

## Increasing Damage

Michael Jones, XO

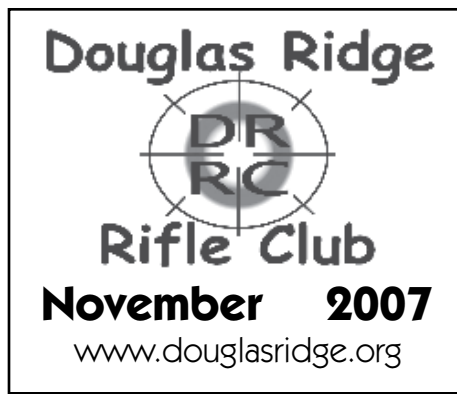
Time for my bi-yearly whine about range damage. It is getting worse and more expensive. In the past we have had to replace the Indoor target carriers & 2X4s and patch the baffles once every three or four months. Now it is monthly if not weekly. Also there is some damage that can only be described as wanton.

The 100 Yard Range target carriers were completely replaced at the end of April. They need to be replaced again now (late September). Many of the steel brackets were new in April; as the photos show they have become targets and we apparently do have some members that can shoot pretty good groups but their choice of targets is costing you money. It appears that they are posting targets on the posts and the 2X4 stringers rather than the plastic target carriers.

We have gotten a few holes in the new 1000 target number boards and bunches in the 600 yard target number boards. Some are probably rifle shooters whose dope is off but some are apparently done on purpose. A few are even pistol bullet holes.

We have also found damage to the steel silhouettes at the Silhouette Range caused by shooting high-powered center-fire rifles, which is against the SOPs.

Please don't shoot at unauthorized targets. Please watch what others are doing on the range and confront them or at least report them if they are causing damage. This is **YOUR RANGE** and the increasing damage is **COSTING YOU MONEY.**



## Christmas Party Change

As announced last month, this year we will be having our annual Christmas Party at a different location because we had so many people attend last year. The party will be on Saturday, December 1st at Mountainview Christian Church Family Life Center on NE Cleveland Avenue in Gresham. It is on Cleveland between Stark and Burnside in Gresham. The Party will begin at 7 pm. You will need to enter through the South Door (look for signs). We still need volunteers to help set up.

To volunteer to help, contact either John Weil (503) 622-3815 or Nils Bittner (503) 661-0324.

## Deer and Elk

ODFW wildlife biologists estimate deer and elk populations through aerial surveys. This photo was taken during a survey of elk in the Mt. Emily unit.

Deer and elk hunting across Oregon is expected to be fair this season. Buck and bull ratios are improved in many wildlife management units.

Nevertheless, overall declines in populations due to habitat changes, predation and disease mean hunters may need to expand on long-held behaviors to be successful. For example, hunters should look beyond disturbances to find deer and elk, especially on the eastside which has experienced several years of drought. In dry conditions, animals will be looking for cover, cool and water--hunters should too. Additionally, hunters should expect to walk in to hunting areas, not drive, to be successful.

Westside hunters also should look beyond clear-cuts and old fires when hunting deer and elk. Rather, look for areas with a mixture of different age cuts to increase the number of animals you are likely

to find. Pre-season scouting is even more important in these conditions. Westside hunters should be aware that biologists are seeing more deer and elk moving away from national forestland and onto private timber and agricultural land, as reduced forest management on national forestland means more deer and elk looking for forage on areas with logging operations. Thanks to ODFW's Access and Habitat program and the cooperation of private forestland owners, hunters can access much private forestland during deer and elk season; see hunting locations and by-unit reports for more information.

## Relief in Sight?

by Stephen P. Halbrook, Ph.D.

The Gun Control Act of 1968 imposed a lifetime ban on firearm possession by any person who was ever adjudicated as a mental defective or committed to a mental institution. The Firearms Owners' Protection Act of 1986 provided that such persons could petition BATFE for removal of such disabilities, but Congress has prohibited that procedure in annual appropriations acts. For the first time since 1968, the "NICS Improvement Amendments Act of 2007," H.R. 2640, would allow the states to provide procedures to remove these federal disabilities, and also require federal agencies to adopt disability removal procedures.

Imposing a lifetime firearm ban on all persons who were ever subject to such adjudications or commitments, without any hope for such persons to prove themselves recovered, is cruel and vindictive. H.R. 2640 would remedy this injustice and allow restoration of such persons' Second Amendment rights.

