



BULLET magazine

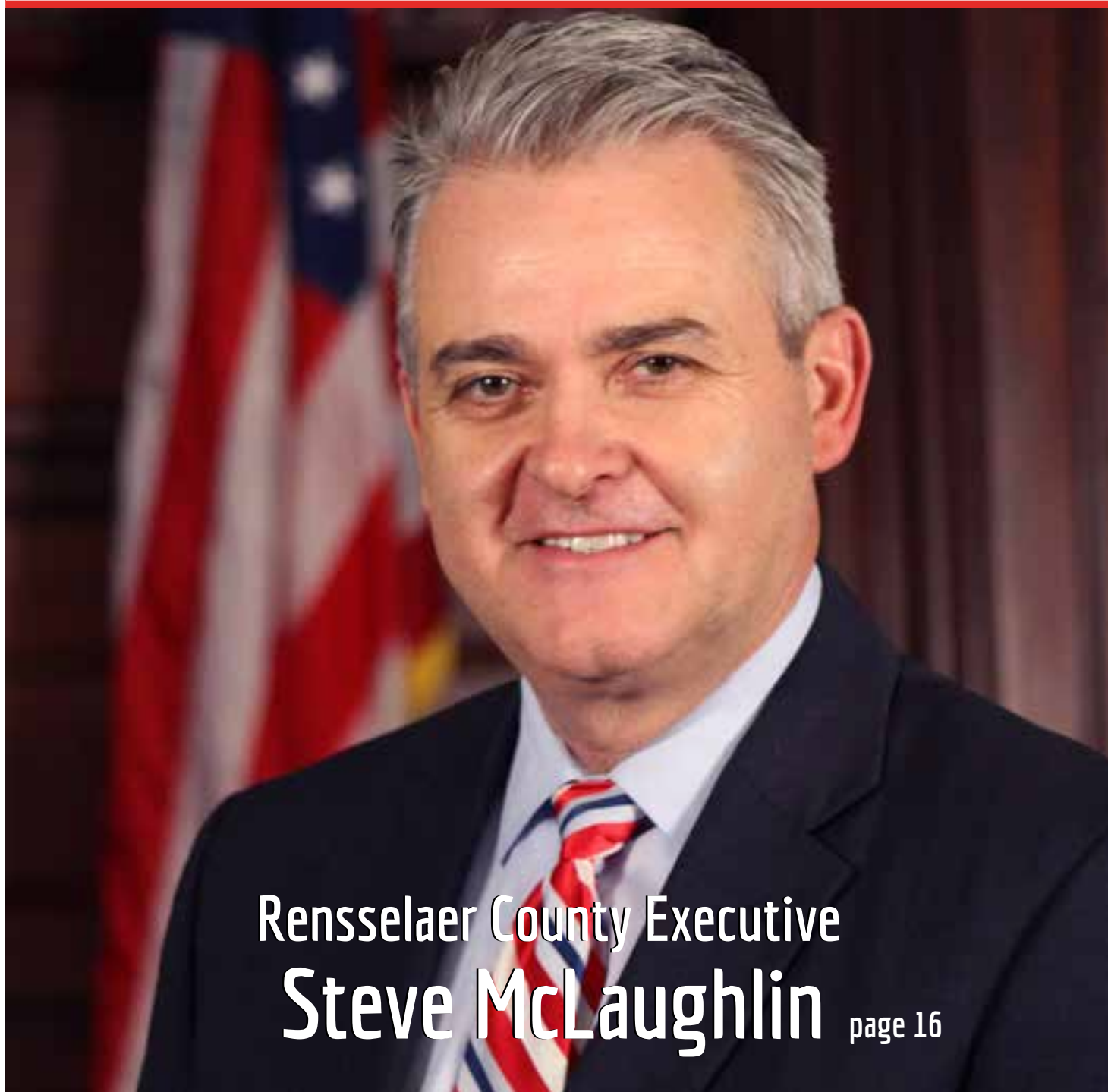


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the state's official NRA affiliate

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Your Board of Directors

President

Tom King

713 Columbia Turnpike
PO Box 278
East Greenbush, NY 12061
Phone: (518) 272-2654
Fax: (518) 274-4972
tking@nysrpa.org

Office Manager

Nancy Lewandusky

PO Box 278
East Greenbush, NY 12061
Phone: (518) 727-4564
info@nysrpa.org

Secretary

Stephen D. Kraynak

1120 7th Ave.
Watervliet, NY 12189
steve.kraynak@juno.com

Smallbore

Charles J. Meyer

158 Willow Lane
Scotia, NY 12302
Phone: (518) 265-3555
cmeyer1@nycap.rr.com

Pistol

Stephen D. Kraynak

1120 7th Ave.
Watervliet, NY 12189
steve.kraynak@juno.com

High Power Chairperson

George W. Kline

6 Carrie Lane
Nanuet, NY 10954
Phone: (917) 709-3691
gkline711@gmail.com

Junior Chairperson

Jennifer Schmitt

713 Columbia Turnpike
PO Box 278
East Greenbush, NY 12061
Phone: (716) 397-4378
jschmitt1452@yahoo.com

Women in the Shooting Sports Chairperson

Jackie Emslie

17 Corlies Ave.
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601
Phone: (914) 475-4901
jslie@earthblink.net

Directors

Joel Abelow, Esq.

1702 Central Ave.
Albany, NY

Charlie Beers III

Glenville, NY
Phone: (518) 469-5312
charlie.beers@me.com

James Collins

177 Violet Ave.
Floral Park, NY 11001
Phone: (516) 775-6597

John Cushman

107 Truberg Ave.
Patchogue, NY 11772
Phone: (631) 475-8125
jcushman@juno.com

Marie D'Amico

Phone: (518) 272-2654
mcdesq@rochester.rr.com

John Greene

PO Box 278
East Greenbush, NY 12061
(914) 804-0158
Johnagreene1979@gmail.com

Glenn Hancock

57 Wardell St.
Adams, NY 13605
Phone: (315) 408-7340

Liz Joy

lizlemeryjoy@gmail.com

Maria Mann

Port Jervis
Thegunlady92@gmail.com

Brian Olesen

1702 Central Ave.
Albany, NY 12205
Phone: (518) 817-2223

Past Presidents

Robert Kamholtz

4123 Osage Lane
Ormond Beach, FL 32174

Tory Brainard

3105 Schindler Drive
Pearl River, NY 10965

Dr. Robert Cornute

33 Locust Grove Road
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Charles J. Meyer

158 Willow Lane
Scotia, NY 12302

Willard E. Doughty

9221 Leatherstone Lane
Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526

Chairman of Cowboy Action Shooting Committee

Dave Meyer

70 Rosemont Drive
Amherst, NY 14226
Phone: (716) 838-4286

Editor

Carl Gottstein

713 Columbia Turnpike
PO Box 278
East Greenbush, NY 12061
Phone: (518) 470-7874
Fax: (518) 274-4972
carl@nysrpa.org

General Information

(518) 272-2654
info@nysrpa.org
www.nysrpa.org

TOM KING
Board of Directors



NRA

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

713 COLUMBIA TURNPIKE
EAST GREENBUSH, NY 12061

Tel: (518) 272-2654

Fax: (518) 274-4972

E-mail: tomkingNRA@gmail.com

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President's Message

by Tom King

Gun owners beware: 'Bad laws are the worst sort of tyranny'

