

Williams Sportsman's Club

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"On Target!"

November 2023

President's Message – Martin Martin President & RSO

Change is in the Air!!!

Shorter days, longer nights and morning chills linger as we long for the sun's warmth to comfort us. Many of us have already limbered up our snow shovels as some contemplate a lower elevation hideout for the winter. Your WSC will endure whatever Mother Nature brings our way and will adapt to best serve our membership. Our hours of operation will slide one hour later—10 AM to 2 PM starting December 1st to allow our friend the sun to take some of the chill off the early morning temperatures. If unfavorable weather conditions dictate we will close the Range to membership use. Alerts regarding closures will be accomplished through our website, Facebook and email blasts. Our goal is to post such closures at least 24 hours in advance—so make it a habit to check these information sources before heading to the Range.

Veterans and First Responders Day at the WSC Range Saturday Nov 11th

Your Williams Sportsman's Club will be sponsoring this event from 9 AM to 1 PM. This is open to all US Military Veterans, Active Duty Personnel, and all Active and Retired First Responders. Bring along your favorite rifle and pistol. Scout Pack 140 will serve complimentary Hot Coffee and Pastries in the morning and then offering grilled hamburgers for lunch. This is a chance for fellow Veterans, Military Personnel and First Responders to meet up and enjoy celebrating their service. Free raffle tickets will be distributed and many great gifts will be given out. Don't miss this chance to have a relaxed, fun time with like-minded folks. Besides the 100, 200 rifle and 25 yard pistol ranges, the Practical Pistol Training course will also be up and running. And a fun .22RF course will be set up for any youths that are brought along. The rifles and ammo for this venue will be supplied by the club. Eye and ear protection, along with a folding chair, is recommended.

Happy Thanksgiving!



Being a sportsman's club and all it probably would have been most appropriate for the WSC to have offered a Turkey Shoot this month. But with all the uncertainties of the wobbly economy, skyrocketing gas prices and such it is unclear if the turkey had the gas money to get to the range.

WSC (Hope to Be) Life Member Tom Turkey says "Wishing everyone a hearty, healthy, and safe Thanksgiving!"

Announcements - Listen Up People! Help the WSC set our New Year's Resolution



While you start to make out your Christmas gift lists think about what things you would like the WSC to look into as far as goals for 2024. This could include many opportunities like –

- More or different types of Shooting Events
- Training for WSC members like more Ladies' Shoots, First Time Shooters, Defensive Pistol and Rifle courses
- Range Improvements like ramadas for the north pistol
 Bays, a bay dedicated to youth shooting, picnic area
- > Operational Changes on how we do things
- A members' annual BBQ & Fun Shoot, etc.

"We won't know unless you tell us so this is your chance to Sound Off People!"

Don't make the Gunny mad!

Mark your Calendar - December 1st the Range moves to Winter Schedule of 10 AM – 2 PM Effective December 1st the Range will start operating under our WINTER schedule of 10 AM – 2 PM – a shift of one hour later in the day to get us more into the warm sunshine. Just because the Grand Canyon Railroad has a Polar Express doesn't mean we need to follow suit! Days the Range will be open remain the same – every Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday.

WSC 2024 Membership Renewal Process

Your WSC will again be using the online membership renewal process for 2024. Next month all current WSC members will receive an email notification outlining the quick and easy process.

Club Management – by Annette Perkins, Secretary & RSO

Monthly meetings

WSC Board and General meetings are held the second Wednesday evening of every month starting at 6 PM at the American Legion Hall, 425 West Grant Ave. All WSC members and the public are welcome to attend.

November 8th Board Meeting Highlights -

- Another 3,000 rounds of .22RF ammunition was approved for purchase in support of our planned Youth Shooting Sports effort.
- The action to waive range guest users fees for the Veterans and 1st Responders Day was ratified. The motion amended to include coffee and pastries for the attendees and a hamburger lunch for the RSOs who will be training that day.
- Accept donations of a gas grill and metal target gongs set.
- NRA Grant for WSC Sporting Clays was acknowledged in the Williams newspaper.
- Work continues on the WSC Facebook, Hotmail, and Website transitions.
- Insurance coverage was discussed and more follow up is required.
- The RSO training planned for the 11th was reviewed.
- Finance report given.
- Bylaws draft presented, no vote taken, revisions requested.
- CRSO Simon gave brief update on in house RSO certification effort.
- Current tasks reviewed.

Next WSC Board meeting set for December 13th at 6 PM.

