

~ Northern Colorado Rod & Gun Club ~

"The Best Little Rifle Range in Colorado"

August, 2009

Upcoming Events

- Next BoD Meeting: See the NCRGC Web Site,
- Next Range Cleanup: Saturday, August 1, 2009
- Defensive Pistol Shoot:: August 2, 2009
- IDPA Match: August 15, 2009
- Shotgun: August 9 & 23, 2009
- Hunter's Safety Course: August 15 & 16, 2009

Classified Ads:

Please visit the NCRGC web site for information on classified ads:

<http://www.ncrgc.org/Classified.htm>

To place an ad, send an email to: webguy@ncrgc.org

Inside this issue:

<i>The Right To Self Defense</i>	1
<i>Legislative Corner</i>	1
<i>Concealed Carry in Colorado (C³)</i>	2
<i>Range Rule of the Month</i>	3
<i>What's Happening Around NCRGC?</i>	3
<i>Shooting and Gun Ownership Information Links</i>	4

The Right To Self Defense

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

This month, I felt compelled to talk about an aspect of gun ownership that many folks probably don't think about or even want to talk about too much: Defensive gun ownership rights – specifically, the concept of being able to own or even carry a concealed handgun for self defense. Let me explain: Once again I find myself in Washington D.C. on business. When I have some down time, my mind wanders and I find myself comparing the culture in this part of the country to the culture we enjoy in Colorado. While here, I was often asked by friends and colleagues what I did for fun the evening before. My response was usually along the lines of walking the National Mall and looking at monuments – I love seeing

our national monuments. The response: *"You didn't walk the National Mall at NIGHT, did you?!"* Well – no, but why, I am thinking, would they ask such a thing? *"Because it just isn't safe!"* was always the answer. Well – I knew that, thus my decision for not doing it.

Well – let's talk about that for a moment. It's not SAFE to walk the National Mall in Washington D.C.! And this sentiment in a city where the Police Chief, City Council, and Mayor have all made it clear that they do not like the idea of citizens being armed. But yet the Supreme Court has ruled (in the case of D.C. versus Warren and others) that the

police do not have an obligation to protect individual citizens. My perception of



how dangerous this city is can always be further perpetuated by the events of many late afternoons, when I am walking around the city, and there are police sirens whaling every so often, followed by something looking like a bomb disposal vehicle, followed by fire engines. *"What the*

(Continued on page 2)

Legislative Corner

9th Circuit Giving Gun Case Another Look:

This particular case is of high interest and importance to all gun owners because it illustrates the processes and progress of applying the Supreme Court decision in the D.C. versus Heller case to the

states. According to a recent article by "The Jurist,"

"The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals just agreed to host another shootout over gun rights.

The court decided Wednesday to review en banc a panel ruling that had sig-

nificantly broadened Second Amendment protections by applying them to state and local governments. This holding, arrived at by Judge Diarmuid O'Scannlain, is at odds with other rulings from around the country -- including one penned by 2nd

(Continued on page 3)

The Right To Self Defense (continued)

heck is going on here?" I have often thought. Why isn't this place safe? What makes a place like this to be widely considered dangerous to walk around at night, but yet those charged with protecting it would regard armed citizens as a bad thing?

In talking with a few of the locals, I most assuredly have my impressions confirmed that Washington D.C. is just widely regarded as having a high rate of violent crime. Now this is not something new – I know that many of you have heard this all before. But what occurs to me every time I come here is that there is a very simple explanation: Citizens are not allowed to have guns for self defense, either in the open, concealed, or just locked in the trunk of their cars. Until last year, handguns were completely outlawed. But even though the Supreme Court has ruled the bearing of arms to be a right that these citizens

should enjoy, the city leadership has been throwing up roadblock after roadblock towards allowing these people to arm themselves and put the violent criminals on notice that they want to defend themselves.

Washington D.C. is not unique in this. Cities like Chicago, New York, and some other large metropolitan areas also have very restrictive gun laws, and citizens are deprived of the right to carry concealed weapons or in many cases even own them. What do they also have in common? Very high rates of violent crime! The economy is certainly having an effect on the increase in violent crimes every where, but when criminals know that their victims cannot fight back, they are further enabled and feel emboldened to commit these crimes. And in this city in particular, it is even illegal to carry knives and pepper spray. So basically, eve-

ryone except the criminals, is rendered completely defenseless.

What does this mean to us as a gun club? We're all voters! With some very important elections coming up in 2010 and 2012, we need to start NOW in looking for state candidates who will help protect our rights to bear arms, to ensure that Colorado will continue to enjoy the rights we have now with no further erosion of these rights, and national candidates who will take this message to Washington D.C. The current administration is moving at a furious pace to change our country – I am wondering how long it will be before our "privileges" of concealed carry disappear, and our RIGHT to keep and bear arms is taken away for good. Get involved, get the word out, and wake your fellow Americans up.

~wpf~

Concealed Carry in Colorado (C³)

National Concealed Carry Reciprocity Fails—But What Is Behind The Scenes?

