



Wyoming State Shooting Association Newsletter



Do your duty as you see it, and damn the consequences." General Patton

President

Open

Vice President

Nick Nickelson

Secretary

Susan Smith

Treasurer

Chris Smith

Competitions

Andy Rayland

Hunting-Conservation

Roger Sebesta

Junior Director

Coach Dobkins

Legislative

Open

ACTING PRESIDENT

Greetings

Hi Folks, hope things are well.

I would like to everyone to know that a few more changes are coming to WSSA. Please see page 3 of this newsletter to learn more about the proposed By-Law changes. One of the proposed changes is to replace the Legislative Director with a Public Affairs (or Social Media) Director. This will help us in our need to reach out to the public on Internet sites like Facebook and You Tube. Currently, most of the WSSA Board does not use social media on a regular basis. I know I don't. We need young folks that understand posting on Facebook and other such platforms. Most everyone under the age of 50 is very active on the internet.

I was in the Military in the 90's and yes we used computers a lot, but those were nothing like the computers of today. I re-

member the first computer we purchased for the family in 2000. It was a Dell computer and the operating system was Windows Millennium. That was over 25 years ago. Today, cell phones and computers are a way of life for this country. It is imperative that we bring more people into our shooting sports community and to accomplish that, we need to use social media.

In addition to people, we need to make other updates as well. For example, we will be making more changes to our website as well as our newsletter. Our website will be further streamlined with less clutter and content. Since Microsoft does not support the Publisher program anymore, our printed newsletters will change starting next year. I have been in conversation with our printer about design options and starting January 2027, our new look will be coming to your mailbox.

As of now, our government has been more friendly to shooting sports than it has in the past. We need to take this opportunity to recruit

June-Dec 2026

new members and fellow competitive shooters. We must do what we can to promote the shooting sports for future generations. I ask everyone to talk to a friend or relative about joining the WSSA. We need all the help we can get. Not only for our sport, but also for our very way of life.

Please note that we have two new volunteers for the WSSA Board of Directors. One is Ryan Fictum, who is running for WSSA President. The other is Patti Olson, who is running for our hopefully new position of Public Affairs/Social Media Director. I ask that you please vote for both of them. If you cannot be at the meeting in September, please mail in your ballot enclosed with this newsletter.

That's about all I can think of for now. As always, if you have questions or concerns, let me know. You can call me at 307.347.8852.

Stay Safe
Respectfully

Nick Nickelson



From the Treasurer

Lessons Learned

I have been the WSSA Treasurer for about 7 months now. I've learned a few things.

First and foremost, in the last year or two, the work of keeping WSSA going fell entirely on Nick, our VP. If it wasn't for him, none of the day to day work of running an organization would have gotten done. WSSA might have continued to exist in theory, but not in practice. I am so glad Susan and I have been given a chance to help keep WSSA going.

For WSSA, the "front of house" func-

tions are our Competitions Director, Junior Director and Hunting/Conservation director. Our Legislative Director (likely to become our Public Relations Officer) serves primarily front of house functions. Those front of house positions are our customer facing positions, our "public face."

The President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasures are "back of house" functions. That is where the work is done to keep the organization functioning. They conduct club business, work to meet government requirements and keep contact with the organizations WSSA serves.

A second lesson learned was that the incredible friends and members who support WSSA through the raffle are much more interested in supporting Juniors training and the shooting sports than in winning a M-1 Garand Rifle. How do I know? So many sent in contributions in excess of what was needed for the tickets they sent in. I am so convinced of this that next year I hope to re-format the tickets to stress our support of firearms training, with the chance of winning a rifle getting secondary emphasis.

Whether as Directors or raffle supporters, WSSA needs you to continue into our second century.

Chris Smith



From The Secretary

Victory or Death!

America's 250th

It has been a powerful battle cry throughout history to rally the troops to fight for success at all costs.

During the darkest days of the American Revolution, December 1776, the Glorious Hope of America nearly died. The prospects of victory for the Continental Army seemed remote. The British had driven General Washington from New York to retreat to Pennsylvania. The annual enlistments of American soldiers were expiring at the end of the year, and funds and morale were at its nadir.

If there ever were a need for a Christmas miracle, it was needed in 1776.

On Christmas Day during harsh winter weather, General Washington made a bold move to attack the enemy, crossing the Delaware River into New Jer-

sey. He chose the password - *Victory or Death*.

