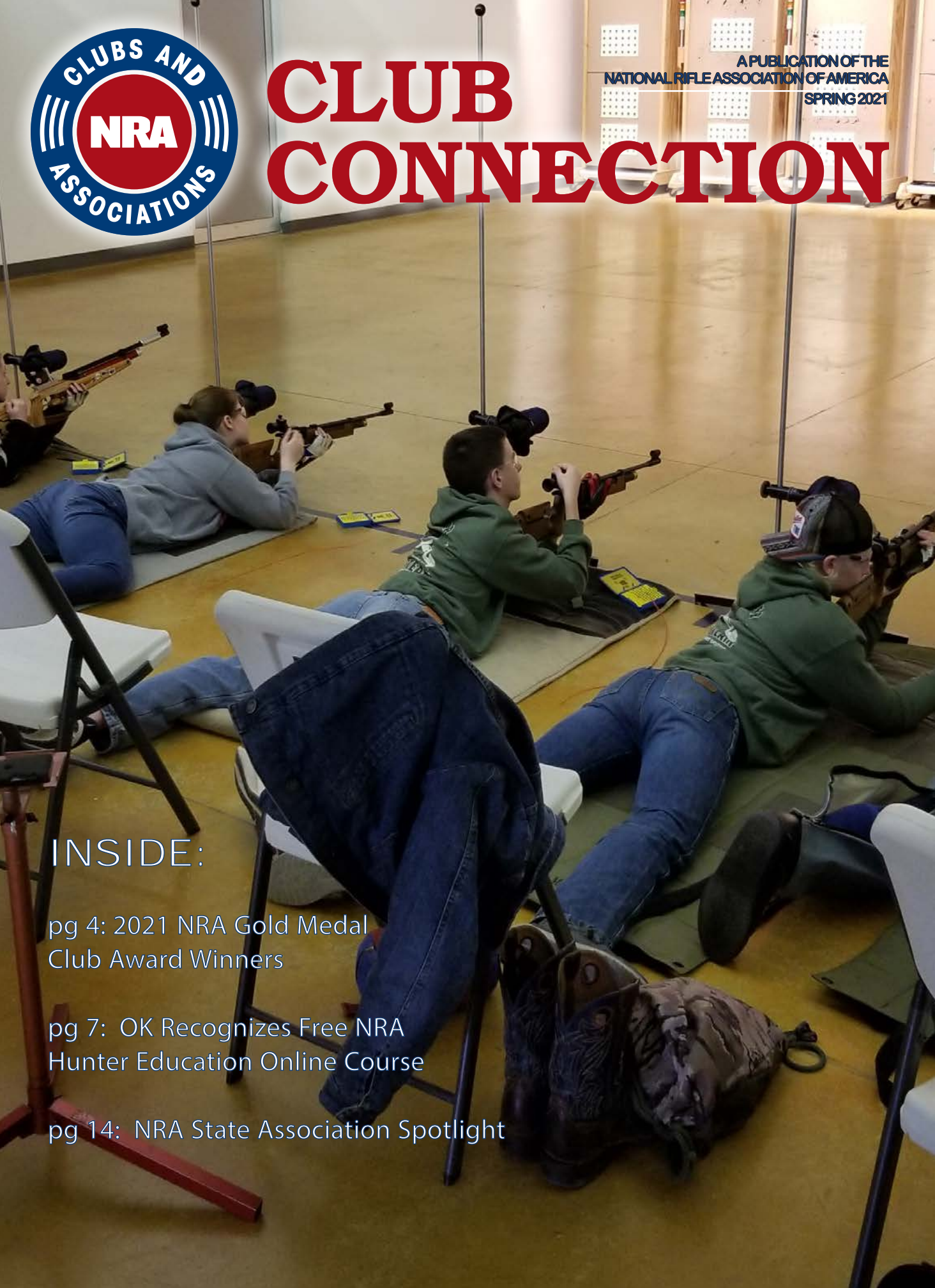




A PUBLICATION OF THE
NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
SPRING 2021

CLUB CONNECTION



INSIDE:

pg 4: 2021 NRA Gold Medal
Club Award Winners

pg 7: OK Recognizes Free NRA
Hunter Education Online Course

pg 14: NRA State Association Spotlight



CLUB CONNECTION

	President's Column: The False Feminism of The Left	1
	Inside NRA:NRA Salutes Our Hero Police Officers	3
	Feature Story: 2021 NRA Gold Medal Clubs	4
	Oklahoma Recognizes Free NRA Hunter Education Online Course	7
	NRA Club Spotlight	9
	NRA Business Alliance Spotlight	10
	NRA State Association Spotlight	14
	NRA-ILA Update	18



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Published quarterly by the
National Rifle Association of America
Community Engagement Division

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Cover Photo Credit:
NRA Club Spotlight
IWCC Rifle Team

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



By Carolyn D. Meadows
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The False Feminism Of The Left

There are a lot of misleading ideas pushed by the radical Left that raise my ire, but fake feminism may top them all. Politicians claim to want to “empower” women, but, looking past the rhetoric, it is clear their policies actually work to put women more at risk.

