

FORT RILEY OUTDOORSMEN GROUP OCTOBER 2007 NEWSLETTER



Please send your photos and stories to FortRileyOutdoorsmenGroup@Yahoo.com

FROG OPENS ARCHERY RANGE IN IRAQ



FROG BUILDS THREE ARCHERY RANGES ON FORT RILEY



FROG YOUTH HUNT SET



ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION
DONATES GUNS TO FROG



PRIVATELY-OWNED FIREARMS RANGE
IMPROVES



BIG BUCK CONTEST TO OPEN SOON



FORT RILEY BUCK TAGS APPLICATIONS
UNTIL OCT 30



4TH BRIGADE FROGGERS OPEN RANGE IN IRAQ

by Pfc. Nathaniel Smith
4th IBCT Public Affairs

BAGHDAD – It's not uncommon for Soldiers to bring as much of home as possible with them when they deploy. Some bring pictures of loved ones. Others bring tokens such as stuffed animals.

Soldiers at Forward Operating Base Falcon took it a step further, clearing out a dump full of 66 tons of trash and constructing a fully functional archery range where Soldiers can shoot, whether they've been hunting all their lives or they're simply looking to pick up a new hobby.

Staff Sgt. Nathan Tabor, a Joint Network Node assistant platoon sergeant with Company C, Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, played a large role in the construction of the range.

For the Dickinson, N.D., native, it was the carrying on of a part of his heritage.

"My entire family hunts. Since I was a little kid, my dad's always taken me with him. I've just always done it," he said.

The carrying on of a tradition was not easy; a lot had to be done to prepare a range for something other than rifles on an Army installation. With help from several individuals and units, an idea that manifested while Tabor was on his way home for leave became a reality. He said his



Command Sgt. Maj. Jim Champagne, the senior noncommissioned officer of the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, fires the first arrow at the Forward Operating Base Falcon Archery Range, Sep. 23. The range was made possibly through the efforts of Soldiers from the 610th Brigade Support Battalion, Brigade Special Troops Battalion, and Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 4th IBCT. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Nathaniel Smith, 4th IBCT Public Affairs)



Some of the key contributors to the construction of the Forward Operating Base Falcon Archery Club's range; from left, Staff Sgt. Fessenden, Sgt. 1st Class Switzer, Maj. Zimmerman, Command Sgt. Maj. Jim Champagne, Capt. Derrick, Staff Sgt. Nathan Tabor. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Nathaniel Smith, 4th IBCT Public Affairs)

family, wife Marisol and son Luisito of Topeka, Kan., kept him motivated when he felt like quitting.

"It wouldn't be possible without my family. They motivated me quite a bit. There's been times when I'm like 'I don't have time for it,'" he said. "They're like 'just get it done, it pays off in the long run,' and that's what's happened. We've got it done, and it's definitely going to pay off."

Tabor saw the payoff as an opportunity to not only get to practice a hobby from home, but also to generate interest in a sport that has been losing its draw.

"It's great because every year the number of hunters and fishermen are steadily declining. That's for the simple fact people not knowing about it, people not having a place to go," he said. "As long as you have something there for the Soldiers to use, people will get interested. Next thing you know, it's something you like, and you're teaching your kids."

Tabor said in addition to the proliferation of an activity, it also provides Soldiers a distraction from the every day stresses of a war zone.

"It's a place for the Soldiers to get away when guys are coming back from missions," he said. "It's a good way to forget some of the stuff you're doing every day and start doing the stuff you remember from back in the States."

FROG BUILDS THREE ARCHERY RANGES ON FORT RILEY

1.



10-20 Yard Range



At left is the range located directly behind the Conservation office.

Above is the check-in station for the static ranges. It's located on the porch of the Conservation office.

2.



20-50 Yard Range

Lt. Col. Bill Lukaskiewicz, commander of the 101st Forward Support Battalion "Guardians," 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, draws his bow at the Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group's newly constructed archery range at Fort Riley.

The walk-in range is open and free to all Fort Riley residents.

3.1.



3D Range

The new 3D range is co-located with the two static ranges.

The FROG will set up and run the 3D range about once a month during spring, summer, and early fall.

The FROG invested about \$6000 into archery targets for Fort Riley.

BANQUET SPONSORS: THANK YOU!!

Conservation Champion (\$2500)

Dick Edwards (J.C. & Manhattan)

Wildlife Benefactor (\$1750)

Kansas Wildscapes

Habitat Partner (\$1000)

Junction City - Geary County Military Affairs Council

Chapter Patrons (\$500)

Briggs Auto Group

Montgomery Communications

Patriot Outfitters

Star Lumber

Banquet Sponsors (\$250)

Animal Care Clinic-Dr. Mark Stenstrom

City Cycle Sales

Concordia Tractor Inc. (John Deere)

Matthew Champagne

Griffith Lumber Co.

