

TAFT SPORTSMEN'S CLUB

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May - June 2016

Over 800 youth at the Trout Pond

The TSC presented the trout pond at the Central Valley Boat, Sportsmen and RV show held at the Kern County Fairgrounds on February 26th, 27th, and 28th. More than 800 youth participated in the fun! Special thanks to the more than 25 volunteers who make this event so great. Thanks to CA Dept. Fish and Game for the trout. Tom Miller won the raffle for the camo Ruger 10/22.

2016 Sporting Clay Shoot

On Saturday March 26th, TSC held its annual Sporting Clay Shoot. This annual event raises funds for the annual scholarships. Thanks to all the volunteers. Special thanks to Steve Merlo of the Bakersfield Californian for promoting the event. Top shooting team included Bob Morris, Joey Gregory, Dale Hamblin, Eric Peters and Mike Jones.

TSC provides for the wildlife

Over the past month more than a dozen members of the TSC went out to the K167 guzzler project that is in the Temblors. This project completed the redevelopment of watering hole for local wildlife. It includes the opening of the tank, and removal of excess silt from the bottom. The club then poured a new concrete apron that collects rain water for the tank. This work is completed in conjunction of the CA Dept. of Fish and Game. Special thanks to Randy's Trucking for the ready mix concrete.

On the Cover

The two teams from Taft UHS at the Sporting Clay Shoot. The teams were sponsored by Huddleston Crane Service, WH Stubblefield,II and the California Deer Association. (Bottom) Members working to replace the apron at K167. Joey Gregory enjoying the annual sporting clay event.

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Taft Sportsmen's Club Awards \$7500 in Scholarships

By Craig Johnson

Congratulations are in order for a number of Taft High School and Taft College Graduates that are receiving \$500 scholarships from the Taft Sportsmen's Club. The scholarships are to be used to help pay for the cost of attending colleges, universities, and educational or technical programs during the 2016-17 academic year. As in previous years, scholarship monies are made available through funding raised by the Taft

Sportsmen's Annual Sporting Clays Shoot fostered through the hard work of Sandy and Eric Ross, Joe Gregory, and Tom Brown. Recipients of the scholarships had to have a minimum 3.0 (B) Cumulative Grade Point Average. In addition to GPA, special consideration was given to students with future plans in Wildlife Management, Environmental Science, Animal Science, Nature Education, Wildlife Enforcement, and Zoology and/or evidence of being a Taft Sportsmen's Club member, volunteer, or activity participant, and/or evidence of outstanding community service.

Eleven total scholarships were awarded to outstanding graduates on Honors Night at Taft Union High School through the efforts of the TSC and the J.C. Chitwood Memorial Foundation. The Taft Sportsmen's Club Scholarship recipients were Taryn Yochum, Kaleb Harlan, William Stubblefield, Sutton Yochum, and Ruby Stith. J.C. Chitwood Memorial Scholarships were awarded to Taryn Yochum, Sutton Yochum, Megan Miller, Tanner Melton, Bethany Fitzsimmons, and Ruby Stith.

Five TSC scholarships will be presented to Taft College graduates later this month (May). The Taft College graduates receiving TSC Scholarships are Nalani Kekuawela, Jonathan Slocum, Savannah Gregory, Aimee Gee, and Lizbeth Figueroa.

Congratulations to the scholarship winners and thank you to all Taft Sportsmen's Club members that volunteer time and effort toward the TSC scholarship awards. Thanks also to all that participate in the Annual Taft Sportsmen's Club Sporting Clays Shoot Scholarship activity, your participation and support helps to make college more affordable for these outstanding graduates.

More TSC Scholarships will be awarded in July!

See article in this issue for your chance to earn a scholarship!

More Scholarships Available from TSC!

by Craig Johnson

Yes! That is right! \$7500 in Taft High and Taft College scholarships have already been awarded this year. The Taft Sportsman Club plans to award another \$1000 in scholarships in late July and you or your loved ones could be the recipients. To be awarded, you must be a TSC member or immediate family member planning to attend a college or university during the 2016-17 academic year. A maximum of \$500 will be awarded to the recipients. 2016 graduates of Taft High or Taft College are not eligible as that pool has already been awarded this year. To be eligible, send a letter of interest postmarked by July 1, 2016 to:

Taft Sportsmen's Scholarship
C/O Craig Johnson
901 Bell Ave.
Taft, CA 93268

Along with your letter of interest send proof of a cumulative 3.0 GPA in your most recent high school or college course work. Include a phone number that can be used to reach you, and your address. Tell us about your future plans and goals. Please cite any volunteer work or community service you have performed. Include any TSC participation or activities you have been involved in, if any. We hope to hear from you! Best wishes as you move forward with your educational plans!

