

Rio Salado Ricochet

Gail Drake, EDITOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

August, September 2004

President John Martin
Vice Pres Steve Horsman
Secretary Carmen LaMarca
Treasurer Joe Platt
Executive Officer Bob LaMarca
Chief Range Safety Officer
Robert Bzdok

Rio Salado Sportsman's Club
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PLEASE NOTE OUR WEBSITE ADDRESS

www.riosaladosportsmans.com

Please Note

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

Rio Salado will be closed on Easter Sunday, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Years Day each year.

BEWARE OF
OUR NO-
LEGGED
FRIENDS! THE
RATTLE
SNAKES ARE
OUT THIS TIME
OF YEAR!

ELECTION TIME!!

Annual Meeting is to be held on September 11, 2004

At 3:00 PM at the Activity Center the Annual meeting will be held. All ranges will be closed at 2:30 PM and Refreshments will be served after the meeting. The election results will be announced.

This year ballots will be e-mailed to members, you can print them off and mail them back to RSSC, please write **BALLOT** on the envelope. You can also pick up a ballot at the Main Range and there will be a ballot box for you to drop it off.

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The Following candidates for Executive Positions:

President: **Jim Fuller**
Red Thomas
Joe Platt

Vice President: **Steve Horsman**

Secretary: **Polle Blanton**
Jean Goben

Treasurer: **John Brinjak**
Cheryl Carstensen

Executive Officer: **Joe Ortiz**

Chief Instructor: **Angus Hobdell**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

During the past 9 months we have essentially completed the work to enlarge the Small Bore Range Berm. We have also disposed of the old Range Master residence and have refurbished the larger residence in its place.

Many of you have been concerned about the questions concerning possible pollution of the septic system at the Gunsmith's Shop. Extensive testing of the septic tank contents showed that there was nothing in the system that was considered hazardous waste as defined by the EPA.

In the future we will construct on the General (Public) Range a Pole Crib Berm on the right hand side that will be 8 feet high and 300 feet long. This will protect shooters and workers on the High Power Range from accidental hazards from the Public Range. The costs will be covered by matching funds from the AZ Game & Fish Dept.

I wish to thank all our range staff for their hard work during the past year. While all these projects were being accomplished, they set still carried on, sometimes having to move shooters to other ranges, set up safety barriers, digging holes, pouring concrete and cleaning up after some of the construction was completed. We have a great group of employees manning the line and doing our maintenance. They are out there for us in extreme temperatures and constant noise. Take a moment when you are at the range and let them know they are appreciated.

Finally I thank you for the opportunity to serve as President of a very fine club.

-John J. Martin

Message from the Executive Officer

Greetings,

This month's report is going to be of a personal nature. First, let me say that I've been honored to have served as your Executive Officer for the last nine months. We have accomplished much together, but there are still many great projects ahead. Also, I wish to thank all the range staff for their help and guidance. We could never have accomplished as much as we have without their efforts and talent. There are so many behind the scene projects that the general membership is not aware of that our staff is constantly working on to help make your club and range a better place. My heartfelt thanks to all staff members.

Due to the responsibilities of my new job and the need to spend more quality time with my family "I will not seek, nor will I accept the nomination, for another term, as your Executive Officer" (I kinda stole that from L.B.J.) This is not to say that, at a later date, I wouldn't be interested in holding another board position. Just not now. I will be available to help the next Executive Officer or any board member in any way I can if they feel the need.

Once again, it has been an honor and a privilege to have served RSSC this year.

Good Shootin...

