



The Rattler

**DECEMBER
2020**

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

GENERAL INFORMATION:

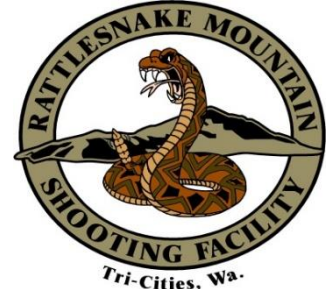
Web: www.tcsa.info

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TCSA
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Rose-Iris Toberg	President Emeritus		



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

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Range Safety Officer Scheduler
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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

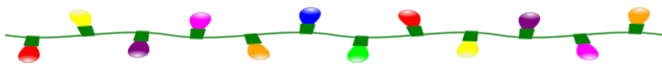
By: Mark Verwest

With winter approaching, there could be some weather related Range closures and/or cancellations of Events.

If the weather gets bad, check our Facebook page for any updated Range closures before heading out to the Range.

Be sure to check the Discipline links on our website for the most up to date discipline events and/or cancellations.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays !



ROSE-IRIS RANGE

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

Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday

ALL RANGES ARE CLOSED
TO THE PUBLIC ON
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25
AND FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By: George Hager

Howdy all!! It's getting ready to get cold, in case you haven't noticed. Make sure not only you, but those in your care are bundled up warmly and prepared for your time at the Range. I cannot speak for all of you but even if there is NO wind at home here in South Richland, it will be blowing 7-10 knots and a few more up on High Power. Most days this isn't an issue, but as the mercury dips it can be uncomfortable. Few things can ruin a day faster than a freezing spouse or child. A little preparation can pay you big dividends in range time!

Remember even though your cold during your 45-90 minutes at the Range, the RSO's are there for 6-7 hours out in the cold ensuring smooth operations and your safety! A "warm" thank-you for your service to your RSO can go a long way in making their day a bit more pleasant.

To our RSO's, it has been mentioned several times, please remember the use of the HESA Range is a privilege extended to RSO's. POLICE YOUR BRASS!! Also, if something doesn't feel right, it may not be. A few weeks ago, I was using the HESA Range and some folks showed up and their mannerisms did not seem right. I went down to talk to them and behold NONE of them were RSO's. They were politely asked to go back to Rose-Iris. Do not feel "bad" about following/enforcing the rules, it is NOT about being a [bleep] and IS about safety, YOURS AND THEIRS.



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.

THANK YOU !

By: **Mike Ensminger**

Thanks to **Gary Stratton** for dragging his tractor out to the Range to repair the 200-yard berm at Rose-Iris and replace the 200-yard gong with a new AR500 target.

John Hauer camped out at the Range House to make sure the Range stayed cold and the quiet time also allowed **Steve Steer** and **Dewayne Juhnke** to add even more steel to the plinking bay.

The 250 and 300-yard gongs are already showing through holes, so are next on the list for replacement. We will be scheduling based on the weather forecast and equipment availability, so you can expect to see another Monday morning Range closure (or two) in the next couple of months.

We are unable to schedule these activities far enough in advance to get them on the monthly calendar, so keep an eye on the TCSA Facebook page and it might save you driving to the Range to find it closed for a few hours.

HUNTER EDUCATION AND SAFETY ASSOCIATION

By: **Randy Absolon**

We currently do not have any Classes scheduled. With the continuing high number of virus cases in Washington, I think it will likely be some time before we are again able to offer in person classes.



Students who are age 9 or older can complete the entire course through the Online Process. 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 beyond it, keep your finger off of the trigger until you are ready to shoot and unload firearms when they are not in use.

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

CHIEF RSO REPORT

By: Mike Ensminger

Thanks to all the volunteer **Range Safety Officers** that help us keep this Range operating and safely.

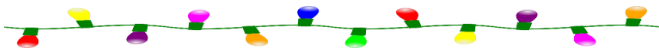
I can't prove it, but it seems that we are seeing a higher than normal percentage of brand-new shooters coming to the Range, often with brand new firearms (not sure where they are finding the ammo), so I expect many of you have noticed it sometimes takes a little more effort to keep everyone safe. Thanks again, and please keep up the good work.



Hope you all had a great Thanksgiving,

RSO INFORMATION

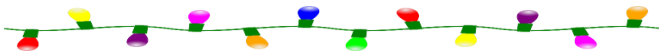
RSO Questions / Concerns
Chief RSO - Mike Ensminger
chiefrso@tcsa.info or 509-521-9628



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!**

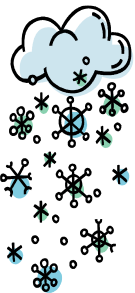


Hearing and Eye protection required when shooting!



