



FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

We, as a group, are particularly lucky to be residents of a southern state. While our northern-most states are dealing with blizzard conditions, icy roads, loss of power, and all the major cruelties of winter, we have (so far) had nothing more difficult than a few nights that the temperature dropped below freezing. In some areas of the state, on a few days temperatures broke into the high sixties and low seventies. All this in the heart of winter...

I have formatted both the Bowling Pin and Rimfire Rifle (golf ball) match schedules for 2015. As soon as I have final approval on them, they will be e-mailed to club members. I cannot emphasize enough that these are fun matches and have done a tremendous job of building the backbone of our club. If you want to shoot, we want you to come out and play! If you would like rules or general descriptions you can access our website or e-mail me and I will get them to you. As in prior years, **WE NEED BOWLING PINS. If you have a source, or know of a source, please let one of the club officers know. If you acquire some you will be reimbursed by the club.**

The club is moving in the direction of relocating our lock to our gate at the property line. If we can make this happen, we can better control unauthorized access by non-members.

Too many times I have been approached by individuals with a simple question. "Tell me how to get started reloading." If there has ever been a "loaded" question, this is it. Usually my first response is to buy a good reloading manual. The first sections of most manuals are dedicated to the basic introductory steps. In today's electronic media world, most every manufacturer of reloading equipment or components offer on-line tutorials or have CD's that

will walk you through. As your interests grow – or become more specific, perhaps precision shooting or cowboy action matches – the benefits of belonging to a group of like-minded individuals become more and more apparent. The only advice I can give at this point is an old cliché: the only dumb questions are the ones that go unasked.

One of the most troubling statistics I have run across lately is more than just a tad disturbing. By the latest census numbers, there are approximately two million practicing Muslims in the United States. Eight percent of those responded in a survey that they thought the use of suicide bombers could be entirely justified. Simple math shows that there are 160,000 residents of our country that feel the use of explosive laden human beings detonated in crowds of innocent civilians - men, women, and children - is perfectly fine. And this in the name of Allah.

I cannot understand our governments' reluctance to call these fanatics what they are - Islamic terrorists. They will dance all around the issue, using every creative phrase and bit of obfuscating terminology at their disposal to avoid calling a rat a rat, even going so far as to say, "I refuse to equate these acts with a religion." Please!

At a time that may prove pivotal historically in our country's stand to turn the swelling tide of Islamic extremism, our leader, our president, and his carefully hand-picked advisors, have chosen the Ostrich Approach. As long as they keep their collective heads buried in the sand (or up their southern exposures) the problem ceases to exist. I guess this is fine for people who live under the eyes of 24 hour protection, but it does nothing for the majority of Americans.

I feel the greatest deterrent to the "lone wolf" or "sleeper cell" type attacks that are gaining popularity with these fanatics is an armed citizenry.

This is not meant as a racial or religious diatribe. The statement that all Muslims are not terrorists but all of the terrorists are Muslims has gotten a lot of mileage. I can't argue with it.

As always, my opinions and mine alone. See you at the range!

Tim Courtney

Secretary ACSC

