

APPLE VALLEY GUN CLUB

INDOOR

RIFLE

PISTOL

TRAP

ARCHERY



SECOND QUARTER NEWSLETTER
PUBLISHED APRIL 1, 2024

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I want to start this by thanking all of you who regularly volunteer for the club. The majority of our members are here for a safe, comfortable, affordable place to shoot. And I welcome all of you. But membership dues are only part of the club's income. Matches, programs, and classes are huge contributors to the club's finances. These programs would not be possible without the tremendous support of all of the coaches, directors, RSOs, and instructors who show up to make things happen. These folks don't get paid for all the hours they spend at the club. They help out of loyalty to the club and because we all love sharing the fun and camaraderie of the shooting sports.

Come out on a weekend morning. Join in a match. It's a great way to improve your skills and meet some fellow club members. Take a class offered at the club. You get a discount on tuition (all tuition funds go to the club), and it's another great way to improve. Apple Valley Gun Club has classes from beginner to advanced. Volunteer to help with one of our programs or become an RSO. It's fun and a great way to get your volunteer hours in.

If you are familiar with SB2 you know that we have had to temporarily shut down our CCW renewal program. This is an important program, not only helping out our community by making renewals easy to acquire, but it is also a huge money maker for the club. Additionally, it helps with important relationships that we have with the San Bernardino Sheriff's Department.

Part of the DOJ requirements are for all line instructors to be State certified Firearms Instructors. This is an expensive and time-consuming requirement. So far, Vice President Tracey Graham and myself have qualified. We are hoping to get 8 certified instructors. Anyone who is interested can apply to have the club sponsor them in a class. You must apply to the Board and CCW program directors, and you must commit to working for the CCW renewal program at the club.

Lastly, I look forward to another great year at the gun club. We are still the best thing going, not only financially, but in facilities. Our membership is growing as word about our great club gets out. If you know anyone who is interested, have them attend a new member orientation (3rd Sunday of every month at noon). These are open to the public who just want to learn about us.

If you see me around, say hi. I don't know all our members yet, but I'm working on it.

Debbie Harris, President

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

As we (slowly) enter our desert Summer, the Club's Training Schedule is going full speed. For our many instructors, if you haven't taught a class in a while, I urge you to get in touch with the Lead Instructors and ask to assist by teaching a portion of some of our upcoming classes.

CCW Update: As of July 1, the Sheriff's Department will again turn over all CCW renewals to local vendors. The Club is working hard to ensure that we have State Certified Firearms Instructors to get us back on track. Our CCW Program brings in a significant portion of the Club's annual revenue, which has allowed us to make some great improvements to the Range.

I've read various statistics regarding gun purchases over the past few months, but one undeniable truth is that thousands of first-time buyers now have firearms in their homes. It is up to us, as lovers of the shooting sports to bring these new owners into the 2A fold and ensure they get the proper training. And just maybe we can make a difference at the voting booth come November.

David Smith is doing a great job of keeping members aware of what's going on in Sacramento. While it often feels like our legislators don't care what We the People think, it's also critically important that we continue to let them know. Make the phone calls. Send the letters. Write the emails. Numbers DO matter. And most importantly, exercise your right (and duty) to VOTE.

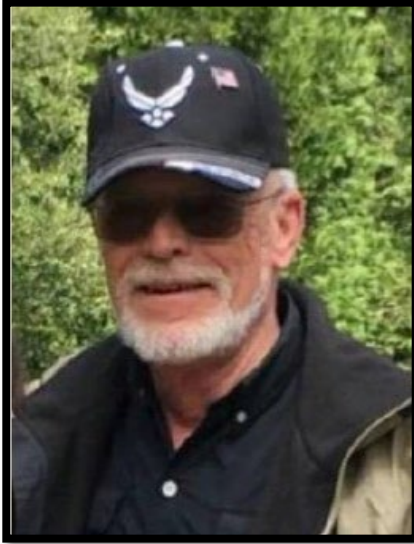
In addition to being an NRA member, there's two other organizations within the State that I strongly recommend: California Rifle and Pistol Association and San Bernardino County Gun Owners Association. CRPA fights virtually all the anti-gun legislation in the Court system, (the stays on Senate Bill 2 were due to CRPA's court battle), while SBCGOA is a grassroots activist organization working to ensure that LOCAL elected officials are Pro 2A. The logic is that State officers come from local County Supervisors, Mayors and even School Board members. Both organizations are worthy of your membership and your donations.

Reminder: if you open a door, please ensure it is closed and secure when you leave.

