

## GENERAL NEWS

We had our annual Christmas party/dinner on December 10, 2011. We had 26 attendees and many nice prizes. Anita Madea donated her world famous cheesecake, which was won by Brenda Hawkins. Anita won some smoked salmon in a beautiful wooden box. Tom Pearson won several pocket knives. Scott Hawkins donated 3 boxes of .223 and won some of it back. We sold enough prize tickets to cover the cost of the prizes the club paid for, plus a few dollars profit. The following are pictures of some of the attendees. Aren't they cute couples?



The Worthingtons



The Vanderwals



The Williams'



The Hawkins'

**New Board of Directors for 2012:**

Terry Miller – President

Mark Woodall -Vice President

Steve Worthington – Treasurer

Anita Madea – Secretary

Jack Fitch – Executive Officer

Allen Bragg – Junior Division

**General Meeting Minutes**

Meeting minutes are distributed via e-mail using the address list used for the club Newsletter. If you are not getting the Newsletter or the minutes, please contact Jennie at [jenvant@centurytel.net](mailto:jenvant@centurytel.net) or Anita Madea at [amadea@hctc.com](mailto:amadea@hctc.com) so that we can update our records

**Training:**

We plan on having a First Steps class the first Saturday of the month, every other month, beginning in March. First Steps for pistol is a very basic class. In this 3 1/2 hour class, the student learns basic gun parts, safe gun handling, how to pick the correct ammunition for their gun, basic cleaning and storage of their gun, and shooting from the bench rest position. If the student is doing well, they have the

opportunity to shoot a few shots from the standing position. It is not necessary for the student to have their own gun, in fact, if they do not yet have a gun, we highly recommend that they NOT purchase until after the class. We use Ruger 22/45 semi-automatic pistols and provide the ammunition. If the student has their own gun, after the class is finished we spend about one half-hour with students and their personal guns so they leave knowing how to shoot what they have. If what they have is not the right gun for them (maybe it does not fit their hand, is old or unsafe, etc) we usually make some recommendations. All this for \$40 per person.

We will also be planning at least one Home Firearm Safety class and a Range Safety Officer Class.

Steve Mutoli does several Hunter Education classes each year. Hunter education training is required in Washington State for all hunters born after January 1, 1972. The Department of Fish and Wildlife offers two distinct types of hunter education training opportunities, including: traditional classroom and online. If you want to help Steve as a safety officer, or take the class, please contact him at 360-426-6869

**Firearms resources:**

USCCA (United States Concealed Carry Assoc) - [www.usconcealedcarry.com/](http://www.usconcealedcarry.com/)

NRA – [www.nra.org](http://www.nra.org)

ATF – [www.atf.gov](http://www.atf.gov)

WA Dept of Licensing, firearms section – [www.dol.wa.gov](http://www.dol.wa.gov)

Carry permit reciprocal information – [www.carryconcealed.net](http://www.carryconcealed.net)

Mason County Sportsman's assoc – [www.sheltonrnp.com](http://www.sheltonrnp.com)

IDPA – International Defensive Pistol Assoc. – [www.idpa.com](http://www.idpa.com)

USPSA/IPSC – [www.uspsa.org](http://www.uspsa.org)

ACLDN (Armed Citizens Legal Defense Network) – [www.armedcitizensnetwork.org](http://www.armedcitizensnetwork.org)

## **MATCH REPORT**

**All members should consider attending a match or two to see what we do. Who knows, you may find a new obsession. These matches are open to the public, spouses, and children. As always, a parent must attend with children, and the child must show competency with safety.**

**IPSC/USPSA:** This match is held on the first Sunday of every month at 10:00 a.m. (registration starts about 9:15) and is usually about 100 to 150 rounds. Cost: \$20 (this is mandated by USPSA)

**Kitsap Rifle & Revolver club** has their matches on the first Saturday of the month.

**Renton Fish & Game Club** has their matches on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month.

**PPC:.** The 2011-2012 season is half-over and has been great fun so far. Our new match director, Tom Pearson, is doing a great job. The second half of the season will begin on January 10<sup>th</sup>.

