



CLUB CONNECTION

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INSIDE:

pg 2 : 2020 National Youth
Shooting Sports Ambassadors

pg 16: Youth Hunters Compete at the
YHEC 2020 Regional Event

pg 22: Club Spotlight





CLUB CONNECTION

President's Column: NRA And Its Members Mean Business	1
Feature Story: 2020 National Youth Shooting Sports Ambassador Program	2
NRA Law Enforcement Updates	13
Youth Hunters Compete for Many Awards at the 2020 Regional Event	16
The NRA Training Counselor Program	18
NRA Business Alliance Spotlight: Nightstick	20
NRA Club Spotlight: Granbury Marine Corps JROTC	22
NRA-ILA Update: Election 2020: Campaigning in a Summer of Uncertainty	26

Cover Photo:

NRA Ambassadors at
the 2020 GAOS



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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



By Carolyn D. Meadows
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NRA And Its Members Mean Business

As an active wife, mother and grandmother, I am often asked what inspired me to serve our great organization as NRA President. In a word, that answer is you—the over 5-million-strong NRA family of members—my fellow patriots. We come from all walks of life, but remain united in our mission to protect freedom and the Second Amendment. We believe in God and in our country, and we take pride in NRA's history of fighting for that freedom.

This is why I so looked forward to our 149th NRA Annual Meeting of Members this month in Springfield, Missouri. However, due to the ever-evolving COVID-19 pandemic, the NRA Executive Committee has voted to reschedule the membership meeting to a date later this fall. This decision was made after considering the health, safety, and well-being of our membership during this uncertain time. The simple fact that the business of the NRA goes on despite the challenges brought on by COVID-19 underscores how our strength and political firepower truly lies with you members. We know that the resilience of the NRA—and our country—comes from the Constitutionally-protected rights of each individual. These cherished rights are currently under fire from radical gun-control advocates and we NRA members are needed more than ever. Please visit the NRA Annual Meetings website for updated event details at nraam.org.

Though the 2020 gathering may not reach the record-breaking attendance of recent years, leading the NRA Annual Meeting of Members is still the most personally rewarding task I perform as NRA President. It will be an honor to stand before you, as faithful NRA members gather under one roof to strike a resounding chord in freedom's name.

Our officers will share their vision for the future and will engage attending members as we have for 148 consecutive years and counting. And much to the chagrin of the mainstream media and political elite, you can bet that the NRA will emerge re-energized. We believe in who we are and in who we are meant to be as Americans. To the dismay of liberal extremists who seek to destroy us and destroy so much of what makes our nation great, we take the high road and never turn from family-oriented values and patriotism. On that unyielding foundation, we will take our case to the voters and prevail in November's critical elections.

Growing up in rural Georgia, I learned about those family values and patriotism at a young age. I learned that the NRA is the

foremost authority in training Americans how to be safe and responsible with firearms. I was so proud the day I took possession of a family rifle—a prized .22-caliber Remington. It has peep sights, and I could strike a match shooting it. It is not worth much money, but in my vast gun collection, I tend to cherish it more than others due to its sentimental value. I was proud, along with my husband, who is also an avid hunter and shooter, to pass on that rifle to my three sons, their wives and my seven grandchildren. Like all of you, the Meadows family is the NRA.

This year's election though will decide if those values can continue to be passed on to future generations. Understand that the NRA is working non-stop for candidates who will never yield our God-given right to defend ourselves and our loved ones. We must cast our votes to elect them, and defeat any who regard us with contempt simply because we cling to our faith and our freedoms. Be assured NRA will again champion the will of America's gun owners, but without you and your unwavering support, our voice and our firearms freedoms could be in peril.

**UNDERSTAND THAT THE
NRA IS WORKING NON-STOP
FOR CANDIDATES WHO
WILL NEVER YIELD OUR
GOD-GIVEN RIGHT TO
DEFEND OURSELVES AND
OUR LOVED ONES.**

Indeed, our way of life and our liberty will be on the line November 3. Our opponents continue their relentless push to turn America away from its core values and the rule of law. But I know we will prevail. The NRA is strong and resilient because of you. With moral clarity, we will preserve our country, our Constitution and the Second Amendment freedoms upon which America was founded.

Please know that I am praying for you—our NRA family—every day. And I pray for strength and wisdom for President Donald J. Trump and our elected leaders, that they are guided by faith, duty to country, and the pillars of liberty that make this country great. Together, we NRA members will further strengthen freedom's cause.

Carolyn D. Meadows



2020 National Youth Shooting Sports Ambassador Program

Since 2008, the National Youth Shooting Sports Ambassador Program has been committed to increasing youth participation in shooting sports and activities while showcasing the qualities of sportsmanship, dedication and youth advocacy. Becoming an Ambassador provides young men and women, between the ages of 15 and 19, the opportunity to collaborate with like-minded peers, meet industry influencers and travel to as many as three national-level NRA events. Participants will be selected based upon not only their participation in shooting sports but also academic performance and community involvement.

The series of essays to follow share the stories of our nominees for the year 2020 and highlight their great accomplishments:



MEET - GABRIEL MATNOG

I have recently competed in the Massachusetts State Junior Olympic Qualifiers, where I won the gold and silver medal for Men's 25m Sport Pistol and Men's 10m Air Pistol respectively.

The widely popular events like track and field or swimming seem to take all the credit at the Olympics, while there are shooting events in rifle, shotgun and pistol, they aren't as popular to the average spectator, but that doesn't defer me from trying my hardest to make an Olympic team in the near future.

USA Shooting's Junior Olympic Games are open to competitors up to 20 years of age, but they can only compete if they meet a qualifying score in their respective states Junior Olympic Qualifier. I took part in the 10m Air Pistol and 25m Sport Pistol events and you could say I did quite well. I won the state title for the second year in a row in the Sport Pistol event which made my coaches, parents, and especially me, pretty happy.

