



The Crack Shot

Newsletter of the Four Corners Rifle and Pistol Club (4CRP)

4cornersrifleandpistol.com

PO Box 101
Cortez CO 81321

"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."
2nd Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

Monthly Club Meetings

Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of each month at the Indoor Pistol Range on Lebanon Road.

June-July 2020

(Issue 4 of 6)

Next Club Meetings

Note: Meetings will be held in the shooting part of the Indoor Range to accommodate better social distancing.

June 30th @ 6:30 p.m. at the Indoor Range
July 28th @ 6:30 p.m. at the Indoor Range

President	Joe Butterfield	678-773-0744	Vice President	Mike Upchurch	970-560-8343
Secretary	Jenn Reynolds	509-592-7875	Treasurer	Anita Mayhew	970-903-5120
Club Director	John McHenry	970-739-4572	Junior Shooting Director	Norm Bowie	970-739-1486
Club Director	Earl Moore	970-564-9155	Indoor Range Officer	Jim Kingery	970-739-5170
Club Director	Mic McPherson	970-564-0500	Outdoor Range Officer	Chuck Wark	970-759-1614

ACTIVITIES, EVENTS & CLUB COORDINATORS

Centerfire Benchrest	Larry Percell	970-739-3580	Pistol League	Roger Lawrence	970-882-2636
Rimfire Benchrest	Gary Kyle	970-560-5090	Annual Gun Show	Gayel Alexander	970-529-3747
3 Gun Shoot	Tim Hunter	970-749-3665	Club Historian	Roger Lawrence	970-882-2636
Plink Off/.22 Sucker Shoot	Chuck Wark	970-759-1614	Website	Jenn/Jason Reynolds	509-592-7675
Cowboy Shoot	Mike Kelso	970-560-6849	Newsletter	Susa Kelley	928-600-2993
Hunter Sight-In	Earl Moore	970-564-9155	4C Women At The Range	Anita Mayhew	970-903-5120
Memberships	Luann Meyer	970-739-6874	Advertising	Anita Mayhew	970-903-5120

President's Message

Greetings 4CRP Members,

I hope you all are well, staying safe and coping with the current covid-19 restrictions. Hopefully they will be lifted in the near future and we can get back to normal operating conditions.

Plans for the annual Women at the Range Instructional Clinic, June 6th, are on track. The number of participants has been reduced. We are also waiting for word from the NRA regarding our grant request. They will be responding after they go back to work. **NOTE:** The Outdoor Range will be closed on June 6th to accommodate the Instructional Clinic.

Gayel Alexander, our Gun Show Manager, is working on getting conformation from vendors regarding their ability to participate at the gun show in August. We will continue to update you as information becomes available.

Ongoing summer events at the outdoor Range will be held at the discretion of the leaders of each event. Contact them for up-to-date information about those activities.

Mark your calendars for the Annual Outdoor Picnic, August 25th. More information will be coming out late July.

If you would like to receive updates about 4CRP Club activities via email, contact John McHenry to get on the email list. Updated info is also placed on the Club website as it becomes available.

As always, be vocal, outgoing, and positive about the second amendment to our Constitution.

Thanks to you all.
LLAP, Joe Butterfield

CALENDAR

Due to Colorado Public Health Order 20-23, 4CRP Club's meetings, activities and events may be canceled or postponed. Recurring and scheduled activities are included on the calendar in this issue so that you will have information once restrictions have been lifted.

Please contact the Event or Activity Coordinator for specific information.

RECURRING/POSTPONED ACTIVITIES

4CRP Club Meeting: Last Tuesday of the month

Junior Shooters: Will start again in October. Contact Norm Bowie, Director, for more info: 970-739-1486

3 Gun Shoot: Meets the 2nd Saturday of the month year round (*weather permitting*) at the Outdoor Range: 9 a.m. For more info, contact Tim Hunter, Coordinator at 970-749-3665.

Cowboy Shoot: Meets the 2nd Sunday of the month year round (*weather permitting*) at the Outdoor Range: 9 a.m. For more info, contact Mike Kelso, Coordinator at 970-560-6849

4 Corners WOMEN at the RANGE: Meets the 1st Sunday of the month at 2 p.m. at the Indoor Range. Contact Anita Mayhew at 970-903-5120 or email: mayhewanita@gmail.com.

Cortez Gun Show: *Rescheduled:* August 14-16 at the Montezuma Fairgrounds—will update as info becomes available

June 2020 Special & Continuing Events

June 6:	4 Corners Women at the Range Instructional Clinic, 8:30 a.m., Outdoor Range <u>NOTE: RANGE WILL BE CLOSED TO ALL OTHER ACTIVITY</u>
June 7:	4 Corners Women at the Range Meet/Shoot 2 p.m. Indoor Range
June 13:	3 Gun Shoot at Outdoor Range: 9 a.m.
June 14:	Cowboy Shoot at Outdoor Range: 9 a.m. Rimfire Benchrest starts at the Outdoor Range, 7:30 a.m. (Set up; shoot 8:30 a.m.)
June 21:	Centerfire Benchrest starts at Outdoor Range: 8:20 Orientation (8:30 a.m. shooting)
June 28:	Plink Off/.22 Shoot starts at Outdoor Range, 7 a.m. (Set up, Shoot at 8 a.m.)
June 30:	4CRP Club Meeting, 6:30 p.m. Indoor Range

