



The Rattler

JANUARY
2023

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

GENERAL INFORMATION:

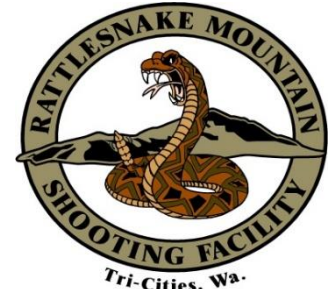
Web: www.tcsa.info

Mailing Address:

TCSA
P.O. Box 785
Richland, WA 99352

TCSA OFFICERS

Mark Verwest	President	509.735.1662	mverwest1662@charter.net
George Hager	Vice-President	979.229.1615	george.hager@gmail.com
Randy Bayuk	Secretary	509.727.0177	g34_shooter@icloud.com
Roberta Ensminger	Treasurer	509.628.0889	mikeberta4@gmail.com
Mike Ensminger	Chief RSO	509.521.9628	chiefrso@tcsa.info
Dan Martini	Mbr at Large	509.627.3198	dantini@charter.net
Chuck Nay	Oper. Officer	509.572.7115	chuckmail60@gmail.com
Rose-Iris Toberg	President Emeritus		



Sue Verwest
Newsletter and Membership
membership@tcsa.info or 509.735.1662

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By: Mark Verwest

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and wish all of you a wonderful New Year!

With winter here, there could be some unexpected Range closures due to bad weather. In those cases, we will try to keep the web site updated and post notices on our Facebook page.

The Cultural Survey on the new 100 Meter 22 Range was completed and submitted. When we get the final approval, we will be able to start the construction of the new Range. Along with that, we also plan to pave the parking lot at Rose-Iris. Hopefully we will get that accomplished sometime in the spring. The Paving Project should only impact the use of the Range for a few days. Any closures will be posted on the website and our Facebook page.



ROSE-IRIS RANGE

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

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday



WISHING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY
A HAPPY NEW YEAR

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

By: Sue Verwest

Happy 2023! With the start of a new year comes the start of "Renewal Season." We currently have just over 2,600 members! To the members who have already sent in their renewals for this coming year, - thank you!

Membership Renewal forms can be found on our web site www.tcsa.info under the tab "Join/Renew". Membership Renewal Forms are also available at both the Rose-Iris Range and the Shotgun Range. Print out a Membership Form or get one from the Range and send in your renewal. Your early renewal will ensure you receive your Membership card in time for your next visit to the Range.

As in the past -- we have a firearm which will be given away to one lucky winner who renews **early**. The firearm is a **Ruger 10/22**. You will double your chance of winning if your renewal is post marked / received by **FEBRUARY 28**. You will have a single entry if your renewal is post marked / received during the month of MARCH. The drawing for the Ruger will take place at the General Membership Meeting in May.

Those who renew early will also receive a coupon from **Sportsman's Warehouse**. Coupons will be given away on a first come basis.

Adult Membership - \$50.00
Spousal Membership - \$75.00
Junior Members wanting a Membership Card - \$10.00
Printed Newsletter - \$10.00



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 Rep. – **Charles Kissler** – 509.783.8505

Nelson Thomas – 509.727.4678

Practical Pistol Rep. – **Don Brown** – 509.582.6993

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 Rep. – **John Julian** – 509.308.0376

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. Rep. – **Randy Absolon** – 509.845.3632

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** – 509.585.6415

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 Rep. – **Mark Monopoli** – 509.531.6929

“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 509.735.1662.

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**

Registration is open for our **January – February Traditional Class** on the **WDFW website**. It will be held 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. on Monday and Thursday evenings from **January 23 – February 9**, with a range day on **Saturday morning February 4**.



Registration is also open for **Online Student Evaluations** for **March 4, March 18, April 1 and May 15**. These Classes take most of the day and start at the HESA Range in the morning, then move in to the Richland Community Center in the afternoon.

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 when you are done shooting, including returning target stands to the Rose-Iris Range House and picking up brass.

Always remember to treat every firearm as if it was loaded, 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 cross obstacles with a loaded firearm.

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

TCSA PUBLIC MEETING

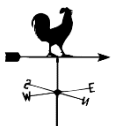
THURSDAY, JANUARY 12
7:00 p.m.

Richland Public Library



The Winter months are here! **Check the road conditions** before driving out to the Range. **If at anytime we need to close the Range due to weather conditions we will post it on the Website and Facebook.**

WEATHER CONDITIONS at the Range can be found on our homepage -



CHIEF RSO REPORT

By: **Mike Ensminger**



We have already had a couple of Range closures due to the weather and road conditions, so I hope everyone is getting in the habit of checking the web page to see what's going on.

