



# BRSC News



VOLUME 3, SPRING EDITION

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

• AED Defibrillator is now operational, located just inside the door at the Clubhouse.

- 1st Sat of Every Month—Defensive Pistol Competition
- 2nd Sat of Every Month—22LR Bench Rest League
- 2nd Sun of Every Month—Cowboy Action Competition
- 3rd Sat of Every Month—National Rifle League Competition
- Open House June 5th, 3pm to 6pm
- Please "Like" the Blue Ridge Shooters Club Facebook page to keep up on all things BRSC

## Blue Ridge Shooters Club

2780 S. River Rd.

Vesuvius, Virginia  
24483

## New Competitions at BRSC

### DEFENSIVE PISTOL COMPETITION

Chester Burke will be the Committee Chair for the new Defensive Pistol Competition. Chester proposed this competition to overwhelming response so BRSC is excited that on the 1st Saturday of each month starting in May you can hone your self-defense skills by competing against others in the club in drills inspired by IDPA rules and procedures. This event is not sanctioned by any governing body other than BRSC Board of Directors and the

committee. This competition is for BRSC members ONLY. There will be a safety briefing before each event starting promptly at 8:30am. No competitor will be allowed to participate if they are not present for the entire Safety Briefing (No Exceptions). Items required to compete are as follows: Eye/Ear Protection, Modern Safe Handgun, IDPA Legal Holster (IWB or OWB), 50 Rds of Range Ammo, Cover Garment, 2 Magazines or 2 Speed Loaders (w/Carrier).

This competition is a fun and intense course of fire where safety is observed with the utmost importance.

### 22LR Benchrest League

This league is for shooters who like to play the long game. League Shooters will be competing the 2nd Saturday of each month, May thru Sept. with a special organization shoot on April 30. League sign-ups completed on April 3rd so, if you didn't sign-up early then come out and watch to prepare for next year. Shooters who compete in every match will be allowed to drop their lowest score at the end of the year. Precision is the key and persistence makes a winner, BRSC Benchrest League will make you a better shooter.

## New First Aid Equipment & Training

Considering the critical health events that occurred at BRSC late last year we have taken steps to help decrease the odds of any other like events. BRSC has installed an AED Heart Defibrillator and new First Aid Boxes and Trauma Kits that include Blood Clotters, Tourniquets, Bandages and other basic First Aid items. These items are strategically placed

in the clubhouse and around the club grounds. BRSC has marked these items in a way that cannot be missed when needed. The AED Heart Defibrillator is the only stationary item and it can be found just inside the Clubhouse door to the left by the computer. Instructions on how to use the Defibrillator in on the AED itself and is known for it ease of use when

needed. BRSC has also been scheduling AED/CPR/Stop the Bleed classes with the Lexington Fire Department. These classes are paid for by the club for BRSC members. Emails have gone out to the members about sign-up for these classes throughout this Spring. If any family members wants to take the class there will be a cost of \$25. Classes are filling up fast.

March 15, 2022 By Brandon Maddox

# EVERYTHING TO KNOW ABOUT THE U.S. AMMO SHORTAGE FOR 2022

If you want to exercise your right to bear arms, you can buy almost any type of gun you want in America. However, since 2021, hunters and other gun owners have had trouble finding ammo for their handguns and rifles.

Why is there an ammo shortage, and how much longer can it last? Keep reading to get answers, including when experts expect the bullet drought to end.

## WHAT HAS BEEN CAUSING AN AMMO SHORTAGE?

Ammo shortages are not new in the U.S. We went through several between 2008 and 2016, and those shortages were due to panic buying and new laws. The current bullet shortage is due to ripple effects caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and other factors discussed below:

### INCREASE IN FIREARMS PURCHASES

Gun buyers must undergo a background check when buying guns from a licensed firearms dealer. According to an FBI report, the background checks performed in 2020 and 2021 surpassed each previous year by over 10 million. The increase in background checks implies that more people bought guns in 2020 and 2021 than in previous years. Note that this data does not cover people who got guns without undergoing a background check, such as through gifts and gun ownership transfers. With more Americans owning guns, more people need ammunition. Even though ammo manufacturers have ramped up production to match demand, bullets are still scarce.

### REMINGTON BANKRUPTCY IN 2018

Remington has been one of the biggest gun and ammo manufacturers in the U.S. since its founding in 1918. However, in 2018 and 2020, Remington filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. The bankruptcy proceedings led to losing investors and revenue, and the company could not keep up ammo production. Remington's paused production led to customers getting their ammo from other brands. Other ammo manufacturers gladly took Remington's customers, but they struggled to cope with the sudden demand increase, contributing to the ammunition shortage. Fortunately, Vista Outdoors has acquired Remington, and the company is working on restoring and boosting ammo production in Remington facilities across the U.S.

