

## Monthly Gun Club Meeting Notes

Date: 28 Mar 2023 7pm at

The Senior Center, Hot Springs



### Agenda:

Pledge: Gary

Secretary's Report: Ginger

Treasurer's Report: Drake

Old/New Business Discussion: Gary

Website: Tom

### Meeting Notes:

- 18:55 hours: Gary gave the Pledge of Allegiance
- Ginger asked if anyone needed to hear the minutes from February. Tom made a motion to skip the reading of the minutes and James seconded it. Ginger reported that the Gun Club has a total of 167 members, and that all members had been mailed a welcome letter, range safety rules, and a member card containing the gate code.
- Drake provided the treasurer's report. He said he'd created a yearly profit/loss excel spreadsheet that he could provide to anyone who wanted to see where we are spending money. This month we have a total of 16 new members, 2 of which paid by check and 14 by Stripe. We are being charged \$2.04 every time we have a Stripe transaction. Total for the year we had 23 members sign up using cash and 54 pay via Stripe for a total of \$3,129.84 in profit from membership alone. Donations we received \$247.22. For the month of March we generated \$1,176.66 revenue for a cumulative total for the year of \$12,895.00 in revenue, Expenses for the month are \$170.96, so we have a net profit of \$1,007.70. Balance in our checking account is \$15,130.20. In our savings account we have \$501.79, and in our high yield account we have \$25,785.52. Drake proposed we take the money from savings and 10k from checking, and transfer it to the high yield account where it would have a better interest rate. Someone asked if there is any penalty for transferring funds from the high yield back into the checking account, and Drake did not believe so because the Gun Club had a automatic transfer in the event the checking account got below a certain amount of funds. Drake said he would doublecheck that there is not a penalty or limit on withdrawals.
- Gary asked if there was a motion to pass the treasurer's report. James made the motion, and Scottie seconded it.
- Gary began the old/new business discussion with an after-action review of the gun club banquet, and asked for feedback on "what we did right, what we did wrong, what we could do better". Someone remarked that the guest speaker was hard to hear. Gary noted that audio needed to be improved. Gary apologized for the short delay before dinner was served after the guest speaker finished, and explained that he didn't know how long the guest speaker would talk. Gary asked for feedback about the door prizes, and remarked that everyone got something. Someone asked

if the gun club would consider a silent auction, and said that a lot more money could be made with something like that. Additionally, people could “only put in [money] for what they are interested in”. Gary said the gun club would definitely look into it, and said “the silent auction is definitely something we can try: good idea!” He went on to discuss the gun raffle, which “went well”. Owen Meadows (who was present, but didn’t sign the club’s sign-in roster) stood up and said his granddaughter would like to thank the gun club for the golden boy rifle, and that she asked him to report that it would hold a prominent place in her law office. Gary said it was good to hear, and said he had thought she might want to sell it. Owen laughed and said she was already asked to sell by her brother, but that she refused.