If the roads look particularly bad you can always call the Range to make sure we are open before you make the drive out there.

The **Rose-Iris Duty Day Calendar** is up and running for the **2023 Duty Year**. You will be able to access it when your renewed membership is processed. If you have already sent in your renewal you can expect to see your new card about the middle of this month and will then be able to schedule your 2023 / 2024 Range Dates. If you have any problems with the on line sign up, give me a call and I will help you.

RSO INFORMATION

RSO Questions / Concerns
Chief RSO - Mike Ensminger
chiefrso@tcsa.info or 509.521.9628

ALL MEMBERS MUST show a current **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!**



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 a RSO Training Class and obligate yourself to volunteer at the Range three times a year.

To get your name on the next 2023 RSO Training Class list, send an e-mail message to **Dan Martini** at dantini@charter.net with your name and TCSA Membership Number. You will receive an email message when a firm class date has been setup.

RATTLESNAKE MOUNTAIN STEEL SHOOTERS

By: **Mike Ensminger**



We had one of our smallest Matches ever in December and it got even smaller after we started shooting and several of us opted to back off to one gun. The most interest seemed to be in simply getting done and getting off the Range to get warmed up.

The **January Match was canceled** due to Range Closures for New Year's Day, so the next Match scheduled will be **February 5**.

If you care who you are squadded with plan to show up early or send us an email ahead of time with names and number of guns each to mikeberta4@gmail.com.

Shooter's meeting is mandatory and starts at 9:15.

COWBOY ACTION

By: **Mike Ensminger**



No Match was held in December. Between bad weather and a lack of interest shooting Christmas Eve, we decided to cancel.

If the weather cooperates, we should be back on our regular schedule in **January**, shooting at 9:15 on the **28th**. If the weather looks bad check the web page before driving out.

PRIMITIVE RANGE

By: **Clint Bouslaugh**

The Primitive Range will continue with our monthly shoots during 2023. Primitive shoots will be canceled due to extreme cold weather, 20 degrees or less at starting times.

The monthly shoot is held on the third Saturday of the month at 9:00 a.m. to noon.




Hearing and Eye protection required when shooting!



SHOTGUN REPORT

By: Mark Monopoli

Ready or not the New Year is upon us! Unfortunately, the end of 2022 brought cold temperatures, and more snow than we've had during December in several years. Hopefully Mother Nature is going to get this winter weather out of her system and we can move onto an early spring.

It may have been cold and slightly foggy, but the **2022 Christmas Shoot** went off swimmingly! Once again **Chad Ungerecht** was the ringleader for our little circus of trap shooters. We had 45 participants show up on December 18 from a wide range of areas around the Columbia Basin. With the (2) trap fields running most of the morning and shooters doing what shooters do, we gave away all 240 lbs. of the bacon from Hills Meats. You can never go wrong with bacon as a prize. 

Trap 1, better known as the "amateur" trap was once again under the watchful eyes of **Mike Peale** and **Lyle Laughery**. With shooter experience ranging from "first time ever" to "sandbagger extraordinaire" Mike and Lyle do a very good job of keeping the games going and fun for everyone. By the sheer number of empty shells on the ground I'd say everyone had a good time up there.

Chad, Steve Williams and others ran Trap 2, more commonly known as the "professional" trap. I only refer to it as the professional trap because the shooters who shoot these "meat" shoots on a regular basis are very good at shooting from distances that outpace my abilities. Either way, it is still a good time being on the line with everyone and you should come out and give it a try.

There is a lot of hard work that goes into any shoot that is put on at Rattlesnake. The heavy lifting for the Turkey and Christmas Shoots is taken care of by **Chad Ungerecht** and his wife **Paulyn**. Chad does a good job of getting the word out to everyone, visiting **Sportsman's Warehouse** and **Ranch and Home** for give-aways and sourcing and picking up the meat of choice for the particular shoot. While Chad does all of that, Paulyn does the important work of feeding everyone and let me tell you, she is a great cook. **Thanks to you both for all of your hard work each year!**

With 2022 coming to an end, it is always interesting to see how the numbers for the year panned out. The Shotgun Range saw 4,100 visitors with 500 of those visitors coming from outside of the Tri-City area. We threw approximately 240,000 targets across (2) trap fields, (1) skeet field and a very well run 5-Stand field. We have the lowest shooting cost of any other Shotgun Facility in our general area and we are in a strong position moving into the new year.

