



Poke and Stroke

The official publication of the Colorado State Muzzle Loading Association
Dedicated to the preservation of the muzzle loading sports
January - February 2026 Issue

Annual family membership \$30.00 Junior membership \$15.00
Membership Director: Chris Baker, 17338 E Asbury Cir, Aurora CO 80013, 720-936-4218,
csmlanewsletter@gmail.com

Download membership application at: <https://www.csmla.net/join-us>

Letters, articles, and advertising should be addressed to Mike Lee Editor, CSMLA *Poke and Stroke*, 7430 Devinney Court, Arvada, CO 80005 or emailed to editorpokeandstroke@gmail.com All material submitted is subject to editing for content and space considerations. Commercial advertising rates available on request from the Editor. Our web site address is www.csmla.net

Upcoming Events

**March 7th CSMLA Winter Convention And Trade Event
NEW LOCATION, BETTER THAN EVER**

April 24th thru the 26th Arikaree River Rendevous

May 9th and 10th Buckhorn Skinners Squirrel Shoot

May 9th thru the 16th Kit Carson Mountain Men Rendevous

Jun 18th thru the 21st Territorials

**Check the Calendar for the ongoing shoots at the Fort Lupton Muzzle
Loaders Club**
<http://www.flmlc.org>

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COLORADO STATE MUZZLE LOADING ASSOCIATION, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND EVENT COORDINATORS

President

Erin Olefson, 2019 26th Ave Greely CO 80634 t1.e1.g1.o1@gmail.com

Vice President

Al Seely, 3662 Cottonwood Ln, Brighton CO 80603 seely_10@outlook.com

Secretary

Kathy Cisar, 6126 Kelly Beth Ct, Loveland CO 80537 k_cisar@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Lou Garone, 1144 Marfell St., Erie CO 80516, garone3@comcast.net

Membership

Chris Baker, 17338 Asbury Circle, Aurora CO 80013, csmlanewsletter@gmail.com

State Shoot

Sponsoring Clubs: Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders Buckhorn Skinners Ft. Lupton Muzzle Loaders

Education

Every member of the CSMLA

Wildlife Representative

David McCord, 855 Newport Street, Denver, CO 80220 dmccord60@earthlink.net

“Poke and Stroke”

Mike Lee, 7430 Devinney Court, Arvada, CO 80005 editorpokeandstroke@gmail.com

Annual Trade Show & Convention Coordinators

Ron Ring & David McCord,

Directors

North Erin Olefson, 2019 26th Ave Greely CO 80634 t1.e1.g1.o1@gmail.com

West Mike Lee, 7430 Devinney Court, Arvada, CO 80005 editorpokeandstroke@gmail.com

East Jaramie Allee, 337 Todd Ave, Lasalle Co, 80645. juniorallee@gmail.com

South Sanderson

Metro Ron Deurmyer, 3101 Brookstone Pass Dr. Yukon Oklahoma 73099

At-Large Directors

Ron Ring, 3513 Red Orchard Ct, Loveland, CO 80537 rring282@gmail.com

Dale Crabb, 106 Norma Ave., Milliken CO 80543 daledwaters@yahoo.com

Honorary Directors

Hez Salisbury, In Memoriam

Ray Ezinga, 5258 North Monroe Ave. Loveland CO 80538

Official positions of the Colorado State Muzzle Loading Association, Inc. are expressed only in written minutes of Board of Directors or General Membership Meetings, or as noted in articles by-lined by CSMLA officers

SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES TO THE *POKE AND STROKE*

