

~ Northern Colorado Rod & Gun Club ~

"The Best Little Rifle Range in Colorado"

November, 2009

Upcoming Events

- Next BoD Meeting: November 17, 2009,
- Next Range Cleanup: Saturday, November 7, 2009
- Defensive Pistol Shoot:: November 1, 2009
- IDPA Match: November 21, 2009
- Shotgun: November 8 & 22, 2009
- Hunter's Safety Course: November 14 & 15, 2009

Classified Ads:

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

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

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

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Supreme Court to Rule Again on Second Amendment Applicability:

The Supreme Court will rule once again on the applicability of the Second Amendment, this time not to just the citizens of the federal enclave of Washington D.C. (D.C. versus Heller), but in the rest of the United States as well.

This was the expected and much anticipated result of the Heller decision. Immediately after the Supreme Court came out with the Heller decision, the National Rifle Association, National Association for Gun Rights, and several others began the battle to get cases from the states onto the dockets in local courts, hoping to eventually wind up in the Supreme Court, in hopes of getting a decision that the Second Amendment applies to every individual in the United States. The

outright ban on handguns, in fact the ban of ANY guns, must be aggressively challenged. We have seen in so many cases, in so many other cities in the United States and other countries, that banning guns just does not work. Banning the tools of self defense denies law abiding citizens of their rights and mostly leads to more violence.

So now the battle is on to have the Heller ruling on the Second Amendment apply to the individual states as well. From the "Colorado State Shooting Association:

"The case of McDonald v. City of Chicago challenged the outright handgun ban in Chicago as a violation of

McDonald's Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms, much like



last year's landmark case of D.C. v. Heller. The Seventh Circuit held that the Heller ruling was inapplicable because Heller was a resident of the District of Columbia, which is subject to federal law only. This ruling, as well as the one in the Second Circuit in which Sonja Sotomayor was a

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Legislative Corner

Clear The Bench, Colorado:

We don't often want to believe that the judicial branch of Colorado is supposed to be able to affect state's legislative activities. But one new organization in Colorado "Clear the Bench Colorado" has

been diligently working to expose a number of instances where rogue judges on the Colorado Supreme Court have ignored our Constitution and in effect "legislated from the bench" to push a radical agenda.

From the CTBC web site:

"Recent rulings by Colorado's Supreme Court – the "most partisan in the nation" – have demonstrated their contempt for the very Constitution they are sworn to uphold. ...DID YOU KNOW that you have the right to vote the rascals out?"

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Supreme Court to Rule Again on Second Amendment Applicability (continued)

participant, flies in the face of decades-old constitutional doctrine that states cannot set lower standards of governmental restraint than those set forth in the U.S. Constitution. Very nearly all of the rights set forth in the Bill of Rights have been held applicable to the individual states over the past several decades, including the rights set forth in the First, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Amendments.

McDonald was supported in his suit and appeal by the NRA and its state association, the Illinois State Rifle Association. CSSA joined in an amicus curiae (friend of the court) brief filed on behalf of NRA state associations nationwide encouraging the Supreme Court to review the Seventh Circuit decision.

I want to repeat something I stated in this news letter back when the Heller

ruling was made: One of the primary reasons the Supreme Court was deciding the D.C. versus Heller case was that we as individuals have a right to protect ourselves and our families. I will go farther and say that we have the responsibility to do so. Even the Supreme Court has ruled that police departments and the government do not have the responsibility to protect individuals, as ruled in cases such as Castle Rock versus Gonzales, and Warren versus The District of Columbia.

Time after time, we see confirmation that states and cities which choose to deny citizens the right to arm themselves in defense of their families, self, and property experience higher rates of violent crime. What more does it take to help law makers realize that law abiding citizens have the right and the responsibility to be able to protect themselves?

Once Again: our individual right to own firearms was confirmed in the D.C. versus Heller Supreme Court decision, but the battle didn't end there. We are faced with another crucial decision which could change the face of gun rights and the gun control landscape for years to come. Several organizations, including the NRA, NAGR and others are filing briefs with SCOTUS even as I write this. It is important for all of us to get involved and let our representation in Washington D.C. know how we feel about this as well, and urge them to co-sign a pro-Second Amendment amicus curiae (Friend of the Court) brief before the Supreme Court in the *McDonald v. Chicago* case to the Supreme Court supporting a favorable outcome for the law abiding gun owners of this country.