The quote in the headline is attributed to Irish statesman, economist and philosopher Edmund Burke. We need to heed Burke's words and be vigilant as there are three proposed constitutional amendments on the ballot this November, which would undermine the fairness of elections in the Empire State.

Traditionally, gun owners have been among our nation's strongest proponents in protecting individual liberties. We also are aware of the need to ensure the fairness of our electoral

system. That is why everyone should be raising the alarm about these proposed amendments. But, that may be too polite an explanation.

These amendments are an effort to rig the political process in New York on behalf of radical progressives permanently. We must sound the alarm!

We need to oppose these amendments because we can't give the radical, progressive left even more power in this state to tilt elections in their favor. Moreover, if voters adopt these amendments, you can be sure that even more anti-Second Amendment legislators will get elected in our state.



What would these amendments do if they are passed this November?



Proposition No. 1 would amend the bipartisan constitutional amendment, adopted in 2014, which created an Independent Redistricting Commission. Currently, the IRC is working on creating new legislative and congressional district lines, which happens every 10 years after the U.S. Census.

Democrats are pushing this new amendment that would remove bipartisan protections—in this case adversely affecting Republicans—to allow the state Legislature to rig district lines in favor of Democrats.

Proposition No. 3 would create a same-day voter registration. This amendment is backed by the usual group of New York radicals—including the immigrant rights group called Make the Road New York. This organization promotes voting rights for noncitizens and a new program adopted by the Legislature in 2021, which would pay illegal immigrants unemployment benefits.

New York state law already permits someone to register to vote up to 10 days prior to an election, so it is easy to vote in our state. Same-day registration is an open invitation to election fraud, and it will not allow sufficient time to ascertain whether someone is truly eligible to vote.

Proposition No. 4 would create so-called “no excuse” absentee voting. At present, a voter must be away from home on Election Day or he or she must be disabled or sick to secure an absentee ballot. This amendment would change the state constitution to allow anyone to vote absentee.

This proposal should be strongly opposed for two reasons. First,

election boards already are challenged administratively to handle volumes of paper, absentee ballots. As we saw in 2020 when former Gov. Cuomo set aside constitutional requirements and allowed anyone to vote absentee,

Boards of Elections were overwhelmed by unprecedented numbers of absentee ballots. Final election results were delayed in close elections and meant some races were only decided after lengthy court proceedings.

Second, removing in-person voting provisions of the constitution opens the door to internet voting, which increases potential for tampering and fraud. This amendment also would allow the Legislature to authorize ballot harvesting whereby paid, partisan campaigners collect absentee ballots from voters, opening yet

another avenue for ballot tampering and election shenanigans.

This is the game that legislative Democrats are playing. They are pushing three terrible constitutional amendments, which if adopted will allow them to rig the political process and cement their progressive, anti-gun agenda for a generation.

They are hoping that voters are asleep at the switch and aren’t aware of these amendments in what is likely to be a low-turnout, sleepy election year.

It is vital that Second Amendment supporters become aware of what is happening and alert our friends and supporters to oppose Propositions 1, 3 and 4 this November.

Let’s send a message and defeat these proposals.

Make our voices heard! ■



SCOTUS Sets Date for Crucial Second Amendment Case

by Gerrett O'Leary

The U.S. Supreme Court recently announced that it will hear a case challenging New York's onerous carry restrictions on Nov. 3.

The case, *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association Inc. v Bruen*, is the first Second Amendment case regarding firearms that the High Court will hear in more than a decade.

It challenges New York's requirement that residents applying for permits to exercise their Second Amendment rights demonstrate a "proper cause" to do so. This ambiguous, and ever-changing, barrier is often used by local licensing officials to deny applicants their constitutional rights, as licensed concealed carry is the only legal way for New Yorkers to carry firearms outside the home for self-defense.

The NRA has filed an amicus brief in support of NYSRPA's challenge. In it, the NRA wrote:

New York's regime is irreconcilable with the text, history, and tradition of the Second Amendment. The textual inquiry is not a close question, as the text guarantees a right to "bear" arms as well as "keep" them, and a right to bear arms only within the confines of a home offends both common sense and original public meaning. The historical inquiry is no closer, and has already been answered in Heller. Founding-era cases, commentaries, and laws on both sides of the Atlantic, most of which were surveyed in Heller, confirm that the founding generation understood the Second Amendment and its English

predecessor to guarantee a right to carry arms for self-defense.

As New York is one of just eight "may-issue" states in the nation, meaning that our right to keep and bear arms may be denied on discretionary

when we leave our homes," said Jason Ouimet, executive director of NRA-ILA.

This nation's highest court has not heard a Second Amendment case involving firearms since *McDonald v.*



grounds, NRA-ILA explained that, "[f]or too long, New York has rationed the right to keep and bear arms to a select, chosen few within favored classes. But the Second Amendment guarantees the 'right of the people to keep and bear arms,' not the right of a privileged few."

"The Court rarely takes Second Amendment cases. Now it's decided to hear one of the most critical Second Amendment issues. We're confident that the Court will tell New York and the other states that our Second Amendment right to defend ourselves is fundamental, and doesn't vanish

Chicago (2010), when it affirmed the Second Amendment is a fundamental right that also restricts state and local governments from infringing on this protection. Two years earlier, the Court held in *District of Columbia v. Heller* that the Second Amendment does, in fact, protect an individual right.

A1F.com will continue to keep you informed with up-to-date coverage, analysis and more as the date for this case to be heard draws nearer. ■

This article was first published August 20, 2021 and republished here with permission from America's First Freedom.

Collectors Corner

by David Bock

Chamber Castings

The purpose of making a chamber casting is to get the internal dimensions and characteristics of a firearm's chamber. Since it's nearly impossible to measure the inside of a chamber with conventional tools, the standard procedure is to make a chamber casting to get a negative impression of the chamber, which is much easier to measure.

