



The Ricochet

JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 2006

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President:

Terry Abbott

Vice President:

Pete Carstensen

Secretary:

Michael Janas

Treasurer :

Arlee A. Wilson-Janas

Executive Officer :

Jim Fuller

Chief Instructor:

Craig Cox

Range Manager

Bill Lagusis

Admin. Assist./Editor

Cheryl Mauler

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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

www.riosaladosportsmans.com

Pete Carstensen, Webmaster

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

New Email Address:

We have changed our Email address. riosalado@earthlink.net is no longer valid and cannot be used to reach us. Our new Email address is: office@riosaladosportsmans.com

Election Time 2006-2007

It's time to elect officers for the Rio Salado Sportsman's Club, Inc., Executive Board. Serving on the board is a great way to get involved in the club and help make it a great place to shoot. Vote for the officers that will run the club the best way for you. Candidates sent in short biographies and are enclosed in this newsletter for the positions of: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Executive Officer and Chief Instructor.

The annual Members' Meeting will be September 9, 2006, 3:00 pm, at the range in the Activity Center. Please come and give your support to the elected Board Members. They give a lot of time and experience to help make Rio Salado Sportsman's Club a great place for all to enjoy.

The President's Column

As we move into the hot months things at RSSC are slowing down a little bit. However, we are still working on our major projects. Elections are coming up and I hope to see good member participation. Many of you will be vacationing in cooler climates and I wish you well in your summertime adventures. I will be attending the National Scholastic Clay Target competition in Rochester, NY in early July with our junior Sporting Clays team. Have a great summer and as always, be safe out there.

Terry Abbott
President RSSC

A Note From The Range Manager

Just wanted to keep this brief. The big news is the septic tank is scheduled to be completed by the end of June. Bob Drizigacker is now head of maintenance and whose knowledge of this range will be a real asset.

I want to thank the Range Officers for all they do to make our range run smooth and safe. Also, I would like to thank two prior employees, Steve Melsom & Vince Cavallo, for all they have contributed to the range over the past several years. Remember, this is your range, please leave it better than you found it.

Be safe and enjoy one of the best ranges in the nation!

Bill Lagusis
Range Manager

Vice President's Report

This has been an exciting last few months. Recently, we wrapped up a major project in updating our By-Laws to meet the needs of our membership. It took the Board 8 months of work, but with the excellent chairmanship of the project by **Jim Neff**, we got it done in April. An organization needs good guidelines to succeed. Not everyone has to agree with every item, but RSSC is now much better prepared to handle what comes our way in the future. Thanks Jim !

Our May 2006 Hospitality Day was outstanding! We had SWAT teams & gear, a helicopter, a fire truck, cannons, knife & tomahawk, machine guns, shotguns, 1880 cowboy guns and 2006 high tech whiz bang pistols. The range was packed as hundreds of visitors got to shoot anything from .22 rifles to 50 cal military rifles and even grenade launchers! For those that wanted to see some remarkable shooting by world class experts, you couldn't beat the demonstrations put on by our own **Rob Leatham, Vic Pickett, & Kelly Neal**. Not only are the talents of these guys awesome, they are terrific ambassadors for our sport and our range. Thanks, guys!

Thank You to those that helped sponsor our **Hospitality Day Raffle - Ultimate Accessories, Pistol Parlor, MuzzleStuffers Black Powder Division**, and especially **Springfield Arms** and **Rob Leatham** for donating a **Springfield XP .45 caliber Pistol**. We raised almost \$1,300 to help with various range improvements!

Around the range, we now have two new Training Bays. The new Range Office is now operational and we will begin work on tearing down the old trailer and cleaning up the public parking lot. Cheryl Mauler has joined our administrative staff so our office will be staffed everyday. Hopefully by the time you read this, we will have found coverage for the weekend also.

Our membership is at an all time high with close to **2,600** members. This does not include 200 junior family members! Some of our activities slow down a bit during the summer months, but there is always something going on. Be sure to check out the calendar of events on our website at www.riosaladosportsmans.com. See you at the Range!

Pete Carstensen
Vice-President

From The Desk of the Chief Instructor

Well, summer is here and it is hotter than it was in December. I would like to thank the divisions who participated in the Hospitality Day, and the individuals who freely gave their time to make this day a success. I would also like to thank those who donated prizes for the raffle.

