

Los Alamos Sportsmen's Club

Bulletin



Los Alamos Sportsmen's Club, PO Box 953, Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544; <http://www.la-sc.org>

ARTICLES

- **Prez: Safety—Fire Danger, Plate Targets; Outcome of Annual Meeting**
- **Annual Clean-up Saturday April 29**
- **Summer Range Closures**
- **Thank you Sandi!**
- **Volunteers Needed for Open Positions: Web Master, Training Coordinators**

Note from the impromptu editor: we apologize for the omission of a February Bulletin. We're short-handed.

The gate combination will change at dusk on March 31, the last day of the membership year. If you have not yet renewed, the April Bulletin (next month's) will be the last Bulletin you will receive until you renew. Renewals will be processed once per month, usually the weekend after the board meeting.

March 2006

A FEW WORDS FROM THE LASC PRESIDENT

By Marv Alme

marv@almeassociates.com, 665-3869 or 699-7591

Safety 1. Fire Danger: Los Alamos county is a tinderbox

Los Alamos County is a tinderbox. The recent storm has given us a few day breather from the fire danger, but the effect of the modest amount of precipitation we received will be gone in another week. Just before the storm, I visited the range, and was struck by how dry and powdery the ground is becoming. The grass and weeds are so dry and brittle that the wind is breaking the standing material off and blowing it to new locations. We must be extremely cautious during this fire season. The club has a new safety officer, Skip Andersen, and the first task I have asked him to address is to develop an evacuation plan in the event that a fire starts on the west side of the club prohibiting evacuation up Rendija Canyon Road. We will also adopt the following rules until the fire danger diminishes:

- 1. No smoking at the Los Alamos Sportsmen's Club except inside a vehicle. Don't throw butts out.**
- 2. No fires in the pavilion area by the archery range.**
- 3. Muzzle loading rifles with patched balls are restricted to the firing positions with bare ground in front of them. (Probably points 9 and 10, and then 15-17.)**
- 4. No AP ammo (can strike rocks and cause sparks). Our standard rules of no incendiary or tracer ammunition are obviously in effect.**

Safety 2. Plate targets in the Pistol Pits can be dangerous

Inspect any plate targets in the pistol pits before you shoot at them, and insure that you observe the 12 yard rule. We had a recent incident where a club member was struck by a ricochet from one of the heavy plates on the right hand side of the large tactical pistol pit. (This

is the pit immediately east of the Bullseye Range.) The major cause of the ricochet was the plate orientation and the plate weight. The plate was hanging in a vertical orientation, rather than an orientation which would direct the splashed projectile into the ground. And, the plate was too heavy for the pistol cartridge to produce significant motion. Skip Anderson, our new safety officer, will help us develop a steel plate inspection and maintenance program that should be fully in place by the end of clean-up day. But until then, inspect the plates carefully, and do not shoot at plates with significant dimples or craters, and do not shoot at plates that are in an orientation that will produce splash directly back to the shooter. Also, remember to observe the 12 yard rule for steel plate targets.

Annual Meeting and Election of Board Members. I'd like to thank Angie Chipera and her sidekick TK Thompson for their very successful efforts organizing the annual membership dinner and meeting. I would also like to thank Pat Laux for his excellent and informative (and short enough) presentation on Bunker Trap. Finally, I would like to thank all of the board members who agreed to stand for election and serve for the next year. I was disappointed that no potential new board members identified themselves or were forwarded by other members to our nominating committee. Our bylaws actually require that members nominated for election to the board be approved by the current board before being placed on the election ballot. While we don't fully enforce this requirement of Board approval, it is obviously necessary that a person nominated for election to the board agree to be placed on the ballot. So if you're interested in serving on the board, start coming to board meetings now, (first Thursday of the month at 6:30, and for the next six months the meetings will be at the LASC clubhouse.) and volunteer to take on one of the multiple tasks that comes up each meeting. **I will not be able to serve as president next year** (my choice is LASC or divorce). If you're tired of seeing the same old faces on the board (we sure are), then get involved and then stand for election next February. This is not a closed group—LASC needs effective volunteer participation at all levels.

ANNUAL CLEAN-UP APRIL 29

By Marv Alme

marv@almeassociates.com, 665-3869 or 699-7591

Clean Up Day: Saturday, the 29th of April. Our annual cleanup/range maintenance day is coming fast. Mark your calendars for the last Saturday in April, the 29th. Come down to the range and pitch in on clean-up and fix-up projects.

