

# The Flyer

Official Newsletter of the Airfield Shooting Club

Volume 18, Issue 1 March 2023

## Airfield Shooting Club

at the Airfield 4H Center ~ Wakefield, Virginia

P.O. Box 250, Wakefield, VA 23888

## Spring Shooting News



#### **ASC Member of the Quarter**

By The ASC Board of Directors

Name: Tim Wood



The ASC board of directors has nominated Mr. Tim Wood as the ASC member of the quarter. Tim is one of our newest members and is also an amateur gunsmith. For his 1 service hour needed for the last three months of the year he provided much needed work on three of the Swamp shooters club 22 rifles. These three guns were dirty, and all their sights were either wrong or missing. He returned all three guns to factory sight setup using spare parts he was given and one newly purchased set (generously donated by Jim Manning). Also, he found that the stock in one was filled with a Ziplock bag of sand and lead for recoil. He cleaned that out. Once he got all the sights installed, he took them all to the range and shot some

groupings to adjust the sights for 50 yards. After getting them grouped under 2" at 50 yards he cleaned them all as there was a lot of built-up crud in the bolt face and extractor area. He spent time coming out to get them, time at the range and all the time and work to bring them back to factory condition. This was at least 8 -10 hours of time spent doing this for the club and for the kids (Swamp shooters). Tim has exceeded our expectations as a new member and shows how easy it can be to get your service hours. Thank you, TIM WOOD, for performing this much needed service to our Swamp shooters guns.





## Welcome Spring

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## **2023 Bowling Pin Matches**

Newsletter Editor

Attention all members. We are pleased to announce that the 2023 Bowling Pin Match season kicks off on April 1st at 9:00 AM. As always, the match is at the ASC range in Wakefield VA. The 2023 tables are built, and the pins needed for the year are stacked high. If you have ever wanted to shoot on brand new tables, this is your only chance this year to do so. The rules have not changed for 2023, but it never hurts to refresh yourself. You can find them along with the directions to the match at

www.airfieldshootingclub.com. And of course, our resident assistant chief adjunct pinhead is always available at stevengordon@cox.net for those more perplexing questions like should I use a 9mm for carbine.

See you out there!

## **New Assist Secretary Needed**

Newsletter Editor

The ASC board of directors Assistant Secretary position is currently vacant. Any member in good standing interested in filling this position should contact the ASC vice-president Tim Drewry.

Below are the duties of the assistant secretary position.

#### **Assistant Secretary**

When the position is filled, the Assistant Secretary shall assist the secretary in the performance of his/her duties. He/She shall maintain attendance records and greet new members and guests.

#### **Maintenance Officer Needed**

Newsletter Editor

Airfield Shooting Club is in need of a Maintenance Officer (MO; previously referred to as the XO). The MO shall have charge of the maintenance and security of the ASC range, property, and equipment including changing the various lock combinations for the facility, as necessary. He/she shall be responsible for planning all work parties, as required, and shall have primary responsibility for overseeing new construction projects. He/she shall provide oversight for and maintain an inventory of the club's more valuable maintenance assets. The MO shall be responsible for replacement of all consumables routinely used while maintaining the range including, but not limited to, annually rebuilding/repairing frames and treating the ballistic wall with sealant. Additionally, he/she shall ensure compliance with maintaining the range, specifically as it pertains to lead, following suggested methods provided by the EPA. A Lead Management Report and a State of the Range Report (improvements, proposals, accomplishments over the period) shall be submitted to the ASC Board and to the Director of the Airfield Conference Center annually. This position will ensure that you meet your annual service hours requirement. Any members interested in the position should contact the ASC secretary via email (secretary@airfieldshootingclub.org).



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#### **New Webmaster Needed**

Newsletter Editor

The ASC board of directors Webmaster position is currently vacant. The webmaster is responsible for maintaining the club website and email distribution list. Any member in good standing interested in filling this position should contact the ASC vice president Tim Drewry.

#### **New Shotgun Director Needed**

Newsletter Editor

The ASC board of directors Shotgun Director position is currently vacant. Any member in good standing interested in filling this position should contact the ASC vice-president Tim Drewry.

Below are the duties of the Shotgun Director position.

