



THE RATTTLER

AUGUST 2020

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

GENERAL INFORMATION:

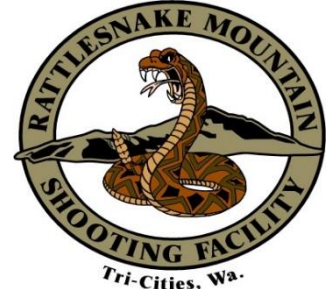
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TCSA OFFICERS

| | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------|--|
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| Mike Ensminger | Chief RSO | 521-9628 | chiefrso@tcsa.info |
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Sue Verwest
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Events@tcsa.info

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By: Mark Verwest

I am sure everyone that has used the new road up to the Shotgun and High-Power Ranges really appreciates how smooth it is. In order to keep it that way, you need to **SLOW DOWN**. Higher driving speeds cause wash boarding. Thanks for your cooperation!

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 note even notice.

Fire danger in our fire district is 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.

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TCSA BOARD AND GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13
7:00 p.m.

Shotgun Range House

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By: George Hager

Howdy all! I hope this note finds all well and doing good things (and staying cool). The only thing hotter than the weather, is this penman. It has been said that a positive view of oneself is healthy. I wonder about self-delusion? July has been a great month at the Range, I participated in several Smallbore competitions and my eight-year-old enjoyed her first couple Range trips with her pink Cricket. Watching juniors (mine and/or others) enjoying our facilities, learning discipline and spending time with family makes the time and effort put into our Range worth the effort.

We should be grateful the state government allows us to stay open and enjoy our beloved hobby. In this recent heatwave, we should also be grateful for Range Safety Officers that allow us to maintain a safe and enjoyable environment for us to exercise our Second Amendment Rights. Next time you are there, give a brief "thank you". It goes a long way!!

Until next month try to emulate the author and stay COOL!!

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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 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 in the above Article 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.

FIRST SHOTS®

An introduction to Safe Handgun Shooting

By: **Mike Ensminger**

The **First Shots Class** scheduled in May had to be canceled due to COVID issues, but we still hope to be able to schedule one later in the year when things get more normal (and we see what normal looks like). Later in the year after the weather cools down is looking likely.

In that vein, I am still maintaining the list of attendees and accepting additions. If you or someone you know is interested, send me an email (chiefroso@tcsa.info) with names and contact information and I will notify you as soon as we schedule it.

HUNTER EDUCATION AND SAFETY ASSOCIATION

By: **Randy Absolon**

It is not official yet, but it looks like WDFW is going to cancel all in-person Hunter Education Classes through at least the end of the calendar year. With the uncertainty of the current COVID-19 situation, continuing restrictions on gatherings and many other logistical concerns, it seems impractical to try and develop procedures to hold Classes in ever changing conditions.



Students who are age 9 or older can complete the entire Online Course through the online process, including the field course. Younger students will have to complete the field exercise in person when classes are again offered.

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 in front of and beyond it, keep your finger off of the trigger until you are ready to shoot and be sure the barrel and action are clear of obstructions.

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

CHIEF RSO REPORT

By: Mike Ensminger

In accordance with the **Centerfire Plinking Range Standard Operating Procedure**, the Range may be used with any pistol/revolver cartridge, even if fired in a rifle or carbine. However, **RIFLE CARTRIDGES ARE PROHIBITED** regardless of what they are being fired in (e.g., .223, 5.56, 7.62x39, .308, .45-70, 30 cal carbine, etc., are native rifle cartridges and may not be used at the Plinking Range at any time.). Aside from being against the rules, the targets are not made to take that kind of energy/velocity and are not far enough from the firing line to be safely engaged.



RSO's please note, when you are collecting funds for guest shooters during off hours, please put the money in the safe. Please do not leave cash in or on the desk or the RSO lock box.

RSO INFORMATION

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

REMINDERS FOR RSO'S

RSO **Access Key Cards** are only for opening gates. Access key cards are not to be used in place of or as a substitute for your Membership identification 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 2020/2021 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!**



RATTLESNAKE WARNING

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



RSO TRAINING CLASSES

By: Dan Martini

Because of the large number of requests to attend the next **Range Safety Officer Class**, we have decided to offer two more classes this year. One in **September** and one in **October**. Individuals who have requested their names to be added to my next RSO Class list will be receiving an e-mail message from me with all the details. We are still limited in class size to only 9 individuals and only having the class on a Friday to cover all the material. Also, **individuals need to be a current TCSA Member in order to be placed into one of those two Classes**. Call me at 509-627-3198 if you have any questions or e-mail me at dantini@charter.net.