I have been shooting for about 6 years and never did I ever think that I would be a 3x Junior Olympian by the time I turned 17 years old. It feels good knowing that all of the years of hard work, late nights at the range and extensive training days are starting to pay off and now I am able to take my skills to a completely different level and have an opportunity to earn a spot on the U.S. Junior Team.

While the 2020 Junior Olympics are postponed, I have still found some unconventional ways to keep up with my training schedule as well as trying to prepare for the games, from dry firing on a paper target in my house, to working on timing for my Rapid Fire event.

This past year has been filled with fun, wild, and memorable experiences shooting wise. I was named captain of the Massachusetts Junior Olympic Team, competed with teammates at numerous USA Shooting events, started training for my new event (Men's 25m Rapid Fire Pistol), helped coach new young shooters, as well as being named Bay State Games' Male Athlete of the Year. However, I don't take all the credit for my accomplishments, while my coaches and parents have helped me do so much, I think there is one person who I credit everything I've done, and that is my older brother, David Matnog. By pushing me to train my hardest, driving me to practices, and supporting me 100% of the way, there is no one else that I could thank more than him.

While it is just the start of the 2020 competition year, Junior Olympics is just the first step to me accomplishing bigger things.



Gabriel Matnog

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

Massachusetts Rifle Association Junior Pistol Team

HOMETOWN

Malden, MA

GRADE

11

SCHOOL

Malden High School

SHOOTING DISCIPLINE

- » ISSF 10m Air Pistol
- » ISSF 25m Rapid Fire Pistol
- » 25m Junior Sport Pistol

SHOOTING EXPERIENCE

I began shooting Air Pistol in January of 2014 when I was 10 years old, then finding my way to the Massachusetts Junior Pistol Team two months later. I competed in my first national event in July of that same year. In 2018 I earned my first invitation to the USA Shooting National Junior Olympics in the event of Air Pistol. It wasn't until the 2019 games that I qualified for Air Pistol, Rapid Fire, and Junior Sport. Some of my awards and accomplishments consist of: Champion in the NRA/BSA National .22 Pistol Postal Match. 3x 2019 Bay State Games Gold Medalist. 2019 Bay State Games Athlete of the Year. Captain of the Massachusetts Junior Pistol Team. 2018 State Champion in Junior Sport Pistol. 3x Junior Olympian (2018/2019/2020). Named Junior Coach of the Massachusetts Junior Pistol Team (2019).

HOBBIES

When I'm not shooting, you can catch me hiking, mountain biking, camping, snowboarding, or out with friends watching whatever New England sports team is on. I also enjoy weightlifting and photography.



FUTURE PLANS

I plan on attending university to earn a degree in either Biomedical Engineering or Neuroscience. I hope to keep on shooting throughout my life as well as make a U.S. Olympic Team sometime in the near future. I also hope to spread a positive message about youth shooting sports as a whole as well as bring positive light to the shooting sports community.



MEET - STEPHANIE CARR

I found out about this position for the NRA National Youth Shooting Sports Ambassador (NYSSA) program through the National High School Rodeo Association. I compete in Arizona in barrel racing, pole bending and .22 light rifle. The opportunity is available to high school sophomores, juniors and seniors who have has some background in the shooting sports. When I found out about the opportunity, I checked out what it was all about.

With my rodeo background in shooting and a family background of support for the second amendment, I naturally wanted to be involved if at all possible. I read about what was required of the ambassadors and I saw these as great opportunities to be more engaged as a student in a sport I love. The list included connecting with peers who had the same interest, traveling to at least three NRA meetings, serving at an NRA banquet, participating in a new NRA class or learning a new area of shooting and organizing an NRA Youth Field day to educate others about shooting.

All of the opportunities sounded amazing to me and I was excited to get to meet those people that run many of the programs at NRA and just perhaps, also meeting the president, Carolyn Meadows. However, my main reason why I wanted to become an NRA National Youth Shooting Sports Ambassador is because I want this to be a lasting partnership between the NRA and myself and want to make connections with those in the NRA and various firearms and gear manufacturers. I am hopeful that I can build relationships so I can continue to work to support the NRA in different ways after I finish this role. I am so honored to be chosen as NYSSA.

The NRA Ambassadors get to travel. That was a selling point for me as I love to travel and meet new people. I was also very interested in the requirement to take a new course through NRA. I realize I could take a new course at any time; however, this gives me the push I need to get it done! In addition to the above opportunities, the program also gives each Ambassador a lifetime membership to the NRA, an NRA Ambassador jacket with our name on it, two shooting polos and a long sleeve shirt. There is also \$1000.00 cash given at the completion of the program.

I have attended the Great American Outdoor Show in February of 2020 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and all of the Ambassadors got to work with the Eddie Eagle program and the children that attended, we had so much fun educating them. Right now, the rest of our opportunities are on hold until the Covid-19 virus clears up. But, I am sitting on ready when it does!

The NRA National Youth Shooting Sports Ambassador program is available to high school students in the shooting sports. The opportunities are varied and amazing and everyone may have a different reason that they wanted to seek the position. For me, I am looking forward to using this as a stepping stone to future opportunities in the firearms community.



The National Youth Shooting Sports Ambassador program offers youth camaraderie, travel, introductions to national shooting sports celebrities and other opportunities. For more information please visit: youthambassadors.nra.org

Stephanie Carr

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

National High School Rodeo Association — Arizona

HOMETOWN

Gilbert, AZ

GRADE

Junior, 11th Grade

SCHOOL

Penn Foster Online High School

SHOOTING DISCIPLINE

.22 Light Rifle

SHOOTING EXPERIENCE

I have been exposed to shooting since I was about 5 years old when I would go out to the range with my family. I enjoyed the BB gun and pellet gun at my home growing up. I have been shooting .22 rifle since I was 12 years old and have competed in .22 long rifle through Arizona High School Rodeo Association for the past 5 years. I have made the National team every year and have placed 11th overall nationally. I have been selected to the Cinch Rodeo Team in shooting twice and have had the opportunity to be Student Shooting Director for Arizona through High School Rodeo twice. I also enjoy shooting air pistol and shotgun.

