

# VISALIA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION (www.vsmal.com)

PO BOX 105

Established 1893 VISALIA, CA 93279

## SEPTEMBER 2015

### NEWSLETTER

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*Visalia Sportsmen's Association is a non-profit organization which is governed by the regulations set forth in The Internal Revenue Code of 1986. The section of the code which we fall under states that we are to be exclusively a social club, organized and operated for the pleasure and recreation of our members. The specific purposes of the club are: 1) to unite in the effort of solving local, county and statewide problems pertaining to the protection and propagation of fish and game and other natural resources in our area; 2) the conservation of our natural resources through the promotion and fostering of good public sentiment for better fish, game and forest management; 3) the encouragement of organized shooting activities among adult and junior members and the general public, so as to provide a better knowledge of safe handling and the proper use and care of firearms; and, 4) to take lawful steps to bring into effect those measures deemed to be in the interest of member sportsmen.*

The next **GENERAL MEETING** will be **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 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, SEPTEMBER 15, 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:	559-302-8718
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 ( <b>FFL operations</b> ):	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	Ed Thomas – Sergeant-at-Arms	

At the **AUGUST 2015, general club meeting** – Russ Beechinor stated that the next range clean-up day is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 12. Gates will be open before 7 am. We need help with the usual clean-up items – weeding and raking, picking up brass, fixing target gongs, trimming trees and bushes, checking the sprinklers, etc.

Jim Mayfield said there was a total of \$4355.00 in memberships received last month (compared to \$3655 in June); one-day shooters dollar amount totaled \$320.00. Jim also said that the entry gate project at the club house is moving forward and should be done in the next 30- to 45 days. Volunteers are still needed to help with the tasks at hand – primarily to stub out electric and water at the gate area. Please contact Jim if you can help out in any way.

There were several new members at the meeting: Jim S., Chris O., Jackie D., Chris C., Matthew D., David V., and a couple others I couldn't catch. Welcome!! Hope to see you at the club and the range in the near future.

Frank Tebeau gave his monthly update on legislative events in the state and in our area. One of the best ways to get timely updates is from the *California Rifle and Pistol Association*. [www.crpa.org](http://www.crpa.org) In order to make a difference, it takes more than reading about issues that affect gun owners' rights, it takes phone calls to our elected officials. It's easy. Make the call, state your position, ask for action (to vote against, etc.), be polite and say thanks.

Marty stated that the July 18 fishing trip was great success and a whole lot of fun! The fish were biting and hanging on the hooks. He said that over 100 ling cod were caught, sometimes two at a time, but only 48 were brought on board. Fish were being caught so fast and from so far down that many lines got crossed and tangled and that allowed fish to get back to the depths. Bob Kaiser said you really had to work hard to bring them up from 220- to 360-foot depths, "It takes all day to get a ling cod up from that far down!"

Sean reminded everyone that the Family Dinners will resume in November with a traditional feast!

Members heard from Katie Marsh about her experience and success as a member of the **Fresno State Shooting Team** (aka: Fresno State Gun Club). Katie recently returned from a regional shoot in Arizona and had great success in the trap and skeet competitions. She presented the VSA with a plaque in appreciation of support from the club. Fresno State is the home of the only collegiate shooting team in California.

2 Wed Public Shoot Pat Irving/Jackie Leeth/???	3 Sat Public Shoot Chuck Henning/??/???
5 Sat Public Shoot Loren Metzler/Doug Barnhart/Sean Vedenoff	4 Sun Public Shoot R Beechinor/J Chavez/S DiNicola
6 Sun Public Shoot S Whitmire/Manuel Garcia/Jeremy VanNess	7 Wed Public Shoot Mike Benyo/Richard Harris/???
9 Wed Public Shoot Richard Harris/??/???	10 Sat Public Shoot J Sindlinger/T Holmes/E Gomez
12 Sat <b>Range Clean Up Day – Closed to shooters</b> Please put this on your calendar to help out.	11 Sun <b>Hi Power Match/Junior Rifle/4-H</b>
13 Sun <b>Hi Power Match/Junior Rifle/4-H</b>	14 Wed Public Shoot Jackie Leeth/??/???
16 Wed Public Shoot ??/??/???	17 Sat <b>CBRSA</b> Benchrest shooters will compete this
19 Sat Public Shoot Ernie Gomez/??/???	18 Sun <b>CBRSA</b> this weekend. Come on out to watch!
20 Sun Public Shoot Jeff Dearborn/Leonard Cote/Galen Brummer	21 Wed Public Shoot Jackie Leeth/??/???
23 Wed Public Shoot Mike Benyo/Riley Darby/???	24 Sat Public Shoot Jon Jones/Melissa Jones/J VanNess
26 Sat Public Shoot James, Marc, Aric Price	25 Sun <b>Black Powder/Junior Rifle/Hi Power practice</b>
27 Sun <b>Black Powder/Junior Rifle/Hi Power</b>	28 Wed Public Shoot Jackie Leeth/??/???
30 Wed Public Shoot ??/??/???	31 Sat Public Shoot Jon Jones/Melissa Jones/J VanNess
RSOs: Call Russ at 559-280-4061 to help fill in open dates. Members,	please call Russ for more info about becoming an RSO.

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.  
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.

**More from the AUGUST club meeting:** We heard from members of the **VTEC FFA** club. Six young ladies were present from the swine club and we learned how much work goes into raising, training and presenting hogs for the county fair. “What is VTEC?” you ask: **Visalia Technical Early College High School** enrolls students into specific “Career Technical Education” programs of their choice. Students complete a prescribed course of study within the agriculturally based program and are concurrently enrolled in high school/community college/industry sponsored courses. The ladies brought cookies and treats and members suggested we “pass the hat” to help raise funds for the group. A motion was made and seconded to “match” for a total of \$600 to the FFA club.

