

# VISALIA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 105 VISALIA, CA 93279

Established 1893

MARCH 2013

## NEWSLETTER

FEDERAL TAX/EIN # 94-6095828

The next **BOARD MEETING** will be TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 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, MARCH 14, 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

Royce Nalls – Board member 559-730-8485

Eddie Thomas – Board member 530-391-8661

Dirk Steelman – Executive Vice President (**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

Loren Metzler – Board member 559-280-8287

Bob Marsh – Board member: 559-901-4882

Robert Seitz – Sergeant at Arms

**REMINDER:** Saturday, March 2, is our SPRING CLEAN UP DAY at the RANGE. Gates will open about 6:50 am. It will be a bit cool first thing but will warm up as we get to work. I received notice that we need guys/gals with cordless drill drivers to apply new target line numbers to the railroad ties on the range. In addition to the regular items of weeding, raking, cleaning the block house and grounds, and cleaning the pistol lane area, it was mentioned that our water tank needs a face lift with a new coat of paint. We'll also be able to keep several people busy working on the steel gongs at the end of the range. As always, there will be a free BBQ lunch and plenty of liquids to make sure you do not get dehydrated. Bring some \$\$ to participate in some of the drawings.

The March **FAMILY DINNER** will be Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>. The family dinners 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. Dinners are \$10 for adults and \$5 for the smaller kids.

At the **FEBRUARY** club meeting, there was great discussion over the draft of a letter (it was decided by the membership at the January club meeting to have the VSA board send a letter on behalf of our membership) to the Visalia Dick's Sporting Goods store about our displeasure of the corporate decision to eliminate sales of modern sporting rifles (AR-type) at all of their stores. The letter also stated that the club is encouraging our members and their family and friends to boycott the retail store chain. With over 80 folks in attendance at the meeting much of the heated discussion revolved around trying to hear what was read and deciphering the motions made by members to include or eliminate some contents of the letter. With a few restarts and re-readings, everyone got the message and a majority voted to send the letter of protest to the local retail store. It was clear to everyone in attendance that they stand strong in their support of free choice, free markets, less government intrusion, and being heard!

Jim Mayfield reported that there were 47 one-day shooters at the range in January. The rate of tickets returned to be entered into the THREE GUN DRAWING has been brisk. He encouraged everyone to get their tickets returned even if you are not entering the drawing so that they may be available to others. In addition to drawing the three gun tickets at the **wild game feed** on April 13<sup>th</sup>, there is a special drawing for a chance to win a Ruger Mini-14 Ranch rifle.

Don Wilson, president, stated that the interest in reconstructing the pistol lanes is continuing and that to help protect our investment in the range infrastructure, the board desires to renegotiate our lease for a 20-year term.

**RSO's:** The next "official" NRA RSO training class will be SUNDAY, MAY 5<sup>th</sup> at the VSA club house. Have you started or completed your on-the-job-training but have not been through this training class...then this class is for you! Interested in becoming an RSO for our club or for any other organization?...this class is for you. (more later.)

2 Sat <b>RANGE CLEAN UP</b> We need your help. C U there	3 Wed Public Shoot C Norman/D Wilson/G Lickey
3 Sun Public Shoot L Cote/ Jeff Dearborn/ Galen Brummer <b>4-H at 3:30 pm</b>	6 Sat Public Shoot Jim-Mark-Eric Price
6 Wed Public Shoot Tom Bell/Bill Fulmer/Marty Malone	7 Sun Public Shoot L Cote/J Dearborn/Galen Brummer
9 Sat Public Shoot Frank Tebeau/Chris Norman/Ray Larson	10 Wed Public Shoot David Maloy/R Darby/G Lickey
10 Sun <b>High Power match/JR. Rifle/High Power practice</b> <b>4-H at 3:30 pm</b>	11 Thur <b>Tac-Trainers</b>
13 Wed Public Shoot Jim Mayfield/John Hull/Bob Marsh	13 Sat Public Shoot J Sindlinger/T Holmes/Jim Shaw
14 Thur <b>Tac-Trainers</b> 9 to 1pm	14 Sun <b>High Power Match/Jr. Rifle/HiPower Practice</b> <b>4-H at 3:30 pm</b>
16 Sat Public Shoot Lee Miller/Jim Shaw/Matt Hopper	17 Wed Public Shoot J Mayfield/John Hull/D Smith
17 Sun Public Shoot Kyle Kinsel/Brian Simons/Jim Johnson	20 Sat <b>CBRSA (Benchrest) Match</b>
20 Wed Public Shoot Tom Bell/Bill Fulmer/Gene Lickey	21 Sun <b>CBRSA (Benchrest) Match</b>
23 Sat Public Shoot Jeff Sindlinger/Tom Holmes/Bill Bruno	24 Wed Public Shoot Bill Lee/M Malone/Bob Marsh
24 Sun <b>Black Powder/High Power/JR. Rifle/</b> <b>4-H at 3:30 pm</b>	25 Thur <b>Tac-Trainers</b>
27 Wed Public Shoot Bill Lee/Riley Darby/Gene Lickey	27 Sat Public Shoot C Henning/M Benyo/M Hopper
28 Thur <b>Tac-Trainers</b> 9 to 1 pm	28 Sun <b>Black Powder/ Jr. Rifle/High Power practice</b> <b>4-H at 3:30 pm</b>
30 Sat Public Shoot Brian Fulmer/Bill Fulmer/Bill Bruno	Range schedules are subject to change without notice. If you are driving a fair distance to get to the range you may want to call the range to confirm its status. Same for RSO's traveling to the range on a "closed" day.
31 Sun Public Shoot Mike Benyo/Mike Stimson/???	

