



The Rattler

**AUGUST
2021**

Official Newsletter of the Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility and the Tri-Cities Shooting Association, Inc.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Web: www.tcsa.info

Mailing Address:

TCSA
P.O. Box 785
Richland, WA 99352

TCSA OFFICERS

Mark Verwest	President	735-1662	mverwest1662@charter.net
George Hager	Vice-President	979-229-1615	george.hager@gmail.com
Randy Bayuk	Secretary	727-0177	45shooter@charter.net
Roberta Ensminger	Treasurer	628-0889	mikeberta4@gmail.com
Mike Ensminger	Chief RSO	521-9628	chiefrso@tcsa.info
Dan Martini	Member at Large	627-3198	dantini@charter.net
Jim Petrilli	Operations Officer	392-2012	jpenterprizes7@gmail.com
Rose-Iris Toberg	President Emeritus		



Sue Verwest
Newsletter and Membership
membership@tcsa.info or 735-1662

Greg Spencer
Range Safety Officer Scheduler
rsoscheduler@tcsa.info or 392-3649

Steve Scott
Range Use Request and Facebook
Events@tcsa.info

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By: **Mark Verwest**

If any of the Disciplines have projects they are contemplating, please let me know. This is the time of year that **Eagle Scouts** are looking for projects to earn badges. **The Scouts have done quite a few projects for us with great results.**

It is that time of year when we all need to stay hydrated. With the high heat and any exertion, it is easy to get dehydrated and not even notice.

**Fire danger in our fire district is
EXTREMELY HIGH**

A Reminder to our Members: We are a **Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP)** affiliated organization and your Membership in the TCSA fulfills some of the requirements to purchase firearms, ammunition and other merchandise from the Civilian Marksmanship Program.

ROSE-IRIS RANGE

**Hours of Operation
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday



**FLY THE FLAG
WE ARE UNITED AS ONE**

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By: **George Hager**

Howdy all! Not much to say this month. In case you haven't noticed it is hot, but all things in moderation can still be fun and not so onerous. Plan your range trips early, it is still in the 70's most mornings when the Range opens. **STAY HYDRATED!** Lastly, if the heat is too much, retire to the Range House at Rose-Iris or Shotgun, they are air conditioned, for a respite if needed. Do not be afraid to ask your friendly neighborhood RSO for help if you get to the point of feeling light-headed or faint. Better safe than sorry, we value all our members and patrons!

Other than providing shooters with a place to shoot in a safe and controlled manner, the TCSA also performs functions open to the public in several disciplines. One of these functions is to educate hundreds of our junior hunters each year through our **Hunter's Education Safety Association (HESA)**. As we are all aware, youth are our future! **Randy Absolon** and his volunteers are to be commended for the work they perform for our State Hunter Education Program. For the uninformed, the HESA Range is the one just south of the Rose-Iris Public Range. This Range provides overflow duty for RSO's on days when you can't buy a bench at Rose-Iris ... & no, you cannot buy a bench (when not reserved for other functions). That is one of the perks of becoming a Range Safety Officer (preferred seating in the "Back Room").

TCSA FACILITIES

ROSE-IRIS RANGE – A 100-yard range with 20 covered firing points. This day use Range Safety Officer supervised facility is operated for public use on a regularly scheduled basis Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

RIMFIRE PLINKING RANGE – A 50-yard 22-caliber Range Safety Officer supervised Shooting Range with reactive targets.

CENTERFIRE PLINKING RANGE – A 50-yard handgun pistol/revolver RSO supervised range with reactive targets for firearms using black powder or standard pistol cartridges.

COWBOY / PRACTICAL PISTOL BAYS – Ranges consisting of 13 bays of varying lengths designed to support a variety of action shooting disciplines such as; Practical (IPSC/ USPSA) 3-Gun Sports and Cowboy (SASS) groups.

Cowboy Action Representative – **Charles Kissler** – 783-8505
Nelson Thomas – 727-4678

Practical Pistol Representative – **Don Brown** – 582-6993

1000-YARD, HIGH-POWER RANGE – A Range consisting of 100, 200, 300, 600, 800, 900 & 1000-yard firing lines that can support 20 firing stations on each firing line (utilizes manned target operation). The 400-yard line has 5 firing stations and the 500-yard line has 10 firing stations. This Range supports High-Power Rifle, Long Range PALMA and Precision Shooting Events of various disciplines, including 50-Caliber.

