

The Blue Water News

January 2026

Our next Board of Director meeting will be January 12th at 7:00 pm. All Board of Director's meeting are held in our clubhouse and members are always welcome.

The annual membership meeting will be in the clubhouse January 19th. Doors will open 3:45 pm with voting 4:00 pm – 6:15 pm. Dinner will be served 6:00 pm. All current BWSA members in good standing are welcome.

Thursday 3 Gun

Our first match of 2026 is February 7, and is PCC only. Registration will open on Practiscore.com soon as the date approaches. This match is a great way to checkout some combat action competition. All you need is a PCC, a couple magazines, about 250 rounds of ammunition, and eye & ear protection. If you are new, we'll squad you with Range Officers that will take their time and make sure you have a safe and enjoyable event. Join us for our weekly 3-Gun practices held year-round on Thursdays at 5:00pm at Bay 5, the pole barn. There you will be able to practice in a supportive and fun environment, while enjoying the camaraderie of shooters of all experience levels. This weekly practice for shooters of all skill levels, as we are all just trying to get a little better.

If you don't have all of the equipment needed, we can work around you while you acquire it, but 3 Gun practice is a great place to see what gear people are running, and how well it works for them, before spending your own money on equipment. Our shooters are happy to explain what they use and why they chose it.

You will need an OWB holster with good retention, which is designed for your pistol, and at least three pistol and two rifle magazines. You will need enough ammunition for the night, which means about 25 pistol per stage, 20 rifle per stage and 15 shotgun target loads. It's always a good idea to have a half dozen slugs in case we add a slug target for the evening. No steel core or green tip ammunition is allowed, as it's too rough on the steel targets.

Optional equipment includes weapon mounted lights when shooting during the dark season (October through March). .22 LR conversion kits are allowed can allow for more economical practice.

Cost is \$5.00 for BWSA members and \$15 for non-members. Pre-registration each week is appreciated, as we limit the number so everyone gets a chance to shoot enough. Contact Jeff Jaje on the Monday prior to practice at (586) 612-0857 to secure

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an open spot.

For more information on the 3-Gun division and matches, you may reach out to Joel Drummond at (586) 904-2425. Come join the fun, camaraderie and sharpen your skills at the same time. We look forward to seeing you on the range.

Precision Rifle

Our next event is January 17th. Registration is 8:30-9:15am Safety Brief is at 9:15am. Shooting starts at 9:30am. Cost is: Members \$10 / Non-members \$20 (Cash only, please only \$20/\$10/\$5 bills). **If you show up late you will not be allowed to shoot!** Register on the 600yd line (east of the clubhouse). You will have to carry all your equipment to the 600yd line.

You may bring more than one rifle to shoot. All rifles must have a scope or magnified optics. No green tip, or armor piercing allowed, as it will damage the steel targets.

Targets are all steel from 99yds out to 615yds. If you have never shot the event you must shoot a qualifier first. The qualifier is 3rds within 1.5 moa at 99yds, with any rifle you are using. **This event is not the time to zero your rifle!**

There will be two positions setup for Precision .22 (.22lr).

Again, there are no times, score or round count. If you have any questions feel free to call or text, I will get back with you.

This event is growing, which is awesome! With that being said, I am going to start placing people into 6 groups. We will have a mandatory rotation every hour. So it will be up to your group to call hits and misses and give everyone in your group a chance to engage each target.

****Dress for the weather, there is no shelter on the line****

Mark your calendars for this years Precision Rifle Events:

February 28, 2026
March 21, 2026
April 18, 2026
May 23, 2026
September 26, 2026
October 24, 2026

See you on the firing line,
Rod Damm
586-321-2211

Muzzleloader

Looking for a reason to get out of the house this winter and enjoy the weather? Come join the winter Muzzleloading League. The league starts January 4th, and we shoot

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every other Sunday through April 12th. We have two leagues running at the same time: one for rifle and one for pistol. Both leagues shoot twelve shots per week, and you can shoot either league or decide to do both for twice the fun. Besides the weekly range fee, the league fees are \$25 for the rifle league and \$20 for the pistol league, with the awards banquet April 15th. The wood stove will be burning hot, and we will have a full soup pot each week to help stay warm while we solve the world's problems and tell some stories before and after shooting. Any questions, call Joe Provost (810-434-1675) or Pete Galante (810-488-6405). Hope to see you there!

22 Winter Fun Shoot

The Artillery Division would like to invite you to come out and have a little fun on a Saturday morning. We will be having a Skirmish type shoot, shooting 22 cal. rifles or pistols at breakable targets in the clubhouse basement range. Teams are picked by a draw of names and end up being 4, 5, or 6 person teams depending on how many people show up. Rifles and pistols should be 22 cal. single shot with open sights. If you don't have one bring your semi-auto and you can shoot it with a special loading procedure.