HOBBIES

Outside of shooting, I compete in barrel racing and pole bending rodeo events through Arizona High School Rodeo Association. I like to hike and explore outside, go to the gym, hang out with friends and listen to music. I am involved with student ministries at my church and love teaching riding lessons and training horses.



FUTURE PLANS

After high school, I plan to go to the Central Arizona College and be on their rodeo team. I would like to take courses in Criminal Justice and Equine Management. I hope to use my experience during my National Youth Shooting Sports Ambassador to explore additional career opportunities related to the firearms industry.



MEET - ALEX AHLIN

Growing up I always loved to read the NRA magazines that my dad would get in the mail, but it wasn't until I got older that I realized the NRA was more than just cool pictures of guns in magazines. I would always hear things on the news about the NRA, and of course I would always agree with their views on every topic. It wasn't until the end of 2019 where I would get a chance to join the organization that I agreed with but didn't know too much about.

I have competed in the shooting sports for almost eleven years now, and I have loved every minute of it. Not only have I been able to represent my country, but I have had opportunities that are once in a lifetime because of shooting. Yet it seems that most people really don't know much about the shooting sports, especially my discipline, international skeet. When explaining my sport to people, most of the time they don't even know that shooting is an Olympic sport, even people who shoot regularly. So when the opportunity rose, I made sure to put in my application to become an ambassador of the NRA, not only to spread awareness of the opportunities of the shooting sports, but to inform people that shooting can be a fun, and safe hobby for all people.

Along with spreading awareness about the shooting sports, I also wanted to personally learn more about the NRA so I could be an asset to the organization. I know there are millions of supporters of the NRA, but I believe every supporter counts. Therefore, I knew that being an ambassador could help bring light to the organization by sharing my experiences of shooting into the world. By doing this, I believe I can inspire shooters to strive to be the best person they can be, and that they can achieve any goal they set their mind to. But to do this, I know that we as an organization need to fight for our right to keep our guns so we can enjoy our lives in peace, while also having a little fun.



Alex Ahlin



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Alex Ahlin

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

USA Shooting

HOMETOWN

Bamberg, SC

GRADE

12

SCHOOL

Bamberg-Ehrhardt High School: Bamberg, South Carolina

SHOOTING DISCIPLINE

International Skeet

SHOOTING EXPERIENCE

I have been clay target shooting since I was seven years old. I shot with my local 4-H and youth shooting program for approximately four years, participating in all American style disciplines, which included: American Skeet, Trap, and Sporting Clays. I then began my skeet shooting career by competing in many National Skeet Shooting Association (NSSA) competitions, in which I earned many state and national titles in the sub-junior category. At fourteen I decided to take the next step in my career and began shooting International Skeet. I have been shooting competitive international skeet competitions with USA Shooting for a little over three years now. I took third place at nationals in the open division at the age of 15 and made the junior national team for the last two years. I have been a part of two world championship teams and took the podium in world competition. I won the junior national title in 2019.

HOBBIES

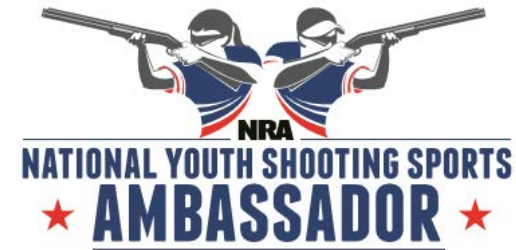
I enjoy spending my time outdoors from hunting and fishing to playing recreational sports. I have been hunting my whole life and my favorite quarry to hunt are ducks, dove and whitetail deer. As for fishing, I enjoy fly-fishing



for trout, bass, and bluegill. As much as I enjoy shooting, I also love playing soccer and am working towards a black belt in karate. I have enjoyed playing physical sports my whole life not only for fun, but also to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

FUTURE PLANS

I will be attending the University of South Carolina in the fall of 2020. My first goal is to attend college for four years to receive my B.A. in psychology. I will also be in the Naval ROTC program. Upon graduation, I will earn a commission in the United States Navy and report to Special Warfare Officer training in hopes of becoming a Navy Seal Officer. Throughout my Navy career I want to work towards my master's and doctorate degrees. I intend to ultimately earn a doctorate degree in Sports Psychology in order to help athletes achieve their goals in whatever sport they compete in. After retiring from the military, I want to open my own Sports Psychology clinic with hopes of working with professional athletes.



MEET - HANNAH R. VENTURA

Why did I want to become an ambassador?

For me, this question is easy to answer. I grew up without firearms being prevalent in my life, until I moved to Texas, I was 14 when my father got me my first shotgun, a 20ga Mossberg 500. From there I began shooting for fun, I moved into competing, and soon after I explored many other disciplines. I began Archery, Rifle, Muzzleloading, and Pistol. I became an NRA member and began going to events.

By the time I was 17 I was coaching youth who were passionate about the sport of shooting and I quickly found that I absolutely loved it. I worked with 4-H Shooting Sports to give speeches and spread the word about firearms safety. When I found out about the NRA ambassadors program I researched about the outreach and impact the program has. I was enthralled with what the ambassadors do as representatives, because it was all opportunities that are right down my ally of expertise: Giving speeches, spreading the good word about firearms, and defending our 2nd Amendment. I got to speak with the past ambassadors about their positions, and this sounded like a program that would give me the ability to reach youth and adults alike from all over the Nation.

As someone who loves shooting sports, helping people, and being a leader, I was overjoyed when I got the news that I was chosen to be one of six ambassadors to represent the NRA! I am so blessed to have been given the opportunity to represent the widely recognized organization that is the NRA. On their website you can find one of my favorite quotes by George Stephanopoulos, "Let me make one small vote for the NRA. They're good citizens. They call their congressman. They write. They vote. They contribute. And they get what they want over time."