Each section chairman has developed a list of cleanup and fix-up projects for the range facilities that his section uses. If you want to make suggestions about tasks that you would like to do or see done, contact the appropriate section chairman, or e-mail your suggestions to the President, marv@almeassociates.com. The list of section chairmen, along with contact information, is near the back of the bulletin.

On clean-up day, we will have an assignment table near the clubhouse. If you don't know what task to work on, check with person manning the assignment table, and he/she will give you an assignment. Anytime you run out of tasks to work on, you can go visit the assignment table again and get a new task or tasks. While some level of skills (being able to saw boards straight) are required for some tasks, there will be plenty of tasks for those with very limited skills (trash patrol, fence signing).

With the fire danger that we are facing this year, we want to create/improve the firebreaks around all of our facilities. What would Pat Laux think if the Bunker Trap facility burned down? String

trimmers, 'brush hogs,' lawn mowers, riding mowers, chain saws, and tractors with mowing attachments would all be welcome. We hope to make the LASC grounds a showcase of fire danger mitigation, and to get an article in the LA Monitor entitled "Taking Fire Prevention Seriously."

If or when you need a break on clean-up day, I would encourage you to walk the boundaries of the rifle range, especially on the north side. It will give you a chance to see the actual boundaries of the land that we lease from the DOE. And walking past the rifle berms will give you a chance to see the trails that are open during the day beyond the rifle berms. This is one of the reasons that you always hear your President talking about range safety.

The club will provide *lunch and cold drinks* to the volunteers.

The range will be closed to all firearms all day on Saturday, the 29th of April.

SUMMER RANGE CLOSURES

By Marv Alme

marv@almeassociates.com, 665-3869 or 699-7591

Sampling down-range from the rifle range will result in closure of the rifle range for several weeks this summer. As part of the land transfer process, the State of New Mexico is requiring the Lab to perform additional sampling on sites that were previously re-mediated. There are three of these sites that have impact on the Los Alamos Sportsmen's Club. Next month we will publish maps showing the locations, but only one of the three locations is likely to require us to close the rifle range. None of the other ranges is expected to be closed while the field sampling work takes place. Late in April the LASC President will be walking the re-mediation sites with the Lab personnel responsible for the field sampling, and we will provide an update after that inspection of the site.

The LASC Board is working with the Lab on the schedule, and the impact on members should be moderate. As discussions are currently going, we expect to close the range from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday through Thursday. So the range would be open Friday through Sunday as usual, and then would open at 4:00 PM Monday through Thursday.

As the schedule firms up, we will provide a range closure schedule. The closures likely will not occur until July or August. The expectation is that a guard will be posted on the rifle range as was done last year.

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO SANDI KRUSE

From the LASC Board

Our sincere thanks to Sandi Kruse for her many years of Bulletin editorship! Sandi has retired from this position, but temporarily came out of retirement to help us with this edition of the Bulletin, and to help us transition to a new editor. Sandi is now a well-established women's handgun instructor, not just here at LASC but all over New Mexico. Onward and upward! We wish her every success in this extremely worthwhile endeavor.

Bulletin by email? The paper mail version of the Bulletin is a major club expense. If you'd be willing to switch from paper to email please send a message to keidavis-lasc@earthlink.net

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR OPEN POSITIONS

From the LASC Board

As you know the Los Alamos Sportsmen's Club runs entirely on volunteer labor. This labor provides not only the essentials mandated by our charter, such as leadership (President and Vice President), maintenance of membership records (Membership Secretary), management and accounting of our funds (Treasurer), and recording of board discussions and decisions (Recording Secretary), but has also traditionally provided amenities such as the Bulletin, training opportunities at various levels, oversight of premises, an annual gun show, organization of numerous sections and matches, a web site and up-to-date calendar of events, and much more.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We currently have openings for one or more Training Coordinators and for Webmaster. Until these positions are filled these services will be marginal or will simply disappear, as nearly happened with the Bulletin. The President's position will be open next year, too.

TRAINING COORDINATOR/ORGANIZERS

Providing training for members and the general public is one of the primary functions of LASC, and we have a number of ready, able, and willing NRA- certified instructors for various disciplines. However, it is too much of a load on the lead instructor to both prepare and teach a course and organize it too. We need one or more individuals who will pro-actively 'make classes happen,' classes for both basic courses and for instructor training. This primarily involves scheduling the use of facilities, ensuring that instructors are available (we normally maintain at least a 1-to-2 ratio of instructors to students for introductory classes), advertising, and registering participants. There's plenty of corporate knowledge on tap on how to do all of this. What's most needed in a volunteer is the energy and inclination to take charge and make it happen.