If you have information on shoots, club meetings, re-enactments, classes or other items that would be of interest to our membership, please send it to: Mike Lee, Editor, CSMLA *Poke and Stroke*, 7430 Devinney Court, Arvada, CO 80005 or email to editorpokeandstroke@gmail.com Written or digital information are preferred, **HOWEVER**, phone calls will be accepted. Deadline for publication is posted in the most recent edition of the *Poke & Stroke*. If you have an article to share, we appreciate it. Your name will appear on the article. Material may involve any aspects of muzzle loading, including but not limited to: history, crafts, trades, gunsmithing, hunting, and rendezvous. Photographs are especially welcome; black & white photos or color is fine. Digital images sent by email are preferred but any format is welcome. The Editor and the CSMLA are not responsible for loss or damage in the mail to manuscripts or photographs. All material will be edited for content and space requirements. Letters to the Editor will be accepted in any legible form. Mention of a product or service in advertisement or article does not imply endorsement, approval nor testing by the CSMLA

HONOR ROLL

The following individuals are recognized for their outstanding contributions to the Colorado State Muzzle Loading Association.

Founders

Paul Arndt
Cliff Malmquist
Eugene Ball
Dell Mendenhall
James Ball
Hez Salsbury
Chuck Deats
K. C. Williams
Jacob Dewell
Chuck Wolf
Harlan Goodner

MUZZLE LOADERS OF THE YEAR

1988 Barry Conner
1989 Del Mendenhall
1990 Al Main
1991 Chuck Deats & Fred Newcomb (co-winners)
1992 Ray Ezinga
1993 Bill MacAfee
1994 Larry Webster
1995 Ron Melchert
1996 Charlie Webb
1997 Ken Klabor
1998 Ramona Laffler
1999 Dave Burman
2000 Jack Riddell
2001 Paul & Marcia Kelly
2002 Joy Hicks
2003 Doreen Webb
2004 Stanley B. Honour
2005 Jerry Farringer
2006 Larry Hicks
2007 Doug Davis
2008 Doug & Bridget Rightmire
2009 Ron Ring
2010 John & Mary Jo Kummer
2011 Scott Drake
2012 Tom Gabor
2013 Marlin Johnson
2014 Ken Wee
2015 Estill Ator
2016 Darrel Kolebar
2017 Ron Deurmyer
2018 Ron Mann
2019 Louie Silva
2020 Ted Beaupre
2021 Dee Beaupre
2022 Erin Olefson (Griz)
2023 Mike Lee

ML of year (cont'd)
2024 David McCord
2025 Jim Jeffries

Clubs and affiliates

If you are a member of a club that is not listed and you would like it to be, or you want to update this information, please contact the Editor.

Buckhorn Skinners

Ron Ring
3513 Red Orchard Ct, Loveland, CO
80537 970-692-4658
rring282@gmail.com

Colorado Springs Muzzle Loaders

Ted Beaupre, President 719-329-8126
941 Daffodil
Fountain, CO 80817
paper shoot - 1st Sunday 1:00 p.m.
www.csmlinc.org

Ft. Lupton Muzzle Loading Club, Inc.

Jaramie Allee, 731 Grand Ave.,
Platteville, CO 80651
juniorallee@gmail.com 970-473-4710
See <http://www.flmlc.org/> for shoot information

High Plains Muzzle Loaders

Bill Phillips 970-454-2109
Jim Eckersley (970) 353-8200
jimeckersley@comcast.net
shoot - 1st Sunday - 9:00 a.m. June, July & August 10:00 AM other nine months
Public welcome.

Kit Carson Mountain Men

Park G Wood 719-688-5696
27039 West Ridge
Lamar CO 81052

Rocky Mountain Men of Aurora

Shoot - 1st Sunday at Aurora Gun Club

San Luis Valley Renegades

Earl Wilson 719-580-9750
Meetings 2nd Thursday of every month 6 PM. Call for location
Shoot Sunday after 2nd Thursday 10 AM. (Weather permitting)

