



# 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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## Electoral Equity for NYS Counties

By Ed Pettit

The citizens of Niagara County, as well as most counties in New York State, are electorally disenfranchised. We lack two features needed for a functioning republican form of government: a NY State Senate that equally represents each county; an electoral system for statewide offices. To win back the Republican form of government that Article IV, Section 4 of the US Constitution guarantees, it will require that the citizens and local representatives take all possible measures to protect the freedoms we all rightfully possess. An informed and engaged citizenry must elect and support local representatives to bring the power of their county to the protection of their individual and community rights. And then the rural counties must unite and cooperate to bring balance to the power of the state.

In other words, to achieve the vision of our Founders, we must "Think Like a Republic" and "Act Like a Republic".

**Rural Counties in New York Are Politically Disenfranchised:** Currently, all of the political power in NYS is consolidated in Metropolitan NY City. There are 43 Democrat senatorial districts centered around the urban areas; 38 of those 43 are concentrated around NY City. As a result, 14 counties (mostly around NY City) control the other 48 counties in New York State. While the average representation of a rural county is 1/3 of a senator, each urban county has an average representation of about 3 senators. This is because, unlike the federal Constitutional model of the Senate, the NYS Senate is districted by population rather than equal representation for each county. The Senate looks exactly like its legislative counterpart,

the Assembly, but with fewer Senate districts. The NYS Senate offers no balance to the Assembly.

Statewide elections, such as governorships, are also not balanced by an electoral system, further disenfranchising the rural communities. Urban areas dominate those elections as well. The five boroughs of NYS can carry more than 50% of the total vote in NY State.

The NYS Assembly districts are also heavily concentrated in urban areas, which is natural and appropriate since they are supposed to be based on equal population; more districts will exist in urban and metropolitan areas.

Because the New York Senate, Assembly and Executive branch are all based on population, this has resulted in a severe bias in political power. If the results are biased and unfair, then the system is biased and unfair.

**We Are Guaranteed A Republican Form Of Government:** Article IV, Section 4 of the US Constitution reads, "*The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and on Application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened) against domestic Violence.*"

Why did our founders guarantee this specific form of government? Because as they rightfully believed, it is the only form of government capable of achieving their vision of a society of diverse peoples and cultures where their individual rights to life, liberty and property are protected. James Madison said this best in Fed-

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**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.***

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Allegany Chapter  
Chairman Jim Krywalski  
jkrywalski@gmail.com  
716.913.8176  
Meetings 3rd Tuesday 7:00pm  
Angelica Conservation Club

Capital District Chapter:  
Albany/Columbia/Greene/  
Schenectady/  
Rensselaer/Saratoga  
Chairman Curtis Cappellano  
curtisc@nycap.rr.com  
518.330.7732

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

Cayuga Chapter  
Jim Dishaw  
dishawjp@gmail.com  
315.255.3315

Central NY Chapter:  
Contact don6027@gmail.com

Chautauqua Chapter  
Chairman Will Conta  
716.857.0382  
will.conta@charter.net  
Meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday 7:00pm  
VFW Post 8647 Mayville

Chemung Chapter  
Contact don6027@gmail.com

## 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

Erie Chapter  
Chairman Nick Brzezniak  
beefree60@yahoo.com  
716.583.5394  
Meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 7:00pm  
Thomas E. Tehan Post 1449  
2075 Electric Ave., Buffalo

Genesee Chapter  
Chairman Jim Tuttle  
Tuttlej507@gmail.com  
716-474-4454  
Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday 7:00pm  
Sportsman Coon Club  
8770 Hopkins Rd., Batavia

Jefferson-Lewis Chapter  
Chairman C. Bruce Kingsley  
cbkingsley@tds.net  
315.649.3424  
Meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 6:30pm  
Barton & Loguidice Bldg.,  
Watertown

Monroe Chapter  
Chairman Gene Nolan  
genenolan41@gmail.com  
585.520.3821  
Meetings 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday 7:00pm  
Elks Lodge 24, Henrietta

Niagara Chapter  
Contact don6027@gmail.com

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

Ontario Chapter  
Contact Gary Zielinski  
Cdga157@aol.com  
585.396.9129

Orleans Chapter  
Chairman David Thom  
orlctychair@gmail.com  
585.589.6918  
Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 7:00pm  
Albion Free Methodist  
Church, Albion

Schoharie Chapter  
Chairman Joe Kopacz  
jkopacz04@gmail.com  
518.813.7024  
Meetings 3rd Thursday  
7:00pm Alternate venue every  
3 months

Jan/Feb/March/Jul/Aug/Sep:  
Carlisle Town Hall, Carlisle  
Apr/May/June/Oct/Nov:  
Middleburgh R&G  
Club, Middleburgh

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

Seneca Chapter  
Chairman Frank Capozzi  
fcapozzi1@rochester.rr.com  
315.568.8054  
Meetings  
N. Seneca Sportsmen's Club,  
Phelps  
[www.SCOPEny2A.org](http://www.SCOPEny2A.org)  
for meeting updates

Southern Tier Chapter  
Contact don6027@gmail.com

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

Suffolk Chapter  
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Ulster Chapter  
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Wayne Chapter  
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## FIRING LINES

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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

### RC PRODUCTIONS



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Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 7:00pm  
Marion American Legion, Marion

Wyoming Chapter  
Chairman Ken Walradt  
kjwrattman68@yahoo.com  
585.297.8203  
Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 7:00pm  
5 Point Rod & Gun Club, Wyoming

Mail: PO Box 133 Warsaw, NY 14569

Yates Chapter  
Chairman John Prendergast  
jpr3nder66@outlook.com  
315.694.0481

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erlist Paper 39: *"The first question that offers itself is, whether the general form and aspect of the government be strictly republican. It is evident that no other form would be reconcilable with the genius of the people of America... on the capacity of mankind for self-government. If the plan of the convention, therefore, be found to depart from the republican character, its advocates must abandon it as no longer defensible."*

**A Republican Form Of Government:** The historical definition of a republican form of government typically contains elements of Merriam Webster's definition, *"a government in which supreme power resides in a body of citizens entitled to vote and is exercised by elected officers and representatives responsible to them and governing according to law."* Given that some of the worst offenders of the rights of its people call themselves republics, (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Democratic People's Republic of Korea) it is important to define the republican form of government that our founders meant. And the best answer to what our founders meant by a republican form of government is the Constitution of the United States. It is the embodiment of the American definition of a Republic. Applying the principles of the United States Constitution to the structure of state government would uphold the intent of Article IV.

**Balance:** A common theme in our constitution and a mechanism for its structural toughness has been our founders' use of balance as a check on power. Although most people are aware of the use of checks and balances in the Construction, with three co-equal branches of our federal government, there are other more subtle approaches, which are key elements in our society.

Our founders recognized that much of feudal Europe consisted of City States where all political, social and economic power existed within the city, while the inhabitants of its surrounding territory ended up being serfs who benefited little from their own production. An electoral system based only on the popular vote would always consolidate power in the metropolitan areas and gravitate to the city state structure that Americans had fled Europe to escape. For this reason, they devised a representative system where power flows upward from the citizenry and used an electoral process for high office elections. And as another means of balance, they made the Legislature bi-

cameral: one House representing the people, each congressman equally apportioned by population; and a senate with equal representation for each state. These two features provide balance between the rural and urban.

