

WHITTECAR RANGE NEWS

588 BLODGETT VIEW DRIVE

HAMILTON MT. 59840

(406) 363-7078

WWW.WHITTECARRANGE.COM

THE BOSS' COLUMN

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Jim McCormack

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Jeff Jetter

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Dan Ashmore

Directors
Hoot Gibson

Marvin Eder

Pete Berube

John Marshall

Dave Hedditch

Lee Riffel

Warren Pollard

I want to express my gratitude to the Board members and to our volunteers. 2008 was a very busy year and several folks have stepped up to the plate. Pete Berube has taken on organizing cowboy matches. We're still learning but we will improve each season. Jeff Jetter organized a turkey shoot which was very successful. We awarded almost 40 birds and we're planning another for 2009. Dave Hedditch and Warren Pollard have expanded the IR 50/50 matches to include the youngsters. Please call the range if you require more details about these events. We also had lots of volunteers for sight in and thanks to these folks as well. The new 100 yard range is really starting to relieve the pressure off of the big range during sight in season.

You may have noticed some recent improvements. We have expanded the paved area of the parking lot. After break-up we will be painting parking spaces in order to allow handicap access into the 100 yard range.

Have you seen our new meeting room going up? We have made a lot of progress lately thanks to the following people: Brad Pollman of Turnkey Construction, Dan Ashmore and his Stevensville High School shop class, John Marshall, Marv Eder, Pete Berube, Jeff Jetter and Rod Bodine.

We were successful in obtaining a FWP grant this year. We will receive matching funds up to \$36,000 for the new paving, our new building and a new 270 degree shooting bay. We have until June 30, 2009 to get everything completed before our funding runs out.

This will probably be the last year that we will mail out the newsletter. Our future plans are to print a limited number of paper copies that will be available at the office. The newsletter will be posted on our website (www.whittecarrange.com) along with our schedules and important range information.

Thanks again to all for their hard work. 2009 should be another good year for our range.

Jim McCormack
President



RANGE CLOSURE DATES FOR THE WHITTECAR RIFLE AND PISTOL RANGE

COVERED PISTOL RANGE

April 25 & Aug 22

OPEN BAY PISTOL RANGE

May 16 & Sept 12

100 YARD RIFLE RANGE

300 YARD RIFLE RANGE

January 10 February 14 March 14 April 5 April 11 April 25 May 3 May 9 May 23 June 6
& 7 June 13 & 14 June 20 June 27 July 5 July 11 July 17 & 18 July 25 August 8 August 22 & 23
September 12 & 13 November 14 December 12

OTHER GROUPS USING THE WHITTECAR RANGES ARE THE HAMILTON POLICE DEPARTMENT, RAVALLI COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, MONTANA HIGHWAY PATROL, FBI, US FOREST SERVICE, ADULT PROBATION AND THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN LAB SECURITY. THESE GROUPS USE THE RANGE WHILE THE RANGE IS CLOSED SO AS NOT TO PREVENT THE PUBLIC FROM USING THE RANGE DURING OPEN DAYS. THE WHITTECAR BOARD WANTS TO THANK THE ABOVE GROUPS FOR USING DAYS THAT THE RANGE IS CLOSED SO AS NOT TO TIE UP THE RANGE DURING BUSINESS DAYS.

FOR GROUPS WISHING TO USE THE RANGE FOR A FUNCTION YOU NEED TO CONTACT THE RANGE OFFICE TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION WHICH NEEDS TO BE SUBMITTED A MINIMUM OF 30 DAYS PRIOR TO YOUR EVENT.

Treasurers Report

Hello Shooters

On the money end we have had a good year with regular income and use, but not as busy as 2007. Our big news is a FWP grant that will fund one half each of three improvements: the paving around the new 100 yard range, a new meeting/class room, and a new pistol range. Our efforts to find a super-grant to construct an indoor range and new classroom did not pan out. In other business, we talked about buying a snowplow vehicle but decided to buy a walk behind snow blower and hire a plow for the occasional big dumps. Marv Eder donated a plow which we will retrofit to the tractor for a more efficient Snow plow arrangement than the current front end loader.

Board meetings are the second Tuesday of each month. Please come to the monthly meetings and tell us your thoughts.

Dan Ashmore
Sec/Treasurer

Hunter Class Bench Rest:

Well we made it through another season. We still seem to lose a shooter for each new one we pick up. We have a great bunch of shooters that are always glad to help others learn our type of shooting. We will be shooting NBRSA rules but will be glad to let anyone with an accurate rifle shoot. Rifles need to be able to shoot 10 or more shots without the groups getting over 1 1/4 minute of angle and should be 6mm or larger. We will work around many things to let new shooters try shooting a match.

