

THE BUFFALO BULLS-EYE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
BUFFALO TARGET SHOOTERS ASSOCIATION,
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CALGARY, ALBERTA T3K 2A8



SPRING HAS SPRUNG TIME TO HAVE SOME “FUN WITH YOUR GUN”

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to wish everyone a warm welcome back. Though you would not know it by the weather this first half of April, spring probably has arrived and with it the club will have events, matches, and other activities popping up like dandelions in my front yard.

I would like to start this issue of the Bullseye by introducing myself. I am Nicholas L and I am the Secretary and Youth Program Coordinator for the club. This is my first kick at the cat at writing our club newsletter and I would like to extend a HUGE thank you to Henry S for his years of providing service both in authoring the Bullseye, and by serving on the Board. Make sure you give Henry a big handshake, a pat on the back, and huge thank you the next time you see him on the range or at a gun show!

A TALE OF TWO CALENDARS

Our club has seen immense growth over the past years, and if you are new (or a BTSA “vet”), please check out our match registration site here: www.btsa.ca/matches/ this site is the definitive calendar for BTSA specific events and here again I would like to give a huge shout out to Joe B for constructing the site.

I would highly encourage all our members to create an account and peruse around the site to get a feel for what the club has to offer. Details for IPSC and IDPA matches, Young Guns, Range Orientations, Steel Challenge, and more will be posted on that calendar. Please note **IN ORDER TO REGISTER FOR EVENTS, YOU MUST USE THIS SITE.**

At the same time, I would like to direct your attention to the APRA calendar found here: www.albertarifle.com/forum/calendar.php. It can be a bit confusing (especially on an administrative side) maintaining two calendars, but it is important to remember that the BTSA falls under the domain of the APRA and we do our darn best to play nice with our brethren in other clubs. I consider the APRA calendar a good guide get a feel for what other events in other clubs are coming up and to get a feel for range access. Note that for BTSA specific events, the best source of information will be our own matches website described above.

AN END OF AN ERA – STEVE JOHNSON RANGE

There are many sad details and a huge amount of work has been done by the APRA board and a few APRA volunteers, but regrettably, it is almost a certainty that the City of Calgary’s lease for the Steve Johnson Range will NOT be renewed. Please stay tuned, and we will provide updates as they come up. What we can say for certain is after this spring, the APRA will not have access to the SJR.

SHOOTER READY! UPCOMING EVENTS

Here's a list of dates for some upcoming events the club has planned, for more information, please visit www.btsa.ca/matches (notice a pattern?)

April 14	Steel Challenge #1
May 4	Club Match IPSC Level 1
May 5	Steel Challenge #2
May 11	Young Guns Youth Program
May 18	Club Match IPSC Level 1
May 19	IDPA at BTSA Action Ranges
May 25-26	Black Badge Training
June 1	BTSA Alberta Children's Hospital Fund Raiser

STAND BY! OTHER EVENTS

Some other events we are currently actively planning include:

- Range Officer Training
- Range Safety Orientations
- More Black Badge Courses
- Ross Rifle Shoot

Please pay attention to your inbox and look for an e-mail from info@btsa.ca for more information.

SPEAKING OF E-MAILS

We receive a huge volume of e-mails on a daily basis and it can be difficult for us to filter through them. In the Information Age, processing large volumes of information is a lengthy and time consuming task.

The Board would like to ask all members to please try to exercise a bit of personal due diligence and responsibility when sending us communications. We certainly do not mind feedback, however we are all volunteers and it takes time away from our jobs, family and trigger time having to answer the same question over and over again.

We try to make all information available on our main website www.btsa.ca so if you have a specific question, please try to see if we have posted the answer on the site first before asking us.

Oh by the way, we are always looking for volunteers to answer e-mails!

BTSA ON THE WEB!

SEE US AT:

www.BTSA.CA

AND DON'T FORGET
WE HAVE A SECTION
ON THE APRA
WEBSITE, INCLUDING
A FORUM, ON THE
APRA WEBSITE AT
WWW.ALBERTARIFLE.COM

SPEAKING OF VOLUNTEERS: DECORUM AND ETIQUETTE

Speaking of volunteers, as a non-profit organization we depend heavily upon the help of volunteers to serve on the board, to organize matches and events, or to help with the general operation and maintenance of our club. Volunteers for a non-profit handgun club are VERY hard to come by and we value their service immensely.

At the same time, we do periodically contract 3rd party services to perform tasks we cannot find volunteers for.

Recently, it has been brought to the board's attention that some of our volunteers and contract workers received verbal abuse and lack of cooperation from some of our members. The Board wants to make it clear:

This is unacceptable.

Being rude, condescending, providing unconstructive criticism or impeding one of our volunteers or contractors from completing their duties will result in disciplinary action by the board, up to expulsion from the club.

We do not make these decisions lightly, but with the growth in membership we must be diligent to make sure everyone is playing nice with one another.

MOVING ON... TO SAFETY AND INCIDENT REPORTING

The board of directors is currently working on installing an on-site defibrillator and first aid kits at our Homestead facility.

We would also like to direct your attention to some important APRA policies and forms housed here: www.albertarifle.com/contact.htm

In particular:

- APRA Homestead Range Policies
- APRA Injury Report Form
- APRA Incident Report Form

If you have any questions regarding any of these documents, please contact the APRA president: president@albertarifle.com

CLOSING THOUGHT CONTEST

So how did I do? I'd love to hear some feedback about my first attempt at relaying the exciting BTSA news to you!

Send me a comment at: yg@btsha.ca with the subject line "April Contest," along with your BTSA member number.

I'll pick some of the best ones and publish them in the next edition of the Bullseye, and do a random draw of all entries for ~~some random junk in my garage~~ I never use a fabulous prize!

Thanks and welcome back, everyone!

BTSA COMMUNICATION POLICY
ALL BTSA MEMBERS ARE ADVISED THAT IN AN EFFORT TO CONTROL EXPENSES AND INCREASE THE EFFICIENCY OF COMMUNICATIONS WITH MEMBERS, THE EXECUTIVE OF THE ASSOCIATION HAS APPROVED A CHANGE TO THE ASSOCIATION'S COMMUNICATION POLICY. ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO MEMBERS WILL BE BY E-MAIL. THE ONLY EXCEPTION WILL BE FOR MEMBERS WHO SPECIFICALLY REQUEST COMMUNICATIONS BY MAIL. IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE BTSA NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS BY MAIL, PLEASE ENSURE THAT WE HAVE AN ACCURATE RECORD OF YOUR ADDRESS, INCLUDING POSTAL CODE. IF YOU MOVE, PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU KEEP US UP TO DATE.
