

AMES RIFLE and PISTOL CLUB
PO BOX 88
NORTH EASTON, MA 02356
www.amesriflepistolclub.com

FEBRUARY 2012 NEWSLETTER

OFFICERS:

President: Ira Siegal 781-820-0960
Vice President: Bob McCarty 508-230-8482
Treasurer: Tim Duffy 781-771-6552 tduffy@masonduffy.com
Secretary: Steve Buck 305-849-2493 amesrpcsecy@hotmail.com

PLEASE NOTE:

THE NEW WEB SITE ADDRESS ABOVE

MEETING:

The February membership meeting was called to order at 7:28 PM on February 13, 2012 by President Ira Siegal. Joe H. led us in the "Pledge of Allegiance" and a moment of silence was observed for our troops overseas and our members and their families with medical issues.

An excellent hardy dinner was prepared once again by our own Tony K.

Seven new members were introduced and welcomed. Welcome, Dave B., George C., Mike H., Mike R., Joshua S., Bill S., and Rich M. enjoy and be safe.

The monthly \$100 raffle was won "again" by Owen S.

Work Party:

The annual Spring work party will be held on Sat. April 28th. At this point we're planning on cleaning up all the ranges, building and installing the new style target frames cleaning and painting inside the club house and inside range as well as other general maintenance projects. Those attending this or any other work event will receive one raffle ticket for each event attended for the **\$500 drawing in Sept.**

Reports:

The Secretary's report was accepted as posted and Steve mentioned to contact him if you want to get the newsletters by email, we don't mail them but they are available at the club, that the new web site is up and running and to reserve Sat. 4/28 for the work party.

The Treasurer was unavailable, however Ira reported that we are in good financial shape but renewals are running behind last years pace, we are current with all of our bills and have just paid our \$8000 insurance bill, which was a reduced as a result of our new gate and security system.

The Treasure's report was accepted as presented.

Our President, Ira, made a number of important points for new members as well as old:

1. Our basic club philosophy is that we strive to be friendly and helpful to all. We are not an "old boys" club and we do not tolerate unfriendly, aggressive and unsafe people. Every member has one vote and we welcome all suggestions.
2. We generally allow parents to bring their children to the range, however, they must not be allowed to run free and it is assumed that the parent will be in full control and within arms reach of each child at all times while at the range. The consequences for the child, parent and the club should be obvious and good parenting and common sense should prevail. Secondly, do not let your child pick up any brass, even though you may think it's perfectly safe others in our State and school systems will not share that view.
3. The indoor range has sustained some damage again. If you see it report it, if you do it by accident report it. We will be sending a notice letter at the first offense, invite you to a board meeting to explain on the second and will terminate your range privileges on the third.
4. Rocks are not to be used as targets, there is the obvious danger of ricochet and they damage the lawn mowers when the grass is mowed. Enough said!

The Metro Swat Team will be holding their matches at the club again this year. We are usually able to view them and a few people are asked to help. More details to follow.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:14 PM

The next membership meeting will be held on Monday, March 12 at 7:30 PM.

If you have any questions or comments please contact any board member.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS for 2012:

Regular Dues: \$108.00 by check or money order only (NO CASH PLEASE)

Please write the first 5 numbers of your Gate Card # on the check.

Other Dues: Active Military-\$50; Disabled Veteran-\$0; Senior 65 + 5yrs. member-\$0

Annual dues are due **by January 1** each year. Gate keys will be disabled after 2/1. We will accept renewals at the membership meeting or by mail at:

AMES RIFLE & PISTOL CLUB

PO BOX 88

NORTH EASTON, MA 02356

No renewal notice will be sent by mail.

New Rule: New members will now need to complete a one year probationary period during which they will need to attend two membership meetings and complete two work parties.

Membership Cards:

If you need a card to indicate your membership for a CMP or local dealer purchase we will have them available at the membership meetings or by sending a self addressed stamped envelope to the club. Cards are not necessary at the club, you only need your gate card key.

RANGE CLOSURE DATES:

All ranges:

Saturday April 28th. for the annual work party

Outside Ranges:

Every Easter and Memorial Day

Inside Range:

Every Wednesday from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM, for the Juniors Team

The First Monday of the month from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

The Second Monday of the month from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

300 Yd. Range:

Every Tuesday from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM from 5/31 to 8/23 for the Summer Rifle Team League and for the @ Ames Winter league dates listed below.

PROJECTS:

Target Frames:

We are experimenting with new target frames at both the 100 and 300 yard ranges with the hope that they will last longer, make less mess and reduce the total cost. The ones at the 100 yard range will be metal and will accept 24" X 24" cardboard or thin plywood. We will try to keep a supply of available but feel free to bring your own sheets. We have also added various steel plate targets at the 100 and 300 yard ranges. Your comments are welcomed.

