

The MUZZLEBLAST

Florida's Largest Gun Club, over 4,000 and growing...

2019

A publication of the Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club of Jacksonville, FL.

#1 – February

2018 End of Year

At the Annual Meeting, there was one change in the board of directors. Sue Carter was elected treasurer. The other officers and board members were reelected. The speaker we had planned to use declined, I guess you could say, and a last minute speaker from the Clay county Sheriff's dept gave a nice talk. The planned speaker was to be from the BATF. I know several were disappointed with the change as the BATF is involved in our sport. There was no reason given for the withdrawal. When we touched base with the person we had been dealing with to coordinate, we were told no one would be available. After that, door prizes were awarded and we ate barbecue. A good time was had by all.

This year we completed the safety updates we started the last two years. This completes the big projects started when we added the back ranges along with the new pistol range. Maintenance goes on as well as improvements to the ranges. This year fans were tried to combat the summer heat. This was well received and will be expanded. It's a good thing that this was finished because we experienced a decrease in daily members. This was important because the day to day operating money was largely supplied by the daily shooters. When this continued, we started cutting expenses where we could. Work we hired out was done in house, and the good management gave us, by year end a modest increase in reserves. Why the decrease in daily shooters? Weather? As fall came the numbers came back but we still didn't equal 2017 numbers in the last quarter.

If we had a decrease in Daily members, full membership reached a new high, ending with about 4300 members.

Sue Carter's ladies programs are going well. We look for more progress in this direction. On another front, the Junior shooters lost the participation of one of the local high schools. At about the same time the Boy Scouts started to participate in our program. let's hope this grows.

There wasn't any storm damage to amount to anything. All in all, a good year!

Thanks for reading
Bill King



Who is the best shooter at Gateway?

We have some very impressive shooters. Some have National recognition and travel to shoot. Others come to Club matches. Which one is the best, and how would you even figure it out. Among the various match disciplines there is disagreement as to which is the most challenging. There aren't a lot of shooters who compete in multiple matches either, as serious match participants generally stick to one discipline.

How about a Decathlon so to speak in the fall to determine the best. Several gun clubs I am aware of have something like this and it looks like it would be fun. The best shooter might not be the best at any one thing, but may be very good a a lot of things. **(Cont. on page 2)**

(Who is the best...Cont. from first page)

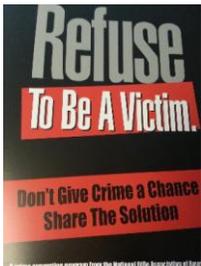
A format might include one part from the club matches we do now plus clay pidgeon shooting and field shooting that would be familiar to all the hunters. While we are at it, a plate match would fit in just fine! If we did just this we would have a nice round 10 event match.

What do you think? Remember, we're trying to have fun here!

Thanks for reading Bill King



Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club hosted an NRA Refuse To Be A Victim® Seminar



Early Saturday morning, Feb 9th, 13 women came together to learn about personal safety and how to make themselves a more difficult target for criminals. They attended a Refuse To Be A Victim® (RTBAV) Seminar, hosted by the Women's Programs at Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club, and lead by Sue Carter, NRA Certified RTBAV Instructor. RTBAV was developed by the women of the NRA back in 1993, and was originally designed for women only. A few years later it was expanded to co-ed audiences.

Topics covered included physical, home, automobile, travel, and technological security, as well as personal protection devices. We delved into the mindset of criminals and then examined our own mindset. The class looked at our everyday activities and talked about how vulnerable we may be at different times. It is important to be mentally prepared for different situations, and to do that means you think about them and how you want to react. It is better to have thought about a strategy ahead of time before a problem stares you in the face. Do you know how you would react? Also, given whatever action you choose, are you aware of the potential consequences that may follow?

Sue presented a wide array of options to make ourselves and our homes less appealing to criminals, and included strategies to minimize confrontations. While there is no "one size fits all" answer to security for all of us, the seminar offered many alternatives. Sue's display included several low-cost items available at your local hardware stores, from a wide-view peep hole for your front door, to motion sensor lights, to a personal alarm, and much more.

The ladies were very engaged and the discussions lively. Thank you to all who participated, and thank you to Gateway for supporting this program. If you are interested in attending a RTBAV seminar, please contact Sue (suzcarter@reagan.com). If there is enough demand, she will offer another class at Gateway later this year.



Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club

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View Your Recent Scores

January & February 2019

XTC shooters On Page 4

**3x20 Shooters and smallbore
On Page 13**

**NRA Board of Director's Election is In-Progress
Check your February issue of NRA's Magazine
Deadline for receipt of ballots is April 7, 2019**

If you are a NRA Life Member or 5 Year Annual Member then you received your Official NRA Ballot inside NRA's February 2019 publications and you are a voting member. If you have already voted for your candidate(s) for the NRA Board of Directors, Thank You!! If you have not yet voted, the deadline for receipt of ballots is April 7, 2019.

Please take the time to read about the candidates, then mark your ballot and send it in. Your vote is very important in determining the composition of the NRA's Board of Directors.

