A CELEBRATION OF TRADITION

100th Anniversary of the National Matches at Camp Perry

» Locatelli Family Makes Generous Contribution to NRA pg. 11
» National Firearms Museum Update pg. 20
Featuring

Guest Editorial – John C. da Silva

Grants in Action

A Celebration of Tradition: Camp Perry
Fayette County 4-H Shooting Club’s Track Record of Producing Winners
Keeping the Art Alive
Garda Dedication
Are Charitable IRA Rollovers an Option For You?

Foundation News

NRA Announces New Competitive Shooting & National Championships Endowment
NRA’s National Police Shooting Championships
For the Locatelli Family, Supporting the NRA is a Family Affair

Friends Update

Bad Situation Gone Good
Western Region
South Central Region
North Central Region
Eastern Region

National Firearms Museum News

Recent Exhibits of the National Firearms Museum
One On One With Tom Selleck

NRA Foundation Donors

31

Mission Statement

Established in 1990, The NRA Foundation, Inc. (“NRA Foundation”) is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization that raises tax-deductible contributions in support of a wide range of firearms-related public interest activities of the National Rifle Association of America and other organizations that defend and foster the Second Amendment rights of all law-abiding Americans. These activities are designed to promote firearms and hunting safety, to enhance marksmanship skills of those participating in the shooting sports, and to educate the general public about firearms in their historic, technological, and artistic context. Funds granted by The NRA Foundation benefit a variety of constituencies throughout the United States, including children, youth, women, individuals with physical disabilities, gun collectors, law enforcement officers, hunters, and competitive shooters.

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2007 3-Position Metallic Champion Taylor Beard of Parker, Co., outshot her nearest competitor by six points to win the championship.

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Extending the Family

Each year, volunteers from across the country work both independently and collaboratively in an unwavering effort, greasing the wheels of the well-oiled fundraising machine we all know as Friends of NRA. Equally as steadfast are those in the industry: the suppliers of fine quality merchandise that back the program and who play an intricate role in churning the wheels of freedom. Their commitment to the Second Amendment breathes life into and sustains the program; their pledge is one worth commending.

My personal pledge is to maintain business relationships with companies who have remained steady in their support of the NRA and establish new ones with promising companies who infuse passion and loyalty of shooting sports into their work. Our program deserves to be surrounded by high quality vendors who match the dedication shown by the Friends of NRA family.

It is our mission to ensure that each volunteer within the Friends of NRA program is here for the right reason—to ensure the future of shooting sports and to honor the Second Amendment. We will continue to build a strong vendor base and provide quality merchandise and customer service for our committees to utilize, as well as promote the sponsor program in an effort to raise money. All proceeds benefit a variety of programs; having worked with both Refuse To Be A Victim® and Eddie Eagle GunSafe® programs, I appreciate the dedication and value the benefits each of our grassroots, fundraising events bring—all directly linked to our success. In this way, we are all a part of an interdependent cycle.

As National Manager of Volunteer Fundraising, I will strive to ensure that our family extends the warmest welcome to all who believe in the cause. I am eager to bring my achievements and experience to the table in this new position. I am also excited at the prospect of fulfilling my pledge to the program with no less than the utmost quality, passion and loyalty.

We are all vested to raise money, support shooting sports, bring awareness into the community, educate the youth and protect America’s future. Thank you for your continued, commendable efforts. I am honored to be a member of the Friends of NRA family. ★
Robert Harbison knew it was the best time to exhale. While standing among hundreds of his fellow firearm enthusiasts, Harbison, a resident of Columbus, Georgia, just wanted to take in the sights, the sounds, and the camaraderie one more time. “This has been a tremendous week,” Harbison said after taking the top spot in the NRA Smallbore Prone National Championships.

Harbison looked out into the audience in the Hough Theatre at Camp Perry, Ohio, and smiled. The smile didn’t come from the standing ovation that he was receiving for winning a national championship—not even for being awarded a gold medal and a muzzleloading .45 caliber Kentucky rifle made by Chiappa Firearms. Harbison, a Lieutenant Colonel with the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit (USAMU), knew his time during the 2007 National Rifle and Pistol Championships was coming to a close and that there would never be one like this again. It was the 100th anniversary of the first National Matches held at Camp Perry and it was a summer of reflection.

“My first year here was in 1982, and I’ve been thinking about that trip all day long,” Harbison said. “You can’t help but think about the first time you came here and caught the Camp Perry bug. You know, the one where you want to come back the following year. With all of the history that’s been on display this year, one can’t help but think of the tradition that is Camp Perry.”
It was a celebration of tradition all around the Ohio National Guard post. Special centennial ceremonies, activities, and displays were everywhere. The NRA's National Firearms Museum, based at NRA Headquarters in Fairfax, Va., had a huge display of Camp Perry memorabilia. Large banners were also displayed around the camp to identify significant historical milestones. The whole spectacle of it all was grand for Harbison.

“I just couldn’t get it out of my mind. It brought me back to being 14 years old and shooting here for the championship, and doing just terrible,” he said. “But I loved every minute of it. I enjoyed the company and the camaraderie of it. I loved the traditions for the first time.”

In honor of Harbison and the thousands of athletes who came to celebrate something that happens only once in a lifetime, Traditions wanted to look back at the 2007 victories that will forever be a part of Camp Perry lore:

**Pistol**

Gunnery Sergeant Brian Zins of Quantico, Va., claimed his eighth national championship title—a record for any pistol shooter—at the NRA National Pistol Championships. With wind gusts exceeding 30 mph on the final day, Zins outscored his competition with an aggregate score of 2640-115X to ensure his place in history. Zins was also the recipient of the regular service champion award.

In his third appearance at the NRA National Matches, Lieutenant Philip Hemphill of Clinton, Miss., found himself neck-and-neck with Zins going into the .45 Championships. In the end, the wind took its toll on Hemphill, leaving him with an overall score of 2625-118X for the silver medal. Hemphill also received the police champion title, making him the only individual to ever hold the NRA National Police Championship and NRA Police Champion titles in the same year. Third place was taken by Steve Reiter of Tucson, Ariz., a familiar face at the awards stand, with a score of 2621-106X. Reiter was also named the civilian and senior champion.

**Smallbore Rifle: 3-Position**

Sergeant Shane M. Barnhart of the USAMU based in Fort Benning, Ga., won his third National Smallbore Rifle NRA Three-Position Championship with a score of 2267-74X.

Weather conditions played a big part in the overall competition this year. Scores were down slightly due to heavy rain during the Metallic Championships and strong winds during the Any Sight Championships. However, many of the competitors said that the always-changing conditions make the National Matches one of the most enjoyable championships in all of the shooting sports.

Commenting about the weather conditions, Sgt. Barnhart said, “It wouldn’t be Camp Perry if it were not for the weather. The wind got to be very hectic during the Any Sight Championships, but I did better that day than during the Metallic Championships. I had a better day because I was allowed to use a scope. The scope helped me because I felt just a little more comfortable shooting with the scope than when I was using metallic sights.” Sgt. Barnhart also won in the Service Champion category.

Competing in her second year at Camp Perry, New York resident Abby Fong took second place with a score of 2252-71X. “The level of competition always heightens the experience for me when I shoot at Perry,” said the 19-year-old Princeton student. “But it can also be a humbling experience. In the end, however, competitors can say that they could hold their own with Olympic shooters. Everyone is on the same level here at Camp Perry.”

**Smallbore Rifle: Prone**

The U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit dominated the NRA Smallbore Prone National Championships. Lieutenant Colonel Harbison led the field of nearly 400 competitors as the USAMU took the top three overall spots. Harbison finished with a score of 6397-542X. This competition was Harbison’s first national championship.

