

Estes Park Gun & Archery Club

PO Box 982, Estes Park, CO 80517

2016 April Newsletter

www.epgunarchery.com

Indoor Range Clean Up-April 23rd

To insure your clean up time at the Indoor Range on 250 Community Drive, Estes Park and be out of the sun and rain, schedule with our Chairman, Bill Conger by calling 970-577-9393 or email wlconger@estesvalley.net. Since it is a small area to work, our chairman is asking for a limited number of our members to volunteer (12-14) on this Saturday, April 23rd, 10:00am to 1:00pm & register to attend. The projects to be done is the mining of solid lead from the backstop and then if weather is good outside, a sorting station will be set up for recycling the brass and solid lead. Our recycling companies are very particular. They do not want steel & brass or aluminum cases combined and no foreign debris mixed in the solid lead. We want the best recycled price we can get. Wear your old clothes, bring your leather gloves and the Club will have breathing masks and some gloves to share. Just in case, bring along your heavy rakes, not leaf rakes, and a shovel to help with the mining. A must is your water bottles as there is no potable water nearby.

New Metal Target Stands

New equipment has been purchased by the Club as the 'pvc' pipe silhouette instructor target stands are being replaced at the Indoor Range. The Club purchased 10 metal adjustable width target stands from Midway that take 1x2inch furring strips which are to be used only at our Indoor Range. The Board was noticing all the shot up 'pvc' pipe due to LEA use in their changes of practice and training of their officers. Jim Cozette noticed the need of the furring strips and purchased over 80 and had them cut to a 6' length as a donation to the Club. Thank you Jim! It will be simple for the LEA instructor to repair the shot up furring strip with new ones supplied at the range. Check them out as they could be a purchase you would like for your outdoor experience and easy to transport.

Common Point & EVRPD Contractor Update

As promised, the Estes Valley Recreation & Park District (EVRPD) Project Manager, Kim Slinginger, did notify your president of the arrangements made to view the progress and plans for the new location of the 25 yard pistol range and 100 yard rifle range. In the last mailed out Newsletter, members could note the EVRPD's plan to reposition these ranges and you saw the suggested site plan presented by your president. I appreciated their consideration of the Club's suggestion but they are working on their original plan.

On April 8th, 10:30am, your president and husband, Jack Gartner and Randy Biddle, Acting Branch Chief for Rocky Mountain National Park (RMNP) Law Enforcement and Emergency Services met with the EVRPD project manager at the Noels Draw Lane bridge to caravan up to Common Point. Randy (RMNP) needed to pick up supplies from the brown pod storage shed as they have booked dates with the County Sheriff's range for their Law Enforcement outdoor training. For the Club, we needed to point out all the personal property to be salvaged and undamaged to be used for target stands, shooting tables and to understand the layout of EVRPD site plan.

The contractor had already moved our 25 Yard Pistol range storage shed (originally on skids), shooting picnic tables & benches, side barriers pulled out of the ground and stacked, snow fence boundary rolled up with t-posts removed and set to the side. They had not decided what to do with

the SACON backstop cubes, possible use as a side berm for the new 25 Yard pistol range. At the 200 yard old rifle range they had started to remove the slope to build the new back stop and widen an area for the 100 Yard rifle range. They were having difficulty in breaking up a granite shelf and didn't at the time have in their budget to blast. I am hoping they found a way to make a 10 lane rifle range. They had not yet moved down our rifle shooting tables, benches, lumber or barrier located at the old rifle range.

Concession Agreement

The review process (negotiation) of the Officially Approved, National Park Service (NPS), draft Concession Agreement has started. Since the Estes Valley Recreation & Park District Exec Director and two EVRPD board members had not been aware of the Federal Lands to Parks program agreement nor had a chance to discuss all the exhibits and approved club forms, a meeting was arranged with the Club's Agreement Committee and held April 5, 2016.

The aim of both entities, EVRPD & EPGAC, is to come to an agreement being reviewed by both boards, have a contract signed and be ready by the time the rebuilding of Noels Draw Lane and improvements done at the Common Point Outdoor Range, June 1, 2016.

Only by appointment to view the Common Point Outdoor Range will be allowed until the construction is completed so access is still restricted. Upon a Concession Agreement being signed, the Club, at that time, will be able to plan for clean up days and begin our normal shooting times. Plan on long days to straighten up the ranges during clean up events!

Indoor Range Safety Officers

Gordon Ulrickson, NRA Instructor, conducted RSO classes on April 2 and 8 of our members attended. Since this class only covers the safety for our shooters and firearms use, the Club's board provides an orientation for the new RSO's on the running of the range. That entails, the opening & closing of our 250 Community Drive, Indoor Range, scheduling volunteer RSO's to the Leader of each public opening time frame, understanding the heaters, vents, signage of users (club members & public), fees to be gathered, renting firearms and so on. Above all we want the new RSO's to feel comfortable in their duties.

Of these eight people, volunteering, we hope to open on the weekend, Sunday from 2:00 to 4:00pm for the Public and Club Members besides providing another RSO for the Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday night openings of the Indoor Range. Our week night RSO's just need another person to give them a break as some are working two days a month when the ultimate goal is that one does not have to volunteer more than once a month. Keep in mind, once having been trained as an NRA RSO, you will be called upon to help out with Public Events when the Outdoor Range is open. Hopefully you will not be called upon to serve more than once a month at the Outdoor Range as well.

Those instructors wishing to schedule a class or practice at the Indoor Range should contact our 2nd VP, Steve Murphree, steve@estesvalley.net or call him, 970-481-5422 after viewing our website for the Club's Calendar and review at the bottom of the page 'Range Use Application' for the requirements for insurance, cost & timeline.

If you would like more updates, feel free to call 970-586-2426 or president@epgunarchery.com especially if I missed a subject you were interested in.

Enjoy,

Sharyn Gartner, EPGAC President