

VISALIA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

PO BOX 105 VISALIA, CA 93279

Established 1893

FEBRUARY 2015

FEDERAL TAX/EIN #94-6095828 (www.vsmall.com)

The next **GENERAL MEETING** will be THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2015, **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!

The next **BOARD MEETING** will be TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2015, **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 *following* the general club meeting.)

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	Jim Mayfield – Chairman of the board:	559-802-7967
Dennis Thornbury – President	559-732-4401	Jeremy Chavez – Board Member:	559-302-8717
Russ Beechinor – Vice President:	559-280-4061	Royce Nalls – Board Member:	559-730-8485
Melissa Jones – Treasurer:	559-636-2434	Mike Stimson – Board Member:	559-280-3020
Debbie Taylor – Secretary:	559-802-3426	Frank Tebeau – Board Member:	559-562-2448
Dirk Steelman – Exec.VP (FFL operations):	559-732-7726	Sean Vedenoff – Board Member	559-786-6184
Eddie Thomas – Board Member:	530-391-8661	Bob Maxwell – Board Member	559-733-5501
Loren Metzler – Board Member	559-280-8287	Robert Seitz – Sergeant-at-Arms	

At **JANUARY 8, 2015, general club meeting** we were introduced to Neil Ray, owner/guide of Giant Sequoia Guide Service, and Casey (a guide for same). Neil stated that he has hunting access to nearly 240,000 acres in central California. They specialize in hog, bear, quail and pheasant. They will work with the hunter client to build a successful package. Neil has over nine (9) years of experience. For more information about the company, please visit their website: www.GiantSequoiaGuideService.com. Their Facebook page with the same name is updated more often and has a more complete listing of their service and their pricing.

The *Basic Pistol Shoot* announced in the January newsletter was incorrectly stated as a class for beginner shooters. The class by Wade Roberts, is an NRA Instructor Class to teach those becoming an NRA certified coach. Wade can be reached at 559-303-2848 for more info regarding upcoming Instructor classes.

The VSA Junior Pheasant Hunt for January 24 is closed to additional participants. Volunteers for set up, registration, cooking and assisting the shooters, are welcome to call Loren Metzler at 559-280-8287.

Russ Beechinor, V.P., announced that the range calendar for 2015 is available on the website: www.vsmall.com

It was announced at the **December 16 board meeting** that members should save the date – **Saturday, MAY 16th** – for the VSA benefit fundraiser dinner. Funds are earmarked for the proposed eight-lane pistol shooting area expansion at our range. Details of the improvements are still being worked out, but the amount of work is extensive (costly). Guns, guns, and more guns will be given away in addition to shooting accessories, artwork and specially sourced items just for this dinner event. Mike Stimson is the committee chair for this event. Please contact Mike if you would like to be involved in helping out. More details to follow as the event draws nearer.

The FEBRUARY 14 – Saturday – **FAMILY DINNER** will be a *Valentine's Day* meal to remember! The grills will be fired up for your chance to flex your rib eye prowess. Cook your own steak (the steak is included in the dinner ticket price) just the way you want it! Advance tickets (\$16) are available now. Please don't wait – it may be too late! Don't stress about the "Where do you want to eat?" issue. (Yes, cooks are available to tend to your steak if you wish.) If you are a new member or a member that hasn't made it to one of our family dinners, this is an excellent informal event to attend. Great food, great drawings, great fun with good friends. Hope to see you there! For your pre-sale tickets, call Jim at 802-7967, Royce at 730-8485, Sean at 786-6184 or the clubhouse phone number at 635-7172.

(Individuals are more than welcome at all of our family dinners.)

Special drawing for the Family dinner: There will be a *Ladies Special - PINK - gun* at the dinner. Tickets sold the night of the dinner only. You need to be present to buy a ticket! Another reason to join the fun!!!! C Ya!

RSO TRAINING: Saturday, March 28, 9am to 5pm at the club house. NRA certification. Call Russ for details.

1 Sun	Public Shoot	Ted Phipps/Russ Broyles/C Calloway	1 Sun	Public Shoot	T Phipps/R Broyles/Jeremy Van Ness
4 Wed	Public Shoot	M Morrow/Keith Perkins/Ken Schmidt	4 Wed	Public Shoot	Jim Mayfield/John Hull/????
7 Sat	Public Shoot	Tony Marler/John Gerard/Bill Bruno	7 Sat	Range Clean Up Day – Range is closed to shooters	
8 Sun	High Power Match/Jr. Rifle/Hi Power practice/4-H		8 Sun	Hi Power Match/Junior & Hi Power Practice/4-H	
11 Wed	Public Shoot	Darrell Smith/John Hedrick/Bob Marsh	11 Wed	Public Shoot	M Morrow/Keith Perkins/John Gerard
14 Sat	Public Shoot	Tony Marler/Mike Renzi/????	14 Sat	Public Shoot	J Sindlinger/Tom Holmes/????
15 Sun	Black Powder/Junior Rifle & Hi Power practice/4-H		15 Sun	Public Shoot	F Tebeau/J Dearborn/Dennis Lehman
18 Wed	Public Shoot	Ken Schmidt/John Gerard/????	18 Wed	Public Shoot	Riley Darby/John Hedrick/Bob Marsh
21 Sat	CBRSA – Bench Rest		21 Sat	Public Shoot	Brian Fulmer/Bill Fulmer/Ernie Gomez
22 Sun	CBRSA – Bench Rest		22 Sun	Black Powder/Jr. Rifle & Hi Power Practice/4-H	
25 Wed	Public Shoot	Merritt Morrow/Keith Perkins/K Schmidt	25 Wed	Public Shoot	M Morrow/Keith Perkins/John Gerard
28 Sat	Public Shoot	Brian Fulmer/Bill Fulmer/Bill Bruno	28 Sat	Public Shoot	L Metzler/D Barnhart/S Vedenoff
			29 Sun	Public Shoot	T Phipps/R Broyles/Jeremy Van Ness