FROG Contributors (\$100)

Crites Real Estate Inc.

A&L Hay Farms

Junghans Agency

Coldwell Bankers

Geary County Convention & Visitors Bureau

Pottberg, Gassman, & Hoffman, CPA

Rusty Taylor Auctioneering

Geary County Fish & Game

Wahle Real Estate Inc.

Central National Bank

GTM Sportswear

Dillon's

Edward Jones

Generous Donors

Ed Augustine

Double R Craft Studio

Purina

Gander Mountain

Taylor's Shooting Supply

Muzzy

Magnus

Faulk's Game Calls

Champion's Car Wash

Haydel's Game Calls

Pat's Pawn & Gun

Cabela's

Beacon Marine

Please Patronize Our FROG Sponsors!

Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group



October 15th, 2007

To Our Banquet Sponsors:

Thank you for your generous contribution to the 3rd Annual Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group Banquet held on September 7th. Your contribution was part of over \$11,000 raised for conservation and promotion of recreational activities at Fort Riley.

How are your dollars being used? All of your donation goes right back into Fort Riley projects – we pay no salaries, rent, or anything else. We take pride in our all-volunteer organization with no overhead.

This last year, the FROG invested over \$6,000 and hundreds of volunteer hours in building three excellent archery ranges on post. In addition, the FROG held a youth deer hunt in the fall, and a youth turkey hunt in the spring. Both were very successful, with children of deployed Soldiers getting the opportunity to enjoy our great outdoors.

This year, we will again hold youth deer hunts and youth turkey hunts. We will also sponsor a fishing derby for kids. Conservation-wise, we are investing some of your dollars in wheat seed to improve Fort Riley’s habitat. Our goal is to help seed 100-125 acres of winter wheat this fall. The wheat seed and plant will provide nutrition, nesting and brooding cover for numerous game and non-game animals on the post.

Together with President Emeritus Ricky Gibbs, and Co-Presidents Dave Seigel and Chris Kubik, and the rest of the Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group, I extend a sincere “*Thank You!*”, and we hope you will consider contributing again next year towards this very worthy cause.

Sincerely,

\\original signed\\

Alan Hynek

Co-President

Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group

(Personal letters will be mailed to each of the sponsors for this year’s banquet.)

FROM THE FIELD

Thought perhaps you would be interested in this photo for the newsletter as one doesn't see pointing dogs acting like retrievers!

This is Black Agnes aka Aggie retrieving a green wing teal. She beat my hunting buddy's Golden to the downed duck and what a glorious experience that was!

THANKS, SUSIE!!

Susie Johnson



FROG YOUTH DEER HUNT SCHEDULED

The 2nd Annual FROG Youth Deer Hunt has been scheduled for November 24, December 22 and December 29 (all Saturdays).

Last year's hunt was a great success, with nearly all hunters seeing deer, and several deer taken.

This year's hunt looks to be equally great, with youths using our newly-purchased Double Bull blinds.

Many thanks to Double Bull Company for providing the blinds at cost!

Priority slots go to youth with their hunting parent deployed, then to military family members, and then to non-military family members.

The number of slots available will depend on the number of mentors. The FROG has about a half dozen mentors signed up already.

If you are interested in being a youth deer hunt mentor, contact

the FROG or sign up at the Conservation office. Mentors will need to assist with the orientation and will not be allowed to carry a firearm during the youth hunt.

Youth are defined as 9 to 16 years old. Younger hunters will be considered by hunting experience.

The youth will be responsible for a



deer permit, and transportation to and from the conservation office.

We prefer that youths bring their own gun and ammo, but youth will not be

turned away if they don't have access to them. The board will provide them as available.

The conservation office will have sign up forms available in late August. The week prior will be the cut off for sign ups.

Youth will be required to attend an orientation and will be also be required to demonstrate their ability to effectively control their firearm.

The Clay Center Locker Plant has generously agreed to provide basic processing free of charge for the youth during the hunt.

Even though the holidays are around the dates selected there is plenty of opportunity for everyone interested to have a chance to get out and hunt.

Look for the sign up sheets and sign up your youth as soon as you can!

GUIDES NEEDED FOR YOUTH HUNT

If you are interested in being a youth guide, please contact the FROG. We have 13 youths already signed up for the youth hunt, and expect around 20 or so. Many are sons and daughters of deployed Soldiers.



