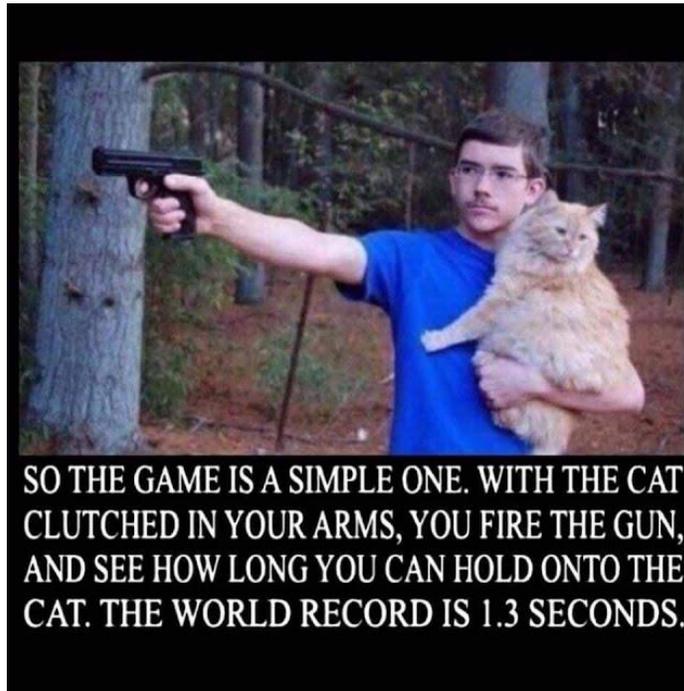


EPGAC NEWS LETTER May 2021



Cowboy Wisdom

THE WATER AIN'T GONNA CLEAR TIL YOU GET THE PIGS' OUTA THE CREEK.



SO THE GAME IS A SIMPLE ONE. WITH THE CAT CLUTCHED IN YOUR ARMS, YOU FIRE THE GUN, AND SEE HOW LONG YOU CAN HOLD ONTO THE CAT. THE WORLD RECORD IS 1.3 SECONDS.

Saturday May 15 is Outdoor Range clean up day 10:00 to 1:00.

Be there or be square. (Sorry, old 70's hippie saying)

Keepin' it Tidy



Recently a large number of paper targets have blown out of the dumpster, and off the target boards at the Tactical Range. They blow up the hill, into the brush and onto private land. Everything has been picked up, but this is not the first time we have cleaned up that area.

In these days of constant efforts to sully the image of the shooting sports and the people who enjoy them, we cannot afford to allow our windblown trash to give us a black eye. Please, be good neighbors to the property owners next to us. Clean up your trash, and make sure it is secured so the wind won't send it off into the abyss.

We have gotten a new dumpster with lids so things can't blow out, so that should be much less of a problem. None the less, if you see a mess, even if it's not yours, please clean it up.

Defensive Pistol Drill of the month

Wilson Combat Basic Handgun Proficiency Drill #1

<https://youtu.be/kfWYgDKVky>



By the time you read this, the ugly old Military storage pod will have been removed from the Tactical Range area, soon to be replaced by a nice looking wooden storage shed. Former club president Steve Clark can now sleep in peace at night.

On that note if anyone knows of a good source for a well constructed 10' X 12' "high Barn" storage shed (just like the Archery shed) please let Vice President Jay Jacobsmeyer know ASAP.

“Public Days” are sneaking up on us and June 5th will be here before we know it. Once again it will be time to make Saturday mornings an opportunity to invite non-members in for 3 hours a week, maybe recruit some new members, and demonstrate to the public at large that the shooting sports can be fun, safe, and a great way to get out in the Colorado outdoors. If you are currently an RSO, please make sure your certifications are up to date.

This will take some effort on everyone’s part. My goal is to have three Range Safety Officers every Saturday, as well as a member that does not need to be RSO certified, to run the sign in table and collect money. That will give us coverage for the rifle, pistol, and the upper range (200 yard or Tactical).

I am planning on purchasing a small selection of paper and cardboard targets that we can sell to the Public Day shooters for a reasonable profit that can be added to shooter fees going into the club coffers. If you have thoughts on what might be the best sellers, please let me know

Our Webmaster has installed a link so that RSO’s and any member that can work the sign in table, can click on the Public Day date they want to sign up for, and an email notification will come directly to me. I will put you on the schedule and confirm you are signed up, or if the date is already full, I will let you know and ask if you have an alternative date you want to sign up for. Please be patient as we work out the bugs in the system, I will close out the dates as they are filled but there will be some lag time in getting the posted schedule up to date. Also please, let me know if you are unable to make a planned day so I can backfill the spot.

If you want to get certified as a Range Safety Officer, please contact me directly and let me know so we can get a class or two scheduled.

Based on the surge of new gun owners that we saw last year, I believe we may see an increased interest in Public Days, more new gun owners, and more new members. As I said in last month’s Newsletter, let’s help them get off on the right foot to be safe, responsible gun owners.

INJURIES FROM LOADED GUNS NEARLY ALWAYS ARISE FROM
LONGSTANDING BAD HABITS WITH UNLOADED ONES.

New toys

In cleaning out the old pod we found a number of traffic cones and barriers, I expect that they came with the pod when it was first brought in. If the Forest Service does not want them back, we thought that they could be handy to have at the Tactical Range to be used as barriers, yardage markers, or directional guides for a tactical shooting training stage, more to come on this.

If you think you are smarter than the previous generation, 50 years ago the owner's manual of a car showed you how to adjust the valves.

Today it warns you not to drink the contents or the battery.

Unknown

Bullet Points

I had a discussion with some folks the other day about what we should consider to be the required minimum shooting skills for someone to carry a gun in public. Certainly, we don't want our politicians making those decisions based on their biases and personal agendas. So, where is the line between competent to carry a firearm and "shouldn't even be allowed to play with matches" and who gets to draw that line?

Ultimately, I think we all need to be responsible for drawing our own line. Whether or not we are competent enough to carry is not just about our marksmanship, but also our decision making, and our ability to remain calm and focused under pressure. It's about controlling anger, and diffusing a tense situation rather than defending against it in a "push comes to shove" scenario. As John Farnam, of Defense Training International likes to say, "don't go stupid places, with stupid people, and do stupid things". Simply put, if you carry a gun, follow this wisdom and you will be far less likely to ever have to use it. That is competence and in my mind, far more important than if you can shoot a tight pattern, and do an emergency reload, in a timed "skills drill". Is that something you should strive to achieve, certainly? But because you can't go toe to toe with some of the best combat shooters in the country doesn't mean you can't carry a gun for self defense.

Stay focused on your defensive mindset and awareness. Practice your shooting and gun handling skills regularly. When things go badly in a civilian defensive shooting, it is most often due to poor judgment, not because their marksmanship wasn't good enough or their reload to slow.