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.

The range schedule is subject to change without notice.

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.

Here we are at the beginning of the year...it's a good time to review some of the basic **Range Procedures** and **Range General Rules** (this is the shortened version of what is on our *Application for Club and Range Membership*): 1-There is no shooting unless a Range Master/Range Safety Officer is present. 2-No Alcoholic beverages are to be consumed on the range property while the range is open for shooting. Any person(s) appearing to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol will not be allowed on the range. 3-All guns shall be unloaded if not in the process of being fired. Use of a chamber flag/open bore indicator is mandatory with actions open and magazines removed/empty (ie; affixed tubular magazines) during cease fires and at all times behind the red line at the tables. 4-Failure to observe all rules, general safety and RSO commands shall be sufficient reason to be expelled from the range. 5-DO NOT APPROACH THE BENCHES DURING A CEASE FIRE! Stay behind the red line! You may pass through the benches during a cease fire to go down range for targets, or for collecting brass or trash directly in front of the benches. Do NOT stop to "Hey, check out this gun!" on a bench. 6-Be aware of ricochets. Do not shoot where your bullet may impact the hard surface of the range. Do not shoot at non-target items on the range. Be aware of off-kilter steel plates/gongs that may allow ricochets.

Some important general rules are: ***Every shooter must sign a log book.** Make sure it is the correct page in the correct book. Anyone shooting on an "Off" day – RSO's and their guests MUST sign in as well. ***Clean up your brass and trash around your shooting area/cleaning tables.**

Copies of the *Range Operations Reference Guide* are available at the range block house to help our RSO's and shooters maintain a safe, educational, clean, and enjoyable shooting facility.

RANGE SAFETY: There is **NO** shooting at the range on foggy days until you can clearly see the back berm.

Upcoming range event/RSO's needed: Club treasurer, Melissa Jones, is coordinating a "Homeschool Day at the Range" to be held Tuesday, March 24, (8am to noon). She is looking for eleven (11) volunteer RSO's for the morning event. It will be for home schooled children ages 5 and up and their parents. Melissa can be reached at 559-636-2434.

Upcoming range event: The range is reserved on Friday, April 24, 8:00 to 1:00pm. (COS Young Republicans)

Here's an update from Loren Metzler, HSE instructor, regarding the *junior pheasant hunt*: "The junior pheasant hunt on Jan 24 was great. Had 30 sign up but only 24 showed up. Eleven of the attendees were from my Hunter Ed classes. 90 birds were planted and the hunters bagged a total of 33 birds. BBQ chicken and beans (really tasty) was served for lunch. Raffle prizes were drawn and Nicholas J. won the shotgun." (Continued on page 3)

Jr. Pheasant Hunt (continued from page 2): “Nicholas is a recent graduate of my HSE class and a first time hunter. We had a well-attended campout on Friday and Saturday night with great food prepared by Royce and Sean. Thank you to all of the volunteers that helped this to be a safe and fun event for everyone!”

HIGH POWER RIFLE – Steve Quinn, VSA High Power and Junior Rifle Team coordinator, announced that a new High Power class is being formed to introduce all members young and “older” to the AR service rifle shooting basics following NRA class structure. Contact Steve at: steveq@carifle.com, 559-686-1945.

I have discovered a great article for those considering attending a shooting school or seeking professional shooting instruction. From: “*The Best Way To Learn? Learn From The Best*”, by David Fortier, Shotgun News, February 2, 2015. (Page 66). Selected paragraphs from the article:

“Looking for a quick and simple way to instantly become proficient with a firearm? I’m afraid there isn’t one. The only path which leads to mastering a firearm consists of diligent hard work mixed liberally with sweat. Understand this up front. It requires dedication and labor, but you can do it if you are willing to persevere.

“In this regard nothing will help you learn as much in a short amount of time as quality professional instruction. Systematic training, combined with structured dry and live fire, will dramatically improve one’s overall skill with a firearm.

