



The Crack Shot

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

4cornersrifleandpistol.com

PO Box 101
Cortez, CO 81321

June / July 2021

(Issue 4 of 6)

"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

- June 29 @ 6:30 p.m. at the Indoor Range
- July 27th @ 6:30 p.m. at the Indoor Range

President	Mike Upchurch	970-560-8343	Vice-President	Joe Drago	415-717-2666
Secretary	Jenn Reynolds	509-592-7675	Treasurer	Anita Mayhew	970-903-5120
Outdoor Range Officer	Chuck Wark	970-759-1614	Junior Shooting Director	Norm Bowie	970-739-1486
Club Director	Jim Kingery	970-739-5170	Indoor Range Officer	Mic McPherson	970-564-0500
Club Director	Larry Percell	970-739-3580	Club Director	Roger Lawrence	970-560-5070

ACTIVITIES, EVENTS & CLUB COORDINATORS

Centerfire Benchrest	Larry Percell	970-739-3580	Pistol League	Roger Lawrence	970-560-5070
Rimfire Benchrest	Gary Kyle	970-560-5090	Gun Show	Gayel Alexander	970-529-3747
3 Gun Shoot	Tim Hunter	970-749-3665	Club Historian	Roger Lawrence	970-560-5070
Plink Off/.22 Sucker Shoot	Chuck Wark	970-749-3665	4C Women @ the Range	Anita Mayhew	970-903-5120
Cowboy Shoot	Mike Kelso	970-560-6849	Newsletter	Jenn Reynolds	509-592-7675
Hunter Site-In			Website	Jenn Reynolds	509-592-7675
Communications	John McHenry	970-739-4572	Advertising	Anita Mayhew	970-903-5120

4CRP Mission Statement

- To be a non-profit community organization in the promotion and preservation of the gun ownership and usage rights of the U.S. Constitution and Section 13 of Article II of the Colorado Constitution.
- To always emphasize safety first
- To provide and maintain range facilities for shooting members of the Club and their guests
- To support all legal activities—hunting, practice and competitive shooting, and defense of self, home and community
- To provide facilities, certified firearm education, and charitable contributions to Club members, the local community, youth organizations, and law enforcement.

President's Message

There's never a bad time to improve a gun club, but perhaps there are better times than others. Especially as recruiters. Our local gun club is a representative of the NRA as well as gun owners and Second Amendment advocates. People that you meet at our gun show or while hunting should be invited to our meetings. Even if they are unable to make meetings, invite non club members to our local outdoor range as a guest or to pistol leagues or perhaps training classes sponsored by our club. Non-member owners or employees from local gun and sporting stores can be asked for their input or support. Beyond training for potential disastrous scenarios, to operate a local gun club is just fun. In a time when we are being encouraged to all stay in our homes and isolate us as much as possible, forging social connections might be just what the doctor ordered. Practical considerations aside, a gun club can offer you a kind of social outlet. A chance to meet like-minded people or participate in events the likes of which you might not have had since high school or during time served in the military.

I would think that the best time to welcome gun owners or others who want to better their shooting skills is right now. With the up-swing in violence and concern for safety, people are looking for solutions; especially safety. My late Mother always encouraged us to "strike while the iron is hot". It seems to me that it's time to grow our Rifle and Pistol Club with folks that want to increase their skills and are determined to stay safe and secure. Let's strike while the concern is hot.

~Mike Upchurch, 4CRP President

Thoughts From the Vice President

Training moves forward. I have trained and certified twenty RSOs and have almost forty more awaiting a date. I am also moving through the list of individuals that either newly joined, or renewed, their memberships at the gun show. We promised each of them a free one hour training segment in the curriculum of their choice.

The twenty trained RSOs are ready to go. They are trained far beyond the level required by NRA for certification. I brought in Chief John Cunningham from Sacramento, California, to teach the workbook and Captain Thomas Powell, from St. George, Utah, to teach the medical segment, including treating gunshot wounds. I taught a robust practical segment. This was an all volunteer effort and our sincere gratitude for their sacrifice goes out.

