

BOONE COUNTY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB SPRING NEWSLETTER - APRIL 2014

Welcome:

It has been a long and miserably cold winter and I for one am glad to see the bitter temperatures moderate. I always look at the publication of the Spring Newsletter as the unofficial kick off to another new year at the club. So in that vane allow me to welcome you to our new 2014 season.

We will be having an unusual situation this year that all members will need to be aware of. Our neighbor that owns the property to the east of the club will have loggers removing numerous trees behind the rifle and pistol berms. This will necessitate the closing of these ranges for safety reasons while they work. As of this writing we do not have any scheduled dates. We will try to get as much notice as possible, but such notices may be short due to weather and such. We will immediately post it to our website as soon as dates and times are available. Please be sure to check the website, especially if you are driving from a distance.

We launched our new website in 2012 and we hope that you will continue to use it to keep up on club activities and other club news in between the publication of newsletters. Check back often for information on special events, range closings, service opportunities and other information of interest to our membership body. Please be sure to include <http://boonesportsmensclub.com> into your favorites directory of your browser and check it often.

Spring Cleanup Day:

We are scheduling a "Spring Cleanup Day" for Sunday, May 18th. 2014. We will start at 8:00 AM and are usually finished by 11:00 AM. Projects may include general clean up, fix up, and rake up around the property. We also use this time to service, machinery and stock up our supplies. If you can help, please stop out even if it's only for an hour or two. It will really be appreciated. Rolls and beverages will be supplied for all workers who come out and help.

Shooting Hours:

As we start a new shooting season we would just like to remind everyone to observe and honor our shooting hours, which remain unchanged from previous years. We are able to continue operations by the grace and good will that we show to our neighbors. Shooting hours remain **8:00 am to 9:30 PM. No after dark shooting** except trap and skeet under the lights in the fall. **NO OTHER EXCEPTIONS!** (Unless pre-approved by the board)

Calendar of Events:

May 1st. our regularly scheduled Trap & Skeet will start and will run through the end of October. Hours will be 5:00 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. on Tuesdays & Thursdays. There will be pop & water available to shooters and guests for \$0.50 at the main clubhouse.

May 18th. / Clean-up day 8:00 A.M. – Until done (Rain or Shine)

June 28th. Jim Egeland, will be conducting a three gun Match from 9:00 AM to 2 PM. give or take. See additional information under the heading of Special Events on page three.

August 22nd, 23rd. & 24th. will be the annual gun show at the Boone County Fairgrounds. (Contact a club officer if you can help) This event requires a lot of people to ensure a successful show.

4th Saturday of every month "Defensive Pistol Match". (9:00 am start during daylight saving time) Check for updates or changes on the website at (<http://boonesportsmensclub.com>).

Range Closings:

Please note that some or all of the ranges will be closed on the following days, for various reasons.

Crews will be logging trees behind the pistol and rifle berms for two or three days this spring. As soon as range closing dates are available they will be posted on the website. We may only get a short notice.

April 10th. The Citizen Police Academy will be meeting to shoot on the south pistol range from 6:00 PM till 10:00 PM. The south range will be closed to other shooting for this period.

May 18th. / Until cleanup is done!

May 13th. & 14th. The south pistol range will be closed from 8:00AM till 5:00PM for Boone PD qualifications.

June 28th. The range will be closed to non-competitors for a Three Gun Match, competition. (Closed from 8 AM to 2 PM).

On rare occasions, other non-scheduled closings may become necessary for as yet unscheduled maintenance or event reasons. Check for updates on the website at (<http://boonesportsmensclub.com>).

Club Meetings:

We do have club meetings every month throughout the summer and fall. Because of the lack of activity we usually suspend meetings for December, January & February. The meetings are on the second Monday of each month, at 6:00 pm, unless there is a conflict. To check on a meeting, feel free to call a board member.

Gun Show:

This will be our 11th. Annual Gun Show and will be held as usual at the Boone County Fairgrounds 4H Building. It is scheduled for Aug. 22 – 23 – 24, with set up beginning Friday morning, August 22nd. Help is needed with set up, as well as with other aspects during the show, and tear down after the show. If you can help your club with any of these projects, please contact Mark at 515-212-0125. If you sign up and work at the show you will also be eligible for free admission to the show.

