



# ALLIANCE RIFLE CLUB

Alliance Rifle Club of Alliance, Nebraska was formed May 26, 1949 and has been an active club ever since. From the beginning Alliance Rifle Club has been affiliated with the National Rifle Association.

## Alliance Rifle Club Selected to Receive NRA's 1987 Outstanding Club Award

Pat Synak, President and the Alliance Rifle Club received word Feb. 25, 1988 that the Alliance Rifle Club had been selected to receive the NRA's 1987 Outstanding Club Award.

Gerard J. Kennedy, secretary of the Clubs and Associations Committee wrote, *"It is a pleasure to notify you that the NRA Clubs and Associations Committee selected the Alliance Rifle Club to receive the 1987 Outstanding Award. As you know, this is the highest recognition a club can receive from the NRA, and the award is a tribute to the effective work carried on by Alliance Rifle Club over the years."*

The NRA Club Awards Program recognizes noteworthy achievement by NRA affiliated clubs nationwide in selected areas of admin-

istrative organization, member services, program development, and/or public service.

Awards are given annually by the National Rifle Association on the recommendation of the Clubs and Association Committee.

Award categories are the Club Achievement Award, Club Meritorious Achievement Award, President's Award, Most Improved Club Award and the Outstanding Club Award. Clubs qualifying for the President's Award are automatically considered for the

Outstanding Club Award.

The Outstanding Club Award is presented annually to the club which has demonstrated noteworthy achievement in all aspects of club operation. The award is a large walnut plaque with bronze replica of the Official NRA Seal



and is presented at the awards luncheon during the NRA Annual Meeting. The president of the club selected for this award is invited to attend the NRA Annual Meeting as a guest of the National Rifle Association where the plaque will be presented during the Awards Luncheon.

The NRA Annual Meeting this year is being held in Orlando, Florida April 22-26 with the Awards Luncheon April 22. Plans are being made to have Pat Synak and Glen Fiebig attend the Awards Luncheon and also the Saturday night banquet where a table will be set up for the Alliance Rifle Club and guests.

Gerard Kennedy called Janice Rader to congratulate the Club on the presentation made. He reported that the *“competition was tough this year with 62 clubs applying for awards.”*

It has actually taken about two years of work to get the presentation ready to send to the NRA. It was suggested by De Carlson of Crofton and also the director of the NRA Clubs Department that the Alliance Rifle Club should apply for a NRA Award.

Gene and Janice Rader decided to work on the presentation during 1987. So during the year information was gathered, pictures taken, newspaper articles kept and club activities recorded. Then at the end of the year this was worked up into a presentation notebook. Janice wrote a detailed report of the work done by the Club during 1987. Especially important was the work done to improve Hoffland Range, the growth in the Junior program, increased membership plus the newsletter, competitions offered and the special activities such as the Gun Shows and Wigger Clinic. This was all set up on the Rader's computer to make as attractive a presentation as possible and then combined with

the pictures (a special thanks to Brian and Belinda Amerman for the pictures they took of the range and Wigger Clinic) and the newspaper articles to be put in a 3-ring binder. Also included was an Activities Calendar showing everything the Club was involved in during the year, a list of all our shooting dates, the competitions run by the club and copies of all the newsletters for the year.

In January the application form was filled out and everything was sent into the NRA Clubs and Associations Committee for judging.

1987 was a very active year for the Alliance Rifle Club and many of the goals we had set are now done. It took work from a great many people to get everything accomplished this past year. One of the major projects was the work done to improve Hoffland Range this year and most of this was through the efforts of the Pistol Silhouette directors and shooters. We can be proud of all the members who helped make this an “award winning year for the Club.”

Article reprinted  
from the March 1988  
Alliance Rifle Club Newsletter  
*“Panhandle Shooting News.”*

NOTE: April 22 - 26, 1988 Pat Synak, President and Glen Fiebig, Secretary/Treasurer attend the NRA Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida. On April 22 they attend the Awards Luncheon where they are presented the plaque for the 1987 Outstanding Club Award for the Alliance Rifle Club.

## 1987 NRA Outstanding Club Award

Taken from the June 1988 issue of the "American Rifleman" magazine, the NRA official Journal. From the writeup about the 187th NRA Convention held April 22-26, 1988 in Orlando, Florida.

The Outstanding Club Award is presented annually to an NRA-Affiliated club with a highly distinguished record of service and organization. The Alliance Rifle Club of Alliance, Nebr., was selected because of consistent success in the areas of competitive programs, junior activities, range development and community service.

The Alliance club is located in a small community in a farming and ranching area in the state's western panhandle. It was organized in 1949 and has been continuously affiliated with NRA from its inception. The club currently has 202 family memberships, up from 159 just two years ago.

From the outset the club has sponsored a smallbore rifle league that has been a leader in Nebraska competitive shooting and the Panhandle Rifle League. The team now has several women shooters and a growing junior program. 1987 marked the third year that Alliance sponsored a 50-yd. four-position smallbore rifle outdoor postal league, with 40 shooters competing from several states.

The DCM-enrolled club conducts highpower rifle matches that draw shooters from neighboring states. Rifle and pistol silhouette matches and a bench-rest shooting postal league are also part of the club's activities. The club is in the process of adding an air rifle program.



**Club president Pat Synak (r.) and secretary Glen Fiebig accepted the Outstanding Club Award for the Alliance Rifle Club.**

About 25 juniors now participate in the club's NRA Junior Olympic Program, and the club helps the juniors by purchasing equipment. Alliance sent its juniors to Camp Perry the last two years.

In 1985 the club decided to produce a newsletter, *Panhandle News*, to keep its growing membership informed. The 16-page newsletter is mostly concerned with club shooting information in Alliance and surrounding area, but it also includes information on state association activities and NRA programs.

The club has recently put a great deal of work into its indoor range. The range now has 12 firing points, an enclosed firing line and windows between the firing line and the setup room. A new furnace was installed and a separate scoring room was added to the structure.

The club's 100-yd. range was extended and five cement benches were installed for sighting-in and bench-rest shooting. Target frames and stands were emplaced to facilitate 50- and 100-yd. smallbore competition. The club has also operated an outdoor range on leased property, which the club recently decided to purchase, affording its members another place to shoot. Extensive work went into improving the range, including installing a covered shelter behind the line, new shooting benches

and a converted railroad car to serve as a stat office and storage building.

The club runs numerous community service activities, including semi-annual gun shows, an annual shooting clinic and hosting the state association convention. The club was instrumental in gathering signatures for the petition drive to add a right to keep and bear arms amendment to the Nebraska state constitution.





This is a banner that was presented to the Alliance Rifle Club as an award from the NRA for hosting the 2nd largest first time Friends of NRA Banquet in the U.S.

The first Friends of NRA Banquet was hosted by the Alliance Rifle Club on November 2, 2007. Because the ARC did this banquet, the Club was able to apply for a grant from Friends of NRA. In 2008 the biggest grant given in the Midwest was approved for the Alliance Rifle Club. The grant was for putting in a well and generator at Glen Fiebig Range. (Amount of grant: \$10,382.40)