

## Anne Arundel Fish & Game Conservation Association

*"The strongest reason for the people to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves against tyranny in government."*  
- Thomas Jefferson

### PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Congratulations to Steve Yelton, the Overall winner of the 5th Annual Ernie Clarke Memorial Tournament and Club Championship! The full results were posted in the Clubhouse as well as engraved on the permanent plaque. It's not too early to start thinking of next year's championship. One suggestion being considered is to hold the match in September in conjunction with the Bull Roast. Other ideas are welcomed and encouraged.

What a great year at AAF&G! This year the Bullseye Pistol Committee hosted a record number of 2700 tournaments in a year. Five well run and well-attended matches. We had a four member team represent the club at the NRA Pistol Nationals at Camp Perry for the first time in seventeen years. The bullseye league is going strong, even adding an 1800 on Saturdays. International Defensive Pistol Association (IDPA) matches are held three times a month and have become so popular that pre-registration is required! Fifteen members represented the club at the IDPA Nationals at Guthsville Rod and Gun Club in Allentown PA. The Cowboys have been banging and clanging twice a month having a grand old time. They've added a third monthly opportunity to whoop it up on the 3rd Wednesday of the month during the winter. An inaugural informal NRA Action Pistol match is planned for early next year. Trap and Skeet events continue to be popular at the club. The winter leagues are going strong. Several members have posted perfect scores in either Trap or Skeet during the casual Friday and Saturday shoots, some several times! A member (and past club treasurer) has won a number of regional shotgun Tournaments. Well done! The Vintage Rifle and Service Rifle leagues are going strong, each shooting once monthly. Several members attended the Small Arms School at Camp Perry this year with hopes of sending a team to participate in the NRA Rifle Nationals next year. The Archery Committee has replaced several of the targets on

*President's Column*, continued on Page 3.

### RENEWAL INFORMATION FOR 2008

Another 2008 AAF&G renewal form is enclosed in this issue of the *SCORE*. The form is printed on bright colored paper to make it easier to find on the desk, table, etc.

The renewal instructions (*same as in past years*) are on the renewal form. If you joined the club after August, 1999 remember to include proof of your NRA membership (*copy of your card, address label from your magazine, copy of the letter they sent you saying they're several weeks behind in processing*) with your completed form.

**EVERYBODY** (*including Life Members and each card carrying family member*) needs to complete a renewal form...this is how we tell if you've moved, changed your telephone or email address or just ridden off into the sunset. **STUDENT MEMBERS** must also enclose a copy of their official full time schedule as well as their form, etc.

The credit card option for paying your dues is **NOT AVAILABLE**.

Please MAIL your dues and completed forms, etc. back to the club's Post Office Box - (PO BOX 150, Arnold MD 21012). We have a system in place for collecting and processing them. **DO NOT LEAVE THEM IN THE CLUB HOUSE OR TRAP TRAILER.**

The new gate and club house combination will be on the back of your 2008 membership card which will be MAILED in a big batch around the end of February. If you paid, sent your form, etc. and don't have your new card by the middle of March, contact Meg Clarke. You can reach her at [marston.clarke@verizon.net](mailto:marston.clarke@verizon.net) or 443-504-9023 (days) or at 410-267-7233 (eves)

The lock combinations will be changed AFTER but AROUND the first of March.

Thanks for renewing your membership!

Look for RSOs on duty  
*on Saturdays!*

## OFFICERS

President	Erick Graves	987-7670
Vice-President	David Cloutier	301-351-8070
Secretary	Debbie Gay	551-3078
Treasurer	Tom Best	562-3631

## DIRECTORS

Chairperson: Andrea Miller

Tom Byrne (1)	Jim DiCanio (1)
George Imhof (1)	Andrea Miller (1)
Jay Honeywell (2)	John Michelli (2)
Paul Striffler (2)	Bill Watkins (2)
Phil Bussey (3)	Meg Clarke (3)
Dermot Hickey (3)	Bob Yurwitz (3)

## COMMITTEES

### Action Pistol

Jim DiCanio .....	573-9259
Bob Yurwitz.....	923-6835

### Archery

Bill McCready .....	544-0591
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### Building & Grounds

Dermot Hickey .....	263-2541
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### Building Renovation

Meg Clarke.....	267-7233
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### Bullseye Pistol

Paul Striffler .....	544-5648
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### Education & Training

Meg Clarke.....	267-7233
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### High Power Rifle

Bill Palk .....	263-7626
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### Hunter Safety

David Alianti .....	257-2469
George Imhof .....	647-6152

### Junior Rifle

Andrea Miller.....	268-0110
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### Kitchen

Mike and Kathy Anderson.....	849-5812
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### Legislation & Conservation

Brian Swift.....	brian@orcharddevelopment.com
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### Membership

Meg Clarke.....	443-904-5023
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### Newsletter

Dusty Doster .....	alexisdoster3@comcast.net
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### Safety

Dermot Hickey .....	263-2541
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### Shotgun

Jay Honeywell .....	562-3107
Clubhouse .....	757-6800

1730 St. Margaret's Road • Annapolis, MD 21

## YEAR IN A SNAPSHOT

**Board of Directors' Meeting** – first Monday of the month, 7:30 pm (following Tuesday if Monday is Federal Holiday)

**General Meeting/Membership** – second Thursday of the month; **Dinner @ 7pm** by Kitchen Committee – Pot Luck Dinner in March, June, September & December; Meeting starts at 8:00 pm

