

The MUZZLEBLAST

One of Florida's Largest Gun Clubs with well over 3,000 members

Volume 2022, Issue 3

December 2022

2022 Gateway Annual Meeting

By Randy Erickson, President

Our fall swap meet and annual meeting was on November 5th and for the first time in 3 years, we had great weather! The swap meet was well attended and there were some really good deals there. For those of you who don't know, the swap meet is sort of like a members-only gun show except it is free for members to attend and there is no charge to display your stuff. If you want to display items I would recommend you either arrive very early to ensure you get one of the club picnic tables or simply bring your own folding table.

The Annual Meeting followed our usual format starting with the Pledge of Allegiance and Board of Directors roll call. In the President's address, I reported that Gateway is doing well as follows:

- Our membership seems to have stabilized and is currently at about 3,400 members and we expect to be about 3,600 by year end. This is right on top of last year's numbers which were about a 12% drop from our historic highs of 2018, 2019, and 2020. (FYI, some area clubs saw a drop of about 30%). We believe the drop is mainly due to the ammo shortage.
- I also reported that Gateway is financially strong and we have maintained our cash reserves. I spoke briefly about the need to maintain those reserves for the future security of the Club and

promised a Muzzle Blast article with more details (found on following pages). That said, Gateway is feeling the pressure from the cumulative 8% inflation we've had over the last two years and the fact that we had no dues increase last year. So, in order to maintain that financial security, we are increasing our annual dues by a modest \$15 which takes us from \$160 to \$175. The Board constantly benchmarks Gateway against other area ranges and we always find two things: 1) Gateway offers by far the best range and services for a rifle and pistol club in the area, and 2) Gateway has by far the lowest fees of any comparable club in the nation, so we feel that Gateway remains one of the best values around.

Our range continues to be in great shape and some of this year's efforts were as follows: On the Silhouette line and the 100-yard rifle line next to it, Ranges 4A and 4B, we added red flashing range hot/cold lights. On 4A, we also added ground baffles and extended the billboards above the berm to catch errant ground shots and added a 50-yard sight-in box. As part of our continuing drainage improvements, we upgraded one and added four trench drains, three of them on the old 100-yard rifle line, Range 2, one in front of the maintenance garage, and one in back of the bays on Range 5. These drains are basically a big hole that punches through the layer of hard pan which impedes water drainage and are backfilled with rock and a porous fabric so that rain water can percolate into the soil faster. These areas were

prone to standing water that could take days to drain after a heavy rain. We added two more culverts under the side berm between the 50-yard line on Range 7 and the 200-yard rifle line, Range 3, to address flooding of the Pistol Stat Office. We also added drains that go to our retention pond at the entrances of the outdoor restrooms just outside the William Craig Facility as they would also flood during heavy rains. Major maintenance efforts included rebuilding three overhead baffles on rifle lines, repairing cameras and the traffic arm after a lightning strike, and purchasing two new range carts. FYI, our old carts are right at 10 years old with some of them at about 6,000 hours on the tachometer and they were becoming a significant repair expense.

Each year we try to recognize a member for outstanding service to the club with the Steven Bernhard award, named in honor of one of our founding members. This year we recognized Russ Misner. Russ is a long time Board member who chairs the Policy committee and ensures the Board decisions comply with our policies. Many years back when our bank was not particularly responsive to our needs, Russ helped us move to a different bank that has given us great service.

This year we also recognized a Club employee for 15 years of outstanding service. John Whitten started as a Range Safety Officer and has been the Range Manager for about 10 years where he oversees the RSO's, the maintenance staff, onsite contractors and range projects. We can all thank John for the excellent condition of the range.

Finally, I thanked the Board of Directors and employees for all the excellent support and advice they have provided over the last three years. By keeping member

safety and Gateway's security as our focus, we were able to accomplish a lot for the club.

Next on the agenda the Club Treasurer, Sue Carter, presented the Financial Report for 2021. There were no questions from the floor and the report was accepted. A copy of the report is available for member review in the office.

