

BGSL Sportsman Trails



President's Corner

Special points of interest:

- Time to enjoy the weather
- Constitutional Amendment being voted on regarding dues
- Make sure your email address is current. A lot of reminders are sent out via BGSL BLAST

Spring is finally here and we can shed a few of our outer garments and get about doing the things we love at our club. There are some articles included in this edition of Sportsmen's Trails which describe some activities [old and new] that will display and highlight what we do. A lot of thought and planning has gone into these activities. Please come out and meet old and new friends and try some new activities. This should be an excellent opportunity to recruit a new member.

Clay Caudill [Chairman of the range committee] has some further enlightenment on the future of the G-P and rifle range. The range committee has done yeoman's work and has put in countless hours. We all owe them a debt of gratitude. The final plan should be something with which we will be happy and it should be much safer with baffles.

Jim Gaddis has details on our exciting membership drive. Recruit a member and you may win one of two guns.

Our slogan for the rest of the year must be "Each member recruit a member."



Bill Blackburn

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Important News

A constitutional amendment has been made by Freddie May and seconded by Herbert Rhorer. It was voted on and passed at the March 3, 2009 meeting. The second reading was on April 7 2009. The third reading, discussion and vote on the amendment will be on May 5 2009. The amendment is as follows:

Annual dues for members 65 years old and older and who have been a member of the Blue Grass Sportsman's League for ten [10] years or longer. Those members' dues will revert back to \$125.00 annually and will remain frozen until that member leaves by dropping out or by his or her death.

League Officers:

President Bill Blackburn 859-278-1486
 Secretary Robbie Mulcahy 859-421-5408
 Treasurer John Ruland 859-492-9719

Membership Drive Contest

By Jim Gaddis

At the February general membership meeting a new contest was announced. We have been promoting this contest on the website, via the BGSL Blast and at the general membership meetings. So what is the contest? The BGSL member in good standing who recruits the most new members by July 31st will have his or her choice from 1 of 5 items each valued at approximately \$1,000.

- Kimber Tactical Custom II .45ACP
- Benelli M2 12Ga.
- DPMS AR15
- Matthews Reezen Bow + \$300 to outfit it
- Remington 700 MilSpec R5 in .308

In order to participate in the contest YOU MUST BE LISTED AS THE SPONSOR MEMBER ON THE NEW MEMBER'S APPLICATION. This is the only way we can track the contest accurately and fairly.

Did you already tell all of your family and friends about the lowered initiation fee back in January? If so, as a "thank you" the contest dates will be retro-active to

January 1st, 2009.

Members recruited during this contest will still apply toward regular recruiting incentives. These incentives are as follows:

- Recruit 3 new members in a calendar year and receive \$50 off your next year's dues.
- Recruit 5 new members in a calendar year and receive your next year's membership for free.
- Recruit 50 new members in an 8 year period and receive a free life membership.

With the reduced initiation fee (only \$25) this is one of the best times to join the club and the current incentives make this one of the best times to recruit members.

President's Challenge

Every BGSL member who participates in the contest by bringing in at least 1 new member will be entered in a drawing for a Ruger LCP. This gun is very small, very nice shooting, very popular and very difficult to find.



Current Statistics (As of April 23, 2009)

By the end of March the Statistics were as follows.

Most recruits for one member: **4**

Number of members currently entered in the drawing for the Ruger LCP: **46**

**Total number of new members who have listed sponsor members since Jan 09: 58*

Contest Rules

The winner will receive the firearm through an FFL and must legally be able to own the gun.

**Members of the Board of Directors of BGSL are not eligible to participate in the contest.*

***New members recruited at events specifically designed for recruiting will not be included in a members tally. (example is the Sport, Boat & RV Show)*

Please note, the grand prize winner will not be entered in the drawing for the drawing of the Ruger LCP.



The Club Wins And You Win



We will also be looking for volunteers to help with the baffle con-



Changes Coming To General Purpose And Rifle Range By Clay Caudill

As you may remember, we have been on the path to improving safety on the BGSL range for the last year or so. We have changed considerably the way we handle firearms on the ranges and have stationed Range Officers in the Practical Pits, the Rifle Range, and the General Purpose Range. It has always been our plan to add structures called baffles to the ranges which will absorb those rounds fired far enough off target that they would leave a range.

