

February 2012 Newsletter P.O. Box 2042, Denton, TX 76202-2042 www.shootntsa.com



## President's Message – Jerry Stiller

We have lots of changes coming to the NTSA. The membership approved the improvement package at the annual meeting and we are going to get started on it soon. The board election was made and BOD remains the same as last year. Thanks to Ben and Don for running. Most of the by-laws did not pass. A committee was started at the February board meeting to come up with a privacy policy and another for safety concerns. The term limit did not pass either. We are coming up on the busy season and hopefully we can all make some time to come out and shoot. Be sure to watch the website for events and matches.

### Reminders

- Members must shoot on the same range as their guests.
- The ranges are now open all day on Monday since Daylight Saving Time ended.
- No shooting is allowed before 8 AM. Please report any violations.
- All pistol and rifle shooters: Please pick up your used cleaning patches and retrieve your used targets from the target backers.
- Please observe the posted speed limit of 7 mph.
- Please immediately report any By-laws, Operating Rules, or Safety Rules violations to the Range Manager or the Range Officer on duty ASAP.

**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.
- <u>Do not shoot any target placed directly on the</u> 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.
- All firearms actions are to be open while transporting without a case or on a bench unattended

#### 2012 Board of Directors

T 0.11 B 11	(050) 100 5000
Jerry Stiller, President	(972) 429-5000
Gary Runyon, Vice President	(214) 686-5502
George Clutter, Treasurer	(214) 930-6080
Margaret Hall, Secretary	(940) 395-6428
Frank Hughes, Trap Chair	(214) 797-8187
John Rea, Skeet Chair	(972) 467-6398
Michael Conley, Rifle Chair	(817) 713-6602
Eric DuChemin, Pistol Chair	(940) 206-8941
Range Manager	(940) 391-7376
Larry Erbskorn	
Range Officers	
Del Overstreet	
Kip Staton	
NTSA Website Administrator	
Steve Hope	(940) 391-2101
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### Rifle Chairman Report - Michael Conley

for 24 shooters, including 17 members and 7 non-members. The overall winners were: 1<sup>st</sup> – Dwain M. (Open), 2<sup>nd</sup> – Chris P. (Open), 3<sup>rd</sup> – Juan M. (Open), 5<sup>th</sup> – Kirk S. (Tactical) and 6<sup>th</sup> - Ryan W. (Tactical). First in AR22 was Mark C. The shooter with the Lowest points down was Dwain M. with 14 points. The stage winners were: Stage 1 & 4 – Dwain M., Stage 2 & 3 – Chris P. The next carbine match will be held on March 3<sup>th</sup> at 0830.

### Pistol Chairman Report – Eric DuChemin

The next Action Pistol Match will be Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 0830.

The Action Shotgun Match for February 11th was cancelled due to weather. The next Action Shotgun match will be on February 10th at 0830.

### Skeet Chairman Report – John Rea

A Carbine Match was held on Saturday, February 4th at 0830 The club skeet matches continue to be held on the third Saturday of every month, at 10:00 AM. No advance registration is required; just show up ready to participate. If you would like to receive an email reminder of upcoming Club Skeet Matches, send your email address to the Skeet Chairman and you will be added to the distribution list. John Rea (jrea06@earthlink.net)

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

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

## **February Board Meeting**

The February Board meeting was held on Wednesday, February 8th. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM. The VP and the Treasurer were unable to attend.

The Board voted-in one new Legacy member. (Note: As of February 12<sup>th</sup>, the NTSA has 750 voting members, three honorary members, and 20 Legacy members for a total of 773. There are 33 applicants on the membership waiting list.)

The Range Manager (RM) reported that everything is going well. He said that the club is half way through the regular target order and has about two pallets of rabbits left. (Note: The club received 20 pallets of regular targets in early December. The club's inventory now is less than 10 pallets of regular targets and two pallets of rabbits. The RM believes he will need to order more targets in March if the mild winter continues and the trap, skeet, and 5-stand fields continue to be

The Board reviewed the minutes of the January meeting presented by the Secretary, and voted to accept them.