Bob LaMarca

From the Desk of the VP

Greetings,

I hope everyone is having a great summer. I know mine has been very busy but very rewarding. I have been a member of the club since 1988, and been shooting Practical Pistol matches weekly since then. I have since shot a lot of other type of matches, some of the 500 yard matches, and rifle/shotgun matches. Several years ago the .22 matches were started and I had been interested in shooting them. In May of this year, I finally brought my kids out to this match. They had a blast! I had a blast, it was a lot of fun, and very easy. Now, don't get me wrong, the shots were challenging, but not impossible, my 9 year old hit every target on each stage. My 6 year old hit most of the targets. You don't need a holster, just a .22 handgun and about 200 rounds of ammo. There are 3 classes, Auto (limited), Open (Optical sighted semi auto pistols) and revolver. Bring a kid out, or a few kids out, they will have great time, and kids shoot for free. Contact Tom Rubel or Dave Sabia if you have questions, they do a great job. The match is on the 4th Sunday morning of each month.

The Annual meeting is right around the corner, September, and if you are interested in running for office, you need to have your bio into Gail at the office by mid July. I can say this year a Vice President has been a great learning experience, I would encourage anyone that would like to get involved to run for office.

Have a great rest of the Summer, and bring a kid out to shoot.

-Steve Horsman

Annual Sight in Days

Annual Sight in days are coming up on October 9 & 10 and on October 18 & 19. We need volunteers to help out. Please contact the Chief Range Safety Officer, Bob Bzdok at 480-984-9610 and let us know when you can assist us. We would also like to remind members that during those two weekends, it gets very crowded. Please help us by using the Main Range either before or after these weekends. We appreciate you co operation.

Thank you

Robert Bzdok, Chief Range Safety Officer

Presidential Candidates

RED THOMAS

Vote Red Thomas for President. I have NRA instructor credentials for 6 subjects and I'm Chief Range Safety Officer Certified. I have years of experience managing and operating range complexes. Now that AZ Game & Fish has adopted my community training program I have the time needed for this job.

For 18 months I made myself available to everyone as chief instructor and I'll be available to every-one as club president. I'll listen to your concerns, you may not like my answer, but I'll seriously consider what you said. The future of our sport is in entry level shooters, women and juniors need to know our club isn't just a bunch of old white guys with guns. As President I'll try to welcome new shooters into our family. Unity + Education=Progress

JIM FULLER

Since I have been a member at RSSC, I have come to know the members and those on Staff at the Club. Although I am qualified to shoot on the SB, HP and Pistol Ranges I chose to spend most of my time at the Public Range.

Currently I am employed at Southwest Gas as Supervisor of Market Development for the state of Arizona. By nature of my job description, I inter-act with all types of personalities in searching for a common denominator that will afford the Company increased revenue while allowing the 35 sales Team Members freedom to sell and build relationships using their own Style.

I bring to the President's Office, management, organizational and communication skills. There are some significant changes evolving at the Club and these changes will require someone who can visualize the entire picture; the long range impact as well as oversee the completion of the immediate goals. I bring the ability to work closely with diverse personalities and to successfully administer, direct, and supervise Range policy to employees as well as help implement new programs for the benefit of the Club. I also bring fresh new blood and the eyes to see things out of the current existing paradigm.

JOE PLATT

My name is Joe Platt and I am running for the Office of President of Rio Salado Sportsman's Club. I have been a resident of Arizona since 1971. I have been competing in a variety of Shooting Sports for the last 28 years. These include Smallbore Silhouette, Pistol Silhouette, Practical Pistol, NRA Bull's-eye Shooting, Trap & Skeet and Practical Pistol.

I would like to continue the tradition of RSSC being a community asset as well as one of the finest shooting facilities in the state. In the future I would like to see growth in the support of our junior shooters and an increase in our involvement with local charitable organizations. I will work diligently with G&F to maintain the close relationship we currently enjoy. I will encourage more crossover activities between the different shooting disciplines in the hope that we can come together as one club with many facets.

VICE PRESIDENT

STEVE HORSMAN

I have been active in shooting sports, since 1988 when I became a member at RSSC. In December of 2002 I took over as match director for the 1911 Single Stack match. I realized that I wanted to give more of my time back to the Club. I ran for the position of Vice President last year and was elected. It has been a very interesting year to say the least, and I have learned more about the club than I ever knew existed.

