

Bullseye Newsletter

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AGAWAM REVOLVER CLUB, INC.



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Welcome, to the 2015 Bullseye.

This is Your Club

Your club is a non-profit corporation, member-owned, with a volunteer Board of Directors, which includes all club officers. Although we hire outside firms for most of the services that we require, such as cleaning, trap maintenance and our recent range expansions, there is always an opportunity to volunteer your time to assist with the operation of the club. If you have an idea that you think would make the club more efficient or safer, please contact one of your board members.

Waiting List!

The big news this year is that, like many other area clubs, we have had to close to new memberships. After reaching 1500 members, the Board of Directors felt that in order to maintain safety on our ranges during peak range usage, keep maintenance manageable and reduce the risks of catastrophic outages it is now necessary to restrict new membership.

Membership is currently FULL and CLOSED to BOTH new members and to those that previously allowed their membership to lapse. In the future, when members fail to renew their membership, they will be replaced by new members from our waiting list.

New Web Site!

We have taken this opportunity to publish a new web site with updated membership information. In addition, the new web site contains more club information and is easier to use.



Please check out the new web site and suggest additional changes.

Ranges

Gate Reader Conduit Problems

In March, the wires to the card reader at our gate failed. It took over a month for the repair to be completed.



The new pull boxes are protected with very large rocks to prevent future damage.

Training, training, training...

Be sure to take full advantage of the training being offered at your club. Traveling to another training facility can be very costly. Take your training seriously! Train often and train hard.

Right Indoor Range Hours

The hours are posted on the door between the indoor ranges. Please do not attempt to open the door outside of these hours, as this sets an alarm condition in our access control system. If you think the hours are too restrictive, please contact a club officer or board member.

Minimum Distance on Indoor Ranges

There is such a potential problem with targets too close that it is necessary to mention it again, even though this has been discussed in a previous newsletter.

There are minimum distance signs painted on the walls of the indoor ranges. This is the minimum distance for 'normal' use of these ranges. The biggest problem exists when there are a combination of factors, such as a very short or very tall person (or a person shooting from a chair) AND a target that is too close. The person shooting MUST 'look through' the target and verify that the bullets are entering the target system funnel (before shooting begins).

Range Safety

Range safety is the responsibility of all those on the range, whether you are a certified range safety officer or not. If you see something unsafe or dangerous, call a 'Cease Fire' immediately. If someone else calls this out, stop shooting, holster or put firearms on safe and together figure out where the problem is.

All bullets must enter the trap funnel indoors and stop in the berm outdoors. 'Look through' your target to see where the bullet will stop.

Events Completed

MA Gun Law for Citizens Seminar

In April, your club facilitated a GOAL (Gun Owners Action League of MA) seminar, 'MA Gun Law for Citizens'. The seminar was fully booked 5 days of the announcement. Jon Green, Director of Education and Training for GOAL, started with an overview of gun laws in the US and then did an in-depth review of MA gun laws.

As a result of the \$10 paid by each of the 50 participants, GOAL received a check for \$500, presented at the event. Many members had good things to say as they were leaving and in follow-up emails.



Other Issues of Interest

Spotlight on Volunteers

We have 'elected volunteers', who are club officers and board members, that manage the club's operation. As you may know, we contract most of the services that we need accomplished but we also have volunteers that clean out lead, clean the ranges and repair target carriers. Please respect our volunteers who donate their time and give them an extra 'Thank you' when you see them working on your behalf. Chuck D. has taken over target carrier maintenance duties. Lou C. removes lead from the trap systems on a regular basis. Mike R. picks up trash, brass and also does daily general cleanup on the indoor and outdoor ranges.

In January, we conducted a class on target carrier repair which was well attended. If you are you interested in taking responsibility for a recurring task or helping on an as-needed basis, contact a club officer or board member.

Discounted NRA Membership

Please consider upgrading your NRA membership. Each year, Cabella's offers a special \$300 NRA Life Membership during their annual 'NRA Weekend'.

Another option is the NRA 'Distinguished Life Membership' which is available year round, if you are 65 or older. It is only \$375. This NRA membership can be paid in full or done on the "Easy Pay" plan. Disabled Veterans are also eligible for this rate.

Even if you don't want to become a NRA Life member, remember that you can always add to or upgrade your NRA membership at any time, which extends your NRA membership. Our web site link provides a discounted NRA membership for 1, 3, and 5 year NRA memberships.

If you are an NRA Associate Member, for only another \$10 per year you receive a magazine subscription, life insurance, firearms insurance, and NRA voting rights.

Complaints

Your Board of Directors receives numerous complaints each month. Each one receives a thorough review. Here are some reminders of your responsibilities when using our facility:

- Eye and ear protection must be worn on our ranges.
- The use of another member's key is not allowed under any circumstances.
- Adult children of a member and children under 12 are treated as guests, not family members.
- Use of your club by unsupervised guests is not allowed and has caused a number of incidents.
- If you bring it to the range, please take it home again.
- Shooting glass, ceramics, etc. is not allowed under any circumstances.
- If you want to shoot at a close target, use a short range.
- Only two guests are allowed per shareholder.
- Range hours are strictly enforced. This is for your safety and to conform to MA state law.

In the last few years, several members have been fined, or had their membership temporarily (or permanently) suspended as result of their actions or the actions of their guests.

Jeffrey R. Snyder Quote

"But to ban guns because criminals use them is to tell the innocent and law-abiding that their rights and liberties depend not on their own conduct, but on the conduct of the guilty and the lawless, and that the law will permit them to have only such rights and liberties as the lawless will allow. ... For society does not control crime, ever, by forcing the law-abiding to accommodate themselves to the expected behavior of criminals. Society controls crime by forcing the criminals to accommodate themselves to the expected behavior of the law-abiding."

For more from Jeffrey Snyder, see the 1993 article, 'A Nation of Cowards' at <http://www.keepandbeararms.com/information/XclBViewItem.asp?ID=1315>

Please check out your new club web site and stay safe.

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