



# PANSAL Newsletter

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Pacific And Northwest States Airgunners List  
NEWSLETTER      March 21, 2011      65th Edition

**2011**

**SPRING BREAK EDITION**

**APRIL 30 & MAY 1**

**2011**

**THE USUAL PLACE**

**Editorial stuff:**

**OK GUYS – this issue ain't pretty - but it's out to you as early as I could.**

As pointed out in the last issue, there is a new Northwest Airgunning Website. For the most current airgun activity information, log on to:

[www.northwestairgunning.com](http://www.northwestairgunning.com) It is an ongoing site that lists airgun activities throughout the PANSAL region. Both announcements of upcoming events, reports on recent events, buy and sell, and more. You will find a calendar of coming events, both Competition and Social. As well as reports and photos of those events.

The PANSAL Newsletter is not dead. However, as previously cited, time constraints and a paucity of material make for a very thin newsletter. To make this happen more often I need your input, stories, and articles.

The newsletter worked as a means of keeping air gunners throughout the region aware of what sort of air gun happenings were going on in their neighborhood. Events intended to provide opportunities for air gunners to meet, greet, shoot, share, learn, and just generally visit about air gunning.

The new [www.northwestairgunning.com](http://www.northwestairgunning.com) website doesn't depend so much on articles and technical information as the PANSAL Newsletter. So it is updated very frequently. And it serves as an even more current source of information for airgun activities.

The PANSAL Newsletter worked, and still works, as a means of exchanging information, experiences and ideas regarding air guns and/or air gun technology. But without contributions from its readership in the form of articles about airguns and airgun activities the Newsletter is just too thin to be worthwhile on a regular basis. So when enough information is accumulated to warrant distribution, or when some activity is just so pressing and of such significant interest that it must be distributed on an ASAP basis the PANSAL Newsletter will appear in your e-mail box.

PANSAL ain't dead yet!

But for the most timely information on what is about to happen, is happening, or has happened in the PANSAL region - for the time being your attention is again directed to: [www.northwestairgunning.com](http://www.northwestairgunning.com)

## **YOU SHOW ME YOURS, AND I'LL.....**

'Combat' Air Pistol is happening in more places. It is a scaled down version of IPSC (International Practical Shooting Confederation) events. As a result they can be shot in any airgun 'safe' locale. The very purpose of these events pretty much dictates use of one of the many airgun versions of the most common sidearms. Many of these events involve shooting an extended series of shots. In selecting a gun for this game, high magazine capacity and rapid reloading capability are

significant factors. Furthermore, most of the real firearm similar airgun models are CO2 powered using the common CO2 powerlets. In many cases the targets are 'knock-down' reactive targets so power is a factor as well. Short barrels are not conducive to high energy with CO2. Locally, these events are not shot 'from the holster' but usually initiate with the shooter(s) in an 'at the ready' situation. That is with gun in hand(s) partially elevated (arms approximately 45 degrees downward from shoulder level) in front of the shooter.

There have been any number of copies of the popular S&W and Colt revolvers. The old Daisy .44 (copy of the S&W Model 29 .44 Magnum configuration) was only available with a six shot capacity. The old Crosman .357 (copy of the Colt Python configuration) was originally available as a six-shooter but very quickly a ten shot clip became available that worked interchangeably with the six shot clips in any of the Crosman .357s. And today, we have the **S&W 586**. Another copy of the S&W configuration handguns, and available with ten shot clips. All of the above mentioned guns were/are available with interchangeable barrel configurations of 4, 6 and 8 inches.

The ten shot clips of the Crosman and S&W units address the relatively high magazine capacity concern. The simple swing out or top break reloading systems provide for rapid reloading. The longer barrels aid in the Power department.

Any number of copies of popular semi-automatic handguns are available as well. Remember - clip capacity and rapid reload capability are important. Very short barrels are an energy handicap.

The final problem is the somewhat limited shot count available from a single CO2 powerlet. It is certainly enough for a single event. However, given the rapid-fire over an extended number of shots nature of these airgun combat events - power diminishes rapidly over the course of a single event due to the rapid cooling of the CO2 power source. Rapidly diminishing energy is remarkably inconvenient as it often results in ineffective 'hits' on reactive or 'knock-down' targets. Furthermore, yes, a single fresh CO2 powerlet will provide an adequate number of shots for any one event in the days' program. But, as often (if not more often) as not, these powerlets become real 'iffy' if called upon for a second event. While diminishing energy is an inconvenience, 'running out of gas' is totally terminal. This is only addressed by blowing off the remaining CO2 after one event and inserting a fresh powerlet before undertaking the next event. Good for Crosmans' bottom line - sucks for your pocketbook.



