



The Ricochet

JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 2008

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President:

Terry Abbott

Vice President:

Pete Carstensen

Secretary:

John Martin

Treasurer:

Arlee Janas

Executive Officer :

Kevin Kasper

Chief Instructor:

Craig Cox

Range Manager :

Bill Lagusis

Admin. Assist./Editor:

Cheryl Mauler

Weekend:

Courtney Murch

Historian:

Bob Shell

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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.

Time for Elections

2008—2009

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 and are enclosed in this newsletter. **The positions are for : President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Executive Officer, and Chief Instructor.**

The annual Members' Meeting will be September 13, 2008, 3:00 pm in the Activity Center at the range. Don't forget to check out the Members Swap Meet. It will be held on the Smallbore Range from 12:00 to 2:00.

Please vote for the Officer that will contribute in making this Shooting Range the best place for **you**, as a member.

The President's Column

In last month's column, I reported that we were ready to start on our maintenance building. Progress has been excellent and the building is up. By the time you read this we should be moving in. As soon as the old maintenance trailer up at the main range is vacated we will be hauling it out. Then we will revamp our main range parking lot to accommodate more vehicles, and improve the look of our most used range. An information kiosk will be part of the renovation as well. I also reported in my last column that we would be improving the berms on the pistol bays with our Game & Fish grant money. That has been done and as a result we have reopened the 300 yard line on the public range. As part of the berm project we also expanded the parking area behind the pistol bays on down behind the Hi-Power range. Numerous other smaller projects have also been accomplished. It has been a busy time at RSSC over the past few months. Kudos to the Range Manager and Range crew for keeping an eye on these major improvements as well as the day to day duties necessary to keeping our range in good shape. Kudos also to Paul Caudill for overseeing the maintenance building project. It looks great!!

On a less cheerful topic, but one we must consider, cost of operations is increasing. It should be no surprise to anyone that the cost of everything is going up. Fuel is the primary driver of most of this. Continued 

Got a Question, a Change of Address, email or other Membership Info?
Our Email address is: office@riosaladosportsmans.com

The President's Column continued

Not only has the direct cost of fuel for our equipment and vehicles gone up but almost everything else from porta-jons to cardboard has fuel surcharges attached to it. Two other areas of increased expenses are utilities and payroll. The Game & Fish department has just recently raised all the fees at Ben Avery to keep up with their operational expenses. Due to our aggressive pursuit of grants and general good fiscal management I do not think we will have to pursue increases of the same scale as Ben Avery. However, in order to keep ourselves in good financial condition, and plan for the future, the board will be evaluating necessary fee increases. This will be a tough decision, but better to have small increases now than be forced into a large increase in the future.

Terry Abbott
President
Email: president@riosaladosportsmans.com

From the Desk of the Chief Instructor

Well, here it is election time again. Hardly seems as if a year has passed, especially with all that has gone on with the range during this last year. We have a new maintenance building; higher safety berms on the pistol bay, the NFL had a wonderful shoot on the Sporting Clays range during Super Bowl weekend. Several NRA basic training classes were conducted, and the Range Safety officers attended a training class so they could once again carry firearms. Several of the Range Safety officers became certified in CPR, as well as certified in the use of our Automatic Emergency Defibrillator.

I realize that since the first quarter of the year, the NRA training classes have dropped off quite a bit. That was a circumstance that could not be helped due to family health matters, and work. I would like to make this up during the next year.

I have a couple of irons in the fire concerning future training that will be interesting, as well as working with the club and the NRA concerning next years convention in Phoenix. More on that in the next news letter.

“Keep your powder dry, aim straight, and hit your target”

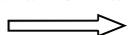
Craig Cox
Chief Instructor
chiefinstructor@riosaladosportsmans.com

From the Range Manager's Desk

What a great year! 2007 - 2008 has been very productive. Our Maintenance Building is nearly completed. The Sporting Clays Range has been upgraded so we can now hold Registered Matches. There has been new lighting added to the Smallbore Range which has been a real benefit to the new Bullseye Division as well as the Junior Division.

I would like to introduce 10 meter Air Gun Competition in our new Maintenance Building which would be a great way to introduce more juniors into this discipline. There has also been a need for this type of facility in the east valley for adults as well.

All these improvements could not have been done without the effort of a dedicated and forward looking Board of Directors.

Continued 

From the Range Manager's Desk continued

My wishes are that the new board will be as productive as the present board has been. Once again, kudos to the staff for their outstanding job performance. Without their efforts, this range wouldn't be what it is.

It's your Range, take good care of it.

Bill Lagusis
Range Manager
rangemanager@riosaladosportsmans.com

Hunter Education Course

SEPTEMBER 2008

(Sponsored by Arizona Game and Fish Dept.)

Course Details:

- **Class Dates:** Sept 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25 & Oct 2, 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:** Oct 4 at Rio Salado Sportsman's Club
- **Cost:** \$ 9.00 / student
- Attendance is Mandatory at all Classes to Graduate.