The venue at the Fairgrounds is air-conditioned and will hold approximately 100 tables. We hope that you will support your club by coming out and bring a friend to check out the show. We have a very nice selection of good dealers that will be buying and selling gun and gun related merchandise. This show represents our main fundraiser and all proceeds go directly to the Boone County Sportsman's Club to support operations and improvements to our facility.

Trap and Skeet:

2014 Trap and Skeet shooting will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting in May, as in the past. The hours will remain the same; start time – 5:00 pm, and last round started no later than 9:00 pm, to be completed by 9:30 pm. Steve Gus and Rick Howell will run Tuesday evening shoots & Mark Hasstedt and Loras "Woody" Woodard will run Thursday evening shoots. The times and days of operation are also posted at the gate. Below is a breakdown of the cost for each type of game per 25 target round.

Type of Game	Member Price Per Round	Non-member Price Per Round
Standard Skeet	\$3.50	\$5.00
Standard or Wobble Trap	\$3.50	\$5.00
Wobble Skeet (Thursdays Only)	\$3.50	\$5.00
Modified Five Stand (Tuesdays Only)	\$5.00	\$6.50

If you plan to come out closer to closing, you may want to contact one of the sponsors who conduct the shoots. If it's a rainy or an otherwise slow night, they can shut things down early. On Tuesday nights you can contact Rick at (515)-230-0641 or Steve at (515)-230-2849. On Thursday nights you can contact Mark at (515)-212-0125 or Woody at (515)-289-3837. (Please be courteous, remember, they are volunteering their time!)

Archery Range:

Members are encouraged to freely use this range so long as they do so within the guidelines of the club rules. Shooting towards the neighbors property to the south will not be tolerated & will result in revocation of your membership. Please remember that the tower is not a play area for your kids.

Bench Shooting:

We have again added more benches to the north in order to accommodate the greater number of members using these ranges. Hopefully this will alleviate some of the congestion. The 12yd. Target stand on the north pistol range has proven to be very popular. There are some times when we have replaced the cardboard on a daily basis. Please again, do not intentionally shoot the 2x4 frames on any of the target backstops. It just puts the backstop out of service longer and costs more to maintain them.

Please be aware of shooters that are waiting to use the ranges. As soon as you are finished, please make room for the next shooter as quickly as possible. Also, if multiple ranges are being used, make sure everyone ceases firing before walking forward to check your targets. Be sure to communicate with the other shooters.

As always PLEASE pick up **ALL** center fire rifle and pistol brass, and all shotgun hulls. Also as always, **do not shoot into the uprights, cross braces, or concrete pads** on the backstops. Please **remove your paper targets** from the backstops and **pick up your trash** when done shooting and place them in the provided receptacle.

Special Events:

Currently there is scheduled on June 28th. a "Three Gun Match". Jim Egeland will be running the events for Hand Gun (9mm or larger.) - Shot Gun events for 7.5-8-or 9 shot only (no field loads) and Rifle events in two classes (22 cal. & Center fire) – Bullets must be soft point/ ball ammo and nothing larger than 30-06. There will be a \$5.00 entry for each of the three events that you wish to shoot. Sign up will be at 8:30AM and shooting will start at 9:00 and run till approximately 2:00PM. The range will be closed to non-event shooting during that time. You can contact Jim Egeland at 515-290-1994.

Safety Information:

As we all know, safety is our number one priority at our club! If you ever see anyone doing anything that is not safe, please write down his/her license number and leave at once. Then please call one of the officers or directors and let them handle the problem. Also, as paid up club members, everyone has the right to ask anyone on club property to show their membership card. 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 parties and turn them in with your name to an officer or director. Only then can we effectively handle the problem. We will not act on hearsay information. We must have facts!!

Charitable Contributions:

This year the Boone County Sportsmen's Club has selected "Puppy Jake Foundation" to receive a \$1,000.00 donation for their work with wounded US military veterans. The Puppy Jake Foundation is based out of Des Moines, IA and is a 501(C)(3) non-profit group. All Puppy Jake Foundation dogs are well bred, socialized and professionally trained.