The Florida Sport Shooting Association (FSSA) has endorsed Ms. Marion Hammer for reelection, and Dr. John Thodos for election to the NRA Board of Directors

One-third of the terms of office of 75 Directors expire at each Annual Meeting of Members. The 2019 election will fill the 25 three-year terms that expire in 2022 and two one-year terms that expire in 2020. The 25 Candidates receiving the highest number of votes will be elected to three-year terms and the two receiving the next highest number of votes will be elected to one-year terms. Additionally, at the upcoming NRA Annual Meeting in Indianapolis, IN on April 26-28, NRA members will have an opportunity to vote for the 76th Board member who will fill a one year term.

If you are an NRA member, then you know how important your support is and what power you and the other 5.2 million members have in ensuring our Second Amendment Freedoms. If you are not a voting member, then please consider upgrading your annual membership so that you can join other NRA members in selecting the organization's future leaders.

If you are not a NRA member, find out more by checking out <https://membership.nra.org/FAQ>.

For more information on THE 148th NRA ANNUAL MEETINGS & EXHIBITS, with 15 acres of guns and gear, exclusive seminars and luncheons, appearances from top national political leaders and musical superstars - and the chance to rub shoulders with tens of thousands of other Second Amendment patriots, go to <https://www.nraam.org/>

Submitted by Ted Carter,

Ted is a member of GRPC , President of FSSA, and is a member of the NRA Board of Directors.



Recent Scores	Gateway XTC Results 02-10-19 05 Shooters			
	Shooter	Rifle	Score	
	Randy Erickson	SR	483-14	NMC Winner
	Gary Sauer	SR	469-05	
	Robert Working	SR	468-05	
	Frank Cernese	SR	460-06	
	Paul Dougherty	M1	251-03	JCG "A"

Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club supports US Marine Forces Reserve Pistol Team training and hosts first Precision Pistol Match of 2019

For the third consecutive year, Gateway R&PC has hosted members of the US Marine Forces Reserve Pistol Team to train and then compete in a NRA Approved tournament.

Elements of the Marine Reserve Pistol Team arrived at Gateway on Friday January 18th from around the country in an effort to train and compete as one team. The Marine Reserve Pistol Team has members located in California, Washington, West Virginia, Virginia, Oklahoma, and yes, even Florida. It's important for the team to have an opportunity to train together and compete in a match. Florida offers good outside shooting conditions, even in January, and Gateway has graciously offered its facilities for use by the Marines. The weather was great as the team trained on Friday and Saturday. However, on Sunday, just in time for the NRA 2700 "short course" Precision Pistol match, the temperature dropped and the winds picked up. Despite the cooler and windy conditions, the match was attended by 24 shooters, an impressive show for a January match. The Marines were very appreciative for the opportunity to train and compete at Gateway.

Submitted by Ted Carter



(More Photos on page 6...)

(US Marine Forces Reserve...Cont. from page 5)



Attention Pistol Shooters and prospective Pistol Shooters Join the fun at GRPC on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 9:00 AM

Has it been a while since you shot your pistol or revolver? Do you remember the fun of shooting your pistol and enjoying a little range time with your friends and other shooters? Then this is your re-invitation to spending a couple of hours on the range and having some fun with your pistol.

GRPC holds two pistol events every month. On the first Sunday of the month, we meet at the 25/50 yard pistol range and begin shooting at 9:00 AM. We'll end by noon, just in time for lunch. We shoot the Florida Police Officer's Association (FPOA) course, which is 90 rounds, fired on paper targets at 25 yards for slow fire and 15 yards for timed and rapid fire. We begin with the .22 caliber pistol/revolver and then shoot the course again with a Center Fire pistol/revolver (.32 - .45 caliber). But not to worry, if all you brought was your .22, then you can shoot the course again. We call this the fun match, as our goal is to have fun and provide a venue that allows you the chance to shoot your match conditioned pistol or "out of the box" pistol with other beginner, or not so beginner shooters in a relaxed environment. You may shoot with one hand or with both hands, however you are most comfortable. If you're not ready to shoot the NRA Pistol match, or just want to come out and shoot your pistol with other shooters, then this is your event. The cost to shoot is \$10.00, and Gateway provides targets and backers.

On the third Sunday of the month, beginning at 9:00 AM, we meet at the 25/50 yard pistol range to shoot a NRA Precision "Bullseye" Pistol match. This match is traditionally shot one handed at 50 yards for slow fire and at 25 yards for timed and rapid fire. While it's more challenging than the FPOA shoot, the different NRA classifications that are based on your ability, coupled with the two NRA pistol divisions offer anyone the opportunity to join in on the fun. The cost to shoot is \$15.00 to cover the NRA fees, and Gateway provides the targets and cardboard backer. We'll finish around noon and then head to lunch.