Course Registration:

- Register at the first class on Sept 9 from 6:30 to 7:00 at Poston Jr. High Cafeteria.
- **Combo Class** pre-register 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 graduate with certificate

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
Next Class Starts in JANUARY 2009

Candidates for Executive Board 2008 - 2009

Bios for President

Terry Abbott

Elections for club offices are once again fast approaching. Our bylaws permit a person to be re-elected for the same office four consecutive times. I have served as RSSC President for the past three years and so I am eligible for one more round. I am proud of the job that we have accomplished together and 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 that 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 three years we have completed the training bays, built a first class Sporting Clays course, made improvements to the main range and installed a new main range office. We have now have a maintenance building that befits a facility of our size. We have made improvements to the pistol bay berms and upgraded some of our range policies to improve the safety of all the customers and employees of our range. The board has applied for and received thousands of dollars in grant monies from NRA and Game and Fish to help with these projects. I will continue to pursue these grants that are so valuable in helping to improve our range and keep our costs down. We have a great range crew, a tremendous board, as well as many active members all working together to make our range a great place to enjoy our sport.

With your support I would like to continue with the great progress we have made together.

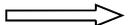
Bios for Vice President

Pete Carstensen

It's that time again. Once again it is up to you to decide who has the honor of earning your trust to serve our growing membership. When I first ran for office in 2005, we had no idea of how many members we had since the membership records were in a mess. Communications with the members relied pretty much on the quarterly mailing the *Ricochet* at a cost of well over \$1,000 each issue. The www.riosaladosportsmans.com website was also out of date and needed help. Even our membership cards were confusing since everyone got a new number each year and the renewal process was confusing.

As your VP, I have worked hard on many operational aspects of running our range, particularly having to do with supporting our members. The last three years have seen our membership grow to over 2,900 verified members. The membership records are now current and we have saved thousands of dollars by using email and a current webpage to let members know what is going on. My occasional **RSSC Bang!!** email messages are a terrific way that the Rio Board can provide timely, spam free, announcements to every member with an email address. I also pushed hard to get the office staffed on the weekend when most of our members come out so your questions could be answered by a person, not a machine (Thanks Courtney!!!). And perhaps just as importantly, our next generation is also poised to continue in our cartridge cases since almost 600 children of our members have their own blue junior cards and are a dynamic part of our shooting family.

The range itself is in better shape than it has ever been. Our soon to be opened **Maintenance Facility** will consolidate our equipment and finally allow us to clean up the old work trailer that is taking up precious parking spaces on the public range. It is such an eyesore too!! What more can be said about our **Sporting Clays** range that hasn't been touted by shotgun shooters throughout the Southwest and even

continued 

Candidates for Executive Board 2008 - 2009

Bios for Vice President

Pete Carstensen continued

by the XVII Superbowl Alumni Committee when Rio hosted their annual Charity Event this past February. **Safety** on our range is also improved with the addition of literally tons of dirtwork on the Practical and Smallbore ranges. Our commercial and educational instructors are enjoying the lighted Training Bays so CCW and other training classes are no longer taking practice time away from our member's range use.

Our future is bright as well. Our landlords, Arizona Game and Fish, constantly rank RSSC as one of the best run ranges in the state. We maintain excellent relationships with our neighbors and are good citizens in our community. We even cleaned up and started painting the PHOENIX sign but ran out of paint – but at least some of the 100' high letters look better! In May of 2009, the Annual Meeting of the NRA will be in Phoenix and you can bet that we want everyone to know how proud we are of our jewel in the desert.

I am asking that you give me the privilege of once again representing you on the Board as your Vice President. Much as been done but the work does not end. Terry Abbott and I have worked as a great team but we cannot do it without you. I heartily endorse Terry Abbott to be re-elected as President and hope that you will Re-Elect Pete Carstensen for Vice President in September of 2008.

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

Mike Janas

My name is Mike Janas, and I am running for Vice President. I want to become Vice-President because I believe there are things that need to be done at the range that aren't being taken care of, and I think as Vice President I could help get them done. Here's why I believe I have the experience to serve as Vice-President. I first joined the Club in 1987. I shoot many of the different matches, and am qualified to shoot on all the ranges. I am a reloader and varmint hunter. I am lucky enough to be retired, so I can devote my time to the Club. My work background includes over 20 years as a supervisor and manager, and I also served as an officer in the Naval Reserve. I believe this experience benefited the Club when I previously served on the Board of Directors – two terms each as the Small Bore Rifle Silhouette Division Director, Executive Officer, and Secretary. Some of the things I've accomplished are as follows. As Division Director I reconciled the Division's finances with the Club, got the Board to fix the Small Bore berms, and build the Small Bore Range retaining wall. As Executive Officer I got the Main Road paved, and the Main Range expanded (I did the paperwork to get the Game and Fish and NRA financial grants that helped fund that project, found contractors, and oversaw the work). When I was Secretary I overhauled the Club's administrative procedures and office files, as well as worked with the Board to revise the By-Laws and the Policies and Procedures. In Dec., 2006, I planned, initiated, and supervised the project that widened the Main Range. I'm proudest of helping to establish a scholarship program for children of the members. I took a break after serving as Secretary for two years. Now, after a year of "rest," I would like to serve as Vice President. If you see me around the range, let's talk, and tell me what you think. I ask for your support and your vote. Thank you.

