

HOME ON THE RANGE

SUMMER

2023



Volunteering



Volunteers at a recent Oscar Mike Clinic at Beloit Rifle Club.

With 100 years of development our club has become the amazing place we all can enjoy today. It is no small task to have all that is available to us which was made possible by members volunteering their time to make it. Volunteering offers numerous benefits, both for the individuals who volunteer and the club. The easiest way to find opportunities for work hours is to check the club calendar www.beloitrifleclub.org/events/ to see when things are happening. Most of the event can use a help setting up, scoring, cleaning up or even mowing the lawn. Through the summer we have general work days when project and club maintenance is performed. That could be anything from painting, repairs on ranges or construction. Check with Brad Mueller on general work day opportunities. When volunteering at the club it is the members' responsibility to have their membership card with them so work hours can be recorded. Without the time recorded on your membership card you won't get the credits for

membership renewal. Only board directors are able to sign for work hours, but it is the members responsibility to present the card so make sure to have it with you whenever you visit the club. Another reason to have your card with you is the list of contacts for the directors in case you have a question or to report a problem.

Here are some key benefits of volunteering:

1. Personal Development: Volunteering allows you to develop and enhance various skills, such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, leadership, and time management. It provides an opportunity to learn new things and gain valuable experience, which can boost your personal growth.

2. Sense of Fulfillment: Helping make a positive impact on people's lives or the environment can be incredibly rewarding.

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Volunteering gives you a sense of fulfillment and satisfaction by knowing that you're contributing to something meaningful.

3. Expanded Network: Volunteering connects you with a diverse group of individuals who share similar interests and passions. It provides an opportunity to meet new people, build relationships, and expand your network, which can be beneficial for personal, social, and professional reasons.

4. Skill Utilization: Volunteering often allows you to apply your existing skills or expertise in practical settings. For example, if you have professional skills in marketing, you might volunteer to help a nonprofit organization with their promotional campaigns. This helps you utilize and refine your skills while contributing to a cause you care about.

5. Health Benefits: Engaging in volunteer work has been associated with improved mental and physical health. It can reduce stress, provide a sense of purpose, all of which contribute to overall well-being.

6. Community Building: By volunteering, you actively contribute to the betterment of your community. It helps create a stronger sense of community, fosters social cohesion, and promotes civic engagement. Volunteering plays a vital role in addressing community needs and building a more vibrant and caring society.

Organizations with a small number of volunteers may face certain challenges and potential consequences. Here are some scenarios that can occur:

1. Increased Workload: With a limited number of volunteers, the workload can become overwhelming for those involved. Each volunteer may have to take on multiple roles and responsibilities, leading to burnout and a strain on their time and energy.

2. Limited Capacity: A small volunteer pool may limit the organization's capacity to carry out its mission effectively. They may struggle to meet the demands of their programs, initiatives, or services, resulting in a reduced ability to serve the community or achieve their goals.

3. Volunteer Dependency: Organizations with few volunteers may become overly dependent on a small group of individuals. This reliance on a handful of dedicated volunteers can be risky because if any of them are unable to continue volunteering due to personal reasons or other commitments, it can significantly impact the organization's operations.

4. Reduced Flexibility: With a limited number of volunteers, there may be less flexibility in scheduling and responding to unexpected needs or events. The organization may struggle to adapt to changing circumstances or take advantage of new opportunities due to resource constraints.

5. Volunteer Fatigue: In organizations with a small number of volunteers, individuals may feel overburdened and fatigued by the constant demands and responsibilities. This can lead to volunteer turnover, decreased motivation, and difficulty attracting new volunteers.



6. Decreased Sustainability: Small organizations heavily reliant on a small number of volunteers may face sustainability challenges. If they struggle to recruit and retain new volunteers, there is a risk of the organization becoming unsustainable in the long run.

