Nitro Express

Official Newsletter of Watauga Gun Club **April 13, 2006**

Wayne Green, Publicity Officer

RANGE OFFICER'S REPORT

March 2006

The .22 Rimfire target rifle match had a very good turn out and some real good scores were turned in. This match was the fifty foot version of what we will have for this next club match.

The results of the March Rimfire Target Rifle @ 50 feet

	Standing	Prone	Total
Doug Merkel	71	94	165
Gary Hoyle	79	85	164
Jeff Foster	71	91	162
Ted Greene	66	95	161
Alan Burchell	74	84	158
Bryan Wood	64	91	155
Robert Niemi	66	87	153
Rick Oakes	62	89	151
Lloyd Poole	54	94	148
Sandy Hoyle	68	74	142
Charles Harmon	61	80	141
David Williams	46	82	128
Tom Bennett	44	76	120
Michael Testerman	62	41	103
Marc McCachren	48	53	101
Wayne Green	54	39	93
Joe Moody	30	53	83
Fred Stahl	24	47	71
David Coffey	31	30	61
Bob Perrenoud	24	36	60

April's match will be .22 RimfireTarget Rifle at 50 yards. Ten shots standing, ten shots prone or from kneeling or sitting. Slings may be used for all positions. Any sights are allowed. The target is the A-23 five bull target with one sighting bull and four bulls for score. Two bulls will have no more than three shots each and two bulls will have two rounds each for a total of ten rounds for score.

You will have 10 minutes for sighting, ten minutes to shoot for score on the standing target and ten minutes for the prone target. First shots down range at 4:30 pm. Come on out and have a good time. Don't have a rifle? We have you covered. There will be plenty to choose from.

PRESS RELEASES

On March 18, 2006; the **Watauga Gun Club held its monthly I.D.P.A. shooting match**. I.D.P.A. stands for the International Defensive Pistol Shooting Association. This Association is a group that promotes "defensive pistol shooting as a sport using practical equipment (guns regularly used for self defense) including full charge ammunition to solve simulated real world self defense scenarios." Handguns are divided into five divisions. These are Custom Defensive Pistol (.45 caliber single action semi-automatic pistols) Stock Service Pistols (double action semi-automatic pistols) Enhanced Service Pistols (Single action semi-automatic pistols of other caliber's than .45), Stock Service Revolver (revolvers that are reloaded by other means than a "moon clip"), and Enhanced Service Revolver (revolvers that are reloaded by means of a "moon clip"). Each division has five classifications within it. These are Novice, Marksman, Sharpshooter, Expert, and Master.

The March match consisted of four stages or scenarios that required a minimum of 45 shots per competitor. Thirty-eight competitors attended this event. Division and Class Winners are: CDP Master – Rick Oakes; CDP Expert – Robert Niemi; CDP Sharpshooter – Charles Sams; CDP Marksman – Donald Witherspoon; CDP Novice – Ernest Vannoy;

ESP Expert – Steve Byerly; ESP Sharpshooter – David Johnson; ESP Marksman – Matthew Horney; SSP Expert – Doyle Ward; SSP Sharpshooter – Donald Witherspoon; SSP Marksman – Cameron Pressley; SSP Novice – Buddy Ward; and Master – Dennis McMahan.

The Qualification Match that determines the classification in which a person competes was also held. This match requires 90 shots per competitor. Forty people completed this match.

For information on shooting matches held at the Watauga Gun Club, go to the website wataugagunclub.com. For more information on the IDPA; contact Gary Hoyle at 828-963-6307.

Watauga Gun Club hosts its first ATA (Amateur Trap Association) shoot this past Saturday April 1. If your first thought is, what is trap shooting? Trap shooting is one of the nations top shotgun shooting sports, it falls right in the ranks of skeet shooting, and sporting clays. The ATA (Amateur Trap Association) is found in almost every state from Alaska to Hawaii. North Carolina has a very strong following in the Amateur Tarp Association and Watauga Gun Club has been very strong in its development and support over the years.

Just what is trap shooting? The rules of trap shooting are very simple; you shoot five shots from five different stations, at clay targets flying out of a house in front of you at different angles. You do this for four times to complete a round of targets, which means you have one hundred targets in a round. Now inside this you have three different events, singles, handicap, and doubles. Singles you are shooting from the 16yd line and your class is determined by your average after five hundred targets. Handicap is determined by your shooting skills, as your shooting improves you are placed at different yardage's up to 27 yards. Then there is doubles where you still shoot from five stations, but this time you are presented with two targets at the same time. Simple!

Better get back to business. April 1 was the clubs first shoot for 2006. In the face of winds up to thirty miles an hour, we had twenty-three shoots show off their skill at trap shooting. The winning scores are as follows:

HOA winner –was George Suddreth 96-88-94=278

Singles – 23 shooters	Handicap – 19 shooters	Doubles – 14 shooters
100 – TopGun – Dan Johnson	91 – HiGun – Morgan Shaw	94 – Champ – George Suddreth
96 – AA – George Suddreth	87 – Short – Worth Miller	90 – AA – Dan Johnson
94 – A – John "Pop" Waters	85 – Mid – Fred Redmon	92 – A – Fred Redmon
93 – B – Fred Rutherford	88 – Long – George Suddreth	93 – B – Gerald Sparks
86 – C – Charles Harmon & Bill Morgan Tie	79 – Lady – Anne Morgan	85 – C – Tom Pitts
83 – D – Anne Morgan	82 – SVet – JC Nunn	75 – D – Eli Waters
90 – Lady – Jeri Wilson		78 – Lady – Jeri Wilson
91 – SVet – JC Nunn		80 – SVet – JC Nunn

Watauga Gun Club hosts one of these events just about every month from April to November usually on the first weekend of every month. The only exception to this is the month of June when everyone is off to the North Carolina State Shoot. Our next one is on the first weekend in May the sixth and seventh, anyone interested or would like to watch feel free to come on out and watch.

