



EL DORADO *Rod & Gun Club*



The Powder Keg (December 2002)

2002 Officers & Directors

President: Rob Charny
 Vice President: Steve Morgan
 Secretary: Bill George
 Treasurer: Bob Conover

Directors

Doug Becker Arnold Jones
 Bill Cathcart Keith Murray
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The Holidays

Christmas

Christmas is the most widely observed Christian holiday of the year. The observance began around 336 A.D. to celebrate the birth of Christ. Although His birthdate is unknown, historians guess that the 25th of December was chosen to coincide with the Winter Solstice which, at the time, was believed to occur on that date.

This theory would explain why many of our Christmas traditions—decorating with evergreens and mistletoe, for example—are related to the winter season. Santa Claus, who for most children has come to symbolize the holiday, is a much more recent addition to the festivities. While he traces his roots back to the Saint Nicholas of ancient times, our modern day Santa was created in 1822, when Clement C. Moore immortalized the “jolly old elf” in “’Twas the Night Before Christmas.”

Chanukah

Chanukah, or the Jewish Festival of Lights, will be observed from November 29 to December 7 this year. This celebration commemorates the victory of the Maccabees over the Syrians in 165 B.C., and the Jews ensuing rededication of the Temple of Jerusalem.

In preparing to reconsecrate the Temple, the Jews discovered that they had only enough oil to light the menorah, or candelabrum for one day. However, the oil lasted eight days, a miracle celebrated by the lighting of eight candles, one each day, during Chanukah. The candles are placed in a special holder called a chanukkiyah, which also hold the shammus or worker candle which is used to light the others. Some Jewish families also exchange gifts on each of the days.

Presidents Message

On behalf of the El Dorado Rod & Gun Club I want to wish everyone a very happy and safe holiday season. We have made many new friends this year and the club has grown and prospered. To all of our volunteers, Range Safety Officers, Directors, Club Officers and members I wish the very best holiday season and a very heartfelt thank you for all of your hard work, it has not gone unnoticed.

Annual Christmas Trap Shoot

Saturday December 14 and Sunday December 15, 9:30am – 3:00pm at the club trap range. Hams & others prizes will be awarded. All levels of shooters welcome. You don't need to be an expert to win! Call Bill 622-8036 for more information.

NOTICE:

At our Thanksgiving shoot Saturday November 16, 2002 someone mistakenly picked up the wrong shotgun and took it home. If you have a Remington 870 and joined us at the shoot, you might have the wrong gun. Please call Gary Coan at 677-8272.

Annual Buck Stew

Our Annual buck stew will be held Saturday January 18 at the Veterans Memorial Building located next to the County Fairgrounds. We are in need of donations of game meat and volunteers to help. If you have game meat that you are willing to donate or are willing to help please contact Doug Becker at 622-1665.

Along with this letter we have sent a sheet of tickets for the main prizes to be awarded at the buck stew (which by the way might be a great stocking stuffer for Christmas). **1ST PLACE PRIZE:** is a wonderful donation from Arnold Jones of a Belgium made Browning 22 Auto takedown with 4x Browning 3/4" scope. The 22 Semi-Auto is a true Browning — designed by the master gunmaker John Moses Browning himself. It was revolutionary in its day, and remains the standard by which other .22 caliber semi-automatics are judged. **2ND PLACE:** is a range finder. **3RD PLACE:** is a RCBS Reloading Press. These prizes are available for viewing at Big Horn Gun Shop. You are welcome to mail in these tickets you need not be present to win however we are looking forward to having you join us for a fun evening. We also will have a number of other prizes that we sell tickets for at the dinner and you can purchase additional tickets for the main prizes at the dinner as well. The Bar opens at 5:30pm and Dinner starts at 7:00pm. Look forward to seeing you there.

Newsletter Articles needed

Articles can be submitted to me by Email to president@eldoradorodandgun.com or by mailing to the club at P.O. Box 99, Placerville, CA. 95667.