I am currently a police officer for the City of Tempe, and have been since 1988. My current assignment is with the Firearms Training Unit. I have been a police firearms instructor since 1995 and have been assigned to our SWAT team since 1995 as well. Prior to my employment with the City of Tempe, I spent 4 years in the Marine Corps.

These last few years I have been rewarded with being a match director and being elected the Board of Directors. I would like to continue on the Board of Directors in the capacity of Vice President. If elected I will continue to do my best to improve the range for everyone and every shooting discipline. We are all in this together, let's work together to keep RSSC the best shooting facility in the country.

Secretary

POLLE BLANTON

I have been a part of Rio Salado Sportsman's Club since 1988. Most of my time on the range has been spent working stats for our weekly and monthly Practical Pistol matches. Many of you may also know me from Accuracy Speaks where I worked with Derrick Martin from 1996 till 2003. In the 16 years that I have been affiliated with Rio I have gotten to know the club and the people who make it up very well. I have come to think of this Club as part of my extended family. That is why I think that it is time that I give back to Rio Salado Sportsman's Club by offering my time and experience on the range in the role of Club Secretary.

JEAN GOBEN

My name is Jean Goben, membership number 1312, and I am running for the office of Secretary. I was once, receptionist/secretary for a law firm in Florida(2yrs.), Student lunch coordinator for Palatine, IL School system (7yrs.), banquet manager at the local park district in Illinois (3yrs.) and commissions administrator for the Midwest Division of Yellowbook USA(10 yrs.) prior to retiring and moving to AZ. I have been married for 31+ years and have two grown children. Target shooting is just one of my many hobbies. I am the founder of Right on Target (a ladies shooting league), "Queen Mum" of the Red Hot Pistol Packing Mammams (a red hat target shooting chapter), and a member of S. A.S.S. I am also a member of the NRA and a Certified NRA Pistol and personal Protection Instructor.

Treasurer

CHERYL CARSTENSEN

At present, I am the payroll/accounts payable department at TRW Safety Systems. I have a Bachelor in Accounting Degree and a Certified Payroll Professional (CPP) in payroll.

I have been doing payroll for the past eleven years starting out as a clerk and at present am responsible for processing 900 employees. Currently, I am the Secretary for the Metro Phoenix APA Chapter.

I have done accounting for a home owners association, a camping club and do accounting presently for a Landscaping Service.

John G. Brinjak

My wife and I live in Scottsdale with our two college age children. We moved to AZ in 1993 and I have used the Rio range since 1992.

I am not currently working. Most recently I held positions as division President for a national building company. Prior to that I held several different vice president positions, was a financial analyst, and the corporate tax manager for that same publicly held company. Earlier I was controller for a small manufacturing company and a CPA in public practice.

I grew up duck and pheasant hunting in Nebraska and have enjoyed the shooting sports since the mid-80's. I served on the board of directors of the National Capital Skeet and Trap Club (near Washington, DC), home of the oldest continuously running skeet tournament in the US. I was a member of the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Isaac Walton League (Maryland), a multi-faceted outdoors/conservation organization, where I served as a range officer. I have been a member or RSSC for several years. I shoot practical pistol, Tuesday Night Steel, Pistol silhouette, use the public range and have worked both the Desert Classic and the Superstition Mystery Mountain 3 Gun matches.

Chief Firearms Instructor

ANGUS HOBDELL

I am an NRA certified instructor in:

Range Safety Officer
Home Firearms Safety
Pistol
Personal Protection
Rifle
Shotgun

I have been shooting approximately 14 years. I started shooting UIT and Police Pistol and competed Nationally and Internationally. In 1990 I started shooting IPSC style matches. I have numerous Championship wins including the European Championship Twice.

I worked with the British Special Forces as an Instructor for 6 years and am currently working with the US Army Marksmanship Unit Fort Benning, Georgia as a personal instructor.

