

VISALIA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY

PO BOX 105, VISALIA, CA 93279

2024

Established 1893

(www.visaliasportsmens.com)

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, February 8 2024, at 6:30 PM.** Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month and are open to all club members. We encourage all members to attend the meetings to become more informed and more active in the club activities. Members are invited to bring a guest to introduce to the *Visalia Sportsmen's Association*. The club is located just north of downtown Visalia at 536 E. Roosevelt Avenue, one block south of Houston Ave., just east off of Sante Fe.

The next **BOARD MEETING** is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 6:00 PM.** 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 issues or concerns you may have regarding your Visalia Sportsmen's Association.

Club House Phone # (answering machine): 559-409-2527

Mike Renzi – President:	559-802-6163	Chris Calhoun – Board Member (a23)	559-679-7257
Russ Beechinor – Vice President:	559-280-4061	Jeremy Chavez – Board Member (a22);	559-302-8718
Kelly Salinas – Treasurer:	559-307-9411	Leroy Chism – Board Member (e22):	559-734-7500
Chris Norman – Secretary:	661-805-0164	Ferdinand Dancil – Board Member (a22)	559-909-2363
Dirk Steelman – Exec. VP (FFL operations):	559-732-7726	Terry Henry – Board Member (e23):	559-901-0651
Jim Mayfield – Chairman of the Board:	559-802-7967	Royce Nalls – Board Member (e23):	559-730-8485
Michelle Amaral – Board Member (e22):	559-759-9501	Frank Tebeau – Board Member (e22):	559-731-0090
Brian Benton – Board Member (a23)	559-909-7398	Greg Willett – Board Member (a23)	559-623-4826

At the **January 11th meeting:** We heard that the CCW classes throughout Tulare County (at a minimum) have been put on hold. In a letter from the Sheriff's office to all the Tulare County CCW instructors, it was stated, "the Tulare County Sheriff's office encourages you all to temporarily suspend CCW training courses until clear direction and certification processes are provided by the state."

As of January 31st, 2024, I have not received any updates to say the CCW procedures will be moving forward.

All CCW instructors must reapply to the state to reestablish themselves as qualified DOJ CCW instructors. A qualified instructor must obtain a training certificate from one either 1) Bureau of Security and Investigative Services, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California – Firearm Training Instructor; 2) Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), State of California – Firearms Instructor or Rangemaster; or, 3) Authorization from a State of California accredited school to teach a firearms training course.

A **22 Long Rifle Shoot** is now on the range calendar – the second Sunday of each month. See page 2 for details.

Election – In addition to Terry Henry and Royce Nalls (re-elected to the VSA board), Mike Renzi announced his three appointments to the board. They are: Brian Benton, Chris Calhoun, and Greg Willett. Welcome.

FAMILY DINNER – February 10, 2024, – 6:30 pm, RIB EYE STEAKS!!!!

Happy hour starts at 5:00 pm and dinner is served at 6:30 pm. Join us for a great dinner with great friends. \$25 per person. Tickets are limited and not available at the door. Please call Jim Mayfield at 559-802-7967.

FAMILY DINNERS – What's for dinner? February 10 will be Ribeye steaks. March 16 is Fish & Chips. April 20th is Elk chili. The April dinner is going to be held a week later than usual.

FEBRUARY 2024 Club Phone: 559-409-2527

3 Sat Public Shoot ????

4 Sun Public Shoot ????

7 Wed Public Shoot ????, ????, ????

10 Sat Public Shoot L Miller, L Hernandez, ????

11 Sun 22 Long Rifle Shoot

14 Wed Public Shoot L Miller, M Malone, L Hernandez

16 Fri CBRSA Set up and practice

17 Sat CBRSA

18 Sun CBRSA

21 Wed Public Shoot L Miller, M Malone, L Hernandez

24 Sat Public Shoot L Miller, L Hernandez, M Malone

25 Sun Black Power / 4H

28 Wed Public Shoot L Miller, L Hernandez, ????

RSO's: Does the calendar differ from what you may have selected? Contact Russ for the most current schedule.

Russ can be reached at 559-280-4061

MARCH 2024 Range Phone: 559-651-1415

2 Sat Public Shoot ????

3 Sun Public Shoot ????

6 Wed Public Shoot L Miller, L Hernandez, ????

9 Sat **Range cleanup Bring your basic yard and hand tools to get the range in shape for spring.**

10 Sun 22 Long Rifle Shoot

13 Wed Public Shoot L Miller, M Malone, L Hernandez

16 Sat Public Shoot M Renzi, I Brock, ????

17 Sun Public Shoot J Dearborn, L Cote, D Lehman

20 Wed Public Shoot L Miller, M Malone, L Hernandez

22 Fri CBRSA Set up and practice

23 Sat CBRSA

24 Sun CBRSA

27 Wed Public Shoot ????

30 Sat Range is closed today for a special RSO shoot and lunch.

31 Sun Black Powder/4H – all day.

MEMBERS – same thing, check the calendar on the website for the most current range calendar schedule.

