



Teller County Shooting Society

"Promoting the shooting sports and the ideals of self-discipline, good sportsmanship, and good citizenship within our community as well as offering our members and their guests a safe and secure shooting sports facility."

2024 – First Quarter Newsletter

TCSS 2024 Board

President: Jim Dickey
Vice President: Tom Caddell
Recording Secretary: Lyle Kuykendall
Membership Secretary: Jerry Smith
Treasurer: Khris Myers
Range Manager: Doc Corder
At-large Director #1: John Pfundstein
At-large Director #2: Tom Beck

Message from the President

As I take over the reins from my good friend Harold Howell, I would like to thank all of you for the vote of confidence in electing me as your President of TCSS. I'll do my level best not to give you a case of buyer's remorse.

As we move into our 2024 season, we continue to have a good volunteer board of directors, and we're all working diligently to keep our momentum going with what we've accomplished in the last year. Our two major goals for this year are getting our shotgun range operational and the construction of our 25yd covered shooting shed, along with some long overdue range maintenance. All of which will require a substantial amount of volunteer work on the part of our members. So, when you see the call for our workdays please volunteer if you can. And if you have any particular skills or equipment (construction, carpentry, earth moving, electrical, etc.) you would be willing to volunteer, please let us know. We are all volunteers, and the range is our labor of love.

Speaking of volunteers, as you can see below, the range committees are forming for this year. These all-important volunteer committees are key to the operation and maintenance of our range. If you would be interested in serving on a committee, and I would encourage you to do so, please let us know.

And finally...My vision as your President for our club and range...." *To operate an attractive, well-maintained range we can all be proud of. Where we can all go shoot, when we want to, without worry of being overcrowded. And to honor our heritage by being good mentors and stewards of the shooting sports, especially to our youth shooters and programs."*

Jim

2024 Board Elections

- Per our club by-laws the election of Officers and Directors was held at the March 2 annual meeting. Positions included in the election were president, vice president, treasurer, recording secretary and at-large position #1.

Membership Meetings

- The first all-member general meeting of 2024 is tentatively planned for Sunday, June 9, 1:00 PM at the Pikes Peak Community Club in Divide. An email will be sent once the date and time are finalized.

Membership Report

- Current membership totals include 236 primary members with a total membership and of 384 which includes associate/spousal members. The membership renewal rate for this year was a very impressive almost 85%.

Treasure Report

- As of March 31, TCSS's Operating Account had a balance of \$36,160 and the Restricted Account a balance of \$1,762 for a total of \$37,922. This compares to March 31 of 2023 when our balance was \$39,673. In addition, we anticipate a check very soon in the amount of \$13,500 from the Friends of NRA Total equity is \$484,433.51 versus \$388,036.44 at the same time last year.

Construction Updates

- **Shotgun Range:** Construction of the Hi and Low Skeet Houses is complete but the weather/snow has held up the final inspection by Teller County and our Certificate of Occupancy. A lot of work remains for TCSS members to make them functional. The new Shotgun Committee will be developing a list of activities necessary to place the range into operation.
- **25-yard Range Shooting Shelter:** We have CPW grant funding for construction of a new shooting shelter at the 25-yard range. The shelter will be ~60' long and similar in design to the shelter at the 100-yard range. ORC, our range contractor, is working with an architect and the Teller County Planning Department to obtain the necessary construction permits and will soon be providing us with a cost estimate. Our goal is to have construction completed this summer.

Range Committees:

- **Shotgun Range Committee:** This committee is instrumental in the completion, maintenance, identification of needs and improvements, safety, and operation of the shotgun range. They will develop required operating procedures, including hours of operation, fees, on-site monitoring, access to range, reservations, competitions, training, education programs, and any specific requirements for safe operation. They work with the TCSS Board of Directors for needed workdays, implementation, and funding. Members include Craig Chellis, Don Sievers, Lacy Scott, Larry Marty, and Jim Dickey.
- **Pistol/Rifle Range Committee:** This committee is instrumental in identifying range needs, improvements, maintenance, competitions and ensuring the safe operation of the 25-yard pistol range, 100-yard rifle range and 400-yard rifle range. They work with the TCSS Board of Directors for needed workdays, implementations, and funding. Members include Charlie Nuss, Aaron Helstrom, Matt McCarthy, Khris Fortney, Joe Kraudelt, Tom Caddell and John Gibson.

Grant Updates

- **CPW 2024 25-yard Range Grant:** The total grant award was \$116,667 (\$87,500 in reimbursable funds from CPW and \$29,167 in TCSS in-kind contributions). Although much less than our initial request, the dollars awarded will still be enough to build a smaller than originally planned shelter. We are currently collaborating with CPW for the issuance of a formal purchase order.
- **CPW 2024 Small Range Grant:** The small range total grant award was \$6,563, of that amount, \$4,900 is fully reimbursable assuming we are able to accumulate \$1,663 in in-kind member

workhours (~70 hours). This grant provides funds for solar arrays and batteries for the trap and skeet throwers as well as new distance yardage signs for the 25, 100 and 400-yard ranges.

- **CPW 2025 Long Distance Range Improvements Development Grant:** This grant, totaling \$134,400, was submitted to CPW in March and would provide funding for improvements at the 400-yard distance range. Improvements would include a covered shelter, widening of the 200/300/400-yard berms, improved vehicle access to the berms and a possible extension of the range to 500-yards. Next step will hopefully be an invitation to present to CPW.
- **Friends of the NRA:** This grant, \$13,500, was awarded this year and provides primary funding for a new storage shed/Conex to replace our existing, somewhat dilapidated, storage shed near the 25-yard parking lot. Additional funds are included in this grant for work at the shotgun range.

Public Days/ RSO

- **Public Days:** Our public day season begins the first weekend of May and runs through the last weekend of October. Public Days are most every weekend, plus additional days or events as required. The CPW grants that fund most of our construction projects require opening the range to the public a certain number of days. An RSO is required to be present at all Public Days and events. See the Events Calendar on the website for more information on exact dates.
- **RSO Training:** Pablo de la Cruz, our new RSO coordinator, and Chris Hanks, our Chief RSO, have collaborated to schedule another RSO training class on April 13. We have 17 members signed up for their first-time RSO training, while four current RSO's will be attending as a refresher. Once the training is completed, we will have 56 trained RSO's, almost 24% of our primary membership.

Range Management

- **Road/Parking Area Plowing:** This year was a bit atypical in the way of snow and we did our best to keep the road and parking lots clear. That said, the fields still have a lot of snow. Next time you're at the range take a shovel and help move some of the snow.
- **General Clean-up:** When you are finished with your target stand, please take your used targets off and leave it ready for the next shooter. **Take ownership in leaving your range in a clean and organized condition.**
- **Range Safety:** An important reminder that safety is to be everyone's #1 priority, and the range safety rules should be strictly adhered to. As a reminder - Firearms are **NOT to be handled or touched** in any manner when the range is cold. In addition, both the 100 and 400-yard ranges are to be cold at the same time.
- **ECI's:** When the range is cold, every uncased firearm, including those in the racks and on the benches, must have an empty chamber indicator (ECI or chamber flag) inserted into the chamber.