Memberships

The club membership has increased to 259 paid members. Remember that club dues are effective for a calendar year, so be sure to pay your 2016 dues. You can find more information on our website at www.taftsc.com/membership.

Meeting Minutes Online

Interested on what happens at the monthly meetings and board meetings of the Taft Sportsmen's Club? Well now you can read the public records of these meetings online from our website. Go to www.taftsc.com/newsletter for a listing of the meeting minutes as well as the club constitution and by-laws.

Skeet Shooting

Every Wednesday at 4:00 PM

We are proud to announce the addition of a new skeet shooting station. Starting March 16th, we will have skeet shooting starting at 4:00 PM until dark, every Wednesday until the time change in the fall.

Entry fee is \$3 for members, \$4 for nonmembers. Contact Bob Morris at 768-4528.

Trap Shooting

Every Thursday at 4:30 PM

Trap shooting has restarted and is every Thursday starting from 4:30 PM until everyone is finished shooting.

In addition to the Thursday trap shoots, we have monthly youth trap shoots on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 3 PM. There is no cost to juniors and we can also provide firearms and ammo. Just bring your parent and come on down for some trap shooting fun!

Taft Sport Shooters

3rd Saturdays

Taft Sport Shooters has their matches on the third Saturday of the month. Show up for registration at 8:30 AM and shooting starts at 9 AM.

Cost is usually \$25 for non-members or \$20 for TSC members or for shooters with military ID. Juniors (under 21) and first time ladies shoot for free and get free ammo! Mainly we will be shooting Fabulous Ferrous Fracas with the occasional IDPA or Tactical Shotgun Match. To participate all you need is a handgun, at least three magazines, holsters, and about 200 rounds of ammo. You can get more details at www.taftshooters.com.

.22 Action Shooters

4th Saturday of the Month

Do you have a .22 rimfire rifle or pistol you wish you would go out and shoot more often? We have a reason for you to shoot it at least once a month at our .22 Action Shooters Matches!

The stages are designed to not require more than 10 rounds to complete (unless you miss) and you can use any .22 rimfire rifle or pistol. Juniors (under 21) always shoot for free and adults are only \$20 or \$15 with club membership.

We shoot every 4th Saturday at 9 AM so don't miss out on what is turning into one of the most exciting events at our range.

For more information please call 661-745-0416 x804.

Business Cards

Are you interested in displaying your business card in our newsletter? We would love to advertise for you and would appreciate your support of the Taft Sportsmen's Club. Please see our application on our website at www.taftsc.com/newsletter.

Club Range Rules

Safety is the number one priority of this range. Always follow the four rules of gun safety:

1. Treat all guns as if they are loaded.
2. Always keep the gun pointed in a safe direction.
3. Always keep your finger straight and off the trigger until you are ready to shoot.
4. Always know your target and beyond.

TSC is an uncontrolled range. As such extra care and precautions must be taken by club members during uncontrolled range time.

1. **Only club members with a signed hold harmless waiver on file may shoot at the range.**
If you suspect someone isn't a club member, ask. If they cannot produce their membership card, ask them to leave.
2. Do not tell anyone the gate combination. If they are a member, they have it. Close and lock gate when you are finished.
3. Take your targets home. Do not leave trash, brass, or shotgun shells on the firing line. It is all of our responsibility to keep the range clean.
4. Shoot from designated target areas only. The picnic tables are never considered designated shooting areas.
5. All shooting inside the pistol bays must be kept inside the bay. **DO NOT SHOOT OVER THE BERMS WITH ANY FIREARM!**
6. All shooting from rifle lines must shoot into the berm. No shooting at targets on the ground that don't impact the berm. One bench per group.
7. Shooting clays from the air with a shotgun must take place from the cement trap lines and all shooting must face the north fence.
8. Don't shoot with people in front of you. If someone is using the pistol bays, you should not be using the rifle range. Don't walk in front of people shooting. If someone is using the rifle bay, you should not walk up to the pistol bays.
9. Report vandalism and theft. Maintaining a clean and safe range is everyone's responsibility.
10. Eye and ear protection is required at all times when on the range.
11. Offensive language will not be tolerated.
12. Don't drink alcohol or take drugs before or while handling firearms.
13. Children should be supervised at all times. Any unruly children and their parents will be asked to leave.
14. All animals will be on a leash and controlled while shooting activities are in progress.
15. **In case of an emergency, dial 911 or the Taft Police Department (661) 763-3101.**
16. **Report any and all accidents or incidents to the club as soon as possible. You may also call with any issues, concerns, or suggestions. (661) 745-0416**
17. **Failure to follow and comply with any and all range rules will result in loss of range privileges.**

Rules for Range Use Priority

All bays will be used on a "first come, first served" basis. However, the 100 yard and 150 yard rifle benches cannot be used while shooters are down range in the pistol bays. To alleviate this conflict, **rifle shooters will get range priority on odd calendar days** and **pistol bay shooters will get range priority on even calendar days**. If a shooter arrives that has priority over you, you must pack up and move your equipment within 30 minutes.