The range is open from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm on Public Shoot days. Please contact the following for more info on the programs that are offered at the range: **Black Powder** – Leroy Chism 559-804-3501; **4H/Jr. Rifle Club** – Justin George 559-992-6806. **Benchrest** – Rick Shaw 559-740-8026.

From the January general and board meetings:

Eagle Scout - The Eagle Scout rank is a life-long achievement that carries a special significance across all realms of life. The Eagle Scout Service project is what most people might think of when someone is working toward the rank of Eagle. The service project is the main step a Life Scout (rank) undertakes, requiring planning and developing and then leading a project that is beneficial to the community. There are many steps and standards that need to be met and approved before a service project begins.

Eagle Scout Emily was present to introduce Life Scout Kyliegh Dais and her Eagle Scout service project. Kylie explained that her project is dedicated to C.A.R.T. – Child Abuse Response Team – from the Tulare County District Attorney's office. Kyliegh said she is collecting stuffed animals that are given to children during a CART response team interview. The kids may be victims of child abuse or who have witnessed crimes. She went on to say that over 500 kids are interviewed each year in Tulare County and she is hoping to collect (at least) 555 plush toys. (Kyliegh said her favorite number is 5.)

Toys can be new or previously owned. They must be clean, in like new condition, not battery operated, and that they do not have any messages on them. In addition to scouring online retailers for purchases, she has also placed several drop boxes throughout town. There is a drop box at the VSA club house. Her deadline for collection is February 14th. Contact Steve Dais at 559-799-9319, for larger quantity pick up or drop off.

A motion was made and approved at the meeting for a "pass the hat" fundraiser collection. Initially, the dollar amount was a bit shy of \$555.00. A couple members pitched in to bring the total to \$555.00.

At the January 16, VSA board meeting it was approved to have the club contribute an additional \$445.00, help her reach her goals.

4H Shooting program – Justin George, 4H Shooting Team leader, said there will be three (3) shooters from the local program going to South Africa in the near future for the **World Championships!!** Competitors will be shooting 1,000-yard targets – and iron sights only! The youth competitors are scheduled to be at the February 8th, club meeting to tell us more about what's to come. Let's show them a lot of support!!

4H Archery program - Hector Robles, program leader, said with the generous help of VSA club members and the 4H Tulare County office, a lot of bows and arrows are now available for the 16 kids in the start-up program. The VSA club has donated funds that will go towards targets, stands, and other supplies. Hector said a "neighbor" on the east side of town has agreed to provide access to some property for the team to shoot. Great!

CLUB SPONSORED CCW CLASSES at the VSA clubhouse are currently **ON HOLD!**

RSO CLASS – Saturday, February 24, 2024 New RSO Class at the VSA clubhouse for the NRA Basic Range Safety Course. Location: 536 E Roosevelt Ave., 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM. There will be a 1-hour break for lunch. (Lunch is on your own. Water and sodas are available at the club.) You will need to pre-register for the RSO training class. Use this link: <https://www.nrainstructors.org/CourseDetails.aspx?Courseid=814784>

RSO “21 or BUST!” SHOOT – Saturday, March 30th at the range. Active RSOs, including any new RSOs, will be eligible to participate. Targets will be printed with “playing cards” and the goal is to score 21 with a limited number of shots. Advance to the next round and the distance increases. What are you playing for? Fun, honor, and the chance to win a gun. It was approved to have three guns to give away!!! What more incentive do you need to sign up for RSO duty or to become a NEW RSO?

.22 FUN SHOOT – Held on the second Sunday of each month, 8 am to 12 noon. The next shoot will be Sunday, February 10th. Open for anyone with a .22 rimfire. Individuals and families (bring the kids). This is going to *rock!* No high-power firearms. .22 rimfire only, sorry, no .17 HMR, this is to keep the playing field the same for participants. There will be three divisions. 1) An open-sight classification and a scope-sight classification; 2) Youth 15-years and under, and 3) Men’s and Women’s. Contact Leroy at 559-804-3501 for info.

501(c)3 Reorganization – The Attorney working on the VSA corporate reorganization provided an update on the progress. Ryan Sullivan said a few more steps (requiring more paperwork submittals) are needed such as: the most current last three years tax returns; contact information of the officers and directors; the board to adopt a conflict-of-interest statement; and, the need to adopt new “Amended Bylaws”. The Amended Bylaws as created by Mr. Sullivan need to be reviewed for any changes or additions, then need to be voted on and passed by a quorum of the members present at the next club meeting (February 8). [A quorum is the minimum number of members of an assembly or society that must be present at any of its meetings to make the proceedings of that meeting valid. For the VSA, it is the lesser of seventy-five (75) voting members or three and a half percent (3.5%) of the voting membership at any club meeting.]

VSA Life Membership Discount – Directors recently approved a **20 PERCENT** discount on a LIFE membership for those who are 55 years of age or older AND have been VSA club member for a minimum of 10 years. Save \$100 on a current life membership, and \$150 on a family life membership. Call Jim Mayfield!

