



**THIRD QUARTER NEWSLETTER  
PUBLISHED JULY 1, 2023**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Summer weather is in full swing. As the warmer temperatures are upon us, please remember to drink plenty of water. As we are looking for water so are animals and reptiles. We have had several snakes on the range this year. Please don't shoot them, remember they don't want to see you any more than you want to see them. Please call a board member or a range chair if there needs to be a snake removed from the range.

A couple of things you may have heard from me before, "Leave Apple Valley Gun Club a little better than you found it," and, "How will this benefit the membership of Apple Valley Gun Club?" These are two things I continually ask myself and the Board of Directors, and you should be asking yourself. Especially if you are in a position of leadership in any form at AVGC.

So, as we strive to make the club a better facility and a better experience for our members, we couldn't do this without you. Each member is important, and no one is more important than the other. That includes me, the Board of Directors, Officers, Range Chairs, Match Directors, Program Directors, Instructors, Coaches, RSO's, and the hundreds of other volunteers we have at the AVGC. I thank each and every one of you for the hard work and dedication you show. I can truly say that you have made AVGC a better place than you found it.

As the Leadership gets busy running the administrative aspects of the club, please let us know how we can make it a better experience for the Members.

As you are aware our 2nd amendment rights are under attack every day. I urge you to get involved with a group that supports our second amendment rights. Write letters to your elected officials and vote in our elections. The right to own firearms and the right to vote are two rights that we should not take for granted. Many other countries do not have these rights we enjoy. As we enter into the Independence Day holiday, take a few moments to think about the Men & Women that have gone before us, who fought for the rights that us as Americans enjoy.

Thank you,  
Tim Neubauer, President  
Apple Valley Gun Club

## FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT/President-Elect

Greetings again fellow club members. I hope you're enjoying our great facilities during these warm summer days. If you regularly attend monthly membership meetings, you will hear our Treasurer go over the balances of the various club accounts. What you don't get to hear is what it costs to keep our club the fantastic place that it is. "Why don't they fix . . .?" is something I often hear. So, I thought I'd fill you in on some of what goes on behind the scenes, so to speak. There are often large capital expenditures that may go completely unnoticed. Restrooms in the Adobe and Indoor range were constantly backing up causing regular expenditures to clean them out, so the Board (and membership) made the decision to eliminate the septic system and connect to the Victorville sewer system. Also last year, the A/C unit for the trap range classroom was replaced. If you use the trap range and the restrooms in that building you might have noticed how nice and cool it is now, and warm in the winter. These improvements cost tens of thousands of dollars but were necessary. Everyone who's seen the new, and needed, (\$54K) lights has been impressed. They are nothing less than awesome!

We all know that our club could not stay the great place it is without a lot of volunteer help. Not just the work party days (and thanks to all of you who show up to help out), but all our range chairmen, instructors, event organizers, and match directors (classes, matches, and events are all income for the club) are all hard working and dedicated volunteers. Also, the "teams" that have been recruited to help out with these events regularly volunteer their time. You all know who you are, please give yourselves applause.

But there are a few items that we regularly pay for. Of course, there are the utilities. They average \$1500-\$2000/mos. Gas for winter heat, electricity for – well, everything, and water for the sinks and great flush toilets that we have almost everywhere (sorry Big Bore range, we're working on it). And when we need them it's certainly nice to enjoy a clean, good-smelling bathroom. Anyone want to volunteer to clean those twice a week? We didn't think so, so American Janitorial Service is contracted to take care of that for us (\$800/mos). We also pay a company to keep the last of our porta-potties at Big Bore cleaned out (\$200/mos). I hope you noticed that those trash cans at every range, sometimes overflowing with used targets and cardboard, are routinely emptied. We had been paying a Labor company about \$800/week to take care of those. We are now paying an individual \$780/mos to do that chore. Thanks to Don McAfee who made that happen.

We are privileged to come for shooting and almost always find target frames in good condition with mostly new cardboard. Thank you, Dennis Ingram, for spending so much time out behind the Adobe replacing the shot-up ones – all volunteer time. The new steel target frame bases were constantly getting shot up and needing replacement. Don McAfee took the (volunteer) time to weld new deflectors onto the front of all the frame supports to keep them in one piece (\$1500). **Please** keep the yellow deflector panels facing you when shooting. All these materials have a cost. So do the paper targets that are provided free to all members and their guests. The steel targets that are often mistreated and need replacement all have a cost. There is even more that goes into keeping our ranges in great shape. Fresh paint here and there that some of you might have noticed. A much-needed new roof on the pistol shack. All that concrete at P1 to make easier access for our handicapped shooters. New carpet on the shooting benches (I know, some of it still needs replacement), and let's not forget unlimited free water(\$800/mos). General range maintenance averages about \$2500-\$3000/mos, without extras like paint and new roofs.

