



The Rattler

OCTOBER
2022

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

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Web: www.tcsa.info

Mailing Address:

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TCSA OFFICERS

Mark Verwest	President	509.735.1662	mverwest1662@charter.net
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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

The construction of the Benton County Sherriff's Office (BCSO) Range is progressing well. It is scheduled to be completed sometime in November. One of the last projects will be moving our Rose-Iris gate further up the road towards the Flag Garden. We will probably have some disruption to our access to the Range during the work and we will post it to the web site when we get the particulars. Be sure to check the web page (www.tcsa.info) for closures **before** heading to the Range.



(Picture provided by Ron Jorgensen)

Just so everyone is aware, TCSA Members and the General Public **will not have any access** to the BCSO Range. It will be fenced and gated off separately from our access. Use of our frontage road will require approval from the TCSA Board.

I would like to remind the RSO's about not letting any shooters haul target stands out to the 50 or 100-yard lines. There are plenty of stands there already. If you feel up to it, please go out and bring some back to the firing line so there are some available for the pistol shooters.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By: George Hager

Howdy all!! It's been a few months since I have penned a little prose for our membership. We are almost in October and in a little more than two-weeks will be general deer season opener for modern firearms. We all know that means an above average level of attendance as hunters make preparations to tune their rifles in hopes of getting a shot at either the buck of a lifetime or a stash of venison to keep their bellies full over the winter! Who can blame them? Venison may very well be cheaper than beef pretty soon at the rate things are going.

More to my point above, we all will need to be more patient the next few weeks shooters and RSO's alike. There may very well not be a bench waiting for you when you arrive. Take a deep breathe, the RSO's understand and will try to help all they can. Please remember we are a completely VOLUNTEER run organization. Our RSO's are not customer support specialists, but they are hunters and shooters that feel your pain and will help the best they can! Again, please be patient and when you get to a bench enjoy yourself in a SAFE manner!!

ROSE-IRIS RANGE

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

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

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** – 509.628.3899

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** – 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**

We held our last Class of the year on September 24, where all fourteen students passed and will receive their Hunter Education Cards. I anticipate our next Class will be a Traditional Class starting in January 2023.



On June 1, 2022 the minimum age for students to complete the entire Online Course without having to attend an in-person range day was raised from 9 to 18 years old. Students younger than 18 will have to complete the range and other requirements 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 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 were 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 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

TCSA PUBLIC MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13

7:00 p.m.

RICHLAND LIBRARY



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/>.

CHIEF RSO REPORT

By: Mike Ensminger



Now that the weather has cooled off, the critters are out there at the same time we are. So far, all I am seeing is large bull (gopher?) snakes, but that doesn't mean they are the only ones out there. Please watch where you walk, and be especially careful picking anything up from the ground.



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!**



Hearing and Eye protection required when shooting!



KEEP THE RANGE CLEAN

Keep your Range clean of trash and spent cartridges. Garbage cans are available. Please be sure the enclosure tops are closed so the garbage can't blow out. If the trash blows out, "someone" has to pick it up. Buckets are provided for spent cartridges.

Please take a moment to clean up after yourself when you are done shooting.

~ FIRE SEASON ~

Please use Extra Caution!



LAST RANGE SAFETY OFFICER CLASS FOR THIS YEAR

By: Dan Martini

The last TCSA RSO Class for this year is currently full. The next RSO Classes will be scheduled sometime in late spring 2023. If you want to get your name on my NEXT 2023 RSO Class List, send an e-mail message **along 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 times a year. For more information contact **Dan Martini** at Dantini@charter.net or 509.627.3198.

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



WHEN THE RANGE IS COLD
NO HANDLING OF ANY FIREARMS

WHEN THE RANGE IS HOT
HANDLING OF FIREARMS IS PERMITTED

RATTLESNAKE MOUNTAIN STEEL SHOOTERS

By: Mike Ensminger



33 guns were represented at the September Shoot and we will probably already be done with the October Match by the time you read this (**October 2**). These Matches are a great starter for competition, as everything is shot from one position with a table to set your stuff on. We shoot 6 stages, so 150 hits minimum and are done by lunch time. Bring your .22 and give it a try. If you miss the October Match, we shoot again on **November 6**.

Shooter's meeting is at 9:15, be there if you plan to shoot.

