



The Flyer

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



Fall Shooting News



HAPPY FALL
Y'ALL

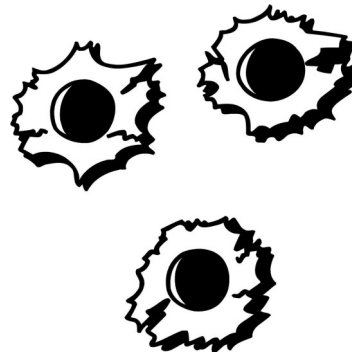
ASC Member of the Quarter

By The ASC Board of Directors

Name: Wes & Brenda Norton

have assisted Women on Target and 4-H District shoots.

Please join the board of directors in recognizing their dedication, initiative, and hard work.



The ASC Board of directors has chosen Wes and Brenda Norton as the ASC members of the quarter.

Wes Norton, and his trusty side kick, Brenda, have jump into helping the club despite being reasonably new members. Wes has volunteered to fill the Shotgun Director position, and Brenda has volunteered to fill the new Orientation Director position.

To date, they have initiated a bridge to help get carts across the ditch for the portable throwers, replaced the trap house front door, and served as RSOs to ensure ASC guests are well taken care of. Additionally, they

4-H Instructor Training

The Airfield Shooting Club's Junior program, The Airfield 4-H Swamp Shooters, is always in need of a few new instructors. The next opportunity for 4-H Instructor Training will be over the weekend of 5 and 6 November. We are primarily interested in instructors for rifle, archery, and shotgun. However, we are also interested in starting an air pistol program, so if being a pistol instructor interests you that may be an option. For more information contact Dale Mullin at Dale1449@gmail.com.

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Lost Gong

This little gong has lost it's big brother. Description:

8" round x 3/8" thick AR500 steel. With heavy steel chains attached. Inadvertently left on the 100 meter range on the evening of Sunday, 14 August. If found, please contact Dale Mullin at Dale1449@gmail.com.



Handling of Firearms on the Line

By Scott Sampson

Handling of firearms on the line is clearly a safety issue. I would like to give some guidance on how you can look like a professional. Some of the following are rules and some are Sampson-isms that just make sense (at least to me).

Loaded firearms belong in one of two places when on the firing line: (1) either in a holster or (2) in your hand. You should never place a loaded firearm on the bench or table. The reason for this is

someone could bump it, or someone could come along and pick it up before you can do anything about it. Either way, it shows that you didn't have control of your firearm in one of its most dangerous conditions - loaded.

So, if you want to set a firearm down, how do you do it? You unload the gun, magazine out (if applicable) and leave the action open (slide locked back/cylinder out) and place it on the bench or table with the ejection port facing up or cylinder up. This gives the RSO or anyone else for that matter the opportunity to quickly assess the condition of the firearm. You also want to ensure that the muzzle is facing down range (toward the target). We have had some recent reports of people turning the muzzle down the line when the gun was placed on the table. PLEASE! **MUZZLE always stays pointed down range.**

When pulling a gun out of its case, always ensure the muzzle is pointed down range before you handle it. If for example you have a Glock case and you open it up and you realize that the muzzle is pointed down the line, BEFORE you touch the gun, rotate the case so the muzzle is pointed down range and then pick it up out of the case, drop the magazine, open the action and lock the slide back before setting it down on the bench.

To help keep the gun orientated in a safe direction, you can mark the case with a dot or an arrow. If you have a zipper case, leave the zippers towards the grip so the zippers are always towards you when you open the case. Doesn't really matter what you do, just be consistent.



Magazine Management

Scott Sampson



For those that run semi-automatic handguns (or other platforms that use a magazine), you should recognize and consider that magazines are the weak link in the chain. Typically, if a semi-auto stops working a majority of the time the culprit is in the magazine. This is why for Every Day Carry (EDC) we recommend always carry a spare magazine (it isn't all about just having more ammunition).

What could go wrong with a magazine? Generally there are two main failure areas in a magazine; the feed lips and the spring. The feed lips are at the top of the magazine and are slightly turned in to prevent the cartridge from popping out and feeds the round into the chamber as the slide comes forward. The spring is what is under the follower and pushes the rounds up.

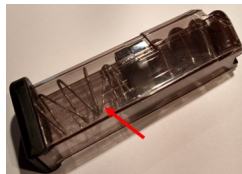
The feed lips are critical to successful operation of a semi-automatic. These edges are bent at just the right angle to ensure the round sits at the right height. If they are bent in, then the round sits too low; if they are bent out, then the round sits too high. They also need to be at the right angle (front to back) to ensure the round is feed at



the proper angle to engage the feed ramp at the breech end of the barrel.

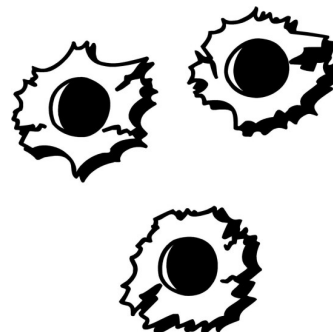
How do the feed lips get out of whack, typically dropping on hard surfaces. If we practice our emergency speed loads where we just release the magazine and let it fall while we are reaching for the spare magazine, the feed lips could be bent when they hit the ground. A good practice is to put cardboard down in the area so when they fall they aren't hitting the concrete.

Another common failure is the spring. There are tons of articles and opinions out there. As a structural engineer I agree with those that say a spring doesn't take a set or wear out because I leave it loaded, it wears out because of use – kind of like a paper clip. The general consensus is that every 5000 rounds you should replace springs (in the gun as well).



