



Northeastern Arizona Sportsman's Association, Inc.
320 CR6350, P.O. Box 2715, St. Johns, Arizona 85936

Issue 2014071

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Letter from the VP:

Hello shooters!

If you missed the Trophy Shoot, you missed some fun. You also missed me getting turned into "lobster-man", because I couldn't find my sunscreen! Make sure you come out to the Trophy Trap shoot on August 9th. The best round of 25 birds wins! Bring your sunscreen...

At the last couple of shoots we have had something we haven't had before. NRA Certified Range Safety Officers. It was something that was missing, and something that occasionally caused problems. We saw the need, and made the change. It is a little bit different, but it is definitely safer. We're still working on fine-tuning the process, but it's headed the right direction.

We officially approved the Standard Operating Procedures for the shooting facilities at the last board meeting. These have a lot of changes headed our way. The NRA RSOs are one of the changes, along with several other things to improve safety, and improve the range. There is a link further down where you can download the SOPs if you'd like.

Apache County has lifted their fire restrictions, but the State of Arizona hasn't. We are still subject to a Stage 1 fire restriction from the State. The range facility is owned by the state, so we are bound by their rules. Please read the letter they sent below and comply with their rules. I know we're swimming in mud out there right now, but hey, "rules is rules". I think the only part we might encounter on the range is the "incendiary devices". I'm sure they consider tracers to be incendiary.

Sincerely,

Bowen Udall
Vice President
Northeastern Arizona Sportsman's Association, Inc.

Letter from the State of Arizona:

For Immediate Release: July 10, 2014
Contact: Carrie Dennett, Fire Information Officer
602-399-3078

Stage I Fire Restrictions
from 2014 Jul 11 8:01 a.m. until rescinded
Arizona State Lands

The restrictions are as follows:

- Building, maintaining, attending, or using a fire, campfire, charcoal, coal, or wood stove other than in a developed campsite or picnic area is prohibited. Exemptions include persons using a device solely fueled by liquid petroleum or LPG fuels that can be turned on and off.
- Smoking is prohibited unless: it is within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site/improved site, or while stopped in an area at least three feet in diameter that is barren or cleared of all flammable materials.
- The discharging or using of any kind of fireworks and incendiary devices is prohibited.
- Welding or operating acetylene or other torch device with an open flame is prohibited.

Additional exemptions to the above-listed restrictions include:

- Any Federal, State, or local officer or member of an organized rescue or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
- All land within a city boundary is exempted unless otherwise stated in city ordinance.

If local authorities have imposed stronger restrictions than those listed above, then the local restrictions shall apply. These restrictions do not apply to private lands.

Letters and concerns from members:

I frequently get comments, suggestions, and concerns from members. People will catch me when they see me, send me e-mails, or even call me. I am always glad when people let me know about things, even when it's a problem that needs to be corrected. I take all these things to heart, and try my best to use them to improve things.

I received a call from a member last week about an ongoing problem on the range. His concern was one that I have also had. He told me that when he had gone out to the range the day before, there was 'trash' on the range. Someone had stuck boards in the target bases, then shot them up, leaving the remains strewn about the range. Someone also had metal leaning up against target bases. I have gone out and have found shot up bottles and cans as well. The member was concerned that there were members who would not clean up their trash.

He is right. I know that sometimes non-members get on to the range and shoot. However, I also know that most of the trash left on the ranges is from members. It has been a problem, and continues to be a problem. I clean up someone else's mess almost every time I go out there.

This is OUR range. WE are responsible for it. WE need to treat it with respect. When we leave it a mess, it takes time and resources cleaning the mess that should be spent on range improvements. When people leave trash on the range, they are preventing the range from getting better.

Make sure you do your part. Clean up your trash. We have trash cans there, use them. If you see a mess that some inconsiderate jerk left, help clean it up. Together, WE can make our range something to be proud of, something to show off.

