

Estes Park Gun & Archery Club

July/August 2026 Newsletter

Vol. 58



This issue

President's Message - 1
Membership Update - 1
CCW Renewal Classes - 2
Range Cleanup/Report - 2
RSO Name Tags - 3
Precision Rifle Shoot - 3
Realistic Self Defense
Options - 4 - 5
Reminders - 5
Member Showcase - 6

EPGAC Newsletter
Published Every Other
Month

www.epgunarchery.com

EPGAC Leadership

President- Steve Ferrante
First VP - Steve Clark
Second VP- Denny Schall
Secretary- Charles Ward
Treasurer- Dwight Pfeiffer

Directors:

David Bruce
Dave Jiles
Jim Morse
Kurt Pennington

Membership- Dennis
Holmes

Webmaster- Doug Tabor

President's Message

Steve Ferrante, EPGAC President

It is primary time in Colorado. We have a whole slate of people wanting to take the helm of leadership in Colorado. Please do not ignore this opportunity to make your voice heard. One of the most important choices will be for governor. Do not let pithy statements and slick social media ads sway you. Go to the candidates' web pages and read about their plan (if they have one) to turn this state around to a place of sanity. We do not need slick marketing, we need a person with a workable plan, experience, and knowledge of how the state has been working, (so they know where to look to get this state on a better course). I know I frequently address political issues, but they are critical. Bad leaders make bad laws. Good leaders make good laws. Pretty simple.

Speaking of leadership, we have some openings coming up for our gun club. The offices of the president and first vice president positions are opening up at the end of the year. We will also need a new secretary. These are critical positions within the leadership of the club. Please consider taking a more active role in leading this club. We want to see the EPGAC continue on with a strong emphasis on serving members and the community, advancing the shooting sport, and providing a safe, enjoyable, and challenging place to exercise our Second Amendment Rights.

To learn more about the duties of these positions, you can visit our website under [Club Management](#). Interested candidates can send an inquiry to the Board: board@epgunarchery.com

Membership Cap Has Been Reached for 2026

Dennis Holmes, Membership Chair

Membership Update

Estes Park Gun & Archery Club membership is open to all persons of good standing in the community and are not legally prohibited from owning or possessing a firearm.

Memberships are sold on an annual basis until a 600 member cap is reached. **The Membership cap has been reached for 2026. Memberships will be available for new members or renewal in the beginning of 2027.**



CCW Renewal Classes

Dave Jiles, EPGAC Director

Club members and non-members who want to take the eight-hour class required to apply for a Colorado CCW permit, or the two-hour class to renew your CCW before it reaches its five-year expiration date, can do so with club members who are certified instructors and verified by the Larimer County Sheriff's office. Some are also certified to do the newly required Colorado permit to purchase certain semi-automatic firearms.

Their contact information will be posted here in our newsletter, along with the classes they offer. Other members who are certified instructors, verified by the Larimer County Sheriff, and insured, may add their names to the list by contacting our 2nd VP, Denny Schall: 2ndvp@epgunarchery.com

Certified Instructors: Contact them for more information.

Dennis Carder 970-308-4580 thetinkerslair@gmail.com

Dave Jiles 970-290-6093 davejiles@gmail.com

Peggy Houchin 970-227-6856



Club members sorting brass

Cleanup Day Results - Range Report

Steve Clark & Denny Schall, EPGAC 1st & 2nd VPs

Members have numerous chances to contribute to and improve our club. One engaging way to do this is by joining cleanup days at our ranges.

Recently, Steve Clark collected brass and sorted shell casings from our past cleanup events, delivering them to Commerce City Recycling. As a result, the club received \$5,252.80 for 1,340 lbs of brass, along with \$13.20 for a few buckets of steel cases and some aluminum cases. These funds were deposited into the club's general account.

Outdoor Range Road Maintenance - If you've visited the range recently, you may have noticed significant improvements to the road. This was a major project that required substantial investment, showcasing how your membership fees are put to good use.

Please drive safely and cautiously to prevent any accidents and to help maintain the road's condition. With the recent upgrades, it may be tempting to speed; however, we urge you to remain careful.



Outdoor Range - Road is looking good!

Thank You - The EPGAC Board



RSO Name Tags

Denny Schall, EPGAC 2nd VP

EPGAC Name Tags Now Available for Active RSOs

Attention all Range Safety Officers! Official EPGAC name tags are now available for active RSOs. These tags are specifically designed for use on public days, where you represent the club as a legitimate, credible, and authorized key member.

If you have completed at least two sessions on any of the club's ranges during this calendar year, you qualify to receive an RSO name tag. To claim yours, please contact our 2nd Vice President, Denny Schall, at 2ndvp@epgunarchery.com.

When reaching out, kindly include:

- Your name as you wish it to appear on the badge
- The dates of service you have fulfilled this year

These badges are provided at no cost as a token of appreciation for your commitment and support from the EPGAC Board and Denny's Custom Woodworking.



Precision Rifle Shoot - August 22nd

Steve Clark, EPGAC 1st VP

There will be a PRS style Rifle shoot on the upper Tactical Range Saturday August 22nd, from 8 am to 1 pm. Round count is around 60 rounds and may require movement from position to position. Stages are timed, and shots generally must be taken within the time allocated for each stage. Position will vary from prone to benched to barricade supported shots ranging from 200 to 400 yds, and odd distances in between.

Available slots are usually between 15 and 20 shooters only, due to time constraints. The match fee is \$25 and usually includes lunch and drinks.

More accurate details and slot reservation is through Dan Michalec, contact him at djmichalec@aol.com or 970-214-1725.



Realistic Self Defense Options

Dave Jiles, EPGAC Director

Whether you are just starting to recognize the significance of protecting yourself and your family or have been serious about it for a long time, here are some key points to consider.