The John Thune (R—South Dakota) Senate bill to allow concealed carry (CCW) reciprocity nationwide failed to overcome a procedural hurdle and get out of committee. According to the NRA Institute for Legislative Action:

"By a 58 to 39 majority, the US Senate voted last week to let concealed handgun permit holders carry handguns across state lines. Yet, it was two votes short of the 60 needed to overcome a filibuster. The legislation sponsored by Senator John Thune (R, SD) would have allowed reciprocity in permitting, as anybody would still be required to obey the laws of the states that they travel in. This is the same way driver's licenses work."

Perhaps there was more to this bill's failure than is evident on the surface, and there are other reasons why the bill failed despite a majority being in favor. From Dudley Brown, Executive

Director for National Association for Gun Rights:

"It wasn't a "lack of unity" in the Republican party that led to the Thune amendment's 58-39 demise: The Thune amendment was never supposed to pass.

*The entire process was **calculated to fail** ... but **only after** dozens of anti-gunners on both sides of the aisle could exploit the chance to dissemble **on the record** as gun rights supporters.*

It's Washington politics at its finest -- voting "yes" on an ostensibly pro-gun bill orchestrated to die just short of the needed number of votes, but that could still be used to dupe constituents."

There is no doubt that CCW privileges have come under fire from many in the gun control community. And in practically all of the cases of opposition, the fears and worries that would cause support for CCW to fail are unfounded. For example, some of the politicians had this to say about this bill:

"Sen. Frank Lautenberg (D, NJ) warned it is an "attempt by the gun lobby to put its radical agenda ahead of safety and security in our communities." Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D, NY) calls it a "harmful measure" that will put the public at risk. Senator Chuck Schumer (D, NY) said: "It could reverse the dramatic success we've had in reducing crime in most all parts of America."

As all of us who carry are well aware—the fears of the streets “running red with blood” that would surely have come about by CCW permitted citizens never came to pass. And the political wrangling that goes on to help politicians in danger of reelection in their districts, instead of addressing the real issues is something we should all be concerned with. The actions that took place behind the scenes on this bill should serve as a warning that we should be watchful of any future CCW related legislation, and ensure that our representatives are voting with reason instead of out of fear of losing voter support.

Range Rule of the Month

“Review The Range Rules!”

As we get ready to send out membership renewal notices, it is important to remember that it is also time to review our range rules and to remember why we have them.

Two range rules of particular significance this month involve guests and our own responsibility to review the rules. Rule # 14 states in part that:

“Guests are allowed to shoot, with a member present, two times a year. The member who invites a guest must review these Range Rules with their guest before shooting.”

This is an appropriate time to re-

fresh our own memories of the rules and remind ourselves of the necessity to be safe—especially with guests present who may not be as familiar with firearms.

Rule # 15 states:

“Failure to observe these Range Rules or to otherwise act as to jeopardize other persons or property is cause for revocation of range privileges and/or club membership upon review of such actions by the NCRGC Board of Directors as provided for in the

Bylaws.”

Membership in NCRGC is a wonderful privilege, especially given the reduction of places to shoot in our area. But with that privilege comes some awesome responsibilities. Safety is first and foremost, and our range rules provide the foundation for safe shooting. And nothing could be worse than violating the rules with a guest present.

“The member who invites the guest must review these range rules with the guest before shooting.”

What’s Happening Around NCRGC?

How Does The New Online Membership Renewal Work?

You can now renew your NCRGC membership online! To take advantage of this, simply go to the NCRGC web site (<http://www.ncrgc.org>) and click on the “Membership Renewal” link in the menu on the left side. From there, you will be taken to a password protected web page (be sure to look for the password that was mailed to you in the renewal

notice) that will give you some information about renewal options. You will be required to accept that you have read the range rules, and will be taken to a page to allow you to choose renewal type (individual/household). You are then taken to a secure payment web site. Be sure to enter all required information, including email address, as this is used to update the NCRGC membership records. Also—if renewing a household membership, please be sure to include household

member’s names and birthdates in the requested box. Once you return to the NCRGC web site, you will acknowledge acceptance of the range rules once more, and will then be taken to the page to receive your new range badge. As a safety measure to protect against unauthorized range badges, you will be required to also carry your payment receipt and valid ID while on the NCRGC range. This is a fast, safe, and secure method for renewal.

Legislative Corner (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

Circuit Judge Sonia Sotomayor.

The 9th Circuit panel had still upheld an Alameda County, Calif., ordinance that forbids a gun show at a public fairground. Thus neither side had asked for en banc review.

“I suppose they were both afraid of what could happen,” said Arthur

Hellman, a professor at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

Hellman speculated that pro-gun control forces on the 9th Circuit may be seeking to resolve the circuit split now, which would relieve some of the pressure on the U.S. Supreme Court to weigh in.

The term “en banc” simply means “full bench.” The original opinion by the 9th

Circuit Court was heard by a panel of a few of the judges that make up the 9th Circuit Court. This issue is expected to be re-heard by the full bench that makes up the 9th Circuit Court.

More on this important issue to come! The Supreme Court ruling on the 2nd Amendment will hopefully continue to move to application in the states. As the full 9th Circuit Court renders a decision on this issue, we will keep you updated.

FRIENDS OF NRA BANQUET, MAY 8, 2009.
SEE [THIS LINK](#) FOR DETAILS AND TICKETS

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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."

Source: San Diego Rifle and Pistol Association