



CRC NEWS

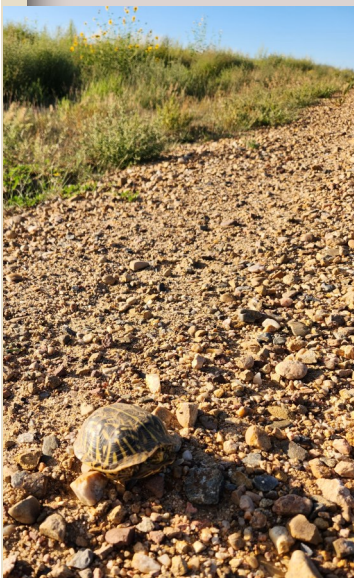
COLORADO RIFLE CLUB



September 2023

Match Directors!

We anticipate our next Match Directors Meeting to be held at Clubhouse on Saturday, January 20, 2024, 9:00 AM. If the roads are in bad shape or the weather predictions are adverse, we will reschedule to the ARPC as in previous years.



CRC CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

The Colorado Rifle Club was founded in 1925 at a Range near Morrison Road and Alameda Ave in what is now Lakewood, Colorado. In a little more than a year we will be celebrating our Centennial year of operation. We currently have three BOD members being Wayne Harris, Bret Barnes, and Dan B. Harris, and club member Doug Maxwell involved in our centennial committee.

I would like to reach out to our membership for people to become involved with our committee. We need to organize a search for a new Centennial Logo, designs for tee-shirts and jackets, and advertising for our anniversary.

We will probably be having the main event at our annual membership meeting in June of 2025 at our Clubhouse. We need to organize events and activities for this meeting. The planning needs to start now and be completed in 2024 to be ready for our Big Celebration in 2025.

If you are interested on being on our committee, please send me an email at wwharris@q.com. Yes, this is a work bond activity.

PROPERTY UPDATES

Article by Wayne Harris

Much of this newsletter shares updates on various issues and projects around the club property:

- Clubhouse Certificate of Occupancy (CO) - page 1
- CRP Enhancement (page 2)
- New High Power Electronic Targets coming in 2024 (page 2)
- New Benches: Eagle Scout Project (page 2)
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Clubhouse Certificate of Occupancy (CO)

In our last newsletter I had predicted we would be granted a Certificate of Occupancy (CO) just after the 4th of July. We had submitted several third party approvals/inspections to the County Building Department's Inspector, but we were informed that they must be submitted electronically to the Permit Department. Since the original Permit was applied for by the Architect it fell into his court to submit all the reports that we had provided to him. He then found a shopping list of items that we also needed such as a Domestic Water Backflow Certification and balancing and testing of our HVAC equipment.

Our HVAC Technician who conducted our inspection works five days a week some 50 weeks a year conducting commercial HVAC testing in Metro Denver. He was amazed to find a commercial building so far from any town. He commented that this was the easiest test he had ever conducted, and everything was perfect, and no shortcuts were taken. Many thanks go out to our General Contractor and his subcontractors.

After jumping through many hoops, we received our CO on August 8, 2023. Let the warranty period begin. We already have a stress cracked in one window which is being submitted for warranty repairs.

MORE PROPERTY UPDATES

CRP Enhancement

Every six years we are required to complete our mid-contract management (MCM) activities for each of our several Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contracts. These activities, such as haying, burning, grazing, light disking, Inter-seeding, shredding, harrowing, and other components are required for us to keep our contract active and avoid termination. The CRC receives some \$33K per year in CRP benefits.

This year we have some 900 acres which is due for MCM activities all before September 30, 2023. Because of lack of fences or water wells, the most widely used practice of grazing was out of the question. The grasses we have are not acceptable for hay. It was determined that shredding with a mower was the best option. I took our NRCS Soil Conservationists for two tours around and through our CRP in question. The grass/weeds were higher than my Honda Talon and the pollen was terrible. I spent the next day after our trips recovering from my allergies.

We determined some 80 – 90 acres that needed mowed. This is way too much work for our small 5' and 7' mowers. We are acquiring the services of a local rancher who has a 15' wide batwing rotary mower. This operation will start on September 18 and be completed that week.

I hope to have him also mow the ditches on our facility roads as the grass/weed growth is extremely tall due to all of the moisture we have received. If the roadways are not mowed, I am afraid they will act as snow fences filling our roads with snow drifts. The cost is some \$60 per acres but still much less than our CRP payment.

There is no free lunch.

