



NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2010

OFFICERS: Pres. C. D. Reul 303 238-5696, denreul@comcast.net ; V.P. Jim Brummerstedt 303 772-5145; Sec/Treas.: Martin Everitt 303 425-4450
DIRECTORS: Al Ashton 303 798-0189 Cal Cooper 303 794-2741; Wayne Harris 303 431-4009 Barney Higgins 970 618-1879
Bill Stark 303 771-4593 Steve Kingcade 303 644-3523 E-Mail: erci@comcast.net Website: www.erci.org
Dues/Workbond mail: PO Box 218 Bennett CO 80102 Other CRC Mail: CRC, 6921 Oak Street, Arvada, CO 80004

SPECIAL RANGE CLOSURE NOTICE

The Smallbore, Schuetzen, Silhouette and High Power Ranges will be closed to CRC members on Tuesday, June 22. We are hosting a sales meeting and product demonstration by several manufacturers' representatives for about 60 Cabella's sales staff from all over the country. They will meet at a hotel near DIA on Monday and come to the range Tuesday about noon to see the products and do some shooting with new scopes, etc. They will be holding some meetings in the Stat Office on the Smallbore Range, and they'll be setting up a chronograph on the smallbore range as well. The majority of the shooting will be done on the silhouette range, but other groups will be demonstrating on the Schuetzen and high power ranges. Shooting should wrap up around 5pm, and they will have a bar-b-que afterwards, leaving the range around 7:30 pm. The Silhouette range will be getting set up on Monday the 21, in anticipation of the groups testing, so please don't take or rearrange anything on the silhouette range that day. We'll also need help rounding up picnic tables from around the property, and range officers for the smallbore, Schuetzen and high power ranges as well as a pit officer for the high power range. Anyone who can help out please contact Martin Everitt right away. Fill your workbond and see the newest in sights and gear getting put through it's paces – what an excellent way to serve the club and preview your Christmas wish list! This exposure to Cabella's personnel ought to be good for CRC in increasing awareness of us around the country.

There will be a similar event for about ten other people by Zeiss optics on June 17. They will be training some of their sales staff on use of their new Zeiss scopes. Mr. Barton Dobbs of Zeiss toured the ranges, and they will be doing most of their testing on the Silhouette Range, but will also need to do some limited firing on the high power range. We'll need a range officer and a pit officer there. Neither range will be closed to members on June 17, but if you are there, please defer to our guests.

THE EAST RANGE IS OPEN!

After two years of planning and permitting processes, a year of construction, and about \$65,000., the East Range is ready for use!

NOTE: Until the grass gets going, members should beware of the mud and dust, especially near the east end of the range.

The east range is ready for use by members, though some work remains to be done. We need to get some more gravel for the entrance road, build a couple of shelters and install some range furniture, etc. Some of this will not get done for some time. The new toilets were inspected and approved by Adams County last week and they are the best yet thanks to some special concrete block provided by member Dave Lee, who built them.

Anyone coming to the range in the last year must have noticed the pile of earth rising just to the right of the silhouette range. Major earthwork was finished last fall and over the winter Maurice Settles and a number of the Cowboy Action group worked on final finishing, the entrance road, seeding, moving the cowboy apparatus from the pistol range to the east range, etc. Maurice deserves a lot of credit for leading that work.

The range is intended for short-range sports such as cowboy action and practical pistol. Until we know more about how the backstop will behave, and whether we will get ricochets, out of the range, guns having a range greater than 2500 yards are prohibited, though we do plan to put a couple of benches in one of the bays to permit initial sight in for new rifles, and other things that are currently done at short-range on the Schuetzen range.

The range consists of 12 bays, each about 50 feet wide and 50 yards deep, separated by earth berms so that firing in each bay is separate from all of the others. The center bays are a little wider. Normally, the regular Cowboy Action events will be held on the western five or six bays, and the east half of the range will be available for others even during those events.

There might be an exception to this if they have an especially big match that requires more space. We hope that some members will step up to lead some of the action pistol events that have been so popular at other places.

There are some special safety issues for this range and the initial protocol follows:

PLEASE keep all shots inside the bay and fire only toward the end backstop. Do not fire into the side berms. Do not climb upon the berms – you never know what is going on in a nearby bay. Keep all firing within the bay, do not set up beyond the end of the berms. We have other ranges for shooting beyond 50 yards. Do not use junk for targets, and pick up all of your fired target brass and other refuse. Brass left lying around kills the grass and that is too hard to grow as it is. Several people deserve special credit for this long effort, especially Wayne Harris, who designed the range and shepherded us through the whole tedious and time consuming permitting process. He managed the construction as well. Jack Odor did the initial topographic survey and Maurice Settles many finishing projects mentioned above. A lot of others participated – and we thank them all. ENJOY THE NEW RANGE!!!

