



Firing Lines

Fighting for your Second Amendment Rights since 1965

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

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January/February 2024

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Second Amendment Apathy

By Bohdan Rahbarsky

One of the biggest issues facing gun owners both nationally and on the state level are the attacks on the 2nd Amendment.

Anti-gun groups are well organized as they have a few funding organizations that overlap each other. Moms Demand Action, Everytown for Gun Safety and Mayors Against Illegal Guns are all heavily funded through former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg's philanthropies and have members in the millions. Gun owners also seem to battle a storm front from Democrats & Progressives in America.

Gun owners, on the other hand, are somewhat fractured and less organized. There are no major funding sources overlapping organizations.

In 2013, the Cuomo Administration passed the Secure Ammunition and Firearms Act (SAFE Act). The SAFE Act was signed into law on January 13th, 2013. 2A groups and gun owners held protests outside the Capitol building in Albany numerous times, but to no avail.

As mad as gun owners got, they weren't motivated enough to show up and vote Andrew Cuomo out of office in 2014 or 2018, as he continued his unconstitutional assault on the 2nd Amendment.

On June 23, 2022, the Supreme Court handed down its decision in NYSRPA v Bruen in a 6-3 ruling in favor of NYSRPA. The New York State Democrat controlled Legislature and Governor Hochul quickly passed the Concealed Carry Improvement Act (CCIA) into law.

In 2022 Lee Zeldin was within striking distance to unseat an unpopular

Governor. Gun owners had their chance to place a strong 2nd Amendment candidate in the Governor's seat, but failed to do so. With approximately 5 million gun owners in New York State, if only half of them came out to vote, Lee Zeldin would have been voted in as governor of New York State. Unfortunately, they again stayed home, sitting on their hands, and decided that since nobody had yet come knocking on their door looking to take away their firearms there was no need to get involved.

Very few paid attention to an amendment in the CCIA that said, starting Sept 13th, 2023, the New York State Police would be the middle man on firearm background checks at \$9 per occurrence and perform ammunition background checks at \$2.50 per occurrence. By being the middle man on the background checks, the New York State Police are creating a back door gun registry without formally creating a gun registry.

You would think, with all that has happened to 2nd Amendment Rights in recent years, gun owners would be upset and shouting from the mountain top. But we were wrong. They just suck it up, accept it and wait for the next hammer to fall. What will it take for gun owners to wake up and see that their 2nd Amendment Rights are being eroded in front of their eyes?

Only those who are Conscientious Objectors in the battle to preserve the 2nd Amendment can answer for their failure to vote on election day.

Join SCOPE Today!
SCOPEny2A.org

"Guns are our friends because in a country without guns, I'm what's known as "prey." All females are."

Ann Coulter

The mission of S.C.O.P.E. is to Protect, Restore and Expand the gun rights of all New Yorkers.

SCOPE Board Members
SCOPE Chapter Chairs are also Board Members
To contact SCOPE, E-mail: sue.scopeny@gmail.com

President
Will Conta
chautauquacounty@1791.com
716.857.0382

1st Vice President
Steven Getman
scopeschuyler@gmail.com
607.288.3220

2nd Vice President
Don Smith
don6027@gmail.com
315.398.0195

Treasurer
At Large Director
Tom Reynolds
tkj19@yahoo.com
607.215.0612

Chairman of the Board
John Prendergast
jpr3nder66@outlook.com
315.694.0481

Secretary
Gary Zielinski
cdga157@aol.com
585.396.9129

At Large Director
David Colburn
colburnny@gmail.com

At Large Director
Nick Massal
hunted@roadrunner.com

SCOPE CHAPTER INFORMATION

go to www.SCOPEny2a.org/chapters for your local meeting information

If you do not see your county listed below;
Contact Don Smith for information
don6027@gmail.com

Allegany Chapter
Chairman Jim Krywalski
jkrywalski@gmail.com
716.913.8176
Meetings 2nd Tuesday 7:00pm, Wellsville Fire Co. Main St. Firehouse

Capital District/Saratoga Chapter:
Albany/Columbia/Greene/Schenectady/Rensselaer/Saratoga
Chairman Rich Chapman
richiechap@me.com
www.SCOPEny2a.org/CapitalDistrict
for calendar of meetings

Cattaraugus Chapter
Chairman Jim Land
jimboss44@hotmail.com
Meetings 2nd Thursday 7:00pm
American Legion Post 531, Little Valley

Cayuga Chapter
Jim Dishaw
dishawjp@gmail.com
Meetings 4th Thursday 6:00PM
A.T. Walley's, Auburn

Chautauqua Chapter
Chairman Will Conta
716.857.0382
chautauquacounty@1791.com
Meetings 3rd Tuesday 7:00pm
VFW Post 8647 Mayville

Newsletter Deadline for the *Firing Lines*

Firing Lines is printed every two months. The deadlines are **January 15, March 15, May 15, July 15, September 15 and November 15.**

We do take articles from you, our members. They are subject to editing for spelling and grammar. We also reserve the right not to print the article.

Articles should be emailed as a file. Text or basic Word document formats are preferred. Please pictures in JPG format. NO PDF files. Thank You

Genesee Chapter
Chairman Jim Tuttle
tuttlej507@gmail.com
716-474-4454
Meetings 2nd Tuesday 7:00pm
Sportsman Coon Club
8770 Hopkins Rd., Batavia

Jefferson-Lewis Chapter
Chairman C. Bruce Kingsley
cbkingsley@tds.net
315.649.3424
Meetings 3rd Monday 7:00pm
Watertown Sportsmen's Club

Monroe Chapter
Chairman Joe Verdura
verjija@aol.com
Meetings 3rd Wednesday 6:30pm
Elks Lodge 24, Henrietta

Oneida-Herkimer Chapter
Chairman Bohdan Rabarsky
bohdan1@roadrunner.com
315.733.2720
Meetings 2nd Monday 7:00pm
Fraternal Order of Eagles Club, Deerfield

Ontario Chapter
Chairman Marty Buonanno
martybtwin2@aol.com
Meetings 3rd Tuesday 7:00pm
Canandaigua Sportsmen's Club

Orleans Chapter
Chairman Mark Allen
scopeorleans@outlook.com
Meetings 2nd Tuesday 7:00pm
Hoag Library, Albion

Schoharie Chapter
Chairwoman Kathy Goodrich
katmolsen326@gmail.com
Meetings 3rd Thursday 7:00pm, Alternate venue every 3 months
Jan/Feb/March/Jul/Aug/Sep: Carlisle Town Hall, Carlisle
Apr/May/Jun/Oct Nov: Middleburgh R&G Club, Middleburgh

Schuyler Chapter
Chairman Steven Getman
scopeschuyler@gmail.com
607.288.3220
Meetings 1st Thursday 7:00pm
Jan/March/May/Oct
Moose Lodge. Montour Falls

Seneca Chapter
Chairman Frank Capozzi
fcapozzi1@rochester.rr.com
315.568.8054
Meetings 3rd Wednesday 7:00pm

Even months: South Seneca Sportsman Club
Odd months: North Seneca Sportsman Club

Steuben Chapter
Chairman Doug Mitchell
dmitch7664@stny.rr.com
607.359.2928
Meetings 1st & 3rd Mondays 7:00pm
Bath Rod & Gun Club, Bath

Wayne Chapter
Chairman Don Smith
don6027@gmail.com
315.398.0195
Meetings 2nd Wednesday 7:00pm
Marion American Legion, Marion

Wyoming Chapter
Chairman Ken Walradt
kjwattman68@yahoo.com
585.297.8203
Meetings 2nd Thursday 7:00pm
5 Point Rod & Gun Club, Wyoming

Yates Chapter
Chairman John Prendergast
jpr3nder66@outlook.com
315.694.0481

FIRING LINES

Editor - Ralph Esposito

To contact SCOPE and FIRING LINES

Write to:
SCOPE
PO Box 165

East Aurora, NY 14052-0165

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Firing Lines allows S.C.O.P.E. to keep members informed on issues in regards to defense of the 2nd Amendment, in particular, and the Constitution in general. It is also an opportunity for members to voice their opinions and concerns on those subjects; as such, it contains a variety of personal opinions. It should not be taken as representing the official position of S.C.O.P.E. or its officers and members unless so stated. Readers should remember that it is not meant to constitute legal advice

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**Please encourage your
family and friends to join SCOPE today!**



Saturday, September 28th, 2024

*** *Annual SCOPE Banquet* ***

at the

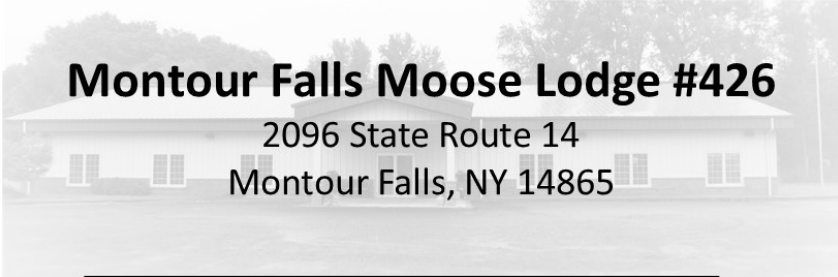
Pompey Rod & Gun Club

2035 Swift Road, Fabius, NY

**SCOPE
Annual
Members
Meeting**



**April 20, 2024
10:00 AM**



Montour Falls Moose Lodge #426

2096 State Route 14
Montour Falls, NY 14865

The meeting is open to all SCOPE members in good standing.
You must RSVP with the attached form.
Lunch will be provided

*Speakers to be announced
Bergara Timber Raffle drawing*



Yes I will be attending the 2024 SCOPE Annual Members Meeting
 No, I cannot attend, however I am committed to S.C.O.P.E.'s mission to Protect and Restore 2nd Amendment Rights here in New York State.

