



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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Do we really have a Second Amendment?

By Tim Andrews
SCOPE Director

Do we really have a Second Amendment? Good question and I'm amazed I've never read or heard anyone ask that fundamental question. I even googled the question, and the only thing that came up was the text of the Second Amendment and some academic pro and con debates.

The United States Constitution is the premier law of the land. The Bill of Rights is the first ten amendments to the constitution. The right to keep and bear arms is number two, and the common thread of the first ten amendments is that they all pertain to the rights of the individual. We also have two Supreme Court rulings supporting an individual's right, at least as it exists in the home.

Yet, despite this, we have literally thousands of laws on the books, both on the federal level and state levels, restricting an individual's right, and in many cases outright banning an individual's right to possess certain firearms, including firearm accessories. Many will argue the government has the power to regulate issues pertaining to the Bill of Rights; the "you can't yell fire in a crowded theater" argument. I would agree to give the government the power to regulate for the common good. The question is, where's the line? When does regulation become a violation of our Second Amendment? What regulation is acceptable?

To answer that question, I would argue that regulation begins and ends with criminals and criminal use of firearms and I'd start with someone who's convicted of a violent felony. If you are convicted of a violent criminal offense you should forfeit your

right to possess a firearm. However, it's also important that Fifth Amendment due process rights are protected so individuals are not unduly prosecuted. I would also argue that any law-abiding citizen who possessed or purchased a firearm legally cannot be prosecuted retroactively.

We can all agree the very nature of criminal behavior is that they don't obey laws; whether it's jaywalking or murder, criminals are not deterred by laws. The trouble is, many of the thousands of gun laws on the books are not targeted at criminals or criminal use of firearms; they're clearly aimed at law-abiding citizens.

A few examples are, gun-free zones, which criminals laugh at. They more accurately should be referred to as killing zones. What better place to commit murder than a location where the criminal knows no one else is armed? Then there are bans on firearms, magazines or other accessories. Again, criminals will get what they want. Only law-abiding citizens, the ones whose rights are supposedly protected by the Second Amendment are impacted. These are only a small sample as there are many other laws, like them, that not only violate Second Amendment rights but they also violate our right to protect ourselves and our families. Regulation of the Second Amendment should focus on criminals not law-abiding citizens.

Gun control has always been about people control going back to the black codes that were intended to control freed slaves following the civil war. Then, there was the National Firearms Act of 1934 that, among other things, effectively banned automatic firearms. This was the beginning of the slippery slope when bans became acceptable.

(Continued on page 4)

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"Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could do only

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Meetings 3rd Tuesday
Angelica American Legion
7:00pm Angelica, NY

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Albany/Columbia/Greene/
Schenectady/
Rensselaer/Saratoga
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518.330.7732
Meetings 2nd Tuesday 7:00pm
Nassau Sportsmen's Club

Cattaraugus Chapter
Chairman Mike Wesley
mswesley@localnet.com
Meetings 2nd Thursday
7:00pm
American Legion Post 531,
Little Valley

Cayuga Chapter
Jim Dishaw
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Meetings 2nd Thursday
7:00pm

Masonic Lodge Weedsport,
NY

Central NY Chapter:
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Chautauqua Chapter
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Meetings 3rd Tuesday 7:00pm
VFW Post 8647 Mayville, NY

**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

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Contact don6027@gmail.com

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845.586.1721

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tonym@roadrunner.com
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Meetings 3rd Thursday,
7:00pm
Buffalo Pizza & Ale House
Cheektowaga, NY

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Meetings 2nd Tuesday
7:00pm
Calvary Baptist Church
3515 Galloway Rd. Batavia,
NY

Monroe Chapter
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Meetings 4th Tuesday 7:00pm
Elks Lodge 24 Henrietta, NY

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Meetings 2nd Monday 7:00pm
American Legion 229 Utica

Ontario Chapter
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Meetings 3rd Monday 7:00pm
Canandaigua Sportsmen's
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Orleans Chapter
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Meetings 3rd Monday 7:00pm
Hoag Library; 1st Floor Albion,
NY

St. Lawrence Chapter
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Schoharie Chapter
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ljanczak@midtel.net
518.868.6902
Meetings 3rd Thursday
7:00pm
Alternate venue every 3
months
Carlisle Town Hall Carlisle,
NY
Middleburgh R&G Club Mid-
dleburgh, NY

Schuyler Chapter
Chairman Les Wilson
lhwilson100@yahoo.com
607.857.3309
Meetings 2nd Thursday
7:00pm
Jan/Mar/May/Oct
Moose Lodge Montour Falls,
NY

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Meetings 4th Tuesday 7:00pm

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FIRING LINES

Editor - Ralph Esposito

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and FIRING LINES

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East Aurora, NY 14052

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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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Dark Storm Industries Oak-
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Wayne Chapter
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don6027@gmail.com
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Marion VFW Post 1430
Marion, NY

Wyoming Chapter
Chairman Gary Gardner
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7:00pm
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Bldg. Warsaw, NY

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Check your address label for your renewal date

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.