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Hannah R. Ventura

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

Texas 4-H Shooting Sports, Straight Shooters 4-H Club, Civilian Marksmanship Program

HOMETOWN

Arlington, TX

GRADE

Senior, 12th Grade

SCHOOL

Travis Academy of Fine Arts in Fort Worth, TX

SHOOTING DISCIPLINE

3-D Archery and accuracy Archery, .22 Rifle, all shotgun games, pistol steel challenge and accuracy pistol, muzzleloader steel challenge, big bore rifle

SHOOTING EXPERIENCE

I began my shooting sports journey at 14, when my dad took me hunting for the first time. Later that year I joined the Straight Shooters 4-H group. This is where I began to fall in love with shooting sports. The first discipline that I learned was shotgun, the rest gradually followed. I am now competitive in all disciplines, and I enjoy every second of it. Although I practice and compete a lot, I spend most of my time mentoring youth in both shooting and hunting. As a 4-H participant, I am a certified coach in Rifle, Archery, Shotgun, and Muzzleloading. I also serve as a Texas State Shooting Sports 4-H Ambassador. As a hunt guide for two Texas youth hunting programs, I teach conservation, ethical hunting, and wildlife skills. I work at a brand new, local gun range where I will be working on my shooting instructor certifications.

HOBBIES

Outside of shooting sports I participate in many different programs. I love all fine arts such as filmmaking, music, art, and photography. I play many instruments including



flute, guitar, and drums. Another hobby of mine is public speaking. I compete around the State of Texas, and I performed a TEDx Youth talk this past November. I am also a big time hunter, I love upland bird hunting, big game hunting, and even just hog hunting.

FUTURE PLANS

I am hoping to continue and grow my journey in shooting sports. After one year of community college I plan to transfer to UNT where I will finish my business and communication courses. I am planning to use my love of filmmaking, public speaking, coaching, and business all together to become a leader for the youth of today. I would love to professionally produce short films that stress firearm safety, the importance of shooting sports in today's society, as well as some coaching videos.



AN ARTICLE BY KALI THOMPSON

GUN SALES ARE ON THE RISE

Gun sales have increased dramatically over the last three months in a small rural town in Oklahoma. "Sales have increased from eight to ten handguns a week, to now selling eight to ten handguns a day", said Michael H. Nelson, owner of Excalibur Sporting Goods in Afton, OK. He attributes the increase in sales to COVID-19 as well as protesting and riots that have recently taken place both locally and across the nation causing fear and uncertainty.

Most of the sales are to new gun owners, in their early 40s to mid-50s age group, both men and women. New customers are coming into the store looking to buy mostly handguns although there has been a marked increase again in AR style rifles as well as shorted barrel home defense shotguns with the ammo to go with it. These new gun owners verbalize as to having no prior gun knowledge and some having never shot a gun before, but most do show an interest and desire to learn. The most popular has been the Glock for its reliability and brand recognition and the various Taurus models for price and affordability. The increase in demand has also affected supply leaving manufacturers struggling to keep up with production. Keeping guns in stock is starting to become an issue, according to Michael, "What used to be an overnight shipment has now turned into to a three-week order". With the current political environment and social unrest people feel a need to protect themselves and I do not foresee the decline in sale of firearms any time soon.

Excalibur Sporting Goods also has a gun range and provides gun safety and concealed carry classes. Michael Nelson is an Oklahoma CLEET Firearms Instructor, NRA Police Firearms Instructor, NRA Law Enforcement Rifle Instructor and an NRA Benefactor Member.



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Kali Thompson

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

National High School Rodeo Assn.

HOMETOWN

Wyandotte, OK

GRADE

12

SCHOOL

Wyandotte High School

SHOOTING DISCIPLINE

.22 Light Rifle

SHOOTING EXPERIENCE

- » 2 years National Jr High Rodeo Assn.
- » 1 year 4-H Shooting Club
- » 4 years National High School Rodeo Assn.

HOBBIES

I am a member of the National Honor Society, the Bar-None Cowboy Church and a citizen of the Cherokee Nation. I enjoy hunting, playing basketball and running track. My LOVE is rodeo, I compete in Goat Tying, Barrel Racing and Light Rifle Shooting.

FUTURE PLANS

After High School my goal is to earn a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing (BSN) and ultimately become a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA). I also plan on competing on the college rodeo team in Goat Tying and Barrel Racing while I pursue my education.



NRA Law Enforcement UPDATES



Due to the COVID-19 crisis we understand that our Law Enforcement Instructors are not able to attend training for renewal due to the limitations and extended work requirements. In response to the situation, the NRA Law Enforcement Division is waiving the requirement for Continuing Education Units (requirements) for the calendar year 2020.

You will need to complete the renewal form, verify your NRA Membership will be active during your certification period, and send in the form along with the renewal fees. For information, or the renewal forms, please visit our website at <https://le.nra.org/law-enforcement-training/instructor-certification/>

ATTENTION NRA LAW ENFORCEMENT FIREARM INSTRUCTORS!

Starting later this year you will be receiving your Firearm Certification Renewal Notice by U.S. Postal Service mail as a folded postcard, rather than an envelope with the paperwork inside.

Inside you will have directions to find the forms online to renew your Law Enforcement Firearms Certification(s).

This is a lead in to the future where you will be able to renew completely online and web based, as well as, sign-up for new schools through a "Law Enforcement Instructor Portal".



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YOUNG HUNTERS COMPETE FOR MANY AWARDS AT 2020 REGIONAL EVENT



By Gary Jobe, Central Regional
YHEC Event Coordinator

Despite concerns for Covid-19, the Annual National Rifle Association's Central Regional Youth Hunter Education Challenge was held at the Benton County Quail Facility in Bentonville, Arkansas on July 22-25, 2020. Over 250 Competitors, Coaches, Volunteers and Family members attended this premier hunter education/competition that allows youth to test their shooting ability and their knowledge of the outdoors. Several attendees came from as far away as Washington State to Florida, while others came from Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Louisiana, and Arkansas. During the 3-day event, youth exhibit their shooting skills with a .22 Rifle, Muzzle Loader, Pistol, Shotgun, and Bow on courses set to depict actual hunting scenarios. Participants, which range in age from 10 to 18, also compete in Hunter Responsibility Events such as Wildlife Identification, Orienteering, Shoot/Don't Shoot Course, and the Hunter Responsibility Exam. To attend this annual event, youth must be graduates of their State's Hunter Education Course.