Shotgun Range Activities – by Keith Heimes, Sporting Clays Director, Past Pres & RSO

Sunday October 22 saw 9 Clay Shooters vying for the coveted "Top Gun" title at the Camp Raymond Sporting Clays shoot. Well in the all the excitement I just can't remember who walked away with that title? My vague recollection was that the scores might not have been to everyone's liking---rarely are they---and I contribute that to the layers of smoke drifting over the Range which prompted more than one shooter to exclaim, "*Help, I've got smoke in my eyes, and I can't see*"????

A 50/50 raffle was also held with first time shooter Keith Meyer the lucky winner---which he donated back to the Club for more clays purchase. Thanks Keith!!!

Our next shoot will be held on Sunday **November 19, 2023.** Note this is the third vs fourth Sunday of the month. Doing this is avoid the Thanksgiving weekend and to maybe find

somewhat better weather conditions. <u>Also note that the start time will be moved back one</u> <u>hour to 10 AM</u> to allow the temperatures to elevate some and prevent cold trigger fingers from sneaking into the "Excuse" department for missed clays.

Please let me know your desires to participate in the November 19th shoot with a RSVP. Per normal, the sign-up list is on a first come first serve basis. If more than 12 shooters indicate an interest, then a standby list will be generated.

Look forward to seeing you on November 19th.

Range Improvement Project – by Bruce Speirs, VP & RSO



Look what's New on the Pistol Range!

Six 12" metal gongs ready for you to use. Pistol use only!

Another set of metal gongs! There are two things nice about hanging metal gongs. First, there is no need to re-set them once they are hit. Second, they give you, the shooter, an instantaneous audible 'DING!" that you are on target. As they are 12" in diameter and set at 25 yard line means that if you can keep every round fired on the gong you are doing a great job. Remember front sight and trigger control. This is much better – and much more fun - than just shooting paper. This great piece of Range equipment was donated to the WSC by one of our Range Safety Officers for our membership to use.

Remember all the gongs on the pistol range are rated for pistol use only – No rifles please!

Stainless Steel BBQ Donated

A gently used but very nice propane gas grill was given to the club by Dave Gallinger. He figured the WSC should start holding some fun WSC membership events. He may be on to something! Thanks Dave!



Range Safety Officers – by Wynn Simon, Board Member & Chief RSO

New RSO Vests

They have arrived half of them in the RSO range box and the other half awaiting WSC patches to be sewn on. There are a total of eight - two Mediums, two Large, two X Large, and two XX Large.

Metal Gongs

And speaking of the new metal gongs all RSO's need to ensure that our WSC members don't inadvertently set their cardboard target holders directly in front of any of the metal targets – either on the pistol range or the 50 yard line on the rifle range. As you can imagine, the bullet just keeps going downrange destroying whatever is in its path. The problem here is that <u>the frames that support the gongs also get shot up</u>. The gongs are meant for the abuse, the frames are not. To our WSC members - Please be aware of your backstop.

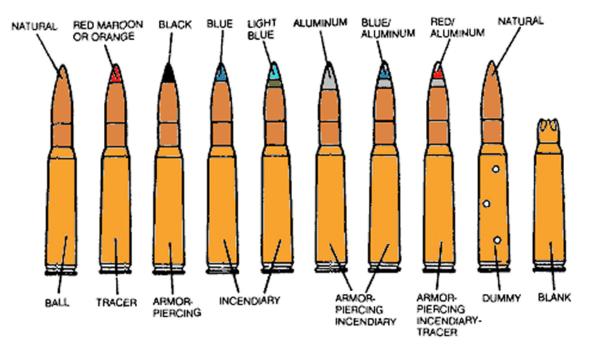
ALSO remind members of the **bullet rules**. Anything that will penetrate metal (military 5.56mm green tip or other caliber black tip armor piercing) is not to be used on our range at any time.

Just to be safe <u>any</u> ammunition that has a <u>PAINTED tip</u>, some with varying colors, should not be fired on our Range. It is most likely military issue and is not permitted. Some modern SPORTING ammunition have <u>plastic colored tips which are OK</u>.



Green Tip .223 / 5.56mm M855 Steel Penetrator

Black Tip .30 cal or 7.62mm steel core armor pieirceing



Ammunition with a PAINTED tip is military issue and is <u>not</u> to used on our Range

RSO Back Up Appreciated

Several RSO's expressed they have had occasions when an additional RSO would have been a nice thing to have on the Range. And several have also expressed their gratitude for those off duty RSOs who were at the Range to enjoy a day target shooting who stepped up to help out when they could see help was needed. Off duty RSO's are more than welcome to come to the Range and assist the assigned RSO. No need to call just, show up. To those RSOs who do so <u>please</u> be sure to also sign in on the RSO login sheet so you receive credit. We thank you!