COWBOY ACTION

By: Mike Ensminger

We only had a dozen shooters for the September Match, but the weather was great and it was nice to see some new faces in the mix.



We will be shooting again October 22nd, starting at 9:15.

We will have a **SASS Wild Bunch RO Class October 28** at the Shotgun Range House, followed by a **Wild Bunch Match Saturday, October 29**. Let us know if you plan to attend (mikeberta4@gmail.com).

PRIMITIVE RANGE

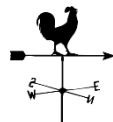
By: Clint Bouslaugh

September's meet had a new shooter visit the Range. Mostly shot paper targets and a few clay pigeons.

The **October shoot** will be held on the **15th** from 9:00 to noon. Come out and enjoy the morning with us.



WEATHER CONDITIONS for the Range can be found on our homepage - www.tcsa.info



HIGH-POWER

By: John Hauptmann

October moves us into the tail end of our season, but also presents some of the finest shooting weather of the year. There are **Smallbore Events** on the **4th, 6th, 11th, 21st and 22nd**; **Mid-Range** on the **9th and 25th**; and **Long Range** on the **14th, 15th and 16th** and **50 BMG September 29 through October 2**. Please visit the High-Power page at www.TCSAHighPower.org to review our full 2022 schedule and associated match programs.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

We are looking for volunteers to help with the Long-Range Regional on October 13 - 16. If you are willing and available, please contact **John Hauptmann** at jlhauptmann@gmail.com or 509.308.9230. Thank you!

The following COVID adjustments to Match Operations will carry over into our 2022 Match season:

- Social distancing is encouraged and will be maintained to the extent possible.
- Bring exact match fees and your own writing instruments / tablets.
- State and County guidelines will be followed.

E-TARGET USE: Virtually all our High-Power Matches will be run on e-targets this season, so make sure you bring Android tablet or i-Pad with you to the Match (you can also use your cell phone, but its beneficial to have a larger screen). *Unfortunately, our current e-targets do not work for smallbore, but we will adopt that technology once it becomes cost effective to do so.*

RANGE CONDITIONS: The Range is in good shape, but please use common sense. Keep your speed down, particularly on the corners and only drive on the graveled areas. It is definitely fire season, so behave accordingly.



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 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: <https://www.tcsahighpower.org/> for additional details, match highlights, photos and related links.

SHOTGUN REPORT

By: **Mark Monopoli**

Fall is officially here, but the summer weather is still hanging on for the time being. That means it is a wonderful time to come out to the Shotgun Range and shoot a few rounds of Skeet, Trap or 5-Stand. Who knows, you may actually enjoy it.

2022 5-Stand League, "The Best Damn League at Rattlesnake" is still going strong, but may actually be completed by the time you read this. **Phil "I'm heading south" Volkman** has done a very good job this year keeping the courses challenging and consistent each week of League. Unfortunately, Phil was a little disgruntled when he set the first weeks course, and we have been paying the price ever since. Don't get me wrong, it's been fun, but you need to be on your toes every time you shoot. Not everyone has been caught flat footed though, **Chris "Twinkle Toes" Quinton** is the only shooter this year to shoot a perfect score of 25 during League. Great job Chris!

As in years past, **John Wilgus** has a decent lead heading into the final week. This is primarily due to Wilgus being consistent while also being a fairly good shot. As a fellow competitor it's as impressive as it is irritating. There's a chance current second place shooter **Mark Monopoli** can catch John, but it's admittedly a slim chance. Trust me, if it happens EVERYONE will hear about it.

As part of "**The Best Damn League at Rattlesnake**" there is the **4th Annual Phil Volkman 5-Stand League Sporting Clays Shoot** coming up next month! It is open to everyone, not just League Shooters and will consist of a fun but short trip to **Rock Lake Sporting Clays** course up by Sprague, Washington. If this is something you are interested in, shoot me an email for more details. It will be 100 birds and a damn fun time!

Everything around the Shotgun Range has been going fairly well, really we are kind of waiting for something to break as it's been a while. The upside is that everything is humming right along, the downside is that it's way more fun to write about things going wrong.

Ever popular **Don Lint** attended the **Big Yak Blanket Shoot** a couple of weeks back and didn't win anything. At least he tried right? Don said he shot well, just not well enough. We've all been there.

