



The Rattler

SEPTEMBER
2021

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

GENERAL INFORMATION:

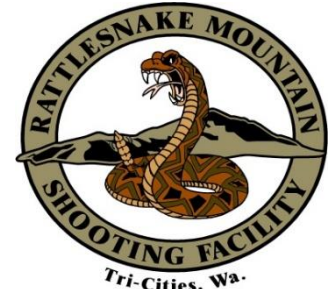
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Dan Martini	Member at Large	627-3198	dantini@charter.net
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Rose-Iris Toberg	President Emeritus		



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

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By: Mark Verwest

Due to the governors ongoing COVID measures, the TCSA will not host our Annual RSO Appreciation Meeting and BBQ this month.

I would like to **thank every RSO** for their contributions to running the Range in a safe and family friendly manner. Without our **great volunteer RSO Staff**, we would not be able to operate the Range and be open to the public. Both the **TCSA Board** and **I** appreciate your efforts in helping to make us the **Best Range in the Pacific Northwest !**

Also, it is that time of the year again when the Range sees an increase in use by the general public for pre-hunting season firearms sight in. I would like to remind the RSOs that this is a good time to be extra aware of safety violations. In the past we have seen a number of inexperienced shooters show up and they are sometimes in need of some extra supervision. Handling of firearms when the Range is cold and poor muzzle control are some commonly seen violations, so a little extra vigilance will be appreciated by all your fellow shooters.

ROSE-IRIS RANGE

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

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By: George Hager

Howdy all! Without incurring the wrath of Mr. Heat Miser, I think we made it. Hopefully the triple digit adventures are over! In the event I am woefully wrong, don't send the pitchfork wielding masses to my house, I place the blame solely at the feet of our editor! (Sorry Sue.) Now that we have beat the dog days of summer, the crowds will be coming soon! They will come because the pleasant days of late summer and early fall make for some enjoyable days at the Range. These cooler days also trigger those primal urges within the denizens of the Tri-Cities to sharpen their bullets and acquire a keen zero on their hunting rifles as visions of Robert Ruark & Peter Capstick fill their heads as they prepare to make their ways into the great unknown fields and forests of Washington state.

REGARDLESS of what brings you out to the Range this fall there will be a group of volunteers willing to help you to have a safe and enjoyable day at the Range. The **Range Safety Officers** are eyes and ears at the Range and they are responsible for the safety of all, above all else. If they feel the need to approach you, please heed what they have to say. The weekends of September and October can pretty busy and the probability of having to wait for a bench is higher than any other time of the year! We ask your patience as we work through our occasional backlogs. If you do not need to punch paper, feel free to bring a .22lr or a handgun and spend time at either of the Plinking Ranges. Any ways to scratch that itchy finger during this busy time!

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.

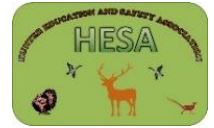
Check out our TCSA web site www.tcsa.info for a variety of information. If you have decided not to receive a printed Newsletter by mail, it is posted on the web site the first week of each month.

HUNTER EDUCATION AND SAFETY ASSOCIATION

By: **Randy Absolon**

Well, we are back into the unknown as far as holding evaluations for **Online Hunter Education Classes**.

We have received the information on protocols we must follow to hold Classes, but as you may expect this is changing frequently. Because of many contributing factors, it has also been difficult to secure space in the two facilities we use to complete the classroom portion of the evaluations.



The Classes we were hoping to hold on **September 25** and **October 2** are also looking less likely. Our next Class may be a **Traditional Class** starting in **mid-January 2022**.

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, be sure the barrel and action are clear of obstructions.

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!



TCSA PUBLIC MEETING

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

7:00 p.m.

SHOTGUN RANGE HOUSE

CHIEF RSO REPORT

By: Mike Ensminger



Well, I have almost scheduled **First Shot** Classes 5 or 6 times, but it seems like the temperatures were over 100° or the COVID rules started changing every time I considered it. Right now, the plan is to defer until next Spring, so I expect to be planning for our usual date of **Saturday on Mother's Day weekend.**

I have quite a list of folks that are interested in attending and almost as big a list of volunteers to help, so will start contacting everyone when it looks like we will be able to proceed.

Here's hoping for something more like normal next year...

RSO INFORMATION

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

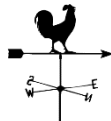
RSO Access Key Cards or RSO Badges are not to be used in place of or as a substitute for a Membership Card.

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!**



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



RANGE SAFETY OFFICER CLASS

By: Dan Martini

Our next and last RSO Class for this year is scheduled for Friday October 1. This class is currently full and we are unable to add any more names to this Class.



To get your name on the next **2022 RSO Class** list send an e-mail message to me to dantini@charter.net with your name and TCSA Membership #. Watch the future Monthly Newsletters for dates for next year's classes.

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.



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

RATTLESNAKE MOUNTAIN STEEL SHOOTERS

By: Mike and Robbie Ensminger



31 guns were represented at the August International Steel Shoot and thanks are owed to **Nelson Thomas** and **Dave Jackson** for hosting the Match while we were at a Match out of town.

