



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

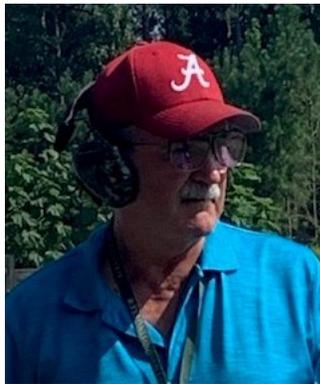


Happy
Fall Y'all

ASC Member of the Quarter

By The ASC Board of Directors

Name: Jim Cofer



The ASC board of directors has nominated Mr. Jim Cofer as the ASC member of the quarter. Jim has served as the club's shotgun director for many years and has done an excellent job keeping our equipment maintained and properly functioning.

Additionally, Jim tracks our supply of clays monthly and ensures we always have an ample supply in stock.

On many occasions Jim responded to phone calls from members who were having trouble with the machines and

provided guidance on possible solutions.

Jim visited the range on many occasions to make repairs and perform preventative maintenance so the machines would continue to work without issues.

Jim also conducted many new member orientations for the skeet and trap field, going above and beyond what was required.

For the time being Jim has stepped down from his position as ASC Shotgun Director, but he has assured us that he will always be available to help if we need him.

Please join the ASC board in thanking Mr. Jim Cofer for all the dedication and hard work he contributed to the shotgun director's position.



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New ASC Board Member

The Airfield Shooting Club is pleased to welcome new board member Thomas Sanford elected at the annual ASC Member Election Meeting effective July 17th, 2021. Tom is an outdoor enthusiast, lifelong hunter, veteran, and enjoys rimfire plinking with both small bore handgun and rifles. You will often find him spending a full day at the range on the fifty yard line running down that ole familiar rabbit hole we all know so well.

He is married to his wife, Cindy for over thirty years and a long time resident of Franklin, VA. He is currently employed as a project manager at Howmet Aerospace designing equipment, installations, and facility management. Watch for Tom meeting range members, become more engaged with competitions, and help sponsor other range events throughout the year.

Event organizer needed for ASC Service Rifle and Zombie Matches.

Hello Members,

We are in need of a volunteer(s) to organize and run our Service Rifle and Zombie Matches. CMP Rifle shooting and rifle match experience is a plus, but not necessary.. But running a range and RSO'n a match is..

The matches are normally on the second Saturday of every month and start early in the morning.

If you have some free time and can organize and run things, this is a great opportunity to help out the club. The volunteer will get service hours for time spent on and off the range.

If this is something you would be interested in doing, please contact the secretary at: secretary@airfieldshootingclub.org

Thank you.
Michael J. Lawler
Assistant Secretary ~ Airfield Shooting Club

ACTION SHOOTING DISCIPLINE LEAD NEEDED!!

We are looking for someone(s) to lead what we use to call the Defensive Pistol program. This program has been silent for too long and we would like someone to step up and get this program off the ground! As a discipline lead you can make the program you always wanted! Pistol, rifle and /or shotgun! This is your chance to have some fun! We just passed over 500 members! There must be some folks out there that are interested in making this happen!

We are seeking volunteers that can help put together a program that club members can participate in. As a discipline lead you would have the following general responsibilities:

- Develop Rules & Guidelines
- Recruit volunteers to help setup and run the matches
- Identify and help develop the targets systems
- Conduct match maybe once a month
- Provide funds to treasurer

Report to the board each month on what was done

Please contact the board to let us know your interest!!!!





New Target Frames

The XO and the provost held a work party on September 4th 2021 to build new frames for every position on the ASC ranges.



Below are a few items we would like to bring to every members attention:

Short Range Berm (SRB) - The SRB has only two official positions to place frames. Each approved location can be identified by the PVC frame holders buried in the ground. The height of the frame can be adjusted by moving the pin to the appropriate hole in order to ensure your round hits the berm properly. Additionally steel targets can be placed directly at or in the berm if needed.



50 Yard Range (50 yrd) - The 50 yrd range only two official positions to place frames. Each approved location can be identified by the PVC frame holders buried in the ground, one at 25 yds and one at 50 yds. When using the 50 yrd berm location, ensure there are no frames standing at the 25 yrd position. Just gently place the unused frame on the ground so no unnecessary damage is inflicted.



Trying to shoot through the 25 yrd frame to a target on the 50 yrd frame is not permitted. All too often the shooter will end up hitting the 25 yrd frame, hence inflicting unnecessary damage to the frame. Again, just gently place the unused frame on the ground so no unnecessary damage is inflicted.