Have you visited our club web site?

<http://www.eldoradorodandgun.com>

You can see everything printed in the newsletter plus more information at the club web site 7 to 10 days before you receive it in the mail.

REMINDER

El Dorado Rod & Gun Club elections
 will be held at the General Meeting
 on December 2 at 7 pm.
Hope to see everyone there!

Stay Strong, Stay Vigilant, God Bless America!



EL DORADO *Rod & Gun Club*



The Powder Keg (December 2002)

Defensive Shotgun Seminar Dec. 8

“Defensive Shotgun” is a first hand look at the advantages and limitations of these utilitarian firearms for self defense, hunting and other shooting situations. We will do drills to illustrate these advantages and limitations and give you some tips on ammo and gun selection.

Bring at least a box (25) of low base bird shot, 5 Slugs and 5 buckshot (There will be a limited amount of each if you can't get some). \$3.00 members/ \$5.00 non-members

Advanced instruction available. Contact Ken Greenwood at 530-647-2456 for info.

Friends of NRA 2003

Our 2002 Friends of NRA event was a HUGE success! We raised more than \$24,000 net to the NRA Foundation. I hope all of you can make it to our 2003 event which will be held on Tuesday February 25, 6pm at the Marshall Building, El Dorado Fairgrounds! If you've been before, you know it is fun. If you haven't been to one, now is your chance. Tickets will be available by December 7th. Costs will be comparable to last year (\$40 for dinner, Sponsor Package \$370, Drawing on a top rate gun, \$10).

The organizing committee is meeting on Wednesdays at 6 pm at Pizza Plus on Missouri Flat Road west of Placerville. We will meet on November 20th, skip the 27th (Thanksgiving) and meet again on Dec 4, the 18th and again on Jan 8.

We need your help!! A prize Chairman is needed. We also need a correspondence secretary who knows how to operate and generate mailing labels with “Excel” (the hard work is done as all the names and addresses are already entered). Please join us as you are able. Contact Chairman Ken Greenwood at 647-2456 to volunteer or make a donation.

Bill of Rights Day

December 15th is Bill of Rights Day. That document is the cornerstone of our basic freedoms. The El Dorado County Board of Supervisors has committed to honour this day if we remind them each year and show up for support. We will try to get it agendized no later than the December 10th meeting. A copy of the original document is displayed in the Board office. Contact the BOS at 621-5394 or <http://co.el-dorado.ca.us/bos/> to remind them of this day. Call Ken Greenwood at 647-2456 to help in this effort.

El Dorado Christmas Fair

Information Table at Big Horn 7 December El Dorado NRA Members Council will have an information table at Big Horn Gun Shop on 7 December (Pearl Harbor Day) during the El Dorado downtown Christmas Event. Please consider volunteering to assist at the table. We should start setting up about 0830, and will work the table as long as there is sufficient interest by the public, or as weather permits. Contact Bob Hancock at 295-9385 or Steve Morgan at 620-3946 to volunteer. There will be Eddie Eagle tapes and supporting materials available.

PLINK Update

The Hardcore came again to our Nov. 22 Range Work Party. Michael Eribes de Flores with a bandaged hand who dug the culvert out as far as the shovel would reach, John Lustig with wheel barrel and tools, Frank Herzog who raked and dug rocks then cooked for us, Larry Carsten, and Phil Weideman who ramroded the building of a fine erosion control structure out of the shot up RR Ties, and rock from the pistol bay wheeled by John, Simon Russell, et al, Ken Greenwood who cleaned out the Conex so well it looks like we were robbed, and Bob Howard who also came up with a bunch of Trap boards that needed burning. Larry also gathered the trap trash, and limed all the rifle pits. I have a small load for the dump. If anyone can not find their favorite junk, blame it on me. All were repeat Offenders who have done more for our Club than just pay dues. Only three stayed for the free shoot.

