



The Ricochet

JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 2007

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President:

Terry Abbott

Vice President:

Pete Carstensen

Secretary:

Michael Janas

Treasurer :

Arlee A. Janas

Executive Officer :

Gregg Harrington

Chief Instructor:

Craig Cox

Range Manager

Bill Lagusis

Admin. Assist./Editor

Cheryl Mauler

Rio Salado Sportsman's Club, Inc.

3960 N. Usery Pass Road

Mesa, Arizona 85207-9702

Phone: 480-984-3724

480-984-9610

Fax: 480-986-1592

Email:

office@riosaladosportsmans.com

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.

Time for Elections

2007—2008

It's time again to elect officers for the Rio Salado Sportsman's Club, Inc., Executive Board. The Candidates running for office sent in a short biography which are enclosed in this newsletter. The positions are: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Executive Officer, and Chief Instructor.

The annual Members' Meeting will be September 8, 2007 at 3:00 pm in the Activity Center. Please vote for the Officer that will contribute to making this Shooting Range the best place for you as a member.

The President's Column

In my last column I mentioned we were moving forward with our maintenance building project. Thanks to Practical Pistol Division Director Paul Caudill we have the building plans and site plans finished and those are with the Game and Fish engineer for approval. I am hoping we will have the go ahead by the time you read this. The High Power division is working toward vacating the old storage trailer south of the training bays and moving into their new conex storage container which is now located downrange at the High Power target pit area. Thanks to High Power Division Director Doug Frerichs and the HP division for their progress on this. As soon as the old storage trailer is empty we can remove it and proceed with the planned parking expansion for the lower ranges.

I am currently working with the Arizona Game and Fish department to come up with a plan to address all of the recommendations they made during their safety and operational review of our range. There is nothing that is going to have a major effect on our operations, but we may have to make some temporary adjustments in operations until some improvements are made. We already made some changes and our division directors have been very cooperative in this effort. As soon as I have all the details of future improvements that are agreed upon by both G&F and RSSC I will provide a written report of the plans and priorities for any improvements. As I stated last issue, temporary range use restrictions may be required during some of the work. We will make every effort to minimize this, but we ask your understanding and support if you are affected. ➡

The President's Column continued

The automated target system for the Sporting Clays range will be in operation by the time you read this. This system is typical of many shotgun ranges and will make the range more user friendly to the public and will allow us to track our expenses more accurately. Funds for this improvement were provided almost entirely by a grant from the Friends of NRA.

For those of you vacationing and traveling this summer, be safe and enjoy the freedoms of our great country. The RSSC crew will be here when you get back, ready to provide a place to enjoy your shooting experience. See you on the range.

Terry Abbott
President

From the Range Manager's Desk

I would like to say it's been a pleasure working with the Board this past year. We were able to accomplish a lot with their guidance & devotion to their positions. As a result, they have helped make this one of the best shooting facilities in the states.

I would also like to thank the staff for all their hard work. Without their diligence, this would not be the range it is. They provide assistance in making this a safe range to shoot at.

Have fun, help keep your range clean and most of all, be safe. See you around the range.

Bill Lagusis
Range Manager

**Our range is safe because YOU are safe.
Help others to be safe also.**

If you are uncomfortable about a situation,
contact a Range Safety Officer or Match Director immediately!

Vice President's Report

Summertime at RSSC can be a very busy time. Matches are moved earlier to take advantage of cooler mornings and many members and guests have extra time off from work and can come out to enjoy the range. Be sure and check the calendar of Events often since some matches are also cancelled during the heat of the summer.

On another note I would like to personally thank the other members of the Executive Board that have also served on the Board of Directors with me these past two years. President **Terry Abbott**, Secretary **Mike Janas**, Treasurer **Arlee Janas**, and Chief Instructor **Craig Cox** have all worked extremely hard to really get things done. We have used each of our strengths to help ALL parts of the club, not just one area or division. No division is more important than the other, but there are many things that go on that affects us all. One of those is having a good relationship with Arizona Game and Fish which is so critical to the future of our range. Others include sound financial and recordkeeping procedures as well as good communication with our members. Not just as an officer of the club, but as a long time RSSC member, I wish to say to Terry, Mike, Arlee, and Craig how much I respect and appreciate all you have done for the range. We are better because of your work, and you have made a difference for many years to come. I hope to see you all back in September.

