



ALAMO MUZZLE LOADING GUN CLUB

www.amlgc.org

SMOKE SIGNAL

NEWSLETTER

20 January 19

WANTED: Henry Golden Boy MSRP \$578.00

So in spite of mailing a clipping from a "VERY INTERESTING CHRISTMAS CATALOG" to the North Pole and dropping any number of other hints, Santa did not bring you that Stevens .22 rifle... "no keener disappointment than the failure to get it" indeed. This year's fund-raiser RIFLE RAFFLE is for a U.S.-made Henry Golden Boy™ .22lr lever-action that normally sells for danged near 600 dollars. If you'd like to buy \$5 each raffle tickets, please contact one of the Club officers, members of the Board of Directors. These lever-action rifles are really neat, and the brass covering of the receiver evokes the Winchester Model 1866 "Yellow Boy" carbines of Western lore and legend.

Pictures and details of the rifle are available at
<https://www.henryusa.com/rifles/golden-boy/>

Annual Club Business Meeting

The Alamo Muzzle Loading Gun Club annual social and business meeting, along with the yearly award ceremony was held at 7:01pm Saturday 5th January at Grady's BBQ restaurant on Bandera Road. Approximately 42 members showed up in person to renew memberships and attend the meeting. Reports from the Secretary, Treasurer, Range Officer, Match Committee chair, Entertainment Committee chair, Vice President and President were given.

The newsletter is going to an all electronic format with exceptions made for members who need accommodation and provide SASEs for the requested newsletter mail outs. The newsletter goes out to members who provide an email, and is also posted on the Club website at www.amlgc.com/news/ with back issues to August 2017. In addition, there is a link on the Alamo Muzzle Loading Gun Club Facebook™ webpage as well. If you'd like to post a photo of the range or whatever, just email it and we'll see if we can't get it up on Facebook.

AMLG Club Treasurer, Mr. John Burke, Sr. gave the financial details of 2018. He added that our Christmas charity donation of \$500.00 was matched by one from Wal-Mart of \$150.00 and another of \$100.00 from an area church. That total, plus a 10 % discount with Mrs. Betty Burke's employee discount allowed for spending right at 750.00 for the donations to Toys for Tots. Betty's discount also took care of the tax. Pretty cool! Lots of Christmas Cheer!

Mr. Rich Beardsley of the Match Director committee stepped down from the post. It is hoped that additional smokeless center fire matches can be organized. The first was well attended, the second was during some mighty hot weather and was less well attended. We should have more such events, since modern rifles are what most members shoot, use for hunting, etc. and there is of course a much greater availability now of smokeless ammunition, entailing that that is what most folks use. Many members are not too competitively minded, but a challenging shoot could be well worth it. Any ideas for a match, please don't hesitate to contact the Club's officers.

Mr. Gary Quandt thanked all the members present for another great year that was safe and free of any serious accidents. Safety relies on the cooperation of everyone. We've all got the responsibility to know the basic safety rules, apply them in our conduct, and ensure that others do the same. We must never become complacent or lackadaisical in such essential safety rules. We have several NRA-certified Range Safety Officers, so if the presence of one is requested, just let the club know.

Mr. Quandt reiterated that we are hosting youngsters in junior rifle marksmanship clubs from 4-H groups in LaCoste, Castroville, and Medina County, so that we'll have 3 clubs using the range. 2 on Sunday and 1 on Saturday, and some events on Wednesdays. When 4-H is on the line, they *call the line too*. They'll be at the 25-yard line for the most part, but until the 200 yard and further ranges are separated out by another bullet stop and berm, the 4-H folks determine whether the line is cold or hot. Please abide by their commands while the youngsters—the future of our shooting sports—are at their practice and matches.

We'd like to see the berm separating the longer ranges completed, and also a gate that is simultaneously less onerous to open and close, and that keeps a record of who precisely is using the range at a given time are on the "to do" list.

As an easy "New Years Resolution" let's all refresh ourselves on safety, and keep it uppermost in mind while enjoying our sport at the range.

There will be a workday in February to do repair work to the septic tank, some roofing repairs, etc. Watch for an email reminder in February about the specific time and place.

There was a particularly wet period in October that caused a lot of scrub and brush to grow up and inhibit visibility of the target line, thus preventing use of the range. The great bulk of work at the Club range facility is on a volunteer basis, people who come out and help, provide their own tools, equipment, etc. If we see a repeat of lots of rain, the Board of Directors will strive to stay on top of the range maintenance so it can be enjoyed by members.

