

Life at Mars Rod and Gun Club
The Official Newsletter of Mars Rod and Gun Club, Inc.

May 2025

Website: <https://marsrodandgunclub.org>

Email: marsrodandgunclub@gmail.com

Facebook: Mars Rod and Gun Club Official Page

(Please answer all the questions when accessing FB page for the first time)

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Butler County Trap League at Mars Wed. May 14, 2025

Bill's Pistol Shot Saturday May 24, 2025, at 9:45 A with Jon Unger setting up a trial/fun shoot also

22 LR Precision Shoot – Reg session Sunday May 18th @ 11:45

Taps Across America-Memorial Day 5/26 at 3pm Evans City at Military Memorial by Nextier Bank

Penn Christian School Trap Fundraiser Sat. May 17, 2025 Need help!

Beaver County Conservation Camp for youth 13-15, a week-long event

Kitchen help needed Wed Trap League Night once a month

Membership Update: These members attended a NMO (New Member Orientation) in April and will be voted on at the June mtg: Daniel McKnight (R), Matt Schuller (R), Mark Gerson (R), Doug Karoleski (R), Hayden Karoleski (J), Daniel Spitzer (R), Jeremy Nickl (R), Justin Nickl (R), Matt Nickl (R), Daniel Nickl (R), and Tom Donnoly (R).

Daniel DeMarco (R) Ronald Maynard (R), Jennifer Maynard (A), Madison Maynard (A), and Bentley Dunmyre (J) were all voted on Probation. Please welcome all to our Club!

To those who joined our Club since December as probationary members, if you've fulfilled your welcome tasks (attended one meeting and worked for 2 events), please reach out to Faye before our June meeting! The leagues welcome helping hands, be it lending a hand to mark/score or assisting in the kitchen — each hour shared counts toward your journey from the waiting list to the full circle of our club family.

If you or anyone has questions about membership, please feel free to reach out! You're welcome to contact Faye directly or have them use the website's 'Contact Me' form for more information. The next New Member Orientation Session will be **Wednesday, May 21st, 2025 @ 7:00 pm**. There will also be another session on **Thursday May 29th at 6pm**.

Amendments to the Bylaws regarding membership, recommended by the Officers and Board of Directors were explained by Bill Caudill to the membership present at the meeting. People had the opportunity to read the changes and ask questions. The recommendations were approved by the membership. The new updated bylaws will be sent out when changes are made. The new changes will go into effect July 1, 2025.



TAPS ACROSS AMERICA Take time at **3:00 PM, Monday, May 26th** to participate in a National Moment of Remembrance to honor military members who have served. You can pause where you are for this or come and join a group that gathers at the Military Memorial in Evans City (right by Nextier bank on Main Street.) Traffic is stopped, and the bugler plays Taps, the famous bugle call composed of 24 notes: while those in uniform salute and those not in uniform stand with their hand over their heart (like saying the Pledge of Alliance). Our group is growing and getting bigger every year, so please come and join us. Great time to educate children and family on history and the importance of Memorial Day.

SAFETY

- 1.) **Emergency Box at each range:** The new white-colored waterproof boxes have been installed at each range pavilion/covered area. They contain 2 trauma packs and a tourniquet in each one. They will have a breakaway tag on them so we will know for checking the boxes if they have been opened/used. If you open one if someone/you gets hurt or use anything out of the box, please call Faye so any items can be replaced quickly and the box retagged. Several thank yous go out to 1) Larry and Bill Kramer for donating the money for all of the boxes and 2) Larry Kramer for installing them, and 3) Kraig Wolf for making the signs for Easy ID of the emergency equipment at the ranges (work in progress.) I hope we never need them but would prefer to be proactive.
- 2.) **NRA Range Safety Officer (RSO) Training Saturday & Sunday May 31-June 1, 2025 @ our Club.** The facilitator and instructor for the class is our very own Mike Lipinski, a certified NRA instructor. The NRA Range Safety Officer course is a 14-hour course. You must be at least 21 years old to take this course. The NRA encourages active shooters to learn more and become responsible for the safety of fellow shooters through this program. NRA Range Safety Officer candidates should be experienced shooters who have participated in the various shooting sports. At the successful completion of the class, you will be able to apply to and receive your NRA Range Safety Officer Certificate.

The NRA RSO course will include:

- Introduction to the NRA Basic Range Safety Officer Development Course

- The Role of the NRA Range Safety Officer and Range Standard Operating Procedures
- Range Inspection and Range Rules
- Range Safety Briefing
- Emergency Procedures

Who may participate: This course is available to Mars Rod and Gun Club members who are at least 21 years of age. Participants must be a person of “good repute” and cannot have a criminal history. You will be required to sign an affidavit regarding this.