I also received a letter from a member in response to one of the "Bowen's Stupid Tips" articles. The sender wanted to remain anonymous, so I am posting his anonymous reply below:

"In the MAY News, you mentioned that putting a 9 mag in a 40 leads to expanded cases – you even had a few photos of such.

I own a few 9P cases like those too, but arrived in a slightly different manner. There were, some months ago, 9 and 40 cartridges on the same range table. I wanted to try a certain 40, picked up a mag and started filling it – with permission, of course. They poked up a little high, but didn't pop out. I didn't put many in (3) because I didn't have a mag loader with me, and besides, I just wanted to see how it shot, not rip off a mag full – it was, after all, someone else's expensive ammo. So I shot all three – bang, bang, bang - and couldn't seem to hit the target... or anywhere near it. Action worked OK, but something wasn't right. I picked up the brass, and saw all three had expanded, like your photos, and the headstamp said 9, not 40. A small bit of my mind woke up, and I remembered they had seemed a bit high in the mag lips when loading. I walked back to

the bench and confirmed my error. Then I didn't trust myself to shoot with 40. I figured I wasn't awake enough.

9 will shoot and function from a 40 mag, but it ain't pretty.

—an anonymous ammo-switcher.“

I know this shooter. It is not a mistake I would have ever expected them to make. I'm happy they sent in their experience that confirms what I have also seen. I'm glad his wrong-cartridge experience didn't result in any injury or damage, but it does help show that it can happen to anyone. Be alert, and be safe!

Trophy Shoot Winners:

As you all know, our annual Trophy Shoot was July 12th. It was fun and interesting. We had some really good shooters out, and it made for a fun, challenging shoot. Here are the categories and trophy winners:

Category	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place
Rimfire Pistol	Wiley Barnes	Ben File	Bill Watkins
Ladies Pistol	Katrina Jubenville Watkins	Billie Barnes	Bobbie Honea
Centerfire Pistol	Bobby Honea	Ben File	Wiley Barnes
Junior Rifle (11-17)	Gavin Harris	Trevor Harris	Joe Udall
PeeWee Rifle	Falen Claxton	Shyla Udall	Everett Tapia
Rimfile Rifle – Open Sights	Ben File	Wiley Barnes	John Harris
Rimfire Rifle - Scoped	Bill Watkins	Katrina Jubenville Watkins	Ben File
Muzzleloader	Bill Watkins	Katrina Jubenville Watkins	Ben File
Centerfire Rifle – Open Sights	John Harris	Ben File	Bill Watkins
Centerfire Rifle – Scoped	Ben File	John Harris	Trevor Harris

Upcoming Shoots and Events:

- **Trophy Trap!** – August 9th at 9:00am. We will be giving out 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place trophies for both adult and junior divisions. Last year was the first Trophy Trap I shot at, and it was definitely fun! Don't miss out.
- **Apache County Fair** – September. We will have a booth, and we'll have the guns we're raffling there for display. Stop by and give them a look over!
- **Frontier Shoot** – September. It was going to be the 2nd Saturday, but that's the same day as the Apache County Fair. Not sure if it will still be that Saturday or not. I'll let everyone know after we figure it out, but it will probably be September 13th.
- **Turkey Shoot** – November 8th, 10:00am. Come win a 'turkey'... actually a gift card to the grocery store. Many categories, and prizes for winners in all of them.
- **Toys for Kids shoot** – December 13th Bring a \$5 toy for each category you want to shoot, or \$5 entry fee for each category. We give the toys and entry fees to a local charity that helps make sure all kids have toys on Christmas morning.
- **Coyote Shoot** – January 10th and 11th. Check in is at dawn on the 10th. Whoever brings back the most coyotes on the 11th at 3:00 wins! We didn't have the coyote shoot last year, but we're having it this year even if I'm the only one shooting.
- **Fun Shoot** – May. \$2.00 for the day, as many events as you like. Shoot at things like asprin, eggs, balloons. Try to split a playing card. Shoot through a flat washer. Other fun events.