Please remember that on the 100 yard line, shooting lanes 1 through 7 are reserved for black powder only since many hundreds of yards downrange from the property

line of the southernmost extent of the Club's private property, there are structures that went up and remain there.

The pistol range has loading tables, a roof, and ranges set at 3 yards, 7 yards and 10 yards. As most members know, defensive shooting incidents are mostly about 7 yards give-or-take, so if that is what is being practiced for, please use the pistol range. If one wishes to shoot a pistol at 25 yards, then please do so... Do not go forward of the firing line to use the 25-yard berm. The range is not really set up for a "fire and movement" type of exercise, i.e. it is not a "tactical" range, much to the frustration of people who like those run and gun type sports and events. Similarly, if you pattern your shotgun, likely as not you'll break the target frames. Most defensive shot shell loads are fairly tight-patterning, but the typical "1 inch per yard" past 5 to 7 yards still applies. For the moment, there's not really much in the way of shotgun sports available until the clay pigeon thrower gets replaced.

Ian Straus gave the Entertainment report, thanking all of the members who fed the club lunches at the first Sunday shoot. A list was circulated, and several members volunteered to provide lunch. Spots remain in April and May and possibly June too. If interested, know that you can be reimbursed by the Club Treasurer upon receipt of the receipts. It is not a donation of food and money to the Club match attendees, although certainly it requires labor. Things can be pretty simple: A loaf of bread or some tortillas, lunchable stuff like cheese and some spreads, maybe some chips, etc.

Insofar as the yearly business meeting is often the only time some members meet up, it is proposed to have a May Club barbecue and social, with a BB-gun and/or pellet gun match for kids, some chaperoned/ supervised black powder shooting and so on.

Greg Delk gave the VP report, providing detailed answers to questions about the recent land acquisition to extend the buffer surrounding the range.

After a year, the two resolutions from last year's meeting were approved by a voice vote of a quorum of the attending members.

- 1) the Board of Directors will meet after the first Sunday shoot, as always, but it will be so stated in the By Laws.
- 2) The Secretary's position is no longer limited to just two consecutive terms.

Mrs. E. Betty Burke was awarded a Friends of the Range certificate, a new category of award.

Other recipients of the Friends of the Range certificate included Ms. Deirdre McDonald, and Mrs. Donna Straus. Also awarded were Mr. Dave Day of the Powder Horn gun shop, and Mr. Paul Paterson who does a lot of maintenance, landscaping and grass cutting work for all of us at the range.

Shooting AWARDS:

B Pistol 3rd. John Burke, Sr.
2nd. Greg Delk
1st. Ian Straus

A Pistol No 3rd.
2nd Dennis Rich 536
1st Clif Denny 712 2x

B Rifle 3rd Ian Straus 983 4x
2nd Gary Quandt 1115 5x
1st John Burke, Sr. 1138 4x
A Rifle 3rd Richard Beardsley
2nd Clif Denny 9x
1 1408 7x Dennis Rich

TOP GUN:
8 shoots min.
5th John Burke Sr. 466 Pistol
4th Greg Delk 507 Pistol
3rd Dennis Rich 538
2nd Ian Straus 540
1st Clif Denny 712 2x

RIFLE
5th Gary Quandt 1113 5x
4th Richard Beardsley 1126 3x
3rd John Burke, Sr. 1138
2nd 1317 5x Clif Denny
1st Dennis Rich 1408 7x

FINAL AWARD—
Grand aggregate:
3rd 1577 6x John Burke, Sr.
2nd 1944 7x Dennis Rich
1st 2028 11x Clif Denny

YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS for 2019:
PRESIDENT—Greg Delk yanceymedina@hotmail.com
Vice President—Bill Knipscher hawkeye78628@yahoo.com
(512) 635-2886
Range Safety Officer—Gary Quandt gquandt2000@yahoo.com
Secretary—Dave Carlson davecarlson68@yahoo.com
Match Director—Clif Denny cedenny@gvtc.com
Entertainment cmte. Chair—Ian Straus ian.straus@att.net
Treasurer—John Burke, Sr. texasranger14@hotmail.com

Member at Large—John Burke, Jr. thungar@gmail.com

WORK PARTY—bring your shovels, rakes, and implements of construction at 9:30am on Saturday 9 Feb 2019. Septic tank will need some work. Some construction and even roofing will be needed, so ladders, and some construction tools would be great. Gary Quandt will have some materials ready. If you have a dozer, please contact Mr. Quandt!