Pete Carstensen
Vice President

From the Secretary

Have you ever wondered why the Club asks you to sign in either at the Main Range, Sporting Clays or during your matches? There are several reasons for this. First and foremost is safety. It just makes good sense to know who is using the range, and where they are at. Secondly, it helps balance the finances of the Club. More specifically, the number of shooters matched against the fees charged should balance. The Club is required to make reports to the Arizona Game and Fish Commission showing how much the range is used. Signing in helps us provide this information. Finally, when we apply for NRA grants or Arizona Heritage Project funds for projects around the range we need to show how many people directly benefit from the project. Signing in is the best way to show this. So, you see, it is important to sign in at YOUR range.

Over the last two years the Minutes of the Board of Director's Meetings, past editions of the Ricochet newsletter, the By-Laws, the Agreement with the AZ. Game and Fish Commission, the Club's Policies and Procedures, and other similar information has been consolidated at the Activity Center Office. As a member, you are entitled to review these documents, and should. As a member, it is important for you to be informed on what your Club and its officers are doing on your behalf. Feel free to drop by during office hours and review these documents.

You will notice on this year's ballot for Executive Board officers the candidates are running unopposed. So why bother to vote? There are several reasons to do so. First, it is your obligation as a member of the Club to participate in helping to run it. Secondly, it shows your support for the candidates. I know from my own experience on the Board the more feedback and support I got, the more I wanted to do for the Club and its members. Finally, you will notice there is space (as always) on the ballot for write-in candidates. It is quite possible a write-in candidate could be elected if enough members decide not to vote for those listed, and preferred to write someone in. So regardless of what you decide to do, decide to vote.

Mike Janas
Secretary

From the Executive Officer

Did you know that you have a new Executive Officer? When the position became open in May, President Terry Abbott approached me about filling the remainder of the term. After an email vote from the full board and ratification at the last meeting, I assumed the position and am beginning to understand the tasks in front of me. We have several great projects for the range in the works and I am looking forward to providing support to see these through to completion. I have a few ideas of mine own that I will be presenting to the BOD and members.

Until then I look forward to shooting with you and serving the members, staff and range.

Gregg Harrington,
Executive Officer

From The Desk of the Chief Instructor

Rio Salado Sportsman’s Club will be sponsoring an NRA basic rifle class on August 4-5 2007. Time for the class is 8am-4pm each day (the second day may be shorter depending on the number of students).

The cost of the class is \$35 for non club members and \$30 for club members. Minimum age for students is 8 years old.

All training materials will be provided. Students will need to bring a .22 caliber rifle, and 50 rounds of ammunition, eye protection, hearing protection, and your lunch.

If students do not have a rifle, the club has some training rifles. These are youth rifles and may not fit the needs of some adults. Please let me know in advance if you will need a rifle.

To sign up, please call Craig Cox at 480 924 1551. Thank you.

Craig Cox
Chief Instructor

Get the Latest Range and Match Information
Go to the RSSC Web Page
www.riosaladosportsmans.com

Candidates for Executive Board 2007-2008

President

Elections for club offices are fast approaching. I have decided to once again run for the office of President. I would like to continue to serve RSSC and follow on with the many projects I and the board have initiated. A great deal of very positive progress has been made with the club facilities and operations. Over the last two years we have solved our septic system problems, completed the training bays, built a first class Sporting Clays course, made improvements to the main range and installed a new main range office as well as accomplishing many smaller projects. The board has applied for and received thousands of dollars in grant monies from NRA and Game and Fish to help with these projects. Current projects in process include a new maintenance building, expanding the parking area behind the training bays and expanding the parking at the main range by removing the old office. We are also installing a state of the art automated pay system for the sporting clays course that will improve our revenue from that range. We have a great range crew, a tremendous board, and many active members all working together make our range a great place to enjoy our sport.

