



# CRC NEWS

COLORADO RIFLE CLUB



March 2020

## REMINDER:

Always check the [Event Schedule](#) for Activities Before Going to the Range!

## SPRING WORK DAYS

The CRC ranges will be closed on April 18th and 19th for the annual spring workdays.

We need member volunteers to help us complete projects to get the ranges ready for the shooting season and to make improvements. The great facility we have is due to volunteers that contribute their time and talents. Coming out for either Saturday or Sunday will satisfy your work bond obligation for the year.

If you are able to help us, Come up to the ranch house around 8am to sign in and get a work assignment. Dress for the weather and bring a lunch. If you have special expertise, such as carpentry, mechanics, welding, etc., make it known when you sign in. Remember to bring your work bond card with you to get it signed at the end of the workday, and get credit for your work bond. Also, if you have common hand tools, bring them with you. The club has a minimal number of tools available.

If you have additional questions, contact Dave Paananen: [dpaananen@netzero.net](mailto:dpaananen@netzero.net) or 303-673-0106.

## COLORADO RIFLE CLUB ANNUAL BANQUET AND MEETING MINUTES

The 94th annual banquet began on February 22nd, an hour earlier than it has in the recent past. In addition, prior to the usual pre-dinner social gathering, an informal commemoration of Nick Obee was held. The sit down 3 course meal and annual meeting were at the Sheraton Denver West Hotel in Lakewood. During the dinner hour and also during the meeting Board of Directors member Barney Higgins held several drawings to give away CRC merchandise and donated items.

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## CLUBHOUSE AND CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT UPDATE

In my previous report I had indicated that CRC had formally submitted our Third set of responses to Staff Comments (12-09-2019) concerning the Conditional Use Permit and the Administrative Release from Landscaping Requirements.

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## DUES REMINDER & GATE COMBINATION

Dues Renewals Reminder: mail in your dues by March 31. Dues are delinquent April 1 and a late fee of \$20 will be added.

Gate Combination: The gate combination changes April 1, 2020. The new number is on your new membership card.

Get all the news and photos at  
<http://crici.org/>

## COLORADO RIFLE CLUB ANNUAL BANQUET AND MEETING MINUTES, CONTINUED

Vice President Wayne Harris began the meeting noting the absence of club President Dennis Reul and a description of his recuperation progress after his recent illness.

Wayne then went through a review of some of the significant events from the previous year:

- The gas well and storage tank decommissioning progress on the pond area installation is essentially complete. In addition the gas pumping station decommission progress is well along. Also, underground gas lines by the Pistol Range, and on the quarter section of the Younger parcel of land north of 112th Ave, are being capped and abandoned.
  - There was another major amount of work to improve the roadways on the range property. Sixty-two 18-wheeler truck loads of gravel amounting to close to a mile of roadway was distributed. In support of the gravel work, earth work was done to provide runoff retention ponds by the smallbore and pistol ranges, raise the parking lots on the Silhouette and Schutzen ranges, and clean out between some of the berms on the east range where the pervasive wind has been trying to fill in the berms with dirt. At the same time, the HP range firing lines on the 500- and 600-yard lines were contoured. Additional rock covering was put on them as well.
  - An effort to review, update, and consolidate the safety rules for using the range was completed. The updated rules are posted on the website. Copies are also distributed at the new member orientation meetings, and are available in the smallbore stat house, and at the sign at the entrance by the gas plant.
  - Sherri Stuska has taken over from Dennis Reul responsibility for all of the many administration activities associated with new members. New member orientations are now handled by a group including: Sherri Stuska, Wayne Harris, Dennis Reul, and Mike McAvoy.
  - An insurance committee has been formed with members Wayne Harris, Dave Paananen, Shawn Poulin, and Alex Kamm to review, and update our current insurance coverage, and solicit bids from potential insurance providers.
- The Board of Directors have created a Training Coordinator position to better maintain and control activities on the range such as concealed carry classes. CRC member Steve Klein has volunteered to fill this position.