Mike and Frank did some hard digging in the wrong place. Some said it was a failure to communicate. Actually it was just me screwing them up. I forgot the donuts, and chips, but my coffee was OK.

We need to make a deal for a Fire Engine, or water truck to wash out the plugged culvert, and pour a slab in front of the rifle slab to make sweeping up brass easier.

Anyone want to do it again on Friday December 27? –Steve

Photos from Saturday November 16 Turkey Shoot





EL DORADO *Rod & Gun Club*



The Powder Keg (December 2002)

DEFENSIVE PISTOL SHOOT RESULTS (October 26, 2002–El Dorado Rod and Gun Club)

IDPA (International Defensive Pistol Association) rules are used as guidelines for the courses of fire. The courses of fire are typically 18 rounds or less, typically revolver friendly and concealed carry unless otherwise specified.

Shooting (engaging targets) is done from in the open, behind cover and on the move. Shooting from behind cover / barricades is done from both right and left sides. Strong hand only and support (weak) hand only shooting is utilized.

IDPA paper targets along with metal plates and metal knock down (Pepper Poppers) targets are used.

STAGE #1 MOVE AND KNEEL WITH NO COVER EXERCISE

SET UP: All targets are wearing shirts.

PROCEDURE: STRING ONE: Shooter to start with only six rounds in firearm and facing up range with hands at side. At audible sound the shooter is to turn, draw firearm while moving to carpet. Kneel on carpet and engage T-1 through T-3 in spread fire, go to slide lock, reload and again engage T-1 through T-3 in spread fire. Total of twelve rounds. Record time. Shooter reload.

STRING TWO: Shooter to start strong side down range with hands at side. At audible sound the shooter is to turn, draw firearm while moving to carpet. Kneel on carpet and engage T-1 through T-3 in spread fire. Total of six rounds. Record time. Shooter reload.

STRING THREE: Shooter to start support side down range with hands at side. At audible sound the shooter is to turn, draw firearm while moving to carpet. Kneel on carpet and engage T-1 through T-3 in spread fire. Total of six rounds. Record time. Unload and show clear.

STAGE #2 NIGHT WATCHMAN ASLEEP AT THE WORK STATION

SCENARIO: You are a moonlighting as a government employed night watchman. You have not had a chance to sleep during your daytime job in the county planning department as you normally do and are taking a quick catnap. You are awakened to find three bad guys with one hostage in front of your workstation. You retrieve your issued service revolver from the top of the table and engage the three bad guys spread fire with one round each and then your gun malfunctions. Your normal carry firearm is unloaded on a table behind a wall behind you.

SET UP: All targets are wearing shirts.

PROCEDURE: Sitting on your chair with head on hands (sleeping) at audible sound you lift your head and retrieve your issued service revolver and engage the three bad guys with one round each making sure not to hit the hostage and then the gun goes click. Get up and move to wall behind you and retrieve and load your firearm. From one side of cover engage another three bad guys in tactical order with two rounds each. Perform a tactical reload and from the other side of cover engage another three bad guys in tactical order with two rounds each. Perform a tactical reload and engage the Pepper Popper through the center of cover.

STAGE #3 LYING DOWN

SET UP: All targets are wearing shirts. Barrier is approximately 12" above ground.

PROCEDURE: Shooter places 3 magazines loaded with 6 rounds each and empty firearm on carpet. Shooter to lay face down facing down range placing head on hands. At audible sound shooter to pick up and load firearm. From under the barrier engage each target in tactical order with two rounds each. Perform a speed reload and again from under the barrier engage each target in tactical order with two rounds each. Perform a speed reload and again engage each target from

under the barrier in tactical order with two rounds each. Stop when finished. Follow range commands. Place unloaded firearm on carpet, stand, retrieve unloaded firearm, show clear and holster. Retrieve empty magazines.