**Think Like a Republic:** Correcting the deficiencies in the NY State electoral system is a difficult but necessary challenge to preserve a future for NYS and for America. It begins by understanding who is responsible for saving it and how. When we say the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, we are pledging allegiance to the *"Republic for which it stands."* *"We the People"* are ultimately responsible for preserving the republic.

Our first line of representation is county government which gets legislative, executive and judicial powers from the people. It is the "ground floor" of our republic and shares, with the people, a duty to preserve it. By Thinking Like a Republic and using the tools and the structure of the Republic to rebuild it, perhaps we can develop a plan to save it.

**Act Like A Republic:** Individual citizens must accept that it is their duty to vote and engage in the process of securing and building our Republic. Conservation Clubs, Volunteer Fire halls, Veteran Organizations, Farmers, Amish, and anyone who lives in the country who wants to hunt, fish, grow their own food, own land, heat their house with wood, have a campfire, use a tractor to work their land or simply own a gun to protect their home needs to get civically engaged in their community. Their first focus must be on the local elections - the first level of government - to ensure they are represented by people who also will protect our republic. In all cases, the best people to act on behalf of the citizens are the ones directly elected from within their communities.

With the support of the citizens, the County Government must work to protect the rights of its citizens - even from the State. Power must flow up from the people, not down where its purpose is to control the people. As difficult as it may be, the county government must accept the added responsibility of acting as a buffer and a barrier to protect the citizens and communities of the county. Passive resistance to unjust laws and demands, lawsuits on behalf of the citizens and perhaps outright non-compliance may all need to be considered. Building a coalition with

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## SCOPE's Members' Meeting

By Don Smith

On April 30<sup>th</sup>, 100 attendees at SCOPE's annual Members' Meeting in Geneva had the opportunity to hear speeches followed by question-and-answer sessions from seven political office candidates of whom 3 were featured speakers:

- NY State Gubernatorial candidate Lee Zeldin;
- NY State Attorney General candidate Mike Henry;
- 25<sup>th</sup> Congressional District candidate La'Ron Singletary.

Additional candidates with short presentations included:

- U.S. Senator candidate Diane Sare, an independent candidate for U.S. Senator running against Chuck Schumer from NY. She must get 45,000 voters' signatures to get on the November ballot;
- Republican candidate Mike Sigler in the newly-formed 22<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District. He will face an opponent in a Republican primary;
- 131<sup>st</sup> New York District Assemblyman Jeff Gallahan;
- 130<sup>th</sup> New York District Assemblyman Brian Manktelow.

All seven candidates expressed support for the 2nd Amendment and defending civilian gun ownership.

As a long-time police officer and former Rochester Police Chief, La'Ron Singletary had the most first-hand experience with the effects of the anti-2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment movements and highlighted several negative results from it. He was especially critical of the "Defund the Police"



NY State Attorney General candidate Mike Henry



Congressional candidate Mike Sigler, SCOPE Chairman Jack Prendergast and Lee Zeldin

movement, for several reasons including its negative impact on minority communities. He also said he was pro-life and that late term abortion was "unthinkable." Singletary also expressed his admiration for Governor DeSantis's work on the Covid epidemic. Singletary wants to return "checks and balances" to the nation's capital. He is opposing Congressman Joseph Morrelle, in November.

NY's AG candidate Mike Henry blasted current Attorney General Letitia James as a grandstander who does not fully support law enforcement. He said law-abiding citizens with guns are not the problem. Henry supports bail reform rollbacks and opposes letting non-citizens vote as the latter would diminish the votes of citizens. He believes that crime is the biggest problem facing New Yorkers and that opening the southern border to fentanyl traffickers will make it worse. He added that he would work with I.C.E. to resolve our nation's immigration issues.

Lee Zeldin was an unexpected but welcome addition to the meeting and he discussed a variety of topics. He condemned gun free zones as targets for criminals and criticized the use of emotional responses to tragedies for political purposes. He promised to fire District Attorneys who do not enforce the law naming Manhattan's Alvin Bragg as one example. He also supports repeal of the "Bail Reform" law passed in January 2020. Zeldin also condemned hydro-fracking fear mongering and is in favor of voter ID for elections.

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Jeff Gallahan and Brian Manktelow are both sitting New York Assemblymen seeking reelection on the Republican ticket. They have to deal with newly redrawn districts but they are not impacted by the current court



25<sup>th</sup> Congressional District candidate  
La'Ron Singletary

case on redistricting. Manktelow's new district includes Wayne, Cayuga and Oswego Counties. Gallahan's new district includes Ontario and Seneca Counties.

Various candidates warned about the disastrous one-party rule in New York and the need for voter turnout in November to change that. They pointed out that the New York Senate and Congressional maps were so partisan that they were overturned by the courts. This is a prime example of the dangers of one political party ruling in its own interests and not the interests of the people of New York.

The current court case, which threw out the redistricting map developed by a partisan legislature and signed by Governor Kathy Hochul, will impact Singletary and Sigler as they will not know what counties are in their districts until the new map is determined. Sigler's district was slated to include parts of Tompkins, Cortland, Cayuga, Seneca, Madison and Onondaga County. Singletary's district was slated to include Monroe County and a bit of Ontario County.

A presentation was made by Jack Prendergast and Jim Tuttle about the 2022 SCOPE annual banquet which will be held at Batavia Downs on September 17<sup>th</sup>. SCOPE had invited likely Democrat opponents of Singletary and Henry to also be featured speakers but they did not respond.

## "Yugo" States of America

By Tom Reynolds

Yugoslavia existed for over 70 years. In 1991, the country started breaking down into independent units and civil wars ensued; wars (plural) - not war - since each independent state fought its own wars. The wars eventually ended with six independent states being formed. During the wars, words like genocide, ethnic cleansing and mass starvation were often used and an estimated 250,000 people died.

What does that have to do with SCOPE? In this issue of Firing Lines is an article by Tracy Marisa that talks about protecting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment. She said that we have to go beyond laws, lawsuits and voting in order to be successful. To succeed, we have to change the current culture.

Divisions along ethnic, religious and historical lines broke Yugoslavia apart. These are now called identity politics. Think of the "identity politics" commonly used today: racist, white privilege, white supremacy, ideological nuts, systemic racism, capitalists, or any hyphenated Americans. These words divide us into groups that other groups can hate - or at least blame for whatever went wrong in someone's life. This is not the "Melting Pot" culture which preached assimilation and that we are re-

sponsible for our own decisions. This is the culture that destroyed Yugoslavia.

There have always been issues in America, but our strength has been moving beyond those issues. One reason for Yugoslavia's divisions was a battle fought 600 years ago. In America, does anyone hate "Indians" because of Custer's Last Stand, 146 years ago? The Japanese and Germans committed horrendous atrocities during World War II but they are now our allies. (The Japanese tried to kill my father for 2 ½ years in the Pacific and 35 years later he owned a Japanese made car.) When they first came to America, Irish, Italians and Chinese all were discriminated against but they are now mainstream Americans. (That's right, Americans! Not hyphenated Americans, just plain Americans.) It's been three generations since the civil rights activities of the 1950's and 1960's brought change. The pre-China Virus economy included record low unemployment for almost every "identity politics" group.