Sherri informed the group about 2 members warranting special mention:

- Mark Peters has donated a large amount of ammunition to the club.
- Alex Kieselbach found two rifles that were inadvertently left on the range and took responsibility to make sure that they were returned to the owner.

Dave Paananen provided a summary of the financial performance of the club for 2019:

- Income from shooting competitions = \$19,962.85
- Income from memberships = \$201,140.00
- Total Income = \$257,908.64
- General operating expenses = \$72,295.62
- General range maintenance = \$16,671.54
- Range specific and tournament = \$18,927.18
- Total Expenses = \$198,297.67
- Current cash/checking assets = \$304,241.96
- Current investment account = \$92,840.05
- Total current assets = \$397,082.01

Wayne explained the three board members whose terms were expiring indicated they were interested in remaining on the board: Dennis Reul, Steve Fowler, Eron Ahmer. He then requested nominations from the floor. There were no other nominations, so these three board members were elected.

Minutes by Dave Paananen

## **CLUBHOUSE AND CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT (CUP) UPDATE, CONTINUED**

On December 31, 2019 we received our staff comments for the Conditional Use Permit. We had received five new comments from a new group in the Development Services, Environmental Analyst. They had concerns about our work in the Flood Plain and our lead mitigation plans which was easily responded to. A bigger issue was raised by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE). They were adamant that we were a public provider of water and that we were meeting the requirements for a commercial public waste water system being 2,000 gallons per day. If CRC met this requirement we would be required to provide a public Waste Water Treatment Plant and Chlorination treatment of the drinking water like any small city. We would also be required to provide all of the testing required by CDPHE which alone would run from \$5K to \$10K per year. I prepared a two page report to CDPHE along with documentation and our report to the Tri-County Health Department. After a two-week review, CDPHE consented that our operation was under the limits however we would need to provide metering reports for our well-water usage and pumping reports for our RV Dump Station.

During our Second Amendment to the Conditional Use Permit in 2006, the County had required CRC to obtain a Waiver and Consent documents signed and recorded at the Clerk and Records Office for any resident within a mile of our shooting facility. I had copies in my records of the signed documents but no copies of recorded documents. The County Planner indicated we needed to start over as we had no proof of recorded documents. After some brain damage I was able to recover all of the documents that were recorded in 2006. Our Case Manager found that several property ownerships had changed and wanted the new owners to sign and the documents recorded. I responded that all documents are filed at the Clerk and Records Office by Grantor and Grantee and it could be traced to the land. Our planner disagreed with my assessment so a meeting was held at the County Clerk and Records office. It was determined that the way I had been doing business as a Land Surveyor for over 40 years in Colorado was correct and the previous recordings conducted by CRC were correct. The County Planner did determine however that one new structure and another resident located on a 160 acres tract was within a mile of our facility. We conceded this information and Certified letters were sent out to these new property owners on New Year's Day. I checked back in a week and both owners knew of our operation and were willing to sign and return the documents. These documents were recorded on January 20, 2020. On the first week of February we resubmitted all of the requested responses and reports in both hard copy and electronic format. On February 28, 2020 we received the great news that our response comment were acceptable and that a resubmittal was not required by staff prior to being able to schedule a public hearing for this application.

Also on December 31, we received a request for additional clarification regarding our submittal for Administrative Release from Landscaping Requirements. A resubmittal was prepared and resubmitted the first week of January. On January 23, we received a response from the County that all issues were resolved and the that we could move forward to the next phase of our CUP request. We were also requested to take our Overall Site Plan (24" X 36") and break it into six different sheets showing existing conditions and each of the proposed four phases. CRC Member Scott Arehart prepared this CADD magic for the County in December.