Please accept my donation of

\$50 _____ \$25 _____ \$10 _____ Other _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Email _____

RSVP is Required
And must be post marked
No later than
April 10th, 2024

Please return this form to:

SCOPE Member Meeting

PO Box 165
East Aurora, NY 14052

www.SCOPEny2a.org

A8443

SCOPE sends out information on various gun control laws proposed federally or in NY State and usually these notices can be relatively brief and still get the message across. But occasionally – or too often - a bill is proposed that is so outrageous and strikes so straight at the heart of the Constitution that it requires further explanation.

Assemblyman Phillip Steck (Democrat 100th District – Schenectady Albany) has climbed that mountain when he proposed Assembly bill A8443.

As many of us have unhappily experienced, NY State now requires a background check on purchases of ammunition which has resulted in frequent and unnecessary delays. (All a part of Hochul's plan?) Many NY residents, with easy access to another state, have chosen to cross the border for ammunition purchases and bypass the NY background check and related fee. (A reaction not unexpected by anyone.)

Under Assemblyman Steck's bill, the NY Attorney General can bring civil and criminal actions in NY State courts against any NY State resident or the ammunition seller in another state, when ammunition is purchased in another state and it does not go through NY State's background check.

For example, a NY State resident in Waverly NY drives a couple miles south into Sayre PA and buys ammunition without undergoing a NY background check. NY Attorney General (Leticia James) can have him and the seller arrested, in NY State.

Or, a NY State snow birder in Florida buys ammunition in Florida, without a NY background check, and uses it there. Leticia James could come after him and the seller under A8443.

By the way, it is bureaucratic to get licensed to use the NY background system so an ammunition seller in another state has little incentive to do it.

And what about on-line purchases, which have to be accomplished through a NY FFL who would have to perform a NY background check. Will the on-line seller also have to duplicate the NY background check to be legal under A8443?

Basically, Steck wants to prosecute you if you legally (under the laws of 49 states and federal law) buy ammunition in another state.

Imagine, for a moment, that NY State passed a law setting the maximum speed limit at 55 mph everywhere in NY State. Afterwards, a NY State resident while in Pennsylvania drives 65 mph – where the speed limit is 65 MPH. Using his logic, NY Assemblyman Phillip Steck believes the NY Attorney General should have the legal ability to prosecute that motorist in NY State for exceeding

the NY speed limit. (After all, it would be good for 'Climate Change'. Sarcasm intended.)

One of the reasons that the Articles of Confederation were abandoned in favor of the U S Constitution was interstate issues. The founders knew that a federal government was necessary to handle interstate issues. But even in the 1780's, who would have imagined a Phillip Steck?

Article I Section 8 of the U S Constitution says that the US Congress regulates interstate commerce. Assemblypersons take an oath of office to, "*support the Constitution of the United States...*" Can we anticipate an impeachment proceeding against Assemblyman Steck for violating his oath of office?

F Y I, the related parts of the bill are as follows:

"The (N Y State)attorney general shall have the power and duty to...Seek and obtain injunctive relief to prevent any individual seller of firearms or retail firearms dealer from knowingly selling ammunition to a resident of the state of New York or to an individual who purchases ammunition on behalf of a New York state resident without contacting the New York state police for authorization pursuant to section two hundred twenty-eight of this chapter and any other law, rule or regulation. "

"The attorney general shall have the power to enforce the provisions of this section by bringing civil and criminal actions in the state courts of New York."

Obviously, SCOPE opposes this bill as should anyone who truly believes in the U S Constitution.

www.SCOPEny2A.org



Chevron Doctrine

The Magnuson-Stevens Act, which governs fishery management in federal waters, allowed the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to require herring boats to carry federal monitors to enforce of NMFS' regulations. These monitors put a financial burden on NMFS' budget so NMFS decided that, without any express statutory authorization, the herring boats must also pay the salaries of these monitors, estimated by the NMFS to be \$710 per day.

Did NMFS care that this cost can exceed the profits from a day's fishing for these relatively small vessels? NMFS took the usual bureaucratic attitude; *what are you going to do about it? Sue us?*

Two fishing companies sued. Those cases are now before the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS): Loper Bright Enterprises v. Raimondo and Relentless v. Department of Commerce.

So, why are two obscure fishing cases of interest to 2nd Amendment defenders? Because they are not obscure and could have a huge impact on reigning in the anti-2A activities of the swamp in Washington.

Here's why.

The very first sentence of Article I Section 1 of the Constitution starts out: *"All legislative Power herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and a House of Representatives."*

Regulatory agencies are not mentioned in the Constitution as a part of Congress. Since they are not a part of Congress, what part of *'All legislative power shall be vested in a Congress'* isn't understood?

Under the 1984 SCOTUS opinion in Chevron U.S.A. v. National Resources Defense Council, if a law is ambiguous, (and when are they not ambiguous?) *Chevron's* doctrine requires the court to evaluate if an executive branch agency's interpretation of the law is reasonable or permissible. If the agency's interpretation is deemed to be reasonable or permissible, the court must accept the agency's interpretation of the law. Lower courts are bound to accept the agency's ruling!

In essence, Executive Branch agencies, like the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives (ATF), become lawmakers. They create "rules" and "regulations" based on existing law, then use Chevron to affirm their rule change as "reasonable."

Chevron has seriously distorted how the political branches operate; Congress does less legislating and the executive branch does more legislating, which is contrary to that pesky scrap of paper, the United States Constitution, which demands that only Congress can legislate.

Chevron is the reason that the ATF has been able to arbitrarily pass firearm regulations (in effect -

law equivalents.) Now you know why herring fishing has become so important to the 2nd Amendment.

Chevron was, according to legal scholar Gary Lawson, *"nothing less than a bloodless constitutional revolution."* Former President Ronald Reagan's White House counsel, Peter Wallison, pointed to it as *"the single most important reason the administrative state has continued to grow out of control."*

There is reason to hope that several members of SCOTUS believe that that Chevron was an 'oops' by SCOTUS. In various opinions and dissents:

-Chief Justice John Roberts commented, *"We presume that 'Congress intends to make major policy decisions itself, not leave those decisions to agencies."*

-Justice Samuel Alito wrote that *"The question [of] when an agency enjoys [interpretative authority] must be decided by a court, without deference to an agency."*

-Justice Neil Gorsuch referred to the *"explosive growth of the administrative state since 1970,"* as well as former President Barack Obama's 2014 promise to use executive orders and administrative rules to bypass Congress. He wrote: *"The Constitution does not authorize agencies to use pen-and-phone regulations as substitutes for laws passed by the people's representatives."*

-Justice Clarence Thomas asserted that the judicial power *"requires a court to exercise its independent judgment in interpreting and expounding upon the laws... Chevron deference precludes judges from exercising that judgment."*

Interest in this case has been immense, with more than 65 amicus briefs filed with the court. Bureaucracies view this as a knife pointed at their heart.

It's amusing how some small decisions can end up having a major impact beyond the scope of the original decision. NMFS bureaucrats sat fat, dub and happy basking in the glow of bureaucratic power and levied a small 'tax' on herring fisherman which could end up shaking the very foundations of power of the D C Swamp.

Gun owners should closely watch the news on these cases. SCOPE will keep you informed.



Permitless Carry in Ohio

The Ohio Permitless Carry Law (PCL) took effect in June 2022.