The Club Secretary, Charles "Grit" Preston, presided over the election portion of the meeting. The officer positions were unopposed so the following were elected by acclamation: President: Bill King, Vice President: Bill Edwards, Treasurer: Sue Carter, Secretary: Randy Erickson, and Public Relations Officer: Grit Preston. The incumbent candidates, Russ Misner, Alan Rosner, and Willy "Whiskers" Todorsky were all elected to 3-year Director positions and Doug Havens was elected to the 2-year Director position created with Bill King being elected as President.

Our guest speaker this year was a Federal Judge, the Honorable Brian Davis, who gave an address on the subject of racial bias and profiling relative to Jacksonville crime statistics.

The Annual Meeting ended with Sam Grimes awarding numerous door prizes and a catered BBQ lunch.



2022 Ladies Day at Gateway

By Sue Carter

On Saturday, November 19th, nearly 100 women participated in Ladies Day at Gateway, hosted by Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club. The annual event provides the ladies with an orientation to safe gun handling, and gives them training with 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 Randy Erickson, 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 activities to sample several different styles of shooting.

On the air gun range the women were instructed how to shoot air rifles at a distance of 10 meters. The range was indoors, so everyone stayed warm and comfortable. Marion Estes and the coaches gave a brief lesson on how the air rifle worked, and basic sight alignment and trigger squeeze. Although the targets were small, they did very well.

This year we welcomed Sgt. Shawnesci "Sky" Barber and Officer Mona Davis from JSO. The ladies presented a Personal Safety and Self Defense class. Participants learned ways to reduce the chance of becoming a victim, as well as techniques to use to help get out of a situation safely. Thank you JSO for loaning us these wonderful ladies, as well as donating 100 gun locks!

At the pistol range, the ladies shot .22 caliber pistols at 7 yards, shooting with using two hands. They were separated into two relays, allowing the coaches to have only one student at a time. After an orientation on the firearm, safe gun handling, and loading and unloading, the women had the opportunity to show their skills. The coaches reviewed the fundamentals of a good shot, position, grip, sight alignment, sight picture, breathing, trigger press 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 and shotguns at steel targets placed at different distances. 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. Mike Hicks coordinated the coaches, and Stephanie Moody ran the line, reviewing 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. The ladies then had a chance to shoot steel plates at 100 yards away. This was a huge hit! Overall, this was a great introduction for many of the ladies, who came away with a new understanding and appreciation of the rifle.

Boxed lunches were catered by Gator BBQ, with chicken, pulled pork, cole slaw, baked beans, and of

course their fabulous banana pudding. A vegetarian salad was also available. No one left hungry!

A huge thank you to our volunteers. Group leaders were Lisa Perez, Bobbi-Jo Fenner, Lorraine Morrow, Nikki Celso, and Susan Walker. Marion Estes, Emily Puckett, Bob Hathcox and Carl Berg were on the air rifle range. The pistol range coaches were Ted Carter, Dennis Faye, Kathy Klimek, Bill Deen, Kathleen Gatson, Amanda Wilson, Allen Way, Jim Stein, Jay Walker, Robert Fanucci and Buck Johnston. Mike Hicks, Bill Edwards, Whitney Saunders, Kelvin Aleyne, Walt Gallahan, Wade Olyer, Stephanie and Jerry Moody, and Jerry Patterson were on the rifle range. Thank you to the Cowford Regulators, Sheriff Misfire Mordecai led his posse of Cowboys and Cowgirls, Dakota Lil, Doc Monday, Pocket Rocket, RIAMBSC, Snake Oil Osage, Chert Rock Chuck, Flamingo Joe, Sheriff Dad, Dakota Dutchman and Willy Whiskers. Without this amazing group of volunteers, this event would have never happened!

We also want to recognize those businesses that supported us. Thank you to the Florida Sport Shooting Association for the koozies, Ruger and NRA for the bags, Ruger for the swag, Basics Range & Gun and Gun Gallery for the day passes, Esco-Tech for the lead wipes, and NSSF for the pamphlets on responsible firearms ownership. NRA, Wild West Gun and Gold, Magpul, and Gun Gallery also donated items for the door prizes. Congratulations to Jackie Halle on winning the basket of goodies from Gun Gallery, and to Sally Shaaf on winning the one-year membership to Gateway. The Armed Women of America Jacksonville West Chapter provided several volunteers and that wonderful bake sale! These organizations continually give their support for our Ladies programs at Gateway and are truly appreciated! Please consider supporting them as well.

