

The MUZZLEBLAST

Florida's Largest Gun Club, over 3,600 and growing...

2010 Bi-Monthly publication of the Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club of Jacksonville, FL. May - June

Baker County Property Acquisition

By Sam Grimes

On July 10, 2010 the straw-vote was counted. The approximately three and one half hour procedure involved first verifying the current membership of the voter, and then tabulating the vote. Of the nine-hundred forty -four voters responding seven-hundred twenty-one voted "YES", one-hundred eighteen voted "NO" and one-hundred five were indeterminate due to improper filling out of the ballot. So of the eight-hundred thirty-nine members properly responding 85.9% voted "YES". I might add that this is well over twice as many votes as have ever been cast on any issue involving the club.

It is reassuring to see that so many members understand the importance of this issue to the future of GRPC.

During the interval between the distribution of the ballots and the day that they were counted I received a few dozen calls from members who had concerns about their vote. I will list their questions and my answers to them:

"Is GRPC going to move soon to the new property?"

No. We will have to be forced off our present location by legal action. We do not see this happening for many years to come. But if the unforeseeable happens at least we will have a safe place to go.

"Where is this property located in Baker County?"

It is seven and one-half miles North of I -10 on county road 229. We have paved road (about 80% of it is I -10) all the way to the gate without so much as a single traffic light once you get on I-10. We have several miles of national forest beyond our north border and the surrounding area is either wetlands or zoned rural (one dwelling per 10 acres) We also have a couple of other protections which I won't go into here. There is not another club in Florida that has as safe a place as this as far as I have been able to determine. The land is as dry as our present location and does not appear to have "tortoise problem" such as we have at GRPC.

"How are we going to pay for this property?"

Cash. We have enough funds to pay cash and still have more than ample funds for our normal operations and possible contingencies that may arise.

So there it is boys and girls. You "done good" in voting this in. Some day your children or grandchildren, and other future generations will thank YOU .

CHILI COOK-OFF MAY 8, 2010

Entries must be turned in by 10:00 AM. (See Brenda)

Judging will begin at 11:00AM.

Prizes will be awarded at 11:45AM

Eating will begin at 12:00

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Business-mgr@grpc-jax.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Ben Valdez competes in IDPA at GRPC, Jan. 2010
Photo by Tom Eichling

GRPC Employee (RSO)



John peruses the ranges for everyone's safety .

Volunteers Needed for Club Financial Audit!

Our Club Bylaws require that each year, an internal audit of the previous year's financial records be examined by a committee of Club members. You do not have to be an accountant or math wizard to participate. Just common sense, a desire to participate and an inquisitive nature are desirable. You can actively participate or just observe the proceedings. Ideally, at least five people (not including the Treasurer or Business Manager who will be present) but not more than ten or so are ideal. The audit will be done after our 2009 federal tax return is finished (not later than April 30th) and historically consisted of at least two to three meetings at night although weekend meetings are OK. Contact me or Lloyd Watkins President if you are interested.

Our phone numbers are in all issues of the
 Muzzleblast.
 Bill Craig - Club Secretary

GRPC Board of Directors and Accountability

By Susan Carter

Director on the Corporate Board of GRPC

Happy Spring/Summer! The Board of Directors hopes you are taking full advantage of the beautiful weather we have had recently and coming out to enjoy your Second Amendment rights at your favorite shooting range! In an effort to better communicate with you, the GRPC general membership, here is a brief summary of what your Board has done in the last year.

A long range business plan was hashed out by the GRPC Budget Committee in February 2009. It included the acknowledgement of the need to preserve current assets as a legal defense fund, as well as the need to look into the possibility of acquiring property at a more remote location, giving the club the option to develop a more secure range. This would allow members to enjoy their firearms with less likelihood of disturbing the people around them and reduce the risk exposure of the club. The priorities for the next three years were set as: (1) 2009 focus on range improvements, (2) 2010 & 2011 save for new property, and (3) start looking for new property now, with the anticipation that the whole process could be prolonged, given the current economic conditions.