We are constantly bombarded with the latest, most impressive firearms, optics, and upgrades designed to enhance your gun's performance. However, I am concerned that the essential aspects of daily equipment, training, and consistent practice may be overshadowed by the allure of recreational and competitive shooting.

In a "use of force" situation, you may not have access to a full-sized Staccato or a custom 1911 equipped with top-of-the-line optics and a lightweight trigger. There won't be time to adjust your optic for the current lighting conditions or to adopt the perfect stance for a swift draw from your custom speed holster. You won't have the chance to observe the scenario, watch others navigate it, and strategize on how to execute it more effectively.

No range safety officer will call "load and make ready" or signal "stand by." Instead, you will be taken by surprise by sudden violence.

Your everyday carry firearm might be a smaller, lower-capacity weapon with iron sights and a trigger pull of five to eight pounds. It may be concealed beneath winter clothing or secured within your "belly band." You'll need to quickly assess the intentions of the "bad guy" and determine if there are multiple threats. It's crucial to be aware of those around you: can you maneuver to avoid endangering an innocent bystander? Is there a way to find cover or concealment? Remember Murphy's Law: "What can go wrong, will go wrong."

The most effective way to increase your chances of a positive outcome is through training, regular practice, and studying real-life incident footage from security and dash cameras. I recommend checking out the YouTube channel "Active Self Protection," which frequently shares real incidents along with valuable advice, lessons, and legal insights on "use of force."

Consider how you might respond in various situations; engaging in "war gaming" or playing the "what if" game can sharpen your awareness and help you recognize "red flags" in your environment. It's beneficial to think through your reactions to potential threats.

We must contemplate all the nuances of a violent encounter. While competitive shooting does enhance skills in safe gun handling, trigger control, and rapid shots on target, these abilities are of little value if you do not practice genuine self-defense scenarios with the firearms you carry daily. While it's important to avoid drawing unnecessary attention, remember that your life is far more significant than adhering to someone else's rules.



Realistic Self Defense Options- Continued

Dave Jiles, EPGAC Director

Men are often conditioned from a young age to take on the role of protectors. However, there will always be individuals who are larger, stronger, or more aggressive—or those who may be desperate and under the influence of drugs. A frail individual with a stolen weapon can be just as dangerous as anyone else if you are not vigilant and ready to defend yourself.

Women tend to be more vulnerable due to differences in size and strength, and many may be in denial about the possibility of becoming a victim.

The reality is that sexual assault poses a significant threat to women, making it crucial to take awareness and self-defense seriously. Never dismiss that unsettling feeling that signals your subconscious to raise a red flag. I recommend reading ***The Gift of Fear*** by Gavin DeBecker, which emphasizes the importance of listening to your instincts regarding potential danger, how to steer clear of trouble, and ways to escape if necessary.

Women often change their clothing styles frequently, which means their methods of carrying self-defense tools may vary. While off-body carry can be common, it does increase the risk of theft or worse. This constant variation in what and how you carry necessitates ongoing training and practice to maintain proficiency.

Regardless of whether you prefer larger or smaller firearms, or regardless of the season, there are effective ways to carry daily. Discover what suits you best, train consistently, practice regularly, and stay prepared.

Participate in as many shooting matches and training sessions with experienced shooters as you can, but don't forget to occasionally work on the fundamentals.

Reminders - Check The Club Calender For the Latest

Upcoming Cleanup Days - Outdoor range - Sunday, July 12, and Thursday, August 13th.

Public Days at the Indoor Range - Scheduled on Thursday and Friday, 6:30 - 7:30 PM all year, and Sunday, 2:00 - 3:00 PM, November - May.

Public Days at the Outdoor Range - Saturdays through October.

Mountain Markswomen - For the ladies of the club, don't forget the Mountain Markswomen shoot is on the first Monday of each month. We shoot from 4:30 to 6:30 at the outdoor range. Club members and non-members are welcome. **Contact Martha Clark at maclark1027@gmail.com or Dave Jiles at davejiles@gmail.com for more information.**



ESTES PARK GUN & ARCHERY CLUB MEMBER SHOWCASE



**HEAR BETTER
SHOOT SMARTER**
CUSTOM DIGITAL HEARING PROTECTION

- ✓ ALL-DAY COMFORT
- ✓ CONSISTENT PROTECTION
- ✓ 360° SITUATIONAL AWARENESS
- ✓ YOU CONTROL THE VOLUME
- ✓ TUNE TO YOUR HEARING

CONTACT CHUCK FAZIO: (818) 519-7518 • ESPAMERICA.COM



Scot's Sporting Goods in Estes Park is a full-service sporting goods store selling firearms, ammunition, optics, accessories, bulk ammunition, special orders, and FFL transfers. We are a class 3 dealer Powered by Silencer Shop and can handle any of your NFA needs. CCW courses are also offered at the shop. Contact us about any of your 2A needs.

Scot's Sporting Goods
870 Moraine Ave.
Estes Park, CO 80517
970-586-2877

scotssportinggoods@gmail.com
www.scotssportinggoods.com

Veteran Medallions




- Made in our Estes Park, Colorado shop
- 12 Inch Diameter laser-engraved acrylic
- Mounted on 1-Inch thick ponderosa pine
- Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, Navy, Coast Guard, Space Force, and National Guard
- Enter Coupon Code **EPGAC** at checkout to receive 20% off your order.

Denny's Custom Woodworking

Denny's Custom Woodworking Estes Park, Colorado

Custom Wood Signs
Made in our Estes Park Shop

denny.schall@gmail.com
720-301-8086



Member Showcase is free, on a space available basis to members. **Contact 2ndvp@epgunarchery.com**