- Puppy Jake Foundation provides service dogs to wounded American military veterans at no cost to them.
- Dogs help improve function, increase mobility and provide companionship for wounded veterans.
- Donations go to pay for the training, health care and food supply of service dogs.

"FOUNDATIONS OF LIBERTY"

Since my early childhood growing up in the 1950's and 1960's I had been told of the inherent greatness of the United States of America. Patriotic men talked openly of how this nation was imbued with qualities that were to be found nowhere else. They talked of how our country was instilled with noble aspirations of fairness and freedom that were denied to men and women in other lands. Today I'm sad to say, the voices of such patriots are greatly diminished. It has fallen out of vogue to talk of patriotism and national pride. Perhaps the patriots of my childhood looked back and thought the same of their generation. I continue to believe in the greatness of this nation and all that it was founded upon. I stand proudly with an ever, dwindling population of national partisans. I am a patriot who proclaims the blessings that were brought about on my behalf by the confluence of great historic sacrifice and the serendipity of where I was born. I am blessed to enjoy a freedom that was won at a great price by many generations.

We as citizens of this great nation enjoy the freedom of self-determination. We have the right to choose our own pathway towards success and to determine what our own success looks like. I have the freedom to take on as much or as little risk as I choose when I engage in commerce, educational choices, career choices, entrepreneurial choices, recreational choices, and religious choices. All that our society asks in return is that my choices do not harm anyone else or degrade the common set of social values that elevate us to be greater than the sum of our individual parts. Only in a nation that recognizes a set of absolute truths and willingly holds itself morally accountable to the source of those truths can we continue to thrive in that capacity of "Greatest Nation."

As I reflect on the changes that I have seen in this country, I fear that the outer petals are beginning to wilt on the brilliant blossom that is the great American experiment known as "The United States." How long can we stand and proudly proclaim greatness when we as average citizens refuse to protect the foundations that produced that greatness in the first place? We only remain great until we reach that tipping point at which we are no longer great. By then it is too late. We as a collection of countrymen must learn anew to cherish what we were given and to protect it for the precious gift that it is to us all.

In the minds of those who wish to re-imagine the founding of the United States, we were not founded as a noble experiment at all. Some are convinced that our past sins as a nation do not entitle us to the status of greatness. They imagine that greatness can only be achieved when every social frailty of mankind is not only recognized but also accepted and embraced as good and valuable. Further, that we can only be great when all of these frailties are woven into the fabric of government and society at every level.

I believe that true greatness can only be achieved when we recognize that we are flawed individually and that there is no inherent nobleness within us. Only then can we see that we must hold ourselves in check by the structure of our society and our adherence to God's law. Our culture must encourage those things that build up and discourage those things that destroy. A great nation must hold its citizenry accountable for the part they play as members of the whole organism. It becomes our job with God's help to rightly determine how to encourage what is right and discourage what is destructive. This cannot be a function of more and greater government but must be instead a function of our reverence for the authority of God, our fear of consequences and our desire to live peaceably through personal self-control. To live peaceably in any social order is to restrain our predilection towards uninhibited selfishness. Our nation's continued greatness relies on the desire of its people to refine themselves in relationship to the ideals upon which this nation was first conceived.

There are those who do not believe that the intent of our founding was ever moral. They have convinced themselves that our form of government was chosen for the purpose of rewarding some and punishing others. For any who believe that the founders of our nation framed the constitution in all of its parts to serve their own selfish desires, I would remind them that these men paid a heavy price for their efforts. By affixing their names they immediately became enemies of the British Crown. Many lost their homes, fortunes and businesses to seizure. They were hunted and some even gave their very lives and the lives of their families to pay the price of standing against the tyranny of King George. All of this sacrifice was to create a more noble form of government that recognizes mankind's right to liberty and self-determination.

The founders started with the premise that without a framework of laws, checks, and consequences man was incapable of self-rule. They wisely restricted the authority of the federal government to dominate over the states and the individual man. This was to protect against the tyranny that emanates from a centralized source of all encompassing power. They also recognized that mankind possesses certain rights that are bestowed by God and are "inalienable", meaning unchallengeable or indisputable. Authority was prohibited to government to redact these rights. Because government did not bestow these rights, it was to be out of

the reach of government to infringe upon them. These rights were a self-evident gift from the divine creator, "God."