July 2020 Special & Continuing Events

July 5:	4 Corners WOMEN at the RANGE Meet/Shoot, 2 p.m. at the Indoor Range.
July 11:	3 Gun Shoot at Outdoor Range: 9 a.m.
July 12:	Cowboy Shoot at Outdoor Range: 9 a.m. Rimfire Benchrest starts at the Outdoor Range, 7:30 a.m. (Set up; shoot 8:30 a.m.)
July 19:	Centerfire Benchrest starts at Outdoor Range: 8:20 Orientation (8:30 a.m. shooting)
July 28:	4CRP Club Meeting, 6:30 p.m. Indoor Range.
July 31:	Plink Off/.22 Shoot at the Outdoor Range, 7 a.m. (Set up, Shoot at 8 a.m.)

Events and activities listed in the Crack Shot Newsletter may be UPDATED after it is published.
To see CURRENT calendars, go to 4cornersrifleandpistol.com website. Select CALENDAR Tab, then EVENTS.
You can view the calendars on the website in List or the Month by Month View. The website is continually updated!

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

1. **How Can I Help?** 4CRP is always in need of volunteers who are interested in helping out. Contact any of the Board Members, Directors or Coordinators for more information
2. **WANTED:** Prior 2007 issues of the CRACK SHOT Newsletters for historical purposes. Contact: Roger Lawrence, 4CRP Club Historian @ 970-560-5070 or 970-882-2636
3. **Advertising** on our website helps our Club. If you know of someone who is interested, ads can be purchased for six months and range from \$50-\$200 (depending on the size). Contact Anita Mayhew at: 970-903-5120.
4. **Email Updates:** John McHenry maintains a 4CRP Club email list. From time to time he sends out important announcements, news and event/activity updates, reminders and the Crack Shot Newsletter. If you would like to be on his email distribution list, email him at jmchenry@frontier.net or text him at 970-739-4572.
5. **What would you like to see in the Crack Shot?** Do you have info, an event/activity scheduled, an article or other ideas you think would be interesting to members? Submissions are welcomed (depending upon space) and approval by 4CRP President. Next issue will be Aug/Sept. Please email Susa Kelley at 3quus3ros@gmail.com
6. **Memberships** (New or renewal) can be obtained at:

- ***Choice Building Supply** (Ace Hardware): Contact person is Scott, 970-565-4245; 525 North Broadway, Cortez
- ***RDF Guns**, Ron Ferguson, Owner; 10933 County Road 26 (Off Mildred Street, north of Southwest Memorial Hospital), Cortez; 970-564-4218. Open Tuesday thru Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
- At any of the **monthly Club meetings** or online at the 4CRP website: 4cornersrifleandpistol.com

Note: **Currently, NRA memberships (new or renewal) are not yet available at Choice Building Supply or RDF Gun.*

- **You must show proof of membership in the NRA to renew your 4CRP membership.** This can be done with your NRA membership card or the mailing label from your NRA monthly magazine which has your NRA account number and expiration date.
- 4CRP fees for joining/renewing are \$45; you can add a spouse or child as an "Associate Member" for an additional \$10. Associate Members do not receive their own key. Your 4CRP membership card will be mailed to you.
- **Outdoor Range Key:** You may take your old key (with the orange stripe on it) along with your current membership card to either **Choice Building Supply or RDF Guns** and exchange it for a new key to the Outdoor Range. They have been instructed to only issue new keys **after** seeing a current 4CRP membership card. You can also attend a monthly Club meeting and receive 2020 key.

Luann Meyer, 4CRP Membership Coordinator
970-739-6874; email: luzmeyer@aim.com

Would you like to help 4CRP save some money?

Consider receiving your issues of the Crack Shot by **email** by contacting John McHenry at 4cornersrifleandpistol.com. Has your mailing address changed recently or **are you receiving more than one copy** of the Crack Shot? Let Luann Meyer, Membership Coordinator (970-739-6874), know so she can make corrections to her mailing list.

THE PASSING OF A 4CRP CLUB PRESIDENT/MEMBER

Bob Gaddis, one of our former 4CRP Club Presidents, passed away April 15, 2020 at his home in Mancos. He was 88 years old. Bob had been an excellent President, and had donated several custom hand-made Randall Knives to the Club for fund raising purposes.

He had been living in the Mancos area for the past 27 years. His complete obituary, and an opportunity to express your condolences can be found on the Ertel Funeral Home website under Robert L. (Bob) Gaddis.

(Announcement courtesy of Roger Lawrence, 4CRP Club Historian)

Thoughts from Mike Upchurch, 4CRP Vice President

During the last three months we have all been bombarded with "HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS" in order to stay safe from the Covid 19 virus. 4CRP Club's motto has always been based upon the same theory: the condition of being safe from undergoing or causing hurt, injury, or loss. Granted, the Club's motto is about firearm safety, but it easily transfers over to the current health crisis and our responsibility to keep ourselves SAFE and act prudently to avoid harm to anyone else.

A safety on a firearm is a mechanical device that should prevent a firearm from firing when engaged. A safety works by stopping the firing pin from striking the primer. During this summer there will be more shooting activity. I hope that, as responsible members, we all act safely and prevent harm or danger to ourselves and others. We can always look for opportunities to share our safety training with others.