STAGE #4 BOWLING PINS EXERCISE

PROCEDURE: Start with hands on cover (drums). At audible sound, draw and engage four bowling pins from either left or right side of cover. Perform a tactical reload and engage the other four bowling pins from the other side of cover, then engage steel plate target.

STAGE #5 DISAPPEARING TARGET

PROCEDURE: STRING ONE: Facing up range. At audible sound and from behind cover turn and draw and free style engage Pepper Popper that activates the reactive disappearing target. Engage disappearing target with two rounds. Score and reset targets.

STRING TWO: Facing up range. At audible sound and from behind cover turn and draw and with strong hand only engage Pepper Popper that activates the reactive disappearing target. Engage disappearing target with two rounds. Score and reset targets.

STRING THREE: Facing up range. At audible sound and from behind cover turn and draw and with supportive hand only engage Pepper Popper that activates the reactive disappearing target. Engage disappearing target with two rounds.

STAGE #6 CLOSE TRIM IN THE BARBERS CHAIR

PROCEDURE: Sitting in barbers chair facing up range at audible sound stand and removing barbers apron turn and engage six targets from behind the chair with one round each in tactical order. Perform a tactical reload and engage targets in tactical order strong hand only. Perform a tactical reload and engage targets in tactical order support hand only.

OVERALL MATCH RESULTS

NAME	STAGE #1	STAGE #2	STAGE #3	STAGE #4	STAGE #5	STAGE #6	TOTAL
Howard Holzer	36.18	30.30	33.00	18.72	16.77	26.61	161.58
John L. Lustig	34.01	30.83	31.72	29.55	23.85	26.88	176.84
Bill Zaepfel	28.04	33.72	31.70	28.92	17.42	37.91	177.71
Peter Bird	43.69	44.87	36.66	18.90	25.92	41.71	211.75
Dan Moore	57.56	42.42	40.17	49.18	28.91	47.94	266.18
Michael Mac Gregor	92.73	50.24	42.90	46.70	30.90	69.88	333.35



EL DORADO *Rod & Gun Club*



The Powder Keg (December 2002)

Dall Sheep Hunt Story as journaled by Bob Terrazas

(Part 2 of 3)

Editor's note:

This story was only to be a 2 parter, however we had to extend it out to a 3 parter.

AUGUST 17. Only 9 of our string of 20 horses return to camp in the morning. We head for Boundary Creek, about 2 hours up river, to an area which hasn't been hunted in about 4 years. Ray and David come along. We see another grizzly bear at about 300 yards, some caribou, but no sheep. Ray decides to go after the caribou that doesn't interest me. Arnold says it's about a 350. My minimum is 370. It's 7pm, quite late, and we return to camp while Ray goes after the caribou. Ray and David stay out past dark getting his caribou. On their return with the meat, they are stalked by a grizzly just up river from camp....

The bear is about 50 yards behind them following in the shadows for a long distance and in their fear they decide to cut a caribou quarter from the horse and leave it for the bear. Good action but it was probably a mistake as later events would unfold. Keith gets a ram fairly near camp in some cliffs behind us that day. That night we have a grizzly in camp, per Ray and Keith. David more or less concurs. I'm asleep and don't see nor hear anything. Arnold suggests we spike out next day down river.

AUGUST 18. Rain. Much colder. Near freezing. We decide to stay near camp and not spike out in the rain. We spot two rams in the mountains behind camp but with fog and low clouds we can't see them all the time and they move. We go out closer to the mountain and find rams again. Small, not full curl and I pass. Snow in pm and we return to camp. No sign of the 11 missing horses.

AUGUST 19. Arnold and I head down river to Windy Camp, about 3 hours away. He feels there will be more sheep there and we are also looking for the

missing horses. Three more rams on way to Windy. Too small. There are 7 across the river in another outfitter's territory but none of them are any good either. At Windy we find the horses. Start back with them and arrive at camp near 8. Weather good but because of horses not much hunting. On return trip we see two grizzlies. One moves off the trail and he stays about 200 yards away. The other pops up out of the willows in front of us along the trail, and doesn't move. He's about 30 yards away. I had choice of a picture or a gun, and I chose the gun. We go around and watch our backs. For me it was a bad day physically.