WEBMASTER

As most of you will know LASC has maintained a useful and informative web site for a number of years. This site has recently been moved to a full-service commercial web host. As part of this move we were hoping to update and re-organize our web pages. Unfortunately, with the retirement of our long-standing webmaster, we're having trouble even providing basic maintenance. We need someone willing and able to reorganize our web site and take responsibility for keeping it up to date with information provided by other board members and the section chairs. Unless you're game for a fairly sharp learning curve, some working knowledge of HTML and a web-site creation package such as Dreamweaver would be very helpful. LASC has standardized on Dreamweaver and we have a license for the latest version. A high-speed/broadband internet connection for communicating with the server would also be helpful.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

We need someone to coordinate the activities of volunteers on Clean-Up Day!

Come on, folks! With nearly 1000 registered adults there are surely a least a few keen to take these on! If you're ready, able, willing, reliable, and enthusiastic, contact our president Marv Alme at marv@almeassociates.com, 665-3869 or 699-7591, or any other board member you might know.

P.S. If you have an idea for some other service or function that LASC might provide, and would be willing to head it up, don't hesitate to bounce it off the board! Board meetings are always open to all members and take place monthly on the first Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. From April until fall they will be held in the LASC clubhouse.

LOS ALAMOS SPORTSMEN'S CLUB NRA CERTIFIED INSTRUCTORS

The following is a partial list of LASC NRA Certified Instructors who have agreed to be available to help LASC members who are new to the shooting sports and want to improve and develop their shooting skills. While these club members have agreed to be available without charge to help fellow club members on a casual basis, please respect their time and schedules. They are not obligated to any particular schedule or number of hours, etc. Please contact them individually to work out meeting times and availability. Please be nice to them as they are volunteering their time at no cost for your benefit. We expect this list to grow in the coming months and years!

Marv Alme	Pistol, Personal Protection , Range Officer , Rifle	marv@almeassociates.com alme@lanl.gov	665-3869 wk
Kay Benham	Pistol	skay_benham@yahoo.com	
Jim Brannon	Range Officer, Rifle, shotgun	jbrannon@prsmcorp.com	661-4820 hm
Ed Bush	Shotgun	ebush132@comcast.net	662-7584
Matt Cionek	Range Officer, Rifle	mcionek@msn.com	672-9454
Brad Cooke	Pistol, Rifle, Personal Protection	bcooke@lanl.gov	667-8512 wk
Kei Davis	Pistol, Personal Protection, Shotgun , Range Safety Officer	keidavis-lasc@earthlink.net	661-0118 hm 667-1749 wk
Devon Engleman	Range Officer, Rifle	devon_engleman@yahoo.com	661-8816
Staley Hadden	Pistol, Personal Protection Home Firearm Safety	hadden@starband.net	829-3968 hm
Roger Kruse	Pistol, Personal Protection, Range Safety Officer	lasc@valornet.com	829-3440 hm
Sandi Kruse	Pistol, Personal Protection, Range Safety Officer	lasc@valornet.com	829-3440 hm
Ken Laintz	Range Officer, Rifle, Pistol	laintz@lanl.gov	672-3507 hm
Dan Macdonell	Shotgun	macDonell@lanl.gov	672-2749 hm 665-6227 wk
Rich Morley	Pistol, Shotgun, Rifle, Personal Protection, Home Firearm Safety. Range Officer, CCW Instructor	r_morley@lanl.gov	672-1088 hm
Frank Murray	Shotgun	frank.murray@state.nm.us	466-2015 hm 827-7714 wk
Christine Redman	Pistol	credman@comcast.net	662-7678
Maxwell Sanford	Personal Protection, Basic Pistol, and Home Firearm Safety , Rifle, Range Officer	mts13@hotmail.com	672-9315 hm
Mel Smithour	Pistol, Rifle, Personal Protection, Range Officer	smithour@earthlink.net	662-2643 hm
Eugene Walter	Shotgun	gwalter5@juno.com	299-0066 hm
Robert Toner	Pistol	wolf1191@msn.com	661-0304
Scott Valentine	Pistol	lokki@act-1.net	

LASC BOARD MEMBERS

President	Marv Alme	661-3651
Vice President	Ted Rockenhaus	672-1803
Recording Secretary	Ken Laintz	672-3507
Treasurer	Angela Chipera	662-6034
Membership Secretary	Kei Davis	661-0118
Pistol Chair	Robert Toner	661-0304
Rifle Chair	<u>Mell Smithour</u>	662-2643
Shotgun Chair	Ed Bush	662-7584
Archery Chair	Dale Melton	661-8143
Publicity	Larry Baca	662-9839
Training Coordinator (1)	!!!OPEN!!!	
Training Coordinator (2)	!!!OPEN!!!	
Women's Program	Elaine Larson	
Volunteer Coordinator	!!!OPEN!!!	
Past President	Will Schmitz	829-9180
House and Grounds	Dale Melton	661-8143
At Large	Rick Staroski	672-3411
At Large	John Hopkins	662-0495
At Large	Pat Laux	(239) 293 0369 cell

THE BULLETIN

Published by the Los Alamos Sportsman's Club. LASC is a non-profit organization affiliated with the National Rifle Association for the purpose of promoting safety and education in the sport of shooting.

