

Rio Salado Ricochet

VINCE CAVALLO , EDITOR

OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2005

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President Terry Abbott
 Vice President Pete Carstensen
 Secretary Michael Janas
 Treasurer Arlee A. Janas
 Executive Officer Jim Fuller
 Chief Instructor Craig Cox
 Range Manager Bill Lagusis

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

www.riosaladosportsmans.com

Pete Carstensen, Webmaster

Please Note

In consideration of our neighbors' requests and our willingness to be a good neighbor —

The range is closed on New Years Day, Easter Sunday, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day each year.

Election Results

PRESIDENT - TERRY ABBOTT

VICE PRESIDENT - PETE CARSTENSEN

SECRETARY - MICHAEL JANAS

TREASURER - ARLEE JANAS

EXECUTIVE OFFICER - JIM FULLER

CHIEF INSTRUCTOR - CRAIG COX

The annual Members' Meeting was held on September 10, 2005, at 3:00 p.m. There was approximately 60 members attending the meeting and social. It turned out to be a great event and we thank all who attended.

Membership Renewal Clarification

Renewal of your membership at Rio Salado Sportsman's Club has always been due as of the last day of your membership month. There has been some confusion about the 90 day lapse period in which renewals can be made without paying the new member admin fee. Renewing late does not change the date that it was due so when the renewal was processed and the card sent, it reflected 12 months from the due date, not when it was paid. Basically, you had 90 days to pay the bill without penalty but then some complained that the new period should move to the month they paid just like a new member would. Can't have it both ways!

Effective January 1st, 2006, all membership renewals will be due by the last day of your membership month. All renewals not received by the expiration date will be subject to the \$25 Admin Fee and will be assigned a new membership month based on date received.

We try very hard to give you plenty of time to renew. We send out an email reminder 2 months prior to expiration and mail a letter 30 days if we haven't heard from you. Your card also shows your membership month. Please remember that your timely renewal will help to keep our costs down and further helps to support our range.

The President's Column

First of all I would like to thank all of the members of RSSC who showed an interest in the club by participating in the election. Regardless of whom you voted for it is important to support the process. I also want to thank all those who voted for me. You have my promise that I will do everything in my power to keep our club growing and moving in a positive direction.

There is much to do in the coming year. Completion of the new office at the public range, the pole berm and the new septic system are a few of the major projects in progress. The list of smaller projects is too numerous to mention here, but suffice to say that the members of executive board, Range Manager and myself have already been busy compiling and prioritizing things to do. Many of these projects both big and small were started last year by the previous board, who worked hard to keep things moving. However, the nature of working with the Game and Fish department, and the other government agencies involved, often requires a lot of time. Our range crew does an outstanding job but there are many daily tasks that need doing in addition to our project list. Be patient. We're working hard to, not only make sure things are done, but also done right.

We are lucky to have such a great range to shoot on. You as members can be a big help by assisting in keeping our range clean. Pick up your brass and trash. Take pride in your range by helping out when you can. I am looking forward to an exciting and productive year. Be safe and have fun.

Terry Abbott
President

Vice President's Corner

I would like to thank everyone for the support and confidence you have shown in voting me as your Vice President. I have worked hard as the Membership Chairman for the past year and will now blend those duties along with running the RSSC Webpage and assisting the President to help make this the best year ever for Rio Salado. We have a great Board that is filled with dedicated and talented people. None of us can do it alone – and there is a lot to do. We are all committed to working together to help keep and improve our range wherever we can. RSSC is a fine, world class shooting facility and a great asset to the community. It is our members, staff, and organization that have earned this respect. Be proud of your range and bring a friend out to see what fun we have!

Pete Carstensen
Vice President
web: www.riosaladosportsmans.com
email: pcarst@cox.net or membership@riosaladosportsmans.com

**Like to Shoot?
Your friends will too. Bring them out!**

BLACK POWDER REPORTS

Well, as we begin a new year at RSSC, I am reflecting on how our last year went.

I was able to participate in the second 4H state shoot. What a great time our volunteers are having every year with this event! We are already looking forward to next year. We had the Arizona Muzzle Loader Association state shoot at RSSC in April. This was a three-day event with about 50 shooters. We were proud to sponsor this event and look forward to it again next year. I met the original founders of the Black Powder Division. It is amazing the changes over twenty-seven years! We restarted the Black Powder Cartridge shoot which is held the third Sunday at 1:00 pm on the High Power range. For the third and final year we are trying the "Anything Goes" shoot. We have tried to get our in-line shooters involved in RSSC activities; without a response. This will be our final try. Please contact me or check out our web site for details.

One thing we would like to do is work with our community youth organizations. If you can advise us what is required to work with the Boy Scouts of America or 4H Shooting Sports or other youth organizations, please contact me through RSSC.

Until next time, keep your powder dry.

Jim Neff

Practical / Tuesday Night Steel

We switch to winter hours for our matches starting October 1st. Our starting times for the morning matches have moved to 9 am. We are hurriedly making preparations for the 18th annual Desert Classic. We will have over 300 of the best pistol shooters from all over the world. Come out and watch some of the action starting November 11th thru the weekend. For our USPSA matches (paper), everything comes back in style including the old single stack. Starting in January 2006, we will have a provisional class just for the single stack 1911 autos. In this class, you have to use a 1911 factory length magazines, tactical style holsters and magazine holders worn behind point of your hip. To shoot major: only 8 rounds in a magazine, minimum. 40 cal. Minor: 10 rounds in a magazine. Come on out and give it a try.

We have a new shooters class every Tuesday night at 6 for anyone interested in shooting any of our matches. The cost is free and you can get advice on any type of shooting we do.

Got Email?

If your email has changed, please let us know.

