

## January 2019 Club Newsletter

Upcoming meetings: February 7 and March 7, 2019 (all meetings are at the Griggs Hunter Ed room @ 7pm)

Upcoming work parties: Consult our website (maintenance chair Greg Hagen 531-1956)

### General Announcements

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The new 2019 club calendar is up on the website [www.tcmsa.org](http://www.tcmsa.org). 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.**

### Renew your membership soon!

**Membership:** Dues: It is \$80 to join with renewals at \$60, or \$40 if you participated in a work party in the last year. If the renewal is late (after July 1st) you will need to rejoin at \$80. You can mail your renewal to the club address during Jan/Feb to save from being on long lines during meetings, or come to a meeting to renew but face the lines. Also please remember that our membership committee is made up of volunteers, and all of them have day jobs, and remember that all mail in the Tri-Cities now goes through Spokane, so make sure to send in your renewal early so you don't get locked out.

**Remember, when mailing your dues, it will take about 3 weeks before you receive the new combination to the gate.**  
**The combination is changed on April 1st.**

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***TCMSA wants you to know:*** You are responsible for your guest's actions. It's a good idea to take a moment to explain the rules before the firearms even come out of the vehicle.

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### President's Column:

The annual Club elections were held during the January 3, 2019 meeting. The results for the Board positions have Steve Schlegel was re-elected and Richard Gilbert was elected to replace Bob Birney. The position of Club Vice President went to Brett Menaker, replacing Mike Fowler. All of the other Club Officers were re-elected.

The proposed change to the bylaws was accepted, that change being "the Board has the authority to place limits on membership and place controls on range access".

There will be a work party on Sunday, January 20th from 0800-1000. We want to clean up the tumble weeds along the road from the second gate to the range that are encroaching on the road, burn the tumble weeds, cut cardboard for the target frames, and general range maintenance.

The magnets that have been placed on the firing line have made a difference, there is an obvious lack of steel cases on the ground! Certainly makes for a neater range.

**100 yard .22 LR Competition:** If you haven't tried this one yet, you don't know what you are missing! At the December 8th competition, we had 23 participants including 2 women and 2 juniors. Grab your 22 and your ammo and come out. It is 40 rounds for record plus unlimited sighters. A spotting scope is a plus. You can shoot from prone with a sling or rest, and from the bench with any kind of rest. The next competition is Saturday January 12th, setup at 0830, shooting starts at 0900. Best of all, this one is free, just show up.

**Service Rifle Competition:** The December 1st had 5 participants, there would have been more, but the iron sight shooters couldn't see the targets because of the fog. Another reason to get a scoped AR? The next Competition will be Saturday, February 2nd, setup up at 0830, shooting starts at 0900. Any service rifle from any country can be used. AR's with up to a 4.5 power scope is also qualified as a CMP legal rifle. You can enter in the Any/Any classification and use any rifle with any optics. The course of fire is 50 rounds for record plus sighters. The cost is \$5. *Gaylord*

### Safety Committee Report:

In the past I have encouraged members to politely contact other shooters if they see them not following our range/safety rules and to assist them in understanding our rules so that we all have a safe place to shoot.

Recently several members told me about issues they addressed at the range with other people. In one instance members were shooting semi-auto modern sporting rifles as fast as they could press the trigger. A member noticed that some of the bullets were impacting the ground in front of the berm and as the muzzle rose others were going over the berms. He contacted them informing them that there were houses and farm workers on the other side of the hill. Be advised that our rules say "no simulated automatic fire" and this includes shooting as fast as possible not being able to control the muzzle.

On two different days another member contacted shooters **about the proper way to make the range hot and cold**. After a target change a member yelled going "hot" and was about to hit the horn while there were still people downrange. **When going Hot**, it is absolutely required to visually check the entire range and look down the line checking by hand signal and verbally to ensure everyone is back before going hot. **When going cold** you should walk the line informing shooters that the range is about to be made cold and check that firearms are made safe before using the range warning system.

During this months CMP match I was walking the line informing other shooters not involved in the match that we were going cold for a target change and I noticed a member had a large rifle case on the bench with two AR's in it and the muzzles were pointed at the parking lot. All firearms on the line should be in a rack or on a bench with the muzzles pointed downrange magazine out, action open and preferably with a chamber flag.

As the weather warms up and more shooters use the range we need to watch each other's back and keep our range safe for everyone.

We need more Safety Advisers for this year. You get a \$25 dollar gift certificate for each shift worked and it counts as your work party credit. You will meet people and get to see a lot of different firearms which many guys will offer to let you shoot.

There still seems to be confusion for some as to the operation of the range warning system.

***The system works as follows:***

The red flag must be hoisted to indicate the range is active. The stations at the pistol range, 50 yd line, flag pole and the cap ( Civilian Marksmanship Program) line (the far left area of the range that is graveled with no benches) all operate individually for the strobe light, as they are not interconnected. **If you turn on the strobe at a station you must return to that same station to turn off the strobes.** The signal for a cold range is one long blast of the horn and turn on the strobes and the signal for a hot range is two long blasts of horn and turn off the strobes. There is an instruction placard at each station if you are in doubt. Often times members will make the range cold, retrieve their targets and then immediately leave. When you leave other members do not know at what station you turned on the strobes. **If you are the member operating the strobes for a cold range, please stay at the range and make it hot.**

The club purchased several personal use magnets for picking up steel cases. They are hanging on posts spaced down the line. Also please remove your used targets as this time of year they get wet falling to the ground, then the wind blows them up the hill and someone has to walk around picking them up during a work party.

**Remember: Steel targets should be set at a minimum of 15 yards for safety reasons!**

Stay informed: Go to [tcmsa.org](http://tcmsa.org) and in the upper left hand corner sign up for our newsletter to receive it and special announcements by email. Also always check the calendar before you go to the range.

**Mark Johnson 509-308-5335**

**Mossberg rifle company turns 100 years this year.** To celebrate, the rifle and shotgun company will has released it's first handgun ever! **It's a single stack designed foe conceal carry.** Check out the article at: <http://www.range365.com/mossberg-gets-into-handguns-with-mc1sc-pistol>.

To receive the newsletter via your email, 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. Contact us at: <http://tcmsa.org/contact-us/>.

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