In April of last year we contracted with one of the leading range design firms in the U.S., Vargas & Associates, to provide plans for the specifications and positioning of the baffles. In the process of providing requirements for the designs, we also took a hard look at the way the ranges are currently used. As you can imagine, the designer's work and our discussions have lead to some changes. Here's what we plan to do:

300 Yard Range

The 300 yard range will become the Centerfire Rifle range, configured so that you can sight-in a rifle at 25 or 50 yards, then fire it all the way to 300 yards. We will add an earthen berm at about 55 yards to safely collect the shorter shots. Approximately half the shooting positions will be available for 25/50 yard and half for 100, 200, and 300 yard shooting.

The tubes will be moved from the GP range and placed so they shoot into the 50 yard portion of the Centerfire range.

100/50 Range

The current General Purpose Range will become the "Rimfire/Handgun Range". This range will have baffles installed to prevent a round fired from the line getting out of the range and off of BGSL property. Of course we already have a baffled area that allows short range shooting (approximately 7, 10, and 12 yards). We will add baffles on the 50 and 100 yard areas, providing targets at 15, 25, 50, 75 and 100 yards.

No doubt, it is a big change to move centerfire rifles to the 300 yard range, but there are some good reasons. First is how the members use our ranges. Our observation, as well as the data collected from the range sign-in sheets, is that there are a lot of folks shooting rimfire on our ranges. In fact, about 45% of the rounds fired on the current GP range are 22lr. Handgun cartridges (9mm, 38spl, 45ACP, 40SW) make up an additional 35% of the rounds fired, so about 80% of the rounds fired on GP are rimfire or handgun. There is also more blast and noise from a centerfire rifle. This is not a problem if everyone on the line is making the ruckus, but a guy shooting a 22 rifle next to a guy shooting a

338WM can be a bit uncomfortable.

The second reason for moving centerfires to the 300 yard range is the cost of baffles. It is much more expensive (3 or 4x) to build baffles to contain centerfire rifle rounds. By designating one range as Rimfire/Handgun ONLY, we can build lighter, less expensive baffles on that range. Further cost savings can be realized because a baffled range does not need as much attention from an RO. This allows us to expand the amount of time the range is open with the same expenditure for RO labor.

What's happening now? We are finalizing the designs with the consultant, and getting bids for the earthworks. You should see bulldozers on the property in the next 30 – 45 days, and baffle construction soon after. This work may require some short term weekday range closures, we will communicate them as far in advance as possible. We will also be looking for volunteers to help with the baffle construction. If you are interested, contact me via e-mail (clay.caudill@gmail.com) or phone 859-433-9274. Much more to come – watch the website (www.bgslinc.com) and the BGSL Blast.

BGSL How-to Seminar

By Tom Cottingim

BGSL How-to Seminar

May 30, 2009

Main Clubhouse 10am-4pm



Ever thought about reloading your shotgun shells, but just aren't sure you have the skill? What about tying that special fly for a fishing trip? Most of us don't possess these skills, although they would be extremely useful. If you fall in this category, or even if you don't, we'd like to invite you for a day of helpful instruction. May 30th, 2009, the Blue Grass Sportsmens League will host a Seminar Day on all the things you'd like to know. Our members will be providing basic instruction and demonstrations on the following subjects:

Metallic Reloading	Clay Caudill
Shotshell Reloading	Charlie Becknell
Fly Tying	Tom Cottingim/Rick Rubeling
Rod Building	David Roberts
Arrow Fletching	Ken Maness
Bow Tuning	Greg Becknell
Gun Smithing/Cleaning	Jay Evans
Flint Knapping	Larry Allen

Sportsmen's Warehouse and Evans Firearms & Archery will be on hand to answer any questions about purchases you may want to make for your preferred sport.

Once you get your head full of information, we invite you to get your belly full of good food. The Youth Committee will have lunch and snacks available on site – all proceeds go to support youth activities at our club.

1st Annual BGSL Outdoor Days & Sportsmens Expo June 5th, 6th & 7th, 2009

In a time of economic instability, we are all looking for family activities where you get more bang for your buck. Well, look no further – your league is sponsoring a family weekend just for your enjoyment. With events, food and entertainment – there is going to be something for everyone – novice to pro, young to old.