Continuous Shoots and Events:

- **Members' Meeting.** Fourth Saturday of the month. This is where the members meet with each other and the board members to discuss things about the club. The next one is July 25th, 6:30pm at the St. Johns Library.
- The **Scholastic Clays Target Program** is held on the first and third Saturdays of every month at 10:00am on the Shotgun Range. The next one will be **August 2nd** at 10:00am. This program is funded by the Arizona Game and Fish, and is free for the youth. [Sign-up forms can be found here.](#) General information about the SCTP can be found on [the Game and Fish SCTP page.](#) Contact Bowen Udall at bowen.udall@nasashootingsports.com for more information. Our Facebook page is www.facebook.com/leadingedgeshooters
- The **Board of Directors meeting** is held on the second Friday of every month, 6:30pm at the St. Johns public library. The next one will be August 8th.
- The **Scholastic Clays Target Program** is held on the first and third Saturdays of every month at 10:00am on the Shotgun Range. The next one will be August 16th at 10:00am. This program is funded by the Arizona Game and Fish, and is free for the youth. [Sign-up forms can be found here.](#) General information about the SCTP can be found on [the Game and Fish SCTP page.](#) Contact Bowen Udall at bowen.udall@nasashootingsports.com for more information. Our Facebook page is www.facebook.com/leadingedgeshooters
- ARCHERY AND OPEN - THIRD WEEKEND 9AM THIRD WEEK END ARCHERY AND OPEN
DON BORG 928-337-4387--928-245-0222 PLEASE RSVP

- Members' Meeting. Fourth Saturday of the month. This is where the members meet with each other and the board members to discuss things about the club. The next one is August 22nd.

Range News:

The Arizona Game and Fish Department asked us to come up with some relatively easy to do improvements and rate their importance to the club. We discussed it at the board meeting and came up with this list:

- 1) Fence
- 2) New Road (the existing road is not completely within the facility boundaries)
- 3) Awnings over the shooting benches
- 4) Impact berm on the 1000 yard range
- 5) New shooting benches

These will be the things listed in the environmental assessment so we don't have to get another one done just for these improvements.

Bowen's Stupid Tips:

Since very few have offered to help with content in the NASA News, you're going to have to listen to some of the 'duh' moments I've encountered. I'll try to keep them 'sportsman' related, but there are times that I might slip in a computer reference, car reference, or even a plumbing reference depending on how poorly my week has been going. I'm really hoping some of you will decide to jump on the band-wagon and start helping me out with content...

Hey look, we're not at the last day of the month! Good day for a newsletter... It's actually surprising the amount of time it takes to make a newsletter. No wonder magazines are monthly and have a huge staff. Of course, the big difference is they have a budget.

So, on to the tip. I have given two tips in one before, this time I'm going to give a tip for two purposes. It's going to sound like a reloading tip (I have a ton of those), but it's also for ANYONE who shoots.

A decade or so ago, I purchased a 31' travel trailer for \$500. Obviously, it wasn't in showroom condition and needed quite a bit of work. I hauled the thing home, and started the process of cleaning it out and fixing it up. During the cleaning it out phase, I found about 500 rounds of 22 Hornet ammunition.

Pretty nice find, I thought. At the time, 22 Hornets were going for about \$30 per 50. Quick math told me that I might have just received a \$300 instant rebate on the trailer! I knew right away that most of them were reloads, but they were still 22 Hornets. Hard to find, and expensive. I was pretty happy with my luck.

I went through and sorted out factory fresh (about 100 of them) and reloads. I then separated them further by projectile type. Now, since these were unknown reloads, I decided it would be a smart thing for me to randomly select a couple of each different load and inspect it. So, I picked a couple and pulled them down. I inspected the cases, the primers, the bullets, and the powder. All seemed fine. I weighed the powder, and even though I didn't know what type of powder it was, the weight was well within the range I would expect. Everything checked out. I decided it would be fine to shoot, so I filed it away in my stuff.