With the NRA rule changes, shooters have the opportunity to register in one of two divisions, Metallic or Open. In an effort to invite more shooters to try the sport of Precision Pistol, formally called Conventional Pistol, but more commonly known throughout the community as Bullseye Pistol, the NRA introduced the two divisions several years ago. The Open Division includes any semi-automatic handgun or revolver using any sights, including telescopic, with the exception of those sights that project an image on the target. Like the Open Division, the Metallic Division includes .22 caliber, up to and including .45 caliber pistols and revolvers. As its name implies, the authorized sights are metallic, no optic sights are permitted. The pistol may also be match conditioned. There are a few other restrictions, and as with all pistols or revolvers, all "operational" safety features of the guns must operate properly. If all you have is a .22 caliber pistol, the NRA allows you to compete in the 22 Caliber Only Aggregate Match. The complete rules can be found at: <http://rulebooks.nra.org/documents/pdf/compete/RuleBooks/Pistol/pistol-book.pdf>.

If you are looking to start "Bullseye" style pistol shooting or get back into it and are not quite sure how to get started, contact Ted Carter: cdrcoach@reagan.com or 904-880-1715. We are always looking to welcome new shooters, old shooters, junior and women shooters and with the new rule changes, you probably have a pistol that you can use.

See you at the range.

Submitted by Ted Carter.

Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club to host the 28th Annual Dixie Match, April 5, 6 and 7.

The Dixie Match has long been a favorite "Bullseye" Pistol competition for many shooters. It quickly evolved to be the premier NRA individual and team Regional event in the southeast. This year the Dixie Match will be held at Gateway's 25 & 50 yard range facility on April 5, 6, and 7.

The Dixie Match combines a 2700 (270 shots) NRA Regional Precision Pistol Championship with a .22 Caliber Only Aggregate Match, NRA Distinguished Revolver Match, CMP Service Pistol EIC Match and CMP .22 RIMFIRE EIC Pistol Match. That's a lot of shooting over three days. In addition to participants from Florida, Georgia and Alabama, the Dixie Match has attracted shooters from Virginia, Maryland, Illinois and several other states. The Army Marksmanship Unit, South Carolina National Guard and most recently the Marine Corps Reserve teams have participated in this match.



Jacksonville's great weather is one reason shooters like competing at the Dixie's, but most importantly, shooters like the great range facilities and the professionally run match. Gateway's Board of Directors has always been very supportive of the match, and the range maintenance crew does a fantastic job getting the range in top readiness condition to host the match. The range officers and the office staff go out of their way to welcome the Dixie Competitors. The match staff, made up of volunteers, has consistently received outstanding comments from the competitors on running the match. Without dedicated volunteers, the Dixie Match could not be held.

For Gateway members who like shooting on the back ranges, the 25/50 yard range will be closed, except to those participating in the competition. The shooting bay next to the 25/50 yard range will also be closed, as it will support Dixie match competitors as a function fire range. The remaining bays will be open to members, but please note that parking will be a little "tighter" than normal due to the match.

We will again offer a fun 10 meter air pistol shooting competition during the Dixie matching the Bill Craig building.

The monthly NRA Approved Precision Pistol match, held on the third Sunday of the month beginning at 9:00 am is an excellent way to get ready to shoot the Dixie Match.

If you are interested in competing or want to help out, check out the match program on the GRPC website: http://www.grpc-jax.com/disciplines/outdoor_pistol.html

Submitted by Ted Carter

The Well Armed Woman Leaders Conference Report

Do you like purple? That is the official color of The Well Armed Woman Shooting Chapters, a non-profit organization with chapters throughout the country. Their motto is to Educate, Equip and Empower women in the shooting community. They have over 380 chapters and over 12,000 members! As a leader of the Jacksonville West chapter of The Well Armed Woman (TAWW), I travelled to Branson, MO, to attend the annual Leaders Conference in early October, along with other Florida leaders.



The conference kicked off with Range Day on Thursday, held at the Big Cedar Lodge, and hosted by Bass Pro Shooting Academy. The ladies spent the day shooting various shotguns, rifles and pistols. Sponsoring vendors included Blaser, Glock, Walther, Ruger, LWRCI, Cheeterz, Hornady, and Lucas Oil, to name just a few. Some ladies had the opportunity to take a defensive shooting clinic, while others experienced force-on-force training and learned how to clear a multi-room area. Many of the instructors were TAWW members, including one from Orlando!

Friday kicked off with a discussion of our core values and effective leadership, lead by Carrie Lightfoot, the founder of TAWW, and was followed up with a presentation of new changes coming to the organization, affecting leaders and members. One seminar was dedicated to talking directly with our industry sponsors in a give-and-take of ideas. It was amazing to be able to sit with the owners and/or marketing directors of some of our favorite companies and let them know what we, as women, were looking for in their products.

The meat of the seminars happened Saturday and Sunday, with presentations covering ballistics, carrying concealed for women, dry firing, hunting & conservation, and of course, Lt. Col Dave Grossman. The evenings offered opportunities to hear from industry leaders and the NRA's own first lady, Susan LaPierre!

The conference was attended by over 360 chapter leaders! If you are interested in finding out more about The Well Armed Woman Shooting Chapters, or to find a chapter near you, please visit the website, www.twawshootingchapters.org. Gateway actually hosts the Jacksonville West chapter. For more information locally, please contact Sue Carter at suzcarter@reagan.com.