Ladies Day at Gateway 2022 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 2023. We will be offering a Refuse To Be A Victim class in early spring, NRA's Women On Target in late spring, and of course, the 2023 Ladies Day in November. The Jacksonville West Armed Women of America Chapter meets the 3rd Saturday of the month at Gateway, from 0900-1130. Contact Sue Carter, suzcarter@reagan.com or awa.jacksonvillewestfl@gmail.com if you are interested or want more information. See you next year at the range!



Welcome and Safety Briefing



Air Rifle



ISO Personal Safety and Self Defense



Pistol Range



Why does Gateway need to be financially strong?

By Randy Erickson, President



Cowboy Action



Rifle Range/AR-15



Volunteers



Supporters/Sponsors

From time to time at the Annual Meeting folks will question if Gateway has "excessive cash" in the bank, so let's cover this subject in more detail than time would permit the Annual Meeting. In the last Annual Meeting, I talked about our cash on hand as a "financial reserve". Let's start by looking at what happened to some gun clubs that did not have strong financial reserves.

Example #1: About 30 years ago one of the Bullseye shooters here at Gateway who moved here from up north told me about his home gun club in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. They started the club in the boondocks outside the city and over the years, urban encroachment led to the club being encircled by developments. Well, when all the readily available land was gone, some developer started filing frivolous lawsuits against the club and even though the lawsuits were baseless and the club won the lawsuits, the club quickly ran out of money and went bankrupt. Guess who got the club land on the cheap?

Does this story apply to Gateway? You bet it does! Just look at the development that went in behind the church on the corner of No Road and Old Middleburg Road. It went from undeveloped woods to houses almost overnight. And closer to home, there is a strip of land just to the southeast of Gateway (on the east side of the city lot on the north leg of Zambito) where we just received notice that it is being rezoned to residential. There is also about 30 acres of land that has been cleared and is ready for development just to the south

west of Gateway past the private gate at the west end of Zambito.

Example #2: When I lived in Rockford, Illinois before moving here, there was a little indoor pistol range, the Pine Tree Pistol Club, located downtown. Unfortunately for the club, right next door was a skating rink that catered to well-heeled folks who saw their daughters as the next Olympic gold medalists. These well-to-do folks decided they needed a bigger parking lot and since they had a lot of pull with the city council, guess what? The city seized the club land, bulldozed the building and paved it over.

How does this apply to Gateway? Many years back, a line item showed up on the city budget to develop Gateway into an "airpark" for Herlong Field. FYI, an air park is one of those fancy developments on the edge of an airport where every property comes with its own hanger so you don't even have to drive to the airport to go flying; you just hop into your plane and taxi over to the runway. The short version of this story is that a few folks downtown thought Gateway was some little podunk gun club and when they found out how many members we had, the line item got deleted.

Example #3: My Dad is an avid shot gunner and shoots at several different clubs. One of the clubs has been around forever and prided itself on low fees. He was paying \$2 per round of 25 birds back in the 1990's while I was paying about \$7-8 per round in town here. This club had saved about \$30,000 over many years and thought they had everything they needed. Then a bureaucrat from the state conservation commission came to them and told them about a new program where the state would match their funds with something like 4:1 or 5:1 for facility improvements. Eventually the club decided they couldn't pass up on the "free money" so they contributed \$25,000 to a new \$100,000 plus club

house. This left them with a whopping \$5,000 in reserve. Well guess what? Covid and the ammo shortage hit and shooting came to a standstill! Since the club's main source of income was based on rounds of birds shot at the range, they suddenly had a major problem paying for fixed costs like property tax and utilities!

How does this apply to Gateway? As I reported at the Annual Meeting, Gateway has also felt the pressure from Covid and the ammo shortage BUT, we have the financial reserves to weather this storm without cutting back services to our members, cutting employees and still make appropriate range improvements that will benefit our members.