You can use the membership application in the newsletter or go online to www.Scopeny2A.org to renew.

Thank you

Renew your membership today!

SCOPE-PAC

Political Action Committee

Effectively defending the 2nd Amendment requires us to go on the offensive. We cannot wait, unprepared, for the next assault from the radical left. Although we may have a friend in the White House, Cuomo and the radical left still reside in Albany.

SCOPE Inc. works to educate the public and influence legislation while SCOPE-PAC is a separate, all volunteer organization and can provide direct financial support to candidates and promote legislation safeguarding the 2nd Amendment. Money is the "Mother's Milk" of politics.

Politicians and candidates look at each individual and organization in terms of can they help, can they hurt me or do they matter at all. We can help candidates in a number of ways but the most effective is with money, that's where SCOPE PAC comes in and where each individual gun owner can help. There is estimated to be about 4 million gun owners in New York and if all those gun owners just donated a dollar each month we would have millions to work with. All we are asking is that you, our members and other gun owners donate at least that much to SCOPE PAC. It's not a lot to ask, so please help.

The time to begin building up cash reserves for that election cycle is now, when smaller donations given over time can mount up into a significant amount and will make a difference. Please consider making a donation now, no matter how small, to SCOPE-PAC and again whenever you can afford to support the 2nd Amendment



SCOPE-PAC
P.O. Box 12711
Rochester, NY 14612

Or online at:
www.SCOPEPAC.com



Terms vs. truth

By Richard Rossi

Many of us believe that the anti-gun groups and the media have no actual knowledge of how firearms function. One would believe that theory because of the way the media communicates their agenda to the citizens in our country. On the contrary, I believe they know, very well, what they are saying.

Take for example the term "ASSAULT WEAPON," true, knowledgeable gun owners know, very well, that is a contrived term. It was, of course, made up for a specific purpose; to invoke emotional support for their agenda. This label plays directly into getting support after any mass-shooting event where a semi-

automatic rifle was used. I have not believed, for some time, that they are so un-informed about firearms that they don't truly understand that there is a difference between an Automatic rifle and a Semi-automated rifle, when they label both as "Assault weapons".

Let's take this a step further. When you listen to national news media reporting involving police activity, they never use the term Assault Weapon when referring to LEO's armed with "Black Rifles". They somehow - and I believe intentionally - do not use the term "assault weapon" when talking about these stories. I have heard on many news stories that police armed *with rifles* are searching the area. Think about that for a minute...

Furthermore, you will notice

(Continued from page 1)

The cliché "slippery slope" aptly applies to gun control, just witness how acceptable bans have become with so many.

So again, I ask, do we really have a Second Amendment? With the influx of red flag laws, do we have a Fifth Amendment which is supposed to guarantee due process rights?

Given the magnitude of the Bill of Rights, what many constitutional scholars refer to as the supreme law of the land, it's troubling how easy it is for legislatures to circumvent them. Just look at the restrictions and bans we've experienced in New York. And when we have sought relief through the courts, we've been met by activists' courts that distort the intentions of the founders or the

courts viewed the constitution as a malleable document that doesn't really mean what it says.

Later this year the U.S. Supreme Court is expected to rule on the city of New York pistol license law. It could be a landmark decision for gun rights, but the wild card is Chief Justice Roberts, so time will tell. The silver lining is President Trump, who is changing the federal courts with a record number of appointments. If the president is reelected and a GOP majority is reelected in the Senate, he could change the courts for generations. That may very well be the Second Amendments' last hope.

Until then, it still begs the question, do we really have a Second Amendment?

that these "assault rifle" stories hit immediately, as the event is unfolding, even if details are not known or unclear about the incident. They need to get a jump on the story to invoke emotional support and outrage. Facts don't matter, at this point in time, nor is clarification usually made later, as long as it gets broadcast that another mass-shooting with an assault rifle has happened.

Let's examine the term "Mass Shooting." A more appropriate and accurate term, in my opinion, would be "Mass Murder". However, this wording also does not fit their agenda; they need to include the reference to *the weapon* in the headline, for obvious reasons. The focus is very simple; one must remove the blame from the individual and place it on the weapon. How can people actually believe that anyone or anything other than the person is solely to blame for these murders? The media wants us to believe that, if we take away an object, the event will not occur. It does not work that way and it never will.

