

The **MUZZLEBLAST**

Florida's Largest Gun Club, over 4,000 and growing...

2016

A publication of the Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club of Jacksonville, FL.

#2 - September



Ladies' Day at Gateway

*****Saturday, November 19, 2016*****

JOIN US FOR A DAY OF LEARNING FIREARM SAFETY

THE DAY WILL BEGIN WITH A BRIEFING SESSION.

LADIES WILL BE DIVIDED INTO GROUPS WITH EXPERIENCED INSTRUCTORS.

EVERYONE WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHOOT A VARIETY OF FIREARMS.

FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION WILL BE PROVIDED.

REGISTRATION: 8:00 - 8:30 A.M.

INTRODUCTION: 8:30 - 8:45 A.M.

SHOOTING TIMES: 9:00 - 11:30 A.M.

LUNCH: 11:30 - 12:30 P.M.

SHOOTING TIMES: 12:30 - 4:15 P.M.

PRICE: \$30.00

INCLUDES REGISTRATION AND LUNCH

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

NO SANDALS OR FLIP-FLOPS

WE RECOMMEND HIGH NECK SHIRTS AND BASEBALL CAPS

CONTACT GATEWAY AT 904-771-2937 (if needed)

Absentee Ballot on Page 5

Club Membership

By Bill King

Each year the club loses about 1000 members. At the end of 2015 we had 4032 members. At the end of Jan, we had 3100. As of July 31 we have 3836.

Some old members renew the next time they come out. New members join each month. What happens to cause people to drop out?

1. Movement: Changed jobs and moved elsewhere
2. Budget: Not enough extra cash to renew.
3. Plans: Not coming to the range as often as they thought. These usually come as daily members. Some of these get frustrated and aren't having fun.

Some of these renew sometime during the year. A lot of hunters come back in Sept. to prepare for hunting season.

There are a lot of little things which cause us to change the things we spend money on. One thing I hope doesn't happen is a bad experience causes them to leave.

We have a great facility and I have talked to a lot of newcomers over the years who have been helped by members and say how friendly folks here are. I have also heard how someone made them leave one of the back ranges because they were in "their" range. I hope we aren't concerned with crowding as all the new building has resulted in a place for everyone to shoot.

To a lot of new shooters, coming to the range can be a little uncomfortable until you learn the manners associated with shooting. If a new member asks a question, try to help or at least point them in the right direction. If a safety issue comes up explain the right way to do it.

Safety is a responsibility of us all. If someone does something unsafe and the line is hot, call ceasefire so the problem can be solved. Usually it's a lack of awareness. Explain what the problem is and be helpful. We have had very few injuries in our history. Let's keep it that way.

For those who run organized matches, new members are a way to recruit. My impression is that match participation isn't as high as we would like. Invite them to come and watch.

As we read about record gun purchases and more people becoming interested in shooting, for whatever reason we should expect to continue to grow as we have for the last 50 years.

Also remember that the more people learn to shoot the better it is for all shooters. I was around guns and shooters since I was a little kid. Some of our new members haven't had that experience and it takes them a little while to establish a comfort level. When I visit other ranges, I am a little cautious until I figure how they do things there. Some are stricter, some are looser. You want to fit in. Help our new members and daily shooters to do the same.

If this year is like the past several, by the end of the year we will be above 2015 membership totals. Growth is a good thing.

Thanks for reading.



Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club

9301 Zambito Ave. N., Jacksonville, FL 32210
904-771-2937

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

President Bill Craig 737-5252
Vice President Sam Grimes 207-3587
Secretary Braley Caroll 614-3097
Treasurer Randy Erickson 729-4213
P R Officer Allen Way 276-3559 or 504-8303

Board Members

ArvilBudd 777-6932 buddarvil@aol.com
 Dana Baygents 403-9605 baygents@comcast.net
 Bill King 262-0438
 Alan Rosner 284-5347
 Russ Misner 1-904-284-5347 misnerr@Bellsouth.net
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 Don Hardeman 631-9458
 Toby Nolan 284-8164
 Tim Allen 483-7396

Disclaimer

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<http://www.GRPC-JAX.com>



Club Business Manager Celebrates 15 years at Gateway

Thanks Brenda!

Over the years we have had someone to manage the range. I think there have been seven managers.

For a lot of that time, the manager was the only club employee. Jobs around the club were done by work parties of members when the need arose. Most of the original structures were built by the first members. As we grew, we added a maintenance man. Both the manager and maintenance were part time positions. Now we have 15 or so employees.

Managers came from within the club, with two exceptions. The thing they had in common is that we were able to talk them into doing the job!

Brenda Trickler came to Jacksonville from North Carolina like a lot of us looking for a better life. In looking for work, she got out the want ads (I said this was 15 years ago) and applied at several places. After interviews and thinking it over, she considered two offers. One was the Hilton on the southbank, and we were the other. She chose us because she didn't want to drive over a bridge to go to work. This worked well for us.