High-Power Representative – **John Julian** – 308-0376

HUNTER EDUCATION RANGE: This Range has been designed to support Hunter Education Training Classes and also has a practical field exercise area containing obstacles hunters could expect to encounter in the field. The covered firing line can be used independently by current RSO's as an overflow from the Rose-Iris Range and may be available for RSO supervised public event use when not being used for the conduct of Hunter Education Classes.

Hunter Ed. Representative – **Randy Absolon** – 628-3899

PRIMITIVE USE RANGE: - A Range Area for muzzle loading and primitive Sagebrush Free Trappers reenactment events with parking, staging and various range areas.

Primitive Range Rep. – **Clint Bouslaugh** – 585-6415

SHOTGUN RANGE: Includes a set of two ATA regulation Trap Fields, two Skeet Ranges and a Sporting Clay Range supporting five firing stations and a Pattern Board.

Shotgun Representative – **Dave Otto** – 619-4494

“WELCOME” NEW MEMBERS

Welcome! In this Newsletter you can find the contact information for the Board Members and above you can find contact information for the different Ranges. The Ranges were built and are maintained by volunteers. We encourage you to get involved and be a part of TCSA.

New members from this past month should have already received their membership card(s). If you have not received your card, contact **Sue Verwest** at membership@tcsa.info or 735-1662.

Check out our TCSA web site www.tcsa.info for a variety of information. If you have decided not to receive a printed Newsletter by mail, it is posted on the web site the first week of each month.

HUNTER EDUCATION AND SAFETY ASSOCIATION

By: **Randy Absolon**

Good news, we are going to be able to hold **Classes this Fall**. WDFW expects to have everything set up for us to start offering Classes the weekend of **August 14 - 15**.



We are planning to offer evaluations for students who have completed the **Online Course** on **August 14, September 25** and **October 2**. To meet the guidelines we have to follow, class size will be limited to 15 students.

I had hoped to have more clarity by the time I wrote this article, but right now I am not sure how we are going to do the registration. When that gets finalized, the information will be posted on the **Hunter Education page** of the WDFW website.

Hunting seasons are right around the corner, so make sure you make plans for completing **Hunter Education** if you need it. **In Washington, that means anyone born after January 1, 1972**. If you are planning on hunting out of state, make sure you check the rules for that state, one state (Colorado) requires Hunter Ed for anyone born after January 1, 1949.

Students who are age 9 or older can still complete the entire course through the Online process. Younger students will have to complete the field exercise in person.

RSOs using the HESA Range are expected to sign in at the Rose-Iris Range before going over to the HESA Range to shoot. You are also expected to clean up after you are done shooting, including returning target stands to the Rose-Iris Range House and picking up all brass.

Always remember to control the direction of your muzzle, be sure of your target and what lies beyond it, keep your finger off the trigger until you are ready to shoot and never use a firearm unless you are familiar with how it works.

If you have questions about our **Hunter Education Classes** you can contact me at absolon@gorge.net

RATTLESNAKE WARNING

Always be aware of your surroundings. Watch where you step and when you reach for things!



CHIEF RSO REPORT

By: **Mike Ensminger**



So far, the Rose-Iris Range has stayed pretty busy despite the heat and the ammo/component shortage, although there have been a few quiet afternoons.

We always intend to be open as scheduled, but keep an eye on the TCSA Facebook page or the home page of the website (www.tcsa.info) before driving out, as it will reflect any surprise closures.

RSO INFORMATION

RSO Questions / Concerns
Chief RSO - **Mike Ensminger**
chiefrso@tcsa.info or 509-521-9628

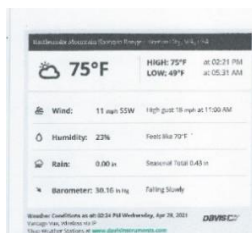
RSO Access Key Cards or RSO Badges are not to be used in place of or as a substitute for a Membership Card.

RSOs must have their Membership Card confirming they are a current RSO. **Without your current Membership Card, you will need to pay the \$10.00 Daily Use Fee and shoot with the general public.**

ALL MEMBERS MUST show their **CURRENT 2021 Membership Card** to the RSO on duty upon arrival at the Range. Membership Cards need to be shown at **all Ranges and all Events or you will be required to pay the non-member Range Use Fee. EVERYONE must sign-in!**



Check out the weather before you head to the Range!
www.tcsa.info



RANGE SAFETY OFFICER CLASS

By: **Dan Martini**

The next **RSO Class** is scheduled for **Friday September 24**. The Class will start at 8 a.m. at the Shotgun Range House and last until about 3 p.m.

