

# THE GOPHER GAZETTE

www.grrc.org October 19, 2010 Volume 3 No. 6

## IN THIS ISSUE

Red Shed Report	1
Schedule Oct/Nov	2
Membership Minutes	2
Campground/Dues Fees	3
President's Notes	3
DNR Firearm Safety Classes	4
Handgun Shooting Stances	5
Roger Thomsen dies	5
Huge Leg Match at Harris	6
Legislative Report	7
Board Roster	7
Sponsors	8





Fall is bringing out the best at GRRC. Pictured above at left are members of the MN Air National Guard who came out in great numbers to participate in the largest **High Power Leg Match** in 20 years, held September 25 at Harris. Pictured at right are **Bruce Peglow** and **BPCR Gong Match** Match Master **Rik Rarick**. Peglow won both matches of the October 2-3 competition. There is a lot of very important information in this month's Gazette. The Legislative Report calls all shooters to action to address a proposed ban on traditional ammunition by the PCA. Laurie Pekarik reminds campers to pay their fees separately from Membership Dues. Membership renewal forms are included in this newsletter- mailed to all members. Most importantly, remember that October starts membership meetings at Kraus-Hartig. We have not had quorums for the last several meetings, and much official business (like the by-laws) cannot be passed without YOU. 1900 hours 10/19.

## **Red Shed Report**

From the President: Dave Anderson has long been taking care of maintaining many of the operations of our range. He has been doing the various jobs so well for so long that his efforts are at times taken for granted. I want Dave to know that everyone at GRRC expresses our gratitude and many thanks for all he has done. That being said, Dave announced at our September meeting that he would like to pass the torch on some of the duties he has been taking care of. These duties are: 1. taking care of the well, 2. road maintenance, 3. Adopt A-Highway, and 4. the biffies.

Steve Costello has stepped up to the plate and has volunteered to take care of Adopt A-Highway and the biffies. This leaves us with taking care of the well and road maintenance. Taking care of the well involves shutting it down in the fall, starting it up in the spring and doing the paperwork to getting the water tested every year. It would be great if our new volunteer has some experience with wells. Road maintenance involves ordering the class 5, budgeting for it and making sure it get spreads properly. Again, it would be great if our new volunteer has a little experience in this field. So there you have it, we need a volunteer to take over the responsibility of the well and a volunteer to take over the responsibility of the voads. See Dave Anderson if you have any questions. So step up to the plate! Volunteer! - Rick

From the Secretary: Information regarding Payment of Campground Fees, Membership Renewals and Waiting Lists appear on page 3. Please take the time to read so you won't be disappointed with the GRRC policies.

From the XO: This is a short reminder for members to consult the range schedule before motoring up to the range. It is possible that your range is already in use by others who had reserved it nearly a year ago. Members may be able to shoot with those attending a match set-up and sight in at the discretion of the match master, and can use a range after the scheduled event has completely finished using that range – again with the OK from the match master. -Bruce Aune

**Smallbore Invitation:** Minnetonka Rifle Club invites Gohpher shooters to its **monthly smallbore offhand matches**. They will be held on the third Saturday at 1:00 PM year around from a heated shooting house. There are two formats: 100 Yard Schuetzen using the 25 ring German target 50 shots, rimfire, unlimited sighters and 50 meters using the A 50 ISU target, with 60 shots unlimited sighters. For the Schuetzen format, we will be using **Wyoming Schuetzen Union rules**. Fees will be \$10.00.

Contact Mike Marzitelli for details at mmarzitelli@hotmail.com or at 651-489-9164.

Membership meetings will return to Kraus-Hartig VFW starting October 19. GRRC has been unable to do some of its business and meet the needs of its members because there has not been a quorum for the past several meetings. We need you to attend. 1900 hours. 8100 Pleasant View Drive, Spring Lake Park.

