

# The MUZZLEBLAST

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

2017

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

#2 – June

## THANK YOU GATEWAY MEMBERS

**for helping to reelect Ted Carter to the NRA Board of Directors**

At the recently held NRA Annual Meeting of Members in Atlanta, the NRA announced the results of its election for Board of Directors. Additionally, an important package of NRA Bylaw Amendments was overwhelmingly approved by the members.

Ted Carter, a long time member of Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club, was reelected for his third, three year term, as one of 76 NRA Board of Directors. Gateway's Board of Directors was first to endorse Ted, with many Gateway members signing petitions of nomination for his reelection. Ted finished fifth in the voting, receiving over 87,000 votes.

"I am honored to serve and I am thankful for the opportunity to help make a difference in our organization and for our members. A special thanks to my home club, Gateway Rifle, and Pistol Club and to Florida Sport Shooting Association for your early endorsements, and for the many great folks who signed my petitions and got others to sign and vote. Thanks to many friends, both shooters and non shooters for your encouragement and help. A very special "shout out" to Sue Carter for her endless supply of encouragement, and for her passion for the shooting sports.

There's work to be done and I welcome the challenge."



The NRA Board of Directors is made up of 76 members, elected by NRA Life or 5 Year Annual Members. One-third of the terms of office of 75 Directors expire at each Annual Meeting of Members. The 2017 election filled the 25 Director seats for a three-year terms, one Director seat for a two-year term and two Director seats for a one-year term. This year 2,193,476 ballots were mailed to eligible voting members of the Association. A total of 130,560 valid ballots were received.

If you are not a NRA Life Member or 5 Year Annual Member, I urge you to consider upgrading your annual membership so that you can join other NRA members in selecting and electing the organization's future leaders.

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



## Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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#### **Disclaimer**

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## **Women On Target**

Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club (GRPC) hosted its second NRA Women On Target pistol clinic on May 13th. We had 30 ladies attend, all of whom had little or no firearms experience. Sue Carter was the Clinic Director, Ted Carter was the Range Safety Officer, and Larry Watkins served as the Chief Range Officer. The ladies spent the first half hour discussing firearms safety and range commands, then another half hour learning the fundamentals of a good shot. They were split into two groups and took turns on the firing line on Range 1 at 15 yards. Each group spent 30 minutes learning to group their shots. They then came back to the line and had 15 minutes to shoot and pop balloons. Finally, they returned and shot at a hanging plastic bottle as many times as they could. While they were waiting their turn at the firing line, the ladies had the opportunity to hear from Susan Gonzales. Susan's story about surviving a home invasion was inspiring to many ([www.ishotback.com](http://www.ishotback.com)) At the end, everyone came back into the classroom where we talked about what they had learned and what else was available to them to move on in the shooting sport. Prizes and certificates were handed out and a good time was had by all.

A huge thank you to the volunteers who donated not only their time, but many offered their firearms for the ladies to use. Thank you to the coaches, Dana Baygents, Terry Drinkwater, Jane Cebulski, Mike Hicks, Lori Hallauer, Jody Keach, Nancy McPherson, Bill King, Allen Way, and Andy and Preall Loncarevic, as well as to Larry for calling the line, and to Ted, who was much more than just our Safety Officer on the line.



# The Cowford Regulators

The Cowford Regulators marked their 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary at the Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club this March. The club is a member of SASS – The Single Action Shooters Society. SASS, is an international membership organization formed in 1987 to preserve and promote the sport of Cowboy Action Shooting. Members share a common interest in preserving the history of the Old West and competitive shooting in a safe, fun, and family-friendly environment.

Cowford holds monthly matches That are open to the public. Anyone interested in the guns of the Old West is encouraged to come out and see what it's all about. Men, women, and children (usually 10 and older) compete in timed events with guns from the late 1800s to the early 1900s. Single action revolvers, pistol caliber lever action rifles and old time shotguns (double barrel or pump) are the required weaponry.

Steel targets, both cutouts and knock downs, are set in different stages that require you to shoot a specific pattern and round count. Typical rounds in a stage are: ten pistol, ten rifle, and 4 (or more as needed) shotgun.

While shooting a variety of weapons is challenging, Cowboy Action adds the element of costuming for pure fun. Each participant is required to adopt an alias appropriate to a character or profession of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, a Hollywood Western star, or an appropriate character from fiction. A costume is then developed accordingly. Honestly, some folks have the most fun coming up with their cowboy name and character outfit. Whether a serious shooter, or someone just looking to have some fun and fellowship with other folks who love the Old West, Cowboy Action Shooting has a spot for you.

