

# NITRO EXPRESS

Official Newsletter of Watauga Gun Club

April 28, 2004

## April 2004

Greetings from the Nether Regions! Or at least it seems that way. It sure has been a struggle to get out from under something this Spring!

Now that all the disciplines are up and running, the weather is moderating and the school year is coming to a close, maybe we can all get our heads together for the shooting season. So dust off Ol' Bessy, check your ammo and come out and bust a few caps! There is nothing better for an attitude adjustment and stress relief than a little lead downrange! Encourage your friends and families to come out with you for some fresh air and fellowship, too.

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT!!

Do you want to have a part? Adopt-A-Road: Castleford Road from 194 to just past the club (two miles) is up for adoption. The sign would read - Adopted by Watauga Gun Club. What is involved? A signed two-year agreement that the litter and trash will be removed from both sides of the road every three months.

Trash bags, gloves and safety vests are provided. It is also encouraged that recyclables be separated and that the bags be hauled to the landfill. This task requires a commitment from the club. There will be a discussion and motion to accept or reject at the next club meeting.

### RANGE USE.

Several target stands are now available around the range. Please bring an 18" or wider piece of cardboard with you to staple on the uprights. Then staple your target to the cardboard. BE SURE that your bullets will impact in a safe area! Never ... never ... never in front of a trap house!

We are now into the mowing season and the range will be mowed approximately every two

weeks on Wednesday evenings. Check the calendar for the dates either posted at the clubhouse or on the web page. If the mowers show up while you are at the range, please accommodate them. It doesn't take them long and you will be back to shooting in soon.

And please, try to remember to move your targets and stands to the side of the bays when you are finished and pick up your trash.

### EMAIL NEWSLETTER RECIPIENTS.

Hopefully we finally have the electronic newsletter back on track. "Majordomo" proved to be a "Major-pain" and has been dumped. The newsletter email will be coming from this address:

[nitroexpress@wataugagunclub.com](mailto:nitroexpress@wataugagunclub.com)

So if you do not receive our notices see if your spam filters have sent them to your trash folder. You may need to put this address in your address book to be able to get our notices.

If you have internet access, are not on our list but would like to be, you can either let Gary know ([gary@wgc-idpa.org](mailto:gary@wgc-idpa.org)) or go to the web page ([www.wataugagunclub.com](http://www.wataugagunclub.com)) and subscribe.

When the newsletters are published, we print copies for the members who are not on the email list and publish an electronic version (pdf) that is posted on the web page under Newsletters. If you want to read the letter online, but don't want to get the email notice, just let us know not to send you a paper copy in the mail. This saves the club postage and printing costs.

Thank you.

Gary Hoyle, Publicity Officer

## Watauga Gun Club Minutes: April 8, 2004

Called to order by President Tom Bennett.

No visitors. First Meeting Applicants: Ellis King

No Second Meeting Applicants.

Returning member: J. O. Main

Minutes of prior meeting read and accepted as read.

Treasurer was unable to attend and no report was available.

### Officers Reports:

Pres- Tom Bennett- Has contacted the mowing company from last year the rate will increase by only \$5, so gave the go-ahead for this year. Dates to be determined for mowing. Will be Wednesdays like last year and will try to coordinate for weekends when ATA or IDPA matches will need it the most.

VP- Dave Richardson- Reported on discussions of the Executive Committee meeting. Have had responses from some of the law enforcement agencies. Also, Benchrest Match to be held on May 29<sup>th</sup>. Contact Dave (336-372-5873) or Marvin Gragg (828-295-9965) for information.

RO- Wayne Green- 1. Trap House #1 has been shot again. People need to understand that these are not target stands. There are new target stands in the Quonset hut as well as all over the range for people to use. Range manual clearly says to bring your own supplies, so bring your cardboard and a staple gun. The range does not provide these. If you don't bring it, don't shoot it. (Morgan Shaw) Whoever it was had to be a member because they came into the clubhouse and used the right paint to cover up the damage. And the blocks in the house have been poured full of concrete so the machine wasn't hurt, but that is beside the point. These are not target stands.

2. May club match is Big Bore Pistol on the rapid fire and slow fire targets. We're not going to do the timed fire targets. Any pistol .32 caliber and over qualifies.

3. Encourage everyone to attend the Benchrest Match on May 29<sup>th</sup>. It was a lot of fun last time.

PO- Gary Hoyle- 1. Wayne Hildebrand has suggested that we participate in the adopt-a-highway program for the road that goes by the range. Good idea for advertising and getting the name of the club out there. Any other suggestions on how to advertise the club are solicited.

2. Concealed Carry-Handgun courses are being offered for members and the public. Members get a reduced rate. Also can offer classes in NRA Basic Pistol and a personal protection class called Refuse To Be A Victim that is primarily for women.