If you've attended open archery (and you should, it's a blast), you know that we provide equipment for all participants. Free for members, minimal charge for guests. This involves more than just bow and arrows. Like any "shooting" equipment, there is a maintenance cost. Bow strings, arrows, arrow feathers, wrist guards, finger guards, targets, and more all have to be cleaned, repaired and replaced routinely.

Remember I mentioned income generated by events, matches and classes? It adds up. Averaging a little less than \$5000/mos. But we need to keep attracting new participants and to that end we pay our web master a monthly fee (about \$600/mos) to advertise. All those Facebook posts and emails, along with maintaining our club website are created, revised, maintained, and posted by Laura Nowak with Shoreline Digital Marketing.

Of course, there's much, much more. So next time you pay your dues, or hit a bump in our neglected roadway, remember that the club belongs to you. The Board makes every effort to spend your money responsibly and necessarily. If you want input come to a meeting and vote. Apple Valley Gun Club is the best range around and certainly the best deal financially. Take care of it like it's your own, because it is.

Happy Shooting,  
Debbie Harris  
Vice President

## AVGC FREEDOM FESTIVAL

July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023

Planned Events:

7:00 a.m. 🍏 CMP match.

11:00 to 1:30 ish 🍏 BBQ

1:30 to 2:30 ish 🍏 Memorial Garden Dedication



**Apple Valley Gun Club is honored to celebrate the freedom of our Country with our friends. Independence Day commemorates the Declaration of Independence, which was ratified by the Second Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, establishing the United States of America. Come celebrate the day with your range friends and family. Enjoy burgers, hot dogs, sausages, baked beans, mac salad, and game meat chili. Huge shout out to Alex and Laura Montenegro for their annual support, planning and preparation for this event. If you plan to shoot CMP, please contact Alex beforehand so he can be prepared.**



# ● ● ● GREAT NEW PROGRAMS AT AVGC ● ● ●

## New Gun Owner Certificate Program:

AVGC has partnered with local gun stores to help new gun owners get comfortable with their firearms. When someone buys their first handgun, they receive a certificate for 2 free hours of basic gun handling skills here at AVGC. This includes a short lecture on safety and basic skills then more than an hour on the range with one-to-one skilled coaching from our volunteer instructors. This introduction to shooting skills has been supported whole-heartedly by our partner stores. So, if you know someone planning to purchase their first handgun, be sure to have them buy locally and get their free training.

## Novice Shooter Workshop:

AVGC introduces a new program designed to give new shooters a safe and controlled place to practice with other similarly skilled shooters. Shooters use their own firearms and ammunition and are welcome to shoot at their own pace without any interference, just good company. There will be experienced coaches on hand during the workshop who can advise on skills that need correction, answer any questions, and even help with detailed one-to-one coaching if requested. The workshop takes place the second Tuesday of every month at 6:00pm-8:00pm on the pistol range.

## Beyond the Basic:

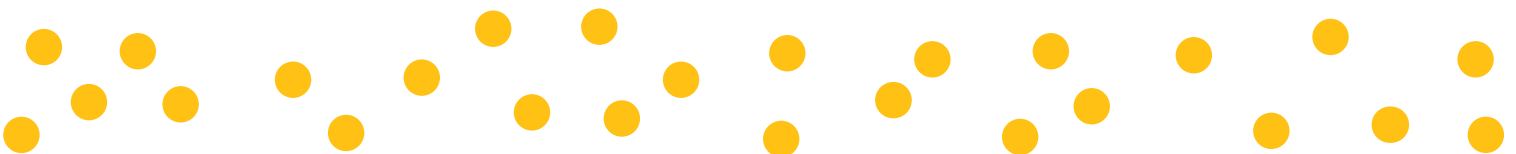
Have you completed NRA Basics of Pistol Shooting? Then this is the next step! Refresh the basic skills learned and go just a little farther. Try shooting single handed. Try shooting with your "off-hand". Try speeding up a little. There are more challenging exercises under the direct, one-to-one supervision of an experienced coach. Check out the website for times and days.

## SWAG: Strong Women and Guns has a New Director:

Debbie Shell is an experienced coach, match director, and match participant. With other SWAG coaches she's maintaining the fun and challenge that has always been SWAG, but also adding opportunity for new, experienced shooters, to learn and practice competition shooting skills. SWAG meets the third Thursday of every month 6:30pm-8:00pm.