Drop us a note at riosalado@earthlink.net

HIGH POWER DIVISION

It looks as if we survived another scorching summer. If you were like me, you probably spent some of that time indoors prepping brass, reading articles about shooting, planning on what matches to shoot in the coming season, and looking at the shooting catalogs for those items you want for Christmas. Heck with the commercialization of Christmas — you might think about ordering those items now!

Then again, you could have gone to Camp Perry. It was a nice year up there for the first week. The second week got kinda wet, I heard. Several of us won medals shooting the Garand and Springfield matches. I guess the real highlight was our Junior Team won the National Trophy Infantry Team, also known as rattle battle title, again. Congratulations, kids.

The fall/winter schedule has been changed this year to minimize conflicts with matches at other clubs and maximize our shooters ability to compete. We are now conducting the 80 shot Regional course of fire match on the third Saturday of the month. The 500 yard match is now going to be the fourth Saturday. The M1 Garand / High Power Introduction Clinic is now in the fourth Sunday in October and April. There is an Advanced Clinic in December and February. The Curio and Relic match is on the second Sunday in Oct, Dec, Jan, and May. The M1 Garand Matches are in Nov, Jan, Mar, and May. The Advance Clinic is open to classified shooters. The December clinic focuses on Standing and Rapid Sitting. The February Clinic focuses on Rapid Prone and Slow Prone. Each clinic has a guided discussion in the morning and firing in the afternoon. More details are in the next couple of months.

There has been a lot of work going on during the summer. Doug, Floyd, and Myles along with several others cleaned out the HP trailer, jacked it up, and poured some concrete footing.

As a reminder, clean up as you go. While in the pits pick up the trash from the granola and candy bars, the paper from the pasters, cans, etc. The same goes for policing the firing line. Just because it is Berdan primed and you don't want it don't leave it lying by your firing point. Pick it up and dispose of it in one of the waste receptacles or at home. Pack it in, pack it out.

We are always looking for volunteers. If you feel you have a unique talent that can improve the match or the range, please let us know. While we all shoot for ourselves it is a group effort to make the match work.

We have always invited you to bring out your wives and girlfriends. Just not at the same time. Invite a non-shooter and perhaps you can change their perception and have fun while doing it. We need to see more junior shooters. Some of our top junior shooters have left for college and we need to fill the void.

Hold hard, Larry

The Range Manager's Desk

We have received matching funds from the Arizona Game & Fish Department on the following projects:

1. Rangemaster Office - purchased and installed. Awaiting hookup.
2. General Range Pole Berm - increased height by four feet. Completed
3. Bay 10 Pistol Ranges for CCW and Police Departments– to be located east (behind) Smallbore Range East Berm. Awaiting final approval to start.
4. New septic tank at lower ranges - Waiting for final drawings and approval to start.

Please contact me for any improvements or things that you need assistance with to complete.

Special thanks to all the range employees for the fine work that they do to make this such a great place to enjoy the shooting sports. Along those lines, we want to welcome back Vince Cavallo, Administrative Assistant in the range office. Vince worked here for 4 1/2 years before leaving in 2003.

I am looking forward to a productive year with the new board. What a great country, state and range that we have. Enjoy and protect all three.

Shoot safe,

Bill Lagusis

RIMFIRE BENCHREST

Rimfire benchrest competition resumes on October 22 at 1:00 PM on the High Power range, after taking the Summer off. We will shoot a four target match. If you plan on shooting in this match, bring along a real good shooting .22 LR rifle, three or four boxes of ammo and a front rest. Don't be intimidated by some of the shooters equipment. They started with average equipment and as they got serious, they upgraded their gear. We charge \$15.00 entry fee, but we will let you shoot the first match FREE. Come out and shoot with us or at least watch the fun. If you have any questions, call Vince at the range office.

Main Gate is Open from 7:30 am –5:30 pm
Members with keys may shoot from 7:00 am to 30 minutes before dark

Junior High Power Program

Below is a photo of the 2005 National Champion 6-person Arizona Junior Gold Rifle Team. It was taken at Camp Perry, Ohio, just prior to the awards ceremony where the team members and coaches were presented with trophies for winning the National Trophy Infantry Team match. Five of the six team members are dyed-in-the-wool Rio Salado—based competitors. Several of these kids learned to shoot through the Rio Junior Smallbore program. You might recognize Tanya Gorin on the far right and Heath Higby on the far left, veteran Smallbore competitors at Rio. I don't believe the Rio Salado membership realizes that the Junior High Power program based at Rio is one of the most recognized and accomplished of all the Junior programs in the country. We have won 14 National Championships in the last 17 years, an accomplishment that no other state program or shooting club can even come close to. No other team has won the National Championship two years in a row. Yet, we won 6 consecutive championships from 92 to 97! This speaks highly of our Junior program in general, the coaches who spend all of their spare time training these kids, and for Rio Salado, who recognizes the need to provide on-going support required to make this program available for young competitors and to keep the sport of competitive rifle shooting moving ahead. We are always looking for responsible young people to replace our kids who lose eligibility at 19 years of age. Pictured with the Arizona Junior Gold Team sitting on the stage are Tom Kirby, team captain (that's me) and Liana Bombardier Hoover, team coach. I have been a member of Rio since 1995 and active in High Power rifle. I have assisted with the Rio Garand Clinic for nearly all of that time...10 years. Liana learned to shoot with the Junior program at Phoenix Rod and Gun Club and was selected by the Army Marksmanship Unit when she graduated from high school. She became the first woman in the 114 year history of the National Matches to win the long range championship with the AR-15 service rifle in 2003. As soon as she returned to civilian life, I asked her to help me coach the juniors, which she has been doing since early this year. You can't get a better qualified coaching than from a National Champion.

Tom Kirby

