

WALLA WALLA GUN CLUB



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Bob Bloch
Editor

SHOT MINING A BIG SUCCESS

Summer is in the history books now, but as they say, it's gone but not forgotten.

Most notable was the great success we had with our lead shot recovery. The miners recovered and reclaimed over 36 tons of lead. Of that, over 4,000 lb was cleaned and regraphited, then sold back to our shooters for about half the cost of new lead shot. That's an economic and environmental record to be proud of.

We need to thank club member **Steve Underwood** and his daughter **Brittany** for their hard work in cleaning and bagging. It's not an easy job, and they did it superbly.

What's that mean for WWGC? It means we now have the funds to finish the pistol range project. Prior to mining, we had run out of building funds. With the success of mining and the Hi-Yu shoot just concluded, we now have \$35,000.00 in the construction account that we can use. That's more than enough to finish the pistol range to a most usable degree.

At this writing, **Kris Carver's** crew were busily sealing up the gaps in the enviro-blocks. As that is being done, club member **Billy Stahlheber's** crew from **Doyle Electric** will start on the rest of the wiring necessary to tie the range to the clubhouse.

Once that's done, Doyle will hang the rest of the target track, install some lights in the range tunnels, and make provision for future electrical additions as they become reality.

The one thing we've not much discussed at our board meetings is, what kind of shooting benches we want to install? Can we build our own, or is it more cost effective to buy them off the shelf? These are questions we will wrestle with at our October 12 board meeting.

If you have any ideas or suggestions to this end, please pass them along to a board member, or better yet, come in person to the board meeting (5:00 pm on Oct. 12) and share them with us.

As you may have noticed, the **Friends of NRA** have been moribund ever since the pandemic. There have been no banquets, fund raisers, or money dispersal to clubs for their projects. In fact, we've had our funding requests rejected for lack of available capital. They have told us, "no banquet, no funding." I guess that says it all.

But there is reason to hope. Recently I've been in touch with FNRA's new area representative, **Robert Berg**. Robert is from central Oregon, not Seattle or Portland, so he is more attuned

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PISTOL RANGE NEAR!

- BACKSTOP GOING IN •
- LIGHTING AND TARGET RETRIEVAL NEXT •
- HI-YU SHOOT A GREAT SUCCESS •

At this writing, **Kris Carver's** crew were busily sealing up the gaps in the enviro-blocks that make up the walls of our new pistol range tunnels.

As that is being done, club member **Billy Stahlheber's** crew from **Doyle Electric** will start on the rest of the wiring necessary to tie the range to the clubhouse.



Klay Carver looks on as Mark Jungmann directs the crew in erecting the steel baffles for the new pistol range. Jack Miller constructed the baffles, using new half-inch thick steel plate just purchased, and "steel from an old rod weeder I took apart years ago."

You may not know this, but **Doyle Electric** is only charging us their cost for time and materials, without taking one thin dime in profit. Their generosity is saving us in the neighborhood of \$15-\$20,000.00, and is making it possible to complete our project with the money we have on hand.

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WALLA WALLA GUN CLUB is located at 1212 Middle Waitsburg Road. Phone 509-529-7288.

Hours: 9:00 am Sunday, Skeet 9:00 am Tuesday & Saturday, 5-Stand 5:00 pm Wednesday, Fun Shoots 6:30-9:00 pm Thursday. Saturday by Special Request For Groups.

Website: <http://wallawallagunclub.com>

Email: info@wallawallagunclub.com

to our area and our needs.

Robert will be here at WWGC for our board meeting October 12. At that time, we will be discussing who, how and why of reinvigorating the Friends of NRA banquet and money raiser. I will say one thing for Robert, he's a gun-ho kind of guy that is all out to help the clubs succeed. You may have recently received an email with the announcement of the Wallowa Gun Club's FNRA banquet coming up right soon. Expect more clubs to join the hunt for money as Robert gets his feet firmly on the ground.

If you are a computer nerd, or just curious, you will want to know that we are working on a new website for WWGC.

If you have tried to use *wallawallagunclub.com* recently, you will have noted that the info there is out of date and frankly, kind of stale looking.

The new website will change that.

We have been working with the very generous folks at Walla Walla University, who are graciously – and with enormous patience – working with yours truly to design and build a website with more features, more usefulness, and hopefully, more interest to you the members.

We want to be able to accept payments for dues online, and we want you to be able to talk to the board with your fingers anytime you want. We want up-to-date information available, and for the visually astute among us, we want a lot of pictures of events and happenings.

All these things will be possible. We thank **David Lopez** and his student helper **Brook Danelson** for their exquisite expertise and assistance.

It goes without saying that this club owes a huge debt of gratitude to board member **Jack Miller** for his incredible ability to build almost anything imaginable out of a pile scrap steel. If you want a "fer instance", go have a look at the backstops he has built for the pistol range (see column opposite).

What's more, Jack is designing and engineering mounting brackets for our new range lights for Trap 1. These should be up and shining within a week. As you may know, we removed the old lights and after renovation, plan on using them to light the pistol range tunnels.

Jack also scrounged around in the dark recesses of the gun club's shop and found several more lights in various stages of disrepair. As we speak, new glass lenses and new bulbs are on order.

Once those are received and once Jack fashions new mounting hardware, they will soon adorn the skeet field! Yes, lights for night time skeet shooting! If you have never tried it, you are in for an experience. Years ago, I belonged to a now-defunct gun club in Kennewick on Highway 395 that offered night skeet shooting. It's a kick in the pants and should be high on your list of things to do, even if you are not much of a daytime skeet shooter.

You're a wonderment, Jack! Many thanks from all of us at WWGC.

See ya soon!



Looking on and admiring the new baffles for the pistol range are (l-r) Whitman College Student Ben Herron, Larry Brown, Doug McKay (rear), Kris Carver (orange shirt), and Gayland Blake.

The second set of baffles for the other range tunnel will go in this coming Saturday (weather permitting).

The Hi-Yu Shoot concluded this past weekend. Lots of fun, and some new members enrolled too! (See below)

Thanks to club members **Holly** and **Steve Ledgerwood** for their hard work in bringing the Hi-Yu shoot to WWGC.



Happy first year Hi-Yu shooters (l-r) Don Mooney and Terry Lee are all smiles at the recent Hi-Yu shoot. Both shooters won prizes for their shooting prowess. What's in the cups, fellas?



Klay Carver finds a way to break his target seen here flying just over the center of the line of horizontal flags. The flag shoot is just one of the events that titillated contestants at the Hi-Yu weekend!

More fun and games coming this fall and winter at WWGC. Check out the schedule in the shooting shed.

Sponsor's Corner

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Now Is The Time For All Good Men & Women To Come To The Aid Of Their Gun Club - 2023 DUES PAYABLE TODAY!

WOW! 2024 Dues are payable beginning September 1, 2023. Below please find an application form for Club membership or renewal. Please fill it out, and send it along with a check for \$75 to **Walla Walla Gun Club, Box 133, Walla Walla, WA 99362**. You should also send an additional \$30 to renew your NRA membership, or go to the Club's website at <http://wallawallagunclub.com> and click on the NRA link.

YOUR NAME: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

NRA MEMBERSHIP NUMBER: _____ (required)

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ FAX NUMBER: _____

BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2023

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vacant, *Vice-Pres.*

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