Chamber castings are made for several reasons, including:

- to find out if the chamber has any damage or excessive wear that might cause function and reliability issues;
- to determine the various chamber measurements (e.g., the neck, shoulder) to optimize reloading;
- to determine the details needed to make a custom bullet mold;
- to find out if the marking on the barrel matches the actual chamber on a used and possibly modified firearm; and even
- to remove a separated case from the chamber.

The most common material used for making a chamber cast is sold under the trade name Cerrosafe. It's an alloy of bismuth, lead, tin and cadmium. The most important attributes of chamber casting metal are: its low melting point—generally between 160 and 190 degrees Fahrenheit; that it shrinks slightly as it cools for ease of removal; yet an hour or so after casting it returns to its cast size for accurate measurement; and when employed properly it's nearly infinitely reusable.



It is fairly straight forward process to make a chamber casting, but it does require some preparation and care. The process is as follows:

1. Make sure the barrel and chamber are clean and dry.
2. Remove any parts, such as the bolt, that would prevent easy access to the barrel. If possible, remove the barrel from the gun.
3. From the muzzle end of the barrel, insert a patch jag with a snug-fitting patch to form a plug for the casting material. The plug should not be too snug, or it could complicate removal of the casting, nor too loose as that could allow casting metal to leak past it. Ideally, the plug should be positioned no less than an inch past the end of the chamber.
4. Place the barrel in a secure fixture pointed muzzle down.
5. Once this is all set, heat the casting metal in a small ladle. The cast-iron style ladle that's used for bullet casting is ideal. An electric hotplate or small gas torch are good heat sources.
6. Note the time, then carefully pour the molten casting metal into the chamber, use a metal tube or funnel if necessary. Fill the chamber to just above the edge, but not so much that it spills over, since this can make it difficult to remove the casting.
7. If too much casting metal is added, just invert, and heat the barrel with a heat gun until it comes out. This won't harm the metal of the

firearm, but may damage a wood or plastic stock, so be careful.

Look for the metal to dull as a sign that the chamber casting has cooled sufficiently for removal—usually, it only takes a few minutes.

Once the casting metal has firmed up, carefully push the chamber casting out from the muzzle using a cleaning rod or a brass or wooden dowel. If the casting sticks, strike the base of the rod or dowel with the palm of your hand. It should only take a few gentle blows to loosen.

Helpful tip: Take care that the chamber casting doesn't get damaged during removal. It's a good idea to

place a soft pad (such as a folded towel) on your workstation to cushion the casting.

Remember to wait at least a full hour after pouring the molten casting metal into the chamber (Step No. 6) to take any measurements. This allows the chamber casting to return to its cast size.

If you need to keep chamber castings for later reference, make sure they are clearly labeled with the source firearm, and they are stored in a container that will protect them from damage. Brownells offers a selection of plastic tubes and caps that will work well for this purpose.

If there's no need to save them, they can be re-melted for the next chamber cast.

While making chamber castings isn't an everyday skill, being able to determine specific details about a firearm chamber can be extremely useful. Just another tool ... er skill ... to keep in your skill box.

As usual, if you have an idea for future articles, please send an email to info@nysrpa.org with "Collectors Corner" in the subject line and make sure to include your name for proper credit. ■



Opinion: Violent Crimes Often Lack Firearms Use

by Jim Collins

Recently, President Joe Biden said that his administration is looking to stem the flow of firearms used to commit crimes. However, during his announcement, he failed to point out that 92% of violent crimes in America do not involve firearms! Instead, statistics from the National Crime Victimization Survey show that most violent offenses, including robberies, rapes, and other sex crimes, almost always involve other weapons or no weapons at all.¹

Despite these findings, Biden and Democrats push for greater gun control, arguing that it's a lack of firearm control that has caused an increase in violent crime. In fact, in three recent speeches on crime, the president mentioned *guns* or *firearms* 148 times. He also mentioned the words *weapon* or *assault weapon* 21 times. By comparison, when he was not discussing guns specifically, he used words, such as: *crime*, *violence* and *violent* about half as many times.

And during these speeches, Biden failed to mention other factors that have led to the increase in violent crimes, such as: last year's unrest regarding George Floyd, the dislocations caused by the pandemic, mass layoffs, kids being kept out of school, and the early release of convicts. Because of these omissions, some folks question Biden's focus on firearm laws.

Experts believe that—even if firearm crime were to rise dramatically—it

would still be a small fraction of overall violent crime.

However, the issue of how to deal with violent crimes is divided among party lines. The Democrats continue to push to restrict police authority, while the Republicans work to give the police agencies more power to do their jobs.

Why is this increase happening now instead of a few years ago?

The Republican answer to this question focuses on recent changes in law enforcement. In some areas, the pandemic and bail reform have allowed more than half of prison inmates to be released especially in urban areas. While in other areas, precinct budgets have been cut and police officers have been ordered to stand down rather than arrest criminals. Additionally, in many urban areas, prosecutors have declined to indict violent criminals.

In contrast, Biden and other Democrats, have pushed for *red flag* firearm laws, and the American Rescue Plan, which passed Congress earlier this year and promised to funds to hire “more police officers, more nurses, more counselors, more social workers.” However, it did not require local governments to spend any of the \$350 billion they received on law enforcement. In his recent three speeches, Biden only mentioned the word *policing* four times.

Do you need more numbers? Consider these statistics about murders in this country from the Crime Prevention Research Center:

Over 50% of murders take place in just 2% of the U.S.'s counties—that's 60 counties out of 3,140 total.

Those 60 counties account for 27.5% of the U.S.'s total population.

Most of those murders in those counties, which were largely gang-related, occurred in a 10-block area.

By contrast, in 54% of U.S. counties, murders have not been committed; and in an addition 15% of U.S. counties, only one murder has occurred.

I urge all NYSRPA members to take note of these numbers. Biden is way off base when talking about crime. He and his party have an agenda that is at odds with freedom and the Second Amendment. Please write to your state and federal representatives and let them know that you are opposed to his plans! Do it today.

As always, may God watch over and protect the brave men and women serving us, at war, in our patriot Armed Forces and may God bless America! Yours in freedom! ■

This article echoes many of the opinions found in John R. Lott Jr.'s article: Critics: Despite what Biden says, guns factor in only a small percentage of violent crimes that ran in The Center Square, on July 21, 2021.

NRA-ILA applauds Rep. Claudia Tenney and U.S. House of Representatives amicus brief supporting Second Amendment case before Supreme Court

Earlier this year, the Supreme Court decided to hear the NRA-ILA backed case challenging New York's restrictive concealed-carry-licensing regime. NRA-ILA's opening brief is located here: <https://bit.ly/3huE11D>.