~wpf~

Concealed Carry in Colorado (C³)

There are numerous tales of how firearms used in self defense, or the lack thereof, can ultimately decide whether a citizen is a victim or a survivor. This month, I wanted to illustrate a few from recent events that help illustrate how in each case the outcome was decided by whether or not a citizen had the means to defend themselves against an attack.

When Citizens are Unarmed, They Become Victims:

From San Francisco, David Rittgers reports:

"In August (2009), a man shot two people to death on a bridge near San Francisco. At the moment of the killings, two on-duty Marin County sheriff's deputies were within 100 yards of the shooter. One was close enough to see the muzzle blast of the shotgun. The police officers, however, did not move against the culprit. One, stuck in traffic, called in a description of the killer's vehicle as he fled. The other positioned her car to prevent traffic from entering the crime scene.

These two law-enforcement officers did what police officers tell the public to do: Don't intervene. Get a description of the offender. Call the police. Be a good witness. Much debate ensued about whether the officers' behavior was appropriate, but the real tragedy is that the victims of this rampage did not have the legal opportunity to arm themselves. To them, the message was clear: Be a good victim."

But When Citizens Are Armed, They Are Survivors:

From the Civilian Gun Defense Blog, this incident happened on October 18, 2009:

"Schroepfel, NY - When Deanna Candee and her son, Adam, returned from a shopping trip Saturday to their Schroepfel home, they suspected something was wrong when they saw the garage door open. Candee's home had been ransacked. An intruder was still inside. As her 25-year-old son moved toward the cellar to check out a noise, Deanna, 48, started into the house, said Wilson Candee, Deanna's father-in-law.

The intruder confronted her and grabbed her by the hair, Wilson Candee said. Adam heard his mother scream, went to her aid and pulled the intruder off. The fight ended, Oswego County Sheriff's officials said, when Deanna grabbed her pistol and shot the man."

It is clear from incidents all across the nation just like these that when seconds count, the police are only minutes away. And even if they are nearby, they may still not do anything to prevent the violent attack.

We in Colorado enjoy the ability to arm ourselves and carry concealed firearms, should we choose to do so. This is something that I think many people take for granted until it's too late. We need to keep our eyes and ears open to ensure that we maintain this valuable right. As the 2010 and 2012 elections draw near, just remember that our loss of rights is possibly only one candidate away.

Range Rule of the Month

"No firearms handling when the range is COLD!"

And no—we don't mean when the temperature outside is below 40 degrees.

We have had a number of members express concerns lately that they have been out on the range and have seen others handling firearms during a cease fire! Always ensuring firearms 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 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."

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 down-range 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 firearm 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."

What's Happening Around NCRGC?

Steel Challenge Matches:

We hope to be able to offer steel challenge matches next spring. What is a steel challenge match? The shooter stands in front of five steel targets. At the sound of the buzzer, they shoot four in any order, then a designated stop plate last. Repeat this five times and move on to the next series of 5 targets.

The hardest target may be a ten-

inch disk at eighteen yards, you get as many shots as you want, and hitting it anywhere counts. You also get to throw out your worst run on every stage. The trick is as soon as the buzzer sounds, the clock starts and it doesn't stop until you hit the stop plate. Once you get done with all your runs, the times are added up and the lowest time wins.

At the local level we have shooters at every level from beginner on up. Some

may be out only to clang some steel, some may be law enforcement officers working on their skills, some may be friends racing to see who buys lunch, but everybody's out for a fun day on the range.

All kinds of different pistols compete in Steel Challenge, from .22's through production and semi-custom guns. More information to follow as we get closer to offering this event.

Legislative Corner (continued)

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When it comes to deciding which judges serve on the bench, it seems that the citizens have very little influence. After all, these justices are appointed by our Governor, not voted into office.

But we as citizens do indeed have the ability to vote them off of the

bench. During the 2010 elections, one of the sections of our ballots will have a "yes" or "no" vote to retain various justices who are reaching the end of their current ten-year term. Yes—WE have the ability to decide if these judges should be retained! And if we decide not to retain them, their replacements will be chosen by our Governor—which is a very important reason to also

stay involved in local politics and help choose a Governor in 2010 who represents our beliefs!

For more information, please visit the Clear the Bench Colorado web site <http://www.clearthebenchcolorado.org> to learn more about how we as citizens can decide which judges to keep and which judges to get rid of.

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