Remember to thank your volunteers!! Without them all the work that happens at the club would either need to be paid for or just wouldn't happen. - Kyle Schliem, President BRC

2023 NRA Youth Sports Fest

We had an excellent turnout, both in participation and showing for assistance, at this years recent NRA Days that was held on May 11, 2023. As I look back on when we started this event to where we are today, we've had 14 highly successful events. A bit of history: we started the event in 2009 and held an event each year, continuously, through 2019. We had a break in 2020 due to the pandemic, but picked it back up in 2021. I would like to extend a very big, yet very well earned "THANK YOU" to all of the disciplines and members who helped move targets, coach kids, and Range Maintenance Team which did the Yeoman's work in setting up and tearing down the tents, hand wash stations and "finer detail" items. Plus, "Thank You" to the Wednesday morning group for coordinating and working with several volunteers to get the ammunition needed for the kids to shoot in this year's event. This year we had 106 kids show up to shoot throughout all of the different opportunities that you as volunteers/members of this great Club helped to provide. I am looking ahead at next year's event (2024) and there are some adjustments that will be made. First, Brad Little (Assistant Director) has told me he will not be able to assist with next year's event. What does that mean? I will need someone to assist in getting people signed up for spots as volunteers. Also, I'll need this person to be the point of contact for those within the various disciplines and members that have historically helped out.

If you are interested in this position (Assistant Director) please feel free to contact me.

Thank you!

Robby Personette, NRA Youth SportsFest/Training Director
608-897-1377 Rpersonette@gmail.com

Silhouette

The 2023 weekly outdoor Silhouette target shooting season started on Thursday, May 4th and will continue until Thursday, September 28th. We shoot a 40 round match on Thursday nights, starting at around 5:15pm. We are usually done shooting rifles and have the range cleaned up by 6:30. Members and guests are encouraged to shoot. We generally have 5 to 8 participants each week. Bring your .22 rifle with Standard or High Velocity ammunition. You don't have to be a great shot. Come out and have some fun. You are always welcome to join us!

Our first 80 round monthly match for 2023 was held on Saturday, May 20th. It was a 55 degree sunny day with a light breeze. There were 6 competitors. Craig Stevens was the match winner in Standard (Heavy) Class hitting 52 out of 80. Craig was also the match winner in Hunter (Light) Class hitting 48 out of 80. Congratulations Craig, you are starting out with a great season!

Our second 80 round monthly match was held on Saturday, June 24th. The weather was clear and very hot. This match had 8 competitors. Mike Gamble was the match winner in Standard (Heavy) Class hitting 41 out of 80. He was also the match winner in Hunter (Light) Class hitting 48 out of 80. Congratulations Mike, you had two great matches!

Future monthly Saturday matches are scheduled for July 22, Aug 19 [State Championship], and Sept 23. All members and non-member guests are encouraged to participate. Also, members can get in about six easy work hours if you come out and help for the day.

Again, you are encouraged to come out and join in the fun. Also, members, you can get in about six easy work hours if you come out and help set targets for the Saturday shoots. Any questions, contact Steve Schmalz at 608-362-7172.

Have a safe 2023!

Cowboy Action

“Rock River Regulators”



“Reckoning on the Rock” is in the books. We had a very good turnout this year with 71 shooters representing four states (Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin). Our annual event wouldn't be possible year after year without the support of the Beloit Rifle Club and its members who volunteer behind the scenes to keep things running smoothly. We would also like to give a special Thank you to Doc GeRue for making sure all the cowboys and cowgirls were feed and satisfied during this three-day event, and to Jim Altenburg for being the “Ramrod” and assigning and keeping the volunteers in areas where they were needed. The Reckoning was well represented by club members. Below is a list of how they placed at the end of the shoot:

Charles Quillen 5th – Elder Statesmen
 Lewis Adams 1st – Frontier Cartridge
 Geoff Huebner 1st – Elder Statesmen
 Joe McCallister 1st – Senior Duelist
 Jim Cunningham 6th – Cattle Baron
 Glen Wegmann 4th – Elder Statesmen
 Bill Scuderi 7th – Cattle Baron
 John Saporiti 1st – El Patron
 Frank Ward 6th – 49r
 Ronald Earnest 2nd – Silver Senior
 Joseph Lambert 2nd – El Patron
 John Clint 2nd – Senior
 Dennis Bowen 5th – Cattle Baron
 John Earnest 1st Gunfighter
 Ron Kammes 4th – Cowboy
 Bruce Nygren 3rd – Elder Statesmen
 Kevin Goebel 7th – 49r
 Mike Kobelt 2nd – Frontier Cartridge Duelist
 Tina Saporiti 1st – Lady Duelist
 Mike Cummings 2nd – Silver Senior Gunfighter