Remember the Five Basic Firearms Safety Rules:

1. Always keep your firearm pointed in a safe direction.
2. Treat all firearms as if they were loaded.
3. Keep your trigger finger outside the guard and off of the trigger until you are ready to fire.
4. Be certain of your target, your line of fire, and what lies beyond your target.
5. Always wear appropriate eye and ear protection when shooting and maintaining your firearm.

Like the 'safety' on your firearms, remember that social distancing, frequent handwashing, and wearing masks are all effective 'safety' practices at this time.

NRA GOLD MEDAL CLUB AWARD

Each year The National Rifle Association (NRA) recognizes outstanding clubs that have gone above and beyond by striving to meet NRA goals. To receive the **Gold Medal Club Award**, 4CRP Club met all the following criteria:

1. Be a 100 % NRA membership club as stated in our Bylaws.
2. Have a Club Newsletter.
3. Belong to the NRA State Association in our case the Colorado State Shooters Association.
4. Administer and incorporate an NRA Youth Program into our agenda.
5. Be an active participant in the NRA Recruiting Program.

Because we have met these goals, we as a Club, have greater status for NRA grants and funding. Grants can be awarded to assist with acquisition, development, and improvement of our shooting facilities. 4CRP will be sent a plaque, and each year the Club continues to meet these standards, a new year will be added to the plaque.

Note: Thank you to **Mike Upchurch** for many hours of compiling documents, calls to NRA and other agencies, and time consuming follow-up to make this accreditation for 4CRP a reality.

2020 Junior Shooters Program

Once again the NRA Foundation has come through for 4CRP Junior Shooters by awarding us a grant worth \$3,800 in the form of rifles and ammo. Due to the season being cut short by the quarantines in place caused by the Corona Virus, we have numerous trophies with 2020 on them that we were not able to award. Junior Shooters will start up the 2020 season in October instead of November. This will allow us extra time to qualify shooters and hold some extra events. The group will be limited to 20 kids. For more info, contact Norm Bowie at: 970-739-1486.

Outdoor Range Notes

If you would like to reserve the Outdoor Range, please email [Chuck Wark @ cwarkcal54@gmail.com](mailto:Cwarkcal54@gmail.com) with your dates and times or submit a written request at any 4CRP meeting.

Shot Gun Shooters: Shot guns are welcome at the Outdoor Range, but the Range was not set up to cater to shotguns. All we've ever asked of those that want to use the Range to shoot their shotguns is that they:

- Do not shoot aerial targets (safety)
- Do not destroy the wooden target frames (it costs the Club a lot of money and effort to replace them)
- Pick up their spent hulls and put them in the trash can (provided) or take them with them when they leave.

These are reasonable, common sense rules. If you have a problem with them, don't blatantly defy them, come to a 4CRP Club meeting and let us know why you think they are unreasonable. We'll be glad to listen and take it under consideration. Not all of you that use the Outdoor Range for shotguns are guilty. It's a "if the shoe fits" thing.

Updates:

- 15 more metal stands (to house the wooden target frames) are being built by John Campanovo (Thanks).
- New sandbags are in progress thanks to John McHenry for his help and Lee Shane, Saddle Maker, who will be doing all the sewing after the bags are filled with sand.
- We could still use a couple more tables for the pistol range (old tables work just fine).
- It is good to see shooting attendance increase at the Outdoor Range due to members and their friends gathering in small groups creating their own shooting activities.
- A big THANK YOU to the Windygap Regulators Cowboy Shoot Group, who rent the 3 gun area for their monthly shoots, for cleaning up, weeding and making this area look great!

REMINDERS:

- ✓ **MEMBERS MUST BE PRESENT IF THEIR KEY IS USED AT THE OUTDOOR RANGE.** Please be prepared to show your 4CRP Membership Card whenever asked!
- ✓ Keep the gate closed and lock it when you leave!
- ✓ There are extra trash bags in the Target Shed; if the trash is full, please take it to the dumpster. Little things like this will help to keep the Outdoor Range tidy and clean so all of us can enjoy it.

.Chuck Wark, Outdoor Range Officer, 970-759-1614

Check with the Event Coordinator for up-to-date info, cancelations, restrictions, postponements and season extensions.

Plink Off/.22 Shoot

Time: 7 a.m.-11 a.m. (7 a.m. set up; 8 a.m. shooting). Help is always appreciated.

Where: Outdoor Range, 25 yard to 300 yard rifle range

Dates: Last Sunday of each month (weather permitting):

- June 28
- July 26
- August 30
- September 27

Bring your .22 rifles with iron sights, 4 power scope (or under) or "peep" sights.