Lastly, all frames are mark at the top to identify where they are meant to be placed. Please ensure you use the current frame at the correct location. All ASC members are asked to not shoot the frames if possible.

Regards,
ASC Board of Directors

ASC Shotgun Director Needed

Airfield shooting club is looks for a new shotgun director. The following paragraph outlines the duties and responsibilities of this position

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, Virginia Skeet Shooting Association, Amateur Trap Association, etc.

Please email the secretary (Colleen F. Caswell) if you are interested in this position.

ASC Board of Directors



Defensive Flashlights

Scott Sampson

A flashlight has a ton of uses beside self-defense and if you don't have one that you routinely carry I highly recommend one! There are hundreds of options out there with all kinds of price tags so where do you begin to see what is right for you.

Let there be light: How much light do I need? If you are looking for self-defense level lighting, United States Concealed Carry Association (USCCA) states that 60 lumen is the minimum and is enough to momentarily blind an attacker even in daylight and that 125 lumen is like staring into the sun. Personally, I carry Stream Light Micro Stream that is 250 lumen on its brightest setting, and it seems to work very well for me. At home I have a 300 lumen and a 500 lumen light.

Is there such a thing as too bright? Maybe. Remember if it is dark enough for you to need a flashlight then you can get blinded by a flashlight to at night. If you are inside and shine your light on a wall that you are facing, the reflection might blind you if it is too bright. I think there is a sweet spot in between 150 and 300-lumens but that is my opinion. You might want to see for yourself.

I recommend that you look at flashlights with maybe two settings. One high (the first click when you turn the flashlight on) and one low the second click. You want the highest on the first so if you need it to blind an attacker that the first momentary push of the button gives you the brightest setting. The low level you can use in the restaurant to read the menu without blinding your date!

Light Show: There are lights out there that offer strobe settings and different light settings etc. I am a big fan of keep my every day carry equipment simple. If I need it in a hurry, I don't want to have to remember how to turn on my flashlight to the right setting. Things like rotating tail caps for light settings scare me and I just want a simple button. Strobe may work on bad guys but remember you are going to see the flash (reflection) as well. My advice, keep it simple and just light the way.

Strike Bezel: On the light end of the flashlight, it is recommend that the bezel is kind of corrugated.

This is referred to as a strike bezel. This will help to inflict a little more pain if you need to strike someone. Remember the last thing we want to do is strike someone with our hand. Always try to have something in your hand to strike with, it works better on them and is easier on your hand.



Tail cap activation: The tail cap should be pronounced enough to allow activation with your thumb or your palm to support shooting with the flashlight in your hand. Some tap caps are recessed to prevent accidental activation. While a nice feature, it doesn't support the need to press the button. Pictured below are two typical methods of activating a flashlight, with the thumb and with your palm or base of your thumb.



Batteries: There are basically 3 different types of power for flashlights. We have the regular alkaline batteries (like your Eveready or Duracell), Lithium batteries (like the 123s) and rechargeable batteries.

The old school alkaline batteries do Ok and are available everywhere if you need to buy some. They do not however typically support the higher power flashlights. They are also susceptible to cold.

The Lithium batteries have a super long shelf life and are not susceptible to cold temperatures. They do however burn out quickly (1-2 hours).

The rechargeable batteries have come along way over the years. I normally was not a fan, but for the past 2 years I have carried the Streamlight Micro Carry USB. It is charged by plugging it into a USB port. It has some great longevity and I use it all the time. The charge port is covered by o-rings so it is pretty water resistant.

No matter what your choice is make sure you carry it! You will find it comes in more handy than you think and it might even save your life.



Loaded Firearms

Scott Sampson

My personal rule (please note not a Club rule) is that a loaded firearm only belongs in one of two places; either in your hand or in a holster. I never recommend that a loaded firearm be placed on a bench or set down (unless an emergency). I was asked why the other day and thought that it would be good to discuss my rationale.

To be honest I am not 100% sure where I picked this rule up or how it got started, but it something that I have always understood and practiced. I know I have seen this rule at some other ranges and at some training schools, but again not sure where I started using it.

Opinion why this rule is important is based on the following thoughts:

A loaded firearm must be under my control. Setting it down on a bench means it is not under my control.

A loaded firearm set down on a bench is not secure. If someone were to move a range bag, or knock the bench the gun could fall to the ground and that is not a comfortable feeling. It would be bad enough if it were unloaded.

Picking up a loaded firearm increases the risk of discharge in my mind. When we grab anything we always pick something up with our whole hand. This means we are using our trigger finger. If we are not paying attention or doing something quick, people have a tendency to put their finger in the trigger guard rather than along side of the frame.