I have at my disposal a team of 10 NRA instructors who would be willing to work with me setting up Monthly or Bi Monthly NRA classes at Rio.

Executive Officer

JOEY ORTIZ

I am a retired New York City Firefighter. Before moving to Arizona 8 years ago I was on the Board of Directors for the New York City Bow Hunters Association for four years. After moving to Arizona I held a seat on the Arizona Bow Hunters Association Board of Directors. I am also an avid Practical Pistol shooter and spend a lot of time on the range participating in matches, practicing and helping setup for major matches like the Desert Classic.

I feel that these experiences, which include extensive dealings with Game & Fish, are a part of what makes me a good candidate for the position of Executive Officer. The rest of my qualifications lie in my willingness and desire to increase the contribution of time and energy that I give to Rio Salado Sportsman's Club.

This concludes our list of candidates for the Executive Board of Directors. They are willing and able to donate their time now all you have to do is vote!

Hunter Education Course

SEPTEMBER 2004

(Sponsored by Arizona Game and Fish Dept.)

Course Details:

- **Class Dates:** Sept 7, 14, 21, 23, 28, 30, Oct 5, 7
 - Tuesday / Thursday Nights
 - **Times:** 6:45 - 9:00 PM
 - **Location:** Poston Jr. High
2433 E. Adobe in Mesa
(Between Gilbert and Lindsay)
 - **Field Day:** Sept 25 at Rio Salado Sportsman's Club
 - **Cost:** \$ 8.00 / student
- Attendance is Mandatory at all Classes to Graduate.

Course Registration:

- Register at the First Class on Sept 7 from 6:30 to 7:00 at Poston Jr. High Cafeteria.
- **Combo Class** preregister by phone at (480) 834-1791
- Bring Social Security No.
- Cash / Check Only (MHEIA)
- Max class size = 250
- Parents are encouraged to attend with students.

Student must be 10 on Oct 7 to

Course Curriculum:

- Hunter Ethics / Responsibility
 - Conservation / Wildlife Mgt
 - Safe Handling of Firearms, Archery, and Muzzleloaders
 - Wilderness Survival
 - First Aid
 - Field Care of Game Animals
 - Wildlife Identification
 - Invaluable Hunting Tips
 - Hunting Regulations
- Videos Reinforce Each Topic

For more information use WEB
at: www.azgfd.com



Questions or to pre-register
Call (480) 834-1791

This Course is Required for Anyone 10-14 Years Old to Hunt Big Game in Arizona and Earns You a Permanent Bonus Point

Letter from the Editor

By Gail Drake

I recently organized an Open House shooting event for the competitive shooting divisions at Rio Salado Sportsman's Club. This event served several purposes. 1. To encourage our members to explore all that Rio has to offer by trying out the various competitive shooting sports. 2. To attract new members who may not have been aware of the club or the activities available at the club. 3. To raise funds for a worthy cause. 4. To have some fun.

In my opinion this event was a success on all fronts. We had a great turn out with around 150 participants attending the event. Many of these people were already members but there were also quite a few who had heard about the event while shooting on the public range and wanted to find out what goes on, on all "those other ranges."

The fund raising aspect of the event was a huge success. We raised over \$2600 to help out one of our members who is going through some very trying times with a serious medical condition. Initially we had raised just over \$2100 but Jim Hulihan and Mickey Thompson donated over \$500 dollars that they raised at the event through the sale of ammunition for all the machine guns they brought out. I want to extend special thanks both Jim and Mickey for their generosity.

I also want to thank all of the members who gave of their time and money to run the various parts of the event. Without these people there is no way this event could have happened.