The Internal Audit Committee met in May 2009, and included board members and GRPC members at large. Five major areas were examined, store operations, club operations, financials, payroll and the security of club assets. No significant issues were raised and most recommendations were administrative, and have been implemented. The most significant recommendation was to secure the gates from pedestrian traffic, which has been accomplished.

The External Audit was performed by Hunter and Associates between April and June 2009. GRPC received a clean bill of health, with the findings that the financial statements fairly and correctly stated the position of the club. Again, most recommendations were minor administrative items, which have been implemented. Their most significant finding was that the 2008 Board did not always follow procurement and competitive bidding policies. This issue has been addressed by the new Board, which is illustrated with the range improvement projects tackled in 2009.

Hunter also supplied a preliminary “dashboard” tool to help the Board in monitoring the budget during the year and in making sound business decisions. The total cost of the audit was \$9500.

To better situate the club financially, the BOD has designated a portion of current assets as a set aside for contingency liability, specifically addressing the lease with the airport and the use of the surrounding land. The 2009 financial plan included the range improvements such as new baffles, eyebrows, and bullet traps. The airport management inspected and was satisfied with those improvements.

The Board of Directors at GRPC does not take lightly the responsibilities placed on us by you, the members. If you have any concerns you would like the Board to address please feel free to talk to any one of us, or come to the next meeting. We are elected and serve at your bidding, and we definitely want to know your bidding! Come get involved!

Disclaimer

The Muzzleblast is published bi-monthly by Joan Zullo under the direction of the Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club. All newsletter content will be approved by the GRPC before publishing. Technical and/or hand loading data are for informational purposes only. No responsibility is accepted for results obtained by persons using such data, and all liability for any consequential injuries or damages is disclaimed. References herein to any specific commercial product, process or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer or otherwise, does not necessarily constitute nor imply endorsement, recommendation nor favoring by The Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club, Inc., its Board of Directors, its membership, the editor, nor the publisher. Letters to the editor should be brief, to the point, of firearm related interest and contain the signature, address and telephone number of the sender. Letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor, publisher or Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club. Send submissions to: Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club, 9301 Zambito Rd., Jacksonville, FL 32210, or to the Muzzleblast editor at: editor@grpc-jax.com.

WARNING TO ALL MEMBERS

There are two areas of concern that have arisen in the past two months:

A. The most important is the fact that a few, just a few, members have been shooting high power rifles on the back section of the all purpose range. This is a major safety violation and is against the posted Club rules in that area. You are jeopardizing the rights of all of our Club members. There are signs posted in these areas which read as follows:

READ AND OBEY THESE ALL PURPOSE RANGE BASIC RULES

1. **NO** CENTER FIRE, HIGH POWER RIFLES ARE ALLOWED TO BE FIRED IN THIS AREA. VIOLATORS OF THIS RULE RISK REVOCATION OF MEMBERSHIP AND/OR LEGAL ACTION.
2. RIMFIRE 22 RIFLES AND PISTOLS, AND CENTER FIRE PISTOLS ARE ALLOWED.
3. SHOTGUNS ARE ALLOWED TO BE PATTERNED.
4. COWBOY SHOTGUNS AND COWBOY RIFLES (SLIDE ACTION OR LEVER) CHAMBERED FOR PISTOL CARTRIDGES ARE ALLOWED.
5. FALLING PLATE TARGETS ARE LIMITED TO .357 MAGUM POWER OR SMALLER. FIRING MUST BE DONE AT A SAFE DISTANCE FROM METAL PLATES.
6. ALL BULLETS MUST IMPACT FALLING PLATES OR THE DIRT BERM.
7. BAYS ARE FIRST COME FIRST SERVE FOR EITHER PLATES OR TARGETS.