Yes, there are other potential issues with magazines such as rust on the interior, or dirt that inhibits the smooth travel of the follower, but I will assume

that you are doing proper preventive maintenance and cleaning your magazines. So how do you know what the problem is, and how do you ensure the magazines you use for self-defense are going to work?





Magazine Management Con't.

LABELS – The first thing that I recommend is to label your magazines. By labeling I mean mark them in a unique identifier. For example, I use a sharpie (silver) on the base plate and number them or use letters, some people use dots. Whatever you use be sure you can tell the difference. You can see letters on the base plate in the first picture.

Labeling allows a couple good things. First it allows you to trouble shoot easily. If you are shooting and you start to experience failures, you need to know is it only occurring with one magazine or all of them. If it is all, then it probably is something with the ammunition or the gun. If it is only one magazine, then it is the magazine that is the issue. If you change out the magazine spring with another working magazine spring and it works, then it is just a spring which is pretty cheap and easy to replace. If it doesn't work, then it is probably the feed lips and you should just get rid of the magazine and buy a new one.

Besides trouble shooting, it allows you to keep track of what magazines are being used for - EDC. Personally, I try to have two magazines that I use for EDC, and then I have others that I use for practice. This way I am wearing out the spring on the non-carry magazines and preserving the spring life for my self-defense. Keep in mind that I still shoot those EDC magazines with my self-defense ammo every 4 months or so to ensure the ammo is good, the magazines are good, and to keep my proficiency with the self-defense ammunition.

Managing your magazines in working order and labeled will help to ensure your gun is in top working order. Give it a try it might save your life.

ASC 2022-2023 Board of Directors

On July 16, 2022, the Airfield Shooting Club held its annual ASC Member Election Meeting Breakfast for all active ASC Members. The following members were elected to ASC board of director positions:

Position	Name
President:	Ray Covington
Vice President	Tim Drewry
Secretary:	David Willis
Assistant Secretary:	Bonnie Baird
Treasurer:	Kirk Culpepper
Chief Instructor:	Scott Sampson
Executive Officer:	Art Schoner Mark Fitzmorris
Provost:	
Newsletter Editor:	Don Aubuchon
Webmaster:	Chris Ferguson
Shotgun Director:	Wes Norton
Orientation Director:	Brenda Norton
Director:	Richard Sutton
Director:	Mike Lawler
Director:	Tom Sanford
Director:	Dale Mullin
Director:	Taylor Strickland



Range Safety

The Board of Directors would like to remind members that range safety is everyone's responsibility. We all must be involved to ensure that our range is run in a safe manner.

Members are to exercise care and common sense at the range. Watch yourself and fellow members. Members are expected to quickly and firmly act to correct unsafe practices and save someone from an avoidable injury or death.

DO NOT become upset if you are corrected for a safety violation. We all make mistakes and can benefit from the counsel of others.

Members are responsible for maintaining a thorough knowledge of, and complying with, all rules and regulations. Further, members are also required to ensure that their guests comply.

Take aim with 22LR

Tom Sanford

The Airfield Shooting Club introduced a 22LR bench rest competition which has been gaining popularity each month. The matches are held on the third Sunday of the month where competitors test their shooting skills and techniques against themselves and fellow competitors.

Benchrest shooting is a form of shooting that one uses factory or custom precision rifles following a modified version of the ARA Benchrest Shooting Competition targeting two – six (twenty-five) bull targets at the 50 yard line using 22LR ammunition. Each match allows a competitor 20 minutes to shoot a 25 bull target aiming to achieve a maxi-

mum score of 2500.

The target features scoring rings with various values included within each scoring box. The values of shots in those boxes are 100 points, 50 points, 25 points, and 0 points. Scoring is based on the best edge scoring method. A bullet hole that breaks a line is given the higher value.

The Factory Class allows anyone to show up and shoot with any stock or factory .22LR rifle under \$1,000, add an optic, add a bipod or front rest and you're ready to compete. The Unlimited class or otherwise known as Open class includes all others.

ASC will be hosting monthly bench rest competitions and new shooters are welcome and encouraged to attend. The goal is to make Precision Rifle shooting more available to everyone. 22LR is the only rimfire caliber allowed to compete so bring what you have or try out a match with a loaner rifle to see how you'd like to setup your rifle for future matches. This entry level competition is a great opportunity to learn what tools, knowledge, and skills are needed in match competitions. Come and experience loads of fun that is very rewarding for youth shooters, new shooters, and also challenging enough for seasoned precision rifle shooters.

Email us if you have any additional questions or if you'd like us to find a loaner rifle for you to use in this month's match!



Upcoming Events

September

- ASC Board Meeting (17 September)
- Rimfire Challenge (18 September)
- Airfield 4-H Swamp Shooters (25 September)
- Rimfire Challenge (18 September)

October

- Bowling Pin Match (1 October)
- Airfield 4-H Swamp shooters (9 October)
- ASC Board Meeting (15 October)
- 4H District Shoot 7AM-6PM (15 October)
- NSSA Skeet Challenge (15-17 October)
- Rimfire Challenge 25 & 50 yard (16 October)
- Airfield 4-H Swamp shooters (23 October)
- Defensive Shooting (29 October)

November

- Bowling Pin Match (5 November)
- Airfield 4-H Swamp shooters (13 November)
- Airfield 4-H Swamp shooters (27 November)

December

- Bowling Pin Match (3 December)
- Airfield 4-H Swamp shooters (11 December)
- ASC Board Meeting (17 December)

For the most current information, please check the ASC calendar on the website