

LASC Annual Member Meeting and Banquet Minutes
2/4/2010

Meeting Start Time: 6:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance: There was no flag present at the meeting.

Next Board Meeting: Next meeting is March 4 (first Thursday) at 6:30 pm at the LA Chamber of Commerce conference room unless otherwise announced by Howard.

Election of 2010-11 Board Members: The following persons were elected by ballot at the meeting. Frank Pytko distributed, collected, and counted the ballots.

President – Howard Hall
Vice President – Frank Pytko
Recording Secretary – Dick Martin
Treasurer – Angie Chipera
Membership Secretary – Jim Lujan
At Large 1 – Mel Smithour
At Large 2 – Steve McKelvey
At Large 3 – Tom Jones

Other Persons Present: There were roughly 100 LASC members present at the meeting.

Current Year Calendar and Important Dates:

The full calendar of events and training opportunities is in the LASC Bulletin and on the LASC web page: <http://www.la-sc.org/>

New Member Orientation Schedule: Mar 20 (Third Sat at 12 noon) TBD

LASC orientations are currently available on the third Saturday of each month (by appointment only) into 2010 and until further notice. (During the winter, orientations are available once a month versus twice a month during summer.) (Reminders) If persons need to receive orientation, they should visit the “orientations” page under the “membership” menu at the LASC web site (see link above). To make an appointment for orientation it is best to call the Orientation Coordinator, Darby Ferguson, at 672-2044.

By vote at the January LASC Board Meeting, the new member fee for 2010 starting on April 1, 2010, and until further notice, will be 1/2 of the regular annual membership. That is, the new member fee is now \$66 (or half of \$72 member fee + \$60 work credit = \$132, the current regular annual fee).

LASC Officer Reports:

President (Howard Hall): Howard was the meeting moderator. He introduced several speakers (see Old and New Business below). Howard thanked Angie Chipera for considerable work coordinating this meeting and banquet.

Vice President (Frank Pytko): Frank conducted the 2010 election. He stated that the clean-up days in spring and fall 2009 were very successful. Frank thanked Jim Lujan for work setting up the new Club calendar for use by all on the LASC web site. Frank is the moderator of the calendar.

Treasurer (Angie Chipera): Angie commented that for some years now as Treasurer, she has been impressed that the LASC Board gets things done efficiently...and, within budget! Angie's new e-mail address is angie.chipera@gmail.com.

Recording Secretary (Dick Martin): Dick reminded members that our Board minutes for each month are posted on the LASC web site in the "Contacts" section under "Board Meeting Minutes." A link to this area is <http://www.la-sc.org/contacts/index.shtml>.

Membership Secretary (Jung Hong): JPH is continuing to help with transition to the new membership secretary, Jim Lujan, and orientation coordinator, Darby Ferguson. Jung said that there are roughly 500 memberships (or roughly 1000 members) and that membership is growing.

At Large Officers: (Pat Laux, Mel Smithour, and Will Schmitz): New at large officers were elected as indicated above.

Old and New Business at the Banquet:

1. Board member election. Frank introduced the candidates and conducted the election process (see above).
2. Support for Boy Scouts of America. Rich Morley, a past LASC president, reviewed work he has done at the ranges with BSA on shooting merit badges (with help from Club members). His boys also do a slow-cook turkey cook-out at the pavilion in the canyon.
3. Howard recognized long-term member, past president, Gun Show chairman, and at-large officer, Will Schmitz for his work on behalf of the Club. Will is going into LASC retirement as a regular member.
4. Group Firearms Training for Self-Defense Opportunity. Howard introduced new member Miles Littlefield who proposed bringing author and instructor Massad Ayoob to LASC for one or more courses. Miles has attended Ayoob's classes in the past and recommends them. Ayoob is the author of the books *In Gravest Extreme* (1980) and *Stress Fire, Gunfighting for Police* (1984).
5. NJROTC at LAHS. Wes Schumaker, commander of the local high school ROTC unit, reported on the successes his cadets are having in competition. The new Los Alamos schools superintendent, Dr Gene Schmidt, is planning to move the ROTC unit to larger quarters.

