



## ALEXANDER CITY SHOOTING CLUB

### JULY NEWSLETTER

Welcome to all the new members and new readers of the ACSC newsletter and website. Just to reiterate, our club is trying to make as much of our communications as possible electronic, and to convey as much information as possible to our members and the public through our website. If you think I don't have your correct e-mail address, please contact me.

July will be a busy month for me and can be a good month for those of you with firearms related interests. The Alabama Gun Collectors Association's Summer Show is scheduled for July 12 – 13 at the Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center Exhibition Hall. They have announced the theme of the show as being "The Guns of the Cowboy Era", specifically pre-1900. There was no word of planned guests or specific displays but I'm sure there will be some. The AGCA shows are the largest regional shows and the most firearms specific. They will be open to the public 9am-5pm Saturday and 10am-4pm Sunday.

Our club's July bowling pin match is scheduled for July 20 at 2pm. Everyone is invited. Bring a friend for an afternoon of fun. This match is open to the public. Just a reminder – WE NEED PINS. If you happen up on any for sale or know of any that can be acquired, PLEASE let me or Woody or any of the regular pin shooters know about them. If you acquire them, the club will reimburse you.

There has been an ongoing discussion about a long range – 200 yards – rimfire rifle match. I am still trying to work out some of the minutiae and scoring details, but we are moving in the right direction. Any suggestions as to the direction you would like the match to take or procedural suggestions, this is still in the formative stage. Speak and be heard!

This month we will as a country celebrate the 238<sup>th</sup> year of independence. That is 238 years that were fought, bought, and paid for with the blood of patriots. Most but not all of these patriots wore the uniforms of our military. Many were just plain folks who felt the call – the NEED – to fight for what they

believed was something that was inherently theirs and could not be taken away. Countless lives have paid for the freedoms that we wake to every day. Let's make sure they are never forgotten and never taken for granted.

Every 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration, I think back to the one that stands out most vividly in my memory. I was raised in the military, the second son of a career Army man, Sergeant Major Vernon C. Courtney. The celebration was grand; the military exhibits alone were enough to keep me enthralled. There was artillery galore, all kinds and types of military vehicles – wheeled, tracked, fixed wing, rotary wing. I was in heaven. And then the sun went down! I have never seen or heard a fireworks exhibit that has come close to the one I witnessed that night. It was loud, bright, and seemed to last for hours. I hoped it would never end – but it did. Where was this grandiose spectacle? It took place on the grounds of the American Embassy in Tehran, Iran. Yep, that embassy. The one where 52 American hostages were held for 444 days. Also home to the grandest bathroom I have ever set foot in. At the time I was an impressionable teenager and would never have guessed what the future held in store for the surroundings. I witnessed by television what the Islamic militants did to the once beautiful diplomatic compound. It was stomach turning and an absolute disgrace. Of course, Islamic militants have gone on to make much more serious trouble and force more indignities than the ones they heaped on the American Embassy. I only hope that the old adage holds true – what goes 'round, comes 'round. I only hope I'm still around when the time comes for them to cash that check.

Hillary Clinton has publicly stated that the unrealistic views of a minority (gun owners) should not be used to terrorize the majority. Is this the person we want in the White House? I intend to do everything in my power to see that Ms. Clinton is NOT the next President of the United States. It will take a concerted effort by all the non-Liberals to see this through. I hope you are with me on this.

As always, the opinions expressed in this newsletter are mine, mine alone and I take full responsibility for them.

Tim Courtney

Secretary ACSC

