



The Flyer

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Official Newsletter of the
Airfield Shooting Club

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Airfield Shooting Club

at the Airfield 4H Center ~ Wakefield, Virginia

P.O. Box 250, Wakefield, VA 23888



It's summertime! Time to go to the range!!

Bowling Pin Match!

By Art Schoner, #398

ASC holds Bowling Pin Matches the first Saturday of the month from April through December.

Set up starts by 9:30. The five categories of Major, Minor, Sub (rimfire), Revolver, and Carbine (straight walled pistol cartridge and 30 Carbine) allow you to shoot almost any handgun or PCC you may have. Shoot just one (more than once if you like), all five, or somewhere in between. Each relay (one category) has four strings. That's four chances to clear the table of bowling pins in under fifteen seconds.

It's a fun test of speed, accuracy, and reliability.



25 Yard Knee Wall Repair

By Don Aubuchon, #709

All ASC members, the knee wall on the 25 yard line has once again been repaired. It is meant to retain the back berm material and not to be used as a target stand. Please do not set your targets on the knee wall, as it destroys the knee wall.



When shooting on the 25 yard line please ensure your rounds are hitting the center area of the back berm material and not the knee wall.

If you are not sure on how to set your targets up correctly, please refer to the range rules and regulations located on the ASC website.



Hello Summer

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Women & New Shooters

Part II

By Shelly Bennett, Newsletter Editor, #810

Going to the Range can be an awkward feeling. You may opt to take someone with you. If that person that is familiar with shooting ,great; if not, then you both will learn, and you have someone to go the range with. The ranges want you there and want to make you comfortable. They understand that there are a lot of new people coming in to learn what they need. Some ranges have women employees.

There are classes you can take. Most classes start in the classroom with range rules, safety, breath control, and how to aim and shoot. Then you go to the range to shoot.

Don't be afraid to ask questions. Remember there are NO dumb questions. People at the counter will ask you if you have preferences. They will have you hold a few different guns. Finding the right fit for you. You don't have to make a decision yet. You may want to rent it and fire it to see if it's the right one for you. There is a difference between holding a gun and shooting it. Don't worry about people watching you, we all started out as new shooters. Most people will be respectful and glad you want to learn.

You will need some equipment in addition to the gun. You will need eye and ear protection. You can rent these or purchase them at most indoor ranges. Don't let your nerves get the best of you when you go in to shoot. If you are not sure of the steps, there is a designated Range Safety Officer (RSO).

If you need help, put your firearm down in the designated area, then find the RSO or raise your hand. They are there to keep everyone safe and to ensure you enjoy this experience.



Keep practicing the basics; doing them the right way. This builds muscle memory and helps bring your comfort level and confidence up. Once you feel more comfortable with the basics then you check with your range to see what types of targets are allowed. There are all types of paper targets; nine hole golf, poker, and battleship to name a few.

You may feel more comfortable going to the range with friends or a group. You probably won't be the only one learning to shoot. There will be a variety of skill levels. Most shooters love to help new shooters. It helps to reinforce their skills too.

So go the range, shoot, and have Fun!





Making a Difference in the *Firearms* Community

By Shelly Bennett, Newsletter Editor, #810

There is a *BIG* problem with anti-gun groups/activists adopting and utilizing the descriptor “gun-safety advocates”. Their marketing and PR people are trying to spin their efforts in a new light. They don’t want to be seen as “anti-gun: or against the Second Amendment. They don’t want to be heard pushing for “gun control.” They are now attempting to rebrand. They are trying to change the wording to create more positive connotations and good vibes about their intentions. Who doesn’t like gun safety: is there anyone trying to get people to be unsafe with guns? They DO NOT have the right to use the term Gun-Safety Advocates.

If you are a responsible gun owner, the anti-gun crowd using the phrase “gun-safety advocates” should make you upset. This is OUR term, OUR job. *We* are the gun-safety advocates. Responsible gun owners, concealed carry permit holders, range safety officers and certified instructors are the ones making a difference in the firearms community. We are the ones educating others about the safety rules and shooting fundamentals. We help people shoot for the first time and even purchase firearms for the first time. We are the ones helping our loved ones, friends and our communities.



Where are The Moms Demand Action, Bloomberg’s Everytown, and all the other “anti-gun” groups? These groups don’t go into the schools and help kids understand how to respect guns. They aren’t giving away safety locks to anyone who wants one. They aren’t hosting or sponsoring classes for others to get the potentially life-saving information they need.



How are they helping anyone with gun safety? Instead they are supporting laws that don’t work and making it easier for criminals to target people in gun free zones. They are making it more difficult for law-abiding citizens to have guns for sport, hunting, and self-protection. They are doing all of this under the guise of gun-safety advocacy.