**Annual Meeting** (Election of Directors & Officers)  
Holiday Dinner – December Meeting

**New Member Walk Thrus** – third Saturday @ 9 am or following Sunday @ 11am

## ORGANIZED MATCHES & EVENTS

**AR-15 Service Rifle League** – 1st Saturday

**Army "L" Target Pistol Match** – last Saturday

**Bullseye Pistol Leagues** – Sunday 9:30 am; Tuesday 10 am; Thursday 12:00 pm; Saturday 9 am

**Cowboy Action** – 1st & 3rd Saturdays

**Hunter Safety Classes** – April 1, 3 & 5; August 26, 28 & 30; Sept. 16, 18 & 20; Sept. 30, Oct. 2 & 4

**IDPA Action Pistol** – 1st Friday & 2nd & 4th Saturdays

**NRA Junior Rifle Program** – Sunday 1 pm

**NRA 2700 Bullseye Pistol Match** – April 19, May 17, June 21, Sept. 13, Oct. 18

**Public Sight-In Day(s)** – To be announced

**Shotgun** – Trap and Skeet – Friday 10 am to 4 pm; Saturday 10 am to 1 pm

**Vintage Rifle Shoots** – 2nd Saturday

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

**NRA Home Firearm Safety & Basic Pistol** – TBA

**NRA Personal Protection** – (Intermediate Pistol – Basic Required) – TBA

**NRA Range Safety Officer** – TBA

**NBEF & MD Bowhunter Education Program** – TBA

**NRA Instructor Courses** are offered as requested.

Additional classes, clinics and seminars are scheduled as needed. See Education and Training article.

## SANCTIONED WEEKENDS

April 19 & 20; May 17 & 18; June 21 & 22; Sept. 13 & 14, Oct. 18 & 19; Nov. 1 & 2

## ANNUAL MEETING DRAWS CROWD

The combined Annual Meeting and Holiday Pot Luck Dinner drew another great crowd for both the great food as well as to vote on next year's Officers and Directors.

There were no additional nominations from the floor so the Officers were elected by acclamation as nominated by the Nominating Committee and published in earlier *SCORE* issues.

President – Erick Graves  
Vice President – Dave Cloutier  
Secretary – Debbie Gay  
Treasurer – Tom Best

With additional nominations from the floor for the four (4) director positions we had a real contest with the following being elected to a three year term: Phil Bussey, Meg Clarke, Dermott Hickey and Bob Yurwitz.

Phil is beginning a third and final consecutive term, Meg is starting a second consecutive term and Bob and Dermott are starting their first terms.

Thanks to the Nominating Committee for their efforts, thanks to the tabulators for counting all those ballots and thanks to Jennifer Martin and Rebecca VanSant who sold raffle tickets that raised \$400+ for the club with your generosity.

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*President's Column*, continued from Page 1.

that range, a testament to the range's avid use. An air gun range is being set up in the clubhouse and should be operational by the time you read this. The range can be used for both air pistol and rifle. Perhaps most importantly, the Junior Rifle Program is going strong! There's even talk of a junior rifle team to represent the club at Perry next year!

For all these fun and games to be possible a large number of volunteers have been working diligently throughout the year. While there have been several projects requiring work parties (separator wall on the Action Range, expanded backstop on the Rifle Range, pavilion on the Skeet Range, repairs to the Archery platform - to name a few) most of the work required to operate and maintain the club's facilities is ongoing and never ending. Without the volunteer efforts of a relative few the club's activities would grind to a halt. A hearty thank you to all those who put so much time and energy into the club. I hope next year is as successful, or even better than 2007 was. With your help it can be.

Don't forget that 2008 membership renewals are now due.

Bylaws, Article III, Section 2(d): "Members whose dues and/or assessments are not paid by February 1st

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The November Board Meeting had ten requests for new memberships and all were accepted as members. Our numbers have climbed to a new time high over 470.

Weather permitting, James Llewellyn will have started his Eagle Project on Saturday, December 1. James is building four picnic tables for the Bullseye range. Matt Kelly has sent his plans and final paperwork into BSA headquarters for the final sign-off. Matt's Eagle Project is building new benches and bulletin board on the Smallbore Range.

Now is the time for someone to step forward and take charge of the Annual Club Championship/Ernie Clarke Memorial Shoot. There's talk of combining the Club Championship with the Annual Bull Roast in September. Al Grzech has a format that most people enjoy, so the hard work has been done for you. Contact myself or Erick Graves, if you wish to volunteer.

Club renewal forms were in the November Score and are in this combined December/January Score. AAF&G By-Laws state that dues are due by February 1, 2008. Your name can be dropped from the club roster and you could no longer be entitled to the privileges of the club, unless payment has been otherwise scheduled with the Treasurer.

Remember, if you're willing to sponsor someone that would like to join AAF&G, bring them to a Board Meeting to be held on the first Monday of the month.

Support Our Club - Volunteer

*Andrea Miller*  
Chairman

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of the current year will be dropped automatically from the Club roster and will no longer be entitled to the privileges of the Club, unless payment has been otherwise scheduled with the Treasurer."

Remember that firearm safety is of primary concern to all gun owners: in the home, on the range, and in the field – shoot often, shoot safe!

Let's make 2008 our best year ever!