While I blame the media driven agenda for this attack on our 2nd Amendment Rights and Freedoms, we must share some of the blame. While the media was exonerating the individual for his actions, law-abiding gun owners sat quietly and watched. I am sure many of you are as frustrated with this anti-gun movement as I am. However, we need to be positive and speak-out and speak loudly. Get involved and "talk" with your elected officials at all levels of Government. Change can happen if we work together and are active.

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The 2nd Amendment makes us safer

By Tom Reynolds

Quite often, the simplest solution to a problem is the best solution.

In Chapter 11 of former United Nations Ambassador Nikki Haley's book, "With All Due Respect", she describes the conditions in South Sudan, a country that has been torn apart by civil war. By the fall of 2017, two million people had been displaced and two million more had fled the country. It is the site of one of the United Nations' largest and most expensive (and ineffective) peacekeeping missions.

Thousands of civilians sought refuge near UN peacekeeping bases and the UN set up "protection of civilian sites" outside their gates. These tent cities are ringed by barbed wire and exist in horrible conditions under the unreliable protection of UN peacekeeping troops.

Violence against women is rampant. UN peacekeeping forces are infamous for raping and abusing women under their care and these are

the "good guys". In these camps, women must venture outside the security of the barbed wire to collect firewood for cooking. Once outside the compound, they are frequently attacked and raped.

Ambassador Haley had no direct answer to these problems other than continuing to argue for them within and without the U.N. Noble but ineffective.

I have a simple and direct answer: teach these women to shoot and then arm them with handguns. I'll bet the women won't hesitate to use them to protect themselves and their children. Potential rapists will think twice (or several more times) before attacking the women.

Of course, a proposal such as this will bring howls from the left and all sorts of theories about how badly it would turn out. Realistically, some down-side things would happen, but would it be worse than the status quo? Absolutely not. And being self-reliant and protecting themselves would have a major, positive psychological impact on women for which there is little positive happening in their lives. Remember, guns have done more to make women safe than all the feminist movement in the world.

My suggestion for this sort of direct solution to a violence problem is equally lost on New York's governor who won't allow teachers in New York schools to be armed for fear that the students would be caught in a crossfire. He would prefer that a shooter be allowed to fire at will without any opposition. It doesn't take a genius, which Cuomo definitely isn't, to realize that many more students would be killed by an unopposed shooter than would be injured in crossfire.

The best real-life answer to Cuomo and the anti-gun left is the recent shooting in a Texas church. In a room packed with parishioners, a gunman opened fire and the incident was over in six seconds! Six sec-

onds! An armed parishioner took out the shooter and several others had drawn their weapons but did not fire, either because they did not have a clear shot or the incident was over before they could shoot. If a police officer had been sitting outside in a patrol car, he could barely have gotten out of the car door before the incident was over.

An armed populace is a safer populace and gun free zones only protect the criminal.



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SCOPE
Annual
Members
Meeting



April 25, 2020
10:00 am

VFW Mattydale Post 3146
2000 Lemoyne Ave.
Syracuse, NY 13211-0062

The agenda will cover:

- Membership and Chapter Status
- SCOPE Committee Reports
- SCOPE PAC
- * Drawing for the 5-Gun Raffle *

The meeting is open to all SCOPE members in good standing.
Lunch will be provided



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____ 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.

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Lies plus arrogance equal bad policy

By Michael A. Morrongiello, Ph. D.

A hate-filled mentally ill man attacked Hasidic Jews with a machete, in the home of their Rabbi, in the upstate town of Monsey, New York, seriously injuring five. Senate Minority Leader Schumer promptly called for an increase in Federal grants to help secure houses of worship and schools. The attack, New York's Governor Cuomo said, was due to a "scourge of hate in this country" and Cuomo, never to be out-pandered, proposed a new state law, the Hate Crimes Domestic Terrorism Act, which makes illegal that which is already illegal. If Cuomo was being consistent, he would have called for a ban on "assault machetes."

New York City mayor Bill DeBlasio, who can out-pander anyone, said, "We New Yorkers have the ability to stop the hatred." Frighteningly, the mayor thinks, or wants you to think, that he has the power to change people's feelings. The new "no bail law" in New York State turns many violent offenders loose. But thankfully, this perpetrator of this crime remains in jail on \$5 million bail.

Let's compare the Democrat response to the machete attack in Monsey with the Newtown, Connecticut shooting. The difference in tone and focus is striking. Immediately

after the Newtown shooting and long before the facts were known, Schumer, Cuomo et.al. blamed so-called assault weapons. At the federal level, Schumer pushed for tougher gun control laws, while Cuomo shoved the Safe Act through the state legislature in record time. Boosting funding to make schools a harder target was never a priority. Democrats never blamed alienation or mental health services that don't reach everyone. Nor did they blame a collapsing moral structure. The focus of their ire was never the shooter, another mentally ill man who stole his mother's guns and murdered her before going to the Newtown school to slaughter the innocents. No, they blamed guns and, by extension, gun owners. Here in New York, the Safe Act didn't make schools safer - it made gun ownership harder, which was the point.