Harbison just edged his cohorts, Major Michael Anti of Fort Benning, Ga., and Sgt. Shane Barnhart who finished in second and third place, respectively. Barnhart posted 6394-510X.

Commenting on his team’s dominance in the smallbore prone phase, Harbison explained that his team got the job done in the final relays. “This has been a tremendous week for us, and we all came on strong in the end,” Harbison said.

Harbison also won the NRA Prone Any Sight Championship and the Service Championship. In addition, he finished second in the NRA Prone Metallic Sight Championship to Keith Ridgway, a native of Reading in the United Kingdom.

**High Power Rifle Championship**

Ashland, Pa., resident Carl R. Bernosky won top honors at the 2007 National Rifle Association High Power Rifle Championship Matches. A shooter with over 30 years of experience on the firing line at Camp Perry, Bernosky has previously won this prestigious award seven times.

To take first place and win the title of High Power Rifle
champion, Bernosky posted a score of 1787-89X. Second place went to David Tubb of Canadian, Texas, with a score of 1779-86X. Tubb also won second place in the National Match Rifle Championship. Third place went to Ronald L. Zerr of El Paso, Texas, who posted a score of 1776-75X. Zerr also took third-place honors in the National Match Rifle Championship.

High Power Rifle:
NRA/Springfield Armory M1A Rifle Match
The NRA/Springfield Armory M1A Rifle Match made its debut on August 5, 2007. This prestigious and prize-rich competition drew more than 500 competitive target shooters who vied for top honors and $25,000 in cash and prizes.

The overall match winner was Ryan Castonguay of New Hartford, Conn., a 17-year-old shooter. Despite the fact that he was relatively new to the Springfield M1A rifle, Castonguay posted an impressive score of 463-8X to take top match honors.

David Chase of Tujunga, Calif., won the First Place Civilian title with a score of 447-8X. Dana Fogarty of Dover, N.H., captured the Second Place Civilian title with a score of 445-3X, and Robert Leatham of Mesa, Ariz., took home the Third Place Civilian title with a score of 445-3X.

High Power Rifle: Long Range
John Whidden of Nashville, Ga., won his first NRA High Power Long Range National Championship, edging defending champion Kent Reeve of Cary, N.C., with a score of 1241-68X out of a possible 1250-125X.

Whidden overcame a one-point deficit heading into the final day of competition, winning the Palma Individual Trophy Match with a score of 446-25X to claim the overall title. Reeve finished second overall with a score of 1236-65X, and Sergeant First Class Lance Hopper of the USAMU finished third with a score of 1233-64X.

“I knew that it would be a long race and that at various times the lead would change hands,” said Whidden, who lurked near the top of the leader board throughout the contest until grabbing the lead at the end. “But I knew that the match would be decided at the 1,000-yard line.”

For information on how you can register for the 2008 National Championships at Camp Perry, visit www.nrahq.org/compete or call (800) 672-3888 x1450.
In conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the NRA National Rifle and Pistol Championships at Camp Perry, NRA President John C. Sigler announced a Competitive Shooting & National Championships Endowment.

An endowment is a permanent fund that produces investment income. The permanent fund is never touched—only a portion of the fund’s investment earnings are used for qualified programs. The balance is then reinvested to ensure the fund’s growth, thus providing a source of income in perpetuity. This ensures that future generations of Americans will enjoy the firearms tradition intended by our Founding Fathers.

“Competitive shooting is at the core of NRA’s mission,” Sigler commented. “This endowment will help provide permanent funding necessary to ensure continued operation and growth of national-championship level competition, and enhance shooting participation wherever feasible.

“NRA sanctions about 10,000 tournaments a year and conducts more than 50 National Championships,” Sigler continued. “It is essential that we not only protect our current programs but expand the opportunities for Americans to find new, fun ways to exercise their Second Amendment rights.”

Commenting on the endowment, Mike Krei, NRA’s Director of Competitive Shooting, said, “This initiative is a major step toward securing the long-term growth of NRA competitive shooting events. Serious competitive shooters who want a way to give something back to the sport in perpetuity will find no better option than this endowment.”★

For more information on contributing to the growth of competitive shooting through this endowment, contact Frank Cerutti, Director of Strategic Giving, NRA Office of Advancement, at (703) 267-1571 or fcerutti@nrahq.org, or Mike Krei, Director of Competitive Shooting, at mkrei@nrahq.org. Advancement staff will work with donors to direct gifts to specific competitive shooting programs as the donor wishes. Donations to some programs within this endowment may qualify as charitable gifts for tax purposes. Gifts may be made in cash, stocks or other assets, and pledged over time or as an estate gift.

Afters a successful debut in 2006, the National Rifle Association will hold its 45th National Police Shooting Championships (NPSC) at Shooting Range Park in Albuquerque, N.M., October 1-4, 2007, with a practice day scheduled for September 30.

More than 400 law enforcement officers from federal, state, municipal and private agencies, as well as five foreign countries, are expected to compete in this year’s tournament, which will include two new team matches and a new tactical event.

“NRA is very happy to bring NPSC back to Albuquerque after the tremendous reception we received last year,” said NRA President and retired Police Captain John Sigler. “New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson, Albuquerque Mayor Martin Chavez and Albuquerque Police Chief Ray Schultz should be commended for their fine efforts in hosting this championship, and for recognizing the value of well-trained police officers. There is no better test of a police officer’s skills than NPSC.”

New to this year’s tournament will be a pair of team matches, the Two-Officer and Four-Officer Stock Semi-Auto Matches. A police tactical...
event is also in the works, which will be fired on an action and reaction-type course using multiple firearms and multiple targets. This event will be held in addition to the overall championship.

The value of NPSC rests in the fact that it tests police shooting skills. Competitors start with guns holstered and fire timed matches with both revolvers and semi-automatic pistols from varying distances and positions to simulate real-life law enforcement scenarios. The aggregate scores from the revolver and semi-automatic pistol matches are used to crown a national champion. The defending NPSC champion is Philip Hemphill of the Mississippi Highway Patrol; he has four consecutive NPSC titles to his credit, and nine overall in the event.

NPSC enjoys tremendous sponsor support, allowing NRA to offer match and category winners one of the finest prize tables in all of law enforcement competitive shooting. Major NPSC sponsors include: Brownells, Davidson’s, Beretta, Blackhawk, Colt, FNH, Glock, Heckler&Koch, Otis, Remington, Ruger, Sigarms, and Smith & Wesson.

Held since 1962, NPSC is just one of many programs directed by NRA’s Law Enforcement Activities Division. These programs are supported by the Davidson’s Law Enforcement Endowment and the Law Enforcement Training Endowment of The NRA Foundation, which includes a generous $251,000 donation from Brownells, Inc., as well as more than 100 other firearm and equipment manufacturers and businesses.

To register now for the competition, or for more information about NPSC, go to http://www.nrahq.org/law/competitions/npsc/npsc.asp, call (703) 267-1632, or send an email to devangelista@nrahq.org.
America's hunting tradition is a core part of our values—one that we believe is important to pass on to the next generation.

The National Rifle Association is working hard to provide opportunities to instill a lifelong passion for hunting through programs like the NRA Youth Hunter Education Challenge.

Since 1985, this program has provided over a million young hunters with the best outdoors experience and expertise available, but there is a great need to reinforce and expand this program to ensure the future of our hunting heritage.

