

THE EAGLE'S SCREAM

Bald Eagles Rifle Club, Box 604, Raton, NM 87740

JUNE 2014

IMPROVEMENTS AT THE 1000 YARD LINE

Lige Harris provided me with the included photographs of improvements to the 1000 yd. line at the Tubb Range on Whittington Center. They are pouring concrete curbs along the front and back of the firing line, and filling between with coarse gravel. This should eliminate the problem of “boulders” under your mat when you get into position, and should provide a level surface to fire on. It’s been a long time coming! Let’s be sure to thank the Center personnel for their work on this project.

I understand they will attempt to do a firing line every year starting at 1000 and moving forward. The range is already one of the best in the country and it just keeps getting better.



The construction in progress, and the finished product for 1000 yard line work.

BY-LAW CHANGE PROPOSED

It has been proposed to change the By-Laws of the Bald Eagles Rifle Club to lower the ages required to join and to hold office. At the current time the age to join is 55 and the age to hold office is 60. This will be voted on at the membership meeting scheduled for September 9, 2014. The reasoning for the change is that the pool of older "veteran" shooters is dwindling and the Club needs to stay current with the needs and desires of the shooters coming on. In addition, the original purpose of the Club was to support and fund the Veterans Rifle Team. The funding for the team is now under the umbrella of the Palma Team, so the mission of the Bald Eagles needs to change. Be sure to attend the membership meeting in September and cast your vote.

TEAMS AT CAMP PERRY

Those of you who are planning to attend the big shoot at Perry this year should contact Allen Elliott to get on a team (aeshoots@yahoo.com). We have been very successful in years past with the team matches so don't miss this opportunity to get your name on a Bald Eagles Team.

SWEAT SHIRTS FOR SOA SHOOTERS

We are giving each competitor who enters the Spirit of America matches a very nice sweatshirt with a zipper at the neck and the Bald Eagles logo embroidered on it. The color will be gray and there won't be a date on it, so we can give them at other future matches. Bill Lair is handling this effort so, a round of applause for Mr. Lair please!

SUPER PRIZE FOR SOA '14

Tom Cunningham has worked his magic with Savage Arms and with Nightforce Optics to provide door prizes at the awards banquet. The most desirable will be a Savage Model F Class rifle with the Spirit of America laser engraved into the stock and fitted with a Nightforce competition scope. Our thanks to Tom for his efforts!

SPIRIT OF AMERICA 2014

The NRA has taken the moniker "Fullbore National Championship" away from the Spirit of America matches for the years 2014 and 2015. This is to encourage participation in the World Palma Championships coming to Camp Perry in 2015. They promised to give it back in '16 (We will have to see about that. If it makes money for them, we may never get it back. For now, it's temporary).

We will still hold a Spirit of America match at Raton this year, (September 5-12), and your president, John Gaines is acting as Match Director. I predict that we will have a good turnout just because lots of people don't like to drive to Ohio to shoot when they could be in New Mexico where the sky is always sunny and the targets are easy to pull. We already have nine British shooters indicating they will come.

So far I have a good team of volunteers working the match. Bill Lair is finance guru, Allen Elliott is handling prizes and sponsors and Tom Cunningham has arranged for another Savage rifle and a Nightforce 'scope. Mike StClair and Dennis VanLier are "Center Line", Jim O'Connell and Karin Liebetrau are handling stats, and Steve Rossi and Robert Churchill are honchos in the pits. Doesn't get much better than that!

We will still need some volunteers and helpers. There are always packets to stuff, tables to set up, targets to paste, etc. So please volunteer to help. We need someone to drive the porta-pottie truck. If you can drive a large truck please “step up to the plate”. (If you drive slowly I promise it won’t splash on you.)

I will keep the membership informed via “the Scream” newsletter, but for now, remember, this is a Club and you are members. If you can help, give me a call. Also, if you want to shoot for one of our many prizes and trophies, get your entry in soon. We will need a projected attendance for planning purposes.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN PALMA & SANTA FE MATCHES

These matches are scheduled for July 7-13 and will follow their usual format. Lige Harris and Trudie Fay are jointly working to organize these matches. Many of the same volunteers who will help with the SOA are helping with these matches too. Volunteers are always needed so don’t be bashful and call these folks to offer your services. John Gaines is also serving as match director for these matches so Lige and Trudie can shoot. They are doing the footwork and getting things going. I’ll have more information as we go along.

AGAIN: DUES ARE DUE

Just a reminder that all must pay their dues. The amount is \$25 if you are a youngster (55 to 60) and \$30 if you are more mature (60 plus). Please send your checks made out to “The Bald Eagles Rifle Club” to Bill Lair, 185 McIntosh E., LaCrescent, MN, 55947.

We now have a service that allows you to pay on line. The following is from Leo Cebula our web guru:

"If you have accessed the BEREC web site (<http://www.baldeaglerc.org>) recently you probably noted a major change from the previous version. We have implemented the new site using a service from the Wild Apricot Company, an NRA recommended vendor.

The service has provided us the means to handle on-line entries for our competitions, on-line membership renewals, and method to keep track of members and contacts easily. We have integrated the system with PayPal to allow on-line payments for entries and memberships, as well as donations (I case you were thinking about that!). Additionally, the service provides a forum that can be used to discuss topics of interest to the membership, or to post announcements and newsletters. Please take the time to look over the new site, and try it's features."