This is an extremely valuable asset; this group. They are currently, under the direction of Mr. Joel Stevenson, raising communications amongst themselves and are already planning future training events. Mr. Richard Evans, an RN and Paramedic, and now an RSO in our club, is deeply experienced in creating critical incident scenarios for training purposes, on a professional level. (He's actually rolled a semi over on it's side in the middle of town to train first responders.) He will assist me in creating critical incident scenarios that will test our RSOs in as close to a real time, real life environment as can be achieved. These incidents will range from accidental discharges with a single victim through to active shooter, with multiple.

This is a solid group and I envision them assisting me in training future safety officers.

Stay safe. Joe.

Membership News

- Current Member count is 349
- Memberships run from March 1, 2021 to February 28, 2022. Dues are \$55 for a regular member and \$10 for Associate members. Associate members can use a regular member's key and membership card without the regular member being present. Early renewal starts on Dec. 1, 2021
- Active ***NRA Membership is required** for all levels of membership in 4CRP; NRA membership number and expiration date are required on the 4CRP application.
- Every applicant is required to complete the revised membership application, read and agree that you will comply with the **Outdoor Range Use and Safety** Rules by signing the application certification.
- You can purchase a membership at the following locations:
 - Choice Building Supply—Cash or check only
 - RDF Guns—Cash or check only
 - Goods for the Woods—Cash or Check only
 - 4CRP Website—Debit/Credit card only
 - 4CRP monthly meeting—Cash, Check or Debit/Credit Card (through website) accepted

***So why does 4CRP require 100% of its members to be current NRA members? Here are just some of the reasons:**

- ◇ As a 100% NRA Club, our Jr. Shooting Team can participate in official tournaments
- ◇ Our Club is eligible for thousands of dollars in NRA grants for our Junior Shooters, Women's activities and to help develop and improve our ranges.
- ◇ NRA provides affordable insurance for our Club including coverage for special events

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS

1. **Volunteer Opportunities:** The Gun Club has many opportunities for you to contribute to the success of the club by helping out. If you are able, please mark where you are willing to help on the club application. If you forgot, or your availability has changed, please email Secretary Jenn Reynolds at 4CRPsecretary@gmail.com to be placed on the volunteer list. Our club runs better when members selflessly lend a hand.
2. **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
3. **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: 4cornersrifleandpistol@gmail.com or text/call him at 970-739-4572
4. **Email Purge:** From John McHenry - Communications director
There are many of you that have not renewed your membership, but are still receiving Club emails. As of June 1st, if you have not renewed your membership you will be taken off the club email list, and you will cease to receive club emails. This is probably good news to those of you that don't intend to renew, as you will no longer be bothered with unwanted emails. If you don't renew before the "Big Email Purge" it's not a problem. As soon as you renew, you will be re-instated. Just a friendly heads up.

HELP 4CRP SAVE SOME MONEY AND RECEIVE EACH ISSUE OF THE CRACK SHOT SOONER!

Consider receiving your issue of the Crack Shot via email by contacting John McHenry at 4cornersrifleandpistol@gmail.com.

Has your mailing address changed recently or are you receiving more than one copy of the Crack Shot?

Contact: Jenn Reynolds, Secretary: Text - 509-592-7675 or email: bassgoddess1@gmail.com

OUTDOOR RANGE NEWS

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

A couple of improvements we have made: installed orange safety line at the 300-yard range and the intermediate Cowboy range. **Do not shoot this orange line or anything above it.** Keep all bullets well below the range area.

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 keep the Outdoor Range tidy and clean so all of us can enjoy it.
- **Shooters in the field need to be aware of their target and what is behind that target, i.e., can the bullet potentially ricochet into one of the other ranges or over the berm? You are responsible for the bullet once it leaves the muzzle of your gun until it stops. This includes ricochets!**
 - ***Please, be aware of the cylinder and muzzle blasts on the sandbags which can cause holes to be burnt in the denim covering.***

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

4 Corners WOMEN at the RANGE - June Instructional Shooting Clinic Saturday, JUNE 5th

This will be the NINTH year 4CRP has offered a women's instructional shooting clinic. We have filled all available slots with 24 women who are eager to learn more about handling guns and work towards gaining better skills. This shooting clinic has been funded with frequent grants from the NRA Foundation totaling approximately \$12,000.00 over the years. This year, money that we have received from the grant is going towards ammunition, targets and 3 new tables for the shoot.