The feminist movement seeks to advocate for “political, economic, and social equality of the sexes,” according to the literal definition. It’s supposed to be “organized activity on behalf of women’s rights and interests.” That all sounds good enough.

But when we look at the policies of the far Left, we can see that they are very much not in our interests as women. For example, we saw a big push in 2020 to release criminals—including violent criminals—from prison. Politicians actually bragged about this like it was some major achievement, but some women were subsequently victimized or re-victimized by those released prisoners. This was 100 percent predictable. But the so-called feminist Left was more concerned about these violent criminals’ welfare than the welfare of the women they might brutalize. On top of that, of course, they’ve worked to decrease the presence of law enforcement, so violent criminals are not even as likely to be caught or deterred. Even as mobs descended on some neighborhoods in 2020, extreme politicians continued trying to push their anti-gun narrative.

A gun is a tool that allows women (not to mention elderly and disabled people) to defend themselves against aggressors who are usually physically larger and stronger. It is truly the great equalizer. But anti-freedom politicians work every day toward disarming women—and unfortunately, in many places, they’ve succeeded. In many cities in America, most of which have long been under Democrat control, it’s very unlikely that a woman facing a threat can be armed against it. The net result? More female victims than ever, especially for women in more-vulnerable social and economic situations.

But the far Left wants to pretend that violent criminals are not the problem. Instead, you—a law-abiding person who merely wants to protect yourself and your family—are the problem. And their “solution” is for you to be a sitting duck.

That doesn’t sound like empowerment to me. That doesn’t sound like promoting “women’s rights and interests,” either. Yet the Leftists claim to be more feminist than

anyone. And in their world, it’s true simply because they say it is.

But the truly empowered women are the ones I know. They’re the women who refuse to be victims, or to be victims again if they’ve unfortunately already been through that trauma. They’re the millions of women who purchased a gun last year. They’re the ones who took a firearm safety class with their friends and neighbors. These women face reality and won’t accept “might makes right.” They’re the women who decide to really take control of their own lives, to choose their own outcomes. Yes, they could still be victims of violent crime—it can happen to anyone, unfortunately—but these ladies won’t give up without a real fight. The women I know and admire, who choose to defend themselves and their families, with their heads held high—they are the real feminists in this world. I’ll choose the real deal over the rhetoric any day.

**“A GUN IS A TOOL THAT
ALLOWS WOMEN (NOT TO
MENTION ELDERLY AND
DISABLED PEOPLE) TO DEFEND
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AGGRESSORS WHO ARE
USUALLY PHYSICALLY LARGER
AND STRONGER.”**

I’m gratified that you’ll find these empowered women everywhere you look at NRA events all over the country. You’ll find them plinking at the range, competing, hunting and teaching others. You’ll definitely find them at Women on Target Instructional Shooting Clinics, Refuse To Be A Victim seminars, the Women’s Wilderness Escape and the Women’s Leadership Forum. And, of course, you’ll find them at NRAWomen.com, our newest way to connect with each other. It’s my hope that as more women learn about firearms, they’ll reach out to other female friends and family members who want to learn to protect themselves and their loved ones. I hope to see all women recognize that true empowerment has nothing to do with giving up our freedoms. And remember, the NRA is, and always will be, Freedom’s Safest Place.

Carolyn D. Meadows



2021 ANNUAL MEETINGS & EXHIBITS

SEPTEMBER 3-5, 2021 • HOUSTON, TX



By Joseph P. DeBergalis, Jr.
Executive Director,
General Operations



Joining NRA-affiliated state associations supports NRA's mission in your state.

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le.nra.org

NRA Salutes Our Hero Police Officers

With National Police Week this month, I would like to shine a spotlight on the NRA's long history of supporting law enforcement officers. Over the past year, our country's brave men and women in law enforcement have dealt with large-scale civil unrest and long hours. A pervasive anti-police rhetoric has permeated the cultural air and some even advocate for "defunding" the police. Here at NRA Headquarters, every day we proudly fly the "Thin Blue Line" flag to showcase our unwavering support for law enforcement officers of every background.

Similar to U.S. Army marksmanship before 1870, in the early 20th century, police officers' ability to shoot accurately was taken for granted. With NRA's growing emphasis on police training programs, then-NRA-President James Drain suggested the organization schedule its first police revolver match at the 1910 National Matches. Held in August, it was won by the Chicago Police Department. Though this tournament attracted a limited number of entries, it was only a first step. By the 1920s, police competitions were an annual event at the National Matches.

In 1960, with the formation of its Law Enforcement Division, the NRA became a valuable resource providing law enforcement-specific training for instructors. After training, instructors go on to train law enforcement officers in their home districts. There are more than 59,000 instructors that have been trained by NRA Law Enforcement programs, and of those trained, 13,000 instructors are currently active.

A variety of special benefits for law enforcement officers are offered to NRA members and their families. One is automatic: the NRA offers a \$35,000 insurance benefit to the next of kin for any officer killed in the line of duty who was an active NRA member at the time of their passing. In addition, NRA has provided scholarships for the children or dependents of current or retired officers who are active members, and the dependents and children of officers killed in the line of duty who were active members at the time of their passing.

