

TRI-CITIES METALLIC SILHOUETTE ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 4587, Pasco, WA 99302-4587

www.tcmsa.org tcmsal1@gmail.com

June 2013 Club Newsletter

Upcoming meetings: July 4 & August 1 (all meetings are at the Griggs Hunter Ed room @ 7pm)

Upcoming work parties: TBA (maintenance chair Greg Hagen 545-4705, work parties start @8am)

General Announcements

If you have received this newsletter by US mail, it's because we don't have your email address. If you are reading this newsletter on the club website but didn't receive it by email or US mail, it's because we have an incorrect email address for you. Either way, please get us your email address ASAP. Last month we sent out 300+ newsletters by US mail. We don't believe that there are really 300+ people in the club with no email address. We spend a fortune in postage, printing fees, and work party credit to get the newsletter out each month, and we would really like to reduce that cost. We also send out special notices about range closures, lost and found items, and other important info via email, so if we don't have your email address, we can't get this information to you. In the coming months, we will be trying to incorporate more pictures and graphics in the newsletter, but the cost print this type of newsletter will mean that the US mail version will be text only, so send us an email to tcmsal1@gmail.com to sign up for the email version ASAP if you don't want to miss out!

As we told you in a previous newsletter, the board has recommended and the club has approved the creation of a pilot program to have a Safety Advisor at the range during peak use hours to help members and guests understand the rules, answer any questions they might have, and generally help everyone follow safe shooting practices. Again this person will just be acting in an advisory role, not as a range officer, and this is only a pilot program right now, but we hope it will be successful enough that the club will vote to make it permanent beginning next year. We currently have several volunteers, but we are looking for a few more, and our biggest priority is we need someone to act as the coordinator of the program. This person should have the computer and people skills to schedule duty shifts, and the vision to shape this program from the ground up. If you are interested in being this person, contact Wayne Rowett at 783-4470.

Another option for the Safety Advisor program is available. I (Dave Baalman) am willing to handle being the program coordinator, but I don't have the time to do that and to do all the other things I am currently doing for the club. If someone or a couple someones would like to take over new member orientation and / or writing the newsletter every month, that would free me up to take on the Safety Advisor program. New member orientation is much simpler now that Griggs has installed a projector in the classroom, the program is all written, someone just needs to go through it with the new members every month. The newsletter isn't that difficult either, you just need to attend the meetings and be the type of person who can use up about 2 pages talking about current events in the club. If someone can take over either program, I will of course be available to help out to get you going.

The club has once again put together a team to compete in the Northwest Regional postal league for NRA Highpower Sporting Rifle. Our first match is Saturday, June 15. Anyone else is welcome to attend and shoot, we will only send in the scores for the match team, but we can have as many shooters at the match as we want. Who knows, you might beat one of the team members and steal their spot on the team too! This match is fired from standing, sitting and prone positions, in slow and timed rapid fire, with 32 rounds for score plus sighters. It's open to any centerfire rifle weighing 9.5 pounds or less. If you are interested, check the club website for a full description of the match. It's a lot of fun, and the match goes very quickly, and the cost is only \$3 per shooter to cover the cost of the targets.

We have received our NRA Foundation grant! We will be putting on an introduction to competitive shooting event, where anyone who has not competed in a particular discipline before can shoot a few rounds on the actual targets for that discipline, with actual firearms built for that discipline, firing ammo provided by the NRA Foundation. We will hold this event on Saturday, August 31, shooting to start at 9am, and it will be open to anyone who wishes to attend, they don't have to be members of TCMSA. If you would like to attend the event or if you would like to help out in organizing it, contact Dave Baalman at 528-0813 or via email at dpbaalman@msn.com. We will need match shooters to act as coaches, and we will be needing several people to donate the use of their firearms (we have several pledged already, but could use more). If you are not a match shooter but would like to help out, we will be needing people to help with signing in participants and coordinating the event, so please don't hesitate to offer your assistance.

There is a new bulletin board in the sign in shack (special thanks to Brett Menaker for donating it). There is a copy of the club schedule on there, as well as phone numbers for officers and other emergency contacts. We also have space for lost and found, and for sale or trade items. Feel free to post your for sale items on there, or lost and found, or special announcements, but please help us out by taking them down when they are out of date, sold, or have found their rightful owner.

We have a lot of new members, so you may see some unfamiliar faces at the range. If you do and you have the time, take a moment to introduce yourself. It's good to keep everyone feeling like they are welcome, and it's very helpful to new members to have some acquaintances that they can turn to for help with understanding the rules, or any other questions they might have about shooting in general.

On the opposite side of that same coin, please realize that when people are shooting, they are often working on load tests, or match practice, and don't want to be disturbed. The time to talk to them is when they are between groups waiting for the barrel to cool, or when they are changing targets, loading magazines, etc. It's also very helpful to those testing loads or going through a match practice drill to let them complete a group before going cold. If you can, try to coordinate with them on hot/cold timing (but if there is an emergency, don't hesitate to call a CEASE FIRE in your loudest voice!)

See you at the range!

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