

VISALIA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 105 VISALIA, CA 93279

Established 1893

MAY 2013

NEWSLETTER

FEDERAL TAX/EIN # 94-6095828

The next **BOARD MEETING** will be TUESDAY, MAY 7, 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, MAY 9, 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	Dennis Thornbury – Chairman of the Board:	559-732-4401
Don Wilson – President:	559-901-7606	Mike Stimson – Board member:	559-280-3020
Terry Fawkes – Vice president:	559-967-4854	Frank Tebeau – Board member:	559-562-2448
Jeff Dearborn – Treasurer:	559-730-1829	Jeremy Chavez – Board member:	559-302-8718
Debbie Taylor – Secretary:	559-802-3426	Jim Mayfield – Board member:	559-802-7967
Royce Nalls – Board member	559-730-8485	Loren Metzler – Board member	559-280-8287
Eddie Thomas – Board member	530-391-8661	Bob Marsh – Board member:	559-901-4882
Dirk Steelman – Executive Vice President (FFL operations):	559-732-7726	Robert Seitz – Sergeant at Arms	

CORRECTION: In the April newsletter, the phone number for the Hunter Safety Education class (instructor Loren Metzler) was incorrect. The correct phone number is **559-625-5229**. I apologize for any inconvenience that may have caused.

This just in: The *Hunter Safety Education class* for MAY 18 has been cancelled. The next scheduled class will be held Saturday, June 8, 2013, at the VSA clubhouse.

At the **APRIL Board Meeting:** (From minutes of the meeting provided to the newsletter editor.) The open position on the board was filled according to club by-laws. The 9 members of the executive members of the board voted after hearing from Sean Vedenoff and Don Fowler stating their desire to serve of the board. Congratulations to Sean Vedenoff for winning the position on the board. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to have Don Fowler serve as club counsel.

Art Dorado made a motion to have the Sosa sisters sing at the next general meeting. Motion passed.

Eddie Thomas suggested that the club set aside one day per month for archery shoots. Loren Metzler made a motion to set up a committee to research the idea of archery shooting at the range. Motion seconded and passed. In a motion by Royce Nalls, Eddie Thomas was appointed as committee chair.

A treasurer's report was read. The club had a beginning bank balance of: \$49,480.00; Deposits of: \$9,421.00; Checks written of: \$17,980.00; and an ending balance of \$50,920.00.

Jim Mayfield advised the board that Esther Gipson wants to present a trophy to Junior Rifle Club member Montana Tarkington at the April general meeting. A member wanted to trade some kitchen equipment for a lifetime membership. Royce Nalls will research the value of the items for trade and will advise the club/board. Dirk Steelman made a motion to sell water during the general meeting. Motion was seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

At the **APRIL General Meeting:** Montana Tarkington, Junior Rifle Club member, was presented a trophy. Montana read a condensed version of a school paper she wrote concerning her experiences in the Junior Rifle/4-H program and the Second Amendment. (An excerpt of her school paper appears on page three of this newsletter.)

At the **Wild Game Feed:** It sounded like there was a good turnout and everyone had a great meal and a lot of fun. Dirk Steelman reported that the winners of the Three-Gun Drawing were: Alex Martinez – pistol; Dave Miller – shotgun; Mark Coppola – rifle. Congratulations! Sorry, no word on the winner of the Ruger Mini-14 rifle.

WANTED: IMR #4831 Powder. 1 pound or more for an important upcoming shoot. Call Don Fowler 799-5555. ***Don't forget about the COS Equestrian team *Beast Feast* on May 18. Call 559-730-3861 for tickets and info.**