Today, NRA-ILA applauds Rep. Claudia Tenney (NY-22) and the 175 other Members of the U.S. House of Representatives who filed an amicus brief supporting this case.

Rep. Tenney and her colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives declared their support because they have "sworn an oath to uphold the U.S. Constitution and have an obligation

to defend and uphold the rights recognized in the document, including the right to keep and bear arms." They urged the Supreme Court of the United States to "restore the Second Amendment to its rightful place as a guarantee for all Americans."

NRA-ILA greatly appreciates the tireless work that New York Rep. Tenney and her 175 colleagues invested into this pro-Second Amendment brief that is now before the Supreme Court of the United States. We commend these 176 Members of Congress for their proven dedication to the Second Amendment and the right to keep and bear arms for all citizens.

To read this brief yourself—and see if your Representative signed on to it—please click here: <https://bit.ly/3tCm3QC>.

The case is captioned New York State Rifle & Pistol Association Inc. v. Bruen.

Please stay tuned to www.nraila.org for future updates on NRA-ILA's ongoing efforts to defend your constitutional rights. ■

This article was first published July 21, 2021 and republished here with permission from the NRA-ILA.



NRA Reacts to the Withdrawal of the David Chipman Nomination



FAIRFAX, Va.—The National Rifle Association today celebrates a major victory for our members and law-abiding gun owners as news reports indicate the nomination of David Chipman to head the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives will be withdrawn.

“This critical win is thanks to NRA members who flooded their senators’ offices with texts, emails, letters and phone calls voicing their opposition to Chipman’s nomination. Because of their swift action and ongoing opposition over the past several months, the radical gun control advocate will not sit at the helm of the ATF,” said Jason Ouimet, executive director, National Rifle Association Institute for Legislative Action. “For now, gun owners can rest assured the most immediate threat to their rights

has been defeated, and gun control proponents have suffered a huge setback.”

Defeating the Chipman confirmation has been a top priority for the NRA since he was first nominated by the Biden administration in April. The NRA spent millions of dollars activating its army of grassroots supporters and educating its members and key lawmakers on Chipman’s extremism. The NRA lobbied members of Congress, ran TV and digital ads across the country, executed a massive mail campaign, hosted dozens of town halls in targeted states, wrote articles and op-eds, and stayed in constant contact with its membership to keep them informed. Chipman’s nomination posed a grave threat to the Second Amendment.

He spent the last 10 years working for gun control groups and lobbying on Capitol Hill to restrict Americans’ rights. Had he been confirmed, Americans could have faced widespread gun and magazine bans, along with countless other attacks on their rights. During his confirmation hearing, Chipman was unable to define the term “assault weapon,” but said he supported banning essentially all semiautomatic rifles and standard magazines capable of holding more than 10 rounds.

“Chipman was the wrong candidate for many reasons,” Ouimet continued. “From an administration that claims it wants to be unifying, it could not have picked a more polarizing nominee. The position should be held by someone who can be trusted to work with gun owners, law enforcement and the firearms industry. Chipman’s record of support for radical gun control left no doubt he would not respect the rights of the American gun owner when overseeing the ATF.”

Ouimet concluded, “While today’s battle has been won, tomorrow’s threats remain. An administration as radical as Biden’s is certain to continue their gun control push through various means, including ‘relocating’ Chipman elsewhere. NRA members must remain vigilant.” ■

This article was first published September 9, 2021 and republished here with permission from the NRAILA.

Pistol Director

by Steve Kraynak

A Look at this Year's CMP National Patrol Matches

Due to an accident I had the beginning of June, I was not able to attend the CMP National Pistol matches at Camp Perry, Ohio. I have attended the matches at Camp Perry for 36 consecutive years—as a competitor and a member of the New York State Pistol Team—and it is hard to describe how bad I feel about missing this year's event.

Gratefully, several of our past team members led by Bob Henschel got together and put together our Pistol Teams. I can assure everyone that this was quite a task given the last-minute circumstances! I am indeed very grateful for the time and effort they put in and their excellent representation of the NYSRPA Pistol Team.

The team rosters are as follows:

- **NYSRPA .22 caliber team "A"**
Captain, Bruce Martindale;
Coach, Jim Hitt; team members,

Richard Powers and Heather Powers

- **.22 caliber team "B"** Captain, Bob Henschel; team members Dennis Dittrich, Mike Schlabach and Yoketing Eng
- **NYSRPA Center Fire team "A"** Captain Bruce Martindale; Coach Mike Colwell; team members, Jim Hitt, Richard Powers and Heather Powers
- **Center Fire team "B"** Captain, Bob Henschel; team members Dennis Dittrich, Mike Colwell and Yoketing Eng.
- **NYSRPA .45 caliber team "A"** Captain Bruce Martindale; team members Jim Hitt, Mike Colwell and Richard Powers
- **.45 caliber team "B"** Captain, Bob Henschel; team members Dennis Dittrich, Yoketing Eng and Mike Colwell
- **The National Pistol Trophy "Hardball Team" match** Captain Bob Henschel; team members

Bruce Martindale, Konstantin Pitsoulis and Yoketing Eng

Team and individual results can be viewed on the Civilian Marksmanship Program's website: <https://thecmp.org/competitions/matches/cmp-national-matches/>.

Going forward the New York State Precision Pistol matches are being held at three locations this fall, which include Dutchess County Pistol Association, Castleton Fish & Game Association, and Niagara County Sportsman's Association.

The results will be posted in the next issue of the *Bullet*. Hopefully, there will be favorable attendance at our matches. The availability of ammunition has been a problem this year in many locations along with the fear of COVID-19 issues.

Again, I would like to thank our team members and captains for their participation and effort representing the NYSRPA at the Camp Perry matches. ■

Valad Electric Heating Corp.

Arthur Cecchini

65 Leonards Dr., Montgomery, NY 12549

(914) 631-4927

The Second Amendment Now Comes with Government-issued ‘Harmful Language Alert’

The absurdity and dysfunction of the Biden Administration have become so pervasive that it's easy to become numb to it all. But, some things it does are still so outrageous and inconceivable—touching on the very identity of the nation itself—that it is worth pausing to take stock of just how far the U.S. has fallen as a country in the short time Joe Biden has occupied the White House.

The latest example comes from the National Archives, the federal

entity entrusted with preserving America's most significant records and documents, including those which established the United States as an independent nation. Images of those original documents—which include the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights—are now displayed on the National Archives' website with a "Harmful Language Alert." This advisory warns the content in the documents may, among other things,

be "outdated," "offensive," "racist," and "discriminatory."