Here you see my solution to the above cited issues. The gun is a Crosman 357. Well, more or less. Sight is a Walther Holo-sight.

The gun is a 'top-break' reloading system using quickly changed 10 shot clips. The eight inch barrel is in all probability quite effective in the energy realm. Even the six inch barrel is probably adequate in this configuration as there is no significant cooling of the CO2 supply even over an extended shot string therefore no loss of velocity over the course of the shot string.

In this case however, while the six inch barrel shroud has been used, the actual barrel is a segment of a Crosman rifle barrel. At 10.5 inches long it delivers, with:

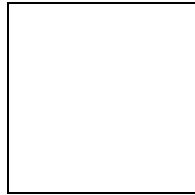
Laser 479 fps 3.16ft# CPRHD WC 433 fps 3.33ft# CPH 386 fps 3.47 ft#

The limited shot count and rapidly diminishing energy of the CO2 powerlet are addressed by converting a CO2 powerlet to serve as an adaptor for a larger capacity 'paint-ball' CO2 tank. In my case, a 12 ounce tank is used. It contains more than enough CO2 for not just several events, but in fact for several days of shooting. In addition, due to the relatively large volume of the CO2 source, an

extended rapid fire event does not result in any significant cooling of the gas/reservoir, hence shot energy remains essentially constant.



This system requires no modification of the gun itself. It is based on the CO2 Powerlet 'adaptor' connected to a coily hose long enough to allow free movement in all directions, with the other end of the coily hose connected to a larger capacity 'paintball' CO2 tank. If desired, the tank valve is turned OFF, and the adaptor CO2 powerlet is simply removed (just as if replacing any other 'used' powerlet). An ordinary powerlet can be inserted and everything is back to normal. The only modification of any part of the gun is cutting a relief in one grip to accommodate the passage of the CO2 hose. The position of this relief in no way affects the shooters grip on the gun, with or without the hose. If esthetics are a concern - (is anal retentive hyphenated ?) - and you want to return to powerlets, replacement grips are cheeeeeeeap.



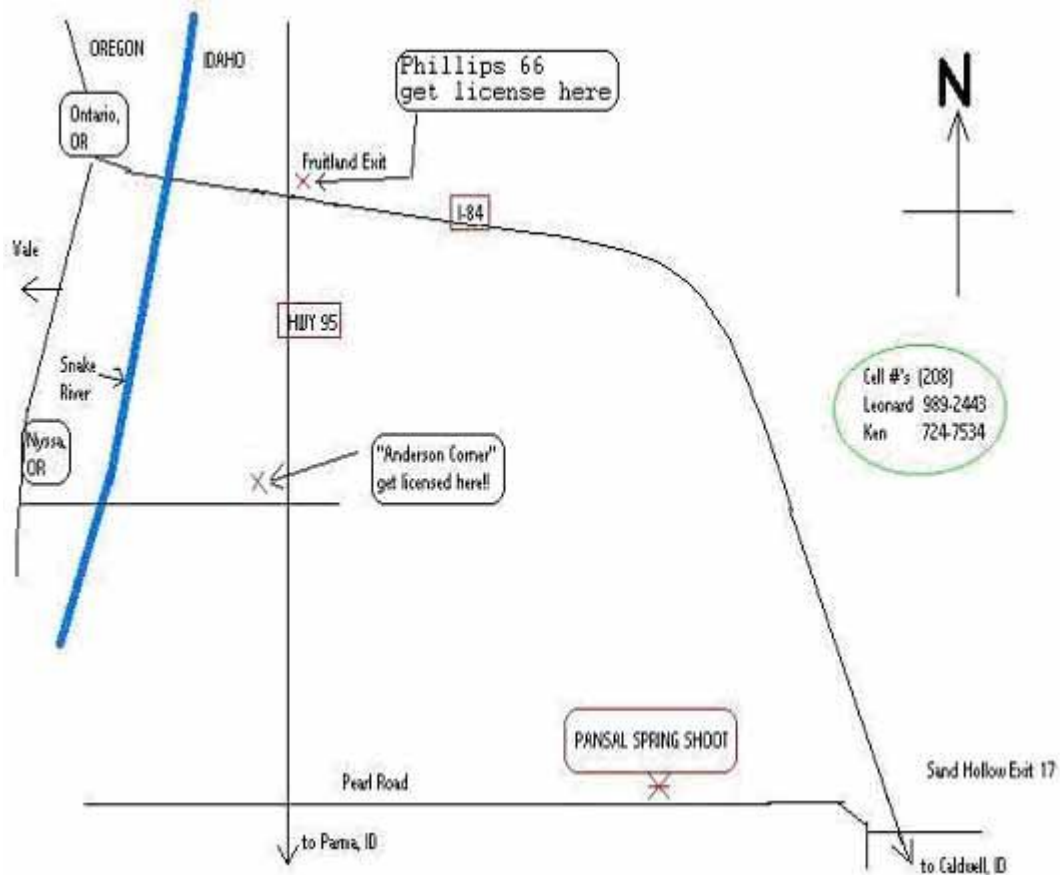
By the way, used this at the end of Spring Break last year to whack a few squirrels.