Some of our shooters have been with Cowford since day one. No matter what shooting experience you have, members are happy to help teach you the rules and regulations regarding how to safely compete in a match. As a member of Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club, you've been instructed in range safety, but Cowford, like all SASS affiliates, adhere to a strict standard of safety protocols that are learned by everyone participating.

If you're curious, come on by. The shoots fall on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month (which isn't always the last Saturday, so check those calendars). Eye and ear protection should be worn, but if you forget, the club has spares of both.



**2017 DIXIE NRA REGIONAL PISTOL CHAMPIONSHIP**

With

Civilian Marksmanship Program Service Pistol & .22 Rimfire E.I.C. Match and  
National Rifle Association Distinguished Revolver Match

Submitted by Ted Carter

The 2017 Dixie Matches were held at Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club, Jacksonville, FL on April 21st - 23rd. This annual National Rifle Association (NRA) Regional Precision Pistol Championship continues to be a highlight for many Florida Bullseye shooters and was also attended by military and civilian competitors from several different states.

On Friday, Saturday and Sunday, the weather was near perfect, giving many of the 45 shooters the opportunity to post some very good scores over the three day match. Jim Henderson, a familiar competitor from the Army Marksmanship Unit (AMU) at Ft. Benning, Georgia, fired a 2665-151X to take "Top Gun" honors, winning the NRA Regional championship, and being named Dixie Match Champion. Coming in second, also from the AMU was Greg Markowski, firing a 2663-162X. Chris Hudock, another AMU shooter, finished third with a 2614-116X. Winning the High Master Class was Jason Hedrick, a member of the Marine Forces Reserve, and last year's Dixie Champion, with a 2600-114X. Top shots in the Master Class (Service) was Joshua Kingery of the AMU with a 2538-68X and Master Class (Civilian) was Eddy Grove (Pasadena, MD) with a 2577-82X. Taking the Expert Class was Noel Burkhead (Gainesville, FL) firing a 2463-55X. The high Sharpshooter/Marksman combined was Russ Gill (Apopka, FL) with a 2419-54X. Winning the .22 Caliber Only Aggregate was Lori Fredriksen (Valrico, FL) with a 2225-20X. Special Category Awards for High Service and Open Division shooter went to Jim Henderson (Midland, GA), High Civilian and High Veteran shooter was won by Wes Fleming (New Philadelphia, OH), High Senior shooter was won by Mike Milen (Orland Park, IL), High Women shooter went to Kimberly Hobart Fleming (New Philadelphia, OH), High Grand Senior was won by Eddy Grove (Pasadena, MD). Winning the Metallic Division was Curt Brandt (Safety Harbor, FL). The AMU won the overall team match (a combination of scores from the .22, Centerfire and .45 team matches) with combined total of 3476-148X. Taking second place was a Service team from the Marine Forces Reserve, firing a 3162-70X.

There were four Civilian 2 person teams entered, with the winning team of Lee and Wes Fleming firing a score of 1705-53X. The NRA Distinguished Revolver Match had 21 shooters competing. Winning the match was Greg Markowski (Columbus, GA) firing a 278-7X, followed by Jason Hedrick (Williamsburg, WV) with a 278-5X and finishing third was Greg Kitchens (Charleston, SC) with a 272-6X. The CMP Service Pistol Match had 26 shooters, and was won by Jim Henderson with a 296-14X, followed by teammates Greg Markowski shooting a 286-8X and Chris Hudock finishing third with a 284-11X. In only its third year of existence, the CMP's .22 Rimfire E.I.C. Match had 30 shooters competing. Winning the match was Greg Markowski with a 291-13X, followed by Chris Hudock shooting a 286-9X and Joshua Kingery with a 281-7X. Finally, three new range records were set. Jim Henderson broke his 2007 Center Fire Slow Fire record, by shooting a 198-11X and also broke his 2012 CMP Service Pistol E.I.C. record with a score of 296-14X. Greg Markowski set a new Center Fire Timed Fire range record by shooting a 200-19X. (cont. on page 6)

(2017 Dixie Match cont. from page 5...)

The annual Dixie Match remains one of the best Bullseye matches in the southeast and continues to attract more shooters. Among our first time competitors were collegiate shooters from The Citadel (Charleston, SC). Match Director was Ted Carter. Calling a superb line for all three days was Chief Range Officer John Michalski. Assisting John to ensure a well run and safe line were Range Officers Marion Estes, David Poole, Larry Watkins and Dave Rifkin. Randy Erickson assisted as Jury Chairman and provided logistical support for the match. Recording and posting all scores were Chief Statistical Officer Sue Carter, assisted by Dana Baygents. There were plenty of complements from the competitors on the excellent Bullseye facilities at Gateway and the friendly, professional and safety conscious staff. Many thanks to all the competitors for their support, some driving hundreds of miles to attend the match. A special Thank You to Brownells Inc. and Rand CLP for generously providing merchandise prizes for our match. Finally, a well earned thanks goes out to the Dixie match staff, the Gateway range officers, office staff and the range maintenance folks who made this another great shooting event. Planning has already begun on the 2018 Dixie Match and we're looking forward to another exciting competition.