1st Annual BGSL Outdoor Days & Sportsmens Expo (continued)

Friday evening, we will gather around the campfires for hot dogs, marshmallows, and tall tales about the big one that got away. You'll need your rest because Saturday...

We'll begin with breakfast (made available by the Youth Committee), then span out among the venues of your choice.

- Youth - NASP style tournament in the hay field next to the Casting Ponds
- Casting - 5/8 oz bait casting tournament (your equipment or ours).
- Archery – a 3D target shoot in the woods, along with General Purpose Range – 20, 30, 40 & 50 yd targets provided.
- Trap – Introduction to Trap Shooting – Everything you always wanted to know – bring your own gun and shells - \$4.25/round of 25 targets (a limited number of shells will be available at \$6/box).
- Skeet & Sporting Clays – Sporting Clays orientation seminar – bring your own gun and shells - \$4.25/round of 25 targets
- Rifle – 100 yd competition – bring your own rifle with scope
- Black Powder – Basics of black powder shooting – rifle and pistol
- Air Rifle – Reactive targets shooting

Pistol – Steel shoot - .22 pistols

Lunch will be available at various venues across the property.

For those who just want to enjoy a little nature, the walking trails are open and we will have hay rides beginning in the afternoon. For the musicians, there will be a tent at the main clubhouse available for open bluegrass jam sessions. For the risk takers, there's always the raffle room in the main clubhouse.

We'll end our day on Saturday with an old fashioned Pig Roast followed up by a Bluegrass music concert performed by Stringtown.

Sunday will begin with breakfast (made available by the Youth Committee) and a morning prayer meeting by our own, Reverend Tom Cottingim. Afterward, go back to the venues you enjoyed most or go to the ones you didn't get to on Saturday. The venues will be open for your enjoyment – no competitions on this day.

This event will be open to the public. Tell your co-workers. Bring your friends. Let them see what we offer. The initiation fee has been waived. A new member can join for \$225 (includes gate card and application fee).

There will be great things for new members on this weekend. Orientation will be available on Saturday at the Delabar Youth Lodge at various times.

Join this weekend and be entered in the "New Member" door prize drawings. Some of the prizes to be won – a 2 day bird hunt package, a day of bait/fly casting instruction for a family, 2 rounds for 2 people of 3D archery, ½ day basic pistol instruction for 2, the list goes on...

You're a member – You've paid your dues – Come enjoy your club!

For more information on any particular event or venue – or to pre-register for any event – please see the BGSL website – www.bgslinc.com

Morgan's Meanderings By Terry C. Morgan



I am having a tough time coming up with something to talk about this month, so I have sought the solitude of our sunroom where I don't have to listen to the TV blaring away. Tomorrow is Inauguration Day 2009 and the talking heads are really doing their stuff. I thought maybe a little peace and quiet would go a long way towards letting my mind get into a groove. One of my little cats has come over to help me by getting up on my chest, sinking in her little claws and snuggling up under my nose in order to feel safe and loved. This little cat was named "Lucky" primarily because when we found her, she was being tossed up in the air by our Blue Heeler. He had found her out in the barn and decided to have a little fun with her. He brought her to the house and was playing with her on the patio outside the sunroom when my wife spotted the goings on. She could not have been more than three or four days old and I took her inside and bottle fed her and she pulled out of the shock nicely and has prospered since (even though she has a severe psychiatric problem and will venture out of the house only under the rarest of circumstances). After cuddling her a while it started dawning on me how lucky I am to be able to spend the time with these little animals and not have to feel pressured to get out there and "produce" as most hard working younger people must do. I used to be like that: I would always feel really guilty if I had not accomplished some certain goals each day and could tote up in my mind the positive things I had done that day in order to move my and my family's life forward another notch. But I cannot say it was all my fault. There is terrific pressure from your family, friends, bosses and many other influences that make you feel like you must "accomplish". In the higher education field it was called "publish or perish". They did not want you on staff if you did not regularly increase the pres-

tige of the school with some sound writings that made it look as if their staff was so great that everyone getting ready to enroll in college wanted to go there.