But New York's ruling ideocracy is at it again with State Senate bill S1412. This monstrosity will require every buyer of a shotgun or long gun to apply for a hunting license first. The bill imposes other burdens such as: taking a 5-hour gun safety course, passing a shooting test with 90% accuracy, notarized proof of a passed drug test and mental health evaluation, and finally, proof of safe storage.

Meanwhile, New York State continues to hemorrhage population. The latest census data paints a bleak picture. New York has lost 1.4 million people to other states since 2010.

Cuomo was governor for 9 of those 10 years. New York lost 77,000 people in 2019. I don't know the numbers for the 55 counties upstate, but I know that upstate always takes it on the chin.

The title of this article says it all. We know that the Albany/Washington ruling class would love to delete the Second Amendment. But Cuomo, et.al. never admit it; instead, they say they want to make us safer. They're obviously lying. Their arrogance knows no bounds; it is gigantic, oceanic, titanic arrogance. Lies and hubris make for bad public policy. Problems are never really defined or solved. People experience the results and they sense that their leaders are dishonest and govern poorly. This is why people flee New York, if they can.

Only you can stop bad politicians from passing bad laws

VOTE!



DONT TREAD ON ME



With the results in on the November elections, the battleground to save our Second Amendment Rights is now in the courts.

Court litigation is expensive and necessary and we need your help. Please donate today to help us fight Cuomo in the courts.

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Or you can mail a check to: SCOPE, PO Box 165, East Aurora, NY 14052

Please Donate Today

What will it take?

By Attilio A. Contini

Does anyone care? What will it take for people to realize what is going on and say "enough with this foolishness"? Actually, it is far worse than foolishness. Call it what you want but I say it is down-right and deliberate subversion and, perhaps, even treason. Our very concepts of national security, citizenship and our Constitution are being undermined.

The elitist leftists call themselves Progressives for a reason. They have a goal, increasing their own power and control, which they systematically and relentlessly work towards with never ending determination. We need to understand that goal and determine if it is right and proper - or even acceptable - for that goal to be entertained and promoted in a constitutional, free, nationalistic, country and society. Our country's constitution exists for the preservation and protection of the rights and safety of its people - its citizens.

Society has boundaries, laws and rules for a reason and these laws and rules must be obeyed; without them we have chaos. Unlimited, illegal immigration is making a mockery of our laws and rules. What is the sense of having laws if illegal immigrants are going to be given all the rights and privileges reserved for law abiding citizens and those who play by the rules?

We have rules to punish

people who break the law. Granting privileges to illegal immigrants, such as drivers licenses, creates a snow balling effect that undermines our whole system. How can you deny a citizen the privileged of a driver's license if you give a license to felons who violate immigration laws? To say we must automatically give them a license because they need to drive to work and move about in the community is hypocritical. Now, the proposal in the New York State legislature to automatically register them to vote is an insult and act of national suicide and stupidity. It creates an environment that can destroy the Constitution and norms of society.

We need to step back and ask why are the extreme radical progressives - and those that enable them - advocating and promoting ideas that are so dangerous. Let's be honest. In my opinion, most progressive politicians - and those enabling them while lurking in the shadows - are devoted Socialist and Communists. They want to "Fundamentally change our government", subvert our Constitution, limit our freedom, and control

our lives from the cradle to the grave. They place very little value on human life, except their own. They want gun control not because they want to stop crimes but because they want to render us defenseless. They want to impose a form of government on us that fosters a class society where they, the elite intelligentsia, can control and take advantage of the masses.

They are bribing and brain-washing the unsuspecting illegal immigrants and other minority groups into supporting them so they can gain total control of our government and alter or destroy the Constitution. They believe the end justifies the means. For some reason they hate our government, our Constitution and everything it stands for.

It is time they be declared what they are: seditious, sabotaging, criminal, treasonous enemies of our nation, our Constitution, and the American People. They should be identified as threats to our National Security, removed from office, and barred from ever running for or holding public office.

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How we lose our Liberties

By Henry S. Kramer
Tompkins County, New York

How do liberties get lost? Does a nation-state slip into dictatorship and totalitarianism all at once? Experience says that it is a slow process in which, bit by bit, we lose our freedoms.

Unlike many of the readers here, I am not particularly a fan of guns. I live in a fairly safe area and don't believe that I need to be armed. But I realize that many of my fellow citizens do live where they feel a need for protection and they don't feel they can rely on law enforcement alone. So, why am I a strong supporter of the Second Amendment and keeping it robust and in place?

