QUARTER 1 2020

A PUBLICATION OF THE NRA FOUNDATION

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AUCTION PREVIEW 2020 National NRA Foundation BBQ & Auction

COASTAL GEORGIA

2019 Brought Another Goal Setting Banquet for The NRA Foundation

NATIONAL NEWS

Relive the 2020 Great American Outdoor Show

ON THE COVER



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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.

Funding the Future of Freedom

By Tyler Schropp, Executive Director, NRA Office of Advancement

Roughly 30 years ago, NRA leadership appropriately identified the need for a vehicle through which NRA supporters could make tax-deductible contributions to support the NRA's charitable activities and initiatives in support of the Second Amendment, directly and through the greater community. In 1990, The NRA Foundation was created for that very purpose.

Then, in 1992, The NRA Foundation's *Friends of NRA* blockbuster fundraising program launched with its inaugural event. It is through thousands of volunteers, like many of you, that this program has been so successful. Holding over 23,000 events nationwide, this program has awarded over \$400 million in support of Second Amendment-related charitable programs.

100% of the net proceeds from The NRA Foundation's *Friends of NRA* program are used to support charitable Second Amendment-related programs. But what does that mean, exactly?

The net proceeds are put into two categories: state funds and national funds.

The state funds, made up of at least 50% of the net event proceeds, are allotted to the states in which the funds were raised. That turns into State Fund Grants. These grants fund things like 4-H clubs, scholastic shooting teams, local law enforcement needs, JROTC, and local NRA School Shield trainings, among others. An administrative fee is charged to each *Friends of NRA* fundraising event to cover a small portion of the direct costs of running the program.

The remaining net proceeds make up the national funds. These dollars cover the majority of the direct costs of the *Friends of NRA* program. What's left after that is combined with other funding received by the Foundation, like contributions and endowment distributions, to fund eligible programs conducted by the NRA at the national level.

In 2019, The NRA Foundation granted over \$12 million to NRA's 501(c)(3) eligible programs (see chart below). Eligible programs include the National Firearms Museum, Competitive Shooting, Law Enforcement Training & Competitions, Youth Education & Training, Community Outreach (Eddie Eagle, Refuse To Be A Victim), Hunter Services, NRA School Shield, Outdoor Recreation, Hunters Leadership, Youth Education Summit, Range Services, and a small percentage of others. Grants made by the Foundation only fund actual program expenses to the extent there is no other offsetting revenue from the program.

The NRA Foundation only supports activities of the NRA that are charitable in nature, as required by The NRA Foundation's 501(c)(3) charitable status. The staff, officers, and Board of Trustees who work on NRA Foundation matters take this requirement very seriously and review all disbursements closely in that regard. No grants are made to NRA or any other entity that do not meet this requirement.

On behalf of all of us here at The NRA Foundation, I want to thank you for your support and your continued commitment to ensuring the future of the shooting sports and our Second Amendment freedoms. We work very hard to protect those traditions, and could not do it without you!



THE NATIONAL NRA FOUNDATION BBQ & AUCION BBQ & AUCION FUNNE

The NRA Foundation is heading to the 149th NRA Annual Meetings and Exhibits in the "Volunteer State," and there's no better place to celebrate American tradition and culture than in Nashville! The capital of Tennessee and the epicenter of country music, Nashville boasts a vibrant music scene that has earned it the nickname "Music City."

The weekend of events will kick-off with The National NRA Foundation BBQ and Auction on Thursday, April 16, at 5:00 p.m. in the Music City Center's Grand Ballroom. Premier sponsors for the event are Henry Repeating Arms and Century Arms. Sponsors will be attending and speaking about their company's involvement in supporting The NRA Foundation, preserving American shooting traditions, and investing in firearms education and training for youth, women, veterans, and more. Their support is critical to the mission of The NRA Foundation, allowing it to continue to "Teach Freedom" as the country's leading charitable organization in support of the shooting sports.

The NRA Foundation BBQ and Auction is an attendee favorite, holding true to American values, the event will feature one-of-a-kind donations including custom firearms, world-class hunts, adventures, and the latest merchandise. Attendees of the banquet will have the opportunity to play games sponsored by some of the largest firearms manufacturers in the country, and bid on silent auction items. Dinner and a short program follow, with the night concluding in an exciting live auction.

If you want to start the fundraising early, join us at 4:00 p.m. for a Pre-event Reception outside the Music City Center's Grand Ballroom for exclusive games. We will have a winner every ten minutes until the doors open at 5:00 p.m.

The following pages feature more auction highlights. Tickets to the highly anticipated National NRA Foundation BBQ and Auction are on sale now — get yours today! Go online to www.nraam.org and reserve yours today!

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2020 AT 5:00PM MUSIC CITY CENTER, GRAND BALLROOM Join us for a pre-event happy hour at 4:00PM

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

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CENTURY

AUCTION PREVIEW



2020 GUN OF THE YEAR: HENRY SIDE GATE LEVER ACTION .45-70 WITH NRA SEAL

Donated by Henry Repeating Arms

The 2020 Friends of NRA Gun of the Year takes the craftsmanship and quality that Henry Repeating Arms is known for to the next level with embellishments from Baron Engraving of Trumbull, CT. The Side Gate Lever Action .45-70 rifle features a hardened brass receiver engraved with a pattern created specifically for Friends of NRA by Master Engraver, Rob Bunting. The left side of the receiver is framed with a double line border with vine and left scroll bracketing the National Rifle Association seal. The right side features a banner that reads, "2020 Friends of NRA Gun of the Year," and an attractive scroll design with a double line border. This limited-edition Henry Side Gate Lever Action includes the serial number 2020NRA0000.

DDM4® PDW (300 BLACKOUT) SIGNED BY MARK "OZ" GEIST

Donated by Daniel Defense

Compact and easy to transport, the Daniel Defense DDM4® PDW is the kind of pistol you can rely on for home and personal defense...plus it's a ton of fun to shoot. The 7" 300BLK cold hammer-forged barrel keeps subsonic loads subsonic and provides great ballistics for a shorter barrel. Featuring an overall length of 20.75", the DDM4® PDW easily fits into a backpack for convenient transport. The DDM4® PDW comes equipped with the Maxim Defense CQB Pistol Brace, which gives you the adjustments needed to more comfortably shoot your AR pistol. This highly maneuverable pistol comes with a 6" MFR XL flat front rail for fast handling, accuracy, and reliability while also providing compatibility with a wide variety of accessories. This one-of-a-kind DDM4® PDW is signed by American military hero and NRA Board Member, Mark "Oz" Geist.