Each year, NRA's Law Enforcement Division sanctions over 800 Police Pistol Combat (PPC) tournaments conducted across the country. Participation in these matches provides law enforcement officers with a competitive program geared toward improving their firearms skills and abilities. In addition, the NRA Tactical Police Competition (TPC) program encourages patrol officers to gain more experience, training and time on the range using their duty firearms.

The annual NRA National Police Shooting Championships (NPSC) are open to law enforcement professionals from all over the



Photo by Peter Fountain

world. First held in 1962, NPSC was designed to encourage law enforcement professionals to practice and enhance their firearms skills via competition. By using NRA-standardized law enforcement courses of fire, officers can assess their skill levels while departments evaluate the effectiveness of their training programs in practice. The 2021 NPSC are tentatively scheduled for Sept. 20-22 at the Mississippi Highway Patrol Range Facility in Pearl, Miss.

But NRA's support of law enforcement doesn't end there. Through the NRA Foundation, grants are awarded to police and sheriff departments across the country. While a radical element of our society works to "defund," NRA aims to provide resources so officers can do their jobs. These grants, funded by the generous support of NRA members and like-minded friends, total tens of thousands of dollars annually to help strained agency budgets by funding patrol firearms, ammunition, training equipment, hearing protection, and communication systems.

As illustrated, NRA has a lengthy resume of supporting the men and women of law enforcement. It is also important to note that a number of active and retired law enforcement officers serve on our NRA Board of Directors. Their expertise, along with the support of many retired officers working at NRA Headquarters, ensures that our association continues to stand with the brave public servants who wear a badge, carry a gun, and don the uniform of law and order. We have done so in the past, and will continue to do so over the next 150 years and beyond. From speaking with law enforcement almost every day, I know they appreciate the support they receive from NRA members like you.

Learn more about NRA Law Enforcement programs at le.nra.org.



2021 NRA GOLD MEDAL CLUBS

The NRA offers special recognition by awarding Gold Medal status to NRA affiliated organizations that promote and support the purposes, objectives, policies, and programs of the NRA. Members of these clubs have united to reach a common goal. Reaching this elite level sets your club apart from others in the area. Each year numerous organizations apply to achieve the Gold Medal status; an honor presented to clubs that meet the five specific criteria.

- Be a 100% NRA Club - Becoming a 100% NRA club helps make the NRA stronger by increasing its membership numbers and providing a larger representation of the shooting public.
- Have a club newsletter – A newsletter helps the club communicate to its members. Club members are kept in the loop of club activities and community issues.
- Belong to the NRA State Association of your state – Joining NRA State Association shows support on the state level. Their mission is to promote and support the purpose and objectives of the NRA while providing programs and support to clubs on the local level.
- Have administered, or currently incorporate an NRA Youth Program within the club's agenda. Incorporating a youth program helps introduce firearms safety to younger shooters. Encouraging them to shoot at an early age will help keep the shooting sports going for future generations.
- Actively participate in NRA's Membership Recruiting Program - participating in the NRA recruiting program helps bring new members in at a reduced price, helps generate income for your club, and helps to grow NRA numbers.

Clubs that meet the criteria above will be awarded a plaque along with an inscribed bar listing the year. Current Gold Medal clubs are encouraged to renew their status every year and will be given an inscribed bar with the renewal year. Clubs that are applying for a NRA Range Grant will be given preference if they achieve and maintain Gold Medal status.

The annual deadline for the NRA Gold Medal Awards is February 15.

2021 NRA Gold Medal Club Award Winners

- | | |
|--|---|
| Airfield Shooting Club | Sandusky County Sportsmen's Club II |
| Alaska Interior Marksmanship Committee | Scotts Valley Sportsmens Club |
| Arlington Rifle & Pistol Club | Silver State Shooting Sport Association |
| Asheville Rifle & Pistol Club | Southport Gun Club, Inc. (Southport Masters) |
| Castleton Fish & Game Protective Association | Stone Bank Sportsmen's Club |
| Centralia Rifle Club & Junior Division | Upper Savannah Shooters Association |
| Charlotte Rifle & Pistol Club | Van Wert County Outdoorsmen Association, Inc. |
| Delaware State Pistol Club | White Oak Rod & Gun Club |
| Downers Grove Sportsmen's Club | |
| East End Rod & Gun Club | |
| East Hook Sportsmen Association, Inc. | |
| East Monongahela Sportsmen's Club | |
| Eastern Nebraska Gun Club, Inc. | |
| Escondido Fish & Game Association | |
| Estacada Rod & Gun Club | |
| Factoryville Sportsman Club | |
| Foosland Sportsmen's Club | |
| Forks Rifle Club | |
| Fort Hill Rifle & Pistol Club, Inc. | |
| Franklin Revolver & Rifle Association, Inc. | |
| Gopher Rifle and Revolver Club | |
| Great Lot Sportsman's Club Corp. | |
| Hollywood Rifle and Pistol Club, Inc. | |
| Jamestown Rifle Club, Inc. | |
| Kent Rod & Gun Club, Inc. | |
| Lima Sabres Shooting Association | |
| Martin County Sportsmen's Association | |
| Nescopeck Hunting & Rifle Club | |
| New Milford Rifle and Pistol Club, Inc. | |
| Norfolk County Rifle Range | |
| Northwestern Gun Club | |
| Old Trails Rifle and Pistol Club, Inc. | |
| Rappahannock Pistol & Rifle Club | |
| Richwood Gun and Game Club, Inc. | |
| Ridge Rifle Association | |
| Ridgway Rifle Club | |
| Rochester Rod and Gun | |

THANK YOU!

