

Rio Salado Ricochet

Gail Drake, EDITOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

April 2005

President Steve Horsman
Vice Pres. Palmer Hall
Secretary Polle Blanton
Executive Officer Joey Ortiz
Treasurer John Brinjak
Chief Instructor Angus Hobdell
Range Manager Bill Lagusis
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PLEASE NOTE OUR WEBSITE ADDRESS

www.riosaladosportsmans.com

Way to Go SMM3 Gun!

The 10th Anniversary Match was Great!!

Read the Match Directors article on

page 7

Small bore Silhouette matches now begin at 9:30 year around!

Remember April is the month many matches change to Summer hours.

Kudos to the Black Powder Division for running a great State Shoot April 9-10

SPORTING CLAYS AT RSSC

For details see page 4

Every Spring our range warms up and our snakes wake up. Please be careful and alert.

Membership Rates

Rio Salado Sportsman's Club rates are going up July 1, 2005

\$\$\$ SAVE NOW \$\$\$

Join or renew for up to three years at the current rate!

Support your Range

\$AVE \$OME CASH

Congratulations RSSC MuzzleStuffers

The RSSC Muzzle Stuffers were all winners at the National Match held at Ben Avery. Every one had a great time and we brought home a lot of awards to show it. Two of our Juniors really stood out! Nicole Albright bringing home 7 First Place awards and one second Place and Hattie Donahue, a first time competitor bringing home 2 Second Place medals! Way to go girls! Keep it up! See Page 10 .

Thank you Springfield Armory!

Christie & Stephanie Costello and Carly Drake would like to thank the good people at Springfield for donating GS 1911, that was raffled off. \$1500.00 was raised to help these girls go to the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado and compete in the National Junior Olympic Air Rifle match. Christie shot in the National Junior Olympic Smallbore match as well.

Congratulations ladies! RSSC is very proud of you! And thank you to everyone who purchased a raffle ticket. Supporting our Juniors is preserving our sport!

President's Corner

I know many of you find it frustrating when you come out to the range and find the pistol bays being used for classes or the High Power ranges used for Law Enforcement agencies, or the whole range is closed down for one huge match. First of all, we are working on alleviating some congestion on the Pistol Bays by opening up a Training Bay east of the Smallbore berm. However we are very lucky to be the home of such influential shooters that people come from around the world to take classes here on your range. Right now at RSSC there are 3 Federal agencies, 4 State agencies and 4 Valley Police Departments that choose to use our range. As far as those National matches go, they are some of the biggest and best matches world wide. They make the cover of national magazines which has shooters all over the US envious of those members at Rio Salado. All of this brings in revenue to help us keep this the best range in the US. Thank you for your patience during all the activities throughout the year, and thank you for being a member of Rio Salado Sportsmans Club.

Shoot Straight!!

Steve Horsman

President RSSC

From the Desk of the Vice President

"Well we had a successful Superstition Mystery Mountain 3 gun match this past March and the turnout was outstanding. A lot of competitors offered their thanks to the Range Officers and the staff of our Club for the support in putting on the match. Their comments were well received and appreciated by the hard working crews all week long. One thing that was constantly brought to my attention was the great stage designs we had and how much fun the stages were. Thanks to all the sponsors that support this activity each and every year as well. The prize table was phenomenal and Dan Furbee along with the rest of the core staff did an outstanding job coordinating the whole match. I saw a lot of happy faces on Sunday as the competitors made their way exiting the range and off to catch their planes and long rides home. The RSSC is well known for putting on great matches and this was no exception. Until next time, keep it safe."

Palmer Hall, Vice President

The Executive Officers Report

I would like to keep it short this time and give some credit to a couple of guys that have really been working hard here on the range. Steve Melsom and Paul Homman have worked to make this range look better and run smoother. These two have extended the parking at the High Power range and built an excellent retention wall. They have built housing units for the Traps, laid the foundation for the bridge, and inserted the poles for the sign that will be there. After wet and rainy winter here in Mesa, Paul and Steve have filled pot holes and smoothed our roads here on the range. Thanks Guys! We all appreciate what you have done!