EAST RANGE RULES

In addition to the General Range Rules which apply everywhere on CRC property, the following rules are specific to the East Range area:

1. This Range is intended for generally short-range sports such as, but not limited to, Cowboy Action and Practical Pistol. Firearms capable of ranges beyond one mile are prohibited.
2. All rounds fired must impact the end backstop. Firing into the side berms is not permitted. If the match conditions of a SCHEDULED EVENT, being conducted under the supervision of a QUALIFIED Range Officer or Safety Officer require it, firing into the side berms may be permitted. Such firing must always be under the close supervision of such qualified officer(s) who must personally see that the adjacent bay is unoccupied before permitting such firing.
3. All firing must be from locations completely enclosed by the side berms. Firing from points outside the berms is not permitted.
4. Walking or climbing on any berms is not permitted because of the safety hazard involved.
5. Vehicles must be parked in the designated parking area. Vehicles may not be inside the berms except for maintenance work on the range or facilities.
6. Certain range furniture may be permanently installed on the range. Shooting into this equipment is strictly forbidden and may be grounds for dismissal from CRC.
7. Approved targets include steel gongs, paper targets, clay birds and other targets appropriate to the sport being practiced. Bottles, cans, old TV tubes, that vase your mother-in-law gave you, etc. are NOT approved targets and are forbidden at all times.
8. Shooters are expected to pick up their spent cases and all other materials and debris and remove it from the property.

RANGE SAFETY

A number of serious safety issues have come up recently. You have heard of several bullet holes in the house, barn, and some of the campers near the ranch house. A lot of ricochets have been heard recently, especially on the high power range, and some reports of member carelessness have been heard. Club Directors are very concerned about this and are trying to find out what is happening.

We seem to have Harlow Parkenfarker or Klem Kaddilhopper in the club. Somehow the short range target frames on the east end of the schuetzen range, which were repaired in April, have been shot to pieces already! If you hate plywood so much become a lumberjack. Have some consideration for your fellow members, whose property you are vandalizing if you intentionally shoot the frames. Some shooters are misusing these targets by firing in such a way that their bullets do not hit the backstop, or hit so high on it that they skip off and continue. We will shortly move those targets to the center of the range to make it harder to miss the backstop. Please keep all shots in the backstop and hang your targets in such a way that the bullets do not strike near the top of the backstop nor go into the ground before hitting the backstop. If you hear a ricochet from one of your shots, change your position or take some other action so that you do not have more ricochets. The last thing we need is for someone to be hurt. Remember, you are not the only one on the property.

CRC Web Site

Be sure and check the CRC web site, www.crci.org for news and announcements. Click on MATCHES for the latest calendar and a link to the CRC weather station for the current conditions at the range.

LEADER 1 GAS PROJECT

There is a new underground gas storage project in the planning process. The main site is off the 88th road location, about two miles east of the Rector Leader Road. The big, high-pressure pipeline to it will pass just outside our south fence. You might have seen yellow survey flags recently. So far as we know right now, this will not impact CRC except that our entrance road might be closed for a short time while the pipeline is built across it. We do not know when that will happen, but it will not be soon.

WORKSHOP

The Board of Directors has voted to build a workshop inside the equipment barn to provide a safe space to use the power tools donated by Joe Farmer from the Larry Kelley estate. In order to make space for that, we will have to move the clay bird storage to the east end of the building and store the grader outside. Anybody want to buy an old road grader?

JOAN FABRIZIO

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Joan Fabrizio, who is enduring another stay in the hospital. Get well soon Joan!

IN REMEMBRANCE

Mark Allison, CRC Member # 386

CRC Member Mark Allison passed away in May of last year. Below are some excerpts from a beautiful article by John Dustin that appeared in the December 2009 issue of *Precision Shooting*. Peace be with Mark's family and friends.

Mark had been shooting competitively for a long time before he came to long range riflery. He was a well-known practical pistol shooter specializing in revolvers, and had a win at the Second Chance Combat Shoot to his credit. Discovering the long range practical rifle game, Mark joined the Colorado Rifle Club, which operates the famous range at Byers, Colorado. He was able to shoot regularly at distances up to 1000 yards, and used this opportunity to hone his equipment and skills. ...Mark was also a talented inventor. He invented and put into production a series of multi-brush chamber cleaners for revolvers, saving valuable time under the demanding conditions of competition. In the long range rifle field, he designed and produced the unique Pathfinder ballistic chart system, which is like an abbreviated tape measure mounted in a compact polycarbonate housing on the top of your scope. Pull out the tape, and your downrange come-ups are instantly available. Let it retract, and your data is nicely protected in its little housing. This accessory was subsequently picked up by Leupold, where it was named the Scopesmith. These are frequently seen at tactical matches, and can be ordered through www.allisontool.com