ADVANTAGES TO BEING A RANGE SAFETY OFFICER

The advantages of being an 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 a RSO, you must attend the RSO Training Class, obligate yourself to volunteer at the Range three to four times a year and keep your membership current.

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.

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

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



YOUTH INTRODUCTION TO FIREARMS

By: Ron Jorgensen

The remaining **Youth Introduction to Firearms Classes** have been **cancelled** for 2020. The Classes are cancelled due to the on-going Corona virus limitations on group sizes and social distancing requirements. Hopefully, we will be able to provide these Classes in 2021.

RATTLESNAKE MOUNTAIN STEEL SHOOTERS

By: Mike and Robbie Ensminger



32 shooters showed up for the **July Steel Shoot**, with 46 guns in play in the Match.

We plan to shoot again **August 2**, which may well have happened by the time you read this. Sign-up at 9:00, Shooter's Meeting at 9:15. Drop us a note at mikeberta4@gmail.com if you are bringing a group and we will start a squad for you ahead of time.

COWBOY ACTION

By: Mike and Robbie Ensminger

We had a surprisingly hot day for shooting this month but 16 shooters made their way through all 6 Stages with no heat casualties.



We plan to shoot again **August 22**. Sign up at 9:00, Shooter's Meeting at 9:15.

With 5 Saturday's this Month we will also be hosting a **Wild Bunch Match** on **August 29**, same timetable. Plan on 6 Stages and lots of shooting.

PRIMITIVE RANGE

By: Clint Bouslaugh

Had a nice shoot in July. Several people trying out new rifles from .45 to .80 caliber.



Our **August Shoot** is scheduled for **Saturday the 15th** from 9:00 to noon.

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 USPSA Rules

https://uspsa.org/documents/rules/2019_USPSA_Competiti_on_Rules.pdf can be downloaded to your phone for easy access or get the **USPSA App** at <https://uspsa.org/app>.

LOCAL NEWS: The USPSA July Match had 58 guns with 6/8 USPSA divisions represented. Social distancing fun was had by all! The Division winners were: Open: **Mark Bradley** (overall winner); Carry Optics: **Jesse Campbell**; Limited: **David Blosser**; PCC: **Warren Harper**; Production: **Randy Bayuk**; Revolver: **Gerald Ashbeck**.

Complete results at

https://clubs.practiscore.com/results/new/107722?q_division=0

EWPSA will be hosting a **Fun 2-Gun in the Sun Match August 8**. Registration should be done on Practiscore at <https://practiscore.com/ewpsa-2020-06-fun-2-gun-in-the-sun-clone/register>.

This is our modified **2-Gun Match** in these COVID restricted days. Gate will open at 9 a.m., new shooters briefing at 9:30 a.m., shooting begins at 10 a.m. The Match costs \$20 TCSA members, \$25 non-TCSA members and Juniors shoot for free. More details on Practiscore.

Set-up for the Match is **August 7** around 9:00 a.m. If you help setup, you can **shoot for FREE!** We need volunteers for set-up. More details on Practiscore.

EWPSA will be hosting our **Monthly Match August 16**. Registration should be done on Practiscore at: <https://practiscore.com/ewpsa-2020-08b/register>

This is our modified monthly Match in these COVID restricted days. Gate will open at 9 a.m., new shooters briefing at 9:30 a.m., shooting begins at 10 a.m. The Match costs \$15 TCSA members, \$20 non-TCSA members and Juniors shoot for free. More details on Practiscore.

Set-up for the Match is **August 15** around 9:00 a.m. If you help with setup, you can **shoot for FREE!** We need volunteers for Set-up. More details on Practiscore.

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/groups/267093763957174/?ref=bookmarkmarks)

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

HIGH-POWER

By: John Hauptmann

With the exception of the Closures and Revisions listed below, High-Power Match operation has resumed. Some restrictions and social distancing protocols will remain in place for a currently undefined period and we will be posting post updates and schedule revisions on the High-Power web page at <https://www.tcsahighpower.org/>. Outside of our Matches the Range is open for High-Power RSO use, but please maintain social distancing and use common sense when you do so.