This match is every Tuesday evening from about Sept thru March, at 5:30 p.m. and is 60 rounds. Cost: \$7 per gun (you may shoot semi-auto and/or revolver); many of the regular attendees shoot both semi-auto and revolver each week. These matches are great for those new to shooting or just need some trigger time to refine their skills. There are several "classes/divisions" so the brand new participant won't be shooting against our top shooters.

You will need a hip holster that stays open after drawing your firearm (this is a safety precaution), three magazines or speed loaders, a device for holding your mags or speed loaders.

Contact Tom Pearson at 360-432-8578 or tom\_pearson@q.com for further information.

**Bulls Eye:** This match is held every Friday at 6:00 p.m. Bring your .22 semi-auto or revolver handgun and 60 rounds. Cost: \$2. If you want to try this and don't have a .22, someone will most likely let you borrow their firearm and help you learn what you need to know.

**These matches do have timed stages, but the times are very generous. This is all about marksmanship, so you will get lots of practice with using your sights and trigger pull.**

**Cowboys:** This match is held every third Saturday at the Vanderwal's Corral at 9:00 a.m. There is usually a hearty cowboy breakfast and an even heartier BBQ lunch. This discipline uses firearms or replicas in production prior to 1900. Contact Keith Vanderwal for the particulars 360-426-1114. No fee.

While the “cowboys” do adhere to SASS (Single Action Shooting Society) rules, they are not members of, nor report match results to SASS. Perhaps, if they get enough participants, that could change.

These guys usually shoot all day and have been known to go through 500 rounds in one day. Period costume is encouraged. Please refer to the club Standard Operating Procedures for other safety considerations.

**Defensive Pistol:** This match is IDPA (International Defensive Pistol Assoc.) like and is held on the second Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. and is 50 to 75 rounds. Cost: \$6. These matches are also great for all levels of shooter. You will learn moving and shooting, how to use cover and have fun while doing it. This discipline is on hiatus until September or October, 2011. Contact Max Dean at 360-426-9419 for questions.

You will need a holster that stays open after drawing your firearm (this is a safety precaution), three magazines or speed loaders, a device for holding your mags or speed loaders. Please do not plan to compete with a shoulder rig or cross draw, these are not safe for this event. Please refer to the club Standard Operating Procedures for other safety considerations.

**Speed Steel** – This match is held the second Sunday of the month at 9:00 a.m., and just as the name says, we shoot steel plates and poppers. Steel is very fun, as you get instant feedback as to how you are shooting that day. Matches are generally 110 rounds. You will need a holster that stays open after drawing your firearm (this is a safety precaution), three

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magazines or speed loaders, a device for holding your mags or speed loaders. Please refer to the club Standard Operating Procedures for other safety considerations.

Contact Allen Bragg (executive officer – oversees all matches) for information 360-426-9157, as he is still confirming who the match director will be.

**Equipment** required for all matches includes:

**your firearm(s)**

**holster**

You will need to have a holster for your gun that stays open after you draw your firearm; most use a black plastic holster, AKA Kydex. Some manufacturers that make these are Blackhawk, BladeTech, Galco. You will also need to have something in which to keep your reloading device (magazine holder or speed loader holder). Talk to the match director for permission to use leather or concealed carry type holsters. Absolutely no cross-draw or shoulder rigs will be allowed.

**gun box/bag** as appropriate

If you are transporting your firearm in a “concealed carry manner, you do not need a box or bag. If you are not carrying the firearm on your body, it must be in a box or bag, unloaded. Please see the club SOP’s regarding this.

**hearing protection** (muff type are best for indoor shooting and electronic are highly recommended)

**brimmed hat**, such as a ball cap (see match director in each discipline regarding this),

**shooting glasses** (preferably wrap around) see club SOP’s regarding the specifications

**magazines or speed loaders** and a pouch or tray to hold your reloading devices

**belt** – it seems obvious, but there have been some who show up without.

If you are new and don't have all your equipment yet, bring what you have and most likely you can borrow what you need. Please do not plan to compete with a shoulder rig or cross draw, these are not safe for match conditions. Please refer to the club Standard Operating Procedures for other safety considerations.