*Erick Graves*



**MORE SITES TO CHECK OUT**

[www.msarpa.org](http://www.msarpa.org)

<http://www.odcmp.org>

[www.idpa.com](http://www.idpa.com)

<http://millcreekwranglers.org>

[www.twelfthprecinct.com](http://www.twelfthprecinct.com)

[www.uspsa.org](http://www.uspsa.org)

# HIGH POWER RIFLE 1

## FROM THE NANCY B. ECCLES RIFLE RANGE

During 2007 the Eccles Rifle Range saw considerable use from organized league and match shooting, casual shooting, and sighting in before deer firearms season. We held twelve AR-15 league matches, twelve Vintage Rifle matches, two Maryland DNR Shooter Qualification Card sessions, and almost every Saturday when the weather was not insalubrious there were many casual shooters just doing what they joined AAF&G to do...shoot their guns.

2007 also saw the beginning of the backstop wall replacement project and from June until mid September there was a work party almost every Saturday for 4-5 hours and sometimes longer when the momentum (or the desire to get that phase of the job over with) was there.

We're almost at the end of the project. We now only need to bolt two layers of planks onto the 2<sup>nd</sup> mid-field baffle and then fill that baffle extension and a small bit of the new backstop wall and we'll be done. I had hoped to be done during 2007 but hunting season intervened and we'll just have to git 'er done early in 2008.

Speaking of the mid-field baffles and the backstop wall, have you ever wondered why they're there, or about the height or spacing? OK, you probably figured out for yourself. But for those that haven't given it much thought, they're there to keep errant rounds inside the range. And the reason for extending the height of the backstop wall and baffle number two is to provide the flexibility to shooters of shooting from the prone, sitting, and kneeling positions as well. Extending the wall and baffle heights will result in a "no blue sky" from those positions. However, here's a **reminder**: the wall is not yet completely filled with gravel and the 2<sup>nd</sup> baffle has not yet been extended and filled with gravel. They work together to provide the protection we require. Do not shoot from the prone, sitting, or kneeling positions yet! We're not ready! We'll let everybody know by email, website notice, and signs when it's safe to shoot from those positions. Thanks for your cooperation.

The height of targets on the frames also contributes to the safety afforded by the wall and baffles. If targets are mounted on the backers so the top of the target paper is just below the top panel of the frame, the bullets passing through the targets (surely you didn't think they stopped just beyond the target, did you?) will strike the earthen backstop regardless of the distance of the target from the firing line. However, if the target is mounted lower on the frame, the chances of bullets striking the ground and ricocheting off the ground under the baffle and over the



backstop wall are increased considerably when targets are located at the 50 and 25 yard lines. Obviously this practice defeats the purpose of the baffles and the wall! It has been noted from evidence collected on the range that some shooters are using cardboard boxes placed on the ground as target backers. This is prohibited for the very reason noted above...the ricochet potential. The next time you're at the range, set out a target frame at 25, 50 and 100 yards with a target attached in the middle of the frame and visualize (do not actually shoot, please) where the bullet would strike if you were to shoot at it. Would it strike the backstop or the ground?

The heavy use of the range and the frames during the days immediately preceding the opening of deer firearms season took its toll on some of our target frames. Admittedly, sighting in your gun is the safe and ethical thing to do and where else would you do it but at the range. But the process of zeroing that new scope or gun very often destroys a frame, especially if the gun hasn't been bore-sighted. If you destroy a frame in the process of sighting in, why not replace it? It doesn't cost that much and it's not all

that complicated to assemble. Here's what you need in the way of materials to make a target frame: The current frame design uses 1"x2"s, 6' long for the uprights and 18" long for the cross pieces. The only other wood used is 1/4" plywood, 6" x 19 1/2" for bracing at the bottom and top. The 18" crosspieces put the side rails at the right width to fit into the ground holes. These pieces fit inside the uprights! It is very simple. Each frame requires (2) 1"x2"x6', (3) 1"x2"x18", and two of the 6"x19 1/2" x 1/4" plywood pieces. That's it! The target backers are typically made from 20" x 30" foam core backer board but there's a pile of donated real estate and political campaign signs piled next to the frame storage container that lend themselves to this use very nicely.

The High Power Rifle Range Committee hopes the Eccles Rifle Range will see plenty of use in 2008. Just remember to shoot safely, ask for membership cards of shooters unknown to you, and if you see someone shooting unsafely or damaging the range infrastructure, remind them of the Range Safety Rules on the placards posted over the firing line under the pavilion roof. If they persist in unsafe or damaging activities show no mercy; turn them in to an RSO. Remember, the range you save may be your own. Shoot safely, often, and have a great 2008!

*Bill Palk*

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## HIGH POWER RIFLE 2

### FROM THE NANCY B. ECCLES RIFLE RANGE

At the AR-15 match for November we had six shooters, which is about average for this time of the year. The high shooter of the day was Brian S. with a 262/1X, followed by James G. with a 237/2X for 2nd and Bill P. with a 234 in 3rd. The remaining scores were 233 by Andy McK., 219 by Mike K., and 213 Dermott H. Once could say it was the best of times and the worst of times, depending on your score. Remember, these scores are all shot offhand at a 100 yard target with the bullseye no wider than the width of the front sight and there are days when we're happy just to keep the holes on the paper so we can count them. This may have been one of them.