2018 FLORIDA STATE PRECISION PISTOL CHAMPIONSHIP
With
Civilian Marksmanship Program Service Pistol & .22 Rimfire E.I.C.
Match and
National Rifle Association Distinguished Revolver Match

The Florida State Precision Pistol Championships were fired at Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club, Jacksonville, Florida on October 20-21. The weather was excellent, as 31 shooters from around the state, including several shooters from Georgia, Mississippi, and Alabama competed in the two day event. Tim Barber (Cottdale, FL) won the match with a 2590-87X, and was awarded the Florida Sport Shooting Association trophy as the state champion. Finishing second overall was Gateway's own Randy Erickson posting a 2569-83X. Finishing third overall was a newcomer to our state championship, Seth Innes (Hollywood, FL), who finished with a 2550-78X. Winning the .22 Caliber Only Aggregate was Marcella Price (Riverview, FL) with a 2441-36X. The state match attracted several shooters who fired "iron sights" and Bob Settle was awarded the High Metallic Division shooter. Other special category winners were Tim Barber (High Service & High Open Division), Tim Goszka (High Senior), Jill Knerr (High Woman), Randy Erickson (High Civilian), Rand Albrecht (High Grand Senior) and Robert Fanucci (High Veteran). Class winners were Nestor Pena (High Master), Robert Fanucci (Master), Brian Reed (Expert), and Irv "Doc" Kokol (Sharpshooter & Marksman (combined)). The CMP .22 Rimfire EIC match had 22 competitors. Tom Davis won the match with a 286-10X, Bob Settle finished second with a 278-6X and Robert Fanucci was third, firing a 277-6X. In the Distinguished Revolver Match, Bob Settle was the winner with a 266-6X, followed by Robert Fanucci posting a 251-4X and Seth Innes with a 249-4X. The CMP Service Pistol EIC was won by Randy Erickson with a 270-5X. Tom Davis followed closely, posting a 269-4X and Seth Innes was third, firing a 268-5. The final event of the weekend's match was a "fun" event, The Second Amendment Freedom Match. Competitors fired "out of the box" pistols in an event where 50% of the proceeds were donated to the FSSA junior programs. Many thanks to our sponsors: Brownells, Hornady, Magpul, Safariland, Lucas Oil, Starline, Larry's Guns, Ruger, Precision Target Pistol Grips and Nosler for their generous contribution of prizes. You can't run a match without volunteers! Special thanks to John Michalski as Chief Range Officer; David Poole, and Morris Truslow as Range Officers; Sue Carter as Chief Statistical Officer and Randy Erickson as Jury Chairman. Ted Carter was the Match Director. Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club did another great job hosting the State Pistol Championships. Gateway's range maintenance team did an awesome job getting the pistol range ready for the match and Gateway's Range Officers were very helpful both days. Special thanks to Brenda Trickler for her help with all the final awards. A complete list of scores and photographs can be found at http://www.grpc-jax.com/disciplines/outdoor_pistol.html.

(Photos on page 11)

Submitted by Ted Carter

(2018 Florida State Pistol champs cont. from page 10)



Shooters score targets at the 50 yard line, as RO's David Poole and Morris Truslow stand ready to assist



Tim Barber (center) State Champion, Randy Erickson (right) Second Place, Seth Innes (left) Third Place



Shooters prepare to fire



Tim Barber is presented the FSSA State Pistol Champion trophy plaque by Sue Carter, FSSA Pistol Director



Randy Erickson shoots a perfect 100 in the .45 match

Ladies Day 2018

Saturday, Nov 17th, saw nearly 70 women from all across our community come to learn about and practice shooting firearms. The event, hosted by Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club in Jacksonville, Florida, provided the ladies with a short orientation to safe gun handling, and gave them training in personal protection, pistols, air rifles, the AR-15 rifle, and cowboy action shooting.

It was a full day of fun for the ladies. We started with a welcome from Gateway's president, Don Hardeman, and a welcome from Ted Carter, president of Florida Sport Shooting Association and NRA Board member. Sue Carter, Ladies Day Coordinator and NRA Certified Instructor, gave the safety orientation, discussing the four rules of safe gun handling and what they mean.

After the safety brief, the women were split into five groups. They rotated through the different venues to sample different styles of shooting, as well as get a hands-on demonstration in personal protection.

Retired JSO police officer Barbara Weber once again gave the seminar on personal protection and self-defense. She discussed the current laws and how they apply. She stressed the need to be alert and aware of our surroundings, and talked about what you could do if faced with a problem. The women had the opportunity to learn different techniques to block various attacks, and even got to try them on each other.

On the air gun range the women were instructed how to shoot air rifles at a distance of 10 meters. The range was indoor, so everyone stayed comfortable. Marion Estes and the coaches gave a brief lesson on how the air rifle worked, and basic sight alignment and trigger squeeze. The ladies were seated and could use a sand bag if they wanted. Although the targets were small, they did well.