**Working member volunteer opportunities for the upcoming year:**

**Air gun booth-** set up/tear down, safety officer

We usually have the booth set up at the Mason Area Fair, Oysterfest, and in 2012 we are hoping to have at least three occasions to set up at Cabelas for some of their events.

**Training classes**

– Steve Mutoli makes use of several range safety officers during the hunter education classes.

- First steps and Basic Handgun classes make use of range safety officers. Those who volunteer to help here need to be comfortable with acting as a coach during the class and should have impeccably safe gun handling skills.

### **Work parties**

– there are various projects throughout the year that work parties are formed for. We will be scheduling a party to replace the ceiling tiles on the range in early 2012.

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### **Event coordinator/committee**

– We have several events that need a chairperson/coordinator. Some of those include: Mason Area Fair, Oysterfest, Spring .22 shoot, fall Turkey shoot, Christmas party, Nominating committee (for club officers), NRA Grant committee

### **Match Director**

– We hold several matches and occasionally the current director needs to step down. If there is a discipline you would like to be director of, talk to the current director and help them with the matches so you can learn the job and be ready to step in when they are ready to step down. The matches we hold are: IPSC/USPSA, defensive pistol, 3-D/Top-gun, PPC, Bullseye, speed steel, cowboy action, .22 rifle

### **Is Competition Training?**

By Jennie Van Tuyl

I hear over and over stories of persons going to an IPSC or IDPA match, then having some sort of negligent discharge or other issue (safety or otherwise) once the match is over and they are at home. I personally know someone who was a new shooter at an IDPA match and she did very well for her first match. For 5 hours (approximately 9 stages) she was told to unload, show clear, slide forward, hammer down on an empty chamber, and holster. She went home, cleaned her gun, loaded it, and proceeded to shoot her TV. She blamed the match for “conditioning” her to pull the trigger after letting the slide go forward; she would only have performed the unload procedure about 10 times. I recently had another person try to tell me how bad IDPA is because it trains people to always unload after shooting.

My answer to all this is competition is NOT training. It may be considered practice, but is really a test of your skill under pressure. Both IDPA and IPSC will tell you the matches are just a game. In my book, “game” does not equal “training”. To help differentiate between the two, let’s look at the definitions:

**Training: Organized activity aimed at imparting information and/or instructions to improve the recipient's performance or to help him or her attain a required level of knowledge or skill.**

**Practice:** The actual application or use of an idea, belief, or method as opposed to the theories about such application or use

Or

Perform (an activity) or exercise (a skill) repeatedly in order to improve or maintain one's proficiency

**Competition:** A test of skill or ability

So it would seem that with training you are learning something and practice is repeatedly performing what you learned in training and competition is a test of what you have learned and practiced.

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Training with firearms happens when you learn a new skill most likely in a class or from a friend who has had training and is willing to share his skill with you. After you leave the range you should practice those new skills, many of which can be done safely in dry fire practice. The problem comes when people think that all they need to do to train is go to a few competitions and they will learn all the tactics and skills they need to use/carry a firearm.

If the police departments could learn all the tactics they need by attending an IPSC or IDPA match, do you really think they would spend all the money and time they do in training on a regular basis? Don't you think that if you really get into a defensive situation and law enforcement help is 15 minutes (or more) away that you may need to be pretty well trained in order to protect yourself and loved ones competently? You need not only to know how to shoot, but when to shoot. Also, just because you may shoot, should you? Can you safely avoid shooting at all?

Now, after considering the above-mentioned information, shouldn't you do actual training and not just test skills you probably have not learned?

I don't know how many times in various sports I have seen people imitating what they think they have seen the top competitors doing without having taken any training to understand the "real" way the skill is to be performed. For example, the new shooter who goes to an IPSC match and observes the top shooters seeming to not aim and the gun sounds almost like it is being shot in full auto. The new shooter then points his gun down range and does the old spray and pray. There has not been sufficient training for him to understand that the top shooter he watched has put many thousands of rounds down range, practiced numerous hours, has a specially built gun, and does look at the sights.