Shooting clays from the air with a shotgun has range priority on Thursdays until the regular trap program starts at 4:00 PM. Odd calendar day rifle use and even calendar day pistol bay use have 30 minutes to pack up their equipment and give the shooting clays from the air with a shotgun shooters range priority.

Example: A member is shooting their rifle on an unoccupied range on July 20, an even day. A pistol bay shooter arrives and would like to use the pistol bays. The rifle shooter has 30 minutes to put their gear away and leave the rifle bench so the pistol bay shooter may shoot.

The range is closed to individual member use during scheduled events. Reminder signs usually will be placed on the front gate to remind members the range will not be available these dates. Most scheduled events are also on the website calendar.

Failure to follow and comply with any and all range rules will result in loss of range privileges.

Gate Combination Change & Range Etiquette

The gate combination changed to _____ on Sunday May 1, 2016. **Do not share this gate combination with anyone**. If someone asks for the gate combination, do not give it to them. If they are a member, they receive their newsletter with the combination and they can always contact Sandy Ross at info@taftsc.com or 661 745-0416 and she will verify their status and issue the combination.

Members must acknowledge the range rules in writing or online. You can find the range rules at www.taftsc.com/range.html

If you bring targets to shoot, please remove them from the range when you are finished. We have trash cans available, please use them. **NO GLASS SHOULD BE SHOT AT THE RANGE AT ANY TIME!**

If you witness people abusing the range, please call us at 661 745-0416. If it is a serious enough violation, please call 911 and report range vandalism or an unsafe situation and then contact your club.

May 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 Taft High Trap 3pm - 7pm	4 Skeet Shooting 4pm - 7pm	5 Trap Shooting 4pm - 7pm	6	7 CCW Renewal Class @ TSC Range 8am-12am
8 Junior Trap Shoot 3pm-7pm	9	10 Taft High Trap 3pm - 7pm	11 Skeet Shooting 4pm - 7pm	12 Trap Shooting 4pm - 7pm	13	14 CCW Initial Class @ TSC Range 8am-4pm
15	16 Taft PD 6pm - 10 pm	17 Taft High Trap 3pm - 7pm	18 Skeet Shooting 4pm - 7pm	19 Trap Shooting 4pm - 7pm	20	21 Taft IPDA 8am-1pm
22	23 Taft PD 6pm - 10 pm	24 Taft High Trap 3pm - 7pm Club Meeting 6:30pm - 8:30pm	25 Skeet Shooting 4pm - 7pm	26 Trap Shooting 4pm - 7pm	27	28 22 Rimfire Action Match
29	30	31 Taft High Trap 3pm - 7pm	1	2	3	4

June 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1	2	3	4 CCW Renewal Class @ TSC Range 8am-12am
5	6	7 Taft High Trap 3pm - 7pm	8 Skeet Shooting 4pm - 7pm	9 Trap Shooting 4pm - 7pm	10	11
12 Junior Trap Shoot 3pm-7pm	13	14 Taft High Trap 3pm - 7pm	15 Skeet Shooting 4pm - 7pm	16 Trap Shooting 4pm - 7pm	17	18 Taft IPDA 8am-1pm
19	20	21 Taft High Trap 3pm - 7pm	22 Skeet Shooting 4pm - 7pm	23 Trap Shooting 4pm - 7pm	24	25 22 Rimfire Action Match
26	27	28 Taft High Trap 3pm - 7pm Club Meeting 6:30pm - 8:30pm	29 Skeet Shooting 4pm - 7pm	30 Trap Shooting 4pm - 7pm	1	2

Thanks to Our Corporate Sponsors

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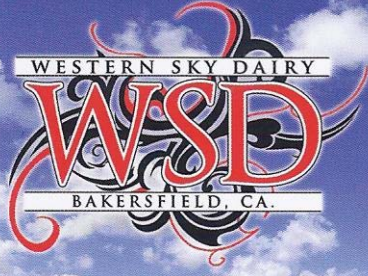


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