At the pistol range, the ladies shot .22 caliber pistols at 7 yards, standing and using two hands. They were separated into two relays, with coaches having one or two students at a time. After an orientation on the firearm, safe gun handling, and loading and unloading, the women were given 20 minutes to shoot as much as they wanted. The coaches reviewed the fundamentals of a good shot, position, grip, sight alignment, sight picture, breathing, trigger squeeze and follow through. Shooting iron sights, the goal was to learn to group their shots anywhere on the target.

Cowboy action shooting was a big hit for the ladies. Sheriff Misfire Mordecai and his gang did a great job of introducing the women to the period dress and the firearms of the era. They had the chance to shoot revolvers, rifles and shotguns at different distances and at fun targets. The firearms included were 1873 and 1866 Winchester rifles, a 1897 Winchester pump shotgun, a double barrel Stoeger Coach Gun shotgun, a Colt Peacemaker revolver and a Ruger Vaquero revolver. The patience and thoughtfulness of the Cowford Regulators working with the ladies helped many overcome their personal fears of the firearms and shoot pretty darn well with them!

On the rifle range, the ladies learned what an AR-15 was, how it worked, the different calibers available and why it was so much fun to shoot. The coaches reviewed the safety rules and the fundamentals of a good shot. The ladies were seated and used either a tripod on the rifle or a sandbag for stability. The reactive targets were set at 25 yards away. This was a great introduction for many of the ladies, and they came away with a new understanding and appreciation of the rifle.

Lunch was catered by the always delicious Gator BBQ. We all enjoyed smoked chicken, pulled pork, slaw, beans, rolls and banana pudding! No one left hungry!

(Ladies Day cont. page 13)

(Ladies Day cont. from page 12)

A huge thank you to those of you that came out to help. Our group leaders were Preall Loncarevic, Lori Hallauer, Bobbi-Jo Fenner, Sue Walker, and Dori Royal. Marion Estes, April and Dakota Saltford, Alondra Rivera-Camacho, Jada Milligan, Robert Kindl, Carl Berg and Al Tyner were on the air rifle range. Ted Carter, Larry Watkins, Kathy Klimek, Dori Smith, Robert Fanucci, Jay Walker, Dana Baygents, Barry Abramowitz and Bill McMullen on the pistol range. Mike Hicks, Jane Cebulskie, Andy Loncarevic, Randy Erickson, Jody Keach, Gerry Fenner and Jerry Patterson on the rifle range. Thank you to the Cowford Regulators, Sheriff Misfire Mordecai led his posse of 11 Cowboys and Cowgirls, Alma Sacket, Red Bear, Misfire Mordecai, Willy Whiskers, Flamingo Joe, Snake Oil Osage, Hoorah Hank, Pocket Rocket, RIAMBSC, Southern Slim, Dakota Dutchman and Rattlesnake Sams. Thank you also to Bill Whitman who was my last-minute assistant. And thank you to Barbara Weber, who has been a presenter at Ladies for several years. Without this amazing group of volunteers, this event would have never happened!

Let us also recognize those businesses that supported us. Thank you to the Florida Sport Shooting Association for the goodie bags, Ruger and Glock for the swag, and GunGoddess for the lip balm. The Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office supplied the gun locks and Lucas Oil for the lubricant. The Well Armed Woman Jacksonville West Chapter provided several volunteers, and of course those delicious goodies for a small cost. These organizations continually give their support for our Ladies programs at Gateway and are truly appreciated! Please consider supporting them as well.

All in all, Ladies Day 2018 was a great success. The women had a fun time learning how to shoot and handle firearms safely. The instructors and coaches were happy to help, and everyone enjoyed lunch!

Keep your eye out for more events in 2019. We will be offering a Refuse To Be A Victim class in February, NRA’s Women On Target in May, and of course, Ladies Day in November. The Jacksonville West TWAJ Chapter meets the 3rd Saturday of the month, from 9-1130. Contact Sue Carter, twawjaxwest@gmail.com, if you are interested or want more information.

(2018 Ladies Day Photos page 14)

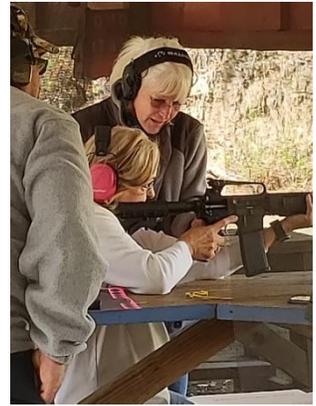
See you next year at the range!



