



ALAMO MUZZLE LOADING GUN CLUB

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since 1964

SMOKE SIGNAL

January 2021 newsletter

Happy New Year! Out with the old 2020, in with the new 2021! Hope you and yours had a pleasant and restful holiday season!

RENEWED YET? With a new year, comes the need to renew your membership—unless you are a life member—with the Alamo Muzzle Loading Gun Club. Come February, your gate access code will be switched off if you have not done so by then.

Q: “How do I renew?” A: Two things: 1) “Fill out and sign a lien release form for the year 2021, which is required for legal reasons. We can’t just ‘roll over’ or ‘grandfather’ your 2020 lien release, unfortunately. While that would be simpler, and is what we’ll do with your redacted license on file, we cannot with the lien release. So be sure to include the lien release.” 2) “Write out a check, or get a money order, for \$125.00 USD made out to the Alamo Muzzle Loading Gun Club for your 2021 membership dues.” Send the items to John Burke, Sr., Treasurer, or to me, ex-Secretary Dave Carlson at 212 Alexander Ave. San Antonio, TX 78201. You could always send an email message to the club explaining that your materials are on the way, as a number of you have done so. Thank you very much!

Do you have someone you want to sponsor for new membership? Recall, that each member in good standing can recommend and sponsor up to three people for membership. Better move on it too, as the slots are filling up. A number of new members and prospects showed up to the 2 January yearly business meeting, and others to the first Sunday 3 January shoot at various targets on the 25 and 50-yd. ranges! Don’t procrastinate and miss out!

New Board of Directors for the Year 2021: There are some old faces on the board again this year, but some of the jobs have changed. Ian Straus and I will be switching jobs, with Ian resuming his role as Secretary for the club, and with me going into his spot as Entertainment chair. Bill Knipscher is the AMLGC President for 2021. Clif Denny is the Match director. Dennis Rich continues on as Vice President. John Burke, Sr. serves as the Treasurer. Gary Quandt is the chief Range safety officer and maintenance coordinator. John Burke, Jr. is our member at large. Ian Straus is Secretary. Dave Carlson is Entertainment chair for the year. Of course the newsletter often involved contributions from Ian and other members, so that will continue. It will continue to be emailed out to members, and we will post it online at the club website under “NEWS” just as we have since August 2017. We’ll also post it on the club’s Facebook page too. If you’d like a mailed copy for some reason, kindly remit 12 self-addressed, stamped envelopes and we’ll send one out via the USPS.

ALAMO MUZZLE LOADING GUN CLUB 2021 MATCH SCHEDULE

(Make a copy of this for your refrigerator door or calendar. A copy will go on the club house bulletin board at the range.)

Watch for added dates, including updated events, and the Civil War skirmish schedule!

- 3 January – various targets at 25 and 50-yds. and a 25-yd. pistol shoot.
- 7 February—bench shoot, 50 and 100-yds. Round bulls-eye targets.
- 7 March—Ground hog and 6-bull targets at 25-yds. 3-bull and bear targets at 50-yds. 25-yd. pistol shoot.
- 4 April—The 40-shot club silhouette shoot.
- 2 May—cross sticks at buffalo targets, 50 and 100-yds.
- 6 June—The blanket shoot: bring a trade item worth approx. 10 dollars, or ten dollars. Winner takes first pick off the blanket. “Nightmare” & squirrel targets at 25-yds., deer and bear targets at 50-yds. 25-yd. pistol shoot.
- 4 July—Happy Independence Day! Watermelon shoot, with silhouette targets at 25 & 50-yds.
- 1 August—Bench shoot, round bulls-eye targets at 50 & 100-yds.
- 21 August—Re-enactor shoot.
- 5 September—Animal targets at 25 & 50-yds. Also, a 25-yd. pistol match.
- 3 October – Cross-sticks silhouette shoot at 50 & 100 yards.
- 7 November—Turkey shoot. Cross-sticks at buffalo targets at 50 & 100 yards, and a 25-yd. pistol shoot.
- 5 December—Holiday shoot—the knife shoot, with a knife for grand prize. Round bull targets at 25 & 50-yds. The last 25-yd. pistol shoot of 2021.
- *1 or 8 January 2022, TBA. Yearly business meeting.

