

Boone County Sportsman's Club

2012 Fall / Winter Newsletter

October 15, 2012

Editors Note:

We started of this year on a note of some uncertainty about whether or not we were going to be able to get clay targets for the Skeet and Trap fields. It seems that there was a fire that completely destroyed the only US factory that supplies pitch needed in the manufacture of the targets. The only other available source for pitch is from China. With supplies scarce and the cost rising rapidly, we were fortunate to secure what we needed for our use here at the club. Our supplier was able to secure for us our normal order of 12 skids of targets. They did come with a premium cost however. The new targets were approximately \$2.50 per case more than we were used to paying. That represents an increase of approximately 28% over our previous cost. Consequently we did have to raise the price per round a little but we were still were able to hold it far below that of other clubs in our area. The factory in the US is supposed to be rebuilt and running by some time in 2013 so that should ease future concerns about availability.

As I am sure you are aware, this has been a very hot and dry year. That has caused a reduction to the number of shooters that we had out to shoot Skeet & Trap on Tuesday & Thursday nights. Many nights consisted of more shooting of the proverbial bull than any thing else. We look forward to a more normal season next year. Whatever that is.

Mark Hasstedt will be organizing some shoots this winter. The tentative, schedule for these shoots are listed elsewhere in this newsletter. If you are interested keep an eye on the website for any weather related, schedule changes or give Mark a call at 515-212-0125.

Please remember that the shooting benches and the archery ranges are available to the membership year round. Just because the open trap and Skeet shooting is almost done for the year does not mean that you cannot use the other facilities.

You have probably noticed that we have a new building on the property located southeast of the main gate. This will serve as a service shop and equipment storage building for our groundskeeper. The addition of this new building frees up needed space for target inventory in other buildings and also creates a dedicated shop area for service and maintenance of grounds equipment.

Happy hunting and have a great fall.

Rick Howell – Secretary, B.C.S.C.

Club Hours:

In order to be thought of as a good neighbor, our club has adopted 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. Please be courteous. 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.

Pistol Shooters:

Jim Egeland and Todd Bertram are running defensive handgun matches on the 4th 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.

Bench Shooting:

We continue to see a big jump in the number of our new members that use the pistol and rifle ranges. It is also the area where we have the most problems. Because this area sees the most activity throughout the year it is very important that each person who uses the shooting benches be hyper vigilant about following all of the safety rules. While we want all of our members to have fun at the range we also must recognize that being a gun-owner and shooter carries with it a great responsibility. You must know that each and every shot will be safely arrested by the earthen berm behind your target. A good rule of thumb is that all shots should be aimed to hit in the lower half of the earthen berm. Also try to set your targets so that your shots do not strike the ground in front of the berm. This can produce a ricochet that could go over the berm. This means that all targets should be placed on the backstop to result in shots arrested by the lower part of the berm. No shot should ever result in a bullet that leaves our property through ricochet or carelessness. You are responsible for every shot you take, no one else can be.

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, 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.

This is your club. You must act if you see any unsafe or illegal activity being conducted at your club. Also, as usual any paid up club members 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.**

Please also be courteous of other shooters at the benches. Work together so that everyone can shoot and check targets safely. A little communication goes a long way towards seeing that everyone has a good experience. On Tuesday and Thursday nights during May through October we have organized Skeet and Trap shooting. During those times the people on the south Skeet field can drop shot near the target backstops. Pistol and rifle shooters must communicate with the Skeet shooters so that they can halt shooting when you need to check your targets. Everyone using the benches and all observers must wear eye and hearing protection at all times. This constitutes the bare minimum of personal protection at the range.

Please be courteous and patient during high usage times. 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 buddy!! Remember that we all support this club with our dues because we all have a common interest in the shooting sports.

Archery Range:

Fall typically marks an increase in the number of shooters using the archery ranges on the South end of the property. There are currently no organized activities scheduled for the archery range. If you use these facilities we just ask that you respect the target backstops and conduct your shooting safely. Jake Hull has asked me to mention that there have been some changes made to the fill material being used in the target backstops. If you are experiencing any difficulty with the new material, please let him know. You can call at the number on the sign at the gate or catch him while he is at the club.