RANGE CLOSURES: None

MATCH REVISIONS: Start times for the **August 14 - 16** and **September 4 - 6 Mid and Long-Range Matches** has been moved up to 7:00 a.m. The Match format has also been changed to reflect Mid-Range Matches at 600 yards only and Long-Range Matches at 1000 yards only. The applicable Calendar and Match program updates are posted on the High-Power web page at <https://www.tcsahighpower.org/> about the time this Newsletter goes out.

The following adjustments to Match operations will be in place for the duration of the COVID-19 emergency:

- Social distancing will be required by all attending.
- Bring exact match fees; Match Directors will not be making change. Alternatively match fees may be waived at the Match Director's discretion.
- Registrations and scores will be taken verbally.
- Shooters MUST bring their own writing instruments.
- CDC and State guidelines will be followed when social distance cannot be maintained.

HIGH POWER RANGE OFFICER OPPORTUNITIES: We are always looking for volunteers to help with our major Matches, so please let **John Hauptmann** know if you are available and willing. No experience is required and all you need to bring are season appropriate clothes and a good attitude.

ROAD CONDITIONS: Paving is complete from the main gate up through the Canyon, but please still use common sense and keep your speed down, particularly on the corners.



CANYON GATE COMBINATION CHANGE: As a TCSA High-Power RSO you were either provided the new combo when you signed up for your 2020 High-Power Duty Day or as part of your initial range briefing. If in doubt, contact **John**

Hauptmann to get yourself squared away; Life members with High-Power endorsement are exempt from the duty day requirement, but you still have to contact John for the new combo.



HIGH-POWER RSO ENDORSEMENT: For any interested TCSA RSO, 1KYD High-Power Endorsement Training is scheduled on an as-needed basis throughout the year. It only takes an hour, and allows you unrestricted access to the High-Power Range outside our scheduled Matches. 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: Contact High-Power Chairman **John Julian** at b24jcyj@gmail.com / 509-308-0376 or High-Power Secretary **John Hauptmann** at jlhauptmann@gmail.com / 509-308-9230 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.

~ FIRE SEASON ~

Please use Extra Caution!



BECAUSE OF THE POTENTIAL FIRE DANGER, THE USE OF TRACER, ARMOR PIERCING AND INCINDIARY AMMUNITION ARE NOT ALLOWED ON ANY OF THE RMSF RANGES

WWW.TCSA.INFO

TCSA Webmaster:
Aaron Howell
webmaster@tcsa.info



SHOTGUN REPORT

By: **Mark Monopoli**

It's HOT out there kids! It seems summer temperatures are here for a little while and with the triple digits we are experiencing right now everyone needs to be safe. Stay hydrated and try to avoid the midday sun if you are not a sun worshipper.

One other thing we need to work on is following social distancing and other Covid-19 related rules so we can stay open while also staying safe. Even when we are outdoors, we need to stay 6' apart and don't forget to utilize the hand sanitizer at the RSO desk and wash your hands frequently. Please be respectful of other shooters and range guests as we all need to get through this together.

With a lot of other events, sports and activities shutdown we are seeing more and more new younger shooters coming out to the Shotgun Range. This is a good thing and something we as an organization will benefit from. When you have the chance, please offer some good advice or encouragement and help them feel welcome. Of course, maintain that social distancing while doing so.

Trap, Skeet and 5-Stand are all seeing good token counts each week which is great. We have had a couple of issues with the voice calls on the trap fields, but nothing **Eric Bickle** couldn't handle in a timely manner!

Sometimes you see things and no matter how much you wish to unsee them they are stuck with you for a good long time. Sometimes they make you re-examine everything you thought you knew about the world. Well, I saw something and I can't unsee it. A couple of weeks back I am shooting 5-Stand on Sunday and like usual I am looking around at everything except the targets I should be paying attention to. I see movement up on the skeet field through the fence near the low house, not a big deal. Then I see a piece of a target come over the fence. Again, nothing unusual about that as 5-Stand shooters frequently must dodge target shrapnel coming down from the upper field. What struck me as odd is this bit of target was not from the keen shot of a skeet shooter. No sir, this piece of target was thrown over the fence by none other than **Ron Geiger**! Yes, **Mr. Geiger Field** himself was cleaning up his beloved skeet field by throwing stuff over the fence onto the 5-Stand Field*. I am telling you it was like watching a hero fall before my eyes. I thought Ron loved all the fields at the Shotgun Range the same, but it turns out he has a favorite, and the 5-Stand field is not it.