Our second match of the season for Wild Bunch is July 29 – this is an experience you don't want to miss. We will also be shooting Wild Bunch on September 30th. Make sure to check the calendar for information pertaining to this shoot. A reminder that our cowboy matches are held on the 1st and 3rd, Saturday of the month. If you want to come out to see what it is all about, we sure would love to have you. There is a safety meeting at 8:45 and shooting begins at 9:00. Eye and Ear protection are mandatory so make sure to bring yours along. We do have a few extra pairs if you happen to forget. If you find yourself with some free time on Wednesday mornings, come on out and join us – 8:00 to Noon. We are always looking for help with general up keep and future project development.

If you are interested in what Cowboy Shooting is all about and want further information check out the SASS website at: <https://www.sassnet.com>
 You can also learn more about the rules and safety features of this sport at: <https://www.sassnet.com/Shooters-Handbook-001A.php>

Ladies In Arms

Ladies in Arms starting up again in September! We focus on shooting fundamentals- stance, grip, sights, breathing, trigger pull and follow thru. Firearm safety, terminology, care and handling/manipulation. How to deal with misfires and malfunctions. Defensive shooting, conceal carry and laws that go with it. We have ladies from ages 12 into their 80's in the group and it's a great way to be with other ladies learning. From brand new shooters to experienced shooters. If you would like to join us please fill out the survey on the brc website under disciplines/women's shooting group. You will meet once a month on Tuesday nights for one and a half hours, .22 semi-auto pistol, ammo and target provided for \$10.00 per class or if you bring your own ammo \$5.00. Any questions you can email JulieBRC@yahoo.com.



Center Fire Bench Rest & 100/500 Meter Range Complex

Center Fire Bench Rest

Center Fire Bench Rest Matches will be conducted on the following dates and are open to all BRC members. There is NO fee to participate. Matches are held from 9:30 AM - 12:00 noon. These are informal Matches. They will be conducted on:

July 15, July 29, Aug 5, Aug 19

Standard Operating Rules For 500 Meter Range

1. Red Badge Certified Members Only. Red Badge must be worn.
2. All Shooters must sign in prior to shooting. (A sign-in sheet will be in the shed next to the guest sign-in sheet. Sign in with date, name, time in/out.)
3. All shooting to be done from the bench top only. (No prone or standing are allowed.)
4. Every time prior to using 200/300/500m range, rifle and ammunition must be fired at 100 yards, a 2 shot 3 inch group must be held to move to 200/300/500m distances. **Please note that now once you have gotten your red badge, you only need to fire 2 shots at 100 yards to proof your rifle's zero before shooting on the 500 meter range.**
5. MINIMUM MUZZLE VELOCITY MUST EXCEED 2300 FT PER SECOND. If in doubt do not shoot until you can get chronographed.
6. Only BRC provided steel targets allowed.
7. When 'cease fire' is called, properly display Hot/Cold sign with warning light. - "Cold" means it is safe to go down range. Warning lights to be on when range is cold. - "Hot means the range is active. Do not go forward of the firing line.
8. No handling of firearms when range is Cold.
9. All firearms must be racked or cased & off the firing line with bolts open or chamber indicated and magazines removed when range is Cold.
10. Bench rest, BR-50, CMP and Highpower disciplines have control of the entire firing line during their matches. All lanes will be closed to non-participants at that time.
11. Check website for the times when the disciplines have matches scheduled.

500 Meter Range

The 500 Meter Range consists of 18 shooting benches, the first 12 are for general use by all members and their guests. The benches are numbered 1 thru 18 from left to right. **BENCHES 13 THRU 18 ARE POSITIONED FOR USE OUT TO 500 METERS AND ARE ONLY TO BE USED BY THOSE BRC MEMBERS WHO HAVE GONE THROUGH THE QUALIFICATION PROCESS FOR THAT RANGE. NO GUEST IS ALLOWED TO USE THIS PORTION OF THE RANGE.**