Well, all this ruminating about the issue got me to thinking about the BGSL membership and how a great percentage of them must be under that kind of pressure day in and day out. I joined BGSL back before they moved out to this property (they were in transition and were meeting in the National Guard Armory out by the airport) and it was not until sometime around 1999 that I got a chance to come out to the grounds and start enjoying the fruits. I just did not have the time to enjoy myself unless you can call "accomplishing these goals" enjoying myself. As a member of the Board and also a member of the Membership Committee I have been calling some people that seem to be reluctant about renewing their membership in BGSL. A relatively high percentage of the people we call are no longer available. They have disappeared in the sense that they do not have current telephone numbers or have not disclosed where they have moved to. Another high percentage of those who will not renew claim they do not have the time to come out to the club and use it enough to justify paying dues. Many of them say their children are too young to get any benefit from the youth program and so they are going to drop out for a while. I cannot come up with a good argument to these folks as to why they ought not to do that, so I just express my sincere hope that their circumstances will soon change and they can get back to coming out to the club and finding something that interests them enough to make them want to change their circumstances. To me, that is the real central issue for most of these people. "They have never gotten involved in an activity or with a group of people which have enfolded them into a group that they have really enjoyed". If all they do is come out and zero their deer rifle or help their youngster do a little plinking there really is not much to hold their interest in the club. Just think about it: there must be close to 1500

members out there who just have not integrated themselves into the fabric of this League. Is there anything we can do to help them get more enjoyment from their membership in BGSL?

You might remember in one of my recent articles, I mentioned that Chief Range Safety Officer Matt Jewel was an accomplished deer chili chef. (Please do not criticize me about this because I do know that there must be quite a large group of guys out there that consider themselves master deer chili makers). Well, the word leaked out that he would be serving some of his chili at the GP range this last Sunday. Common sense would tell you where you might find me around noon time on that Sunday. My Mother was always a stickler for proper etiquette and upbringing so I naturally brought along my own spoon, bowl and crackers. My Mother always said that in addition to not bad mouthing the person who is good enough to feed you, you should also try to ease their graciousness by being as little a burden as possible and maybe even take them a little gift. After some thought I said "nah" to that last idea, but a few crackers could not do too much damage. To my surprise, most everyone else had already eaten their fill and I was left to sit there and embarrassingly make slurping noises all by myself. There may have been a day when that would have bothered me but I am well past that now so it did not take a large amount of persuasion at all for me to fill my bowl, whip out my spoon, crumble a few crackers and set to testing the goods. Naturally the chili was delicious as I knew it would be and there was just enough heat in it to make my eyebrows take on a little moisture. After a second helping I reluctantly (my Mother also warned me against wearing out my welcome) laid down my utensils and started to listen to the conversations going on around me. Now, you may not know these fellows but you can take my word for it that they are very accomplished prevaricators. Without me being aware of it developing, a Prevaricator's Circle had formed and was starting to move into full swing. Terry Hager, Bill

Morgan's Meanderings (continued)

Gay (two of our Range Safety Officers), Matt Jewell and Gordon Ironmonger made up the circle in addition to myself. I, of course, felt entirely out of place because I knew that I could not hold a candle to the likes of these professionals. It was pretty easy for them to segue from the conversation about chili to one of the main ingredients: peppers. As soon as the topic of peppers was presented, a maelstrom of stories about the manly art of magicians who could eat peppers that would normally take the paint off a barn issued forth and I could not even get a lie in sideways. I had a story about one of my Mexican shipmates who pulled some terrible tricks on me with peppers but it was foolhardy of me to even try to insert this story because, of course, my story was true and would not stand a chance of being believed. Pretty soon the story line veered off into the direction of various dangerous snakes such as 15 foot rattlers, 240 lb. Copperheads and dragon sized Blue Racers. My goodness, a man did not stand a chance against these fellers. If I had been the local sheriff in the county where Gordon Ironmonger grew up I would have been derelict in my duty if I had not had him in jail most of his young life. Now if you will remember back, I have had some experience in these matters gained in some pretty rough crowds, such as the Muzzleloaders and the Bass Division. I thought those good ole boys knew how to sling BS but they did not hold a shine to these Range Safety Officers. I can only give thanks that the Chaplain did not pick this day to come out and do some RSOing. When they got onto the subject of sleeping in deer blinds and building them, I thought I had them by the short hairs when I relayed the story of how some fellows built a blind on the back of my property and even put in a plate glass window. Without even the batting of an eyelash they scoffed me and asked me to leave if I was going to get downright dishonest about things and I had to pound on the door and beg forgiveness to get back in. I admitted it was really a lie and that I should be treated like a dog and made to go lay in the corner. (It

really was the truth but that is totally irrelevant).

