



VALLET ISLE SPORT SHOOTERS CLUB, INC.

Cease Fire - Nene Geese!



For those of you that don't already know, Ukumehame's 200 yard rifle range has been shut down due to the discovery of a nesting pair of Nene geese. The Nene is the Hawaii State bird and is the world's rarest goose. It's also federally protected. The breeding season of the Nene, is from August to April, and is longer than that of any other goose. Blame Maui's ideal weather. Most eggs are laid between November and January. Females incubate the eggs for 29 to 32 days, while the male acts as a sentry. Goslings remain with their parents until the following breeding season. Long story short, it's anybody's guess as to how long the Nene will actually remain on the rifle range. Officers from DNLR are monitoring the birds on a daily basis and will give us the "all clear" once the goslings are mobile. Traps have been set to snare feral cats and mongoose that may try to prey upon the goslings. The Ukumehame range has been home to at least 4 pairs of Nene, and the sound of gun fire has not bothered them in the least. Humans are not viewed by them as a threat, so sometimes they don't pick the wisest place to nest.

New Benches from Behnke...

Towne Realty of Hawaii site superintendent **Tom Behnke**, has generously provided club member **Marty Humpert** with over 1500 board feet of lumber for the construction and installation of new shooting benches at the Ukumehame range. We all want to thank Behnke for making the upgrade to the range possible. The first 11 benches were delivered on Saturday, December 13th. "These benches are an upgrade for all shooters" said Humpert. "The ergonomic design and adjustable seat will allow children, teenagers, and adults of all body sizes and shapes to comfortably shoot from a safe and steady platform". Also included was a specially built bench for wheel chair bound "Wounded Warriors" that have not always had a comfortable place on the firing line. "We now have full accessibility for anyone in a wheel chair who wants to come and target shoot". Special thanks goes out to fellow VISSC member **Mike Orr** for using his water jet to cut a set of custom stainless steel name plates. The bench building project was taken on by Humpert while he was recovering from recent shoulder surgery. "Sometimes it takes an injury to make you stop to think about what others need. This is for everyone wanting to be a part of our sport". If all goes well, additional benches will be completed by summer, giving everyone a solid shooting platform.



VISSC President's Message

Todd Sherman



According to our charter, the purpose of our gun club is to promote the shooting sports. I think we do that, but we could do it better. In today's social media, we are noticeably absent. If we are going to inspire others to join in or become more eager to learn about the shooting sports then we must adapt & modernize.

This is one of the reasons our web site is being automated for general memberships and training classes. Gone will be the days when you can come to the range and pay your club dues by cash or check. It's just too much work to handle cash and checks for a group of people that volunteer their time. Once you pay on line, you will be able to print your own membership card. **Priceless!**

We are going to bring back the newsletter (with the help of Marty Humpert). It will of course be in digital format and on our web site.

Lastly, I want to mimic a few of our affiliates such as the NRA and HRA to simply not "re-invent the wheel". We need to get accounts on Facebook, Instagram, etc. While we already have a YouTube account, I would bet the vast majority of you didn't know that. Once established, I will ensure that all the members have the pertinent info to start the communication flowing.

We will be asking ALL members to help in these endeavors.

Mahalo in advance for your assistance!



About Our Club...

The **Valley Isle Sport Shooters Club** (VISSC) is run by member volunteers. We want to thank them for their time and commitment to the club. From the Club Officers, Range Safety Officers, and Event Coordinators that work so hard to put on club events, it's all because of them and their dedication that things get done. This volunteer time cuts into their personal life but they do it to keep this club running. So, I would like to personally give a warm **MAHALO** to all that have contributed their time, energy and professionalism. Specifically:

Dan Clegg for taking over IPSC/ USPSA operations.

Marc Weber for heading up SASS/ Maui Marshals.

Club Secretary and Treasurer, **Ron Kawahara, of Kawahara and Associates CPAs**, thanks for everything needed to keep us "legit". Ron also enlisted the aid of his son **Robert Kawahara**, and a CPA from his office, **Joshua Acob**, to ensure our accounts are up to date. You guys have been great!

Burt Swink for tackling the responsibility for teaching the NRA Basic Pistol Safety Courses.

Norman Cheng (our attorney) for his invaluable legal representation.

Stacey Meranda from Lockton Affinity Insurance for the patience to deal with the myriad of changes/ corrections to our policy.

The open day RO's & assistants: **Mike Ing, Ray Ishii, Dennis Kim, Bruce Braun, Burt Swink, Carl Delapinia, Kelly Lai, Bryant Andaya, Gino Aki, Jeff Smith, Don Jensen.**

Marty Humpert, Newsletter Editor and bench building "Lucky".

I apologize if I omitted anyone!

Upcoming Events:



This year's annual club meeting will be held at Ukumehame Firing Range classroom on June 15, 2015 @ 1:00 pm. We have lots of information to disseminate and also issues that require a club vote. You will need to be a member to participate. You must be there in person to vote. It is scheduled for two hours. In the future these meetings will be scheduled quarterly and for one hour. Your participation will be greatly appreciated!

The Valley Isle Sport Shooters Club is looking for any **member** who is interested in being trained as a certified Range Safety Officer for any of the Open Days. Any member who is interested, please contact me via email at:

info@valleyislesportshooter.com.

Training is free, but there are some details to discuss. I will gladly pass on specific requirements for a certified Range Officer.



The Valley Isle Sport Shooters Club is looking for any **member** experienced in graphic design who is interested in designing our club's T-shirts. If interested, please contact me via email at info@valleyislesportshooter.com. I will gladly pass on the details.



The Valley Isle Sport Shooters Club is looking for any **member** who is interested in being the Webmaster for the club. Any interested party may contact me via email at info@valleyislesportshooter.com. I will gladly pass on specific requirements.



Tips for Reloaders: Annealing your brass.

Key to saving money is extending the life of your brass. Like steel, brass and other non-ferrous metals work harden ever time you pull the trigger then re-size the casing. But unlike high carbon steel, annealing and quenching brass softens the metal thereby allowing you to get more loading cycles from a particular shell . But annealing the full length of your bullet casing can lead to some major problems, like blown primers and case head separations. You need the base of your shells to stay hard and the neck and shoulder area to be soft. So how do you control the heat to soften only half of your brass? Here's a quick an cheap way of getting the job done. Take a pie tin and fill it with just enough water to where it will cover a shell casing laying on its side. Next, stand up a dozen or so spent casing in the water and use a propane torch to heat the necks and case shoulders until the case mouth turns a cherry red glow. Tip the casing over into the water and you are done. Be careful to keep the hottest part of the torch flame on to the shoulder of the casing and not the case mouth. You do not want to melt the mouth of your brass, so keep the tip of the flame below the mouth. The water in the pan ensures the flow of heat is limited so that the case head remains relatively hard while the neck and shoulder have their malleability restored. If this is done after every other loading, your brass should be pliable and less prone to splitting. Happy shooting.

Dumb & Dumber



The Do-do bird, walked slowly, had no fear of man, lived on a tropical island. Status: EXTINCT.



The Nene goose, walks slowly, has no fear of man, prefers to nest on a rifle range ... Status: ????

For Monthly Range Schedule, please visit:

www.valleyislesportshooters.com

Email: info@valleyislesportshooters.com

Club Officers:

President: Todd Sherman

VP: Jeff Smith

Sec./Tres: Ron Kawahara

Board of Directors:

Dan Clegg

Mike Ing

Ray Ishii

Carl Delapinia

Newsletter Editor: Marty Humpert

Contributing Writer: Todd Sherman