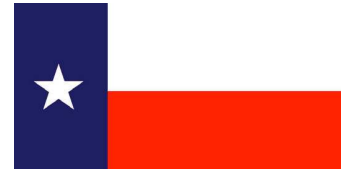


# North Texas Shooters Association, Inc



February 2011 Newsletter  
P. O. Box 2042,  
Denton, TX 76202-2042  
www.shootntsa.com



## President's Message – Jerry Stiller

It now looks like the Belcher property to the north is for sale. We have put a contingent contract on it pending his acceptance and membership approval. Be watching in the next week or so for a special meeting notice. Please come to the meeting and let us know your opinion on buying it and how we pay for it. It looks like it is going to be at fair market value too. The weather is starting to get nicer and maybe we can all get out and shoot more. Matches are starting up and the chance to shoot is upon us. Be real careful on the ice. Yours truly can tell you it can be real slick and within seconds become an issue to have to deal with if falling down. See you at the range and the next special meeting.

## Reminders

- **The ranges are now open on Monday from 8 AM to Official Sunset.**
- **Please observe the posted speed limit of 7 mph.**
- **Please immediately report any By-laws or Safety Rules violations to the Range Manager or the Range Officer on duty.**

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**Safety Notices** - Firearms Safety is the responsibility of each club member. Please remember to adhere to all the firearms safety rules, and especially these basic rules:

- Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.
- Keep your finger away from the trigger until ready to shoot.
- Do not shoot any target placed directly on the ground, or shoot targets on top of the target frames.
- On the rifle and pistol ranges, ensure that your fired rounds impact into the berm and do not skip off of the ground.
- On the rifle and pistol ranges, ensure that all rounds fired pass through the black plastic backers impact into the berms. Place targets in the center of the plastic backer and avoid shooting the wood frames or the metal posts.
- Shotgun shooters, open your actions immediately upon removing your firearm from the case, and prior to placing it in the rack.

## 2011 Board of Directors

Jerry Stiller, President (972) 429-5000  
Gary Runyon, Vice President (214) 686-5502  
Joe Powell, Treasurer (940) 390-1044  
John Myers, Secretary (940) 594-6670  
Frank Hughes, Trap Chair (214) 797-8187  
John Rea, Skeet Chair (972) 467-6398  
Michael Conley, Rifle Chair (817) 713-6602  
Larry Erbskorn, Pistol Chair (214) 212-4493

**Range Manager** (940) 391-7376  
Bob Carmichael

**Range Officers**  
Del Overstreet  
Kip Staton

**NTSA Website Administrator**  
Steve Hope (940) 391-2101

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## Rifle Chairman Report – Michael Conley

The next Precision Rimfire Rifle Match is scheduled for March 27<sup>th</sup> at 0830.

A carbine match was held on Saturday, February 12th with 21 shooters, including 10 NTSA members. The overall winners were: 1<sup>st</sup> - Dwain M, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Gary R. and 3<sup>rd</sup> - Fred P. The Tactical Division winners were: 1<sup>st</sup> - Dwain M., 5th - Shawn R., 6th - John W. The Open Division winners were: 2nd. - Gary R., 3rd - Fred P., and 4<sup>th</sup> - John H. The Iron

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## Skeet Chairman Report – John Rea

As your new Skeet Chairman, I am interested in reinstating the monthly club skeet shoots on the third Saturday of every month.

Since I have not been a participant in past club skeet matches, I am requesting input from active or interested participants on the format of these shoots.

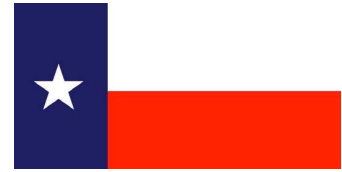
For your consideration in this format are two new Promatic

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division winner was Mike M. in 14<sup>th</sup> place. Lowest Points Down was John H. with 7 points, which is a new record. Stage Winner(s): Stage 1 – Gary R., Stage 2 was John H., Stage 3 was Shawn R., and Stages 4 and 5 was Dwain M. We had two shooters competing in the AR22 Division. John R. was the winner. The next carbine match will be on March 5<sup>th</sup> at 0830. You must attend the safety briefing in order to shoot the match.