There is not a range officer present so the responsibility falls on the individual to be safe and observe all prudent safety practices as outlined in your rule book. Our goal is to provide a safe place for all members to come and shoot.

Gun Show:

August 24th. - 25th. - & 26th. 2012 were the dates of our ninth annual gun show. We had a very good show with a record turnout of people through the doors. The numbers were significantly larger than last year for each of the three days of the show. We are now an established show and many people have us on their calendar for this last weekend in August. Careful cultivation of this event has helped us to gain a reputation for conducting a high quality & very desirable show! If you didn't come this year put it on your calendar for next year for sure.

Work is already in progress for our "Tenth Annual Gun Show" at the end of August of 2013. 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 23rd., 24th. & 25th. Of August 2013. Please put it on your calendar and don't be afraid to volunteer!

The officers and directors 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!! If you volunteered to: Set up tables and chairs, work at the door, work security, tear down afterwards or any other aspect of the show, please know that we are very grateful for your part in making the show a quality production.

Mark wanted me to also express his deep appreciation to the many people who helped him with the set up, tear down and everything in between. The list is long, of the number of people that it takes to put on a great three day, show of this type. The contributions of each of you are greatly appreciated.

Memberships:

If you have not become a member for 2013 yet, please take note that a blank 2013 membership application form is attached for the convenience of anyone who needs one. **PLEASE YOU MUST PRINT LEGIBLY AND DON'T FILL OUT ANYTHING BELOW THE LINE AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE.** 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 one year to the next!**

You must be a member for 2013 in order to use the facility after January 1st. The Gate combination will change on that date. We have been very fortunate to be able to keep the cost of membership steady for many years now and again in 2013 it will remain the same as in the past. (NRA Member \$50.00 / Non-NRA Member \$60) Even though we are an all, volunteer organization, the cost of operation is very high and going higher each year. One of the bigger costs is the cost of insurance. We appreciate all that the membership does to keep the club financially in the black.

For the benefit of new members that do not know; the reason for the different membership costs is that we are insured through the NRA. They give us a break on the cost of our insurance based upon the number of our members who are also NRA members. The larger the percentage is of our members that are NRA members the cheaper our insurance is. We gladly pass the savings along to those who help us to keep the cost lower. You must provide a CURRENT NRA 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/>

In the fall newsletter, I always like to let people know of the various ways that they can renew a membership or become a new member of the B.C.S.C. Memberships can be obtained in any of the following 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 working at the club, 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" where he works, but you may have to be patient and wait for him to finish up 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.
5. This year we launched a new web site so that you can download an application from there. This site will also be the source of all manner of other club information. Check us out at: (boonesportsmensclub.com.)

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.

Trap and Skeet:

As usual we will continue to shoot Trap & Skeet on Tuesday nights through the end of September and on Thursday nights through the end of October. Remember that Mark will be preparing Chili for the second to last night of scheduled open shooting on Thursday night, October 18th. If there is bad weather he will move chili night to the 25th.

Mark has also expressed an interest in hosting some open shooting through the winter as weather permits. If you are interested in being notified when Mark is going to have the ranges open, please contact Mark Hasstedt at 515-212-0125 and he will get your contact information so that he can get in touch with you. He would like to shoot on New Years Day weather permitting. Other dates will be posted on the website as the times get closer. We will try to post any changes to these dates on the website. So before coming out you should check with Mark or check on the website especially if the weather is forecast to be inclement. Our website address is boonesportsmensclub.com.

Currently the cost to shoot a twenty, five shot round of Trap, Wobble Skeet or regular Skeet is at \$3.50 for members and \$5.50 for nonmembers. I think that you will find that this is a bargain when you look at what others in the area are charging. We always try to keep the cost of shooting as low as possible, thereby allowing for more people to be able to afford to come out and shoot.