Recent Scores

Gateway 3x20 02-02-19 13 Shooters				Gateway Smallbore F-class 01-19-19 13 Shooters			
Kurt Blasser	F-TR	600-53	F-TR Winner	Nathan Preston	F-Open	590-32	F-O Winner
Mario Pflucker	F-TR	600-41		Scott Maycott	F-Open	585-19	
Tom Parimore	F-TR	597-43		Grit Preston	F-Open	581-24	
Jorge Navarrete	F-TR	597-37		Jerry Langford	F-Open	579-22	
Joe Zullo	F-TR	597-33		Randy Erickson	F-Open	547-12	
Brian Schumacher	F-TR	590-23		Thomas Beattie	F-Open	533-07	
				Marcus Garrett	F-Open	477-10	
David Parks	F-O	600-48	F-O Winner	Kurt Blasser	F-TR	585-19	F-TR Winner
Nathan Preston	F-O	600-45		Terry Pitts	F-TR	573-19	
J Taylor	F-O	599-37		Dave Parks	F-TR	564-21	
Grit Preston	F-O	593-26		Emil Albertini	F-TR	564-19	
Frank Cernese	F-O	583-14		Russ Ost	F-TR	561-07	
Randy Erickson	Conv.	584-21	Conv.Winner	Mario Pflucker	F-TR	547-06	
Terry Pitts	Conv.	582-27					

2018 Ladies Day Photos



Frustration with the 9mm

Over the years I have owned 6 9mm handguns. Every time I sold one, I promised myself I'd never buy another. As of this afternoon, I still own 2. What it came down to was that the kind of accuracy I was used to in revolvers, and .45's just wasn't in the cards. One was the Smith M39. The only reason to buy it was a great price and it looked good. This is still one of the best looking designs, even though hollowpoints (of which there were few) were out of the question. If you fired a hollowpoint you had a single shot. This was a problem with most of the other common 9mm in the early 70's. The Browning High Power and the P38 were the most common. Neither was going to feed a hollowpoint. Colt made a Commander in 9mm and it would feed hollowpoints but was too expensive for most, but really if you were going to buy a Commander, why not get a 45? I'm sure 9mm Colts are very collectable.

The M39 did what it was designed to do though. It was designed to be a police, self defence gun and as long as FMJ were in the magazine, it fed and fired flawlessly. The whole family of these to this day had crappy triggers. They made up for heavy trigger pull by having a lot of creep to go along. What's to like?

At this point, the 9mm was an oddity in the US. Most of the regular folks who were interested in handguns got revolvers. .38 Special was the most popular with the .357 mag behind. Most of the .357s spent their days shooting .38 Specials anyway. There were some .44s and Colt .45s as well as .45 ACP, but serious shooters got those. The shooters I grew up around were hunters and if any had a handgun it was a .22. Home defense wasn't a thing I heard anyone speak of. Those were more innocent days for sure. There were a few centerfire handguns in the family. These were war trophies from WWI or WWII. Most all of these were in 9mm. P38 and Luger were the most common. If anyone liberated an Italian pistol it was a .32. During family gatherings some of these would come out and we'd shoot at tin cans. I shot P38s and Lugers and really don't remember much except they were loud and it was hard for kids to hit anything; hell, it wasn't very common for the adults to hit anything either. A little experience with these in later years shows three problems; a creepy trigger which went off unexpectedly along with fine sights that even 25 year old eyes had problems with. Point and shoot. There were other 9mms during this time, 9mm long, a 9mm Italian which wasn't a Luger but you could shoot 9mm Luger in it!? There were a couple of others that you'd see in the used gun case, but nobody knew much about. It's no surprise that .38s and .45s ruled the roost. As time went on the misc oddball 9mms disappeared and if you were interested in a 9, there was one around here somewhere.

During this time (late 60s to early 80s) the ammunition people made great progress in bullet design. Hollowpoints that worked became common. Before this the only dependable hollowpoint was the .357/125 HP. That thing left at about 1400 fps and would expand dependably. Something else happened; the wondernine. The first ones I remember were the Smith M59s. There were a couple of German ones, an H&K I think that were notable by the eye popping price tags. People went nuts. I know several who had little interest in handguns who thought a gun that fired 15 rounds was something they had to have. Then others came out with 17 round capacity and the race was on! A little while later this Glock guy showed up and the world changed. Want a 19 round magazine? No problem.

Now I wonder if anyone knows just how many 9mm guns are in the market. Micros which used to be in .32 or .380 up to full size service pistols. Some come in sizes like shoes; small, medium and large. The polymer frames make these guns more affordable too. There is one thing they have in common with the earliest ones. Most shooters shoot them at 7 yds and regard them as point and shoot self defence guns. Crappy triggers rule, as well as the semi d/a striker fired ones.

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The 9mm of today has something for everyone and if there is something you want that isn't available, wait, it will be invented soon. Recoil is manageable good hollowpoints make them effective; what could keep them from being the most popular thing now? If you went in a wayback machine to the 60s and told anyone that 50 years from now the 9mm would be by far the most popular handgun round, accounting for 25% on gun and ammunition sales they'd laugh you out of the gun store. On your way out, you could try to tell them that the AR15 in .223 had put all the traditional rifle calibers in the shade, but they wouldn't hear for all the laughing.

There will be other installments with helpful advice I have gleaned from those who know the ins and outs and have been kind enough to talk to me.