The Center for Justice Research is a partnership between the Ohio Attorney General's office and Bowling Green University. The Center recently released a study: *Pre- and Post-Outcomes: Ohio's Permitless Carry Law**. The study looked at eight major Ohio cities: Akron, Canton, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, Parma and Toledo. The study covered the two-year period from June 2021 through June 2023, so the report covered the period from one year before to one year after the PCL became effective.

Using the study's findings, Ohio's Attorney General, Republican Dave Yost, authored an Op-Ed at National Review, which said in the headline, "*Ohio Just Disproved a Gun-Control Talking Point.*"

In his Op-Ed, Yost took shots (figuratively) at the mayors of three Ohio cities: Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati. Those mayors had made statements implicating the new "constitutional carry" law for gun-related violent crimes in their communities.

Yost wrote, "*There was only one problem. It wasn't true...The study just says what Second Amendment advocates have long asserted: Law-abiding gun owners are not the problem when it comes to gun crimes.*"

How did Yost reach this conclusion?

All 8 Ohio cities combined showed a significant decrease in crime incidents involving a firearm.

Crime rates decreased in 6 of the 8 cities.

Akron, Columbus, and Toledo showed a significant decrease in crime incidents involving a firearm.

Toledo, Parma, and Akron each experienced an average of 19% decrease in summed rates of crimes involving a firearm post-PCL.

Only in Dayton and Cincinnati did crime rates increase and only slightly.

Data on gunshot detection technology for Toledo and Columbus also captured a decrease in validated crime incidents post-PCL by 23.2% and 20.6%, respectively.

During the legislative debate over PCL, the usual

liberal talking points repeatedly came up. (No need to repeat them, we've heard them all before.)

Yost's Op-Ed gave sound advice, free of the Left's talking points; "*The mayors' misplaced game of blame and shame ought to be replaced with tactics that are proven to work. Gun crime needs proactive policing — taking the criminals who use guns for crime off the streets. A thug in prison does not mug innocent citizens or conduct drive-by shootings.*"

Yost's solutions include: "*proactive policing — prosecuting offenses that are now often ignored or probationable, such as possession of a weapon when prohibited; "flooding the zone" with surged, targeted enforcement; and, most of all, sentencing the small number of criminals who use guns to prison terms long enough to keep them off the streets.*"

This is only a small study but the opportunity was there and Ohio took it. This needs further research but given the results are not what the anti-2A funding sources would expect, don't expect a flood of money to fund further research.

[*2023-Pre-and-Post-Outcomes-Ohio's-Permitless-Carry.aspx](https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/2023-Pre-and-Post-Outcomes-Ohio's-Permitless-Carry.aspx) (ohioattorneygeneral.gov)

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placing an ad

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___ upgrade to Benefactor Membership \$400.00

Endowment Member ___ upgrade to benefactor Membership \$200.00

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

mail to: SCOPE, Inc. PO Box 165 East Aurora NY 14052

S.C.O.P.E. Inc.

Shooters Committee On Political Education
PO Box 165, East Aurora, NY 14052

Application for Associate Club Membership in S.C.O.P.E., Inc.

S.C.O.P.E. does not sell, give away, or allow others to use your club information

DATE: _____

DUES: _____ 1-99 Members: \$25 / Over 100 Members: \$50.00 / Sponsor (receives plaque) \$200.00

Organization Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____ County: _____

City / State / Zip: _____ Phone: _____

*Club Email Address: _____

Club Website: _____

*Please ensure we have an email contact for your club. This will enable us to keep you up to date on information regarding our Second Amendment rights.

SCOPE Member Clubs

The following are clubs that are members of SCOPE. If you plan to join a club, please try to join one that is a SCOPE member. If your club would like to become a SCOPE club member please give SCOPE a call or drop us an E-mail.

5 Point Rod & Gun Club
 Adirondack Federation
 of Sports Clubs
 Alabama Hunt Club
 Allegany County
 Federation of Sportsmen
 Allied Sportsmen of WNY
 Almond Rod & Gun Club
 Angelica Conservation Club
 A-ON-DO-WA-NUH
 Sportsman Club
 Assoc. of Former NYS Troopers,
 Baldwinsville Rod & Gun Club
 Barre Sportsmens Club
 Batavia Rod & Gun Club
 Bath Rod & Gun Club,
 Bergen Rod & Gun Club
 Black Rock Fish & Game Club,
 Blasdell Rod & Gun Club
 Bog Trotters Rifle & Pistol Club
 Branchport Rod & Gun Club
 Buckhorn Sportsmens Club
 Busti Trap & Skeet Club
 Caribou Rifle & Pistol Club,
 Cattaraugus Rod & Gun Club,
 Chautauqua County
 Federation of Sportsmen
 Chemung County Fed of Sportsmen
 Chemung County Rod & Gun Club
 Chesterfield Fish & Game Club,
 Clinton Co. Federation of Fish
 & Game Clubs
 Community Conservation Club
 Conservation Club of Brockport
 Dalton Gang Sportsmen Club
 Deer Search of WNY
 Deerfield Fish & Game Club
 Depew Rod & Gun Club
 Dutchess County Pistol Association
 Dutchess County
 Sportsman Association
 East Hook Sportsmen Assn.,
 Elbridge Rod & Gun Club
 Essex County Fish & Game League

Federated Sportsman's Club of
 Cattaraugus County
 Genesee Co. Fish &
 Game Protective Assoc,
 Genesee/Wyoming
 Pheasants Forever #843
 Gouverneur Rod & Gun Club
 Greenway Verona Mills Fish
 & Game Club
 Hamburg Rod & Gun Club
 Harder O'Donnell Post 734
 American Legion
 Hidden Lake
 Conservation Association
 Hidden Valley Lodge
 Holley Rod & Gun Club
 Honeoye Fish & Game Club
 Ilion Fish & Game Club
 Indian Lake/Blue Mtn. Fish
 & Game Assoc
 Iroquois Rod & Gun Club
 Junior Wilson Sportsmen Club
 Lackawanna Conservation
 Lima Gun Club
 Lime Lake Sportsman's Club
 Lodi Rod & Gun Club
 Long Lake Fish & Game Club
 McCavanaugh Pond Club
 Mendon Conservation League
 Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club
 Middlesex Conservation Club
 Millgrove Sportsmen's Club,
 Millport Hunting & Fishing Club
 Morgan Hill Game Association
 Neighbors Gun Club
 New Paltz Rod & Gun Club,
 Newark Rod & Gun Club
 Newfield Rod & Gun Club,
 North Seneca Sportsmen's Club
 North Star Sportsman's Club,
 Northern Chautauqua
 Conservation Club
 Northern Chautauqua Rifle
 & Pistol Club
 Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club,
 Northwoods Sportsmen Association
 NY Houndsmen
 Conservation Association
 Oakfield Rod & Gun Club
 Oatka Fish & Game Club,
 Olean Rod & Gun Club,
 Ontario Rod & Gun Club,
 Painted Post Field & Stream Club
 Point Rock Fish & Game Club
 Pompey Rod & Gun Club

Red Creek Conservation Club,
 Richfield Sportsmen's Club
 Ripley Rod & Gun Club
 Rochester Brooks Gun Club
 Rochester Rifle Club
 Roslyn Rifle & Revolver Club
 SaraSpa Rod & Gun Club
 Schroon Lake Fish & Game Club
 Scio Rod & Gun Club
 Second Amendment For EVER,
 Seneca Co. Fed of Sportsmen's Clubs
 Shortsville Rod & Gun Club
 Sodus Bay Sportsman's Club
 Sons of American Legion
 Squadron 734
 South Bristol Fish
 & Game Association,
 South Seneca Sportsmens Club
 Sportsmans Coon
 Hunters Association
 Sportsmen's Club of Clifton Park
 Springville Field & Stream Club,
 Sprout Brook Rod & Gun Club
 Square Deal Sportsmen,
 Stamford Rod & Gun Club,
 Steuben Co. Federation of
 Conservation Clubs
 Syracuse Pistol Club
 Tonawandas Sportsmens Club
 Tupper Lake Sportsmens Club
 Twin City Shooting Club
 Vernon Rod & Gun Club
 Veterans of America Gun Club
 Waterloo Rifle & Pistol Club,
 Wellsville Rod & Gun Club
 Westfield Fish & Game Club,
 Whortlekill Rod & Gun Club,
 Williamson Conservation
 & Sporting Club
 Wolcottsville Sportsman's Club
 Wyoming County
 Conservation Association
 Wyoming County Wildlife Federation
 Yates County Federation of
 Conservation Clubs
 Yates County Sportsmens Association



SCOPE Chapter Activities

By Susan Maressa

To find your county's meeting information go to SCOPEny2a.org/calendar or go to your chapter's page of the website SCOPEny2a.org/chapters.