The Board reviewed and discussed the January Treasury Report and a cover letter that accompanied the report. The President read the cover letter, which stated that on the Balance Sheet, the total assets are \$536K. The Treasurer wrote: "The overall P&L for the month was a negative -\$30.57. The reason for the negative number is the annual meeting expenses. The ordinary monthly profit & loss was positive in January, the shooting income was \$12,538 and the expenses were \$10,899. The net profit was \$1,639, in comparison to 2011, when we incurred a \$1,576.41 loss. Thus, we are doing well, as January and February are historically negative income months. Under Other Income and Expenses, there were 156 paid members attending the annual meeting and the meeting expenses were greater than the income. The meeting expenses were \$4,089.21 and the meeting income was \$1920." Under Other Items, the Treasurer wrote: "I have received calls and email regarding the 2011 annual financial reports distributed at the meeting. All the questions were in regard to the clay target revenue vs. the expenses. This is an issue we need to review since the fees may not support the costs. We are charging \$3.00 per and targets and taxes are ~\$1.96 per, for a gross margin of \$1.04. Adding the other expenses not accounted for (labor, etc.), we need to determine the total cost. Since I have received these inquiries, I propose the Board review the fees and expenses in detail and determine if we are collecting an appropriate fee for clay target sports." The



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President said that the Board had received an email from member Ed P. regarding his opinion that the club needed to review the fees for clay targets. The Board voted to accept the Treasurer's Report.

The Rifle Chairman reported that the carbine match had 24 shooters. He said that he was out on the weekends with the nice weather and the ranges were packed. The President said the three regional benchrest matches hosted by Michael S. are on the calendar. The President said that tentatively, he would hold club benchrest matches on March 18, May 20, July 15, and August 19, which total seven matches, when combined with the regional matches. He said that he would hold rimfire rifle matches on the third or fourth Sunday from March through September and the shooters would decide about the rules.

The Pistol Chairman reported that the VP ran the January pistol match and had 23 shooters. The VP designed the stages so the match could finish at a reasonable time because of the annual meeting at 5 PM. The January pistol match is scheduled for Saturday, February 18th with the Pistol Chairman as the match director.

The Skeet Chairman reported that the next club skeet match was held on Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup> with 7 shooters. The Skeet Chair said that the 5-stand winter league ended with 14 shooters competing. Member Bob C. said that the next league will begin the middle of March.

The Trap Chairman said that no one attended the Saturday trap shoot in January. The Buckle shoot will be on May12th.

Under old business, the President asked about the status of the anti-skip walls to be installed on Pistol Bay 1 and the 50-yard Intermediate Range to prevent rounds shot into the ground from skipping over the berms. (Note: The VP was not present to respond, but he had stated in the last Board meeting that he and the RM were going to install the walls but the 25-yard target frame on Pistol Bay 1 needs to be moved a few feet to the west first. This move will prevent crossfires on the 50-yard target supports.) The RM stated that the railroad ties had not been ordered. (Note: The VP and RM have discussed short dirt berms in some locations rather than RR ties. Consequently, the number of ties needed has not been determined. The dirt to be used for the short berms was left over from the 50-yard berm extension on the rifle range. The anti-skip walls will be addressed by the newly formed safety committee discussed below.)

The President asked the status of the Secretary's request to conduct a women's shooting clinic for members of the club and their guests. She stated that tentative dates for the women's pistol clinic are March 24 or 31, April 28 or 29 and a date to be determined in May. The Pistol Chairman asked if she had developed a plan. The Secretary said that she had emailed the NRA instructors for help.

The President asked about the ancillary equipment for the tractor. The Skeet Chairman advised that he is still looking for a 7' or 8' mower deck.

The President asked about the issue of lead mining. Member Ben D. said that he contacted a couple of different lead miners and had chosen Gipson-Ricketts in Missouri based on recommendations from other large club managers such as the Missouri Trap Association (MTA), which has 100 trap fields. Steve Ricketts took a core sample at the club on Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, and said that the sweet spots in the trap field are heavily laden. He checked the skeet fields and the lead on the other side of the fence. He said that the core samples were wet and he intended to count and weigh the shot when they were dry. He would then submit a proposal to the club with percentages. He said that he was doing a job in New Mexico and would like to do NTSA on his way east. Ben said that Sears mined MTA. MTA was not satisfied with the work and had Gibson-Ricketts mine the fields two weeks later, who mined another 100 barrels of lead from the same fields.

The President asked about the 30-foot tower on the 5-stand field. The Skeet Chairman said he wanted to thank James T. for going to Grand Prairie and inspecting the tower installed there. The Skeet Chairman discussed some engineering drawings of the hole for the tower along with an 8-inch box beam with a lift collar and lift point. He had done some cost analysis to include a counter weight system that could raise 400 pounds by hand. The hardware is about \$900. He is costing out the hole and the concrete, and will have a full work up at the next meeting. The total cost is \$2-3K. The Skeet Chairman said that they have been testing locations for the tower with a trap machine that was elevated to 12 feet on the tractor forks.