After all shots were fired and scores tallied, the following youth took top honors at the 2020 Regional event. In "Individual" competition, Senior Age Division(ages 15 to 18 years old) competitor Jeffrey Phillips of the Arkansas "Wild Bunch Team 1" won 1st place with a Total Score of 1,837 points(out of 2,400 pts.) Brother and teammate, Kyler Phillips, won 2nd Place with a score of 1,658 points. 3rd Place went to Louisiana's "Bandits" Senior Jacob Guillory with a total score of 1,642 points. In the Junior Age Division(ages 14 and under), Delacey Kell from the Arkansas Wild Bunch 3 team won 1st place with a score of 1,440 and team mate Logan Tucker won 2nd Place with a Score of 1,392 points. Carter Neil from the Louisiana "Bandits" Junior Team won 3rd Place with a score of 1,362 points.

Youth not only compete as individuals, but also on 5 person teams. Senior Team Arkansas "Wild Bunch 1" which included Jeffrey Phillips, Kyler Phillips, David Beaver, Kadee Fason, and Rance Waggoner won 1st place with a total team score of 7,472 points (out of a total 12,000 possible points). In 2nd Place was the Arkansas "Turkey Lurkies" with a score of 7,191. The "Turkey Lurkies" team members included CJ Mock, Nolan Williams, Grace Reed, William Purifoy, and Jonathan Morehead. Rounding out 3rd Place was Arkansas "Ozark Youth Shooting Team 1" with a score of 7,061 points. Team members included Spencer Bittle, Hattie Bittle, Morgen Puryear, Austin Abercrombie, and Chris Abel.

In Junior Team competition, the Arkansas " Wild Bunch 3" won 1st Place with a team score of 6,503 points. Team members included Delacey Kell, Cash Moffett, Abigail Staples, Hayden Wiles, and Logan tucker. 2nd Place went to the Louisiana "Bandits Junior Team" with a score of 5,810 points. Team members included Carter Neil, Coben Trosclair, Corbin Falgout, Hunter Poche, and Jack Falgout. In 3rd Place was the Arkansas "Ozark Youth Shooting Junior Team" with a total score of 4,363 points. Team members included Vianny Diaz, Ramsey Puryear, Weston Stewart, Reagan Finley, and Bella Patton.

Other award winners recognized at the 2020 Central Region YHEC were " The Bittle Family" from Bentonville, Arkansas. Todd and wife Andria, along with son Spencer and daughter Hattie were named "Volunteers of the Year" for their tireless efforts in support of YHEC . The family has been involved with YHEC for several years as competitors, coaches,

and volunteers. The family spent several days prior to this years' event volunteering their time preparing the location for the competition. The family also volunteers many hours each year at the Arkansas State YHEC competition.

Named as "Sportsman of the Year" was Hunter Paulson from Washington (pictured right). This is the first year for Hunter who is age 11 to compete at YHEC. His personality, enthusiasm, manners and attitude earned him the right to be the 2020 Central Regional YHEC Winner of the year.

In addition to the "Sportsmanship of the Year" plaque, Hunter also received a Marlin Bolt

Action .22 Rifle. Hunter was especially proud of his rifle since he had to borrow a rifle to compete this year. According to Hunter, " This is more fun than riding a dirt bike, I can't wait till next year".

The NRA's Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) provides a fun environment for kids 18 and under to improve their hunting, marksmanship and safety skills. Through its simulated hunting situations, live fire exercises, educational and responsibility events, YHEC helps build upon skills learned in basic hunter education courses and encourages safer, lifelong hunting habits. From rifle, bow and muzzleloader shooting at life-sized targets, to wildlife identification, map and compass orienteering and more, YHEC participants can get hands-on training in eight skill areas, giving them expertise in all methods of taking all types of game. YHEC was first introduced in 1985 and has had over 1.5 million youth go thru the program since its beginning.

In addition to plaques and awards, youth in each of the 9 categories received shotguns, rifles, muzzle loaders, bows and a variety of awards provided by the many YHEC Sponsors. Major Sponsors of the 2020 Regional YHEC Championship included the Friends of NRA, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Safari Club International of Arkansas, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, Arkansas Rifle and Pistol Association, Academy Sports and Outdoors, Remington, Henry Repeating Arms, The Allen Company, Feradyne Industries, Waco Tactical Fitness, Easton Archery, Tyson Foods and White Flyer Targets.

For a complete list of 2020 Regional Scores or how to get involved with YHEC in your state, go to the NRA/YHEC website at <https://yhec.nra.org/regional-scores/> The 2021 Youth Hunter Education Challenge Regional Championship is already set for July 18-24 and will be held once again at the Benton County Quail Facility in Bentonville, Arkansas.





By Marty Sprick
NRA Training Counselor
Program Lead

Since its founding, the National Rifle Association has been, at its core, a firearms training organization. The NRA Basic Firearm Training Program is known as the “gold standard” across the nation for fundamental safety and marksmanship training, especially for youth and new gun owners. The lifeblood of this program is our Training Counselors (TCs), those highly experienced Instructors that have completed an advanced seminar covering NRA training philosophies and the process of taking experienced shooters and turning them into NRA Certified Instructors. Currently NRA has over 100,000 Trainers and Range Safety Officers, and approximately 700 active TCs in a given year out of a total of about 2,200. Those Training Counselors certify over 18,000 new Instructors every year, and all of the Trainers combined train over 100,000 students in NRA courses every year! These figures don’t take into consideration the many non-NRA courses conducted around the country or any informal firearms safety or marksmanship coaching or training happening at local gun clubs and commercial ranges. One could easily extrapolate that the true numbers of the public positively affected by NRA Trainers every year is easily a full order of magnitude greater, potentially over a million Americans have some contact with an NRA Trainer annually, formal or informal.