1 Wed Public Shoot C Norman/Steve Bresford/Rick Souza	1 Sat Public Shoot C Calloway/Sindlinger/Tom Holmes
4 Sat County 4-H Match (all day)	2 Sun Public Shoot C Calloway/Jeff Dearborn/R Larson 4-H at 3:30 pm
5 Sun Public Shoot Brian Fulmer/Bill Fulmer/Brian Simmons 4-H at 3:30 pm	5 Wed Public Shoot David Maloy/Mike Benyo/D Brown
8 Wed Public Shoot David Maloy/Don Wilson/???	8 Sat Public Shoot J Sindlinger/T Holmes/G Brummer
9 Thu Tac trainers	9 Sun High Power Match/JR Practice/4-H
11 Sat Public Shoot Jeff Alcorn/Raul Rodriguez/M Stimson	12 Wed Public Shoot Jim Mayfield/ John Hull/M Malone
12 Sun Hi Power Match/Junior Practice 4-H (all day)	15 Sat CBRSA Benchrest shooters will also arrive on
15 Wed Public Shoot Riley Darby/Darrell Smith/Ken Schmidt	16 Sun CBRSA Friday to set up the range.
18 Sat Public Shoot R Rodriguez/Mike Stimson/Jim Shaw	19 Wed Public Shoot Bill Lee/Mike Benyo/Earl Grimes
19 Sun Black Powder/High Power/Jr. Rifle/4-H	22 Sat Public Shoot Lee Miller/M Hopper/K Schmidt
22 Wed Public Shoot Bill Lee/Steve Bresford/Earl Grimes	23 Sun Public Shoot C Henning/K Kinsel/K Schmidt
23 Thur Tac Trainers	26 Wed Public Shoot D Maloy/R Darby/Don Wilson
25 Sat Public Shoot Jeff Sindlinger/T Holmes/Manuel Garcia	29 Sat Public Shoot D Barnhart/L Metzler/S Vedenoff
26 Sun Public Shoot C Henning/Kyle Kinsel/David Brown	30 Sun Black powder Match/High Power/JR practice 4-H
27 Mon Memorial Day	
Remember and Honor our fallen veterans. Thank a veteran or serviceman/woman for their service.	
29 Wed Public Shoot Mike Benyo/S Brelsford/Jim Johnson	

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. **TacTrainers** – John Linenbach 559-451-1132 will have the range 2nd and 4th Thursday, 9a.m. to 1 p.m. each month. The range schedule is subject to change without notice.

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 next class will be held JUNE 8th at the VSA club house. The class is free for club members. You must call Loren Metzler (**559-625-5229**) in advance of the class 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. The other scheduled class is August 24. DON'T WAIT for the August class which will be fully booked well in advance of the August date.

RSO's: The next "official" NRA **RSO training class will be SUNDAY, MAY 5th** 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. Contact Terry Fawkes at 559-967-4854, so he can order the program materials for you.

The annual **VSA SWAP MEET** is scheduled for Saturday, June 22, at the clubhouse. Please call Riley Darby for more info or to reserve your table space: 559-625-1048. Members will have free table or parking lot area space. Admission is free to everyone. New and used sporting goods items: boats, camping, hunting, fishing, etc.

Fishing with Marty – JULY 13. He is planning for a great trip out to sea from the central coast area. To help offset the cost of the charter, there are drawing tickets available for your chance to win a gun. Marty needs some volunteers to help sell the tickets to family, friends and co-workers. For more info, please call Marty Malone at 559-331-2098.

The **Junior Rifle Club/4-H** shooting program received an approximately 4 to 6 month supply of .22lr ammo. Thank you to everyone for their donations. Instructor Steve Quinn stated that the need for ammo is still there to cover the months of waiting for the manufacturing/distribution supply to catch up. Most distributors are not creating back-order lists at this time. If you have .22lr ammo to donate, lend (replaced/returned when an order arrives) or sell to the program, it would be greatly appreciated. The bulk boxes of 325/500 standard velocity rounds is what they need and mostly use for practice. Steve mentioned that funds are available to buy your reasonably priced ammo if you are so inclined. Donations can be brought to the club or to the range. For more info, contact Steve Quinn at: 559-686-1945, or email at steveq@carifle.com. Once again, THANK YOU!

FOR SALE: Shotgun reloading equipment and supplies for 12- and 20- gauge: Four shotgun presses (two are junior presses; at least one is progressive; and another is like new in the box) all are used but very good or like new. There are primers, shot, powder, and hulls. Wants to sell as one lot. Contact Edna Ikerd at 559-732-9384.

At the **APRIL** general club meeting, Montana Tarkington was presented her trophy for winning the 2012 County 4-H Match shoot. She also read a couple pages from a school research paper project, one of which is presented here:

“The Right to Choose”

We have always prided ourselves on our freedom. Freedom is the standard that America has always held high. We should be allowed...no, we should demand...the right to choose. Our constitution does not force people to own a gun. Even so, it should not force individuals to surrender their guns.

Too many people assume that guns are used to murder and kill. That is not the case. Gage B., age 11; Jaden L., age 15; Jeremiah L., age 15; and myself, age 17; we are all members of a rifle club that specializes in target shooting. We compete in competitions and for us, the rigorous sport that puts the smell of gun powder on our clothes takes the place of other sports that we either have no interest in, or lack the ability to participate in.

How can an eleven year old be considered an evil person? When asked how shooting made him feel, the kind-eyed kid...who wouldn't hurt a fly...replied, “It feels nice...’cause you’re having fun.” His smile could light up a room, and he is one of the sweetest and most thoughtful kids you will ever meet. How can he be anything except innocent and pure hearted? “Guns don't kill people, people kill people.” Lippincott, the sharp-shooter and sometimes dabbler in political debates, captured in that single statement the truth of it. Guns are inanimate objects...they don't possess the capacity to make a decision to hurt or kill someone or something. People make that decision for them.