The Vintage Rifle match for November was scheduled to be .22rf target rifles (no scopes, please!) and in order not to take up valuable centerfire time on Saturday... especially a Saturday only two weeks from opening day for deer firearms season...we decided to hold it on Sunday instead. But that conflicted with other activities that the shooters were involved in so it was postponed again for the following Sunday, whereupon only one shooter turned up. So, no good deed going unpunished, there's nothing to report about the November Vintage Rifle matches this month. For December, the flavor is "any Military Bolt Action Rifle", so dust off those old "as issued" rifles that dad, grand dad, or old uncle Pete brought back in his duffle bag and see how they shoot. They might surprise you with their performance. Can you live up to their accuracy potential?

We're developing the Vintage Rifle schedule for 2008 and are wondering just how many M14/M1As are in the hands of club members who might like to shoot them at vintage rifle matches. I know of five right off the top of my head. Any others out there that would like to shoot them a couple of times a year? Email me at wpalk@verizon.net to express your interest.

You may have noticed the name change in the paragraph header above. Yes, the official name of what has hitherto been known as the High Power Rifle Range is actually the Nancy B. Eccles Rifle Range, having been dedicated in 1999 to the memory of a lady who played an important part in getting the rifle range redeveloped. Signs with the official name are being made and will also thank the two organizations whose generous financial grants smoothed the way for the redevelopment and the establishment of the safety and other infrastructure features, the Chesapeake Chapter of the Safari Club International and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. It's thanks to those two generous organizations, as well as the talents and sweat of many members, that we now enjoy the facility we have.

It was reported to me recently that someone overheard a comment made on the firing line that "it's now OK to

shoot from the kneeling position", presumably either because one or two of the ground baffles are no longer in place, having been knocked down, or because it appears that the replacement backstop wall is high enough. The OFFICIAL WORD is still: "NO SHOOTING FROM BELOW THE LEVEL OF THE BENCHTOP" yet! The wall is not yet completely filled AND we still have to raise the height of the 2<sup>nd</sup> baffle. Work parties for this, the last phase, were halted temporarily due to the onset of the hunting season and if preparations proceed smoothly I anticipate that for the weekend at the end of hunting season (Dec 8/9) we'll be having a work party on both Saturday and Sunday.

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## VINTAGE RIFLE

On the second Saturday of each month, club members and guests come out in all kinds of weather to compete with 19th and 20th century rifles from different historical periods and wars.

At the end of the year the top scores from each competitor's six matches are averaged (a perfect score is 100) and the first and second-place winners are determined.

In 2007 the races were tight, with shooters like Dermott Hickey and Bill Palk turning in averages of 97.6 (13x) and 96.5 (15x) respectively. The actual finalists were not determined until the last relay of the last match in December.

The gold medal winner was David Hickey with an average of 98.8 (17x) for the year. Eric Smith and Mike Krofchik tied with averages of 97.8 (13x) for the silver medal.

Congratulations to all of the riflemen!

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## EDUCATION & TRAINING

AAF&G started off the new year with an NRA Range Safety Officer Course that was rescheduled from December.

Ten (10) candidates successfully completed the ten (10) hour course. They represented club members, Boy Scout leaders and competitive shooters and included 2 women and one candidate who traveled from Westminster to attend.

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## LOST CLEANING KIT

LOST – my .50 cal ammo can with masking tape label...left behind at high power range...kit contains my AR-15 kit in box, mil-tec oil, can of cleaner, tooth brushes, patches, etc. If you picked it up and are holding it for safekeeping please call Jim or Debbie Gay at 410-5512-3078 to make arrangements for its return. The guns need to be cleaned!

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## BULLSEYE PISTOL REPORT

AAF&G bullseye pistol shooters are beginning to focus on the indoor tournament season. Two AAF&G shooters fired in the Maryland State Air Pistol Championship Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> at the 12<sup>th</sup> Precinct Pistol Club; the 12<sup>th</sup> will also be sponsoring an air pistol tournament every month through April 08; at least one club shooter plans to shoot the Delaware State Indoor Championship 2700 on Dec. 1 and 2; there will be the VA State Indoor Championship in Richmond in January that has had an AAF&G team the last several years; and we again plan to send three .22 four men pistol teams to the NRA

Indoor Sectional Championship in Abbottstown, PA, March 1st. There are also several indoor air pistol matches and conventional pistol tournaments in NJ that are only a day trip away. All in all tournament bullseye pistol shooting does not stop in the winter.

The AAF&G bullseye air pistol range will shortly be in business in the clubhouse. The November 29<sup>th</sup> BE Pistol Committee meeting will establish a shooting schedule and look at organizing a 30 shot league. There is a possibility that we may be able to do a group purchase for the Russian IZH-46M target air pistol. This is a precision pump action pistol that will cost around \$230. There is a long waiting list, however if you are interested in purchasing one let me know by e-mail and we will get a group together. Likewise, if you are interested in any of the above listed indoor shooting activities send me an e-mail and I will fill you in on the particulars.