The Bulletin is sent to all life and annual members of the association.

The editorials and articles appearing in the Bulletin may reflect differing views present among sportsmen and gun owners, and do not

necessarily reflect the views of the publisher or editors.

Editor: Art Alford
news@lascbulletin.com

All material *must* be sent to the editor *before* the weekend following the first Thursday of each month to ensure publication. Photographs can be returned with prior approval from the Editor. Publication of the material will be subject to the Editor's discretion.

Bulletin by email? The paper mail version of the Bulletin is a major club expense. If you'd be willing to switch from paper to email please send a message to keidavis-lasc@earthlink.net

LASC MEMBERSHIP FEES

Memberships are annual (April 1- March 31). Family membership fee covers all individuals in the household. Visitor membership runs 3 months (June 1- August 31). Visitor rate is available only to visitors, not Los Alamos residents. Your NRA membership number is required to receive the NRA membership rate.

Both new and renewing members may download the appropriate form from the LASC website, <http://www.la-sc.org>, or call 662-1484. If you were a member for any part of the previous year you are a renewing member and must pay the full year's dues.

Member Category	4/1/06 – 3/31/07		Visitor 5/1/06 – 8/31/06
	NRA rate	Non-NRA rate	
Adult single membership	\$60.00	\$72.00	\$20.00
Family membership	\$72.00	\$84.00	

E-MAIL CHANGE???????

If you receive your Bulletin by e-mail, or even just change your contact e-mail address, it is *your* responsibility to contact us at keidavis-lasc@earthlink.net to make a change. Send an e-mail with your name, old e-mail address and new e-mail address.

**GENERAL RANGE RULES
LOS ALAMOS SPORTSMEN'S CLUB**

1. Always treat every firearm as if it were loaded.
2. Never point a firearm at anything that you do not want to destroy. Keep the muzzle pointed down range at all times.
3. All firearms will be unloaded and made safe before anyone goes forward of the firing line. No firearms will be handled while anyone is down range.
4. Firearms may be loaded only when the shooter is on the firing line.
5. Know what your target is and what is behind your target before you shoot.
6. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on the target.
7. Anyone on the range, whether shooter, observer, or instructor, has the authority to call for a "CEASE FIRE" if they observe an unsafe act or condition.
8. Alcohol is prohibited on all firing ranges. No person will be permitted to shoot on any range if impaired by drugs or alcohol.
9. Eye and ear protection is mandatory during firing.
10. Live ammunition must not be discarded on the range or in the trash.
11. Glass and pyrotechnic targets are prohibited.
12. Tracer, incendiary, and armor piercing ammunition is prohibited.
13. Event-specific rules may be adopted for LASC sanctioned events.

SPORTSMEN'S CLUB RANGE SCHEDULE

	INDOOR	OUTDOOR
SUNDAY		9 AM – Skeet Practice; 10 AM – Trap Practice 11:00—5 stand 1st Sun –8:30 High Power Rifle; 2nd Sunday John C. Garand Matches, except in October, it's 3rd Sunday and in December it's the 1st Sunday. 1st Sunday in May—Jr. High Power Match
MONDAY		
TUESDAY	5:30-8:00 4H	
WEDNESDAY		
THURSDAY		
FRIDAY		
SATURDAY		9:00-11 AM – Skeet Practice. 1st Sat—8:00 IDPA 2nd Sat– 8:15 Silhouette; 2nd Sat. 10:00 IPSC—All berms used for IPSC Pistol Match : 3rd Sat- 9:00 Cowboy Action

The **Indoor Range** is open to any member who has obtained a key from. It is limited to Archery, Smallbore Rifle, and Pistols “(Under 2200 fps). **Turn off heat and lights!** The **outdoor Ranges** are open from **8:00 AM till Sunset. Please observe these hours to avoid offending our neighbors.** Users must follow posted safety rules. Ranges may be closed for special events or matches. The scheduled section has first priority during their times, but can allow other activities, if practical.



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