In order to be considered eligible to be a Training Counselor, an Instructor must be certified for a minimum of two years, have at least Pistol Instructor plus one other live-fire Instructor discipline (such as Rifle, Shotgun, Personal Protection In the Home, Personal Protection Outside the Home, NRA CCW, or one of the Muzzleloading disciplines), and conduct a minimum of 10 courses with 50 students utilizing at least two of those disciplines. Since conducting live-fire exercises safely, and being able to teach that skill to Instructor Candidates is so important, only live-fire NRA courses count towards TC eligibility. Therefore, neither Home Firearm Safety, Range Safety Officer, Shotshell and Metallic Cartridge Reloading, Refuse To Be A Victim, nor Women On Target events count towards eligibility.

Once found eligible, Instructors will see an announcement on their www.nrainstructors.org homepage (see below). After clicking that link, they can then view the reference letter requirements and sign up for their choice of 5-day seminars that are listed on the portal at that time. The first day covers NRA training policies and procedures. The second is almost entirely live-fire, and Candidates will need about 500 rounds to complete the training. The third day is practical application of teaching Basic Instructor Training to new Instructor Candidates. The fourth day is again practice by the TC Candidates of dividing a class of notional Instructor Candidates into working groups and having them present notional lessons. This day focuses on the 5-step method of conducting a practical exercise, IAPEC - Introduce the lesson, Assign working groups, having the Candidate Present the lesson, conduct an Evaluation of the presentation, and finally Conclude the lesson. The fifth day is composed of just a few final classes and practical exercises, and exit interviews. Candidates must pass the Basic Pistol Instructor pre-qualification course of fire with a center-fire handgun (16 of 20 shots in an 8 inch target with a maximum extreme spread of 6 inches) in no more than two attempts, and they will also participate in the NRA CCW student qualification course of fire for an evaluation of defensive marksmanship and safe gun handling. Finally, they must also pass a pistol handling exercise with a semi-auto, a single action and a double action revolver.

Recognizing the importance of the link these Trainers provide to the public, in July of 2019 the NRA Education and Training (E&T) Division implemented the Regional and State Training Counselor Liaison Program. The nation was divided up into eight geographical regions (illustrated below), Region 1 in the Northeast, Region 2 around the Great Lakes, Region 3 is North Central, Region 4 is the North West, Region 5 is Mid-Atlantic, Region 6 is South East, Region 7 is South Central, and Region 8 is South West. Out of the active population we selected eight

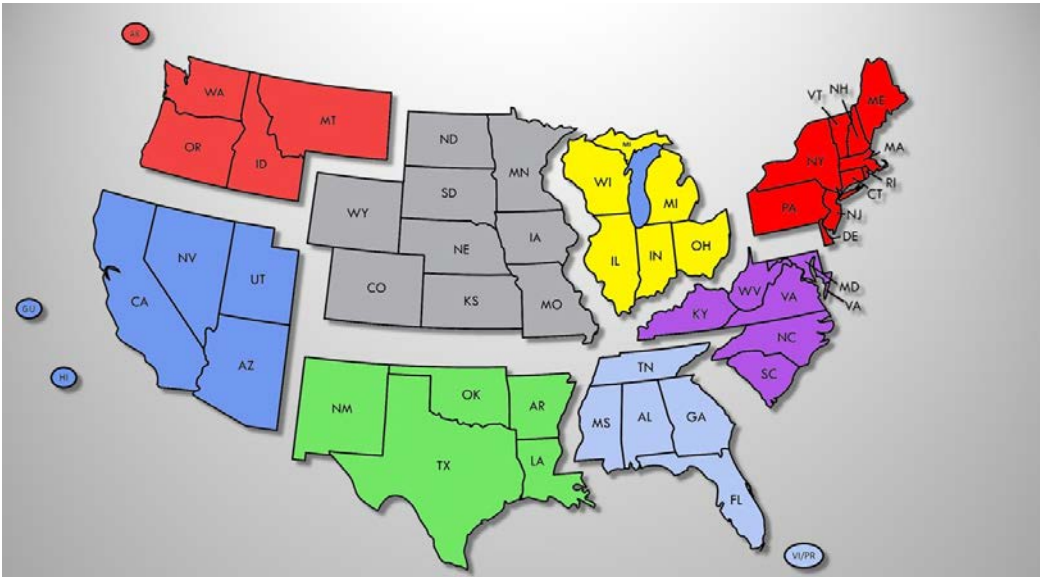
particularly active Training Counselors to serve as Liaisons for their regions. We then examined the records of the remaining active TCs and selected 99 more to serve as State Liaisons, at a ratio of about 1 per 2,000 Trainers in the state. These TC Liaisons agreed to serve as a communication conduit both from and to the NRA E&T Division, as well as be available for on call assistance for Instructors in the field in order to free up E&T staff to continue to modernize existing and develop new curriculum.

In an effort to get out in the field and enable more TC eligible Candidates to attend training locally vice coming to NRA Headquarters in Fairfax, Virginia, E&T decided to send staff back out on the road to periodically conduct TC Development Workshops. The initial plan is to get to each of the even numbered regions in even numbered years, and odd regions in odd years. Our first Workshop on the road was held at the Sand Hill Scout Reservation in Brooksville, Florida and was a great success (photo below), despite unseasonably cold temperatures in the 20’s on the range and iguanas falling unconscious out of trees!

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, workshops in March, May, and June had to be rescheduled, both on the road and at NRA Headquarters. Our revised 2020 schedule is: 21-25 July (Region 4 NW in Three Forks, Montana), 25-29 August at NRA Headquarters in Fairfax, Virginia, 22-26 September (Region 8 SW in Buckeye, Arizona), 27-31 October (Region 2 GL - planned for Indiana, location still to be determined), and finally 17-21 November at NRA Headquarters in Fairfax, Virginia. Class seats are limited to 18 Candidates per Workshop, so act quickly if you are eligible.