The **Army "L" Target 1800 Tournament for November** was conducted November 24<sup>th</sup> with a total of 19 competitors. There were ten shooters for the .22 pistol aggregate, and nine for the center fire pistol aggregate, including one .22 shooter. The tournament top shooters were as follows:

### Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> .22 Aggregate Match

Erick Graves	897-72x
Erick Graves	893-69x Fired in 2 <sup>nd</sup> Agg
Dennis Walls	885-56x
Paul Striffler	884-61x
David Hickey	876-39x
Dermott Hickey	875-40x

### Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> CF Aggregate Match

Paul Striffler	890-58x
Gary Wagner	850-45x
Dennis Walls	847-37x
Jack Walsh	838-38x

The weather started cool and crisp and then turned into a beautiful day. Just like last month Dermott fought hard and beat his son Dave by the slimmest of margins in the .22 aggregate, in this case by one point. Dave and Dermott fired .38 revolvers in the second agg., and Dermott was successful by seven points. It was good to see Will Graves shooting on the firing line again and he did very well cleaning one of his sustained fire targets.

*Paul Striffler*

[pjstriff@cablespeed.com](mailto:pjstriff@cablespeed.com)

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## JUNIOR RIFLE

The Junior Rifle Program starts at 1:30 - 3:30 p.m., every Sunday, with the Veteran Team starting at 11:00 a.m. each Sunday. The first Orientation Class for 2008 will be April 6h. Those that plan to attend an Orientation Class (or just want more information about the program), please contact me at 410-260-1009 (daytime), 410-268-0110 (evenings and weekends), or email me at [acmiller69@comcast.net](mailto:acmiller69@comcast.net) to reserve a spot.

Awards presented to the junior shooters:

Jacob Davis - Sharpshooter Bar-1; Alex Doan - Sharpshooter Bar-4; Geoffrey Gerrish - Sharpshooter Ba4-3; Jackson Hill - Marksman; Joe Kurtz - Sharpshooter Bar-5; Nathan Moy - Sharpshooter; and Tyler Warman - Sharpshooter

Michael Kurtis has three more targets to shoot in the kneeling position and then it's ten targets in offhand and he has his NRA Distinguished Expert medal. Michael, this can be your New Year's resolution.

*Junior Rifle*, continued on Page 8.



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## BULLSEYE PISTOL REPORT

The Bullseye Pistol Committee met Thursday, Nov. 29, with the purpose of reviewing the 2007 BE pistol program and planning for 2008. Thank you to all who attended and made it a very substantive discussion. Attendees were: Larry Benton, Phil Bussey, Meg Clarke, Erick Graves, Will Graves, Dermott Hickey, John Hollingshead, Ken Mitchell, Steve Peters, Tom Rick, Lloyd Smithey, Paul Striffler, Gary Wagner, and Dennis Walls.

The BE pistol program Action List was reviewed at the meeting, and is posted on the clubhouse bulletin board for those of you who could not attend. The major issues discussed were as follows:

The air pistol range was set up before the meeting and some actual firing was completed after the meeting. A great big thank you to John Hollingshead for chairing the ad hoc committee that, with the able assistance of Steve Yelton, made it happen. Plans are to use the range on Sundays after the BE pistol league, as clubhouse activities allow, and one evening during the week for an informal air pistol league. The evening being considered is Monday, which is only impacted by the once a month AAF&G board meeting. Setup and use of the range for pistol shooting will be only under the supervision of a qualified bullseye pistol Chief Range Officer. A list of qualified CROs is in the Action List. The range is for target grade .177 pellet firearms. The use of high velocity pellet rifles will damage the backstop.

Our 2700 dates for 2008 have been approved by the AAF&G board and sent to the NRA for approval as Registered tournaments. The dates are all on Saturdays and as follows: April 19, May 17, June 21, Sept. 13 and Oct. 18. We want these tournaments to continue to be the best run in the Mid-Atlantic States area and to do that we need able volunteer workers. No bullseye pistol shooting experience is needed to assist. Positions open include Block officer, Range Assistant and Stat/Registration Assistant. Let me know if you can help at [pjstriff@cablespeed.com](mailto:pjstriff@cablespeed.com).

The administration of our NRA Registered 2700 Tournaments was discussed in depth. To ease the burden of now conducting five 2700s each year, and for the committee membership to gain experience in running a 2700, Chief Range Officers will be more involved with completing the paperwork for each tournament.

We have a 14 position relay reserved for AAF&G at the Abbottstown, PA .22 pistol NRA sectional on March 1. We still have plenty of room available and need more competitors. We plan on having at least three four man teams at the sectional as we did last year. Let me know if you will be able to compete.

We discussed AAF&G's involvement at the National Pistol Championship at Camp Perry this summer. Members who intend to compete include: Larry Benton,

Phil Bussey, Erick Graves, John Hollingshead, Paul Kane (prospective member), Steve Peters, Scott Staley, Paul Striffler, Dennis Walls and Jack Walsh. If this holds through July we will be able to field two AAF&G teams. We can always use more competitors to back up our teams or support a third team, so if you are in anyway interested let me know. As soon as we can firm up attendees we can start arranging for the rental of a condo for the week.

A great deal of work will be required to get the range in shape for the 2008 season. Several large work parties will be scheduled in the early spring to take care of these needs. During the fall and winter smaller work parties will be scheduled during the week to correct specific problems. If you are available during the week let me know so I can include you on the week day work e-mail list. Of particular note is the wiring of the electrical system and target control system.

Though not discussed at the meeting, a future meeting of our work team will be required to develop plans on how to better support our elevated baffle system. The baffles, with their heavy weight, are showing a great deal of stress in a number of places. We have shored up several areas, however a more permanent fix is required.