This day-long clinic is specifically aimed at women who have had little or no shooting experience—though often women attend because they have not been able to shoot frequently. 4CRP provides everything for this day: **firearms, ammunition, targets, one-on-one assistance by Range Safety Officers, and even lunch—all for \$35!**

The event is full, with 24 ladies attending a day full of safety and shooting education. This is the first year we have been able to have a woman with Instructor Certification, Brandi Gutknecht, making the initial safety and basic shooting presentation. Many thanks to Kelly Ellis and Tim Hunter for the previous years of providing this crucial training for the ladies that attend.

A huge thanks also goes out to the Club members that have volunteered to help run the clinic!!!

Anita Mayhew, Coordinator: 970-903-5120

Outdoor Range Update

Some of you may have heard that the lease on our Outdoor range is coming up for renewal in 2024. The lease amount is set to increase pretty significantly, so the executive committee is proactively exploring the options available to us. If you have thoughts or recommendations that you would like to see considered, please reach out to a member of the executive committee.

Want your Outdoor Range event listed in the Crack Shot?

Submit your Outdoor Range Event to the Crack Shot Editor at 4CRPCrackshot@gmail.com

INDOOR RANGE NEWS

We have some amazing projects up and coming to keep the indoor range ready for use for our trainings and shooting events, and we could use your help! Potential projects include:

- Spray the weeds
- External touch-up of the paint, as needed
- Minor wall caulking to seal cracks
- Repair of igniter for northward heater in range room
- Repair of fan in northward heater in meeting room
- Preparation of evaporative cooler for use

If you would like to help out with any of these projects, contact Indoor Range Director Mic McPherson at 970-564-0500

Four Corners Women at the Range—Monthly Shoots

This monthly shoot for experienced to expert shooters is full for the 2021 season with 18 women.



INDOOR RANGE REMINDER

Please help to keep the 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.

Mic McPherson, Indoor Range Officer, 970-564-0500

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June 2021

(O) = Outdoor Range
(I) = Indoor Range

Events and activities may be UPDATED after publication.
To see current calendars, go to 4cornersrifleandpistol.com website.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 (June 3rd—6th) Dolores River Campground Rally	4	5 CCW (I) 8a—5p Women's Clinic (O) 7a-4p Range closed
6 8 am to 5 pm: Concealed Carry Class	7	8	9 (June 9th—13th) Ute Mtn. Round-up Rodeo	10	11 (June 11th – 20th) Telluride Bluegrass	12 3 Gun Shoot 9a (O)
13 Rimfire Bench 7:30a(O) Cowboy Shoot 10a(O) Women @Range 2p(I)	14 Flag Day	15	16	17	18	19 Noon—5pm Mancos Burro Fest
20 Centerfire Bench 7:30a(O)	21 Summer Solstice	22	23	24	25	26 Ride of the Ancients Gravel-Grinder ~ Dolores
Father's Day 27	28	29 Gun Club Meeting 6:30p to ??	30			

July 2021

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 True Western Roundup Cortez 6:30pm
4 Fourth of July!	5	6	7	8	9 (July 9th—11th) 10am Gem & Mineral Show La Plata Cnty Fairgrounds	10 3 Gun Shoot 9a (O)
11 Rimfire Bench 7:30a(O) Cowboy Shoot 10a(O) Women @Range 2p(I)	12	13	14	15	16	17 (June 17th—18th) Dolores Summer Fest
18 Centerfire Bench 7:30a(O)	19	20	21	22	23 (July 23rd—July 25th) Mancos Days	24
25 11am—6pm Fairgrounds 4H Shooting sports	26	27 Gun Club Meeting 6:30p (I)	28	29	30	31



Gun Show Update

The 2021 Gun Show was a huge success with 64 Vendors occupying 154 tables, and a total profit of \$9,075.00 from over 3,000 attendees!