With your support I would like to carry on with the job of keeping RSSC one of the top shooting facilities in the southwest.

Terry Abbott

Vice-President

Another year has simply flown by. It seems like yesterday that I asked for your vote as Vice President and you have honored me with that challenge for the last two years. The range activities of the last year have been incredible as the Executive Board worked well together to accomplish many of the tasks started the year before.

I have worked hard as your Vice President on the many varied aspects of what it takes to keep our range running smoothly. We are approaching 3,000 members so our **membership system** is vital to keeping in touch with our members via email as well as having the records accurately organized. Our **club webpage** and **computer systems** are maintained and expanded, and we are working very closely with AZ Game and Fish to keep our range **SAFE** and **OPEN**. We are soon to break ground on a new Maintenance Facility which is vital to all the on going operations of the range.

RSSC members are our most important resource and why the range is as great as it is. You want to shoot in a safe and fun place at a price that meets your budget. That takes a whole lot of work behind the scenes. The Board of Directors is responsible for that and I have been very proud to be a part of that team. More needs to be done. I would like your **VOTE for 2007-2008 VICE PRESIDENT** to help continue serving the best shooting club in the Southwest!

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

Pete Carstensen

Candidates for Executive Board 2007-2008

Secretary

No Candidate

Treasurer

My name is Arlee A. Janas. I am running for Treasurer of the Rio Salado Sportsman's Club, Inc. I have been serving as the Club Treasurer for Rio Salado Sportsman's Club since September 2005 to the present. I also served as the Club Treasurer from 2001-2002 and the Club President from 2002-2003. In the past couple of years, I have thoroughly researched and improved our financial structure so our money accounts work for the Club. I have been instrumental in stopping fraud attempts on our accounts. 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 Usery Mountain Shooting range in 1986. I have watched it grow and evolve to the great Club it is today. I am a competitive shooter, varmint shooter, and reload for both rifle and pistol. I am a current member of the National Rifle Association as required by our By-Laws. I am retired, therefore, I can again devote the time required to coordinate with the Insurance representatives, Vendors, Payroll, Corporation Commission, Financial Institutions, Credit Card server, Tax agencies, our 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. Janas

Candidates for Executive Board 2007-2008

Executive Officer

The RSSC By-Laws describe the position of Executive Office in part as “advising the President, Executive Board, Board of Directors and any employees of the club on the acquisition, remodeling, construction, maintenance and operations of all ranges and facilities.” My career history has closely paralleled the above statement having spent the last 12 years as VP of Fleet and Facilities responsible for the acquisition, maintenance and operations of over 4000 vehicles and 100 facilities across the country.

In December 2006 I left corporate America and now devote my time to our small firearms training organization using the RSSC facilities for CCW, security guard training and NRA Classes. I am an NRA member holding instructor certifications in multiple disciplines and a DPS Firearms Safety Trainer.

This year I was fortunate to fill in as Chief Instructor for two months and recently assumed the duties of Executive Officer when the position was vacated. It is my hope that the members of RSSC will allow me to continue in the role of Executive Officer and complete the work started.

Gregg Harrington

Chief Instructor

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 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 to 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.

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 wishing to learn.

Craig A. Cox

PROCEDURES FOR SEPTEMBER, 2007 ELECTION OF CLUB OFFICERS

1. Proxies will not be used in this election.
2. Voting will be by mail, as well as ballots put 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 08, 2007. 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, 2007. 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 08, 2007, 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.



Official Ballot
Rio Salado Sportsman's Club, Inc.
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF OFFICERS
Annual Election - September 08, 2007
PLEASE CHECK ONE FOR EACH OFFICE

PRESIDENT:

Terry ABBOTT

(Write-in Candidate)

VICE-PRESIDENT:

Pete CARSTENSEN

(Write-in Candidate)

SECRETARY

(Write-in Candidate)

TREASURER

Arlee A. JANAS

(Write-in Candidate)

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Gregg HARRINGTON

(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 08/31/07 OR you may drop at any time in the LOCK BOX at the Range until 2:00 pm 09/08/07.