6. Featured Banquet Speaker. The invited speaker was Damian Horne speaking on his Special Forces experiences in Iraq in 2008. Damian stated that “The young men and women in Iraq and Afghanistan are my heroes.” Damian began soldering at age 19 and became a Green Beret with training at Fort Bragg, NC. The GBs train local armies and militias overseas. Damian has some knowledge of detainee operations at Abu Ghraib, the central prison in Baghdad. (Considerable information about Abu Ghraib can be found on the internet.) The speaker utilized visuals with topics such as Our Guys, Their Guys, and Questions of Every Soldier.

Their Guys. They are very different and certainly do not think like us. There appears to be a minimum of three names per individual. (“Allah likes odd numbers.”) 63% of marriages in Iraq are to 1st cousins. Some references were made to “Achmed the Sniper and the Prince of IEDs.” They get “three hots and a cot.” If we release a prisoner to the Iraqis, the prisoner is likely to be tortured, for example, using “Makita drilling through the back of the knee cap.”

In summary, Damian asked “Are we marching on Berlin, or just hanging out in Baghdad?” He asked “should we leave or stay,” and “what is an exit strategy??” Damian showed a picture of himself with General Petraeus.

7. Land Transfer. Mel Smithour reported that progress on the Land Transfer from DOE to LA County and San Ildefonso pueblo has been hot and cold. While the Rendija canyon tract comprises about 900 acres total, we utilize about 20 to 25 acres. DOE plans to keep the land on the north side of the road which we lease on an annual basis. The County may get some of the land on the south side in a transfer some time in the future, but they seem inclined to let us continue to occupy and use our current facilities, namely, residence, pavilion, and archery ranges.

8. Capital Improvements. Steve McKelvey gave a comprehensive presentation on LASC construction activities completed during 2009 (23 items) as well as a view to the future outlining remaining construction activities for the Club House (17 items), Skeet/Sporting Clays Range (5 items), Pistol Pits (5 items), Rifle Range (1 item), Trap Range (5 items), and Bunker Trap Range (3 items). The number of tasks (completed or planned) at this time, are listed in parentheses. Steve’s review was illustrated with numerous before and after improvements photographs. He provided a handout listing completed and projected work tasks, and this list is available to anyone who wishes to see it.

Section Chair Reports: (Reminder) As always, the Club expects Section Heads to maintain a list of things to be done to support their section during spring and fall work/cleanup days. These lists should be e-mailed as appropriate to Howard and Marv.

Pistol (Jim Lujan): Jim reported that the section has grown with action in subsections IDPA, IPSC, and Cowboy Action. There has been a lot of volunteer work with special mention of Howard and Pricilla Hall, Ben and Deb Norman, Tom Hiteman, and others. Significant improvements have been made to the indoor range and training facility, as

well as to the pistol pits. One has only to visit and/or utilize these facilities to observe the activity and improvements.

Rifle (Mell Smithour): Mel said there has been a lot of snow! But, improvements are coming subject to available funding.

Shotgun (Ed Bush): Ed Bush said that we have one of the best facilities for shotgun in the state including Olympic sporting clays (of which there are only 20 in the nation). For special notice for their volunteer work, Ed singled out Chris Luster, Steve McKelvey, and Kevin Bailey. As an example, during this January we shot 420 shotgun rounds (of 25 shots each). We typically order 24 tons of clay targets for a *lot* of fun shooting.

As a reminder, shooters should remember to sign in, load traps, pick up spent shells, flatten the cardboard boxes, put the boxes in the recycle dumpster across the road, and dump the trash cans as necessary.

Training (Mike Grimler): Mike said that there are currently four LASC-affiliated CCW instructors. These instructors have agreed to not compete on fees. He also said there will be at least one CCW class on the last Sunday, plus one license renewal and/or refresher class on the Second Sunday of each month. Mike mentioned the volunteer work of Christine Bullock in women's shooting classes.

Mike will start free (for members) handgun clinics. Watch for these clinics on the web site and in the Bulletin. Intermediate to advanced CCW handgun techniques will be taught. He also plans to teach a home defense shotgun course.

Archery and House and Grounds (Dale Melton): Dale has replaced the three current hard to read gate locks. Also, he will order more locks. Please do not use WD-40 lubricant on the locks. It messes up the plastic and gums up the internals. Also, please do not leave the lock combinations on the locks. (Reset them to 0000 or something like this.)

Bulletin (Mike Barnes and Sean Leffler): The membership is very grateful for our excellent Bulletin, thanks to the work done by Mike and Sean.

Hunter Education (Mike O'Neill): This is an ongoing very successful program under Mike's supervision.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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