Matches will be:

April 5 2009 11th Annual Easter Egg Shoot

May 3 2009 100—200 yards

June 6 2009 100—200 yards Montana State Match

June 7 2009 300 yards Montana State Match

July 5 2009 100—200 yards

On a lighter note: The Darby shooters are still shooting a 1 shot, 100 yards, closest shot center to center match once a month and we will have another turkey shoot in the fall. This year's one worked well so it looks like we will try it again..

For more information on any of these shoots call Jeff Jetter 777-5326 after 9pm or weekends or John Germann 363-0102.

JEFF JETTER
Match Director

RANGE FRIENDS AND SPONSORS

The Board of Directors want to thank the following local businesses that have supported Whittecar Range in many ways

BITTERROOT TRADING POST
DONALDSON'S CONCRETE
MONTANA SIGN COMPANY
HAMILTON PACKING COMPANY
BITTERROOT GLASS
BJ'S FAMILY RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE
BOB WARD SPORTING GOODS
THE COFFEE CUP CAFE
COFFIN GUNSMITHING
CUSTOM TRUCK OUTFITTERS
DEEP WOODS TAXIDERMY
DON'S HOME CENTER AND BUILDING SUPPLY
RAINBOW BAR AND POKER ROOM
VALLEY UNITED INSURANCE SERVICES
TURNKEY CONSTRUCTION

WOMEN AND GUNS

Women Only - Introduction to Defensive Handguns, a 2 day class, will be offered twice in 2009. Class 1 will be held on April 25 and May 16. Class 2 will be held on August 22 and September 12.

The first day is designed to assist you in choosing the right handgun for you. There will be discussions on handgun safety, basic operation of revolvers, semi-automatic handguns, and the cartridges used in each type of handgun.

Handguns will be provided so that you may handle the different types and models. Ammunition will also be provided for a live fire session on the range. A self defense book, specifically for women, will also be provided.

There will be a lapse of approximately 3 weeks in order to allow the student to purchase a firearm and become familiar with its operation for the conclusion of training on the second day.

The second day will consist of live fire on the open bay. The emphasis will be on safe gun handling. All exercises will consist of basic defensive shooting drills and training techniques. We will discuss the different types of ammunition available and their uses. We will also address, in a general manner, the legal aspects of the use of deadly force.

Upon successful completion of both days classes, this training will suffice as the required safety class for application to the state for a concealed carry permit.

The class is limited to 10 participants. For an application or further information call Lee at 642-3590 or write Box 159, Victor Mt 59875.

LEE RIFFEL
BOARD MEMBER

PISTOL RANGE OPEN BAY SAFETY

MEMBERS USING THE OPEN BAY PORTION OF THE PISTOL RANGE MUST PLACE THEIR TARGETS WITHIN 10 FEET OF THE BERM AT THE NORTH END OF THE BAY. THIS IS NECESSARY TO INSURE THAT NO BULLETS GO OVER THE TOP OF THE BERM.

ALL RANGES FLAGS DOWN SAFETY

WHEN THE FLAGS ARE DOWN ALL SHOOTERS ARE TO MOVE BEHIND THE PAINTED LINE ON THE CONCRETE FLOOR. THERE WILL BE NO HANDLING OR TOUCHING OF GUNS UNTIL THE FLAGS ARE RAISED.

ALL RANGES CASED GUN SAFETY

WHEN GUNS ARE BROUGHT TO THE FIRING LINE IN CASES OR CONTAINERS THOSE CASES OR CONTAINERS MUST BE PLACED SO THAT THE GUN MUZZLE IS FACING DOWN RANGE BEFORE THE GUN IS REMOVED

1. **WHITTECAR RANGE**
2. **588 BLODGETT VIEW RD**
3. **HAMILTON MT 59840**
4. **WWW.WHITTECARRANGE.COM**

2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January—10 IR50/50 Match

February—14 IR50/50 Match

March —14 IR50/50 Match

April---5 Bench Rest Match 25 Womens Basic Handgun Day 1 25 Schutzen Match
11 IR50/50 Match

May---16 Women’s Basic Handgun Day 2 3 Bench Rest Match; 23 Schutzen Match 9 IR50/50 Match

June---6 and 7 Bench Rest Match 27 Schutzen Match; 13 and 14 IR50/50 Match 20 IR50/50 Match

July---5 Bench Rest Match; 25 Schutzen Match 17 and 18 Cooper Match 11 IR50/50 Match