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.**



With the Winter months ahead of us, be sure to **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 try to get it posted on the website and Facebook as soon as we can.**

NEXT 2021 RANGE SAFETY OFFICER TRAINING CLASS

By: Dan Martini

Our last RSO Training Class for 2019 was conducted November 13. Mike and I were able to train **93 Range Safety Officers** in 2020 in spite of the Covid19 virus to help fill the voids created by those RSOs moving out of the area or resigning. Those interested in attending our next 2021 RSO Classes need to send an e-mail message to dantini@charter.net.



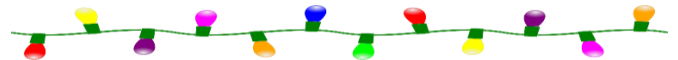
Watch for an Article in the January and February 2021 Newsletters with the prospective class date details.

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 a 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.



TCSA PUBLIC MEETING
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10
7:00 p.m.

Shotgun Range House



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/>

SHOTGUN REPORT

By: Mark Monopoli

And here it is kids, the final Shotgun Report of 2020. Dry your eyes and wipe your nose, there are plenty more to come in 2021! I am sure you are asking yourself "How can the big '21 out do the roaring 20's?" Well, maybe now that the new year is of legal drinking age it will have a few and chill out. Or it could become a raging alcoholic and we are in for another long, strange trip. Either way the Shotgun Range will be here to throw targets 3 days a week.

Speaking of 2020, the Shotgun Range did a good job of taking care of business once again. The following is a list of the major accomplishments we managed to get through:

New Well: With the backing of the TCSA a new well was drilled and jumped from 8GPH to 50GPH!

New Zero-turn mower: All that newfound water led to the need for a new mower. Actually, the old one was getting a little tired and the upgrade to a zero-turn meant mowing times were cut in half.

New landscaping: The area between Trap field #1 and #2 had the lawn removed and new curbing, shrubs and rock installed to help beautify the area as well as cut down on some of the weekly maintenance.

Water tank controls: In keeping with the irrigation theme, the control valve and system controls for the irrigation tank were replaced/repared to simplify the system.

Main irrigation lines: You would think we were the Rattlesnake Mountain Irrigation Range with all the sprinkler work being done. The final irrigation project for the year was re-routing the main supply lines so they no longer run under the porch slab. I know, boring but necessary.

Target breakage: After a few trying months of above average target breakage we switched back to Northwest Targets and we now appear to be back to normal.

Target counts: Even with being closed part of the year we still threw just shy of **220,000 targets!** That's a pretty good stat for a challenging year.



PLEASE, NO DOGS AT THE SHOTGUN RANGE. We are still asking everyone to leave the dogs at home for the time being. Mouse poison has been placed in all the trap and skeet houses, plus sprinkler boxes, out buildings and around the main house. Unfortunately, dogs like the bait as much as the mice do. We've already had one close call, so for now, please leave the dogs at home.



RANGE OFFICERS NEED TO SELECT 2021 DATES. 2021 Duty dates are first come, first served and last I heard we are scheduled through April 2021 already.

Even if your schedule is completely open, go ahead and get it taken care of early when there are dates still available.

TRAP LEAGUE 2021 still NEEDS A LEADER. We are anticipating having a Trap League that begins in February. We need one of you good looking, charismatic trap shooters to take charge and return Trap League to its former glory!

Thank you to everyone who volunteers their time to keep both the TCSA mothership and the Shotgun Range open and running smoothly! The amount of work done each calendar year is impressive. From paving to painting, volunteers make it all happen.

Final random thought of the year: Why is Skeet so damn difficult? It is the same two birds thrown the same way from the same stations each and every time. I enjoy shooting skeet for some reason, it just doesn't seem to like me. It's like dating in high school all over again.

Shout out to **Filthy Phil Volkman** who broke 50 straight at skeet this past Saturday. I am pretty sure this is not the first time Phil has made it to 50 straight, but I have to live vicariously through someone's skeet accomplishments and this week it's Phil. Great shooting!

Regardless of how well you shoot we would like to wish everyone a **Happy Thanksgiving**, a **Merry Christmas**, and a **Happy New Year!**

Thank you for reading these rambling Shotgun Reports each month, admittedly some are better than others. The good news is that I enjoy writing them, so unless I get fired from this lucrative volunteer position, you're all stuck with me.

RSO INFORMATION

Get your 2021 Duty dates scheduled before the rush.

Please remember when you close up the skeet and trap houses at the end of each day, we need to make sure all of the machines are full to the top with targets and that we take all of the empty boxes to the dumpster.

Thank you for volunteering your time and keeping the Shotgun Range open and running smoothly.