Please Note: *Because of the Coronavirus precautions, there will be no sharing of guns.*

Chuck Wark, Coordinator 970-759-1614; email: cwark54cal@gmail.com

**Guns made us free and have kept us free, one side says;
the other side rejects guns as instruments of domination, lawlessness, and terrorism.
The conflict rages on because both sides are right.**

Jan E. Dizard

Outdoor Range Notes continued

CENTERFIRE BENCHREST 2020

The 2020 Centerfire Benchrest competition continues for the summer season. Shooting will continue through September, and will be held on the third Sunday of each month. Dates are:

- June 21
- July 19
- August 16
- September 20

- ❖ Competition shooting will start at 8:30. Please arrive early to help set up target stands. Stands must be moved from Bench area to the 300 yard range to start.
- ❖ Bragging rights and stickers will be awarded for 1st and 2nd place for each match.
- ❖ Points will also be awarded for each target with total winning score for the seasons competition
- ❖ No muzzle brakes allowed.
- ❖ Targets will be 2 each at 300, 200, and 100 yards distances. Extra point cluster at 100 yards

Note: In the past, there were no mandatory time limits. This may change depending upon the number shooters.

Larry Percell, Coordinator: 970-739-3580

Rimfire Benchrest

- The 2019 Rimfire Benchrest is held on the second Sunday of the month:
 - ✓ June 14
 - ✓ July 12
 - ✓ August 9
 - ✓ September 13
- This event is open to club members and non-members. Shooters must sign waivers before competing.
- Setup and registration starts at 7:30 a.m., and after a short safety meeting shooting begins at 8:30 a.m. At the end targets are scored and awards made; the range is released at 11:00 a.m.
- A \$3.00 donation to the Club is requested to cover costs.
- Rifles shooting standard velocity 22LR or air rifles are permitted.
- Shooters normally provide their own ammo (about 100 rounds), but, if necessary, ammo can be purchased at the event.
- There are matches for scoped medium weight rifles (11 lb. or less), scoped heavyweight rifles (over 11 lbs.), and aperture sight rifles at ranges from 50 yards to 100 yards. Typically target rifles with front and rear rests are used. A spotting scope is also needed for some matches.
- The matches are shot for score (not group), and points toward the Club Championship are awarded for 1st and 2nd place in each match.
- Competitors can shoot all of the matches even if they do not have all classes of rifles; they can shoot what they have for extra points.
- See the web page for more details.

Contact: Gary Kyle, Coordinator at: 970-560-5090 or email: gskyle@msn.com

THREE GUN SHOOT

This is a fun shoot that is action packed for the participants, and could qualify as a spectator sport! This is a move and shoot, tactical match. Firearms used are any pistol (minimum caliber--9mm), centerfire rifle and shotgun. We utilize knockdown targets, frangible targets, and accuracy targets. Safety is emphasized during all aspects of the match. Scoring is based on time and accuracy.

The main competition is between you and yourself. As this is a live fire event, and participants are moving through various target rich scenarios, competent and safe handling of all firearms is required. The match starts at 9 a.m. with a group walkthrough of the course, after which lots are drawn for start positions. The entry fee is \$5.00. This match is open to the public. Match capacity is 12 participants.

We meet the 2nd Saturday of the month year round (weather permitting) at the Outdoor Range. The next meet is April 11th, 9:00 a.m.: Walk the range, safety meeting and began shooting. We are usually done by 5:00 p.m.

For more information contact: Tim Hunter @ 970-749-3665 or email hunter@frontier.net

Outdoor Range Notes continued

WOMEN at the RANGE Instructional Shooting Clinic is scheduled for June 6th. It looks like we will have about 16 shooters instead of our usual 24 and fewer volunteers as well so that social distancing is possible. We are requesting participants and volunteers wear their masks, and gloves if they want. We'll have plenty of wipes, and everything possible will be handled only by the individual participant, etc.

Anita Mayhew, Coordinator, mayhewanita@gmail.com; 970-903-5120

Indoor Range Notes

Thank you for your help in keeping this facility clean and well maintained. After you finish shooting, check for trash and casings. Let me know when bathroom (or other supplies) are running low, and if you observe any problems/issues in the building. When you leave, be sure the door is secured and locked. **Coming soon: Installation of LED lights in the meeting part of the Indoor Range.**

Jim Kingery, Indoor Range Officer, 970-739-5170

FOUR CORNERS WOMEN AT THE RANGE Monthly Shooting Group

Sunday, **June 7**, the Women at the Range Shooters Group will meet at the Indoor Range to work on advancing their pistol skills. Eighteen women have signed up so this activity is completely full. There will be two groups shooting: one at 2:00 p.m. and the other at 3:30 p.m. This will allow for differing skill levels and social distancing. Prior to the meet, participants will be notified of which time slot they have been assigned. Attendees are encouraged to bring a .22 pistol for these shoots rather than their preferred concealed carry gun. The class includes a set target for a score (that will be repeated each month) and a shooting "game" to help hone our skills.

In this time of COVID, the Range Safety Officers will be wearing masks and will wipe everything down before and after the class. If anyone has questions or needs more information, please direct your email to Anita Mayhew at mayhewanita@gmail.com or Kristine Nunn Fraley at fairlynumm@gmail.com.

Spring Pistol League Results

The Pistol League has completed its season with some new names emerging as winners.

IRON SIGHTS

Top Gun

Chuck Wark

Division 1
Division 2
Division 3
Division 4

RED DOT

Top Gun

Dale Donahoe

Don Cook
Jason Reynolds
Ronda Cox
Ron Serabia

Most Improved Shooters

LADIES

Jennifer Reynolds

MEN

Marv Hermans

Congratulations to everyone! Thanks goes out to Don Cook, Chuck Wark & John McHenry for all their help. I couldn't do it alone.