Dates and Time:

Saturday, May 31, 2025, from 8am-5pm ***You must attend both days to complete this course

Sunday, June 01, 2025, from 11am to 5pm

Cost:

- 1) Mars Rod and Gun will pay the \$50.00 fee for those members who commit to perform RSO duties in support at least two shooting events by December 31st, 2025.
- 2) For those who cannot commit to support Mars Rod and Gun Club as an RSO, then the fee is \$80.00. A \$20.00 deposit is required for those who sign up for this option.
- 3) To obtain the NRA RSO Identification card there is a fee of \$35.00 payable to the NRA.

Sign-up: This course is limited to 10 participants. Please sign up by May 10, 2025. To reserve your spot in this course, contact Mike Lipinski via email mjklnh07@comcast.net.

- 3.) **The NRA “Refuse to Be a Victim” seminar** will be offered at Mars Rod & Gun Club on Saturday, June 21st from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM. The instructor for the seminar will be Mike Lipinski. This seminar is available for all Mars Rod & Gun members and family members who are at least 18 years of age. This is a non-shooting seminar that will be held in the Mars Rod & Gun clubhouse. The NRA ‘Refuse to Be a Victim ‘is a nationally recognized award-winning crime prevention program. **Cost:** \$25.00 per person. If a member and spouse attend together, the cost is \$20.00 per person. The single most important step toward ensuring your own safety is having a personal safety strategy in place before you need it. NRA's “Refuse To Be A Victim”® program teaches the tips and techniques you need to be alerted to dangerous situations and to avoid becoming a victim. Don't be an easy target. We can all pinpoint times where we've made ourselves an easy target - whether it was keeping our heads buried in our phones, parking in a dimly lit area at night, or leaving our houses or cars unlocked. But there are many more, less obvious situations that make us vulnerable as well. We never think

a crime can happen to us, until it does. While sometimes unfortunate things do happen unexpectedly, it is important to be equipped with knowledge and skills for personal safety and crime prevention. Having a personal safety strategy in place and knowing the techniques and tactics you can use to avoid becoming an easy victim can help you live smarter and be safer.

Dates & Time: Saturday, June 21st from 1PM to 5 PM.

Location: Mars Rod & Gun Club

Cost: The total cost of this seminar is \$25.00 per person. A \$10 deposit is required to reserve your slot in the seminar.

Reservations: The seminar is limited to 30 participants. To reserve a slot in this seminar, contact Mike Lipinski via email at: mjklinh07@comcast.net. Please **RSVP no later than May 31st, 2025** to reserve your slot in the seminar.

TRAP NEWS:

Trap Practice: Happens every Tuesday from 5:00–8:00 PM, join us with an evening of trap shooting. (If no one is present by 6:00 PM-will be closed for the night) Aim for the stars in a cheerful 25 or 50-bird challenge. Shells are available for \$9.00/box, and it's just \$11.00/50 birds for members and non-members, with juniors shooting for only \$6. Gate is open for the practice session. Bring family and friends that may be interested in learning to shoot Trap. There will also be a team from Aquinas Academy learning to shoot Trap. Other than the Traps being utilized, the rest of the ranges are open.

North Suburban Traveling Trap League: (NSTL) is comprised of the Mars, Northside, Millvale, and Rosedale Clubs and the weekly shoots rotate to a different Club every week. Monday, June 9th is next shoot at Mars. Starts with sign up at 3:30 pm, shooting starts at 4:00 pm. If you have any questions or are interested in shooting with the League, talk to Scott Cukovich @ 724-679-9596. Dinner will be served.

Butler County Traveling Trap League (BCTL): This league is comprised of Mars, Butler City, Evans City and RC Men's Clubs and rotate to a new Club each week. The next shoots at Mars are May 14 and June 11, with signup and starting to shoot at 4:00 pm. Additional dates will be on the Calendars. We will need help marking, loading trap houses, scoring; and help in the kitchen. Contact Scott C. 724-679-9596 or Mark S. (kitchen) @ 724-679-0204 for more information.

Penn Christian School Trap Benefit shoot will be held at our Club, Saturday May 17th with set up starting at 7:30. The Club's responsibility is to provide RSOs for each range along with marking, loading Trap houses and medical staff for their annual fundraising event. We need 16 members for this. Breakfast and a fantastic lunch will be served. If interested in earning some hours, this is a great way to get at least 6 hours for a day. Call Kraig Wolf @ 412-580-5729.

RIFLE NEWS

Mars Precision Shoot (MPS): Sunday May 18th and Sunday June 1, 2025 are the next shoots. This is a change from what was announced at the monthly meeting. **These sessions are weather dependent.** There will be many different steel targets to shoot throughout the day. The shooting is from many, many different positions, from chairs to on the ground to many positions on a Tank barrier. Registration is 11:15 to 11:30 AM with a mandatory safety meeting at 11:45 AM. Shooting will start at 12:00 PM. There will be an after shooting session to review what worked/didn't work. Cost is \$10.00 for the day. Feel free to come and observe. Gate is open and the shoot is open to the public.