Even though **5-Stand League** is going on, everyone is still welcome to shoot during League. Really the only difference is that when you come down you need to sign in on a squad sheet as we are scoring everything. You know who loves shooting 5-Stand? Everyone that gives it a try, that's who.

Dave Otto made a surprise appearance at the Range and true to form decided to come out and edge the

fields. Usually **Gabe Hall** handles this underrated task, but he's an international playboy and his time out of the country can impact his volunteer hours. Rest assured, between the two of them the edging will be on point.

Thank you to all of the RSO's for volunteering your time week in and week out at the Shotgun Range. Also, thank you and welcome to all of the new RSO's who came on board in the last couple of months. Without all of you volunteering for your minimum of (3) duty days per year the Range would have a hard time staying open consistent hours.

Something of note is that the Shotgun Range has set hours of operation that are posted to numerous places. We are required to have those set hours and we are required to keep the Range open during those hours. While it can be slow on certain afternoons there are all kinds of things we can be working on:

1. Make sure all the empty cardboard boxes are removed from the trap and skeet houses.
2. Sweep out the trap and skeet houses to remove any target chips or debris.
3. Make sure garbage cans are emptied, if full.
4. If no one is shooting, we can pick up target chips off the grass areas of the fields.
5. Straighten up the tables and chairs in the Range House.
6. Etc.

As a reminder, 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 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.

Have a great month everyone and hopefully we see you out at the Shotgun Range soon!

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)

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: Correct Range Commands are: 1) "Make Ready", 2) "Are You Ready", 3) "Stand By", start signal, 4) "If you are finished, unload and show clear", 5) If clear, hammer down holster or flag, or cylinder closed, holster, 6) "Range is clear". Here is a great article WHY you should only use these commands, <https://nroi.org/best-practices/stick-to-the-range-commands/>

NATIONAL NEWS: www.uspsa.org

The dates for USPSA Nationals 2022 have been released <https://uspsa.org/nationals>

USPSA 2022 SIG Sauer Carry Optics Nationals presented by **Federal** results: <https://practiscore.com/results/new/180171>

USPSA MasterPiece Arms Racegun Nationals (Open/Lim): October 12 - 16, Talladega, Alabama

USPSA Blue Bullets Production and PCC Nationals: October 19 - 23, Talladega, Alabama

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 here (Practiscore.com): <https://bit.ly/EWPSAScores>

Special thanks to **Tom Lentz** for being the mastermind willing to help set up the new Wi-Fi for the Pistol Bays.

The **Steel Challenge** September Match had 30 guns with 9 divisions represented. The Division winners were: RFRO: **Mike Czebotar** (overall winner); ISR: **Alex Hall**; PROD: **Mark Crider**; CO: **Ryan Blosser**; Limited: **David Blosser**; RFPI: **Kevin Hawman**; RFPO: **Curt Berger**; RFR1: **Mike Czebotar**; PCCO: **David Blosser**.

The **USPSA** September Match had 48 competitors with 4/8 USPSA Divisions represented. The Division winners were: Open: **Aaron Laws** (overall winner); Carry Optics: **Mark Bradley**; Limited: **David Blosser**; PCC: **Shane Hill**.

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

EWPSA will be hosting a **2-Gun Monthly Match October 1**. Gate will open at 8:30 a.m., new shooters briefing at 8:30 a.m., shooting begins at 8:30 a.m. The Match costs \$20. More details on Practiscore.

EWPSA will be hosting a **Fun in the Sun 2-Gun Monthly Match October 9**. Cost will be \$25 for non-members and \$20 for TCSA members. Juniors shoot for free! Gate will open at 8:00 a.m., new shooters briefing at 8:30 a.m., shooting begins at 9:00 a.m. More details on Practiscore.

EWPSA will be hosting their monthly **USPSA Match October 16**. 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.

EWPSA will be hosting a **Steel Challenge Match November 13**. Gate will open at 9:00 a.m., new shooters briefing at 9:30 a.m., shooting begins after the shooters meeting. The match costs \$15 TCSA members, \$20 non-TCSA members, shooting a second gun is +\$5 and juniors shoot for free. More details on Practiscore.

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

Check out local news on Facebook – [Eastern Washington Practical Shooters Association](https://www.facebook.com/groups/267093763957174/?r ef=bookmarks)

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

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

Ads will run for 3 months. If you wish to run your ad again, you will need to resubmit it. If your item(s) sells, contact us and we will remove it. No Business-related ads!



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



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