If you or your business is interested in supporting these hard working gals by buying one of their show hogs at the fair. The VTEC office can be reached through the VUSD (school district) by phoning: 559-622-3212.

Club president Dennis Thornbury gave a rough timeline for the range improvements. The next step is to take the wants and needs from “concept” to “engineering and drawings”. The club has made contact with a local architect to assist in this department. More info at future meetings.

Jim Mayfield stated that the “honor bar” at the club also pertains to soft drinks and bottled water during regularly scheduled events at the club such as the CCW classes and Hunter Ed classes. If you are at the club and wish to partake in an alcoholic beverage, please pay the appropriate \$\$\$. After one event at the club Jim noticed that there was only \$2.00 in the till, and that dollar amount did not match the number of drinks taken from the refrigerator. Please make sure you “pay as you go”, and if you are coordinating a group at the club house to remind everyone as to the rule at hand.

**Smokin’ Barrel Firearms**, has special pricing for services to VSA club members. Show your current VSA membership card and see how much you can save on firearms, ammo and accessories and transfers. See Bob at the shop: 3222 N. Demaree Street, Suite D, Visalia, CA 93291. Phone 559-625-5855.

**RECALL NOTICE:**

Savage Arms has issued a recall notice on **B.MAG** rifle bolts (.17 WSM) after discovering that the bolt on some B.MAG rifles may inadvertently catch the safety button and slide it forward into the “fire” position. Savage has received no reports of accidents due to this condition and has identified a simple bolt handle and cap retrofit, which is available free of charge.

To avoid possible unintentional discharge or injury, Savage Arms has asked that consumers not use their B.MAG rifle until the bolt has been retrofitted. The company has established a dedicated website and hotline (844-784-3301, Monday through Friday 8am to 10pm EDT) for consumers to identify the affected firearms using an online look-up tool, file a claim and receive a free retrofit kit. The kit includes simple, step-by-step instructions to replace the bolt handle and cap. Only B.MAG rifles purchased before September 2015 are included in this recall. No other Savage firearms are affected by this condition. Website: <http://www.savagearms.com/recall/bmagbolt/>

**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](mailto:danielmansergh@gmail.com).

### **JUNIOR RIFLE CLUB & 4-H ORIENTATION CLASS – LAST CALL!**

**The Orientation Class** consists of 8 hours of safety instruction plus the basics of shooting. This class is for new junior shooters. In addition, this class is open to adult club members as well for those interested in learning basic rifle shooting at the range. Steve Quinn, program director says, “It is my goal to train as many people as possible in the shooting sports and in a safe manner. Adults are welcome to participate in the training. However, there is limited space in the class and range time.”

**Next session:** The fall Orientation Class consists of three sessions to be held Sept. 23, Sept. 27, and Sept. 30. It is mandatory to attend all three sessions and to show that you are learning the methods and materials to be able to continue in the program. Because this class is very detailed and requires the full amount of time, it is only offered three (3) time per year. The Wednesday classes (September 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>) will be held in Tulare, the Sunday class (September 27<sup>th</sup>) will be held at the VSA Dale Wimp Rifle Range.

**Contact:** Steve Quinn can be reached at: 559-686-1945, 559-471-8143, or [steveq@carifle.com](mailto:steveq@carifle.com).

Editor’s note: As stated above, this class is open to adult club members in addition to junior members. Yes, it does require a time commitment, but who wants to skip on the basics of safety and marksmanship when your shooting enjoyment will be measured in years! Don’t feel that this class might be too basic for you because you are attending with juniors, Steve has a great way of helping students of all ages. (Just like a Hunter Education class will have a wide age range of attendees!)

### **RANGE PARTICIPATION INTEREST REQUEST**

This just in from Russ Beechinor, VP, Range Director: The range activity and operations committee would like to know if adding any of the following classes or programs would be of interest to you: Archery Personal Protection Tactical Pistol Tactical Rifle Tactical Shotgun Cowboy Action Cowboy Fast Draw A questionnaire form will be available at the club and range and by email in the near future. Please let us know what offerings or programs you would be interested in. (And any others not listed above.) The info you provide will help in the pistol range planning.

At the July meeting, Mark G. was the big winner of the monthly drawing. He chose the safe. (The other choices were one of two handguns or a pig hunt.) Other winners were Bill F., Bill L., Jim S., Bob S., Mick H., Cindy D., Don F., and Stephen S. LOT’S of WINNERS!! LOT’S of FUN!! See you at the next club meeting!

Other winners: Anthony O. won the Glock pistol (one in 200 chance) drawing fundraiser for the VSA fishing trip. Abimael J. won a Ruger American Rifle (.308), (one in 75 chance) in a Delano FNRA pre-event drawing.

Where else can you go to have so many opportunities to win some great items – including GUNS and HUNTS!? We want you to be the next winner!! See you at the next club meeting!

Dale Perry was the oldest member of the *Visalia Sportsmen’s Association* at the time of his death on July 13, 2015. He was 96 years young. He joined the VSA shortly after returning home from World War II. There were nearly 150 people that attended a fellowship memorial at the club in July. Dale made a big impact on the club, yet his influence as a husband, father and grandfather was immense and timeless. You can see how he has shaped his family by how they treat others...with respect, with a smile, with genuine caring, and an openness that says you aren’t a stranger – you’re family. Thank you to everyone that came to the club in remembrance of Dale Perry.

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

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

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