Match guidelines and rules: All first-Sunday matches will be shot with a 14-lb. maximum-weight rifle, any metallic sights. Projectiles will be patched round balls only for rifle matches. National Muzzle Loading Rifle Assn., Texas Muzzle Loading Rifle Assn., National Rifle Assn., and local AMLG club rules will apply for all matches. All matches start at 9am, so come earlier for set up, particularly if you want to practice. We will have four to 6 (4 to 6) relays for the rifle matches. Pistol matches may use round ball or conical bullets. Revolvers must use coated or treated wads or grease to prevent chain fires, or, only load one chamber at a time. Shooters will have to make 6 shots or matches to qualify for awards in the rifle and 3 pistol shoots total to qualify for awards in pistol categories. There will be two (2) “floating” classes: 1/3rd will be A-class, and 2/3rds will be B-class. If a shooter misses a match because he or she attended a conflicting TMLRA or N-SSA match, there will be an opportunity to make up a match upon request. The make-up match will be scheduled before the next first Sunday club match on a date set by the match committee. A member of the board of directors will be present to witness the make-up.

2 January 2021 Business Meeting:

Thank goodness for beautiful weather and mild temperatures! The yearly meeting was held on the first Saturday of the new year, 2 Jan 2021 at the club's private range in La Coste, Medina Co., Texas. Due to the pandemic precautions, the meeting was held out of doors, with participants bringing their own chairs to sit on. Attendance was good, with approximately 1/3rd of the club's membership and some of their family members turning out. A number of new members also came out.

The officers of the Board of Directors (BoD) gave reports, and questions and input from attendees was elicited. If you've got any curiosity about muzzle loading or black powder, please do consider coming out and giving it a try. On the first Sunday, there is room available, and many members have extra firearms and powder and shot if you'd like to give it a try.

One salient issue for this year is construction and maintenance of our range. Look for announcements of volunteer work parties. In terms of construction, we have to put new roofing over the firing lines, since storms and wear and tear, winds, etc. have put holes in the cladding or sheeting, and some pieces need replacement. The old, now disused shower building will get retrofitted and repurposed into a target storage shed. The old target shed, and the pantry "walk in closet" on the side of the building will be opened up into a larger internal space for the club house, one more conducive to holding meetings, particularly during the ongoing pandemic. The porch and portions of the roof have rotted away, and are long overdue for replacement.

We have to rebuild and shore-up the berms in some instances. Purple paint must be re-applied along the property line, particularly the new acquisition of almost 12 acres, which is leased to a local farmer.

Further, in addition to reinforcing the berms/ back stops, we really would like to separate out the 200-yard and up ranges from the 100-yard and under ranges, so that these can use different range commands like "commence firing" or going "hot" or "cease fire" and going "cold." We need dirt! We need the means of transporting more dirt! The bathrooms need new walls and some other improvements, or even "amenities!" If you've got skills that we could use, please do let a member of the board of directors know!.

RANGE SAFETY—The same New Years Resolution every year!

Guest policy—2 at a time only, or prior notification of more.. Fill out the guest lien release for each and every visit by a non-member (members have their lien releases on file) and pay the ten dollar fee, and put it in the box. It can be difficult to read some handwriting, so try to print. Trespassing with a firearm in Texas is a felony. Don't trespass on our private range.

Firing beyond the firing line: Do not walk forward of the line to shoot at the target. Remain on the firing line. We don't move and shoot here. Go elsewhere for that type of sport. We will find you, and you'll have to go before the board.

No modern centerfire rifle shooting on lanes 1-7 on the 100 yard line. There is a house 1,700 yards away. So we cannot have modern firearms at those seven lanes. Some four gun ranges in Travis Co. have been shut down because of lawsuits. We could easily go the same way—so SAFETY is everyone's priority and responsibility!... So please, keep all shots in the berm. Remember: ALL SHOTS MUST IMPACT the BERM!

