

Rio Salado Ricochet

VINCE CAVALLO, EDITOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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

APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2006

A Day at the Range
Rio Salado Hospitality Day
May 13, 2006 10:00 AM —3:00 PM

Range Manager Bill Lagusis

Rio Salado Sportsman's Club, Inc.

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITEwww.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.

Come and join us for a wonderful day of exploring all Rio Salado Sportsman's Club has to offer. We will have events across the range including the fast paced, *run and gun* of USPSA Action Pistol or the very family friendly (and addictive!) Tuesday Night Steel. We will take you back to the 1880's with the Cowboy Posse or get your adrenaline pumping with some fully automatic machine gun fire with our Full Auto Division. Slow it down a bit and learn how to load a blackpowder rifle or pistol and then try your hand at throwing the hawk and knife. Can you cut the card? Not so easy, huh? Maybe a .22 will be easier, but those targets are mighty small! Have you heard about our new Sporting Clays range? Come and check it out. It is truly amazing! For all these events, we will have equipment you can use or just bring your own. Here is your chance to try something new!

We wouldn't want you to have all the fun yourselves. We will have a number of exhibition events to demonstrate various shooting techniques by some of our own members that have become national or even world champions. They make it easy but it took years of practice and hundreds of thousand of rounds to get there. We also hope to have a number of community organizations put on demonstrations so stay tuned for details as we fill in the schedule!

The event is open to the public and is FREE. Eye and Ear protection is required for everyone. Bring you own or we will have them for a small charge. There will be activities and information for the entire family. Bring your friends, work associates and anyone you can think of that might want to see what this shooting thing is all about. Food and drinks will be available and you will want to be sure to get a few **Raffle Tickets** for chances at some great prizes. All proceeds benefit needed improvements at the range.

Come spend *a Day at the Range!* For more information as the events shape up, check out www.riosaladosportsmans.com/hospitality

Main Gate is Open from 7:30am-5:30pm
Members with keys may shoot from 7:00am-6:30pm

The President's Column

When I took office last September I promised you I would do my best to move our club forward with a positive attitude. Thanks to the fine group of people that represent you by serving as division directors and board officers we are indeed maintaining a positive outlook and getting a lot accomplished. Our big projects are moving along and the board is working diligently on long range plans for more improvements and possible future expansion. The demand for more shooting facilities continues to grow right along with our ever increasing population.

Wow! We made it through another SMM 3-Gun match. I am always amazed we are able to pull this off. It is organized chaos at its best. This year was especially challenging. We had snow! Nobody comes to Mesa, AZ expecting to shoot in a snow storm, but we did. It was wet, it was cold, and it was windy, but the hardworking and professional crew that runs this match never quit. We had shooters quit. But our crew never quit. Hats off to the outstanding crew that organizes and runs one of the best 3-gun matches anywhere. In spite of the weather I heard a lot of positive feedback from the participants.

Recently I attended a Friends of NRA dinner where I was presented a check for \$7500. This grant money was provided to help with our recent Sporting Clays range expansion and improvements. Several members of the Grant committee commented to me they were very pleased with how RSSC has used these grant monies. They indicated more money was available next year and we could count on their support for the future needs of RSSC. Some of the past NRA grants we have received went to our outstanding junior program, and other range improvement projects. The Friends of NRA dinners are great fun and the money raised benefits us all. If you ever have the chance to go I highly recommend it.

The future looks bright for RSSC. If we all continue working together we can look forward to many years of shooting enjoyment. Be safe and good shooting.

Terry Abbott
President

Elections

The Board of Directors has set **June 15** as the date for interested members to announce their candidacy for Club President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Executive Officer and Chief Instructor.

Members must submit their names and short biography (no more than a half page) to the Range Manager. Members names and bio's will be published in the July issue of the Ricochet. Please note, members of the Board of Directors must be members of the National Rifle Association (NRA). If elected, members must be prepared to show proof of NRA membership at the annual meeting.

Please consider running for office. This is a great opportunity for members to contribute to the Club in a positive and on-going way.

If your email has changed, please let us know.
Drop us a note at office@riosaladosportsmans.com

Vice President's Corner

The Board has been very busy over the winter working on several major projects. We have completed our review of the RSSC By-Laws and should have the final approval done soon. The bureaucratic battle of the septic system has hopefully entered a final phase but we have learned it may *snow on the range* before we have all the approvals we need to get the work finalized! Many thanks to the very patient John Martin for winding his way from one agency to the next.