To get more information on the Training Counselor Program contact your Regional TC Liaison listed below, or contact NRA Education and Training directly at trainingcounselor@nrahq.org.

Name	City and State	Email address	Region
Jimmy Grammenos	Roseland, NJ	RTC_NE1@nrahq.org	1 - North East
Brian Kapnick	Carpentersville, IL	RTC_GL2@nrahq.org	2 - Great Lakes
Darin Van Ryswyk	Ames, IA	RTC_NC3@nrahq.org	3 - North Central
Shaun Curtain	Brush Prairie, WA	RTC_NW4@nrahq.org	4 - North West
Jim Sheckels	Fayetteville, NC	RTC_MA5@nrahq.org	5 - Mid-Atlantic
Dennis Doll	Tampa, FL	RTC_SE6@nrahq.org	6 - South East
William Crowe	Wylie, TX	RTC_SC7@nrahq.org	7 - South Central
Mike Abramovich	Goodyear, AZ	RTC_SW8@nrahq.org	8 - South West





Nightstick Launches Light Finder Online Resource New tool easily matches 130+ handgun models to compatible lighting solutions

Wylie, Texas – Simplifying the experience of finding a compatible weapon light for a handgun, Nightstick announces the launch of their Light Finder online product compatibility tool for law enforcement and gun owners around the world at nightstick.com/lightfinder.

This innovative online product filter allows users to search by popular handgun brand and then select from an extensive list of more than 130 specific models in the market. This simple tool creates a one-stop destination that narrows down the ever-expanding line-up of Nightstick weapon lights to specific products tailored to each individual handgun owner.

“As a leading manufacturer of portable LED lighting solutions, our goal is to facilitate higher adoption rates of dedicated weapon lights in law enforcement agencies and for self-defense worldwide,” says Russell Hoppe, Director of Marketing at Nightstick. “Threat identification and target discrimination are critical safety requirements, so we felt it was our obligation to create a weapon light search methodology that aligns buying requirements with specifications like handgun fit, light size, lumen performance along with holster compatibility.”

Nightstick Light Finder also provides convenient references to view product-specific videos, find compatible holsters, review product specification and thumb through instruction manuals. These online resources make the process of finding the perfect Nightstick weapon light quick and easy, especially for distributors and owner/operators who want to confirm compatibility before, during and after the sale.

Learn more at www.nightstick.com/lightfinder

About NIGHTSTICK®

Designed and manufactured by Bayco Products, Inc., Nightstick is a global brand of professional lighting products, including flashlights, floodlights, headlamps and numerous Intrinsically Safe lighting solutions that continue to exceed industry standards in performance, quality, user-safety, and value. Nightstick's vast line-up of LED lighting products delivers optimal performance with real-world applications in mind. With an unwavering commitment to product quality and exceptional customer service, Nightstick – Life Depends on Light™.



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National Firearms Museum

Est. 1935

NRA HQ

11250 Waples Mill Rd.

Fairfax, VA 22030



Frank Brownell Museum of the Southwest

Est. 2008

NRA Whittington Center

34025 Hwy 64 West

Raton, NM 87740



National Sporting Arms Museum

Est. 2013

Bass Pro Shops

1935 S. Campbell Ave.

Springfield, MO 65807



www.nramuseums.org or (703) 267-1600 for directions, hours and special events.



Granbury Marine Corps JROTC named 2020 JROTC All Service National Champions

Rifle team members of the Granbury Marine Corps JROTC took the top honors as the 2020 JROTC All Service National Champions for the third year in a row. The Civilian Marksmanship Program combined all of the results from the individual JROTC Service Championships and declared results for the 2020 JROTC National Championships based on combined scores from the various branch service championships after being forced to cancel the National Match in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Granbury was 30 points ahead of the 2nd place team.

Representing Granbury as the three time National Team Champions was the team of Philip Becker, Allison Henry, Clarissa Layland and Ashton Arlington. In addition to the team championship, Becker placed first as National Champion individually, followed closely by Henry in 4th and Layland in 5th place overall.

Each year, in the fall, over 7500 JROTC cadets, representing Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Air Force JROTCs compete in a

postal match. Scores from the postal are used to invite the best teams from each JROTC Service to compete in a shoulder to shoulder competition called Service Championships. The final test is the JROTC National Championship. The best teams from the JROTC Service Championship are invited to compete in the JROTC National Championship, where both individual and team National Champions are crowned.

"To have the season end the way it did was not the way we wanted to finish, especially for our seniors. The team was peaking and had just shot some of our top scores. Also, it was exciting to see our freshmen shooters preparing to compete at their first national CMP match. Confidence was high and we really were looking forward to the experience", said Lt. Col Casey, Senior Marine Instructor at GHS. CMP has combined all of the results from the JROTC Service Championships into a new match on CMP's Competition Tracker.

You can find the final results by going to <https://ct.thecmp.org/app/v1/index.php?do=match&task=edit&match=20104>

All three Seniors of Granbury's rifle team will head off to continue their sport as student athletes in college in the fall. Becker at The Ohio State University, Henry at Murray State University and Layland at the US Naval Academy.