She did a good job and learned what it was we were doing. She hadn't been around a shooting range before. When Sam Cowan retired due to illness, we needed to fill the position and Brenda's good work led us to offer the job. She turned it down at first and was talked into trying it. She did with the proviso that she could return to her old job if it didn't work.

Bill Craig and Tom Beattie helped her learn the systems we used, and the daily tasks.

To say she did a good job is an understatement. I think a lot of the success we have enjoyed has been due to her good management. She is always looking for ways to save the club by shopping the things we need. She truly has the club's interest in mind as she works. This means she has YOUR interest in mind.

A lot of our members may not know our Business Manager. It used to be the manager was the one behind the counter when someone came in the office. We have staff for that now and Brenda does most of her work from her office. Let's hope she is with us a long time so we can benefit from the excellent work she does for us.

Maintenance

By Bill King

A shooting club like ours needs constant attention or it will fall apart. A small club usually has members to do routine jobs.

We have John, Don, Charles and Wendell to take care of us. New target frames. Mowing the lawn. Filling holes in the roads. Maintaining drainage; something very important in Florida. Repairing things that get shot up which shouldn't get shot up. This requires a lot of skills and we can see the results of their effort because when we come to the range, all we have to think about is how to have fun.

It's like elves come in and take care of things. Usually we notice them when a range is temporarily closed to take care of routine repair.

This is done by a schedule you see posted at the range and at the gate when you come in. One of the new routine repairs is fixing the arm to the gate when someone breaks it!

Some repairs aren't routine and cause a line to be out of service. We still have a place to shoot because we have multiple lines to do most of the shooting. This year new backstops have been installed on several lines. The back 100 yd rifle line is next for this. They try to do most of this in the summer as there are fewer shooters then.

One remarkable thing this year is the renovation of the pistol lines used mostly by non members. More than 56,000 pounds of lead have been recycled adding cash for other uses as well as keeping a safe backstop working. 56,000 pounds! More will come from the back 100 yd rifle line as the new backstop is built.

A lot of maintenance on equipment is now being done in house. This saves both time and money. John Whitten and his crew are always looking for ways to save the club money by doing maintenance on our equipment and fabrication of fixtures that we, in the past, would have had to pay a third party to do. We also save in having the equipment back sooner as there is no travel back and forth to deliver and retrieve.

I'm sure there are a lot of things I have left out, but I want all of us to know how much work is done so we can have a place to shoot.

Thanks for reading.



ABSENTEE BALLOT FOR ELECTIONS, GATEWAY RIFLE & PISTOL CLUB IN 2016

OFFICER POSITIONS

Vote for ONLY ONE (1) candidate per position. Indicate your vote by **CIRCLING the name of the candidate or CLEARLY PRINTING the name of write-in candidate**. Write in votes will only be counted if their availability is declared to the Club Secretary or Business Manager prior to the election. Eligibility for officer positions requires one year service on the Board of Directors prior to the election.

President Don Hardeman *	Write In: _____
Vice President Sam Grimes **	Write In: _____
Secretary Randy Erickson *	Write In: _____
Treasurer Randy Erickson **	Write In: _____
Public Relations Officer Allen Way **	Write In: _____

- *indicates recommendation by the Nominations Committee ** indicates incumbent and recommendation by the Nominations Committee. Bylaws provide that the offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined.*

Circle the name of the candidate **or** clearly print the name of the write-in candidate. Write in votes will only be counted if the person has declared his/her availability to the Club Secretary prior to the vote in the election. Three positions for three years and two positions for one year will be open. Top three persons with the most votes get the three year positions on the Board of Directors (BOD). The fourth and fifth place person will each get a one year term on the BOD. After election, this allows three 3 year terms, three 2 year terms and three 1 year terms on the Board.

VOTE FOR ONLY FIVE (5) OPEN DIRECTOR POSITIONS

Arvil Budd ** Write In _____

Bill Craig * Write In _____

Robert Kindl ** Write In _____

Russ Misner ** Write In _____

Alan Rosner ** Write In _____

Clearly print name of Club Member

Signature of Club Member

NOTARY SEAL AND SIGNATURE, IF MAILED IN:

Detailed instructions for using this ballot are printed on the reverse side of the ballots available in the Club office.

ABSENTEE BALLOT INSTRUCTIONS

1. Absentee ballots may be completed at the Club office. Club members will write or mark their choices on the ballot, to include write in candidates. The ballot will be folded to insure privacy and placed in a plain white envelope supplied by Club office personnel. The Club office person receiving the sealed ballot will verify the Club member active status. The words “Absentee Ballot” will be written on the front of the envelope. On the backside of the envelope will be written the printed name and signature of the Club member on one side of the flap and the printed name and signature of the Club employee of Club official receiving the ballot will be on the opposite side of the sealed flap. These ballots will be placed in the ballot box and secured until the elections.