## **Seen In The PANSAL Crystal Ball**

**PANSAL SPRING BREAK 2011**

**APRIL 30 & MAY 1**

**and maybe the 29th & 2nd you can always come early and stay late**



**COLONIAL INN** is at **139 NE GOODFELLOW ST, ONTARIO (541-889-9615)**

**ANDERSON CORNER STORE** is at **intersection of US 95 and Hwy 20 (208-674-2069)**

You can get your Idaho Non Resident - Non Game Hunting License (\$35.50) - munchies - and more - here.

Pull back onto **US 95** and continue **SOUTH** to **PEARL ROAD** Turn **LEFT** on **PEARL ROAD** go to the end of the pavement

Continue straight ahead on the **dirt** PEARL ROAD (do not take the curve)

Go until you think you are lost. Continue on until you are sure you are lost.

Keep going until you see some power transmission lines in the distance.

Somewhere in the area of the power transmission lines you will find the PANSAL SPRING BREAK Encampment (look for the Pink Flamingos).

If you've been there before - no doubt we'll see you there again, this year. You know this 'do' is about as much fun as a person can legally and morally have all at one time. If you haven't been before - **Do It NOW ! It IS the Airgun Event of the Year.** Outstanding company. Sharing information and experiences. Discussing new ideas as well as reporting progress on some old ones. Truly an adult 'show and tell'. And bring your youngsters. They're welcome too. But you are responsible for their conduct. Last year Scot Marquez' boy shot well enough to give many of us a 'come-uppance'. And remember to bring your Red Ryder carbines. Spring Break is a rare opportunity to not only see, but actually shoot some of those air guns you have only heard about. Unlimited target shooting fun, and kibitzing. Unlimited rodent shooting fun, and kibitzing. How about just unlimited kibitzing. Plus campfire comradery. The shooting grounds are located in the uninhabited wilderness along the Southern Oregon / Idaho border. It is about a twenty-minute drive from suburban Ontario, Oregon. Or, for the fly-ins - ticket to Boise International Air Terminal - or whatever they call that flat spot out there. We can arrange local transportation. 4 wheel drive is not necessary. You will be on gravel and some 'two rut' dirt roads. But they are all passable to conventional passenger cars.

Many folks will roll in to town Thursday afternoon or evening. Sleep in. Then wander out to the shooting grounds Friday. Some will even stay over to Monday. Just to get in as much trigger time as they can. You can rough it at the PANSAL encampment (this gives a whole new meaning to the term 'dry camp', and that is not temperance issue). Or, you can motel-it.

If the civilized option is more appealing, may I recommend the Colonial Inn. It's Not elegant, but certainly clean and affordable. Their economy rooms, @ \$41.80 are pretty small. They include bed, toilet, shower and TV. Their deluxe rooms are much larger, with tub/showers, tables and chairs, TV and Internet. Single Queen is \$50.60, two queen beds in the room is \$63.80. Single King is \$57.20 They have a couple of 'family' units. These amount to a pair of adjacent and connected rooms with three queen beds total at \$104.50. All of these prices include taxes. The Pool and Hot tub are available 'til 10:00 p.m. It is where I've always stayed - as well as many others. No complaints. There are several adequate restaurants in the immediate area. And close to stores for all the things you forgot to bring. Best of all, it is right on that edge of Ontario that puts you on your way to the shooting grounds. Their phone number is (541) 889-9615.