Two formal submittals for the CUP process were approved by Staff and other affected review agencies. The CRC Committee wanted the Vacation of 112th to be included in the Public Hearings. Per my last report we had submitted a Formal submittal on November 25, 2019. On December 31 we received the Right of Way (ROW) Vacations staff comments. We had incorrectly interpolated the ROW Vacation documents to consist of six legal descriptions and exhibits for the individual parcels of land adjacent to the 112th ROW that we wanted to Vacate. The County wanted a Plat being 18" X 24" with signoffs by the Surveyor and the County Commissioners. Examples were provided which we tried to follow. Since the Plat is to scale we had to utilize three sheets to show our two miles of ROW Vacation. We also had to obtain a "Property Information Binder" from a Title Company for that portion of the four sections of land that CRC owns adjacent to 112th Avenue. The Title Work was received on February 25, 2020 and only cost the Club only \$875 but included 59 exceptions or incumbrances. I printed all of the links to the recorded documents and it was just shy of a ream of paper (500 pages). Most of the documents dealt with minerals rights and gas/oil leases but we did discover one new unknown ingress-egress easement on the East 30 feet of the Younger Parcel.

## CLUBHOUSE AND CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT (CUP) UPDATE, CONTINUED

During the review process for the ROW Vacation, the Lease holder for the gas/oil well on the West half of section 3 filed a grievance that we were not allowing him access to his existing gas well. We explained that we were reserving a ingress-egress easement along the vacated 112th ROW for anyone having any easements, rights, or interests in section 3, 4, 9 and 10. After several phone calls and emails I finally determined that the gas company was concerned that they did not have any access across our property and they wanted a blanket easement. I was 99% such that the UPRR had given these rights to the gas company but they needed a easement before the February 26 deadline established by the Count for a response to settle this issue. After several modifications to the Easement Agreement, I signed the easement and sent it to the gas/oil company. The Property Information Binder did prove that a ingress-egress easement is existing over the entire Section 3 as granted by the UPRR over a century ago.

I read all of the Title Commitment documents, added the one new easement to the Plat, and it was resubmitted to the County on March 5, 2020. At that time I discovered that our ROW manager had switched jobs within Adams county. She has graciously agreed to stay on the CRC case and assist our Planning Manager to complete this project. ROW staff had 14 days to review our resubmittal but the Adams County Offices are currently closed because of the COVID-19 outbreak. We hope to have review comments by the end of this month and then they can schedule the Public meeting in front of Planning Commission and the County Commissioners in April. After this final approval we can then submit building plans of the Club House to the Building Department.

In my last report I indicated we had planned to meet with our Architect for the Club House to sign his contract on December 13, 2019. This meeting was conducted and the next item of business was a meeting with the Fire Marshal. We had some scheduling conflicts but were able to meet with the Byers Fire Marshal on February 17. The plan review will be conducted by the Strasberg Fire Marshal but signed off by the Byers Fire Marshal. The Very Good News is that we do not need a Sprinkler System for our new structure. We were also given a set of floor plans to review. The Club House Committee then met on February 19 and we made several recommendations to the plans and passed them along to our Architect. On March 4, the Architect submitted to us a revised set of plans along with elevations of the clubhouse. The committee then prepared additional comments and these were sent back on March 7, 2020. We hope to see some updated plans soon and to meet with the mechanical engineer to discuss our options on building heating and future water supply to the RV Park.

We are starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel for Adams County Approval of the CUP. I just hope it is not an oncoming train.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wayne Wray Harris PE, PLS



Club members appreciate your hard work on this project, Wayne!

## NICK OBEЕ – IN MEMORIAM

By Sherri Stuska and Jennifer Obee

Nick Obee passed away on February 16, 2020 of complications from COPD and lung cancer. He chose when it was time to go and was asleep when his body stopped working. It was a peaceful death and his children were with him.

Shooting sports were a passion for Nick his entire life. He started shooting rifles in high school and college. He taught shooting safety at a Boy Scout camp in the 1970s and ran the Junior program at Arvada Rifle and Pistol Club in the 1980s. He taught more than 1,000 children how to shoot safely in his lifetime.