2. Absentee ballots may be mailed to the Club.

- a. Blank ballots are printed in the Muzzleblast and are online at our web site.
- b. Blank ballots are available in the Club Office.
- c. Blank ballots may be mailed to Club members upon request to Club office personnel.

The Club member will write or mark his/her choices as well as the write-in candidates (if any) on the ballot. The club member will print his/her name and sign his/her signature on the ballot. The signature, however, must be verified by a Public Notary with the Notary’s name and seal on the ballot. The Club member will mail the ballot to the Club to the attention of the Club’s Secretary with the words “ABSENTEE BALLOT” plainly written on the face of the mailed envelope.

GRP Club
ATTN: Ballot enclosed
9301 Zambito Avenue North
Jacksonville, FL 32210

3. Regular printed ballots will be on hand at the annual election on 29 October, 2016. Any qualified person who announces his/her availability after 15 September will be on the regular printed ballot.

4. The BOD terms for Toby Nolan, Tim Allen and Bill King end on 31 December 2018. The BOD term for Dana Baygents ends on 31 December 2017.



3x20 prone match, Aug.20, 2016

Photo by Joe Zullo

<p>Discipline Contacts:</p> <p>IR 50/50 22 Benchrest Bill Smith 904-276-1008, work 904-790-6112.</p> <p>Smallbore Rifle Silhouette Hugh McCombs 904-309-1988</p> <p>Club 1800 Bullseye Ted Carter 904-880-1715 cdrcoach@reagan.com</p> <p>High Power Rifle Marion Estes marionpestes@gmail.com</p> <p>3x20 Highpower Rifle Prone Joe Zullo 495-4109</p> <p>Black Powder Muzzle Loading Stan Goldy 904-410-1723</p> <p>NRA/1800 Bullseye Ted Carter 904-880-1715 cdrcoach@reagan.com</p> <p>NRA/2700 Bullseye Ted Carter 904-880-1715 cdrcoach@reagan.com</p> <p>Cowboy Action/SASS Jake Mehrman 904-316-0644</p> <p>Junior Shooters Marion Estes marionpestes@gmail.com</p> <p>Cowboy Fast Draw Ike Kirby (Outlaw Ike) 904-502-0571 ikeKirby@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Tournament Schedule</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Match</u></th> <th><u>Range</u></th> <th><u>Time</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Club 1800 Pistol</td> <td>7 1st Sunday</td> <td>0900-1200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Smallbore Silhouette</td> <td>4 4th Sat.</td> <td>1000-1400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22 Rimfire Benchrest</td> <td>4 1st Sat.</td> <td>0800-1300</td> </tr> <tr> <td>High Power XTC</td> <td>3 2nd Sunday</td> <td>0800-1100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Black Powder</td> <td>4 2nd Sat.</td> <td>0800</td> </tr> <tr> <td>High Power Rifle Prone</td> <td>3 3rd Sat.</td> <td>0800-1100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NRA 1800 Bullseye</td> <td>7 3rd Sunday</td> <td>0900-1200</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cowboy</td> <td>5 4th Saturday</td> <td>0900</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cowboy Fast Draw</td> <td>5 3rd Sunday</td> <td>0800</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Range Maintenance Schedule:</p> <p>Mondays 8 am-11 am 100 yd. Rifle Range</p> <p>Tuesdays 8 am-11 am all Pistol Ranges</p> <p>Wednesdays 8 am-11 am Silhouette Range</p> <p>Thursdays 8 am-11 am 200 yd. Rifle Range</p> <p>Fridays 8 am-11 am all multi purpose ranges New 100 yard rifle range</p>	<u>Match</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>Time</u>	Club 1800 Pistol	7 1st Sunday	0900-1200	Smallbore Silhouette	4 4th Sat.	1000-1400	22 Rimfire Benchrest	4 1st Sat.	0800-1300	High Power XTC	3 2nd Sunday	0800-1100	Black Powder	4 2nd Sat.	0800	High Power Rifle Prone	3 3rd Sat.	0800-1100	NRA 1800 Bullseye	7 3rd Sunday	0900-1200	Cowboy	5 4th Saturday	0900	Cowboy Fast Draw	5 3 rd Sunday	0800
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FOR SALE

Thompson Center Renegade Rifle .50 cal. TC rear peep sight, new extra wooden ramrod, SKB case
 Price: \$450
 Contact: Josiah Mathews 904-233-3081

Thompson Center Hawken Rifle .45 cal. Never shot, soft case included
 Price: \$550
 Contact: Josiah Mathews 904-233-3081

Thompson Center Patriot Pistol .45 cal. Never shot, new extra hammer
 Price: \$550
 Contact: Josiah Mathews 904-233-3081

