

President's Report

Stan Pate

April has been a busy month and May will likely be also. As the disciplines ramp up as the weather becomes better and warmer also maintenance projects once again can be accomplished around our facility. Again the request for members to come help on the Tuesday morning work days, as well as on other days if you'd care to arrange it ahead of time with Ron Carey.

At the general membership meeting this month is the vote on continuing the membership assessment for another year, your attendance would be appreciated. We have been through a lot over the last couple of years and there is more work to do. DRRC is a club of almost 1,000 members and we generally have in attendance at the general meetings no more than 30 to 40 members. Your chance to affect the course and direction of the club is at our general meetings. It is amazing to find the widely varied skills that our members have that can help our organization to flourish

I hope to see you at the general membership meeting and on the range.

I Choose Optimism

by Charlie McAlister

It would be way too easy to let the hovering gray cloud of "the law suit" ruin my day and discourage my participation in our club's future. But I choose to remain optimistic, and yes, it is a choice. Sure, I would rather not spend thousands on attorney fees. Of course I would rather spend a \$100 on ammo (that we can't seem to find anyway), or gun parts, or that new garbage disposal. However, whether we like it or not we are in a battle for our very existence as a club and I will gladly pay another \$100 to ensure Douglas Ridge Rifle Club is still here for me and you to enjoy. By the time you read this it could be just a few days before our May 7th general meeting, an important meeting, as at this meeting you will be voting on our future. You will be voting on whether we should continue the defense fund.

The economy is in crisis, folks are losing their jobs, and hobbies are becoming harder to support. These are tough times for us as individuals and as a club but I choose to remain optimistic and will support our club both with funds and my time.



As members of DRRC we need to put aside our disagreements and pull together as a unified front to continue the battle and win! And win we will if we stick together and support our club and each other. There are those that would seek to divide and conquer us. Let us send a message loud and clear that this will not happen, that we are committed for the long haul, that we stand together. When all this is behind us we will come out stronger and better for our efforts.

I choose optimism, I choose to support our club, I choose to stand firm and win this battle, I choose to be part of the team, I choose to continue our defense fund...what do you choose?

New Range Host and Hostess

We have a new range host and hostess. Yes, you heard correctly... hostess! Terry and Mitzi Bennett have been selected as our new range hosts. The board had the opportunity to interview and visit with Terry and Mitzi and unanimously approved their selection. Terry has been a DRRC member for about a year so is already

Membership Renewal Statements

Renewal statements will be mailed out in early May. Watch for them and make sure to renew your membership on time. Delays could result in your access card being deactivated, and that takes all the fun out of showing up to shoot and then finding you can't get in. Questions regarding your statements can be sent to the treasurer@cascadeaccess.com, webmaster@douglasridge.org, or call 503/637-3131.

familiar with much of our operation. Terry and Mitzi are both retired and looking forward to being our hosts. Terry is an active shooter and does his own reloading and said he is more than willing for members to stop by to share knowledge or just to visit. I suspect that with Mitzi around the range host residence may take on just a bit of the feminine touch, though I would not look for curtains on the mule just yet. Next time you are out at the club take the time to introduce yourself and make Terry and Mitzi feel welcome.

Welcome Terry and Mitzi!

DRRC Elections, You Are Needed

by Nils Bittner, Elections Director

It is that time again – time for DRRC annual elections of officers and board members. Elections will take place at the July 2009 General meeting. We are in need of a Vice President, Treasurer, and (3) Directors. Also, our secretary (VikkiLee) is headed off to Idaho to tie the knot, so we also need someone to finish out her term (1 year) as secretary. If you would like to help run the Club this is the best way to do it. Get elected to the board and help lead us into the future to make sure DRRC continues to be the best club in the Northwest. We need your help so do not be shy, CALL ME and get your name on the ballot. Call Nils Bittner at 503/661-0324 or email me at bittnerlights@comcast.net. Notify me by June 25 so your name can get on the ballot.

Fear of New Regs Drives Gun, Ammo Shortage

Ben Neary, Huffingtonpost.com, 3/29/09
CHEYENNE, Wyo. – Concern that the Obama administration could impose a new ban on some semiautomatic weapons is driving worried gun owners to stockpile ammunition and cartridge reloading components at such a rate that manufacturers can't meet demand.