See you all this Fall.

Roger Lawrence, Coordinator
970-882-2636; rjl@fone.net



Chuck Wark, Jenn & Jason Reynolds



Ronda Cox



Ron Serbia & Don Cook



Marv Hermans & Dale Donahoe

My First Blown Primer: Not My Last

M.L. McPherson

The incident discussed herein might very well have been the catalyst that sparked my interest in the field of internal ballistics. I was curious, and I had already encountered a situation where a handload had generated more pressure than I had expected. I had tried to ignore that first excess-pressure occurrence; after this incident, I could not do so. Thereafter, I simply had to try to learn and understand what goes on as a round fires. I am still learning. As my friend, Bill Falin, former Chief Ballistician at Accurate Arms, notes: "A reason exists for a starting load." An incident I experienced in 1973 proved that point very well.

During my Air Force days, I met another young man who was interested in learning how to handload. He had a Saco chambered in 243 Winchester. He also had 84 empty Remington 243 cases and 16 remaining rounds in one box of 80-grain Remington factory loads. All his empty cases were once-fired in his Saco and had all been the same, 80-grain factory load. While resizing those cases, I examined each. The fired primers looked normal. I found nothing visibly wrong with any of those. He wanted to start gathering the things he would need to handload for that gun, and he wanted to load 100-grain bullets.

I told him that if he would buy a box of Sierra 100-grain SBT bullets and a set of dies, I would supply the primers and propellant for his first handloads and we could use my equipment, as I showed him the basics of the handloading process. I also suggested that he buy one box of Remington factory 100-grain ammo, for comparison to our handloads, and to give him a convenient number of cases (100). I had a good supply of surplus H4831, that cost me 79¢/pound and plenty of CCI-200 primers that cost me 39¢/100. So, providing those components wasn't much of a sacrifice. I told him he could buy me lunch.

A few days later, he had the ammo, bullets, and dies. We sat down to load some rounds. I opened the Sierra loading manual and found the recommended charge for H4831 with the 100-grain SBT. I selected the middle charge. I figured that would come close to matching the velocity of the factory load. I already knew from a friend who loaded the same combination in his Savage 99 that a full case of H4831 worked just fine. So, I was not concerned at all that choosing the middle load, rather than the starting load might cause a problem.

I had a paper-screen chronograph. My intention was to shoot for accuracy and then chronograph a few factory rounds and a few of our handloads, to compare velocity. I anticipated that with that information, I could adjust the H4831 charge as needed to match the factory-load velocity. That would give him a handload that should work fine and that he could use almost interchangeably with the factory load. Seemed like a good plan at the time. So, we set up and fired a three-shot group with his 80-grain factory load. It was on paper and close enough to the bullseye at 100 yards that we knew the 100-grain load would be on paper too. So, without making any scope adjustment, he loaded three of our handloads into the magazine, chambered the first, and lined up on the target.

I was watching the target through my 8x50 binoculars — in those days, I could easily see the holes. As he fired, I saw a hole appear in the paper, about where I figured it should be, but I sensed something wrong. I think I might have felt the escaping gas from the action. I lowered the binoculars as I turned to look at him and the gun. Smoke was seeping from the action. He reached for the bolt handle and tried to open it. No luck. It was stuck so hard that it took both of us to unlock it — one to hold the gun, the other to pry on the bolt handle. Once the bolt unlocked, the fired case then came out of the chamber without any problem but the primer fell out! Needless to say, I was not impressed. This was the first time I had destroyed a case with a handload. I told him not to fire any more of our handloads. So, he unloaded the magazine. I sat and pondered things, trying to figure out what could have gone wrong. I was baffled.

He asked what we should do. I suggested he fire a group with the factory 100-grain load. So, he loaded three of those in the magazine, chambered the first, and fired. This time, I was watching the gun. Smoke billowed out of the action! We were done shooting. We had to get a small chunk of wood to hammer on the bolt handle to get it unlocked and then tap it rearward to get the case out of the chamber. Fortunately, other than a massively destroyed case, nothing else was hurt.

So, at least I knew that my handloads were not at fault. On a lark, I smoked a bullet. He chambered that round and pulled it back out. Rifling engraving was obvious on the bullet ogive, where it had removed the carbon and deformed the bullet. I chambered another factory round. I could easily feel the resistance as the bolt locked. This proved that the throat was cut far shorter than normal for the 243. That alone could cause high pressure with any load where the bullet was jammed into the rifling.

I asked him if he had noticed that the bolt was hard to rotate to the locked position. He said, "Well, yes, I felt resistance when closing the bolt, but I figured that had something to do with it being a handload." We slugged that barrel later that day. It measured about 0.232"x0.239". That is about 4/1000-inch smaller than minimum specification for the 243. That, too, would significantly increase pressure. The shorter 80-grain loads used a relatively soft bullet that had a significant jump to the rifling and therefore swaged down easily enough to not cause an obvious increase in pressure. An interesting point is that those rounds shot fine, despite the too-small bore.