A huge shout out to Gayel for all of her hard work on an excellent show!!!

Proceeds go towards Jr. Shooters and Women's Shooting Programs



The 2021 Jr. Shooter Raffle of a 6.5 Creedmoor Rifle and ammo went to the lucky winner and 4CRP member Mike Rodri. Thank you to RDF Guns for the amazing deal on the rifle and Mic McPherson for the ammo donation!



A Brief Historical Bio: Annie Oakley

Jenn Reynolds

Phoebe Ann Moses, better known as Annie Oakley, was born on August 13, 1860 in Ohio. She learned to hunt and trap at an early age to help feed her family. She earned enough money selling her game that she was able to pay off the \$200 mortgage on their family farm by the time she was 15.

Anything you can do; I can do better:

Word of her shooting prowess spread throughout Ohio. When a traveling marksman by the name of Frank Butler called for a \$100 bet, saying that he could beat any local sharpshooter a Cincinnati hotel owner named Jack Frost took him up on that bet, and chose Annie to be that sharpshooter. A 5-foot tall, 15- or 21-year-old Annie (*The year of the bet is debated*) competed against Frank, and won, shooting all 25 targets to Frank's 24. A year later Frank and Annie were married. The couple enjoyed a long life together, being married for 50 years, and died within 3 weeks of each other in 1926.

There's No Business, like show business:

In March of 1885, Annie and Frank joined Wild Bill's Wild West show and toured the world performing daring acts of sharpshooting. Annie would shoot playing cards in half, snuff candles, and in pure "don't try this at home" fashion, even shot cigars and cigarettes out of Franks mouth. During this time Annie met and was adopted by Chief Sitting Bull, of Little Big Horn fame, and was given the moniker of Watanya Cicilla "Little sure Shot".

Doin' What Comes Naturally

Annie was an advocate for women's equality in the workforce and in the military. It is said that she trained over 15,000 women to handle guns and become sharpshooters; she also believed that women should be paid just as much as men in the workforce. Annie was the highest paid performer in Wild Bill's show, apart from Wild Bill himself. She believed strongly that women should know how to use a gun, defend themselves, be educated and independent. Annie offered to train regiments of women sharpshooters for both the Spanish-American War and WWI. Both offers were rejected by the sitting President at the time.

Sources: <https://www.history.com/news/10-things-you-may-not-know-about-annie-oakley> ; https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Annie_Oakley

A Short History of Freedom

M. L. McPherson

Why does anyone among the common man have personal freedom? This is far more than simply an academic question.

As we look back into the faint recordings of history, imperfect as those are, we see mirrored practically every good and bad aspect of civilization. We see war, famine, oppression, strife, and grief. We see artistic, engineering, literary, and scientific marvels. We see advances and setbacks in all areas of human endeavor. Throughout history and among hundreds of civilizations spanning thousands of years, from the earliest recordings, until the present, we see the continuing inevitable overall advancement of knowledge.

However, we do note the conspicuous absence of one thing. From the earliest recordings until the 1700s, what we do not see is the existence of personal freedom for the common folk.

Throughout those thousands of years of recorded history and across the world: individual freedom, as a feature of everyday human existence for the common man living within any advanced society, simply did not exist. Even in the most “democratic” of those societies, only the powerful (rich) had the freedom to routinely do as they pleased. Consider, for example, the history of slavery, which was worldwide throughout most of history and is still a very common evil, practiced widely, in one form or another, over most of the Earth.

Some seem to argue that Personal Freedom is overrated. I will not debate that elitist philosophy. (Technically, that point is moot to this discussion.) For the purposes of this treatise, I will hold that no human being could possibly find anything more precious than Personal Freedom. Those who do not agree with that philosophy have ulterior motives, are dangerously ignorant of reality, or are simply insane.

The critical question is: Exactly what seminal event changed the course of history and thereby the lot of the common man, so that, about 400 years ago, we began to see individuals who were able to claim and to enforce their God-given right to personal freedom? The answer would astound most folks and even most historical scholars. But, if they will only study history, they will learn this cold, hard fact: The magic potion that engendered Freedom for the masses was made of cold, hard steel.