THANKS! GRPC JAN. 2009

Let there be NO misunderstanding. If you are caught shooting high power center fire cartridges such as but not limited to the .30 caliber US carbine, 223 Remington (5.56 NATO), 7.62 x 39 mm Soviet, .308 Winchester in these all purpose range areas, you will face legal action and/or loss of Club membership. If in doubt as to what or where you can shoot, contact a Range Safety Officer before firing.

B. The second area of concern is the increase of incident reports which report members who are arguing with our Range Safety Officers (RSO's) after being corrected for a Club rule or safety violation. Our RSO's work long hours under outdoor conditions in good weather and in bad weather. The RSO's have full authority at the ranges to enforce rules and check membership badges. They have the authority to tell major violators of safety or Club rules to leave the range. Time permitting, they are also a source of information and help to Club members. They do not have an easy job. With the noise of gunshots and decreased hearing through ear protectors, they generally have to yell or talk loudly to be heard. This is often misconstrued as being hostile or having a bad attitude. Bob Mathis, our Chief RSO constantly stresses to his officers that approach is so important when correcting a Club member. Unfortunately, it is not always easy to keep a smile on in trying conditions. It is a paid job but it is not very high paying job. The RSO's work on a part time basis to supplement retirement pay in most cases but also because (continued on page 5)

CHILI COOK-OFF AND SWAPMEET SATURDAY MAY 8TH

The annual chili cook-off and swap-meet will take place on May 8th. Range gates will be open about 7:00 AM (although any shooting cannot be done until 8:00 AM) to set up for the swap meet. The North Florida Collector's Association is invited again this year to join us for swapping and eating. The chili entry information is listed separately. There will be hot dogs and hamburgers for those who cannot tolerate "good chili." Hope to see you there. Bill Craig



"Warning to Members" (continued from page 4)

they want is to keep the Club in a safe operating environment. They work the job because they want to do the job. Any one of them could quit the job with no serious loss of income to their life style. Please cooperate with the RSO's. They do report serious violators to the Club management. If serious enough, disciplinary action could result from the BOD. Conversely, members have the right to write an incident report on an RSO's behavior which is taken seriously by Club management. The best rule is this. Obey the RSO's at the time and do not argue or give them a hard time. You can grieve later, make complaints with an incident report or make a verbal complaint to any Club officer or BOD member.

C. For all you other members who pay your dues, enjoy the Club and follow rules, and are not in the above two groups, **THANKS!**

GRPC Management

Tournament Schedule			From the Gateway Office:
Match	Range	Time	
Club 1800 Pistol	1	1st Sunday 0900-1200	1. Lost an Item at the Range? Check the " LOST and FOUND BOX " next time you visit the Club.
Smallbore Silhouette	4	1st Sunday 1000-1400	
22 Rimfire Benchrest	4	1st Sat. 0800-1300	2. All Members, Annual and Life, Visitors, Guests, and Day Shooters must wear ID badges at all times when on the club property.
IDPA	5	1st Sat.	
High Power XTC	3	2nd Sunday 0800-1100	3. Your membership Card must be shown at time of purchasing reloading components in the club store
Black Powder	4	2nd Sat.	
High Power Rifle Prone	3	3rd Sat. 0800-1100	
NRA 1800 Bullseye	1	3rd Sunday 0900-1200	
Cowboy	5	4th Saturday 0900	
BP Rifle Silhouette	3	4th Sat.	

THE VOTE IS IN AND THE VOTE IS “YES”

On April 10th, the mailed out ballots concerning the proposal for the Board of Directors (BOD) to buy more land for GRPC were counted. The proposal passed with 721 members voting “yes” (86%) and 118 voting “no.” The ballots were mailed to all paid to date GRPC members as of the mailing date.

More background information is as follows:

1. The BOD has NO plans to relocate our present facility unless we are legally forced to do so or we have to curtail part of our present shooting activities. The proposed land purchase is to provide a “fall back position” in case we are forced to make such a move.

2. The land acquisition committee searched Duval County and surrounding Counties with specific criteria and needs in mind.

A. The land must be no more than forty five minutes driving time from our present range location or the intersection of I 10 and I 95 highways.