To find your county's meeting information go to SCOPEny2a.org/calendar or go to your chapter's page of the website SCOPEny2a.org/chapters.

SCOPE is a 'boots on the ground' organization and we need your boots! We want a chapter in every county to work with our elected officials. If your county does not have an active SCOPE chapter and you are willing to help form a County Committee and subsequently an active Chapter, please contact Don Smith at don6027@gmail.com.

Although the holidays reduced chapter activities, the following is an update of the activities of some of our chapters.

Allegany County:

Met on December 18th. It was decided to start having meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Wellsville Fire Company's meeting room at the Main Street Firehouse. This will go through April, 2024.

Upcoming raffles for 2024 were discussed: a Savage Rifle to be raffled at the August meeting is a possibility; State SCOPE has a Bergara raffle coming up. As the Allegany chapter has sold the most tickets for most of these state raffles, we have to 'gear up' again for the Bergara tickets.

Cattaraugus County:

Met on November 9th. Deputy Miller from the Cattaraugus County Sheriff's Department/SRO for the Cattaraugus/

Little Valley School District was present to receive the Chapter's annual donation to their Santa program.

Also present was Philip Gow, the Field Director from Congressman Nick Langworthy's office. He reviewed Congressman Langworthy's stance on several issues. The Congressman is on several committees: Ag committee, House rules committee, Oversight committee, and the Judiciary committee. He is an excellent supporter of the second amendment.

Mr. Gow discussed the NICS check for ammo problems in NYS. If a person is denied for ammunition purchase, they should file an appeal. The NYS Troopers have 30 days to resolve it. If there are still issues, contact Langworthy's office and they will find out why.

Upcoming raffle ideas were discussed for 2024.

The December meeting is the annual 'Bring a Dish to Pass' Christmas Party.

Genesee County:

Held their meeting on November 14th at the Coon Club in Batavia.

SCOPE attendance at upcoming shows in 2024 were discussed: Canandaigua Steam Show, Woods & Wildlife Show, and the Alexander Gun Show.

The Genesee chapter made a large donation to GOA to help fund its lawsuit. The status of this and other ongoing legal cases was discussed in length.

There was also a discussion about other 2A Organizations, including their meeting times and dates for anyone interested in attending. We have to all work together and try to make an impact, with the 2024 elections coming up.



Held their Christmas Party on December 18th at the Watertown Sportsmen Club.

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

Jefferson-Lewis:

Held their Christmas Party on December 18th at the Watertown Sportsmen Club.

Monroe County:

Held their meeting on November 15th.

Recognized by name were the 2023 volunteers who participated in fundraising. A big thank you, to all.

2024 is a big election year and we have to get people involved. One way is an organized outreach proposal. We need to reach out to other 2nd Amendment friendly groups and organizations within Monroe County to build an effective network. For example: gun ranges, FFL's, conservation clubs etc.

Bruce Sprague and Peter Vasquez from *NY Citizens Audit* were the guest speakers. They shared their findings on the 2022 elections.

On December 20th, the meeting started with an update on 5 anti-CCIA lawsuits.

There was a short discussion and it was agreed upon to have one of our members be a 'Letter Writer' to elected officials. A letter to a specific politician, on a specific topic will be prepared and at each monthly meeting it will be made available for member signatures.

Don M., a Monroe chapter member, was the evenings guest speaker. He updated the group on *Divide NY*. *Divide NYS Caucus Inc.* is a statewide group working on dividing NYS into autonomous regions.

Oneida-Herkimer Counties:

Met at the Fraternal Order of Eagles Club.

On November 13th the guest speaker was Matt Winchell from Passalacqua Associates (CNYTrialLaw.com.) Matt spoke about the defiance of New York State, following the *Bruen v. New York* US Supreme Court decision, and other measures the state has taken to hinder ownership of firearms.

In particular, Winchell spoke at length about how the state has ramped up the use of "Red Flag" laws, which are part of the *Mental Hygiene law*, and how this is used to remove guns from people.

Winchell explained that, previously, *Mental Hygiene law* required a mental health expert to attest to the fact that an individual was a risk to themselves or others before a determination could be made to remove a person's firearms. This is not so in "Extreme Risk Protection Orders" (ERPO's). A single individual can initiate an ERPO, with no mental health professional requirements. This includes police, DA's, teachers,

disgruntled partners, etc. Once the ERPO has been filed, a Judge will decide on the day of filing to issue a "Temporary Extreme Risk Protection Order" (TERPO), at which time the police are authorized to remove any guns from the subject of the TERPO. ERPO's are "ex parte" court hearings which means the defendant does not have to be present to defend themselves. Following execution of the TERPO, a hearing by the judge is required within 3 to 6 business days, where each side can make their case for or against the ERPO. If the judge decides against the gun owner, the ERPO is in affect for a year.

There was a lot of discussion regarding this process, not the least of which was that you are not afforded the presumption of innocence, you are deprived of property under the color of law, and the process is the punishment. If they feel like it, the police can dismantle your house looking for firearms, and if you live on the same property with a person subjected to an ERPO, your guns will also be removed.

There are multiple lawsuits in the works, and hopefully this will climb the judicial ladder to the Supreme Court, where they should reaffirm the *Bruen* decision

The December 11th meeting started out with discussion on the 2nd Circuit Court's recent rulings and on bill A8161 to repeal the \$2.50 for ammo purchases. The latter bill does NOT go far enough. We need a full repeal. People are being "delayed" and having to wait hours only to eventually find out they have to comeback. Same issue with the Firearm background check and \$9.00 fee.

The guest Speaker was Assemblywoman Mariann Buttenschon from the 119th District. There was a long discussion on various topics. The main issue is no more Compromise - Bills should be "Repeal Only".

Schuyler County:

Legal Updates have been posted:

For December:

- Schuyler County Legislature to vote on resolution supporting repeal of state fee for background checks on certain firearm and ammunition purchases.
- New York's top court upholds state gun laws – for now
- Senate Democrats introducing bill regulating mechanisms of rapid-firing weapons
- Remington Arms Iliion Operation to Close March 2024
- The 7th Circuit holds that AR-15s aren't protected by the Second Amendment

For January:

- Schuyler Co. Legislature Passes Resolution Regarding Gun/Ammo Background Check Fees

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SCOPE member Businesses

A&K Gun Sales
5 West main St
PO Box 16
Corfu, NY, 14036
585-599-3006

AR Pierrepont Co.
154 Berkeley St
Rochester, NY, 14607-3003
585-473-3225

Armstrong's Armory
1167 Union Rd
West Seneca, NY, 14224
716-289-8629

B&B Repair Service Inc.
14 Second Street
Canisteo, NY, 14823
607-698-2876

Bare Arms Gun Shop, LLC
738 Creek Rd
Little Falls, NY, 13365
315-868-4831

Bonded Collection Services
PO Box 305
Fairport, NY, 14450
585-223-7357

BS Recreational Farm
8384 State Park Rd
Three Mile Bay, NY, 13693
315-649-3424

Bullseye Shooters Supply
453 S. Hamilton St
Painted Post, NY, 14870
607-962-1100

Creekside Morgans, LLC
60529 Rt 415
Avoca, NY, 14809-9540
631-988-6303

Donahoo-Consulting, LLC
1000 N Division Street, STE-2i
Peekskill, NY, 10566-1830
914-455-4099

Earl's Enterprises
3231 Armstrong Rd.
Branchport, NY, 14418
315-595-2816

Finger Lakes Ammunition
4130 West Lake Rd
Auburn, NY, 13021
3157304102

George's Gun Shop
PO Box 39
Grand Gorge, NY, 12434
607-588-7653

Harold's Welding Shop
1164 E. Swamp Rd
Penn Yan, NY, 14527-9363
585-554-5178

Inspire Precision
2495 Andover Rd
Wellsville, NY, 14895
585-593-8749

Interlaken Guns & Ammo
8268 Main Street
Interlaken, NY, 14847
607-532-4867

J. Kozel & Son, Inc.
1211 W Bloomfield Rd
Honeoye Falls, NY, 14472
5854369807

Legal Shield/ ID Shield
PO Box 364
Ransomville, NY, 14131
716-863-6577

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Political Jokes May Get Elected

Years ago, politicians and the government were the equal opportunity butts of jokes. That was before the government was seen as the answer to all problems. (You shouldn't make jokes about your savior). A century ago, Will Rogers was one of the best at taking a bipartisan look at the fallacies of both parties. Many of his jokes are as timely today as they were then.

Congress

It's easy being a humorist when you've got the whole government working for you.

I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts.

This country has come to feel the same when Congress is in session as when the baby gets hold of a hammer.