Tracey Graham, Vice President

CONGRATULATIONS

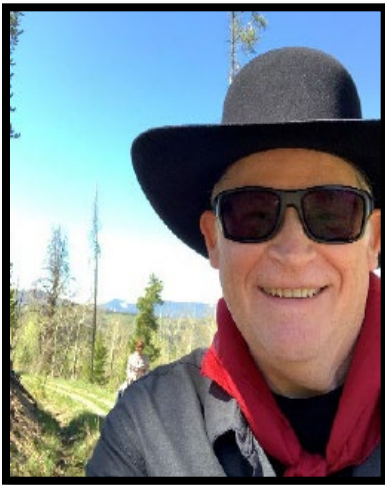
NEWLY ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS



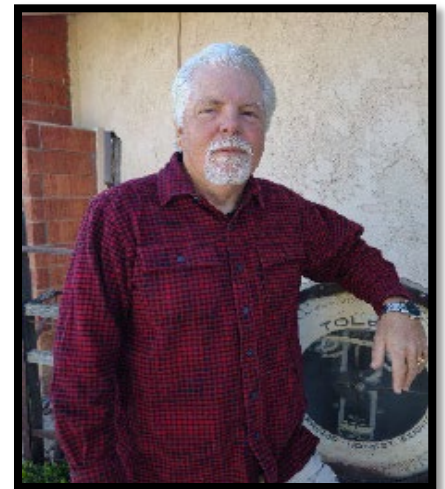
Tracey Graham
Vice President/President Elect

Dina McKinney
Secretary

Jenaraye Graham
2-year Director



Allen Rutledge
2-year Director



Rod Ison
1-year Director

Apple Valley Gun Club extends our most sincere
gratitude to our banquet partners

TURNER'S
OUTDOORSMAN

Victorville

US PATRIOT
ARMORY

Apple Valley

THANK YOU TO OUR LOCAL DONOR SUPPORT FOR THEIR
GENEROUS GIFTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR BANQUET

CALIFORNIA RIFLE & PISTOL ASSOCIATION
SONIC EAR PROTECTION
POLLOS EL COMPA
STATER BROS.
DAVE SCHEPPMANN
DANIEL GARICA
LITTLE RANCH WESTERN WEAR
BONNIE LANYON
MICHELLE NAKATA
DINA MCKINNEY
CATHY WESTMORELAND

THANK YOU TO OUR BANQUET CHAIRWOMAN
CATHY WESTMORELAND

AND HER AMAZING TEAM FOR THE COUNTLESS HOURS IT
TAKES TO THROW SUCH A GREAT PARTY!



RANGECON



'24



DON'T MISS YOUR SHOT

Date

2 May 2024
9 AM - 4 PM

Location

Apple Valley
Gun Club
16699 Stoddard Wells Rd
Victorville, CA 92395

Tickets

\$60

Lunch Included!

Here's The Target

- Range Safety
- Firearms Regulations
- Community Outreach
- Hosting Competitions
- Current California Anti-2A Legislation
- Environmental and Land Use Best Practices
- Network with other Range Owners | Operators

Guest Speakers

Michel & Associates Lawyers
CRPA Staff And MORE!!

Range Training

Same Day Training Available
Range Safety Officer Basics \$125
Chief Range Safety Officer \$225

*Admission to RangeCon is not
admission for training



- 714 - 992- 2772
- contact@crpa.org
- crpa.org/rangecon-2024



AVGC AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING SCHOLARS!

Don Vito Martin
Hannah Schaaf
Ian Burke

Charles Floyd
Danielle Clark
Sierra Stephenson

Join us at our JUNE membership meeting
for the presentation of scholarships to these deserving individuals.

Scholarship applications are accepted December 1-March 1.



JOIN US ON MAY 4TH 2024!

- Meet your new Board of Directors
- Meet the Range Chairs
- Meet the Match Directors and Program Leaders
- Ask questions and learn about your club!
- ENJOY TACOS!

Patio of the Adobe Clubhouse from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Hosted by: Jason Myskow, Big Bore Range Chairman

Hunter's Education returns to AVGC!

Thanks to the efforts of Dan Floyd and Alex Montenegro, Hunter's Education will be offered again at Apple Valley Gun Club.

For questions and to get more information

Contact-

Dan Floyd 571-228-6714

Alex Montenegro 760-220-7928

Look for upcoming dates on the AVGC Calendar or the California Department of Fish & Wildlife website.

Big Water Safari gives seminar at AVGC



Big Water Safaris have the exclusive rights to hunt on Laohu Valley Reserve in Central South Africa. It was established in 2002 when a total of 17 sheep ranches were purchased for conservation purposes. For at least a century these ranches had been used primarily for raising sheep with many areas suffering from severe overgrazing. While it is hard to find a true wilderness area in modern South Africa the clock is slowly turning back on the reserve with biodiversity restored and the introduction of Apex predators like

Cheetah. The majority of the meat harvested is used to feed a population of endangered South Chinese Tigers. Central to Laohu Valley Reserve is a project to breed and rewild the endangered South China Tiger. Laohu Valley Reserve have 20 of these rare felines and as 20 hungry tigers. The vast majority of animals harvested on the reserve are fed to the tigers. - *credit bigwatersafaris.com*

Thinus Steyn and his wife Sanet provided a complete look at their operation and explained that the reason they could offer such a great price was that the re-breeding program of the endangered South China Tiger required the harvesting of large amounts of game meat. So, they offer hunts for a "helluva price" according to Alex Montenegro.