RSO Monthly Brain Teaser

"If a member presses the trigger and nothing happens-what could be the possible problem(s) and how should you as an RSO handle it?" Thank you for your responses.

Here is one answer "Click and No Bang" is referred to as a "Type 1 malfunction." There were several responses to this and differed if it occurred at our range or in a tactical training course or an actual gunfight.

In <u>our</u> Range scenario where we are on the firing line and not in a tactical scenario, here is what to do - Hopefully you observe the shooter press the trigger and nothing happens. Have the shooter do all of the following in this order: The gun remains pointed downrange, trigger finger straight, count to 60 seconds, and then if nothing has happened, remove magazine and open the slide, cylinder or bolt, remove bad cartridge, inspect it for primer indent, load another round, and check for proper operation of the firearm. The problem should have been resolved and they may resume shooting. Yes it could have been a dud round, a light firing pin strike, or a gun malfunction due to a mechanical defect. Note the need for you, the RSO, to be able to both hear and observe what's going on at the firing line. It is a good reason for you to have electronic hearing protection which has the ability to muffle very loud muzzle blasts while normal conversation at normal levels can he heard.

Tactical Tips



Many ask "What pistol caliber is best for personal defensive use?"

The most common caliber of choice for the average shooter is 9mm. Not that it is the most effective but that it combines a small and light enough handgun convenient to conceal carry, has a moderate to mild recoil, and handguns are offered in a variety of choices. For the advanced shooter or those of bigger stature a larger caliber is an option to explore. And regardless for your choice practice, PRACTICE, **PRACTICE!**

Membership Report – by Chuck Corcoran, Board Member & Membership Director

2024 WSC Membership Renewal Process

As mentioned above we will be sending out renewal notices soon. You will be asked to either mail you renewal payments to our Club address or drop it off with the RSO on a Range day. Your new membership cards will be available for pickup at the Range in February.

New Members

Welcome four new members who have joined since our October WSC membership meeting -Linda ArmasNicholas BachertBobby & Ivory Rhudy

Quotable Quote – by Dwight D. Eisenhower, Commanding General of WWII Allied Forces

"Get it all on record now - get the films - get the witnesses - because somewhere down the road of history some bastard will get up and say that this never happened." Ike made this statement after witnessing firsthand the horrors at Auschwitz Nazi Death Camp. Most would say it was quite prophetic on his part. And most find quite shocking that this savagery is still alive and sadly supported by 'enlightened intellectuals and elites' today.

Gun Show Info – by Chris Mayer Board Member & RSO

Go to arizonagunshows.net and/or gunshowtrader.com for the most up to date information <u>before traveling</u>.

- Nov 11, 12 Kingman, San Tan Valley, Mesa, Safford
- Nov 18, 19 Tempe, Bullhead
- Dec 2, 3 Phoenix
- Dec 16, 17 Casa Grande
- Dec 30, 31 Havasu

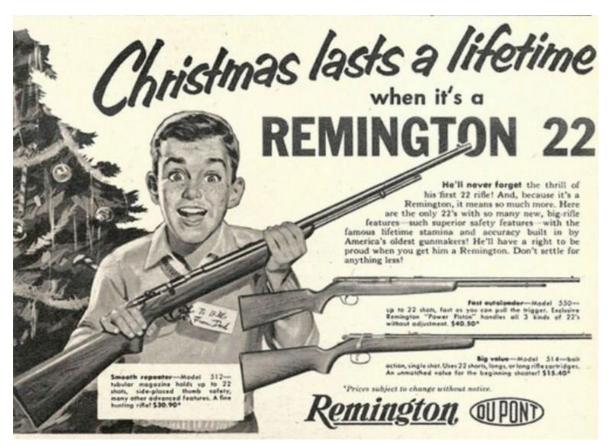
Snap 'Shot'



The Grump – "Here's my opinion – ought to be yours!"



"Oh how I wish I was that young man again back in 1960 celebrating my Christmas gift of a new Remington .22 rifle. How about your kids or grandkids? Rumor has it the WSC will be initiating a Youth Shooting Sports effort the spring of 2024."



Trading Post

WSC Trading Post – How it Works

Send the information to wscaz2020@hotmail.com with "Item for Sale" in the 'Subject' box. Be sure to include your name, email, phone, a good description, price, and a picture (optional). Notification to the WSC that the item is no longer available and should be stricken from the listing is the responsibility of the member. All sales or exchanges shall be considered private party transactions and compliance with mandated transfer requirements, if any, shall be the responsibility of the individual parties.