On Wednesday June 14th, eight of our range officers attended an all day training session to become N.R.A. certified range safety officers. The training went well and all passed the written test with a score of 90% or higher. Congratulations to all of them! They will be able to show guests to the range the proper safety procedures set forth by the N.R.A. and Rio Salado Sportsman's Club.

We are currently working on obtaining names of safety officers interested in taking first aid and CPR certification courses. This is all being done to provide a safer environment for all club members and non-members.

Also, in the very near future there will be a posting on the club web site for N.R.A. basic firearms training for the rest of the year, and into January. This will be basic training for pistol, rifle, shotgun and range safety officer training. The cost will remain the same, \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members.

Better sign off for now or this whole newsletter will be about training or be the size of the Daily Newspaper.

Craig Cox
Chief Instructor

Have You Always Wanted To Operate A Real Belt Fed Machine Gun?

Well, on Aug. 5, starting at 8:00 A.M., you can have your chance to shoot a USGI M-60 or a German MG42.. All you have to do is sign up for a new one year membership at the Rio Salado Sportsman's Club. You can buy an individual or family membership, and you will get to run 50 rounds through one of two belt fed machine guns. The deal is one belt for each membership. You choose who squeezes the trigger. You can have 5 people shoot ten rounds each, or you can choose all 50 rounds yourself. This offer is limited to the first 20 people who sign-up for a membership on Aug. 5. This is a great deal because you end up with a membership in one of the best shooting ranges in Arizona as well as the biggest grin on your face you can possibly imagine.

Mickey Thompson
Director, Full-Auto

Three Position Small Bore Rifle

The Tuesday evening Three Position Small Bore Rifle (3-P) practice matches are closed for the summer months, July and August. Matches will resume September 5, 2006. We thank those who participated this year and look forward to your continued participation in the fall.

Ray Sutyak
Director, Three-Position Small Bore Rifle

They Have Left The Range

John Russell

Life Member (# 09) John Russell passed away 22 January, 2006, after losing his fight to Parkinson's disease, which he had for several years. John was one of our "Founding Fathers," working tirelessly on the range to improve it, and promoted the Club at many Gun Shows. John was the Stat Officer for Rifle Silhouette for fifteen years, without missing a match. He was also a regular attendee at Board meetings during this time. John left behind many friends and shooting and hunting buddies, all of who will miss him greatly. May he Rest in Peace.

Richard Furr

Long time member Richard Furr left the range June 2006. He was a former Executive Board Secretary and Cowboy Shooter, participating in the Cowboy Action Shooting Division here at the Rio Salado Sportsman's Club for many years. "Black Boot" will be missed by his numerous friends and fellow shooters.

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

PROCEDURES FOR SEPTEMBER, 2006 ELECTION OF CLUB OFFICERS

The Board of Directors passed the following procedures on June 21, 2006:

1. Proxies will not be used in this election.
2. Members may vote by mail, or place their ballot in the Ballot Boxes located at the Main Range and the Activity Center. Ballots and copies of Candidate Biographies may be obtained from the Main Range or Activity Center, or downloaded from the Rio Salado Sportsman's Club website. Ballots and Candidate Biographies will be sent in the **Ricochet** to those who do not have E-Mail. There will be **NO** nominations from the floor on Election Day, September 09, 2006. Write-in candidates will be accepted on the ballots. Only ballots of members with a valid membership as of the election will be counted.
3. All members must mail their votes to the Club **by August 31**. A locked Ballot Box will be placed only at the **Main Range**, and the **Activity Center** by July 1, 2006. The Range Manager will be responsible for the Ballot Boxes, but will not have a key to the locks. The Range Manager will brief the Range staff on election procedures and accepting ballots.
4. A Ballot Box will also be available at the range for members to deposit their ballots no later than 2 P.M. of Election Day.
5. Members who join or renew at the range on or before Saturday, September 09, 2006, will be given a ballot. They can complete the ballot and deposit it in the Ballot Box no later than 2:00 p.m. on Election Day.
6. The Junior Division Director will be responsible for counting the votes. The Membership Chairman will provide a list of members to the Junior Division Director to verify ballots. The Junior Division Director will announce the results at the annual meeting.
7. The Range Manager will retain custody of the ballots in case of a recount. At such a time as determined by the Board of Directors the ballots may be destroyed.

