



FIRING LINE

YOUR LA CROSSE RIFLE CLUB NEWSLETTER

Vol. 2, Issue 3, May/June 2020 – Published by Nathan Fater, Secretary

UPCOMING AND ONGOING EVENTS

- July 1, 8pm – Membership meeting
- July 12, 2pm – NRA America's Rifle Challenge.
- August 1 & 8, 10am – Junior 22 Rifle Class
- August 5, 8pm – Membership meeting
- August 29 & 30 – Brat and Corn Feed Match
- Mondays 6pm - .22 rifle and pistol league
- Tuesdays 8am – Sporting Clays
- Tuesdays 3pm – 600 yard informal practice
- Wednesdays 5pm – Trap
- Thursdays 5pm – Across the course High Power practice
- Saturdays 8am – Junior Rifle

NEW MEMBERS

- Brody Lance, Junior Member
- Drew Maci, Military Member

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Shooting season is in full swing here in Wisconsin and the La Crosse Rifle Club has had a lot of activity going on at our range. Along with all the matches and practices, there is socializing with those who share your interest in firearms and shooting. We are, in terms of numbers, a small club yet there is always someone willing to step up and take responsibility for a task that helps our club run smoothly. Whether it is cutting the grass on the range and around the clubhouse, or cutting up a tree that fell into the range, or cleaning the clubhouse every month or helping out with one of our shooting programs, there are members who just get it done. Our bylaws define our club as a social club; when you come out to a meeting or to one of our formal or informal shooting events you will notice that before or after whatever is going on both members and non-members spend a lot of

HELLO SUMMER

With summer arriving in the Coulee Region, the time to enjoy the outdoors is upon us. Shooting season is now in full swing for our club.

To the left you will see various one-time events along with regularly recurring events throughout the summer. Rifle, handgun, and shotgun are all represented in our ongoing events.

These events are open to our membership, individuals on the waiting list, or friends of club members. Please be sure to check out our calendar on <http://lacrosserifleclub.com/calendar/> for new events that may be added to participate in our ongoing summer fun.

LAND PURCHASE FINALIZED

The club closed on the sale of the 15.6 acres of land along our west range boundary on April 30. With this purchase, the La Crosse Rifle Club has a sizable buffer zone so we can continue to teach and practice the shooting sports.

Board members present at the closing were President Dennis Fater, Treasurer Jon Welda, and Executive Officer Bill Quadzinski to sign on behalf of the club. Mike Roach and Bill Quadzinski were instrumental in this purchase being the success it was.

The outpouring of support in the forms of donations and promissory notes by the membership for this has been amazing. The Board would like to thank our membership for ensuring our continued success with the shooting sports with this purchase.



Treasurer Jon Welda and Executive Officer Bill Quadzinski finalizing the land purchase.

time just visiting with each other and discussing anything from shooting to solving the problems of the world to “what the hell happened to the beer I left in the fridge?”. The socialization at the club is what attracts many people who apply for membership and it is what keeps many of our members in the club. The willingness of members to step up and do what needs to be done to keep the club and our matches running smoothly allows the La Crosse Rifle Club to be a premier shooting range.

Dennis Fater, President

HIGH POWER RIFLE A SUCCESS

Despite uncertainty of participation with COVID-19 concerns, our high power rifle matches have been a success thus far. The La Crosse Rifle Club hosted two weekends of matches in June; a weekend of NRA and CMP short range matches and a weekend for an F-Class match.

The NRA 80 round NMC match and 50 round NMC 2-Man team match was hosted Saturday, June 6 with 27 and 20 participants, respectively. The CMP EIC Service Rifle match was held Sunday, June 7 with 25 participants.

The club’s annual Father’s Day High Power and F-Class match was held June 20th and 21st. Between the two days, a total of 57 shooters participated. New club records were likely set, however the specifics will be unavailable until next month.

Various volunteers put in time and effort to make these matches happen, including Sandy Pagel, Mike Stewart, Jon Welda, John Clark, Dale Anhalt, Bob Burns, James Lee, Bill Quadzinski and others. Thank you to those who put in time and effort to make these matches happen.