The risk of putting a finger in the trigger guard increases if you are transferring the gun between people. Typical gun safety policy is anytime we transfer a gun between people the gun is unloaded and the action is open.

There is always an exception, right? Of course. If there is a medical emergency (I am hit by a rico-

chet or something) I may not take the time to clear the gun before setting it down. I would however expect that someone coming along to help would clear the firearm at some point after rendering aid.

Again this is not an official range rule, but it is a good practice to follow. We need to always consider safety and those practices that will keep us safe!

Stay Involved

Scott Sampson

This November is an election with significant importance. We will be deciding who serves as our Governor as well as Attorney General and several other positions. It is not a presidential election as a result some folks don't think about going to the poles or think that it's only the Presidential election that matters.

Federal positions such as the President certainly do have an impact, please don't get me wrong. State positions however impact all the state laws etc. For example VA recently got rid of the preemption law to a certain extent and now allows localities to change concealed carry laws related laws making it difficult to determine where you can carry and not.

State and local elected officials have a huge impact to your everyday life. PLEASE stay informed and do your part in getting out to vote!!!!!!!!!!





Shooting Support Handed

Scott Sampson

When we learn to shoot, we focus on the strong hand. This then becomes the norm for our practice. In practical terms however, especially for self-defense, the potential for your support hand to save your life because your strong hand is occupied or injured is high. We need to get use to shooting with the support hand.

Mounting the gun and establishing the grip are the same thing as using your strong hand just the other hand. It takes a little getting used to, but it will start to feel ok after a while. While this may seem strange at first and “un-natural” just like doing anything new at first, it will get better. Please pay careful attention to the details. How the gun is mounted in the support hand, the orientation of the thumb on your strong hand (now acting as the support hand).

When we go to shoot people often struggle with the cross-dominance issue. This is where you shoot with the hand that is on the opposite side of your dominant eye. For example, if you were right eye dominant but left-handed. This is not that big a deal for pistol shooters, but we need to be aware of it. There are a couple options that you can try to address this:

Option 1 - Close the dominant eye so the gun comes behind the weaker eye. This provides for a nice straight wrist and everything should be in alignment. This would be considered the ideal situation. This is very handy for shooting on the “support side” of a barricade to minimize the amount of the body and head that sticks out from the side.

Option 2 – Continue to use the dominant eye and bring the gun over in front of it. This will create a little more bend in the shooting wrist, but not much. If the support eye has poor vision or is set up for distance rather than front sight distance this might be the option for you.

Actual shooting with your support hand will take a little practice. We need to train that support trigger finger to press smoothly and detect the reset when we shoot. We also need to remember grip strength and the push pull on the arms (push out with the hand behind the gun and pull back with the other).

Things you can practice:

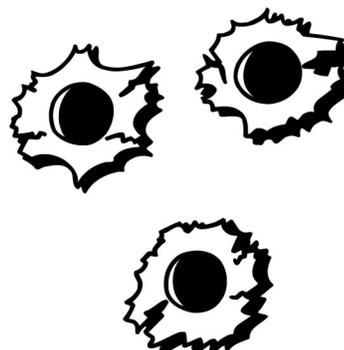
Trigger press with your support hand. Pen – Hold a click pen so that you can use the trigger finger to press the top. The objective is not to go quick, but nice and smooth. Focus on coming straight back. See Picture below

Grip. Practice gripping a gun or your hands in the correct orientation of using your normal support hand to grip the firearm and adding the other hand.



Coordinating the Left hand. If you find your left hand is just not as coordinated as you would like, try brushing your teeth with your left hand for a couple months straight and you will see an improvement.

Shooting with the support hand will make you a better shooter. This is because you must think about everything in detail all over again; how to mount the gun, where to put the trigger finger etc. It is a refresher on the fundamentals. You might be surprised how well you do!





Upcoming Events

October

- Bowling Pin Match (2nd of October)
- Swamp Shooters (10th of October)
- NSSA Registered Skeet Competition Ken Grover Memorial (18th, 19th, and 20th of October)
- Project Appleseed – Members welcome – 100m range reserved (23rd of October)
- Swamp Shooters (24th of October)

November

- Bowling Pin Match (6th of November)
- ASC New Member Orientation - RSVP only – SRB reserved (13th of November)
- Swamp Shooters (14th of November)
- Swamp Shooters (28th of November)

December

- Bowling Pin Match (4th of December)
- Airfield 4-H (12th of December)
- ASC Board Meeting (18th of December)
- Airfield 4-H (26th of December)

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