South Platte Valley Historical Society

P.O.Box 663 Ft. Lupton,
CO8062 <https://www.spvhs.org>

Starvation Trails Muzzle Loaders

C.J. Biwenga (303) 646-3090
John Kummer (303) 646-2724

Tallow River Trappers

Members of SPVHS
<https://www.spvhs.org/tallow>

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS

2013	Ray Ezinga
2014	Larry & Barb Webster
2015	Jack "Mato" Cardinbal
2016	Darrel Koelber
2017	Doreen Webb
2018	Joy Hicks & Gwen Blanchard
2019	Ron Ring
2020	Dale Crabb
2021	(snowed out)
2022	Doug Davis
2023	Hez Salsbury
2024	Ron Mann
2025	Paul Kelly

Advertising in the Poke

Did you know that you can place your business card advertisement in the Poke & Stroke for only \$10 per issue? Contact the editor at editorpokeandstroke@gmail.com

Editor's Note

If you are listed on the Masthead (page two) please check for correct information and advise the editor of any needed corrections.

If you have or know of an upcoming event let me know so that we can get it publicized here in the Poke and on the website.

CSMLA Postal Match

Here are some changes to our CSMLA members postal match. The format is changed in a way that will make the match more accessible to all our members. Here are the entire rules for the postal match including changes which are in **bold**.

What is the entry fee? There is no entry fee. There is no cost to participate. Who can enter? The CSMLA postal is for CSMLA members only. Memberships include all family members including children under age 18 and junior members.

How do I get targets? You can download targets at

<https://www.csmla.net/csmla-postal-match>

What if I don't have access to the internet how can I get targets? **In a pinch, you can contact Ron Mann at 303-257-7239. He will send you a single target which**

you can copy or have copied. Targets do not have to be mailed in. **Text or email a photo of your target (get close!) to Ron Mann at 303-257-7239** oldbuzzard101@yahoo.com

Targets and photos of targets must be whole. No missing corners or torn off portions.

The match is scored monthly and winners determined annually. **At the end of the year the shooter with the highest single target score for the year will win 2 pounds of powder. The shooter with the second highest single target score for the year will win 1 pound of powder.** Winners will be announced and prizes awarded at the annual Convention and Trade Show in March. Bragging rights will be on a monthly basis. The scores for the monthly will be updated in each issue of the Poke and on the website at <https://www.csmla.net/csmla-postal-match>

Wildlife Report David McCord

The Legislators at the special session approved "SB25B-005, to reallocate \$264,268 from wolf reintroduction funding to a health insurance fund. I do not know how wolf claims for damage to livestock will be addressed. 2025 claims so far appear to exceed funding.

Letter from Brian Nesvik, Dir. of Fish and wildlife, Oct. 10 to CPW Dir.. Jeff Davis: no wolves for Colorado from BC or Alaska, must come from Oregon or Washington (or from ID, MT, WY.

but those states not supporting wolves to Colo.)

This may work: while driving and also carrying a firearm, holding a Colo. small game license should avoid a driving and gun issue where you may be stopped by the CSP. The license should cover you "but officer I am hunting prairie dogs, coyotes, etc." although I doubt if they care about muzzle loaders anyway.

Federal lawsuit from the Colorado State Shooting Association, state's National Rifle Association group challenging constitutionality of Senate Bill 3 (<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb25-003>)

Cause of wolf deaths released per Colorado officials, May 31, NW Colorado, blunt force trauma (hit by vehicle) and lethal take by officials (due to predation), Rio Blanco County. Nine of 25 wolves released through reintroduction program are dead and one born to released wolves is dead. My math: approx. \$700,000 cost of each wolf released here.

Spread our goodwill: PR efforts, try to post images on our or your FB, X, etc. esp. where young people are engaged in muzzle loader activities in an effort to counter the onslaught of the public who may visit the out doors but are not hunters. The non-hunters may overwhelm what we do.

Race for next Colo. governor - consider fishing, hunting, and conservation as you look at the candidates:

* Colorado Governors influence and control hunting, fishing, and wildlife policies and opportunities. Governor Polis, final term ends January 12, 2027.