Date	Time	Location	Event	Contact
10/18/2010	1900-adjrn	Kraus-Hartig	GRRC Board of Directors Meeting	Rick Loye
10/19/2010	1900-Adjourn	Kraus-Hartig	General Membership Meeting	Rick Loye
10/26/2010	1900-Adjourn	Kraus-Hartig	KD Range Scheduling Meeting	Bruce Aune
11/15/2010	1900-adjrn	Kraus-Hartig	GRRC Board of Directors Meeting	Rick Loye
11/16/2010	1900-Adjourn	Kraus-Hartig	General Membership Meeting	Rick Loye

## **GRRC Membership Meeting Minutes 9/21/2010**

The President called the meeting to order at 7:10pm on 21 September 2010 at the Red Shed, Harris, MN. A quorum was not present.

The Vice-President led the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence was observed to honor absent companions and those serving in the military.

The Secretary's Report was not read due to lack of a quorum.

**Executive Officer's Report** – Things are going well. If you have concerns, call Bruce Aune.

**Chief Instructor's Report** – Joe stated that the fist Firearm's Safety Class with 26 students has just concluded. Joe Groshens was assisted by other GRRC members as instructors. The class was a great success and is expected to be repeated next year.

Readings – First: Mike Personius, Independence, Joe Joslin, Vadnais Heights, Patrick Cleary, St. Paul and David Plummer, Chisago City. Second: Patrick Judge, (absent) David West, Jon Fettig, - from August GMM and Larry Reed, Karl Stocker, Mark VanDonsel, Matt Nelson and Bill Green – from July GMM.

Due to the lackof of a quorum, voting on the new applicants will be deferred to the October meeting. The President excused the 2nd Readings tonight from attending the October meeting; instructed them to pay their fees to the Secretary following the meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Deferred due to lack of a quorum. Rich did say that expenses/income is running on track for the year and we are on budget. Also, he reminded those who have received checks to cover expenses prior to events need to get their reports in ASAP. The end of the year is around the corner. If you don't want a 1099 showing up in your mailbox, get your receipts/report in quickly.

**Action Arms** –The Points Match listed in the last minutes has been cancelled. There was an average of 20 shooters for the 2010 IPSC season. There will be a Steel Challenge Match on 10/16 on the Pistol Range with three stages that will be shot in the morning and afternoon.

Archery – Archery Season opened on September 19. The range is open.

**Black Powder** – The Goose Creek Rendezvous was held over the third weekend in September. There were 8 day trippers, 76 camp sites and 138 dinners served on Saturday. The fun had by all was not diminished by the dew and mist. Thanks to Dave for the delicious food.

**BP Cartridge** – The Long Range Match had 17 shooters turn out. Margo Hanson, who competes nationally, won the match. The rain did not interfere with this event. The Gong Shoot is coming up October 2-3. Set up on 10/1 in the morning. Come in the afternoon for sighting in and testing loads. It lots of fun.

**High Power** –There will be a compressed High Power Clinic on 9/24 for MN Nat'l Guards. There will be a Leg Match on 9/25 at noon. Come to see some interesting shooting. CMP Match will be on Sunday 9/26.

**Juniors** –The Juniors have been busy doing fundraising at Harris Days, Armstrong Game Fair, and the Bingo Tent at the Forest Lake 4th of July festivities. The MN Deer Hunters Association donated \$500 for awards. The Juniors worked the pits for the National Bench Rest Match and did a

great job. The experienced shooters will start in November on Thursdays at the Forest Lake Legion, with new shooters starting in December.

Membership - There are presently 34 on the Waiting List.

**Newsletter** – Members are encouraged to sign up for the e-version of the Gazette. We hope to reach 50% participation. Articles/photos are needed to add interest.

**Schutzen** – Dave reported that the Minnetonka Club is starting a Schutzen League on the third Saturday of each month through the winter.

**Shotgun** –Trap League is finished for 2010. Shooting will continue on a week by week basis on Wednesdays, depending on daylight.

Small Bore Prone – League finished out with 10 shooters.

1000-yard Bench Rest – Dave Holland turned in a check for \$15,685 from the Nat'l Match which hosted 69 shooters from 19 different states. He thanked Dave Anderson for providing great food that everyone enjoyed. Wind was a factor. Dave Holland thanked everyone who made this event such a success. Thanked all the many young adults who worked in the pits. It could be another 7 years before Gopher could bid on the Nationals again, but it could be sooner if other locations already in line are not ready when their turn comes up.