For a complete listing of scores and match photos, please go to:

[http://www.grpc-jax.com/disciplines/outdoor\\_pistol.html](http://www.grpc-jax.com/disciplines/outdoor_pistol.html)

**Jim Henderson  
Dixie Match Champion**



**Chris Hudock    Jim Hendersen    Greg Markowski  
Bronze                    Gold                    Silver**



**Dixie Team Champions - Army Marksmanship Unit (Greg Markowski,  
Chris Hudock, Joshua Kingery, Jim Henderson)**

## **Volunteers wanted!**

Every year we do an audit of the club store and financial records. Time is coming up. In addition to audit committee members, we need regular members to assist. This will be a couple hours work usually before the monthly board meeting. The regular members are required per club bylaws.

Call the office to volunteer.

During the long dry spell, we had a fire break out on the side berm of one of the rifle lines. It was bad enough that the Fire dept had to come put it out. We have no idea how it started, but if someone was firing tracers, that would do it.

Tracers are illegal for just that reason. If you have some of these, please don't bring them to the range.

Not long after the fire, our rain prayers were answered in a couple of big storms which solved to dry grass and shrub problems. However... when we opened up next day, computers didn't work, cameras were out and all sorts of other things needed repair due to lightning strike(s)! It's always something...

A little thing happened to me while shooting on the 200 yard line. I was the only shooter one afternoon, when another member pulled up and unloaded his stuff. After he was ready to put up a target we agreed the line was cold. So far, so good.

He doesn't know me, doesn't know that safety is my middle name, so he asked, before going down range, you're not going to fool around with your rifle or anything while I'm down range are you? I answered no, of course not and he went to set up.

I was a little miffed, until it hit me that he asked that question for an excellent reason. He didn't know me AND he had been down range when unsafe activities were going on on the line. He didn't want to be in an unsafe position and he asked so there was no doubt we were on the same page. He knew that safety was all about communication and he wanted no misunderstanding.

Excellent.

We haven't had anyone injured due to gunshots that I can recall, and we don't want any. Remember, this was on a line open only to members who should be familiar with safe practice. It is easy to miss someone down range on the 200 yard line so we have to look to be sure before handling uncased guns.

We are going to experiment, using the 200 yard range, with a signal system so there is no doubt that the range is Hot or cold. Red and green lights? A switch we can throw to change the status? Not sure yet but we are going to work this out and when a system is found, look for it to spread to the other lines. Safety first!

We have found a purpose for the area behind the non-members pistol line. That's range one and two, for those of you with a program. A plate rack range for daily members will go there. The work has already begun. The plate racks in the member ranges get a lot of use and this will also be true for daily shooters.

Due to popular demand, a new rest room will be built on the east side of the range. Design is being done. No firm plans yet.

Thanks for reading  
Bill King

# The Spring Swap meet

## Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup>

**Dig out all the stuff which seemed like a good idea at the time  
and come on out.**

**A lot of boomers have been downsizing which has led to some interesting  
items for sale.**

**Also, you'll probably meet old friends and usually,  
a good time is had by all.**

**See you there!**



## Club History 2

Last issue Sam Grimes excellent interview with Steve Bernhard was reprinted. This month is my 2 cents worth.

I moved back to Jacksonville from Tampa in 1984. After finding a house I came out and joined the Club. The changes have been considerable.

In '84 the pistol line and two rifle lines were the main thing. There was an all purpose range which was a catch all mostly for matches of some kind or other. The pistol line had 25 and 50 yard targets and there was a 100 yard as well as a 200 yard rifle line, seperated by a berm. We had a 300 yard line at one time. This was established by simply moving the firing line 100 yd towards the road on certain days. I don't think the 300 yard line got a lot of use. The 'staff' consisted of Warren Schryer, club manager who opened up and left about 2pm of so. Most days Sam Grimes would come out after school and man the desk. In the summer, the usual rule was that the last to leave locked the gate.

The club was home to competitive matches from the start. As interest has changed, these have come and gone. The Bullseye shooters have been here from the start and many of our most active members have come from their ranks. Along with Bullseye, IPSC, Military rifle, Every kind of silhouette, rifle, pistol etc. several ones that someone at the club thought up have come and gone. If any of you participated in something in the past,let me know. I'd like to develop a master list. Basically, if interest was shown and someone was willing to organize, we held the event. Some of these became popular not just with us here but attracted attention from all over.