Why is America being Balkanized? Uri Bezmenov was a KGB defector who, in 1984, described a Russian playbook to change American culture. It looks eerily like what is happening in America, today.

**Demoralize the nation** by undermining its val-

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## Lessons from home and abroad, past and present

By Tracy Marisa

Almost sixty years ago, Ronald Reagan gave a speech that became known as “*A Time for Choosing*.” In it, he told a little story:

*Not too long ago, two friends of mine were talking to a Cuban refugee, a businessman who had escaped from Castro, and in the midst of his story one of my friends turned to the other and said, “We don’t know how lucky we are.” And the Cuban stopped and said, “How lucky you are? I had someplace to escape to.”*

And in that sentence, Reagan told us the entire story. If we lose freedom here, there’s no place to which we can escape. This is the last stand for freedom on earth.

Think about that.

At one time, people playing “what if?” might have asked the question, “*if freedom were done away with in the US, where would I go?*” They might have answered with “*Australia*” perhaps. People might well have reasoned, “*After all, we speak the same language (sort of), and have a similar culture and values.*”

But look at what happened in Australia on the heels of Covid. Almost overnight, it was transformed from what seemed like a relatively free country to a dystopian nightmare that made Covid restrictions in the US seem tame in comparison. The Australian military enforced curfews, and there were mandatory quarantine camps and displaced Covid-refugee camps. Borders between Australian states were often closed, and returning state residents could not get into their own state, which resulted in encampments springing up. For example, along the border between Victoria and New South Wales.

Suddenly, Australia didn’t seem quite as appealing as an escape. The change was genuinely shocking.

And perhaps you might have chosen Canada as an alternate destination. That is, before Prime Minister Justin Trudeau froze the bank accounts of truckers who had the audacity to use free speech to criticize his government.

And if you happen to be a fan of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment:

In Australia, a person must have a firearm license to possess or use a firearm and you have to demonstrate a “genuine reason” (which does not include self-defense) for holding a firearm license. Australia banned all semi-automatic rifles as well as all semi-automatic and pump-action shotguns.

In Canada, Trudeau and gun control advocates touted an “*assault weapons ban*” which goes beyond firearms that are typically (and ignorantly) labeled as “assault weapons” to include firearms quite commonly used by hunters and recreational shooters throughout Canada and

around the world. In essence, Trudeau banned modern sporting rifles which is the actual definition of an “assault weapon”.

So, since as Reagan observed in 1964 “there’s no place to escape to,” how do we ensure that we don’t lose freedom here?

As the primary way to maintain freedom, people on the Right have traditionally advocated keeping the size and scope of government within the bounds of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights - as the Founders intended. But that horse left the barn long ago. Even Reagan could only slow down the growth of the federal government. The last time the government actually shrank was under Calvin Coolidge. That’s because, as Reagan remarked in that same “*Time for Choosing*” speech, “*a government bureau is the nearest thing to eternal life we’ll ever see on this earth.*” And the Left never misses an opportunity to encourage people to be afraid of freedom and to see themselves as wards of the Nanny State.

What to do to maintain our freedoms then? Voting is surely important. People should absolutely be registered to vote and then actually be informed and turn out to vote for every election, from school board and village elections to federal elections. Voting definitely helps around the edges. But we’re not going to vote our way out of this because even if our fellow voters swing to the Right in this year’s elections, at some point they’ll give the Left another try.

Shall we sue the pants off them at every opportunity? The rule of law is surely important in a constitutional republic and so, to the extent that we can afford to pursue that tack, we probably should. Just remember that there was a reason why first-century Christians were admonished not to sue each other. That was because the Romans were nothing if not litigious. For them it was a competition, a thrill—they liked to ruin each other for sport, which sounds a bit like today’s Democrat party. Christians were not supposed to be like Romans.

Those of us on the Right, Christian or not, can’t just let the Left get away with murder (figuratively and sometimes literally). As with voting, we’re probably not going to sue our way out of this, either. Especially not if we, private citizens and elected officials, continue to regard members of the judiciary as though they are little gods. And particularly not if, in our haste to win, we wind up with precedents that are later used against us.

Voting and litigation, in and of themselves, are not going to fix it. But what exactly is the “it” we are trying to fix?

An adage often attributed to historian Robert Conquest states, “*Any organization not explicitly right-wing sooner or later becomes left-wing.*” “Any organization” would include churches, NGOs, schools, businesses, all

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sorts of institutions. Whether Conquest said this or not, given the history of the last couple of centuries, there would seem to be a lot of truth in it. And Andrew Breitbart (among others) liked to say that “*politics is downstream from culture.*”

That’s what the “it” is—culture. We haven’t exactly forgotten what Breitbart and Conquest were saying but we’ve gone off in other directions because what those two men were pointing to is hard to do, i.e., change the culture.

Culture in the US has been drifting left for a long time. Why? Some of it is due to human nature with its envy and greed, as noted above. But some of it is because, as Mark Bauerlein writes in an essay in *American Greatness* entitled “Leftists Aren’t Losers,” the Left is indefatigable when it comes to pushing culture leftward:

*When progressives lose, they only try harder. Defeat doesn’t demoralize them—it energizes them. They*

*have the zeal of true believers, and setbacks seem to them a species of persecution that confirms their rightness. When conservatives beat them, leftists return the next day with the same demands asserted in the same language. They have stamina and confidence and dedication. Defeat doesn’t lead to retreat. They aren’t losers.*

We on the Right have to work to change the culture and that’s hard. We have to use education and media in the ways that the Left does: to make people see freedom as desirable, not as something to be avoided at all costs. While we have to continue to vote and to litigate, most of all we have to revive the belief in freedom within ourselves, our children, and our grandchildren.

If we fail, there’s no place else to go.



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ues; especially, do away with moral values. Students taught by leftist disciples are now being 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. Does anyone believe Joe Biden’s “Disinformation Governance Board” is anything but an attempt at government censorship? Any relationship between criminals being released and the increase in crime?)

**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. Trump put America first and the media castigated him. The free market economy - Capitalism - is condemned even though it created a huge middle class with tremendous benefits. Any government wildly printing money is a recipe for inflation but Washington has no interest in stopping the printing in spite of...inflation. Crime and single parent households destabilize a society.)

**Crisis** builds on the first two building blocks in order to bring about change in the power structure. (Bring Capitalism down through government closings related to the China Virus and, while the economy is shut down, replace Capitalism with “free stuff”. In 2002, over 67% of the people eligible to join the work force were actually in it. In 2022, that Labor Participation Rate is just over 62%. Why buy the cow when you get milk for free?)

**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.

**Globalism** is a political movement, not an economic movement. Bezmenov, who was a soviet defector, pointed out that under a one world government, there is nowhere left to defect to. Today, people defect to the United States and rarely from it. No where on earth do so many people have so much freedom as in the U.S.A.

Intellectuals, journalists and educators are led to believe that they will be the leaders in this new order but they will never achieve that goal. History has shown that, under leftist governments, these people end up as prisoners – or dead - instead of powerful; politicians do not like sharing power. Lenin described these believers in socialist utopias as “Useful idiots”. Bezmenov gives specific examples of this purge by the left in Cambodia, Vietnam, Hitler’s Germany and the USSR in Poland. (Those that do not learn from history are condemned to repeat it. Those that learn from history are sitting back and letting those who did not learn from it destroy us. Unfortunately, this history lesson is not taught very much in our current, politically correct academic circles.)