**Tuesday Night Practice** – Finished out the season with more shooters than last year. There are more copies of the reloading handbooks available for \$5 each. See Mike Kaluza

Website - Dave N. said our website is getting 650+ hits a month.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Subgun Shoot and Show** – Rick L. reported that 40 shooters enjoyed the experience from 9:00 a.m-noon on the day of our annual picnic. He complemented Joyce and Tom Borchardt for the display they brought to this event.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Dave Anderson needs help** with some jobs at the range – the water well, Adopt-A-Highway program, road maintenance and the biffs. He explained each one and what it takes to keep each one maintained. He said that a dumpster could be at the range every week – a 10-yard unit at a cost of \$56/mo for weekly service.

Details of the **Fall Work Day on October 9th** were covered. Bring your tools and equipment to help with jobs at the various ranges. Bonus: collect a **Work Day Credit** for your efforts.

**Announcements:** The NMLRA Charter Club Matching Grant Application for \$500 has been awarded to GRRC based on the construction proposal for the 100' covered firing line on the Black Powder Range. GRRC was one of only two clubs that applied for this grant. Thanks to Rick Repovsch for his work completing the application and gathering the supporting documentation. Great job!

**Board of Directors Meeting:** Monday, 18 October 2010, 1900hrs, Kraus-Hartig VFW **General Membership Meeting:** Tuesday, 19 October 2010, 1900hrs, Kraus-Hartig VFW The meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.

Respectfully submitted, Laurie Pekarik, GRRC Secretary

## **Campground and Membership News**

#### **How to Pay Campground Fees for 2011**

It's that time of year again. You're thinking about paying your 2011 campground fees and also renewing you GRRC membership for 2011. You've got that pen in hand and thinking, hmmmm, why not just combine both and send one check. Bad thought!!! A chewing gum had a jingle that ran something like this – "double your pleasure, double your fun". That worked for them, it just doesn't work for GRRC.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE just send two checks, The bookkeeping process runs more efficiently when these two fees are separated. Your help with this request is very much appreciated. It will also greatly improve the attitudes of the Secretary and Treasurer as we process all those checks that come in.



#### My 2011 Membership Renewal Was Refused!

Before you send off your membership renewal form, be sure the following is enclosed:

- 1. Your check.
- 2. Your NRA membership information showing a 2011 or future expiration date. (This is not necessary if you are a Benefactor, Patron, Life or EPL NRA member.)
- 3. Completed the requested information on the renewal form.
- 4. If applicable, a separate check for your 2011 campground fees.

If any of these items are missing, the Secretary has been authorized by the GRRC Board to refuse your renewal and mail it back to you. Be sure to check over the contents of your envelope before sealing it.

#### **Notes to Waiting List Members**

As a reminder, until you are offered a membership slot in GRRC, please DO NOT send in a membership renewal form. Because of technology reasons it is impossible to segregate GRRC members from those on the Waiting List, so everyone ends up getting the renewal form. Apologies are extended for any confusion that the membership renewal form may cause for those on the Waiting List.

## When Do I Get Off The Waiting List?

To some of our members that have been on the Waiting List for several months, it probably seems like it's going to take forever to be offered a membership slot. That window of opportunity occurs each year during the month of February and early March. When slots do open up, you will receive a letter from the Secretary on how to proceed. While we do have openings each year, we cannot guarantee that everyone on the Waiting List will be offered a slot in 2011. Laurie Pekarik, GRRC Secretary

## **President's Notes- Rick Loye**

Greetings Everyone! I hope your fall is going well and you are getting everything ready for winter. As you know, we had our Subgun Shoot & Show before the picnic on September 5th. I missed the deadline for the newsletter last month, so I would like to tell you a little bit about it now

The Subgun Shoot and show ran 9:00 to 12:00. We had at least 40 shooters and the subguns were always getting a workout. The only time they had a break was when we were reloading magazines or cooling them off because of sustained fire. Many shooters went thru the lines time and time again. There were lots of smiles and everyone enjoyed themselves. **Tom & Joyce Borchardt** (GRRC members and owners of Bullseye Range in North Branch) had a wonderful display of Class 3 firearms and brought out guns to share with everyone. My hat goes off to them both for helping make our event the success it



The RSO watches and instructs Ethan Carruthers, Milwaukee, WI, as he shoots a submachine gun at the GRRC picnic.