The frames at the 300 yard range are more substantial than the old frames, larger and we hope that people using this range will not shoot the frame material. The target board material is marked with a yellow no shoot zone in front of the supports. **Be aware of your backstop when shooting at the 200 yard targets make sure that you are not lined up with the ones at 300 yards.**

Heating System:

We are progressing with our efforts to upgrade the heating system. We need one more quote and **we are looking for a member who has knowledge of heating systems who can help us evaluate the quotes. Please contact a board member if you can help.**

Security Gate:

Gate Operation:

A. The gate will open by passing your card within 12 inches of the card reader and will close when you have passed through with your vehicle. **DO NOT TAILGATE with the car in front of you..**

B. The card will also open the club house door and the inside range.

C. The gate will make the club much safer as it will record who is at the club and their arrival and departure time.

Range Officer:

We have found it necessary to post a part time range officer who will be reviewing the range rules with new folks and some who may choose to ignore them. The primary issue is the trash that some people leave at the ranges. We have found target frames completely destroyed and left out on the range, cans, bottles, fruits and vegetables used as targets and left and the continuing issue of brass, steel and shot gun shells not cleaned up.

A word to the wise – If you want to continue to use the range please review the range rules before you shoot and pick up after yourself.

Please respect and heed the advice of the range officer, we are just trying to run a clean, friendly and respectful club without implementing any unnecessary extra rules.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM:

Applications are being accepted now and will now be closed on 4/30/2012. Forms are available in the club house. See the web site for more details.

TEAMS: Please see the website for more detail

The Junior Rifle Team meets on Wednesday nights from 7:00 until 8:30 PM on the indoor range. Bob has put up some great pictures of the kids. Check them out inside the clubhouse. If you need any information about the juniors, please contact Bob Peoples at majorpeeps@verizon.net . Please call Bob or come down on Wed. nights if you have an interested young person. Bob reports that he currently has a Sea Scout troop he is working with.

The Ames Rifle Team meets on Tuesday nights. Matches are home and away. You can contact John Harney for more information at johnharney@verizon.net . The Summer league will start the Tuesday after Memorial Day and runs through mid August. The Summer league is held outside and is a 20 round offhand event at 200 yards. Any rifle, any sights, any action and any skill level is acceptable.

Winter Schedule:

3/6 @ Old Colony, 3/13 Sharon @ Ames, 3/20 Angle Tree @ Ames

The Ames Pistol Team meets on Thursday nights at 8:00pm, both home and away. Their schedule is posted on the white board in the clubhouse. You can contact Steve Driscoll for more information at TOPGUNSFG@aol.com or call him at 781-341-0160. The team participates in the summer and winter leagues.

The Practical Shooting classes meet outside at the far combat/plinking range. Please contact Rob Chermisino at noidlight@yahoo.com for information about the practical classes on Saturday afternoons.

The Indoor Range:

The indoor range has been modified and is now open again.

Please be careful when using the inside range, we have a first class facility and want to keep it that way. Please report any damage.

Miscellaneous:

Rem Sport has given members an open invitation to visit their shop in Ludlow, MA. They are currently offering their stripped AR-15 lower receiver for \$98. Contact John Lawlor at Remsport at 413-579-1994 for more info.

Misc. Cont.

Tackle Unlimited Trading Co. owner/club member Al Porges has offered to supply any MA- compliant gun to a member for 10% over his wholesale cost. Contact him at 781-344-4943 or attitude91@aol.com, or visit <http://www.tackleunlimitedtradingco.com/>

Northeast Trading Co., Inc. owner/club member Ted Oven has offered Ames club members a 10% discount on all supplies, excluding guns and bulk lead. They also offer instruction and have a gunsmith on site. Use your gate card or membership card for verification. They are at 580 Kelly Blvd. (Rt. 152 just South of Rt. 106), N. Attleboro, MA 02760 Phone 508-695-4852 or 800-473-3006 and www.northeasttrading.com

Massachusetts Basic Hunter Education Course This course is required for first time hunters or license buyers. We don't offer the course at Ames, but, here is a list of courses: http://www.mass.gov/dfwele/dfw/education/hed/hed_basic_listing.htm

SAFETY:

This is our club. Those of us who have been to or were members of other clubs know what an incredible gem we have here. Unfortunately, we live in a part of the country where most people do not understand our sport and would just as soon not have us here. We have the privilege to practice our sport safely in this country and the only thing that can stop us is US if WE are unsafe. That is why we are constantly stressing the importance of safety...for our club and our members, as well as guests and our neighbors. We take our rules very seriously, and we take all safety violations seriously as well. **Every one of us is responsible for the safety rules and the cleanliness of our club.** If you notice anyone behaving in an unsafe manner, call a cease fire, and explain to them what they're doing that is unsafe. Be polite about it, not confrontational. Get their name, if you can. Get their license plate number, and note the date and time of the offense. Then call a Board member ASAP. We have a ZERO TOLERANCE policy for safety violations. Violations can result in temporary suspension of membership privileges or permanent loss of membership privileges. We may also notify your license issuing authority, depending on the infraction.

BE FRENDLY, COURTIOUS, SAFE -- SHOOT OFTEN AND BRING A FRIEND.

Range procedure during power outages:

1. Do not go down range without personally calling a cease fire on all the outdoor ranges.
2. If you are the only one at the club, park your car in front of the 300 yard range with the lights flashing and your alarm siren on if you have one.
3. Do not use the inside range