First, because it is an amendment to our Constitution and I believe our Constitution must be upheld. As soon as we lose any of our constitutional rights, all the others

become endangered. And consider this, of all the types of property that we have, guns are about the only property that is specifically constitutionally protected (yet we can't carry them easily from state to state).

On a practical level, the statistics show that restrictive gun laws just do not work. Faced with restrictive legislation, criminals do not give up their guns and no law is likely to make them do so. Areas like Chicago with strict gun laws do not have lower crime rates, they have high ones. Conversely, areas like Texas which allow concealed carry have much lower crime rates. I do support strong controls on fully automatic weapons, but they have been highly regulated since the 1930's so that is not an issue any more.

Pastor Niemoller said of the Nazi regime that when they came for the Jews, he didn't care as he wasn't a Jew. When they came for the gypsies, he didn't care, he wasn't a gypsy. When they came for him there was no one left to stand up for him. That was an important lesson

and an important reason why I stand for all of the Constitution and do not want to see it dismantled bit by bit.

Admiral Yamamoto, who was the architect of the Pearl Harbor attack by Japan in 1941, told the Japanese leaders that they could never invade and occupy the United States. The reason he gave - too many guns in too many hands.

Now our constitutional republic is under attack. Free speech, gun rights, and even our ability to elect a president and see that president finish his term are under attack. If we are not to become a "banana republic" without the rule of law, we must protect and uphold our constitution - every part of it. Right now, the Second Amendment is under siege. If it goes, how long will it be before our other rights go as well?



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
ABATE of NY Ontario Chapter
Adirondack Federation of Sports Clubs
Alabama Hunt Club
Allied Sportsmen of WNY
Almond Rod & Gun Club
A-ON-DO-WA-NUH Sportsman Club
Baldwinsville Rod & Gun Club
Barre Sportsmens Club
Batavia Rod & Gun Club
Bath Rod & Gun Club,
Bison City Rod & Gun Club
Blasdell Rod & Gun Club
Bog Trotters Rifle & Pistol Club
Branchport Rod & Gun Club
Broome County Sportsmen's Assoc.,
Burlington Flats Fish & Game Club
Busti Trap & Skeet Club
Camden Rod & Gun Club
Canajoharie Forest Fish & Game Club
Canandaigua Lake Duck Hunters
Canandaigua Sportsman's Club
Canisteo Rod & Gun Club
Cayuga County Sportsmen's Assoc.
Chemung County Fed of Sportsmen
Chemung County Rod & Gun Club
Clarence Shooting Club,
Community Conservation Club
Conservation Club of Brockport
Dalton Gang Sportsmen Club
Deer Search of WNY
Deerfield Fish & Game Club
Delchenego Rod & Gun Club
Dutchess County Sportsman Association
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

Glen-Coe Conservation Society,
Gorham Coon Hunters
Gouverneur Rod & Gun Club
Gowanda Rifle Club
Grand Island Rod & Gun Club,
Grape Country Coon Hunters Association
Greenway Verona Mills Fish & Game Club
Hamburg Rod & Gun Club
Harder O'Donnell Post 734 American Legion
Hidden Valley Lodge
Hoisingtons NY Ranging Co. 1776
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Holley Rod & Gun Club
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Hornell Sportsman Club
Hudson Valley Sportsmen's Association
Ilion Fish & Game Club
Indian Lake/Blue Mtn. Fish & Game Assoc
Irondequoit Bay Fish & Game Club
Junior Wilson Sportsmen Club
Lackawanna Conservation
Lima Gun Club
Lime Lake Sportsman's Club
Lodi Rod & Gun Club
Long Lake Fish & Game Club
Mendon Conservation League
Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club
Middlesex Conservation Club
Millgrove Sportsmen's Club,
Mt Morris Sportsman's Club,
Neighbors Gun Club
New Paltz Rod & Gun Club,
Newark Rod & Gun Club
Newfield Rod & Gun Club,
North Star Sportsman's 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,
Oxford Rod & Gun Club
Painted Post Field & Stream Club
Pearl River Gun Club,
Point Rock Fish & Game Club
Randolph Rod & Gun Club,

Red Creek Conservation Club,
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Rochester Brooks Gun Club
Rochester Rifle Club
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Roslyn Rifle & Revolver Club
Sara Spa Rod & Gun Club
Scio Rod & Gun Club
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South Bristol Fish & Game Association,
Sportsmen's Club of Clifton Park
Springville Field & Stream Club,
Square Deal Sportsmen,
Stamford Rod & Gun Club,
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S.C.O.P.E. Featured Business Sponsor



The Firing Pin, LLC has been in operation since 2014. Located at 8240 Buffalo Road in Bergen, NY, they serve a very large portion of Western New York and have customers drive in from as far away as Syracuse. The Firing Pin is a full retail gun shop with ammo and shooting/hunting accessories; public, heated indoor shooting range with seven lanes; quality firearms training; gunsmithing services, and more!