### Discipline Reports:

**TRAP** – The first team shoot will be Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. IDPA will be sponsoring a team again this year and have one other sponsor but still need 2 more. Sponsorship is \$25 and goes toward the trophies and the picnic. See Morgan, Tom Pitts or Randy Jones. The first ATA shoot

was held on April 3<sup>rd</sup> in a blizzard, with 13 shooters and 4,000 birds thrown. Percentage of proceeds to the club were \$78.14. The practice shoot on Tuesday had a good turn-out of 10 or 11 shooters. Among them were 2 game wardens. Next week they will start registering targets. Morgan and Tom Shelley were able to attend a trap clinic with Phil Kiner, an All-American.

**IDPA** – February's Carbine Clinic offered by members Henry Glenn and Tim Honeycutt was well received with 18 shooters. Lots of noise in the afternoon when all 18 cranked up with shooting drills. The Sniper Shoot was also a great success. We had over 20 shooters, several of them club members, and no one saw the course of fire before they shot it. It got too dark for Rickey Oakes to shoot, but Ernie Vannoy did really well.

**HIGH POWER** - Email report from Joe West spoke of a good turn-out and that he's looking forward to a good season. This year he has a new category for NRA Match and Service rifles with the option of using Optical sights in the XTC matches, but the scores will not be submitted to the NRA for classification and are not eligible for prizes.

GH- Also has mentioned that Joe would like to have their shed moved to this side of the creek. Need suggestions and help to move it. Joe also has plans to start other types of matches to hopefully increase participation. WG – NRA has a Hunter Rifle High Power division with different courses of fire.

### Announcements:

Frank VanHoose is an affiliate for a new news channel on the internet. It will be an internet TV news network that will be on 24/7/7, uncensored and unbiased, high resolution. They are waiting for the affiliates to build databases of email addresses to go online with 100,000 eventually. Network has to have 200 to turn on the website in an area. Will have local, regional and national ads. If interested, get email address to him. (cfvjr@bellsouth.net).

### Old Business:

Clean Up Day – WG – The 5 people who attended built barricades and target stands. These are present stored in the Quonset hut and suggest they be kept there when not in use to avoid unnecessary carnage. Attendees were – Marvin Gragg, Wayne Green, James Henson, Doug Merkle and Mike Miller.

Campsites – MS and Randy Jones – Estimated \$1,800 to redo the five in front of the Benchrest with 2 / 50 amp and 3 / 30 amp services plus the rifle shed and trap house #4. Tim Honeycutt – Thinks that's kind of high. Discussion ensued. TB – We will appoint a sub-committee to look into this further of representatives from each discipline and interested parties.

### New Business:

MS – Will put in a plug for the pawn shop located behind the Burger King. They are sending prospective members to us.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm

**RANGE OFFICER'S REPORT****February .22 Target Pistol match results:**

	Standing	Prone	Total
Gary Hoyle	85	87	172
Ted Greene	71	88	159
Lloyd Poole	74	77	151
Ben Bosworth	75	68	143
Wayne Hildebrand	67	76	143
Henry Glenn	71	69	140
Doug Merkle	49	88	137
Sandy Hoyle	62	70	132
David Williams	75	56	131
Rick Oakes	48	81	129
George Eller	75	48	123
Tim Honeycutt	73	49	122
Morgan Shaw	50	63	113
Robert Niemi	55	47	102
Matt Horney (Youth)	51	51	102
Joe Moody	53	39	92
Charles Harmon	28	49	77
Wayne Green	30	38	68
Tom Bennett	31	26	57
Ernest Vannoy	31	19	50

**March .22 Rifle at 50 feet match are as follows:**

	Standing	Prone	Total
Ted Greene	81	95	176
Morgan Shaw	86	88	174
Gary Hoyle	79	91	170
Henry Glenn	77	85	162
Lloyd Poole	74	88	162
Sandra Hoyle	63	85	148
Wayne Green	71	66	137
Ben Bosworth	55	81	136
Jeff Foster	55	73	128
Tom Bennett	58	65	123
Charles Harmon	50	71	121
Robert Niemi	44	70	114
Jacob Greer (Youth)	44	32	76
James Greer	34	41	65
Chris Shaw (Youth)	2	51	53
Hunter Greer (Youth)	7	13	20

**April .22 Rifle at 50 Yards match results are as follows:**

	Standing	Prone	Total
Gary Hoyle	91	97	188
Sandra Hoyle	82	98	180
Matt Horney (Youth)	86	93	179
Henry Glenn	80	98	178
Ted Greene	78	96	174
Morgan Shaw	81	82	163
Doug Merkle	80	83	163

Ben Bosworth	74	83	157
Lloyd Poole	67	87	154
Jeff Foster	63	86	149
Wayne Green	70	62	132
David Bowers	52	78	130
Jacob Greer (Youth)	60	56	116
David Williams	41	72	113
Tom Bennett	56	50	106
James Henson	56	30	86
Hunter Greer (Youth)	0	6	6

**MAY: BIG BORE PISTOL**

25 yards and 50 yards; any handgun .32 caliber or larger; iron sight division and enhanced sight division; B-6 and B-8 target; 10 shots, 10 minutes at 50 yards (Slow Fire); 2 five round strings, 10 seconds per string at 25 yards (Rapid Fire); standing, offhand position.

