

WEST WALKER SPORTSMAN

P.O. BOX 141104, GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN 49514 (616) 453-5081

OCTOBER www.wwsc.org 2003

Big Gun Raffle

The first drawing for the new raffle was September 30 while this issue was at the printer's, so check back next month for the winner of the **Knight 50 cal. Muzzleloader.** There are a few tickets left for the remaining prizes:

Weatherby Vanguard 30-06 Synthetic

Browning BPS 12 ga. Shadow Grass Camo

Beretta AL 391 Walnut with Hard Case

Tikka Whitetail Hunter 7mm Mag.

Remington Wingmaster 870 20 ga.

Tikka T-3 Lite 22-250 Synthetic

Charles Daly Field Hunter .270 Win.

Weatherby Vanguard 300 Win Mag

Plus Three \$100 Cash Prizes

Archery

The Archery committee hopes all the bow hunters out there have been sharpening their skills for the Fall seasons. As a reminder, the 3-D targets on the outdoor walk through range were taken down October 1st and will make their reappearance on Jan 2nd. Meanwhile, don't forget that we offer indoor archery every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. Check the calendar for shooting times, and bring a friend!

Scholarship Awarded

The Annual **Evan Boomstra** Scholarship has been awarded to Kelly Stone. Kelly will receive \$500 to use for her college education. Congratulations.

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Prairie Dog Hunt

WWSC would like to organize a prairie dog hunt for May '04. No, Michigan hasn't become overrun with the poodles; we're talking about a trip to South Dakota next spring to shoot the little critters. Tentative plans are to go by charter bus, and to have hunting guides so nobody needs to be an expert. This is a great opportunity to do some long range hunting, and plenty of it. Shots out to 1000 yards and beyond are not uncommon for this type of hunting. Right now, planning is in the formative stage. We'd like to get an idea of how many folks would be interested in a trip like this. If this sounds like fun to you, call Ed Stone 874-9671, or Rady Delgado 735-2915 for more information.

Membership

1329 Associate Members

43 Charter Members

17 Honorary Members

4 Charter Applicants

Rifle Fun Shoot

Don't forget our Long-range rifle shoot on the 200 meter range October 18th. We will have events for center fire, rim fire, military and hunting rifles. Most events will be feature reactive targets! Some events will be timed for you speed shooter guys and gals. We will also have some 50/50 shoots with prize payouts. This should be a really fun event. Bring the kids!

CCW and You

By John Speck, NRA Instructor

What about ammunition? There are many good choices and a few poor ones. Without going into commercial brand names, let's consider the better possibilities. The most important consideration for self-defense is this - use factory ammo! Sure, you're good at reloading, but consider these two things: #1 – Failure rate. Using very loose numbers, let's say factory rate of failure on center fire ammo is 1 per 1000, professionally remanufactured rate is around 1 in 300, and personal reloads could be as high as 1 in 100. In the past 10n years I have seen about 490,000 rounds go down range at classes and these numbers seem about right. #2 - Civil Lawsuit. Factory ammo, like factory firearms, will stand up better in civil court.

Power is another thing to consider. Magnum loads are too powerful for urban settings. Possible over-penetration into innocent bystanders must be considered.

I do not use lead for 2 reasons: First is the health issue. I try to breathe as little lead vapor as possible. Secondly, lead is more difficult to clean. Other than .22 long rifle (LR), I use full metal jacket (FMJ) at the range. Buy in quantity, shoot cheaply, and shoot often.

Rim fire ammo (22s) has a much higher failure rate than center fire. If you use 22s for self-defense, you need to practice the "tap, rack, invert, and access" drill (per the NRA manual) each time your semi auto fails to fire. Don't just curse the gun; use the problem as a training aid. You may need to perform the drill some day to survive an attack. For a revolver, the "immediate action drill" is to pull the trigger again. In an emergency, you will do what you have practiced, or failed to practice. An advanced class such as "civilian Tactical Pistol" is recommended to reinforce and refine these concepts.

Many of you know I shoot a 9mm (which is a separate issue). I purchase 124 grain FMJs by the thousand, with the goal of firing 4000+ per year. I also buy 124-grain hollow points for self-defense. Be sure to fire a dozen or so of your carry ammo every now and then to be sure of feed, fire and function, and also to be sure of point of impact. I stick with the standard velocity 124 grain they hit the same point of aim, and seem to be more accurate. Try several kinds of ammo to see what performs best in your particular firearm, then buy as much as you can afford.

I pulled up to the range a few days ago, and had to stay in my car until a gentleman was finished shooting, as my ear protection was in the trunk. He had six magazines and shot one handed, two handed, and weak handed. I could not help congratulating him when he finished. I hope you all practice the same way. One disappointment however, was that he did not pick up his brass. Remember; leave nothing behind at the range except your footprints. Thanks, and I'll see you at the range.

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IHMSA 09/20/03 Match Report

Well, another great shooting season comes to an end with the writing of this match report. This was our last match of the season and you couldn't ask for better weather. It was a beautiful fall day for shooting. Attendance was not too bad considering a lot of people have probably already called it quits for the season. We had 14 shooters come out and shoot 26 events, including 2 non-IHMSA shooters. Big Bore was real light while most of the shooters were interested in Small Bore and Field Pistol. At this last match of the season, Bill Clark shot his usual 40 in Small Bore UAS and Lewis Roberts advanced a leg up into B class, shooting a 22 in Big Bore Unlimited. Congratulations to you guys! Nice shooting.

I would like to thank all of you shooters who came out to shoot with us at West Walker at our final match of the season. Your support was much appreciated. I look forward to seeing everyone again next year. If there is enough interest, we may hold an in-door IHMSA Air match in our clubhouse

sometime this winter. Watch our website (wwsc.org) news page for information. Also, don't forget about our 3rd annual Iceman shoot in February.

Thanks again to Deb Heyt for her barbeques and cold drinks throughout the season. Thanks also to Dave and Michelle Krysiak, Dave Freas. Dennis Nelson, Chris Hackett, Rick Heyt, and Dan Larabel for their help in running the matches and setting targets this season.

Scott Larabel, Match Director

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