You will need to be a current TCSA Member before September 1 to allow your Membership to be processed before your name can be added to the RSO Class list. If you are not a current member, either join at the Range or download the TCSA Membership Application form from our website at www.tcsa.info, fill it out and send the Membership form along with your \$50 OR \$75 check to the address on the form.

To get your name on the Class list send an e-mail message to me with your TCSA Membership number to dantini@charter.net.

ADVANTAGES OF BEING A RANGE SAFETY OFFICER

The advantages of being a RSO and obligating yourself as a volunteer at TCSA means that on days when the Range is not open to the general public - YOU - as a RSO can use the Range. Having gone through the RSO Training Class and volunteering your time you are able to go to the Range any time you like!

To become an RSO, you must be a **current member**, **attend the RSO Training Class** and obligate yourself to **volunteer at the Range three to four times a year**.

If you or someone you know would like to attend the next RSO Training Class or would like more information about becoming a **Range Safety Officer**, contact **Dan Martini** at Dantini@charter.net or at 627-3198.

This is on the Home Page – www.tcsa.info

TCSA PUBLIC MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 12
7:00 p.m.
SHOTGUN RANGE HOUSE

RATTLESNAKE MOUNTAIN STEEL SHOOTERS

By: Mike and Robbie Ensminger



The **July ISSA Match** had 31 guns competing, even though it was held on July 4. I suspect everyone had plenty of time to get to the barbecue afterward.

The **August Match** will be behind us by the time you read this, but we plan to be out there every first Sunday throughout the year.

If it gets particularly hot or cold, check the TCSA Facebook page before making the drive to see if we wimped out.

Shooter's meeting is at 9:15 and you must be in attendance to shoot.

COWBOY ACTION

By: Mike and Robbie Ensminger



We had 18 shooters at the **July Match**, and even though we were off the Range by about noon we were surprised everyone made it all the way through in the heat. One of the few times no one complained about the wind blowing during a shoot.

We will be out there again **August 28** and kicking things off at 9:15.

* * * * *



Hearing and Eye protection required when shooting!



* * * * *



Write a review and share your opinion about TCSA's Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility! Let us know how we are doing. Contact **Steve Scott** with questions or comments at Events@tcsa.info

Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility/TCSA
<https://www.facebook.com/RMSFTCSA/>.

PRIMITIVE RANGE

By: Clint Bouslaugh

July's Shoot was a hot day. I had a good time with my newest .50 Cal. percussion rifle, getting familiar with how it shoots and sighting it in.

The **August Shoot** is scheduled for the 21st from 9:00 a.m. until noon.

Come on out and have some single shot fun. We normally shoot paper targets, but we do have some steel buffalo silhouette targets. If you prefer longer range shooting, there are two hanging targets in front of the shooting bench at 135 and 145 yards.

If you come out, be sure to bring plenty of water. As always, we are willing to share or knowledge and experience with new shooters.



~~ FIRE SEASON ~~

Please use Extra Caution!



* * * * *

CHECK OUT THE TCSA WEB-PAGE

www.tcsa.info

- Calendar of Events
- Range Photos
- Shooting Venues
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Items For Sale
- TCSA Forms
- Monthly Newsletter
- Weather
- Range Rules
- Banned Ammo

HIGH-POWER

By: John Hauptmann

Despite the heat we are charging through the Summer with **Smallbore Matches** on the **3, 8, 10, 12, 15, 17, 21** and **24**; **Service Rifle Practice** on the **3, 10, 17, 24** and **31** and a **Service Rifle (RMC) Match** on the **28th**; a **500 Yard Prone Slow Fire Match** on the **20th**; **Long-Range Practice** on the **13th** and **Long-Range F-Class Points Series Match** on the **14th**. Our full **2021 Match Schedule**, Match Director contact, and Match Programs are posted on our High-Power web page at <https://www.tcsahighpower.org/>.

RANGE CLOSURES or MATCH REVISIONS: None

The following COVID adjustments to Match Operations will remain in place for the 2021 Match season:

- Social distancing is encouraged and will be maintained to the extent possible.
- If you have been vaccinated you don't need to wear a mask; no verification of vaccination is required.
- As a general courtesy, try to bring exact match fees and your own writing instruments / tablets.
- State and County guidelines will be followed.