AUGUST 20. Plans to camp out at Windy aborted. Overcast and very low fog giving low visibility. We head for cliffs where Keith got his ram. We see two caribou, one a very good one. About a 370 but I have told Arnold I won't shoot one until after I get my sheep. A whole day is lost caping and transporting meat and while handsome animals, they are stupid and not a challenge. Rain off and on all day. Low clouds but we do have some visibility yet see nothing. As we return late from the cliffs we meet a grizzly in the thick willows. We never see him but hear him and see the willows move within 20 yards. On return to camp we find that Mel and Keith have killed a grizzly. Probably the same one "baited" by Ray and David two days before. The bear started following them and stalking. As they crossed a riverbed he started closing the distance between them at a fast trot. They couldn't run the horses in the rocks but managed to get off on the bank and tie the horses as he closed the gap. Yelling and one shot did nothing to discourage him and when he was about 30 yards away, Mel gave the order to fire. Mel shot with slugs in a shotgun and Keith with his 30-06. 9 shots and four hits

and he's down. Grizzlies are protected there so it had to be skinned and the hide delivered to the game warden with a letter of explanation of the incident.

AUGUST 21. Fog and rain again. No visibility. Stay in camp. Late in evening after clouds lift Arnold spots sheep behind camp. Three good ones out of seven. No hunting this day.

AUGUST 22. Sheep gone in morning. We head down river to climb the mountains and walk the ridges to hunt from above. Cloudy. Looks OK. Ray and Dave are going a bit further than us and when we catch up to them about 2 miles down river, we turn towards timber, stop and spot. Almost immediately I spot a ram. Arnold spots more and before long we have 4 in sight. A couple look OK but at about 4 miles it's hard to say. We ride further into timber and spot some more. Still looks good so we move closer. It's repeated 4 times until we are at timber line about one mile away from them. We check closely and two of the rams are almost identical. Both full curl, not great mass or thick bases, but full curl is my criteria and I tell Arnold I'd have either if he's satisfied. Only problem is the four are near the mouth of a box canyon that is a bowl. From their right side of the canyon where they are there is no approach for a stalk, particularly when we spot yet another ram up above these four. He's also small. Arnold gives me a lesson in Dall ram behavior. He thinks we can get within 400 yards with no problem going straight to them, reciting his experiences. He asks if I can make a 400 yard shot and I answer in the affirmative, but I want a closer shot. With the unpredictable weather and the hunt time slowly expiring, I don't want to risk a direct frontal approach as he suggests. After some discussion we agree to go to our left, find a ridge behind which we can



EL DORADO *Rod & Gun Club*

The Powder Keg (December 2002)



get to the base of the mountains unobserved, then climb the slope opposite the canyon opening from the 4 lower rams. The fifth one up above was a problem to me as he would have us in sight all the way. We manage to get to the base of the mountain in about an hour. Up the shale and rock slope about 2000' some half mile from the canyon opening and then a side hill crawl over boulders and shale to end up above a second cliff on the left side of the canyon opening. That 5th ram sees us all the way and starts down to see what we are about as we side hill the mountain. The fourth ram is actually much higher than we are and can also see us. The three others, which include the twin of the 4th, are below. Arnold wants to see him closer before we shoot. I lead over the huge rocks, some of which are loose. Arnold knocks some down and I panic, but the sheep don't stir. The 15 mph wind is in our favor and in our faces. Number 5 is still coming down looking directly at us and number 4 could see us if he'd just look. I finally get to within 250 yards, study number 4 and he looks great to me! I have some angular rocks on which I can position myself to have almost a benchrest gun support.