As to those who would deny that this country was founded using Christian principles to support our moral foundations of law and liberty, they are either historically ignorant at best or are engaging in willful deceit in order to further their own ends at worst. Of the 56 founders 24 held Christian seminary or bible degrees. From their writings and their own testimonies many of the others were also men who held deep Christian beliefs. It was generally accepted that it was this common thread of agreement in God's sovereignty and biblical teaching that allowed this group of diverse men to create in the space of just 100 days the framework of our national Constitution. At a mere 4,400 words, the Constitution establishes man and government's individual duties, responsibilities and rights under the authority of God.

When that group of men whom we refer to as the founding fathers came together to consider what form of government would be suitable for the founding of an entirely new nation, they searched the world at large and all of history to find a model. Being learned men of much experience they concluded, based upon the evidence at hand, that mankind was woefully incapable of self-governance. After considering all of the known forms of government, none were found that embodied the potential to produce a society where freedom and liberty were protected and where every man was afforded an equal opportunity to succeed to his full potential.

It is important to note that these men were highly motivated to create a new nation that would be in all ways worthy of the risk that they were undertaking. They were fully aware that this was a treasonous act of rebellion against the oppression of the British Monarchy. They had committed their honor, their fortunes, their possessions and their very lives to the endeavor. These were not just empty platitudes to them but were very real and eminent sacrifices. These sacrifices were made willingly in order to create a nation worthy of the cost.

As they pondered the various possibilities they began to frame a new form of self-rule based upon the best qualities of the many forms of known government. Still even the best contained a fatal flaw that could ultimately be traced back to the fallibility of man. They surmised that only the adherence to God's laws and a strong system of checks could create a system of government that would survive. When their vision was completed they identified it as a "Representative Republic", the first of its kind.

Early citizens of the newly minted "United States of America" soon acquired a profound understanding of the opportunities that were afforded to them by the protections of our Constitution and Bill of Rights. They were encouraged to live worthy of its words. They understood the empowerment to human ingenuity that was given by the protections contained within. They embraced the spirit that we call American Exceptionalism. They exploited the advantages that a "Representative Republic" form of government gave them to be creative and to thrive as a global economic power. It is not that the United States is inhabited with people that are intellectually superior or that we are more clever, but rather that our form of self-governance has unleashed the potential of our God-given talents in a more powerful way than any other on the face of the planet.

My fear is that we have lost much of that appreciation for what we were given. We have become complacent to the value of liberty and therefore we do not use our liberty to its fullest advantage. We delegate more and more authority to government to control and to suppress. We collectively as citizens of this country look at other countries and feel guilt at having built so much. We imagine that we have done so on the backs of others who live under oppression. We allow the worlds jealousy to cause us to feel an undeserved shame. We begin to imagine that we have no right to bloom because other economies wilt. The fact is that we still have the same opportunities for greatness that existed when this country was built. We have willingly hobbled ourselves by our own guilt, lack of restraint and our disregard for the value of God's gift to us. Only as a great country can we use our position to be benevolent and to encourage others

to do the same. Weak immoral countries have no power to influence the world for good while large and immoral countries become a scourge. Let us continue to prosper and share our blessings, as a great and generous nation should.

When we stumble and falter, don't blame the Constitution and don't blame the founding fathers. We should instead blame the darkness that is in our own hearts and determine to do better. We have ignored all of the cautions that were laid out for us. We have succumbed to the greed and corruption that causes us to ignore our moral laws in order to gain an unfair advantage over our fellow man. What I see is that the failures we are experiencing in our country have become, as a self-fulfilling prophecy, set in motion by our lack of God centered moral determination which has been replaced with "Humanism".

[John Adams] "We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Avarice, ambition, revenge, or gallantry, would break the strongest chords of our Constitution as a whale goes through a net. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other."

[Samuel Adams] "He therefore is the trusted friend to the liberty of his country who tries most to promote its virtue, and who, so far as his power and influence extend, will not suffer a man to be chosen into any office of power and trust who is not a wise and virtuous man... The sum of all is, if we would most truly enjoy this gift of Heaven, let us become a virtuous people."

