



**Upcoming Events**

- Executive BoD Meeting: March 24, 2009, 7:00pm, JAX Sporting Goods
- Next Range Cleanup: Saturday, March 7, 2009
- Defensive Pistol Shoot:: March 1, 2009 (weather permitting)
- IDPA Match: March 21, 2009 (weather permitting)
- Shotgun: March 8 & 22, 2009 (weather permitting)
- Hunter’s Safety Course: March 21 & 22, 2009

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**Choose Your Battles Wisely**

By: **W.P. Flinn (NCRGC News Letter Editor)**

As a community of firearms owners, we represent a significant population of voters and citizens with a voice. Having said that, I think it is also important that we understand what the real issues are so that we can choose the appropriate battles to fight.

There has been a lot of information flying around the Internet and elsewhere lately about various moves afoot to institute more gun control measures. Since the new administration arrived, there have been all sorts of speculation about what they would do, and what they were already starting to do, with regard to gun control measures. Some of this news has been factual, and some has been outright unfounded ru-

mor. For example, some folks had the [Blair Holt Act \(H.R. 45\)](#), the heavily restrictive and oppressive firearms control act, as being completely folded in to the recently passed stimulus package bill. Yet others had reported that there was a bill that would dictate that people over 60 years of age would be barred from firearm ownership. Some stated that H.R. 45 as mentioned above had already passed into law in yet other Internet discussion forum stories.

**The reason for rumors and misunderstanding is simple:** We are human. We are living in a pretty uncertain and historical time right now. People who

casually took their firearms ownership rights for granted are finally waking



up and becoming aware of the issues that affect them. However, people’s imaginations tend to run wild at times like these, and speculation soon becomes reality to the person whose worst fears are playing tricks on them. This isn’t to diminish the validity or reality of people’s concerns. Some-

*(Continued on page 2)*

**Legislative Corner**

COLORADO: HB09-1180 is currently on the House Floor for discussion. The purpose of this bill, as originally written, is to allow Colorado residents with valid CCW permits to bypass the Brady Checks (NICS check) when purchasing a firearm.

However, several changes have been made to this bill, taking away a lot of the value this bill would have had. This is the analysis from the Colorado State Shooting Association:

*Democrat members of the House Judiciary Committee gutted HB09-1180 at contin-*

*ued hearing last week. The bill, sponsored by Rep. Steve King (R-54), originally eliminated unnecessary redundant background checks by allowing concealed carry permits to validate background check requirements for firearms purchases. However, the*

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Choose Your Battles Wisely (continued)

times these worries do in fact turn into reality. The key is to be aware and focused, do research, and take action when appropriate. Those who wish to implement extreme gun control measures are reveling in the fact that we are chasing rumors and are being distracted from tackling the real issues. You know the old saying: "United we stand, divided we fall..."

**Why chasing rumors is bad:** It divides and distracts us! Since we do have the opportunity to be a strong and united voice, it is wise to use that voice to speak factually and unemotionally when we contact our representation. If we are chasing phantom stories, we are being distracted from being that united front against issues that we want to solve. It does no good whatsoever to contact our representatives to tell them to support or oppose proposed legislation that does not even exist. As I mentioned, doing

research and knowing the facts are key to taking action.

**What to do: Stay informed!** The National Rifle Association has an excellent web site – the NRA Institute for Legislative action (<http://www.nra-ila.org>). Rocky Mountain Gun Owners (<http://www.rmgo.org>) and the Colorado State Shooting Association (<http://www.cssa.org>), just to name a few are also keeping on top of gun related issues. Our challenge is to separate the wheat from the chafe, and discern what is credible reporting versus rumor and speculation. Fortunately, we have these larger organizations to help with this. The articles posted at these sites will give you a good place to start your own research.

**What else to do: Get active!** Once you have made up your mind how you feel about proposed legislation,

tell your representation how you feel. Many times your representation has no clue what you want. Keep constant pressure on them. If enough people contact their representation and let them know how they feel, those in office will finally be aware that their jobs are on the line unless they heed the people's wishes.

**Wrapping it all up:** There is a saying that goes something like this: "... in order for evil to triumph, all that is required is for good men to do nothing..." Without over-emotionalizing the issues that face us as gun owners, I think that saying illustrates why we are facing an uphill battle for our rights. Too many people have said too little for too long.

Stay informed, stay aware, and get active. Our heritage and our rights as gun owners depend on it.

~wpf~

## Concealed Carry in Colorado (C<sup>3</sup>) - New Section!

**New Section in the News Letter—C<sup>3</sup>:** Welcome to the newest section in the Northern Colorado Rod and Gun Club News Letter! Each month, this section will feature news and issues specific to concealed carry in Colorado. Any time there is news regarding changes in Colorado concealed carry permit requirements, legislation, or information about training, this section will carry it.

In addition to the information produced by the NCRGC news letter editor, we are actively seeking the participation from our members to submit ideas for content, ask questions, or even write their own articles.