I don't really shoot my 22 Hornet as much as I used to. Over the next seven or eight years, I finally worked my way through the factory stuff I had found in the trailer, and was just getting in to the reloaded stuff. I think the reason I finally got through the factory stuff was because of my youngest son. He has shown a remarkable interest in the old Savage 22 Hornet. It fits him well, it's light, and there is almost no recoil. Of course, it's also an absolute tack-driver. I was just a couple years older than him when I got it from my Dad, so I started letting him shoot it more and more. This meant that I started burning 22 Hornets fairly quickly.

One day we had the reloads I had found. I had used up all the factory stuff, and all the reloads I had made. I took my family out to the range with the plan of seeing how those found reloads shot. I wanted to see how far off my current zero they were. Beautifully, they were spot-on. I thought I couldn't ask for more. I turned my son loose on burning a few rounds while I helped my youngest with her .22. It was about three rounds before he called me over to help with a problem. He had shot, but the case was stuck in the chamber. It wasn't a problem with the ejector, because the ejector had even ripped a big chunk of brass off the rim. There was something that had made it legitimately stick in the chamber. Luckily, I had my cleaning kit with me, so I used a cleaning rod to pop the stuck case out. I looked it over with great scrutiny, and didn't see anything that would have caused it to stick. I grabbed another reload, chambered it, and fired. It ejected perfectly fine. I decided it had to have been a fluke, since all the others I had shot worked just fine. I turned it back over to my son, and went back to helping my daughter.

A couple rounds later, he called me over again, saying it had stuck again. Again, it took the cleaning rod to remove the case. This time, when I looked the case over closely, I noticed the neck was split. I had seen split necks before, but they had never caused a case to get stuck in the chamber. If anything, a split neck should make removal easier. I was quite confused. I still had the first one that stuck, and I examined it carefully to see if it had a split neck that I had missed the first time. Nope. The neck was fine. I went back through the rest of the casing we had fired that day, looking carefully at each one.

I found that about a third had split necks. They all ejected fine, why would another with a split neck not eject? Why was my rifle splitting necks where it had never split a neck before? Why was one of the non-ejectors split, but the other that didn't eject not split? What was going on? It was very confusing, but it was only the start of my confusion.

I decided I was going to give those reloads a closer look. I started really looking very closely at each unfired round. After several, I noticed that one unfired round had a split neck. I kept looking and found several more. I almost didn't see the split on one of them, so I decided to re-inspect the ones that I had just looked at. This time, I tried wiggling the bullet a little bit. Turns out there were several more that had split necks, but were invisible until I put some sideways pressure on the neck from the bullet. I went through all the rest of those rounds, being very careful to cull out the split cases. This left me with about 250-ish rounds that should be fine.

Well, I decided that I'd shoot a few more. A couple of rounds and I thought the problem was gone. One more showed me it wasn't. I had a non-split neck round stick in the chamber. Again, it took the cleaning rod to remove it from the chamber. I tried several more, and some were fine, some were not. I carefully inspected each and every fired casing to see if it had a split case before and after I had fired it. Not a single one split.

Talk about a head-scratcher. I was seriously confused. The only logical conclusion I could come up with is that some MUST be double-charged. That would certainly force the brass against the chamber with enough force that my ejector couldn't pull it out and would certainly split necks, right? What else could it be?

So I figured that I should take the reloads home and do some more investigation. I started by weighing each round. If there was a double-charge, I'd easily find it because it would be about 10 grains heavier. A digital scale would make short work of that. Well, it didn't. I weighed them all. There was very little difference in the rounds. Maybe a 1/3 grain spread across all the rounds. Definitely not a double-charge problem. So what the heck could it be? I measured them all with a dial caliper I had, and none seemed to be out of spec. The overall length was good, the diameter was good, the case length was good, but toward the trim limit. I couldn't figure it out. I finally decided there had to be something wrong with the little 80-year-old Savage.

