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February 2014 Club Newsletter

Upcoming meetings: March 6 and April 3 (all meetings are at the Griggs Hunter Ed room @ 7pm)
Upcoming work parties: February 23 (maintenance chair Greg Hagen 545-4705, work parties start @8am)

General Announcements

Remember that beginning April 1st, 2014, the new dues will be \$80, \$60 and \$40. Renew now to get the old prices. Current dues (\$60 for new members, \$50 to renew, and \$25 to renew with work party) will remain in place until March 31, 2014.

Also please bear with us on the renewals. We may not send you a new card the day your check arrives, but we will get one to you. The new gate combination doesn't go into effect until April 1, so you don't have to worry about getting locked out. We will mail out cards in a big batch in the first or second week of March, so that we don't have to go to the post office every day.

And again, please don't send us a check on March 30 and expect your card to arrive before April 1. All USPS mail in the Tri-Cities now goes through Spokane, so it can take up to a week for mail to come to us, and make the return trip to you, and again we won't be going to the post office every day. Remember the membership committee members are all volunteers with day jobs, and we are a club not a business.

The 2014 club calendar is up on the website. As always, it may be updated as new things come up, but we hope these changes will be minimal. Be sure to take a look at the calendar before you head out to the range, and pay special attention to which events allow general shooting while the event is going on. We don't want you to waste your time or fuel driving out to the range if you won't be able to shoot. We will also post the calendar in the rail car in the coming weeks, and there is also a copy at the monthly meetings.

There is a work party scheduled for Sunday, March 23. The shotgun area is filled with clay pigeon droppings. In addition, they will make target frames. It overall needs a good, general cleanup. If you still need your work party credit and can't make the March 23 date, don't worry. We will likely have at least one more work party between now and April 1. Watch the newsletter, the club website, or come to a meeting to find out when. If you can't make a regular work party or if your physical abilities prevent you from doing physical labor, contact an officer and they will assign you something that fits your schedule or abilities. Officer phone numbers are on the club website, or just come to a meeting and ask the people at the front of the room.

Once again we have our usual mix of several match disciplines this year. New shooters are always welcome at any of our matches, and many of the regulars at any of the matches are more than willing to offer advice, loan out equipment, or answer any questions you might have. If you are interested in any of our match disciplines, there is a brief description of each one on the club website, along with some links to various governing bodies for each discipline. If you want some more info, come out to a match, spectators are always welcome, or send an email to the contact us link on the club website, and we will put you in touch with one of our regular match shooters who can answer questions & help you get started.

On the subject of match shooting, the club would like to field at least one team again this year for the Northwest Postal League in NRA Highpower Sporting Rifle. A team consists of 6 shooters, with the top 4 shooters counting in the club total score, and each shooter also competing individually for top scores in the league. We would really like to have 2 or more teams, so if you are at all interested in this discipline,

please come out and join us. The first practice match of the year is in March. This discipline is fired from standing, sitting, and prone positions, with 32 rounds for score plus sighters. Any rifle weighing not more than 9.5 pounds is eligible to compete, with any sighting system. Entry fee is only \$3.

One more match note: due to popular interest, we have added a second discipline/division to the CMP matches. Now in addition to the CMP service rifle match, which is open to any iron sight service rifle issued by any military in the world, or the civilian equivalent of that rifle, we will be adding the NRA Highpower any rifle any sight division. NRA Any/Any is fired on the same targets as CMP, with the same basic rules, the only difference is as the name implies, it's open to any rifle you want to bring, no matter the sight system. We are just shooting for bragging rights anyway, but splitting into 2 divisions will hopefully increase interest in this already popular discipline, and since both divisions are shot on the same targets & under the same rules, it's really a no-brainer. So if you have a space gun or a 700 match rifle or grandpa's old .30-30, bring it out and have some fun! We shoot the national match 80 round course of fire, plus sighters, in standing, sitting, & prone positions. Entry fee is only \$5.

Friends of NRA Banquet is Friday, March 7th at the Track Center, 6600 Burden Blvd in Pasco, It is a non-profit event, and the monies raised go to support shooting. There are 700 people expected this year. There is a raffle for 2 S&Ws; a revolver Model 19 and a new concealed carry. There will be about 70 guns. The club usually sponsors and buys a table, and 3 tickets for \$1100. Friends of NRA is an exciting grassroots fund-raising program that fosters community involvement, raises money and gives 100% of the net profits to qualified local, state and national shooting sports programs.

If you are getting this newsletter by US mail, please take a moment to get us your email address. Just go to the club website and enter your email in the subscribe link at the top left corner of the home page. You will then receive an email confirming your subscription, there is a link in that email that you need to click to confirm, and you will be all signed up. If you receive the newsletter by both US mail and email, please let us know so that we can drop you from the US mail list. Either send an email through the contact us link on the website at <http://tcmsa.org/contact-us/> .

IN RETROSPECT:

In view of the ever present ammo shortage, it's worth noting that when our great country was being formed and fighting for it's independence, the same was true back then. Some fascinating history about **gunpowder**... <http://www.ammoland.com/2014/01/gunpowder-shortage/#axzz2rivskSWL> (very well footnoted).

Stay warm, keep your powder dry and we'll see you at the range!

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