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(Note: The November 2011 minutes and newsletter state that the club will not pay for this tower. The funding would be provided by the members that shoot 5-stand.)

Under new business, the Secretary reported that the Annual Winter Meeting had 156 people present with 180 plates served by the Denton Country Club with seconds. For the 2013 meeting, the Denton Country Club is holding January 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The Trap Chairman said that the 5<sup>th</sup> is too early and he would prefer the 19<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup>. The President said that we have a year to decide, but he did not want it conflicting with the SHOT Show. The Secretary said that the Denton Country Club is booked well in advance, and we could not wait that long. After further discussion, it was decided that the Secretary will reserve the 26<sup>th</sup> of January 2013 as the first choice and the 12th second choice.

The President raised the next agenda item, which was the privacy issue subcommittee. A motion was made and passed at the Annual Winter meeting to form a subcommittee to resolve the privacy issue. The President asked who from the Board wanted to be on the committee and tentatively selected George, Eric and himself. The President asked for volunteers from the membership present. Ben D., Mike B., Mike T. volunteered. The President said that he would email the subcommittee in the next few days with an agenda and a place to meet.

The next issue on the agenda was a policy on sending teams to events suggested by the VP. Ben D. spoke about sending a team to CASA when he was on the Board. He said they did it because it was supported by Denton County judges, attorney's and law enforcement officers, and the funds raised were for the kids. The President said that the club would pay for the sponsorship (\$1000) and one team (\$300) as was done in the past. He asked if this issue was about sending other teams. The Secretary said that this issue was about setting a precedent for other disciplines within the club to send teams to significant events. The Pistol Chairman said that Ben's point was that this particular event has some political advantages that could benefit the club. The President said that we are providing a charitable donation to CASA, which like any donation, the Board reviews and approves or disapproves. The Pistol Chairman said that in terms of having a policy, the Board should review requests to send teams to events and base approval on the benefits to the club. The President asked if a vote needed to be made for the CASA event. The Pistol Chairman said that the approval was given via email. The Trap Chairman said that it should be put on record for tonight's meeting. The President made a motion that the club would send one team to the CASA event, with the Skeet Chairman selecting the team from the 5-stand participants. Additional 5-man teams can join under the main sponsorship for a fee of \$300 per five-man team. The motion carried.

The next item on the agenda was a proposal to replace the ventriloquist voice release system on the skeet fields. The current price is \$795 less any trade-in on our existing system, which is an early system that has been unreliable. The Secretary asked if this is the same system that was sent in for repairs last fall. The RM said that it was the same unit. The Skeet Chairman made a motion that the club by a new unit and the motion carried.

The Skeet Chairman proposed that a 2-day trap clinic be conducted by a top-level instructor on April 17/18, or alternate date 18/19. The clinic would be for NTSA members and would be on the west trap field from 8AM to 5PM both days. The cost of the class is \$300 per member plus the cost of the targets, which was to be paid by each participant. The Skeet Chairman made a motion that to approve the Robertson trap clinic and the motion carried.

The Skeet Chairman proposed that a 4-hour clinic ladies shotgun clinic be conducted on Sunday April 22<sup>nd</sup> similar to what was done in January to be held on the skeet fields and the 5-stand field for 20 women. He said that last time, the club charged the ladies the daily fee plus target sand brought in \$350. The Secretary and the Pistol Chairman asked if these women were members. The Skeet Chairman said that the club held the first clinic in January and received rave reviews from the attendees. The Skeet Chairman made a motion, seconded by the Trap Chairman, and the motion carried.

The Secretary discussed a proposal from the VP that a safety committee be formed prior to the construction of the new shooting bays, and the VP would chair that committee. The Pistol Chairman said that this committee resulted from a meeting with a concerned member. He asked if this committee should only address the issue of the new shooting bays or all safety issues in the club. The President said that this committee needs to look at all safety issues including the shot fall issue, and asked if anyone wanted to be on the committee. The Pistol Chairman and Ben D. requested to be on the



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committee. The Trap Chairman suggested that Mike P. be contacted. The Pistol Chairman said that member Martin R., who emailed the Board with his safety and risk concerns, was willing to be on the committee. The Pistol Chairman discussed the meeting held with Martin, his wife, the Rifle Chairman and the VP. The Skeet Chairman said that his opinion of the email was that the present location of the proposed action shooting bays could not be made safe. The Pistol Chairman said that Martin did not make that statement at the meeting, but did agree that a committee needed to be formed.

