



Williams Sportsman's Club

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"On Target!"



December 2023



President's Message – Martin Martin, President & RSO

Tis the Season

'Tis that time of year for giving.' This means the year 2023 will be sealed in history soon and most certainly evoke unique memories for us all. Our giving spirit may be strained a bit this year as we all come to grips with empty shelves, higher gas prices, ever increasing inflation fears and just a general foreboding of our country's overall health. But the indomitable American Spirit will certainly carry us through 2024. There will still be 365 days in the New Year for each of us—and how we choose to use our allotted time is important.

And while on the topic of time permit me to tell you about a loyal segment of WSC members who always seem to find time to "get 'er done" where the day-to-day operations of the WSC Range is concerned. These folks are your Range Safety Officers whom the general membership sees every time they visit the Range. These same folks wear several hats---from "supply sergeant" as they scrounge for building supplies, to general contractors as they assemble those same building supplies into useful Range improvements. All WSC Range improvements are accomplished at a minimal expense of \$\$\$ to the Club, but with a significant outlay of time by our volunteers. So, as you make your 2024 resolutions think about including the WSC and its needs in your plan as you allocate your time for the upcoming year---the Club always needs a few good volunteers.

Merry Christmas to all

Announcements

It's Membership Renewal Time - by Chuck Corcoran, Board Member, Membership Director & RSO

Renewal emails will be emailed out several times to all WSC members. The necessary renewal form will be included as an attachment for you to print out. If you've already paid up just ignore them. NOTE - All renewal payments are due by January 31, 2024.

Regardless of what month you joined the WSC, all membership renewals are in January as memberships are set for renewal based on the calendar year.

As an option to mailing your renewal payment, just bring the renewal form and check or cash to the Range and give it to the on duty RSO. Once your payment is processed your membership card will be at the Range for pick up by the following month - and remember our winter range hours are 10 AM to 2 PM. Need a renewal form? See page 10 of this newsletter or go to "Membership" on the WSC website and download one.

Is there a "Senior family" membership? - by Chuck Corcoran, Board Member, Membership Director & RSO

No such 'senior family' membership category exists. But if you and your spouse are 'seniors' (60+) with no children under 18 here's the fix - just sign yourself and your spouse up as 'senior' members at \$20 each to save the \$10. Use a single membership renewal form but please make sure you fill in both names and contact info and make a note of this dual senior membership request for Chuck Corcoran to see. Questions? Call Chuck 928 864-8423. He's like the Maytag Repairman – just waiting to hear from someone!

WSC Bylaws and SOPs Revisions Approved - by Bruce Speirs, VP & RSO

The WSC Board of Directors approved several changes in the club's operating policies to streamline our functions and update procedures to keep up with the times. One of the more notable changes is the creation of a "Youth" membership category.

Youth Shooting Sports Outreach Spring 2024 - by Bruce Speirs, VP & RSO

The WSC is working on a plan to create shooting sport opportunities for our area's youth. We are working on outreach, course curriculum, securing instructors, and such. We plan to start out with a basic .22RF rifle marksmanship program and progress up to target matches and steel target shoots. Chris Mayer, Board member & RSO, is the Committee Chairs and is being

assisted by Keith Heimes, Bill Townsend, Sonya Clauer, and Michael Coleman. The behind the scenes work has started. We'll keep everyone updated as it moves forward.

Club Management – Annette Perkins, Secretary & RSO

Monthly meetings

WSC Board meetings are held the second Wednesday evening of every month now starting at 3 PM at the American Legion Hall, 425 West Grant Ave. All WSC members and the public are welcome to attend. Please note the new time 3 PM.

December Board Meeting

- The Nov 11th Veterans and First Responders day was reviewed. As Nov 11th was a Saturday many community events were also planned which resulted in a lower than anticipated turn out. We will plan for Saturday November 9th in 2024 and this will not be a conflict with the Holiday on Monday.
- An awards drawing was held to reward the RSOs for their work in 2023.
- An airgun competition is being looked at for July 2024. More info to follow.
- Work continues on website transition
- We are awaiting insurance quotes for instruction coverage.
- WSC Rangemaster Dale Vicari has a team set up and is in charge of all range work.
- Range brass not picked up by members and taken home becomes the property of the WSC and will be used to support operations.
- Finance report given.
- Bylaws and Standard Operating Procedures revisions approved.
- WSC membership renewal period is now open. More reminders will be sent.
- Chief RSO Wynn Simon –
 - Will send details of new 'Senior RSO' to President Martin for final OK.
 - Is researching details to create an 'in house' instructor capability.
 - Orange RSO knit caps @ \$15 are available.
- Rangemaster Dale Vicari reported on front gate latch work, new gongs, a solar heat box for gang spray paint, and brass collection buckets in conex.
- Chris Mayer reported on the Youth Shooting Sports outreach plan. Meeting to be held to further refine efforts.
- The Juniper Woods Gun Club donated \$300 to support WSC Youth Shooting Outreach.
- Jerry Smiley to take lead in a plan to co-sponsor with Coconino Sheriff a 'Situational Awareness' public safety presentation for Williams residents. WSC will have a membership signup and possibly offering another Ladies Handgun Shoot.