Those varmint bullets were Remington's Power-Lokt design; the jacket is electro-plated onto the core. The core and jacket are entirely bonded. As such, those bullets can retain accuracy, despite such abuse during firing. Both the handloaded and factory 100-grain loads used much harder, conventional jacketed bullets. When seated at normal 243 length, those bullets butted into the rifling. Because the 100-grain bullets were seated against the rifling and were relatively hard, pressure skyrocketed with those loads.

If I had loaded the recommended starting load, almost certainly the case would have held but it would have shown obvious pressure signs. That should have been sufficient to warn us that something was amiss. If I had started with the maximum load, I might well have destroyed the gun and hurt my acquaintance and myself. It does not matter why any given combination of load and gun generates unexpectedly excessive pressure; all that matters is that this can happen. When it does happen, it can be dangerous. Mr. Falin is right: There is a GOOD reason for a starting load. The wise handloader will respect that fact.

Beware of Scam Emails

In April John McHenry sent out an email to 4CRP members (who are on the Club's email list) alerting them that several members had received bogus emails supposedly from Joe Butterfield, the Club's President, that requested they purchase gift cards on his behalf for donations. I also received such an email and the subject was a little suspicious. I almost opened it, but instead I checked "his" email address by hovering my mouse (but not clicking on it!) over the 'from' address--his name; it had numbers and symbols in it and I knew it wasn't from Joe so I reported it as spam and deleted it. I never open any email (even from people I know) without first checking the email address domain to make sure no alterations (like additional numbers, symbols or letters) have been made. The difference between these two email addresses, as an example, is: michelle@paypal.com (*legit*) and michelle@paypal23.com (*altered*).

I received an email last week looking like it was from **Liberty Mutual Insurance** with a subject line of: **You could save today on customize insurance**. *This in itself wasn't particularly suspicious because we have Liberty Mutual Insurance.* I hovered the mouse over Liberty Mutual Insurance (the 'from' address) and this was the email domain: B0@194499m?%#2pWKqgxU0@establish.prodhomegar.com. Definitely a scam and phishing (pronounced fishing; it is how scammers catch people in their "net."). **DELETE! DELETE! DELETE!**

TIPS TO AVOID EMAIL SCAMS



Red Flags



FROM

- I don't recognize the sender's email address as someone I **ordinarily communicate with**.
- This email is from **someone outside my organization and it's not related to my job responsibilities**.
- This email was sent from **someone inside the organization** or from a customer, vendor, or partner and is **very unusual or out of character**.
- Is the sender's email address from a **suspicious domain** (like micorsoft-support.com)?
- I **don't know the sender personally** and they **were not vouched for** by someone I trust.
- I **don't have a business relationship** nor any past communications with the sender.
- This is an **unexpected or unusual email** with an **embedded hyperlink or an attachment** from someone I haven't communicated with recently.



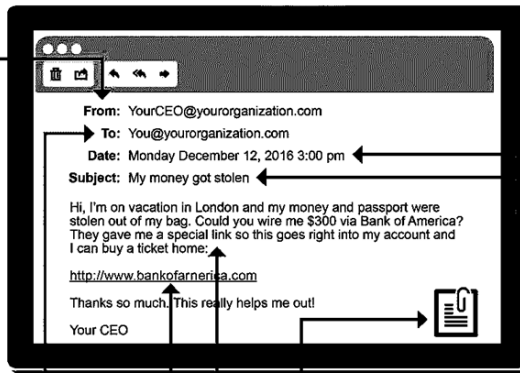
TO

- I was cc'd on an email sent to one or more people, but I **don't personally know** the other people it was sent to.
- I received an email that was also sent to an **unusual mix of people**. For instance, it might be sent to a random group of people at my organization whose last names start with the same letter, or a whole list of unrelated addresses.



HYPERLINKS

- I hover my mouse over a hyperlink that's displayed in the email message, but the **link-to address is for a different website**. (This is a **big red flag**.)
- I received an email that only has **long hyperlinks with no further information**, and the rest of the email is completely blank.
- I received an email with a **hyperlink that is a misspelling** of a known web site. For instance, www.bankofamerica.com — the "m" is really two characters — "r" and "n."



DATE

- Did I receive an email that I normally would get during regular business hours, but it was **sent at an unusual time** like 3 a.m.?



SUBJECT

- Did I get an email with a subject line that is **irrelevant or does not match** the message content?
- Is the email message a reply to something I **never sent or requested**?



ATTACHMENTS

- The sender included an email attachment that I **was not expecting** or that **makes no sense** in relation to the email message. (This sender doesn't ordinarily send me this type of attachment.)
- I see an attachment with a possibly **dangerous file type**. The only file type that is **always safe to click on is a .txt file**.



CONTENT

- Is the sender asking me to click on a link or open an attachment to **avoid a negative consequence** or to **gain something of value**?
- Is the email **out of the ordinary**, or does it have **bad grammar** or **spelling errors**?
- Is the sender asking me to click a link or open up an attachment that **seems odd or illogical**?
- Do I have an **uncomfortable gut feeling** about the sender's request to open an attachment or click a link?
- Is the email asking me to look at a **compromising or embarrassing picture** of myself or someone I know?