## New Precision Rifle Match:

Want to challenge yourself on the rifle range? New targets have been added out to 500yds. This match involves shooting targets from as close as 20 yds all the way out to the new 500. Shooters change positions and targets vary in size from 4" up to ipsc size. This is fun and a challenge! Check it out.



# Property Damage on the Rifle Range

Know what ammo is permitted on the range before shooting. Read the Range Regulations! Regulations state: "No steel core, steel jacketed, armor-piercing or tracer ammunition is allowed on the range." Disrespect for the rules is not fair to your fellow members who follow the rules. If you see someone causing property damage to the range facilities, please report it.



It was suggested by a member that we educate a little bit about steel core ammunition.

## **Steel Core Ammo**

Steel core ammunition refers to cartridges that have a projectile with a steel core, typically surrounded by a jacket or coating. The purpose of using a steel core is to enhance penetration and potentially increase the armor-piercing capabilities of the bullet. Steel core ammo is commonly used in military applications or for specific hunting purposes.



Steel core ammo doesn't expand the way that lead does, which can lead to greater penetration. That causes more damage to the target, which means the range has to replace structures more often. It's expensive to do this often. Additionally, the chances of ricochet and sparks that can start fires are a little higher with steel core ammo. This ammunition usually has a green tip! Still unsure? Test it with a magnet!

If the damage continues, the steel may not be replaced. Please take care of the range for everyone.

*Credit: <https://www.ammunitiondepot.com/>*



# Apple Valley Gun Club Memorial Garden completed at last!

For several years the club has been promising a memorial to the loved ones of those members who have passed but who gave over and above to the club. Thank you, Deb Harris and Tracey Graham, for spearheading the project. Thanks also to Jenaraye Graham and Cathy Westmoreland for all their assistance.

Tracey Graham breaking ground (or grass) for the planned garden



## The first to be remembered:

Bob Livrano  
Roger Graham  
Ken Crawford  
Sonny DeRose  
John Burke



Deb and Jenaraye hauled many big rocks up the hill for the garden outline.



LEFT: Rock garden taking shape

BELOW: Flowers add color and serenity



A couple benches, a sprinkler system, and some lights made the finishing touches. It all started with a little cement pond to help out the local wildlife, and a promise to long-time members who helped make AVGC what it is today. Dedication to be held at the July 1<sup>st</sup> Freedom Festival.



## SONIC PROTECTION COMES TO AVGC!

Once or twice a year we welcome Corey LaFever, with Sonic Protection, to the range to make custom-molded ear protection for our members. Corey is also a member of the club! His most popular products are:



- **Standard Earplugs:** The standard earplug offers the maximum protection. This earplug offers a consistent 33 decibels of protection every time you put it in your ears.
- **Filtered Earplugs:** Filtered earplugs offer more versatile protection for those who need or wish to communicate while still having great hearing protection. This earplug allows the wearer to hear 80 decibels of sound while still getting a 22-24 decibels protection rating. They are completely waterproof for those that want to use this for swimming, surfing or other aquatic activities.

"I have several different types of protection. Solid inserts, electronic inserts, and over the head muffs. The standard protection I purchased is by far the best hearing protection I have ever used." -Bill Ross



## US PATRIOT ARMORY

GRAND REOPENING AT  
THEIR NEW LOCATION!

One of our local gun store partners, US Patriot Armory, celebrated their new location on May 13, 2023. AVGC was present with our vendor booth in support! Thank you to Dina McKinney, Cathy Westmoreland, and Tim Neubauer for working at the booth the entire day and helping promote AVGC to the community. Congratulations US Patriot Armory! If you have not stopped by to see the new location, do it! It's beautiful!



**HANDGUNS • RIFLES • SHOTGUNS • AMMO**

**US PATRIOT ARMORY**

**GRAND OPENING**

**MAY 13TH 2023**  
9:30AM to 4:00PM

**GLOCK • 1911 • SIG SAUER • AR-15 • AR-10**

**GUN & AMMO DEALS**

**US PATRIOT ARMORY**  
13548 Nomwaket Road  
APPLE VALLEY

**MUSIC**

**PRIZE WHEEL**

**Y-102 RADIO**

**BOUNCE HOUSE**

**FOOD TRUCKS**

**GIVE AWAYS**

**MAY 13TH 2023**  
9:30AM to 4:00PM

...and so much more!!!

**PREPPER GEAR • SIGHTS**

**MAGAZINES • APPAREL**



# Black Powder at AVGC

On the fourth Friday of the month the Sante Fe Muzzleloading group meet at the range to enjoy a friendly, relaxing shoot.