- Monthly meeting time change to 3 PM approved.

The next WSC Board meeting is set for January 10, 2024 at 3 PM.

You too can share in the fun!

From the WSC Bylaws - Section 5. Rights, Privileges and Duties of Members

a) In that the WSC is maintained for the benefit of every member, each member should strive to share in the responsibility for its continued operation. Therefore, it is vital to the WSC that each member volunteer a portion of his/her time, knowledge and effort as is possible to achieve the goals and objectives of the WSC so the burden of operating the WSC is not consistently placed on just a few members.

Key phrases –

- Maintained for the benefit of every member....
- Each member should strive to share in the responsibility....
- Vital that each member should volunteer...
- So the burden is not consistently placed on a few members....

Do you have a skill that would benefit the WSC? We have lots of different projects and tasks that occasionally require some help. Stay tuned for 'Help Wanted' announcements.

Rifle & Pistol Range Activities – by Bruce Speirs VP & RSO

Winter Range Hours have Changed December 1st to 10 AM to 2 PM!

We have shifted Range operations to winter hours by moving range hours 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! So tape a note to your coffee cup of "Range open 10 AM - 2 PM." Days the Range will be open remain the same – every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. And if you bring coffee to the range make sure you have an extra donut for the RSO! Super important so tape this info to the fridge door!

Range Schedule – Check for Changes before you go!

Winter weather may cause some issues so please check the website for any last minute range closure announcements. And remember we share the range with other users and sometimes we may close early or even for the entire day.

Range Improvement Project – by Dale Vicari, Rangemaster & RSO

The WSC now has a Rangemaster? What's that you say?

This is a new position approved by the Board to provide overall direction and control to ongoing range facility and equipment maintenance needs. I was recruited – Whoopee! But in all seriousness there's more than just paper targets and shooting benches to worry about. We have formed a team and a team is what it takes as we spend hours each week repairing metal gongs, painting fixtures, ensuring a constant supply of wood target frames are available, paper targets are in stock, spare supplies are maintained - and that's just the small stuff. The big stuff involves ramada repairs, gate maintenance, the grooming of the impact and lateral earthen berms – the things that keep the range secure from mischief, keeps the sun and rain off of folks, and protective barriers to keep everyone safe from errant bullet ricochets. I am not alone in this endeavor as there is a faithful cadre of enthusiastic and willing assistants that pitch in as needed.

My fellow team members at this time are Chuck Corcoran, Bill Cannon, Kirk Copper, Jon Montgomery, Kurt Penttila and Tim Topell.

Range Gate Safety – Please Use the Handrail when there is Ice or Snow at the cattle guard!



For all those who have found the trapeze act of negotiating the cattle guard in the ice & snow such a fun challenge you'll be happy to find that our skilled WSC range maintenance team installed a handrail last season to make this process safer!

Chuck Corcoran was quoted as saying *"Look Ma, no fall down go Boom!"*

“Dud” can at RSO station – No we don’t throw live bullets in the trash!



Occasionally a shooter may experience a round that will not go off ‘cuz its old or a faulty reload. And many have experienced 22 rimfire ammo that fails to feed properly, gets misshapen when feeding, or will just will not go off either. What to do with these ‘live’ rounds? Throw them in the trash? No! Here’s the solution. Just drop them in the bright yellow WSC DUD can. It will take some time but once there are a moderate amount of rounds in it the entire can and its contents will be safely neutralized and then properly disposed of.

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

Sporting Clays

November 19, 2023 dawned early with 13 eager souls bearing their favorite scatterguns in anticipation of inflicting smashing results on the elusive clays executing their best avoidance maneuvers. It was a beautiful day (see picture) with clear skies, light winds and flowers in full bloom. Truth be told, this picture is from August of 2021---the days we all long for when engaging in sporting clays activities. The reality for the November shoot was cloudy skies, temps in the mid-40s with enough wind to make even the toughest individuals wonder “why are we here?” But there were no deserters while the ever-changing winds put real meaning into the words “Sporting Clays”!

A 50/50 raffle was also held with Keith Meyer the grand prize winner. Keith was also the October winner. Is there a trend starting here? But as Keith did with his October winnings, he donated this November take back to the Club to help put more clays in the skies. Thanks Keith for your generous support.



Our November shooting weather was not in any way like this pictured from August of 2021

Our Sunday December 10th shoot was moved up to a 10 AM start time due to the cold December weather. This shoot will most probably be the last for the season as Mother Nature takes control for a few months. Expect to see our monthly events resume in April 2024.