[Benjamin Franklin] "Man will ultimately be governed by God or by tyrants."

When you kick God out, who is left? We have not been faithful to the original recipe that was established in our founding documents. The founders exhibited and drew upon exceptional gifts of wisdom and intellect that they themselves recognized as gifts from God. The formula has been clearly stated in our constitution to create a form of government that had never before been attempted by mankind to that point. A structure of government was framed where equality of outcome was not assured but where equality of opportunity for all men was the standard. Our form of government was crafted with noble intent that sought to overcome man's inherent natural tendency to promote only himself. These founders were keenly aware that any form of managed rule including this one, could not stand unless people were willing to hold themselves to a standard of Christian morality.

Our Constitution is still the formula for limited government that allows societies to flourish and constrains the ruling class to keep its proper function. We must dedicate ourselves to following the principles laid out in the Bill of Rights and retake the power that is guaranteed to us in the U.S. Constitution. We need to find a renewed spirit of appreciation for what God through the founding fathers has given to us. We must once again dedicate ourselves to the fear of God as our authority, to mutual respect for life and to peaceable living. These are the pillars upon which our nation was founded. These are the yardsticks by which a truly great nation is measured. Liberty only stands only where brave and selfless men are willing to fall, first on their knees and when necessary, on the field of battle.

[Rick Howell]

Memberships:

As 2014 memberships continue to come in I see that we have an extremely good retention rate among people who became first time members in the past couple of years. As of this writing we are already up to over 330 members for the year. We still see an encouraging interest from first time members indicating a resurgence of people wishing to assert their second amendment rights and who are looking for a safe place to shoot.

If anyone, especially new members, have any questions about how things are done at the club, please feel free to call or talk to any of the officers or board members. **We also wish to remind everyone to take a moment to review the rule book that the club sent out in 2009 and which should have been mailed to each new member since. If for some reason you did not receive a rulebook, please contact**

Duane Ely at 515-432-8413 to get one or download the PDF version from the website at <http://boonesportsmensclub.com>.

As usual 2014 membership forms are available from the normal locations. You can get a form from the clear plastic box at the front gate to the club, by contacting one of the club officers, or by copying the one that is attached to this Newsletter. Also they will be on the new website mentioned above.

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It is always appreciated when members have their form completely and neatly filled out with all required fields filled in and legible. By using the website form you can just type in the information and print it out. If you are going to manually fill out a form, please print legibly. Without a legible name and address you may not get your newsletters or membership card. In order to expedite processing, please remit your membership to Duane Ely. His address is at the bottom of the membership form. As with all of the positions at our club, Please remember Duane is a volunteer. Please give him several days to process your application and get your card to you by return mail.

All memberships run from January 1st. to December 31st. of the calendar year that is shown at the top of the membership application.

Exceptions:

- ❖ At the end of August, during the three days of our annual "Gun Show" in Boone we offer a special deal for anyone who has not yet become a member for that current year. Any new membership that is applied for during the three days of the show receive the balance of the current year plus the full next year for the same normal annual price.
- ❖ During the last three months of the year we offer a pro-rated membership for the remainder of the current year when a full annual membership is purchased for the next year.

Your membership includes complete access to all of the manual outdoor ranges on our club grounds including all pistol ranges, rifle ranges and archery ranges. Members receive a discounted rate for all games of Skeet or Trap shot during open shooting sessions.

All memberships are considered to be "family memberships" and cover the primary member of registration, spouse or partner and any children under the age of 18 yrs. still living at home. Authorized, family members must be accompanied by the primary member of registration while using facilities located on the club grounds. Minor children must be accompanied and supervised by an adult at all times while on club grounds. Any family members using the club facilities must be legally eligible to handle a firearm. This is a private club, but all applicable federal, state and local laws concerning firearms and firearm ownership still apply. Violations will result in immediate revocation of your membership.

CLUB OFFICERS

President: Dale Pfrimmer 515-432-7526

Secretary: Rick Howell 515-432-7970

Treasurer: Pete Lonergan 515-432-3578

V.P Memberships: Duane Ely 515-432-8413

V.P. Skeet: Steve Gus 515-432-7772

Board of Directors

Byron (Jake) Hull / Mark Hasstedt

