unable to use a different range for whatever reason, talk to that person. They might be almost done or invite you to shoot with them. Be flexible and friendly, and you might just make a new shooting friend!! Remember that we all support this club with our dues because we all have a common interest in the shooting sports.

With the passage of the new concealed carry law we anticipate a larger than normal usage of the pistol ranges. Please be patient, safe and courteous.

## **Club Hours:**

In order to be thought of as a good neighbor, our club has regular shooting hours. **Shooting starts no earlier than 8:00 AM and ends at dusk or no later than 9:30 PM which ever comes first!** The one notable exception to this rule is in September and October when we shoot skeet under the lights on Tuesday and Thursday nights till 9 or 9:30 PM. We do not allow limited light shooting except by permission from the board of directors. Non-adherence to these hours will not be tolerated. Many from the non-shooting public would not come to our defense and likely would help condemn us if we were to be seen as a nuisance. Anything we can do to be seen as a good neighbor in the community will assure that we can continue to operate within this community for years to come.

## Post Script

For now we still live in a great nation; one that was founded on the ideals of self-government, personal freedoms and God given rights. There are those within and without who feel threatened by those freedoms or who wish to defeat them for personal gains. There are still others who believe that Americans are incapable of self-government. They look to a European style of socialism as the model for America. November brings yet another opportunity for us to cast a vote for representation that best preserves those ideals of self-government and self determination that were laid out by the founding fathers in our founding documents (“The Declaration of Independence and United States Constitution”). The alternative is that we can continue to choose to elect representatives, whom we in essence, pay to pick the pockets of other taxpayers and bring us the spoils. The result is that we trade Liberty for temporary and fleeting security that is always subject to the whim of those who would be our masters.

This sweet melliflence of promises unrealized, has given us a great many legislators already, who defy their legitimate mandate, to make laws that fall within the limitations of an unmolested interpretation of our US Constitution. They ignore the Preamble and Bill of Rights; documents which define the collective will of those who founded our constitutional republic and whose design severely limits the very power and authority that is bestowed upon government by its people. They cast a cynical and condescending eye upon the electorate and elevate themselves above the position of servant to positions of “The Exalted” through their own extreme hubris. Congressmen and Senators alike, relinquish their authority and responsibility for making law, to the constitutionally weaker Judicial Branch. Who, though an unelected body, are more than willing to take on the wholly unconstitutional role of lawmaker? Through this incestuous relationship they collectively wish to control the social conscience of the country and they present their opinions with the same force as law. In addition to that, the trend has become, for the Executive Branch to exploit this in balance of powers to it’s own advantage. It uses the courts to accomplish what cannot be done through representative lawmaking. It uses the courts to advance an agenda that tries to snatch the legitimate seat of power away from the people of The United States and consolidates it solely under government control. When we leave a door unguarded, scoundrels are sure to come in and do their mischief. Don’t put out the welcome mat.

These things cannot happen unless we allow ourselves to be purchased away from the right path with other peoples, money. Government has no legitimate constitutional authority afforded to it to be the re distributor of wealth. The constitution does not allow it to buy our God given freedoms away from the people. That can only be given away willingly or lost through lack of care. To be sure, if we allow this to continue we will most assuredly get the government that we deserve and not a government that serves.

There are good people willing to serve and serve for the right reasons. Men and women who legitimately wish to serve society at all levels of government. Seek them out and support them. If you value your freedoms as a citizen of the United States and love this country as I do, you have a minimum responsibility to first of all educate yourself and then cast a responsible vote for each position being considered on the ballot. God alone and not government, has endowed man with his freedoms and rights. Don’t give them away willingly. A government that fails to serve the people in their entirety will surely enslave the people in their entirety, eventually. The pursuit of freedom and self, government requires hard work, sacrifice and constant vigilance. We as sportsmen, who love and value our freedom need to lead the way!

Be safe, and I will see you again in the spring. “RICK”

### **CLUB OFFICERS**

**President: Dale Pfrimmer 515-432-7526**  
**Vice-President (Pistol): Jim Moreland 515-432-7989**  
**Secretary: Rick Howell 515-432-7970**  
**Treasurer: Steve Gus 515-432-7772**

### **Board of Directors**

**Byron (Jake) Hull / Mark Hasstedt/ Pete Lonergan**