Our goal is one guide per youth, so we will need plenty of guides. If you are able to volunteer your time, let us know. Guides must attend (and help, if possible) the orientation set for the morning of Saturday, November 17th.



**Rocky Mountain
ELK FOUNDATION**

RMEF AND REMINGTON PARTNER WITH FROG & DONATE A DOZEN FIREARMS FOR YOUTH HUNTS

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and Remington recently partnered with the Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group to open up new opportunities for youth hunters.

The Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group initiated their highly successful youth hunt program on Fort Riley one year ago.

The FROG sponsors annual youth deer and turkey hunts on Fort Ri-

ley. During these hunts, the FROG found that some youths did not have firearms to use.

Bruce Gollnick, Kansas State Chairman of The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, heard of the issue, and decided to help. Remington wanted in as well. Alfred Russo, Marketing Director of Remington, decided to provide

the rifles and shotguns at cost.

These two great organizations truly want to help our youth, and our Soldiers, and they found a way to do it.

RMEF resourced the purchase of six Remington Model 770 Youth Rifles in a .243 chamber, and six Remington Model 870 Youth 20 gauge shotguns.

Thanks, RMEF and Remington!!



The Model 770 exemplifies quality, reliability and convenience. It's chambered for the mildrecoiling 243 Win. and comes out of the box with a pre-mounted, bore sighted 3-9x40mm scope.



THE HEART
OF THE
GAME,
SINCE 1816.

FOR 191 YEARS
REMINGTON AND
THE AMERICAN
SPORTSMAN
HAVE SEEN IT ALL
TOGETHER.

Remington
www.REMINGTON.com



For an outstanding combination of proven quality and moderate cost, nothing can compare to the Model 870 Express Youth Gun. Designed with the same durability and reliability as the legendary Model 870 Wingmaster®, this lightweight 20-gauge makes an excellent, fast-handling field gun for the smaller shooter.

FROG'S NEW POF RANGE

FROG Board member Bob Forman opened up the new FROG privately owned firearms range in early October.

Through a collaborative effort among Bob, Board Member Dave Seigel, and the Fort Riley Range Control, the FROG moved operations from the old Range 9 to Range 4.

The first advantage of the new range is that it is closer to Fort Riley. Those of you who have made the long drive out to Range 9 will appreciate the proximity of this range.

Bob reports that the range has other advantages, as well, such as the "lanes are better marked, as are firing points." Bob attributes much of the success in getting access to Range 4 to Range Control: "The range division did a fabulous job; they moved everything we needed - thanks for the great support."

Forman, who retired from the Army at Fort Riley and currently teaches at the post middle school, said the goal is to have a safety officer present for the range to be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday. It's not always possible, due to conflicting schedules and units training on adjacent ranges. But for the days it's offered, the rules are few.

Forman said visitors should keep safety at the forefront, make sure their guns are registered on post, and bring hearing protection. Targets and holders are provided.

In the last several years, Forman said, attendance had been as high as 50 guests in a day and as low as three or four. Guests can shoot up to a 458 magnum rifle, black powder up to .75 calibers, and pistols are unrestricted.

If you plan to go shoot, Forman said to remember it's a range and accommodations "are rustic." Several benches are available for use, he said, and visitors should remember sunscreen and bring their own food and water if they plan to be at the range for an entire day.



Range OIC David Williams, retired US Army, under umbrella, with Bob Forman at back. Range 9 has 10 firing positions.



Range Coordinator Bob Forman blows another 7.62 round into the bulls-eye at Range 9 on Saturday, June 23rd. Bob took over coordinating the range last fall.

PRIVATELY OWNED FIREARMS RANGE

Where: Range 4

When: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. most Saturdays and Sundays.

Info: Call ahead - 239-4200 - to make sure the range will be open at designated times.

For additional information about using the range or what weapons are allowed, e-mail Bob Forman at bobforman@usd475.org

FR "BUCK" TAG APPLICATION DEADLINE NEARS

Fort Riley hunters have just two weeks left to apply for a limited number of "either sex" or buck tags. According to the Conservation folks, 200 tags are available this year. Two years ago, only 199 signed up for buck tags, but last year, more than 250 signed up. 50 went without a buck tag last year.

To throw your name in the hat, go to the Conservation office and fill out the short form. You will need your KDWP number to fill out the entry form. You must do this before October 30th.

The Lottery Drawing will be held at the Conservation office at 4:30 p.m. on the 1st of November. Successful applicants can pick up their permit beginning at 8:00 a.m. on 6 November at the Conservation office. Any permit not issued by 19 November will become available through a second lottery drawing at 8:00 a.m. on 20 November. Unsuccessful applicants must re-enter the second drawing to be eligible for the second drawing.