I also want to thank my helpers: **Joe Groshens** (the range safety officer) **Kim Frick** (my #1), **Larry Petrey, Clark** and **Edwin Kube** and **Steve Vant** for all their work in making this a success.

We had our September General Membership Meeting at the red shed on September 21st, and again we did not have enough members present to have a quorum. I'd like to stress again that if you can come up to the range for the meetings in the summer, please do so. Our next meeting will be held down at Kraus-Hartig on Oct. 19th.

Our fall work day is Saturday October 9th, so if you would like to get some more work time in, please join us. See Rik Rarick for any questions on this. We need a few volunteers to take care of the well and road maintenance. Please read comments on this in the Red Shed Report.

Everything is going well otherwise, so get out and enjoy shooting in this nice cool fall weather!

Until next time, shoot straight! Rick

## What I Like About GRRC.....Firearm Safety!



Jodie Showalter, Junior advisor, took the time to help the young DNR Firearm Safety Class participants thank GRRC for the opportunity to hold their class and use the range in September. Following are the thoughful notes, a real daybrightener for everyone who cares about the future of shooting sports. Thanks to Joe and Jodie for all their work with our kids, and to all the DNR instructors advisors who came to promote the program.

Dear GRRC, thank you for giving us your time at the range so I could learn about guns and how to be safe with them. Sincerely, Preston B.

Thank you GRRC for letting us use your shooting range for gun safety without it I couldn't hunt. Sincerely, Jacob W.

Dear GRRC, Thank you so much for letting us use your building to learn about firearms. It was very generous of you to take the time out of the gun range schedule so that we could learn. Thank you for helping the next generations of hunters get ready to hunt and enjoy the outdoors. I hope that you continue to open your doors to others that way more kids like me can experience how to treat guns properly and handle them safely. From Cal K.

To GRRC, Thank you for letting us use your building for gun safety. From Dawson K

Dear GRRC, Thanks for letting me be in this gun safety class. Thanks for helping to teach me the proper techniques that I need to know to hunt. I want to thank you for letting us use the shelter house and your equipment. If there weren't any places for people to get their certificate, no one would be able to feel safe in the woods. That's why I am in gun safety to learn and I know I can be safe in the woods. Sincerely, Connor H

Dear GRRC, Thank you for letting us use your building for gun safety for the past 2 weeks. If we didn't have this building, we would have nowhere to do gun safety. Now I get to hunt this year!! Thanks again, Ellie M

Dear GRRC, Thank you for letting us use your building for gun safety. It is right off the range so we know where to go for range day. It's a very nice building to be able to use. I appreciate you letting us learn about guns and get our certificates and use your electricity. Thanks, Austin

Dear GRRC, Thank you for letting us use the building for firearm safety classes. Sincerely, Alexis K.

GRRC Thanks so much for allowing us to use your facilities for hunter safety! Gregg R

A very special thank you for letting us use your range. No signature

Thank you for letting us use your club for firearm safety class/hunter safety class. You have very nice property and your instructors are very cool. It was fun being in the class, I learned a lot. Sincerely, Shauna J.

Thanks GRRC! Thank you for the use of your facility and the support of the juniors. My wife and I really appreciate everything you do to sponsor the league that my sons shoot on, it's a great program and they love it. Brian B.

Thank you for letting us use your space to teach me and other kids the safe part about firearms. Thank you! Katie  ${\sf P}$ 

Thank you Gopher rifle and revolver club for allowing us to use your building so we could have firearm safety class and your range so we could shoot on the range day. Jordan

Dear GRRC, Thank you for letting us use the range for our gunsaftey class. From Claire U.

Dear GRRC, Thank you for letting us use your facility for firearm safety class. I am learning a lot. Thanks, Tommy U.

Thank you GRRC for letting us use the red shed for the hunter safety class. Tessa and Noah G.

Thank you for letting us use your appliances and lights. We really needed the help and appreciation. The most important part was the education and the help from you. But everything turned out very good. And everything is still working. We drank a lot of water though. You did what was right, you helped all of us, and we hope you keep up the good work! Sincerely B. J. B.