To learn more about this opportunity, or to make a tax-deductible gift to the Youth Hunter Education Challenge, Call 1-877-NRA-GIVE

Your gift will do more than introduce young people to hunting. You will be keeping an American tradition—and the freedom that goes with it—alive and thriving for generations to come.
For the Locatelli Family, Supporting the NRA is a FAMILY AFFAIR

John, Gina, and Justice Locatelli are a California family committed to the mission of the National Rifle Association of America. They own and run John C. Locatelli Orchards, Inc., and have been NRA members for many years. In 2000, upon the suggestion of family friend Dave Smelt, John began to attend the NRA Member Council Meetings. In 2004 the Locatelli’s were invited to the local Friends of NRA dinner by Jim Gandrup. From there the Locatelli family has been involved and committed to the local Friends of NRA dinners. Through their selfless volunteering and involvement with two local Friends of NRA chapters, they are setting an example all Second Amendment supporters should follow.

The Locatelli family has recently made a planned estate gift of $500,000 to the NRA. Their deep commitment to the mission of the NRA, and their personal love of outdoor sports prompted this generous gift. To the Locatelli’s, securing a future in the shooting sports and protecting the Second Amendment, is of utmost importance. They recognize that it takes personal involvement and financial support to keep this great organization running.

After attending their first Friends of NRA event together as a family in 2004, they were hooked. By 2005, the whole family joined the Watsonville Friends of NRA committee, and in 2006, John was the committee chairman and his wife, Gina, was the committee secretary. Their son, Justice, who was 12 at the time, also held a seat on the committee. They also hold seats on the North County Friends of NRA committee. Together with Dan Wilhelm, Northwestern California Field Representative, and David Bundesen, NRA Advancement Officer for the West Coast, the Locatelli Family has made a significant contribution to the NRA.

When asked why they chose the NRA to support so wholeheartedly and generously, John, Gina, and Justice all had different reasons that support the same mission: to keep America’s freedoms secure. Justice, now 14 years old, is proud to stand up for what he believes in. It is very important to him to stay informed and abreast of the rights we have concerning firearms, as well as the tactics and arguments of those who want to strip those rights from law abiding Americans. When asked why he took on such a big commitment to Friends of NRA at such a young age, this well-spoken young man responded, “The people on the Friends of NRA committee are people that volunteer for the right reasons and they are supportive of kids like me that are the future. I believe in the NRA and I believe that it protects the peoples’ rights. It is also important to me to be able to teach kids and adults to know their rights and to teach them what their rights are.” Justice also enjoys learning about different types of firearms as well as fishing and hunting.

Gina Locatelli firmly believes in our Second Amendment rights as American citizens. When asked about the driving motivation behind her NRA and Friends of NRA commitments she replied, “Our Forefathers invested great thought, time, and effort in writing out the rules of our land that balance the people and their government. Our family believes that, ‘If you are not part of the solution, you are part of the problem.’ We donate our time as a family to secure our rights and the rights of our teenage son for the future. We will not take part in losing our rights.”

continued on page 27

In the photo from left to right: Justice Locatelli, John Locatelli, Dave Bundesen (NRA Advancement Officer), and Gina Locatelli.
BAD Situation
Gone GOOD

By Kyle Weaver, Managing Director of Field Operations

For those of you that have ever participated in a fundraising banquet, you know that most events can be considered “controlled chaos.” Between raising money, feeding, entertaining and educating the attendees, and making sure everyone is having fun, many unplanned situations can arise. In most cases good volunteers and experienced staff make each event appear as though everything went smoothly all night. However, on occasion, circumstances arise that are beyond damage control and disgruntlement ensues. The NRA Foundation National Event at the Annual Meeting and Exhibits was no exception to this rule.

The National NRA Foundation Banquet in St. Louis this year ended successfully because of the hard work of many tremendous volunteers and the generosity of many donors. With a crowd of more than 900 attendees, with hundreds of items up for auction as well as prizes, it was a great evening for all. We raised over $130,000 for the future of the shooting sports and everyone was having fun—that is until it came down to the last item of the night in the live auction. We saved a very special set of Charles Daly firearms for the final piece in the live auction. This set included a Charles Daly lever action rifle and single action pistol, gold plated, both numbered No. 1 of the set and displayed in a nice wooden case. The set opened and quickly moved into the $10,000 bidding range, and eventually narrowed down to just a few bidders.

The auctioneer kept pushing and the bid kept rising—$12,000, $13,000, $14,000—and was finally sold for $17,000 to a gentleman sitting up front.

The night ended and we began to shut down the event. I noticed an attendee who was upset over something; as the director for the division in charge of the event, she was sent over to see me about her complaint. Agitated that the auctioneer did not see her bidding in the back of the room on the Charles Daly item, she wanted something done about it. She had witnesses that saw her screaming, waving a napkin, jumping up and down, and still no one noticed her. As I looked further into the situation, I discovered that she was correct. The spotter for that section of the room, which was way in the back, had left his post and she was indeed overlooked. She was right. I did not really know what to do because the auctioneer has final say in matters such as these and he had already sold the item.

Luckily, the winning bidder was someone I know, one of The NRA Foundation’s best donors and owner of the gunsmithing and firearms accessories supply company Brownell’s, Frank Brownell. Upon further investigation into the matter, the rattled attendee turned out to be Toni Stevens of the Leupold and Stevens Company, a retail company that offers optic merchandise for hunters and other outdoors sportsmen. So here we have two industry giants, both great supporters of the NRA and The NRA Foundation, going head to head in a really tough situation. We discussed several options, trying to open the floor for negotiation; let me tell you that Toni Stevens is tough. She and Frank continued back and forth—sometimes heatedly and, perhaps,

continued on page 14
Just east of the Bering Sea, located 33 miles north of the Arctic Circle at the bottom of the Baldwin Peninsula, sits a small city of about 3,237 people, 70 percent of whom are Inupiat Eskimo. Called Kotzebue, the city's transportation relies on an “off the road” system, meaning the only way to get there is by plane or boat. Despite this remote locale, the spirit of the Arctic Circle Friends of NRA transcends Kotzebue's city limits with its fervor and determination for preserving the Second Amendment.

The all-star roster behind this brand new committee begins with appointed chairman Jimmy Swisher, a local resident and NRA supporter. Swisher was excited at the opportunity to host a Friends of NRA banquet. He put together a crack team consisting of his wife, Annie, his son and daughter-in-law, Police Lt. Eric and Mary Swisher, as well as local NRA supporters Doc and Dana Johnson, Ted Reynolds, Rob Gibson, Steve Barnett, James Rea and Mike McElhiney.

With the help of Brad Kruger, NRA field representative for Alaska, this rookie committee—all the members of which had never even attended a Friends of NRA banquet before—sat down and learned the entire system of how funds are raised and distributed via NRA Foundation grants. The committee members were not aware that they could apply and help finance grants for their local community, and they were stoked at the prospect of doing so. These committed supporters simply wanted to hold a banquet just because they love the NRA, so the foundation’s grant program was “icing on the cake.”

Additionally, the committee found the Event Fundraising Guide, provided by Kruger, to be a tremendous help as well. From the months between April and November 2006, the time when the committee first formed to the time when the committee put on its first banquet, Arctic Circle Friends of NRA coordinated all of the elements of running a fundraiser with not as much as a peep heard by Kruger. Two weeks before their scheduled banquet, Kruger contacted Swisher to make sure things were going smoothly. Much to Kruger’s surprise, everything had already been taken care of and the committee was in no need of assistance from the field rep.

“Being that you have never even been to a Friends of NRA banquet before, how did you manage to cover all of the angles of running a banquet so efficiently?” asked Kruger.

With a slight pause, Swisher responded, “Well, you gave us the manual!”

“And you read it?”

“I did—we all did—from cover to cover.”