With the weather finally starting to cool down and more / some ammo starting to be available, we hope to see more of the usual crowd out there shooting again soon.

If you haven't tried it, you can get started with pretty much any .22LR rifle or pistol or a centerfire handgun or pistol caliber carbine. No magnum loads allowed. There's a table to work from for each stage and no running, jumping, speed reloading or other gyrations required, so it is a great way to introduce yourself or the kids to some competition.

The next Match will be **September 5**, with the mandatory Shooter's Meeting at 9:15.

Hope to see you there!

COWBOY ACTION



By: Mike and Robbie Ensminger

We had 14 shooters at the **August Cowboy Shoot** and will be out there again **September 25**. Shooter's meeting is 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

The **August Shoot** was a great day to be at the Range. It was some of the nicest weather we have had in a long time.

Just a note to remind everyone, the **Primitive Range** is for **black powder firearms only**. Our targets are not AR plate, they are 3/16-1/4 inch mild steel plate. They work fine for low velocity lead balls. Shooting high velocity jacketed bullets at the Primitive Range is causing damage to the Primitive Range targets. If you need to shoot modern firearms, please use the Rose-Iris or High-Power Ranges. I placed the brass left at the Primitive Range in the Rose-Iris buckets.

Reminder for **Primitive Range RSO's**, if you cannot stand your assigned duty day, call me so I can arrange for another RSO to stand that duty day. Failure to stand duty days will result in removal from the Primitive Range RSO list.



UNITED WAY

Keep us in mind when the United Way campaign kicks off at work. The **Tri-Cities Shooting Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation** and is eligible for donations through the United Way. Any donations are genuinely appreciated.



Keep your Range clean of trash and spent cartridges. Garbage cans are available. Be sure the enclosure tops are closed so the garbage cannot blow out. Buckets are provided for spent cartridges.

Please take the time to clean up after yourself when you are done shooting.



SHOTGUN REPORT

By: Mark Monopoli

Welcome to September everyone! While last month we sensationalized fake news, this month is all about getting down to business. We have more "Fun Shoots" planned in the next couple of months than we have had in the past 3 years and 5-Stand League is getting ready to kick off next to the recently completed landscaping wall. So, let's get to it shall we.

Unfortunately, we need to start off on a somber note with the passing of **Dwayne "BJ" Bjorklund** on August 12. BJ was a staple of the Wednesday morning Trap Shooting group. **A special service will be held at the Shotgun Range at noon on October 9 for BJ.** All are welcome to attend and observe a time of remembrance for a great man who enjoyed spending time on the trap field.

Chad "The Super" Ungerecht will be the man in charge of the various **Fun & Games** and **Meat Shoots** that are scheduled for the end of 2021 and the beginning of 2022. Stay tuned for more details, but you are going to want to save these dates:



Fun & Games Shoot	October 24
Turkey Shoot	November 21
Christmas Shoot	December 19
Winter Shoot	January 23
Spring Fun & Games	February 27

Chad does a great job of making these shoots fun and enjoyable for shooters of all ages and abilities. Come on out and see what all the fun is about!

2021 5-Stand League will begin on **September 12**, and will conclude on **October 24** with the *3rd Annual Phil Volkman 5-Stand League Sporting Clays Shoot*. Once again **Phil "The Legend" Volkman** will be large and in charge of all things 5-Stand League. League will consist of 10 rounds of 5-Stand and all scores will count towards your League total. That's right, no throw-away scores this year! I am a little conflicted about that, as I tend to have momentary lapses in shooting judgement. But it is what it is. You can score up to 3 rounds per Sunday and league will be cold gun as always.

As with years past you will be able to substitute your (4) lowest league scores for your Sporting Clays score. If it doesn't help your overall score, you do not have to use it though. The Sporting Clays shoot will be 100 birds followed by a trip to a local establishment to share an adult beverage, some food and to make fun of the losers!

Hopefully everyone can make it out again this year. This League is a good time because we have a good group of shooters and everyone seems to take it

just serious enough to be competitive, but not lose the social aspect of it.

Look at that, we are over halfway through the Shotgun Report and so far, it has been chocked full of useful and relevant information. Will wonders never cease to exist!

Speaking of wonders, it is that time of year when we need to hold a **Meeting of the Shotgun Board** that is open for all to attend. This year the meeting will be held on October 3 at 8:00am in the Shotgun Range house, and of course, all are welcome to attend.

Just a quick note on the turf war from last month. Things are probably going to escalate and it may not be pretty. Someone decided it was a good idea to now park the lawnmower with sweeper attached in the parking spot that has been reserved for the forklift for the past 100 years or so. Operation Retaliation is currently underway!

On a serious note, please keep all the women and men who are currently serving this great country in your thoughts and prayers. The absolute failure of leadership has led to recent events that has put our brave armed forces in situations they should never have been in. All these men and women deserve better than they currently have at the top.

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.