HOMEFRONT-OLD GLORY FLAG

Donated by Flags of Valor

Flags of Valor is all about service...past, present, and future. This veteran-owned and operated business is dedicated to remembering, employing, and empowering our heroes. This framed, rustic wooden American flag is a tribute to the families whose service so often goes unseen. To the wives, husbands, parents, children and entire communities who endure while their loved ones wear our uniform on foreign soil....we remember and honor you. Respect their bravery and strength with this framed American flag art. Measures 53 1/2" wide x 31 1/2" tall.



BILL OF RIGHTS AMERICANA QUILT

Donated by Mary Davis

This 'Bill of Rights Americana Quilt' was crafted by a freedom-loving artisan in the mountain foothills of Alpine, California. The quilt features custom-printed 'Bill of Rights' fabric on the large outer border, and a discontinued print for the center panel, making this truly a one-of-a-kind quilt. Eagle-eyed observers will find the verbiage for the Second Amendment printed within the light blue curved diamonds just to the left of the red border. Quilted as a tribute to our inalienable rights and freedoms that are guaranteed to us by our United States Constitution.



DIRTY HARRY-DIRTY DUO

Donated by Stanley Diekmann from Rajo's Guns and Southwestern Indiana *Friends of NRA*

For the Ultimate Smith & Wesson Collector you don't just get a brand new S&W Model 29 .44. Magnum Revolver with a 6" barrel, but you also get a 'supersized' 3x Custom Handmade Steel replica Model 29 Revolver that measures 15" tall, 30" long and weighs over 40 pounds. This one of a kind replica was made for the President of the S&W Collector's Association a few years ago. Like a real Model 29 revolver, the replica features adjustable sights, target hammer and trigger, a fluted cylinder, and walnut grips. The real model 29 and the replica are both displayed on a walnut frame with the Dirty Harry movie poster displayed in the backdrop bearing Clint Eastwood's autograph. The walnut frame can be mounted on the wall or displayed on a tabletop. This is a 'one of a kind' item that is only available through the *Friends of NRA*.



WEATHERBY MARK V TACMARK ELITE

Donated by Weatherby

Chambered in .30-378 the Mark V TacMark Elite is the latest in the company's Mark V series of rifles that made their debut in 1958. It features a 28-inch, No. 3-contour, Krieger Custom match-grade, fluted, free-floating, cut-rifled barrel. This rifle weighs in at 11.75 pounds, measures 48 – 49 1/5 inches in overall length, and comes with an Oehler Ballistic Imaging System printout signed and certified by Ed or Adam Weatherby. The Mark V TacMark Elite sports a High Desert Camo finish with black spider web accents.



AUCTION PREVIEW



New Super Black Eagle III 12GA/28" barrel features Benelli's Inertia Driven System to reliably cycle 2 3/4" 3" and 3 1/2" shells Realtree Max 5 camo

Donated by Benelli USA

BENELLI SUPER BLACK EAGLE III, 12 GA.

System to reliably cycle 2 3/4", 3" and 3 1/2" shells. Realtree Max 5 camo gun with 3 flush mount and 2 extended choke tubes. Benelli believes in the constant pursuit of perfection and the Super Black Eagle III is the latest proof. With patented Combtech recoil technology in the stock, an easy loading system, redesigned ergonomic controls, and an Easy-Locking Bolt system, the SBE3 has been engineered with more than a dozen significant enhancements and new technologies to give serious hunters better recoil management, exceptional speed, enhanced comfort and failsafe reliability in conditions that would destroy lesser guns.

QUIETKAT RANGER

Donated by QuietKat

The Ranger electric bike combines versatility, performance and price for riders traversing moderate off-road terrain. The Ranger features a 750 watt hub-drive electric motor, mechanical disc brakes, a coil-spring front suspension fork for a smoother ride, and a wide-range 7-speed gearing system to handle most riding situations.





FOSTECH ORIGIN 12

Donated by Fostech

The Fostech Origin 12 Tactical Shotgun is an AK-style modular shotgun system. It features a multi-caliber receiver and a quick change barrel system that incorporates a threaded, fluted 18" barrel, gas block adjustment and modular handguard all in one unit. The internals are hard nickel coated. The receiver has a flat top accessory rail dust cover for optics mounting, and the hand guard has upper and lower accessory rails, plus side rail mounting options. The Origin 12 is 100 percent made in the USA.

*ALL ITEMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE *NOTE: FIREARMS MAY NOT BE LEGAL IN ALL STATES



FRIENDS OF NRA CORNHOLE SET

Donated by BTL Carpentry & Creations

It's been called many things over the years: Corn Toss, Bean Bag Toss, Soft Horseshoes, and rumored to have originated in Germany in the 14th century, and then was rediscovered in the hills of Kentucky over 100 years ago. The truth is, who really knows, but the game is great fun for all ages and can be played anywhere! This custom-built cornhole set bears the *Friends of NRA* logo and includes all-weather bean bags. This regulation size cornhole set will make a great addition to any gathering!



AWT PRECISION .338 LAPUA RIFLE

Donated by Advanced Weapons Technology, LLC

The Advanced Weapons Technology Longbow Precision Rifle in .338 Lapua has a custom adjustable laminate target stock and M16 style extractor. Complete with a receiver-mounted bolt release and match grade Wilson barrel mated to an AWT match grade receiver. The custom .338 contains a midnight bronze cerakote finish and a 26" barrel.



GUNS OF D-DAY COLLECTORS SERIES, SET OF 3 Donated by Kahr Arms

The D-Day Series consists of three limited edition, commemorative firearms: The Soldier M1 Carbine, The Ranger Thompson, and The Fly Girl 1911. On June 6, 1944, on the beaches of Normandy, the greatest Allied undertaking of World War II took place. America's brave warriors were called to do the impossible, beginning the struggle to wrest Europe from the hands of Nazi tyranny. Auto-Ordnance offers this series to honor the many American soldiers who fought so others could be free again. The firearms in this series are a limited quantity, special edition.

ON THE COVER: TEACH FREEDOM CUSTOM AR

Donated by Unique ARs

Unique ARs set out to create a unique build that blended patriotism and the values that tie into the Second Amendment community. All components of the Teach Freedom Custom AR are American-sourced, and all the finishing work was done in the Unique ARs shop in Idaho, so from start to finish, it's an American-made rifle. The Teach Freedom Custom AR contains a 416R stainless steel 16.1" barrel, chambered in .223 Wylde; hand lapped 1:8 twist, and moa performance guarantee. This completely custom rifle contains a Cerakote ceramic-based thermo-set epoxy finish and a billet flat-top upper receiver with forward assist, laser-etched dust cover and a 15" free float 6061T6 aluminum handquard in multi-color Cerakote finish.