The following club members are authorized to qualify members on the 500 Meter Range:

| | |
|------------------|--------------|
| Bruce Nygren | 815-978-9767 |
| Chuck Mongan | 815-721-3967 |
| Julie Wagoner | 815-742-1718 |
| Kyle Schlein | 608-921-6520 |
| Everett Bennett | 815-389-3302 |
| Bill Larson | 608-317-6919 |
| Norm Larson | 815-543-6882 |
| Bill Ruck | 608-364-0345 |
| Bill Powell | 608-931-1343 |
| Charlie E. Brown | 608-290-4842 |
| Paul Schuler | 815-519-2141 |

The qualification process is posted in the club house and on the bulletin board at the 500 meter range. That process is:

1. Shoot a 3 shot group a 100 yards to verify rifle zero.
2. Obtain bullet weight and velocity.
3. Calculate the necessary sight change to impact at 500 meters (547 yards).
4. Prove proper sight adjustment from calculations in step "3" by shooting another 3 shot group at 100 yards with the calculated adjustments made to your sights. The group should be 9 inches to 17 inches high depending on bullet speed and weight.
5. After the rifle is properly adjusted to strike high at 100 yards, the shooter to be qualified must fire 4 shots at 500 meters; all shots must strike within a 20 inch square steel plate. More than 4 shots are allowed as needed.
6. Upon completion of the above orientation, the member's name and \$10.00 processing fee, will be forwarded to Jon Nortemann. A special "RED 500 Meter" badge, with the members name will be made for the member to wear. The member will also have his/her membership card signed to substitute for the badge until it arrives.

THE 500 METER RANGE IS FOR QUALIFIED BRC MEMBERS ONLY! NO GUESTS! We have over 300 members qualified. Before members may use the shorter range target boards, 200 meters, 300 meters and steel targets, which co-exist on the 500 Meter Range, they **MUST BE QUALIFIED AT 500 METERS.** Guests are not allowed to use the shorter ranges on the 500 Meter Range at any time or the 500 meter target boards and steel targets. **NOTE: ONLY QUALIFIED BRC MEMBERS ARE ALLOWED TO USE THE 500 METER RANGE, BENCH POSITIONS 13 THRU 18 REGARDLESS OF THE RANGES AT WHICH BACKSTOPS AND TARGET BOARDS ARE INSTALLED.**

I will be qualifying members to use the 500 meter range on any Wednesday morning that the 'Wednesday Morning Group' shoots, between 9:00 AM and noon. You may call the other 10 members to set up other times if needed. If you are shooting a caliber that is damaging our steel targets and/or range facilities, PLEASE STOP. This club belongs to each BRC member and needs to be treated with respect. Normal wear and tear is expected but should not be accelerated. Thank-you.

Remember: These Are Rules

1. No unintended discharge of a firearm.
2. No rounds to leave the range.
3. Wear your safety glasses and hearing protection
4. ALL members, whether new this year or a 40 year plus veteran have a duty to see that our rules and procedures are followed. Politely remind each other if infractions are observed. We have a 'jewel' of a club. Please keep it that way. THANK YOU!
5. No 50 BMG's to be used on Club grounds at any time!
6. Always wear your Membership Badge.

Email or call if you have questions.

Paul Schuler 815 623 2268

Email: pschuvett9@aol.com

Safe and Accurate Shooting
Every barrel and action is a law unto itself.
No two are alike!!
Paul Schuler

Black Powder - The York Shoot

Every year in June, the Beloit Rifle Club/Black Powder Lodge hosts the Wisconsin State Sanction Sergeant Alvin C. York Over the Log Shoot or CGM - 60 yd. shoot. CGM - Meaning Chunk Gun Match. It is called this because you rest the muzzle of your rifle over a log or chunk of wood. Alvin C. York was the most decorated soldier of WWI. We honor him with this shoot because he shot in these types of matches before and after WWI. This type of shooting was a great pastime for the men who lived in the mountains of Tennessee where Alvin York was born and raised. Having the beef shoots, as they were called back then, was a way to see who was the best marksman of that area. They also helped put food on the table. Some times it was a way for the farmer that raised the beef or turkey to get more money for the animals he raised by putting them up for a shoot. The money that was paid to enter the shoot went to the farmer. His beef cow was the prize. 1st and 2nd place got the hind quarters, 3rd and 4th place got the front quarters, and 5th place would get the hide and tallow of the beef cow. 6th place shooter got to dig the lead out of the tree!