August---22 and 23 Schutzen Match; 22 Women’s Basic Handgun Day 1 8 IR50/50 Match

September---12 Women’s Basic Handgun Day 2; 12 and 13 IR50/50 Match 19 Sight In Period Starts;

October---25 Sight In Period Ends

November—14 IR50/50 Match

December—12 IR50/50 Match

NO CLASSES OR MATCHES WILL BE SCHEDULED ON THE RIFLE RANGE DURING THE SCHEDULED SIGHT-IN PERIOD

USRA—IR50/50 Calendar for 2009

Date	Start Time	Format	Notes	
10 Jan	10:00 a.m.	3 Gun Y + UL M		Youth Shoot 2:00 p.m.
14 Feb	10:00 a.m.	3 Gun Y + UL M		Youth Shoot 2:00 p.m.
14 Mar	10:00 a.m.	3 Gun Y + UL M		Youth Shoot 2:00 p.m.
11 Apr	10:00 a.m.	3 Gun Y + UL M	SOTY	Youth Shoot 2:00 p.m.
9 May	10:00 a.m.	3 Gun Y + UL M		Youth Shoot 2:00 p.m.
13 Jun	9:00 a.m.	3 Gun Y + UL Y	NW Regionals	
14 Jun	9:00 a.m.	3 Gun M + UL M	NW Regionals	
20 Jun	10:00 a.m.	3 Gun Y + UL M	SOTY	Youth Shoot 2:00 p.m.
11 Jul	10:00 a.m.	3 Gun Y + UL M	SOTY	Youth Shoot 2:00 p.m.
8 Aug	10:00 a.m.	3 Gun Y + UL M	SOTY	Youth Shoot 2:00 p.m.
12 Sep	9:00 a.m.	3 Gun Y + UL Y	Mt State Championship	Youth Shoot 2:00 p.m.
13 Sep	9:00 a.m.	3 Gun M + UL M	Mt state Championship	
14 Nov	11:00 a.m.	3 Gun Y + UL M		Youth Shoot 2:00 p.m.
12 Dec	11:00 a.m.	3 Gun Y + UL M		Youth Shoot 2:00 p.m.

CARDBOARD BACKERS

Ever wonder what those little hooks are for on the 100 yard targets? There are two on the bottom cross members 4 x4 and two on the top member 4 x 4. A piece of cardboard exactly 42 inches high and at least 36 inches wide out to 48 inches wide fit the bottom hooks. The top hooks can be rotated 90 degrees. The top of the cardboard is pushed against the top cross member and the top hooks are rotated back down to lock in the cardboard. Why? Here are my reasons for using this system.

1. I have my labeled targets pre-mounted on the cardboard before I come to the range. I walk out, lock in my cardboard backer and I am ready to shoot.
2. I don't have to staple my targets to a backer that is full of staples.
3. I don't have to find a spot not full of holes to mount my target.
4. I take my cardboard backer home with me, take off my targets, study them, then mount new targets for my next trip to the range.
5. The range office has cardboard for sale if you don't want to find your own. We make it easy!
6. Cardboard is free to the range, however the range charges \$3 or \$4 for a piece of cardboard (depending on the size) precut to fit the hooks. This gives the range a little more income to fund more projects.
7. One piece of cardboard will last for years.

If anyone has any other suggestions to make things easier for the shooters at the range or can help the range make more money or save money, please give your suggestions to the range manager and he can present them to the board at the monthly board meetings or you can call me at 360-3283 or e-mail me at drh29@bitterroot.com

The range is a non profit organization. The money the range makes is used to make the range a better place for one to shoot. If you haven't visited the range in the last year you will notice some wonderful improvements. The range has a web page. We have a new six position 100 yard range. We have more blacktop parking area. We have a new classroom/meeting room being built which will be ready for occupancy in a few weeks. Visit and see the improvements.

Dave Hedditch

Board Member

Thank you

The Board of Directors is taking this opportunity to express our thanks to Vicki and Rod Bodine for taking good care of the Range facilities and handling the every day business. Your good work is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

USRA—IR50/50 What is it?

USRA—IR50/50 is a rimfire game played at 50 yards and 50 meters shot in a benchrest Format. More than 500 shooters nationwide participate in this game of true precision.

