

VISALIA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 105 VISALIA, CA 93279

Established 1893

JANUARY 2013

NEWSLETTER

FEDERAL TAX/EIN # 94-6095828

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

The next **BOARD MEETING** will be TUESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2013, **6:00 pm**. If you want to present an item for discussion at a board meeting, please contact a board member to be on the agenda. (Board meetings are held on the Tuesday before the general club meeting.)

The next **GENERAL MEETING** will be THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 2013, **7:00 PM**. Held on the second Thursday of the month, the general club meetings are open to all club members. New members are encouraged to attend the meetings to become more informed and more active in the club functions. The club is located just north of downtown Visalia at 500 E. Roosevelt Avenue, one block south of Houston Ave, just east off of Sante Fe. If you see the giant water tower...you found us!

Please contact any of the officers or board members for any issue or concern you may have regarding your Visalia Sportsmen's Association.

Club House phone # (answering machine): 559-635-7172

Don Wilson – President: 559-901-7606

Terry Fawkes – Vice president: 559-967-4854

Jeff Dearborn – Treasurer: 559-730-1829

Debbie Taylor – Secretary: 559-802-3426

Dirk Steelman - Exec. Vice pres. (**FFL operations**): 559-732-7726

Dennis Thornbury – Chairman of the Board: 559-732-4401

Mike Stimson – Board member: 559-280-3020

Frank Tebeau – Board member: 559-562-2448

Jeremy Chavez – Board member: 559-302-8718

Jim Mayfield – Board member: 559-802-7967

This just in, the January CCW class at the club house held by Daniel Mansergh has been cancelled. His next class will be February 4; the first Monday of the month. Details on page 3.

The **DECEMBER** club meeting was the election of officers and board members. Congratulations and welcome to our new club president **Don Wilson!!** Remaining officer positions are unchanged: V.P.=Terry Fawkes; Treasurer=Jeff Dearborn; Secretary=Debbie Taylor. Our outgoing president, Dennis Thornbury, now becomes our "Chairman of the Board" and the other board member change is that Jim Mayfield was elected to replace the position held by Loren Metzler. Bylaws of the association dictate that the president appoints an additional four board members. Word on the appointed board members should be given at the January club meeting.

Thank you to Dennis Thornbury for his service as club president for the past two years. He made the job as president look effortless and his knowledge and experience as President of the NBRSA (National Benchrest Shooters Association) really help guide our club and range.

Terry Fawkes presented rules regarding minors using handguns at our range. These rules closely mirror the regulations of California law and safety guidelines. These rules appear on **PAGE 4** of this newsletter. Terry also reported that the RSOs are doing a good job of keeping the range in a clean and orderly manner...thank you!

Jim Mayfield reported that there were 48 one-day shooters at the range in November. He also mentioned that there continue to be several winners at each club meeting due to the numerous drawings that are held each month. There were 4 new club members attending the December general club meeting.

Jim explained that the VSA 3-Gun Raffle tickets were being mailed to all of our current club members. The drawing is one of the major fundraisers held by the club to keep our programs and facilities operating at current levels and to help cover unexpected costs due to maintenance and repairs, etc. To all of our members please purchase or "sell" your tickets to someone else! If you are unable to participate, please return the tickets by mail or hand deliver to the range or club and we will make sure that they will go to a good "home". There are three guns that will be given away by drawing three (3) separate tickets. Please indicate your preference – in order as marked on the ticket stub – of the gun(s) you could win. Tickets will be drawn at the **Wild Game Feed on April 13th**.

The **Wild Game Feed** on April 13th can only be a success if we receive enough meat, fish and poultry donations to make it happen. We need all kinds of wild game! Did you have a successful harvest? Call Jim at 802-7967 to arrange for your donation. Our W-G-F is free to all club members and is a whole lot of fun! Set aside the date!