2020 Alamo Muzzle Loading Gun Club AWARDS:

A class rifle—3rd. Rich Beardsley 1132 x

2nd. Dennis Rich 1174 8x

1st Bill Knipscher 975x

B class rifle—3rd. Alex Michlberger 382 3x

2nd Gary Quandt—839 4x

1st John Burke, Jr. 954 5x

A-class pistol

2nd John Burke, Sr. 321 x

1st 400 x Clif Denny.

B-class pistol

2nd. Ian 271

1st Gary Quandt 310

Top rifle—9 places:

9th Ian Straus 663 x Avg. 18.4

8th John Burke, Sr. 771 3x Avg. 21.4

7th Alex Michlberger 382 3x Avg. 23.9

6th Gary Quandt 839 4x Avg. 26.2

5th John Burke, Jr. 954 5x Avg. 26.5

4th Clif Denny 1046 9x Avg. 29.1

3rd Rich Beardsley 1132 x Avg. 31.4

2nd Dennis Rich 1174 8x Avg. 32.6

1st Bill Knipscher 975 x (above average...Avg. 34.8) Some missed matches.

Top pistol

4th Ian Straus 271

3rd Gary Quandt 310

2nd John Burke, Sr. 321x

1st Clif Denny 400x

Max Schneider Grand Aggregate:

3rd John Burke, Sr. 1092 4x

2nd. Gary Quandt 1149 5x

1st Clif Denny 1446 10x

St.-Leger award. Dennis Rich announced the award, which has been bestowed on a particular member who has done outstanding service for the club, going on 20 years or so. The award goes to that special someone who goes above and beyond, and has long done so. The awardee for 2020 is long-time member, volunteer, and officer of the Board of Directors, Mr. **Ian Straus**. Ian richly deserves it!

Announcement:

The TFT and Rendezvous folks advise holding the following RENDEZVOUS date, with more information forthcoming soon:

FT is currently planning to hold a rendezvous February 11-14, 2021 in Shiner, Texas. Date is between TAB's and SWRR's rendezvous. More details to follow. We are taking notice of Covid restrictions and will not be sharing food in a potluck.

JANUARY first Sunday match scores:



Clif Denny Tue, Jan 5, 5:37 PM (13 days ago)

to Ian, me

Hi Ian –

Good to see you all last weekend. For the *Smoke Signal* newsletter, these are the Jan Scores:

Class A:		25 Yd Prarie Dog		25 Yd Racoon		50Yd Bear		50Yd Buffalo
	1	Bill Knipscher 38	1	Bill Knipscher 49 x	1	Alan Pinel 40 x	1	Bill Knipscher 47
	2	Dennis Rich 36	2	Clif Denny 43	2	Bill Knipscher 37 2x	2	Michael Collins 37
	3	Michael Collins 36	3	Michael Collins 30 x	3	Lucky Pruitt 34 2x	3	Dennis Rich 30
Class B:								
	1	John Burke, Jr 43	1	Alex Michlberger 37	1	Dave Carlson 30	1	John Burke, Jr 45
	2	John Burke, Sr 32	2	John Burke, Jr 35	2	Alex Michlberger 29	2	Alex Michlberger 41
	3	Dave Carlson 32	3	John Burke, Sr 30	3	John Burke, Sr 18	3	John Burke, Sr 34
Class A Rifle Agg:			1	Bill Knipscher 171 3x	2	Michael Collins 132 2x	3	Clif Denny 132 x
Class B Rifle Agg:			1	John Burke, Jr 139	2	Alex Michlberger 133	3	John Burke, Sr 114
Class A Pistol:			1	Chuck Rine 90	2	Clif Denny 80	3	Dennis Rich 70
Class B Pistol:			1	Ian Straus 43				

Thanks very much! See you at the range!

Regards, Dave Carlson.