Thank you to our 100% NRA Clubs (2020-2021)

4-H Bullees
 9F Sportsmen's Club, Inc.
 American 1800 Adventure Club
 Anderson County Sportsman's Club
 Antlers Hunting Club, Inc.
 Arnold Rifle and Pistol Club
 Athens Rifle Club
 Beaver Run Gun Club
 Big Bear Sportmans Club
 Black Cat Hunting Club
 Black Forest Conservation Assn.
 Blue Ridge Cherry Valley Rod & Gun Club
 Blue Ridge Rifle & Pistol Assn, Inc.
 Bog Trotters Rifle & Pistol Club
 Branford Gun Club, Inc.
 Brentwood Sportsmen's Club
 Bridgeville Rifle & Pistol Club
 Brookwood Gunners & Anglers
 Brown Township Sportsmen Club
 Brushy Mountain Club
 Buccaneer Gun Club, Inc.
 Buck Mountain Hunting Club
 Bullseye Gun and Rod Club
 Butte View Duck Club
 Cairo Sportsman Club
 California Grizzlies
 California Junior Clay Breakers aka Oak
 Canawacta Rod & Gun Club
 Capitol City Junior Rifle Club
 Caribou Rifle & Pistol Club, Inc.
 Cattail Hunting Club
 Chipola Hunting Club, Inc.
 Christian County Affiliate
 Cleveland Htg Rifle & Pistol Club
 Clover Ridge Lodge Hunting Club
 Club Neubrunns
 Coastal Georgia Gun Club
 Cossackie Sportsmen's Club, Inc.
 Craig Trap Club, Inc.
 Desert Sharp Shooter's Club, Inc.
 Dubuque Rifle & Pistol Club
 Dunes Rifle and Pistol Club-N.W.Indiana.
 Dusty Antler Hunting Club
 East Mississippi Sportsman Association
 Eaton Employee's Gun Club
 El Rancho Camp
 Elgin Rifle Club, Inc.
 Emerald Empire Gun Club
 Eustis Gun Club, Inc.
 Farmers & Sportsmen's Conservation Club
 Fin Fur & Feather Club of Mattapoissett, Inc.
 First Colorado Independent Battery
 Flourtown Sandy Run Sptmn's Assn Inc.
 Forneys Bttln Usmc Rifle & Pistol Club
 Fort Tassinong Muzzleloaders, Inc.
 Gloucester Co Fish & Game Assn.
 Goffstown Fish & Game Assn, Inc.
 Golden Gun Club, Inc
 Green Peackeepers Guild of East Goshen, Inc.
 Greenhouse Ranch A Partnership
 Grouse Ridge Rod & Gun Club
 Hamilton Rod & Gun Club
 Hartland Sportsmen's Club
 Head of the Red Trap Club
 Hickory Mountain Rifle & Pistol Club, Inc.
 High Rock Shooting Association Jr. Club
 Hilltop Gun Club
 Hillview Rod & Gun Club
 Holmes Creek Still Hunters Association
 Howell Trap Club, Inc.
 Humboldt Rifle And Pistol Club
 Hunter's Haven Rod & Gun Club
 Illinois State Trapshooters Assn.
 Indian Trail Gun Club, Inc.
 Iredell Gun Club
 James Howard Prince Mem Foundation, Inc.
 Jefferson Gun Club
 Johnstown Rifle and Pistol Club
 Juneau Shooting Sports Foundation
 L C Smith Collectors Association
 La Barronena Hunting Club
 LaCrosse Rifle Club, Inc.
 Lander Gun Club
 Lemon Grove Rod & Gun Club
 Lewis Creek Sportsmans Club
 Lewiston Pistol Club, Inc.
 Linn County Pistol Club
 Little Suamico Sportsmen's Club, Inc.
 Lockwood Rod and Gun Club, Inc.
 Los Angeles Silhouette Club
 Madison Square Sportsmen's Club
 Manatee County 4H Shooting Sports Club
 Manchester Rifle Club
 Marksman Indoor Range/Eastern Nebraska Arms