Products and Brands carried: Glock, Smith & Wesson, Sig Sauer, Ruger, Winchester, Savage, Remington, Mossberg; pretty much anything on the market! If you don't see it in the store, we will do our best to special order it for you.

We are Western NY's finest indoor shooting range, gun shop, and training center! We offer a wide variety of new, used, and consignment firearms for sale, and also sell ammunition and shooting accessories! What sets us apart from other gun shops is our impeccable customer service and our public indoor shooting range. The most unique thing we offer is the ability to rent a firearm and try it before you buy it. We have over 100 rental firearms in store to handle and try out in the range. We teach pistol permit classes, Florida non-resident permit classes, NRA & USCCA classes, as well as one-on-one lessons catered to individual student needs and interests.

Visit us online at www.TheFiringPinNY.com to learn more. Like/Follow us on Facebook & Instagram for the best updates!

Brandon P. Lewis
Owner/President
The Firing Pin, LLC
8240 Buffalo Rd, Bergen NY 14416
585-494-0333

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	(Continued on page 13)		

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.) _____

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of PM Research
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585-593-4675

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585-797-8346

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Munnsville, NY, 13409
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Sardinia, NY, 14134
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Rock Stream, NY, 14878
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Grand Island, NY, 14072
716-773-6568

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Penn Yan, NY, 14527
315-694-8600

The Firing Pin
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Bergen, NY, 14416
585-494-0333

Thunderbird Arms
714 Broadway
Darien Center, NY, 14040
716-238-3279

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

Turnbull Restoration Co
6680 Routes 5 & 20
Bloomfield, NY, 14469
585-657-6338

Village Restaurant
5447 East Lake Rd
Dewittville, NY, 14728
716-753-5151

Wallkill River Small Arms
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
PO Box 163
Williamson, NY,
14589
315-589-4011

WNY Synthetics/
AMSOIL
3238 Lockport Rd
Sanborn, NY, 14132
716-207-3705

York Penn Shows
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Frewsburg, NY, 14738
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Mail to: SCOPE Membership, PO Box 165 East Aurora NY 14052

S.C.O.P.E. Featured Club Sponsor



The Ontario Rod & Gun Club

By Frankie LaMarca, Communications Director ORGC

The Ontario Rod & Gun Club continues 70 years of operation on 2523 Trimble Road in Ontario, New York. It is one of New York's premier gun clubs of the Finger Lakes Region, with over 400 members from Monroe, Wayne and Ontario counties. ORGC offers a wide range of sport shooting activities, membership involvement and a tradition of helping local veterans.

We boast a vibrant sporting firearm calendar, running weekly and monthly events, such as USPSA Practical Pistol Matches, 3-Gun Nation and Rifle Matches, Open Trap Shoots, Civilian Marksmanship Program, Inland Waters Trap League, Women's Programs, New York State High School Clay Target League, Youth Program, and a 50-50-50 President's Cup Trophy Match. There is always something happening at ORGC from friendly practices to dynamic competitions.

Our commitment to maintaining the ranges and clubhouse is evident in the improvements made during 2019. Fresh paint for the clubhouse and all outdoor structures, new roofing, gutters, windows, heating/cooling and landscape was accomplished with the diligent work of our dedicated member volunteers. The west trap house and field was rebuilt to accommodate a new PAT Trap machine, and similar plans are underway for the east trap house and field.

ORGC embodies the spirit of volunteerism, aptly named the "ORGC Family." Members are asked to give eight hours a year to "help out." That spirit of volunteerism extends beyond repairs and into the community. Our annual Veterans Fundraiser gives 100% of the proceeds to local veteran's organizations, supports the work of our ORGC Veterans Benevolent Fund, and participation in Wreaths Across America. At ORGC, the possibility exists for every member to be apart of a terrific place to shoot AND fulfill an intrinsic need to be useful – sorting brass at the club or delivering food boxes to local veterans. Welcome to Ontario Rod & Gun Club!