Late night talk show hosts

Everything is changing. People are taking their

comedians seriously and the politicians as a joke.

Buying political offices hasn't changed

A fool and his money are soon elected.

Politics has become so expensive that it takes a lot of money even to be defeated. America has the best politicians money can buy.

Political Parties

Democrats are the only reason to vote for Republicans.

The more you read and observe about this Politics thing, the more you've got to admit that each party is worse than the other.

I am not a member of any organized political party. I am a Democrat.

The difference between a Republican and a Democrat is that the Democrat is a cannibal, they live off each other, while the Republicans live off the Democrats.

Politicians are just a bunch of local bandits, sent by their local voters to raid the public treasury.

Was Rogers Against Mail in voting?

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Mud Creek Guns & Ammo
297 Mud Creek Rd.
Kennedy, NY, 14747
716-267-7505

Powers Taxidermy
2 Elmwood Place
Canisteo, NY, 14823
607-698-9205

Precision Armament Division
of PM Research, Inc.
4110 Niles Hill Rd.
Wellsville, NY, 14895
585-593-3169

S&B Products, Inc.
PO Box 145
Munnsville, NY, 13409
315-363-3710

Sardinia Mini Storage
PO Box 158
Sardinia, NY, 14134
716-807-9963

Seneca Gun Sports
4705 Rt 14
Rock Stream, NY, 14878
607-243-7243

Strong Side Defensive Firearms
Training
5316 Franklin Rd
Marion, NY, 14505
585-506-2978

The Firing Pin LLC
8240 Buffalo Rd
Bergen, NY, 14416
585-494-0333

Thunderbird Arms
714 Broadway
Darien Center, NY, 14040
15855473762

Tilton Sears, FFL
11000 Salter Rd.
North Rose, NY, 14516
315-587-9716

Valley Gun Shop
1600 Davis Rd.
West Falls, NY, 14170
716-652-7444

VFW Post 8647
10 Memorial Dr
Mayville, NY, 14757
716-753-2444

Wallkill River Small Arms, LLC
2332 Route 300
Wallkill, NY, 12589
844-308-GUNS

Walton's Service Center
1634 Rt 54
Penn Yan, NY, 14527
315-536-6928

Williamson Hardware
4101 Main Street
Williamson, NY, 14589
315-589-4011

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SHOOTER'S COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL EDUCATION (SCOPE, INC)

PO Box 165, East Aurora, NY 14052

Business Associate Membership Application

Date of Application _____ Donation, Annual \$50 _____ Annual Sponsor \$250 _____

Business Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Fax _____

Mailing address if different _____

Contact Name & Title _____

Secondary Contact _____

Website _____ Email _____

Type of business (gun shop, sporting goods, etc.) _____

(Donations to SCOPE are not refundable or tax deductible)

Please use our member businesses whenever you can

Proposed Anti-2A Bills

By John Elwood

NY Proposed Bill S00930 (Senate)&A01566 (Assembly)

Restricts the sale of ammunition to only individuals authorized to possess such weapon; creates the no gun database under the division of criminal justice services.

Details of bill:

-A person is guilty of criminal sale of firearm ammunition when such person sells any firearm ammunition to a person not authorized pursuant to law to possess a firearm capable of firing such ammunition.

-Create a no-gun database containing name, date of birth and any other appropriate information as deemed necessary by the division of criminal justice service. The division will allow for any person selling a firearm or firearm ammunition check with the state to no-gun database for the buyer of such firearm or firearm ammunition.

-A Class B misdemeanor. Punishment for a Class B misdemeanor include: In New York State, misdemeanors are punishable by community service, fines, probation and/or a jail sentence. You can serve up to 90 days in jail for a Class B misdemeanor. Misdemeanor convictions will typically show up on routine background checks by employers or law enforcement agencies. A misdemeanor conviction stays on your record forever. However, as of October 2017, a person can ask a court to seal up to two criminal convictions of which either can be misdemeanors, but only one can be a felony.

-Bill goes into effect 1 November next succeeding the date of which it becomes law.

Sponsor of S00930:

State Senator Roxanne Persaud (D); Senator since 2015. Member of the codes committee where the bill is now. Bachelor and Master of Science in Education Administration. Her district 19 covers New York City; no corresponding SCOPE Chapter.

History –

S-00930 Referred to the Senate Codes Committee on January 9, 2023.

A-01566, referred to Assembly codes committee on January 17, 2023.

SCOPE opposes passage of these bills

NY Assembly Proposed Bill A03314

Requires liability insurance for owners of firearms, rifles, and shotguns.

Details of Bill

-Must have liability insurance BEFORE ownership or BEFORE an issuance of a gun license.

-Amount of insurance shall be determined by the Superintendent of Financial Services specifically covering any damages resulting from any negligent acts involving the use of such firearms, rifle or shotgun while owned by the owner.

-Failure to own liability insurance results in a fine from \$150 - \$1,500 and immediate revocation of owner's registration, license, and any other privilege to own or possess a firearm, rifle or shotgun.

-Owner still responsible if firearm, rifle, or shotgun is lost or stolen until the loss is reported to the police/Sheriff.

-The bill goes into effect 90 days after bill becomes a law

-Any person owning a firearm, rifle, or shotgun has 90 days from the effective date of this provision to get liability insurance.

-Bill will not apply to police officers.

Partisan Bill – 5 Democrats Sponsoring:

-Jeffery Dinowitz - District 81; NO corresponding SCOPE County chapter.

-Christopher Burdick - District 93; No corresponding SCOPE County chapter.

-Anna Kelles – District 125; No corresponding SCOPE County chapter.

-David Weprin – District 24; NO corresponding SCOPE County chapter.

-Phara Souffrant Forrest – District 57; No corresponding SCOPE County chapter

There is a NO SAME AS BILL in the NY Senate.

Status – Introduced to Assembly Insurance Committee on February 2, 2023.

SCOPE opposes this bill

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Constitutional Carry

By Richard Rossi

Quite possibly the biggest gun rights story of 2023 was the advancement of 'Permitless Carry', also known as: "Constitutional Carry". Now, 27 of the 50 states allow 'Constitutional Carry', creating a majority situation.

This year, the states of Georgia, Florida and Nebraska joined the list. (By the way, all these states have Republican governors and GOP controlled legislatures.) They joined the following states that already have 'Permitless Carry': Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, West Virginia and Wyoming. (You will note that New York is Not amongst those listed.)

Vermont has always had 'Permitless Carry' and when the movement to do away with licenses and permits first began several years ago, gun rights activists routinely referred to "Vermont-style carry" as their goal.

For the anti-gun prohibition lobby, this movement is a major defeat. But for our Rights and Freedoms as law-abiding citizens it was a step in the right direction.

'Constitutional Carry' is the legal public carrying of a handgun, either openly or concealed, without a license or permit. In a 'Constitutional Carry' State, there is no

licensing or training required to legally carry a firearm.

However, while "Constitutional Carry" (Permitless Carry) does remove a significant barrier to carrying in public, it does NOT apply to people who are otherwise prohibited from possessing guns under state or federal law, including prohibitions for a previous felony or domestic violence conviction. Furthermore, Federal Background checks (NICS) laws are in effect, which require federally licensed gun dealers to run background checks on prospective gun buyers

The anticipated response from the Brady anti-gun camp is that "Constitutional Carry" leads to more crime committed by people who carry guns without getting a permit or license. This argument ignores the fact that criminals have been doing exactly that for generations. Criminals do not bother with such things as carry permits, background checks, waiting periods or any other roadblocks that anti-gunners have put in the way of law-abiding citizens Constitutional rights.

When the U.S. Constitution was ratified, there were no carry permits or licenses. As we all know, our Second Amendment, reads as follows: "*A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.*"

Carrying a firearm is a right; however, with it comes grave responsibility on the part of the individual.

As a whole, concealed carry individuals are very

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And the anti-2A Left never stops at the federal level, either.

On November 29, 2023, Democrats in the United States Congress, led by Martin Heinrich (D-New Mexico), Mark Kelly (D -Arizona), Michael Bennett (D-Colorado), and Angus King (I-Maine), introduced the most sweeping list of gun prohibitions in the 21st century, including prohibiting nearly all semi-automatic handguns. The bill labelled the "Gas-Operated Semi-Automatic Firearms Exclusion Act (GOSAFE) will require all semi-automatic rifles above .22 caliber to have a permanently affixed magazine capacity of 10 rounds or fewer while outlawing magazines of higher capacity. Further, the bill requires government approval of any future semi-automatic firearm design before production occurs. Finally, the bill will also ban build-it-yourself ghost gun kits.

