



ESTES PARK GUN AND ARCHERY CLUB

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EPGAC Newsletter
Published Every Other Month

www.epgunarchery.com

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President- Steve Ferrante

First VP- Steve Clark

Second VP- Denny Schall

Secretary- Pete Maxwell

Treasurer- Niki Gassmann

Directors:

David Bruce

Dave Jiles

Jim Morse

Kurt Pennington

Membership- Dennis Holmes

Webmaster- Douglas Tabor



**Membership Portal
Is Open!**

President's Message

Steve Ferrante, EPGAC President

Our founding fathers had keen insight into the heart motives of humans. They knew the corrupting influence that power could have over people, especially those of weak character. Having lived under the rule of "royalty," they knew the reality of a mere human dictating what rights they had. In our founding documents we read of the reality that we are endowed by our Creator with certain inalienable rights. Due to the propensity of power-hungry people to trend towards oppression, our founders felt it necessary to emphasize and enumerate specific rights to safeguard freedom for future generations.

The second amendment states: "A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed."

We need to remember the reality of the times of our founding. The verbiage is not about hunting or protection from a burglar. This amendment is about the right of the people to protect themselves and their rights from a despotic government. An armed populace is a check on governmental power. We must be vigilant in the defense and responsible exercise of our rights. Also, a proper understanding of their purpose is essential. We have an obligation to pass on to those younger than us the understanding of and appreciation for our rights and their origin.

We are fortunate to be living in interesting and critical times. Let's make the most of every opportunity to have a positive impact on our peers and others in our sphere of influence.

Membership Cap & Renewal Update

Pete Maxwell, EPGAC Secretary

At the EPGAC Board meeting on June 9, 2025, the Board addressed the club's membership cap of 600, which is expected to be reached this year with 571 current members. We decided unanimously to maintain the cap to avoid overcrowding and established an exclusive renewal window from January 1 to February 15 for current members to secure their spots. After February 15, applications will open to both new and renewing members.

Additionally, the Board approved a \$25 increase for renewal memberships (now \$150, with a possible \$50 workday credit reducing it to \$100) and a \$75 increase for new memberships (now \$150 plus a \$10 background check fee), effective for 2026. These changes reflect comparisons with other gun clubs and improvements made since the 2013 flood rebuild, aiming to maintain value for members.



View as you enter our “refreshed” indoor range.



Hanging the flag



Club members installing the new indoor range wood sign



Indoor Range Refresh

Denny Schall, EPGAC 2nd VP

Have you seen the Indoor Range lately?

If you haven't, it's time to check it out! Over the past few months, we organized two “Cleanup Days” to revitalize this valuable asset of our club. Thanks to the efforts of over 20 club members, our Indoor Range now looks refreshed both inside and out.

Here is what we accomplished:

- Repainted the face of the shooting stalls, including the shades.
- Sorted all the brass - We ended up with 14 buckets of sorted brass
- Changed the ceiling filters.
- Swept the entire floor with the HEPA vacuum.
- Deep-cleaned and decluttered the cabinets.
- Repainted the red sign-in table
- Replaced the paper liner on the pit wall face.
- Installed new signage for each shooting lane.
- Applied new floor striping and accent striping to the shooting stalls.
- A new outdoor wood sign was donated by a club member and installed.
- An American Flag (MADE IN AMERICA) is now the 1st thing you see as you enter the range. Old Glory now hangs as the centerpiece on the newly painted face of the shooting stalls.

I would like to express my gratitude to all the club members who contributed to making this event a success. As a reminder, members who volunteer for at least three hours during a cleanup day receive a \$50 credit toward their membership renewal for the following year. Most club members who assisted with the indoor range refresh put in more than three hours on cleanup day, with some even returning after dinner and later in the week to help finish the job. Well done, and thank you!

We have more planned improvements for the indoor range, which will occur on our next scheduled cleanup day, Saturday, November 1, 2025. Stay tuned for more information on that later.

Come and see the improvements at the indoor range during an Indoor Range Public Day. These events are scheduled every Thursday and Friday 6:30 - 7:30 PM throughout the summer.

Brass Recycling

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

Have you ever wondered how much revenue recycling brass brings to the club?

As we discussed during the indoor range cleanup day, we sorted and cleaned 14 buckets of brass from both ranges. Steve Clark then took the sorted brass to the recyclers.

\$1,805 returned to the club treasury.

On Gun Violence

Dave Jiles, EPGAC Director

Gun control it is and likely will always be a hot-button issue. Politicians and lawyers want it to be. Every new law regarding your 2A rights gives some politicians a warm, fuzzy feeling, and makes ignorant people think they are safer. It also opens the floodgates for money coming into the coffers of organizations on both sides of the issue. I'm not saying that's a good or a bad thing, it just is. Where there is disagreement, there is money to be made. Remember the old saying, "If your town has one lawyer, he has no business; if your town has two lawyers, they are both busy."

Do we have a problem? Sure we do, when teenage gangbangers have territory wars on the streets of "progressive cities" every weekend, repeat offenders doing felony crimes are plea bargained down to "minor misdeeds", and apartment complexes are taken over by illegal aliens, of course we have a problem. Meanwhile, politicians say "nothing to see here", and set about making rules like three-day waiting periods, "sensitive zones", and putting additional burdens on County Sheriff Departments.