Hunters who did not enter the first drawing can enter the second.



FROG DONATES 125 ACRES OF WHEAT SEED



The FROG answered a conservation call to duty this month and voted to fund the purchase of winter wheat seed for food plots on Fort Riley.

The donation, according to Board Member Col. Jim Walmann, helps the organization meet its charter to promote conservation on Fort Riley.

The seed is a supplement to a Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation contribution of \$2500 towards winter wheat food plots.

According to Conservation Office Biologist and Board Member Shawn Stratton, the wheat seed and plant will provide nutrition, nesting and brooding cover for numerous game and non-game animals on the post.



Previous FROG Board Member CSM Terry Young with a giant 170" net big buck taken on Fort Riley last year by bow.

FROG 1ST ANNUAL BIG BUCK CONTEST

Do you plan on shooting "THE" monster buck this year?

If so, you may wish to enter the First Annual FROG Big Buck Contest.

Plans are still being put together at press time, but President Dave Seigel is working hard to design a contest that is fair.

Dave wants both archery and firearms bucks to be eligible for entry, and expects to have the details worked out before the rut kicks in.

With the history of big bucks on Fort Ri-

ley, this contest should see some big boys registered.

Preliminary plans call for a gross scoring system in line with the Boone and Crockett system.

Dave is working towards having a shoulder mount or similar value prize for first and second place winners in both firearms and bow categories.

Eligible bucks will have to be taken on Fort Riley and checked by the Conservation office or a FROG Board Member.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NEEDED

Volunteer Outdoorsmen and Outdoorwomen are needed for several committees on the FROG.

The Fort Riley Outdoorsmen Group works on a number of projects each year, ranging from archery ranges to youth hunts.

Currently, the FROG could use committee members for:

- fall youth deer hunt
- spring youth turkey hunt

- 3D shoot program for 2008,
- spring youth fishing derby,
- trap and skeet range,
- And others.

If you are interested, please contact the FROG or a Board Member.

Your help will make a difference on Fort Riley.



Volunteer committee members are needed for the trap and skeet range project, among other projects.

RECREATION REGULATIONS CHANGE

This is not a road.

It isn't a road you can drive on at Fort Riley, anyway.

Although not many rules have changed this year for Fort Riley, one major change is that only those roads shown on the new, updated Outdoor Recreation Map can be driven on.

Hunters used to driving on trails should consult their map and regulations closely before

venturing off the primary roads.

Hunters can still retrieve killed deer and elk going off-trail.

The intent of the program is to reduce erosion and to promote foot use and not vehicle use of Fort Riley's great outdoors.

So get out of your pickup and walk! You will see more deer!



A road? Or not?



IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A BOARD MEMBER, OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE ADDED TO OUR DISTRIBUTE LIST, PLEASE CONTACT A BOARD MEMBER OR EMAIL US AT:

fortrileyoutdoorsmengroup@yahoo.com

FORT RILEY OUTDOORSMEN GROUP

Mission: Promote conservation and outdoor recreation on Fort Riley.

Vision: The FROG creates and sustains strong interest in Fort Riley's environment, wildlife, and recreational opportunities by educating the public, sponsoring conservation and recreational projects, and promoting outdoor recreation.

Key Tasks:

1. Educate and inform the public -- especially youth, beginners, and newcomers -- on outdoor safety, proper ethics, environmental stewardship, and recreational opportunities.
2. Sponsor conservation projects that interest the public and enhance the current program.
3. Sponsor recreational projects that enhance outdoor recreation skills and increase interest in recreational participation.
4. Sponsor recreational events to generate interest in outdoor recreation.
5. Gain and sustain effective relationships with Fort Riley and community leaders to ensure adequate emphasis and resources for conservation and recreation programs.

Endstate: FROG's efforts in conservation and recreation on Fort Riley improve habitat, optimize wildlife populations, and increase ethical, informed participation in outdoor recreation.

Presidents and Executive Board

President Emeritus: **Ricky Gibbs***

Presidents: Dave Seigel, Chris Kubik, Alan Hynek.

Executive Council:

Jim Champagne*	Adam Hastert	Shawn Stratton
Brent Cummings*	Ron Henely*	John Vermeesch
Brian Derrick*	Mike Houck	Steve Wahle
Mark Dombrowski	Ryan Jones	Jim Walmann
Gordon Allen	Troy Mattingly	Joe Woolery
Bob Forman	Tim Skelton	'Zim' Zimmerman*

*** Deployed**