Dear GRRC, Thank you for letting us use your gun range and you room for teaching us gun safety class. You are very nice for letting us use your land. Thanks so much. PS: I think my parents are becoming members of your club. From Kayla



Practice makes permanent. A student puts her classroom Firearms Safety lessons to the test.

## **Article: Handgun Shooting Stances**

All useful handgun shooting positions will include many of the same basics such as good footing, relaxed shoulders, proper elbow extension, comfortable clothing etc. Observing how some of the better match shooters stand is always a good starting point on the path to success.

Conventional standing positions will vary depending on whether a one hand or two hand hold is used. The traditional one handed hold that bullseye shooters use will usually find the shooters toes pointed somewhat crossrange. A two handed hold is associated with the shooters toes pointed predominantly down range. In either case spreading your feet a comfortable distance apart will typically enhance the steadiness of your entire body. Don't be afraid to experiment. The key points are comfort and stability. Most shooters will have greater success using the two handed hold. Keep that second hand clear of the cylinder gaps on revolvers and slides or hammers on auto loaders!

Specialized long range and silhouette positions tend to be much less conventional. The sitting silhouette shooter will often rest his elbows on his legs for stability. A prone shooter will often use his non-trigger hand as a sandbag between the handgun and the ground.

The Creedmore position can best be described as combination of lying on one's back and sitting with the barrel resting on your leg or knee. A standing silhouette shooter will sometimes rest one or both of his elbows against his ribcage. This moves the gun closer to the shooter's face and caution must be exercised when firing cartridges with significant recoil.

Silhouette rules do not allow any part of the shooters body to be within a 45 degree cone extending from the muzzle of the gun. Rather than rely on these brief descriptions the best way to get acquainted with these unconventional positions is to go watch a silhouette match.

Hunting often requires that shots be fired from a walking stance to avoid spooking the game. There is usually little time once game is spotted to move ones feet into the "best or proper" position. Handgun hunters will be well advised to do some practice from a walking stance. As you practice alternate which foot you have forward. Combat shooters also practice firing from a walking (or running) stride.

Handgun benchrest is a very small niche in competitive shooting. On the other hand the benchrest position is an extremely useful self-check procedure for the handgunner. If you are experiencing an off-day at the range nothing works quite like sitting down and relaxing at the bench while concentrating on the fundamentals such as breath control for a string or two of shots. Hint: If possible adjust the shooting stool to a comfortable position with your feet slightly in front of your knees. Slightly extended legs provide greater support to your upper body.

A recent GAZETTE article by non-member Larry Weidell emphasized the importance of your "Natural Point of Aim (NPA)". Even though the main thrust of this excellent article was rifle marksmanship, the nicely explained fundamentals apply equally well to pistol marksmanship. GRRC handgunners are encouraged to read and understand the basic information presented. Use your natural point of AIM to adjust your preferred stance for the optimum results.

One final word on stance is to always try and keep your head erect and use your central vision rather than your peripheral vision for sighting. Most shooters find their central vision zone more acute and less straining than their side vision. This can be a challenge if you wear multifocal glasses. When shooting from a bench keep your chin "off" the bench. Raise the firearm rest up high enough so your upper body feels relaxed and steady.

Visit some of the benchrest matches and observe the pros. Relaxing your shoulder muscles and breath control will be discussed in future articles.

- Mike Kaluza 763-537-4924

## Roger Thomsen 1935-2010



In July we lost Roger Thomsen, a member who appreciated the range more than anyone. A few months ago members were asked to write what they liked most about the range. Roger never got a chance to write his favorite things, so I will try to answer for him.

He most liked his campsite along the west road, where he could get out of town for two or three days a week year around. He would pull in with his old brown pickup and homemade camper and set up camp. He made a small shelter out of slab wood with a stove to stay warm, so he could watch the wildlife.

Whenever anybody would stop to see him, he would give you a report on how many deer, turkeys, cranes, woodchucks and any new birds he saw...and how many gophers he got for Les. His mode of transportation at the range was a garden tractor (his 4 wheeler). You always knew when he was coming: you heard the tractor 20 minutes before he got there. At the Rendezvous this year his buckskinner friends had a memorial service at his campsite where we retired a flag in his honor and said goodbye to a good friend and member. Roger will be missed but not forgotten.