AUCTION PREVIEW



NUMZAAN SAFARIS SEVEN-DAY SABLE AND HONEY BADGER HUNT FOR TWO IN SOUTH AFRICA

Donated by Numzaan Safaris

Numzaan Safaris is one of the leading outfitters in South Africa. Enjoy this seven-day sable and honey badger hunt (one of each animal per hunter) for two at a family-run operation that has exceptional love and passion for nature, conservation, and hunting. Includes lodging, pick up and return to airport, meals, beverages, laundry, hunting license fees, hunting vehicle with driver/guide, licensed professional hunter, trophy fees, trophy preparations, field preparations, transportation of trophies to forwarding agent, and \$500 per hunter credit towards taxidermy. Not included: airfare, firearm/weapon import permit fees, firearm rental fees, ammunition, transportation of trophies, shipping and import/ export fees, and gratuities. Available Mar.- Oct. 2020-2022.



LIMPOPO AFRICAN SAFARIS SEVEN-DAY HUNT FOR FOUR HUNTERS

Donated by Limpopo African Safaris

Hunting sable in the Limpopo bushveld is one of the finest hunting experiences South Africa has to offer. Come hunt with one of South Africa's premiere outfitters, on 100,000 acres of some of the most picturesque country. This hunt is for seven-days, eight-nights for up to four hunters. You will be treated to gournet meals and outstanding accommodations. One hunter will get one cape buffalo. The other three hunters get to choose one of the following plains game animals - impala, blesbuck, warthog, or \$500 credit for another animal. Includes lodging, pick up/return to airport, meals, beverages, laundry, hunting vehicle with driver/guide, licensed professional hunter, trophy fees for donated animals, field preparations. Not included: airfare, firearm rental, ammunition, taxidermy, import/export/shipping fees for trophies, transportation forwarding agent, and gratuities. Available year-round 2020-2022.

5 NIGHT/4 DAY NEW ZEALAND BIG GAME SAFARI FOR TWO HUNTERS

Donated by Rivers South Safaris AND EXPLORE! Adventures

Experience some of the best Big Game Hunting that the beautiful South Island of New Zealand has to offer. Rivers South Safaris operates from their property which is situated at the foothills of the Sherwood mountain range and a short walking distance from Lake Ophua. This four day, five night experience for two hunters includes the opportunity to hunt Red Stag up to 360 points, and free-range Himalayan Tahr (one trophy per hunter). Includes lodging, pick up/return to airport, meals, beverages, firearm rental, hunting license and licensed professional guide. Rifle import fees, gratuities, and airfare are not included. Available MarchJune 2021.



LILY POND CREEK FIVE-DAY BLACK BEAR HUNT FOR ONE Donated by Lily Pond Creek

Lily Pond Creek Ranch is located in Hyde County, NC and has been recognized by wildlife professionals and avid hunters as one of the best areas in the U.S. for bear hunting. The property is made up of 14,000 acres of contiguous, private hunting land and is surrounded on three sides by 110,000 acres of the Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge; making this a unique area for trophy black bear. Trip includes a five-day and six-night hunt for one in December of 2020. Includes lodging, meals, beverages (non-alcoholic), hunting vehicle with driver/guide, licensed professional hunter, trophy/field preparations. Not included: airfare, pick up /return to airport, alcoholic beverages, laundry, firearm/weapon import permit fees, firearm rental, ammunition, hunting license, trophy fees, taxidermy, shipping /transportation of trophies, import/export fees, and gratuities.



MUSIC CITY CENTER | GRAND BALLROOM, NASHVILLE, TN

RA FOUNDATION **BBO&AUCTION** APRIL 16, 2020 | 5:00PM

HELP US TEACH FREEDOM!

I NRAAM.ORG COME TO NASHVILLE FOR A NIGHT OF FUN, FUNDRAISING, AND FIREARMS, AND LEARN HOW YOUR SUPPORT INSPIRES THE NRA FOUNDATION.



8

BANQUET SPONSORED BY

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JOIN US FOR A PRE-EVENT AT 4:00PM

NRA WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP FORUM

THE SCI

sponsored by the

As sole presenting sponsor of the SCI Diana Award, the NRA Women's Leadership Forum celebrates and supports the contributions of distinguished women leaders in big game hunting and conservation.

he NRA Women's Leadership Forum is thrilled to congratulate our very own Susan Hayes, recipient of the 2020 SCI Diana Award. Susan is a lifelong outdoors woman, though she has only been hunting for the past 15 years. That short decade and a half has proved time enough for countless hunts in 23 countries, yielding 150+ species. Many hunting careers begin with small game and top out at whitetail deer. Susan's first game animal ever was a bison, followed by exciting safaris and hunts worldwide. After 12 years, Susan circled back around for that deer and successfully completed SCI's Whitetail Grand Slam in one season. "I have taken to hunting unlike anything else in my life. It is truly in my blood," says Susan - an understatement for sure. Her list of Inner Circle & SCI Milestone Achievements is robust, which led to her winning the Zenith Award at the 2019 SCI Convention. And, she's never without a hunt on her horizon.

In her own words: "My involvements with Safari Club International have brought me close to the greatest hunters in the world. I have learned from them and have tried to emulate their ethics and attain their standards. Within these ranks are the Dianas who have been a guiding force for me in hunting and also in the world of advocacy for hunter's rights and gun rights. It is our job as women to encourage other women - especially younger women — to become involved in the hunting and shooting sports. I say it all the time, 'If you get the Moms, you get the kids and you therefore get the next generation of Second Amendment and Hunting Rights advocates.' We must all stand together to ensure these rights (not privileges) are preserved."

"Being a resident of Los Angeles area since birth, I have seen the erosion of respect for hunters and gun owners in my state. I feel it is my duty to take on the responsibility of teaching and encouraging women in California to understand the freedoms we have and how we must strive to protect them. I therefore work to introduce women to hunting and shooting whenever an opportunity presents itself. It has become a wonderful way to work with women who otherwise would not be exposed to our world. As a result, I have made so many new friends and have felt the reward of seeing women truly become excited about the ideals we hold so dear."

Women's Leadership Forum NATIONAL NEWS

Susan has all of the skills and qualifications a Diana Award honoree should: excellence in international big game hunting, exemplary ethics in the field, commitment to the mission statement of SCI. But perhaps what sets her apart is how she gives so generously of her time, energies, treasure, and talent to enhance wildlife conservation and education. For Susan, there is no such thing as passive involvement. When she's in, she's all in. From her life membership with SCI, to serving on the WLF Executive Committee, The NRA Foundation's Board of Trustees, and serving as Chairwoman of the Foundation's Investment Committee, to actively maintaining a "Defend 2A" page on her company website, Susan speaks up to set the record straight on the importance of hunting and wildlife conservation. "As a fourth generation Californian, I have decided to stop hiding my guns and hunting trophies, and

and through my social media, have 'outed' myself to the wine community and the California community at large. Much to my surprise, the support for my positions has been well received as I have used my voice to post educated and thoughtful content in support of our hunting and firearms interests."