A floored Kruger sat in amazement as Swisher continued to inform him that the committee had sold out their pre-event raffle tickets and banquet tickets, amassed a mound of donations, and stockpiled a ton of underwriting. Everything was in place to host a very successful banquet…and they did!
Grant Spotlight
Refuse To Be A Victim®
and Miss New Mexico
Rio Rancho, New Mexico

The 2007 Miss New Mexico contestants participated in the NRA’s Refuse To Be A Victim® seminar on April 1 in Rio Rancho, N.M., as part of their annual pre-pageant workshop. A total of 19 Miss New Mexico contestants and 14 of their adult sponsors took part in the seminar taught by Refuse To Be A Victim® instructor Richard Barbaras.

Christina Hall, the 2006 Miss New Mexico, was on hand to describe situations that had occurred to her, both during her official duties as Miss New Mexico as well as in her private life, that had caused her concerns about her personal safety. Using this as a springboard, Barbaras was able to relate the material in the Refuse To Be A Victim® seminar to what the contestants could be facing as they pursued not only the Miss New Mexico competition activities, but in their daily lives as well.

The seminar focused on making the participants aware of ways to assure their personal safety. The importance of constant awareness was discussed as well as ways to be safe while going about their daily lives, while traveling and while making public appearances.

The participants asked many questions and related some of their personal experiences as well. Barbaras was able to utilize their questions and experiences to emphasize the seminar material.

In their post seminar evaluations, participants said they had learned things to do to improve their safety and that they would recommend the Refuse To Be A Victim® seminar to others. In a brief follow-up session on June 4, the contestants reiterated the value of the seminar and said that their level of awareness of the things around them had definitely increased.

Refuse To Be A Victim® was developed in 1993 for women by women in the NRA. It came in response to interest on the part of women to learn ways to increase their personal safety. Immediately popular, the seminar was soon opened to men as well.

The seminar was funded through a grant in the amount of $1,520.25 provided by The NRA Foundation. The Miss New Mexico organization has indicated that they would like to have Refuse To Be A Victim® as a regular part of the annual Miss New Mexico contestant workshop.

The Miss New Mexico contestants show off their program completion certificates from their lesson on refusing to be a victim. Pictured here (from left to right) are Contestant Leslie Abercrombie, Miss New Mexico 2006 Christina Hall, Refuse To Be A Victim® Instructor Richard Barbaras, and Contestant Sarina Turnbull.

Attend a Refuse to be a Victim® seminar in your area today! For more information, go to www.nrahq.org/rtbav/index.asp, email refuse@nrahq.org, or call (800) 861-1166.

Bad Situation Gone Good
from page 12

borderline not repeatable—but finally a decision was made. NRA Board Member David Bennett oversaw the situation and had both parties agree to a coin toss. The winner of the toss would be allowed to purchase the coveted set for $20,000. Imagine winning the right to spend $20,000 on an item—$3,000 more than the original bid! Being the gentleman that he is, Frank allowed Toni to call it in the air. She called “heads” and indeed heads it was. Frank was a most gracious loser and Toni was extremely happy. Because of great volunteers, donors, staff and supporters, this situation ended perfectly. Frank and Toni became friends and stood for a great photograph with all of the people involved. Throughout it all, the real winner that night ended up being The NRA Foundation and the Charles Daly Youth Endowment, which are where the net proceeds from this auction item will be deposited.
This Texan shooting club has been receiving grants from The NRA Foundation for the past two years in a row. In 2006, Columbus Area 4-H Shooting Sports Club received a grant in the amount of $5,219. This year, they received a grant in the amount of $11,120. The increase in grant money shows The NRA Foundation’s commitment to ensuring the future of the shooting sports as well as educating the youth. Both grants were used to purchase equipment, thereby offering more shooting opportunities for Colorado County’s youth.

“We are very appreciative of the money we have received from Friends of NRA and The NRA Foundation, since it has allowed us to expand the offering of our program from archery, smallbore rifle and air pistol, to include smallbore pistol as well as shotgun opportunities,” said Terri Jurek, co-manager of the club.

Established in 2004, the club enlists the help of Texas 4-H Shooting Sports-certified coaches while offering archery, rifle, shotgun and pistol year-round. Although there are currently about 60 members, the club teaches approximately 100 to 124 kids every year, as membership is not required to participate. It is the only club that caters to youth shooting sports in the entire county. Kids come to the club to practice, compete and learn safe handling techniques. Whereas some participants stick to just one or two venues to master, others prefer to shoot all the different venues, which includes archery, rifle, pistol and shotgun.

The grant from 2006 was used to purchase two left-handed rifles, three shotguns and five smallbore pistols. The grant from 2007 was used to purchase new sights sets for all the rifles and a set of skeet throwers.

“The children of the club and their parents are made aware of the grants and tell coaches how excited they are to have these opportunities without having to invest in a variety of firearms themselves. Those who do own firearms have stated that they feel much more comfortable during family shooting outings since the children have learned safe gun handling techniques,” continued Jurek.

As a result of these grants, the youth of Colorado County have somewhere to practice shooting a variety of firearms while exercising their Second Amendment right. The grants awarded to the Columbus Area 4-H Shooting Sports Club are prime examples of The NRA Foundation’s ceaseless dedication to continuing the legacy of America’s shooting heritage, educating people on safe gun handling techniques, and investing in the youth of today. ⭐

Join the team of coaches and club managers at the Columbus Area 4-H Shooting Sports Club today by requesting a form from the Colorado County Extension office at (979) 732-2082.
As the morning sun steadily rose above the horizon on October 28, 2006, 24 young hunters from as far away as Kansas City, Tonganoxie and Basehor met at Fort Leavenworth for the city’s Rod and Gun Club’s fifth annual Youth Hunt—made possible by a grant from The NRA Foundation. Sleepy-eyed, yet full of enthusiasm and excitement, the youth hunters received a safety briefing from event organizer John Harrington at the Rod and Gun Clubhouse. The hunters were then paired up with an experienced bird dog and dog handler. After receiving a few tips from the dog handler, the hunting party—decked out in bright orange vests and baseball caps—drove to their designated hunting areas for an exciting upland bird hunt.

“One of the greatest joys of this activity is to observe young hunters walking behind an experienced bird dog for the very first time. For me, there are few things more exciting,” said Harrington. “Nothing beats the thrill of hunting with a good dog and having a gaudy rooster pheasant explode from cover right in front of you. Most of these teenagers come back really excited; some even have that sparkle in their eyes, like toddlers do on Christmas morning.”

The choreography of young hunters, bird dogs and the great outdoors continued until the end of the day. When the hunting parties returned to the Rod and Gun Clubhouse, the young people discussed and compared their experiences while taking photographs. Rooster tails were then measured for the Longest Tail Contest, where the first place prize was a beautifully mounted ring-necked pheasant in flight, donated by taxidermist Eric Couch from Liberal, Kansas.

As for Harrington, the greatest prize of all remains the satisfaction of knowing that another group of young hunters has experienced a safe and exciting upland hunt in the great outdoors, continuing the Kansas tradition of “Pass It On.”

Apply for a grant to plan a youth hunt in your area by visiting www.nrafoundation.org/grants/statetfund.asp, or contact Sandy Elkin, Grants Manager at (800) 423-6894 x1131, or by email at selkin@nrahq.org.
The NRA Foundation has donated $1,500 to the McLeod County 4-H Shooting Sports. The money will be used to purchase a gun safe where the organization can store its competition equipment.

The 4-H Group applied for the dollars through The NRA Foundation's grant program, which supports gun safety and youth programs. This is the third year the McLeod County branch has been accepted to receive the donation.

More than 55 kids participate in the local 4-H group, a number that has increased considerably from the six children involved just eight years ago.

