

WGC Newsletter

February 2022



Whats inside

Membership Renewals	1
Monthly Member Meeting	1
Steel Targets	1
Rimfire Benchrest	1
Rifle Range.....	2
Bay 2 Violations.....	2
Quonset Hut.....	2
Trash.....	2
Range Closure	3
Letter from Gary & Sandy	3
.....	
Revised 2/3/22.....	
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Watauga Gun Club

Physical:
232 Appaloosa Trail
Boone, NC 28607

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828.264-6539

Club Hours

8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, Friday &
Saturday.

8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Wednesday

1 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday

Were on the web too!

www.WataugaGunClub.com

Membership Renewals

Membership renewals ended on February 1. Hopefully we won't have any members who forgot to renew or have not been paying attention to the many notifications of changes in our Bylaws. Please don't get angry with our Treasurer or Membership Coordinator when you learn you have to re-apply to be a member.

Monthly Member Meeting

The next Monthly Member Meeting will be February 10 at 7 PM.

The following prospective members have submitted their applications for membership.

Michael L. Michaels , Blowing Rock
Jonathan Shore & Michael Shore, Lenoir
Shane J. Suddreth, Boone
Danny L. Hunt & Cole Kiziah Banner Elk
Ron Orłowski, Pfafftown
W. Lewis Sapp

Some anticipated discussion at the meeting may include:

Input on proposed quarterly, as opposed to monthly, member matches. These matches may represent mini-formatted matches from our four main disciplines. This may allow new members or newer shooters to familiarize themselves with these disciplines in a more informal setting. We will need help, hopefully from discipline directors/shooters, setting up for these mini matches.

Discussion on where steel targets will be allowed and how such targets are to be set up and used. (See added discussion below).

Discussions regarding range traffic and the elimination of the shoot house access from behind the 200 yard berm.

Bring your ideas and enthusiasm to the next meeting so as to better enhance the discussions.

Steel Targets

Long time member Steve Byerly attended the Jan. 31 EC meeting and gave them a polite "what for" (an old Dickensian term – sorry) as regards recent Range Use manual (RUM) changes as regards steel target use. While conceding that Bay 2 was not a good location for steel target use, he proposed that the older restrictions allowing member owned steel targets in Bays 3, 4 & 5 (with relevant caveats) as well as at the bank on the 300 yard rifle range have worked well over the years and should be continued.

Steve also indicated we should update the RUM further as regards target use and safety. The EC agreed and has initiated the RUM upgrade process and decided to allow the use of steel targets at the back berms (banks) in Bays 3, 4 & 5 and at the bank of the 300 yard rifle range – and ONLY at the bank. Our thanks to Steve for stepping up and being heard!

NOTE: Steel target use is a serious and ongoing safety issue. Any member found to be improperly using steel targets will face disciplinary action. If there are any questions concerning proper use of steel targets – ask our Range Officer first!

NOTE: Steel targets need to be as close to the back berm (bank) of each allowable location as possible. Steel target should never be fired on at an angle.

NOTE: Club owned steel targets are NOT for general membership use. Only for the use of respective disciplines. DO NOT move or use any club owned steel targets – period. Anyone found using club owned steel targets will face disciplinary action.

Rimfire Benchrest

The January match was a blustery affair and only seven or so souls were brave enough to attend. The first two flights were not nearly as bad as anticipated, but by the third flight, with the cold rain moving swiftly in, even the brave souls turned tail and skedaddled.

Come on out for the next match on February 13th and have some fun. Five dollars per rifle. All welcome!

Rifle Range

Every bench position (1-15) is marked and corresponds to a specific target position. While the target positions are not marked, it is not rocket science to determine the corresponding target position by observing the target pole pipes in the ground. The two far right target pipes, looking down range, are for the bench rest position 15 ONLY. The next two pipes are for benchrest position 14 – and so on. It is not uncommon to see shooters place their targets in the target pipes at far right (for use by bench position 15 ONLY) and then shoot from a bench rest position such as bench number 1-3. It is hard to comprehend how any shooter cannot notice that their bullets will cross the creek (strictly prohibited by the way) and not impact the bank at three hundred yards (between the red and white markers). Do not allow rifles to be aimed or allow bullets to impact anywhere other than into the back berm at three hundred yards between the red and white markers PERIOD. If any member sees this happening, PLEASE notify the shooter immediately, get the shooters member number and report the member to the Range office and make an incident report in the clubhouse. Any shooter reported can expect to receive a most serious disciplinary action. There is NO EXCUSE for doing this.

Bay 2 Violations

Bay 2 is not to be used as an action pistol bay. Such use is reserved for Bay 5 only. Read the Range Use manual. Members have been observed laying over the benches and shooting, moving and shooting at odd angles where bullets may not impact the proper back berm, and sitting on the ground shooting between their legs. All of these incidents are prohibited.

Quonset Hut

The Quonset hut is for rimfire use only – as clearly indicated in the Range Use Manual. I have some free time so let me quote the Range Use Manual language for you.

“It is a .22 caliber Rim-Fire and Air Rifle only range. Ammunition is restricted to .22 short, .22 long, and .22 long rifle. Air rifles of up to .25 caliber are permitted. Only lead airgun pellets are allowed. Steel “BB’s” are specifically prohibited. The use of all other ammunition is prohibited because the bullet traps are constructed for .22 rimfire caliber ammunition only. Unapproved ammunition will damage this structure and may injure the shooter.”

It has become apparent that members or their guests have been shooting .380 & 9mm firearms in the Quonset Hut. This is CLEARLY prohibited. Why would anyone be so brazenly ignorant? Follow the rules and do not disregard safety. Read your Range Use Manual.

Trash

The amount of trash and debris being left lying around is becoming abusive. Please take pride in your club. There are plenty of trash receptacles made available for member use. Make use of them.

Range Closed February 11 & 12

From 12PM on Friday Feb. 11 through February 12, the range will be closed for a Hunter Safety Scrimmage.

A LETTER FROM GARY & SANDY

THANK YOU! To all the members present at the January 13, 2022 Watauga Gun Club meeting who voted to award us with WGC Lifetime Memberships. You have given us an enormous gift! After the meeting the EC officers assured us that we are now effectively

indentured servants. That's okay by us. As long as our phone numbers are no longer on the website! Gary and I have held every office in the club at one time or another, some with him in the position and me doing backup! (What's the adage about behind every man is a woman . . . ?) In other words, with each position appointment, the club had team input. At times over the years we have heard rumblings about us owning the club. That's backwards. The club has owned us for many years! Our hope is that we have effectively and favorably represented the club. We have many, many wonderful memories from all aspects of our involvement in the club in general and the pistol disciplines in particular. Good and lasting friendships that are cherished. We're not going anywhere; just looking for a little more time with family, friends, and a few other commitments like CCH! Again, thank you!

Gary & Sandy Hoyle