Terry, Marge and Danielle Abbott, Beau Goff and the QC 4-H Shooting Team - **STC**

Mike Costello - **Smallbore**

Dave Sabia and Tom Rubel - **.22 Steel**

The Lovely Ladies from BP, Teri Schwindt and Co. - **Blackpowder**

Larry Weidell & Bill Gomm - **High Power Rifle**

Pete & Chris Carstenson - **USPSA**

Jim Hulihan and Mickey Thompson - **Machine Gun**

Paul Caudill - **3 Gun**

Dave Pasch - **IDPA**

There were also a lot of people who gave all the great prizes and the ammo that helped draw in the crowd. Without them the event just wouldn't have been the success that it was. They are:

Cheryl Martin of **Accuracy Speaks** - **Dillon Precision** - Mark Buchanan of **3-Gun Gear**

Angus Hobdell/Roger Forceful of **Ghost Products** — Rudy Warren of **Billy Bullets**—Christine Costello

Michael Shakarian of **McSteel Knives, Inc.** — Dan Furbee of **Ultimate Accessories**— Frank Ragussa

Rich Higgins of **Tactical Advantage**—Rob Leatham of **Rob Leatham Enterprises** — **A. J. I.**

Junior Division

On June 4, shooters and coaches took out their pens and paper with great expectations on improving their 3-position rifle shooting skills. The junior division hosted a Bob Foth pairs clinic. Bob Foth was the 1992 silver Olympic medalist and he was coming to town. We had 14 shooters and 14 coaches attend the clinic. The pairs clinic is a fast paced program that improves interaction between coach and shooter. For 2.5 days we were impressed by Bob's knowledge and communication skills. This was a great rifle training opportunity and I am glad we were able to have him. At the conclusion of the clinic he passed around his ultimate motivator, his silver Olympic medal!

We are taking a break for the summer, but check out our website for future updates and a picture of the medal!

Mike Costello - Junior Director

The Subgun Match at Rio Salado

**By
Mickey Thompson**

My name is Mickey Thompson; I am an avid NFA (National Firearms Act of 1934) owner and shooter, as well as the Subgun Match director at RSSC. The National Firearms Act of 1934 was the federal legislation that established the \$200 tax stamp for the transfer of machine guns, suppressors, and other controlled weapons. I have been filling the role as match director for about 3 years with the consistent help of Tom Rubel, Dave Sabia, Jeff Kelly, Steve Redies, Jim Hulihan and many others. Since the Subgun Match operates under the umbrella of the practical pistol division, Paul Caudill has always provided his support. Without all this help I would have run out of gas long ago. Anyone that is or has been a match director knows that all matches at RSSC happen because of a few very dedicated folks.

The Subgun match is operated on the same format as an IPSC pistol match, with two differences, we shoot submachine guns, and we use more ammunition. Those are the two main reasons you will see so many ear to ear smiles during a match. The Subgun match follows the same safety rules as any of the practical pistol matches.

One question that always comes up is what is the difference between a machine gun and a submachine gun. The main difference is a submachine gun shoots pistol ammunition. A typical Subgun match will have most of the following submachine guns in action: Thompson, UZI, MP5, S&W 76, M-11, MAC-10, M3 Grease gun, M16-9mm, Sten or PPSH-41. The stages are designed similar to any practical pistol stage, but with higher round counts. In order to participate, you will need a submachine gun, 300 rounds of ammunition, 3 or 4 magazines, a magazine pouch, and of course ear and eye protection.

A tradition of having stage 1 as a head to head stage has developed. This pits 2 Subgunners against one another on the same course of fire. We set up two identical scenarios and the first one to finish without a miss is the winner. The rest of the stages may be a stand and shoot, or a run and gun.

What I have noticed over the last few years, with the opportunity to shoot a Subgun match, is an increase in the interest in owning Class 3 weapons. We have people that travel from as far as Yuma and Tucson, and people that are regular IPSC shooters at RSSC, myself included.

The Subgun matches are currently held on the fifth Saturday. There are typically four months each year that will have a fifth Saturday. If you are interested in becoming a submachine gun owner feel free to come out on a fifth Saturday and see for yourself. There is always plenty of free advice and you always get what you pay for!