The alert was placed on the website by the National Archives and Records Administration, a collection of D.C. bureaucrats who obviously believe they are smarter, more enlightened, and morally superior to those whose genius, vision, and courage led to the formation of the United States itself. NARA's explanation of the alert even suggests they will improve upon the output of the founders



and of their predecessor archivists through a process of self-examination and constant revision to root out any hint of what they consider "biases," "prejudices," and "harmful language" in their own work product.

Of course, there's nothing wrong with choosing one's words carefully, taking into account a broad range of perspectives. And the individuals who work for NARA are surely entitled, in their private capacities, to hold whatever view of America's constitutional republic and founding ideals they want.

But, it's difficult to imagine how a sovereign nation can continue as such if the very government-appointed guardians of its history presume to

apply their own political, cultural, and esthetic sensibilities to critique and criticize, in their official capacity, the country's most fundamental and enduring precepts.

After all, the signature moment in the career of the government's most powerful officers is when they are sworn into office by taking an oath, sometimes with a hand placed on a sacred religious text, promising to defend and uphold the Constitution of the United States.

It's particularly telling that the bureaucrats at NARA believe themselves to be over and above that document, which after all, established the form of government that eventually led to their own existence and that

allows such existence to be sustained at the public's expense. This may be the most breathtaking example of arrogance and biting the hand that feeds you the American public has ever seen from any government officials.

In response to a media inquiry about the alert (which reported the advisory was created in July 2021), NARA defended itself by claiming the Harmful Language Alert is "not connected to any specific records, but appears at the top of the page while you are using the online National Archives Catalog."

In other words, it seems that NARA is claiming the advisory—while still applicable to the nation's founding documents—wasn't necessarily





or exclusively written for those documents and that, really, all of recorded American history could be considered offensive and harmful to right-thinking people.

That's hardly an improvement, especially coming from the functionaries whose most important official duty is to ensure preservation of the records that literally make America America.

Yet NARA has, however unwittingly, provided Americans with an important public service by illustrating in as clear and profound a way as possible the anti-American rot that infests all levels and departments of the Executive Branch under Biden and the disdain with which it holds America's highest aspirations.

It doesn't seem like too much of an exaggeration to say their objective

appears not so much to run the government as to transform it into something the founders would find unrecognizable, a nation founded not on enduring and universally applicable principles but on the shifting whims of entrenched elites.

To be sure, such deranged minds must find the ideas in the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, and Bill of Rights deeply offensive, outdated, and harmful. They cannot conceive that there should be any limits to their own designs for government rule or that they should be considered merely part of the undifferentiated mass of common people who make up the U.S. population and subject to the same rules that apply to them.

Yet, ironically, the answer to this dismal state of affairs is still found in those very documents and in the

processes they establish for electing and holding government officials accountable and in the fundamental rights none of those officials may transgress.

Patriotic Americans need to take heed and engage in those processes and assert those rights.

Because if the government can haughtily superimpose derogatory warnings over the written records that delineate and limit their own authority and that empower the people they represent, then the day may indeed come when those records won't be worth the parchment on which they are written. ■

This article was first published Sept. 13, 2021 and republished here with permission from the NRAILA.



Spotlight: Rensselaer County Executive Steve McLaughlin

by Carl Gottstein

Rensselaer County's Steve McLaughlin is an outstanding county executive and supporter of the Second Amendment. This is the model for success!

If you are fortunate enough to live in Rensselaer County you already know his story, but after this issue of Bullet Magazine the secret will be out. If you have a loved one who did not catch COVID-19 in his county's senior-care facility; if the letters PFOA mean anything to you; or if you attended NYSRPA's protest of the signing of the SAFE Act in Albany in 2013 (more than 14,000 people attended), you already know his name. I am speaking of course of Rensselaer's intrepid County Executive Steve McLaughlin.

McLaughlin has shown a consistency that is rarely displayed by an elected official. He can be counted on to say what he means, and he means what he says. That is very high praise. We The People need and want more of this kind of honest visionary leadership, and I wish to remind everyone that elections are so important on every level of government.

We need to elect real leaders! We need leaders who stand up and who are willing to be heard to save our state. Let's motivate voters like Steve McLaughlin does, with solution-driven representation.

I want to thank McLaughlin for stepping up as needed—and in some cases even for directly saving lives. He's earned my vote,

respect, and appreciation the hard way, by doing good work. For years, McLaughlin knew how to go it alone on important issues.

In 2016, when perfluorooctanoic acid, or PFOA, was discovered in the Village of Hoosick Falls—in his Assembly District—he led efforts to draw attention to the issue and to get help for the small community. In a precursor to the COVID-19 outbreak, when there were questions about state management of data and information about PFOA, McLaughlin led the charge when it was discovered the State Health Department had withheld important data related to PFOA in Hoosick Falls.

Tackling COVID-19

Fast forward to spring of 2020, when COVID-19 had arrived in the county, with the first cases confirmed in a county of nearly 160,000 residents.

A March 25, 2020, memorandum drew obvious concern from the county executive. State Health Commissioner Howard Zucker—acting on orders of then Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo—had issued a directive that placed nursing home residents—like those cared for in the Van Rensselaer Manor, a 362-bed facility operated by the county and located in North Greenbush—in a direct path with COVID-19.

The Zucker memo ordered nursing homes across the state to accept COVID-19 positive patients: “No resident shall be denied re-admission or admission to the (nursing home) solely based on a confirmed or suspected diagnosis of COVID-19.” Here was the state essentially ordering

nursing homes to accept COVID-19 and risk exposure and possible even worse.

McLaughlin stated, “There is no way the order will be followed in Rensselaer County at the Manor,” even as the Zucker letter made it clear the order was non-negotiable. “If there was one thing that kept me up at night, it was keeping COVID-19 out of the Manor. The order made no sense,” said McLaughlin. “When a case was confirmed at the Manor, we would isolate the resident in a hospital, and keep the facility as free of COVID-19 as possible.”

His guidance on the March 25 Cuomo-Zucker order was clear and succinct: “Not here, not now, not ever,” McLaughlin told his team.

Thank God he did. McLaughlin’s stand saved lives and soon resulted in the governor of New York rescinding this horrifying and deadly executive order as McLaughlin’s strong stand would be proven correct in time. Cuomo was at the peak of his pandemic popularity when the nursing home issue arose. When the issue began to be probed more intently, following McLaughlin’s public stand, Cuomo’s descent began, eventually ending with his resignation this summer.