Registration begins at 10am with a short sight in period. Teams are picked at about 10:30am and we start shooting shortly after. The shoot usually runs till about 1:30 – 2:00pm. Cost for the shoot is \$10.00. We will be having 4 shoots this year. The dates are January 3rd, February 7th, March 7th and April 4th. Hope to see you there. For more info contact Mike Zandarski at 586-817-6723.

January Shotgun News

The 2026 Winter Skeet League is about to begin. The first day to start posting scores is Sunday January 4th. You can sign up your team or yourself at the front desk up to Sunday January 18th, as long as you have 100 birds scored by then. Single shooters are welcome. We'll hook you up with a team looking for a shooter. Remember this year, there will be no extended 100 bird deadlines. Our schedule is pretty compressed due to the pending clubhouse construction, so take advantage of the 100-bird shoot ahead in case the club is closed due weather or other events. The details of the league are posted around the clubhouse and on the BWSA.club website under Member Center/Division Group Pages/Shotgun.

Handicaps this year will be the same as last. Your team's first 100 bird

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scores will determine which division you'll be in. Highest scores in the top division and so on. Gross scores will determine your team's standings in your division after that.

If you'd like to shoot a smaller gauge than 12 gauge, write it down on the sign-up sheet. If there's enough interest, I'll add a separate division for small gauges. If there aren't enough small gauge shooters, we'll just have one overall scoreboard and you can choose to shoot whatever gauge you want.

On December 18th, we held our annual potluck Shotgun Christmas Party. And as usual, everyone came through with enough desserts, sides, hor d'oeuvres and entrees to feed an army. It was great to see some old faces make a return along with some of our former youth shooters back from school & work. Several of the wives showed up also. It's always nice to see the women who put up with the men we see shooting every week. God Bless them.

Special thanks to our kitchen ladies Tamra Allbaugh & Judy Morgan and any other lovely ladies at the club who helped that day. Somehow, they managed to organize a mountain of food and serve it without any spills, broken dishes or cold food. God love you girls.

Larry Sokolowski
larrysoko1@yahoo.com
810-841-7136

1st Vice President

We have our annual meeting around the corner, and we look forward to seeing you there. We will have some more information and samples of what the clubhouse will look like once fully remodeled over the next few years. The first phase will start 11 May and is estimated to be finished mid to late July. The first phase will update the entire west side of the clubhouse which includes the bathrooms, kitchen, office space, and hvac for the upstairs. We look forward to the coming year as we have a lot of events scheduled for all. I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

1st VP
Ed Allbaugh

Meet the Candidates

Mark Achatz
Hello BWSA Family,
My name is Mark Achatz, and I am currently serving as your appointed 2nd vice president. I have been on the board for a few years now and volunteered this past March to fill the empty seat at 2nd VP. This coming election I will be running for the 2nd VP seat on the board and would appreciate

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your vote. I do enjoy having a more active role in the club, and I am thankful for all the other volunteers on the board that help keep everything running. I have been a member of BWSA for 10+ years. You will find me on the shotgun fields most Thursdays and Sundays. Hope to see you at the annual meeting!

Ed Allbaugh

Since June 2017, I have been on the board of directors as your 2nd VP and over the past three years as your 1st VP and Treasurer. Over this time, I have been instrumental in the upkeep of the ranges, building the new bays on the east side of the property, helping with junior smallbore, the division lead for shotgun and a host of other things. I look forward to continuing as your 1st VP and growing the club overall and the shotgun department. Thanks for your vote at the upcoming annual meeting and past votes.

Ed Allbaugh

Sean O’Kane

My name is Sean O’Kane, and I’m seeking re-election to the Board of Directors at Blue Water Sportsman’s Association. As a member of the board over the past three years, I’ve supported a variety of club initiatives across multiple divisions, serving on committees, helping with new member orientations, and volunteering at range events. I’ve

maintained my RSO certification and applied it across the facility to support club safety and operations. I’ve also contributed to the development of division SOPs to promote consistency and accountability. I would appreciate your support and encourage all members to participate in the upcoming election this January.

Sam LaVere

My name is Sam Lavere and I have been a BWSA member for 15 years. During those 15 years I participated in Bullseye, ran Monday night open shooting, cut the grass, empty the trash, and replaced backers on the range. I became an RSO here to help with the Woodswalks, 600 yard events, and Bullseye. You may have seen me out there taking pictures of different events for the club. It would be my pleasure to serve for 1 more term.

Rusty Richmond

Hi, I'm Richard Richmond. I've been a member for quite a few years now. I've been on the board for the last few months. I'm active in rifle shooting and Archery Division head for the club. I run 3D events through the summer. I'm an avid outdoorsman also.