2019 Match Schedule and events calendar

Available online at <http://www.amlgc.com/events/>

Additions may appear as emails and Facebook posts. We'll try to put up some details of other shoots going on at other clubs, or links to what may be of interest, as well as rendezvous or other doings elsewhere.

2019 AMLGC Shoot Schedule

- **January 6th** – Various targets 25 and 50 yds, 25 yd pistol shoot
- **January 20th** – Black Powder Cartridge 200, 300, 385 meters
- **February 3rd** – Bench Shoot, 50, 100 yard; round bull targets
- **February 17th** – Black Powder Cartridge 200, 300, 385 meters
- **February 23rd** – Civil War Skirmish: Smoothbore skirmish (morning), individuals in afternoons
- **February 24th** – Civil War Skirmish: Musket skirmish (9 am)
- **March 3rd** -Ground hog & 6 Bull (25 yds), 3 bull & Bear (50 yds), 25 yd pistol
- **March 8th-10th** – *Brady State Shoot**
- **March 17th** – Black Powder Cartridge 200, 300, 385 Meters
- **April 7th** – 40 shot Club silhouette shoot (9am – 4 pm)
- **April 21st** – Black powder cartridge
- **April 26th-28th** – *Brierfield skirmish**
- **May 5th** – Cross sticks – Buffalo targets (50 & 100 yds), 25 yard pistol shoot
- **May 15th-19th** – *N-SSA Nationals**
- **May 19th** – Black Powder Cartridge
- **May 25th** – Civil War Skirmish: Smoothbore skirmish (morning), individuals in afternoons
- **May 26th** – Civil War Skirmish: Musket skirmish (9 am)
- **June 2nd** – Blanket Shoot (\$10.00 prize for entry) night-mare and squirrel at 25 yds, Deer and Bear at 50 yds; 25 yd Pistol
- **June 4th-9th** – *Brady State Shoot**
- **June 16th** – Black powder cartridge
- **July 7th** – Watermelon shoot, varied targets (25 – 50 yds), 25 pistol shoot
- **July 21st** – Black Powder Cartridge
- **July 27th** – Civil War Skirmish: smoothbore skirmish (morning), individuals in afternoon
- **July 28th** – Civil War Skirmish: musket skirmish (9am)
- **August 4th** – Bench shoot, 50 & 100 yards, round bulls
- **August 11th** – 25 & 50 yard silhouette
- **August 18th** – Black Powder Cartridge
- **August 24th** – Reenactors shoot 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM
- **September 1st** – Animal targets, 25 & 50 yards, 25 yard pistol
- **September 15th** – Black Powder Cartridge
- **October 6th** – 25 and 50 yard surprise targets, 25 yard pistol
- **October 2nd-6th** – *Brady State Shoot/ N-SSA Nationals*
- **October 20th** – Black powder cartridge

- **October 26th** – Civil War Skirmish: Smoothbore skirmish (morning), individuals in afternoon
- **October 27th** – Civil War Skirmish: Musket skirmish (9 AM)
- **November 3rd** – Cross Sticks, Turkey Shoot, Buffalo targets (50 & 100 yds), 25 yd pistol shoot
- **November 17th** – Black Powder Cartridge
- **December 1st** – Holiday Shoot, Knife shoot, Round bull targets (25 & 50 yds), 25 yd pistol shoot
- **December 8th** – Black Powder Cartridge

Match Guidelines:

All First Sunday matches will be shot with a 14 lb. maximum weight rifle, any metallic sights. Projectile will be a patched round ball only for rifle matches. NMLRA, TMLRA, NRA, and local club rules will apply for all matches. Matches will start at 9:00 a.m. Arrive and set-up by 8:30 if you want to practice. We will have 4 to 6 relays for the rifle matches. Pistol matches may use round ball or conical bullets. Revolvers must use coated / treated wads or grease to prevent chain fires, or only load one chamber at a time. Shooters will have to make 6 shoots to qualify for awards. There will be 2 floating classes; 1/3 will be A-class and 2/3 will be B-class.