* It's critically important that we hunters, anglers, and wildlife conservationists talk about our governors role in management of wildlife, land management and development, and hunting and angling access and opportunities. When you track gubernatorial actions and selection on election day, consider the following:

* Colorado's Governors get to select, appoint, and remove very important decision-makers, as they so choose, including: Colorado Parks and Wildlife Director, leads the Parks and Wildlife agency - agency tasked with managing all wildlife species (800+ critters), state parks, state wildlife areas, conservation and access easements, etc etc… The Director has significant influence over the CPW agendas, priorities, budget, messaging, priorities, strategic plans, funding grants, etc., etc.

* The Director influences the 11 members of the CPW Commission, some of whom tend to show anti-hunting attitudes.

* The Commissioners vote on hunting and fishing regs., state park management, wildlife management (including herd management plans and species reintroductions), game damage and wolf depredation claims, state trails committee funding recommendations, and license suspension appeals.

* Qualification requirements for the Commission have a statutory requirements but the Gov. seems to exercise a broad definition. Appointees must go before Colorado's Senate Ag committee for questions, considerations, and a recommendation yes or no and then on to the full Senate where it is rare that a nomination is not confirmed. In recent history one nominee, a pro wolf advocate, withdrew in the face of our opposition. The two recent appointees show a lack of hunter knowledge and one is a pro-wolf advocate.

* Habitat Stamp Committee members

Denver Post: Twenty-one collared wolves currently roam our state and at least 10 pups were born this summer from the states four packs. One (or more) wondering wolves survive on road kill.

Our state needs better representation from hunters and anglers (and from agriculture) on all fronts.

CWCP Legislative dinner, Buckhorn Exchange, I hope Ron Mann is willing to be our representative and we need to be to come up with our funding support which should be same as last year, \$250. Ron does a great job mingling with the legislators and friends and we need all the support we can get.

Dan Gates who is very often the visible TV spokesperson for hunting was muzzle loader hunting in New Mexico last week. Ron, did you help him find a proper shooter?

I signed us to CWCP letters supporting these actions:
Letter to CPW supporting purchase of Tolland Ranch via habitat stamp funds (property is near the East tunnel and Eldora ski area, impoortant habitat for elk and deer).

Letter suggesting how the new Oil and Gas tax revenue could be used by CPW. Where park land is purchased, the role hunters use should be clearly defined, we need to protect hunter access.
Letter supporting CPW's list of Outdoor Strategies.

Time to warm up those shooting irons. The 2026 calendar of events is coming to life. Get to your range or club and start practicing.





Colorado State Muzzle Loading Association ONE-DAY WINTER CONVENTION and TRADE EVENT

Saturday, **March 7th, 2026**

Maple Grove Grange #154, 3130 Youngfield St, Wheat Ridge, CO 80033

Trade room will be open to the public from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Trade room opens to vendors at 7:00 am

Classes:	Dale Crab	TBD	Ted Beaupre	TBD
	Lloyd Shindelbower	TBD	Amanda Alee	TBD
	Ken Wee	TBD	Other classes	TBD

CSMLA Membership Meeting & Election of Officers 4:00 pm - Dinner 6:00 pm

REGISTRATION FORM

The first space or trade blanket is FREE for Members for this special event!! (based on an 8' front). Non-members \$10.00 each. Additional space cost is \$10.00, if space is available. **Do you want a vendor space or trade blanket? Yes [] No []**

Number of additional spaces requested _____ X \$10.00 = \$ _____

DINNER RESERVATIONS

Dinner will be served at the Grange. \$20 per person. **Total Number of Dinners: _____**
Please let us know if you will be attending dinner so reservation counts can be made.

Name: _____ CSMLA member Y [] N []

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Email _____

Return completed form or call by February 21, 2026:

Ron Mann
5332 Howell St, Arvada, CO 80002
303-257-7239
oldbuzzard101@yahoo.com

Ron Ring
3513 Red Orchid Ct, Loveland, CO 80537
970-692-4658
rring282@gmail.com



2026 TALLOW RIVER TRAPPERS RENDEZVOUS DATES

DEC 6, 2025: Christmas Party – All TRT, SPVHS, and FLMLC Members Invited 12:00 noon to 3:00pm. TRT, FLMLC, and SPVHS members bring a Side Dish or Dessert to share. RSVP 303-933-0533, or jewelw@earthlink.net.