Free Session: Jon is planning on having a free trial session during Bill's pistol shoot for those who want to learn and try the multi-positional shooting on Saturday, May 24th. Come out and see what all the hype is about. Gate will be open and this event is open to the public.

Pistol News: The first pistol shoot of 2025 will be May 24, 2025. This is championed by Bill Caudill. Any questions or willingness to help with set up, call him at 724-766-1876. Set up will start at 8:00am, mandatory safety briefing at 9:45am and shooting begins at 10:00 till 2:00 pm. Lunch is provided for a donation. No competition involved but having a good time is a requirement! Great time to bring your kids/grandkids to learn about shooting pistols.

Kitchen Helpers! We need help in the kitchen for Summer Leagues **especially one Wednesday** a month on the following dates: **Wednesday June 11, July 9, and Aug 6.** Whether you're making food or cleaning, your support is essential! We can buy the food or you can - submit receipts to Mark or Faye for reimbursement (within reason). Check our website calendar or the sign-up sheet on the kitchen door. Contact Faye at (724) 321-2691 or Mark at (724) 679-0204 to volunteer.

Grounds Work : If you can't make a work session, there are always things that need done around the Club at your convenience. Look at the bulletin board outside the kitchen for a list of jobs that need done by one or two people or call Joe Weltner 412-292-2622

Lend a Hand Indoors! If you signed up for the Building Cleaning committee, contact Faye at 724-321-2691 via text or email—let me know what time would work the best for you. We have many events upcoming that we will have guests for and want our Club to shine. Get a couple people together or come alone. Don't forget to sign the task list on the door of the housekeeping closet when you finish your work so you get your activity card signed.



Merchandise for Sale: Visit Tracey at the meetings or at League nights to grab some gear—various styles/colors of caps, long and short sleeve T-shirts, and hoodies. These will definitely ward off the chill of the cold! These items make great gifts too!



See Tracey for purchases.

NRA's "Women on Target" seminar will be held at our Club on Saturday, July 19, 2025, with registration starting soon. Julie McClelland is the facilitator for the class. This is a great class for experienced shooters to brush up or a great class for those that are not that familiar with shooting. Get the family or friends and come have "Women's time" while you learn about safe shooting of pistols, rifles and a shotgun. Club members: we need lots of help for the day so each women can have a "buddy" to help her stay safe and have fun. You don't have to be a RSO but need to be comfortable with your safety skills.

Pick of the Table was put on hold this month as Kraig Wolf donated a Colt Mustang .380 to be raffled off and the money collected benefited his nephew Justin Bittner, who is battling brain cancer for several years. He has a wife and son to support and is currently on experimental meds, which insurance doesn't cover. The Club collected approx. \$1800. Kraig wants to thank everyone who donated. Winner of the gun was John Morrison.

50/50 - Winner for May was Faye Sabina and she donated the money to Justin.

Butler County Wingfest at the Beacon Sunday June 1—In keeping with the Officers/Board of Directors idea of getting the Club's name out into the community to help build our membership numbers, we want to participate in the Wingfest this year. We will be making the sauces for best overall wings, most original wings and hottest wings. Looking for some great sauce recipes so if you have one, let us know. We will definitely need some help that day- we will need to have at least 6 people throughout the day. Set up is 9:30a to 11 and gates open at 12 – 4p. There are normally at least 800 people that attend and it is rain or shine. Tickets for the event are available at the Beacon if your interested in attending. \$30 for all you can eat wings from the best of the best in Butler County, and \$35 at the door that day. Call Faye if have a recipe or can help that day.

The Club's Marketplace: Looking to get rid of your Old Gear? "For Sale" section of the newsletter for any firearms, ammo, or other items you wish to get rid of. Dave Snyder has offered to take your calls (412)498-7432, texts, and emails at dsnyder18@hotmail.com to format the information for this publication.

1. FOR SALE by Seller – Rick Wroblewski @ 724-321-2138 Penn Township
 1. Ruger 10/22 Model #1296 TALO Stainless Steel. Tactical foldable stock. No scope. 2-25 round magazines Fired less than 100 rounds-like new. Soft Case \$300
 2. Ruger MKII Bull Barrel 22 caliber. 310-round magazines. 30mm Red Dot Sight. HOGUE grips. 4-inch barrel. Used-good condition \$250
 3. Springfield XDM 40 caliber. Stainless steel. Polymer gun. 5-1/2 inch barrel. 2 17-round magazines. 2 boxes of ammo. A case and cleaning kit. Like new. \$250.
 4. Ruger LCRX 38 caliber. 5 shot. Fired 50 times. Smooth trigger. 1-7/8 inch barrel. Like new. \$3



Remember the reason for this day.....be safe whether you are home or traveling!