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](mailto:steveq@carifle.com) **CBRSA** – Dennis Thornbury 732-4401. **TacTrainers** – John Linenbach 559-451-1132 will have the range 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, 9a.m. to 1 p.m. each month. The range is closed to all other shooters on match shoot days, observers are always welcome.

Loren Metzler, Hunter Safety Education instructor, reports that the first class of the year will be held Saturday, APRIL 6, at the VSA club house. The HSE class is free for club members. You must call Loren Metzler in advance of the class **559-625-5220**, to receive your registration and study materials. Non-members will need to pick up their materials and pay a \$10 fee at *Easley's Sporting Goods*, 8627-G Goshen Blvd., Visalia, phone 651-2525. Class size is limited. There are **FOUR CLASSES** this year held at the VSA club house. The other dates are May 18, June 8, and August 24. **DON'T WAIT** for the August class which is fully booked well in advance of the August date.

The **Wild Game Feed** on April 13<sup>th</sup> 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! Save the date!!

In addition to the three-gun drawing that will be held at the W-G-F, there is a special drawing for your opportunity to win a Ruger Mini-14 Ranch Rifle. Only 200 tickets are available at \$10.00 each. Call Jim for details.

Would you consider making a side dish or desert to bring for one of the family dinners or for the wild game feed? Surprise us with your one of your family favorites! 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! There is extra parking in the side lot adjacent to the inside regular parking area. There is outside patio seating with screens and heaters.

**Fishing with Marty** – He is planning for a great trip out to sea in a couple of months. To help offset the cost of the charter, several club members have drawing tickets available for your chance to win a gun. For more info, please call Marty Malone at 559-331-2098.

**Coming up at the MARCH MEETING:** Club members will be introduced to some of the members of the *C.O.S. Women's Equestrian Team* and will hear about their upcoming fundraiser dinner – “*The Beast Feast*”. The “*Beast Feast*” dinner will feature exotic meats such as buffalo, elk and alligator. The dinner will be held in May at the C.O.S. Tulare College campus Livestock Pavilion. In addition, there will be a live and silent auction for some great items. Come meet these outstanding young ladies and their coach, Kim Pitgiliano, at the March 14 meeting. For dinner tickets, please contact the COS Foundation at 559-730-3861. For more info about the equestrian team and their program, or for donations or sponsorship opportunities, please call coach Kim at 559-731-1010.

The **Visalia Friends of NRA Dinner Banquet and Auction** will be held Saturday, April 27, 2013, at the Visalia Son's of Italy hall. Your help on the committee would help make a difference in the success of the dinner and the programs it supports. Give Don Wilson a call at 559-901-7606, or Mike Stimson at 559-280-3020 for more information on donations, fundraising and ticket sales. The Visalia dinner committee is one of the most successful in the state of California! Let's get moving and break some records!!

The *Exeter Friends of NRA Dinner Banquet and Auction* will be held Thursday, MARCH 28, 2013, at the Exeter Memorial Building, 324 N. Kaweah Ave. For more information about sponsorships, donations, table packages, or to buy dinner and drawing tickets please contact:  
Dan Weare at 559-309-8857 (email: [drwnra@gmail.com](mailto:drwnra@gmail.com)); or Glen Black at 559-303-3164.

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.