2 Wed Public Shoot Darrell Smith/Bill & Alane Shearer	2 Sat Public Shoot Ted Phipps/John Hull/Russ Broyles
5 Sat Public Shoot C Calloway/J Cornelison/Lee Miller	3 Sun Public Shoot Ted Phipps/John Hull/Russ Broyles
6 Sun Public Shoot C Calloway/F Tebeau/Ray Larson	3 Sun 4-H at 3pm
6 Sun 4-H at 3 pm	6 Wed Public Shoot Tom Bell/Bill Fulmer/Riley Darby
9 Wed Public Shoot John Gerard/???/???	9 Sat Public Shoot Steve Brelsford/Lee Miller/R Darby
12 Sat Public Shoot R Rodriguez/M Stimson/J Cornelison	10 Sun High Power/JR. Rifle/4-H at 3 pm
13 Sun High Power Match/Junior Rifle/4-H at 3 pm	13 Wed Public Shoot Mike Renzi/John Gerard/B Marsh
16 Wed Public Shoot Mayfield/Malone/John Hull/John Gerard	16 Sat CBRSA Help keep the shooters going,
19 Sat Public Shoot Ted Phipps/John Hull/Russ Broyles	17 Sun CBRSA volunteer to help BBQ lunch
20 Sun Public Shoot Ted Phipps/John Hull/Russ Broyles	20 Wed Public Shoot Bill Lee/Mike Renzi/John Gerard
20 Sun 4-H at 3 pm	23 Sat Public Shoot B Fulmer/Bill Fulmer/Cornelison
23 Wed Public Shoot Mike Renzi/Bob Marsh/Don Wilson	24 Sun High Power/JR. Rifle/4-H at 3 pm
26 Sat Public Shoot Brian Fulmer/Bill Fulmer/J Cornelison	27 Wed Public Shoot Tom Bell/Bill Fulmer/Mike Benyo
27 Sun Black powder/Junior Rifle/High Power/4-H at 3 pm	
30 Wed Public Shoot Mike Renzi/Mike Benyo/Darrell Smith	

Regular range hours are 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. for public shoot days. **Range Safety Officers** need to be on duty for the posted times. Please contact the following for more info on the special shoots scheduled at the range: **Black Powder** – Alan Reed 739-7402, **High Power/Jr. Rifle Club** – Steve Quinn 686-1945, steveq@carifle.com **CBRSA** – Dennis Thornbury 732-4401.
The range is closed to all other shooters on match shoot days, observers are always welcome.

More from the December club meeting:

Loren Metzler, Hunter Safety Education instructor, reported that classes will start in April. Dates to be determined. Loren also stated that the **VSA Junior Pheasant Hunt** will be held Saturday, January 26th. Juniors and women that pass the hunter ed classes have priority registration. If there are openings left, junior and women VSA club members are eligible for the hunt. Please contact Loren at **625-5229**, if you would like to sign up. Volunteers and donations are also needed for the junior hunt. We need help in signing in hunters, cooking lunch, coordinating fields and hunters. Donations are requested for give-aways and drawing prizes. Do you have a youth shotgun you could donate? How about hats, targets, ammo, t-shirts, hunting vests, safety glasses? The goal is to have every participant receive something as a reminder of their hard work. Contact Loren to volunteer or donate goods.

Have you heard about the **proposal to revamp the pistol shooting area**? Don Wilson and Jim Edwards introduced to the members a preliminary plan to create 9 pistol shooting lanes at the same level as the rifle range. That would have the shooting line/benches and the red cease fire line all on the same plane. Plans would include a pistol target retrieval system so targets could be placed as needed without calling for line breaks and having shooters go down range. This area would also hopefully accommodate 4-H and junior programs an addition to future programs. Don and Jim and our board members are looking for ideas and input from all of our members.

THANK YOU! Randy Scheer for donating a pellet gun and two rifle scopes for our family dinner drawings.

THANK YOU! Don Rose for donating two elk hindquarters for our wild game feed.

FOR SALE: Russian SKS rifle, 7.62x39, black synthetic stock with 600 rounds ammo.

Asking \$500. Please call Leroy at 559- 734-7500.

FOR SALE: Front Sight Firearms Training Institute “Patriot Level” Lifetime membership.

Please contact Tyler Waters for more info: 559-593-3440.

Another choice for your **CCW PERMIT CLASS** is certified instructor VERN DAVIS. Vern holds the class on Saturdays (at least 2 times per month) in Springville. Classes fill quickly. Plan ahead before your current permit expires! Cost for the class is \$35.00. Call Vern Davis at 559-539-0282 for info.

Did you make it to our December **FAMILY DINNER**? We had over 80 members and friends for a great ham and deep pit beef dinner that included all the fixin’s. And, was it ever great!!!!!! Mike Stimson and Art Dorado and the rest of the crew really hit a home run. The members playing “*Sportco*” after dinner had fun trying to figure out what “game” I was calling for the last go-round. It was a great way to close the evening.

The January **FAMILY DINNER** will be Saturday, January 12th. The family dinner are held the Saturday after the general club meeting and are open to all club members, family and their guests. Please call the club phone number [559-635-7172] for your RSVP count. Would you consider making a side dish or desert to bring? It would be greatly appreciated. We are always in need of a few hands to help set up during the day, cook and serve at dinner as well as lending a hand to clean up afterwards. (Just come to the club early in the day or jump in when you see where you can be of help! Dinners are \$10 for adults and \$5 for the smaller kids. There is extra parking in the side lot adjacent to the inside regular parking area. The outside patio has screens and heaters for your comfort.