Thinus anticipated getting 2-3 hunts sold that evening, but it turned into a feeding frenzy and an estimated 15 hunts were booked for this year and next year! The South Africans were amazed and incredibly grateful for the support and promised not to disappoint our members! We can't wait to hear the stories from South Africa! Submit your hunting pictures to be included in future newsletters!

NRA in the news:

NRA Dethroned as Top Gun Lobby in DC - By Doug Howlett -March 7, 2024 Published in The Truth About Guns

NRA is no longer the largest, most powerful gun lobby in Washington, DC. That title is now held by the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF), which spent more money lobbying than any other year in its history, and significantly more than the NRA. The NSSF, with a 60-year history of promoting hunting and recreational shooting, has emerged as the country's largest firearms trade association amid the NRA's struggles with declining membership, revenue and internal scandals, including a corruption ruling against its leader Wayne LaPierre.

Some believe the NSSF's success is due to their ability to present a more pragmatic and less confrontational image than what NRA has come to be known for, yet still shares the NRA's hardline positions on gun control. However, the NSSF emphasizes its commitment to safety and dialogue on firearms, distinguishing its approach from the NRA's.

The NSSF's growth and increased lobbying efforts come as the NRA faces significant cutbacks and internal turmoil. And while NRA's overall revenue and membership still dwarf the trade association, NSSF's expansion is notable amidst booming gun sales and a membership exceeding 10,000. Under the Biden administration, the NSSF has prioritized issues such as opposing the creation of a new merchant code for firearms purchases, which it argues could infringe on gun buyers' privacy and be misused for political purposes.

While "who" is the top gun-rights lobbyist in Washington could teeter back and forth in the coming years depending on how NRA emerges from its current woes, one thing is certain, both organizations will continue to play pivotal roles in the rights of millions of Americans who care about the Second Amendment.

NRA EVP Wayne LaPierre Announces Resignation from NRA- credit: <https://home.nra.org/statements/nra-evp-wayne-lapierre-announces-resignation-from-nra/>

The National Rifle Association of America (NRA) announced today that Executive Vice President Wayne LaPierre announced he is stepping down from his position as chief executive of the organization, effective January 31. Long-time NRA executive and Head of General Operations Andrew Arulanandam will become the interim CEO & EVP of the NRA.

"With pride in all that we have accomplished, I am announcing my resignation from the NRA," says Wayne LaPierre. "I've been a card-carrying member of this organization for most of my adult life, and I will never stop supporting the NRA and its fight to defend Second Amendment freedom. My passion for our cause burns as deeply as ever."

According to the NRA, LaPierre cited health reasons as a reason for his decision.

NRA President Charles Cotton said, "On behalf of the NRA Board of Directors, I thank Wayne LaPierre for his service. Wayne has done as much to protect Second Amendment freedom as anyone. Wayne is a towering figure in the fight for constitutional freedom, but one of his other talents is equally important: he built an organization that is bigger than him. Under the direction of Andrew Arulanandam, the NRA will continue to thrive – with a renewed energy in our business operations and grassroots advocacy. Our future is bright and secure."



AVGC hosts "Candidate Night" prior to the March Primary Elections



In January, Apple Valley Gun Club welcomed several individuals running for elected positions prior to the March Primary. The goal was to introduce themselves and to give our membership the opportunity to ask questions. Also invited were some individuals from our local representatives' offices to talk to the membership about the work they are doing on our behalf. It is important to know who you are voting for and to keep that line of communication open with them, so they remain accountable to YOU, the informed voter!

Thank you for coming!

Congressman Jay Obernolte represented by Hayden

Assemblyman Tom Lackey represented by Elisa Arcidiacono

Suzette Valladares - for California State Senate District 23

Michelle Lauron-for Judge of the Superior Court



CLUB CONTACTS

2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President, Debbie Harris	avgc.dbharris@gmail.com	<u>760-954-5835</u>
Vice President, Tracey Graham	tracey.avgc@gmail.com	760-963-5269
Treasurer, Jonathan Weldy	avgc.weldy@gmail.com	909-380-9919
Secretary, Dina McKinney	avgc.dina@gmail.com	657-229-3462
Director, Matt McCourt	avgc.matt@gmail.com	760-403-2952
Director, Jenaraye Graham	avgc.jenaraye@gmail.com	760-985-9980
Director, Rod Ison	avgc.rodney@gmail.com	760-885-7822
Director, Cathy Westmoreland	avgc.cathy@gmail.com	760-217-0755
Director, Allen Rutledge	avgc.allen@gmail.com	909-638-2265

MEMBERSHIP QUESTIONS?

Contact our Membership Liaison

Cathy Westmoreland

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