If only we could require our representatives to have to publicly debate the laws they want to impose upon the citizens. Both sides, a real debate on how this law will or will not benefit the people of the state. As they say, "figures don't lie, but liars figure", we need realistic reasoning about how this additional expense and infringement upon the constituency will solve the problem that needs to be solved.

Can anyone tell me how a waiting period to purchase a gun will stop a career criminal or an underage thug from getting a stolen pistol in a back alley deal? And how your "sensitive zones" requiring the law-abiding people to disarm will dissuade a twisted mind from using a stolen gun to murder helpless people. And will those who make such a scenario possible accept responsibility for the victims of your "good intentions"? I expect not, but they can bet that the victims of their stupidity will remember their names.

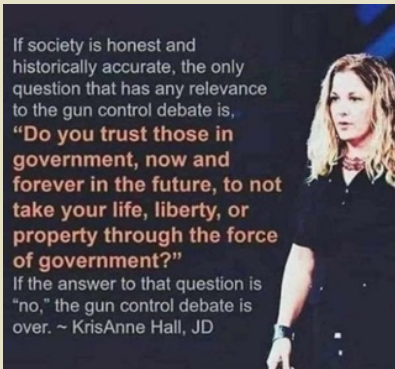
I think this is, and always has been, their desire to make personal self-defense obsolete, and to drain our pockets of money in the form of "fees".

Their solutions to the out-of-control crime are akin to picking up your car at the repair shop, paying the \$1200 repair bill, only to have the problem recur before you get home.

Politics has become a lifetime career and a means to climb the ladder of power and wealth, but it was never meant to be. How does a person earning a salary of \$174,000 suddenly become a multi-millionaire? Are we to believe that the money they receive from big donors does not have more influence than the people they are supposed to be representing?

Some people will follow; they will go along with anything their leaders say, no matter how stupid. Anyone who thinks total government control is a good idea should go to North Korea, Venezuela, or any other place where the people in power "know what's best for you", while they live in luxury and you work in the fields and sweatshops.

You want to keep your rights to protect yourself and your family, and to live as you wish, in peace? Then throw them out when they overstep their bounds. As Mark Twain said, "politicians and diapers must be changed often, and for the same reason".



Club Members Doing Good

Denny Schall, EPGAC 2VP

This is a regular newsletter section to call out club members doing good things to support the club.



All members can participate and call out club member(s) who you saw add value to our organization by emailing your call out to 2ndvp@epgunarchery.com. With a short description of who you saw and why you are nominating them for a call out. Please keep it short.

June 5 - Outdoor Range Cleanup Day - 9 Club Members Doing Good!

Reported by Steve Clark

Here is what we accomplished:

- Mowed and/or trimmed the Archery Range, Pistol Range, Rifle Range, Parking area and the upper Tac range. Still some trimming to do around the table areas of the tac range. Looked good for the first public day.
- Touch up paint on the caulking for the pistol shed
- Posted 911 Device signs on the pistol shed
- Minor Brass sorting
- Painted the steel on the lower small tac range beside the pistol range
- Repaired/replaced as needed target stands
- Changed the oil and one filter on the two lawn mowers
- Cleared trees, limbed and moved slash for the long range rifle project - getting closer here

Other items of note, but not done at the cleanup.

- A few potholes in the road were filled to see how it works out. It helps in the short term - have to see if they hold up
- Brought 5 new (to us) picnic tables out from EVRPD Mary's Lake Campground
- Straps cut from used conveyor belt material for steel target stands for the long-range rifle project



Well Done - Thank You All!

Soap Box



Pickup Your Brass - Denny Schall 2nd VP

We need to try harder on this one. Myself and several others I have talked to at the outdoor range are picking up our brass and 2x - 4x more of others who did not. It's getting old.

Someone suggested that in the winter, the brass is hard to find in the snow and we get that. But that excuse is no longer valid. Others said that it must be guests who do not pick up their brass, as members know better. Well, remember - If you are sponsoring guests, it is your responsibility and obligation to ensure your sponsored guests are following the rules.

Please check out the pictures on the right - do not put trash in the brass recycling buckets. Also, David Bruce informed me that a lot of food and drink items are being put in the dumpsters at the outdoor range. This attracts bears, and they will make a mess of your range. **You brought it here - you take it home with you.**

Let's continue to work on these - Thank you!



Reminders

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 tactical range outdoors during the summer months. Club members and non-members are welcome. **Contact Martha Clark at maclark1027@gmail.com or Dave Jiles at davejiles@gmail.com for more information.**

Cleanup Days - Are Scheduled - Check the club calendar

Public days at the Outdoor Range - Scheduled Saturdays 9:00 - 12:00

Public Days at the Indoor Range - Scheduled on Thursday and Friday, 6:30 - 7:30 PM .

Hunter Safety Classes - Will resume this summer. Check the calendar for more information.

ESTES PARK GUN & ARCHERY CLUB MEMBER SHOWCASE



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.

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Denny's Custom Woodworking Estes Park, Colorado

Custom Wood Signs
Made in our Estes Park Shop

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