



Summary of 2011

What an unbelievable year! For many of our shooters 2011 presented a lot of firsts, many of them great; there were a lot of fond memories of great matches, awesome stages and great camaraderie with unbelievable results for our TTS Shooters. Our club had a few members bumped in their shooter classes with some even double bumps all the way from Sharpshooter to Master. For those shooters who had podium positions this year congratulations - you made us all proud.

TTS successfully hosted the Texas State in gusting winds that had many of us digging out sand for weeks after the event. Everyone talked about the quality way we do things in Texas. Our club was well represented at the first IDPA world championship and had tremendous results; a few of our shooters were featured in the IDPA tactical magazine and can now claim that they are celebrities!

We truly have an amazing club, with great people that are very passionate about the sport and our club. A great big thank you to you, our volunteers, our board of directors and our match directors and the individuals that really go beyond their duties and do so much for our club. Lastly thanks to YOU, the shooter, without people no club can succeed, thank you for this year and joining us in heat and in cold!

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you and your families a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a prosperous new year. May 2012 bring you good health and a lot of Zero Downs.

God Bless you and God Bless America.

Deon G.

News:

The Thunder Tactical Shooters work day was a resounding success. Approximately thirty people showed up on a cool humid morning to do major repairs and enhancements to the range. Starting promptly at 8:00 the teams swung into action, working steadily until midafternoon. The biggest three projects, raising the height of the bay walls on bays, one, through four over two feet for the final eight yards of the bays, removing four dead trees that threatened the covering structure at bay seven, repairing and filling in the wall between bays three and four, and grinding down sharp edges left by bullet holes on approximately eighty plastic barrels to remove potential cutting hazards. Additionally, a number of other minor projects such as painting equipment, upgraded lights in bay five, adding numbers to the bays, and relocating the slider hardware from bay two were also completed along with general titivation of the grounds. With so many eager and willing hands, the work went rapidly. Jesse provided cold drinks and tasty Thunder Dogs to the workers. A big thank you to all those who came out and worked so hard to make the range safer and generally nicer

Tom Pinney

There is a misconception in some people's minds on the distinction between 'tactical training' and 'tactical shooting'. You can sometimes read grumblings from some police officers (and wannabes) to the effect that "all that play shooting will get you killed in a real gunfight." Of course they are wrong.

IDPA events are not 'tactical training' nor do any of our stages involve tactical actions other than shooting. That is as it should be. We are at the range to shoot and have fun, not practice the arduous and dangerous skill of close quarter combat. Trust me - there is nothing fun about a shootout at close range. IDPA events are a competition; nobody is shooting back at you, and nobody gets hurt (assuming the SO's do their jobs).

IDPA does not teach tactics, but it does teach skills in tactical shooting. An integral part of IDPA is the ability to shoot in a defensive setting. It is widely agreed that training is essential when doing something under stress. IDPA shooting will help you operate your defensive firearm in a safe and effective way far better than someone who simply discharges their pistol toward a static target. The wide variety and ever-changing scenarios are deliberately intended to keep shooters from falling into habits that might get them killed; after all no one knows exactly how a life or death shootout will look like in advance.

When you participate regularly in matches you will learn much more than how to handle and shoot your pistol safely. You will learn to engage multiple targets, shoot sitting, moving, at targets that move, and at targets with non-threats in the immediate vicinity. You can expect to have to overcome situations such as running out of ammunition, and having to identify and clear malfunctions. Most importantly, you will learn how to think while you are shooting. Most of us can remember who tightly concentrated our focus was when we first started shooting to be much more aware of other things beyond our front sight. With practice, the kind you get shooting an IDPA-style match, you will learn to handle your pistol or revolver with more confidence, greater speed and accuracy, and maintain better situational awareness.

We mostly shoot for fun, but that does not mean we aren't improving our self-defense skills at the same time.

Tom Pinney



ONLINE Sign Up:

We Would like to know what you think and get some feedback. Please email us with your experience.

<http://www.squadtracker.com/thunder/eve>

This coming Saturday we have our December Monthly match that will feature the POSTAL match stages, looking forward seeing you there.

Like they say in the movies!!! Watch this space for all 2012 schedules and info's.

We will be committed to you to bring you outstanding matches with great challenges and opportunities to improve your skills.