The SAFE Act

The governor’s aggressive conduct masked what McLaughlin saw as a cover for incompetence and naked political ambition. Likewise, “the SAFE Act had everything to do with attempting to elevate Andrew Cuomo to the national political stage, and

nothing to do with making streets safe or taking guns out of the hands of criminals,” stated McLaughlin.

Elected in 2010, McLaughlin became known early on and statewide for his fiery, but factual attacks on the SAFE Act, including many NYSRPA-sponsored rallies for Second Amendment and constitutional rights at the State Capitol where McLaughlin took the stage and reminded residents their voice—and vote—counted.

“The SAFE Act was Andrew Cuomo blatantly selling out the rights and the traditions of New Yorkers all to position himself as a contender for national office. The SAFE Act was and is a failed piece of legislation that has done nothing to make streets, cities, and neighborhoods safer,” said McLaughlin. “The SAFE ACT never should have been passed and it should be repealed.”

Budgets and infrastructure

McLaughlin’s term as county executive has been focused on accomplishments. All three of his budgets as county executive lowered taxes and earned unanimous support in Rensselaer’s bipartisan County Legislature. The county embarked on an ambitious effort to improve county roads, paving over 105 miles in just three years. And, work on the emergency services training tower has begun! The county also embraced emerging technologies and new methods of governing. Due to better controls of purchasing and personnel that resulted in major savings each of McLaughlin’s first three years the county earned its highest bond rating ever under his leadership and direction.

In 2019, Rensselaer County led the state in sales tax growth, according to a report by the State Comptroller.

“We encourage growth by reducing taxes and making government more efficient and responsive. Rensselaer County sent a very strong message that we were encouraging investment and job creation, and that message was very clearly heard far beyond our borders,” said McLaughlin.

“Through our term, regardless of the decision or the issue or the challenge, we have remembered our commitment to the Constitution and the rights of all Americans to enjoy liberty and exercise free will. Protecting personal freedom will always be a top priority as we serve the residents of our great county,” said McLaughlin.

We need more like McLaughlin. He gives us representation we can believe in. ■

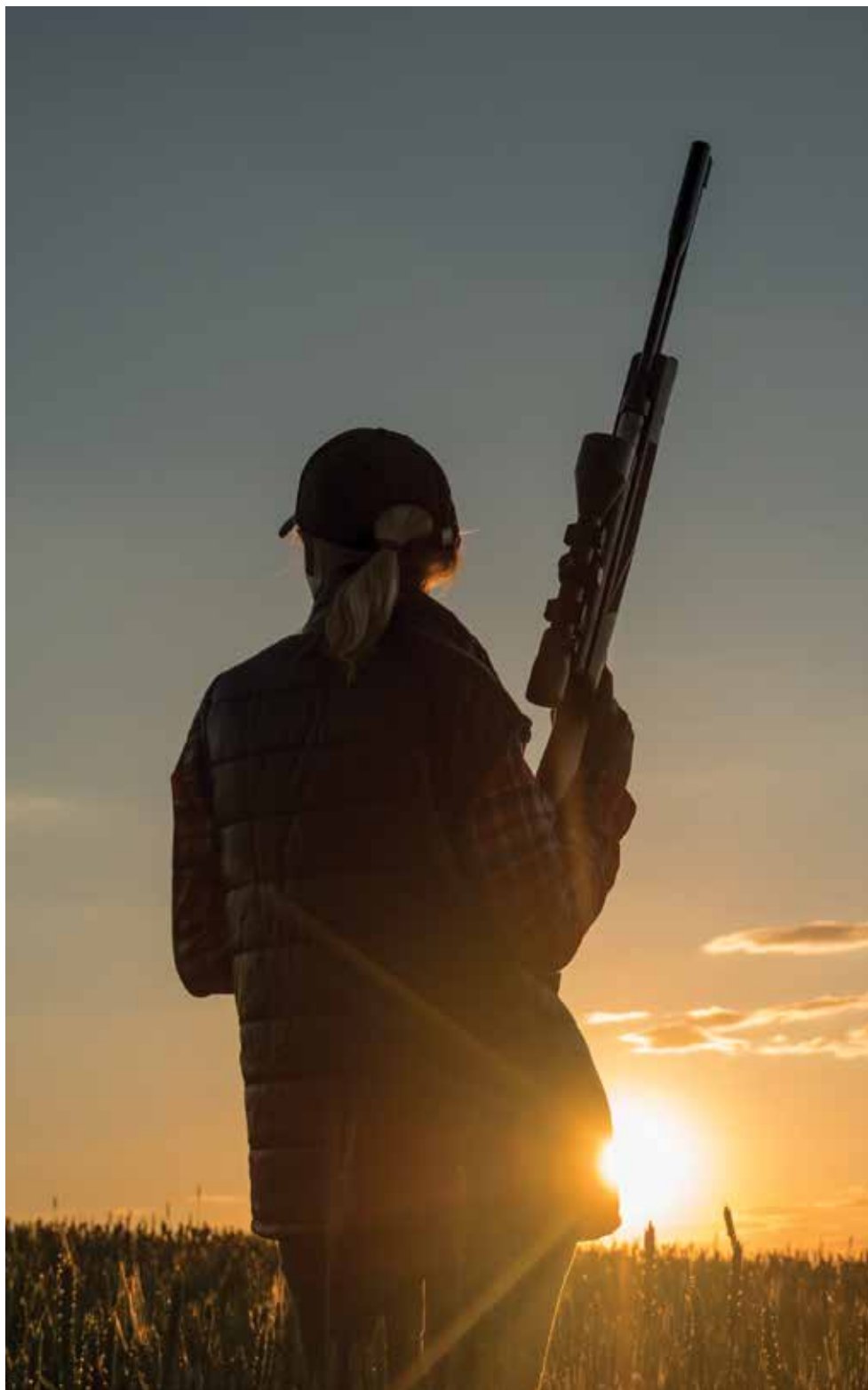


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Harvard Researcher: About Half of New Gun Owners are Women



In a blow to the tired stereotypes perpetuated by gun-control supporters, a recent academic survey found broad diversity among recent first-time gun buyers. The findings bolstered what many observers had anecdotally discovered, the last year-and-a-half's pandemic and civil unrest-fueled record-breaking gun sales.

Provided with the preliminary survey results, the Wall Street Journal reported,

... the 2021 National Firearms Survey, designed by Deborah Azrael of the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and Matthew Miller of Northeastern University, show an estimated 3.5 million women became new gun owners from January 2019 through April of this year. About 4 million men became new gun owners over that period, they found.

Therefore, the study suggests that 46.6% of new gun owners since January 2019 were women.

