

# SPC PRIMER

Syracuse Pistol Club

Winter Edition

January 2014

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** by Mike Spuches



To **our outgoing President**, Kurt, thank you for your leadership, vision, and dedication to the Syracuse Pistol Club! You have accomplished many things during your years as president. You have brought together a great group of SPC members to perform some amazing things for our club.

To **our Board of Directors**, thank you for your outstanding contributions and commitment! I look forward to working with all of you to continue to make the Syracuse Pistol Club the Premier Pistol Club in Central NY!

To **the Members of the Syracuse Pistol Club**, this is your club! I urge you to attend the Board of Director's meetings this year. The Board meetings are the first Tuesday each month. This is where the key issues and opportunities are discussed. Come and share your views, the diversity of our membership is our strength! Let us know what we can do to make your shooting experiences the best they can be and help us shape the future for your Syracuse Pistol Club.

Q1 2014 will be an exciting one! We will revisit our short and long-term goals during this period. I am looking for a group of Directors and members to form a committee to solicit ideas from the membership in order to update our existing plans and set our path for the future. Anyone with ideas or an interest in volunteering please call me or send me an email.

*I'm proud to be a member and look forward to serving as your President!*

Mike Spuches  
315-559-7634  
raidersfan9663@msn.com



### **SPC Members,** by Kurt Brown

In or around October of 2003, I had entered into a semi-retired period of my life and I was approached by Joe Leotta. He asked me to run for the Board; as there was an open position and elections were close at hand. I ran for the board and was successful; little did I know what would transpire from that point on.

I began to serve the board, getting settled into the position and I was again approached by Joe Leotta and

Dave Hagenmayer, they said "hey, why don't you take the position of Vice President, we think you would do a good job." I thought, well I have been a member of the club for a number of years; I really haven't done much to help. I said OK, I thought as many due that I wasn't the right person for the board or even to hold the position of vice president, there must have been someone more qualified?

I was appointed to fill the position of vice president for the next 18 months or so. I was taught very quickly that the group that I had joined (the Board & Officers) was a group of people who were very dedicated to the good of the club.

I was mentored, developed good relationships and friends while in the vice president's position. George Laird was president at that time.

Then came October of 2005, I was again approached and asked to run for President. This time I was sure that I wasn't qualified for the position; I tried my best to tell people that I wasn't the right person for the job. They didn't listen to me, the elections were held and I was elected to the position of president of the Syracuse pistol club. I thought what now. I realized very quickly that there were many members on

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the board that were willing to help make me comfortable in the position and assist me. I must admit that I was a little nervous, was taken under the wing by many and made comfortable as president.

I think I remember at least a couple of the board members saying, "Look what we have created" over the years to follow.

I guess you have heard this phrase before, "the rest as they say is history". I served the club as president for 8 years, ending this past December 2013.

#### **Little did I know;**

I have been so grateful for Joe & Dave and many others over the years that helped me serve the club and its members.

I must admit, I never thought I would develop so many friendships, and enjoy the job so much.

I want to thank all who have served as Officers & board members during my tenure as president; they are the real heroes here.

If it were not for the dedication of these people our club would not be what it is today.

The president is just a member who needs the backing of the organization to get the job done, I was lucky to have the help I received from you all.

I will always reflect on my tenure on the board, as vice president and president as some of the best years of my life.

Mike Spuches is now the president of the club, I look forward to throwing my support behind him (Officers) and the other members of the board.

The Syracuse pistol club is a great organization, I have been proud to be a member of for the past 21 years.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kurt Brown  
SPC Life Member

# MATCHES

by Mike Connolly

Our Winter Postal league began in November 2013.

**International:** Free Pistol and Air pistol. You can shoot one or the other ... or both.

#### **1800 COMPETITION**

We held one of our three (3) Competitive **1800** matches on December 8th and will be holding two (2) more in 2014.

The 2nd **1800** match is slated for **January 12, 2014**, followed by the 3rd on **February 9, 2014**.

All events are held on Sunday. You can shoot just the .22 cal. 900.

Space is limited to 11 positions and will be fired indoors.

**Additional information and application forms** can be found on our Syracuse Pistol Club website.

January's matches are full and we expect the same for February. However, if you want to shoot just let me know ahead of time.