Howard Hawks made a movie for Warner Brothers in 1941 called "Sergeant York". It was about the life and times of Alvin C. York. If you can't find a DVD of the movie, you can find all the information about Sergeant York by going on the website: www.sgt.york.org

Like I have already stated the Black Powder Lodge puts on the Annual WI Sergeant York Shoot each June and the proceeds



Charlie Brown and his long rifle.

from the shoot are sent to Deborah York, who is the Executive Director of the Sgt. York Patriotic Foundation in Pall Mall, Tennessee.

Last year June 2022 the WI York Shoot was cancelled because of rain. Due to everyone's calendar for the year being full, it wasn't rescheduled. This year's Annual WI York Shoot was partially cancelled due to excessive heat. Registration opened at 8:00 a.m., the temperature was 84 degrees, the match was to start at 10:00 a.m. with practice prior to that. The match didn't start until about 10:45 due to shooters

coming late. Each shooter gets at least 3 shots practice to establish a group so that he can put his match target behind the group in hopes that he gets a good shot on his match target. By noon the temperature was 90+ degrees.

Ten shooters showed up to shoot the 10 shot CGM 60 yard match. The shortest string of the ten shot match scored with calipers would be the winner. The next shortest would be second and so on down the line. We paid 5 places plus the sweetest shot or the best shot of the whole match.



With the match starting close to 11:00 a.m., I

knew I was in trouble. I was shooting a Flintlock rifle in this match and you have to use a flash or splashguard in between the shooters so that the shooter you are laying next to does not get sprayed with your priming powder when the shot goes off. My splash guard is a grey board with a sign on it that states: "Sometimes you gotta pull out your big guns!". There's where the problem started. I was using a Flintlock rifle that was way too much gun for me to handle on such a hot day. The rifle is a 50 caliber muzzleloader with a 50-inch long barrel that is 1-3/8 inches across the flats. The rifle weighs 28 pounds. I have to stand on a stool to load the gun. The match is shot in the prone position so I have to use pads on my pointed elbows and pads for my knobby knees. About half way thru the match, I was beat. The hotter it got, the worse I shot. I just wanted this match to end. But do you know what, I wasn't the only one standing on a stool to load. Several shooters use a stool to stand on while they clean and load. You use a stool for the long barrels so that your arms don't get as tired working the ram rods up and down.

As I stated before the shoot was partially canceled. After we get down with the ten shot match we hold side matches for various shoot related prizes that the shooters donate. We charge \$1.00 - \$2.00 per shot for the side matches, we use this time for the score keepers to tally p all the scores from the 10 shot match. Well we had to cancel the side matches, no one wanted to shoot any more in the 90 plus degree weather. We usually make

BELOIT RIFLE CLUB

between fifty to seventy-five dollars in the side matches. But not this year. I know I didn't feel like shooting in them, I had enough fun for the day. With the scoring all done, it was time to award the prizes. I must say we didn't have a beef cow to split up, but we did have some nice prizes. The first place shooter was Will Elliot from Port Edwards, WI. He received a nice framed W.M.L.A. sanctioned certificate, a pound of black powder, a crystal eagle, and five gold dollars, and a blue ribbon. His score was a 8.323 inch string. Second place received a pound of black powder, four gold dollars and a second place ribbon. Dan Bredberg of Carbon Cliff, IL shot 2nd with a score of 8.412 inch string, Larry Rackow from Janesville, WI shot 3rd with a 11.056 inch string. He won three gold dollars and a ribbon. Bob Biermann from Rockford, IL shot 4th place and won two gold dollars and a ribbon with a score of 11.087



Dan Bredberg shooting prone.

inch string. Paul Swanson of Rockford, IL came in 5th place with a 12.819 inch string and won one gold dollar and a ribbon. The best shot of the whole match was won by Paul Swanson of Rockford, IL with a score for match 9 of 0.167 of an inch. He received a framed certificate and a big bottle of Back 40 maple syrup. Oh yeah, what was my score, well I shot a 10 shot string that scored 16.804 inches and received lots of sun for my efforts. Like they say, maybe next time.