“For that reason, I highly recommend all those serious about improving their ability to defend themselves with a firearm to seek out professional instruction. A well-taught course will provide a novice shooter with the all-important foundational skills. Only by first mastering these basic skills can a shooter progress.”

Later in the article, the author offers these tips:

“Before You Go Two important things to bring to any class you plan on attending is a good attitude and squared away gear. I highly suggest showing up to any, and every, school you attend with an open mind and a teachable spirit.

“No instructor, no matter how talented, can teach a student with a closed mind or know-it-all attitude. ...You took the course to learn something...if the instructor teaches something that doesn’t work for you, simply don’t take it home with you.

“When it comes to gear, you are well advised to have your weapon and everything else you bring squared away and familiar to you well before the class. There is nothing worse than trying to learn while at the same time fighting with a firearm that doesn’t want to function, substandard gear or items you are unfamiliar with.

“After It’s All Over But what about after the course is completed and the student returns to normal day-to-day life? What happens then? That is when the work really begins. While what a student learns at a school is very important, what he does with that knowledge after leaving the school is even more important. ...So it’s vital to take what you have learned from your instructors and incorporate it into your own systematic practice.

“How do you go about this? Simple, start while at the school by keeping a log of each day’s activities. Do this be keeping a small notebook on you and take notes as opportunities present themselves. Jot more notes down at lunch while eating. At night before you go to bed, while the day’s training is still fresh, write down everything you can think of. Items to include would be:

1. Topics covered.
2. Type of drills performed, and how you did them.
3. Number, type and distance to targets.
4. Important things you learned.
5. Gear you brought with you that did and did not work.
6. Gear you wished you had.
7. Comments and advice from your instructors
8. Comments made by other students.
9. Your performance, including what you have difficulty with.
10. Anything that stuck out to you.

“By doing this each day, you’ll end up with valuable notes you can refer back to months and years down the road. These notes, combined with any handouts provided by your instructor, will then provide the foundation for your future practice sessions.” (end).

For any of your newsletter concerns, want or for sale items, please feel free to contact me, Chris Norman, editor, at visaliasportsmen@hotmail.com, or by phone/text: 661-805-0164.

By my count, at the January general meeting there were nine (9) winners drawn for various prizes. Each month features a *winner’s choice drawing* of one of two handguns or a full size gun safe; VSA or shooting related merchandise; and gift basket/gift items (generously donated by Linda Kaiser). Odds of winning depend on the number of tickets sold the night of the meeting only. If you haven’t been to one of the meetings, please stop by to see what all the fun is about!

Club Website: For more info about the club, programs and activities please go to: <http://vsma1.com/>

Century 21
JORDAN-LINK & Co.

Direct: 559-625-6955
Cell: 559-804-1679
Fax: 559-738-0946
appraisals.dave@gmail.com
www.visaliaareahomesforsale.com

2009 W. Feemster Ave, Visalia, CA 93277

Each Office is independently Owned and Operated



MLS

SMOKIN' BARREL FIREARMS

LONG GUNS • HAND GUNS • AMMO • ACCESSORIES • SERVICES

559-625-5855

www.smokinbarrelvisalia.com

3222 N. Demaree St. Ste. D
Visalia CA 93291

Bob Gaalswyk
sbf.visalia@gmail.com

GUNS & ROOSTERS HUNTING PRESERVE

Dave Hamilton
(559) 798-1966

2005 NAGDA Open Pointing National Champion
2012 NAGDA Open Doubles National Champion
2006 NAGDA Open Doubles National Runner-up
2007 & 2011 NAGDA Open Doubles National Top 5
2009 NAGDA Open Pointing National 3rd Place
2012 NAGDA Open Doubles National 3rd Place
2012 NAGDA Open Pointing National Top 5

Mailing Address:
31661 Rd. 160 * Visalia, CA 93292

E-mail: birddog3@sbcglobal.net
www.gunsandroostershunting.com
Dealer for DOGTRA & MENDOTA PRODUCTS



Independent Towing

559.625.3000

Serving all of Tulare County
www.IndyVisalia.com

SPRINGVILLE ARMORY

Mike Blevins
Owner

Firearms
Knife Sales
& Accessories

Gunsmithing


35564 HWY 190, PO BOX 154
SPRINGVILLE, CA 93265-154
(559) 539-5568

Gus' Body Shop

Restoration
Fleet Work
Insurance Work
Pick-Up & Deliver

715 E. Acequia Ave
Visalia, CA 93292
(559) 804-8218

Your satisfaction is our reputation!



AIR SUN
SOLAR POWER & POOL HEATING SYSTEMS

9940 W. Nicholas Ave.
Visalia, CA 93291
(559) 747-0111, Fax 747-0110
charlie@airsunsolar.com

CHARLES KLINT
WWW.AIRSUNSOLAR.COM
CA LICENSE 885073, C-10 ELECTRICAL, C-46 SOLAR

SUNPOWER
Premier Dealer

CERTIFIED
Sales

BBB

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED 1871

OF AMERICA