“That’s actually really impressive,” said Shad Ketcher, Friends of NRA volunteer. “That’s a lot of kids.”

4-H volunteer Amber Runke said the increased interest in the group can be attributed to better leadership and more parental participation.

“That makes a difference, when parents get involved and participate,” said Runke. “And we’re able, because of donations and fundraisers, to have county equipment.”

The organization conducts weekly competitions for its shooting sports. Every Tuesday there is a trap shoot and Wednesdays, members can fire black powder and .22s. Archery is available on Wednesdays as well. Third-graders can participate in the BB gun competition while the air rifle/.22 contests are open to fourth through sixth-graders only.

Qualifiers from the McLeod County 4-H group can travel to the state competition, held every fall in Bemidji. More than 500 members compete at this level each year. Most years, McLeod County sends 30 to 35 of its 4-H members to represent the team.

“Scores really don’t matter, just certain safety requirements they have to meet,” volunteer Bob Schlueter said. “Safety is the number one priority; scoring is second.”

“It’s really an active program, nationally and statewide,” Runke said.

The group has earned first place three years in a row and Runke said they have some pretty good shooters ready to compete this year as well. She said the shooting competition encourages discipline, respect and responsibility.

Her grandfather, Carl Runke, also volunteers with 4-H.

“To put the shoot on, it takes a lot of work and a lot of people. I keep telling Amber this is my last year,” he said jokingly.

Amber Runke has been on the state committee for shooting sports for three years and traveled to Kansas City in May to earn her training certification. She said she never thought there would be this much interest in the sport when she and her grandfather assumed leadership positions eight years ago. They discovered the program while at the Carver County Fair and they met with representatives from the area’s 4-H club.

“We met with their leaders and figured out what we needed to do,” she said. “The kids really love it. It’s just amazing.”

Apply for funding to conduct a shooting competition in your area by visiting www.nrafoundation.org/grants/statefund.asp, or contact Sandy Elkin, Grants Manager at (800) 423-6894 x1131, or by email at selkin@nrahq.org.

Everyone at the McLeod County 4-H team was elated to receive the foundation grant. This grant helps make shooting sports possible for the youth of the county.
Committee Spotlight

Northern Riflemen’s Alliance Annual Event Raises Thousands for Community Projects
Norwich, New York

The Northern Riflemen’s Alliance Friends of NRA committee held its fourth annual fund-raising banquet at the Norwich American Legion.

The event was a great night for the community to kick off the weekend celebrating freedom and raising important funds to support grassroots charitable and educational programs. The NRA Foundation sponsors the Northern Rifleman’s Alliance Friends of NRA annual banquet, which is organized by a remarkable team of local volunteers who are lead by Bradd Vickers as chairman and Rainy Vickers as treasurer. The team pulled off another successful event loaded with lots of big prizes for all of its guests. A good time was had by all.

Larry Steiner, president of Adirondack-Catskill, Safari Club International (SCI), said, “Organizations like ours have to work together to foster continuation of our sport and love of the outdoors with the youth.” Vickers stated, “We really appreciate the Adirondack-Catskill, SCI, which provided a major underwrite for this event. They, like [Friends of NRA], fund a lot of community projects, many in and around Chenango County.”

“I can’t believe what a wide array of high-quality auction items and door prizes there were. Special recognition of veterans was appropriate. It was a fun and exciting evening for the whole family,” commented attendee A.J.

Committee Spotlight

The Little Engine That Could
Martinsburg, West Virginia

Within the Eastern Panhandle area of West Virginia, in a little town called Martinsburg, there is a committee of relatively small proportions that has budded and grown into one of the state’s biggest netters for Friends of NRA events over the years. They just had their annual event, which took place on July 28 of this year. Approximately 250 people attended the banquet in support of youth shooting sports and shooting education programs. But what makes this committee so special? It is the hearts of the people involved.

The main objectives of this committee are to raise money for the youth, bring people in the community together, and enjoy their time at the banquet. The committee, which has a strong core of members who have volunteered since the beginning, also sees a lot of new faces on the team every year. In this way, the committee’s style of running a fundraiser can be described as a fusion of tradition and new blood. They rely on a backbone of experienced volunteers while they consistently get more people involved in working for the cause. At their event, prizes are given away at every moment possible, as it is important to the committee that most of their banquet attendees walk away with something.

Although the committee came from humble beginnings, their banquet is successful every year due to the overwhelming support from the NRA, members of the community, and local businesses. For example, Keith
Black from Plymouth, N.Y.

Pete Lopez of the 127th Assembly District spent some time at the event discussing issues and concerns with individuals and confirming his support for a good cause.

“It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening, with a super American Legion buffet, good fellowship, good people from throughout the area, and an opportunity to get a look at guns and gear I’d never seen before. Everybody seemed to have a good time,” said Norwich City Council President Terry Bresina.

Joseph Siegel, owner of Liberty Iron Works, noted, “A group of us from our Sullivan County Friends of NRA committee enjoyed the trip to Norwich. We had a great time for a good cause.”

Proceeds from this fundraiser benefit The NRA Foundation, which is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, and will help promote such projects as youth firearms safety and education, hunter training, shooting range development, marksmanship training, Second Amendment research and education, and conservation research throughout New York including children, youth, women, individuals with physical disabilities, gun collectors, law enforcement officers, hunters and competitive shooters.

Visit www.fnranyc.org for information on next year’s event and other events held around New York State.

Support West Virginia youth shooting sports by attending a Friends of NRA banquet in the area. Contact NRA Field Representative for West Virginia Jim Kilgore at jkilgore@nrahq.org for more information.
For the summer of 2007, the National Firearms Museum’s exhibit program moved into the big time with a large traveling exhibit at the National Matches. For the first time displaying at Camp Perry, the NFM’s exhibit, “Bugs, Bullets, and Bullseyes,” tells the 100-year-old story of the National Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio. Forty-five historic firearms and more than a hundred pieces of ephemera including shooting awards, images and even silverware helped form this special Centennial exhibit, housed in three large display cases in the lobby of the Camp Perry Lodge. This temporary exhibit was featured at the National Firearms Museum thru the end of this year’s National Matches.

Presently, an exceptional group of 15 LC Smith shotguns are now represented in the NFM’s Orientation Theater exhibits. Among the impressive pieces loaned by members of the LC Smith Collectors Association are the historic side-by-sides once owned by Hollywood superstars Humphrey Bogart and Clark Gable. This year-long temporary exhibit was inaugurated with a mid-day reception on May 18th, where advanced collectors and the general public mingled while viewing the opening of the new exhibit.

Most recently, a new exhibit in the museum’s exit corridor offers visitors a spectacular collection of Tom Selleck rifles and pistols that were received as a donation last year. This collection of guns used by Mr. Selleck in movies that included Crossfire Trail, Last Stand at Saber River, and Monte Walsh includes Colt, and Smith & Wesson cartridge revolvers as well as Winchester Model 1876 and 1886 carbines. Definitely the big draw in this exhibit is the famed Quigley Sharps, one of the three Shiloh Sharps .45-110 rifles that were specifically made for the 1990 film Quigley Down Under.

Help Support the National Firearms Museum
The mission of the National Firearms Museum is to develop and manage educational programs that promote appreciation, understanding, and participation in gun collecting, and the preservation of the heritage of firearms through collection, conservation, exhibition and research as part of a nationally recognized museum in America.

NRA members can be truly proud of the National Firearms Museum, with portions of this internationally recognized collection already on display at NRA Headquarters in Fairfax, Virginia. To make the National Firearms Museum the finest possible resource and representative of our membership, we ask your help in building our exhibition and research collections.