**Note:** Our **SPC Marksmen Team** won **First Place Nationally in Civilian Class**, at the NRA Sectional match, held hereat our own club in 2013.

We also will be holding the **NYS Outdoor Bulls-eye Championship** and the **NYS International Outdoor Championship** sometime this summer. Information for each event will be available sometime early in the spring.

There are other types of shooting disciplines that can be shot at the club, like, free pistol, standard pistol, rapid fire center fire, air pistol, or air rifle.

They will require a specialized target for each different format.

**The 2014 Sectional Match will be held on March 2, 2014.**

For more information, contact Mike Connolly at 315-676-5667 or [truckermc1@twcny.rr.com](mailto:truckermc1@twcny.rr.com)



#### **SPC SAFETY CORNER**

by Tim O'Boyle

With the onset of harsher cold weather in the area, the need for comfortable indoor shooting is on the rise. We have the need for all members to abide by the Rules of the club. Every member should be courteous to each other.

<http://syracusepistolclub.net/files/SPCrulesandregs.pdf>

We welcome your guests to SPC too. All guests have to be familiar with the rules and abide by them. They are hanging at the front door by the Guest Sign in Sheet.

On the Range, we are requesting members review how they are presenting their firearms down range. It has been witnessed by many that members are NOT starting by pointing at the target but at the ceiling. The results are numerous bullet strikes to the steel baffles in the ceiling. Please don't insert your finger in the trigger guard until you are on target.

#### **Membership**

In December, SPC welcomed 5 new members. While it was a light month, there is a full enrollment for January.

Renewals are done for 2014. If you still have not renewed, you can do so by paying in full and it will continue your membership through October. Otherwise, you will notice that your access FOB will not work.

Membership & Safety questions can be directed to this e-mail: [safety@syracusepistolclub.net](mailto:safety@syracusepistolclub.net)

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## Competition

January 12<sup>th</sup>, Syracuse Pistol Club hosted 12 participants for an 1800 NRA indoor Pistol Match.



Shooting were some members along with 4 members of the Air Force's Hancock pistol team. The event went off without a hitch.

February 9<sup>th</sup> is the next 1800 NRA Pistol Match. This match is not full currently.

If you are interested in competition and some fun, email Mike Connolly at : [truckermc1@twcny.rr.com](mailto:truckermc1@twcny.rr.com)

<http://syracusepistolclub.net/files/2013%20-%202014%201800%20IndoorPistol.pdf>

March 2<sup>nd</sup> is the 2014 Open Conventional Pistol Sectional . This is a 900 match that will run from 9AM to 3PM. There are slots open for this

and teams can sign up as well. E-Mail Mike Connolly for details.

## House Committee

The SPC Board would like to introduce a larger target to the indoor range.

The target is milk jug shaped and is meant to allow you to shoot shorter barreled firearm with targets placed FULLY DOWN RANGE.



The Targets have a simple special bracket that gets hooked on the back of the target holder clips. You will have to tape the large target to the cardboard. The new targets will be out in the indoor range soon. Thanks, Tim

## Marksmanship Class

by Bob Chapman



The Syracuse Pistol Club is having a Marksmanship Class, on Tuesday, February 25 at 6:30 pm.

The class will teach Pistol shooting fundamentals to help improve shooters accuracy for target practice. It will be a two hour class.

The first hour will be classroom training, teaching fundamentals of marksmanship.

The second hour will be live fire training of the fundamentals taught in class.

If you are interested in participating in the class, details of how to sign up for the class will be posted on the Syracuse Pistol Club Website soon.



**THE SYRACUSE PISTOL CLUB** was originally founded in 1948, as the Syracuse Pistol League, and later changed to the Syracuse Pistol Club. We've since grown to over 400 active members and continue to attract interest throughout the country and from local citizens who are proponents of safe gun use and who also enjoy the fun of organized target shooting competition. This history is being documented on our website and we also hope to have some snippets of our club history on there as well. Regardless, we are not an overnight success - we have a strong membership of local citizens who are all proponents of safe gun use. Our club is a proud member of the elite NRA Gold Medal Club.



<http://syracusepistolclub.net>