B. The land must be easily accessible through main roads and highways with a minimum of traffic lights or crowded business areas during the route.

C. The land must have a large tract of land to the immediate north (direction of fire) that could never be developed much like we have with Herlong Airport.

D. The land to the east, south and west should be zoned to eliminate housing developments being built “next door.”

E. The land must be something we could afford to buy.

3. The Land Acquisition Committee found a very desirable piece of property in Baker County that could fit our needs.

4. This proposal was discussed and voted upon at the November, 2009, General Membership meeting. The proposal narrowly passed at that meeting but less than 110 GRPC members (about 3% of the membership on that date) were present to vote. The majority of the BOD believed that a proposal this large in scope and possible cost should have at least a two thirds majority of GRPC members having the right to vote approval on this proposition. The mail out ballot met these criteria and passed.

If we buy the proposed property and if we have to construct another range, there are considerable challenges to face in the years to come.

1. We are grandfathered in by State law for noise protection at our present location. Ranges built after the law passed in 2003 do not have this protection. Thus, the need exists for a location that could not easily be affected by neighbor’s complaints.

2. A Club can no longer just push up a dirt berm and begin shooting. We will need such things as County zoning approval, State and Federal EPA approval through Environmental Impact Studies, an engineering site plan, septic tank and well permits, chlorination system and well water testing approval from the County Board of Health, access to electrical power, fencing may be required around our property or shooting areas, money to pay for the range construction and so on and on.

3. To search for property with such areas of concern as mentioned above cannot wait if we are legally forced to move. We must be proactive and plan for the future.

Finally, there is this to consider. Even if we are never forced to move within our life times, we will have invested in real estate that can only go up in value as time passes.

Bill Craig, GRPC Secretary



Discipline Contacts:

IR 50/50 22 Benchrest

Bill Smith 904-276-1008,
work 904-790-6112.

Smallbore Rifle Silhouette

Chuck Deason 945-8268 or
759-8779

IDPA

Ed Sevetz 272-8484
(office callback)

Club 1800 Bullseye

Randy Erickson 448-3174

High Power Rifle

Tom Inman 292-0063

3x20 Highpower Rifle Prone

Joe Zullo 495-4109

Black Powder Muzzle Loading

Stan Goldy 904-410-1723.

Black Powder Cartridge Rifle Silhouette

Roger Bump 723-2677

NRA/1800 Bullseye

Randy Erickson 448-3174

NRA/2700 Bullseye

Randy Erickson 448-3174

Cowboy Action/SASS

Jay Ault 778-4184

4-H Junior Shooters

Gerald Vaughan 725-4317

Range Maintenance Schedule:

Mondays 8 AM-11AM 100 yard Rifle Range

Tuesdays 8 AM-11AM All Pistol Ranges

Wednesdays 8 AM-11AM Silhouette Range

Thursdays 8 AM-11AM 200 yd. Rifle Range

Fridays 8 AM-11AM all multi purpose ranges
New 100 yard rifle range

Saturday, April 17 at GRPC

Photos by Joan Zullo



Dixie Match NRA Bullseye



3X20 High Power Rifle Prone



Crawfish Match SB IR 50/50 Benchrest

June 20th deadline
for Muzzleblast articles and photos
Send to Editor@GRPC-Jax.com

Major Actions and Decisions of the Board of Directors March, 2010 Meeting

1. The BOD authorized the construction of a concrete slab needed at the Club's main entrance driveway.
2. The BOD voted to mail out a ballot to all GRPC paid to date members with a "Yes" or "No" vote on the proposal to buy property for our Club should we be forced to relocate in the future . Grimes gave a presentation on how the 130 acres of land in Baker County might be purchased and could be paid for should the proposal be approved. (This proposal by mail in ballot was since approved by the general membership. However, the BOD has NOT voted at this time to purchase that property or any other property.)
3. The 25/50 yard pistol range will be modified to have 15 yard positions on the west end of the range. Daily members will be allowed to use this revised range facility.
4. An agreement was reached whereby the State Sunshine Games could be combined with the Club's monthly Bullseye Pistol Match.