BE AWARE. The term “gun-safety advocate” is out there. It is being grossly misused and shamefully misrepresented. Ultimately, we should be the ones claiming ownership of it because we are the ones who are *genuinely advocating FOR gun safety.*



Deep Reflection

By Scott Sampson, Chief Instructor, #762



May 31st was a tragic event that has changed many people's lives including some close friends of mine. Many people's thoughts about "It could never happen here" were destroyed on that fateful day. The mass shooting in Virginia Beach has probably touched many of you. I urge you to take a look at what transpired and think about several aspects.

Safety- Many of us walk around in condition white. A condition of being oblivious to the world around us (normally engrossed in a cell phone). We believe that nothing bad could happen to us, it just happens to others. We need to stay on alert in a condition of Yellow most of the time which is where we are consciously aware of what is going on around us and we are looking for anything might be an issue. The safety of ourselves, our family and possibly our friends is something that is very important. Many of us are concealed carry holders as a result. Keep in mind that your safety plan needs to include how do you protect yourself in a gun free zone. Think about to how to deter, detect, de-escalate and then defend. There are a lot of great classes and books that talk about this methodology and provides simple things to do. A Refuse To Be A Victim Class is a great example of this type of class.

Legislation – Governor Northam has already called for a special session at the end of June to address "Gun Safety" legislation. While we all consider what happened to be tragic and feel the need to try and do something about it, now is not the time to knee jerk react to the situation only to pass laws that would not have done anything to prevent this crime. Take a look at what the state legislature presents and be sure to communicate to your representatives your concerns or support. The emotions will still be raw and folks will use that to try and pass laws that we will have to live with for some time. Please let your voice be heard.

Friends/Family/Coworkers – The individual who was the shooter by all early reports indicated that in general he was a law abiding individual who lead a normal life. It doesn't appear that anyone knew the man was struggling or close to doing the heinous acts he committed. That is one of the biggest problems is that there is no clear sign that screams "I am about to do something bad"; most of the time it is only thought of in retrospect. I urge you to consider reaching out to friends and family. Make they are doing alright, and if they aren't, try to get them some help. In today's messed up world we could all use a hand every once in a while.

At a minimum, give your family an extra hug; call a friend you haven't talked to in a while. Keep in touch with people, don't let them be alone. Make sure they know you care. Appreciate what you have today for tomorrow is never guaranteed.





Women On Target June 2019

By WOT Staff

Airfield Shooting Club held its twelfth Women On Target clinic on Saturday 1 June. The morning started off rather dark and foreboding. It looked like rain was on the way. We did have some rain in the early portion of the clinic, but it soon cleared up and became a pretty nice day. Thirty-three ladies attended our clinic, some of whom had no previous firearms experience.

A WONDERFUL Group.....

All of the instructors and volunteers were introduced, and the goals of the clinic were laid out clearly as part of the safety brief. The first goal was to be safe. We told the ladies that we intended to ensure that they were safe at all times. If at any time they did not feel perfectly safe they were asked to consult a nearby instructor. The second goal was for the ladies to have fun while learning. NRA has recently formalized NRA Clinics. There are fourteen specific learning objectives which must be met during a Women On Target clinic.

After the introductions and briefings the ladies divided into four groups and they began a rotation through pistol, rifle, archery, and shotgun disciplines. The schedule for the day allowed for two of the disciplines to be completed in the morning followed by a very nice lunch buffet at the Airfield 4H Center. The third and fourth disciplines were completed after lunch. At the end of the day, the ladies agreed that the goals of the clinic were met: safety was maintained at all times and they all had lots of FUN!

Here are just a few of the high points of the day:

Two very young ladies were quite nervous about shooting handguns. One of our female instructors took it upon herself to spend some extra time with them to alleviate their concerns. Each of them finally worked up the nerve to fire but one still did not seem to understand sight alignment. The instructor explained the concept in several different ways and both girls ended up shooting very well. One of the girls even came back to ask if she could shoot more.

On the shotgun range, many women were overheard stating that they'd been somewhat afraid of shooting a shotgun, but this was "really fun" and they are glad that they did it. Others said that they didn't believe that they could hit a flying target, but all of them DID hit flying targets. Some said that they'd been very hesitant to even shoot a shotgun, but that now it might just be their favorite discipline. One of the instructors stated: "As an instructor there is no greater feeling than seeing someone giddy over breaking their first clay!"

We would like to thank the ASC Members who helped to make this event a success.

Carl Bare, Courtney Bolze, Tim Drewry, Colleen Fitzmorris, Mike Iovino, Mike Lambiase, Jim Manning, Dale Mullin, Stacy Riddle, Scott Sampson, Jim Slee, and Angela Welters

We would also like to thank the volunteers who are not currently ASC members. Jalen Anderson, Devon Andrews, Catie Foster, Madeline Harris, Carol Smeltzer, and Tom Vranas.

Awesome job everyone ...



Women On Target 2019