Attorney General Eric Holder last month suggested that the Obama Administration favors reinstating a U.S. ban on the sale of assault weapons. President Bill Clinton first signed such a ban into law in 1994, generally blocking some military-style guns with magazines that hold many cartridges. President George Bush had allowed the ban to expire.

"We have heard from all across the

country that there is a tremendous shortage of ammunition," said Lawrence Keane, senior vice president of the National Shooting Sports Foundation. "We've heard this from the manufacturers, that their customers are calling them trying to get supplies for inventory, and that the manufacturers are going full-bore, pardon the pun."

The Newtown, Conn. based foundation is a trade organization representing firearms and ammunition manufacturers as well as retail gun shops.

"Semiautomatic rifles are selling at an incredibly brisk pace," said Keane, adding that many manufacturers of semiautomatic rifles and pistols are already so backordered that this year's entire production is already spoken for.

He said the current ammunition shortage followed the increase in gun sales. While the current shortage includes cartridges for popular semiautomatic rifles and pistols that were covered by the Clinton-era weapons ban, it also extends to other common varieties including common revolver cartridges and .22 rimfire cartridges used for hunting or target shooting.

In Wyoming, the run on bullets and reloading components reached such a frenzy that Cheyenne retailer Frontier Arms recently began rationing sales, said Becky Holtz, co-owner of the shop. Holtz said she's also been selling semiautomatic rifles as fast as she can put them on the shelves.

"You know there's something wrong when I've got little old ladies coming in buying 5,000 rounds of .22 shells," Holtz said.

Jere Jordan is general manager Midsouth Shooters Supply in Clarksville, Tenn., one of a handful of firms in the country that specializes in mail-order sales of ammunition and reloading components and equipment.

In common with similar supply houses, Midsouth has run out of most ammunition in the calibers commonly used in semiautomatic pistols and popular military rifles. It's also backordered on many other types of cartridges.

"After the election, where you have a change of parties to a more liberal side, I would say I guess the conservatives want to protect what they feel might be taken away from them, either through a tax, or an all-out ban," Jordan said.

Midsouth and other similar dealers say they're also sold out of most

varieties of primers used by hobbyists to handload cartridges. Primers are the explosive caps that ignite gunpowder in rifle and pistol cartridges.

Jordan said his company is taking orders for bullets and primers, but isn't sure when they'll be filled.

"The wait? We're not even guessing on the wait anymore," Jordan said. "It's exceeding 60 days."

Keane, of the Shooting Sports Foundation, said there are no national statistics that directly track firearms sales. However, he noted that there's been a sharp rise in the number of instant background checks that the FBI performs each time a person buys a gun at a gun store. Such checks are not required for personal sales, or for gun purchases at gun shows.

The FBI performed more than 4.2 million firearms background checks from November 2008 through this January, according to agency figures. That's an increase of more than 31 percent above the 3.2 million checks the agency performed from November 2007 through January 2008.

Keane said concerns other than the prospect of new federal regulations are also driving gun and ammunition sales. Those include the faltering economy and the potential side-effect of an increase in crime, he said.

"There's a concern about what's happening to the stock market, what's happening with unemployment, what's happening with the tremendous increase in government spending, whether there will be hyperinflation," Keane said.

The Value of Wildlife Areas *Oregon Fish and Wildlife*

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife owns or manages by agreement nearly 200,000 acres of land set aside for wildlife use and public recreation. Securing these places for wildlife began in Oregon with the purchase of the Summer Lake Wildlife Area in 1944.

Most state-operated wildlife areas provide either marshes and wetlands for migratory waterfowl, or rangelands where big game animals can seek refuge from harsh winter weather.

Congress made it possible to protect these habitats and secure public access with passage of the Pittman-Robertson Act in the late 1930's. This has placed a federal manufacturer's excise tax on hunting arms and ammunition. These funds are allocated to each state based

on the number of hunting licenses sold and size of the state. In Oregon, these dollars pay for habitat enhancement and hunter education.

Oregon's wildlife areas serve the needs of wildlife as well as wildlife-oriented recreation and public hunting access. Although many areas offer a variety of non-hunting opportunities such as hiking, viewing and fishing, most funding is provided through the federal Pittman-Robertson program financed by hunters and shooting sports enthusiasts.

Former DRRC President Passes Away

Joseph Egner, 71, died Sunday, April 5th. He was the club's president in 1977. There was a funeral Mass on Monday, April 13th at St. Henry Catholic Church in Portland. He is survived by his wife Elizabeth, a brother, three daughters and seven grandchildren.