DEC 28, 2025: Early Set-up Winter Nights campout

JAN 2-4, 2026: Winter Night's Encampment

FEB 19-22, 2026: Frozen Toes Rendezvous, (Early set-up Sat Feb 14, tear down Sun Feb 22). Flyer on SPVHS Website and emailed to all TRT Members. **TRT Membership and Camp Meeting – Sat 10am

May 1-3, 2026: SPVHS Heritage Fair, Sat **May 2-** Campground and Fort Areas. Reenactors welcome!

May 17, 2026: Early Set-up MMU and Lancaster Rendezvous

May 18-26, 2026: Mountain Man University and Lancaster Rendezvous **TRT Membership & Camp Meeting, May 23 – Sat 10am

Sep 6, 2026: Early set up Trapper Days

Sep 10-13, 2026: Trappers Days – Ft Lupton, TRT, and SPVHS

Sept 13, 2026: Early set-up Hunter Widow's

Sep 17-20, 2026: Hunter Widow's Rendezvous

Sep 27, 2026: Early setup Colonial Encampment

Oct 1-4, 2026: Colonial Encampment – PARTY LIKE IT IS 1776!!
Celebrating the 250th Anniversary of the Independence of AMERICA!

Nov 1, 2026: Early set-up Turkey Basters

Nov 5-8, 2026: Turkey Baster's Campout, ** TRT Membership Meeting – Sat 10am

Dec 5, 2026: Christmas Party – All TRT, SPVHS, and FLMLC

ARIKAREE RIVER RENDEZVOUS

BLACK POWDER ACTION SHOOTING AND PRIMITIVE COMMUNITY EVENTS

APRIL 24th - 26th, 2026

BEECHER ISLAND BATTLEGROUND - 20563 COUNTY ROAD KK, WRAY, CO 80758

Team and Individual Rifle Action Shooting – Fellowship – Trading

Wearing pre-1840 attire will be awarded with points for shooting events but is not required to participate

Participants must load from the pouch during shooting events

Long and Short-Term Camps

Water On-Site

Opening Ceremony: April 24th at 8:00 a.m.

Public Restrooms On-Site

Public Days: April 24th – 26th

Closing Ceremony: April 26th at 2:00 p.m.

Camping/Trading:

- No Camping Fee / No Traders Fee
 - Participants are responsible for the maintenance, cleanliness, and teardown of their campsites.
- Participants using campers must reserve a camper spot by April 11th, 2026.
- Areas reserved for primitive and modern camps.
- Early Access begins April 23rd after 12:00 p.m.
- All Sutler Wares and Blanket Trades must be pre-1830 styled items.

Action Shooting Events:

- Registration Fees:
 - Individual Scenario Shoot: \$15.00
 - Team Events: \$5.00 per-team member, per event.
- Events:
 - Individual Event: Aggregate Scenario Shoot
 - Team Events: 2-man Stake Shoot, 2- and 3-man fort Shoot, 2- and 3-man Skirmish, 2-man patriot shoot.
- Cash Prizes

Fellowship Night:

- Free Entry
- Couples Costume Competition:
 - Costumes should be pre-1870
 - Points awarded for each category of clothing worn (shoes, pants, shirts, head-ware, and dress' (which count as shirt and pants for the purpose of this competition)), authenticity, and costume coordination.

Visit the "Beecher Island Battle Memorial Association" Facebook page for further information on events, scheduling, and location details.