We held annual meetings in the Armory on Wilson Blvd. One cold and rainy day we assembled and found the doors locked. No key. But the most remarkable thing was there were only about 25 of us. Many of the board members didn't show up! (cont. on page 9)

**(Club History 2 cont. from page 8)**

Bylaws at the time were that a quorum consisted of the members present, so we could have done anything. Fortunately, it's hard to get 25 people to agree on anything but to elect those who were willing to serve on the board and call it a day. After this the bylaws were changed to make sure business couldn't be conducted by such a small crowd. We went into planning a place to have the meetings at the range. First, the pavilion was built. After growth, the building housing the office and store was built; followed some years later by our newest meeting place.

The first change in the ranges themselves was the addition of 15 and later 7 yard pistol lines. We didn't have separate ranges for members so part of the pistol line were converted as a experiment. To say it was a success is understatement! A lot of new (and very old) pistol shooters have lessened frustration by having a range where it is easier to hit the target. A few years ago, a large expansion was undertaken to use the land in the back of the range to update the Bullseye line and to provide bays for whatever kind of shooting along with extra plate racks.

This hasn't come easy. When we bought the trailer that was the Club office, it took almost all our savings. The first regular building just about put us under with unplanned expenses. Growth in the club and good management made the latest expansion possible. As you might expect, money problems caused factions within the club to squabble over who would get funding. Many of the disciplines made do with home made equipment and target frames. A lot of creativity was needed. It got so bad at one time that we had to use all our cash to pay basic bills and payroll. This led us to a better book keeping system and once the building was finished, we were able to build a cushion to fall back on.

The club has gone from a small membership with occasional daily shooters to 4000 members and many day shooters, with improvements in capability to host shooters safely. Things are looking up and we should have a facility our youngest member's grandchildren can use.

Thanks for reading.  
Bill King



**Article wanted!**

**Does anyone know how to make a 9mm shoot? I don't just mean go BANG when you pull the trigger. I've had 4 of these things and every one was a challenge. What works in one doesn't work in another. Every time I sold one I've sworn I'd never buy another. I don't expect 45 consistency and I've never shot one with a good trigger, so I don't expect a lot but there's something I'm missing here! HELP.**

**Tournament Schedule**

<u>Match</u>	<u>Range</u>	<u>Time</u>
Club 1800 Pistol	7	1st Sunday 0900-1200
Smallbore Silhouette	4	4th Sat. 1000-1400
22 Rimfire Benchrest	4	1st Sat. 0800-1300
High Power XTC	3	2nd Sunday 0800-1100
Black Powder	4	2nd Sat. 0800
High Power Rifle Prone	3	1 <sup>st</sup> Sat. 0800-1100
NRA 1800 Bullseye	7	3rd Sunday 0900-1200
Cowboy	5	4th Saturday 0900
Cowboy Fast Draw	5	3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday 0800

**Range Maintenance Schedule:**

**Mondays 8 am-11 am**  
100 yd. Rifle Range

**Tuesdays 8 am-11 am**  
all Pistol Ranges

**Wednesdays 8 am-11 am** Silhouette Range

**Thursdays 8 am-11 am**  
200 yd. Rifle Range

**Fridays 8 am-11 am**  
all multi purpose ranges  
New 100 yard rifle range

**Photo Gallery**



**Cowboys**



**Women on Target**



**FOR SALE**

**Glock 30 .45 ACP**, night sights, 3 magazines, Comp-Tac IWB Minotaur Hybrid Holster  
Price: \$525 cash FTF.  
Contact: John Hartmangruber 904-874-5677

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**S&W 629-3 Classic** 6 1/4" bbl – 44 Mag. in excellent condition, original wood grips plus Hogue grips.  
Includes Uncle Mike's black shoulder rig. \$750, Call or text Don at 904-476-4170 or Email to  
[dbw4570@comcast.net](mailto:dbw4570@comcast.net)

**Charter Arms Pathfinder Stainless 6 shot 22WMR**, 4" bbl with box – 3 yrs old but shot very little.  
\$300. Call or text Don at 904-476-4170 or Email to [dbw4570@comcast.net](mailto:dbw4570@comcast.net)

**Benelli Ethos, 12 ga 28"** engraved nickel, like new – this is a magnificent gun. About 2 yrs old, used a  
couple times shooting clays. Includes box, chokes & manual. \$1600 - Call or text Don at 904-476-4170  
or Email to [dbw4570@comcast.net](mailto:dbw4570@comcast.net)

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