The annual Shrimpfest Awards Luncheon will be held in late January or early February 2008. Right now we are looking at Sunday February 3rd after the BE pistol league as the tentative time and date. As you may recall this is the celebration to acknowledge the success of our shooters in the leagues and Army "L" matches throughout the year, and their contribution to the bullseye pistol program. The luncheon is free for anyone who has fired in an AAF&G sanctioned BE pistol event or supported these events or the BE pistol program in any way. More info will follow by e-mail as plans are firmed up.

A Maryland State Rifle and Pistol Association sponsored competitive pistol shooting clinic will be held at AAF&G the weekend of March 29 and 30. The clinic is being organized by John Hollingshead and will feature some of the top shooters from the VA/MD region. The emphasis will be on fundamentals with more shooting on the firing line than previous clinics. At this time High Master shooters Dr. Rich Kang (winner of all our 2700s he attends) and retired USAF BE Pistol Team Shooter Col. Joe Chang, (winner of all 2700s Rich does not attend) will be the hands on instructors. If you are interested let me know ASAP so that you can be sure of a firing position.

As you all can see 2008 should be another great AAF&G bullseye pistol shooting year. Get off your duff and be part of it! Let me know what you are interested in being involved with.

*Bullseye Report*, continued on Page 8.

## YEAR 2007 IN REVIEW

The Junior Rifle Program had 155 shooters on the firing line, seven new shooters joined the program and 51 medals were presented this year.

We sent two teams to the 26th Annual Libby match held each year in Marriottsville, Md. For the second year in a row, we received the 'Coaches' plaque.

With the 2007 NRA Foundation grant, I was able to purchase two new youth rifles. The paperwork for a 2008 NRA Foundation grant has been sent in.

A special thanks to the Buildings and Grounds Committee for keeping the Smallbore Range grass cut.

Thanks to all those (club members and parents) for thinking of our youth by making donations, helping out on the range and at the work parties.

For the months of January through March we go by the forty degree weather rule. Using the Naval Academy weather station, if the temperature is below forty degrees at noon, no shooting for the day.

*Andrea Miller*  
*Youth our Future!*

The Summer 2007 .22 Bullseye Pistol League completed September 20<sup>th</sup>. A total of 27 individual shooters fired a total of 169 .22 pistol 900 aggregate matches. The following competitors are the award winners and high shooters in each classification for the AAF&G Year 2007 Summer League:

High Master Classification (97%)

One Competitor – None Eligible

Master Classification (95%)

One Competitor Fired – None Eligible

Expert Classification (90%)

Nine Competitors fired – Four Eligible

Erick Graves – 93.02% - 1<sup>st</sup> Expert

Dennis Walls – 92.04% - 2<sup>nd</sup> Expert

Paul Striffler – 91.93%

Sharpshooter Classification (85%)

Four Competitors Fired – Four Eligible

Gary Wagner – 91.35% - 1<sup>st</sup> Sharpshooter

Gordon Davids – 86.75% - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sharpshooter

Jack Walsh – 86.06%

Marksman Classification (Below 85%)

Ten Competitors Fired – Three Eligible

Lloyd Smithey – 86.94% - 1<sup>st</sup> Marksman

Steve Yelton – 83.54%

Tyro Classification (new shooters who have never fired a 900 aggregate match)

Two Competitors Fired – None Eligible

At the end of a league if a shooter's average is above his/her present classification he/she is moved up. Once a shooter gains a higher classification he/she shoots in that classification from then on. Final averages are computed from the top eight scores fired in any of the league relays during the 12 or 13 weeks of the league. To be eligible for awards shooters must have fired in at least five league relays, and at least two shooters must be eligible in the classification.

Two shooters fired in the league for the first time. Welcome Pat Dimauro and Patrick McGammond. Pat's league classification will be Marksman, and Patrick with an almost expert score of 807 qualified as a Sharpshooter. Congratulations to Lloyd Smithey whose 86.94% league average moved him from the Marksman class to the Sharpshooter class. Well done Lloyd.

*Paul Striffler*  
pjstriff@cablespeed.com

## Coming Gun Shows

**February 8, 9 & 10**

C & E Gun Shows  
Dulles Expo Center – Chantilly, VA

**February 8 & 9 & 10**

Appalachian Promotions  
Timonium Fairgrounds – Timonium

**February 16 & 17**

Silverado  
Show Place Arena – Upper Marlboro

**February 23 & 24**

Appalachian Promotions  
York Fairgrounds – York PA

**March 15 & 16**

MD Arms Collectors  
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Frederick Fairgrounds – Frederick

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Dulles Expo Center – Dulles VA