Nick volunteered for shooting clubs in many capacities over the years and the Colorado Rifle Club was very fortunate to have had Nick as a member since 1988.

Nick was a Smallbore Prone and ARA Smallbore Benchrest competitor. Even after his health no longer allowed him to shoot Smallbore Prone, Nick remained very active in the competitions. He formed the Smallbore Summer League, and kept all the records. He assisted with every Smallbore Match as Match Director and Chief Statistician. He kept an eye on scheduling and scoring errors and shared his knowledge with everyone.

Nick was CRC's Webmaster for many years, and spent countless hours developing, improving, and maintaining crci.org. He took much pride in making the website easy to navigate and interesting to club members and visitors.

Nick contributed his engineering expertise to the club as well, including the design of the RV pads and expanding electrical service the Stat Office, Pistol Range, and RV pads.

We will always remember Nick when we find a rusty nail in our fruit cobbler. We are diminished.



Nick at a Smallbore match, 2018  
Photo by Jennifer Obee

## CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

By Doug Maxwell

In 2025, Colorado Rifle Club will be celebrating the Centennial of its founding. As we all were told when we joined, the Colorado Rifle Club was formed from the Denver Rifle Club in 1925. That Centennial is less than 5 years away and we need to start planning now to make sure we have things in place to properly mark this significant event. I (Doug Maxwell) have foolishly volunteered to chair a committee to plan what events and memorabilia the club will use for marking the centennial. August Hardesty has already volunteered to help out and Bret Barnes has agreed to act as the board liaison to the Centennial committee.

I see the initial efforts of the committee to come up with a list of things that we might do or make, such as club picnics, special all-club fun shoots or other tournaments, t-shirts, hoodies, special pins, commemorative name tags, banners for the club house, the picnic shelter at the east range, etc. Maybe the club can make special donations to charities or other deserving groups. The list could be endless. The Board of Directors will have to set a budget for the celebration items and the committee will have to winnow the selections down within the budget.

Why start now? Somethings will have longer lead times. We may want to have logo or other design contests or it may just take time to develop logos or art work. Production takes time. This also will be a good time to really document what we can of the club history. There are photo albums in the farmhouse now. Maybe those photos should be scanned into a database that is online for member viewing and the people in the photos identified where possible.

There are a lot of possible tasks and we need to get started now. If we find we can take it easy, great. We may find that time is our least available resource. If you are interested in the Centennial Committee, contact me Doug Maxwell by email at [dkmaxwell3@gmail.com](mailto:dkmaxwell3@gmail.com) or by phone (303) 907-1667.



## 96TH AVENUE STILL CLOSED AT THE BIJOU CREEK BRIDGE

Photos by Sherri Stuska



The Bijou Creek bridge is undergoing major repairs. It has been closed since fall of 2019, and the closure is expected to continue through spring of 2020. This bridge is located just west of CRC on 96<sup>th</sup> Ave.



Adams County has provided a temporary, un-maintained bypass road just south of the bridge. This road runs through the creek bottom so may not be passable in all weather conditions.

See the detour map on [crci.org](http://crci.org) for details.



## IBS LONG RANGE BENCH REST

By Jerry White

It's good to see winter rolling out of Colorado as some great "trigger time" weather seems to be on it's way in! This year the long range bench rest program will operate under the International Benchrest Shooters (IBS) protocol. We are gearing up with a total of nine, 1000 yard, matches which are scheduled from April through October (check the CRC match schedule). Our Saturday matches will be two targets with a shoot off in both light and heavy gun. Matches in July and August will be two-day (Sat/Sun) SOY matches and they will be run as target aggregate matches due to the large expected shooter turn out. Our fee schedule this year will be \$35 single gun, and \$45 for two guns, per day. Incorporation of our return to an IBS protocol has resulted in significant additional interest from many out of state shooters, as well as, a new contingent of IBS shooters from the western slope of Colorado. I have met many of these individuals and they are "good folks". We are looking forward to showing these guys and gals some excellent, front-range hospitality, and local shooting skill on our home court.