RANGE CONDITIONS: The Range remains in good shape, but please use common sense and keep your speed down, particularly on the corners. **Drive only on the graveled areas and avoid any activities that may cause a fire. Report all fires immediately!**



HIGH-POWER RSO ENDORSEMENT: For any interested TCSA RSO, the 1KYD High Power Endorsement Training is currently being scheduled on an as-needed basis. It only takes an hour, and allows you unrestricted access to the High-Power Range outside our scheduled Matches. The only prerequisite is that you be a current TCSA RSO. Please contact **John Hauptmann** with questions or to schedule your training.

HIGH-POWER CONTACTS: **John Julian** High-Power Chairman at 509-308-0376 / b24jci@gmail.com or **John Hauptmann** High-Power Secretary at 509-308-9230 / jlhauptmann@gmail.com if you have questions about an Event or how to get involved with High-Power at any level or discipline. Please keep an eye on our **Facebook** page at TCSA High-Power and our **web page** at:

www.tcsa.info/disciplines/highpower for additional details, match highlights, photos and related links.

PRACTICAL PISTOL



By: Pam Harper



USPSA National Range Officers Institute, **NROI**, has a website that has valuable information about the Rules and interpretations of the Rules. Check it out at <https://nroi.org/templates-and-other-resources/>

NATIONAL NEWS: www.uspsa.org

The dates for USPSA Nationals 2021, at CMP Talladega Marksmanship Park in Alabama, have been released <https://uspsa.org/nationals>

The USPSA Rules:

[https://uspsa.org/documents/rules/2019_USPSA_Competiti on Rules.pdf](https://uspsa.org/documents/rules/2019_USPSA_Competiti_on_Rules.pdf) can be downloaded for easy access or get the **USPSA App** at <https://uspsa.org/app> for your phone.

The Steel Challenge Rules <https://uspsa.org/viewer/2021-SCSA-Rulebook-March-2021.pdf> can be downloaded for easy access.

LOCAL NEWS: The **Steel Challenge July Match** had 13 guns with 6 divisions represented. The Division winners were: RFRO: **Mike Czebotar** (overall winner); RFPO: **Mike Czebotar**; PCCO: **Curt Berger**; CO: **Dan Gookin**; Limited: **Curt Berger**; RFPI: **Randy Bayuk**. Complete Results at: <https://clubs.practiscore.com/results/html/994a030a-328d-4d77-ac5d-20046c1cd188>

The **USPSA Monthly July Match** had 45 competitors with 7/8 USPSA Divisions represented. The Division winners were: PCC: **David Blosser** (overall winner); Carry Optics: **Aaron Laws**; Limited: **Craig Worrell**; Open: **Mark Bradley**; and Production: **Warren Harper**; Revolver: **Gerald Ashbeck**; Single Stack: **Brian Humann**.

Complete Results at:

https://clubs.practiscore.com/results/new/141767?q_division=0

COMING UP: **EWPSA** will be hosting a **Fun 2-Gun in the Sun Match August 8**. Registration should be done on Practiscore at <https://clubs.practiscore.com/ewpsa-2021-08-fun-2-gun-in-the-sun/register>. Gate will open at 9:00 a.m., new shooter briefing at 9:30 a.m., shooting begins at 10:00 a.m. Results will be posted on Practiscore, search EWPSA.

EWPSA will be hosting their monthly **USPSA Match August 15**. Registration should be done on Practiscore at <https://clubs.practiscore.com/ewpsa-2021-08/register>. Gate will open at 9:00 a.m., new shooter briefing at 9:30 a.m., shooting begins at 10:00 a.m. Results will be posted on Practiscore, search EWPSA.

Next **Steel Challenge Match** will be held **September 12**. Registration should be done on Practiscore at <https://clubs.practiscore.com/ewpsa-2021-09-steel-challenge/register>.

Check out our Inland Empire Section News at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/267093763957174/?ref=bookmarkmarks>

Check out local news on Facebook –

[Eastern Washington Practical Shooters Association](https://www.facebook.com/EasternWashingtonPracticalShootersAssociation)

Any questions or comments can be directed to **Don Brown** at dl_brown@charter.net.