*Events marked in italics are not held at our range. These are included because if a shooter misses a match because he/she attended a conflicting TMLRA or N-SSA match, there will be an opportunity to make up a match, on request. The make-up will be scheduled before the next club match on a date set by the match committee. A member of the board will be present to witness the shoot.

Other Events:

We have three 4-H clubs that use our range. One shoots on Sat. and two shoot on Sun. On these days the 4-H clubs control the range while they are there shooting.

Sunday 6 Jan 2019 First Sunday of 2019 match scores:

Scores for January 6th

Class A

25 yd Squirrel

- 50 yd 1 Bull**
1. Bill Knipscher 39
1. Rich Beardsley 45
 2. Dennis Rich 39
2. Ken Rupkalvis 44
 3. Clif Denny 26
3. Clif Denny 43

25 yd Deer

1. Clif Denny 48
2. Dennis Rich 42
3. Bill Knipscher 38x

50 Yd Buffalo

1. Dennis Rich 45
2. Ken Rupkalvis 43
3. Bill Knipscher 43

Agg Scores 1. Dennis Rich 168 2. Bill Knipscher 159 3. Clif Denny 153

Class B

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Ian Straus 41
1. Gary Quandt 43 | 1. Gary Quandt 46
2. Greg Delk 34 | 1. Greg Delk 39
2. Gary Quandt 38 |
| 2. John Burke Sr. 33
2. Greg Delk 41 | 3. John Burke Jr. 32 | 3. John Burke Sr. 35 |
| 3. Gary Quandt 30
3. John Burke Jr. 37 | | |

Agg Scores 1. Gary Quandt 157 2. Greg Delk 140x 3. John Burke Jr. 126

Class C

1. Dave Carlson 10 2. Dave Carlson 29 3. Dave Carlson 18 4. Dave Carlson 5
Agg Score Dave Carlson 62

Class A Pistol 1. Cliff Denny 85x 2. Dennis Rich 72 3. Ken Rupkalvis 35
Class B Pistol 1. Ian Straus 63 2. John Burke Sr. 60 3. Greg Delk 50

Pennsylvtucky Rifles? Why so?

Norwegian champion muzzle loader and arms historian Øyvind Flatnes argues in *From Musket to Metallic Cartridge* (Crowood Press, 2013), p. 54, that “Kentucky Rifle” is a misnomer. Long before Johnny Cash’s friend “The Spectacular” Johnny LaGale Horton (*30 Apr 1925--†5 Nov 1960 traffic collision near Milano, Milam Co., TX) recorded his 1960 Grammy Award winning “The Battle of New Orleans” about the polyglot U.S. Army, Western militia, pirates, and other denizens of the Mississippi Basin under future POTUS Andrew Jackson who defeated the British “8 JANUARY 1815, there had been an earlier song. “The Hunters of Kentucky” in 1821 built on both the story of the battle, and the popular culture icon of the “long hunter” and folk heroes like Daniel Boone, who went far beyond the Cumberland Gap into what is now the state of Kentucky. The lyrics included the lines:

But Jackson he was wide awake.
And was not scar’d at trifles,
For well he knew what aim we take,
With our **Kentucky rifles**.

While certainly some southern long rifles were made in Kentucky, most came from **ahem** Pennsylvania, Virginia, Ohio, North Carolina, Indiana, and even *New York*. It just goes to show, I suppose, that if you set it to music, and the catchy tune is a hit, you’ll have the misnomer become the more widely utilized name? Incidentally, a group of filibuster secret societies called the “Hunter’s Lodges” adopted the song and in November 1838 invaded Windmill Point, Ontario in a sort of quasi-Texian-style attempt to aid Republican and reformist Canadian rebels who sought to overthrow oligarchic colonial rule. The rebellion had been put down with customary severity, executions, deportations to “Vandyman’s Land” or Tasmania and Australia, and much brutality. The “Kentucky Hunters” were defeated by Canadian loyalist militia, some British troops and sailors, and on the U.S. side of the border were disarmed and arrested by U.S. authorities who hardly relished the prospect of still another war with Great Britain. The leader of the Hunters, a Swede-Finn named Nils Gustaf Ulric von Schoultz, saw in the oppressed Canadian reformists the Poles of Czarist Russia closer to his homeland. He was convicted by a military court martial and hanged, along with ten other Hunter Patriots. Sixty suffered transportation to Australia. Others were jailed, but ultimately pardoned and released.