**DISCIPLINE REPORTS:****IDPA**

Our April event was an IDPA Classifier and we had a good turnout. Several of our regular shooters as well as some new folks. We also had a rifle stage and a couple shotgun stages to keep folks entertained. The next match, in May, will be the first pistol match since January and the official start of our IDPA season.

For those who are unfamiliar with IDPA, this stands for International Defensive Pistol Association. We set up scenario stages that assimilate true-to-life shooting scenes that you might have seen in the news. It is designed for practical application of shooting skills people might need to use in personal protection. Any caliber of handgun .32 caliber and up are used. The main thing is to use "out-of-the-box" handguns and holsters that are available from any gun store (no race or competition rigs). The rules are basic and aimed at making the events safe, fair and fun.

Our matches are open to anyone who wants to give it a try. There is no obligation to join IDPA until you've been to a couple matches. If you decide to join IDPA at a match, we process the fee for you and you shoot that days pistol match free. What a deal!

Come out and see what it's all about!

*Gary Hoyle*

## NRA HIGH POWER

Well, the High Power Gang got things rolling with the first match of 2004. New target face pasted, frames repaired and we were ready to go. A little wind greeted us with some challenges as we had a good turnout of the regular shooters along with a couple of first timers. As always, there was some good shootin' going on with Steven Lunsford Jr. leading the way and setting the stage for the rest of us to catch up to.

We'd like to welcome any and all out to try their hand at High Power, and remember, this year we have a new category established for NRA Match and Service rifles with the option of using Optical sights in the XTC matches, but the scores will not be submitted to the NRA for classification and are not eligible for prizes.

So come on out and join the fun and see if you can keep them in the "X" ring.

### Results of the Modified National Match

#### Course 60 shot 600 Aggregate

NRA HIGHPOWER TOURNAMENT DATE  
3-27-2004

Shooter	Class	Category	Aggregate
Steven Lunsford Jr.	MA	Service	586-20x
Reid Perry	MA	Match	562-8x
George Northam	EX	Service	559-8x
Barry Waits	EX	Service	540-5x
Don Keziah	SS	Service	529-3x
Gareth Chapman	SS	Service	484-4x
Scott Holman	MK	Service	484-2x
Joe "5 Ring" West	MK	Match	473-0

Overall Tournament Winner: Steven Lunsford Jr.

Until next month, keep your powder dry and pray for sunshine and no wind.

**Joe West**

## TRAP REPORT: March/April 2004

As I alluded to last month, a couple of the Watauga Cartel were headed down to Buckhorn Gun Club in Mebane to take a clinic from a bonafide All-American in an effort to kick it up another notch or two! Tom Shelley and I were the two students. We arrived on Tuesday night and got settled in and yours truly was so keyed up I could not fall asleep so I did the first day of the clinic in a stupor.

Phil (NOT- MR. KINER) was just what we hoped for, a wealth of information and very patient. He started out with chalk talk as he calls it using a PowerPoint presentation, and chalkboard illustrations giving us info on the fundamentals of trapshooting laced with helps and tips and his experiences. After an hour and a half of this, with Phil answering a ton of our questions, he took us out and did extensive videotaping of each of us and then we came back in and reviewed the tapes. Amazing what you can see yourself doing. The video does not lie! He then gave each one of us tips and techniques to help with our individual needs.

One of the biggest helps was Phil fitting each one of us to our guns. I thought I had mine about right but he tweaked it a little more, which made the comfort level a lot better for long days.

Speaking of long days we shot 550 targets in two days and then came back and shot 400 more at our shoot! Glad the gun fit better!! Tom benefited greatly from the fitting and Phil finding out that Tom was cross firing his gun due to his weak eye taking over on a long day. After taping up his glasses, Tom went about beating all of us in Thursdays handicap with a 24x25.

Phil puts up a Kiner dollar as he calls it (with his autograph) for the high handicap score on the last 25 targets. No one had won it two days in a row; Fred Redmon won it on Wednesday, and Tom on Thursday. Yours truly shot a 22. One of our classmates that ate supper with us Wednesday night turned out to be Mr. John Sayle of I.P.S.C. and I.D.P.A. fame. He decided to start shooting trap again, so he flew his private plane down to take the clinic. Very interesting man and we had fun talking with him. We found out he owns a Fine China company "Hall China" that I used to do business with when I carried china and silverware in my store. Small world! He bought supper for all of us while we picked Phil's brain some more.

