



# The Whittington Crier

## NRA Whittington Center

### NRA ANNUAL MEETING

What a GREAT week we had at the NRA Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh! From the Glock check presentations, the annual breakfast with special guest speaker Pete Brownell, the very successful Give Away a Glock a Day raffle, the Matt & Jessie autograph and filming session at the booth, to a Pittsburgh Pirates game and FNRA banquet - a fantastic time was had! Many thanks go to Walter Plitt for his incomparable raffle ticket selling skills, and Ed Eklund for the wonderful peanut brittle offered at the booth. If you have never been to an NRA Annual Convention, you need to put it on your bucket list. Plans are already underway for next year in St. Louis. Hope to see you all there!



Clockwise from Right: Walter Plitt, raffle ticket seller extraordinaire! Glock check presentation. Matt & Jessie signing autographs at the booth. Pete Brownell, guest speaker at the annual breakfast. Center: The booth crew.

# Wild Wild West – Whittington Style

## Time to Circle Those Wagons!

The long trek is almost over. We have endured drought, high winds, freezing cold winter nights, and sweltering summer days but the destination is in sight. The NRA Whittington Center, on September 1st through 4th, is the place to be! This year's celebration - **Wild Wild West - Whittington Style**

promises to be the best ever, with great food, entertainment, raffles, and a few new surprises thrown in.

The festivities will kick off on Thursday evening with our annual exclusive Trailblazer event, followed by a weekend filled with action and activities. This is

one weekend you won't want to miss!

Please take some time to review the information included in this newsletter. Fill out your reservation form, and mail back along with the appropriate payments if any. Call or email for more information. 575-445-2336 mglea-



## Happy Retirement, Nick!

After 35 years of dedication and hard work at the Center, Nick Sandoval retired on April 29th. A lunch was held in his honor at the Shotgun Center Cafeteria to celebrate this momentous occasion. Nick was presented with a gift and plaque from the NRA Headquarters, as well as a beautiful engraved rifle from the Center. We wish you the best, Nick!



Above: Robbie Roberts and Wayne Armacost present Nick with a plaque and check from the NRA headquarters.



Above, the beautiful rifle and left, the plaque presented to Nick from the Whittington Center in thanks for his many years of service.



# Getting to Know You ~ Jack Baird ~

Jack Baird has been a member of 'Team Whittington' for over 25 years. Jack started in April of 1986 at the 'gate', and never left. Jack is from Raton, and has loved working here. He says the best part of his job is the people he gets to meet. Jack has had the opportunity to meet and greet people en-

tering the Center from all around the world. When Jack started work at the Center, the gate was housed in the silver trailer at the entrance. He has seen many improvements since his start here. He feels the greatest addition we made to the Center was the construction of the new

administration building/visitors center. In those early days, Jack would pick up the hats, and belt buckles they sold in the trailer from the old office (now the Membership office), and raise the flags. When he is not working, Jack enjoys shooting, fishing, and camping. We appreciate Jack's many years of



Jack Baird—25 year employee at NRAWC

continued service to the Whittington Center. Thank you Jack, for your commitment.

## Community Open House Draws Crowd

On Saturday, June 4th, the NRA Whittington Center hosted an Open House for the surrounding communities to showcase our newly renovated museum, gift shop, and facilities. We hosted approximately 200 guests who took advantage of the free hot dog lunch, door prizes, and touring of the ranges and facilities. A special thanks goes out to Tom Cecil for the food, Northern New Mexico Natural Gas for the grill that was given away, and to Wayne and Robbie for doing the grilling! It was a great day where people from the surrounding communities had an opportunity to see what we are all about.



Above: Guests enjoying the gift shop and Frank Brownell Museum of the Southwest.

Below: Guests enjoying the hot dogs and ice cream.



Above: Wayne and Robbie, grill masters extraordinaire!





PO Box 700  
Raton, NM 87740  
575-445-3615



# 40th Anniversary

1973 - 2013 . . .

2013 will be a tremendous year at the Whittington Center. It will be our 40th Anniversary, as well as the 25th Anniversary of the Whittington Adventure Camp. Plans are already underway for this momentous celebration during the annual Labor Day weekend, with guests and entertainment you won't want to miss! Start planning now to attend in 2013!

Do you have pictures, memories, stories, or thoughts about your experiences at the Whittington Center? A special hunt, a competition, rendezvous, adventure camp, historical pictures, etc.? We would love to hear from you. You can email your pictures and stories to [mgleason@nrwc.org](mailto:mgleason@nrwc.org), or put them in the mail to the following address;

Mera Gleason  
NRA Whittington Center  
PO Box 700  
Raton NM 87740



## WAYNE'S WORDS

I would like to take this opportunity to say 'Thank You' to Glock, Inc., who year after year has faithfully supported our youth Adventure Camp. For the past three years Glock, Inc. has generously given \$15,000.00 annually to Adventure Camp. Without the financial support and dedicated benefactors, the Whittington Youth Adventure Camp would not be as popular with young adults as it is today. The of this youth program help to in- arm disciplines and other outdoor like to personally thank all of our unteers for all of their loyalty and urge you to educate a young person about the Whittington Adventure Camp and keep spreading the word about our facility and what it has to offer to NRA members as well as the general public.



Without the financial support and dedicated benefactors, the Whittington Youth Adventure Camp would not be as popular with young adults as it is today. The of this youth program help to in- arm disciplines and other outdoor like to personally thank all of our unteers for all of their loyalty and urge you to educate a young person about the Whittington Adventure Camp and keep spreading the word about our facility and what it has to offer to NRA members as well as the general public.

At the 2011 NRA Convention held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania Glock, Inc. continued its support to the NRA Whittington Center. Glock, Inc. graciously presented me, on behalf of the NRA Whittington Center, with a check for \$50,000.00 in an effort to help offset the day-to-day operational costs. It goes without saying how thankful I am for Glock's support and appreciate their continued commitment to both the NRA Whittington Center and the Whittington Adventure Camp.