When the act of an individual, (such as the police officer in Minneapolis who knelt on George Floyd’s neck), is used as a basis for charging systemic racism within all police departments (and everywhere else in America) that is wrong and nothing more than another step in balkanizing us. The left’s systemic racism’ lie is

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## New SCOPE Officers for 2022

The Shooters Committee On Political Education (SCOPE) held its annual members' meeting and quarterly Board meeting on April 30<sup>th</sup> in Geneva. The 2022-2023 state officers and board members were elected to provide representation for the membership of this long-standing grassroots organization.

Jack Prendergast was reelected to a second term as Board Chairman. A Geneva resident, Jack serves as Chairman of the Yates County Chapter of SCOPE and is the Yates County Republican Committee Chair as well as Supervisor of the Town of Benton, Yates County. Mr. Prendergast is a retired business executive with the Ferro Corporation of Cleveland, Ohio and a former faculty member at Clarkson University in Potsdam, NY.

Tom Reynolds was reelected to his third consecutive – and fourth overall – term as SCOPE's President. He has also served as its state Treasurer and he was reelected as a SCOPE At-Large Director at the Members' Meeting. He is a resident of Chemung County. Now retired, he formerly was Vice President and Treasurer of Elmira College and Chief Financial Officer for nursing homes, wholesalers and social services agencies. Tom has served on 7 other boards of directors.

Steven Getman was reelected to his second term as 1st Vice President. A resident of Schuyler County, Steven is also Chairman of the Schuyler County SCOPE

Chapter. An attorney, Steven has worked for a number of government agencies: the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (law school intern); the office of New York State Assemblyman Mike Nozzolio (college intern/volunteer); the Seneca County Public Defender, Department of Social Services, STOP-DWI, and is currently with the Schuyler County Attorney's Office. He is a former member of the House of Delegates of the New York State Bar Association and has taught Criminal Justice and Constitutional Law as an adjunct instructor at Keuka College.

Don Smith was elected 2nd Vice President. He is a resident of Wayne County and presently serves as the Chapter Chairman. Don was previously on the State Board of Directors as an At-Large Director. He is a retired teacher and businessman.

George Chipman was elected Treasurer. George is a resident of Cayuga County. He recently retired from ownership of an insurance agency. George has been a SCOPE member and on the board of the Cayuga County Chapter since 2015. He currently is the Treasurer for Cayuga County.

Gary Zielinski was elected Secretary. Gary resides in Ontario County. Gary had previously been SCOPE's Secretary from 2009 to 2016. Gary is a 20+ year SCOPE member and has been actively involved as his chapter's secretary.

Nick Massal was reelected as an At-Large Director at SCOPE's Members' Meeting. Nick is a resident of Allegany County and a former chairman of the Allegany County Chapter of SCOPE and has served as SCOPE's President and Treasurer. He presently serves on the board of directors of several organizations in the southern tier and is an active firearms instructor through the NRA and a certified Utah CCW instructor. Nick is a retired Marine and a Marine distinguished Pistol Shot. He is also active in his church as a deacon.

Dave Colburn continues in his second year as an At-Large Director. Dave is a resident of Wayne County and is a retired computer technician. He serves as the Vice Chairman of the Wayne County SCOPE Chapter and manages their web presence on Facebook. On the SCOPE web site, he assists with general administrative functions and manages the Wayne County page.

SCOPE's main business address is in Erie County.

All SCOPE officers serve without pay.

SCOPE is a New York State 501 c 4 organization whose purpose is to keep members and the public informed on issues in regards to defense of the U.S. Constitution with an emphasis on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment.



**East Hook Sportsmen Association**

**395 Cary Road, Fishkill, NY**

Saturday's 1:00 PM Trap Open to the public

## 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  
 Alfred Rod & Gun Club  
 Allegany County Federation  
 of Sportsmen  
 Allied Sportsmen of WNY  
 Almond Rod & Gun Club  
 A-ON-DO-WA-NUH  
 Sportsman Club  
 Assoc of Former NYS Troopers  
 Baldwinsville Rod & Gun Club  
 Barre Sportsmens Club  
 Barrington Rifle 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  
 Boonville Rod & Gun Club  
 Branchport Rod & Gun Club  
 Broome County Sportsmen's Assoc  
 Buckhorn Sportsmens Club  
 Burlington Flats Fish & Game Club  
 Busti Trap & Skeet Club  
 Canajoharie Forest Fish & Game Club  
 Canandaigua Sportsman's Club  
 Caribou Rifle & Pistol Club  
 Cattaraugus Rod & Gun Club  
 Chemung County Fed of Sportsmen  
 Chemung County Rod & Gun Club  
 Chesterfield Fish & Game Club  
 Chestnut Ridge Rod & Gun Club  
 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 Assoc.  
 Dutchess County  
 Sportsman Assoc.  
 Elbridge Rod & Gun Club  
 Essex County Fish & Game League

Evans Rod & Gun Club  
 Federated Sportsman's Club of  
 Cattaraugus County  
 Franklinville Conservation Club  
 Gastown Sportsmens Club  
 Genesee Co Fish & Game  
 Protective Assoc  
 Genesee Valley Conservation Club  
 Genesee/Wyoming  
 Pheasants Forever #843  
 Glen-Coe Conservation Society  
 Gouverneur Rod & Gun Club  
 Gowanda Rifle Club  
 Greenway Verona Mills  
 Fish & Game Club  
 Hamburg Rod & Gun Club  
 Harder O'Donnell  
 Post 734 American Legion  
 Hawkeye Bowman  
 Helderberg Rod & Gun Club  
 Hidden Lake Conservation Assoc.  
 Hidden Valley Lodge  
 Hoisingtons NY Ranging Co 1776  
 Holley Rod & Gun Club  
 Honeoye Fish & Game Club  
 Hornell Sportsman Club  
 Ilion Fish & Game Club  
 Indian Lake/Blue Mtn  
 Fish & Game Assoc  
 Iroquois Rod & Gun Club  
 Junior Wilson Sportsmen Club  
 Lackawanna Conservation  
 Lake Forest Sportsman Club  
 Lima Gun Club  
 Lime Lake Sportsman's Club  
 Lodi Rod & Gun Club  
 Long Lake Fish & Game Club  
 Lyons Rod & Gun 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  
 Niagara County Sportsmen's Assoc.  
 North Seneca Sportsmen Club  
 North Star Sportsman's Club  
 Northern Chautauqua  
 Rifle & Pistol Club  
 Northern Dutchess Rod & Gun Club  
 Northwoods Sportsmen Assoc.  
 NY Houndsmen Conservation Assoc.  
 Oakfield Rod & Gun Club