- Gary asked if everyone understood the Gate Job (locking the range gate during members-only days; unlocking afterwards), and explained that the board gave the gun club approval to pay someone for the service: \$10 per trip, totaling \$20 per week and \$80 per month.
- Gary said that he had a meeting with Game, Fish, & Parks (GFP), and took a whole list of what he planned to ask for, beg for, etc., “and they did every one of them, and already delivered probably half of the list out there.” Gary said “it’s a challenge for him, Tyrell, I throw it at him on Thursday and he’s going to try to get it done by Friday.” The vault toilet GFP anticipates we will get by this Fall. It will be installed right by the handicapped long-range shed. Gary thinks they will need to put a concrete slab out there for disabled parking. Gary said he’s been authorized to clear the dirt pile behind the rifle ranges, and asks anyone who has any good ideas on how to move a lot of dirt to contact him. Gary is looking for some “fill” for hole: old sidewalk chunks, bricks, etc. GFP is going to buy the gravel and we just have to do the scraping and leveling. We are going to have to figure out which way the water goes so we don’t have a big rut in the middle. Gary said: “if anyone has any ideas other than what we have right now, let us know! Chunks of cement will be really handy to fill in...because we’re going to run out of dirt, I think...”
- Tom reported that the gun club got approval from “the state guys” to shoot from sun-up to sun-down on member days. It’s nice to go out early before the wind gets going. On all other days, the rules are from 9am until 1 hour before sunset.
- Gary said that we’ve got some matches coming up or some ideas for events, and asked James Forbord to speak about it. James said we’re planning to do a Long Range Center Fire Match on 8 July. James said he’d been watching a lot of other matches in the area, and “came up with that date because there’s nothing big going on in the local area right then.” James said he planned to center the targets the day before with Ed Wahlert. Ed had experience advertising on social media including Facebook, and James had coordinated with Tom to put it on the schedule. (Tom confirmed). James said he was “shooting for 50 people”. He explained that there were a lot of local matches that filled up with 70 or 80 people in seconds. He said “we should be able to do 50 people pretty easily”. James said that although a lot of matches had big prize tables, that it was a lot of work contacting vendors, getting people there, putting out prizes. James doesn’t want to do the work [laughter], so it’s going to be a cash match with probably a \$100 entry fee, and stages, and pay cash out to the winners. He said if anyone had some leftover stuff like hats or wants to donate something “we can work that out”. James said the quality of shooters

and the experience of everyone who shows up to a long-range match (as opposed to other matches) makes it possible for everyone to “squad up and the squads take care of themselves.” They shoot, they take care of time, they take care of score. They take care of spotting - everyone in your squad spots for you. So it’s pretty low-maintenance. The big work is setting everything up. James needs help the day before (7 July, a Friday) from 9-12am to set everything up. James gave Tyrell a wish list for targets needed, and believes once they arrive the range will have enough for a 10-stage match, which is pretty standard. We will also have parking back there by then. Having a local match where people don’t have to drive 2-3 hours to shoot is a treat. Gary asked if we have enough barricades, and James said they are planning a 50% prone match and 50% barricade match. James said if anyone is interested in what it takes to fire a center fire match to give him “a holler” he’ll tell you how it works and what you need.

- James mentioned that Ed has a pro-605 match at his house once per month, and there’s a pro-605 series they plan to do in Billings, Pierre, Oral, Mitchel, Huron, Watertown (5 in the state) this year. James would love for the range to host one of the pro-605 series in April next year. They shoot out to 400yds. If the match is set up on a Saturday it is done by 3 or 4pm so people can drive home. After the match, they need help tearing everything down.
- Gary told James he needs to design a match for old people. Someone called out “we’re not very good at kneeling or prone.” James said there’s plenty of 22 matches where folks are shooting sitting in a chair. Sniper matches, precision matches. 100 - 200 yards set out a bunch of prairie dogs and whoever shoots them the fastest wins. Or semi-autos or shoot whoever gets best score out to 300 yds. That would be fun as a monthly match to bring people in, but James explained he doesn’t have time in the summertime. But he could show Gary how to set it up, “and he could go out there and run the old folk match”. [laughter] Gary said “yeah that sounds good”. James said if we could get 5 guys, it takes an hour to shoot it on a cool summer morning, they’re all up anyway...Gary said “and we can have a picnic afterwards - we’ve got a grill now”.
- Dennis Midgley got up and said if there’s any reload fans here, there’s an auction in Hermosa this coming Tuesday.
- Dennis then said he is proposing that the Gun Club start a weekly pistol competition to improve proficiency in using a firearm - he said we could call it IDAP for I Don’t Aim Properly. It would be for all handguns: center fire, rim fire, and Dennis said that if it’s approved he would like exclusive use of the pistol range from 9-12am. He had a list of supplies including a timer and targets for a total of \$347.86. He would start on 10 April with a small test group on 3 April (although he wasn’t positive all the purchased items would arrive by that time), and planned to continue for 6 months. Equipment to bring includes a holster (preferably), to keep your pistol in. For people who don’t have holsters for their pistols, like for their .22 pistols (especially semiautos), we’re going to have a table people can set their pistols on with their actions open. Pistols will be kept there until it’s time to shoot. Course of fire about 50 rounds, 5 stages and 10 rounds apiece with the first stage being a warmup stage. There was concern about the steel post in the pistol range, but he scoped that out and thinks there won’t be a problem staying on target unless