SHOTGUN REPORT

By: Mark Monopoli

I am not even sure where to start this month. There are a couple of storylines for this episode of "As the Shotgun Range Turns" and staying true to past Shotgun Reports, we are very loose with the "facts", closer to hearsay really and what you are about to read has very little relevance to actually shooting shotguns.

First up, good deeds gone wrong in an odd sort of way. Our *King of the 5-Stand*, **Phil Volkman**, likes to help when he can. Phil is not scared to help mow the lawn, pull weeds, offer unsolicited advice, run the 5-Stand, etc. Which makes Phil spraying weeds one morning almost un-noteworthy. Phil took the initiative to mix up some weed killer in the new sprayer and set out to decimate any little weed he could find. Phil mixes weed killer like most of us, if a little will do the job, a lot will do the job a whole lot better! Let us just say Phil was using a hot load that morning and the weeds shriveled on contact.

Everyone should know by now **Dave Otto** wanted to be a lumberjack when he grew up and his favorite tool of all time is a chainsaw. If a tree even gets the least bit out of line, it is getting cut down, even our original flagpole looked too much like a tree for Dave and it got cut down. Nothing is safe from that man. Que the odd part of the story. Did you know Dave has a favorite tree? I kid you not, the third tree out on Trap field #2 had a special place in Dave's heart and was his favorite. Pretty sure he even named it, I'm guessing something like "Woody", or maybe "Branchy", but Dave won't admit to it.

Now back to Phil and his napalm like weed killer. Apparently, there were some weeds growing in the vicinity of Dave's favorite tree and Phil killed said weeds like the boss he is. You can probably guess this is where Phil's good deed goes wrong. The "hot" weed killer leached into the ground enough to kill off Dave's favorite tree and now Dave is very sad. In lieu of flowers Dave asks for bottles of tequila to be donated to his household. Phil has subsequently been banned from using a weed sprayer at the Range ever again. Phil did not appear upset by this.

There is a turf war brewing at the Shotgun Range again. This time the battlefield is in the shop building and is between the Lawnmower Clan and the Target Loading Clan. Actually, I am starting the turf war right now, as I haven't seen Rick yet to let him know we are at war. **Rick "I'm in hiding" Poehls** has been working on a lawn sweeper to help pick up target chips off the fields. The end goal of course is to help mechanize the process and save time. The problem is that when the sweeper is hooked to the lawnmower the darn thing is 16' long, and then they park it right in the middle of the shop, between the forklift and the pallets of targets. The Target Loading

clan does not approve of this, hence the turf war. Seems like a trivial thing, but it is what it is.

We have another landscaping project that will be underway by the time you read this. The hillside between the Skeet field and the 5-Stand Field is getting a makeover. There will be a short rock retaining wall at the bottom of the hill and then some hardscaping and a new set of stairs going in as well. This should serve the purpose of making that hill look a little nicer and make access to the 5-Stand field a little better to boot. We do not expect any Range closures associated with this work.

Chad Ungerecht is rumored to be getting ready for several fun shoots this Fall, so keep an eye out for more details soon. We will get dates posted in the Shotgun Report as well as in the Shotgun Range House.

5-Stand is OPEN for business on most Sundays at 9:00 a.m.! Phil has been setting some really good courses, so come on out and join the fun! One thing to note, if you are going to shoot be sure to get there at 9:00 a.m. or close to it. 5-Stand is only open while we have shooters, once everyone is done it gets shut down for the day. Later this summer **5-Stand League** will be making its triumphant return! 5-Stand League is arguably the best damn league ever!

Safety is priority one whether you are shooting trap, skeet or 5-stand. If you see something, say something.

We need some help from everyone, if we all could take a few minutes and pick up some of the target chips off the Skeet field each time you shoot, it would help a great deal with maintaining our lush lawn and keep the mower of lawns sane.

RSO INFORMATION

The 2021 Shotgun Schedule is posted to www.tcsashotgun.com if you have any question as to when your duty days are.

Remember current Membership Cards need to be presented every time you sign in to avoid the Daily Range Fee.

SHOTGUN RANGE HOURS

Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Current weather conditions at the Range can be found at www.tcsashotgun.com and www.tcsa.info.

Thanks for reading! If you have anything useful to share feel free to drop me an email at mark.monopoli@outlook.com



Like us on Facebook! Or don't...
[@rattlesnakemountainshotgun](https://www.facebook.com/rattlesnakemountainshotgun)