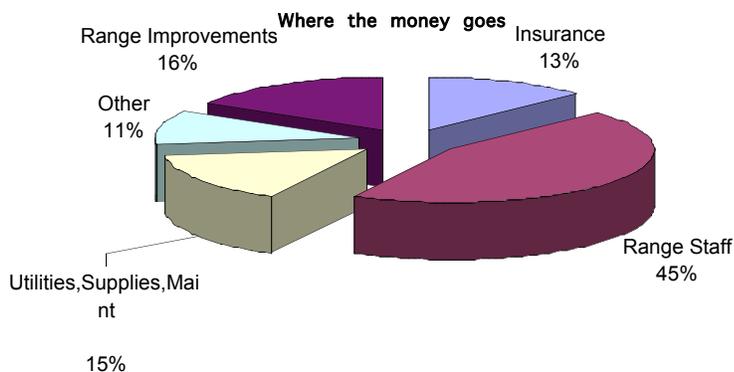
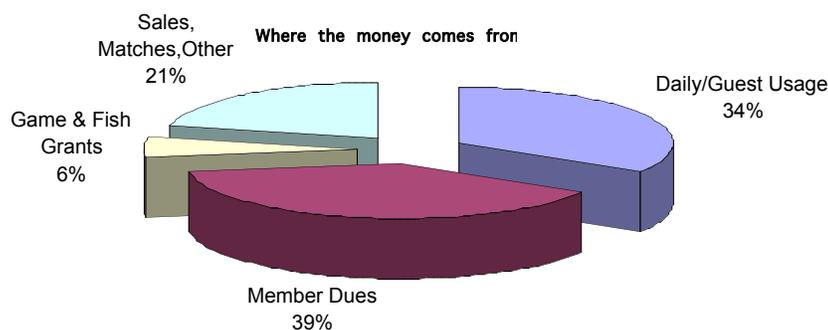
I would also like to thank the guys who worked so hard to get the Sporting Clays set up, Phillip Anderelli and the Fountain Hill Boy Scouts, Jim Rasmussen, Terry and Marge Abbot and the members of the full board for their attention to the smallest details when it comes to taking care of Rio and its membership. We have a good crew constantly working behind the scenes. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all personally for making all our jobs a lot easier.

Joe Ortiz, XO

The Treasurer's Report

Or "Where's the money", Part II

In the last issue of the Ricochet, we talked about the fact that Rio Salado has been shooting, building and growing for fifty years! Your money, particularly from those of you who are active members, has enabled the club to become the place we now enjoy. Today nearly 2,600 members call Rio Salado their club, and the funds they and our guests contribute allow us to continue to offer you one of the finest shooting venues anywhere. The following charts are based on the last year and a half of operations.



---John Brinjak Treasurer@RioSaladoSportsmans.com

Sporting Clays is coming to Rio

By Terry Abbott

For those of you that enjoy the shotgun sports we have great news. The range staff and a few volunteers have developed a sporting clays course! A presentation was made to the Board, at the February meeting, for four different plans to start building a sporting clays course in the area to the east of the smallbore range. The Board approved a modest plan that will incorporate a ten station course with a mixture of manually operated and battery powered electric traps. Things have moved very quickly since the February meeting. One of our Junior members who is working on his Eagle Scout rank agreed to take on the construction of the trail as his Eagle project. Phillip Anderelli along with several members of his scout troop started construction on the 6 foot wide by one eighth mile long trail on Monday March 21st and were done by the end of the following day. A bridge and entry way to the trail were completed on March 26th. Phillip is also constructing 10 benches, for seating at each shooting station, and an overhead sign at the entry gate. He will be putting up station number signs for us as well. Phillip has done an outstanding job on this project and I'm sure that anyone who comes down to see this new addition to our range will be very impressed. I have had numerous positive comments already and we aren't even done yet. I would also like to recognize Bill Lagusis and the range crew, Jim Rasmussen, Jim Neff, Paul Caudill and my wife Marge for helping me get all the traps set and equipment ready for the board to preview the course on March 26th. Eight people were present for the preview and were treated to a tour of the equipment and an abbreviated shoot. If this endeavor is well received by the shooters the plan is flexible enough to allow for future expansion.

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The development of shotgun shooting at the club is being driven by the Arizona Game and Fish Scholastic Clay Target Program for youth. The department has hired a full time individual to promote youth participation in shooting. Anthony Chavez is the person working for the department and is currently focusing on two programs. They are; Archery in Schools and the Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP). The SCT Program is being completely funded by Game and Fish and provides participating clubs all the resources to run a shotgun program, including the training for certified shotgun instructors. SCTP participants can compete in Trap, Skeet, or Sporting Clays and there are opportunities to compete in state and national events. Game and Fish provides shotguns, ammunition, targets and electronic traps if necessary. Our club has received two battery powered traps as part of this program. The club decided to buy additional equipment to create a full sporting clays course. SCTP participants will have a great place to improve their shotgun skills and club members and the public will also have access to this fun and exciting shotgun sport. By the time you read this the course will be open to qualified club members and their guests. As soon as we have range personnel trained and things are running smoothly we will open to the general public as well.

If you are interested in becoming a certified SCTP instructor contact Anthony Chavez at Game and Fish.