SHOTGUN 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)

HIGH-POWER

By: John Hauptmann

We are moving into Fall with **Smallbore Matches** on the 5th, 7th, 12th, 14th, 16th, 21st and 24th; **Service Rifle Practice** on the 7th, 14th and 21st and the **Service Rifle Championship** over the 25th and 26th; a **500/ 800 Yard Prone Slow Fire Match** on the 18th and **200/300 Yard Prone Slow Fire Match** on the 28th; **Long Range Practice** on the 10th and a **Long-Range F-Class Points Series Match** on the 11th; and finally, **50 BMG Benchrest Practice and Matches** on **September 30** and **October 1 - 3**. 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 outdoors on the High-Power Range; no verification of vaccination is required.
- 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.

SUMMARY OF THE TUESDAY SMALLBORE MATCHES IN AUGUST

By: Gary Meerdink

The August 3 **50/100 Yard 22LR Match (Dewar)** was attended by eight competitors. We had a delightful day at the Range, shared with a group of talented marksmen! Nobody shot below 96%! An absolute tie for Match Winner. Third and fourth place being only one point off the Match Winners. We were able to finish early enough to avoid most of the "heat meanies." The wind did not molest us as usual. An absolute tie for Match Winner. **Phil Keulen** and **Joel Moberly** both shot 399-33X (99.75%). Third and fourth place being only one point off the Match Winners. **Tom Halecki** (3rd) shot 398-32X (99.5%) and **Ben Cook** (4th) shot 398-23X (99.5%). **Phil, Joel, Ben Cook** and **David Vance** all shot "clean" at 50 yards. Great shooting guys! All in all, a nice morning. It is hoped you all enjoyed your shooting time and do not regret spending a bit of that rare, precious ammunition.

A **50-yard Smallbore Match** was held on August 10 at the Rose-Iris Range. Eight shooters attended. It was some wonderful weather and good company. Congratulations to **David Vance** 238-1X (95.2%) for winning the Match followed by **Ben Cook** 237-0X (94.8%), one little itty-bitty point behind. Following **Ben** by one point were **Joel Moberly** and **Phil Keuhlen**. Small differences! Also congratulations to **Joel Moberly** 240-3X (96%) for his first place on the 2nd optional card and High Aggregate score of 476-6X (95.2%). **Phil** followed **Joel** by only one point on both the optional 2nd card and High Aggregate scores. Welcome back to **Scott Jacobs**. Welcome to possible new shooter, **Bryon Christoffersen**. **Bryon** was checking us out today for possible future participation. Also, a big thanks to **Tex Long** for helping with the Match, running the shooting line and assisting with the scoring. Congratulations to all the excellent shooters!

A **100-Yard Smallbore Slowfire Match** (mini-palma) was held at the 1KYD Range on August 17. The weather was pleasantly cooler than it has been recently. The wildfire smoke was present but mild. The winds were weird, they would drop to nothing then gust from an unexpected vector. However, a good time was had by most everyone despite some frustrations. Nobody scored below 90%. Great shooting by all! Congratulations to Match winner **Phil Keuhlen** 438-24X (97.3%) for leading the pack today. Kudos to 2nd place **Joel Moberly** 434-19X (96.4%). Also, Thanks to **Phil** for helping officiate the Match. Thank you to everyone who helped stage and put away the range equipment.

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/>

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>

HICAP Carry Optics/PCC: Oct 16-18,
HICAP Limited/Open: Oct 22-24

The USPSA Rules:

https://uspsa.org/documents/rules/2019_USPSA_Competition_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 Fun 2-Gun in the Sun August Match had 15 competitors with 2 divisions represented.

The Division winners were: Open: **Matt Newburn** (overall winner) and Tactical: **Gerald Olson**. Complete Results at:

<https://clubs.practiscore.com/results/new/143785>

The **USPSA Monthly August Match** had 35 competitors with 5/8 USPSA Divisions represented. The Division winners were: PCC: **John Morgan** (overall winner); Carry Optics: **Rachel Harper**; Limited: **David Blosser**; Open: **Mark Bradley**; and Production: **Warren Harper**. Complete Results at:

<https://clubs.practiscore.com/results/new/144444>

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>. 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** on **September 19**. Registration should be done on Practiscore at <https://clubs.practiscore.com/ewpsa-2021-09/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 a **Fun 2-Gun in the Sun Championship Match October 10**. Registration should be done on Practiscore at <https://clubs.practiscore.com/ewpsa-2021-10-fun-2-gun-in-the-sun-championship/register>.

Check out our Inland Empire Section News at:

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

Check out local news on Facebook –

[Eastern Washington Practical Shooters Association](#)

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

GENERAL FIREARM HANDLING SAFETY TIPS

Treat every firearm as being loaded.

Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.

Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot. Do not rely on your firearm's "safety device".

Keep the firearm unloaded when not in use.



As a TCSA Member you can place "gun" related items on the web site for free.

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 ad to membership@tcsa.info



**WHEN THE RANGE IS COLD
NO HANDLING OF ANY FIREARMS**

**WHEN THE RANGE IS HOT
HANDLING OF FIREARMS IS PERMITTED**



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