Oatka Fish & Game Club  
 Olean Rod & Gun Club  
 Ontario Rod & Gun Club  
 Outlet Rod & Gun Club  
 Painted Post Field & Stream Club  
 Pearl River Gun Club  
 Point Rock Fish & Game Club  
 Pulaski Police Association  
 Red Creek Conservation Club  
 Ripley Rod & Gun Club  
 Rochester Brooks Gun Club  
 Rochester Rifle Club  
 Roslyn Rifle & Revolver Club  
 Safari Club Int WNY Chapter  
 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  
 Sons of American Legion  
 Squadron 734  
 South Bristol Fish & Game Assoc.  
 South Seneca Sportsmens Club  
 Sportsmans Coon Hunters Assoc.  
 Sportsmen's Club of Clifton Park  
 Springville Field & Stream Club  
 Square Deal Sportsmen  
 Stamford Rod & Gun Club  
 Steuben Co Federation of  
 Conservation Clubs  
 Syracuse Pistol Club  
 Tonawandas Sportsmens Club  
 Trumansburg Rifle & Pistol Club  
 Twin City Shooting Club  
 Vernon Rod & Gun Club  
 Veterans of America Gun Club  
 Walden Sportsmen's Club  
 Waterloo Rifle & Pistol Club  
 Wayne Co Federation  
 of Sportsmens Clubs  
 Wellsville Rod & Gun Club  
 West Falls Conservation Society  
 Westfield Fish & Game Club  
 Williamson Conservation  
 & Sporting Club  
 Wolcottsville Sportsman's Club  
 Wyoming County Conservation  
 Wyoming County Wildlife Federation  
 Yates County Federation of  
 Conservation Clubs  
 Yates County Sportsmens Assoc.

## SCOPE Chapter Activities

By Susan Maressa

To find your county's meeting information go to [SCOPEny2a.org/calendar](https://SCOPEny2a.org/calendar) or go to your chapter's page of the website [SCOPEny2a.org/chapters](https://SCOPEny2a.org/chapters).

As this is an election year, chapter activities are especially important as we need to regain control of the legislative branches from the radical left, who are intent on destroying 2A. 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, to register and motivate voters and ultimately to regain and maintain our liberties. 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](mailto:don6027@gmail.com).

**Members Meeting:** The Annual SCOPE Member Meeting was held in Geneva Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. Members heard from seven political office candidates, (see the *Members' Meeting* article in this issue of Firing Lines) had a nice lunch, and received SCOPE updates, with an emphasis on the upcoming September banquet. The Henry Raffle drawing was held with the winning ticket, #2450, being sold by Steuben County; Congratulations to the winner!

The following is an update of some of our chapter's activities.

**Allegany County:** Held their officer elections during their March meeting. The upcoming Member Meeting was discussed, as was the upcoming SCOPE banquet; ideas were passed around for items to be donated for the silent auction.

Allegany SCOPE will attend the Fillmore Fun Fest which is happening Memorial Day weekend. The chapter will have their .270 raffle tickets to sell.

In April, a new venue was secured for the remainder of 2022; The Angelica Conservation Club, located at 1 Brooklyn Street in Angelica, NY.

The chapter donated a crabapple tree to the Angelica American Legion which then raffled it and received \$500. That money will be divided between the Angelica Trap Team and other entities. Donations to Allegany Co. Trap Teams was also discussed and tabled until more information is received.

**Cattaraugus County:** Met at the Little Valley American Legion on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Results from the Seneca - Allegany Sportsmen's Show were discussed. The Little Valley Volunteer Fire Department show is upcoming and the chapter's volunteer schedule was made.

The guest speaker for the meeting was Cattaraugus County Legislator Norman Marsh. Mr. Marsh emphasized the importance of voting in the upcoming elections. All of the 17 County Legislators are up for re-election in 2023. Hunters and gun owners need to get out and vote!

**Cayuga County:** March 10<sup>th</sup>, the Cayuga Chapter of SCOPE met at A.T. Walleys in Auburn. Speakers were present.

Brian Schenck is running for re-election as Sheriff. His department is working on clearing the backlog of pistol permit applications and has reduced the waiting list.

Brittany Antonacci spoke about her qualifications for office of District Attorney. She noted problems with the 2020 bail reform legislation.

Brandon Williams spoke about his qualifications for office. He is running for Congress in the 22<sup>nd</sup> District.

Tickets are now available for the Cayuga chapter *Great American Outdoor* raffle. Prizes are: a Henry Goldenboy; Wicked Ridge Cross-bow package; and an Estwing Tactical Tomahawk. All prizes are made in the USA. The drawing will be held on Veterans Day.

**Genesee County:** Met on March 8<sup>th</sup> at the Sportsman's Coon Club. A donation was made to the Oatka Fish & Game High School Trap Team from money brought in from raffles and event tables. The upcoming SCOPE banquet was discussed as Genesee County is hosting the event. Also discussed the upcoming Pheasants Forever banquet at the Alexander Fire Hall.

During the April meeting, spring events were discussed; the chapter was invited to set up a table at the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Firing Pin WNY *Shooting Sports Recruitment* and volunteers were scheduled for that and many other events.

There was discussion about the upcoming election and the NY State Supreme Court decision on redistricting. Also discussed was that of Multi-State pistol permits; some states no longer send renewal notices so permit holders must pay attention.

**Schoharie County:** March meeting was held at the Carlisle Town Hall. Officer elections

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**Pat Herberger, SPHR, CITRMS**  
Independent Associate  
Employee Benefits, Small Business and  
CDLP Specialist



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linkedin.com/in/herberger

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were held. A reminder was given: Citizens are the boss of politicians. We have to be more involved with emailing and writing to our elected officials, letting them know how we feel about legislation.

A representative from the Schoharie County Republican Party spoke about the upcoming elections and gave a candidate summary.

The next 3 meetings will be held at the Middleburgh Rod & Gun Club.

**Schuyler County:** March meeting was held at the Montour Falls Moose Lodge where Chairman Steve Getman presented the Moose Lodge with a donation check for their continued support of the chapter's meetings and activities.



Left: Mike Donnelly, Moose Lodge Treasurer  
Center: Schuyler Chairman Steven Getman  
Right: Larry Scruggs, Moose Lodge Administrator

Legal updates for May have been posted on line; included is a list of proposed gun-related bills. At a federal level, ghost guns, a new ATF director, and Biden's latest attempt to create a national gun owner registry were discussed. All of these legal updates can be found at: <https://scopeny2a.org/Schuyler>

**Steuben County:** On March 7<sup>th</sup>, held their meeting at the Bath Rod & Gun Club. They discussed upcoming member-only raffles, incentives and future prizes. Upcoming voting and voter registration for Steuben County was discussed in detail; out of 64,000 registered voters, only 16,000 voted in the last election. The public needs to realize that voting affects them directly.

The meeting on March 21<sup>st</sup> was devoted solely to speaker Congresswoman Claudia Tenney. Claudia is now running to fill the position left vacant by Congressman

Tom Reed. The district, however, is subject to change due to the court ruling.

Tenney talked about personal carry gun laws and the need for the Supreme court to rule on the same.

She has drawn up Articles of Impeachment for President Biden.

She is in favor of term limits. She stated the largest problems with crime in New York come from Defund the Police, Bail reform etc. She stated she works on Veterans issues and welcomes anyone contacting her on any issue which may concern them.

She talked about upcoming elections and time she spent with the 45th president and his interest in how the workings of the government can be used to get things done

The Steuben County SCOPE May newsletter was sent out, full of upcoming dates and events. You can see these at: [www.SCOPEny2a.org/Steuben](http://www.SCOPEny2a.org/Steuben)

**Wayne County:** Met at the Marion American Legion Post on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. The chapter election of officers was held at this meeting.