The news is of particular interest to those who understand the Second Amendment isn't about duck hunting. Pew Research Center data suggests that women are more likely than men to cite self-defense as their reason for purchasing a firearm. In 2017, Pew reported,

Male and female gun owners are about equally likely to cite protection as a reason why they own guns: About nine-in-ten in each group say this is a reason, and 65% and 71%, respectively,

say it is a major reason. But far larger shares of women than men who own guns say protection is the only reason they own a gun: About a quarter of women who own guns (27%) are in this category, compared with just 8% of men.

The 2021 survey also found that new gun owners were more diverse than the general population. The Wall Street Journal noted, “Among new gun buyers, 55% were white, 21% were Black and 19% were Hispanic. Among new women gun owners, 28% were Black.” For context, Census data places

the U.S. demographic breakdown at 13.4% Black and 18.5% Hispanic.

The survey findings won’t come as a surprise to those who have been paying attention. Starting in the earliest days of the pandemic, there were media reports throughout the country noting a diverse deluge of first-time gun buyers showing up at gun dealers. Moreover, surveys of these dealers showed a similar situation unfolding. In February, NSSF noted, “sales among women accounted for 40% of all sales, and purchases by African Americans increased by 56% compared to 2019.”

Azrael and Miller’s findings are even more notable given the anti-gun movement’s recent attempts to leverage the current identity politics mood in pursuit of their civilian disarmament agenda. The recent survey data is strong evidence that the public is ignoring these political opportunists, understanding that the Second Amendment right is for all Americans. ■

This article was first published Sept. 20, 2021 and republished here with permission from the NRAILA.



The Second Amendment isn't Partisan



The mainstream media is beginning to notice something President Joe Biden's (D) team refuses to see:

"All his life, Jabril Battle was anti-gun. Then came the pandemic, the lockdown, the shortages and a feeling that at any moment, things could blow. Battle bought a Beretta."—*The Washington Post*

"Six months ago, Svetlana Kim was so scared of guns, she couldn't even look at an image of one without feeling anxious That all changed when something scarier came along. Months into the pandemic, people who looked like Kim were being shoved and kicked to the ground, punched,

stabbed and slashed, while doing everyday activities like walking around the neighborhood, shopping and riding buses and trains On March 3, Kim went from being a 'really anti-gun person' to the new owner of a Springfield Armory handgun." —*Time*

This, of course, isn't the sudden change the media is pretending it is. Anyone who has traveled a little—maybe competing in some type of shooting sport—knows gun ownership is and has been diverse. It just seems to be getting more so. What these Left-leaning media outlets are reacting to is the startling fact—to them, not to the members of the NRA—that more of

the voters who usually swallow their brand of politics are buying guns for self-defense.

The numbers outlining this trend are compelling.

A survey of 104 retailers covering the first six months of 2020, done by the National Shooting Sports Foundation, found that gun sales to Black men and women were up 58%, compared to the same period in 2019. Also, gun sales in the first six months of 2020 to Hispanic customers were up 47% and sales to Asian Americans were up 43% during the same time frame.

Incredibly, about 40% of these sales were to first-time buyers, according to the NSSF data. In all, the NSSF says

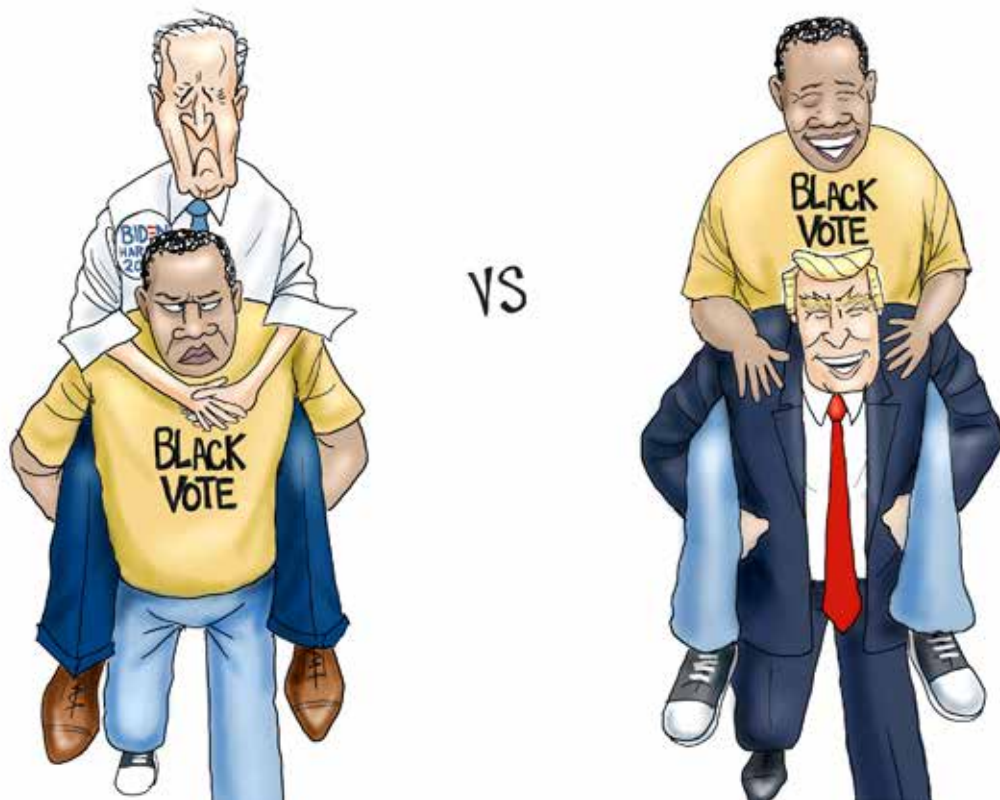
over eight million new gun owners entered the market in 2020 alone. This growth in the practical use of this constitutional right begs the question: Are these new gun owners now more likely to vote for their freedom? To answer this question, we looked into the data and reached out to people who are close to this issue, including Kevin Jackson, a best-selling author and documentary filmmaker, for his insights into the continued growth of the use of this constitutional right. Stay tuned for a video interview with Jackson coming soon at A1F.com.

Despite the identity politics now being played by so many, the Second Amendment makes no distinction about a person's race, ethnicity or gender. The Second Amendment is a restriction on government. The Second Amendment, therefore, is apolitical. Standing for freedom isn't and never should be a partisan issue in America. The fact that the mainstream media is beginning to notice that more Americans of all backgrounds are embracing this right is hopefully a sign that the media is realizing they

need to drop the partisan attacks on law-abiding gun owners. Maybe, just maybe, this means that someday we'll see honest discussion about this right in the mainstream media. Then, imagine this, instead of blaming the peoples' guns—bought and carried for self-defense—we'd all be focused on stopping the violent criminals in our society. ■

This article was first published Sept 22, 2021 by Frank Miniter and republished here with permission from the Americas 1st Freedom.