So I cleaned the rifle. I cleaned it some more. I cleaned the chamber. I cleaned the ejector, I cleaned the springs, and checked for functionality. I put oil everywhere oil should go, and really went over it with a fine tooth comb. I got a bright light and inspected the chamber, thinking maybe there was something stuck in there, or maybe a scratch in the side. I did everything I could think of to make sure the rifle was 100%. Then I decided to go try it again, and again, about 1/3 of them stuck. I was at a complete loss at this point. I stuck the Hornet back into the safe, and the rounds back on the shelf. I knew I'd have to think about it a little more before I figured this one out.

Several months later, I came across some affordable, quality micrometers. Starrett is one of the top quality manufacturers of micrometers. I had a dial caliper, but I knew that dial calipers are for a very close estimate, while micrometers are for precision. I couldn't turn them down for the price I was getting them for. I didn't realize at the time, but these micrometers would be the ticket to solving my Hornet problem.

With a new set of micrometers, I was measuring everything. It's fun to see the exact thickness of a strand of hair, the thickness of a sheet of typing paper, the actual

measurements of different calibers of bullets, etc... We eventually got to trying to figure out exactly what was going wrong with the 22 Hornet. While the dial caliper didn't show any problems, I knew I could get exact to the thousandth of an inch ± 0.0005 measurements of whatever I could get the micrometers around. I was determined to figure out what was going wrong.

Now a quick 22 Hornet primer. "Old" 22 Hornets used a .223" diameter bullet. Because of the popularity of modern "22 caliber" cartridges (223, 22-250, 222, 222 Mag, many other things with "22" in their name using .224" bullets), "new" 22 Hornets use a .224" diameter bullet. Not that big of a deal. Ammunition and rifle manufacturers claim the "new" .224" 22 Hornets can be shot out of the "old" 22 Hornets without any worry. I believe them, however, I don't believe that cases made for the "old" diameter bullets should be used with .224" bullets. With my micrometer, I discovered the "old" cases had been loaded with "new" bullets. Normally, this would not be an issue at all, but the 22 Hornet case is paper thin at the neck, and is very fragile. When I looked VERY closely at the reloads, I saw a slight diameter change where the bullet stopped in the neck. It's nearly invisible, but with a bright light, and a camera lens capable of taking a full sized portrait of Abe Lincoln from a penny, it became visible. I think the use of the larger bullets is what was causing the splitting. However, it did not explain the sticking.

Again, using my beautiful, new (to me) micrometers, I started measuring cases. I still had all the cases from the reloads, including the ones that had stuck. As I measured, I realized all the ones that had stuck were just slightly longer than the SAAMI specifications. Just 1-2 thousandths of an inch. Could it be that simple? My caliper wasn't accurate enough to see the problem, but they were too long? Was my Hornet chamber really cut that exact? Well, I knew how to find out. I went through the reloads looking for ones that had cases that measured below the max, and ones that measured longer than the max. I got a dozen of each and headed to the range.

I started with the ones that were below the max. Every single one fired and ejected perfectly. No problems whatsoever. Next were the ones that were over specs. You guessed it, they stuck. After the fourth one sticking, I decided I didn't need to try the rest. I actually decided that I didn't want to have to break out the cleaning rod eight more times. I had finally figured this one out.

So the problem was simple. Some of the reloaded cases were $1/1000^{\text{th}}$ of an inch longer than my chamber. This would put the very tip of the case up in the throat, and when fired, the bullet would force the brass into the side of the throat and make the case stick. I went home, and tore down every single one of those reloads. I saved the case and the bullet, but tossed the powder and primer. After trimming the cases, I reloaded with fresh powder and primers, used the same bullets, and not one has stuck. I have had a 100% ejection rate since trimming.