If you have a firearm that is
For information about gifts of firearms or other property that will help support the National Firearms Museum, please contact The NRA Foundation at (703) 267-1110 or write: The NRA Foundation, 11250 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax, VA 22030. To conduct your own “virtual tour” of the National Firearms Museum, please visit www.NationalFirearmsMuseum.org.

National Firearms Museum ENDOWMENT

Income generated from the National Firearms Museum Endowment is used exclusively to fund the programs, activities, and operating expenses of the National Firearms Museum—one of the world’s finest collections of firearms educating visitors about America’s history, heritage, and people. Named endowments include:

The Acquisition Endowment was established in 2001 by Blue Book Publications to fund the acquisition of items for the National Firearms Museum collection.

The Beretta Endowment was established in 2001 by the Beretta USA and Benelli USA companies. This endowment sponsors The Beretta Gallery: An Age of Elegance.

The David P. Bookman Endowment was established in 1998 by Mr. David P. Bookman. This endowment sponsors the French & Indian Wars Exhibit.

The William S. Brophy Endowment was established in 1991 in memory of Colonel Brophy by family and friends.

The Allan D. Cors Endowment was established in 1998 by former NRA Foundation President, Mr. Cors. This endowment sponsors the WWII Axis, WWII-Allies, WWII-US, WWII-Diorama Exhibits.

The F.R. “Rudy” Etchen Endowment was established in 1996 by a group of friends in honor of former NRA Director Rudy Etchen. This endowment sponsors the Shotgun Sports: Trap, Skeet, Sporting Clays Exhibits.

The Sandra S. Froman Endowment was established in 1998 by NRA President and past NRA Foundation President Sandra S. Froman. This endowment sponsors the Long Arm of the Law Exhibit.

The Hal & Jean Glassen Endowment was established in 2000 by the Hal and Jean Glassen Memorial Foundation. This endowment sponsors the Upland Bird Hunting and Waterfowling Exhibit.

The Melvin Gordon Endowment was established in 1998 by Mr. Gordon. This endowment sponsors the Mexican War Exhibit.

The Charlton Heston Endowment was established in 2002 to honor Mr. Heston. This endowment sponsors The Charlton Heston Gallery: Seeds of Greatness.

The Hornady Family Endowment was established in 1998 by the J.W. Hornady Memorial Trust. This endowment sponsors the Snaphaunce, the Doglock & The Miquelet Exhibit.

The Eric Johanson Endowment was established in 1999 by Mr. Johanson. This endowment sponsors the Theodore Roosevelt & the NRA Exhibit, An Age of Elegance Exhibit, America’s Splendid Little War with Spain: Roosevelt’s Rough Riders Exhibit.

The William B. Ruger Endowment was established in 1996 by friends in honor of the Rubendunsts. This endowment sponsors the International Arms Trading/ Francis Bannerman/The Bolt Action Rifle/Mauser Technology Exhibit.

The Robert F. & Ruth H. Rubendunst Endowment was established in 1996 by friends in honor of the Rubendunsts. This endowment sponsors the Rubendunst Endowment.

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The Lockton Companies/AGIA Endowment was established in 2001 by the Lockton Companies/AGIA. This endowment sponsors the Expanding the Frontier Exhibit.

The Joel & Lydia Morrow Endowment was established in 2001 by Joel and Lydia Morrow. This endowment sponsors the Artistry in Arms Exhibit.

The NewMexicoGun Collectors Association Endowment was established in 1998 by the New Mexico Gun Collectors Association. This endowment sponsors The New Mexico Gun Collectors Association Endowment.

The Ohio Gun Collectors Association Endowment was established in 2000 by the Ohio Gun Collectors Association. This endowment sponsors The Ohio Gun Collectors Association Endowment.

The William L. & Collette N. Roberts Endowment was established in 1995 by The Roberts’. This endowment sponsors The William L. & Collette N. Roberts Endowment.

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At the 2007 Safari Club International (SCI) Convention this January in Reno, Nev., well-known actor and NRA Board member Tom Selleck sat down with Cam Edwards and Ginny Simone of NRANews.com, along with Ben Case, executive director of the NRA’s Office of Advancement, and Phil Schreier, senior curator of the National Firearms Museum (NFM), to discuss Selleck’s recent firearm donations to the NFM and the importance of giving to NRA’s fight for Second Amendment freedoms.

Reprinted with permission courtesy of America’s 1st Freedom, an Official Journal of the National Rifle Association

Cam Edwards: We have with us a very special guest, who is just sitting down. You may hear the voice in the background; it may be a very familiar voice. Joining us on the program, Mr. Tom Selleck is with us. Thank you so much for coming on the program.

Tom Selleck: How are you doing, Cam?

Edwards: I’m good, thanks for joining us. How are you doing?

Selleck: I’m doing well. It’s like a playground in [the SCI convention]. Some people don’t understand that, but those who do, get it.

Edwards: Absolutely. Well, you know, I’ve got to tell you, Tom, we were talking last hour with Ben Case of the NRA Office of Advancement, and Phil Schreier, the senior curator of the National Firearms Museum, and we kind of kept it a secret until now, because we wanted to wait until you were here, but you recently made a donation to the National Firearms Museum, several of the guns that were used in some of your movies.

Selleck: I did, I think they got about 10 in all now. I loaned them some firearms for an exhibit they had which, for those who didn’t see it I hope they do it again because it was great, it was called “Real Guns for Reel Heroes.” They had a lot of movie guns, so I was honored to have mine in it. And then I started thinking, “You know, the Quigley gun seems to be about as famous as any movie gun around,” so I donated one to the museum. There are three of them that we used on the movie; since you need multiples usually for a movie. I donated one [to the NFM], they put one up for auction and raised a lot of money, and I still have the other one. So after that I got hooked, and gave them about eight guns—from the movies Monte Walsh, Last Stand at Saber River and Louis L’Amour’s Crossfire Trail. There are some neat guns in there, but a lot of them were reproductions, and a lot of them are simply real guns that were restored because one of my pet peeves in movies is that the movie props look like antiques, but these guys weren’t living with antiques, they took care of their guns and they should be relatively new. So I’ve usually built guns for movies. It’s nice to kind of pass them on and let people see them. One of my favorites is a pair of lettered .50-110 Express carbine Winchesters that I had Kenny Howell of R&B Gun shop restore. But the guns are actually lettered, they really are .50-110 carbines, which is about as rare as you can get. So, the museum now has one. And most people have never even seen one. They’re beautiful restorations, used in the movie Monte Walsh. I
hope people think of that, and I hope they think of the museum if they have something that’s special that they’d like to share. I can say that you can get a deduction for it, but beyond that I just got to the point where I said, “I’d like people to see these and share them.” We all know the NRA needs help, so if they think of the museum, if they think of The NRA Foundation for other kinds of gifts, I think the NRA is under-endowed for the kind of work we need to do, so I’d encourage anybody to do it. It’s very satisfying. And people ought to visit the museum, because it’s about the best firearms museum around.

**Edwards:** You know it’s very nice to hear you say you wanted people to see these. Really, at some point they almost become objects of art and history.

**Selleck:** Well, I hope so. I’m not presumptuous enough to think that mine are, but I worked very hard when I read Louis L’Amour’s *Crossfire Trail*. I said, “What would the guy carry?” I just donated a [M1876 .45-60] carbine that my character buys off a hardware store wall to go into a gunfight—in California we have a 10-day waiting period; you couldn’t do that [laughs]. But I felt that the ’76 was the period of the movie that we were talking about, 1876-77, that this new centennial carbine that nobody could see was a point. So we’ve really designed the guns with the characters in mind and the period in mind. We all used to see lots of Westerns that took place in 1860 and they used 1873 Single-Action Army and stuff and I’ve worked very hard at it so I’m proud of it, I’m glad that people get to see it.