Tom and I both had a great time and learned a lot. Now we need to put into practice what we learned. Practice, Practice, Practice.... Time will tell if we let any sink in. We'll keep you all posted on the exploits of the Watauga Cartel during this summer.

Remember, we start the Thursday night league shoots on April 15th and the Tuesday night practices on April 13th. If you want to give it a try, come on out and bring whatever shotgun you have. Gary Hoyle will be shooting his 20ga pump again. It breaks targets also. It's all about burning powder and having fun on a weekly basis so, come on, let's shoot!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Don't have a shotgun? No problem! We love to get people hooked, if your standing there empty handed it won't be long before a shotgun appears in your hands. Hope to see you there.

**Morgan Shaw**

## April 15, 2004: Team Trap

TEAM 1	vs	TEAM 2	
Ted Greene	44	Morgan Shaw	
Ken Moore		Gerald Sparks	
Ken Ward	38	Lloyd Poole	36
Tom Pitts	47	George Sudderth	47
Hub Powell		Tom Smith	40
Jared Pitts	32	Chris Shaw	42
Howard Sutton	46	Ed Younce	33
	<b>207</b>		<b>198</b>
TEAM 3	vs	TEAM 4	
Charles Harmon	39	Gary Hoyle	44
Randy Jones	44	Wayne Green	39
Jared Ward	43	Sandy Hoyle	36
Jeff Foster		Walter McCracken	42
Worth Miller	37	Tom Bennett	38
Tom Shelley	35	Matthew Horney	33
		Rickey Oakes	
	<b>198</b>		<b>199</b>

## April 20, 2004

On Tuesday night our new illustrious potentate (Tom Bennett) brought out his newly acquired 16ga Remington shotgun and proceeded to shoot his first twenty-five straight!!!!!!! Proof again that the mo shot da betta... I have it on good authority (Randy) that knees were knocking, hands-a-shaking, sweat-a-rolling and voice-a-quivering.

Tom then experienced a tradition among trap shooters, that when you shoot your first 25, 50, 75, 100, 200 straight, the hat you're wearing at the time ends up being the next target! And Tom now knows that a group of trap shooters can definitely hit a stationary target (hat on the ground). Just wish we had a camera to document the event! Good shooting Tom! Now he has set the mark for you Sandy and Gary!

And Mr. Tom Shelley is learning to shoot his new Browning Citori. He has blasted a pair of 96's at his last two at bats, wearing out you know who? ME!!!!!!! Most of us will be headed for the N.C.T.A. Home grounds in Forest City this weekend for the spring shoot. Hopefully some of us, like Tom Shelley, can bring home some of those trophies. We'll let you know on the return.

SUN, WARM, SHOOTING! FINALLY!!!!!!!

**Morgan Shaw**

2004 CLUB CALENDAR:

May 1-2	ATA #2
May 3	Hudson PD
May 4	Trap practice
May 6	Team Trap
May 7	Hudson PD
May 11	Trap practice
May 12	Mowing
May 13	Club Match & Meeting
May 15	IDPA event
May 18	Trap practice
May 20	Team Trap
May 22	NRA Hi Power
May 25	Trap practice
May 26	Mowing
May 27	Team Trap
May 28-29	Benchrest practice & Match
May 30	ATA #3
June 1	Trap practice
June 3	Team Trap
June 8	Trap practice
June 10	Club Match & Meeting
June 15	Trap practice
June 16	Mowing
June 17	Team Trap Picnic
June 19	IDPA Event
June 22	Trap practice
June 24	Team Trap
June 26	NRA Hi Power
June 29	Trap practice
June 30	Mowing
July 1	Team Trap
July 3-4	ATA #4
July 6	Trap practice
July 8	Club Match & Meeting
July 13	Trap practice
July 14	Mowing
July 15	Team Trap
July 17	IDPA event
July 20	Trap practice
July 22	Team Trap
July 24	NRA Hi Power
July 27	Trap practice
July 28	Mowing
July 29	Team Trap
August 3	Trap practice
August 5	Team Trap
August 7-9	ATA #5 Glenn Miller Memorial
August 10	Trap practice

<b>PRESIDENT &amp; IDPA Asst.Dir.</b> Tom Bennett Zionville, NC 828-297-1916	<b>RANGE OFFICER</b> Wayne Green Vilas, NC 828-963-5086	<b>TRAP CO-DIRECTORS</b> Morgan Shaw Boone, NC 828-297-6936
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