

VISALIA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

NOVEMBER

PO BOX 105, VISALIA, CA 93279

2022

Established 1893

(www.visaliasportsmens.com)

Visalia Sportsmen's Association is a non-profit organization which is governed by the regulations set forth in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. The section of the code which we fall under states that we are to be exclusively a social club, organized and operated for the pleasure and recreation of our members. The specific purposes of the club are: 1) to unite in the effort of solving local, county and- statewide problems pertaining to the protection and propagation of fish and game and other natural resources in our area; 2) the conservation of our natural resources through the promotion and fostering of good public sentiment for better fish, game and forest management; 3) The encouragement of organized shooting activities among adult and junior members and the general public, so as to provide a better knowledge of safe handling and the proper use and care of firearms; and, 4) to take lawful steps to bring into effect those measures deemed to be in the interest of member sportsmen.

The next **GENERAL MEETING** will be **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2022, at 6:30 PM.** Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month and are open to all club members. We encourage all members to attend the meetings to become more informed and more active in the club activities. Members are invited to bring a guest to introduce to the *Visalia Sportsmen's Association*. The club is located just north of downtown Visalia at 536 E. Roosevelt Avenue, one block south of Houston Ave., just east off of Sante Fe.

The next **BOARD MEETING** is scheduled for **Tuesday, November 15, 2022, at 6:00 PM.** To present an item for discussion at a board meeting please contact a board member to be on the agenda. Board meetings are held on the Tuesday following the general club meeting.

Please note the general club meetings start at 6:30 pm.

Please contact any of the officers or board members for any issues or concerns you may have regarding your Visalia Sportsmen's Association.

Club House Phone # (answering machine): 559-635-7172

| | | | |
|--|--------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Mike Renzi – President: | 559-802-6163 | Leroy Chism – Board Member (e20): | 559-734-7500 |
| Russ Beechinor – Vice President: | 559-280-4061 | Matthew Gaalswyk-Board Member (e20) | 559-909-4419 |
| Kelly Salinas – Treasurer: | 559-307-9411 | Ernie Gomez – Board Member (a20): | 559-308-8012 |
| Chris Norman – Secretary: | 661-805-0164 | Royce Nalls – Board Member (e21): | 559-730-8485 |
| Dirk Steelman – Exec. VP (FFL operations): | 559-732-7726 | vacant (7-2022) – Board Member (a21): | xxx-xxx-xxxx |
| Jim Mayfield – Chairman of the Board: | 559-802-7967 | Frank Tebeau – Board Member (e20): | 559-731-0090 |
| Glen Gerard – Sergeant at Arms | 559-901-1749 | Kevin Vedenoff – Board Member (a21): | 559-280-1924 |
| Michelle Amaral – Board Member (a20): | 559-759-9501 | Sean Vedenoff – Board Member (e21): | 559-786-6184 |
| Chris Calhoun – Board Member (a21) | 559-679-7257 | | |

From the October general meeting and board meeting:

Good news for **youth shooting** sports, the governor signed AB160. Legislation that allows youth shooting sports to resume. Information that I have received is that, yes, the 4H program and VSA Junior rifle program will be resuming as soon as possible. Marketing the shooting industry to youths is still not allowed, those details are still being resolved in regards to AB160.

ELECTION of Officers and Directors: The election is scheduled for the December 8, 2022, general club meeting. There are six (6) director positions that will be open at that time. The VSA club has 10 directors (also known as board members). Directors serve for 2-year terms, with half of the positions to be filled this election and half to be filled at next year's election. Officers serve one year terms. The candidates for the positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary are voted on each year. Interested in learning more about running for one of the available positions? For more information please contact Esther Gipson at 559-732-7638.

FAMILY DINNER – NOVEMBER 12, 2022 – 6:00 pm TRADITIONAL THANKSGIVING FEAST

Smoked turkey and oven baked hams and all the rest of the tasty selections!! Dinner tickets are available now! \$?? for adults, and \$?? for the under 12- crowd. Happy hour starts at 5:00 pm, dinner is served at 6:00. Tickets are limited and not available at the door. Please call Jim at 559-802-7967. The doors will be open for early arrivals. As a reminder, there's a small parking area for a few cars in a fenced area accessible from our parking lot.