The President raised the issue raised by the Treasurer and member Ed P. regarding the fees charged for clay targets. The Trap Chairman said that before any fees are raised further study needs to be done regarding the actual costs. He said that the fees charged rifle and pistol shooters in relation to the berm repairs every 5 years needs to be considered. He said that the cost of all the shooting activities needs to be weighed equally. The President asked if the Trap Chairman and the Treasurer could research and analyze the costs. The President said that he wanted the RM on the committee. The Trap Chairman requested that this issue be tabled for 30 days until the committee could look at the costs.

The President asked if there was any other business. The Pistol Chairman said that the VP wanted the Board do develop a policy for non-member use of the range. The President said that he wanted to table the issue until the VP was present. He said that he also wanted the Treasurer present for the discussion. The President then said that the Board needs a list of rules and regulations in one book that can be referred to and passed on to the next board.

The Pistol Chairman introduced member Joe G., who is a Denton County Deputy Sheriff and member of the Fraternal Order of Retired Border Patrol Officers (FORBPO). He said that every year the FORBPO has a convention, and this year it is in Grapevine. He explained that part of the convention is to have a pistol shoot, which is part of the Border Patrol's legacy. He requested the Board's approval to use one bay on Saturday, April 28 from 9AM – 12 Noon for 8 to 15 officers to run the match. Joe said that he is a TCLEOSE certified instructor, and that former Border Patrol Agent Tom Gaines, who would be running the match, is on the NRA Board of Directors. He said they would provide all targets, ammunition and other equipment, and they just needed a space. The President said that there is no set policy, except for the exclusive use of the range. The Trap Chairman said that since Joe is a member, the other officers can attend as his guests. The RM suggested using Pistol Bay 1, which is used for the action matches. The Pistol Chairman said that he would attend, and he said the VP may want to attend. Joe said that they are still looking for a venue closer to Grapevine and would let the club know if they found one. As LEO's, the group are exempt from paying the day fee, and only pay the range fee. The President said that they would be put on the schedule and they could cancel if they found another location. The request was approved.

The Trap Chairman requested checks for the Texas Trap Association (\$25) and the Southwest Trap Association (\$100). The President said that he would write the checks, but would need receipts.

The RM raised the issue of the Optional Range Fee (ORF) for Board consideration, which he believes is too low at \$60. He said that the reason he brought it up now is because some members are paying their dues for the year and want to include the ORF fee. The President said the VP should figure it out. (Note: 56 members signed up for the ORF last year.)

Member Gunter K. said that when Ben was President, he had member Bob C. and he put together a book that included all the operating procedures and rules. The President said that they would locate the book and use it as a basis for updating the information before the next meeting.

Since there was no other new business, a motion was made to adjourn the general meeting and the motion carried.

# **Board Meeting Agenda Items**

Agenda items for the Board of Director meetings are due to the Secretary by the Friday preceding the meeting. This would mean that the agenda items deadline would be the first Friday of the month.



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## **Spring Swap Meet**

The club will hold its 4th Swap Meet on March 31<sup>st</sup> from 8:30 to 11AM. The swap meet is open to members only, except for vendors of custom molded ear plugs. Guests of members are welcome to purchase items from members. All items must be firearms-related and must be in compliance with applicable laws. Members are invited to set up a table, use the back of their pickup, or display items on a ground cover adjacent to the club house. Please do not interfere with trap and skeet shooters.

## **Steel Reactive Target Training**

The NTSA Steel Reactive Target Training Class schedule for 2012 is listed below. Member Van Glover, who is a certified NRA instructor and is currently conducting the NTSA Safety Orientation Class, will conduct this training class. NTSA members may use steel reactive targets with .22 rimfire ammunition and now size 7 ½ or smaller birdshot on reactive mild steel targets when in compliance with the NTSA policy and after completing the NTSA training course. The dates are as follows:

- March 31
- June 30
- September 29
- December 29

The schedule will also be posted on the NTSA website. The class is from 9AM to 11 AM. Please email Van at <a href="mailto:vanglover@verizon.net">vanglover@verizon.net</a> 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. If you have any questions, Van may be reached at 972-978-5671.

# **Updated Addresses Needed As of January 20, 2011**

The NTSA does not have correct mailing addresses for the following members: Elias El-Ayoubi, Mike Schniederjan, Bud Smith, and Harold Stewart. If you know any of these members, please have them contact the Range Manager or the VP with their new contact information.

### 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 Bylaw 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.