

THE RICOCHET

Official Newsletter of the Phoenix Rod & Gun Club

MAY 2010

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

When I was chosen by the board to serve as Club President for 2010, I made it my goal to work to improve first the friendliness and next the appearance and usability of our club.

I want a club that is a true member's club, not an unwelcoming clique or commercial range with RO's barking in your ear. I want to see the club as a place where members can enjoy their hobby, volunteer or participate in or run competitions, and where non-member shooters are made to feel so welcome they can't wait to join!

I think we're making progress in that direction. We've improved our responsiveness to questions and inquiries, you might have seen the signs I've posted on the range inviting those with questions, comments or complaints to contact me directly. The membership process has been greatly improved. We've had a landscaping service begin work on the property. The competition divisions are seeing increased volunteerism and shooting activity, how much of this is due to improved moral within the club and how much is due to finally being able to find ammo is hard to say.

The board is addressing club issues every month and continuing on into the year, I plan to propose some committees of members be formed to address some issues such as a long term projects, grant applications, the bylaws, the public range and other topics. If any of you would like to get more involved, come to the board meetings (see the club website calendar for dates).

I'd encourage all of you members to get out and shoot more often! Try competition shooting if you aren't already involved! If you are a competition shooter, thank your division & match directors and ask what more you can do to help them out.

If you have an idea for a style of competition we don't currently have, bring it up with your division director or the board, and start running a new event! We've added a monthly pistol carbine shoot on Wednesday evenings and had members talk about starting Archery or Field Target Air Rifle shoots. I'm planning on starting up a Big Bore Rifle Shoot as part of the monthly hunting rifle shoot I started last year. That would be African Elephant Guns, in case any of you've been looking at the .416 Ruger at Sportsman's wondering what you'd do with one! Any other ideas? It usually takes a few people to do the work to get a new program started, but among the 600 or so members of our club there ought to be a lot of other interested shooters!

Bill Poole President

TREASURERS REPORT

Hello PR&GC Members, the first thing I would like to report to you is our financial position is quite good and all club business is current. Also, I want to thank you all for your support in the recent election. I was quite overwhelmed at the support I received in the election and will always do my best to never fall short of your expectations. As I stated at the Annual Meeting, I am committed to accountability and transparency in our business practices and handling all club issues in a businesslike manner. I am also committed to serving the membership and providing value to all Club Members.

We have accomplished several things to date. First, the Club has engaged a landscaping service to provide some initial clean up of the property. We also are considering regular service to ensure the areas are kept in the best condition possible. Clear financial guidelines for each division have been developed with input from the Division Directors to ensure all business is handled in accordance with standard accounting practices. The Club's general financial policies have been updated and are being adhered to. We have also developed a defined reporting process for public range activities to better capture those business activities.

While we still have more to do, we are off to a good start. Again I wish to thank you for your support and encouragement and feel free to contact me at any time.

Joe Husband Treasurer

SMALL BORE DIVISION

March 7, 2010 One Day Regional Hosted by, Bob Metzger, Jack Arnold, Mick Walker, & Haven Williams, for His Support in advice, Experience, & Everyone that Showed up, and made this match what it became, great times At P.R.G.C. Shooting Small Bore. The weather was miserable, but the shooting was phenomenal for the first one-day regional in the Phoenix area. Over five National Records were set in this one match. Pete Church and Richard Layton earned a leg, and ten shooters won cash awards. The individuals who set the records are: Pete Church, High Open, Civilian, & Senior. Nancy Tompkins, High Woman. Richard Layton, High Junior. Tyler Rico, High Intermediate Junior, Wayne Ulrich High Service Congratulations to all!

Arizona State Small-bore Championship April 10 & 11, 2010, P.R.G.C.

Day one; Usually the smallbore range at PRGC will produce at most a sedate lightly switching type of a wind. Every now and then the real wind shows up and today's State Metallic Sight Championship was shot in exactly that, a real challenging wind, 400's were rare. Pete Church set the stage by grabbing the Win at the Dewar Match and never looked back as he took day 1 with a fantastic 1590. Rick Curtis & Nancy Tompkins rounded out the top three with 1588 and 1587 respectively.

Day two: The Arizona State Small-bore Championship began with the promise of a lot less wind than the day before. However the morning calm soon gave way to more switching winds, albeit with less intensity than yesterday.