CCW Permit Classes: Daniel Mansergh conducts the CCW permit classes once a month, (**The JANUARY class has been cancelled. The next class will be the first MONDAY in February (2-4-13)**) at the VSA club house. Classes are held from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and are free to club members. He is an approved instructor for Tulare, Kings and Fresno Counties (*Fresno County* requires live fire range time which will be at the range at 3:00 p.m. Please call Daniel to confirm your range time.). Daniel said there is no need to call ahead, just show up with your California ID and current VSA membership card or processed yellow copy of the application. *He will not accept membership applications or renewals at the CCW class.* Non-members are welcome to attend for \$30.00 per person. **Florida CCW permit instruction** is now available for an additional \$30.00 per person and an extra hour of class. For more information please call Daniel Mansergh at 559-741-3774; danielmansergh@gmail.com.

Misc. stuff:

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the end of the year is the “traditional” membership renewal time for many of our members. Check your card, and if you need a renewal form or an application for a family member or friend please send an e-mail request to me at visaliasportsmen@hotmail.com or pick one up at the club or the range.

I had one astute reader of the December newsletter that e-mailed me about the statistics of deer vs. auto collisions. John wanted to know if it was “obama-mania” to have 51 states. Hawaii was ranked 51st of all the states to have a deer collision. Yep, 51 states. For statistical purposes, State Farm Insurance counts Puerto Rico as a state.

Another member wanted to know how to access the club house grounds to use the game cleaning rack if he was successful on a hunt. The main point of contact for that would be Jim Mayfield. Next on the list would be other officers and board members. We also have a large walk-in cold box available and sausage making grinders and meat slicers as well. Please clean up the work area and equipment better than you found it.

Our club house is available for club member use at no charge. There have been birthdays, anniversaries and memorial events held recently. A few of our members have reserved the club house for use by the organizations they belong to (mounted police, motorcycle club, etc., to name a few). Call Jim Mayfield 802-7967 for details.

What do you need to know if you want to buy a gun at an out of town gun show? How does it get from the seller/dealer to Dirk, our club’s FFL holder? I’ll get more info in the near future, but here’s a basic for transfers to any local dealer. The selling dealer will (probably) be glad to help you. There is a central list of FFL dealers that the California Department of Justice maintains for dealers to access to check to see if the receiving dealer is legit and current. It has dealer contact info listed as well.

You will want to call your prospective receiving dealer BEFORE a gun is purchased. Dealers can set their own price to handle incoming firearm transfers. Many dealers have handling charges in excess of \$100.00! It offsets the “cost” of doing business and keeping the doors open as well as recovering some of the “lost revenue” of not selling the firearm. Check with the dealer and ask their fees. Get to know your local gun dealer. You don’t have to be their number one customer. But make an effort to know their names and let them be able to recognize your face.

You will also want to call the receiving dealer BEFORE A GUN IS SHIPPED. There’s nothing like having UPS or FedEx show up at your business and delivering a gun with no knowledge of who the receiving customer is! If they are a high volume dealer...can you imagine trying to figure out where that “free” gun came from and who it goes to? (It is equally puzzling to the small volume dealers as well.)

Does a person need to be a club member to attend the Hunter Safety Education classes? No. As a club member benefit there is no charge for the class for members. Non-member attendees pay a nominal fee for class materials.

The HSE instructors are “employees” of the State of California. Classes are always open to the general public. You could be in another part of the state and attend a HSE class. There are some classes that are offered in different languages such as Spanish and Hmong. Search the data base at the Department of Fish and Game.

I recently received this by e-mail: “I have a friend at work that is interested in joining our club, could you please pass on some names and numbers so he can join?” That was an easy one...I e-mailed him an application. Applications are also available at the club and the range. It is easier to fill out at home or work without the distraction of an active range. Just remember to tell your buddy to **print clearly, accurately and completely**. It’s hard to believe, but some members don’t know their e- address or their house number and the street they live on.

Dave Hamilton
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RULES FOR CHILDREN AND HANDGUN SHOOTING

NO CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF TEN (10) YEARS OLD WILL BE ALLOWED TO FIRE A HAND GUN.

CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF TEN (10) AND TWELVE (12) ARE ONLY ALLOWED TO SHOOT A RIM-FIRE HAND GUN.

CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF THIRTEEN (13) AND EIGHTEEN (18) WILL BE ALLOWED TO SHOOT A CENTER-FIRE HAND GUN.

ALL CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF TEN (10) AND EIGHTEEN (18) ARE REQUIRED TO HAVE AN ADULT WITHIN AN ARMS LENGTH WHILE FIRING A HAND GUN.

RSO's and members: First time minors with their family/guardian/responsible adult requesting to shoot a handgun will be required to have RSO observation.

(Jan. 2013)

Advertisements in the VSA newsletter are only \$100.00 per year. That's \$8.33 per month to reach nearly 1,300 total members! We have space to present your business or organization. Contact Chris Norman, newsletter editor, at 661-805-0164, visaliasportsmen@hotmail.com; or, Jeff Dearborn, Treasurer, at 559-730-1829.