### COVID-19 PANDEMIC SUPPLY CHAIN ISSUES

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, shoppers could opt for imported ammo if they couldn't get products from their favorite American brands. However, the ongoing pandemic has disrupted international supply chains, leading to ammo imports into the U.S. dropping by 34%.

Imported ammo that does make it into the U.S. takes longer than usual, and dealers experience shipping delays between 6 to 12 months. The compromised supply chain has made it difficult to import enough ammunition to make up for domestic manufacturers' inability to keep up with the rising ammo demand.

### AMMO IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

Another factor contributing to the ammunition shortage is ammo import restrictions implemented by the government. Currently, the U.S. government has implemented sanctions that restrict the importation of Russian ammunition. The U.S. has also banned the importation of ammo and firearms from

China, Iraq, and several other countries.

### RAW MATERIAL SHORTAGES

Copper is one of the primary materials needed to make bullets. However, due to COVID-19 and other factors, American ammo manufacturers are experiencing a copper shortage. According to Chris Metz, Vista Outdoor CEO, the company's ammunition production facilities have been competing with electric car companies and the U.S. Mint for copper. Vista Outdoor is the parent company of ammo brands like Remington, Federal, CCI, and Speer.

## WHAT CAUSED THE INCREASE IN GUN PURCHASES?

Analysts use federal background checks to estimate gun purchases in the U.S. In 2020, background checks hit an all-time high of 1.2 million in a week and 39 million for the entire year. That's a significant increase from the previous all-time high of 28 million background checks in 2019.

According to the New York Times, American gun buyers increased from 5.3% in 2019 to 6.5% in 2020 (17 million buyers). About one-fifth of these buyers were first-time purchasers, and the gun purchase trend continued until the end of 2021. As we've mentioned, one of the leading causes of the current ammo shortage is increased gun purchases and ownership. So, why are so many Americans suddenly buying guns? Below are some of the top reasons:

### POLITICAL TIES TO GUN PURCHASES

After President Obama became president in 2008, many Americans thought he would tighten gun control laws and restrict gun purchases. Fearing that they would become unable to buy guns, many Americans began panic-buying and hoarding firearms.

Even though Obama never passed any significant gun control laws, firearm manufacturers still could not keep up with the spike in demand, leading to ammo shortages. According to the Washington Post, gun demand slightly dropped after President Trump was elected in 2017. The sudden drop was because President Trump and the Republican Party promised to protect Second Amendment rights. However, during President Trump's term, more people of color and LGBT individuals became gun owners to protect themselves against racial and gender-based violence. According to The COVID States Project, gun demand shot up again in June 2020 due to the Black Lives Matter protests.

### COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic and multiple lockdowns spurred psychological stress and paranoia. Conspiracy theorists touting the end of the world fueled uncertainty and worsened the situation. In response, more Americans bought guns to feel safer as the pandemic and lockdowns became more widespread. Also, like other factories, gun manufacturers stopped production during the height of the pandemic. Fearing long-term scarcity, many gun enthusiasts started panic-buying and hoarding firearms and ammo.

### INCREASE IN SAFETY CONCERNS

A 2021 Gallup survey showed that 88% of Americans own a gun for personal protection or safety. Proof of this is evident in the uptick in gun purchases after gun violence or mass shooting events like Sandy Hook and the Las Vegas Strip massacre.

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In 2020, several anti-racism and police violence protests occurred, leading to injuries, deaths, and damaged properties. For property and personal protection, more Americans bought guns. Firearm purchases during the protests contributed to 2020 having the highest number of background checks and gun purchases on record in the U.S. If you want to exercise your right to bear arms, you can buy almost any type of gun you want in America. However, since 2021, hunters and other gun owners have had trouble finding ammo for their handguns and rifles.

Why is there an ammo shortage, and how much longer can it last? Keep reading to get answers, including when experts expect the bullet drought to end.

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## WHAT PROBLEMS HAS THE AMMO SHORTAGE CAUSED FOR GUN OWNERS?

The ammo shortage has been a blast for several firearm manufacturers. For instance, since 2020, Ammo Inc. and other gun manufacturers have seen their stock prices outperform estimates.

Also, sky-high demand means that manufacturers can count on their products to sell out quickly, leading to increased and faster revenue generation. Some manufacturers are even considering opening more manufacturing plants.

While the bullet shortage has been a blessing for firearm makers, gun owners have found the situation less enjoyable due to issues like:

**COST OF AMMUNITION HAS SPIKED** When demand exceeds supply, manufacturers have the upper hand and can dictate prices. That's why companies like Remington have been able to increase ammo prices multiple times between 2020 and 2021. Consumers have to suffer the increased prices alongside not having access to as much ammo as they want. Even illegal bullets from unregistered dealers, such as hoarders and black-market sellers, the price of ammo is still higher than in previous years.