**Edwards:** I am, too. And I know, Phil, what does a contribution like this mean to the National Firearms Museum?

**Phil Schreier:** It means a great deal to us on a number of different levels; the public recognition factor, Tom’s name associated with something in the museum is very prominent, the fact that Tom has been in so many great films, and where the gun, in many cases like with *Quigley Down Under*, the gun actually costars with Tom in the film.

**Selleck:** Well, I collect old Winchesters and Marlins, and lots of things, and any time you pick up an old gun—they don’t have to look brand new—you wish they could talk.

**Ginny Simone:** Well you know, Tom, you were talking about how each gun has a story to tell, and I think what’s so significant about the museum is just what we are fighting as sportsmen and hunters today, and that is that if we don’t do something to make sure that these stories are told, we are going to lose everything we have.

**Selleck:** Well, I collect old Winchesters and Marlins, and lots of things, and any time you pick up an old gun—they don’t have to look brand new—you wish they could talk. There are so many people who demonize guns. You know, one of the things about the Quigley rifle, Simon Wincer, the
director, and I felt that he kept it in a sheath because you didn’t know what this thing was. He used it as a club for a while, but he never took it out. Symbolically, the gun was, I think, an avenging angel against some people who were doing some very bad things, and he became kind of known as this man with a long rifle to the Aboriginal people, and it helped him take a huge risk and do the right thing.

**Edwards:** As a storyteller, Tom, it seems to me, as Phil mentioned, like the guns are almost the costars of a couple of your movies.

**Selleck:** I hope so!

**Edwards:** So you’re telling not only the character of the person you’re portraying, but also the story of the firearm itself. Is there one firearm in particular, is it the Quigley rifle that stands out as…

**Selleck:** I think the Quigley rifle stands out not because… it’s not necessarily my favorite, but I guess it probably is. It’s the first time—I’m not presumptuous enough to think just because I used something, that it’s going to have value or curiosity, but it’s important.

**Edwards:** We’re presumptuous enough to think that.

**Selleck:** It was important. When we got Quigley, it was important to get a proper Sharp’s rifle, it was written into the script and it was a character. And suddenly I realized the value of getting very specific and creating these tools for these characters in a very specific way. Then I got hooked, and every movie since then I’ve designed and built guns for, either restored guns or have gone from a restoration and changed the modern aspects of a restoration to make it look exactly right for the period, and it just was a stepping off point for me. And I hope to do it again, you know. Would I have known this when I did Magnum, P.I., I would have built a couple of 1911 autos, but in those days I was just using a couple of rental .45s. I never thought of it until Quigley.

**Edwards:** I know that you’re a very busy guy here at the SHOT Show, and we appreciate you taking a couple minutes of your time. I’ve just got to ask one more question: What’s on the horizon? What can Selleck fans look forward to?

**Selleck:** Well, I’ve been doing—this guy carries a 1911 auto on his hip, his character name is Jesse Stone, it’s a series of movies I’ve been doing for CBS that are taken from books by Robert Parker, who wrote the Spencer: For Hire novels. We’ve done three of them and people seem to love them, so the fourth one will be on come May, and I’m always looking to develop another Western. My hopes are that I’ll be able to do Louis L’Amour’s Empty Land next, which is a great book.

**Edwards:** Excellent. Well, Tom Selleck, thank you again so much for coming on the program today. It was great talking to you.

**Selleck:** Yeah, good to see you.

**Edwards:** Tom Selleck, and again if you want to see some of the firearms used in some of Mr. Selleck’s movies, Phil, they are on display at the National Firearms Museum?

**Schreier:** They are on exhibit at the National Firearms Museum in Fairfax, Va. Open seven days a week, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., absolutely free to the public. We’re also going to take some of the displays out on the road with us over the year where we can get a greater exposure to the general public.

**Edwards:** And if you visit the museum, you can probably join the NRA if you haven’t already.

**Simone:** Get it all done at once.

**Schreier:** We take application books with us on the road.

**Selleck:** I have one in my hip pocket.

**Edwards:** Excellent.

**Selleck:** I carry it to get more work in Hollywood.

**Simone:** Oh, I’m sure it helps.

**Edwards:** How’s that working out for you?

**Simone:** I’m sure it helps, it’s got to help a great deal there, buddy.

**Selleck:** Not too well.

[Laughter all around.]

**Edwards:** Well, Ben, if folks want to take a page from Mr. Selleck’s book, they, too, can donate one or more of their firearms.

**Ben Case:** They sure can. And we can work with Phil to see if it would qualify to be in the National Firearms Museum collection, or they can use the firearm to help fund the museum by creating an endowment, or creating funds for operation for the National Firearms Museum. It’s a great way to make a gift, and it’s a great way to support freedom, which is what the NRA is all about.

**Edwards:** Well, Ben Case, executive director of the NRA Office of Advancement, and Phil Schreier, senior curator of the National Firearms Museum and, of course, Mr. Tom Selleck, member of the NRA Board of Directors. Thank you. ★

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**Plan a trip to the National Firearms Museum to see this exhibit first hand! Visit www.NationalFirearmsMuseum.org, or call (703) 267-1600 for more information.**
On July 25, Fayette County 4-H Shotgun Club competed at the 4-H State Achievement Days near Penn State, at University Park in Pennsylvania. The club consists of two teams, a junior team and a senior team. Both teams shot 50 rounds—25 of skeet and 25 of trap. Youth are scored as a team and also on an individual basis. Twelve junior teams and fourteen senior teams from all over the state competed for the state championships; they also competed as individuals to earn a spot on the four-member team to represent Pennsylvania at the National 4-H Invitational Competition, to be held in Nebraska in June 2008.

The senior team won the state championship for the second year in a row. As individuals, Dan Guy took first place and Jim Fields won second place within the senior division. The junior team were reserve champions and Nick Marella placed third in the individual junior division; he also earned a position on the state team to the national event! Once a youth competes at the national event, they cannot return to the same discipline the following year. In 2006, both Jim Fields and Dan Guy were on the state team to nationals. Dan placed ninth in the nation and Jim placed 13th. In 2007, Cody George and Curtis Swiantek represented Pennsylvania and Fayette County on the national team. The team placed fifth in trap and seventh in skeet on the national level. We are very proud that Nick Marella will represent Fayette County and Pennsylvania at the National Competition next year. This will be Fayette County’s third consecutive year with representation on the national team.

There has been tremendous support from grants and donations for the entire club. A special thanks goes out to The NRA Foundation and Friends of NRA, who have continuously supported the club throughout the years, as well as the Bryner Lumber Company, among others. This program could not be as successful without the support of these very generous people.

Get involved with this 4-H program! For more information, contact the Fayette County Cooperative Extension Office at (724) 438-0111.

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With the patience of a saint and the technical know-how of a retired airplane mechanic, Jack Wallace carefully filed away the years of abuse that had virtually destroyed the Model 1896 Swedish Mauser. Some would say the misaligned holes in the 6.5 x 55mm's action were the work of a poor craftsman. “Bubba-ized” was the term preferred by Wallace.

Either way, the once-proud military rifle made the perfect summer project for Wallace, who traveled nearly 1,300 miles from his home in Calgary, Alberta, to attend NRA’s Short-Term Gunsmithing Program in Trinidad, Colorado. Trinidad is home to Trinidad State Junior College, which first offered gunsmithing courses designed by famed wildcatter P.O. Ackley in 1947 and recently celebrated the 60th anniversary of its gunsmithing program, one of the oldest in the country.