Meyersdale Area Schools
 Middletown Hunt Club
 Milan Rifle Club, Inc.
 Mill Pond Hunting Club
 Mississippi State Firearm Owners Assn.
 Molalla Rifle Club
 Monroe County Deer Club
 Mt. Washington Rod & Gun Club, Inc.
 Muela Creek Hunting Club, LLC
 Mullica Hill Rifle & Pistol Club
 Nashville Matchmasters Club
 Nassau County Rifle and Pistol Club
 Nebraska Territorial Rangers
 Nemaocolin Rod and Gun Club
 New Jersey Arms Collectors Club
 New York State Rifle and Pistol Association, Inc.
 NJ Black Bear Rod & Gun Club, Inc.
 Norfolk County Rifle Range
 North Bushneck Hunting Club
 North Reading Rifle Club, Inc.
 Northern York Co.Rod & Gun Club
 Oak Hills Gun Club, Inc.
 Old Breed Rifle & Pistol Club, Inc.
 Old Hickory Rifle & Pistol Club
 Palmer Sportsmen's Club, Inc.
 Pasture Four Shooting Club
 Peninsula-Hempstead Rifle & Pistol Club
 Pickens County Sportsmen's Club, Inc.
 Pioneer Gun Collectors Association
 Pleasant View Rod & Gun Club, Inc.
 Plinkers Rifle and Pistol Club
 Prairie County Sportsmans Association
 Pueblo Municipal Shooters, Inc.
 Purgatory Falls Fish & Game Club
 Putnam Co Fish & Game Assn-Jr Dvn.
 Quarter-Circle Circle Ranch
 Red Hill Hunting Club
 Red Valley Rifle & Pistol Club
 Ridge Masters Rifle & Pistol Club
 River Bend Gun Club, Inc.
 Rock County Rifle And Pistol Club, Inc.
 Rockville Centre Rifle & Pistol Club
 Roslyn Rifle & Revolver Club, Inc.
 Roxbury Rifle & Pistol Club, Inc.
 Roxbury Rifle & Pistol Club, Inc.
 Sage Brush Rifle & Pistol Club
 San Gabriel Valley Arms Collectors
 Sanford-Springvale Fish & Game
 Santa Cruz Land-Cattle & S.C.Gun Club
 Scale Rock Sportman Club
 Settle's Ford Gun Club
 Shohocken Hunt Club, Inc.
 Shoot-A-Buck Hunting Club, Inc.
 Solon Sportsmen's Association
 South Cuyahoga Sportsmen's Assn
 South Jersey Shooting Club, Inc.
 South Mississippi Gun Assn, Inc.
 South River Gun Club
 Southeast NE Lewis & Clark Sportsmans Club
 Southern Chester Co. Sptmn's & Fmrs Asn
 Springfield Custom Shop
 Stamford Rod and Gun Club, Inc.
 Stark Co Federation of Conservation Club
 State Line Sportsmen's Club
 Stone Creek Gun Club
 Suffolk Marines Rifle & Pistol Club
 Swan Creek Hunt Club
 Sycamore Valley Gun Club, Inc.
 Tanawanda Rod and Gun Club
 Ten X Shooting Club, Inc.
 Tete Bayou Hunters Club, Inc.
 The Big Lick Longrifles
 The Fusilier Complex, Inc.
 Toppenish Rifle & Pistol Club
 Torrington Gun Club, Inc.
 Trading Post Sportsman
 Tulip City Rod and Gun Club, Inc.
 Tulsa Arms Collectors Association
 TX Precision Matches, LLC
 Vancouver Rifle and Pistol Club
 Vermilion Sportsmen's Club
 Veterans of America Gun Club
 Virginia Rifle and Pistol Club
 W.Virginia Sportsmen's & Firearms Assn.
 Wading River Rod And Gun Club
 Walden Sportsmen's Club, Inc.
 Waldwick Junior Rifle Club
 Walla Walla Gun Club, Inc.
 Wapato Rod and Gun Club
 Wells Rifle And Pistol Club
 Winnebago Eastshore Conservation Club
 Winnsboro Gun Club, Inc.
 Woodstock Rifle Club



Oklahoma Recognizes NRA's Free Online Hunter Education Course

On March 1, 2021 the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission approved a resolution in recognition of the National Rifle Association of America's free online hunter education course that has resulted in the collection of more than \$191,000 in Federal Aid match by the state. These match funds can be used by the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission in applying for Pittman-Robertson grants that will directly result in \$764,000 going back to the department for fish and wildlife management.

"Thanks to our partnership with the NRA, over 20,000 Oklahoma sportsmen and sportswomen have taken the free hunter education course provided by the NRA," said Lance Meek, Communication and Education Senior Specialist for the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. "I'd encourage other states to look at offering the NRA course."

"We are pleased to partner with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation and that they capitalized on this opportunity to provide our free course, and then used the match option to receive Pittman-Robertson funds. It's good to see all the hard work come full circle to benefit this agency and their state residents!" said Peter Churchbourne, Director of the Hunters' Leadership Forum, who attended the meeting to accept this award on behalf of the NRA.

Designed and provided by the organization that built the first-ever hunter education program in the United States in 1949, the NRA Hunter Education online course offers a fresh and fully comprehensive approach to hunter education. The 15-chapter, online sequence features attention-grabbing videos, eye-catching graphics and diagrams, interactive modules, audio recordings and dozens of action photos presented in appealing, easy-to-access components that provide the best method for teaching future hunters lessons they will remember for the rest of their lives.

To take the NRA Hunter Education online course or learn more, visit NRAHE.org.