## ***Pistol Chairman Report – Larry Erbskorn***

An Action Pistol match was held on Saturday, January 15<sup>th</sup> with 15 shooters. Congratulations to: Robert G. for the overall winner and SSP Division; Steve H. for second overall and CDP division; Ken T. for third and ESP, and Mike M. for 9<sup>th</sup> place and SSR Division. Lowest points down – Ken T. with 8. The next action pistol match will be on February 19<sup>th</sup> at 0830. You must attend the safety briefing in order to shoot the match.

An Action Shotgun Match was held on January 22<sup>nd</sup> on Pistol Bay 1 with 12 shooters. The Overall and Semi-auto/Iron sight Division winners were: 1<sup>st</sup> – Bill D., 3<sup>rd</sup> – Mike M. The Pump/Iron Sight Division winners were 2<sup>nd</sup> – Mike M., 8<sup>th</sup> – John E. Lowest Points Down were Ken T. and John E. with 0 points. Stage Winner(s): Stages 1 & 3: Bill D., Stage 2 & 4 was Mike M. The next Action Shotgun match will be on February 26<sup>th</sup> at 0830. You must attend the safety briefing in order to shoot the match.

Ranger traps that can be incorporated into these monthly shoots. If you have ideas or specific interests that you would like to express, feel free to contact me.

## ***Trap Chairman Report – Frank Hughes***

The ATA Big 50 will start again after March 13<sup>th</sup>.

The Club Trap Championship (“the Buckle Shoot”) will be on May 7<sup>th</sup> and the Horny Toad will be on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

Our monthly club trap shoot is at noon the second Saturday of the month. Please come and shoot with us.

(submitted by Bob Carmichael)

## ***NTSA Trap Shooters accomplishments for 2010***

NTSA Trap Shooters had a good year in 2010. Four of our members made the Texas State Trap Shooting Team. They are:

Men’s First Team - #2. Bob Carmichael and #5 Jeff Webb.  
Women’s First Team - #2 Tori Webb (daughter), #4 Jerri Webb (wife). As you can see, the Webb family had all 3 members on the State Team. Congratulations family Webb!  
Bob Carmichael was also ranked #7 in the nation in the Senior Vet category.

Thanks Bob for the submission and congratulations to all!

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## **Land Acquisition Update**

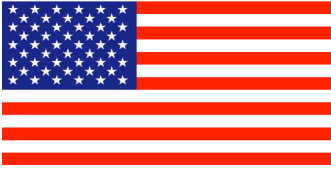
On January 30<sup>th</sup>, the Board learned that a for-sale sign had been placed on the Belcher property to the north and adjacent to the club property. The NTSA realtor contacted Mr. Belcher and provided the Board with the purchase price. The Board immediately and unanimously voted to purchase the land contingent on Mr. Belcher signing the contract as written and on membership approval. A special meeting will be held on a Saturday at 2PM at the clubhouse at least ten calendar days after receipt of the signed contract to discuss the purchase and request membership approval.

## **February Board Meeting**

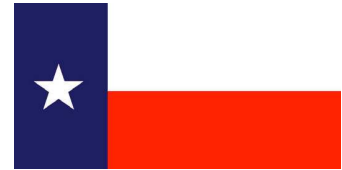
The February Board meeting was held on February 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:35 PM, instead of February 9<sup>th</sup>, due to the weather and road conditions. There were no membership transfers.

The Range Manager discussed the incident involving the catastrophic failure of a Glock 21. Details can be found in the Safety Notice below. The Range Manager advised that there were only minor injuries to the member and no damage to club property. The Vice President advised that he had spoken with the member involved and believed that the incident was not caused by a double-charge of powder, but was caused by case rupture which occurred in the area of the chamber that was unsupported. The VP requested the Board to allow the case to be closed with no further action.

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The Range Manager advised that the new sporting clays machines will require special operating procedures, which will be written and posted on the website. The new procedures will involve the use of PVC cages, which will be built. The Skeet Chairman will train the Match Directors and Range Officers in the proper operating procedures and provide an orientation program for the membership.

The Range Manager requested approval to place an ad in the Zone 4 Trap Shooters Magazine at a cost of \$100.

The Range Manager advised that 21 members have signed up for the Optional Range Fee (ORF). The Range Manager asked if the fee could be prorated, and was advised that the ORF is a flat fee and would not be prorated.

The Vice President advised that a Barricade Construction Party was held on January 29<sup>th</sup>. The details are provided below. In addition, on January 30<sup>th</sup>, the Pistol Chair and the Vice President rebuilt the prone shooting platform, which was damaged last fall. The platform will be painted in the next week or so.