Have something you want to see in this section? Send an email to:

newsletter@ncrgc.org

**Concealed Carry Reciprocity with Wyoming:** Many of you may have already heard, the Wyoming State Attorney General was considering revoking concealed carry reciprocity with several states, including Colo-

rado. This was to have taken effect on March 1, 2009. What this means is that having a valid CCW permit in Colorado would no longer be valid in Wyoming. Since Colorado law states that a state must honor Colorado's CCW permit in order for Colorado reciprocity to be in effect, this change would also have meant that Wyoming residents would not be able to carry concealed weapons in Colorado. But due to the many citizens who voiced their concerns over this issue, the Wyoming Attorney General has rescinded this revocation until further study can be performed.

I contacted CBI for clarification on this matter as well, and received the following response:

*In regards to the revision date listed on our reciprocity page, the status of each state is updated and confirmed on an annual basis or as soon as a state changes it's reciprocity status with Colorado. Any updates are made immediately to our list once formal confirmation has been received from that state. There have been no changes in formal reciprocity status since the last revision*

*date of 2007.*

*I have been communicating directly with Wyoming since I sent my last reciprocity confirmation letter to them in 2008. I am currently waiting for formal acknowledgement from their Attorney General that they will no longer recognize the validity of our Colorado permit due to recent changes/interpretations in their state law(s). At this time our reciprocity list is scheduled to reflect this change effective March 1, 2009.*

But since the Wyoming A.G. has rescinded this action, Wyoming reciprocity with Colorado will be good until further notice.

This is a clear indication that citizens voicing their concerns DOES make a difference. But even surface analysis of this issue indicates the need to stay aware of the issues and contact law makers when this type of thing surfaces.

# Range Rule of the Month “Handling Firearms on the Line”

One of the things that we (hopefully) have etched in our minds is that we should never assume that a gun is not loaded. Always ensuring weapons safety is of paramount importance when we are handling guns with no one else around, and the importance magnified a hundred fold when there are others in the area.

Rule #5 of our range rules is the topic of this month’s range rule of the month, and states in part:

*“We operate a cold range. There will be NO GUN HANDLING DURING A CEASE FIRE. ... Actions must be open and clear of ammunition while on the firing line during a cease fire and at all times when off the firing line.”*

*tion while on the firing line during a cease fire and at all times when off the firing line.”*

While at the range we are no longer only concerned with our own confidence that a firearm is safe, but are now dealing with the comfort zones of the others who are there with us.

When walking downrange to place a target, for example, there is nothing more disconcerting than hearing someone working the action of a firearm. Visual indicators as well

are another way to help put others in that comfort zone. The only way that others can tell that you have cleared your weapon and are following the rules is to see your gun (s) on the bench and actions open.

For those who are legally permitted to carry concealed weapons in Colorado:

As long as your carry gun is still concealed, you are fine.

**“Actions must be open and clear of ammunition while on the firing line during a cease fire and at all times when off the firing line.”**

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: Is there anything that I as a member can do to help out the club? I really don’t have time to be part of a committee, but would like to find other ways to help out.**

A: NCRGC is always in need of donations of materials, and expertise in other ways besides just serving on a committee. For example, good

fill dirt is always welcome. If you can donate time and effort by attending a range cleanup, that is one of the most valuable contributions you can make. As we approach spring and summer, there will be a need to start cleanup and maintenance of vegetation around the various benches and targets.

One very valuable contribution

would be to write an article for the news letter. Many of our members have great ideas for content that can be included. Write a good headline article, and you will be featured on the front page! As a question for the FAQ section!

There are many ways to help. For more information, send an email to [bod@ncrgc.org](mailto:bod@ncrgc.org)

## Legislative Corner (continued)

*(Continued from page 1)*

*bill was amended by removing all provisions allowing validation of background checks and all that remained was the addition of U.S. citizenship verification for concealed carry permits. Because the bill was amended and not postponed (killed), the bill can be re-amended on the House floor with the original lan-*

*guage restored. Members are urged to call their state representatives (800-811-7647) and tell them to restore HB09-1180 to its original language, which allows qualified firearms purchasers who have CCW permits to save the state time and money by eliminating wasteful, redundant background checks on law-abiding Colorado gun owners.*

Time to write more letters, folks! Tell

your state representation that you would like to see the original wording of this bill restored before the bill is passed.

CCW permit holders already have shown their trustworthiness and ability to be law abiding citizens. The original bill had the potential to also save Colorado money. The modified wording of this bill makes it meaningless to CCW holders.