Candidates for Executive Board 2008 - 2009

Bios for Secretary

John Martin

My name is John Martin. I am running for Secretary of the Rio Salado Sportsman's Club, Inc. I have been serving as Club Secretary since September 2007 to the present. I have been a member for 30 years and have served in the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and High Power Rifle Division Director in the past.

I am interested in increasing the number of Main Range shooting benches so that we can reduce the waiting time for shooters on the weekend. I am retired and can devote the time required to get the job done. I am asking for your vote and support.

Bios for Treasurer

No Candidate

Bios for Executive Officer

Kevin J. Kasper

My name is Kevin Kasper, and I am running for the Board of Directors as Executive Officer. I am currently serving as Executive Officer, having been appointed by the Directors in April to fill a vacancy. I would appreciate your vote to be elected to the position. I have been a member of RSSC since 2000. I am proud to be a Benefactor Life Member of the NRA as well as a Life Member of the Arizona State Rifle and Pistol Association. I am also certified with the NRA to instruct in both standard and muzzle-loading Rifle, Pistol and Shotgun disciplines. I also have certifications to teach in both Personal Protection Inside and Outside the Home. Formerly, I was the Small Bore Rifle Silhouette Director for four years, so I have experience serving with the Board of Directors. Since being appointed as Executive Officer I have been involved in the new maintenance complex, raising the pistol bay berms, and inventorying the structures on the range. I would like the opportunity to be Executive Officer to help Rio continue to be the finest range in the area. As you know, there are many on-going projects which continue to improve your range. I would enjoy the privilege of being involved in them with your approval. Thank you for your support.

Gift Certificates

Available for purchase in the Activity Center Office

****** Individual Membership—Family Membership—Daily Membership—Sporting Clays ******

Candidates for Executive Board 2008 - 2009

Bios for Chief Instructor

Craig Cox

This is my letter of intent to run once again for the office of chief instructor. I have held this position for the last three years, and would like to continue for one more term as the bylaws allow.

Training this year consisted mainly for the Range Safety officers, All received training so they can once again carry firearms while on duty, and they also receiver several also received CPD and AED training. We also have new range officers who are in need of range officer certification, but I have been waiting until they are off their probationary period so all can be trained at the same time. This will be done soon.

I have enjoyed being your chief instructor, and I know there are others who would also like this position. I am asking for another term in order to continue to bring quality training to club members as well as non members, and also to continue to work with the finest board this organization has ever had in order to represent the members of Rio Salado Sportsman' Club.

Jim Neff

My name is Jim Neff, some people call me "Jeff", and I'm running for the position of Chief Instructor of RSSC. I've been a member of RSSC for about ten years and among my qualifications are:

NRA Senior Training Counselor certified in all disciplines and all civilian shooting certifications. (Instructor, Instructor Trainer)

NRA Chief Range Safety Officer

NMLRA (National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association) Certified Range Safety Officer, an NMLRA Field Rep, and an NMLRA Muzzle Loading National Instructor.

Arizona Hunters Education Instructor.

Certified Muzzle Loading and Archery Instructor for 4H Shooting Sports.

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. RSSC is one of the premier shooting facilities in the country I would like to see it become **the** premier training facility in the country. While my main interest is muzzleloaders, I am qualified on all RSSC ranges and was a match director for a year prior to being a Division Head for two years. Since my service on the Board, I have served on committees and attend almost all Board meetings. By being active at Rio I have maintained my knowledge of actions and events at RSSC.

I am a CNC machinist by trade and I proudly served our country as a member of the United States Marine Corps. I started Generations Firearm Training LLC to share my dedication through the education of firearm safety.

Should I be chosen to represent the members of RSSC as the Chief Instructor, I will fill the position with pride, with honor, and with a standard of ethics and professionalism 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.

**PROCEDURES FOR SEPTEMBER, 2008
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 13, 2008. 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, 2008. 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 13, 2008, 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.

Swap Meet Reservations for Tables
Must be a member to reserve a table.
Contact the office for your table reservation.
All are welcome to shop!!!



Official Ballot
Rio Salado Sportsman's Club, Inc.
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF OFFICERS
Annual Election - September 13, 2008
PLEASE CHECK ONE FOR EACH OFFICE

PRESIDENT:

Terry ABBOTT

(Write-in Candidate)

VICE-PRESIDENT:

Pete CARSTENSEN

Mike JANAS

(Write-in Candidate)

SECRETARY

John MARTIN

(Write-in Candidate)

TREASURER

(Write-in Candidate)

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kevin KASPER

(Write-in Candidate)

CHIEF INSTRUCTOR

Craig COX

Jim NEFF

(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 08/31/08 OR you may drop at any time in the LOCK BOX at the Range until 2:00 pm 09/13/08.

RIO SALADO RICOCHET

3960 N. Usery Pass Road
Mesa, AZ 85207-9702

480-984-9610
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www.riosaladosportsmans.com