-Dave Anderson

## Biggest Leg Match at GRRC in 20 Years



photo: Jim Evensor

On Saturday, September 25 the KD Range of GRRC was buzzing with activity as 43 shooters showed up for their last chance to compete in an **Excellence In Competition Match** (a.k.a. LEG match) in 2010. According to Jim Evenson, a long time GRRC member and Highpower shooter, "There hasn't been a leg match this large at GRRC since the early '90's." In the last 10 years shooting LEG matches, I have never been to a leg match this large in Minnesota.

So what's the big deal about a large leg match? Well, as I'm sure you are all aware, it's always more fun when a match is well attended. I really believe the old saying "the more the merrier" holds true. More importantly, the number of non-distinguished shooters in attendance determines how many leg points are awarded. These points go toward earning your Distinguished Rifleman's Badge. Thus, more people mean more leg points. For this match there was 43 non-distinguished shooters so 4 legs were awarded. There were also prizes for the 5th and 6th place shooters who are jokingly referred to as "1st and 2nd Leather." The 1st leather prize was a brand new service rifle sling hand made by John Weller who is a custom sling maker. The 2nd leather prize was a cleaning kit donated by Federal/ATK.

Why was this match so well attended? The answer to that question is because Al Schneider (GRRC member since 2008) had an idea to use the match as a training exercise for his fellow National Guardsmen. This would give them a chance to sharpen their marksmanship skills prior to their deployment to parts unknown in the not-so-distant future. He also persuaded Kurt Borlaug to put on a Highpower Clinic on Friday so the Guardsmen would know their way around a Highpower match. Al (or as he is known to his fellow Guardsmen, S. Sgt Schneider) coordinated with Chief Warrant Officer (CW4) Roger Sorben, who is the state marksmanship coordinator for the MNARNG, and along with Joel Kuntz of the Air Guard, brought over two dozen soldiers to the clinic and leg match. So add them to the usual suspects and the result is one big match.

This leg match and clinic could not have happened without a lot of work done behind the scenes. Timing is everything and having this match shortly after the rendezvous really paid off. Since the rendezvousers had all of GRRC in tip-top shape for their event, it only took a little clean up with the big mower to get it ready for the match. However, the cattails between the 200 and 300-yard lines needed to be dealt with. They had grown so tall they obstructed the targets from the 300-yard line. Bill Lahti (GRRC member since 2005) spent two hard days using the brush cutter to get them in shape. Now that is a workout!

Kurt Borlaug (Highpower Chair of GRRC and member since 2001) called in some favors to line up instructors on Friday. Kurt had to get some outside help to accommodate the large size of the clinic. The instructors were Jim Evenson (GRRC member since 1990), Kurt Borlaug, Tom Torborg (GRRC member since 2000), Bill Lahti, Don Mastro (GRRC Member since 2004), Mark Havlik and Erik Rhode of North Star Gun club, Dave Dexter of Northwestern Gun Club, MSgt Matt Griffin (USAF shooting team and GRRC member since 2009), and last but not least, John Peters (GRRC member since 2005). Mark Roman (GRRC Waiting List) helped on Saturday by calling the line and helping everyone with the relay rotation (a.k.a herding cats). This clinic and leg match would not have happened without all of this help. A big thanks to all!

What I thought was the most surprising logistical item to come up was what rifles were the Guardsmen going to use? The amount of red tape involved in getting Government owned M-16s checked out for the Guardsmen to use seemed insurmountable. The solution was to use privately owned rifles on loan from various clubs and associations. The Minnesota Rifle and Revolver Association (MRRA) loaned 5 AR's, Northwestern Gun (Duluth) loaned 2 Ar's and Gopher Rifle and Revolver Club loaned 2 AR's for a grand total of 9 AR-15 rifles. Since people are squaded 3 to a firing point and only one person is firing at a time, we had enough rifles for 27 people. Chief Sorben was able to secure some M14 Match Rifles along as well so there were plenty of rifles to around. Ammo for all of the rifles was another item to worry about but in typical Highpower fashion numerous people stepped up and there was plenty for everyone.