So, what's the tip? Trimming? No, I covered that a few months ago. The tip is a tip not only for reloaders, but for everyone. The tip is: **Be very careful of who you trust to do your reloading.** I thought I was being careful. I checked the components of the reloads, and didn't see anything glaring, but because the reloader didn't take the time to trim

the cases, it sent me on a couple-month head scratcher, and that's only one of a hundred things that can go wrong with reloads. Whether you reload your own, or buy reloads to save money, you need to know the reloaded knows what they are doing.

NASA Politics:

- **Board of Directors meeting** – The Board of Directors meets twice a month. First at the Board of Directors meeting on the second Friday of the month at 6:30pm at the St. Johns Library, second at the Members Meeting. The Board of Directors is responsible for making decisions for the club and take into consideration suggestions and opinions from members. Come to the meetings and participate.
- **Members meeting** – On the fourth Friday of the Month, the Board of Directors meets to hear from the members. The directors use members suggestions to help guide the club in the direction it needs to go.
- **Bylaws** – [NASA's bylaws can be found here.](#)
- **Range Facilities Standard Operating Procedures** – [SOPs can be found here.](#)
- **Your Board of Directors:**
 - **President:** Don Borg
 - - 928-245-0222 (no texts)
 - - eMail: donborg@frontiernet.net
 - **Vice President:** Bowen Udall
 - – 928-245-3666
 - – email at bowen.udall@nasashootingsports.com
 - **Treasurer:** Ben File
 - **Secretary:** Pat Hall
 - **Board members:**
 - Wiley Barnes
 - Katrina Watkins
 - René Greene.

Highlights From the Board Meeting:

Another new section... I'm not going to post minutes, but I'll post decisions the board made at the meeting that you might find interesting. Here are the highlights from the 7/11 meeting:

- The Game and Fish wanted us to come up with our top 5 get-done-ASAP priorities for the range. We kicked around ideas like power, water, sewer, but knew that wasn't what they were asking for. Our list ended up being:
 1. Fence.
 2. Road re-done (has to be done because it's partially on the neighbor's property).
 3. Awnings over the main range shooting benches.

4. 1000 yard impact berm (G&F said we can't use the 1000 yard range until we get one).
5. New shooting benches.

We also mentioned that we would like them to start thinking about getting power/water/sewer put in out there.

- The range Standard Operating Procedures were approved.
- Trophy Trap shoot on August 9th.

NASA Website/Facebook/Twitter:

- We have been striving to keep our website up to date with current information. The main page has a listing of shoots and events coming up. There is also a "contact us" page, a Google calendar of events, documents to download, and information about NASA. The address is <http://www.nasashootingsports.com>.
- If you are on Facebook, liking our Facebook page will give you updates right on your wall feed. Our Facebook page is the one that gets updated most often, so it's a good one to follow. The page is at <http://www.facebook.com/NASASports>.
- Our Twitter feed is occasionally updated, but will be the way we disseminate information during shoots, events, and the gun show. We'll tweet who wins in categories, tweet when categories are about to start, and tweet other various information. The Twitter page is <http://www.twitter.com/NASASports>.

About NASA:

Northeastern Arizona Sportsman's Association, Inc. was created in 1998 and incorporated in 2006. NASA's goal is to promote safe firearm usage for children and adults alike. NASA is a non-profit corporation that is run by an elected board of directors. Everyone who works for NASA does so on a volunteer basis.

About NASA News:

NASA News is an experiment created by Bowen Udall, the NASA Vice President, in hopes of raising the communication level in the club. He wanted to make sure that all members of NASA knew about what was happening with the club, and know about all the events planned. If you have ideas for the newsletter, or complaints, or want to add or remove your name from the NASA News mailing list, or especially if you want to help, e-mail him at bowen.udall@nasashootingsports.com. Forward this e-mail to a friend that might be interested. You can get back issues of NASA News, as well as a PDF version of the current issue from our webpage: <http://nasashootingsports.com/about-us--files.html>

Quit sending this to me!

If you don't want to have this sent to you, please reply and put **"Stop sending this to me"** in the message body. I will immediately take your e-mail address off the list of people to send it to. I hate getting e-mail that I don't want too!