The whole point of this episode is that getting involved with other people at the club is what I believe is the key to getting enjoyment (and your money's worth) from the club. Participation in the various events and Divisions of the club help integrate folks into worthwhile wastes of time like this and lead to education and in-depth intimacy of your fellow members forming a foundation to grow upon. **Just get involved.** If you are one of those people who feel intimidated or uncomfortable about horning in on something you don't know much about or if you don't feel you know enough about some activities to know whether or not you want to become involved in it, then I am going to try to make it easy for you. You may contact me through e-mail at tcmorgan1@windstream.net or you may contact me by phone at either 859-858-4360 or 859-619-4360. I would consider it a privilege to help you through this tough spot and find an entry way to something that might turn out to be fun for you once you get over the initial dash of cold water. How about it?

My wife brought this news snippet to my attention and I am not sure where she got it. It seems a fellow went into the restroom of a local fast food restaurant out in Salt Lake City, Utah and he was wearing a holstered .40 caliber pistol. When he dropped his pants to the floor the gun discharged and pretty much disintegrated the toilet under him. To top it off, it turns out the event happened just two blocks from one our member's temporary home there and he sent me an e-mail about it. I certainly hope our efforts to instill gun safety into our membership will pay off some day in that this kind of carelessness will not be newsworthy. This member appears to be having the time of his life out in Utah hunting and fishing and doing all the great things we all dream of doing in our retirement years. One of these times I am going to try to get a picture of the 25 or 26" Cutthroats that he has sent me into an arti-

Getting involved with other people at the club is what I believe is the key to getting enjoyment (and your money's worth) from the club.

Archery

Air Gun

Bass

Casting

Kitchen

Muzzle Loader

Pistol

Pointer & Setter

Rifle

Skeet and Sporting Clays

Trap

Youth

Something For Everyone

Bluegrass Sportsman Trails



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Welcome To The Bluegrass Sportsman's League

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Frank White.....859-885-9079

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Mike Niblett 859-887-2250

Skeet & Sporting Clays

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Colin Baker 859-396-6148

Trap

Bruce Sanders 859-219-9414

Tim Ore 859-223-6358

Past President

Greg Delabar 859-523-0250

BGSL Chaplain

Tom Cottingim 859-533-8896

INSURANCE DISCOUNTS

Bluegrass Sportsmen's League Personal Insurance Special Savings Program

Auto-Owners Insurance Special Savings Program

Auto-Owners Insurance offers you, as an eligible **Bluegrass Sportsmen's League** member, discounts on your personal insurance. You may now be eligible for:

Personal Insurance

Starting at a 10% Discount

- **Personal Umbrella**
- **Personal Automobile**

Starting at a 7% Discount

- **Homeowners**
- **Condo Owners**

5% Discount

- **Mobile Homeowners**

In addition to competitive rates, a complete line of products, and prompt, friendly claim service, you may be eligible for several additional discounts—such as multi-policy discount—depending upon your individual circumstances.



Who is Auto-Owners Insurance Group?

Auto-Owners Insurance Group is comprised of five property and casualty companies and one life/health/annuity insurer. At year-end 2008 the Group had combined assets of \$13,539,786,591 and nearly 4.6 million personal, commercial and life insurance policies in force. Auto-Owners ranked 444 in the Fortune 500 rankings for 2007.

The financial strength, stability and safety of the Auto-Owners Insurance Group is well documented. The Auto-Owners property and casualty companies are rated A++ (Superior) by A.M. Best Company, a nationally recognized independent insurance company rating organization.

In 2004, Auto-Owners received the 2nd highest rating in a study conducted by a nationally recognized consumer magazine on customer satisfaction with their insurance company's handling of homeowners' claims. The same magazine in 2006 rated Auto-Owners 4th in customer satisfaction relating to personal automobile claims handling.

Auto-Owners Insurance Group's positive growth, SAFE. SOUND. SECURE.[®] investment portfolio, consumer confidence, dedicated associates and local independent agents representing them are what has set Auto-Owners Insurance apart from other insurance companies since 1916. They are known as The "No Problem" People[®].

For More Information Contact:



HERITAGE | insurance

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