## 2008 AAF&G VINTAGE (AND OTHER)

### RIFLE MATCHES

- Jan 12 **Single Shot Rifles**, no magazines, firing a cartridge, other than .22rimfire, originally loaded with Black Powder.
- Feb 9 **22 Rimfire Hunting & Plinking Rifles** manufactured 1960s and earlier with Scopes or Iron Sights. Scoped rifles will shoot at a special Mojo target (with reduced diameter 10 & X rings) ***NOTE: Matches begin at 1:00pm***
- Mar 8 **Lever Action Rifles with Tubular Magazines** shooting either rifle or pistol cartridges, and fitted with iron sights. No Scopes.
- Apr 12 **Military Manual Bolt Action Rifle** configured as originally issued but may have after market (Mojo, etc, style) sights.
- May 10 **Muzzleloaders**, Traditional Side Hammer style with Iron Sights.
- Jun 14 **Military Semi-Auto Rifle** of a type issued prior to 1964, configured as originally issued and with original style sights.
- Jul 12 **Military Manual Bolt Action Rifle**, configured as originally issued and with original style sights.
- Aug 9 **Single Shot Rifles**, no magazines, firing a cartridge, other than .22rimfire, originally loaded with Black Powder.
- Sep 13 **.22 Rimfire Target Style Rifles**, No Scopes. ***NOTE: Due to the combined 2008 Bullroast and Ernie Clarke Club Championship matches to be held on Saturday, the .22rf matches will be held on Sunday, Sep 14<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1:00pm. This is also a Sanctioned Weekend.***
- Oct 11 **Muzzleloaders**, Traditional Side Hammer style with Iron Sights.
- Nov 8 **Rifles of WWI era**, configured as originally issued and with original style sights. Rifles used by the Central Powers, Triple Entente, or Non-Belligerents.
- Dec 13 **Rifles of WWII**, configured as originally issued and with original style sights. Rifles used by the original Axis of Evil, the Allied Forces, or Non-Belligerents.

All matches will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month from 10am-12noon unless otherwise noted. Except for aftermarket sights allowed on Military Bolt Action Rifles used during the January matches, all military rifles should conform to current CMP Competition Rule 6.0.

## AFRICAN SAFARI 2007

By John Posoli

(Continued from November 2007 SCORE)

### DAY III

#### AM

Boet and I shot doves and African sand grouse for two hours. The doves are identical to ours; the sand grouse are the size of a dove with a color that matches the local reddish brown earth. 38 birds were retrieved; about 10 fell in deep brush and couldn't be found.

That night the skinned breasts were wrapped in superb bacon from South Africa then grilled over coals from a campfire at the main camp. They became a delicious appetizer.

#### PM

Boet and Lucas built a brush blind near the watering station where we jumped the Kudu bulls on Day II. We sat until dark and saw many Gemsbock, Jackal, Warthog, and an African Wild Cat. One Gemsbock approached the blind and passed within 15 yards. We watched a falcon take a small partridge. This was all very entertaining, but no Kudu.

### DAY IV

#### AM

We drove for over two hours to a privately owned free range area and had an absolutely spectacular day. This 50,000-acre preserve had a game fence around the outside; but totally open range on the inside. There were steep, rocky mountains and the wind was in excess of 25 knots. From behind the crest of a ridge Boet saw a herd of 125 Impala one mile away. We very carefully glassed them as they traveled to water; Boet planned to drive the truck to get well in front of them then carefully stalk to get in position for an ambush. As we moved to the truck two cows saw the movement and spooked the herd. They never stopped at the pond and went so far that we had no chance to get ahead of them.

We hiked to another ridge and glassed a smaller (25 Impala) herd down below us in a canyon. After a 20-minute stalk Boet set the shooting sticks for me. I didn't judge the wind properly and missed a 125 yard shot.

We moved again, this time at high speed. The climbing over the rocky ground and the high speed maneuvers were entirely too difficult for an overweight 65 year old fellow like me. The swirling winds and lack of any human

*African Safari*, continued on Page 10.

## IDPA REPORT

As the old year ends and a new one starts, I thought a short end-of-year report might be appropriate. We seem to have had a pretty successful year



at AAFG IDPA. We have held matches on 49 separate days (an average of close to one per week) - sometimes with two different matches on the same day. We have posted more than 900 individual scores during the year, an average of 16+ per match day.

Thanks to our great group of shooters, our dedicated group of SOs, and our new wall, we have been able to



increase our Saturday matches to 5 stages and still safely run from 25-30 shooters in our three-hour shooting window. With one or two

exceptions, we have been able to get the scores tabulated and sent out the same day.

Our web site ([www.aafgidpa.com](http://www.aafgidpa.com)) is substantial and hopefully informative. We keep adding more match photos and videos. A new section has been added, "Types of Matches at Our Club," that explains the difference between

our short-range matches and BUG matches. Note also that we update the Odds and Ends page



and the Shooter Classification page from time to time so check them out periodically.

I hope to have an IDPA Safety Officer course early in the year. This is a useful course to take whether you are an experienced shooter or a new shooter. If you have not already taken this course, take the course when it is offered and then volunteer as a stage SO. We can always use additional qualified SOs. Also, we look forward to bringing on line several additional AAFG RSOs (Range Safety Officers) (In addition to having IDPA SOs, AAFG rules require the range be supervised by an NRA certified AAFG RSO at all times).

**Reminder:** AAFG holds its IDPA weekend match on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month from 10:00am-1:00pm. In addition, a weekday match is offered on the first Friday of the month beginning at 10 AM. Spectators and new members are always welcome. If you are interested in joining, please contact Dave Cloutier at [dccloutier@earthlink.net](mailto:dccloutier@earthlink.net) or visit our website at [www.aafgidpa.com](http://www.aafgidpa.com). Hope to see you on the range, DOWN ZERO.

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*African Safari*, continued from Page 9.

scent down in the canyon confused the herd and Mr. Bull presented me with another shot. My heavy breathing and elevated pulse rate caused me to miss again.