Next time you see a young member of Rio with a big grin on his face, look for his name on his new blue Junior Membership Card. Rio has always been a place for families to spend quality time together so we are pleased to be able to include the next generation of shooters by giving them their own card. If you haven't submitted your child's name and birth date to the office, please call us or send an email. Remember that once they turn 18, they have to get their own individual membership.

We are really getting excited about the 2006 Rio Salado Hospitality Day on May 13th. Mark that date on your calendar and come out for plenty of activities and fun. Shoot a blackpowder rifle one shot at a time or just go for it with a fully automatic machine gun. See shooting demonstrations and get any of your questions answered about how you can get the most out of your range. Admission is free but bring a few bucks for food and to get a raffle ticket for some great prizes. There is a charge for the ammo used for the machine guns too but, Oh! What a blast!!!

I have also been working on updating the main club webpage www.riosaladosportsmans.com. Check it out and let me know what you think! Be sure and keep us updated if your email address changes since that is the best way we have of letting you know what is happening. See you at the Range!

Pete Carstensen

Vice President

web: www.riosaladosportsmans.com

email: vp@riosaladosportsmans.com

THE RANGE MANAGER'S DESK

As you know, this is the busiest time of our year. We just finished hosting the Superstition Mountain Mystery Three Gun Match (which was held in a downpour, and this writer almost got pneumonia) and that was a great success. This is the time of the year when our range usage expands with the addition of our winter visitors (both members and non-members). I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a few of our staff who spend the winters with us, Paul Homman and Jim Evenson, along with a volunteer who spends his winters here and makes frames every Monday, Norm Glandon. They will all be leaving shortly for the Summer.

Speaking of volunteers, We really need to find someone to volunteer to work selected gun shows, to help promote Rio Salado Sportsman's Club. They are held on weekends and we need one or two people to man our table. You would be doing your club a great service. Please contact me at 480-984-3724 if you would like to discuss this. Thanks again to all the club members and the staff of the range for your continued support.

Bill Lagusis

Range Manager

FROM THE CHIEF INSTRUCTOR

On January 14th and 15th, we conducted an NRA basic rifle class for those interested in learning to shoot rifles properly. A great time was had by all, and everyone learned to shoot, and they shot well. The class was attended by 10 boys, 4 adult males and 1 adult female. Several kids brought their parents, and it was good to see sons and dads, and sons with moms shooting side by side and enjoying something they could do together. All passed their written tests, and were awarded NRA certificates of completion, as well as a basic rocker patch to sew on a jacket or shirt.

I would like to thank Bill Boa and Chief Range Officer Bob Bzdok for their assistance in teaching this class and walking the line to make sure everyone was safe. These gentlemen are a huge asset to me, as well as the range. Thank you both.

We plan to conduct a range officer safety class in the near future. This class will be for range officers and will also include first aid training for those attending.

Craig Cox
Chief Instructor

BLACK POWDER DIVISION

The next few months will be busy for the Black Powder division. April 6-9 will be the A.M.L.A. State shoot. We are glad to be hosting this shoot for the third year in a row. If you are a Black Powder shooter, come out and join us. It is a relaxed event with a lot of new shooters and “classifications”, so you don’t need to be an expert to have a great time. Black Powder has returned to the Grand Canyon State Games. If you are interested, give me a call. I am still running into a lot of individuals “dusting off” black powder firearms. Come on out and have some fun.

We now have an N.M.L.R.A. instructor and a Boy Scout Merit Badge Counselor available, so if you would like to get merit badges for your Scouts, give us a call. If you would like to take a basic muzzle loading course to add to your knowledge, give a call. Check the Rio website and postings for times and events. If your interested in having 4H Black Powder shoots, contact your local 4H club and we can make arrangements. If there is anything we can do to make your time at Rio more enjoyable, let us know. Until next time, stay safe and stay informed.

Jim Neff
Black Powder Division Director

PISTOL-COWBOY LEVER ACTION SILHOUETTE DIVISION

The Pistol-Cowboy Lever Action Silhouette Division match takes place the first Sunday of each month. We practice from 8AM to 9AM, and the match starts at 9AM. To shoot, all you need is a pistol, or center fire rifle chambered in a pistol caliber or a .22 caliber rifle. For pistol and rifle calibers, distances shot are 40-100 meters or for long range 50-200 meters. All silhouette shooting is fun. When you hit the target, you will hear a clang, and watch the target spin and fall. Silhouette shooting does not get any better than that. So come on out, and try shooting silhouettes with us. Bring your wife, husband, girl or boy friend, son, daughter or anyone you want. You can contact me at **480-231-1348**

See you soon,

Dan Solow,
Match Director

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