2020 marks the first year the club has utilized Shot Marker electronic targets for our matches. Due to the generosity of club members and high power rifle shooters in 2019, the club was able to purchase enough to run all fifteen targets with them. This has allowed matches to run more efficiently and for shooters to receive quicker feedback.

The junior program and both high power practice nights have been a success. Practice sessions and junior practice days have had most of the targets in use at 600 yards. There have been ten juniors shooting this year.

The junior program was started in 2014 under the leadership of Mike Stewart and Dale Anhalt.

SHOOTING SPORTS UPDATES

22 League

This year the club decided to conduct a summer .22 rifle and pistol league modeled on our winter .22 league. Targets are shot at 50 feet in each of the two disciplines and a total of 10 targets are turned in for score. We have about 8 shooters participating in the rifle league and about 8 participating in the pistol league with shooting each Monday evening at 6 p.m. through the end of July. Members can shoot targets at any time and turn them in for score. When a participant has turned



Participants from Father’s Day match weekend. Photo and column information courtesy of Sandy Pagel.



Mike Stewart coaching junior shooter Sebastian R.

in 10 targets for score, they can continue to turn in targets to replace those with lower scores. Any rifle or pistol chambered in .22LR can be used as well as any sight and any shooting position the shooter wishes to use. Though there are rumors that there is evidence of powder burns on some targets, those rumors are unfounded at this time. This is the first summer we have tried running a summer .22 league and it has proven to be very popular.

NRA America's Rifle Challenge

On July 12 the La Crosse Rifle Club is sponsoring a beginners and intermediate version of the NRA America's Rifle Challenge. This is a fun shoot designed for the AR-15 rifle and those who are unfamiliar with or just beginning to shoot the AR-15 rifle. The course of fire is at 7, 25, 50 and 100 yards using a variety of the four shooting positions and requiring a magazine change at each of the distances. The course of fire requires a total of about 82 rounds. Those participating will need an AR-15 rifle, two magazines, 100 rounds of ammunition, and hearing/eye protection. There will be a range fee of \$20 payable to the club due from each participant. Shooting will begin at 2 p.m. For those who do not yet have an AR-15 rifle, we do have a small number of AR-15 rifles and magazines that can be used by participants. Advance registration is required. To register contact Dennis Fater at (608) 317-0199 or Professorgun1@gmail.com.

Junior 22 LR Rifle Class

On August 1 and 8 the La Crosse Rifle Club will sponsor a .22 LR class for junior shooters ages 10 to 18 running from 10 a.m. to about 2 p.m. on both days. Instruction will be at 25 meters utilizing either a .22 LR rifle owned by the participant or one of the Ruger 10/22 rifles owned by the La Crosse Rifle Club. Those kids participating will provide their ammunition and a rug to use as a shooting mat. Hearing/eye protection will be provided for those who do not have them. There will be a range fee of \$10 for the two days of class. Firearms safety will be emphasized at all times. Additionally, participants will learn proper use and adjustment of sights, proper use of a sling, and shooting from prone, seated, kneeling, and standing. This class will be conducted by NRA Certified Rifle Instructors Nathan Fater and Dennis Fater. Advance registration is required. To register contact Dennis Fater at (608) 317-0199 or Professorgun1@gmail.com.

Trap

Under the leadership of Kevin Marx and Mark Manske, trap has had twenty shooters each week. These shooters are shooting at least two rounds a week and things are going well. Members and nonmembers are encouraged to come out each Wednesday at 5 p.m. to give it a try.

Sporting Clays

Sporting Clays began shooting in late May and is still ongoing. There is plenty of room for shooters on Tuesdays for both members and nonmembers. Our format continues to be shooting the super sport variety of sporting clays with a variety of target presentations. Sporting Clays will be shooting until September 1. For more information, please contact Bill Ellwein at ellwein.robert@gmail.com or (608) 317-3834.

HISTORY CORNER

Pictured to the right is a 1980s high power rifle match at the 600 yard firing line. The old shooting house can be seen in the background. This building was torn down in 2015 to make room for our current shooting building.

Do you have old photos from years past of the La Crosse Rifle Club? Please share them and have them featured in our club newsletter! They can be emailed to secretary@lacrosserifleclub.com.



Photo provided by Bill Quadzinski.