There was a discussion about current bills in the Assembly and Senate. Senator Pam Helming is requesting feedback on the Ammo tax bill; her email address was given and members were encouraged to contact her with thoughts.

Assemblyman Brian Manktelow discussed an upcoming bill regarding stringent record keeping for gun sales and how this may result in registration of long-guns.

Sheriff Milby attended the meeting and requested citizens to show their appreciation and support for local law enforcement officers.

**Yates County:** Held their chicken & biscuit dinner; as always, it was a great success. The dinner raises funds to support Yates County high school clay target leagues.

The Yates County SCOPE 2022 Agenda with upcoming meeting dates and events can be found at: [www.SCOPEny.org/Yates](http://www.SCOPEny.org/Yates)



## SCOPE member businesses

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

AM PM Bail Bonds  
PO Box 357  
Riverhead, NY, 11901  
631-369-5980

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

Ashville General Store  
P.O. Box 199  
Ashville, NY, 14710  
716-763-3369

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

B.D. Enterprises  
4514 Saeli Rd  
Savannah, NY, 13146  
315-754-6335

Beecroft's LLC  
11106 Rt 40  
Schaghticoke, NY, 12154  
518-753-4402

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

Brocton Arch Antiques  
22 East Main Street  
Brocton, NY, 14716  
716-969-1733

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

Buffalo Grill N Ale House  
603 Dingens Street  
Buffalo, NY, 14206  
716-768-4336

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

Dick Ferraioli/Guilderland Pump  
6230 Hawes Rd  
Altamont, NY, 12009  
518-861-8733

Dick's Country Store Gun  
City & Music Oasis  
7429 Rt 11  
Churubusco, NY, 12923  
518-497-3253

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

FG Rayburn Mason Contractors, Inc  
3791 Routes 5 & 20  
Canandaigua, NY, 14424  
585-394-9360

Fine Touch Painting  
95 Parkway  
North Chili, NY, 14514  
585-455-2405

Finger Lakes Ammunition  
4130 West Lake Rd  
Auburn, NY, 13021  
315-730-4102

Fire Mark Insurance Agency, Inc.  
PO Box 39  
Cobleskill, NY, 12043  
518-234-2121

Frankie's Removal Service  
11406 Partridge Rd.  
Holland, NY, 14080  
716-722-JUNK

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

Golden Coin Laundry  
582 E Main Street  
Batavia, NY, 14020  
585-344-0040

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

J. Kozel & Son, Inc.  
1150 Scottsville Rd.  
Rochester, NY, 14624  
585-436-9807

Jae Tax, Inc.  
1401 Stone Rd. 101A  
Rochester, NY, 14615  
585-319-5489

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

Louies Gun Shop  
367 W. Morris St  
Bath, NY, 14810  
607-776-4228

Precision Armament  
4110 Niles Hill Rd.  
Wellsville, NY 14895  
585-593-4925

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

(Continued on page 13)

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

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

Shoff Farms  
2296 Haven Corners Rd  
PennYan, NY, 14527  
315-536-9565

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

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

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

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

Please use SCOPE  
business members

Thunderbird Arms  
714 Broadway  
Darien Center, NY, 14040  
15855473762



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

# Maddie J's

## Hours of operation:

Monday – Saturday

6:00am – 2:00pm

Sunday

7:00am – 2:00pm

## Located:

7 Old Main Street

Arkport, NY 14807



### 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

## SMOKE and MIRRORS

By Richard Rossi

We seem to be living in an age of deception. Who or what can you really trust? Do we dare to believe anything we hear or read? Is what we see on TV or on the Social Media Networks real? The message from the Wizard of Oz, "*Don't look behind the curtain*", is as relevant today as it was in 1939.

We no longer have a true News Media. Facts are irreverent to the story, especially when the facts do not fit the "correct" political agenda. Do we dare take anything at face value - without actually doing our own research? The old saying "*Let the buyer beware*" is still relevant today.

We are constantly bombarded with so-called news and what biased "fact checkers" tell us is fake. Now, Joe Biden wants to create George Orwell's "Truth Ministry" to ensure that we only hear the government's interpretation of what is the truth.

Most politicians seem to never change - they will tell you anything to get elected and hope you will never find out the truth!

I read a quote in [America's Freedom](#) (NRA Magazine - May issue). They were interviewing Lt. Governor Winsome Sears of Virginia. The quote struck home: "*Our government is WE THE PEOPLE - not we the politicians, not we the elite.*"

Take our Second Amendment Rights and Freedom for example. We constantly heard "Gun Control" which has now evolved into "We need to take illegal guns off the streets." When you actually think about these statements - what are they saying? Or to be more precise, what are they not saying about personal responsibility.

What is gun control? A gun is an object that has no control over its use. However, to anti-2A politicians and media it is an out-of-control 'thing' that is killing people. Where is the individual's responsibility for his/her actions? Somehow, the criminal is the innocent bystander.

These anti-2A politicians believe that making

more laws, restrictions, bans and regulations that will only impact law-abiding gun owners, will solve our crime problem. When anything happens, they quickly broadcast that message, loud and clear, playing on our fears and sympathy; if we ban or restrict guns our problems will disappear. Trust them, this will work - this time - even though it has never worked before! Keep playing the same song and expecting different results. If only they could convince criminals to start following the law.

The latest fad is getting illegal guns off our city streets and out of neighborhoods. Yep, those illegal guns are running around killing innocent children and seniors. Again, they are at war with an object and not the criminals who use it.

Along with this agenda, we hear messages like "Defund the Police". Where is this rational, if you actually want to reduce crime in our nation? The individuals that can actually make a difference in fighting crime are being attacked for doing their jobs.

There is another group, besides politicians and the media, of whom we must become increasingly aware, if we are to preserve our constitutional rights; our justice system.

Our Justice System is supposed to see that criminals are held responsible for their actions. Unfortunately, we have liberals in authority that believe their "social justice" policies will solve the crime problem. We can thank our D.A.'s and judges for failing our society. These individuals are one of the root causes of crime in America. Our Judicial system must bear the blame for not ensuring that our Constitution and Bill of Rights are enforced.

These are the individuals that you need to really research before you vote in any election. Be an informed voter.

In closing I would like to leave you with a very scary quote from former Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes, which reemphasizes the need for an informed voter: "*...the Constitution is what the judges say it is...*" I thought it was supposed to be what the framers of the Constitution said it was?

(Continued from page 3)

other counties with similar issues will also be necessary. An "unofficial" republic of counties could, through cooperation, take positions on key legislation passed by the state, to show solidarity among the counties in opposition to NY City controlled laws and mandates from Albany. In effect, the roll-call of counties would represent the voice of a properly districted Senate.

**Be A Republic:** We will be a republic if the people really want it, if the counties really take their oaths and allegiances seriously and if we work together. Not as political rivals, but as civic-minded citizens focused on living our lives as we choose, not as NY City dictates. And NY

City cannot stop us. In the end, will it mean we restore representative balance through unofficial means, or through official steps by restructuring our state senate properly (overturning of "Reynolds's v. Sims") or "Dividing NYS"?, I do not know. But it is clear that we will not have a functioning Republic if this is not fixed.