Correspondence Address:  
P.O. Box 1298  
Fort Collins CO 80522

Phone: (970) 282-1648  
E-mail: [membership@ncrgc.org](mailto:membership@ncrgc.org) OR  
[bod@ncrgc.org](mailto:bod@ncrgc.org)

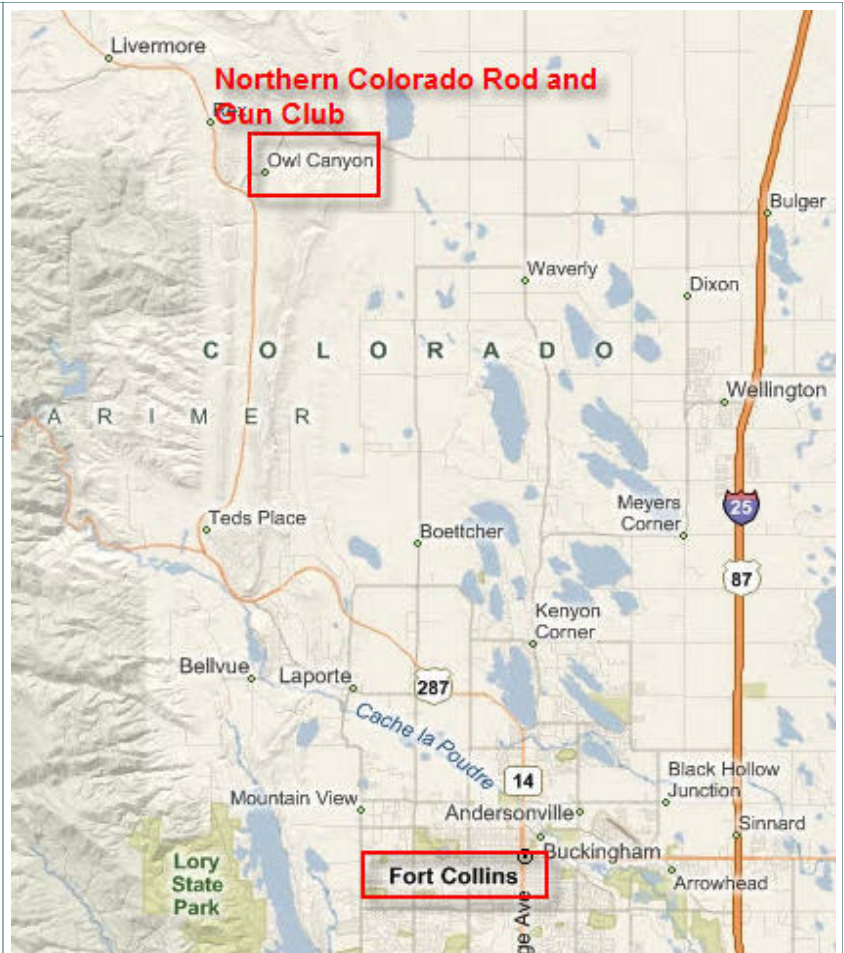
News Letter Email:  
[newsletter@ncrgc.org](mailto:newsletter@ncrgc.org)

*The Northern Colorado Rod & Gun Club was founded in 1948 through the merger of four sportsmen groups; Fort Collins, Loveland, Greeley and Estes Park.*

*The club is located on Owl Canyon Road off U S 287 on the Weaver Ranch north of Ft Collins, Co.*

**We're on the Web!**

**<http://www.ncrgc.org>**



## Shooting and Gun Ownership Information

**Colorado AR-15 Shooters:**  
<http://www.co-ar15.com/co-ar15.htm>

**Colorado State Shooting Association:**  
<http://www.cssa.org/>

**NRA Institute for Legislative Action:**  
<http://www.nra-ila.org/>

**Rocky Mountain Gun Owner's Association:**  
<http://www.rmgo.org/>

**Gun Owners of America:**  
<http://www.gunowners.org/>

**Citizen's Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms:**  
<http://www.ccrkba.org/>

**Second Amendment Foundation:**  
<http://www.saf.org>

**National Association for Gun Rights (NAGR):**  
<http://www.nationalgunrights.org/>

**NAGR Bill Watch:**  
<http://www.nationalgunrights.org/billwatch.shtml>

**U.S. Handgun Laws:**  
<http://www.handgunlaw.us/>

**Keep And Bear Arms dot Com:**  
<http://www.keepandbeararms.com/>

**Jews For The Preservation of Firearm Ownership:**  
<http://www.jpfo.org/>

**FAQ About Firearms Laws in Colorado (RMGO):**  
<http://www.rmgo.org/faq/>

**Appleseed Project:**  
<http://www.appleseedinfo.org/>

**U.S. Concealed Carr Association:**  
<http://www.usconcealedcarry.com/>

**International Defensive Pistol Association:**  
<http://www.idpa.com/>

**U.S. Handgun Laws:**  
<http://www.handgunlaw.us/>

**Gun News Daily:**  
<http://www.gunnewsdaily.com/>

**Civilian Gun Self-Defense Blog:**  
<http://www.claytoncramer.com/gundefenseblog/blogger.html>

"If a candidate was anti-gun in the past, they are anti-gun now and will be in the future, regardless of their campaign rhetoric. A liberal president will nominate anti-gun liberal justices like Breyer and Stevens to the court. That's a fact."