Scott Casey
Lieutenant Colonel (Ret)
Senior Marine Instructor
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Granbury, Texas 76048
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C (703) 638-2904
scott.casey@granburyisd.org
<http://www.granburyisd.org/jrotc>
www.facebook.com/GranburyMarineCorpsJrotc



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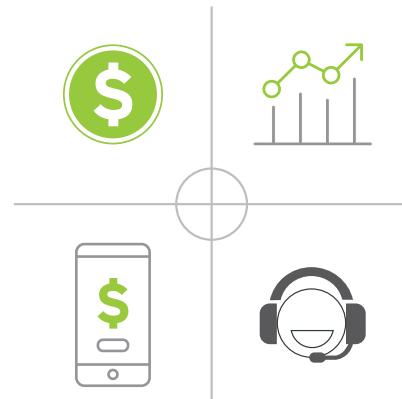
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NRA-ILA UPDATE

Election 2020: Campaigning in a Summer of Uncertainty

Over the past several months, we have seen not only a lot of uncertainty with different government restrictions being enacted, but also a historic number of firearms sold over the summer. This increase in firearm purchases has been due, in part, to civil unrest in many parts of the country, and a large portion of these purchases have been made by first-time gun buyers. These new gun buyers have now experienced first-hand the reality of what the anti-gunners call "common sense" gun laws – and some were astonished to find out how many restrictions are already in place that negatively impact law-abiding American gun owners. These circumstances have put the Second Amendment front and center in this election year, which has put your NRA-ILA Grassroots Programs and Campaign Field Operations Division in a unique position to be able to have an impact on Election Day, November 3rd, by reminding voters who their pro-Second Amendment Candidates are.

In the states where restrictions have begun to ease up, we have been able to start holding outdoor, public events. In addition, we have been working in partnership with our Second Amendment Activist Centers to host NRA Days in key battleground states, and have successfully recruited hundreds of new volunteers to help with our efforts through these events.

Thankfully, we have also been able to resume our door-to-door activities in most states. Not surprisingly, these door-to-door activities continue to be one of the most meaningful ways to connect with potential voters. We have also brought back our hand-written post card program, providing a personal touch in an effort to cut through some of the election overload in voters' mailboxes.

Our texting program has been another key part of our election strategy, and as of August 1, we have already sent more text messages to voters than the total number of phone calls we made, and doors we knocked on, in all of the 2016 election cycle. We are shattering previous voter contact records this year – not only in terms of the number of people reached, but also in the number of voters identified as supporting our pro-Second Amendment Candidates.

While your NRA-ILA Grassroots team has been hard at work throughout the summer, we know the most challenging days in this election cycle still lay ahead. If you would like to become a part of this truly historic election effort – please don't hesitate to reach out to your Grassroots Coordinator today!



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QUANTITY TAX PER MAG MAG TAX ^(B)

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NRA Affiliated State Associations

AL STATE RIFLE & PISTOL ASS'N

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256-534-7968
jmoses1936@gmail.com

AK OUTDOOR COUNCIL, INC.

310 K St Ste 200
Anchorage, AK 99501
907-264-6645
www.alaskaoutdoorcouncil.org

AZ STATE RIFLE & PISTOL ASS'N

P.O. Box 301
Cave Creek, AZ 85327
480-463-4636
www.asrpa.com

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Conway, AR 72003
501-327-4702
arkansasrifle.com

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714-992-2772
www.crrpa.org

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303-663-9339
www.cssa.org

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DE STATE SPORTSMEN'S ASS'N

P.O. Box 94
Lincoln, DE 19960
302-764-6899
www.dssa.us

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P.O.Box 56261
Jacksonville, FL 32241
904-880-1715
www.flssa.org

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Roswell, GA, 30075
478-955-7068
www.gssainc.org

HI RIFLE ASSOCIATION

PO Box 543
Kailua, HI 96734
808-306-7194
www.hawaiiirifleassociation.org

ID STATE RIFLE & PISTOL ASS'N

PO Box 140293
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208-452-4183
www.idahosrpa.org

IL STATE RIFLE ASS'N, INC.

P.O. Box 637 420 E. Locust St.
Chatsworth, IL 60921
815-635-3198
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IN STATE RIFLE & PISTOL ASS'N, INC.

7527 St Rt S6W
Rising Sun, IN 46240
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IA FIREARMS COALITION

PO Box 994
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
515-423-0391
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www.michrpa.com

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msfoa.tripod.com

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www.ncrrpa.org

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Morehead, KY 40351-5201
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405-374-8262
www.oklarifle.org

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Portland, OR 97281-1161
541-409-3358
www.ossa.org

PA RIFLE & PISTOL ASS'N

814-375-4509
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GUN RIGHTS & SAFETY ASS'N OF PR

PO Box 191919
San Juan, PR 00919-1919
787-691-1919
www.grsapr.org

RI 2nd AMENDMENT COALITION

928 Atwood Ave
Johnston, RI 02919
401-944-1600
www.ri2nd.org

GUN OWNERS OF SC

P.O. Box 211
Little Mountain, SC 29075
803-345-5761
www.gosc.org

SD SHOOTING SPORTS ASS'N

PO Box 3
Dell Rapids, SD 57022
605-428-5488
www.sdshootingsports.org

TN SHOOTING SPORTS ASS'N, INC.

6653 Jocelyn Hollow Road
Nashville, TN 37205
615-491-2633
www.tennesseeshootingsportsassociation.org

TX STATE RIFLE ASS'N

994 Hwy 71 E
Bastrop, TX 78602
512-615-4200
www.tsra.com

UT STATE RIFLE & PISTOL ASS'N

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Sandy, UT 84092-3405
801-942-6529
usrpa.org

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802-535-7111
www.vtfsc.org

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www.myvssa.org

WA STATE R&P ASS'N, INC.

P.O. Box 64971
University Place, WA 98464
206-427-8257
www.wsrpa.net

WV STATE RIFLE & PISTOL ASSOC.

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Charles Town, WV 25414
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www.wvasrpa.org

WISCONSIN FORCE

PO Box 130
Seymour, WI 54165
607-799-3539
www.wi-force.org

WY STATE SHOOTING ASS'N, INC.

Box 942
Worland, WY 82401
307-335-9323
www.wyossa.com

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Area 22 (AL, MS) VACANT

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Area 26 (Southern TX) Tyler Ward tward@nrahq.org

Area 27 (NM) Michael Guilliams mguilliams@nrahq.org

Area 30 (CO) Brad Dreier bdrier@nrahq.org

Area 31 (AZ) Winston Pendelton wpendelton@nrahq.org

Area 47 (Western TX) VACANT

Area 36 (Southern CA) VACANT

Area 37 (Central CA, Southern NV) Steve Wilson swilson@nrahq.org

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