Congratulations, Susan, on this well-deserved honor! And thank you for standing up for issues that are so often misunderstood and helping to preserve the future of the shooting sports and the conservation of our hunting resources and traditions.

Susan Hayes with the Kennion Gazelle she took in Pakistan earlier this year.



By Tyler Proksa Event Marketing and Communications Coordinator, National Rifle Association

The 2020 Great American Outdoors Show at the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg, PA was once again filled with the sounds of the Wall of Guns, and the excitement of our 180 winners. For just \$10 a ticket, participants had a 1-in-100 chance to win a brand new firearm or \$400 in cash.

The wall featured over 40 firearms that fit a wide variety of uses, and was sure to have something for everyone. Some of the most popular firearms where Henry Repeating Arms, Kimbers, Remington Arms, Rugers, SIG Sauers, Smith & Wessons, and more. Nine Line Apparel was this year's sponsor with an amazing shirt design that everyone wanted to get their hands on. Yet the Wall of Guns wasn't the only great success at this year's event. The show welcomed nearly 200,000 outdoor enthusiasts from across the nation to celebrate their proud hunting, fishing, and outdoor traditions.

Next year's Wall of Guns at the Great American Outdoor Show is scheduled for February 6-14, 2021. For more information, visit www.greatamericanoutdoorshow.org.

Thank you to our sponsor:





Friends of NRA 2019 Top 10 Committees

The following committees have been ranked according to their net dollar amount raised for *Friends of NRA* in 2019.

- 1. Coastal Georgia Friends of NRA \$553,258 Black Creek, GA
- 2. Falls of the Ohio Friends of NRA \$248,126 Borden, IN
- **3. PA's 1st Friends of NRA \$161,756** North Huntingdon, PA
- **4. Douglas County Friends of NRA \$159,248** Roseburg, OR
- 5. Heartland Friends of NRA \$140,093 Oklahoma City, OK

- 6. Brazos Valley Friends of NRA \$134,559 Bryan, TX
- 7. Zane Grey Friends of NRA \$133,876 Payson, AZ
- 8. Homer Friends of NRA \$130,302 Homer, AK
- 9. Blue River Friends of NRA \$117,988 Shelbyville, IN
- 10. Southeast Alaska Friends of NRA \$117,007 Juneau, AK



AT THE 2020 NRA ANNUAL MEETINGS & EXHIBITS NASHVILLE, TN | APRIL 16-19, 2020 WINNER'S CHOICE OF MORE THAN 50 FIREARMS!

TICKETS ONLY \$20 ONLY 100 TICKETS SOLD PER ROUND DRAW OF THE CENTURY AFTER 10 ROUNDS









PEST CONTROL AFRICAN STYLE WMax Prasac

The concept of problem animal control varies from country to country and is as old as the first human settlement that abutted the wilderness. In most suburban neighborhoods across the U.S. a problem animal might be a raccoon or something equally threatening getting into the trash. In Mozambique on the Zambezi River purportedly between two and four people disappear per week from hungry crocs. It's a different problem, the weight of which will never be fully understood in that these countries typically do not keep detailed population records or perform censuses. But this shouldn't diminish the seriousness of the problem as a sizable amount of people simply disappear when out doing mundane day-to-day chores like washing clothes by the riverfront or fishing for subsistence. Africa can be a scary place.

The Nile crocodile is responsible for more attacks on humans than any other member of the crocodilian family, Mozambique holding the honor for the most yearly attacks. Due to the environment of the Nile croc and its proximity to human dwellings, the Nile croc comes in frequent contact with humans, which is responsible for the disproportionate number of attacks in Mozambique over other African nations with a crocodile population. The estimate of 300 attacks occur annually in Mozambique, but again, that number may be much greater if reporting were more consistent and standardized. Perhaps that number is low, however there really is no way to verify and if this is indeed a low estimate, I for one find it more than a little disconcerting.

Enter Bill Jones, the successful businessman from Alabama with a severe historical firearms habit. A collector of some renown, Bill has quite the collection featuring the hunting rifles of Elmer Keith, Philip Percival and Ernest Hemmingway to name but a few. Combine a love, no an obsession, for old historic hunting rifles, and a pretty severe big-game hunting affliction, and Bill Jones is the re-

sult of the perfect melding of these two distinct personality types. Bill, in this author's humble opinion, possesses all of the necessary attributes to truly appreciate the splendor of actually hunting dangerous game in Africa with Ernest Hemingway's Westley Richards .577 Nitro Express double rifle. Obviously, Bill is no ordinary collector. An addition to Bill's extensive collection isn't necessarily hermetically sealed in a safe, contained in a vault, and relegated to being handled sparingly with white gloves. No, Bill's appreciation for historical firearm perfection is much greater than the aforementioned stereotypical collector. He understands the real reason these purpose-built firearms were manufactured and irrespective of the cost and value associated with firearms with such lofty pedigrees, these priceless pieces were never intended or designed to languish in a gun cabinet or safe. No, their purpose is very singular in scope. A rifle like Ernest Hemingway's .577 double was meant to slay dragons. Simply put, Bill gets it.

This hunting habit of Bill's is sated every year with forays to the Dark Continent. When you spend as much time in Africa as Bill, certain opportunities can present themselves. In a land with a whole slew of animals that can be labeled dangerous, a moniker that is warranted by the fact that so many people die in Africa every year as a result of contact with predators (and animals that are not predatory by nature but don't abide by labels and still present a viable threat to the wellbeing of man). That being said, by exercising dominion over potentially dangerous crocodiles, via a large caliber rifle, the threat to the civilian population decreases, in no uncertain terms.

Even in the United States, where alligator hunting is allowed, typically the larger specimens are



targeted by hunters and inadvertently take the most dangerous animals out of circulation. The potential threat by alligators is more often than not propagated by the larger animals in that they know that their limitations aren't as narrowly defined as smaller members of the species. So, man becomes a viable target and potential food source, albeit rarely. Conversely, the Nile crocodile has demonstrated a real propensity to attack and eat humans.

The opportunity to render a village near the Zambezi a safer place to inhabit has become a part of Bill Jones' yearly safari experience. To date he has killed upwards of 50 of these very large reptiles and sent them on to the purse maker. Removing a 16 foot long crocodile from the murky waters of the Zambezi means there is one less predator for the locals to contend with, and maybe a few lives to be spared and a chance to live to old age. Bill Jones is an unabashed crocodile hunter, make no mistake. That his passion for crocs makes parts of Africa a safer place is an intended consequence that has a tangible impact on the local population.