Bill Craig, GRPC Secretary

Our Wildlife is Protected
It is against the law
and club policy to shoot wildlife on all
GRPC ranges.



Tiffany shoots in IDPA
Photo by Tom Eichling, April 2009

September 11, 2010
Ladies find the **Ladies Field Day** flyer
on GRPC webpage and in the club
store right now.

Gateway webpage at <http://www.GRPC-jax.com>

FOR SALE

Only Current Members may list their firearms related items.

Send your ad to: Editor@grpc-jax.com by June 20th

AR-15 20" HBAR Rifle new & unfired. DPMS lower built with RRA lower parts kit. RRA A2 stock. Upper is 20" flattop with Bushmaster removable carry handle, complete with bolt/bolt carrier assembly. Upper has white 'T' marks. Barrel is chrome-moly 1/9 HBAR. Barrel stamped "5.56 NATO 1/9". Price- \$750 OBO. Sling included

Contact: Heath Avera 904-619-3009 or
mulestang@comcast.net

Kimber 1911 Ultra Carry 3 inch barrel in 45 with 3 mags. 600 rounds through it. 500 factory hardball and 100 SD rounds. All paperwork and case included with 1 Little Bear IWB holster, never used. Also 1 Kirkpatrick OWB holster, lightly used. The gun is black with night sights. It has original rubber grips and Aluma-grips, tactical version. Price - \$800.00 for all of the above.

Contact Terry Lacewell 904-412-6030 or
planterbox@comcast.net

Remington UMC 38 Super Auto Ammo, 150 rds. 130 GR, FMJ. Purchased in error. Never opened. Shipper will not take back & I cannot use. Price- \$25.00.

Contact Phil Rohm (904)476-9294

Remington M870 Shotgun 12 ga. 30 in VR Trap barrel. Full choke. Slight bluing wear above trigger on right side (finger position shooting trap). Good condition. Pictures on the web at:
www.northfloridashooting.com/images/M870/M870.htm
Price- \$300

Contact: Joe Zullo at (904) 495-4109 or
Webmaster@grpc-jax.com

Interarms American Eagle P-08 Luger. 4" bbl. Blue finish, in box with all accessories and factory test target. Gently handled, lightly fired. Box a little shopworn. Price - Asking \$1000. Seen comparable for sale on Luger website for \$1395. Contact: Richard Clark at 631- 3948.

Leupold VX-III 4.5-14x50 (varmint reticle) on one piece Wilson Combat flattop mount. Price- \$650

Kimber Tactical Custom .45ACP. Black slide/Gray frame. Price - \$850

Wilson Combat CQB. 45ACP. Black slide/OD Green frame. Ambi-safe. Price - \$1800.

Wilson Combat CQB. .45ACP. Gray slide and frame. Price - \$1750

Contact: Robert W. Johnson at 904/403-3348

Ruger KMKIII6 22 LR Stainless Steel Mark III with 6 inch tapered barrel. Comes with everything from the factory including black plastic grips, two 10 round magazines, fixed sights, all the papers, and plastic case. Excellent condition. Has about 500 rounds through it.

Price - \$325 Pictures on the web at:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/cgborkgb/KMKIII6>

Contact: Christian Bowers at 352-281-9495 (I live in Jax)

Universal 12 Gauge 26" over/under shotgun great condition, good for skeet or general shooting. Modified choke barrel Price - \$300.00

Llama 32 ACP Model XA 8 shot vented rib. New, in box with all the papers. Never fired. Price - \$300.00

Contact: Sam Cowan 771-4129 or 322-4380 Cell

Springfield .45 Caliber ACP pistol, 10X gun, accurized by J. Rose, National Match barrel and bushing, extended Bo-Mar rib, Pistol shot 45 times. Price- \$2,500

Contact: Gerald Stokes at (904)264-9781 leave msg.