

*A well regulated Militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms shall not be infringed. --Amendment II, US Constitution*



*The right of no person to keep and bear arms in defense of his home, person and property, or in aid of the civil power when thereto legally summoned, shall be called to question; . . . --Article II, § 13, Colorado Constitution*

*The Voice for Firearm Rights in the Pikes Peak Region*

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## July 9th Meeting: What we can learn from the New Life Church shooting

On Sunday, December 9, 2007, a lone gunman, carrying a semi-automatic rifle, two handguns, and about a 1,000 rounds of ammunition, went on a killing spree at New Life Church in northern Colorado Springs. The madman, Matthew Murray, had already killed two people at a missionary school in Arvada earlier that day and had posted messages on the Internet that he was going to kill as many Christians as possible.

What better place to carry out his deadly plot than a mega-church where he thought there would be thousands of unarmed Christians participating in a worship service—like shooting fish in a barrel.

After kill two young girls in the New Life parking lot and setting off smoke bombs, Murray entered the church to continue his rampage. This is where his plan went terribly wrong when he encountered an armed, private citizen, a member of the church's volunteer security team, Jeanne Assam. Jeanne ordered the gunman to drop his weapon and when he did not comply, she shot him five times causing him to take his own life before another single person in the church was harmed.

While the media, including the national media, referred to Ms Assam as a "security guard", the truth is she was a volunteer member of the church's security staff who had obtained a concealed handgun permit and was willing to put herself in the line of fire to protect the members of New Life. Due to her actions, she prevented hundreds of deaths in what could have been the worst mass shooting in US history. Had armed citizens not been present that day, it truly would have been like shooting fish in a barrel, until law enforcement arrived on the scene.

The average response time in Colorado Springs for a priority one call (life threatening), is about 11 minutes. Amazingly, CSPD officers arrived in about four minutes since they were already on scene to help with traffic as the service let out. Even with this fast response, in the time that it would take them to arrive, assess the situation, work out a plan, and execute that plan, Murray could have killed a lot of innocent people.

Jeanne Assam is, in every sense of the word, a hero. Her quick action and willingness to get involved clearly demonstrates what can happen when an armed person is present. Contrast the results at New Life with those at the shopping mall in Omaha and at Virginia Tech, which ban concealed carry, where innocent people had no choice but to become victims.

*(Continued on page 2)*

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- **July 9, 2009: PPFC Membership Meeting**
- **July 16, 2009: PPFC Board Meeting**

### PPFC Officers

President ..... Dane Nowels  
V President..... Bob Heinrich  
Secretary .....Amy Mullaney  
Treasurer ..... Bernie Herpin  
Membership ....Dan Wandell  
Programs ..... Teri Goodall  
Legislative.....Doug Davis  
Publicity.....Harry Dierks  
Fund Raising.. Dick Gandolf  
Social .....Pat Smelser  
Chaplain..... Rich Hilton  
Sgt-at-Arms.....Doug Davis  
Gun Shows.....Marc Hament  
PPFC PAC ..... Jeff Crank

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.PPFC.ORG

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**Next PPFC Meeting**  
**Thursday, July 9, 2009**  
**VFW Post 4051**  
**430 E Pikes Peak Ave**  
**Colorado Springs CO**  
**7:00 - 9:00 P.M.**

PRSR STD  
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**Jeanne Assam will speak at the July 9th PPFC membership meeting.** Come meet Jeanne and hear how this incident has changed her life and how her actions saved hundreds of her fellow parishioners.

Fountain Police Chief, and former Pueblo County Sheriff, **Dan Corsentino** will also be speaking at our July 9th meeting.

These are two GREAT speakers and we expect a good turnout. Please attend and bring a friend.

## **Friends of NRA Event**

The 14th annual Colorado Springs Friends of NRA dinner and fundraiser will be held on September 25, 2009 at Biggs Event Center. There will be a large number of firearms and other limited NRA items available to win. This will be an excellent event and your chance to support the NRA Foundation, the non-profit, non-political arm of the NRA. See the Colorado Springs website for all the details and to buy tickets: [www.csfnra.com](http://www.csfnra.com).

## **Women on Target**

The Colorado Springs *Friends of NRA* committee helped secure a \$2,000 NRA Foundation grant for the PPFC to conduct a Women on Target event in Colorado Springs.

Women On Target is designed to create more hunting and shooting opportunities for women. There are currently about two million American women who hunt and an additional four million who enjoy target shooting. These numbers are steadily increasing.

Fulfilling its mission to "create opportunities, encourage, educate, and mentor women's responsible participation in the recreational shooting and hunting sports," Women On Target is helping women learn shooting and hunting skills in a safe and supportive women-only atmosphere!

The PPFC Women on Target event will be held this fall. It is designed to introduce women to the shooting sports and is targeted for those women who have little or no shooting experience. If you know someone who would like to attend, please call Sue Paradis at Paradise Sales, 630-7070. This will be an all-day event of fun, learning, and fellowship. Class size is limited so sign up now.

**If you are not signed up for e-mail alerts from our Legislative Director, Doug Davis, then you need to sign up so you can get timely notice on legislative happenings. Send an e-mail to Doug at: [doug@dougdavisent.com](mailto:doug@dougdavisent.com) asking to be put on his e-mail alert.**