One of the NRA's five key objectives is: "to promote hunter safety, and to promote and defend hunting as a shooting sport and as a viable and necessary method of fostering the propagation, growth, conservation and wise use of our renewable wildlife resources." The NRA Foundation is proud to support those efforts by helping to fund programs like Hunter Education, Youth Hunter Education Challenge, Hunters' Leadership Forum, Women's Wilderness Escape, and Hunters for the Hungry.



FRIENDS OF NRA GETTING TOGETHER TO KICK OFF 2020



(1) Cole Beverly, Eastern CA Field Representative shares a laugh with a local committee member.

(2) Chuck Covey, David Henry, AR Field Representative Erica Dunn, and Alex Henry pose for a picture at the Drew County *Friends of NRA* banquet in Monticello, AR.

(3) East TX Field Representative, Liz Foley, puts the FUN in fundraising. Red, White & Blue were the 2020 Colors of the Year for East Texas *Friends of NRA*.

(4) Friends of NRA committee members from across AZ show their support for their state.

(5) Eastern NV Friends of NRA Committees are honored with award banners at their 2020 Volunteer Workshop.



(6) The North TX State Fund Committee met at Bass Pro in Garland, TX for their 2020 grant meeting.

(7) South Central Regional Director, Tom Ulik, poses with Greg Starr, Chairman of the Five States Friends of NRA committee.

(8) Kaskaskia River Valley *Friends of NRA* receiving their share of the *Friends of NRA* calendar committee sales at their 2020 State Fund Committee meeting.

(9) Protector Level committee recipients were recognized at the Southern FL Volunteer Workshop.

(10) 2019 Volunteer of the Year for Maine, and Chairman of Aroostook *Friends of NRA*, Jason House, shakes hands with Brian Smith, Field Representative for Area 1.

The Blennerhassett *Friends of NRA* committee in Parkersburg, West Virginia, is playing an important role in the community when it comes to advocating for safe and fun shooting with both firearms and bows for all ages. The Blennerhasset *Friends of NRA* Committee has been especially active with the Women on Target program and various youth shooting programs.

The Women on Target program, run by members of the Blennerhassett *Friends of NRA*, is funded by an NRA Foundation grant. Money from the Blennerhasset *Friends of NRA* Annual Banquet goes toward the grant funding. With this program, 60 women signed up for a day-long training course. During the course, the women learned about gun safety and how to use different handgun models. The handguns that were used to teach the ladies varied in model and in caliber. These, along with targets and ear and eye protection, were purchased with an NRA Foundation grant for the women to use during this, and other, Women on Target programs. Women on Target has proven to be a successful program in giving women knowledge and confidence when using handguns.

Eastern REGIONAL UPDATE

Youth education is another important goal of Blannerhassett *Friends of NRA*. The committee not only holds youth shooting programs of their own, but also partners with other organizations in the Parkersburg area. Each year, they work with the Mid-Ohio Valley chapters of the National Wild Turkey Federation to hold a shooting program for the younger members of the community called "Jake's Day." During this day-long event, the youth learn about gun and shooting safety taught by members of the Blennerhassett *Friends of NRA* committee. They also learn about a plethora of other shooting activities as well. Last year, there were over 30 firearms at the event for the young members to see and hold while they were learning about general shooting and gun safety.

In October 2019, the Blennerhassett *Friends of NRA* committee hosted their annual *Friends of NRA* banquet. Like many other *Friends of NRA* banquets around the country, they set up games for attendees to try their luck with, and held silent and live auctions. One of the most popular items at the live auction, and also the item bringing the highest bids, was the 2019 Gun of the Year. This item is unique as it was underwritten in honor of a person who was a very important member of the community, and one of the founding fathers of the Blennerhassett *Friends of NRA*, Mr. JR Hill. Bob Buchanan, a former chairman of the Blennerhassett *Friends of NRA* said, "JR did so much for this area in promoting safe, fun shooting for young people, women and men, and competition shooters." Mr. Hill was a West Virginia State Biologist for the Department of Natural Resources in the Mid-Ohio Valley, and he is responsible for many conservation successes in the area like bringing wild turkey back to Mid-Ohio Valley. The funds that were raised from selling the Gun of the Year and other items went towards grants and other programs put on by the Blennerhassett *Friends of NRA* committee.

The banquet grows each year, with the only limiting factor being the space for the number of attendees. This past year was one of the largest banquets the Blennerhassett *Friends of NRA* has held with over 300 people in attendance. With the increase in fundraising, and more interest being generated in the community, it may be possible to have new programs or expand many of the existing ones. The success of Blennerhassett *Friends of NRA* is a great example of how a small committee in a small community can have a huge impact.

Submit your program for an NRA Foundation grant today! Visit nrafoundation.org to find out more information!



TRAP KINGS

SCALES MOUND TRAP TEAM

By Dawson Boys

2019 Youth Education Summit Participant

he sun is rising, dew on the grass, youth shooters on the trap field, and gunpowder in the air. This is the future of America. From cows to plows to firearms, Future Farmers of America (FFA) is even more than you would expect! Four years ago, the Scales Mound FFA chapter started a shooting team with 32 very passionate members. They enjoyed it more than they ever imagined and wanted to grow their ranks. So, a year later they petitioned the school board to start a scholastic team. The first year the scholastic team welcomed ten athletes.

The high costs of practices and competitions add up quickly. Scales Mound Trap Team Coordinator, Linda Ziarko, reached out to The NRA Foundation for assistance. The FFA's first year, they were granted over \$6,000 worth of shot-guns, clay targets, and shotgun shells from The NRA Foundation. Over the past four years, the FFA team has received about \$15,000, and the high school scholastic team has received about \$7,500. Linda stated, "Our programs wouldn't be successful if not for the generous funding and grants we receive from The NRA Foundation. Our team loves to support The NRA Foundation and its *Friends of NRA* program any way we can. We attend our local annual *Friends of NRA* banquet, helping with set up and tear down. We have also sold raffle tickets to help give back to them for all they have done for us."



Central REGIONAL UPDATE



The School's FFA program currently has 23 athletes, and the High School Scholastic team has 11. The closest school team is nearly an hour and a half away, but several FFA chapters in the area have teams making friendly competition easy to find.

When asked about her role as a coach, Linda noted, "It isn't as difficult as I had expected, just time-consuming. The FFA team started competing almost immediately since the FFA organization was already hosting meets on a Section level. We just needed to sign up to participate. The high school team took about a year from first petitioning our school board to joining a league. We have a great school and school board that recognized that our students wanted to participate in an unconventional sport. Once the programs were approved, it was just a matter of finding a league to participate in and writing grant applications to help offset costs. Our athletes pay minimal fees to participate. Travel, hotels, meals, clay targets, entry fees, and shotgun shells are all covered by fundraising. Once our season begins, our focus switches from fundraising to shooting. We compete in the Illinois High School Clay Target League. We shoot for eight straight weeks and compete by entering our scores online. We will attend the State Competition held in Litchfield, Illinois in June. The team and individuals will be notified if we/they get invited to Nationals which is held in Mason, Michigan in July."

