



Promoting Competitive Shooting
Since 1925

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2010

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WORKBOND PAYMENTS DUE

A quick reminder that if you haven't been able to set aside a day to come out and help maintain the club and fulfill your workbond for 2010, then your payment of \$100 is now due! If you haven't yet, please send your work bond payment to PO Box 218 Bennett, CO 80102. Thanks to everyone who filled their workbond, or mailed their payments in early!

SAFETY VIOLATION ON THE SILHOUETTE RANGE

By Bob McAlice, Silhouette Match Director

With the onset of hunting season, many members will be sighting in their favorite game-getter guns. A safety reminder is in order for members using the silhouette range for sight in.

The other day I arrived at the range and met a shooter/member getting 100 yard zeroes with his deer rifle. As I was getting out of my truck the unmistakable sound of a big bore bullet screaming off into the distance really got my attention. The problem is that this range has no 100 yard target frame holder nor does it have a 100 yard berm. He had his frame set up out in the open with no positive backstop to keep his bullets from leaving our property. I asked him to stop shooting and I reminded him of a common safety rule he was disregarding. He agreed and went to the schuetzen range to finish up his testing. He had fired more than a dozen rounds at this target with his .270 hunting rifle.

All members using this range and supplying their own metal or paper targets MUST position them against a berm to contain fired bullets.

This range has paper target frames located at 200, 300, 400 and 500 meters. They are to be shot at from the western-most point on the firing line only. Firing on these frames from other points on the line will result in bullets completely missing the berms.

The land surrounding our property has people, homes and livestock well within the range of a ricochet bullet from a high power rifle. We can not afford to have an errant bullet leave our property.

If it's been awhile since you've been out to the range and need a refresher on the range use, join us at one of the new member orientations. Contact Dennis Reul for the next date. **Remember one of the first rules of firearm safety; BE SURE OF YOUR BACKSTOP!**

On a related note

SCHUETZEN RANGE RICOCHETS

Ricochets are still a problem on the schuetzen range and we still have not found out the cause, so please be very careful and if you hear a ricochet from one of your shots stop shooting immediately and make some change in your firing point or shooting technique to try to eliminate them. Shots hitting high on the 100 yard backstop are one possibility. Please hang your target so that bullets hit well below the top of the backstop and avoid hitting the tires that are buried near the top of parts of the backstop. If you are shooting prone hang your target in the bottom half of the frame. If you are shooting standing hang your target so that the bullet does NOT hit the flat ground in front of the bank.

The 25 and 50 yard short range target frames have been moved to near the middle of the range. When using them please be sure that you DO NOT fire into one of the 100 yard target frames behind and DO NOT shoot into the legs or other supports of the frame. Deliberate vandalism of target frames will be grounds for dismissal from the club. Short range shooting for initial sight-in can also be done on the East Range, but you will need to bring some sort of target stand. How about the metal frames from election signs? There ought to be a lot of those available!

We are arranging for an NRA assessment of our ranges to sort out the ricochet problem. Hopefully that can be done fairly soon so that we can make any recommended changes before next season.

HIGH POWER RANGE PARKING

Someone has removed the stop logs from the parking areas at the high power firing lines. We're sorry that a few shooters are too lazy to carry their equipment a few steps, but parking on or very near the firing line is rude and inconsiderate of other shooters. Everywhere, but especially on the steep slopes of the 900 and 1000 yard firing lines, vehicles will kill what little grass we have and will cause erosion. Once gullies start, it will be impossible to mow the grass increasing the growth of cactus and those wonderful "goat head" burrs, as well as making it easier for our rattlesnakes to access the firing lines. On the flatter lines, close parking makes it harder to feel and judge the wind. **KEEP CARS AWAY FROM THE FIRING LINES!**

CRC INTERNET WEBSITE WWW.CRCI.ORG

Over the last year, the CRC website has undergone significant changes. These changes were made to better display CRC on the internet. Navigation has been made easier with rapid access to those items wanted by the club members, such as the activity schedule and weather. Pictures and descriptions of the club facilities have been expanded to show off our great ranges to the casual observer or people thinking about becoming club members. If you haven't visited the website for a while, check it out.

Although much of the text remains the same, the website now includes many pictures showing the range facilities and their use, but more are needed that show the activities on the ranges. A tab called "Ranges in Action" is dedicated to this type of picture (check the one showing the bull snake participating in a smallbore match). We also need pictures of the range wildlife: deer, antelope, coyotes, turkeys, pheasant, chuckers, owls, snakes, turtles, and ground squirrels, anything that moves. These pictures bring life to our website and our ranges.

A major change in our website allows each match director to add their own match programs, results, and pictures of the match activities and winners. Special notices or accomplishments can be added to the home page. Almost everything can be edited and we hope that each match director will

see that programs and results are added to show the world we are an active shooting club.

Anyone with pictures or news, or any match director who does not feel comfortable editing the website can e-mail their pictures or information to: Nicholas Obee: nickobee@comcast.net.

NEW SILHOUETTE SPORT

Jim Goodnight is planning to start some "Cowboy Silhouette" matches next summer. These use the regular Ram, Turkey, Pigs and Chicken silhouette targets but shooting is with arms such as 30-30 Winchesters and open sights. Sounds like a good sport for deer hunters as well as another outlet for our Cowboy Action folks.