The Treasurer provided the Treasurers Report for the period ending January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011, which was accepted by the Board.

The Pistol Chairman advised that the matches are doing well. He purchased 80 sheets of black corrugated plastic to be used as target backers on the pistol and rifle ranges. The Pistol Chairman advised that the first action shotgun match had a good turnout and is going to be very popular. There was a discussion about the club pistol matches, which were temporarily discontinued because of a lack of interest. The club pistol matches can be re-instated when there is sufficient interest in holding them. The Pistol Chairman advised that all of the action matches are very popular with 15 to 25+ shooters attending.

The Trap Chairman was out of town and not present at the meeting.

The Skeet Chairman advised that one PVC cage would be built next week and the orientation program would soon follow. The Skeet Chairman stated that there would be a skeet shoot on Saturday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM and would continue on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of the month.

Under old business, the Board discussed the Belcher property, which is noted above. The Board tabled the issue of how to pay for the property until later in the meeting.

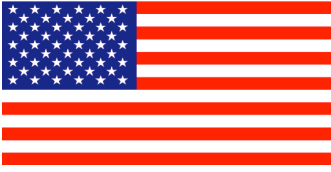
The Treasurer was requested to answer a question about the 2010 interest income. The budget listed \$6000 but the actual interest was \$91. The Treasurer advised that this was a mistake from 2008 and that he and the bookkeeper would correct it. The Treasurer stated that interest rates are down and that the budget was incorrect. The President requested the Treasurer to take a hard look at this year's budget and ensure that it is as accurate as possible. There was a discussion of the budget and it was estimated that the club would have approximately \$30,000 after expenses, including the land fund.

The Board discussed the status of the road repair and the mud problem in the rifle parking area. The Rifle Chairman advised that both projects were completed. Ground asphalt was laid on the road, and crushed concrete was placed in the parking area.

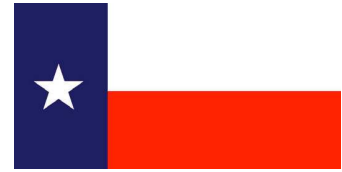
The Vice President discussed the camera system for the rifle and pistol ranges. Two bids have been received and were similar in specifications and costs around \$12,000 to \$13,000. The Board voted to postpone authorizing the purchase until next month, pending the land acquisition.

The Board discussed the extension of the 50-yard berm on the rifle range. The Vice President advised that he was assisting the Rifle Chairman in this effort and had spoken to the City of Denton about clean dirt and a recommended trucking company to haul the dirt the club. The dirt would be used to extend the 50-yard berm to the east and the 100-yard berm to the west to ensure there is an overlap. This effort would allow 50, 100 and 200-yard shooting on the rifle range. The VP

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recommended that the club purchase 200 cubic yards of dirt at a cost of \$800 and have the dirt hauled to the NTSA for a cost of \$75 per hour or approximately \$700. The Board voted and approved the purchase.

Member Don Shields showed the Board a sample of the new benches he was building for the rifle and pistol ranges. The sample was extremely well made and should last many years. Nine more benches would be completed in a week or so. The remaining 15 benches would be built later in the year.

The Board discussed the installation of the electrical boxes on the skeet field and the longer pull cord. The Skeet Chairman asked if it would be okay to shut the range down for a couple of days to get the work done, and the Board stated that it needed to be done.

The Board discussed the purchase of an 80 HP tractor with a front end loader and box blade. The Board voted to postpone the discussion until next month pending the land acquisition.

The Board discussed the posting of a notice on the fee board in the clubhouse that states non-member law enforcement officers would be waived from paying the day member fee. The Range Manager advised that he would acquire the letters to place the notice on the fee board along with the notation for guests 16 and under.

The Board discussed the calendar and sanctioned matches. All matches are currently on the calendar in the clubhouse as well as the NTSA website calendar.

The Board discussed the issue of updating the by-laws. The Secretary stated that it has not been done yet, but would be done by next meeting.

The Board discussed the issue of occasional rounds leaving the rifle and pistol ranges. Member Harry Hettinger advised that he has taken pictures of several shooting ranges in the DFW area and would have them available for Board review on the NTSA website and he would prepare a presentation. The Board believes that the majority of the problems are occurring on the 50-yard intermediate range and Pistol Bay 1, and are caused by rounds being skipped off of the ground. The Pistol Chairman and the Vice President propose that some anti-skip walls be constructed using railroad ties and placed on those two ranges where the problems are most evident. These walls would be two or three courses high. Signs would be posted that members are not allowed to place targets on top of the anti-skip walls. Failure to comply would result in suspension.