We are currently purchasing a permanent PA system for the 1000 yard benches and we will be installing a moderate sized generator at the scoring shack. Electricity will be available at several locations during matches, once installation is complete. Communication with the pits will be accomplished with an upgraded walkie-talkie system. The CRC spring work day is currently scheduled for April the 18th. We will be revamping the target rollers in the pits, in addition to several other projects. Please check your schedule now and set that Saturday aside if you can. We truly need the help. Our first match is scheduled for April the 25th. Thank you to Nate Miller for his gracious offer to be there to help us get the 2020 season rolling!

Side Note: Currently, there are no 600 IBS matches scheduled for 2020, as we are looking for a match director to take that position. I would be very willing to help lay the ground work for anyone interested. Feel free to call me any time. Jerry White

## CIVILIAN MARKSMANSHIP PROGRAM (CMP)

By Rob Spurrier

Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) competition shooting at CRC: The CMP competitions consist of Garand, Springfield, Military Bolt Action and Modern Military Rifle matches held on the Schuetzen range and firing at the 100 yard line. These matches are open to all shooters above the age of 12 and are sanctioned and governed by the CMP. Rules and appropriate firearms are listed on the ODCMP.org website. New shooter clinics will be available as needed and successful completion of the match will earn the new shooter a High Power completion certificate which is needed for the purchase of CMP Rifles and Ammo. Please see the CRC match fliers for match dates and details on the CRC website.

Hope to see you there, Rob Spurrier

## FARMALL TRACTOR HELP NEEDED

By Dave Paananen

The old Farmall tractor used by the club to haul the water wagon around is currently not running. We need someone to figure it out and get it going again. If you can help, please contact Dave Paananen email - [dpaananen@netzero.net](mailto:dpaananen@netzero.net) phone 303-673-0106.



## ADS FOR MEMBERS FROM MEMBERS

For Sale:  
Springfield Armory M1A # 9820,  
"loaded" version, Arcangel  
composite stock. Has Sadlack  
scope mount and some other

Contact Bob (303) 254-8770  
schrh@juno.com

Your ad here! Contact Sherri  
at [sherri@mavcom.com](mailto:sherri@mavcom.com)

Ads are provided as a courtesy to members. Members are expected to comply with all State and Federal laws. To place an ad in an upcoming newsletter email Sherri @ [sherri@mavcom.com](mailto:sherri@mavcom.com)

## Upcoming Work Bond Volunteer Opportunities

Date	Event	Contact	# Volunteers Needed
March 21	Cowboy Action Setup - East Range Berms 1-7, 200 - PM	Bill Hall - 303.366.8827	5
April 18-19	SPRING WORK DAYS, ALL RANGES CLOSED	Dave Paananen- 303.673.0106	30
April 25	Cowboy Action Setup PM- East Range Berms 1-7,100,200	Bill Hall - 303.366.8827	5
April 26	High Power XTC - High Power Range	Jim Monserud - 303.666.5732	2
May 9	High Power Rifle Long Range	Dennis Casey - 303.912.1528	3
May 9	Lever Action Silhouette - Silhouette Range	Scott Stephenson - 720,633.5859	8
May 9	ARA .22 rimfire Club Match	Tony Wolf - 303.596.4258	1
May 10	600yd Any-Any Highpower - High Power Range	Ron Gorski - 720.545.8412	2
May 17	CMP Garand Match - Schuetzen Range	Robert Spurrier 720.480.3132	1 scorekeeper
May 17	Pistol - Kaiser Memorial 2700 Match	Wayne Harris - 303.431.4009	2
May 23	Cowboy Action Setup	Bill Hall - 303.366.8827	5
May 29-31	BPTRA – High Power Range	Robert Garibay - 303.994.2138	2
May 30-31	Smallbore Rocky Mountain Regional Prone	Dennis Reul - 303.238.5696	4