Prior to the 10 shot match we all faced the flag for what I call the nation's prayer – The Pledge of Allegiance. The flag that we faced is the flag that the York family gave to me for putting on the WI Sergeant Alvin C. York shoots. The flag is one of the flags that flew over Sergeant York's grave in Pall Mall, TN. A treasured possession! I would like to thank everyone who helped put on the 2023 WI Sergeant Alvin C. York shoot, too many to mention, and also the members of the BRC that allowed me to send the proceeds from the shoot to the Sergeant Alvin C. York Patriotic Foundation.

Through our efforts I was able to send over \$220 to the Sergeant Alvin C. York Patriotic Foundation.

Sincerely, Limb Bacon - Harley Whitt
Black Powder Lodge / Historian



Black Powder Lodge

Calendar of Events for 2023

August 20, 2023

Charlie Brown's WMLA "Hunter Match" / 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

September 16, 2023, Saturday

WMLA Sanctioned "Lou Braggo" Chunk Gun Shoot - CGM 60 yds. 10:00 a.m. (Range open for practice 9:00 a.m.)

September 17, 2023

WMLA Sanctioned "Squirrel Shoot" / 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

October 13, 14, 15, 2023

**Ed Le Crones "Turkey Shoot" WMLA Program "B" Shoot
Fri. & Sat. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. & Sun. 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

November, 2023

No Shoot - Deer Hunting

December 15, 16, 17, 2023

**WMLA Sanctioned "Frost On The Lodge Shoot" Program "B" Shoot
Fri. & Sat. 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Sun. 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

SIGHT-IN DAYS

(Rain, Snow or Sunshine)

Sight In Your Rifle At The Beloit Rifle Club
\$10.00 for the first rifle and \$5.00 per gun thereafter.
Immediate family members under age 18 - \$5.00 per gun.

Beloit Rifle members are there to help you. Minimum charge for experienced scope mounting.

Approved targets & shooting benches are provided.

PISTOLS • RIFLE • SHOTGUN • BLACK POWDER
IN LINES • FLINTLOCK & CAP CARTRIDGE

NOVEMBER 4, 5, 11, 12, 15, 2023

ALL SHOOTERS REQUIRED TO SIGN A DISCLAIMER AND MUST ADHERE TO BRC SAFETY RULES.

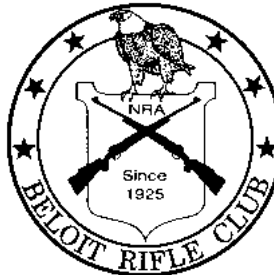
~RAFFLE~

Raffle Drawing November 15, 2023 4:00 p.m. at B.R.C.

1st Prize - Henry Golden Boy H004 .22 S/L/LR

2nd Prize - Savage AXIS XP 350 Legend Camo
w/3x9 40mm scope

3rd Prize - S&W M&P 9mm PC w/Night Sights



4th Prize - ATI Milspport Tactical .410
18.5 BBL 13" MLOK Rail

5th Prize - Winchester SXP Defender 12 ga.

6th Prize - Winchester SXP Turkey 12 ga.

From the Chief Range Officer

Summer is here, hope you are enjoying our amazing range. Now is a good time to consider a discipline that you are curious about. You can check the calendar to find events that you can participate in or even just go observe.

We have seen numerous members bring guests. Remember that you are totally responsible for the actions and compliance of rules for your guests. Signing in and paying the guest fee prior to use of the range as well as mandatory use of Ear and Eye protection by guests and yourself is your responsibility. Members must stay with their guests at all times and should be observing the actions of their guests, not shooting while the guests are. Some of the complaints we have become aware include using targets that aren't approved by the club. Club steel in the club placed location or your paper targets only. We have had a few violations such as shooting jacketed bullets on the cowboy range and rapid fire. We have observed some lax muzzle control too. If you see violations, politely make corrections or notify myself, executive board members or the discipline director in a timely manner.

Holster draw is now approved on the Defense and East Bay ranges for the members that have been certified. There is a separate certification for the cowboy range. If you want to be certified, contact the director for one of those ranges. An up-to-date rule book is available on the club web site. Please check it out, follow the rules and have a great time at the Beloit rifle club!

Contact me if you have questions or comments!

Lee Thompson CRO BRC