Put This in your Muzzle & Stuff It

Greetings shooters,

I am still meeting a lot of shooters who have muzzleloaders they have never shot. Contact me and we can have you shooting in no time. We are always looking for new Muzzle Stuffers. We did not have a shoot in March, but we will have a shoot April 24.

The NMLRA Western Nationals were held at Ben Avery. Members of Rio did very well. I will go into more detail after the results are published next month.

As you may know, Black Powder Cartridge Silhouette is now an event at Rio. If you haven't shot with us yet, come on out and give it a try. The response has been very good. I still have not gotten the response on an inline format that I would like to have. Getting together like this will put inline shooters together and improve your abilities, and help you get through any problems you may experience while learning to shoot muzzleloaders. Remember, this would be good to have in place before hunting starts. Contact me to get this going. **NOTICE:** April 24 we will change to summer hours. Shoots start at 8:00 am. Muzzleloader 12:00 pm BPCR

Until the next time,

Jim Neff

FROM THE HIGH POWER RANGE

This years shooting season is in full swing. There are two 80 shot league matches left. The scores from shooting in these matches are sent to the NRA for you to establish a classification or move up in class.

Then there are the other matches to improve your skills and test your marksmanship skills. Drag that old Springfield, Mauser or M1 Garand out of the closet and try the Curio and Relic Match or the Garand Match. Both matches are fired at 200 yards. Perhaps you don't have an M1, yet. Participating in one of our clinics satisfies one of the requirements for you to obtain one from the CMP. The rifles you get from the CMP are in better shape and cheaper than gun show specials.

Maybe long range precision rifle is more to your liking. Try out the monthly 500 yard match and see how many bullets you can drive into the X-ring. You can shoot this with iron sights or a scope. Even more challenging is the LRPR match the second Sunday of the month. It is a new game at the range and is still evolving. The match has you firing at different ranges, in different positions, and at different targets.

Once summer arrives (June) we will continue to shoot the LRRP, 500 yard, and a 50 shot match until it starts cooling down in September.

Our junior HP program is going strong. We are planning on having a good showing at Camp Perry this year. I want to thank all of the adults who spend hours developing these athletes.

There have been some requests for an advanced clinic. I can't promise when, but your requests haven't fallen on deaf ears.

If you have any questions drop me a line at the high power link on the web page.

Hold Hard,

Larry

Wear a ball cap in the pits. X ring yadda yadda yadda

From the Resident Manager

Wow, what a busy 6 months this has been. Lots of new improvements at our range, a cardboard recycling dumpster at Practical, new 50, 100, 300,& 500 yard berms, retention wall and new benches at High Power. Our new Sporting Clays is going to be a great asset to our club. Great job done by Phillip Anderelli as a Boy Scout Eagle project. This young man did a bang up job. Special kudos to Steve & Paul for all the great construction projects they did these past months. I would like to take the time to thank Paul Caudill for building a shed to house equipment for the Sporting Clays facility. Special thanks to all range employees for the fine work they do to make this such a great place to enjoy the shooting sports. What a great Country, State and Range we have. Enjoy and protect all three.

Shoot Safe and Enjoy

Billy

**PLEASE KEEP OUR RANGE CLEAN!
PICK UP YOUR BRASS
AND YOUR GARBAGE!!!**

Arizona Muzzle Loading Association State Shoot

Thursday, April 7 through Sunday, April 10, 2005.

Location: Rio Salado Shooting Range,

Registration shooting fee for adults \$15.00

Junior and Sub-juniors \$2.00

Shooting times (subject to change without notice).

Thursday 1pm - 6pm (last relay starts at 5:30 pm).

Friday and Saturday 8am-6pm (last relay starts at 5:30 pm).

Sunday 8am-noon (last relay starts at 11:30).

Awards - Sunday afternoon.



Primitive dress not required, but encouraged.

Potluck supper Saturday (bring your favorite dish; club will provide plates and utensils.)

At registration shooters will be classified into AA, A, and B classifications, based on prior match wins and placings. Men and Women are classified together for the aggregate. Grand aggregate prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places for each classification.

MuzzleStuffer Winners at Nationals

Bruce Schwindt	2nd	Flintlock Offhand Championship
	1 st	25 yard 6-bull
Tom Hoverson	2nd	Traditional Offhand Sharpshooter Championship
	3rd	Offhand Sharpshooter Championship
Jim Neff	3rd	Traditional Offhand Marksman Championship
	3rd	Offhand Marksman Championship
Jim Fleming	2nd	Flintlock Offhand Marksman Championship
	3 rd	25 yard 6-bull Marksman
	1 st	Traditional Offhand Fling Marksman Championship
	1 st	50 yard 100 yard Offhand Flint
	1 st	100 yard Offhand Fling
Teri Schwindt 1st		Women's Offhand Championship
	1 st	25 yard 6-bull
	1 st	25 yard 6-bull slug
	1 st	50 yard 3 bull
Mike & Kelly Grenen 2nd		Husband and Wife Match
Nicole Albright	1st	Junior Championship
	1 st	25 yard 3 bull
	1 st	50 yard bench-rest 6 bull
	2nd	Junior Offhand Championship
	1 st	25 yard 3 bull offhand
	1 st	Junior bench match
	1 st	Junior bench re-entry
	1st	Junior Pistol Championship
Hattie Donahue	2nd	Tomahawk Throw
	2nd	Knife Throw