SCOPE opposes this bill

★★
★ **It's never too early** ★
★ **to register to vote.** ★
★
★ **NY style gun** ★
★ **restrictions and bans** ★
★ **are spreading. Only** ★
★ **our diligence in voting** ★
★ **out those anti-gun** ★
★ **politicians will stop it.** ★
★★

Tyler Technologies

On September 13, 2023, background checks became required for purchases of ammunition in New York state. The legislation also requires a mandated fee to be charged for each transaction, which funds the new background check system.

The following announcement from Tyler Technologies was posted on December 19th on *businesswire*'s web site:

Tyler Technologies, Inc. (NYSE: TYL) announced that the New York State Police has successfully gone live with Tyler's State Firearm POC Background Check solution. This solution supports the recently enacted background check requirements for purchasers of ammunition and firearms in New York state, improving proficiency of the process. (Emphasis added.)

In this partnership between Tyler, New York State Police, New York Office of Information Technology Services, and the FBI, New York State Police can now preemptively address any concerns of firearms and ammunition dealers and purchasers to make the process of obtaining firearms and ammunition as smooth and accurate as possible. (Emphasis added.)

"We're proud to support the New York State Police in its recently enacted legislation for strong gun safety laws," said Michael LeBlanc, Tyler's state enterprise gen-

eral manager. *"Our solution ensures that the required background checks are done precisely and completely, enhancing the overall safety for New Yorkers."* (Emphasis added.)

Those of us who have had the misfortune to have to use Tyler's system in NY State would strongly disagree with this P R statement. Improved proficiency? Smooth and accurate? Enhance safety?

The new system is a disaster and it is amusing – in an unfunny way – to see how a company warps reality.

Would you hold up the NY State background check system as an example of the quality of work that your company performs?

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If you would like to advertise,
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We will be happy to assist you in
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Email:
sue.scopeny@gmail.com

(Continued from page 15)
responsible law-abiding citizens and as a group of individuals, they often seek out training as their life or the life of a loved one may hang in the balance.

These 'Concealed Carry' states, in general, have more firearm training schools than non 'Concealed Carry' states. It takes dedication to carry every day and those that are not serious will most like not carry frequently.

Throughout debates, arguments against 'Permitless Carry' were virtually always the same. Opponents insisted such laws would lead to increased bloodshed. Essentially the same argument they had used when the Left opposed the spread of "shall-issue" concealed carry laws a generation ago. However, in the states that have adopted Constitutional Carry', there hasn't been an increase in violence or firearms accidents.

The Bruen ruling of 2022 is having a significant impact on anti 2A laws, much to the obvious chagrin of anti-gun politicians such as California Governor Gavin Newsom, many of Senator Diane Feinstein's political colleagues and even President Joe Biden. The lower federal courts appear split on the Second Amendment even after three consecutive high court rulings which many advocates say have restored, rather than expanded, Second

Amendment rights that have been eroded over decades of gradual infringement. This split amongst lower courts reveals the anti-2A Left's reluctance to obey Supreme Court's rulings they don't like.

The debate will continue in 2024, as state legislatures meet, and Congress looks at legislation on Capitol Hill. Everyone will be mindful of the upcoming election campaigns at all levels of government, and it will remain to be seen in November whether voters support or reject politicians who climb on the gun control bandwagon.

However, as gun owners, it is your duty and responsibility to get involved in the fight to insure your Second Amendment rights are passed on to the generations that follow. That means, each and everyone...no exception.

I would like to leave you with these thoughts: *"FREEDOM IS NEVER MORE THAN ONE GENERATION AWAY FROM EXTINCTION. WE DIDN'T PASS IT TO OUR CHILDREN IN THE BLOODSTREAM. IT MUST BE FOUGHT FOR, PROTECTED, AND HANDED ON FOR THEM TO DO THE SAME."* Ronald Reagan



**SAVE
THE
DATE**

Saturday, September 28th, 2024

*** *Annual SCOPE Banquet* ***

at the
Pompey Rod & Gun Club
2035 Swift Road, Fabius, NY



www.SCOPEny2A.org

 Members, you can access your 'Member Profile' on our website. Having access to your profile allows you to update your personal information anytime including your address, email address and a host of other information. With a click of your mouse, you can receive your Firing Lines right to your email. You get news faster, and SCOPE puts more money towards fighting for your second amendment rights.

(Continued from page 12)

There is only one redeeming thing about this whole election. It will be over at sundown.

Did he foresee Donald Trump?

I don't know who started the idea that a President must be a Politician instead of a Business man. A Politician can't run any other kind of business. So, there is no reason why he can run the U.S. That's the biggest single business in the World.

A president just can't make much showing against congress. They lay awake nights, thinking up things to be against the president on.

Trump's Foreign Policy

Diplomacy is the art of saying 'Nice doggie' until you can find a rock.

Bernie Sanders and followers?

A conservative is a man who has plenty of money and doesn't see any reason why he shouldn't always have plenty of money. A Democrat is a fellow who never had any, but doesn't see any reason why he shouldn't have some.

2ND Amendment

Ammunition beats persuasion when you are looking for freedom.

(Continued from page 11)

- Governor signs bill banning some hunting contests
- Federal appeals court deals blow to NY concealed carry law
- Second Circuit sends fight against NY concealed carry training back to starting gate
- NYC Bodega Owners Arm Themselves amid Surging Crime
- Rep. Andrew Clyde, 107 Cosponsors Introduce Bill to Block ATF's Universal Background Check Rule
- Harris Announces New White House Gun Control Initiative
- How Magazine Bans Thwart Self-Defense

If you or any gun owners you know are not up-to-date on the current laws; the list of information in the Schuyler County Legal updates is endless. Not only information about NY but around the country and at the Federal level. It never hurts to know what other states' gun owners are dealing with; good or bad. All gun owners should be paying attention and making their voices heard at polling time.

These Legal Updates include local, state, and federal information; they are available at www.SCOPEny2a.org/Schuyler

Steuben County:

Holds its meetings on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month.

At each meeting, there is an update from the Steuben Chapter of Armed Women of America (AWA). Steuben SCOPE has been instrumental in helping Steuben AWA.

AWA member Bobby Jo B. discussed her experience on a traffic stop and interaction with a NYS trooper involving her possessing a firearm at that stop.

Bobby Jo B. discussed several events, in particular the AWA float for the Corning and Watkins Glen parades and showed a video of the same. She also spoke of events upcoming for AWA and thanked Steuben SCOPE for their support of AWA.

In November, a report was given on progress of various court actions regarding gun laws. Also discussed was the ban on assault weapons.

With the monetary help of a few SCOPE Chapters, Steuben County SCOPE is placing ads in the *NY Outdoor News*. We need to get people's attention; 2024 is a very important year that can impact future generations of sportsmen and women.

Marilyn Prutsman, Joe Atkinson, and Dale Stevens from New York Citizens Audit spoke on November 20th. They covered data from the State of New York showing voting discrepancies in the state. They covered the petition they are circulating to investigate each county and their voting discrepancies.

In December, Steuben County took a look forward to 2024; preparations for the January Dish-to-Pass dinner were finalized and dates for committee meetings for the *Annual Steuben Raffle* were set.

SCOPE gives us an opportunity to help make our voice heard. We educate voters, donate money to different organizations to help fund lawsuits. By attending meetings on a regular basis, you have the benefit of staying abreast of the issues. This is also a great way to educate your friends about issues the mainstream press won't report. Be involved; it takes a team of individuals with many different talents to accomplish what this 2A organization is all about, whether it's manning a booth, planning an event, researching/collecting raffle items, researching legislation, keeping records or so many other important parts of the machinery.

www.SCOPEny2A.org

The Current Playbook Is Old News

by Tom Reynolds

Is it difficult to comprehend what is happening and why it is happening? Uri Bezmenov may help. He was a KGB defector who was amazingly prophetic in describing the current playbook during a 1984 interview.

Demoralize the nation by undermining its values; do away with moral values. Students taught by leftist disciples are indoctrinated into beliefs contrary to American values. This will change a person's and eventually society's perception of reality to the extent that they are unable to reach sensible conclusions in spite of information to the contrary. (*If one sees riots, arson and looting as "peaceful protests", that would seem to qualify as a refusal to believe truths in spite of evidence to the contrary.*)

Destabilization is the decline in society by destabilizing and subverting the economy, foreign relations, defense and social values. (*Obama "apologized for American foreign relations and defense activities. The free market economy (Capitalism) is condemned even though it created a huge middle class with tremendous benefits. Hollywood glorifies activities that were previously condemned and constantly paints American values as evil.*)

Crisis builds on the first two building blocks in order to bring about violent change in the power structure. (*Giving in to terrorist activities, praising HAMAS terrorists and even identifying with the terrorists by kneeling shifts power to those same terrorists. Bring Capitalism down through government closings related to the China Virus and replace Capitalism with "free stuff".*)

New Normal is the cynical way of describing what happens after the crisis. A world government under a benevolent dictator will solve the crisis. Big brother giving away "free stuff" subverts a free-market economy and transfers more power to the government, which makes people more dependent upon it.