Booshtway – Trace Combs (970) 630-5490

Secundo – Todd Combs

The Buckhorn Skinners - 50 years 1975-2025

Sponsor the Annual

Colorado Squirrel Rifle Championships

May 9th and 10th, 2026

Lower Range Easily Accessible to All

*.40 caliber or smaller- open iron sights – no shaders – patched round ball only – spotting aids OK
Scoring Posted & Aggregate*

Men's Flint & Percussion, Ladies, Juniors
& Hunters Aggregate-Any Caliber-**Cash Pay Back**

Mountain Man Walk – **Show off your skills!**

Shooters 70+ Peep & other iron sights allowed

CSMLA Members \$12/Aggregate – Non-Members \$15/Aggregate

In-Lines Welcome//Ladies Aggregate-Any Caliber

**Juniors (16 or Younger) & Sub-Juniors - \$5 – 5 Targets – Any
Caliber**

Mountain Man Walk - \$5 Camping - \$5 Registration - \$5

Early Setup Friday after 12:00 p.m.

Range Hours: Saturday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

LARGEST PRIZE TABLE IN THE REGION

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – SPECTATORS FREE & APPRECIATED

Held at the Most Primitive Range Setting in Colorado on an 1870's Homestead

PRIZE TABLE DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED

POTLUCK – 6:30 P.M. SATURDAY NIGHT – COUNCIL FIRE

Contact Ron Ring (970) 692-4658

Peter the Seeth (970) 776-9957

Info: www.buckhornskippers.com Email: buckhornskippers@gmail.com

Check us out on Facebook

**Directions: Off Highway 34 West towards Estes Park, turn right at Big
Thompson School, shoot site is 3.3 miles to the north of Highway 34**

Kit Carson Mountain Men - 46th Annual Rendezvous

May 9th - 16th

Fees:

➤ \$20 Camping

➤ \$10 Shooting

*** Please bring water ****

Pets must be on leash

Educational Classes



- Primitive facilities
- Solar Shower on site
- Toilets on site
- Firewood on site
- Modern Camping (No hook ups)
- **Best Camp Award**