Be wary of email subject lines commonly used by scammers: *Online Banking Alert: Your Account will be Deactivated, USPS: Failed Package Delivery, Subpoena in a civil case, Password Check Required Immediately, Security Alert, Microsoft/Office 365: De-activation of Email in Process, Free Gift for You, Win a Vacation, Donate Like Your Friend Did (names someone you know), FedEx: Correct address needed for your package delivery, USPS: Your digital receipt is ready, Google: Please Complete the Required Steps, Your Account Has Been Closed, etc.*

It is also important to keep your computer software and system up-to-date with reliable antivirus/antispyware software, firewalls, pop-up blockers, etc. Be careful about what you download and avoid opening files and applications from strangers or unknown sites. Delete cookies and browsing history before you log off your computer. Consider using a VPN (Virtual Private Network) or installing anti-phishing toolbars, extensions, and plugins on your internet browser. Even if you have the most secure security system in the world, it takes only **one click** to be fooled by a phishing attack and give away the data you've worked so hard to protect. Companies and individuals are often targeted by cybercriminals via emails designed to look like they came from a legitimate bank, government agency, organization or **someone you know**.

These tips are not all inclusive and/or foolproof, and I'm not an expert, but I have become more skeptical. I hope they help you to be cautious and watchful. Think about one of the important gun safety rules: *Keeping your finger off the trigger until you are ready to fire.* **Likewise, the left mouse button is the "trigger" on your Computer: Think before you click; the identity saved could be your own!**

Susa Kelley, Crack Shot Coordinator

What Critics Don't Understand About Gun Culture

My wife knew something was amiss when the car blocked our driveway. She was outside our house, playing with our kids on our trampoline, when a car drove slowly down our rural Tennessee Street. As it reached our house, it pulled partially in the driveway, and stopped. A man got out and walked up to my wife and kids. Strangely enough, at his hip was an empty gun holster. She'd never seen him before. She had no idea who he was. He demanded to see me. I wasn't there. I was at my office, a 50-minute drive from my house. My wife didn't have her phone with her. She didn't have one of our guns with her outside. She was alone with our three children. Even if she had her phone, the police were minutes away. My wife cleverly defused the confrontation before it escalated, but we later learned that this same person had been seen, hours before, slowly driving through the parking lot of our kids' school. There are evil people in this world, and sometimes they wish you harm.

Miles's law states, "Where you stand is based on where you sit." In other words, your political opinions are shaped by your environment and your experience. We're products of our place, our time, and our people. Each of these things is far more important to shaping hearts and minds than any think piece, any study, or certainly any tweet. And it strikes me that many millions of Americans don't truly understand how "gun culture" is built, how the process of first becoming a gun owner, then a concealed-carrier, changes your life. It starts with the consciousness of a threat. Perhaps not the kind of threat my family has experienced. Some people experience more. Some less. And some people don't experience a threat at all—but they're aware of those who do. With the consciousness of a threat comes the awareness of a vulnerability. The police can only protect the people you love in the most limited of circumstances (with those limits growing ever-more-severe the farther you live from a city center.) You want to stand in that gap.

So you take a big step. You walk into a gun store. Unless you're the kind of person who grew up shooting, this is where you begin your encounter with American gun culture. The first thing you'll notice—and I've seen this without fail—is that the person behind that counter is ready to listen. They want to hear your experience. They'll share their own. They'll point you immediately to a potential solution. Often the person behind the counter is a veteran. Often they're a retired cop. Always they're well-informed. Always they're ready to teach. They often suggest that you support and join your local gun club if there is one in your area.

Your first brush with this new world is positive, but it's just a start. The next place the responsible adult goes is to the gun range, a place that's often located in the store. Sometimes you buy the gun and walk straight to the range. You put on eye protection. You put on ear protection. And if you're honest with yourself, you're nervous. But, again, there's a person beside you. They show you how to load the gun. They teach you the basics of marksmanship. They teach you gun safety. Always treat the gun as if it's loaded, even if you think you know it's not. Keep your finger off the trigger unless you intend to fire the weapon. Only point it at objects you intend to shoot.

You do it. You fire. It's loud, but if the salesman has done his job, then he's matched you with a gun you can handle. In an instant, the gun is demystified. You buy a box of ammunition and shoot it all. Then you buy another box. For most people there's an undeniable thrill when they realize that they can actually master so potent a tool.

But something else happens to you, something that's deeper than the fun of shooting a paper target. Your thought-process

starts to change. Yes, if someone tried to break into your house, you know that you'd call 911 and pray for the police to come quickly, but you also start to think of exactly what else you'd do. If you heard that "bump" in the night, how would you protect yourself until the police arrived? You're surprised at how much safer you feel with the gun in the house.

Next, you realize that you want that sense of safety to travel with you. So you sign up for a concealed-carry permit class. You gather one night with friends and neighbors and spend the next eight hours combining a self-defense class with a dash of world-view training. And when you carry your weapon, you don't feel intimidated, you feel empowered. In a way that's tough to explain, the fact that you're so much less dependent on the state for your personal security and safety makes you feel more "free" than you've ever felt before.

And as your worldview changes, you expand your knowledge. You learn that people defend themselves with guns all the time, usually without pulling the trigger. You share the stories and your own experience with your friends, and soon they walk into gun stores. They start their own journey into America's "gun culture."

At the end of this process, your life has changed for the better. Your community has expanded to include people you truly like, who've perhaps helped you through a tough time in your life, and you treasure these relationships. You feel a sense of burning conviction that you, your family, and your community are safer and freer because you own and carry a gun.