So what can we do to be able to weather these kinds of issues? Two things:

- 1) We need to stay financially strong so we can fight off anyone who would try to take our land. It would cost a developer a lot of money to take on Gateway in court and that makes us far less attractive for "hostile takeover". It also gave us the ability to purchase the two lots of land just to the south of us on Zambito, the heavily wooded lot on the corner and the one with two trailers. Even though we are grandfathered in by state law, this land provides noise abatement for our neighbors. Also, as much as we like our neighbors, we like them to be some distance from the club so there are less likely to be issues like kids trespassing on our property after hours.
- 2) We also need to have as many members as possible so we have political pull in the community. Most of our 3,400+/- members are Jacksonville residents and that gives us a lot of pull with city council members.

One more thought on "excessive cash": Those of us over 50, and that is sadly most of us here at Gateway, suffer from not keeping up with the cumulative effects of decades of inflation. For example, I paid my way through college doing filthy, back-breaking work on a farm and in construction working for \$2-3 per hour and I'm floored by folks making \$17.50 working at fast food joints. It's a bit like the Austin Powers movie where Dr. Evil has been in suspended animation since the 60's and after he has been resuscitated in current times; he hatches an evil plot and plans to ransom the government for a million dollars. His colleagues have to get him recalibrated to current times and tell him that a million dollars is really not that much money nowadays....

So in summary, there is no down side for Gateway being financially strong and we've never heard of a club having problems by being too well off.

Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club to host the 32nd Annual Dixie Match on April 28, 29 and 30

By Randy Erickson, President

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. In 2023 the Dixie Match will be held at Gateway's 25- & 50-yard range facility on April 28, 29 and 30.

The Dixie Match combines an 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 attracting shooters from Florida, Georgia and

Alabama, the Dixie Match attracts shooters from Virginia, Maryland, Illinois, and several other states. The Army Marksmanship Unit, National Guard and the Marine Corps Reserve Pistol 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 impressive range facilities and the professionally run match. Gateway's Board of Directors has always been very supportive of the match. 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.

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. For information contact Ted Carter.

Attention GRPC members: Please be aware that parking in the vicinity of the 25- & 50-yard pistol range will be crowded due to competitors and volunteers supporting the match. Parking next to the shooting bays will remain open to members. Thanks in advance for your patience.

Gun Writer Myths (or Stupidity) #2

By Randy Erickson

In continuation of last month's theme regarding stupid articles in gun magazines, this month I'm moving to an AR15 discussion. I don't see this myth very often but I recently read an article that made my head spin. The author of the article was basically trying to console poor AR15 owners and telling them that most folks talking about 1 minute of angle (MOA) AR15's were fibbing, and that AR15's are simply not that accurate and really more likely to be 3 MOA guns. Now I'm not going to say every AR is a 1 MOA rifle, but I'll stick my neck out here and state the AR is the most inherently accurate gas operated rifle action going. I love my M1's and M1A's, but they are accurate in spite of the operating rod clanking around under the barrel and the complex bedding system they come with, not because of those features. The AR on the other hand has no bedding system to cause problems and a skinny little stationary gas tube that doesn't affect the barrel (and we are talking direct impingement guns here, not the new "solution in search of a problem" piston guns). That is why the AR completely dominates the NRA and CMP High Power Service Rifle category and they often score essentially dead even with the bolt action match rifles. These competitors are serious about their equipment and know they would not even be in the running without a 1 MOA rifle. So, if your AR is not shooting 1 MOA, here are some of the things you should consider looking at.

Bullets: If your barrel actually likes 55gr FMJ-BT's, SS109 penetrator ammo or similar military style ammo, you should go out and buy a lottery ticket as you are very lucky. Most barrels will simply not shoot this kind of

ammo accurately and if yours does, you'll probably find that the good accuracy is only with specific manufacturers or lots of ammo. You are far more likely to have better accuracy with a quality match type bullet from Sierra, Berger, Hornady, Nosler, etc. when shot with a known "match load" from one of their reloading manuals, or a good factory load like Federal Gold Medal Match. We see this all the time at Gateway, especially with new shooters in the 3x20 prone matches. This change routinely takes 3 MOA guns down to 1 MOA. Be sure to use a bullet weight that will work with your barrel twist. The manufacturer will usually list compatible combinations, but generally speaking, 1:12 or 1:14 will only stabilize bullets around 55 gr or lighter, 1:9 twists will only handle up to 69grs, 1:8 and 1:7 will stabilize up to 80 gr, and if you want to go to the crazy 90 gr'ers you need to go to 6.5.