Dillon Precision
**Superstition Mountain
Mystery Three-Gun**



March 11th - 13th, 2005

Two hundred ninety-eight (298) competitors officially made the 2005 Superstition Mountain Mystery 3-Gun match the largest competition of its kind in the world! Shooters came from all over the United States and several foreign countries to participate. One of those competitors was Kryuchin Vitaly, the Regional Director of IPSC in Russia. Other competitors (better known to us) included Jerry Miculek, Michael Voigt, Taran Butler, Benny Cooley, Matt Burkett, Kelly Neal, Eddie Rhodes, Bruce Piatt, Benny Hill, Blane West, Tony Holmes and the Miller brothers, Kurt and Eric. There were numerous other shooters of notoriety.

The match consisted of ten stages of fire that taxed even the most seasoned three gun veteran. As usual in a match of this magnitude, the people who make the least mistakes are often the winners. They say that props make the match. We were in no short supply of interesting and colorful range adornments in this match. Stages with names such as "Invasion of Privacy", "Chris' Revenge", "Prisoner Transfer", "Perimeter Defense", "Taliban Tunnels", "Boarding Party", "Amphibious Assault", "Film at Eleven", "Assault in Fallujah" and "Eddie and the Cruiser Defense" had the shooters scrambling to try and solve the scenarios.

This year we had 77 entries in Open Class; 181 entries in Tactical Class; and 40 entries in the Heavy Metal Class. This is the second year for the Heavy Metal Class and it is becoming increasingly popular. The rules for Open Class are basically "anything goes" when it comes down to additions and modifications to the firearms and equipment used in this class. In Tactical Class the firearms are basically "factory" configuration with certain restrictions on sights, barrel lengths, magazine lengths, etc. The idea is that the guns used are of a type and configuration that a person or soldier would realistically use in combat. Heavy Metal Class follows the same basic guidelines as Tactical Class, but the rifles must be .308 Winchester or larger, pistols must be .44 caliber or larger and the shotguns must be 12 gauge. (In other words, BIG bullets are "Heavy Metal.")

Congratulations to the match winners:

Open Class: 1st Place, Matt Burkett; 2nd Place, Mike Voigt; 3rd Place, James Darst.

Tactical Class: 1st Place, Kurt Miller; 2nd Place, Taran Butler; 3rd Place, Dave Neth.

Heavy Metal Class: 1st Place, Jerry Miculek; 2nd Place, Kelly Neal; 3rd Place, Patrick Kelley.

(*Complete match results can be viewed and downloaded on our website, www.smm3g.net.)

I would like to extend my sincerest thanks to our match sponsors. **Dillon Precision** was our **Overall Match Sponsor** again for the tenth year. **Tactical Class Match Sponsors** were **Cavalry Arms Corporation** and **JP Enterprises, Inc.** **Open Class Match Sponsors** were **DPMS-Panther Arms** and **Browning/Winchester.** **Heavy Metal Class Match Sponsors** were **D.S. Arms, Inc.** and **Smith & Wesson.** Other major match sponsors for this year included Bushmaster Firearms, Armscor Precision, ArmaLite, Glock, Springfield Armory, STI International, LaRue Targets, Bushnell Performance Optics, Trijicon, ADCO Sales, Leupold & Stevens, Sturm, Ruger & Co. and Gunsite Academy.

I would also like to thank our other match sponsors for their support and contributions, making the SMM3G the most successful 3 Gun match in the world. 3 Gun Gear, Accuracy Speaks Gunsmithing, Accurate Plating & Weaponry, Arredondo Accessories, Bar-Sto Precision, Billy Bullets, Blackhawk Products, Buy Brown Industries, C-More Systems, Falcon Industries, Davis McKee & Forshey, P.L.L.C., Hogue Grips, Hornady Mfg., Grams Engineering, Kafka Kool Ties, Leupold & Stevens, Inc., Matt Burkett, Mike Gibson Mfg., Montana Gold Bullets, R&N Builders, Safariland, Scottsdale Gun Club, Shooter's World, Tempo Development, Tombstone Tactical and XS Sight Systems. Overall, the prize tables totaled over \$100,000.

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