I also hear people all the time saying that they have been shooting their whole life and don't need training. Maybe those people can shoot well and probably safely. However, those are usually the same people who end up pointing a gun at me and when I complain, they tell me it is OK, it is unloaded. The NRA has worked really hard at teaching that it is NOT OK, as you need to "Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction" (some will tell you the rule is to never point a gun at anything you are not willing to destroy). I am not that safe direction should you make a mistake and actually have the gun loaded. Get training!

Practice usually consists of repetition. You have to repetitively perform an action to engage "muscle memory". The muscle that is actually getting the memory lesson is your brain so that it can tell your body to perform an activity without conscious thought. You are not going to get anywhere near the needed repetition at a match to engrain a skill. If you want to draw your gun faster, 10 or so repetitions done over 4 or 5 hours at an IDPA match is not near enough to increase your skill. Where your skill will increase is spending 5 to 10 minutes every day practicing in dry practice with a timer. Then you can go to a match and test your skill to see if your time is better.

By now I hope you can see that there really is a difference between training, practice and competition. I also hope that you understand that each has its place and none should be substituted for the other. You don't necessarily need to spend a lot of money at once to get training. Maybe you can only afford one class per year. That gives you lots of time between classes to practice and perfect the skills you learn. You may even consider teaching those skills to a friend. Some say you never thoroughly learn a skill until you have to teach it to another. Get some industry magazines; they usually have articles containing some sort of skill building exercises. Watch videos, there are some wonderful training videos by top trainers such as Ken Hackathorn, Massad Ayoob, Jim Cirillo, and others. Try some different methods and see what works for you, but get some training, then practice, then attend a shooting match to test your skill.

Jennie is an NRA certified Range Safety Officer, and Pistol instructor,

as well as an IDPA certified Safety Officer and instructor at Firearms Academy of Seattle.

She is also an avid competitor in IDPA, IPSC, and practical pistol.

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**CALENDAR**

CLUB CALENDARS are available at the clubhouse or online at the club website- see Firearm Resources above. The following are some highlights from the calendar.

\*PPC is Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. for 22 weeks from October thru March (with 2 weeks off for Christmas and New Years).

\*General Membership Meeting is the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

\*Action Pistol is every second Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. at 7:00 p.m.

\*Board of Director's meeting is the next to last Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

\*Bullseye is every Friday at 6:00 p.m.

\*Cowboy/SASS is the third Saturday at Vanderwal's Corral

\*USPSA/IPSC every first Sunday of the month at 9:00 a.m.

### **Legislation:**

Some legislative information to pay some attention to. If you like the idea of being able to defend yourself and your family in your home from an intruder, who in all likelihood is there to do you harm, you should pay particular attention to this. Many states have enacted a "Castle Doctrine" which basically says that a homeowner has the right to defend themselves against an intruder without having to prove that they were in danger of grave bodily harm. Washington is NOT one of those states. Our castle doctrine came to us through case law; that is court cases where a home owner was prosecuted for defending themselves in their own home. In 2005, the Washington State Supreme Court nullified our

castle doctrine law in Washington state, taking away our per se right to use deadly force against persons breaking into our homes, and replaced it with a generalized "necessity based" use of force scheme. In other words, you must make sure the burglar is placing your life in danger before shooting. I don't know how a homeowner would accomplish this without further endangering his or her life, so that is the problem.

The legislation we want to pay attention to and even contact our Senator(s) about is Senate Bill # 5418. They have proposed some additional language to already existing RCW 9A.16.020 and 9A.16.050; and adding new sections to chapter 9A.16 RCW.

Dave Workman recently made some comments at:

<http://www.examiner.com/gun-rights-in-seattle/push-on-for-stronger-deadly-force-law-wa>

Club Contacts:

President – Terry Miller 360-432-0720

Vice President –Mark Woodall 360-432-3795

Secretary – Anita Madea 360-432-0388

Treasurer – Steve Worthington 360-280-7333

Newsletter/Training – Jennie Van Tuyl 253-884-4117

Allen Bragg – USPSA/IPSC and Junior Div 360-426-9157

Executive Officer – Jack Fitch 360-426-6251

Jim Baird – Public Relations 360-877-9308

Tom Pearson - Public Relations, Trustee, Webmaster 360-432-8578

Hunter Education – Steve Mutoli 360-426-6869