Game one is played using up to 3 guns (Class 1: Sporter, 7.5 lbs, 6.5x scope, wooden stocked repeater) (Class 2: 10.5 lbs, no scope limit) (Class 3: 13.5 lbs, no scope limit). Many people Shoot their 10.5 lb gun in the 13.5 lb class also to limit the number of rifles they need to lug to the range. Targets consist of 25 bullseyes shot at 50 yards with a 30 minute time limit for each class. Unlimited sighting shots are allowed during the time limit. This is the 3 gun game played at Whittecar Rifle Range. Game 2 is called Unlimited. The rifle has a 13.5 lb weight limit, no scope limit, 20 minutes time limit on each of 3 targets and is shot at 50 meters. The official IR50/50 rules can be found at www.ir5050.com

The 2008 season was a great success. Everyone learned how to better play the 3 Gun game! The Shooter of the Year (SOTY) program ran from May through September. Out of a possible of 1000—100X, winners were:

Woody Bentham - Sporter Class with a 977 - 37X

Warren Pollard - 10.5 lb Class with a 986 - 51X

Dan Pickett - 13.5 lb Class with a 989—50X

Tom Fieber from Ronan dominated the only Unlimited match contested in 2008 with an aggregate of 746 - 38X out of a possible 750 - 75X.

The Montana State Championship was held on 9 - 7 - 08. Out of a possible 250 - 25X winners were:

Mike Fieber - 1st Place Sporter Class with a 241 - 7X

Warren Pollard - 2nd Place Sporter Class with a 239 - 7X

Woody Bentham - 3rd Place Sporter Class with a 237 - 7X

Dan Pickett - 1st Place 10.5 lb Class with a 247 - 12X

Warren Pollard - 2nd Place 10.5 lb Class with a 246 - 15X

Mike Fieber - 3rd Place 10.5 lb Class with a 242 - 10X

Warren Pollard - 1st Place 13.5 lb Class with a 248 - 19X

Jaylene Naylor - 2nd Place 13.5 lb Class with a 246 - 7X

Dan Pickett - 3rd Place 13.5 lb Class with a 243 8X

Warren Pollard - 3 Gun Aggregate with a 739 - 41X

USRA - IR50/50 awards pins to all class winners and to anyone that shoots a 250.

A group of shooters attended the Northwest Regionals in Tacoma, WA on July 19th and 20th. For the first ever major shoot they represented themselves well. There were 28 shooters for both days of the match and competition was stiff. Everyone had a great time, met many nice and helpful people, and learned a lot of new things about how the game is played.

USRA—IR50/50 Continued

Here's how the Montana contingent fared:

Jaylene Naylor 1st Place Sporter Class with a 248 - 12X
Woody Bentham - 3rd Place Sporter Class with a 246 - 10X
Warren Pollard - 8th Place Sporter Class with a 243 - 4X
Dan Pickett - 12th Place Sporter Class with a 242 - 8X
Mike Fieber - 15th Place Sporter Class with a 240 - 6X

Dan Pickett - 2nd Place 10.5 lb Class with a 249 -12X
Woody Bentham - 8th Place 10.5 lb Class with a 246 -10X
Warren Pollard - 18th Place 10.5 lb Class with a 243 - 6X
Mike Fieber - 19th Place 10.5 lb Class with a 243 - 6X
Jaylene Naylor - 22nd Place 10.5 lb Class with a 241 - 9X

Dan Pickett - 8th Place 13.5 lb Class with a 247 - 16X
Woody Bentham - 9th Place 13.5 lb Class with a 247 - 15X
Warren Pollard - 15th Place 13.5 lb Class with a 246 - 9X
Mike Fieber - 20th Place 13.5 lb Class with a 245 - 8X
Jaylene Naylor - 28th Place 13.5 lb Class with a 237 -5X

2009 looks like a big year at Whittecar for IR50/50. We will have a shoot every month except October (sight in days). The SOTY competition will be April through August and will consist only of the 3 Gun game. The NW Regionals will be hosted at Whittecar this year on June 13th and 14th. The MT State Championships are on September 12th and 13th. We'll be shooting a new format this year in addition to the 3 Gun game, Unlimited meters. You can compete in either or both. All matches will be held on the 300 yard range in 2009.

In August a Youth Shooting Program was started for ages 12 - 18. There is no cost to the kids as everything is funded by outside donations. We have had good attendance thus far with up to 10 shooters. All equipment, ammunition and safety instruction is provided. All we need is more kids!

We would like to thank the Whittecar Rifle Range Board of Directors and the range caretakers for their support in the past and future, for without them these programs could not go forward.

For more information about IR50/50 or the Bitterroot Youth Shooting Program, you can contact Dan Pickett at 531-6964 or Warren Pollard at 360-2819.

Whittecar Range website www.whittecarrange.com has a schedule of all special events. Beginning in 2010 this newsletter will be available on line at the website. Paper copies of the newsletter will be available only at the range office and a few local businesses.