It's a myth that gun owners despise regulation. Instead, they tend to believe that government regulation should have two purposes—deny guns to the dangerous while protecting rights of access for the law-abiding. The formula is simple: Criminals and the dangerously mentally ill make our nation more violent. Law-abiding gun owners save and protect lives.

Thus the overwhelming support for background checks, the insistence from gun-rights supporters that the government enforce existing laws and lock up violent offenders, and the openness to solutions—like so-called "gun violence restraining orders" that specifically target troubled individuals for intervention.

Law-enforcement failures or background-check failures that preceded, for example, the Virginia Tech, Charleston, Orlando, Sutherland Springs, and Parkland shootings are spurring serious new consideration of the gun violence restraining order, a move that would allow family members and others close to a potential shooter to get in front of a judge to request that the court direct law enforcement to temporarily seize a dangerous person's weapons. It gives ordinary citizens a chance to "do something" after they "see something" and "say something."

It's against this backdrop of experience and sincere belief that gun-owners experience the extraordinarily toxic rhetoric of the public gun debate. People who want to stop murders are compared to terrorists.

Because of the threats against my family—and because I don't want to be dependent on a sometimes shockingly incompetent government for my family's security—I carry a weapon. My wife does as well. We're not scared. We're prepared, and that sense of preparation is contagious. Confidence is contagious. People want to be empowered. That's how gun culture is built. Not by the NRA and not by Congress, but by gun owners, one free citizen at a time.

DAVID FRENCH is a senior writer at National Review and a veteran of the Iraq War. Feb 2018



CLASSIFIED ADS **For Sale**



Classified ads will appear in the printed/emailed Crack Shot Newsletter as well as on the 4CRP website under the Classified tab. To submit an ad, go to the 4CRP website at: 4cornersrifleandpistol.com to the Classified tab and fill out the form.

Reloading powder in 1 and 8 pound sealed containers. All are new.
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Custom bench rest rifle in 222 rem caliber single shot with laminated stock and bench rest barrel. Bore is in excellent condition. The scope on the rifle is a Unertl 24 power with caps. Scope is in excellent condition also. Asking \$1,350 for both. Gary Ferdinando: 970-529-3004; email: gferdinando64@gmail.com

Pistol League Combo:

- Smith & Wesson 686 Plus 3-5-7, 357 Mag/38Spcl, 7 inch barrel, 7 shot, Stainless Steel
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- Both used one season and in excellent condition. Sale and transfer will happen after evidence of completed background check. Asking \$1,150 for both. Charles Thompson: 970-739-0518; email: chazzwt@yahoo.com

- *****
- Weaver T-Series Rifle Scope, 24 X 40mm, Adjustable Objective with Fine Crosshair, 1/8 MOA Dot Reticle Matte Black with Sun Shade and Extra Oversized Benchrest Adjustment Knobs. Like New/In Box; Model 849976. \$300.00.
 - Shadow 1000 .177 caliber Pellet Rifle with 4x32mm Scope. Made in Spain; perfect condition. Match pellets included. \$150. Scott Dotson: 970-903-8033; email: joburoark@aol.com

PARTING SHOTS-How crazy is the English language?

Homographs are words of like spelling but with more than one meaning. A homograph that is also pronounced differently is a heteronym. The bandage was wound around the wound. The farm was used to produce produce. The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse. We must polish the Polish furniture. He could lead if he would get the lead out. The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert. Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present. A bass was painted on the head of the bass drum. When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes. I did not object to the object. The insurance was invalid for the invalid. There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row. They were too close to the door to close it. The buck does funny things when the does are present. A seamstress and a sewer fell down into a sewer line. To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow. The wind was too strong for me to wind the sail. Upon seeing the tear in the painting I shed a tear.

There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat. Quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig. If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth? One goose, 2 geese. So one moose, 2 meese? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell? How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites? You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down. English was invented by people, not computers, and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all. Why doesn't 'Buick' rhyme with 'quick'?

There is a two-letter word that perhaps has more meanings than any other two-letter word, and that is 'UP.' It's easy to understand UP, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but when we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP? At a meeting, why does a topic come UP? Why do we speak UP and why are the officers UP for election and why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report? We call UP our friends. And we use it to brighten UP a room, polish UP the silver; we warm UP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen. We lock UP the house and some guys fix UP the old car.

At other times the little word has real special meaning. People stir UP trouble, line UP for tickets, work UP an appetite, and think UP excuses. To be dressed is one thing, but to be dressed UP is special. A drain must be opened UP because it is stopped UP. We open UP a store in the morning but we close it UP at night. We seem to be pretty mixed UP about UP! To be knowledgeable about the proper uses of UP, look the word UP in the dictionary. In a desk-sized dictionary, it takes UP almost 1/4th of the page and can add UP to about thirty definitions. If you are UP to it, you might try building UP a list of the many ways UP is used. It will take UP a lot of your time, but if you don't give UP, you may wind UP with a hundred or more. When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP. When the sun comes out we say it is clearing UP. When it doesn't rain for a while, things dry UP. One could go on and on, but I'll wrap it UP, for now my time is UP, so it is time to shut UP; besides now my brain is locked UP!

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