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)

RATTLESNAKE MOUNTAIN STEEL SHOOTERS

By: Mike and Robbie Ensminger



We had a nice day and a good turnout for November, with 46 guns signed up. If the weather cooperates, we will shoot again January 3, shooter's meeting at 9:15.

If the forecast looks particularly nasty, please check the Rattlesnake Mountain Steel Shooters Facebook page or contact us at mikeberta4@gmail.com before making the trip to the Range. As usual, you can drop us an email to sign you up on a squad ahead of time if you have a group you would like to shoot with.

COWBOY ACTION

By: Mike and Robbie Ensminger

We are going to print before the November Match might take place, so whether we shot or not Thanksgiving weekend depended heavily on the weather forecast.



If the weather looks decent, we will be shooting again the day after Christmas, shooter's meeting at 9:15. If the weather looks cold and/or nasty, please check the Rattlesnake Gulch Facebook page or contact us at mikeberta4@gmail.com before making the drive.

PRIMITIVE RANGE

By: Clint Bouslaugh

Our next scheduled shoot will be on **December 19** from 9:00 to noon.



Keep the Range Clean

Keep **your** Range clean of trash and spent cartridges. Garbage cans are available and buckets are provided for spent cartridges.



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

PRACTICAL PISTOL

By: Pam Harper



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

NATIONAL NEWS: www.uspsa.org

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

The Steel Challenge: April 14-18
LOCAP Nationals: May 7-9
HICAP Carry Optics/PCC: Oct 16-18
HICAP Limited/Open: Oct 22-24

The USPSA Rules

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

LOCAL NEWS: The USPSA **November Match** had 24 competitors with 7/8 USPSA divisions represented. Social distancing fun was had by all! The Division winners were: Open: **Mark Bradley**; Carry Optics: **Rachel Harper**; Limited: **Curt Berger**; Limited 10: **Steven Froehlich**; PCC: **Warren Harper**; Production: **Perry McBreairty** and Revolver: **Gerald Ashbeck**.

Complete Results at:

https://clubs.practiscore.com/results/new/118451?q_division=0

EWPSA will be hosting their monthly **USPSA Match December 20**, limited to **40** participants is required, so sign up early. Registration should be done on Practiscore at <https://clubs.practiscore.com/ewpsa-2020-12/register>. 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.

Set-up for the Match will begin December 19, at 9:00 a.m. If you sign up as Staff, **help set up and tear down**, then you can 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](https://www.facebook.com/Eastern-Washington-Practical-Shooters-Association)

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

HIGH-POWER

By: John Hauptmann

Our **2020 Match Season is complete** and our **2021 Calendar** has been submitted to the TCSA BOD for review and comment; it will be posted on the High-Power web page at <https://www.tcsahighpower.org/> once it is approved. Our next Match is the **John Garand B-day Match** on **New Year's Day**. The Range remains open for informal High-Power RSO use, but please maintain social distancing and use common sense when you do so.

RANGE CLOSURES: None

MATCH REVISIONS: None.

The following COVID-19 adjustments to Match Operations will remain in place for the 2021 Match season:

- 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 scheduling a couple work parties this coming Spring, 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: The roads remain in good shape, but please still use common sense and keep your speed down, particularly on the corners. The Canyon can get a bit slippery in the winter and upper roads soft in the spring, so be careful.

CANYON GATE COMBINATION CHANGE: The Canyon gate combo was changed last Spring. As a TCSA High-Power RSO you were either provided the new combo when you signed up for your 2019 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.

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 509-308-0376 / b24jcg@gmail.com or High-Power Secretary **John Hauptmann** at 509-308-9230 / jhauptmann@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.

HIGH-POWER CALENDAR AND MATCH DESCRIPTIONS

By: Ron Jorgensen

The **High-Power Range Calendar of Events for 2021** is currently under review and revision. The new calendar will be available by mid-December on the High-Power website, www.tcsahighpower.org. The Match Descriptions are also being revised and should also be available by mid-December. Not only do the Match Descriptions provide detailed information on how the Match will be run, but they also include a complete listing with dates for the Match being described.

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. At this time, do not rely on the tcsa.info General Calendar for the latest match information.



RENEWAL SEASON IS AROUND THE CORNER. Renewals are already being received. The 2021 Membership Card is being designed! For those of you who have already renewed for this next coming year – your new membership card(s) **will be mailed in January**. And once again – we will have a firearm which will be given away to one lucky winner who renews early. Details will be in next month's Newsletter.

Renewal Forms can be found at the Rose-Iris Range and the Shotgun Range. They can also be printed from our website... www.tcsa.info, click the Join/Renew Tab and then click the link to the Membership Form.

Merry Christmas