In the 1700s, for the first time in civilized history, the average individual had a means of defeating a well-trained, armored warrior and therefore, a means of defeating the hired and trained mercenaries of the wealthy few. How so, you might ask. The answer: *The Affordable Gun*.

In that era, the advent of efficient steam engines provided the first effective means of ridding mines of water. That detail was crucial to the inchoate industrial revolution. With the advent of that revolution, the cost of guns and ammunition components began to plummet.

As a result, for the first time ever, the average person could afford to own and use a weapon that was routinely capable of defeating armor. Of course, then as now, the ruling elite fought aggressively to prevent the average subject from owning such a weapon. In that era, the reasons behind that legalistic oppression were perhaps more obvious to the average person than those reasons are today; nevertheless, those reasons were, are, and always will be identical — elitist suppression of the personal freedom for the masses.

It is a fact that without the affordable gun, freedom for the masses would never have happened. It is equally a fact, that as soon as the masses lose that means of preserving their God-given rights freedom will inevitably perish, as has repeatedly been proven throughout this modern world’s brief history.

Consider that since about 1890 various governments have disarmed their citizens and, within a few short years, proceeded to murder them. Governments have used this precise method to facilitate genocides that have taken the lives of more than one-hundred-twenty million innocent citizens. Those genocides are a fact of history that the hysterical rhetoric of politicians cannot change. And, never forget that political rhetoric brought on every one of the disarmaments that ultimately resulted in those genocides!

Continued on Pg. 10

Whatever he or she might claim, every politician who preaches gun control is actually attempting to prepare their country for inevitable tyranny, and the inevitable consequences of tyranny are all too well proven — it has never failed to eventually bring genocide.

Those who gnash their teeth, bemoaning the supposed carnage brought about by the “evil” gun continuously ignore the vastly more damaging facets of human nature that are necessarily rampant in any free society. But, I shall not argue that point, as I find it an exercise in banality.

The point I will argue is the undeniable fact that we have a choice: We can choose to live in freedom and accept that such liberty necessarily must include a certain admixture of evil and bad; else, we can choose to live in a Police State, for, as the subjects of Great Britain and all too many other countries are now in the process of learning the hard way, no enduring intermediate condition can ever exist.

In this regard, I find the following observation to be obvious: A price exists for freedom; any society is either willing to pay that price or is destined to suffer under the inevitable consequences of the alternative — a Police State, or worse.

As for me and mine, we will choose Freedom. Those who do not are my mortal enemies. Because, either through deliberate action or through apathy, they would be the death of me and mine. Their deliberate ignorance of that fact leaves the fault entirely and eternally on their heads, may God have mercy on them.

HOW TO HANDLE A SQUIB LOAD

First, it is critical that all shooters understand what a squib is. While this term is technically defined as an underpowered load, for safety purposes, it is more appropriate and useful to apply it to any load that creates any abnormal result upon firing. As such, a squib can be an underpowered load, an overpowered load, a load where the primer never fires, a load where the primer fires and drives the bullet into the barrel but does not ignite the charge or where no charge existed.

Any of these abnormal load situations can result in an unsafe condition after attempting to fire the round. Firing another round without clearing the squib can result in damage or destruction to the shooter, the gun, and to bystanders. These things do happen. Unfortunately, most of these bad results occur when the shooter fails to recognize that a squib occurred or when the shooter does not know how to safely handle the gun after a squib occurs. If you are in that camp, lay the gun down in a safe place with the muzzle pointing in a safe direction, step back, and, while assuring that no one else handles the gun, get *expert* help.

Regarding *expert* help: There is no way I can state this politely and without any risk of offending some readers, but the reality is, just because you think you are an expert does not make you an expert! It does not matter how long you have been handling and shooting guns, it does not matter how much you think you know about ammunition, it does not matter how smart you are in other areas, none of those things automatically qualify you as a genuine expert, when it comes to dealing with a squib load.