For eight weeks each summer, the NRA, in conjunction with Trinidad State and three other affiliated schools around the country, offers courses where amateur and professional gunsmiths alike can come and hone their skills or pursue a vocational interest. The classes typically last one to two weeks and cover the artistry and science of gunsmithing.

Courses offered this year ranged from stockmaking to shotgun repair to handloading and ballistics. The program literally offers something for everyone, regardless of experience level or area of interest.

Above left: Patrick Jones of Aspen, Colo., drills a set of barrel blocks in his Introduction to Gunsmithing course at Trinidad State Junior College. Above center: Hands-on experiences are what drive the learning at the NRA short-term courses, especially in the machine shop, where Nate Valdez of Las Animas, Colo., learned how to operate a metalworking lathe. Above right: Alberta’s Jack Wallace secures his Swedish Mauser before beginning work on the rifle’s action.
The biggest benefit is for someone who does not have the cash outlay for a degree in gunsmithing,” said Dave Nolan, Professor of Gunsmithing at Trinidad State. “The short-term courses allow people to see the schedule and just pick out the courses they want. You’ll notice that you only see one college-age kid here. Everyone else has a family and a life.”

For many, the NRA short-term courses are a vacation destination of sorts, a place where they can come for a week to relax and work on their personal firearms. Others, such as Wallace, bring a project to the school and stay for the entire eight weeks, hoping to leave with a completed piece.

“Excellent, world-class instruction—the best instruction I’ve received in any subject—that’s why I keep coming back,” said Wallace, who first attended the NRA short-term courses in 1991. Turning his attention to his project, Wallace added, “You can make your gun, your way. That’s the nice thing about it. I’ve brought in some hairy projects over the years. We’ve had to think about them, but we made it work.”

The short-term courses certainly worked well for first-year attendee Patrick Jones, a property manager from Aspen, Colo. An avid recreational shooter, Jones came to the school to attend an introductory gunsmithing course, hoping to learn how to fix his own handguns after a bad experience with a gunsmith in his area.

“I’m doing it for personal enrichment,” Jones said of his decision to attend the class. “I’m not going to be a gunsmith tomorrow. Anyone who has a personal interest in this, it’s just a great way to spend a vacation. I plan to spend a week here every summer.”

Thanks to a pledge from Larry Potterfield, President of Midway USA, Inc., and his wife, Brenda, more individuals will have the opportunity to pursue such an interest in years to come. Last year, the Potterfields made a $500,000 pledge to The NRA Foundation to benefit gunsmithing and gunmaking.

Such financial support will enhance the availability of quality gunsmithing education, whether it’s for a career, a hobby, or spending some quality time in Colorado, restoring that aging Mauser.

“It is vitally important to support the efforts of colleges and universities that offer gunsmithing programs to expand and improve their course offerings and facilities in order to be able to attract and accommodate more students,” said Potterfield. “That is exactly what this endowment is meant to do.”

Sign up for a short-term gunsmithing course at Lassen Community College in Susanville, Calif., Montgomery Community College in Troy, N.C., and Murray State College in Tishomingo, Okla. For more information, visit www.nragunsmithing.com. For more information about this or other endowments, please contact 1-877-NRA GIVE.

John Locatelli credits a very good friend of his, Sgt. Albert Rhodes of the National Guard, as part of his motivation to be so involved and committed. Sgt. Rhodes served in Iraq and fought for our rights and our freedoms. He helps make America safe for every American here. John commented that, “If he, and every man and woman over there right now could do that, then I could do this.”

A Friends of NRA Committee member, Gary O’Donnell, asked John to join the CWA (California Waterfowl Association) in order to be part of another organization that supports the shooting sports and hunters’ rights. John commented, “Our views and ideals are the same and we thought that volunteering for both the NRA and the CWA would be helpful in maintaining our Second Amendment Rights. Both of these organizations can help each other out and spread information about the legislation attempting to limit our rights.”

It is through the generosity, selflessness, and commitment of families like this that help keep the freedoms and rights of America secure. They are building a community around like-minded people with a mission. The Locatelli Family gives their time and their financial support selflessly to Friends of NRA and NRA. They love the family-oriented Friends of NRA dinners and make sure that everyone plays a part and is involved. They have helped build a community in California that supports Friends of NRA and continue to add to it everyday and in everything they do. John and Gina sit on numerous committees that support the shooting sports, hunting, and conservation. It is inspiring to know that families like this are in it for the long run.
GRANTS IN ACTION

GARDA DEDICATION

Reprinted with permission courtesy of the Ellwood City Ledger in Ellwood City, Pa.

The Ted Garda/National Rifle Association Learning Center at the Ellwood-Wampum Rod and Gun Club in Wayne Township was officially dedicated last October. Garda, who died in October 2000, was president of the club for 25 years and was a club officer for more than 50 years. He was also a retired state Game Commission officer and was inducted into the Pennsylvania Sportsmen’s Hall of Fame in 1980. Taking part in the dedication were (from left) John Wilmes, Bill Boots, Clifford Musser and Carl Custozzo—all on the board of directors—as well as Chairman of the Lawrence County Friends of NRA Dan Reiber, Treasurer Fred Moyer, Vice-President Ron Aiken, President William Boots, and Garda’s daughter, Jan Garda. The NRA Foundation gave the club a $6,300 grant to build the facility. The building, which was completed in September 2006, is used for hunter safety classes, firearm safety classes, Boy Scouts and youth shoots. (Missing from the photo is Wayne Township Supervisor Dennis Hall.) ★

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Charitable IRA Rollovers are a great way to plan your strategic gift to NRA Foundation. Many individuals have accumulated high value IRAs and can afford to designate a portion to charity now. ★

For additional no-obligation information, please contact Frank Cerutti at the NRA Office of Advancement at 877-NRA-GIVE (toll free) or via email at fcerutti@nrahq.org.
The banquet itself was a "hootenanny." Everyone was excited that NRA Western Region Director J.P. Nelson traveled all the way from Arizona just to attend the banquet. Nelson was well received and everyone enjoyed visiting with him, committee members and banquet attendees alike.

The snow fell hard that evening, as a blizzard came down and swept the streets of Kotzebue. Regardless, the ticket holders came pouring in, ready for a fun evening of dinner, games and prizes. Bidding was fast and furious during the live auction. Everyone was having a fantastic time! It was the social event of the season that fall in Kotzebue.

In the end, Arctic Circle Friends of NRA raised approximately $20,000—quite impressive for a first banquet. The committee was ecstatic to receive their High Caliber statue. Both Kruger and Nelson were impressed by the turnout.

A result of this highly profiting banquet is continued support for NRA Community Service programs such as the Eddie Eagle GunSafe® Program, classes for which were held this past Fourth of July in Kotzebue.

An upcoming goal for the committee includes flying Eddie out to ten surrounding villages to make sure that he can get his gun safety message to as many children in Alaska as possible. ★

The Arctic Circle Friends of NRA has big plans for this year's event. Join this committee in support of The NRA Foundation and its grants by attending their upcoming banquet, scheduled for November 11 at Kotzebue High School in Kotzebue, Alaska. For more information, contact NRA Field Representative for Alaska Brad Kruger at (907) 235-9059 or bkruger@nrahq.org.
Writing the words took minutes. But now I’ll defend freedom forever.

With one simple sentence, I added The NRA Foundation endowment to my will. As a permanent part of the endowment, my estate dollars will leave a legacy of freedom long after my lifetime. For simple bequest language to include in your will, call 1-877-NRA GIVE to get your free copy of our easy-to-understand brochure, Ways of Giving.

Wayne LaPierre
Trustee
The NRA Foundation

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