eyes are closed. Goals of this is to promote safe and proficient use of firearms and equipment suitable for self-defense; to offer practical experience encouraging competitors to develop proficiency in their firearm use; to provide a level playing field for competitors that solely tests the skill and ability of each individual, and not their equipment. Divisions will be split into groups of firearms with similar characteristics (rim fire, revolver, etc). It will all be timed. He will set up scenarios with IDPA targets to mimic possible real-life scenarios. It is open to members and guests. Guests can be brought twice, but by the third time should be guilted to join the gun club. The charge for this is just one dollar, which will cover miscellaneous expenses. He said with a smaller number of people they will probably be done by 11am. There was a question about the time because "a lot of guys still work", and whether it was possible to have some of those in the evening hours to accommodate, but at least in the beginning, this time will stand. Dennis said he would run through a bunch of standard commands: Range is Hot, Load Make Ready, Stand By, Drop Trigger, Drop Hammer, Re-holster, Range is Clear, etc. and will provide an explanation of all of them. He requested authority to disqualify people based on safety violations (sweeping, shooting over berms, neglect, etc.). All shots will be taken from low-ready and not from inside holster. He said he would show up at 8am or 8:30am to set things up. At 9am he would have a safety brief. He would have a shooting order, explain what we are doing at each stage. He will take email addresses and put everyone into a division (write it down for everyone). Dennis said that divisions can change. "If you want to shoot .22 today, shoot .22. If you want to shoot center-fire, shoot center fire." After the end of the day he will send everyone's score and their ranking to all the email addresses. Gary said he liked the idea of a test group for just board members on 3 April, and that we didn't need official targets.

- Gary brought up doing a Member Appreciation Day (MAD) and Peggy proposed 20 May which is a Saturday. Families can be brought, weather will be warm, and kids are out of school. Gary asked if May would work for everyone, and said we'd "put it out there and see."
- Gary said he would like to do a Youth Shoot, and that we would get help from the VFW. The VFW president said they have people with funds to help us generate more interest in that. The last one the gun club sponsored had the first 10 at the 100-yard line and the club let them use their rifles: automatics, pumps, bolt-action, whatever, and the kids moved from one station to another without moving the guns. And we had "all kinds of silly targets out there" and the kids got a kick out of them but also learned safety. We had a safety NCO at each one of the stations. Last time we had 13 kids. Gary asked what month people thought would work for this. [no response]. Gary said the youth shoot and the MAD event are the only events the gun club board would run for the year, but that if anyone in the club comes up with an idea - like black power shooter events, axe-throwing/knife-throwing events, or a Turkey Shoot event where turkeys are given to the winners, that the board would support them. Gary said that club members are welcome to get creative and come up with ideas they can organize, setup, run, and breakdown: once ideas are approved by the club board, we can all assist with execution. "There are lots of

events we can put on, it just takes someone to raise their hand and we'll support them the best we can. If you've got ideas, we're all ears".

- Gary said to satisfy our first work request, we are going to change 1x2s to 2x2 frames so that the whole range will be 2x2s from now on. The bases will also need to be changed, but first we have to make the target frames and then the bases. Gary said Dennis Bohr is our foreman for that, and just needs 4 volunteers to help. Cal & Mike had indicated that they'd help out, so Dennis just needed a couple more volunteers. Gary said Dennis would take down names and phone numbers of volunteers after the meeting was over.
- At 19:56hours there was a motion to adjourn which was seconded.