Intellectuals, journalists and educators are led to believe that they will be the leaders in this new order but they never achieve that goal. History has shown that, under communism, these people end up as prisoners instead of powerful. They are, as Lenin put it, "Useful idiots". Bezmenov gives specific examples of this purge of the left in Cambodia, Vietnam, Hitler's Germany, USSR and Poland. (*But those that do not learn from history are condemned to repeat it. Unfortunately, this history is not taught very much in our current politically correct academic circles.*)

Bezmenov, who was a soviet defector, pointed out that under a one world government, there is nowhere

left to defect to, unlike today where people defect to the United States and rarely from it.

Ronald Reagan warned that freedom is only one generation away from extinction and also warned against blaming society for the acts of one individual. (*The latter would seem to cover the George Floyd reaction.*) We cannot let our weariness at the efforts of the left allow us to be the generation that lost our freedom. We must react with vigor and determination. And the best way to do it is to register and vote.

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SCOPE membership
up to date.

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With this newsletter your expiration date is included on the address label. It will save SCOPE time and money if you can renew your membership a month or two before your membership is due to expire.

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Reality Check

By Attilio Contini

It's commonly understood that whatever the Left accuses others of doing or being, they are probably doing or being themselves. Let's look at a few examples of this disinformation.

There a systematic, never-ending movement to not only defame and criminalize Donald Trump and his supporters, but to make sure he is not on the ballot, let alone win the 2024 election. For over seven years we have witnessed an ongoing, unrelenting vendetta against Trump and his family. He has been accused of being all kinds of a so-called right-wing extremist. A Nazi. A racist. A Fascist Dictator if elected in 2024. There aren't any grounds to justify and support the Leftist accusations against him. Could the Left be talking about themselves?

The truth is that Fascism and Nazism have always been rooted in Socialism; NAZI actually means National Socialist. The Left fails to tell us that radical socialist Communism is Marxism and advocates a socialist, elitist, One World International government.

As to racism, the Democrat Party fought to preserve racism for over 100 years. Democrat Senator Robert Byrd was a recruiter for the Ku Klux Klan. Hillary Clinton said of him, *"From my first day in the Senate, I sought out his guidance..."* Joe Biden called Byrd: *"A very close friend of mine, one of my mentors...a dear friend."*

Who is the racist?

The Democrat Party has moved so far to the left that they have become more radical and extreme like the Socialist and Communist Parties of the 60's and 70's. They have also moved the political center so far to the left that formerly extremist liberals and Socialists are now considered moderates. Meanwhile, social and fiscal conservatives are labeled extremist right-wing bigots, fascists, and NAZIs. Patriots are labeled terrorists. Another deterioration of reality.

When you look at the Democrat Party and what it is doing and how it is governing you quickly see they are destroying our form of constitutional government where power is divided and decentralized. You realize that various government agencies have become arms of the Democrat Party and our Federal government has become infiltrated with the elitist, international, One World Marxists.

Donald Trump announced his candidacy in 2016 and said he would drain the SWAMP, which was a direct threat to the status quo. The Trump haters' movement materialized and will not quit until Trump is dead or in prison. In the process, a new political class has emerged; MAGA Republicans; Trump supporters. But as of January 2021, anyone who supports or exercised their constitutional right and voted for Donald Trump is subject to

criminal investigation. What the Left has done is criminalize everyone who opposes Biden and the agenda of the Democrat Party. House wives who object to WOKE indoctrination of our children are investigated by the FBI and put on terrorist watch lists. In reality we are becoming a one-party political system just like Communist China and Russia.

The reality is the Democrat Party is guilty of everything of which they accuse MAGA Republicans.

How many Republican office holders in Washington are SWAMP dwellers. I'd guess the answer is: a lot.

The leadership of the National Republican Party are Trump haters. They did little or nothing to help Trump.

Come hell or high water the anti-Trumpers will find a way to put him in jail and(or) bar him from getting nominated. If they fail, he may very well be assassinated as Sabastion Gorka alluded to on his Maxnews program, Sunday night Dec 10,2023.

Just who is the "Threat to Democracy"? Democrats call themselves defenders of Democracy, but look at what they advocate and are doing. They have created a double standard criminal justice system where police and law-abiding citizens are treated like criminals while BLM, Antifa, looters and rioters are "peaceful protesters". They deliberately refuse to enforce the laws, especially immigration laws, and blame Conservatives and Trump for the problems the Democrats created.

Corruption is rampant in Washington. They are stripping us of our Constitutional Rights. In particular: Freedom of Speech and our Right to Keep and Bear Arms. People who support the Constitution are labeled Terrorists. In short, we now live in what can best be described as a MobOcracy.

So here we are, the elitist Democrats defy the Courts, ignore the Constitution, and thump their nose at our lawsuits. When we win, they spitefully impose more restrictive rules and laws on us.

If we cannot mobilize our voter base, where does that leave us? If we expect to slow down the infringement on our Rights and Freedom we must remove the tyrants from office, otherwise they will chip away until everything is lost.

By allowing these people to get elected and run our Country for many years we have turned our government over to our enemy!



John R. Elwood

Application for an At-Large Director's Position

14 December, 2023

I am applying for an At-Large Director position in the Shooter's Committee on Political Education (SCOPE) organization, and ask for your support and vote.

Folks and friends of the Second Amendment, first, I hope all is well with you and your family, and you are at peace! I want to thank you for all you do to protect and defend the Second Amendment; the amendment that protects all other amendments! The Second Amendment continues to be under attack from our national and state leaders. We must win the battle to protect the Second Amendment.

SCOPE's mission is to protect, restore, and expand the gun rights of all New Yorkers. SCOPE accomplishes this by 1) Monitoring New York State and local governments for gun legislation, 2) Supports pro-Second Amendment politicians, 3) Tirelessly making every effort to educate anti-gun politicians, 4) Working with government officials to sponsor pro 2nd Amendment legislation, 5) Keeping our members informed on politicians and legislation that will affect your 2nd Amendment rights, 6) Rating politicians upon their legislation and voting records to educate our members during elections, 7) Maintaining a website with the latest information on news, legislation and events related to 2nd Amendment rights, 8) Publicly speaking and debating gun issues with anti-politicians and anti-gun organizations, and 9) Attending shooting sports events to increase awareness with all types of gun owners.

How can I help? First, I believe ACTION is more important than words, and I try to live that moniker. I have been active in SCOPE for five (5) years. Most recently, I helped reactivate the Jefferson/Lewis County Chapter of SCOPE. Since September, 2023, I helped Jefferson/Lewis County Chapter of SCOPE increase its membership by 50%. Currently, I am in negotiations to create a SCOPE chapter in St Lawrence County. I volunteered to lead the annual SCOPE banquet effort. After conducting reconnaissance of the banquet site, the Board of Directors approved the Pompey Rod and Gun Club as the 2024 SCOPE banquet site. I developed the SCOPE Top Ten proposed 2024 firearms bills SCOPE chapters can use to educate their state legislators on what firearm bills they might see in 2024. Since September 2023, I have written multiple articles for the SCOPE newsletter Firing Lines. Along with

Bruce Kingsley, we met and briefed all Jefferson and Lewis Counties senators and assemblymen on potential 2024 firearms legislation they might see. In fact, one assemblyman stated he really appreciated the effort to educate him on potential 2024 firearms legislation. When one assemblyman proposed a bill (A8161) that did not go far enough in getting rid of the ammunition background check, I led a letter writing campaign demonstrating our disdain and anger toward the bill. As a result of this lawmaker's compromise, his 2A rating is in jeopardy. I briefed multiple Rod and Gun clubs and Sportsman clubs on SCOPE and its mission, and continue to coordinate for other clubs. Finally, because I am tired of playing defense against the onslaught of gun-control bills, I wrote talking points for an OPEN CARRY bill which Senator Mark Walczyk stated he would support. Senator Walczyk's office is now writing an OPEN CARRY bill to present to the New York State legislature in 2024!

A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far, away, I took an oath to defend the Constitution from enemies foreign and domestic. I take that oath to heart! Help me do more by electing me to an At Large Director position in SCOPE. Thank you and may the FORCE be with you!

Carrie Mae Christman

S.C.O.P.E. State Board Election Candidate

I have always supported our 2nd Amendment. I believe our country fought for our Freedom over guns. We have the right to bear arms.

