

Forbes Rifle & Pistol Club Newsletter



President - John DeBrita

Treasurer - Jim Beck

Membership - Ed Simon

Vice President - Steve Melita

Secretary - Terry Finney

Executive - Nick Machiarella

Hello Forbes Rifle and Pistol Club members,

A special thanks to all who were able to make the membership meeting and offer opinions on improving the club. Summer is slowly coming to an end and most of the Service rifle and Long-Range programs have been completed. Our last 1000-yard-long range event is scheduled for September 14th & 15th. Two Mid-range events are on September 7th and October 5th. Service rifle has three scheduled matches: August 24, September, & October 12th for a rain date. Take time to visit the range during these matches and talk to shooters. We have enjoyed seeing personnel show up with sporter and hunting rifles to shoot.

On Tuesday, July 23rd Forbes Rifle and Pistol Club conducted its quarterly membership meeting at the Zaloga American Legion Post. The meeting was called to order around 7:00 PM.

The Treasurer presented the clubs' financial standing with the investments in Vanguard and checking account. All bills have been paid up to the meeting.

The Membership chairman presented the current total of members.

Old business: The club is still progressing to install solar panels for charging the Shot Marker equipment. The club has obtained solar panels through donations and looking into what is required to complete the project. Nick is working on the project with other members.

The club mailed proposed changes to the **by-laws** to members in good standing several weeks ago. Those changes were voted on and approved during this meeting.

During this meeting a request was made to purchase a golf kart or similar vehicle to help those in need to continue participating in Palma and Service rifle, as moving from station to station is required. The club will be searching for this equipment (gas powered). If anyone has something that can be used, and is willing to donate it, please contact a club official.

The club is in need of match directors. Currently, the club has a small number of match directors for all the events we hold. Anyone interested in helping and becoming a director please come to a

match and participate. We are limited on the number of matches we hold due to personnel to run them.

The club would also like to see more interest in match participation. The term “match” can keep the average shooter from participating. An **Open House** is being arranged for **August 17th, 2024**, to present the different disciplines (Service Rifle, Palma (coat and sling) and F-Class (F-open and F/TR)). An opportunity to see equipment used, rifle setup and talk with members about the disciplines is available. This is also an opportunity to see how electronic targets work and how they are used. The Open House will meet at the pavilion around the 200-300 line. We will get into a shooting position and maybe shoot from 300 yards. We also want to cover the reloading processes, as well as aiding overcoming the fear of shooting beyond your comfortable distances. More details will be posted as we plan the event. This was done many years ago, as reported by senior members, and has been overlooked in recent years. John Usher is heading up this event.

We need to pass this sport on to our youth. If we don't, we can say goodbye to something we all enjoy. We travel to other clubs often, and see just about the same situation, that most of the participants are over the age of 40. Therefore, our club is not alone.

Our 300-yard match director will be reaching out to firearm-related businesses for sponsorship. Redding Reloading, a New York based business, has offered to support us. Those who have an opportunity, please submit a request to organizations, to see if there is interest.

A new member, who currently holds a NY state pistol certification, has offered to provide instruction to those who want to obtain a New York State pistol license. This is the 18-hour course required by the state. More details will follow about contact information and where the course will be offered.

The club Secretary is building a Facebook page for the club. Currently, a page was created by someone, no one seems to know who, but was never maintained or updated (labeled as Forbes rifle and pistol but has Albany in the title). As soon as more is developed, details will be communicated.

This is a national election year, register to vote and exercise your rights.