**COMING UP:** Get your **UTAH** and/or **ARIZONA CCW PERMIT**. The class will be Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, at the VSA club house. The UTAH-only cost is \$100.00. The ARIZONA-only cost is \$40.00. Both UT and AZ for \$120. The cost of the class includes fingerprinting, passport-size photo and CCW applications for the states. Please contact Jeff Dearborn at 559-730-1829 for details, times and to reserve your spot in class.

**COMING UP:** Central Valley Sportsman's Boat, RV and Outdoor Show – 36<sup>th</sup> Annual – at the Kern County Fairgrounds, Bakersfield, April 5,6,7. Some of the attractions will be: *Berkley Kid's* trout pond and fishing derby; field dog training and agility; kids bounce houses, rock walls and laser tag; “*Fastest on the Planet 2013 Sand Drags*”; youth archery, fly tying and casting; rodeo exhibition riding; lodging; sport fishing; seminars; and more! For information and booth space reservations call: Mike or Donna Hatcher 661-393-0793, or 800-725-0793.

**COMING UP:** The **16<sup>th</sup> Annual Sportsmen's Swap Meet** at the Fresno County Sportsmen's Club, **Saturday, March 9, 2013**. The address is: 10645 North Lanes Road, Fresno. Gates open to buyers 8 am to 1 pm. Admission is \$8.00 per person. Want to rent a space to sell your wares? Reserve early and get a table inside, limited to 50 provided tables. The grounds have unlimited rental spaces and may be purchased and set up the day of the show, however, no tables are provided for outdoors. Rental space is \$10.00 per space. Reservations must be received by March 2. Seller helpers must pay a \$5.00 entrance fee. Swap meet will be held rain or shine. A pancake breakfast and deep-pit beef sandwiches for lunch will be available for purchase. For more information or for space reservations, please call Douglas Bowman, chairman, at 559-999-2346.

**FOR SALE:** Remington 700 BDL, 8mm magnum, action is bedded, barrel is *Magna-Ported*. This gun was purchased new in 1977 and is in great condition. (Lots of brass and dies are available (extra) as well.) Please call Don Fowler at 799-5555 for more info.

**FOR SALE:** Black powder – **3F** (FFF) and **4F** (FFFF) – Contact Richard Caine at 559-733-9841.

**FOR TRADE:** Taurus .40 S&W pistol. Owner is looking to trade for a .38 revolver with 2-inch barrel. Contact Bob Martin at 559-904-8641.

**FREE-FREE-FREE:** Male black Labrador dog. He's a dedicated, handsome fella that has been living on 3.5 acres out in the country. Due to a change in marital status the owners need to find him another home in a country setting. He's great at keeping the gophers and squirrels off the property. He's a very lovable dog; he likes other dogs and people; he's been altered; and he minds his manners. He is about 6 years old and is about 65 pounds. Ideally, the owners state, they would like to see him stay in a country setting rather than a house or back yard in the city. He would also come with his own bachelor pad (dog house). Please call Debbie Taylor at **559-802-3426**.


**THANK YOU:** Gross & Stevens Brake & Wheel Service for replacing the axle on the club's BBQ trailer as well as providing a spare tire. Thanks for supporting the *Visalia Sportsmen's Association!*

**CCW Permit Classes:** Daniel Mansergh conducts the CCW permit classes once a month, at the VSA club house. Classes are the first Monday of the month. (**3-4-2013**.) 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](mailto:danielmansergh@gmail.com).

**RSO's and 4-H participants:** 4-H Practice start times have been changed to 3:30 pm for the remainder of the VSA range schedule year (and beyond). Please do not allow 4-H shooters to approach the block house before this time. RSO's still need to clear the range and shooting areas as well as following thorough with the rest of their closing duties. Thank you for your cooperation.

**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 ARM'S 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 over 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](mailto:visaliasportsmen@hotmail.com); or, Jeff Dearborn, Treasurer, at 559-730-1829.

**Range clean up – Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>!!**

**RSO's** are the folks in charge of our range and its operation and appearance. RSO's need to be firm and fair when exercising and enforcing the range rules and procedures as well as maintaining flexibility to work with the needs of our members. There are incident report forms that need to be filled out if there is an accident or injury or inappropriate behavior. RSO's are our "public relations" and "information officers" and often are the point of contact for our members and public shooters. The officers and board members of the club are equally firm about the conduct of our RSO's. If you see an RSO not upholding his end of the bargain to be a good role model or neglecting his or her duties, please inform our vice president, range operations, Terry Fawkes, or any board member. Likewise, if you see an RSO going above and beyond and providing excellent service we would like to hear about that as well. Please note as much detail as possible: who, what, when, where, etc.