"THIS WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT NRA FOUNDATION GRANTS AND THE LOCAL FRIENDS OF NRA COMMITTEE AND THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT."

One day Linda and her husband, Ed, were preparing a presentation to present to the school board, so they reached out to their local *Friends of NRA* committee. "We were very welcomed by the committee and they were very supportive of us getting a program started in our area. To be honest, the possibility of receiving an NRA Foundation grant added our desire to start a shooting program, as neither of our programs (FFA and the High School Team) receive any school funds. The grant process itself was not difficult if you have all the necessary documents. Our first year writing the grant application, we received seven guns, two pallets of clay targets, and 50 flats of shotgun shells. Now that our program is established, grants are very important to keep the costs down in order to keep our athletes involved."

At FFA meets, Scales Mound has won numerous first and second place honors for Varsity and Junior Varsity teams. The High School team won their conference in 2018 and came in second place in 2019. Linda said, "As coaches, we couldn't be any prouder of our team and we have some individuals that stand out." The last two years Scales Mount has had many athletes selected for the All-State Team. "Living in a small rural community, shooting has given many of the Scales Mound athletes the chance to travel and have experiences outside their small towns. Shooting has even opened up doors to colleges for three of the athletes," Linda said. Of course, Linda noted this would not be possible without NRA Foundation grants and the local *Friends of NRA* committee and their continued support.

Submit your club or program for an NRA Foundation grant today by applying at www.nrafoundation.org!

By Ashley Re Event Marketing and Communications Coordinator, National Rifle Association

t's no secret college students have a variety of interests. Most are excited to leave the nest, some focus on making new friends while others dive into their studies, but for Tucker Melton, protecting our Second Amendment rights and developing the next generation of youth shooters is pretty high on his list.

Tucker has been volunteering for Friends of NRA banquets since 2016, when his mother, Kathy, began serving as Vice-Chair for the Outer Banks Friends of NRA committee, the first Friends of NRA banquet in their area of Currituck County. "I sold dinner tickets and raffle tickets before the event. At the event, I assisted in the setup of the banquet, sold game tickets, assisted in running a game, ran prizes to the raffle winners, assisted guests with their dinners, and cleaned up after the event," noted Tucker. "I have helped with the 2016, 2017, and 2018 banquets, and then I left for college. I was only able to help sell raffle tickets in 2019, and will help sell raffle tickets again this year."

> Tucker volunteers for the Outer Banks *Friends of NRA* because of his strong beliefs in the Second Amendment, but also as a way to give back to the organization who has provided grants to his local 4-H group.

Tucker has been a North Carolina Currituck County 4-H'er since the age of 11, attending camps, completing projects and presentations in environmental sciences, wildlife, and competitive shooting sports. He has been a member and has served as President for several terms of the Currituck County Sharp Shooters 4-H Shooting Club since its inception, and competes both individually and as a member of the Senior Rifle, Shotgun, and Small Bore Pistol Teams.

Currituck County 4-H Sharp Shooters have received grant funding from The NRA Foundation since 2016. "We have received the equipment that the club desperately needed to function," stated Kathy. "When I started as the leader and coach of the Shooting Sports 4-H club in 2014, there was very little equipment for the kids to use. We had one right and one left-handed .22 rifle and a dry-rotted bow. In the beginning, our club focused on rifle and shotgun. I heard about the Friends of NRA through a friend that was looking into grants for youth shooting sports. I was invited to a meeting for a banquet committee in 2015. I signed up to help as Vice-Chair and had our first banquet in 2016. Also that year, we completed our first grant application and received ammunition, clays, and bows. Over the last four years, our club has received so much from the grants! It has been such a blessing! We have received pistols, a shotgun, air rifles, air pistols, a portable air range, as well as two Anschutz .22 rifles. These Anschutz have been instrumental in getting our kids to Nationals."

Currituck County 4-H has sponsored every Outer Banks *Friends of NRA* banquet to help raise funds for the grants that directly support Youth Shooting Sports, and assist youth in becoming leaders that are dedicated to shooting sports programs.

"I truly believe 4-H is one of the finest youth development organizations in the United States. Shooting sports clubs like my own teach patience, work ethic, dedication, teamwork, and sportsmanship among countless other skills that will be used throughout their lives. The NRA Foundation grants allow us to secure the equipment we use to expose youth to the valuable



Photos courtesy Kathy and Tucker Melton

lessons of shooting sports as well as teaching them how to be responsible and safely engage in shooting sports, as well as how to be responsible firearms owners," stated Tucker.

"The NRA Foundation grants allow us to secure the equipment we use to expose youth to the valuable lessons of shooting sports as well as teaching them how to be responsible and safely engage in shooting sports, as well as how to be responsible firearms owners."

So far, the Currituck County 4-H has sent four youth shooters to the North Carolina 4-H National Rifle team, thanks in part to NRA Foundation grants. Tucker hopes to continue to produce successful and responsible shooters for years to come. As for volunteering for the Outer Banks *Friends of NRA* banquet, Tucker stated, "I feel that our 4-H club has benefited so much from The NRA Foundation grants we have received and that helping with the banquets is the least I can do to give back. I enjoy volunteering and helping others. I also enjoy leading by example to the other members of the 4-H club."

Visit www.nrafoundation.org to apply for a grant to fund programs near you! To learn more about Friends of NRA in North Carolina, visit www.friendsofnra.org/NC.



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By Michael Guilliams

New Mexico Field Representative, National Rifle Association

The stated goal of New Mexico 4-H Shooting Sports is youth development. They believe, as do we, that "Through participation in firearm safety training and shooting sports activities, young men and women are given the opportunity to learn responsibility, sportsmanship, self-discipline, and other qualities critical to the development of productive citizens." The NRA Foundation has raised countless dollars to assist these programs on a county by county basis throughout our history, and has touched a good many lives in the process.

All in all, we might not be able to do all we do with The NRA Foundation and *Friends of NRA* in New Mexico if 4-H clubs didn't help out. Three of our new *Friends of NRA* committees this year alone are composed primarily of adults who are connected with 4-H. Almost every single *Friends of NRA* committee in New Mexico has 4-H representation in leadership roles. That's why I take the time to make a long, lonely drive to a remote dusty place called the NRA Whittington Center every year during the height of the event season for the New Mexico 4-H Shooting Championships. Some of these kids, coaches, parents, and others make as much as a nine hour drive (one way) just to get there. This is what's happening for kids who live in counties that are bigger than some states, but have more cows than people.