Depending on spring weather conditions, 2024 should prove to be a good year for the Sporting Clays operation as we picked up several new shooters this year and they are becoming regulars—which is good as the operation is gaining traction through word of mouth.

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

RSO's and WSC monthly Board Meetings – All RSO's are strongly encouraged to attend our monthly board meeting whenever possible. As you RSO's are essentially the ones operating the range your insights, observations, and suggestions are vital to keeping things running smoothly and safely. From this point forward all RSOs will be sent the monthly meeting agenda and the prior meetings' minutes. It is vital the team stay abreast of developments and the board receives timely information and observations.

We had 10 RSOs attend in December and we would like to see all of you. The 3 PM meeting time should help.

Some Notes about Range Safety and Operations –

Range Safety is paramount. Most notable issue has been muzzle control – especially on the pistol range. General range safety will be enhanced and RSOs are therefore encouraged to provide an initial friendly reminder to pistol shooters to Always Keep Muzzles Pointed Down Range.

Not glamorous but it is necessary for RSOs to ensure all the necessary forms are filled out upon arrival and then on departure – the RSO sign in, shooter sign in, memberships applications are signed front and back and the Name, Phone and Email Address is READABLE!

We had a few rifle shooters using armor piercing (steel core) ammunition on our gongs. Besides the gongs getting chewed up, these bullets are not permitted per the City of Williams Range Use Agreement. There is a magnet in the Range Box that can be used to check ammo. AND rifles are NOT permitted to shoot the gongs on the pistol line at any time. Hint – .30 caliber Black tip painted and .233 / 5.56mm Green tip ammo are the likely culprits.

It is all well and good to visit with the shooters but make sure you are paying sufficient attention to everyone on the line. Also make the range COLD at regular intervals.

And lastly please ensure shooters do not set up their target stands in front of the metal gongs. The gongs can withstand bullet impacts from the frames and hangers cannot.

Tactical Tips – by Bruce Speirs, VP & RSO

Words and Phrases you'll be Hearing Come 2024

Things like *Shoot, Move, Reload; Bringing your Spouse to the Range; Its Dark 12 out of 24 Hours so Where's your Flashlight?; Situational Awareness; Concealed or Open Carry?; Extra Ammo; Use of Cover; Clearing the Area; Pistol, Shotgun or Rifle – Have the Right Gun for the Job - and lots more good stuff.*

Got a Gun Safe – Does it have a Combination Dial or a Digital Keypad?

Here are several things to do if you have one -

- Keep the Instructions outside of the safe. Do not keep the combo with the instructions.
- Send the Combo to someone trustworthy to keep 'just in case.' And some safe companies offer a service where they store the combo on file but it can be made available in case of emergency with proper identification verification. I know of two situations in which the safe owners passed on and the family could not get in the safes

for many days to access insurance policies, vehicle titles, will or trust, valuables, and real estate paperwork. One safe had to be cut open and the other a locksmith that had the skills and tools had to be summoned from quiet a distance and at a very hefty price.

- Set an annual battery replacement schedule. Mark your calendar to do so and use a date like your birthday or some other 'happy' day.
- Frequently inspect the contents for humidity. Get a humidity monitor and a silica gel dehumidifier. At the minimum pull all the guns out at least once a year, look them over and give them all a light wipe down with oil. If one or two are found dirty then clean them. A safe full of rusty guns is a disaster!
- Nothing worse than not having a safe. Those that keep guns in soft gun cases are just asking for them to rust or be stolen.

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

New Members

Please welcome 7 new members who have joined since our November 2023 WSC membership meeting -

Antreal Colosi

Jim Pearson

Gary Weigand

Tyrel Greenwade & Family

Ernest & Michele Chavez & Family

Sue Winchester & Family

Gun Shows – by Chris Mayer, Board Member & RSO

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

Dec 16 & 17 Tucson

Dec 30 & 31 Lake Havasu

Jan 6 & 7 Glendale, Yuma

Jan 13 & 14 Kingman, San Tan Valley

Jan 20 & 21 Quartzsite, Phoenix



**So have you been
Naughty or Nice?**



Williams Sportsman's Club Membership - Renewal Form

PLEASE PRINT!

***Please complete and return this form with your payment to -
Williams Sportsman's Club, PO Box 131, Williams, AZ 86046***

Your name: _____

Member # from your WSC ID card _____
(If you can't find your card it's OK)

Membership (circle) Single \$30 Senior \$20 Family \$50 Life \$400

Do you want to change your membership status?

If so please indicate your preference here: _____

Your Phone

E-mail

--	--

Spouse / Significant Name

Phone

E-mail

--	--	--

Current Mail Address / Leave blank if no change

Do you have a question? I will help you so call or text me.

Thank you,
Chuck Corcoran, Membership Officer
(928) 864-8423