Candidates for Executive Board 2006-2007

President

Terry Abbott

I will be running for the office of President again this year. Together, we have accomplished a lot for RSSC. I have met my goal of keeping our efforts to improve the club moving in a positive direction. A combination of hard work by the board, the range crew and countless member volunteers has resulted in many good things for our club. We now have a much needed new range office for the Main Range crew. The training bays have been completed, providing additional room for pistol shooting and relieving some pressure on the practical pistol bays. We have made a huge improvement to our membership system that allows us to better serve you and inform you of things critical to the club. The sporting clays range has been a huge success, adding thousands of dollars of additional income we can use to continue with more range improvements. Two new divisions have been welcomed to the board in response to broadening interests of the members. These are just a few examples of our progress. There is still much to do.

We have had near 100% attendance at the board meetings this past year. This demonstrates to me that there is a commitment and an enthusiasm for continuing in the direction I have tried to guide our club. In short I am running on my record of service to you over this past year and I am asking for your support in the upcoming elections. Whatever the results of the election, it has been my pleasure to serve one of the finest shooting clubs in the country. Thank you all for your support and hard work this past year.

Terry Abbott

Jim Neff

My name is Jim Neff (also known as Jeff) and I'm running for the position of President of RSSC. I've been a member of RSSC for about eight years. While my main interest is muzzleloaders, I am qualified on all RSSC ranges. I was a match director for a year prior to being a Division Head for two years. I shoot occasionally on the main range and work as a volunteer Range Officer. I am involved in any capacity I can in order to make RSSC a better place to shoot. I understand it's an important aspect to the success of RSSC. Prior to my service on the Board of Directors, I attended many Board meetings and I have maintained my knowledge of actions and events at RSSC. I am a CNC machinist by trade and I'm proud of my service in the US Marine Corps. I have the following certifications:

- NMLRA (National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association) Certified Range Safety Officer, an NMLRA Field Rep, and an NMLRA Muzzle Loading Instructor.
- Certified Muzzle Loading Instructor for 4H Shooting Sports.
- NRA Instructor for Rifle, Shotgun, Pistol, and Personal Protection.
- Boy Scout Merit Badge Counselor.
- Arizona Hunters Education Instructor.

I am proud of the work and time I put into these teachings and I believe we must present firearm education as a major mission to preserve our rights as gun owners and to educate youth in gun handling and safety.

Should I be chosen to represent the members of RSSC as the President, I will fill the position with pride, honor, and a standard of ethics that instills pride in all members of Rio Salado Sportsman's Club, past, current and future. This is your club. Whether you support me or not, get involved and stay informed!

Keep your powder dry.

James E Neff

Candidates for Executive Board 2006-2007

Vice President

Pete Carstensen

What an incredible year it has been! Through great teamwork on the Board, we have accomplished so much. RSSC is such a wonderful place to enjoy our sport but, it takes real work to meet the needs of our range, our 60,000+ guests per year, and the 2,600 members that we serve.

I have worked hard as your current Vice President taking care of the membership system, revising and updating the club webpage and our computer systems, and conducting an outstanding Hospitality Day. I have been an active member of a terrific Executive Board team of Terry, Craig, Arlee, and Mike who, along with Bill Lagusis and John Martin, have found out how much we can do by working together and building on each other's strengths.

Perhaps the most important resource we have is our members. I believe the only reason the range even exists is to meet the needs of the people that use the range. That starts with communication and listening. Many of you have received the occasional email Bang!!! from me that announces major happenings at the range. We now have email addresses for over 75% of our members so getting the word out is far more effective than we ever could do before and costs far less than mailing.

I would like your vote for Vice President to help me continue this work for another year. There is more to do and with your assistance, we can get it done.

I can be reached at vp@riosaladosportsmans.com or just see me around the range!

Pete Carstensen

Secretary

Mike Janas

My name is Mike Janas, and I am running for Secretary. I am the current Secretary, and have previously served on the Board of Directors – two terms each as Division Director of the Small Bore Rifle Silhouette Division, and as Executive Officer. I first joined the Club in 1985. I shoot rifle and pistol in several different division matches. I am retired, so I have the time to devote to the Club. My background includes over 26 years as an administrative supervisor and manager, and I also served in the Naval Reserve, all of which gave me skills I believe would benefit the Club. I would like to serve as Secretary for another term. I believe I have done a lot for the Club this year, but I think there is more that needs to be accomplished. I ask for your support and your vote.