**RATIONING OF AMMUNITION** Ammo scarcity and high prices have led to hunters and other gun owners rationing their bullets. Otherwise, they could end up with zero ammo and no way to replenish their stock. For this reason, hunters are hunting less, and people are visiting the gun range less often. Some gun owners have even chosen to save their limited ammo for emergencies or necessities.

## WHAT IS THE HARDEST AMMO TO FIND?

The current ammunition shortage has made specific ammo harder to find than others. Some of the hardest to find and most expensive bullets include:

- **30-30 Winchester:** Popular among hunters, this caliber is in high demand and difficult to track down. Even if you can find it, the price is steep, ranging between \$1 and \$2.45 per round, depending on the seller.
- **.308 Winchester:** Another popular choice among hunters and tactical shooters, people around the country are snatching up .308 ammo on sight. If you can find it, you should buy as much as possible, especially since it's cheaper than 30-30 Winchester ammo.
- **.40 Smith & Wesson:** The ammo type fires from 40 S&W semi-automatic pistols and submachine guns. The bullet is hard to find in most physical stores, but you may have better luck finding it online.
- **.223 and 5.56mm NATO:** The .223 Remington and 5.56mm are both useable in AR-15s. However, note that while firing a .223 round from a 5.56mm firearm is relatively safe, firing a 5.56mm round from a .223 gun isn't. If you are among the millions of Americans who own an AR-15, stock up on these ammo types if you can before their prices become even higher.
- **9mm:** 9mm rounds have always sold out quickly because many law enforcement officers use them. If you are a civilian, you may have trouble getting your hands on this caliber, and if you do, it will probably cost about 80 cents to \$1.20 per round.

## WILL THE AMMO SHORTAGE END IN 2022?

Now that you know why the ammo shortage persists, you might be wondering when it will end. Unfortunately, many ammo dealers expect the shortage and price hikes to continue into early 2023, especially if more Americans keep buying guns.

Spring time brings out all the Critters & Varmints so be watchful. We have had several sightings over the last few years of many different varieties of snakes, spiders and such at the range so be careful when entering the outhouses, storage buildings and trap house. They are very adaptable and can find themselves in the most surprising places so please watch your step and avoid them at every chance. Remember the rules at BRSC state "No Hunting Allowed" even if it is the ugliest spider on the planet...YIKES!

If you do happen to encounter any of the local wildlife, just let them go about their way and don't try to engage them unless you are in immediate danger. As it gets warmer, most of the creepy crawlies stay hidden till dark and any other unwanted guests at BRSC will most likely just be passin' through and not really wanting to interact with you anyway. If needed there are First Aid Kits at the Rifle Range, Pistol Range and also the Clubhouse. Lets have a safe and uneventful critter season at BRSC in 2022.

**DON'T FEED  
THE ANIMALS**



# 2022 BRSC Board of Directors

The following people have agreed to continue or agreed to step up and offer their time and effort to make our club a better experience for us all.

All members newly elected to the Board of Directors began his or her position at the BoD meeting on the last Sunday of January and his/her term of service will continue until the 2023 Annual Elections are held.

Committee Chairs are appointed and removed by the Board of Directors.

President  
Jim Wood

Vice President  
Richard Elias

Treasurer  
Barent Parslow

Secretary  
Hugh Bouchelle

Asst. Secretary  
Penelope Ferguson

Asst. Treasurer  
Jack Drago

Members-At-Large  
David Wright

Roy Meditz  
Gary Hayes



## Board of Directors Notes

The Board of Directors are constantly looking for new ways to improve our club in all ways possible. The

Board is only successful when the membership makes themselves available to be a part in those improvements. We encourage all membership to be a

part of what we are doing. BoD meetings held the Sunday before the Regularly Monthly Membership Meeting @ 4pm at the Clubhouse.

## Blue Ridge Shooters Club T-Shirts & Hats



You asked for it...You got it! BRSC now have T-Shirts & Hats for sale. Hats & T-Shirts are \$20 each or you can buy the pair for \$35. These are unisex sizes and available up to 3x (while supply lasts). These are a first come, first serve item where sizes are concerned.

Once these are gone we will be able to order more variety in styles and sizes.

All profit will be used for club improvements, club events and offering more variety in BRSC branded items for members & guests.