Nine different disciplines are shot at the New Mexico 4-H Shooting Championships over the course of four days: air rifle, air pistol, compound archery, recurve archery, hunting, muzzleloader, pistol, rifle, and shotgun. Every discipline requires equipment, and some of it is pretty pricey. When I asked one coach about some nice equipment his team had on the small bore range, he said, "Thanks, you guys bought it for us." Last year alone, the New Mexico *Friends of NRA* State Fund Committee funded over \$87,500 in grant requests from 4-H clubs around the state. That is 50% of our grant fund. Everything from shotgun shells to safety glasses; we help them get it all. Many of these talented



young people would never have a chance to shoot, compete, or be mentored by the best people our state has to offer if it were not for The NRA Foundation's grant program.

If you have never been to the New Mexico 4-H Shooting Championships, maybe it's time to make the trip. It's just a whole lot of fun watching these kids. It will impress you and let you know what The NRA Foundation is all about. This is why we fight for the Second Amendment. This is why we all do what we do. This is our legacy.

These kids all know each other from participation in other areas of 4-H as well as this one. Even the most heated competitors cheer for and congratulate each other. I've seen seniors from bitter small-town rivalries hug each other and say good-bye. I've also heard them say, "I'll see you next fall at NMSU." That's what it's all about; this is the future. These kids will defend our nation on a foreign field if asked to do so. They will assure the future of the Second Amendment. They will be examples of good citizenship and self-reliance. And finally, they will train the next generation to do the same.

Think about the impact for a minute; this is grassroots. It's why The NRA Foundation was founded. You and I, together with local leadership from just 4-H alone, have improved lives

– changed them – by simply supporting a bunch of rag-tag kids from the desert. 4-H Shooting Sports may in fact be the ticket to success for many of these young people. They go on to earn college degrees on scholarship money they get for being on the shooting team. The life experiences they get here is supported by The NRA Foundation. When somebody asks you why The NRA Foundation is important, you just tell them to come to New Mexico and our kids will show them. ■

Visit www.nrafoundation.org to apply for a grant to fund programs near you! To find a Friends of NRA event in New Mexico, visit www.friendsofnra.org/NM.



Photos courtesy Michael Guilliams

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Katie <u>Jones</u> Born Leader

By Gina Owens Event Marketing and Communications Coordinator, National Rifle Association

If can't be said often enough that volunteers are the lifeblood of the *Friends* of *NRA* program. Everyone brings something to the table, and does their part (or more!) to put on successful events that support The NRA Foundation and Second Amendment activities in their communities. But every so often, one volunteer's star shines just that much brighter than the rest:

Meet Katie Jones.

Involved in "all things NRA Foundation" in Douglas County Oregon, Katie takes great pride in her work, and is motivated by her deep belief in the United States Constitution and the Second Amendment. Katie has been the chair of her local Douglas County *Friends of NRA* Committee for 11 years, and served on the Oregon State Fund Committee for 10.

It's on the Oregon State Fund Committee that she has the pleasure of awarding \$30,000 in scholarship money to high school seniors through the Oregon State Scholarship Program – but she wants to do more. Afterall, this is the future of the Second Amendment we are talking about! Katie makes sure that all schools in Douglas County have the opportunity to participate in this program that assists graduating high school seniors with the hefty cost of higher education. She helped establish the Oregon State Scholarship Program, and continues to serve as one of the delegates who reviews and judges applications.

"I'm pushing for scholarships like these to go nationwide by contacting Field Representatives in other states and asking them to start similar programs. Currently, we give \$30,000 to high school seniors, but are looking to increase that to \$50,000 to help support the students who want to attend college or a trade school," explained Katie.

"Katie amazes me on a regular basis. Her passion for the *Friends of NRA* program is contagious. She constantly finds ways to grow and improve. Her dedication, attitude, and drive is an example not only to the supporters and volunteers in my area, but nationwide as well," says Oregon Senior Field Representative, Mike Carey.



She does more for NRA Foundation programs that anyone in Oregon. It's truly an honor to work alongside of Katie, and my admiration for her continues to grow with each passing year.

The future of our country, and of our Second Amendment freedoms is clearly important to Katie Jones. In 2013, Katie was a leading force in bringing the NRA Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) to Douglas County. She recruited volunteers for the program and personally sponsors the t-shirts and other apparel worn in the YHEC state finals.

As if that's not enough, Katie singlehandedly started the first Oregon State Youth Education Summit (Y.E.S.) program five years ago, and continues her involvement as the state coordinator. This endeavor consumes countelss hours, but it's all worth it to Katie to see the Oregon State YES program be so successful.

Katie attends and supports the annual Oregon State Volunteer Workshop, as well as Friends banquets outside of her own in Douglas County. She is involved at every level, and constantly strives to improve.

"Each year the Oregon State Banquet is held to celebrate and honor committees from across the state of Oregon for their accomplishments," says Mike. "Year in and year out, Katie and her banquet seem to receive the bulk of the awards."

In 2019, Katie's Douglas County *Friends of NRA* banquet raised over \$159,000! Her event was ranked fourth in the nation. Her committee wasted no time in getting their 2020 banquet scheduled. In fact, it was the first one in Oregon to be put on the books.

"I'm glad we raised \$159,000 to support The NRA Foundation and the shooting sports. It was a successful event. I always want to be in the top 10, but in 2018 we came in at number 11. We worked really hard and in 2019 finished fourth!," said Katie of her recent success.

Katie is a pillar in her community and the *Friends of NRA* family. She's highly respected for all of her accomplishemnts in Douglas County, and is a real cheerleader for the state of Oregon. Mike Carey sums it up: "She does more for NRA Foundation programs than anyone in Oregon. It's truly an honor to work alongside of Katie, and my admiration for her continues to grow with each passing year."

Attend your local Friends of NRA banquet and help spread the fun of firearms and fundraising! To find an event near you, visit www.friendsofnra.org/oR to learn more about Friends of NRA in Oregon.



Photos courtesy Katie Jones



BIG ACCOMPLISHMENTS In A small Community

By Sebastien Bautista

2019 Youth Education Summit Participant

ake County, the poorest county in California, has an average income \$27,000 below the state median. It's also one of the smallest counties, clocking in only about 60,000 residents. Given those statistics, you might think that hosting a *Friends of NRA* fundraiser would be unsuccessful, but James Walker was willing to give it his best shot.

With a lot of hard work, James and other volunteers hosted the inaugural Lake County *Friends of NRA* dinner in July 2007, which happened to be the hottest day of the year.

As James recalls, "The air conditioner at the venue was broken, and we had a hundred people melting in the sweltering heat, but I was hooked." Despite the less-than-ideal temperatures, the event was a moderate success and James saw opportunities for growth.

Southwest REGIONAL UPDATE

He reached out to local law enforcement agencies and the Lake County Deputy Sheriff's Association and asked for their help in advertising for volunteers for the next event. In doing this, James inadvertently built a committee filled with public safety members!