Speaking of the New Year, we are working on putting on a couple more shoots in 2023. Details are still fluid at this point, but we are looking at putting on a **Trap Shoot**, a **Skeet Shoot** and I am sure **John Wilgus** will host the **Sub-Gauge Shoot** again. **Don Klages** is working on a **SxS/Pump Shoot** and the ever-popular **Bird Shot Challenge** which pits **Rattlesnake** against the **Walla Walla/Milton-Freewater** crew will happen once again. **Skeet League** is going to return during the month of May with **Dave Otto** in charge. **5-Stand League** should return this year as well, look for it as summer starts to give way to fall.

Thank you to everyone who makes the Rattlesnake Mountain Shotgun Range such a great place to shoot! We have a beautiful facility (when the weather cooperates) and we have a great group of volunteers who keep the wheels on and spinning in the right direction.

The **Shotgun Range is open until 3:00 p.m. on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays**. We do not close the Range early because there are no shooters. Just because there is no one there at 1:00 p.m., does not mean someone won't show up at 2:00 p.m. It is not a short drive out to the Range and we owe it to our fellow shooters to be open during our posted hours.

With the inevitable winter weather rolling in please be careful on the sidewalks and the trap and skeet fields as they can be icy in the morning. There is ice melt in the backroom of the range house that can be used on any slick spots. Also be careful on the steps down into the trap houses and the ramp into the high-house on the skeet field.

With membership renewal season coming up, please remember if you take a TCSA Membership application, whether it is a renewal or a new member, you must provide that person with one of the Temporary Membership Cards found in the RSO briefcase. Be sure they understand that until they get their new membership card in the mail, they need to present the temporary card to avoid paying the Daily Range Fee. Membership cards are mailed out promptly, but still may take 3-4 weeks to reach them.

SHOTGUN RSO INFORMATION

Remember current Membership Cards need to be presented **every time** a shooter signs in if they want 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! Feel free to drop me an email at mark.monopoli@outlook.com about anything at all.



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

HIGH-POWER

By: Dave Baalman

Our schedule is up for the **2023 Calendar Year** at <https://www.tcsahighpower.org/> Our only competition scheduled for January is a **Precision Rifle 22 Match** on **January 14**. This Match will be held at the HESA Range adjacent to the Rose-Iris Public Range.

Also on our High-Power website, you will also find our updated records list and we had some new records set in 2022. **Adam Maxwell, Mike Sowa, Mike McCutchen, Tom Hubbard, Jeremy Smith, Gary Rasmussen, Tom Halecki, Mark Chindavat** and **Ben Cook** all set new Rattlesnake records in various disciplines. **Phil Keuhlen** also had high scores in two new disciplines not previously fired at Rattlesnake.

The High-Power Range remains open for RSO's with a High-Power Endorsement but **PLEASE** be aware of the weather conditions before you head out. Significant snow combined with the ever-present wind will cause drifts all over the facility, which can make the roads completely impassable. We have spent a lot of money on the roads recently and don't want you to tear them up by getting stuck in a snow drift. **If there is any risk of damage to the roads, consider the Range closed!**

We shoot a lot of varying disciplines at the High-Power Range, so we have decided to use up a bit of Newsletter space each month describing one of the disciplines a bit. We will feature a different discipline each month, so be sure to check us out in the coming months.

This month we are going to take a look at a few of the **Long-Range Disciplines**, such as **NRA Long Range, Palma** and **F-Class**. We are lumping these together here because they are often lumped together in matches. All are fired at the same yardages (typically 800, 900 and 1000) and all are fired from the prone position. They can all be fired on the same firing line at the same time just by varying the number of shots in each string and the scoring rings on the target. The latter is especially easy now with electronic targets, the aiming black is the same size, so we don't have to change the target face, just the electronic scoring calculations made by the system.

Palma is what you might call the most "old school" of the Long-Range Disciplines, it is fired prone with a sling, with a purpose-built single shot rifle chambered in either .223 or .308, using match quality iron sights. Most Palma rifles have very long barrels to get the most performance out of what are somewhat limited cartridges, with the added benefit of a longer sight radius too.

NRA Long Range is fired with match or service rifles, similar to across the course high-power that we discussed last month. Also added in there is the "Any Rifle" Class, which is not much different than a match

rifle-except that a single shot rifle falls into this class. Like Palma it is fired prone with a sling, but there is no restriction on the cartridge or the sighting system for match or any rifles. Normal service rifle restrictions on action, cartridge and optic still apply, but if you don't fit in the service rifle class you do fit in the match rifle class.

F-Class is what you might call the opposite of Palma. It is fired prone, but instead of a sling, shooters can use a bipod or tripod and a rear rest. There is no limit on optics and there are two classes controlled by the cartridge. F-TR is for rifles chambered in .223 or .308, and F-Open is for anything else. This discipline is extremely popular and it is a great place to get started in long range. Just about any rifle/ammo combo that will remain supersonic at 1000 yards will get you started in F-Class and you can add or improve your gear as you progress.