COMING EVENTS

50-Yard .22 Rimfire Benchrest Tournaments

If you have a .22 Rimfire Rifle, you can join us for an upcoming Benchrest Tournament! Benchrest is the perfect sport for refining your wind-doping skills, time paced shooting and for practicing all important head/shoulder placement. And you don't have to lay on the ground to do it! There are two divisions; Sporter Division, which is for semi-automatic .22 rimfire any sights only with off-the-shelf factory ammo with no modifications; and ARA, which is any .22 rimfire rifle, generally with bolt action. Shooters have 2.5 minutes to shoot each of ten 50-yard targets with 5 shots each. Junior shooters and parents are welcome. Entry is just \$15 for adults and \$5 for juniors, and there'll be match prizes awarded! Shooting starts at 9:00 am, and upcoming dates include:

June 12, July 17, August 7, September 11 and October 16.

Contact Terry Oehler 720-980-3668, footman2000@msn.com for more information or to sign up.

Shooting and Opportunity

It's finally almost summertime, and that gets many families thinking about opportunities for their kids. Whether your kids are young and choosing their first summer camp or sporting program to participate in, or about to choose a college and potential career, we're fortunate to live in a place where there are so many choices it can be overwhelming. You want to give your kids every opportunity to help ensure their future growth and success, make them happy, and... is it so wrong to hope they are natural born talents, earn full scholarships, and get discovered and secure your retirement with million dollar endorsement deals? Well no one can guarantee any of that, so it pays to think creatively when helping your kids pick ways to spend their time. An item in the news recently adds weight to giving serious thought to the shooting sports, especially where your daughters are considered.

This year the winner of the 2010 NCAA Rifle Team Championships is the all-womens team from Texas Christian University (TCU). Comprised of two seniors and three freshmen, the TCU Horned Frogs soundly defeated many well-established and more famous teams, including Army, Navy, West Virginia, and 10-time champions the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF). (It should be noted UAF sent an all-male squad this year!) It's the first time an all women team has won the championships – and in the *ONLY* NCAA sport where men and women compete on the same teams as equals.

In reading about the team, their diversity struck me. NCAA correspondent Troy Phillips interviewed the team, and in an article that appeared on the NCAA's website, he quotes freshmen Caitlin Morrissey talking about how she got started in shooting. "I grew up shooting mostly by myself...It was cool outshooting the Boy Scouts and winning competitions, but I didn't really train with anyone but my dad." she says. Another team member, Sarah Scherer, is a member of the Massachusetts Rifle Association, which proclaims itself "America's Oldest Active Gun Club", and her brother competed in the Army and for the US in Air Rifle in the 2008 Olympics. To me that suggests a team that is built on fairness, equality, and members who consistently shoot well, and that should always be celebrated in sports. I also imagine we have both types of kids in our own club membership.

Boy or girl, there are some kids who have only ever gone shooting with their dad, just on their own in a casual day at the range. And there are others who are born into it, and have lead in their blood (in a good, metaphorical way) and have come from a long line of shooting enthusiasts. If your kid likes shooting, stop wishing they were better at football or golf, and start brining them out to the range with you. Shooting can open doors both in sports and in education, and if you're looking for a sport where fairness and ability are the focus, where smaller schools can compete alongside established dynasties, and the emphasis is about being a great team NOW, (and not grooming future draft picks for the alumni dollars later), then shooting is the most practical sport to consider. Yes, many consider 'student' and 'gun' in the same sentence a bad thing. But "student" and "shooting sports" is a very different sentence, with a very different equation and one we're proud - in however small a way – to be part of. Both the Arvada Rifle and Pistol Club and the Cherry Creek Gun Club have junior shooting programs. If you're interested in starting one at CRC, talk with Denny Reul. Shooting can be a way to introduce your daughter to competitive sports, share a common interest, and spend quality time together, a while doing something you love and that she'll eventually kick your butt in. That's a priceless experience for everyone! We at CRC hope to see you **and** your kids, out at the range this summer – and for many summers to come!

MORE CRC SHOOTERS IN THE NEWS!

My above sermon on the academic benefits that go along with shooting sports has more proof this week! Many smallbore shooters will remember junior shooter Taylor Beard. She's competed in several matches out at CRC and her many victories include the 2005 First Expert title, as a junior, in the Rocky Mountain Regionals. She went on to shoot in matches at the Olympic Training Center, was heavily recruited, and went to shoot for the University of Alaska Rifle team. She has continued to distinguish herself in both the classroom and on the range. Taylor has been on the Dean's List every semester since starting college, has been an All-American and traveled to Germany, Czechoslovakia, Norway, Italy and Puerto Rico for shooting matches. And now she has earned another extraordinary honor. Taylor Beard has been selected as an Outstanding Student by the School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences. One of only four students given this award, Taylor is studying High Latitude Agriculture. Congratulations to Taylor and her family. See ladies, have gun...will travel!