Because of the unique make-up of the Lake County committee, they are able to easily coordinate with local agencies to hold some very special events, and raise some very impressive money!

For 10 of their 13 years, Lake County has met the "High Caliber" standard by netting between \$25,000 and \$50,000 per event. Their 2018 dinner had 230+ attendees and ranked #31 in the nation in fundraising! That's a big accomplishment from such a small community.

James has served as committee chairman for the last 10 years, and they have seen remarkable growth under his leadership. The Lake County *Friends of NRA* banquet is the top fundraising event in the Northern California area, and their attendee numbers keep growing.

James understands the good that *Friends of NRA* and The NRA Foundation can do for a community. With his help, the local youth center received a grant to build an air rifle and archery range within the city. This grant from The NRA Foundation opened up a new world of opportunity for young people in the area, including Brent Hinchcliff, a 2017 NRA Youth Education Summit (Y.E.S.) attendee and Lake County resident. Brent attests to the fact that James' efforts are what makes Friends banquets, and other community events, so impactful. "Aside from the many hours Mr. Walker dedicates to the *Friends of NRA*, he also teaches firearms safety and handling classes for youth and new shooters."

James Walker, thank you for taking a leadership role in protecting our Second Amendment freedoms in your community – and know that your example is seen and appreciated!

Apply today for a grant from The NRA Foundation! Visit www.nrafoundation.org/grants for more information. To find Friends of NRA in California, visit www.friendsofnra. org/CA.

Did you know that the NRA established a Law Enforcement Division 60 years ago. Since then, nearly 60,000 law enforcement instructors have been trained through our programs. The NRA Foundation is proud to support law enforcement, military and security personnel each and every day.



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BACKAGAINAND BREAKING RECORDS

By Ashley Re Event Marketing and Communications Coordinator, National Rifle Association

In 2018, Cindy Daniel and her committee members and volunteers rolled up their sleeves and went to work with two goals in mind: 1) educate and promote firearm safety and 2) get more people shooting.

Cindy sits as the chairperson for the Coastal Georgia *Friends of NRA* committee, and when asked what drove her to start her own committee 4 years ago, she replied, "I believe America is great because our constitution guarantees the liberties God gives its citizens. Although we don't always agree with what others may say on some topics, we certainly support their right to say it. That's what the First Amendment is about. I believe the Second Amendment provides the muscle behind the First Amendment, and no other organization supports the Second Amendment like the NRA. Plus, I love to shoot, and I want to make sure that future generations get to enjoy the shooting sports just as I do so that we all can keep our rights and pass on our traditions."

In 2018, Cindy and her committee broke the *Friends of NRA* 26-year record by raising over \$322,000 and she set her sights even higher in 2019. Not only did she want to keep her rank as the top committee, but she also wanted to raise more than half a million NET dollars! On October 24, 2019, the Coastal Georgia *Friends of NRA* banquet welcomed 750 attendees into the Daniel Defense Headquarters.

"The event featured factory tours and many one-of-a-kind items," noted Neely Raper, Field Representative for Georgia. "There were several cool items featured in the live auction, including lunch with former NYPD Police Commissioner Bernie Kerik. He was Police Commissioner during the 9/11 attacks. The event also included a custom-built oyster table, custom firearms, a Utah mountain lion hunt, an African safari, and a 1-of-1 guitar donated by Charlie Daniels." Neely noted that many of the custom and unique donations came from folks in the Coastal Georgia community, as well as from industry partners. Commissioner Bernie Kerik and Stephen Willeford, the hero from the Sutherland Springs, TX church shooting, were guest speakers, and were thoroughly engaging with their powerful messages about what it means to be a Second Amendment-loving citizen.

We are pleased to announce Cindy, and her Coastal Georgia *Friends of NRA* committee, raised an incredible, almost unbelievable, \$553,258 for The NRA Foundation! Neely attributes this success to Cindy's true dedication to the mission. "She sets examples



for other committee chairs in the state of Georgia. She is an inspiration to others, is a tremendous asset to our cause, and sets a great example of what a dedicated chairwoman should be," stated Neely.

Cindy attributes the success of the 2019 banquet to a great team of people, both volunteers and members of the Daniel Defense family. It's no secret that banquets can be very time consuming, but Cindy and her husband Marty truly believe in their company motto, "Freedom. Passion. Precision," and use it to guide how they manage their time and team of volunteers. "We're blessed because so many of those we work and live within our community share the same values as our motto. That makes coming together for *Friends of NRA* well worth it," noted Cindy.

Cindy and her team have even bigger plans for 2020 and planning has already begun. "We will continue to offer many exclusive items in addition to our ever-popular premium table packages," said Cindy. "Get ready for another fun, record-breaking event!"

In addition to planning her 2020 banquet, Cindy is working with several local schools to help them start competitive shooting teams and she is very excited that her son, Connor, will be participating in shooting sports this year.

Support your local Friends of NRA by attending an event near you. To find local Friends of NRA events, visit www.friendsofnra.org/events.

\$553,258





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How and when did you get involved with *Friends of NRA*?

I joined my local *Friends of NRA* committee in 1993 and have been a volunteer with them ever since. It is the volunteers who deserve all the credit in making the Friends program viable and so strong today. Watching the kids enjoying the shooting sports because of what the volunteers do to raise the money needed to keep those kids involved is what it is all about.

What did you do in your previous life...

I worked 31 years for a local cable television company as a Technician, then as a Construction Supervisor. I then worked for a large Fireworks Display company as their Safety Director, and for over 25 years I also shot professional fireworks display shows. In January 2007 I was hired as the NRA Field Rep. for Michigan.



Name 5 things you can't live without... The belief in God, my family, my friends, our freedoms, and the guts to protect it all!

Tell us something unique about yourself...

I grew up on a farm in the Thumb of Michigan where during pheasant season I could get on the #3 bus with my shotgun and hunting vest, ride the bus to school, walk down the hall with my gun and vest, put both in my locker, and at 3 pm when school got out, I would walk the 3 miles down the railroad home and shoot my limit of 4 roosters every day! If it had a trigger and went bang or if it went boom (my father owned an explosive/demolition business), I was right there ready and eager to make it happen. I love to hunt and I shoot competitively with shotgun, handgun, and rifle and compete in the National Matches at Camp Perry and Atterbury every year.

What is your favorite type of firearm and why?

Colonel Townsend Welen once stated, "Only accurate rifles are interesting" and I believe in that wholeheartedly. I hunt and compete with both pistols and rifles, and only those that perform accurately are at home in my gun room. Now that I am older I love bench rest calibers that shoot out accurately beyond 1,000 yards, and that includes .50 BMG.



Al Herman MICHIGAN Senior Field Rep



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