I don't know how, but Kurt managed to get the weather to be absolutely perfect. The morning was a little cloudy but by mid morning the sun was out and there was hardly any wind. Temperatures were in the mid 60's for most of the match so it just perfect.

I wish I could finish this report by announcing I finished high enough to get my first leg point. Unfortunately that was not the case. But I did have a great time and I had the honor of meeting and coaching some truly outstanding men of the Minnesota National Guard. I sleep well at night knowing that they are out there protecting us. Somehow saying thanks just isn't enough. For more pictures and other articles about this leg match, please go and check out http://minnesotaservicerifleshooting.blogspot.com/ and http://minnesotarifleshooting.blogspot.com/. Jim Evenson maintains both sites and he took the pictures of the leg match that appeared in this newsletter. I'm always amazed at his pictures because he takes them while he is competing in the match!

The Highpower season could not have ended with a better match. I can hardly wait for next year. See you then.

**Tom Torborg** GRRC Board of Directors



#### **EPA Considering Ban on Traditional Ammunition: ACT NOW**

#### All Gun Owners, Hunters and Shooters:

With the fall hunting season fast approaching, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under Lisa Jackson, who was responsible for banning bear hunting in New Jersey, is now considering a petition by the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) - a leading anti-hunting organization - to ban all traditional ammunition under the Toxic Substance Control Act of 1976, a law in which Congress expressly exempted ammunition. If the EPA approves the petition, the result will be a total ban on all ammunition containing lead-core components, including hunting and target-shooting rounds. The EPA must decide to accept or reject this petition by November 1, 2010, the day before the midterm elections.

The EPA has opened to public comment the CBD petition. The comment period ends on **October 31, 2010**.

The National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) -- the trade association for the firearms, ammunition, hunting and shooting sports industry -- urges you to submit comment to the EPA opposing any ban on traditional ammunition. Remember, your right to choose the ammunition you hunt and shoot with is at stake.

The EPA has published the petition and relevant supplemental information as Docket ID: EPA-HQ-OPPT-2010-0681. If you would like to read the original petition and see the contents of this docket folder, please click here. In order to go directly to the 'submit a comment' page for this docket number, please click here.

#### NSSF urges you to stress the following in your opposition:

- \* There is no scientific evidence that the use of traditional ammunition is having an adverse impact on wildlife populations.
- \* Wildlife management is the proper jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services and the 50 state wildlife agencies.
- \* A 2008 study by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on blood lead levels of North Dakota hunters confirmed that consuming game harvested with traditional ammunition does not pose a human health risk.
- \*A ban on traditional ammunition would have a negative impact on wildlife conservation. The federal excise tax that manufacturers pay on the sale of the ammunition (11 percent) is a primary source of wildlife conservation funding. The bald eagle's recovery, considered to be a great conservation success story, was made possible and funded by hunters using traditional ammunition the very ammunition organizations like the CBD are now demonizing.
- \* Recent statistics from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service show that from 1981 to 2006 the number of breeding pairs of bald eagles in the United States increased 724 percent. And much like the bald eagle, raptor populations throughout the United States are soaring.

#### Steps to take:

1. Submit comment online to the EPA.

Email: jackson.lisa@epa.gov

2. Contact Lisa Jackson directly to voice your opposition to the ban:

Lisa P. Jackson Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, DC 20460 (202) 564-4700 Fax: (202) 501-1450

3. **Contact your congressman and senators** and urge them to stop the EPA from banning ammunition. To view a sample letter, log in to www.grrc. org and pull down the Members window, and then the Legislative tab. A **sample letter** is there to send to your legislator. Cut and paste it into a document, if you wish, or compose your own message.

Act NOW! There is an October 31 deadline. Steve Marden, Chair

#### 2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2010 BOARD OF DIRECTORS					
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OCTOBER
GRRC Board Meeting 10/18/10
GRRC General Meeting 10/19/10

1900 hrs

Kraus Hartig VFW 8100 Pleasant View Dr Spring Lake Park

Membership Renewal Form included in this issue.



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