Visit our website at www.theorgc.com



www.SCOPEny2a.org

S.C.O.P.E. Save the 2nd Amendment 5 Gun Raffle

Drawing to be held at the S.C.O.P.E.
April 2020 Members Meeting

5 Winners Chosen



(1) *Henry U.S. Survival .22 LR Kit*
w/Survival Gear & Bag -or- \$200 cash



(2) *Henry Big Boy Steel Carbine .357*
-or- \$300 cash



(3) *Henry Big Boy Carbine Color Case Hardened .45 Colt*
-or- \$300 cash



(4) *Henry Lever Small Game .22 Mag Carbine Peep Sight S/L/LR* -or- \$200 cash



(5) *Henry Lever Small Game .22 Mag Rifle*
20" w/Peep Sight WMR -or- \$200 cash

Prohibited to persons under the age of 18
Winners need not be present.
Recipients must conform to all State & Federal Laws regarding possession of firearms.

PLEASE PRINT **MAIL TO: PO BOX 165 EAST AURORA, NY 14052** Please have entry post-marked no later than April 10, 2020

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

EMAIL: _____

OF TICKETS: _____ x \$10.⁰⁰ per ticket: \$ AMT. ENCLOSED: _____



Schuyler County at the Mid Atlantic Arms Collectors gun show in Watkins Glen.

Please consider donating to the S.C.O.P.E., Inc. Legal Defense Fund

We still have much to battle Albany over, and as you well know it takes money to do this! This battle with Albany and the NY (UN)S.A.F.E. Act will be going on for the foreseeable future. Perhaps the action that N.Y.S.R.P.A. is undertaking against NYC will have a benefit for all of us, but we do not yet know. We must be ready to fight, or assist others, in court.

We need to fight the socialist politicians on all fronts!

**Send your donations to: S.C.O.P.E., Inc., Attn: Legal Defense Fund
PO Box 165, East Aurora, NY 14052**

SCOPE Business Associate Membership

Show your support for our 2nd Amendment rights with a Business Associate Membership. Dues are \$50 annually, or \$250 for a Sponsor level membership. Members will receive a window sign to display, a listing on our website and contact information. We will also supply them with membership applications and a supply of each issue of the *Firing Lines* for their store. Sponsors will also receive a wall plaque for display in their store.

Application on page 12

DOES YOUR CLUB NEED LIABILITY INSURANCE?

At Outdoors USA, Inc. we have been helping Rod & Gun Clubs protect their clubhouses for years.

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Contact:

Ed Duetsch, SCOPE Life Member, NRA
Life Member ejd@odausa.com
1.800.682.5049 ext. 11, or
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Visit: www.odausa.com

The “Quasi-War” and Armed Tax Resistance

By Harold Moskowitz

When France and Great Britain fought each other in the 1790's, the United States neutrality policy recommended by President Washington was questioned. Some Americans favored France out of dislike for the British and gratitude for French assistance during the Revolution. Others, horrified by reports of bloody executions during the French Revolution, sided with Great Britain.

The United States had signed a neutrality agreement but France wanted the United States to support them against the British. The government resisted their pressure and instead signed the Jay Treaty with Great Britain which settled old issues. The French reacted by interfering with American shipping. President John Adams sent envoys to France in an effort to diffuse hostility. French diplomats responded by seeking bribe money for granting access to their Foreign Minister and a loan for the French war effort against Britain.

When news of the French diplomatic actions reached Adams, he requested and was given Congressional funding for a military buildup. A two-year undeclared war with France followed. It is known as the “Quasi-War.” During this time, French naval vessels and privateers attacked our ships. They did all that they could to disrupt American trade with Great Britain.

In order to finance the ‘Quasi-War,’ Congress needed to raise two million dollars. It chose to impose the only direct tax on personal property in our nation’s history. Known as the “House Tax” (1798), it taxed residential structures, land, and slaves. Each state was to be proportionately responsible for its share of the total. Pennsylvania’s share was \$237,000.

Since there were very few slaves in Pennsylvania, the tax was mostly based upon inhabited residences and land ownership. The taxable amount for homeowners was to be based upon the size of the windows and the number of window panes. Many state residents refused to pay the tax. They claimed that the tax was not being levied equally in proportion to the state’s population as was required by the U.S. Constitution.

Many of the settlers in the northeastern part of the state were originally from Germany where they had been forced to pay a “Hearth Tax.” It was also disliked because it was for funding a “non-existing” war.

In Bucks, Lehigh, Northampton, and Montgomery Counties, people began to protest the tax. As during the American Revolution, “liberty poles” were erected. Women even threw hot water down from the second floors of houses onto the agents as they counted and measured windows on the ground floor. John Fries became the leader of the opposition. He began to lead a group of about sixty armed men. Their goal was to prevent tax assessors from carrying out their job. Often, tax agents were intimidated and run out of town. Their lives were threatened.

Fries told an assessor that if he did not leave, “700 men would be ready to fight to the end.” A few assessors were taken hostage and held for several hours. Upon release, they were threatened with death if they returned. The governor sent the militia to arrest rebels and tax resisters in what became known as “Fries’ Rebellion.”