Almost all mental commitments and adjudications occur under state law. This bill requires states to have procedures to allow such persons to show that they would not be a danger to public safety. Under H.R. 2640, the State "shall grant the relief" if the person is unlikely to endanger the public. The person would also have the right to appeal a denial

to a state court. This is the first time since the ban was imposed in 1968 that persons could seek relief at the state level, thereby reforming current law which only authorizes BATFE to decide on relief. When BATFE used to administer such a program, it granted relief about 40% of the time, but Congress has circumvented that law by defunding the BATFE program.

The Veterans' Administration and other federal agencies also conduct certain adjudications and commitments, and the bill provides for removal of these disabilities by these same agencies—rather than by BATFE—and for judicial review of any denial. Many people could also get relief from a provision in the bill that excludes adjudications or commitments where the person has been "fully released or discharged from all mandatory treatment, supervision, or monitoring."

Passage of H.R. 2640 would, for the first time in their lives, give hope to persons who in the past were subject to a mental commitment or adjudication and have recovered their mental health. Current law only serves to sentence such persons to a lifetime ban on firearms without any chance of ever redeeming their Second Amendment rights.

## Civilian Marksmanship Program

The next batch of M1 Carbines won't be available for ordering until January '08. Those will be *Winchesters*. *Quality Hardware* mfg. in April, *Standard Products* mfg. in July, *National Postal Meter* mfg. in August, *IBM* mfg. in October, *Saginaw SG* mfg. in January and March '09, and *Rockola* in April.

A large transfer of M1 Garands was received in August of this year from the U.S. Army. Orders are now being accepted for both M1 Garand (field and service grades) and M1D Garand, Sniper (field and rack grades).

U.S. Model 1903 & 1903A3's are sold out. Any that are received will be offered for sale in January, 2009.

M1917 Enfield Rifles are also sold out. Any that appear will be offered sometime in 2008.

Go to [www.odcmp.com](http://www.odcmp.com) for updates.



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# Douglas Ridge Rifle Club

# November 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Long Range Day 9am-1pm 800-1000 yd only 1pm-sunset 300-600 yd only  <b>7:00pm-9pm General Meeting (CH)</b>	2	3 9am-4pm USPSA/IPSC (Silh)  8am-4pm NRA Instructor Training (CH/Ind)
4 DST Ends  9am-2:30pm Trap  9am-3pm Pistol Silhouette	5  4-8pm Jr. Smallbore (Ind)	6  8am-noon Ranges Closed for Maintenance	7  6-9pm Ladies' Night (CH/Ind)	8 Long Range Day 9am-1pm 300-600 yd only 1pm-sunset 800-1000 yd only  Newsletter Deadline	9	10
11 9am-4pm Sporting Clays 9am-3pm Action Pistol (Silh)	12 Veterans Day 4-8pm Jr. Smallbore (Ind)	13  8am-noon Ranges Closed for Maintenance	14  8am-5pm PPB SERT (Silh)  6-9pm Ladies' Pistol Class (CH/Ind)	15 Long Range Day 9am-1pm 800-1000 yd only 1pm-sunset 300-600 yd only	16	17  9am-2pm Black Powder (Silh)
18 9am-2:30pm Trap - Turkey Shoot & Pottluck	19  4-8pm Jr. Smallbore (Ind)	20  8am-noon Ranges Closed for Maintenance	21  6-9pm Ladies' Night (CH/Ind)	22 Thanksgiving Day  Long Range Day 9am-1pm 300-600 yd only 1pm-sunset 800-1000 yd only	23	24
25 9am-2pm Sporting Clays 9am-sunset 3-Gun (Silh)	26  4-8pm Jr. Smallbore (Ind)	27  8am-noon Ranges Closed for Maintenance	28  6-9pm Ladies' Pistol Class (CH/Ind)	29 Long Range Day 9am-1pm 800-1000 yd only 1pm-sunset 300-600 yd only  <b>7-9pm Board Meeting</b>	30	

# Douglas Ridge



## Rifle Club

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**Future Club Member Meetings**

**General Meetings**  
(Thursdays)  
November 1 at 7 pm  
December 1 (Xmas Party) at 7 pm  
January 3 at 7 pm

**Board Meetings**  
(Thursdays)  
November 29 at 7 pm  
December 27 at 7 pm  
January 31 at 7 pm

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