

Estes Park Gun & Archery Club

PO Box 982, Estes Park, CO 80517

2017 September Newsletter

www.epgunarchery.com

September & October Public Days

The gun club has been offering Open Public Days at the Common Point Outdoor Range each Saturday which started June 3rd from 8:00am to Noon. Pistol, rifle and archery ranges were open for a simple fee of \$5.00. The Trap Shot Barrier Curtains were installed July 29th which allowed the Trap range to be open to the Public and Club Members with the fee of \$8.00 starting August 5th.

Starting this September, the opening time will change to 9:00am and will continue to the end of October 28th. Rick Tekulve has been instrumental in arranging volunteer Range Safety Officers (RSO) for each Public Day. It has been reported that only one or two shooters have used the ranges at 8:00am for the past three months. In preparation for the Public to attend, RSO's arrive at the range between 7:00 to 7:30am. To shorten the stay and keep our volunteers active on Saturday morning, the Club's board decided to change the opening time to 9:00am for the two remaining months.

At the Trap range, it takes time and more manpower to open and close the shot barrier curtains. This is also a reminder to our members that the Trap Range can only be used for shooting clay pigeons at these Saturday Public Day Events. No hand throwers or portable throwers can be used as the Club is restricted to using the Shot Barriers Curtains deployed when shooting trap. Bird hunting season is around the corner and why not practice shooting that clay pigeon (bird in flight representation) to sharpen your skills. Besides being fun!

If you would like to be a part of the Public Days, contact Rick Tekulve, judyrick53@aol.com or call 970-577-8588. Find out more about the ranges and learn how the Trap Range works.

Clean up day-Outdoor Range

For the month of August, two clean up days were scheduled. Thursday, August 17th, we had 9 people attend. Five were able to build at the Archery Range & place bridge material across Solitude Creek, stream that empties into Noels Draw Creek which runs parallel to Noels Draw Lane. Others spent their time trimming the encroaching willows along the Noels Draw Lane (Winter drift prevention).

Next clean up is this next Sunday, August 27th, and we still need the following:

Target Stands need inspection for repair and/or new ones constructed.

2x2x8ft sticks will be provided with screws:

Members need to bring battery drills with drill bit to predrill holes & Phillips screw head. The sticks are to measure and cut to 5ft 7inches, 36inch top brace and middle brace 1pprox... 32inch. Bring your measuring tape. Add two angle cuts to stabilize the stand & space to hold 36"X 36" cardboard already cut. At the bottom of the legs, sand or rasp off the edges up to 12 inches. The stands will fit the pvc pipe better that way.

Brass pick up & sorting into buckets to recycle using magnet to remove steel.

Archery Trail targets need covers to be sized & cut for square targets & 3-D (Ready them for Winter)

Pistol Range note weeds & grass growing around the side walk/shooting line concrete. Dig out and place herbicide to prevent regrowth.

Parking side of Rifle Range Dig out a trench to place cut electric poles and use dirt to replace the erosion. Burlap will be provided to help the bank stay compact with garden stakes. We want the vegetation to stay on the berm but may need to be trimmed on both sides. Rifle Lane 1 is being hampered with overgrowth of weeds. Do not pull as the roots help hold the soil in place.

Weed eaters are welcome as trimming along our building material, trap generator helps keep our ranges looking neat.

Mowing with the Club's self powered DR Mower at pull outs along the road needs to be done before winter. We also have one push mower that works as well.

Brown Storage Pod at trap range needs to be scraped and prepped for painting. Brushes, rollers with extension, wire brushes and paint will be supplied. If you think of it, bring a ladder. Not all these projects can get done but you have a variety to choose from.

Gun Club Website-www.epgunarchery.com

Visit the website for the pictures that Doug Tabor, webmaster, has been adding. Check the Calendar page and click on location and see the aerial shot of Common Point. Also note the Club's new patches are in with two sizes and reasonably priced. They will be for sale at the Public Days on Saturday and at our Clean up Day this Sunday. Sew them on your hats, jackets or vests and help the Club advertise our shooting ranges. Show your pride in our Club.

Check the website often as range use can change or new announcements can easily be found as printed or a link is attached. Keep up to date on the CDOT plans for HWY 34, National Forest Service plans and for any Larimer County fire bans.

We welcome input from our members to improve our informational website, please let us know.

Special Closure of Indoor Range- Scottish/Irish Festival- Sept. 6-8

Board Members Working on Special Projects

Roof shelter designs for pistol & rifle ranges are being worked on by Rick Tekulve and Bill Howell. They will need to present this to the Larimer County Planning department to receive permits to build.

Doug Miller takes the monthly attendance records from the Common Point Shooting Range to prepare a report to our board. He also picks up the lead and brass buckets at both Indoor & Outdoor ranges for recycling.

Jim Cozzie along with Rick Tekulve and Randy Buchanan are reviewing our Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and developing one specially designed for our Range Safety Officers to cover both the Indoor & Outdoor Ranges.

Randy Buchanan has been giving the Orientation & Safety Program class to all our new members on each Saturday afternoon at 2:00pm meeting at the Indoor Range. Lately, no one has been showing up for class so he is asking the new members to call him, 970-290-3008 to schedule a time. Randy is also a Certified Range Safety Officer that helps with Trap on Public Days.

Bill Conger, clean up chairman, seems to always be seen at the Archery Range. There is so much rebuilding that had to be done.

Bill Howell, secretary, also maintains our cameras at both ranges.

Doug Tabor, webmaster, works as best as he can toward presenting the website in a welcoming manner while keeping up with the ever changing calendar and working a full time job in the valley.

On a personal note, I found a plaque that I think describes me, "I'm not bossy, I just know what you should be doing!" as I pickup the attendance records for the Indoor Range and make the deposits for the fees collected each month. Range scheduler for classes and LEA training for both ranges. Since we are still looking for a Treasurer, I am collecting the bills for presentation to the board, preparing the checks to be written, using Quick Books to record our deposits and bill paying. Attending Estes Valley Recreation & Park District meetings to stay on top of the news or opportunities for Common Point and Indoor Ranges, unofficial member for all committees, and keep close contact with Bob Mitchiner, our membership chairman, a special record keeper.

Annual Meeting

Each year we plan for the Annual Meeting to be held the third Thursday of January. For 2018, that date will be January 18th. Make a mental note of that date. This is when Election of Officers happens. If you would like to help develop the Estes Park Gun and Archery Club and the ranges to provide better to your needs, then please step up and offer your services either as one of the board of directors, officer or work as the range scheduler, clean up chairman, Public Day chairman, Range Safety Officer. What would you like to do? Ask questions and learn more!

See you at the ranges!
Sharyn Gartner
President