Under new business, the Board discussed at great length several options on how to pay for the Belcher property and how to ensure that the club had sufficient funds for operations and emergencies. The options will not be discussed here, but will be presented to the membership at the special meeting, once the contract is signed by Mr. Belcher.

## Safety Notice

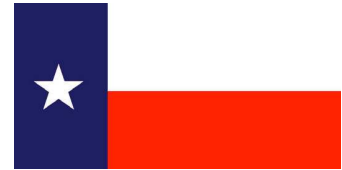
On January 23rd, one of our members was shooting a .45 ACP Glock 21 and had a catastrophic failure. The slide and barrel separated from the frame and flew over the shooter's left shoulder. The frame came out of the shooter's hand and landed on the concrete. The shooter was wearing gloves and was fortunate in that the injuries to his hand were relatively minor.

The member stated that the pistol was a police trade-in purchased last summer. He did not receive an operators or instruction manual. Since the purchase, he has fired quite a few rounds through the pistol and the load used was the same one when the failure occurred. The load was 6.0 grains of Winchester 231 with a 200 grain copper-clad bullet and cases that have been reloaded multiple times. The member is an experienced reloader with over 50,000 rounds loaded since 1982. He uses a Lee single stage press and follows 14 steps in his process. For example, his sized and primed cases are placed in a reloading block. He then individually weighs each charge and visually inspects them to ensure that the levels are equal and not double-charged. For this reason, the member does not believe that the round fired that caused the failure was double-charged. Since the incident, the member has conducted research on the internet and has determined that similar incidents have occurred with Glock .40's and .45's using reloads.

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This incident can occur with any pistol that has a chamber that does not fully enclose the cartridge case, especially when using brass that has been loaded numerous times, or that is defective. Sizing cases can work-harden brass cases making the metal brittle.

Although this incident did not occur as a result of a double-charged round, this notice is being posted to remind all members to exercise caution when shooting reloaded ammunition, and be especially cautious of overcharging or double-charging any reloaded ammunition, and particularly pistol ammunition. The loading density of most pistol powders is very low and it is relatively easy to double charge a pistol cartridge case.

## Barricade Work Party

Several members and one non-member worked Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup> on building and rebuilding the portable barricades used in the NTSA monthly matches. Thanks to Larry Erbskorn, Steve Hope, Eric DuChemin, Steve Crawford, Mark P., and John Eastman for coming out.

## Portable Prone Shooting Platform

The wooden portable prone shooting platform was rebuilt on January 30<sup>th</sup> after being damaged last fall. It will be used on the 50-yard Intermediate Range or Pistol Bay 1 to raise prone shooters two feet off of the ground and provide a better angle for shooting into the berm. It was found that when shooting prone on the ground at these shooting bays, rounds were impacting too high into the berm.

## Steel Reactive Target Training

NTSA members may use steel reactive targets with .22 rimfire ammunition when in compliance with the NTSA policy and after completing a NTSA training course. The schedule for the NTSA Steel Reactive Target Training Classes for 2011 is as follows:

- April 30<sup>th</sup>
- July 30<sup>th</sup>
- October 29<sup>th</sup>

The schedule will also be posted on the website. The class is from 9AM to 11 AM. Please email Gary at [fs5621@yahoo.com](mailto:fs5621@yahoo.com) to register and to obtain the course materials and instructions on what to bring. There is no charge for the class, but a minimum of three members are needed to hold the class.

## Updated Range Safety Rules

Please check the reference section on the NTSA website for the updated safety rules, or stop by the club for a copy. All members and their guests are requested to abide by the NTSA safety rules and to review them periodically.

## Newsletters, Notifications, Changes of Address

Twice each year, before the January and June meetings, the NTSA will continue to mail an abbreviated newsletter to all members. This is basically a reminder of the Annual Winter and Summer meetings, and notification of the proposed By-law changes, if any. Each month, soon after the Board meeting, the full version of the newsletter will be posted on the website and emailed directly to the members that are on the email list. Members may also pick up a copy of the newsletters at the clubhouse. If you would like to have the newsletter emailed directly to you along with any other notifications, please provide the Range Manager with your current email address as soon as possible. Likewise, if you have any changes in your address or other contact information, please notify the Range Manager. It is very important to keep your contact information up to date.