Grab a couple of airgunning buddies, carpool it and share accommodations. It will keep the gas and motel to a minimum for all of you. The road trip there and back is as close to as much fun as you can have - short of being there.

The actual final campsite location may change slightly - but it will be on the same road in the same general area with the same flamingos.

For newcomers who want to get some idea of what to expect, you are directed to the pictures of past PANSAL SPRING BREAKs found in the PANSAL section of the POMONA AIRGUNS website. [www.pomona-airguns.com](http://www.pomona-airguns.com) Plus you will find good maps to Spring Break in that same 'Club Info' section of their website. Just scroll down to the bottom of the site. It is a great site, plus he makes space available on his website for our newsletter and activities - as well as other clubs. Between that and their equipment 'drawings' among other things, they really are one of the suppliers who give back to their customers and the sport in general.

If you have not been before, what can you expect, besides more fun than decent people need to have all at one time?

**Weather** - anything. Probably sunny and warm but with cooling breezes. Possibly cool to downright cold, particularly in the evening and at night. It has been known to rain. However, if it rains - you will probably be around camp anyway - the critters know enough stay in out of the rain.

### **What will you need to bring?**

1. Good general outdoor clothing is recommended. Including light - medium - and heavy shirts, plus a warm jacket and a windbreaker of some sort. You will be prepared for any thing from dawn to dawn. If you want to hike/hunt you can get by with regular work or outdoor shoes. I don't know of anybody ever encountering Jake NoShoulders during any of the Spring Breaks.
2. Fluids. Lots of liquid (you are in the desert). Both in bulk while around camp, and suitable smaller container(s) to carry with you afield. If and when it is dank and/or windy a thermos for a hot beverage can be really nice.
3. If you are camping on site - you will need the usual coolers, water containers (lots, you are in the desert), cooking equipment and supplies, camp chair(s) and sleeping gear. This location takes the concept of a 'dry' camp to a whole new level.
  - a. You will need a good ground pad. Rocks, prickly pear cactus, and clumps of cheat-grass do not a mattress make.
  - b. I suggest a tent - it can be very cold and very windy at night.
4. A comfortable camp chair - just for sittin' around and ~~bs-ing~~ socializing.
5. A collapsible table for shooting on the range at camp, and a chair or stool appropriate for such use. A shooting rest is handy.
6. If you have one, an awning type shade provider - goes up with a frame like a tent but there is just the 'lid' - can be handy.
7. **Really Should be # 1.** Airguns - lots of 'em
8. **Really Should be # 2.** Ammunition - lots of it - for all of them
9. **Really Should Be # 3.** CO2 or HPA as needed - again, lots of it, for lots of shooting. Or balm for that sore arm from all that springer shooting.
10. **IF** you intend to participate in the Western Idaho Sabre Toothed Ground

Squirrel population control program, you will need an Idaho Non-Resident (if you are not an Idaho resident) Non Game Hunting License. They are \$35.50. I have encountered Idaho Wardens and BLM Rangers on all of my trips. The license can be obtained at:

Idaho Exit 3 off of I-84 - the Shell station or

The Anderson Corner store if going South on 95 from Fruitland or North on 20/26/95 (all the same centerline) from Parma. They don't open 'til 9:00 a.m. [www.andersoncorner.com](http://www.andersoncorner.com) (208-674-2069)

11. **Repeat, fluids** - water or ..... for both in camp and in some transportable fashion such as bottle or canteen. This place is part of the Great American Desert.
12. **MOST IMPORTANT - an appetite whetted for FUN** To quote an acquaintance, " If you're not having fun, you will be asked to leave!"

Aside from BE SAFE and HAVE FUN there is only one other thing you need to know. **DON'T SHOOT THE FLAMINGOS**. There's always a rope or two in camp, though we may have to go some distance to find a tree.

I'm look forward to seeing all of you - first timers and repeaters - at PANSAL Spring Break 2011 As of now:

I have room for riders from Western WA / OR. [centerex@comcast.net](mailto:centerex@comcast.net)

Will leave Olympia Thursday A.M. and return Monday.