Our Club's *Standard Operating Procedures* for the various ranges all include a discussion of how to safely clear any gun after any squib situation occurs. If you have not studied and understood that procedure, leave the problem to someone who has! I can describe half a dozen instances of self-proclaimed experts who did otherwise and who ended up killing themselves in the process of inexpertly clearing a squib! Is feeding your ego worth that risk?



See associated pictures for examples of squibs that did not result in a tragedy, because the shooter was either smart enough not to fire another shot or was saved from themselves by someone else who prevented them doing so.



Notes from the Crack Shot Editor:

Submissions to the Crack Shot need to be submitted at the beginning of the month of publication to allow for editing. **Due Date for next Crack Shot is July 9, 2021.** If you would like to see anything covered, or have submissions, please email: 4CRPCrackshot@gmail.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE

Classified Ads will appear in the printed/emailed Crack Shot Newsletters as well as on the 4CRP website under the Classified Ads tab. To submit an ad, go to the 4CRP website at: **4cornersrifleandpistol.com** to the classified Ad drop-down tab, click on "to submit a new ad, click here" and fill out the form. *Use this same procedure to inform the Club to remove your ad when your items have sold or you no longer want your ad(s) published go to "Additional Information or Message" and type in "remove ad" for what items you want removed.*

Note: All Ads are reviewed for content prior to distribution

Sparc AR red dot

Bought it but it's a bit tough to use with old welder eyes.. \$175 OBO.

Richard Hunter (970) 317-5422

Bullet Casting Equipment

Bullet Casting Equipment:

Lyman Lubramatic Bullet Sizer (heated); LEE Lead Pot 4 (electric); Lee Bullet Molds: 365 125 gr RN; 358 158 gr SWC; 452 228 gr RN LymanSize & Lube Dies: 356, 357, 430, 451; Lyman Top Punch: 357 SWC; 430 WC; 100 lb of lead ingots: \$3 each or two for \$5
12 sets of RCBS reloading dies: \$20 each call

Call or text: William (Dale) Foote at 970-570-9705

Books by Mic (M.L.) McPherson

Accurizing the Factory Rifle: The home-tinkers guide to gunsmithing; A Compilation of Handloading, Shooting, and Related Articles; A Short Primer on the Primer; McPherson on Leverguns; Memoirs of Superstition Mountain Prospecting; Metallic Cartridge Handloading: The Modern Bible on handloading; Recollections of the Impossible; Zigzag Canyon (Zane Grey Society book of the year)

Titles available in different formats on Amazon.com—also available for direct purchase from the Author

Gun Handling Safety

One simple rule will suffice: **Never point any gun at anything you do not intend to destroy.**

If you follow this rule, what could otherwise end up being a tragedy will never be more than an embarrassment. As I explained to all of my concealed carry students, if you have not yet had an unintentional discharge, wait! Very few serious shooters who have been at it for decades can honestly say they have never fired a gun unintentionally, those who can honestly make that claim are apt to eventually find themselves among those of us who can no longer do so — that result is practically inevitable. Sooner or later, you will either make a mistake or you will suffer the consequences of a mechanical failure of some sort.

When that happens, the only things that prevent a tragedy are good luck and good habits. Those with bad gun handling habits are not nearly as apt to escape an unintentional discharge without being part of a tragedy. It is just like using the turn signals when driving, if you habitually do so, then the chances of you failing to do so are slim; conversely, if you habitually fail to signal your turns and lane changes, then failing to do so when it really matters is a practical inevitability.

If you practice never pointing any gun at anything you do not intend to destroy, then should that day arise when, for whatever reason, you are involved in an unintentional discharge, no physical harm will come to anyone. Conversely, if you do not practice never pointing any gun at anything you do not intend to destroy, then when that inevitable day does come, it will be only good fortune that saves you from being responsible for a tragic result. Are you willing to bet your life of good fortune? More to the point, are you willing to bet my life on your good fortune? I certainly hope not!