The day after Christmas, Washington's troops caught the enemy by surprise and won the Battle of Trenton. That victory boosted the morale of the Continentals and spurred the troops to continue fighting.

Earlier that year of 1776, on the cusp of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, General Washington had issued a set of General Orders of his vision for the future of the America:

"The fate of unborn millions will now depend, under God, on the courage and conduct of this army. Our cruel and unrelenting enemy leaves us only the choice of brave resistance, or the most abject submission. We have, therefore, to resolve to conquer or die."

For our first American Christmas in 1776, Washington gave us the choice of a priceless present - Freedom!

As we celebrate the 250th anniversary, July 4, 2026, may we continue to fight the good fight to protect our freedoms for our children, our children's children, and future generations.

As the 40th president of the United States, Ronald Reagan, warned:

"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. It has to be fought for and defended by each generation."

May we ever be vigilant in 2026 and beyond..

Susan Smith



From The Hunting Conservation Director

Greetings:

Were you successful in the license draw? I challenge you to introduce someone to the shooting sports. Remember hunting is conservation. Be Safe and enjoy.

Best Wishes, *Roger*



FROM OUR PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE

Hello!

I am a retired United States Air Force Master Sergeant. I was awarded the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon with bronze service star. I currently serve as the Cheyenne Rifle and Pistol Club's (CRPC) High-Power Range and Competition Coordinator and have been doing so since the Summer of 2020. In doing so, I've had

the opportunity to coordinate and communicate with the NRA, CMP, WSSA, other state and local clubs, and competition shooters. I run and support approximately 17 matches a year at the CRPC while also shooting competitively at matches throughout the state. I was the Match Director for the 2024 and 2025 Wyoming State High-Power Across the Course Championship and 2025 Wyoming State Vintage Sniper Championship

and will be doing the same for both for 2026. My goal as President is to advance youth participation in Wyoming shooting sports and increase local clubs' participation in the WSSA, while providing them with support to help improve their facilities and increase membership."

Respectfully,
Ryan

From our Public Affairs Candidate

Greetings:

I am grateful for the opportunity to be nominated for the position of the Public Affairs/Social Media manager on the Wyoming State

Shooting Association Board. It will be a privilege to support an organization whose mission I deeply respect, and I am committed to contributing my experience, energy, and perspective to advance its work. If elected, I

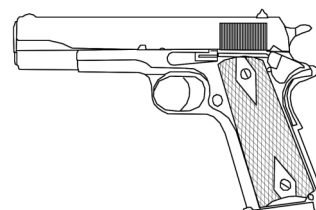
look forward to collaborating with fellow board members in service of our shared goals.

Warm regards,
Patti Olson

Notice of By-Law Changes

- 1) Article 4, Section 1: Remove Legislative Officer; add Public Relations Officer.
 - 2) Article 4, Section 3: Remove Section 3, Executive Council
 - 3) Article 4, Section 4: Remove clause, "minimum of four"
 - 4) Article 4, Section 6: Remove Executive Council.
- Clean up with capitalization standards and spelling fixes

If these changes are brought up and approved at the next membership meeting they will then become effective. If you have questions or concerns, please come to the meeting or let the Board of Directors know.



Wyoming State Shooting Association
Box 574
Dayton, WY 82836
<http://www.wyossa.com>

Address Service Requested

**Congratulations to
James Riggs
of Casper
He won the M-1 Rifle.**

BE AWARE!

Ballot & Membership Application!

With this mailing you should find a gold single page with one side being an election ballot, and the other side being a membership application. If you cannot be at the fall membership meeting, then please fill in the information on the "Election Ballot" for the person you wish to vote for, or write in the name of the candidate that you want to be in that position on the Board of Directors. If you need to renew your membership, then fill out the other side "Membership Application", and mail it in with dues. Here is your opportunity to get involved and make a difference. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact, 307-347-8852 or e-mail, wssa.sectrea-spector@wyoming.com

Please check the membership date or status on this newsletter.

When you received this WSSA newsletter, your membership renewal date, or status, is printed next to your name and address. If your newsletter has the words "Past Due" or "Time to Renew", you need to fill out the membership side of the gold page and mail it in with the proper dues. This may be the only notice you will receive.

Next Membership Meeting

**September 26, 2026
"10:30 am"**

**The Holiday Inn Express
4250 Legion Lane
Casper, WY 82609**

Meeting Room

**All Members
Welcome**