Free float the barrel: This is almost standard practice on any precision bolt action and there is no reason not to do this on an AR given the numerous handguard systems that provide free floating to the barrel. Free floating the barrel allows the barrel to vibrate naturally without any interference from the handguards, or sling, sandbags or bench rest the rifle is touching. These are also pretty easy for DIY folks to install.

Barrel: There are some generic OEM type barrels that shoot well out there..., and a bunch that won't. AR barrels are pretty easy to change out for the DIY folks so there is really no reason not to use a known quality barrel. Also, you don't have to spend big bucks on high end barrels like Krieger, Douglas, Obermeyer, Shilen, etc. Reasonably priced barrel blanks from Wilson are used by folks like White Oak Armament and Rock River and have a great reputation for accuracy. I used a White Oak barrel in my AR to place second to a high-end Tubb 2000 match rifle in a regional rifle match. Even Colt

HBAR barrels were known for very good accuracy, and if they didn't shoot well, see the next category.

Barrel attachments: Sometimes the stuff we or the government put on barrels hurts accuracy. Back in the day when competitors shot Colts in competition, if your HBAR barrel wasn't accurate, the first thing to try was to crack loose the flash suppressor and then lightly re-torque it. This often took 3 MOA guns down to 1 MOA. The reason is that Colt's union employees came from the Cro-Magnon cave man era and really cranked the flash hiders on during installation. Why did this affect accuracy? That huge torque doesn't just generate a clamping load between the barrel and the flash hider, but because of the angle on the threads there is a radial load. What this means is the flash hider also squeezes down the end of the barrel so the barrel ends up with a microscopic choke like a shot gun and swaging down a bullet right as it leaves the barrels doesn't exactly do wonders for accuracy. Reinstalling the flash hider with less torque lessens that effect.

Same story if you have the old military style front sight base retained with two tapered pins. Those pins are pressed through holes in the sight base into two notches cut into the bottom of the barrel. Some barrels have the pins hammered in so hard; they make two flats on the inside of the barrel at the bottom that act like two speed bumps the bullet smashes into on the way out. Again, this can really hurt accuracy. I've actually had a barrel where the pins were hammered in so tight that I simply couldn't knock out the pins and had to resort to machining. This makes sense on actual military M16's where the front sight base also forms the bayonet lug, but most of us are not going to be doing too many bayonet charges with our AR's. Reinstall the pins with a very light tap and Loctite or similar retention compound and you will very likely see an improvement in accuracy.

So, bottom line is a lot of factory AR's come capable of shooting 1 MOA and if yours isn't one of them, it isn't that hard to get it there.

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

by Ted Carter

Has it been a while since you shot your pistol or revolver, or did you get something "good" for Christmas? 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 2023 invitation to spend a couple of hours on the range and have some fun with your pistol along with other shooters.

Gateway 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 or 25 yards (weather permitting) 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, you are welcome to shoot the course again. We also 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 an NRA 1800 or 2700 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 offer anyone the opportunity to join in 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 can register in one of two divisions, Metallic or Open. 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, except for 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:
<https://competitions.nra.org/media/8365/nra-precision-pistol-rules.pdf>.

If you are looking to start "Bullseye" style pistol shooting or get back into it and are not 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.

See you at the range.