NOVEMBER 2022 Club Phone: 559-635-7172

DECEMBER 2022 Range Phone: 559-651-1415

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| 2 Wed Public Shoot | K Rahn/L Miller/L Hernandez | 3 Sat Public Shoot | B Zentner/?? |
| 5 Sat Public Shoot | B Zentner/ R Broyles/? | 4 Sun Public Shoot | ??? |
| 6 Sun Public Shoot | G Willett/Ilah Brock/? | 7 Wed Public Shoot | Ken Rahn/Lee Miller/L Hernandez |
| 9 Wed Public Shoot | Lee Miller/B Fulmer/Tom Bell | 10 Sat Public Shoot | Ben Zentner/?? |
| 12 Sat Public Shoot | B Zentner/G Richert/? | 11 Sun Women's Shoot 8 am to 12 noon | |
| 13 Sun Black Powder/4H | | 14 Wed Public Shoot | Rahn/Miller/T Bell/B Fulmer |
| 16 Wed Public Shoot | L Miller/K Rahn/L Hernandez | 17 Sat Public Shoot | D Lehman/L Cote/J Dearborn |
| 19 Sat Public Shoot | G Willett/??? | 18 Sun Black Powder/4H | |
| 20 Sun Public Shoot | D Lehman/L Cote/J Dearborn | 21 Wed Public Shoot | Ken Rahn/Lee Miller/? |
| 23 Wed Public Shoot | L Miller/K Rahn/L Hernandez | 24 Sat Closed for the Christmas holiday | |
| 26 Sat Public Shoot | G Willett/Ilah Brock/? | 25 Sun Closed for Christmas | |
| 27 Sun Public Shoot | ??? | 28 Wed Public Shoot | Ken Rahn/Lee Miller/J Johnson |
| 30 Wed Public Shoot | L Miller/K Rahn/J Johnson | 31 Sat Public Shoot | ??? |

The range is open from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm on Public Shoot days.

Please contact the following for more info on the programs that are offered at the range: **Black Powder** – Leroy Chism 559-734-7500;

Jr. Rifle Club – California legislation removed this program throughout the entire state. **Benchrest** – Rick Shaw 559-740-8026.

Women's Shoot – Michelle Amaral 559-759-9501

At the October general club and board meetings:

At the club meeting we were introduced to two Department of Fish & Wildlife game wardens and one DFW wildlife biologist. One of the topics covered by the wildlife biologist was the effect of wildfires on habitat and wildlife. Fires are good for clearing the underbrush; only a “handful” of bears were euthanized due to the extent of their burns. Deer were observed returning to their usual territories shortly after the fires, and the fires did not have a significant negative affect on their populations. Deer growth has been good after the fires and the antler growth has been good as well, signaling a healthy population.

Radio collars on deer have been a big advance in observing deer populations. Does and bucks are being “collared” and tracked. The radio collars can be set to activate a signal after a certain period of non-movement (usually due to mortality). Wardens or biologists can track the deer with the radio signal to try to do a post-mortem cause of death as well as recovery of the radio collar.

It was stressed that if you harvest a deer with a radio collar to please turn in the radio collar! Mandatory harvest reports have been a significant source of information for wildlife populations to forecast harvest limits.

The game wardens stated that **Quagga and Zebra mussel** (clams) populations can “explode” in the waters of California. The “clean your gear” programs to halt the spread of the invasive species have been pretty successful. Boats, kayaks, fishing waders (especially those with felt soles)” must be cleaned after exiting the water/before entering another body of water. Water hyacinth has been really bad in the Mendota area, in particular, the Fresno Slough. Boat access may be restricted at times due to the invasive plants.

Rabbit hemorrhagic virus (RHDV2) has been really bad in some areas. RHDV2 is highly contagious and lethal to both wild and domestic rabbits, hares and pikas. RHDV2 only affects rabbit species – it is not known to affect humans, livestock or pets other than rabbits. It was said, “The virus is very tenacious. It is viable outside the body for months!” The virus has the potential to cause significant declines of rabbit populations. You can help the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s efforts to fight RHDV2 by reporting sightings of sick or dead rabbits, and taking precautions to not spread the virus to new areas.