(excerpt from press notice sent to papers)

JUNIOR AIR RIFLE PROGRAM

Those of you who are willing and able to help with the Junior Air Rifle program get in touch with me. I would like to have a basic rifle class with you. This will enable us to become familiar with the program for the kids. We will test fire the rifles and organize a program. We can get together for a couple of evenings or on a Sunday afternoon. The Daisy package should be in our hands by the time you receive this letter. I would like to get the program started by the end of April. Spread the word around to those who wish to take part in the program. Juniors from the age of ten to eighteen are welcome. If there is enough interest we may have an adult program. You are never to old to enjoy a air rifle! There will be more info on our web page.

Upcoming Events

- First ATA match April 1st. (I am a dummy and did not realize this needed to be in last month's letter. Sorry Tom and Morgan) ATA Match on May 6th and 7th.
- 50 yard .22 Target Rifle match on the March Club Meeting on April 13th. Safety class for new members and other interested people March 14th. and April 14th.
- IDPA Match on April 15th. Contact Gary Hoyle for information at gary@wgc-idpa.org
- TRAP Contact Tommy Pitts at watco_top@yahoo.com to be notified about shooting on Sundays if the weather is good.

News

I am really tired of hearing what the news media wants us to hear. In fact I have just about stopped watching television news because they only report what is going wrong in the world, from their point of view and never give anyone a chance to tell the other side of the story. I can't stand to watch an interviewer stop someone when they don't get the answer they want and then try to move on to another subject. -- Robert Niemi

Senator Dianne Fienstien has contracted the U.S. Border Patrol asking for their endorsement of legislation she is proposing to ban .50 caliber rifles. The person that wrote the response to her letter stated that there has never been an incident in which a .50 caliber rifle was used to assault a Border Patrol Officer. He said that 56% of all assaults were Mexican's throwing rocks at Patrolmen. This was followed by assaults by cars and motor vehicles, physical assaults (fistfights), with assaults by firearms being fourth. Most of these assaults by firearms are people attempting to enter the country illegally shooting over their shoulders as they retreat back across the border. When asked how the Patrol would respond to an attack by a .50 caliber weapon the reply was they would use the appropriate amount of force to contain the situation, as they always do.

The Border Patrol did not endorse this legislation to the best of my knowledge. Who knows what other agencies such as the FBI or Federal Marshals Office have done? The person wanting to enter this country illegally to live and work cannot afford a .50 caliber rifle because he wants to come to a country where he can make more than 46 cents a day. The drug dealers that smuggle guns across the border do not have to worry about the costs of the gun. However, does Ms. Fiensttein actually expect a law preventing the law abiding citizens of this country from owning a .50 caliber to affect criminals living in another country and already breaking major felony legislation? How? Our laws are not binding in Mexico. These people are already committing serious felonies. I just do not understand. Am I stupid or is she? To the best of my knowledge, a modern .50 caliber rifle has never been used to commit a crime. I am sure somebody probably used a muzzleloader or a buffalo gun to do so in years past, but not recently. Most crooks are to lazy to carry a 38 pound rifle to rob the 7 – 11. Wayne

And The Last Word Goes To:

I am sorry that last month's newsletter was late. To paraphrase the poet Robert Burns, "the best laid plans of mice, men, and dingleberries that write newsletters often go awry"

Remember that the primary elections are on May 2nd. I am going to support Gun Club member Joe Moody for sheriff. I urge everyone that can to do the same.

Observations on Life

When I die, I want to die like my grandfather, who died peacefully in his sleep. Not screaming like all the passengers in his car."
--Author Unknown

"Oh, you hate your job? Why didn't you say so? There's a support group for that. It's called EVERYBODY, and they meet at the bar."
--Drew Carey

"The problem with the designated driver program is that it's not a desirable job, but if you ever get sucked into doing it, have fun with it. At the end of the night, drop them off at the wrong house."
--Jeff Foxworthy

" "Relationships are hard. It's like a full time job, and we should treat it like one. If your boyfriend or girlfriend wants to leave you, they should give you two weeks' notice. There should be severance pay, the day before they leave you, they should have to find you a temp."
--Bob Ettinger

"If life were fair, Elvis would be alive and all the impersonators would be dead."
--Johnny Carson

"Remember in elementary school, you were told that in case of fire you have to line up quietly in a single file line from smallest to tallest What is the logic in that? What, do tall people burn slower?"
--Warren Hutcherson

"Bigamy is having one wife/husband too many. Monogamy is the same."
--Oscar Wilde

"Suppose you were an idiot. And suppose you were a member of Congress. But I repeat myself."
--Mark Twain

"You can say any foolish thing to a dog, and the dog will give you a look that says, 'My God, you're right! I never would've thought of that!'"
--Dave Barry

“Never complain. One third of the people do not care about your problems, one third are just glad it did not happen to them, and everybody else but your mother is going to laugh at you. There is no use to give the last bunch the satisfaction.”
--Wayne Green

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