



Abe Lincoln Gun Club News

www.abelincolngunclub.com

September, 2016

Annual Meeting

Elections for Board positions were held at the June 12 Annual Meeting and as a result we have a new president and vice-president. Elected to president was Jim Johnson who had been acting as interim vice-president. Elected to the position of vice-president was Bill Piester. All other board members were retained in their current positions for two more years.

It is always good for the club when new guys with new ideas step up to the plate and assume the responsibilities that go along with being officers, and those of us who have served awhile in our positions are looking forward to this next two years.

Other significant actions at the annual meeting included amending the club By-laws, as proposed in the May, 2016 newsletter. The first amendment clarified what was meant by the term "family member" as it applies to obtaining a level of preferential treatment in joining the club as a member. Under the amended by-laws, this provision applies only to children of a member ages 18-25 (Similar preference is also allowed for young adults who have been active members of the club's Juniors marksmanship program).

The second amendment provides that new members still in their one-year probationary period may not sponsor a new applicant to the club.

Watch Where You Shoot!

A bunch of the guys out at the club recently were shocked to find that one of the telephone pole uprights on the 50-yard target frames had entirely collapsed, bringing down part of the frame. Examination showed that the pole had been riddled with bullets, leading to the initial suspicion that someone had been hanging targets on the post itself.

Further evaluation showed that the post had probably been taking a great many accidental hits over a long period of time simply because shooters on the pistol range were not always staying in their shooting lanes and being certain of their backstop. In this case, the functional backstop often proved to be the northern-most post on the 50-yard frames.

There was no danger of rounds leaving the club, and indeed there was plenty of earthen berm behind the 50-yard frame. But a bit of thoughtful care in placement of pistol target frames would easily have avoided accidental hits on this post. Before pulling the trigger, stop and think! And save a lot of wear and tear on the facilities.

Fall Work Day

Fall Work Day on the first Saturday of October has become a tradition, and is scheduled this year for Saturday, October 1 starting at 8:00 AM. Needless to say, the club is not available for shooting, at least for that morning.

Proposed items of work include painting the outdoor benches (Need brushes, rollers, wire brushes), place gravel in the new tractor shed (Need wheelbarrows, shovels, and rakes), possibly clearing brush from the berm (Weed-whips and bush hogs), and fence repairs (Pliers, wire cutters, fence stretchers). Due to erosion losses we also need to pour a lot of gravel around the culvert on the roadway to the 200-yard range. More than anything, we need wheelbarrows and shovels, and willing hands to use them.

And just in case you think we are all work and no play, read on:

ALGC 1st ANNUAL SWAP MEET

Members only!

11:00 AM – Right after the Fall Work Day

Saturday October 1, 2016

Buy-Sell-Trade- Give it Away

Set up a spot and get rid of all that “stuff” you’ve accumulated!

Reloading supplies, Grips, Parts, Holsters, Books, Tools, Etc.

Stay after the Work Day and paw through the other guys’ unwanted “stuff”.

Club members only, please! This is a chance to mingle and rummage.

Questions? Call Steve Rowoldt, 787-8493, or smr_spi@yahoo.com

Ollie Whitson Memorial

Member Ollie Whitson recently passed away and his family requested memorials in the form of donations to the Abe Lincoln Gun Club. Over \$800.00 was contributed in his memory.

After lots of discussion, the Board concluded that the most enduring memory of Ollie was that he always seemed to be bringing kids and grandkids to the club to shoot, and we have therefore voted to dedicate the Whitson Memorial Fund to the continuing support and expansion of our Juniors’ Shooting Program. We think Ollie would approve.

Membership

We start the new fiscal year with 17 openings for general memberships in the club. The Board will soon begin the process of interviewing applicants, some of whom have been waiting 2-3 years for openings. If all 16 openings are filled, the current backlog of applications will be reduced to about 20. This is a considerable improvement over the situation of 3 or 4 years ago when the backlog of applicants totaled near 60. As it is, a new applicant to club can expect a wait of approximately three years.

Trap Machine Replacement

Our old, reconditioned trap machine has been breaking more birds than it has been tossing lately, and the Board has decided that it is time to retire it and replace it with something new that will not be so subject to getting out of order. Accordingly, Ray Kurniskie has been authorized to shop for a comparable, new replacement which we sincerely hope will be available in a matter of weeks and which can be expected to give us many, many years of service. In the meantime, trap shooters, would you care to try your hand at skeet?

Email Addresses

In the May newsletter, we requested that you all provide your Email addresses in order for us to improve club communications. We had a moderate response, but it was hardly enough to improve appreciably how we communicate with our members. So, we are asking you again to please send along your Email address to this Email address: usrifle1841@gmail.com. Please note that this is not my usual address, but it is the one that will link your Email address to the database we are building. If you have not sent your address specifically to usrifle1841@gmail.com, please do so, even if you know that I have your address in my personal Email system. It will make my job much, much easier. Thanks!

A Review of Basic Range Etiquette

Note: The outdoor ranges at ALGC are ONE FIRING LINE from the 7 yard pistol positions to the 200 yard rifle positions. “Downrange” is anywhere forward of this one firing line.

Things you must always remember:

1. Establish and maintain communication with all others on the firing line. If you are on the pistol range and someone else is on the 200-yard line, make sure that you both are aware of one another and in communication!

2. Keep muzzles pointed downrange at all times, including when casing and uncasing firearms.
3. Do not handle firearms while anyone is downrange. This also includes casing and uncasing.
4. Unattended firearms on the firing line should be left unloaded with action open.
5. Observe and respect “safe” and “hot” conditions of the firing line when declared by anyone.
6. Request from others that the firing line be made “safe”, and confirm with all before declaring the firing line “safe” for downrange activity.
7. Request the line to go “hot” and confirm all are returned and ready for firing before declaring the firing line “hot”.
8. Do not cause any distractions with loud outbursts or horseplay on the firing line at any time.
9. Look for and chase ejected cases after the firing line has been declared “safe.
10. “Cease Fire!” means all shooting must stop immediately, and can be called by anyone who observes an unsafe situation.
11. Be courteous to your fellow shooters and do not close down the range any longer than absolutely necessary to change targets quickly and return to the firing line. Other guys want to shoot also.

Jim Leinicke
Club Secretary

2017 Officers and Committee Chairs

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