Mike Janas

Candidates for Executive Board 2006-2007

Treasurer

Arlee Wilson-Janas

My name is Arlee A. Wilson-Janas. I am running for Treasurer of the Rio Salado Sportsman's Club, Inc. I am presently the Treasurer for Rio Salado Sportsman's Club and served as the Treasurer for the Club from 2001-2002 and the Club President from 2002-2003. I would like to have the opportunity to continue assisting the Board of Directors improve and maintain our great shooting range.

As for my qualifications, I began shooting at the Uesry Mountain Shooting range in 1986. I have watched it grow and evolve to the great Club it is today. I am a competitive shooter; shoot varmints, and reload for both rifle and pistol. I am retired, therefore, I can again devote the time required to coordinate with the Accountant and maintain accountability of our Club funds. I have more than 20 years of Human Resources and over ten years of accounting and banking. I am again asking for your vote and support.

Arlee A. Wilson-Janas

Executive Officer

Lee Kanon

My name is Lee Kanon, and I am running for the office of RSSC Executive Officer.

I have extensive experience in finance, management and strategic planning which are necessary in any type of business organization. Before moving to Arizona, I was the Chief Financial Officer for a New York City hospital. In Arizona, I worked for the State as a budget analyst, and then with Maricopa County as a Business Manager. I am now semi-retired, working for the State two days a week.

I have been a member of the range for four years. During this time I have seen many improvements to the range, but I feel there is still a lot to do. My vision and goal is to improve the environment for all the ranges, but especially the Public Range, where most of the shooters are. I think that if we involve both the community and local businesses we can increase revenues and therefore have more money to spend on improvements.

The range has tremendous people assets. The Range Officers are friendly, helpful, safety conscious, and most of all knowledgeable in what the issues are that would make this range better. I think that we should listen to all staff and members to formulate a plan that will make OUR range one of the premier shooting facilities in the whole country. I know that I can help in this and ask for your support. Thank you.

Lee Kanon

Candidates for Executive Board 2006-2007

Chief Instructor

Craig Cox

My name is Craig Cox and I am running for the position of Chief Instructor. Many of you already know me from competitions, or just meeting over the many years.

I have been a member of this club since, approximately early 1962. I have seen many changes over the years. One of the changes was in the area of training for citizens. People asked for a safe place to train, and they also asked for proper instruction. There have been many instructors over the years, and the job they have done has been admirable.

Several years ago, I too was chief instructor for a full term of four (4) years. During that time, several NRA basic handgun and basic rifle classes were taught to adults and children in order to make them feel safe around firearms.

As I have said, I am running once again for the position of chief instructor. My qualifications include, NRA training counselor, NRA instructor, pistol instructor, rifle instructor, shotgun instructor, personal protection in the home instructor, home firearms safety instructor, certified range officer, and certified chief range safety officer. My current goal is to upgrade to senior training counselor, and eventually master training counselor.

It has always been, and will be in the future my goal to provide the best affordable training possible to anyone qualified to take the training in any discipline. It is also my feeling the children of today, are the future of shooting tomorrow.

If elected to this position, I shall do my best to live up to my personal standards of providing the best training possible to anyone who wishes to learn.

Craig A. Cox



Official Ballot
Rio Salado Sportsman's Club, Inc.
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF OFFICERS
Annual Election - September 09, 2006
PLEASE CHECK ONE FOR EACH OFFICE

PRESIDENT:

Terry ABBOTT

Jim NEFF

 (Write-in Candidate)

VICE-PRESIDENT:

Pete CARSTENSEN

 (Write-in Candidate)

SECRETARY

Michael JANAS

 (Write-in Candidate)

TREASURER

Arlee A. WILSON-JANAS

 (Write-in Candidate)

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Lee KANON

 (Write-in Candidate)

CHIEF INSTRUCTOR

Craig COX

 (Write-in Candidate)

(PLEASE NOTE: Your printed name, signature and Member number is MANDATORY for your ballot to be valid.)

 Print Member's Name & Membership Number

 Member's Signature

Please sign, enclose (BALLOT ONLY) in an envelope, and mail to: RSSC BALLOT, 3960 N Usery Pass Rd., Mesa AZ 85207-9702, postmarked NLT 08/31/06 OR you may drop at any time in the LOCK BOX at the Range until 2:00 pm 09/09/06.

RIO SALADO RICOCHET

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