How many times have you heard this nonsense statement: "He shot himself while cleaning his gun?" Next time you do, please explain the following fact to whomever makes that claim: "That is logically impossible." It is not possible to clean a loaded gun, and it is not possible to shoot an unloaded gun! "Shot himself while cleaning his gun," is a euphemism for, "The idiot was playing with a loaded gun, aimed it at himself, and pulled the trigger." Guess what, he failed to follow one simple rule: **Never point any gun at anything you do not intend to destroy.**

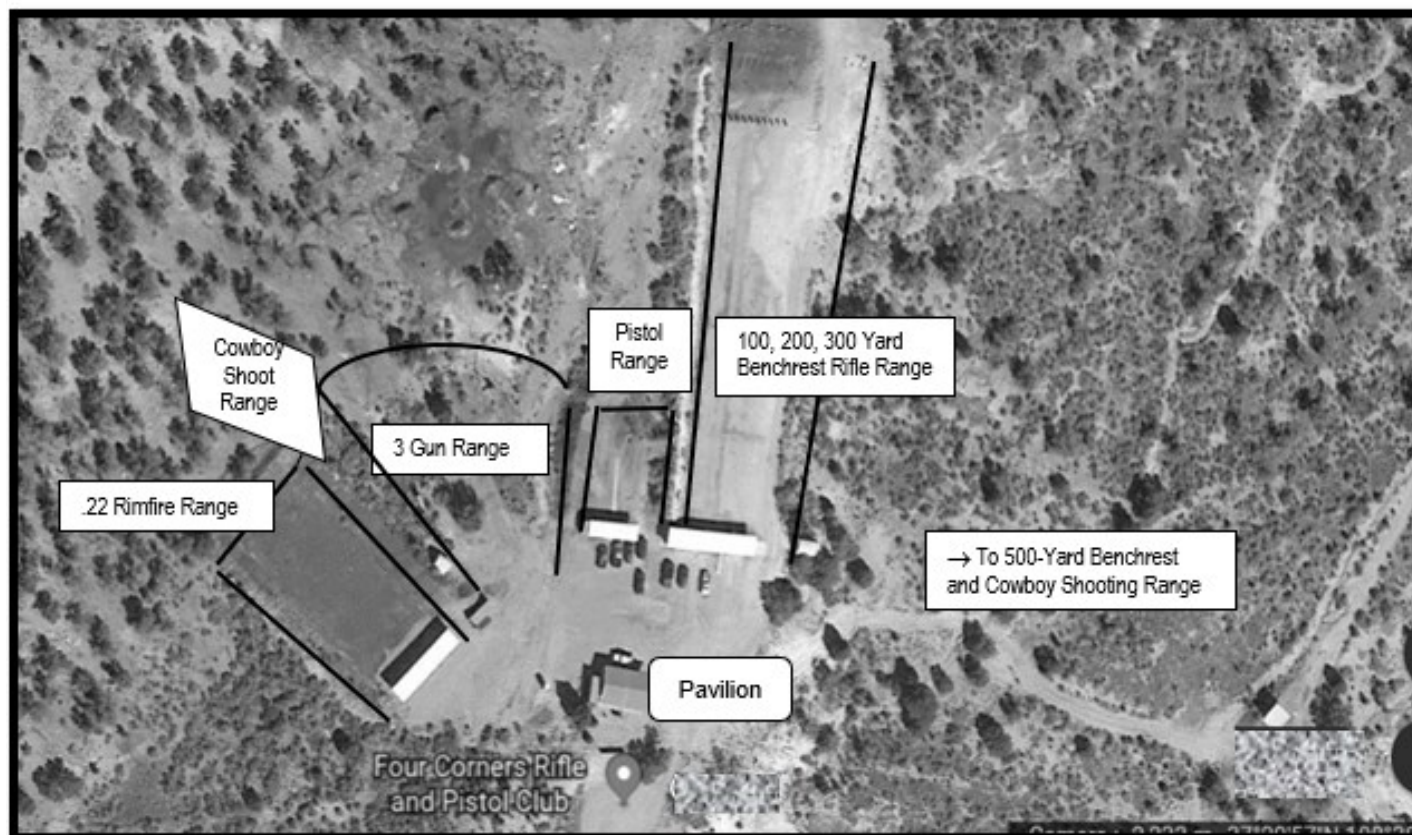
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North



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