[www.SCOPEny2A.org](http://www.SCOPEny2A.org)

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disproven by the fact that the police chiefs in two riot torn cities, Seattle and Dallas, were black women. This fact should have been publicized by the main stream media as a rebuttal to the charge of systemic racism. But, when the Dallas police chief said, in response to violence, *“If you break the law, we will arrest you”*, there were calls to fire her. Rebuttals to the charge of “systemic racism” cannot be tolerated by the left, if they are to successfully balkanize America.

Progressives, in order to gain power, are trying to split America apart through identity politics. In essence, to Balkanize us. There can be no doubt that their goal is to create a new Yugoslavia here and then break up the “Yugo States”. Remember, Barack Obama promised to fundamentally transform the U.S.A. and Joe Biden seems intent on following through on that agenda.

There are many issues to consider when casting your ballot this November. Certainly, preserving our Constitution and, in particular, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment are important. We must also keep in mind that beyond just our Constitution, our culture and our way-of-life are under attack on many fronts. Do candidates mindlessly repeat whatever is in fashion about identity politics in order to balkanize us? Those are not people operating in the best interests of the America we love and will defend.

Ronald Reagan warned that freedom is only one generation away from extinction and he also warned against blaming society for the acts of one individual. 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. The first step is to register and vote. And while doing that, fight back against attempts to destroy our culture by Balkanizing America.

## Please SHARE

A reminder from Ed Borkowski  
from 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  
2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment and how current  
legislation will affect our future  
rights.



## Suicide Bomber in the White House

What's the difference between a Suicide Bomber and Joe Biden? A Suicide Bomber only gets one chance at causing destruction but Joe Biden tries over and over and over.

It would be hard for anyone to deny that Biden's policies, both here and abroad, have been failures. But don't believe me, check every political poll that's been taken in the past few months; well over the majority of Americans believe Biden has been a failure.

Faced with policy failures and what seems like a coming disastrous November election for Biden's party, a change in direction would be appropriate. Not Joe – or whoever is actually running the country. He's / they're doubling down on their anti-2A policies.

During the last two years, record numbers of gun purchases were made in America. The 2nd Amendment is back in style. Ignoring this movement, Biden, earlier, nominated David Chipman, who is a fiercely anti-2A zealot, to head the *Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives* (BATFE). Sentiment was so strong against this anti-2A nominee that Biden eventually withdrew the nomination.

Wouldn't it make more political and common sense to nominate someone who is non-political and will not try to force anti-2A regulations on the American people; just follow the law, not try to write it. Some one like, for instance, Marvin Richardson who was the Acting Director of BATFE. A 30 years veteran of the agency, he was recently demoted and replaced as the Acting Director. What was the reason? Perceptions inside the Biden administration were that he was too friendly toward the gun industry. The New York Times wrote about complaints from anti-2A activists that Richardson was "an industry-friendly subordinate pumping the brakes" on President Joe Biden's progressive gun-control initiatives.

Before we get to the nominee for permanent BATFE Director, a few words about Biden. At a recent bill signing celebration he said, "...it's going to sound bizarre, I support the Second Amendment". Obviously, Joe is as confused about his 2nd Amendment policies as he is about all his other policies.

But is he confused or he can't stop lying? During his State of the Union Address, he said, "*Repeal the liability shield that makes gun manufacturers the only industry in America that can't be sued*". That statement's a lie! What he was referring to is the *Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act* (PLCAA) that protects gun makers from frivolous lawsuits, but not from the common liability suits that can be brought against gun manufacturers as well as almost all other manufacturers. So, gun manufacturers can be sued, but not frivolously.

At that same bill signing where he claimed to be

pro 2A, Biden got cleverer about the way he phrases his infamous lie. He said that gun manufacturers "*have more immunity than any other American industry*". Technically, that's partially true as the PLCAA shields only the gun industry, so it does have one additional item granting it *more immunity*. That's almost a basis to try to defend that latest remark. Almost. However, Biden's latest remark is also partially a lie since other industries, such as the pharmaceutical industry which developed the Covid vaccine, got lawsuit immunity tailored only to their industry. So, other industries also get immunized. But the purpose behind Biden's statement is still the same; to falsely convince the average American that the gun industry can't be sued.

Now, he's doubling down by nominating someone for permanent BATFE Director who is described as equally anti-2A as Chipman.

In conflict with Biden's self-proclaimed support of 2A, he just nominated Steve Dettlebach to head BATFE. Dettlebach has spent most of his legal career working in the "Swamp" with occasional, short, private practice interludes during republican presidencies; he worked on "*regulatory matters*", which usually means he lobbied the "Swamp".

Biden has nominated a lifetime "Swamp denizen" to lead a "Swamp Bureau". That won't end well for the American people. Biden claimed Dettlebach was a "*noncontroversial candidate*," even though he holds virtually the same policy positions on 2A as the previous nominee.

Some people in NY formerly believed that Attorney Generals are supposed to be non-political and pursue the law even handedly. That is, they may have believed that until Letetia James became NY's Attorney General and put anti-2A politics above the law. In 2018, the same year James was elected NY's Attorney General, Dettlebach lost in his bid to be elected Ohio's Attorney General. Dettlebach and James ran somewhat parallel anti-2A campaigns, where Dettlebach promised: an Assault Weapons Ban; Universal Background Checks; gun confiscation for misdemeanor crimes and for those dealing with mental health issues; closing the "gun show loophole"; and disarming teachers, which keeps schools as "gun free" targets. Politics trumps the law for leftist Attorney Generals.

At various other times, while holding positions in and out of the "Swamp", Dettlebach has published op-eds in favor of leftist anti-2A positions such as Universal Background Checks. In one op-ed, he argued that a background check system will not lead to a federal gun registry (which he admits is illegal under current law.) This ignores that BATFE has been converting out-of-business Firearm Transaction Records (Form 4473s) and Acquisition and Disposition Logs into a digital searchable database.

Will Dettlebach discontinue what he admits is an illegal activity? It's as likely as the-oceans-are-rising-

(Continued on page 17)

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alarmist Barack Obama will stop buying beach front property.

Joe Biden may be willing to go down with the ship but other politicians, who are anti-2A, may not be as suicidal and might be willing to work behind the scenes to try and save the November elections. (Working behind the scenes has come to mean begging Joe Manchin to save the Democrat Party from itself.) Let the NY Senators know how much we oppose Dettlebach's nomination and these continued assaults on our liberties.

And remember, in November, who supported Dettlebach.



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### **The Well Armed Woman**

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month  
[twawrochesterny@gmail.com](mailto:twawrochesterny@gmail.com)

*The following meet September to late March:*

### **Junior Precision** practice & USA – CMP Matches

Sunday & Tuesday evening 7-9pm  
[juniors@RochesterRifleclub.org](mailto:juniors@RochesterRifleclub.org)

### **Sporterifle**

Thursday evening 7-9pm & Juniors – Sunday 2-4pm  
\*Juniors ages 12-19 please pre-schedule range time/ equipment use  
[dvogel@sporterifle.org](mailto:dvogel@sporterifle.org)

### **Community Pistol League**

Wednesdays 5-8pm  
[cpl@RochesterRifleclub.org](mailto:cpl@RochesterRifleclub.org)

## **PROPOSED FEDERAL GUN RELATED LAWS**

HOUSE SENATE

### **HR0645 SB0045 - OPPOSE**

Educational institutions receiving Elementary and Secondary Education Grants may not use these grants to procure firearms or train in the use of firearms.