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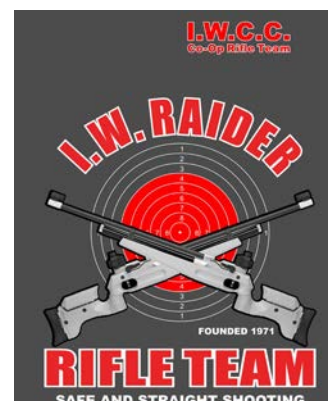
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Congratulations to the IWCC CO-OP Rifle Team on their continued wins during the 2021 Rifle Season

The IWCC Raider Rifle Team fired its third match of the season on February 6th after a long break under the tier 4 mitigations. Living the "team life" to the fullest the coaches decided to enter 16 student athletes in the Winter Warm Up. The Raiders occupied the entire 16 point range at Central Illinois Precision Shooting west of Bloomington Illinois.

IWCC fielded 5 precision shooters. Adriana Schroeder was top team member placing third overall with a score of 575-32 out of a possible 600-60. Jeffery Benz was 8th overall with a 537-18. Katherine Winkel, Kortnie Beherns and Jacob Kuipers fired scores of 532-16, 529-14 and 529-9 respectively. The IWCC precision team fired a combined 2173 out of a possible 2400 point match. Adriana fired one "possible" target, 100 out of 100, in the prone position. The term possible is short for firing the highest possible or perfect score.

Tony Espinosa was the top sporter shooter with a 486-3 followed by Clarke Busick with a 469-4. Kiana Harding was third in the sporter division with a score of 451-4. IWCC brought enough shooters to effectively field three teams. The entry of three teams triggered the minimum entry requirement to have a team award at the CIPS Winter Warm Up and the ended up being an all-IWCC contest. The top sporter team consisted of Clarke Busick, Tanner Tholen, Landon Schule and Kent Harrison. They fired a team score of 1712. The second place sporter team included Kiana Harding, Lilly Anderson, Tyler Balthazor and

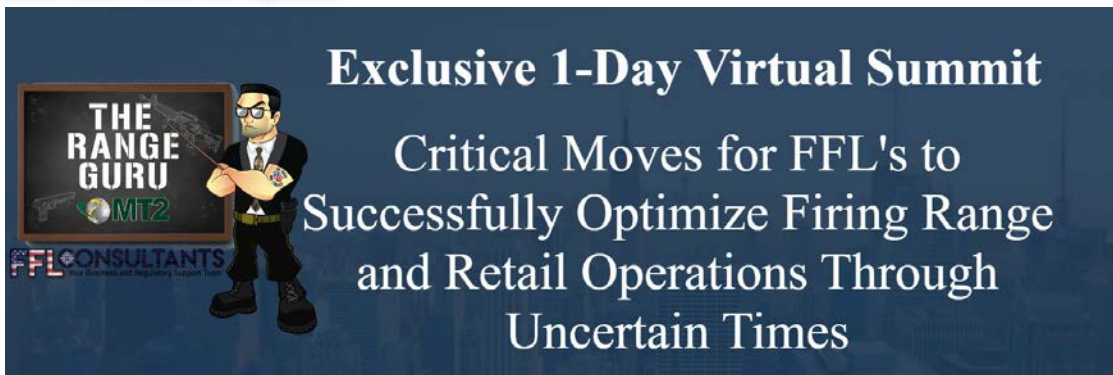
Rachel Dexter with a team score of 1594. Last but not least and consisting of only three team members Tony Espinosa, Dylan Beherends and Hunter Hull turned in a team score of 1205. A very respectable score and within striking distance of second place had we fielded a full team.

The IWCC Raider Rifle Season continues despite feeling like two seasons in one. The first match of the season was also "trial by fire" with only one week of practice prior traveling to CIPS.

The willingness of the student athletes to face competition so early in the season was inspiration for coaches and fellow team members. While the results of the first match were nothing to write home about the coaches are proud of the attitude and the courage our shooters have. The Rifle Club hopes to attend two more matches before the end of the season and would like to have some in-house competitions before the end of the season. The Illinois Precision Rifle League has also had a rough go this year with Quincy High School (coordinator) and other schools and clubs unable to get the twice monthly postal matches fired this year.

As the program enters its 50th year of existence we continue to serve as a positive influence on our student athletes. The skills we aim for in shooting are discipline, concentration, commitment and sportsmanship. Essential skills for facing life's challenges and becoming the best possible version of themselves.





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MT2 Firing Range Services and FFL Consultants Conduct Firing Range Virtual Summit: "Critical Moves for FFL's to Successfully Optimize Firing Range and Retail Operations Through Uncertain Times"

Constantly looking for ways to provide relevant content to support the firing range community, MT2 aligned with an industry partner, FFL Consultants, to bring high-level teaching for FFL's and firing ranges to understand key concepts to help them make wise decisions in operating their range or retail business.