I grew up in a home where gun ownership was normal. Both my father and brother were veterans, and were hunters. My father's WWII Army rifle was kept hanging over the fireplace in our home. I was taught respect for firearms. I too own Firearms.

When I became active duty in the Air Force, in Basic Training. I was assigned to one of the first women flights who trained on our M16 and small weapons. When I was stationed at RAF Alconbury, England, my Top-Secret clearance enabled me to be the Assistant Weapons Base Monitor. I was made responsible for checking in all the new firearms for the whole base.

Further, on active duty, my first duty base, Tyn-dall AFB, I was indirectly involved with the Iranian Rescue effort. My Top-Secret Clearance qualified me to be able to order all the supplies for those training for the rescue at-

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www.SCOPEny2A.org

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tempt at Hurlburt Field. My next base, in England, I was on the war readiness team for Mortuary Affairs/Casualty Collection. This was during the explosion of the Marine's barracks in Lebanon. Although our team was trained for this, only our officer in command went to Germany to assist.

In 2009 I learned about and began attending S.C.O.P.E. meetings in Monroe County. Attendance was low up until January 2013 when New York state voted in the S.A.F.E. Act. The rallies in Albany began, sponsored by State S.C.O.P.E. I too attended, and heard many speakers from around New York state, and some from out of state, including Sheriff Mack. In the spring of 2014, I attended and supported S.C.O.P.E.'s political education forums held in different areas of New York. To name a few county locations; Wayne, Wyoming, Broome, Chautauqua, Niagara, and Erie.

While visiting Erie County I attended meetings. To further getting our name out there, through my urging, Erie County S.C.O.P.E. participated in the annual Dyngus Day parade. Sheriff Tim Howard rode along with us in support of S.C.O.P.E. Monroe County S.C.O.P.E. in 2015 followed our lead and were in the St. Patrick's Day parade in Rochester. While walking along with Monroe many of us handed out copies of the Constitution to attendees.

In 2016 I moved to Erie County and began attending meetings regularly. When the current leadership stepped down at the end of February 2018, at the next meeting in March 2018, I ran for and became S.C.O.P.E. Erie County Secretary. I began attending the State S.C.O.P.E. meetings. It was a learning experience to see how our Executive Level ran the whole state. It gave me the opportunity to learn leadership, and what was needed to maintain the level of professionalism required.

During the years I was County Secretary I represented Erie County S.C.O.P.E. at the Erie County Republican Party Roundtables. I attended, with our then chairman, various meetings of other groups who were not pro-gun. One was a group of students held at a church in downtown Buffalo, supported by Congressman Higgins. Our attendance attracted the attention of the local media who interviewed our chairman. We were able to give positive gun ownership responses to educate the public.

It was in September of 2020 I stepped down due to work constraints. I continued attending meetings regularly. In the spring of 2022, I became a Board member for Erie County S.C.O.P.E. For that year's elections, I took on the responsibility of having political candidates for office speak at our meetings.

I have always been a loyal S.C.O.P.E. member. I believe in what our title stands for – Shooters Committee on Political Education. Three words are the most important in our name Committee, Political and Education. As a committee, we work as a Team. We synergize, merging our abilities within our members, chapter leaders, and state

leadership. On the Political side, people need to be educated and made aware of how the political system works, for and against our gun rights. We need to learn and be taught how to ask candidates questions specific to where they stand on gun ownership. This is how we should decide who we support, and why we should vote for them. As members, and leaders, we have a responsibility to provide Education on gun ownership. Why all Americans should own a firearm, educate them on correct handling.

I have been involved politically since 2000. I have worked on various campaigns for candidates running for local, state, and federal offices. As a committeeman for the City of Rochester, and the Town of Brighton, Monroe County, I have experienced; petitions for the ballot, door to door campaigning, parades, and attending fund raising dinners. I have also attended our New York state party convention. Since 2013, while vending across New York state, and attending our S.C.O.P.E. rallies in Albany, I have personally met many who were and still are in office, all over New York state. While out of state vending, and at Trump rallies, I have met many other politicians, and stay in contact with several.

It is a must for any well-run organization, and its individual chapters, to follow Robert's Rules. State leadership should give support to its Chapters, who in turn should show support for the state. As a Board member, with my background in Education, and Relationship Building and Marketing, I believe I will be a welcome asset for S.C.O.P.E. I am able to support the endeavors needed to ensure Total Quality Management (TQM) and Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) necessary for S.C.O.P.E. to continue as the leader of the 2nd Amendment Organizations in New York state.

Thank you very much.
Carrie Mae Christman M.S. Ed., M.S.M
U.S. Air Force Veteran

Tom Reynolds, At -Large member of SCOPE's Board of Directors

Please consider me for re-election as an At-Large member of the SCOPE's Board of Directors. I have served four years as SCOPE's President and currently serve as its Treasurer.

I have attended every board meeting since 2016,

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Official SCOPE 2024 Ballot

SCOPE Elections for At-Large Board of Directors

Vote for as many as three

→ *Clip and mail your ballot as per the directions below*←

Elwood Reynolds

- You *must* be a member in good standing
- Your address label *must* be correct
- Ballots *must* be **postmarked**

ship to vote

Ballot *must* be returned

with other SCOPE mailing

VOID

Ballot ONLY to:

SCOPE BALLOT
PO Box 165
East Aurora, NY 14052

DO NOT include anything else in the envelope with your ballot; we do not open envelopes until the member meeting.

(Continued from page 22)

actively participating in them all and have experience with the issues that confront all Second Amendment organizations. In addition, I have spoken at chapter meetings, made formal speeches to other organizations, done radio and TV interviews for SCOPE and written op-eds.

I write most of the emails sent to members several times a week and edit the Firing Lines and contribute articles to it.

As Treasurer, in addition to normal Treasurer duties, I prepare the annual IRS 990 report, (which was previously done by an auditor, for a fee).

In addition to SCOPE, I am a NYSRPA member and an NRA member and have an unrestricted / concealed carry permit.

The 2024 election is critical for the future of our constitution, our rights as gun owners and the future of the United States that the founding fathers envisioned. This is a time when Americans need to come forward and volunteer their time, energy and resources. I have shown and will continue to demonstrate my commitment to SCOPE as a primary tool in our fight to defend the Constitution.

Thank you for considering me for the At Large position.

Please SHARE

A reminder from Ed Borkowski,
Steuben County:

After you have thoroughly read your copy of the Firing Lines,

Remove or cross out your name and address and drop it off at any of the waiting rooms you may visit; doctor, dentist, barber shop, mechanic etc.

It's a great way to widen our exposure and educate others on the 2nd Amendment and how current legislation will affect our future rights.

From, SCOPE, PO Box 165, East Aurora, NY 14052
Address Service Requested

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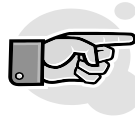
Firing Lines page 24

Your membership expiration date is on the label, please renew today!

**YOU INSURE YOUR CAR, YOUR HOME, EVEN
YOUR HEALTH - WELL HOW ABOUT
INSURING YOUR 2ND AMENDMENT RIGHTS?**

SCOPE THE RIGHT INSURANCE!

**SO DON'T DELAY
SIGN UP TODAY!**



We are S.C.O.P.E.

We get no air time on CNN.
 We don't riot and burn things down.
 We go to work and support our families.
 We love America.
 We protect the unborn.
 We salute the flag.
 We say the pledge of allegiance.
 We sing the Star Spangled Banner
 - while standing.
 We respect law enforcement
 and we obey the law.
 We appreciate the military.
 We use guns safely and legally.
 We defend the Constitution
 - especially the 2nd Amendment.
 We support conservation and hunting.
 We are S.C.O.P.E.

Donate Today!
www.SCOPEny2a.org



SCOPE Membership Application

Membership Dues: New Member 3-Years Annual \$80 Life \$600
 Renewal 3-Years Sponsor \$140 Senior Life (65+) -\$250 with proof of age
Appropriate Annual \$30 Endowment \$800
Boxes Annual Sponsor \$50 Benefactor \$1,000

Mail to: SCOPE (Shooters Committee On Political Education) PO Box 165, East Aurora, NY 14052
 Make Checks Payable to SCOPE, Inc. (*Do Not Send Cash*)
 How do you want your newsletter delivered? US Mail or Email Link (Circle one)

Please Print
 Name _____ Date of Birth _____
 Address _____ Phone (____) _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____

Email Address (Needed for newsletter delivery) _____
 Please Check the boxes that apply: Will you serve on Committees Yes No
 Are you registered to Vote Yes No

Revised Feb. 2021
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