Black powder enthusiasts keep history alive as part of their hobby and are always happy to introduce new folks to firearm designs from centuries past.

Before the advent of metallic cartridges in the 19th century, each shot was assembled in the gun through the muzzle. The later designs used percussion caps similar to modern primers, but placed on the gun as the last step of a loading process where each component was loaded by hand. Flintlock arms have been around longer than percussion caps and may also be seen at monthly shoots.

On hand for the April 28 shoot were Steve Haskins, Butch Bollinger, Paul Steffen, Alan Purnell, and David Smith. The group met in the Adobe at 8:30 to sign in, drink some coffee, and discuss the day's topics. After a safety briefing, we adjourned to the rifle range.

Steve and Butch are the informal leaders of the group and oversee club administrative duties and setting up the range. With the whole group pitching in, the range went together quickly. A variety of steel silhouette targets were placed between 50 and 75 yards downrange, and most seemed to stubbornly remain standing throughout the morning.

During **Women on Target** and **Community on Target** events the black powder rifles at the rifle range are very popular, since it is uncommon to see these types of firearms at other times. Steve and Butch generally present this opportunity to see how historical firearms operate; always to rave reviews.

Anyone interested in learning more about shooting muzzle loading firearms is welcome to stop by. The group is pretty good at showing off their toys, explaining how they work, and generally will invite newcomers to try a shot or two! -Dave Smith





# ADOBE GETS A FACELIFT!

It was built in 1952 and, while the classroom has been updated, the kitchen hasn't had much more than paint on the walls. What started as cleaning out the cabinets quickly turned into a complete renewal. Good job Deb Harris, Cathy Westmoreland, and Jenaraye Graham.

It starts with stripping the old cabinets down to bare wood...

And ends with painting them a room-brightening butter yellow



Lower cabinets weren't ignored. They were also stripped bare and re-stained. Latches all around were repaired and new shelves built in large open cabinets. Old asbestos counter tiles were cleaned and covered with new peel-n-stick. Windows were cleaned and refinished.



The Adobe classroom also has some changes. Some table and shelf rearranging, some new cabinets, detailed cleaning (thanks volunteers) and general reorganization has made the space more user friendly and easier for shoppers to access all the Apple Valley Gun Club Merchandise. Be sure to check out all the new items.



# AVGC Archers Corner



Open archery is held from 10 AM to 12 PM on the second and fourth Saturday of each month. Take advantage of this opportunity to come out and have some fun while learning a new skill. USA Archery certified instructors are available, and all the required equipment is provided free of charge for members. We recently held a Level 1 Instructor course and certified Gabby Hemp, Jake Morrison and Dave Smith as USA Archery instructors. We are gearing up to hold a 3D archery event and are in the process of starting a Junior Olympic Archery Development (JOAD) program. We look forward to seeing you on the archery range!

## SASP welcomes a Special Visitor!

Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, Apple Valley Gun Club hosted Mike Dalton. Mike is one of the creators of the Steel Challenge match. This was an excellent opportunity for our team to get some outstanding training, from one of the Experts in our sport.





# ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY ON TARGET/NRA DAY!

Apple Valley Gun Club takes pride in encouraging and teaching organized shooting among members and the community with a view toward increasing knowledge of the safe handling, use and care of firearms as well as improving marksmanship and developing traits of honesty, good fellowship, self-discipline, team play and self-reliance essential to good sportsmanship.



NRA Day events provide adults, youth, families, hunters, sportsmen, competitors – literally everyone – the opportunity to come together under a formal program to learn, experience, share, and grow in appreciation of the shooting sports. The event themes offered in the program are designed for discovery. They provide exposure to the many different activities available in shooting sports and offer participants the opportunity to explore them in a safe, controlled environment. The NRA Day is a family affair! Everyone can attend!



# CLUB CONTACTS

## 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Treasurer, Jonathan Weldy	<a href="mailto:avgc.weldy@gmail.com">avgc.weldy@gmail.com</a>	909-380-9919
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Director, Larry Mason	<a href="mailto:avgc.larry@gmail.com">avgc.larry@gmail.com</a>	760-265-1100

### MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS?

Contact our Membership Liaison

Cathy Westmoreland

[avgc.cathy@gmail.com](mailto:avgc.cathy@gmail.com)

Call or Text (760) 217-0755

Response within 24 hours



Do you have something you  
would like in the Newsletter?  
Email the club Secretary,  
Dina McKinney at [avgc.dina@gmail.com](mailto:avgc.dina@gmail.com)