As the competitors moved to the line for the 100 yrd match the wind, reminiscent of yesterday, had also begun to move. Undeterred, Mick Walker moved to the top of the heap to claim the match win with an outstanding 399-20X as well as grabbing the early lead for the daily aggregate. The Master class was won by Nancy Tompkins with her hard earned 398-25X. Doug Frerichs 397-18X bested all comers in the Expert Class while teenage sensation Zach Kofron's 398-21X topped the Sharpshooters and Jay James continued his domination of the Marksman class with an inspired 398-22X. The competition at 50 Meters began with the wind at it's zenith in terms of velocity and direction changes but Rick Curtis managed it the best by firing a match winning 399-30X. Pete Church's 399-29X just squeaked by Tyler Rico's 399-28X for the Master class win. Doug's 399-27X was tops in the Expert class with Zach Kofron's 397-28X clinching the Sharpshooters class and Jay James posting a very fine 393-22X to win the Marksman class.

With a sigh of relief by all, the wind, which had been testing all the participants in this years State Championship for over a day and a half, finally began to subside as we moved to the line for the 50 yard match.

The Any-sight aggregate winners read like a who's who of the top Arizona Prone shooters of recent years with Rick Curtis winning the Anysight Championship with a hard earned 1597-116X. Pete Church narrowly claimed the Master Class win over Nancy Tompkins with his 1596-125 over her

PRACTICAL FIREARMS DIVISION

We are having a busy and successful year in the Practical Division. We have become USPSA affiliated to go along with our IDPA and ICORE affiliations. We have recently added 2 new plate racks to our inventory of targets for the Steel matches. We have also removed the old shed from the parking lot and replaced it with a conex in an effort to improve the appearance of the club. Recently at the USPSA match in Yuma we had members finish 1st, 3rd and 4th in their classes. At the AZ State IDPA championship held in Tucson we had 5 1st places 2 2nd places 1 3rd place and 2 4th place, as well as winning the team portion of this match. I want to thank all the match directors and shooters for their efforts to improve our matches and club. Check our schedule and come on out, new shooters are encouraged to attend.

Shoot safe,

Bill Barron Practical Firearms Division Director

PISTOL DIVISION

Hello to all of the members, I hope this letter finds all of you happy and healthy. Pistol has been very busy fixing and repairing all of the various areas that are used for competitive shooting. At the Air gun range we have installed receptacles on either side of the building for use by competitors bring trailers, and corrected any of the electrical problems that existed in the Air Gun range.

Members Range, restrooms and offices, all of the circuits have been upgraded, and GFI's installed where needed. Both restrooms and offices were painted by the Boy Scouts Troop 565 as an Eagle Scout project, and hats off to them on a job well done.

Rapid Fire range, all of the target frames were removed, repaired and replaced.

Our club has been hoist to both the Midwinter and the annual Regional Championship matches, and both were very successful with the entire volunteer help that we had.

Why not come out and join us for some challenging types of pistol shooting. Check out the web site for times and dates.

Don Plante Pistol Division Director

HIGH POWER RIFLE DIVISION

The 2010 PRGC High power season is underway and we would like to have you involved! Some of you shot High power in the past but haven't lately and some others among you have never tried it but have probably seen the reports in the American Rifleman, Precision Shooting or other magazines. We welcome all interested shooters, especially new shooters, young and not so young.

High power shooting has two principal types of matches, they are the across the course (XC) matches and the Prone and F-Class matches. In both cases, you will find an interesting physical and technical challenge as you adapt yourself to various shooting positions and/or distances from 200 to 500 yards. Just as important, you will meet a group of people who share your interest and

enthusiasm for accurate rifles and who are very eager to help you master the sport. High power is a competitive sport, but it is competition among friends who always look out for each other.

The XC matches are a very traditional form of match, relatively unchanged for over a century and they include shooting at 200, 300 and 500 yards, from standing, sitting and prone positions with a center fire rifle using iron sights. For a detailed description of the match and how to go about it, please see the article at www.desertsharpshooters.com/manuals/Hipoweracross.pdf it will give you a good overview of the match. These matches are perfect for the AR15 and other service rifles as well as dedicated target rifles. All shooting is done with iron sights and only your body and a sling are used to support the rifle. It sounds challenging, and it is, but people of all ages do it every week.

The Prone and F-Class matches are, as the name implies, fired only from the prone position. The distances are 300 and 500 yards, depending on the day's program. Rifles for Prone are similar to XC rifles and the same rifle can certainly be used for both events. However, the pure, dedicated prone rifle tends to be a bolt-action in a medium to large caliber, and with a somewhat longer barrel, 30 inches being fairly common. Iron sights are used for Prone matches.

F-Class is an altogether different type of rifle as both scopes and mechanical support such as a front rest or bi pod and a rear bag are permitted. F-Class matches are held concurrently with Prone matches as the distances, time limits and other administrative details are the same. Only the rifles and the targets are different, with the F-Class targets having somewhat smaller scoring rings than the Prone targets. If your interests run towards a bit of rifle tinkering or ballistic experimentation, F-Class may be just the spot for you.

Darren Sucato High Power Rifle Division Director

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