Nineteen men were arrested. Fries and 400 men freed them from the custody of a United States Marshall. President Adams called for a militia to be raised. The 1,200 man militia rearrested the 19 freed prisoners. Fries was captured. He and two others were tried for treason. As was the situation in the Whiskey Rebellion (1794) trials, the definition of “treason” was an expanded one. It

said that “combining to defeat or resist a federal law was the equivalent of levying war against the United States.” The others were tried for misdemeanors such as “opposition to the House Tax,” “hindering the assessors in their duties,” and “holding unlawful meetings for interfering with the execution of the laws.”

Forty-one of the arrested men were tried in federal court. Three, including Fries, were found guilty of treason and sentenced to death. Those tried for misdemeanors were convicted except for one. Two days before the execution date, President Adams pardoned the three condemned men as well as those who had been convicted of misdemeanors.

Fries was seen by many in the nation as a victim of federal power. The handling of the “rebellion” by President Adams damaged the political standing of the Federalist Party. Hostility in Pennsylvania prevented Adams from “carrying” the state in the election of 1800, allowing Jefferson to defeat him. The “House Tax” was repealed in 1802. Armed citizen resistance had made a difference.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★
 ★ **It’s never too** ★
 ★ **early to register** ★
 ★ **to vote.** ★
 ★ **NY style gun re-** ★
 ★ **strictions and bans** ★
 ★ **are spreading.** ★
 ★ **Only our dili-** ★
 ★ **gence in voting** ★
 ★ **out those anti-gun** ★
 ★ **politicians will** ★
 ★ **stop it.** ★
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Official SCOPE 2020 Ballot

SCOPE Elections for At-Large Board of Directors

Please vote for up to two candidates from the following list.
→ *Clip and mail your ballot as per the directions below* ←

Massal

Reynolds

- You *must* be a member in good standing with a current active membership to vote
- Your address label *must* be on the back side of the ballot
- Ballots *must* be **postmarked no later than April 10, 2020**
- Ballot *must* be mailed separately from any other SCOPE mailing; renewal/member mtg. RSVP etc.

*Mail Ballot ONLY to:

SCOPE BALLOT
PO Box 165
East Aurora, NY 14052

*DO NOT include anything else in the envelope with your ballot

Candidate Bios

Nick Massal

Please consider me for reelection as a director-at-large for SCOPE. I am presently serving as your president of SCOPE, Inc. I have served as county chairman, and as the vice-president for the organization.

I am a retired Marine and served for 24 years prior to my retirement. As member of the Marine Corps Rifle Pistol team I not only spent time shooting, but a great deal of time learning and teaching fundamentals of marksmanship and safety. I am active hunter and shooter, and an NRA instructor for rifle/pistol/shotgun and an NRA certified Range Safety Officer. I am actively involved in several rod & gun clubs in Allegany County and Cattaraugus County. While on active duty I did not think too much about our second amendment rights, I had access to firearms and ammunition all the time while shooting, besides my own personal firearms. My retirement was a

rude awakening! I was in California at the time and was starting to see how the state governments were slowly restricting and taking away our rights, and the federal government was not too far behind!

Our present objectives are to continue the fight against the (un)Safe Act and to educate not only politicians but the public in general about the laws, firearms and safety. We are presently exploring the possibilities of resolutions within the counties to preserve our second amendment rights, guaranteed under the constitution, that the New York State government is steadily eroding. My goal is to continue the fight!

Tom Reynolds

Please consider me for reelection as an AT-Large member of the SCOPE's Board of Directors.

I have served as SCOPE's President and currently serve as its Treasurer. 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, I edit the Firing Lines and contribute articles to it. As President, I worked closely with the New York State Rifle and Pistol Association. In these positions, I have attended every board meeting for three and a half years, actively participated in them all and have experience with the issues that confront all Second Amendment organizations. In addition to SCOPE I am a NYS-RPA member and an NRA member and have a concealed carry permit.

The 2020 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.

From, SCOPE, PO Box 165, East Aurora, NY 14052
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Firing Lines page 20

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PAC Page 3**

SCOPE Membership Application

Membership Dues: Annual - \$25 3-Years Annual - \$70 SCOPE Patch - \$5
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 Appropriate Life - \$600 Endowment - \$800 Benefactor - \$1,000
 Boxes New Member Renewal Window Decal \$2.50 Inside Outside

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*)

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Please Check the boxes that apply: Will you serve on Committees Yes No

Are you registered to Vote Yes No

Dues subject to increase.
Contributions, gifts or membership dues made or paid to SCOPE are not refundable or transferable and are not deductible as charitable contributions for Federal Income Tax purposes.