2022 FLORIDA STATE PRECISION PISTOL CHAMPIONSHIP *with Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) Service Pistol & .22 Rimfire E.I.C. Match and National Rifle Association (NRA) Distinguished Revolver Match*

by Ted Carter

The Florida State Precision Pistol Championships were fired at Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club, on October 15 & 16. Both Saturday and Sunday were beautiful days as 31 shooters from 6 states, competed in a great two-day event. Nestor Pena was the match winner, High Service category winner and was awarded the Florida Sport Shooting Association trophy as State Precision Pistol Champion. Chase Turner (Georgia) finished second, with third overall going to Odie Hitt (Texas). Robert Fanucci (Georgia) was the Master Class winner followed by GRPC member Kelvin Alleyne who won the Expert Class and Stephen Price (Florida) who took the combined Sharpshooter/Marksman Class. Chase Turner was the High Civilian. High Veteran went to Robert Fanucci. Odie Hitt won the High Police and High Senior, with Tim Goszka (Florida) winning the Grand Senior category. Shelly Liu (N. Carolina) was the High Women category winner. Stephen Price was the Metallic

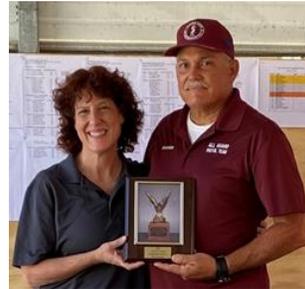
Division winner. Rand Albrecht (Alabama) was the .22 Only Aggregate winner.

The CMP .22 Rimfire EIC match had 20 competitors. Chase Turner won the match with a 287-8X, Kelvin Alleyne finished second with a 276-3X and Doug Roe (Florida) was third, firing a 275-7X. In the NRA Distinguished Revolver Match, with 9 competitors, Nestor Pena was the winner with a 262-2X, edging out Randy Erickson in a tie breaker, who posted 262-2X. Finishing third was Chase Turner with a 261-2X. The CMP Service Pistol EIC, with 14 competitors, was won by Randy Erickson with a 267-7X. Kelvin Alleyne was second with a 263-3X and Nestor Pena was third, firing a 258-5X...a "clean sweep" in 1st, 2nd, and 3rd for Florida shooters.

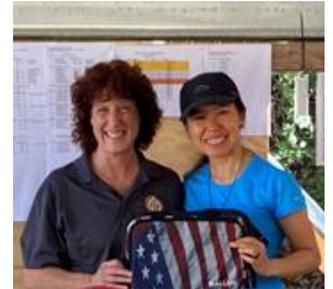
The final event of the weekend's match was a "fun" event, The Second Amendment Freedom Match. Competitors fired "out of the box" pistols in an event where 50% of the proceeds were donated to the FSSA junior programs. Bragging rights went to Randy Erickson, firing a Smith & Wesson 44 Magnum. Finishing second was Nestor Pena firing a Glock 34 9mm. Third place went to Odie Hitt firing a Sig Sauer P365 9 mm.

Many thanks to our sponsors: Pardini USA, Hornady, Magpul, Swab Its, Starline, Zero Bullets, Clenzoil, Mission BBQ, Esca Tech, Ransom International, Ruger, and Aguila Ammunition for their generous contribution of ammunition and merchandise. You can't run a match without volunteers! Special thanks to Larry Watkins as Chief Range Officer; Dennis Faye, Buck Johnston, Robert Fanucci and Gene Thomas as Range Officers; Sue Carter as Chief Statistical Officer, and Randy Erickson as Jury Chairman. Ted Carter was the Match Director. The Florida Sport Shooting Association would like to thank Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club for an outstanding job, hosting the Florida State Pistol

Championships. Gateway's range maintenance team did an outstanding 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 State Championship photos can be found at http://grpc-jax.com/disciplines/outdoor_pistol.html.



Sue Carter (FSSA Pistol Dir) presents Nestor Pena the FSSA State Pistol Champion plaque



Sue Carter presents Shelly Liu with the High Woman award



Competitors take careful aim during the Florida State Pistol Champs



Kelvin Alleyne scores a 50-yard Slow Fire Target



Left: Randy Erickson and Nestor Pena fire the NRA Distinguished Revolver Match

Right: Competitors enjoy dinner at Mission BBQ



Left: Volunteers Dennis Faye, Larry Watkins, Buck Johnston and Gene Thomas relax during the awards ceremony

Gateway's Board of Directors endorses Ted W. Carter for reelection to the NRA Board of Directors



If you are an NRA Life Member or 5 Year Annual Member, you'll receive your Official NRA Ballot inside NRA's February 2023 publications, and you are a voting member. Please take

the time to review the candidates, read their biographies and then mark your ballot and send it in.