Steve Gus & Rick Howell ran the Tuesday night Skeet shooting and Mark Hasstedt, and Loras “Woody” Woodard took care of the duties on Thursday nights again in 2012. 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 2013. We encourage you to invite new shooters to come out and experience these informal games. It is a great way to spend an evening. All skill levels of shooters are welcome from first timers on up.

We held our seventh annual Mike Schmidt Memorial shoot on Tuesday night, September the 25th. Once again it was a best out of “50 shot” fun shoot, for bragging rites and your name on a permanent trophy that is displayed in the clubhouse. This year the conditions were very pleasant and the temperatures were perfect. This year yours truly was fortunate enough to post a winning score of 48 out of 50 to win the competition. Several others posted scores of 47 out of 50 to make it a very close competition. Thank you to all of the competitors who came out and shot. The club catered in BBQ Pork sandwiches, Baked Beans, coleslaw and cookies for everyone that came out. Thanks also to The Schmidt family and especially Mike’s wife “Dianne” for their contribution to a fun evening of competition and good food.

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

Those of you who have been members for a while are aware that I have repeatedly made a plea directed at a small minority of our membership. You can probably recite verbatim what I am about to repeat again for the benefit of our new members.

Please refrain from placing clay targets higher than ½ the way up on the earthen berm. This is a critical safety issue. Targets placed higher than this can cause your round to skip over the berm. Remember you are criminally responsible for where each bullet goes when you pull the trigger.

Please refrain from placing targets against or on top of the wooden supports of the target backstops. The cardboard is there for you to mount your target too. By placing them in front of, on top of or near the wooden framework you will cause the premature destruction of those wooden supports. Our club was established as and continues to be a paper target only club.

These transgressions of the basic tenants found in our rulebook have become such a persistent problem that in 2013 our club will partner with a well known, agency of our government in order to address the problem. This powerful agency has been forced by budgetary restraints and cutbacks into reassign many of their sophisticated assets to civilian use.

Our club was able to negotiate the purchase of large blocks of “Earth Observation” surveillance time on one of this agency’s “Medium Earth Orbital Satellites”. The satellite will be tasked with maintaining a perfect geostationary, medium earth orbit at an altitude of approximately 35,786 km above our club. It will be online ready, on a random schedule that cumulatively encompasses an average of 6 to 8 hours each day. This satellite is equipped with extreme hi resolution, imaging and a powerful Deuterium Fluoride, chemical laser capable of pinpoint destruction. Sophisticated recognition software will allow the craft to detect, analyze and respond to individuals engaging in any prohibited activities on club property. You can think of it as a high tech red light camera with attitude.

It is highly recommended, that should you see anyone engaging in such prohibited activities, you should move away quickly so as to keep from being sunburned from the flash. You should also get the license plate number of the offender's vehicle and leave the premises. Please call one of the club officers listed at the gate so that we can begin the process of identification of the remains. After all even the densest idiots could have a dog at home that will need to be fed and cared for in their absence. In the event that the laser is off line and there is no flash, please again get a license plate number, leave as soon as possible and call one of the club officers so that we can deal with the problem in a more conventional albeit less dramatic manner.

To some of you, righteous retribution arriving from above may seem harsh but over time we anticipate that there will be a selective elevation of the local genetic pool. Think of it as giving the process of natural selection a helping hand. As a result our membership and the greater society at large will ultimately benefit. After all, four out of five unnamed "Biological Geneticists" agree.

Embrace the experiment!

Keep smiling. Your pictures are in the mail.

Rick Howell – B.C.S.C. Secretary

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Dale Pfrimmer 515-432-7526

Vice-President (Skeet): Steve Gus 515-432-7772

Vice-President (Pistol): Jim Moreland 515-432-7989

Secretary: Rick Howell 515-432-7970

Treasurer: Pete Lonergan 515-432-3578

Board of Directors

Byron (Jake) Hull / Mark Hasstedt