Club Directory

Officers

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May 2009

Douglas Ridge Rifle Club

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Calendar Codes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CH/Ind Clubhouse & Indoor Range • Arch Archery Range • 100/200 100/200 Yard Range • Silh Silhouette Range • LR Long Range 		Calendar Codes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trap Trap Range • SC Sporting Clays Range • LE Law Enforcement (training) • NRA . . . NRA Classes 			1	2 9am-2pm <i>Benchrest (100/200)</i> 9am-4pm <i>USPSA/IPSC (Silh)</i> 8am-4pm <i>PPITH (CH/Ind)</i>
3 8am-4pm <i>PPITH (CH/Ind)</i> 9am-3pm <i>Pistol Silhouette (Silh)</i>	4 4:30pm-8pm <i>Jr. Smallbore (Silh)</i>	5 8am-Noon All Ranges closed for maintenance 6pm-9pm <i>Lady Pistol Class (CH/Ind)</i>	6 6-9pm <i>Ladies' Night (Silh)</i>	7 Long Range Day 9am-1pm 300-600yd 1pm-sunset 800-1000 yd 7pm-9pm General Meeting	8 6:30pm-9:00pm <i>LRPC Meeting (CH/Ind)</i> Newsletter Submissions Due	9 8am-5pm <i>OASR Meeting (CH/Ind)</i>
10 Mother's Day 9am-3pm <i>Action Pistol (Silh)</i>	11 4:30pm-8pm <i>Jr. Smallbore (Silh)</i>	12 8am-noon All Ranges closed for maintenance 6pm-9pm <i>Lady Pistol Class (CH/Ind)</i>	13	14 Long Range Day 9am-1pm 800-1000 yd 1pm-sunset 300-600yd 6pm-10pm <i>FirstAid/CPR/AED (CH/Ind)</i>	15 6pm-9pm <i>CMP Class (CH/Ind)</i>	16 8am-4pm <i>CMP Match (100/200)</i> 9am-2pm <i>Black Powder (Silh)</i> 2pm-Sunset <i>Pistol Silh Practice (Silh)</i>
17 1pm-3pm <i>New Member Orientation (CH/Ind)</i>	18 4:30pm-8pm <i>Jr. Smallbore (Silh)</i> 6:30pm-9:00pm <i>LRPC Meeting (CH/Ind)</i>	19 8am-noon All Ranges closed for maintenance	20 6-9pm <i>Ladies' Night (Silh)</i>	21 Long Range Day 9am-1pm 300-600yd 1pm-sunset 800-1000 yd	22 9am-5:30 <i>Burden Mem. Long Range Regional Practice NRA Registered (1000yd & CH)</i>	23 9am-5:30 <i>Burden Mem. Long Range Regional Palma +20 (1000yd & CH)</i>
24 9am-5:30 <i>Burden Mem. Long Range Regional Palma +20 (1000yd & CH)</i>	25 Memorial Day 9am-5:30 <i>Burden Mem. Long Range Regional Palma Team Match (1000yd & CH)</i>	26 8am-noon All Ranges closed for maintenance 6p-9p <i>Master Hunters Class (CH/Ind)</i>	27 8am-5pm <i>LE: PPB SERT (LR)</i> 5:30pm-7pm <i>Master Hunters Class (100yd)</i>	28 Long Range Day 9am-1pm 800-1000 yd 1pm-sunset 300-600yd 7pm-9pm Board Meeting	29	30 3pm -?pm <i>3-Gun Setup (Silh)</i> 8am-4pm <i>PPITH Instructor (CH/Ind)</i>
31 9am-5pm <i>3-Gun (Silh)</i> 8am-4pm <i>PPITH Instructor (CH/Ind)</i>						

Douglas Ridge Rifle Club

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"The liberties of a people never were, nor ever will be, secure when the transactions of their rulers may be concealed from them."

Patrick Henry

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2009 Board Meetings
4/30, 5/28, 6/25, 7/30, 8/27,
9/24, 10/29, 11/26
12/30 (On a Wednesday as the
normal Thursday is New Year's Eve)

2009 General Meetings
4/2, 5/7, 6/4, 7/2, 8/6, 9/3, 10/1,
11/5, 12/3

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