When asked how long he had been shooting, Jeremiah replied, “4 years.” That was 4 years without changes in thought or action. That was 4 years without harming a single person. That was 4 years of laughter, fun, and good times. That was 4 years that a boy shot a rifle constantly...without his eyes turning red or horns appearing on his head.

We are individuals...every single one of us has different likes and dislikes. It is about time we learned to accept those differences, instead of persecuting the innocent. There is no such thing as weird, strange, or outcast in this world. Those labels are just artificial constructs used by people to describe those they lack the ability to understand. Maybe, if we focused more on changing ourselves, the suicide rates, and the homicide rates would fall. Let's face it, guns don't make you want to kill yourself, or kill someone else. Those emotions are given to you by your fellow human beings. If we care for our comrades, and temper our cruel judgments with kindness, the darkness would dissipate.


Some people dislike guns, yes, that is true. Some people dislike soda, some people dislike alcohol, some people dislike gays. We cannot base our laws on what some people dislike. Our differences make us stronger...and we have the right, the inalienable right, to make our own choices. It isn't a matter of emotion; in all truth...it isn't even a matter of rationality. It is a matter of what is right, of what was, and of what should be. Support free choice, support the Second Amendment, support freedom.

CCW Permit Classes: Daniel Mansergh conducts the CCW permit classes once a month, at the VSA club house. Classes are held the first Monday of the month from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and are free to club members. There is no need to call ahead, just show up with your California ID and proof of current VSA membership. *He will not accept membership applications or renewals at the CCW class.* Non-members are welcome to attend for \$30.00 per person. Receive **Arizona or Florida CCW permit instruction** for an additional \$30.00 per person and an extra hour of class. He is approved for Tulare, Kings and Fresno Counties (*Kings* and *Fresno County* residents must qualify with their carry weapons. Range time will be scheduled at the class. No need to call first.) For more info, please call Daniel Mansergh at 559-741-3774; danielmansergh@gmail.com.

WOMEN'S BEGINNING HANDGUN CLASS: LADIES – This class is just for you (daughters, too)! This class will cover the basics of handgun shooting, safety, ownership, and maintenance. It will be held on two weeknights; the first evening class session will be Tuesday, May 14, 6:00 to 9:00 pm at the VSA clubhouse; the second evening, Thursday, May 16, will be at the VSA range for live fire practice, 5:00 to 8:30 pm. There is **no charge** and the class is open to VSA members and non-members as well. Contact Jeff Dearborn at 559-730-1829; Ray Larson at usp40sw@yahoo.com.

For the Thursday live fire session at the range, please bring your handgun(s) and ammo. Eye and ear protection will be required (loaners are available at the range). Yes, ammo is difficult to find...if you have some that you could share with other participants, please bring it with you. Transport your guns and ammo in a locked container – it doesn't have to be fancy – or in the trunk of your car. *Are you thinking of buying a handgun?* You will need a Handgun Safety Certificate – you can take the test during the class. The test is 30 questions and study guide booklets will be available for use. Cost is \$25.00.

Dave Hamilton
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Direct: 559-625-6955
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Mailing Address:
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RULES FOR MINORS AND HANDGUN SHOOTING

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

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

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

ALL MINORS 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 1,500 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.

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.

JUNIOR WATERFOWL DAY – Saturday, MAY 25, 2013 at Kingsburg Gun Club sponsored by **California Waterfowl Association**. The event is open to all “*SPRIGS*” (boys and girls) under the age of 18 as of May 25, 2013. Activities include: *Competition Events – Decoy Toss, Waterfowl ID, Decoy Painting, Air Rifle Shooting, Archery, Paintball, Shotgun Shooting, and more.*Basic Rifle, Shotgun, Archery Safety and Shooting Instruction. *Demonstrations and Info Booths on Conservations Topics. *BBQ Lunch and Refreshments. *Prizes for SPRIGS; Raffle & Silent Auction for adults. Please contact: Don O’Dell at **559-972-4771**, or Jeff Carroll at **559-285-7881**.

COMING UP: The “First Annual” Sporting Clay Shoot to benefit the Sequoia Council, Boy Scouts of America, programs in our area and to provide camp scholarships for Scouts to attend Camp Chawanakee. Event date: Saturday June 8, 2013, at Sun Mountain Gun Club, Coarsegold, CA. Deadline for registration is May 31, 2013. For more info please contact John Richers at 559-320-2100 ext. 106, (john.richers@scouting.org).