Off we went again; more heavy walking and climbing. We saw the herd go over a small hill below us but he lead bull wasn't with them. After several minutes of glassing, Lucas spotted him hiding behind a small tree. The Impala knew he was in trouble; but couldn't determine where we were. Up went the sticks; but I was so breathless with a high pulse rate that I couldn't steady my rifle. Fortunately the Impala stayed perfectly still. I took several very deep breaths and finally got my body relaxed. The breathing exercise helped me to settle down and I made a 250-yard quartering shot that finally put the bull down for another SCI gold medal

### PM

We left the Lodge late and went to an existing brush blind at a watering station. As Boet and Lucas were repairing the blind two adult Warthogs and two piglets came to water from the right. I set up on the ground with the open truck door as a rest. Both were sows and the second one had huge tusks, but sows are not legal. We finally got into the blind and waited only 10 minutes for me to take a boar Warthog at 75 yards with a perfect heart shot. They are unbelievably ugly; but his huge tusks gave me my third gold medal.

*(To be continued next month!)*

## MILLCREEK WRANGLER ROUNDUP

Well, it seems that the Annual Millcreek Roundup was a great success. Everyone seemed to have a really good time.

Music once again was supplied by our own Millcreek Moaners: Durango Dude on lead guitar, 2Step on bass guitar, Chris Carson on drums. This year we also had the pleasure of Denver Deb on keyboard, Pecos Phil on sax and Riverboat Bob's vocal talents (?).

Rather than having the roundup catered, we opted for an old fashioned pot luck buffet and did we have some great food. Mt thanks to both Millcreek Mona and Denver Deb for coordinating all the food and thank you to all our wonderful cooks.

This year we had the pleasure of being joined by the Director and some of the crew of the One-Eyed Horse production that some of the wranglers participated in earlier in the year. We were pleased to host Producer/Director Wayne Shipley, Riding Instructor/Costumer Pat Shipley, Male Lead Mark Redfield, Female Lead Jennifer Rouse, Production Manager Ruth Holmes and Actor and Horse Wrangler Bob Brown.

Mr. Shipley was awarded an Oscar from the Wranglers for Best Director of a Western. Mr. Shipley and Mr. Redfield were given Millcreek Wrangler Badges and made Honorary Millcreek Wranglers. Bob Brown won our raffle. The prize was a bronze statuette of a rider carrying the Stars and Stripes at Rodeo Opening Ceremonies. This was especially fitting as Bob has a real rodeo background.

Wicklow Wrangler was given an engraved pocket watch as recognition for all the behind the scenes work and contributions to our cowboy shoots. Thank you Wicklow.

Too Danged Frank, who recently recovered from a short hospital stay, was given a brace of pistols that he won't find too heavy to carry. Of course, since the caps won't ring on the steel targets we'll all have to stand behind him and shout out the "Bang/Clang". Maybe now I can beat him?

My thanks to everyone who supplied items for door prizes. We had an incredible array of fine prizes.

I guess that about covers the roundup. If I forgot anything or anyone, my apologies. My sincere thanks to all who helped make this year's roundup a success.

Adios for now and may the Good Lord take a liking to you.

JD

## ON THE ACTION RANGES

### COWBOYS

We started the Wild Wicklow Wednesday shoots in November on the 15th. We only had 4 shooters, guess most of the Wranglers had to work, UGH! Turned out to be not too bad a day. A bit on the chilly side, but with the potbelly stove going and Wicklow's cider (non-alcoholic of course) - what more could you ask for? It was great to be alive. Top shooter for the day was Chilliwack Buck. Wicklow's stages seemed to be written with procedurals in mind and Wicklow himself seemed to get most of them. Guess he wanted to show us all how it was done.



We had a better showing at our regular shoot on the 17th with 17 Wranglers ready to try for bragging rights. This was our belated Halloween shoot. We had a western Vampire, a Buccaneer, Kilted cowpoke and the Lone Stranger. The remaining Wranglers all came as cowboys; very original??

Dracula Dude took top honors for the day.

### IDPA

IDPA is going strong with 3 shoots each month. Their regular shoots are on the 1st Friday and the 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month. Some of the IDPA guys are apparently heading to Massachusetts for a big indoor shoot but may have some problems with the Mass gun law requiring a permit to carry a gun into the state. Be careful fellas.

### NRA Action Pistol:

Our first NRA Action Pistol Shoot will be held on Sunday, April 20th on the action pistol range. This is a sanctioned weekend so shooting can be from 10:00 AM to Dusk. Contact Mark Polansky at paladinhill@hotmail.com for further information.

### Plinking Range:

Rich Dein was nice enough to make up some target backers for the range. Use them but don't abuse them. Please clean up after yourself, unfortunately we don't have maid service. The range could use a coat of paint now that it has weathered so nicely. I could use a few volunteers. I would also like suggestions for a color scheme.

Jim Di Canio  
*Chairman*



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Dulles Expo Center – Dulles VA

## Club Activities

**Shotgun - Trap and Skeet**

Friday: 10am to 4pm  
Saturday: 10am to 1pm

**Bullseye Pistol Leagues**

Sunday 9:30 am; Tuesday 10 am;  
Thursday 12:00 pm; Saturday 9 am

**MSRPA Bullseye Pistol Clinic**

March 29 & 30

Use the **Plinking Range** to try out a new gun.  
Check the Range Rules for caliber  
and target restrictions.

See page 2 for list of regular activities.