What else are they encountering? Distemper in foxes, mange in coyotes, and valley fever in bears. What can be done? “Stop feeding the wildlife!” Disease is easily spread when wildlife eats from “the same bowl”/ the same ground frequented by others. For example, deer are designed to eat the forage in their habitat that is available as the seasons change and their bodies change during the seasons.

Some of the most common offenses wardens encounter are fishing without a license; loaded firearms in the vehicle; and, trespass calls during dove season. During the summer, as hunting season is slow, wardens go heavy on litter enforcement.

CLUB SPONSORED CCW CLASS at the VSA clubhouse!! The CCW class is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, November 7th and 8th, 5pm to 9pm.

As part of your VSA membership, the once-a-month CCW classes **at the clubhouse** are FREE! You do not have to call first, just have proof of your VSA membership in good standing (yellow receipt or membership card). Membership applications, renewals, or membership payments will not be accepted at the class.

Wade Roberts will normally hold the CCW class at the clubhouse the first Monday AND Tuesday of each month, 5PM to 9PM. Non-members incur a fee of \$80 for an initial permit class (8 hours) and \$40 for a renewal class (4 hours). Renewal classes can be attended on either Monday or Tuesday, and initial CCW application classes can be attended across months – Monday one month, and Tuesday the next month, for example.

Everyone attending the class will also have to qualify with their permit pistols by shooting at the range. Non-members will incur a range use fee of \$20, while members have range privileges already. You must qualify with each pistol on your permit. If you cannot qualify on the designated day, non-members pay a \$20 range fee and a \$20 qualification fee, while VSA members pay a \$10 qualification fee.

The CCW Instruction and Qualification certificates are good for six months for initial application or renewal, so you can plan ahead and have plenty of time. Don't wait, get your CCW or renew it! Please call/text Wade at (559) 303-2848, for more info.

The next meeting of the local CRPA (*California Rifle & Pistol Association*) chapter Tulare-Kings Gun Owners, will be Tuesday, Nov. 29, 6:30 to 8:00 pm, at the VSA clubhouse. You don't have to be a VSA or CRPA member to attend. For more info, please contact Matt Johnson at 559-571-2239. crpatularekings@gmail.com

VSA Club Meetings What could be better than an evening with free hotdogs and chili, cold drinks, and friends? Add to that a chance to win a gun! The club meetings are a great place to start the evening with a bite to eat, hear and share what's happening, and end the evening by possibly winning a gun!

Reminder: The website for the club: <https://visaliasportsmens.com/> does not require a Login/password to access the pages of the site.



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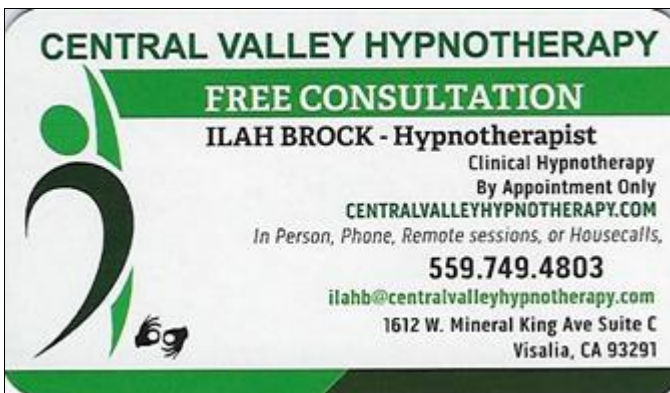


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- and a hundred more areas of self-improvement

If you truly want to change your life - be willing to change your mind!

Call for a FREE consultation.

Appointment Date/Time _____

Club Website: <http://visaliasportsmens.com>. For more info about the club, programs, activities, newsletters (current and past), visit the website, or call Jim Mayfield at 559-802-7967. Jim is our master club coordinator as well as the best source for any tickets for club events or drawings. For any of your newsletter concerns, "wanted" or "for sale" items, please feel free to contact me, Chris Norman, editor, at: visaliasportsmen@hotmail.com, or by phone/text: 661-805-0164.

**Hey Folks, if you have a cough, sore throat, runny nose, fatigue, sneezing – stay home.
Please don't come to the club for a meeting, a dinner, a class, or other event. Stay Home.**