Thanks for reading
Bill King

Range Maintenance Schedule as follows:

Mondays	8 AM-11AM	100 yard Rifle Range
Tuesdays	8 AM-11AM	All Pistol Ranges
Wednesdays	8 AM-11AM	Silhouette Range
Thursdays	8 AM-11AM	200 yard Rifle Range
Fridays	8 AM-11AM	All Multi Purpose Ranges New 100 yard Rifle Range

Tournament Schedule

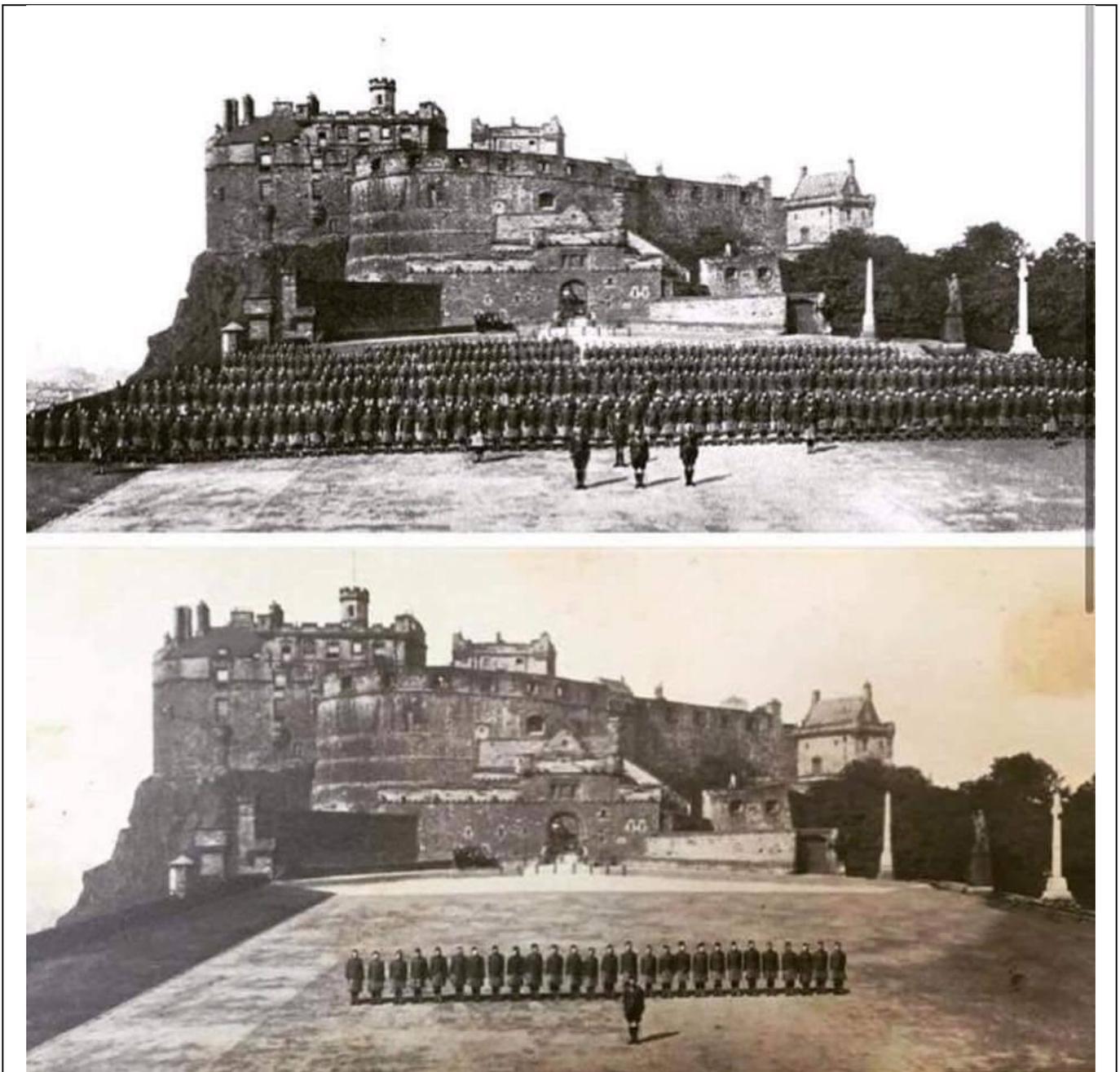
Match	Range	Time
Club 1800 Pistol	1	1 st Sunday 0900-1200
22 Rimfire Benchrest	4	1 st Sat. 0800-1300
High Power XTC	3	2 nd Sunday 0800-1100
Black Powder	4	2 nd Sat. 0800-1100
High Power Rifle Prone	3	1 st Sat. 0800-1100
NRA 1800 Bullseye	1	3 rd Sunday 0900-1200
Cowboy	5	4 th Sat. 0900
Smallbore Silhouette	4	4 th Sat. 0800-1400
Smallbore F-class	4A	3 rd Sat. 0800-1100

Highlanders

By Bill King

I've been doing a little reading lately. WWII started it. My father was in the Pacific and made landings 6 times or so. He had stories about Attu and Kwajalein and some from the Phillipines but all he would say about Okinawa is that he was there and got the last of his Purple Hearts on that island. If you read about this battle, you understand. Bad news.