I am honored to receive the endorsement of Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club's Board for reelection to the NRA Board of Directors. I ask for your consideration and would appreciate your vote for reelection.

As a Midshipman at the U.S. Naval Academy, I began competitive shooting in International Pistol, and went on to be Captain of the Pistol Team and was awarded All American in Free Pistol. After completing my first Navy assignment, I returned as Head Coach of the Academy's Pistol Team and was selected as NRA Collegiate Shooting Coach of the Year. Throughout my 32-year Navy career I've had the opportunity to instruct hundreds



of Sailors in basic marksmanship fundamentals and was a member, coach, and Captain of numerous All Navy Pistol Teams. After retirement, I

continued to compete and support the shooting sports and currently serve as a Match Director for Precision Pistol tournaments at

Gateway, and as President of the Florida Sport Shooting Association. I am fortunate to support my wife Sue, in organizing the annual Gateway Ladies Day, and as a certified instructor and RSO for the Jacksonville West Chapter of The Armed Women of America. First elected to the NRA Board in 2011, I serve or have served on the NRA's Pistol, Military & Veterans Affairs, Collegiate Programs, Protest, and Air Gun Committees. My focus has been supporting the NRA's competitive shooting sports, and its thousands of competitors. Supporting our Second Amendment Freedoms, and the members of the NRA is a privilege. If reelected, I look forward to serving our NRA and our members for another three years.

If you are an NRA member, then you know how important your support is and what power you and the nearly 5 million members have in ensuring our Second Amendment Freedoms. If you are not a voting member, then consider upgrading your annual membership so that you can join other NRA members in selecting the organization's future leaders.

Find out more by checking out <https://home.nra.org/>.

Submitted by Ted Carter

Ted is a member of GRPC and is a member of the NRA Board of Directors and President of the Florida Sport Shooting Association.



NRA
FREEDOM'S SAFEST PLACE

CLUB INFORMATION

Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club

9301 Zambito Ave. N, Jacksonville,
FL 32210

904.771.2937

www.GRPC-JAX.com

Where to Shoot

Day Members or Annual and Life Members

Ranges 1 A-B-C-D: Pistols only with pistol calibers. Location: Far left (West) as you leave front office, 53 positions at 7/15 yards

Range 2: Rifles at 25-50 and 100 yards and shotguns on select positions

Annual and Life Members Only

Both of above two ranges, #1 and #2

Range 3: Rifle 50- and 200-yards and Pistols with 10 inch Barrels or longer chambered for rifle cartridges

Range 4A: Same as Range 3 except 100-yards only

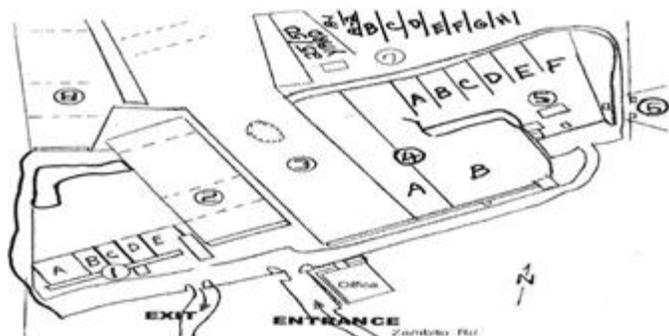
Range 4B: Rifles in rim fire .22 cal, .17 cal plus black powder rifles

Range 5 A-B-C-D-E-F: All-purpose ranges for Pistols and Rifles with Pistol Calibers

Range 6: Shotgun Skeet Range with only #6 to #9 Shot

Range 7 A-B-C-D-E-F -G-H: All Purpose ranges for Pistols and Rifles with Pistol Calibers, 25-/50-Yard Pistol Match Range, Pistols and Rifles with Pistol Calibers

Range 8: Rifle, 25-, 50- and 100-yard Rifle targets



ID BADGES

All Shooters:

Annual, Life, and Day Members must wear ID badges at all times when on the Club property.