All of these disciplines are fired in various Long-Range Matches throughout the year at Rattlesnake, check the Match Programs to see which Matches are open to which classes and for courses of fire etc.



High-Power contacts: **John Julian** High-Power Chairman - 509.308.0376 / b24jcg@gmail.com

John Hauptmann High-Power Secretary
509.308.9230 / jlhauptmann@gmail.com

HIGH-POWER 2023 CALENDAR AND MATCH DESCRIPTIONS

By: Ron Jorgensen

The **High-Power Range Calendar of Events and Match Descriptions** for 2023 have been updated. The new calendar is now available on the High-Power website, www.tcsahighpower.org. The **Smallbore .22 Caliber Match** descriptions are revised and are available on the website. Most of the **Large Caliber Match** descriptions have also been updated. The Match descriptions provide detailed information on how the match will be run and include a complete listing with dates for the match being described. Take a look at the match descriptions and mark your calendars for the matches you want to participate in.

A total of **63 Smallbore .22 LR Matches** have been scheduled. A new **.22 LR 100 Yard Mini-Palma Match** has been added and shooters will be required to use ammunition provided. Use of ammunition provided is an attempt to help level the playing field. The cost of the ammunition will be included in the match fees.

The year will start with a **PR22 Match** at HESA on **January 14** with Match set up on the 13th. The first

large caliber match is **March 18** to shoot a **Long Range V2 Points Series Match**. Changes to matches will be posted on the entry page on the High-Power website. It is suggested that you review the website for changes or match cancellations prior to heading out to the Range. Do not rely on the tcsa.info general calendar for the latest match information.

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>

TIDBITS: EWPSA will be hosting a USPSA Level 1 RO Seminar, scheduled for **March 18** and **19**. Information is available by logging in to [USPSA.org](https://uspsa.org), then click here <https://USPSA.org/seminars/details/392>. \$65 includes the seminar and lunch on Saturday and Sunday's Match. Questions can be addressed to **Pam Harper** at EWPSA.sectional@gmail.com

NATIONAL NEWS: www.uspsa.org

The dates for USPSA Nationals 2023 have been released <https://uspsa.org/nationals>

The **USPSA Rules** <https://uspsa.org/viewer/USPSA-Competition-Rules-Sep-2021.pdf> can be downloaded to your phone for easy access.

LOCAL NEWS: All **EWPSA Match** results can be found at <https://bit.ly/EWPSAscores>

The monthly **2-Gun Match** on December 3 had 19 competitors with 4 Divisions represented. The Division winners were: Open: **Grant Fujimoto** (overall winner); Armored: **Jonathan Choi**; Retro: **Parker Rollison**; and Tactical: **Dale Lybbert**.

The monthly **2-Gun Side Match** on December 3 had 12 competitors with 4 Divisions represented. The Division winners were: Retro: **Parker Rollison**; Armored: **Jonathan Choi**; Open: **Nancy Martin**; and Tactical: **Hannah Hartman**.

The **USPSA** December 18 Match had 13 competitors with 5/8 USPSA Divisions represented. The Division winners were: Open: **Ryan Barnes** (overall winner); Carry Optics: **Curt Berger**; Limited: **James Thomas**; Limited10: **Stephen Froehlich**; and PCC: **Rich Nelson**.

COMING UP: All **upcoming EWPSA Matches and registrations** can be found at Practiscore.com: <https://bit.ly/EWPSAmatches>

EWPSA will be hosting a **Monthly 2-Gun Monthly Match** on **January 7**. Gate will open at 9:30 a.m., shooting begins at 10:00 a.m. The match costs \$20. More details on Practiscore.

EWPSA will be hosting their monthly **USPSA Match** on **January 15**. Gate will open at 9:00 a.m., new shooters briefing at 9:30 a.m., shooting begins at 10:00 a.m. The match costs \$15 TCSA members, \$20 non-TCSA members, and juniors shoot for free. More details on Practiscore.

Check out our Inland Empire Section News at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/267093763957174/?ref=bookmarks>

Check out local news on Facebook – [Eastern Washington Practical Shooters Association](#)

Any questions or comments can be directed to **Don Brown** at dlbrown10x@gmail.com



LIFE / ENDOWMENT / PATRON / BENEFACTOR MEMBERS

It is time to update your information. Please complete a Membership Renewal form with the Personal Information filled in ... or email this information to **Sue Verwest** at membership@tcsa.info. Thank You!



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/>.



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



Check out the "For Sale" items on our web-site www.tcsa.info

Send your "For Sale" or "Wanted" items to membership@tcsa.info