The event included a special keynote presentation: "The Important Role FFLs Play in Protecting Themselves and Their Communities" from Thomas L. Chittum III - Assistant Director of Field Operations - Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF)

Topics also presented include:

- o "Being Prepared" Means Much More than Just Completing a Checklist – It Requires Time-Sensitive Updates, Professional Support, and Access to Intelligent Guidance for Critical Long-Term Survival"
Presented by FFL Consultants
 - o "Firing Range Construction, Expansion and Design-Build Considerations"
Presented by James Barthel - CEO - MT2 Firing Range Services
 - o "Insurance Questions & Risk Mgmt. FFL's Need to Know and Have In Place During Challenging Times"
Presented by Jeff Hewitt - SVP, Lockton Affinity
 - o "Hot Topics Firearms Industry Employers Need to Know About During Times of Crisis"
Presented by Wendy Christie - Owner -Employer ESource
 - o "Critical Gun Range Lead Waste Management Requirements"
Presented by Rob Anderson - VP- MT2 Firing Range Services
 - o "Open Dialogue Discussing the Effects of the Biden/Harris Administration on the Firearms Industry"
Presented by Joseph Kavan - Partner, Kutak Rock
- Those interested in viewing the replay can visit: <http://firingrangevirtualsummit.com/>

About MT2 Firing Range Services:

MT2 specializes in providing environmental firing range services, and lead remediation for all your indoor and outdoor firing range service needs including:

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REVISITING RIMFIRE

By Jim Gregg, Urban Survivor, www.ShootingClasses.com

Let me first start this article by acknowledging the two elephants in the room, coronavirus and the ammo shortage. Whether you are a shooter, range owner or instructor there has been deep and significant impacts to our industry by COVID 19.

While I don't profess to be an economics professor, I don't need a degree to tell me that 9 mm and other common training and self-defense rounds are in short supply. I have had countless customers call me and ask if I could provide them with ammunition to take one of my defensive pistol classes. Just a few short months ago I would willingly say yes and simply sell them a 9mm white box for the \$10 it cost me at my local Walmart. Those days are done for now, but what's next? I needed to revisit rimfire.

I had this philosophy on rimfire pistol training, I hated it and didn't like to do it. I didn't even own a 22 pistol. For many years I was against rimfire training for a multitude of reasons. It was dirty, it jammed a lot, it didn't give students proper recoil feedback, and the list went on and on. I'm not sure if I was just being a snob and insisting that my customers trained with the caliber that they intended to carry or I was being unrealistic. Ammo, while cheap, was still susceptible to jams and I didn't think there were suitable pistols to simulate good training.

You had the James Bond looking Rugers and bull barrel target pistols with the occasional 10 shot revolver but nothing worth training with, or that simulated a modern-day self-defense gun. If you have been training with 22 the whole time, you can stop reading now, I was wrong.

I was wrong about a lot of things but definitely wrong about 22LR. This ammunition shortage has caused me to revisit my rimfire training thoughts. Once I looked around I was way behind the curve. I was excited to find guns like the Glock 44, Taurus TX 22 and Smith and Wesson M&P22 that emulated our beloved CCW units. I sought out these guns, shot them, using good ammo and had great results with them. I subsequently ended up purchasing some of these guns and as much 22LR ammo that I could get my hands on and all of a sudden, I was back in business. My clients liked them too. Don't get me wrong, I will never give up my 9mm and I carry one every day, but rimfire is a great option. These guns feel, point and handle nearly identically to their 9mm and larger big brothers. And yes, it's true that they don't give great recoil feedback, but it's still easy to teach new shooters all the safety and fundamental elements.

Handgun calibers may come and go, but the universal safety rules will never change. Nor will the principles of marksmanship. Ultimately, we want to teach people safe, effective and efficient gun handling skills. If this platform will allow me to keep doing it I'm all for it.

This article was previously posted at shootingclasses.com

Author Bio

<https://www.shootingclasses.com/urban-survivor/>



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By John Seville, President, CSSA

"I have long been a shooting enthusiast, whether hunting rabbits as a boy in Indiana or shooting in 50-ft. smallbore scholastic/non-military state competitions beginning at age 14. Firearms and shooting activities have been a big part of my life for many years. You can imagine my interest in late 2019 when an NRA-ILA attorney, Alexandra Garza, and the then-current President of the Colorado State Shooting Association (CSSA), Tony Fabian, approached me about becoming the next President of the CSSA. Tony, who had faithfully served for 19 years, was ready to step down, and we both agreed that it was time to rebuild the CSSA. After the election in January of 2020, Tony eventually transferred 13 storage boxes full of materials and records, and it was time to begin revitalizing the CSSA.

To rebuild the organization and scale it quickly would need to start with the integration of People, Process, and Technology. The people component would begin by forming a new working board of directors. The members elected three of us to the new board in January 2020, and since then, we have added five members for a total of eight volunteer board members. We are now expanding our association by recruiting coordinators to work with each board member in their area of responsibility.

The next area we tackled was processes looking for opportunities to eliminate inefficiencies and leverage technology to minimize administration. To accomplish this, we began a software selection process for an integrated platform that could handle our web presence, membership management, email campaigns, texting, forums, back-end integration with financials, and organizational development tools like volunteer and committee management.