Anyway one thing leads to another and the last battle I have reread about is Fredericksburg, from the Civil War. The casualty would be intolerable today. It's hard for us to see how these men did it. Anyway, something I saw on the internet made these look more tolerable. There are two pictures of a British regiment below. The second is all the men from 1919 who were in the photo taken as they went off to war.



City Council is being asked to require county-wide background checks. By Blake Harper

Jacksonville is now part of an effort by outside-funded gun-control advocates to breakdown the statewide uniform gun laws established by constitutional amendment in 1998. The effort in Jacksonville is to convince City Council that a law requiring background checks on all private party sales of firearms throughout Duval County can be and should be passed.

Private party sales are sales between individuals with none of parties being a Federal Firearms Licensed dealer. Private party is defined as an individual person or a firearms collector not engaged in the commercial sale/trade of firearms. Examples of the sales that gun-control advocates want to cover are sales that would take place at garage sales, flea markets, gun shows on private property, and person-to-person transactions on private property (including gun ranges).

The common phrase used by gun control advocates is ‘close the gunshow loophole’. There is no such thing as a gunshow loophole. There is a provision within the Florida Constitution called the ‘local county option’. The ‘local county option’ was included in the 1998 Constitutional Amendment to give individual counties the ability to require that a very narrow range of private party sales have background checks. The narrow range of sales is limited a private party sale that takes place on public (not private) land. An example of public land would be a city/county-owned fairground facility or convention center that hosted a gunshow.

Other efforts are taking place in South Florida to get stiff monetary penalties removed that apply to individual lawmakers who pass gun laws that violate the Florida Constitution. This effort involves 20+ cities in Southeast Florida filing suit in a Tallahassee court. If successful, local governments would not be penalized from crafting their own set of gun laws. The chaos of counties having different gun laws that existed before the 1998 Constitutional Amendment would return. No matter, because these local governments want to be able to ban certain classes of weapons and ancillaries, most notably sporting rifles commonly misnamed as assault weapons and ‘high caliber’ magazines. The law suit is ongoing at present.

Returning to Jacksonville, two organizations that were born out of the Parkland event are pushing for the expansion of background checks to all private party transactions in Duval County. Those two organizations are: (1) The Women’s March; and (2) Mothers Demand Action for Gun Sense. Women’s March is funded by George Soros organizations. It was responsible for the civil unrest in Washington D.C. that took place the weekend after President Trump’s inauguration. Mothers Demand Action is funded by Michael Bloomberg. It was the group that paid for the bus loads of South Florida students and parents to go to Tallahassee and cause the Republican-led legislature to pass a law that included the ban of long gun sales to 18-21 year olds.

The ‘close the gunshow loophole’ effort here in Jacksonville started with the last City Council meeting of Sept. 2018. Members of these two organizations along with other community activist groups called for the background check expansion during Public Comment. Their comments are delivered in such a way as to give the illusion of acceptance within a growing number of City Council members for this legislation. They want to generate public pressure on City Council in much the same way pressure was generated in Tallahassee lawmakers.

(City Council cont. on page 19)

(City Council cont. from Page 18....)

A small group of un-affiliated citizen advocates have been responding to the call and claims for the county-wide background checks. Jacksonville resident and 2nd Amendment attorney Eric Friday is legal counsel for Florida Carry. (The NRA and Florida Carry were the two 2nd Amendment groups that helped craft the Florida Constitution amendment that created uniform gun laws statewide.) In his first appearance at City Council, Eric advised that the intended legislation violates the Florida Constitution. In a subsequent meeting, local Jacksonville businessman Jim Davis spoke to specific legal decisions of the U.S. Supreme Court advising that the matter of background checks being unconstitutional is settled law. Ken Morrow documented the fact that there is no correlation between gun violence and background checks as well as other key characteristics of gun violence. Blake Harper established the identity and link of the outside organizations. Others have given personal testimonies and different comments on the problematic proposal.

The current climate at City Council is hard to judge. One-on-one conversations held with some of the Council members indicate that there may not be a steadfast position against the gun control legislation.

Additionally, the expertise and policy experience of the current City Council is expected to decline substantially with the upcoming City Elections due to term limits removing seasoned lawmakers. An aggressive voter drive by affiliate groups of Women's March and Mothers Demand Action resulted in Duval County being a key determining statewide factor in the Democrat Gubernatorial candidate. A not-so-unexpected ally of the gun control advocates are lgun shops who see the opportunity to profit from background check processing as a way to offset sales lost to private party transactions and to internet dealers.

The gun control effort is not unlike the controversial effort to take down historical monuments in Jacksonville. The monument effort has been in the public eye for the last 12-18 months. The efforts to drum up support for this statue issue has been intense and ongoing despite the absence of any City Council member support to bring actual legislation to the docket.

It is reasonable to expect the same strategy regarding gun control legislation with one caveat. Legislative efforts in Tallahassee and Congress, the nationwide media attention, and the much greater national financial support for gun control laws suggests that Jacksonville is in for a more intense and stronger challenge.