#### **Shotgun Director**

The Shotgun Director shall be responsible for maintaining and accounting for the supply of clay targets. He/She shall also oversee maintenance of the skeet and trap machines. He/She shall coordinate with the Secretary (who shall have the logs from the shotgun ranges) to account for targets thrown and shall be responsible for billing members for targets on a schedule as determined by the Board. The Shotgun Director shall be responsible for submitting all shotgun-related reports to the governing bodies of the various shotgun sports offered by ASC. These include, but are not limited to: National Skeet Shooting Association.

#### **Red Dots**

Scott Sampson

Some of us are older in age and have seen stuff over the years being introduced and thought that is a gimmick to sell things. I am sure that when Red Dots first came along to replace iron sights or scopes there were many that thought this way about this new technology, but time has proven them wrong. Let's discuss why I think so.



#### What is a Red Dot

There are several different types of Red Dots, but the ones I am going to talk about are the style you see mounted on the top of the slide back by the rear sight in the picture above. There is a red light that is projected from behind and on to the vertical glass. There are a bunch of styles of "Dots" some are green, some are rings, you can make it brighter or darker. The concept is, you put the "Dot" on the target where you want to shoot it.



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#### **Red Dots**

Continued

#### **Focus On the Target**

First let's explore why you might want to consider Red Dots for a handgun. Many people like to look at the target rather than the front sight. This is especially true in a defensive engagement as we want to look at the person attacking us. The way you use a Red Dot is to focus on the target and let that Red Dot be a blur on the target.

#### Far Sighted

For those that are far sighted – can't see up close (i.e., your front and rear sight), a Red Dot prevents having special prescription shooting glasses. This might be helpful for a home defense situation where you don't have time to get your readers to see the sights or if they are knocked off in a fight.

#### Simple to Use

As described above using a Red Dot is simple, you put the dot where you intend to shoot. There isn't the equal height, equal light and trying to get two objects to line up on the target. People generally find this very quick to engage targets because of this.

#### **Eye Dominance – No problem**

You use a Red Dot with both eyes open. Because of the way it works, and you are focused on the target, eye dominance is not as big an issue as compared to iron sight. Different people may argue this, but in general I have heard many say it has been a solution for them.

#### Get use to the Movement

One of the challenges is the perceived shake or movement. When you use iron sights you might see a sight move, but it is not that distracting. When you use a Red Dot, the movement appears to be worse. Remember the Red Dot is the projection of where the dot is at the target in essence. As a result, it really is showing you how much you move. Some people find this distracting until they get used to it.

#### Where is the Dot?

I think one of the biggest challenges for people that just start shooting with a Red Dot is trying to find it on the glass. You will see them doing circles or "angling" the gun up or down to try and find the dot. There are a couple things that fix this

Practice: If you are consistent with your presentation, you will see the dot each and every time.

Tall sights: Some guns and Red Dot sights allow the combined use of Red Dots and Iron Sights. The Iron sights would be tall enough to be able to see them through the glass. If you align the sights, you will see the dot. This also acts as a backup in case the electronics fail.

Front sight: Another option is to pick up just the front sight in the glass, center it low in the glass then start raising the muzzle and you should see the dot.

The key to consistently finding the dot is to practice and get use to the presentation. This will make you quicker and more accurate.

#### **Stigmatism**

If you are like me and have an astigmatism you know from driving at night and you see star bursts when cars drive at you vs just two head lights, that looking at a red dot can actually look like a big fuzzy blob rather than a clean small dot. There are some brands that supposedly do better like Holosun, but the best thing I have found to do is lower the brightness of the dot and it helps quite a bit.

#### Give it a "shot"

If you haven't had a chance to shoot a Red Dot, give it a try. The technology has come a long way to include durability and battery life. They can help keep someone with aging eyes like mine continue to enjoy the shooting sports and allow me to continue to be defensive ready.

See ya on the firing line!





## **ASC Work Party**

The Airfield shooting club held a range work party 04 Mar 2023. With a turnout of 40 ASC members and perfect weather they were able to accomplish a lot of needed range maintenance. Tasks that were accomplished included:

Plenty of new target stands were created

Old target stands were salvaged and reinforced

A new step was built for the Connex box

The area behind the SRB has been cleared for deconstruction and reconstruction

The sign-in shed was cleaned and organized

all the target backers were prepared for use

The range overall has been cleaned and old debris disposed of

Additionally, the work party also built bowling pin tables for this year's bowling pin matches.

Please join the board of directors in thanking the work party for all their hard work.











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