New High Power Electronic Targets

At our last Board Of Directors (BOD) meeting in August, we granted BOD member and High Power (HP) Range Director Eron Ahmer some \$9,000 to purchase new Electronic Targets for HP Competitions. Eron wants to purchase ten electronic targets this fall and have them ready for use in 2024. This should reduce the time to run a match significantly as we will only need one or two people in the pits and targets will not need to be pulled. We can have 30 or 40 shooters firing on the ten positions. When a competitor has completed with his string, he will remove his equipment and the next shooter will bring out his equipment and start shooting. The board has been watching the price and evolution of electric targets for many years and we believe now is the time to pull the trigger, so they say.

Eagle Scout Project

I have been approached by a couple of Boy Scouts wanting to know if we have any projects worthy of being an Eagle Scout Project. Some examples I suggested was benches, picnic tables, signage, rifle racks, and a more elaborate match bulletin board. The Boy Scout needs to determine a project, get donations, provide plans and associated costs, have a sponsor, and then assemble help to construct the project. All of this before he turns 18 years old.

Castle Rock High School senior Alex Winder selected us for his project. He constructed three 5' wide benches for our use. Two benches are now on the Pistol Range, and one is on the Smallbore Range. They are made of 2" redwood and we will be adding his name to the benches at the upcoming work party.

If you have any other ideas for Engle Scout projects, please email them to me.



The high power range during the F-Class Higher Power Long Range event on August 24. Photo by Les Smith.

Get all the news and photos at

<http://crci.org/>

EVEN MORE PROPERTY UPDATES

Photos and article by Wayne Harris

RV Dump Station

We are in the process of cancelling our contract with the RV Dump Station Contractor. He completed the final work on the Clubhouse's Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) last May and we received a Final Operational Certificate from the County on May 20, 2023.

The two 2500 Gallon RV holding tanks had been installed August 2022 and the 1" water line, curb stop, and one yard hydrant are in place. The last time he worked on the system was November 11, 2022. He has about a day's worth of work to finish the project and we are still holding some \$22K of his contract.

Since May I have left phone messages, text messages, and visited his shop three times but have not had any return calls from our contractor. We have a backup contractor who is willing to work with us in case we cannot persuade our current contractor to finish the project. A certified, USPS notice of our intend was mailed just after Labor Day.

New North Fence

We have had an agreement for many years with the Moos for grazing in our Section 4, to the north of the Ranch House. Because the new LDPR Range uses the westerly portion of section 4, we cancelled our agreement with the Moos for grazing. The first week of April we were notified that the Moos would be moving cattle to the land north of section 4 but also that our fence on the north line of section 4 was in poor condition. This was an understatement as we found that that only about half of the posts were still standing and all the four strands of barb wire was down on the ground. Colorado is a Free Range State so we must build a fence to keep the cows out of our property. We contacted several local fence builders and selected David Hail of Strasburg for the construction of the new fence.

A work party of volunteers were to remove existing barb wire and wooden posts on the north fence line of section 4. This represented a savings of \$2,400 on the proposed fencing contract. The work parties were a success and we rolled up almost a mile of barb wire fencing. The timing was also great as the next week we had some huge flows in the Bijou Creek and the west half mile of the north fence line was underwater with a lot of the steel fence post that we left as markers were bent over or removed with the debris carried by the flood waters.

David Hail constructed some 4,620 LF of four-strand bard wire fence utilizing four 6.5' steel posts and then an 8' wooden post. One gate and 660 LF of existing fence was tightened and corner posts reconstructed. Total cost was \$15,630 and completed 08-05-2023 after the flood waters had receded. The Moos turned out their cattle the first of May but as of June 6 all fences across Bijou Creek for 30 miles both directions had been destroyed. About quarter mile of our fence south of the Archery range has been destroyed. I am sorry to report that the newly constructed Archery Range has been almost completely destroyed with the flood waters.

CRC Liability Insurance

In 2020, the CRC went through the process of finding a new insurance agent. We were informed this summer that our current insurance agent is moving on and is being replaced by an agent in Sturgis, SD. The Leavitt Recreation & Hospitality agency is noted for service to the outdoor recreation groups and insures several other gun clubs.

In 2022 the CRC liability insurance cost was \$17,222 and our umbrella policy cost was \$3,411, for a total cost of \$20,633. Our total 2021 cost was \$19,144. We received a new proposal for a 2023 which indicated a liability cost of \$27,219 and umbrella cost of \$3,427 for a total cost of \$30,646. This is a 50% increase, so we went shopping for new insurance carrier.