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edendds@roadrunner.com

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Harry (845) 219-9327
Bucky (845) 542-8571
www.wallkillrodandgun.com

Waterloo Rifle & Pistol Club
Waterloo, NY
Smallbore Highpower Sporterifle
Pistol
Women's & Jrs.
waterloorpc.com

Whortlekill R & G Club
Hopewell Junction, NY
Indoor Pistol & Handgun Instruction
G. Robinson (845) 298-3263
Shotgun J. Stern (203) 232-7896
Hunter Education
P. Scarano (845) 401-6636

Wolcottville Sportsmen's Club
1525 Phelps Road
Cofu, NY 14036

If your club is a member and would like to be listed, email club info to: info@nysrpa.org

Deadline for submissions for the December issue
of *Bullet* magazine is: November 21, 2021

Nancy's Corner

by Nancy Lewandusky

Well, folks in this issue I want to introduce you to my cousin Jacob LaPell—not only because of his recent accomplishments in the shooting sports, but because I want to encourage people of all ages to get on target!

Jacob was born and raised Pottersville, N.Y., and he is 11 years old. And yes, Jacob very much enjoys shooting sports! He also loves fishing, car shows and taking aviation courses.

Jacob has been involved with shooting for four years and he started competitively shooting in July 2020. Recently, Jacob took part in the Old Saratoga Muzzle Loading Clubs Spring Shoot, where he shot in the Pee Wee rifle match. Jacob won first place using his great grandfather's CVA Kentucky Rifle at 25 yards. He also took second place using a .32 CVA Squirrel rifle at 50 yards. Jacob is pictured holding up his medals and shooting in the competition in the photos that accompany this article. We are all proud of him.

Great job, Jacob! Keep shooting! Pee Wee 25-yard champ!



If you are interested in having your child's accomplishments in shooting sports mentioned in Nancy's Corner of the Bullet, contact me at Info@NYSRPA.org with details and please include a photo.

A great leader in Rensselaer County

It's that time of year again, election time. In Rensselaer County, we have a great leader as our county executive in Mr. Steve McLaughlin. Steve not only made important promises, but he has delivered on them. Watching our county executive during the COVID-19 pandemic was nothing short of inspiring. He stood his ground, not letting COVID-infected people into the Van Rensselaer Manor, and saved many elders lives by doing so. Steve also made sure there is a vaccination bus available to residents who want to get the shot, but who might not otherwise have transportation available to them.

Steve is pro Second Amendment, and he consistently stands up for our rights as gun owners.



Steve has earned my vote for reelection.

Propositions on the ballot

In other Election Day news, I want to mention Propositions 1, 3 and 4. They are all a problem for those who want fair and honest elections. I am voting no on all three propositions. Please get out and vote—vote down these heinous propositions, and remember in November that we want someone who advocates for the people, like Steve!

I believe in Steve.

Great to see you!

I really enjoyed meeting so many of you at the recent gun show in Syracuse. I had a wonderful time and I would like to say thank you for your kind words of welcome! What a success it was. The event ended with new members for NYSRPA, donations for the organization and our causes, and lots of information shared among us.

Can't wait to see you all at the next one! ■

THE GUN OWNERS VOICE IN ALBANY!



www.nysrpa.org

GET MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION HERE



Are your friends members? If not, use the application below to sign them up. **Make copies if you have lots of friends!**

Application for Individual Membership

PO Box 278, East Greenbush, NY 12061

Please check one ☐ New member
☐ Renewal (NYSRPA # _____)

Name (Please PRINT) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

County (NYS residents only) _____

Phone (home) _____

Email _____

Date of birth (required) (MM/DD/YY) ____/____/____

NRA Member? ☐ No ☐ Yes (NRA # _____)

For statistical purposes only, please indicate ☐ Male ☐ Female

Revised 1/1/2011

This application was referred to NYSRPA by: NYSRPA Membership # _____

Name _____

Address _____

Please select your enrollment type/term

- ☐ Active Military \$25.00 \$ _____
- ☐ Adult - 1 year (ages 18-64) \$30.00 \$ _____
- ☐ Senior* - 1 year (ages 65-over) \$25.00 \$ _____
- ☐ Junior - 1 year (under 18) \$15.00 \$ _____
- ☐ Family - 1 year \$50.00 \$ _____
- ☐ Life (under 65) \$500.00 \$ _____
- ☐ Life (ages 65-over) \$300.00 \$ _____
- ☐ Additional Voluntary Contribution \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

**Disabled American Veterans qualify for the Senior 1-year dues rate*

Please indicate your payment method:

- ☐ Check/money order (payable to NYSRPA)
- ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard CVV# (required) _____
- Acct.# _____ Exp. _____
- Signature _____



NYSRPA needs you!

There is no doubt that Cuomo, Bloomberg, DeBlasio and liberal Anti-Second Amendment people are trying to destroy the NRA and NYSRPA. We are certain that you're aware of what legal costs are in today's economy. We are fighting hard against their cause.

Here is the bottom line: DIG DEEP.

Contribute to keeping the state of New York free, free from Cuomo's idea of utopia, free from DeBlasio's socialist mentality; free to protect one's self, home and family.

Freedom is NOT free. It always costs dearly. Remember that.

We need your help today!

Make donation to: NYSRPA
PO Box 278 East Greenbush, NY 12061

Name (Please PRINT)

Address

City

State

ZIP

Amount of donation: \$ _____

☐ Check/money order (*payable to NYSRPA*)

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Articles and graphics appearing in the Bullet may be reprinted, provided appropriate credit is given to NYSRPA and Bullet Magazine.



Editor Carl Gottstein
713 Columbia Turnpike
PO Box 278
East Greenbush, NY 12061

NYSRPA Endorsements for NRA Board

See page 25

MEMBERSHIP HOTLINE *(credit card orders only)*
(518) 272-2654
(Monday-Friday 9 A.M.-4 P.M.)



PROTECT ELECTION INTEGRITY IN NEW YORK

VOTE (NO) Proposition 1 would amend the bipartisan constitutional amendment, adopted in 2014, which created an Independent Redistricting Commission.

VOTE (NO) Proposition 3 would create a same-day voter registration. New York state law already permits someone to register to vote up to 10 days prior to an election.

Same-day registration is an open invitation to election fraud, and it will not allow sufficient time to ascertain whether someone is truly eligible to vote.

VOTE (NO) Proposition 4 would create so-called “no excuse” absentee voting.