We made our selection in the late spring of 2020 amidst the Covid-19 pandemic and began configuring the platform in mid-2020. It was and continues to be a significant undertaking as we implement the various modules of functionality. An unusually challenging aspect of the project was combining and cleaning membership records from the previous 20 years. Thanks to one board member's efforts, Daniel Fenlason, he was able to pull together multiple sources of membership information and upload the data to the new platform. In the future, the CSSA will have a single repository for membership data and organizational knowledge, making leadership transitions more manageable.

In mid-January 2021, we published our new website with our first email campaign announcing our new platform and the launch of a monthly webinar. Formerly, we had a monthly in-person

meeting attended by 8-15 members. But through webinar technology, we now have the opportunity to reach members in all four corners of our state with timely and relevant information and programs. Within the first ten weeks of our launch, we tripled our membership with a \$5/month fee. Supporters can cancel their membership at any time, especially if the board of directors fails to fulfill our promises and mission.

The recent Boulder shooting and proposed new Colorado anti-2A legislation, in addition to the emails that our CSSA board members received from hateful and willfully ignorant citizens, is a reminder of the importance of our mission in Colorado. "To effectively engage and educate all Colorado citizens on the inalienable and constitutional right to keep and bear arms responsibly and to promote all aspects of shooting activities." Even though we have just started, we are clear on our mission and are executing our strategy. Every day, we find and recruit Colorado citizens who love our state and our country. We encourage them to develop "titanium spines" for the current and oncoming fights to keep our second amendment rights. We are finding our voice again. We are back, and we will not fail."

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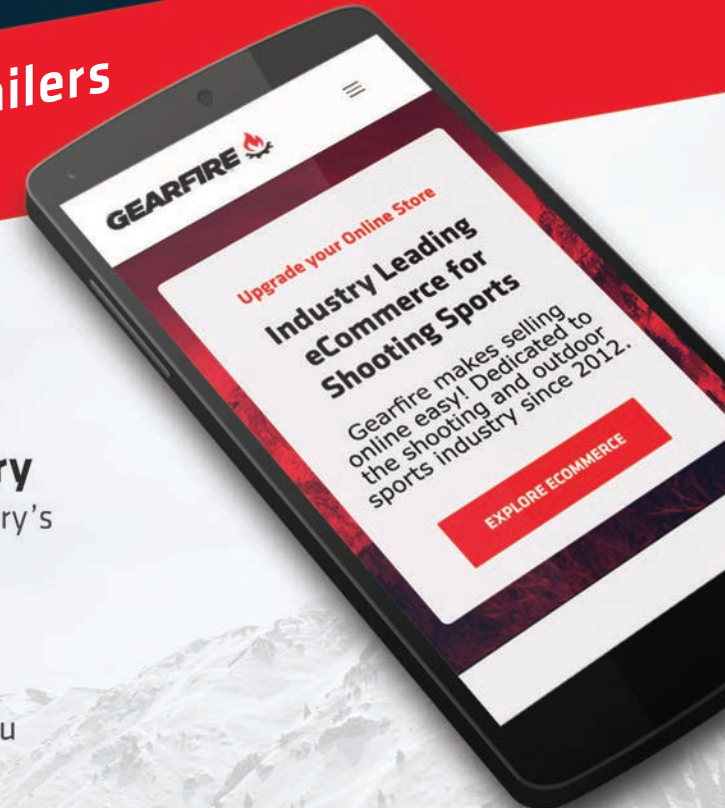
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NRA-ILA UPDATE

A Busy First Quarter for Your NRA-ILA

The first few months of 2021 have seen a lot of activity for your NRA Institute for Legislative Action. President Biden campaigned on a promise to enact gun control on the federal level, and he is doing everything he can to keep that promise. In March, the anti-gun leadership in the U.S. House used a special rule to bypass the normal committee process, which allows for the vetting and discussion of bills, and brought two pieces of anti-gun legislation to the floor for a vote. Your NRA-ILA worked hard to educate and mobilize our members and supporters to oppose this legislation. While both H.R. 8 and H.R. 1446 ultimately did pass out of the House, they faced bipartisan opposition and received fewer votes than the same bills did two years ago, a testament to the hard work of our team and members who made their voices heard.

The fight against H.R. 8 and H.R. 1446 will be completely different in the U.S. Senate. Your NRA-ILA is working to hold virtual meetings on this topic, mobilize hundreds of thousands of 2A supports to take action by contacting their Senators, and scheduling town hall meetings in a number of key states to ensure everyone is engaged in this fight.

While we have a tough fight in Congress, our State and Local team has been swinging away to pass pro-gun legislation. This year, we have added 4 states (Iowa, Montana, Tennessee, Utah) to the list that allow Constitutional Carry, bringing this total number to 20! We have also worked to pass legislation that would strengthen emergency power protections for firearm owners during times of crisis to prevent government overreach, and expanded right to carry options in a number of states. This is all within the first few months of the year and as of this writing the majority of states are still actively debating legislation.

With the peak of legislative session upon us, your Grassroots team could use your help! We are always looking to find members willing to help us educate their communities on the dangers of anti-gun laws and how they would impact law abiding citizens. If you want to get involved in the fight for our rights, please reach out to the Grassroots Division by emailing us at: ILA-Contact@nrahq.org.



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