And speaking of the Cowboy Action group, they have done a GREAT job this summer of completing the East Range. It is really looking good! There is still some seeding to do this fall and we want to build two or three picnic shelters behind the ranges so that one can get out of the sun.

Director Al Ashton has been in touch with several folks about starting up some other short range sports such as three-gun and something called "Zoot Shooting", whatever that might be. Anyone interested on these and other short range sports should step up and help get them going. The East Range is big enough that two events could run at the same time, so there is lots of room for things new to CRC.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Colorado Rifle Club has made arrangements to reserve the City Lights Room at the Sheraton Denver West for next year's Annual Meeting and Dinner. The date will be Saturday, February 19th, 2011 starting with a hospitality hour at 6:00pm. Put the date on your calendar and make plans to attend.

DUES WILL BE DUE

Next year's dues will be coming due at the first of the New Year. A dues notice will be mailed early in January, as soon as the books are closed for the current year. The notice will show individual or family amounts due plus any unfull-filled and unpaid work bond obligations. There will be no change from the current rates.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

We hear that our neighbors, the Bluffs Hunting Club (the big house just east of our gate) has bought the 640 acres immediately south of CRC, west of our entrance road. The Bluffs is a high end commercial hunting club which has access to a lot of hunting land in several places around Eastern Colorado including some quite close to us. We understand that they plan to build a number of cabins on this land for their patrons to use while hunting on their leases. They would operate as a kind of time share resort.

The Bluffs has been a good neighbor and this development seems to be compatible with our interests. However, there is a possibility that at some time in the distant future they might sell out to an organization that is less favorable to shooting, such as a church camp or school. We will be attending whatever county hearings happen and keeping a close eye on developments.

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE MATCHES

The Marine Corps League is an organization of active and reserve Marines including a youth group called the Young Marines. They plan to run four matches next summer on our Schuetzen and Pistol Ranges. League matches are similar to CMP Garand events in that they are military type four position rifle and service pistol shoots. League matches are open only to league members, but if there is space available, others may shoot alongside so long as they obey the Marine's range commands, cease fires, etc. This gives us access to another sport and increased exposure in our community. We welcome the Marine Corps League. Ooo Raa!

WORKSHOP

The workshop in the west end of the barn is completed but not yet fully set up. Dave Paananen will be the manager of that facility. Members will be able to do work bond things there such as building target frames at almost any time throughout the year, though there is no heat available for winter work just yet. Members should be careful around the power tools, they are as dangerous as our guns!

CRC SHOOTERS IN THE NEWS

In a sport as old and well established as shooting, it's not everyday that competitors get the chance to participate in a new match. But, in a sort of circular story of incorporation, then re-separation and the tidal battle between the metric and standard systems, recently an opportunity to be part of "a first" came around. And CRC is proud that some of their best were there to be a little part of the history. The Saint Joseph Valley Rifle and Pistol Club in Indiana hosted the first NRA National Metric Prone Championship. They had a three position and a prone match, and the course of fire is the same as the standard .22 matches, but using those pesky, tiny-ringed metric targets.

CRC Member Cal Cooper showcased his skills and took third place in the 100-yard match on any sight day. Joe Farmer, whose name is engraved several times on many of the trophies in the CRC clubhouse, shot consistently well all weekend and finished third overall in the prone championship.

And for those who think there's little reward in a shooting match, *Shooting Sports USA* reported that the prize table at this match was so impressive that the competitors needed to file I-9 forms to cover the winnings. Well that's when you know you've made it as an athlete. Congratulations to all the Colorado shooters who made the trip out for this new match!

If you wonder what it takes to be a great shooter like Joe Farmer or Peter Reul, I'm guessing "Concentration" plays a part. Check out the photo below – both shooters never miss a shot as a bull snake watches them from quite a vantage point. If anyone asks if the wildlife in the area is disturbed by the range – here's the answer!



ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL RAID

CRC and The Sand Creek Raiders welcomed over 100 Cowboy shooters to the new East Range facility, for the Rocky Mountain Regional Raid, September 23 – 26th. We've hosted the Raid before, but to finally see this great event brought to the range so many worked so hard to build, it was definitely a special match. Check out the Sand Creek Raiders link on our website to see all the results for the main and side matches, and the great photos from the competition and the many fun outside events as well. Thanks to everyone who volunteered to help with this match and to the many sponsors who make it a reality every year!

ZEISS OPTICS and CABELAS VISITS TO CRC

Earlier this year CRC was proud to host two product testing and demonstration events, one for Cabelas sponsored by Swarovski Optik, TC Firearms and Hornady, and the other for Zeiss Optics. These were excellent chances for us to show off our range facilities, and to shoot a dream array of equipment in the bargain. Jim Brummerstedt reported on the Cabelas event that it was a very well organized and was non-stop from 9:00 A.M. until 8:00 P.M. that included shooting on the smallbore, schuetzen and silhouette ranges. It was followed by an excellent B-B-Q. A wide range of nice TC rifles in calibers from the 204 Ruger to 300 Win Mag plus Muzzleloaders were all mounted with very fine Swarovski Optik and fed with a diet of Hornady bullets. Everyone took turns at shooting the variety of calibers available and enjoyed the selection, although a few were seen rubbing a shoulder after the encounter with the 300 Win Mag. One noted impressive demonstration was the comparison of standard ammunition with the new Hornady SUPERFORMANCE and the increase in velocity. Thanks to everyone who organized and volunteered to help out with this event.