After filling out many questionnaires and shopping other companies, we have a new policy with liability insurance being \$22,704 and umbrella cost of \$2,278 for a total of \$24,982. All structures including our new Clubhouse will be insured for Replacement Cost and the Wind/Hail Deductible has dropped from 5% to 2%. The policy covers some 18 structures with an insured replacement value of \$2.1 M. We are not a small club anymore.

FINAL PROPERTY UPDATES

The Ranch House

A work party of volunteers removed bedroom and living room furniture and filled a large roll-off dumpster with carpet from the Ranch House. The old green shag carpet probably had 10 pound of goat heads imbedded in it.

On August 7, our flooring subcontractor for the Clubhouse started placing the extra laminated flooring that was left over from the Clubhouse. We had prepurchase most of the flooring last summer and it was not returnable. The two bedrooms and living room now has new flooring/underlayment and the small bathroom and kitchen was left unmodified. Our cleaning ladies will also start working in the Ranch House.

Over the years there have had hundreds of keys made for the Ranch House front door. We have purchased a new keypad that is WIFI compliant so it can also be locked and unlocked by the administrator's phone. Per the BOD, the intended use of the Ranch House will be for Match Directors to allow the use of cots and air mattress for overnight stays by their competitors. Reservations can be requested by Match Directors and placed on our event calendar by our Webmaster@crci.org group. We have already used the facility and look forward to a lot more "sleepovers."

2023 SMALLBORE COMPETITION WINNERS

Article and photos by Jennifer Obee

Congratulations to the winners of smallbore competitions this year!

Left: Junior Champion Jesse Oberle (center) with the gold and silver winners, MJ Musgrave (right) and Mackenzie Kring (left)

Below left: State Champion Stuart Lind (right) with match director Jennifer Obee

Below middle: Smallbore League winner, Ryder Montoya

Below right: Winner of the Redfield Metric Match, Dennis Casey (right) with match director Jennifer Obee



CMP 2023 HIGHPOWER NATIONAL MATCHES

Photos and article by Lee Farrell

Eight CRC members traveled to Camp Perry in Ohio to compete in this year's Highpower Rifle Matches. Held again in July, the National Matches celebrated their 116th anniversary and the 103rd anniversary of their first coming to Camp Perry in 1907. The competition includes many of the best military and civilian shooters in the nation.

Ronald Porter won the When Hunters Dream Trophy shooting an impressive 492-22X in the National Trophy Individual Rifle Match (NTI). The When Hunters Dream Trophy is awarded to the highest scoring Senior competitor. The bronze on walnut trophy depicts a resting hunter who envisions the conquest of well-earned game.

Also a Senior, Lee Farrell finished a close second to Ron with a 491-21X. Of the 798 NTI competitors, 201 were seniors over 60 years of age. Ron and Lee finished 22nd and 32nd respectively in the overall competition. CRC member Dave Sullivan previously won the When Hunters Dream Trophy in 2013.

In the President's 100 Rifle Match, perhaps the most coveted award in across the course competition, Connor Campbell placed 24th of 860 entrants. Shooting an excellent score of 293-9X, narrowly missing the shoot off portion of the competition by the top 20 competitors. It was Connors second top 100 finish in the last two years. Lee Farrell finished 78th with a 289-11X also earning his second President's 100 award. Lee was 6th of the 228 Seniors competing.



When Hunters Dream Trophy



Ron Porter receiving his award (left)
Lee Farrell (right)
Connor Campbell (below)



Connor Campbell



Ron Porter



Lee Farrell

ADS FOR MEMBERS FROM MEMBERS

For sale

3 boxes of 50 .17 VMax (NOT .17 HMR). Bought by mistake. Make offer
 Ruger Single-Six .22 WMR, \$200 or BO
 Henry Golden Boy, NIB, never fired, .45LC \$1200
 M1 Garand, NOT fired. CMP Special H&R .30-06, New barrel and stock by CMP with case. \$1400
 SA .45 compact with Galco ankle holster and 3 mags: \$700

Contact: text cell phone at 303-564-5077, Pete Jend

Also, I have hunting available. Dove (in season now), plenty of cottontails, and prairie dogs. Free to members or juniors. Firearms available.



Ads are provided as a courtesy to members.

To place an ad in an upcoming newsletter email news@crcl.org
 Deadline for the next newsletter: August 31

Members are expected to comply with all State and Federal laws.
 Individual use only; not for business use. The CRC retains the right to
 refuse to publish any advertisement.