So, now we are looking for a volunteer to take as good of care of the 5-Stand field as Ron does the Skeet field. It's pretty simple, all you have to do is pick up all of the target pieces each week off of the 5-Stand field and

throw them back onto the Skeet field! It will be like one big circle of retribution. I am not saying the 5-Stand field will be named after the lucky person who accepts this important job, but the chance of getting your name written on a rock in sharpie near the 5-Stand field is definitely out there. Not a very big rock though, don't be getting greedy.

Seriously though, if you would like to do a little weed-eater and blower work for an hour or so each week before **Rick "The Big Nasty" Poehls** mows the lawns please let **Dave Otto** know. The Shotgun Range can always use more volunteers and even small things can help in a big way.

If you are interested in shooting 5-Stand come on out on Sunday mornings starting at 9:00 a.m. and join in on the fun! It is a fun, but challenging game and the regulars are always happy to explain the rules and help new shooters through their first couple of rounds. We usually shoot until about noon or so, but it is a good idea to get there earlier rather than later.

There is a new inline filter screen installed on the irrigation system to help mitigate some supply valve issues we have been experiencing. Due to the seriousness of this project a lot of thought and planning went into it. **Phil Volkman** dug an exploratory hole 5' from where we needed to dig as proof of concept. Then **Dave Otto** and **Mark Monopoli** did a complete mockup of the assembly so the design could be finalized and installed without a single problem. A more trouble-free project would be hard to come by.

Get well **Stan Hicks**! We hope to see you back out at the Shotgun Range soon.

My conscience is making me write this next part, so like any good "journalist" these days I'll bury the truth at the end of the article. *To be fair to Ron, where he threw the two target chips over the fence was onto the hillside where there is some sagebrush and other "natural" desert landscaping. No target chips were actually thrown onto the 5-Stand field. Unfortunately, that makes for a boring Shotgun Report. Fake news for the win!

Get out and shoot! It's fun even when you miss! Maybe not as much as a hit, but still fun!

SHOTGUN RSO INFORMATION

Remember, if you plan to be sick on your duty day please plan ahead and find a replacement.

RSO scheduling questions? Contact Mr. Chris Quinton at roscheduler@tcsashotgun.com

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! Don't be shy, shoot me a note at mark.monopoli@outlook.com and let me know what you think about anything at all.



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

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TCSA HATS - \$20.00 each (including tax)
These can be found at the Rose-Iris Range

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**Hearing and Eye protection
required when shooting!**



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NO firearms are to be handled during a "COLD" range state. This **includes cased firearms** being taken from the table to a vehicle and from a vehicle to a table. If you have any questions regarding this procedure, please see the Range Safety Officer on Duty.

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

As a Member of TCSA... this is **your** Range! Every month in the Newsletter there are names of members who volunteer for all of us so that we can have a safe place to shoot. There are many volunteer names we never read or hear of. TCSA is **ALL VOLUNTEERS: Board Members, Range Safety Officers, Discipline Heads, the volunteers who clean up the Range and volunteers who show up for the work parties.** We have volunteers maintaining the **web site, teaching Range Safety Officer classes, repairing targets, maintaining the ranges; cleaning bathrooms...** the list goes on. What you see is because of the **members who volunteer!** The volunteers all pay their yearly membership dues and then "step up to the plate" to help make the **Rattlesnake Mountain Shooting Facility** a safe, family friendly place to shoot. Attend a Monthly General Meeting and meet some of the people who make the Range possible. Thank an RSO who has volunteered his day to run the Range. **What can you do?** Do you see something that needs to be done? Your reward is a safe, clean place to shoot and the chance to meet some great people!

AND WITH THAT BEING SAID

Help Keep the Range Clean



Please take a moment to clean up after yourself when you are done shooting. Help keep your Range clean of trash and spent cartridges. Garbage cans are available. 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.