Arnold and I briefly talk. There is a ram about 20 degrees up from me across a canyon into which the wind is blowing about 15 mph. Only problem is the ram is laid up and gives a very thin profile. I'm set and Arnold says shoot. I hold on his shoulder and hope my range estimation is accurate or else I hit ground in front of him. I hold dead on, squeeze, and hit right where I aim. Broken shoulder and lung shot. The ram shudders, lifts his head up with a start, sits for about 5 seconds, AND STANDS UP! He is teetering! Arnold says shoot again! I say he's dead! Arnold is panicked and wants another shot. I reluctantly shoot just as the ram tumbles forward and the bullet goes into the paunch. Later we both agree the second shot was unnecessary and a mistake but Arnold didn't want a tracking job and he says he always has his hunters put in an

insurance shot. The sheep's companions come out of the canyon below us and up the slope. We don't move and they hang around for several minutes. Arnold has a chance to evaluate the other full curl and he says they are identical. Down the canyon wall and up the other side for the pictures and cleaning. Haul the meat and head down to the horses and return to camp with my trophy!

We return to camp along the skirt of the mountain, about 4 miles, to avoid grizzlies. Keith later tells of going near the site of his grizzly kill where another grizzly was eating. Keith was sure his grizzly arose from the dead and that the spirit was going to eat him! Ray has taken a nice ram in the next canyon over from where we were. Turns out Ray is shooting a 7.21 Lazzeroni Tomahawk. He brought two boxes of cartridges for it, 40 rounds. After taking his wolves with one shot each and bragging about his shooting prowess in his drunken state, he has now only one cartridge left! He fired several times at one ram early in the hunt and missed. He also told me he lost track of the shots he fired at the caribou. His ram today took all but his last cartridge!

AUGUST 23. In camp all day caping. Rain all day. Nothing lost.

AUGUST 24. Horses again don't return. They are finally returned about 1. We go out late to the swamp behind camp for caribou. Nothing but a nice moose about 1000 yards away. There just are not many caribou around. It's believed the snow has caused an early migration from this high country. On return to camp, everyone makes noises about returning to base camp in the morning, one day early, and that is the decision. We have concerns with the river crossings because of the continuous rain and melting snow. With no caribou around there is no point in remaining here.

AUGUST 25. Great weather. We are up early, about 6, to help guides break down camp and pack. We start out just before noon for uneventful nine hour trip. Water

is high but passable. Only game we see are three young caribou. Base camp around 9.

AUGUST 26. I discuss with Arnold the possibility of getting a 370 or better caribou from base camp. After much discussion we opt not to go out and I stay in camp to shower and get gear together for the return home. While napping near noon I hear a chopper which lands right near my cabin. Game wardens. One is friendly, waves, and asks if I'm a hunter. He sends a young man over towards me who walks up putting on some sort of official uniform coat I don't recognize, and asks for my hunting license. I'm sleeping, in camp unarmed and I'm uncertain he has a right to require that. I hand it to him anyway and he starts writing. Not much friendliness nor PR. The license was just issued but he asks if I still live at that address! He asks several questions which are not any of his business which are irritating me. I supposed later it's his effort to be friendly. He asks what I do for living. "Nothing." "Retired?" "Yes." "What did you do before you retired?" Silence. Staring contest. "You're not going to answer?" "IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS! DOES YOUR LAW SAY I HAVE TO ANSWER?" "No." Silence. More writing. He asked about game. I tell him not much and way too many grizzlies. He then launches into a greenie dissertation on the ecology and the value of grizzly bears. I told him that his liberal ideas were very contrary to mine, and besides, as an ex-LEO I disagreed with even his approach to the public. Not a good meeting. When the chopper leaves I go up to the main camp to see if my meeting caused any problems. My young friend has caused quite a stir up there and they are going on about his officious approach, so while I may have contributed to his attitude, I was not the only one to have had problems with him and reached a similar conclusion.

Story will be continued in January Newsletter.