# April 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Membership Meeting 2pm	4 Range Maintenance 1pm	5	6	7 Trap Shooters 10am	8 S.A.S Annual Roundup	9 S.A.S Annual Round-up
10 S.A.S Annual Round-up	11 Range Maintenance 1pm	12	13	14 Trap Shooters 10am	15	16 NRL Shoot 9am
17	18 Range Maintenance 1pm	19	20	21 Trap Shooters 10am	22	23
24 BoD Meeting 4pm	25 Range Maintenance 1pm	26	27	28 Trap Shooters 10am	29	30 22LR Bench Rest League

# May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Membership Meeting 2pm	2 Range Maintenance 1pm	3	4	5 Trap Shooters 10am	6	7 Defensive Pistol 8:30am
8	9 Range Maintenance 1pm	10	11	12 Trap Shooters 10am	13	14 22LR Bench Rest League
15	16 Range Maintenance 1pm	17	18	19 Trap Shooters 10am	20	21 NRL Shoot 9am
22	23 Range Maintenance 1pm	24	25	26 Trap Shooters 10am	27	28
29 BoD Meeting 4pm	30 Range Maintenance 1pm	31				

Mowing will commence as needed. This will be determined by Grounds Committee Chair.

Wednesdays Firearms Training will not interfere with member club participation. Ranges are open to membership

# June 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Trap Shooters 10am	3	4 Defensive Pistol 8:30am
5 Membership Meeting 2pm Open House 3-6pm	6 Range Maintenance 1pm	7	8	9 Trap Shooters 10am	10	11 22LR Bench Rest League
12 S.A.S Cowboy Action Shoot 9am	13 Range Maintenance 1pm	14	15	16 Trap Shooters 10am	17	18 NRL Shoot 9am
19	20 Range Maintenance 1pm	21	22	23 Trap Shooters 10am	24	25
26 BoD Meeting 4pm	27 Range Maintenance 1pm	28	29	30 Trap Shooters 10am		

# July 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Defensive Pistol 8:30am
3 Membership Meeting 2pm	4 Range Maintenance 1pm	5	6	7 Trap Shooters 10am	8	9 22LR Bench Rest League
10 S.A.S Cowboy Action Shoot 9am	11 Range Maintenance 1pm	12	13	14 Trap Shooters 10am	15	16 NRL Shoot 9am
17	18 Range Maintenance 1pm	19	20	21 Trap Shooters 10am	22	23
24	25 Range Maintenance	26	27	28 Trap Shooters 10am	29	30
31 BoD Meeting 4pm						



2780 South River Road  
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24483  
www.blueridgeshooters.com

Contact:

Jim - jfw735@gmail.com

Hugh -  
BRSCSecretary2020@gmail.com

Make Sure to follow Blue Ridge Shooters Club

Facebook— @Blueridgeshoots

Twitter— @Blueridgeshoots



## BRSC Presidents Notes...

Another spring has come and with it there will be more and more members taking part in what our club has to offer. We have introduced some new competitions to our calendar this year such as the Defensive Handgun and Bench Rest League. The Board of Directors and myself are constantly looking for more reasons to get out and enjoy the shooting sports during the time of year when we are not restricted by the cold winds and falling weather. BRSC is unique in several ways but the one way I enjoy most is the camaraderie amongst our membership. No matter the event, it is rare to see anyone without a smile on their face at any time on club grounds.. Maybe it has a connection to the fact that we have no cell reception at BRSC...definitely a positive in my book. I hope that everyone is enjoying their decision to be a member at BRSC and take advantage of all competitions and gatherings in 2022.

I am happy to announce that we are making an effort to be a better neighbor in 2022 by having an OPEN HOUSE on June 5th from 3 to 6pm. Our area is constantly growing and lately it seems that there are quite a

few new families moving into the immediate area around the club. We are going to deliver flyers in May announcing to our area that we want them to come to the club to meet their neighbors, eliminate their curiosity of "what's behind the BIG gate" and show how much we want to be the best neighbor we can be. We also want to reassure all our neighbors that we are taking every measure that we can to remain a safe and enjoyable place to come shoot, be an active member of the community and that we are always available if they have any questions. There will be refreshments at the OPEN HOUSE with a tour of the grounds starting at 4pm on June 5th. I hope the whole of our membership will be in attendance.

Lastly, I want to thank everyone for the great turnout we have had so far this year with our Spring Workday, the CPR/AED/Stop the Bleed courses and participation in helping with the Cowboys Annual Roundup. The club will not just survive but it will thrive as long as it's members are active in it's operation. Four months into the year and we have already had more than 1/4th of our membership participate in club events which satisfy the required volunteer hours...THANK YOU. Remember,

helping with the new shooting events can count toward the 4 hour workday membership requirement. This facility is all of ours and we all can take ownership of its success.

In the future I hope to start getting major industry reps come to some of our meetings to introduce new items being brought into the marketplace. Some of the reps that I work with on a regular basis have brought it to my attention that they are interested in showing the BRSC membership some of the new and/or improved items being introduced and in some cases letting us try it out and give them feedback. Everyone knows I am a big fan of short meetings but getting to handle new items will have me spending even more time at BRSC

No dates set as now but it is in the works for the near future.

Jim Wood