Kit Carson Mountain Men

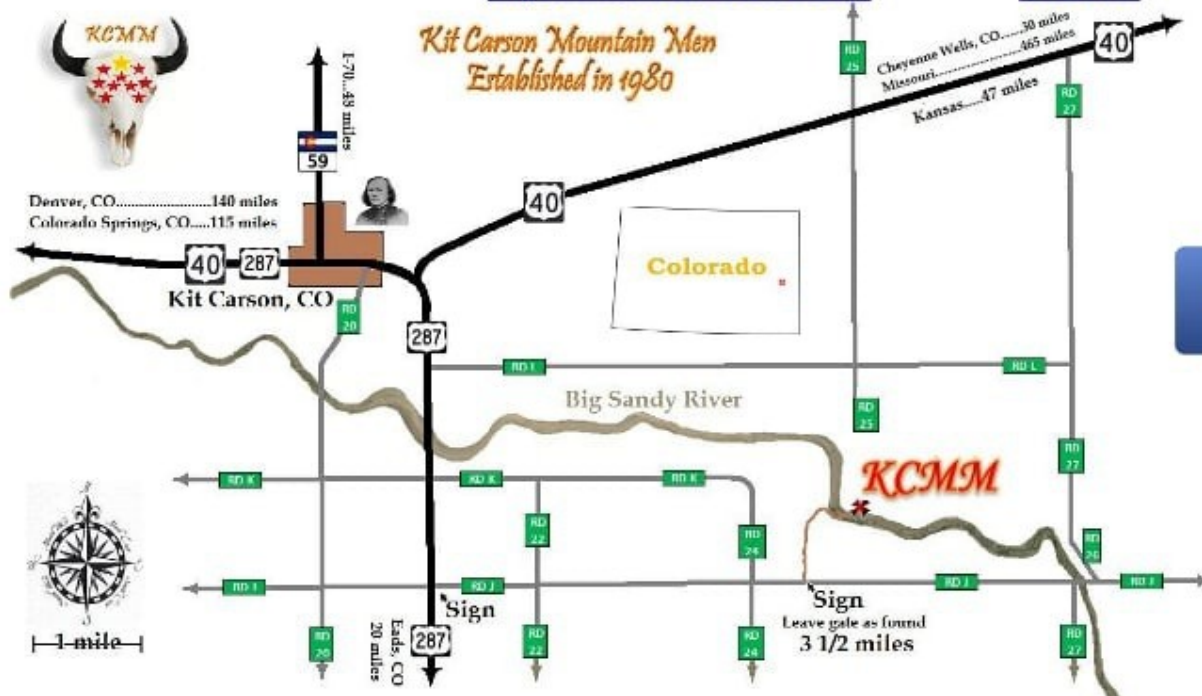
1980

- ✘ Skills Contest
- ✘ Blanket Shoot (Daily, Bring Prizes)
- ✘ Trail Walk Shoot
- ✘ Aggregate Shoot
- ✘ Hawk & Knife Throw
- ✘ Candle Shoot after dark
- ✘ Ma and Pa Egg Cooking Contest
- ✘ Bow & Arrow (Depending on participation)

This is a family event, so you know what rules apply! Primitive dress is encouraged in the primitive area.

The site has plenty of shade and is a good place to kick back and enjoy!

Please visit our website at: For more information <https://www.KitCarsonMM.com> – Facebook [KCMM80](https://www.facebook.com/KCMM80)



24485 County Road J, Kit Carson, CO 80825 (look for the signs) - $+38^{\circ} 43' 48.92''$, $-102^{\circ} 42' 16.72''$

Park 719-688-5696

Violet: 719-940-1918

Jonathan 719-859-2761

Please visit our website at: For more information

<https://www.KitCarsonMM.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/KCMM80>



Colorado State Muzzle Loading Association
presents

National Territorial Matches

*Sponsored by Colorado State Muzzle Loading Association
Hosted by Fort Lupton Muzzle Loading Club*

June 18 ,19, 20 & 21, 2026

FLMLC Range, Fort Lupton, CO

2001 Historic Parkway, Fort Lupton, Colorado

Bench ♦ Light Bench ♦ Offhand ♦ X Stick ♦ Pistol ♦ Junior ♦ Sub Junior
Musket ♦ Smoothbore ♦ Sighted Smoothbore ♦ Flintlock ♦ Percussion Hunter
Unlimited Hunter ♦ Youth Unlimited Hunter ♦ In-Line ♦ Seniors
Ladies Offhand ♦ Ladies Hunter ♦ Ladies Pistol ♦ Revolver ♦ Primitive
Many more aggregates to choose from



Registration Fees

Members of NMLRA

(Must show proof of current membership)

\$15.00 per Shooter / \$15.00 per Aggregate

Non-Members

\$20.00 per Shooter / \$20.00 per Aggregate

Juniors

\$1.00 per Shooter / No Aggregate Fee

NMLRA Memberships (New & Renewal) available at Registration

FLMLC Camping Fee

\$5.00 per day

\$10.00 w/electricity

By reservation only

For More Information Contact:

Director...Chris Baker 720-936-4218

Coordinator & Camping Reservations...Ron Mann 303-257-7239

www.nmlra.org

www.csmla.net

Application for Membership
COLORADO STATE MUZZLE LOADING ASSOCIATION, INC.

\$30.00 Full family membership New _____ Renew _____

\$15.00 Individual Junior membership for age under 18 years New _____ Renew _____

Return this application with payment to:

CSMLA Membership, 17338 Asbury Circle, Aurora CO 80013

Name _____ Spouse _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

E-Mail _____ Referred By: _____ (A referral is not required)

Other Organizations you belong to: (NMLRA, Local clubs, Etc.)

Your Interests (Circle all that apply) Education, Rendezvous, Teaching, Target Shooting, Hunting, Organizing, Primitive trades, Gun Collecting/Building, Civil War, Other: Specify _____

Signature _____ Date _____