2023 Slate of Officers

Officer	Name	Contact Info
President	Bill King	Rusty10370@aol.com
Vice President	Bill Edwards	wedwar77@yahoo.com
Secretary	Randy Erickson	randy.dean.erickson@gmail.com
Treasurer	Sue Carter	suzcarter@reagan.com
Public Relations Officer	Charles Preston	acecrp@gmail.com

2023 Board Members

Name	Phone Number	email Address
Tim Allen	904.426.9977	allentimfrank@gmail.com
Walt Gallahan	904.509.9235	wfgbag@bellsouth.net
Gary Kight	904.509.8130	gdk1969@yahoo.com
Doug Havens		
Russ Misner	904.284.5347	misnerr@bellsouth.net
Wade Olyer	904.773.3037	Wadeolyer09@comcast.net
Alan Rosner	904.887.0322	rosner@harrisguidi.com
William Todorsky	904.683.5624	willywhiskers@yahoo.com

Range Maintenance Schedule

Day	Time	Range
Monday	0800-1100	100-yard Rifle Range
Tuesday	0800-1100	All Pistol Ranges
Wednesday	0800-1100	Silhouette Range
Thursday	0800-1100	200-yard Rifle Range
Friday	0800-1100	All Multi-Purpose Ranges and New 100-yard Rifle Range

Note: Subject to change based on maintenance need

Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club, Inc.

A private Club operated since 1965, providing a safe environment for the sport of shooting. We offer annual memberships allowing unlimited use of the shooting ranges and daily memberships for the occasional shooter limited to certain ranges. The Club is open 7 days a week from 8:00 am until near dusk except Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. There are numerous pistol ranges at various distances for shooting paper targets and steel plates. The rifle ranges provide 25, 50, 100, and 200 yard shooting positions. For those interested in competition there are monthly matches for small bore, black powder, .22 50/50 Benchrest, bullseye pistol, 3x20 prone, NMC and Cowboy, etc.

There is an active junior program and women's program. The facilities include the rifle and pistol shooting positions, a large club house, meeting rooms, and a store selling those items you may need at the range including targets, ammunition, and eye and ear protection. There is a Range Safety Officer on duty at all times.

Tournament Schedule:			
Match	Range	Day	Time
ARA Rimfire	4B	3 rd Friday	Call range
Smallbore F-class	4A	1 st Saturday	0800-1100
22 Rimfire Benchrest	4B	1 st Saturday	1000-1400
Club 1800 Pistol	7	1 st Sunday	0900-1200
High Power Rifle Prone	3	2 nd Saturday	0800-1100
Black Powder	4	2 nd Saturday	0800-1100
High Power Rifle XTC	3	2 nd Sunday	0800-1100
NRA 1800 Bullseye	7	3 rd Sunday	0900-1200
Concealed Pistol/Home Defense Shotgun Match	5	3 rd Sunday	0900-
Smallbore Silhouette	4	4 th Saturday	0800-1400
Cowboy	5	4 th Saturday	0900-

Note: The above schedule is periodically subject to change; please check the website for the most current schedule to be sure you have the up-to-date information.

Disclaimer

The Muzzleblast is published bimonthly by Lori Hallauer under the direction of the Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club. All newsletter content to be approved by the GRPC prior to publication. Technical and/or handloading data are for informational purposes only. No responsibility is accepted for results obtained by persons using such data, and all liability for any consequential injuries or damages is disclaimed. References herein to any specific commercial product, process or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer or otherwise, does not necessarily constitute or imply endorsement, recommendation or favoring by The Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club, Inc., its Board of Directors, its membership, the editor, nor the Publisher. Letters to the editor should be brief, to the point, of firearm-related interest and contain the signature, address and telephone number of the sender. Letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor, publisher or Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club. Send submissions to: Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club, 9301 Zambito Rd., Jacksonville, FL 32210 or to the Muzzleblast editor at: muzzleblasteditor@grpc-jax.com.

Thank you for reading! If you would like to submit information, articles, or match scores, please send them to Bill King at rusty10370@aol.com or Lori Hallauer (Newsletter Editor) at muzzleblasteditor@grpc-jax.com.

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