Safari Club International Central Valley Chapter Dinner/Auction Saturday, February 24, 2024. INTERNATIONAL AGRI-CENTER, HERITAGE COMPLEX, 4500 S. LASPINA ST., TULARE, CA 93274. Doors Open 5:00 PM—Dinner 6:30 PM To order tickets online: <https://centralvalleysci.com/events>. For more information call Eddie Reynoso at 559-679-8463. or email centralvalleysci@gmail.com

SCI Dinner event ticket drawing – VSA directors approved the purchase of two tables, eight (8) seats per table. These sixteen tickets will be raffled off in pairs (eight sets of two tickets each) at the February general meeting. Please note that people that can actually make that date and attend the dinner will be put into the raffle.

FOR SALE – MSR (Modern Sporting Rifle)/AR15, .223 caliber, 20-inch stainless barrel, 1 in 7” twist, scope mount, Geissele trigger system, White Oak Armament complete upper. Just add your scope for CMP/NRA competition. Asking \$1,200.000. Call Leroy at 559-804-3501.

FOR SALE - Winchester model 70 SA varmint rifle, .22-250 caliber, fluted stainless barrel with Leupold 6.5x20 VX3. Dies, brass and bipod included \$1200. Call Dan at 559-679-3863.

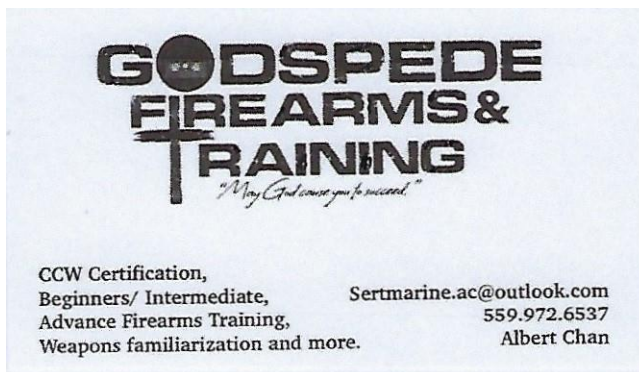
We are going to miss **Mike Benyo** around the club and the range. Mike passed away on January 16, 2024, at 77 years of age. He was a member of the club since at least 2016, jumping in and lending a hand in all aspects of the club. He was active in the family dinners, club meetings, serving as a range safety officer, assisting the junior rifle program and black powder shoots as well. His easy-going nature, positive outlook and an encyclopedic knowledge of so many subjects won’t be forgotten. A memorial gathering for lunch is set for April 3rd, at the club.

FOR SALE – 12-gauge semi-automatic shotgun, Model 48 A/L “Hunter”, manufactured by Luigi Franchi, S.p.A., Brescia, Italy. Most likely made in the late 60’s or early 70’s, this shotgun has been in the family for about 50+ years. Based on the renowned Browning A5 action, it has an engraved aluminum receiver, 2.75” chamber. Please give Ernie a call at 949-294-2813.

Tulare-Kings Gun Owners - CRPA Chapter: The next meeting will be (?). You don’t have to be a CRPA member to attend. Online: <https://crpatularekings.wordpress.com/> Information about the next meetings can be found on Facebook & Instagram: @tularekingsgunowners. crpatularekings@gmail.com / (559) 571-2239. Register online before you come and you’ll earn a free ticket to the merchandise & gear drawing! You must attend in order to claim and win. Please call Mike Renzi at 559-802-6163, for more information.



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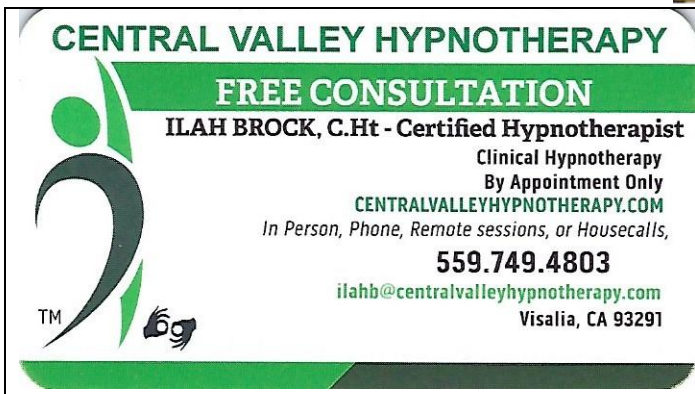
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Appointment Date/Time _____

Club Website: <http://visaliasportsmens.com>. For more info about the club, programs, activities, newsletters (current and past), visit the website, or call Jim Mayfield at 559-802-7967. Jim is our master club coordinator as well as the best source for any tickets for club events or drawings. For any of your newsletter concerns, “wanted” or “for sale” items, please feel free to contact me, Chris Norman, editor, at: visaliasportsmen@hotmail.com, or by phone/text: 661-805-0164.