### **HR0748 SB1235 - OPPOSE**

Requirement for storage of firearms in residences if someone under 18 or someone ineligible to possess a firearm could possibly gain access to the firearm. Fines or a crime depending on circumstances. DOJ will give preferences to states enacting similar laws. The wording is similar to the SAFE Act.

### **HR0825 SB1028 - OPPOSE**

Authorizes the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to conduct or support research on firearms safety or gun violence prevention. Puts aside \$50 million per year from 2022-2027

### **NONE SB0183 - OPPOSE**

Inform FBI about people investigated for terrorism who submit NICS check. To provide appropriate information to Federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies, pursuant to investigating terrorism, and for other purposes. Note: definition of "investigated for terrorism" and "for other purposes" could be easily abused by DC Swamp.

### **NONE SB0292 - OPPOSE**

Mandates that states have Extreme Risk Protective Orders for up to 12 months. The wording in this bill is duplicated in the NYS Safe Act.

### **NONE SB0525 - SUPPORT**

Revises criminal provisions related to interstate transportation of firearms & ammo. The bill prohibits the arrest or detention of an individual for a state or local firearm or ammunition violation unless there is probable cause. This bill facilitates interstate transportation of firearms and ammo.

### **NONE SB0529 - OPPOSE**

Establishes new background check requirements for firearm transfers between private parties (i.e. unlicensed individuals). It prohibits a firearm transfer between private parties unless a licensed gun dealer, manufacturer, importer first takes possession of the firearm to conduct a background check. The prohibition does not apply to certain firearm transfers, such as a gift between spouses in good faith.

### **NONE SB0591 - OPPOSE**

Prohibits a licensed gun dealer from transferring a firearm to an unlicensed person. Current law permits an FFL to transfer a firearm to an unlicensed person if a submitted background check remains incomplete after three business days.

### **HR8 NONE - OPPOSE**

Background checks act of 2021. Expands NICS background check to every firearm sale and transfer, even temporary transfers. Very partisan Democratic bill.

### **HR0030 SB878 - OPPOSE**

Gun Trafficking Prohibition Act. Limits 3rd party firearm purchases. Existing laws cover this.

### **HR0038 NONE - SUPPORT**

Concealed Carry Interstate Reciprocity Act. Facilitates Concealed Carry between states.

### **HR0095 NONE - SUPPORT**

Hearing Protection Act. Removes suppressors / silencers from the definition of firearms under National Firearms Act

### **HR0121 NONE - OPPOSE**

Gun Violence Reduction Resources Act of 2021. Hire an additional 200 BATFE agents.

### **HR0125 NONE - OPPOSE**

Not Sorry Act of 2021. Modifies firearms-related background check requirements for transfers involving a

semiautomatic firearm, suppressor, armor-piercing ammunition, or large capacity ammunition magazine. 7 day waiting period on transfers of semi-auto's (and others).

### **HR0127 NONE - OPPOSE**

Sabika Sheikh Firearm Licensing and Registration Act. Federal licensing of firearms ownership. Establishes a publicly available database of firearms. Also prohibits the possession of certain ammo and large capacity ammo feeding devices. DOJ shall issue a license if the individual is 21 years of age or older and undergoes a criminal background check and a psychological evaluation and completes a certified training course and has an \$800 annual premium insurance policy.

### **HR0130 NONE - OPPOSE**

Kimberly Vaughan Firearm Safe Storage Act. Establishes a federal statutory framework to regulate the storage of firearms and ammo on residential premises.

### **HR0135 NONE - NO POSITION**

Accidental Firearms Transfers Reporting Act of 2021. Requires the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to report to Congress on the number of firearm transfers when an FFL submits a background check through the NICS System and NICS fails to respond within three business days and the licensed gun dealer completes the transfer.

### **HR0167 NONE - OPPOSE**

To prohibit the transfer of a firearm at a gun show by a person who is not an FFL. Only FFL's could transfer firearms at gun shows.

### **HR0194 NONE - SUPPORT**

Report on NICS check denials of:  
(1) firearm transfer denials issued by the NICS that are referred to the BATFE for investigation.  
(2) prosecutions resulting from such investigations

*(Continued on page 19)*

*(Continued from page 18)*

(3) firearms recovered by the BATFE in cases in which a denial was issued by the system after a firearm was transferred.

**HR0225 NONE - SUPPORT**

Allow interstate transportation of firearms or ammo. Comprehensively address the interstate transportation of firearms or ammo

**HR0355 NONE - SUPPORT**

Illegal Alien NICS Alert Act. Notify ICE if illegal alien submits a NICS Check. Requires the NICS system to notify enforcement agencies when the NICS system indicates that a prospective firearm transferee is illegally or unlawfully in the United States.

**HR0405 NONE - OPPOSE**

Lead Endangers Animals Daily Act of 2021. No lead ammo on federal lands. Directs the Department of the interior to issue final regulations prohibiting the discharge of any firearms using lead ammo on all waters under the jurisdiction and control of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

**HR0647 NONE - OPPOSE**

Interstate Firearms Sales Act. No interstate long gun sales. Restricts the sale or transfer of shotguns and rifles across state lines

**HR0716 NONE -SUPPORT**

To promote accountability and transparency in future executive orders. 30 day public notification and reporting on Executive Orders concerning gun rights. President must notify Congress and the public before issuing executive orders relating to the constitutional right of law-abiding individuals in the United States to own, carry, and use firearms.

**HR0880 NONE - OPPOSE**

Firearm Safety Act of 2021. Put firearms under Consumer Product Safety Commission. Allows the Consumer Product Safety Commission to issue safety standards for firearms and components.

**HR0882 NONE - NO POSITION**

Keeping Guns From High-Risk Individuals act. Prohibit sale / transfer of firearm to high-risk individuals. Expands the categories of persons who are prohibited from shipping, transporting, receiving, or possessing firearms or ammunition.

**HR0933 NONE - SUPPORT**

Home Defense and Competitive Shooting Act of 2021. No funds for anti 2A research. Remove short barrel rifles (rifles of less than 16 inches in length) from the definition of firearms for purposes of National Firearms Act.

**HR1004 NONE - OPPOSE**

Firearm Risk Protection Act of 2021. Requires liability insurance to buy firearm. Establishes requirements for gun purchasers and gun owners to be covered by a qualified liability insurance policy.

**HR1006 NONE - OPPOSE**

Gun Show Loophole Closing Act of 2021. NICS check on all gun show sales. Establishes new requirements regarding firearm transfers at gun shows.

**HR1027 NONE - SUPPORT**

Safe Bases Act. Permits armed forces to carry concealed on military bases. Provides statutory authority for the Department of Defense (DOD) to allow a service member to carry a concealed firearm while on any military installation.

**HR1446 NONE - OPPOSE**

Enhanced Background Checks Act of 2021. Expands NICS check deadline beyond 3 days. No NICS response can suspend a gun sale from 20 days to indefinitely.

**HR1454 NONE - OPPOSE**

Ghost Guns Are Guns Act. Firearm assembly kits to be considered firearms. Broadens the definition of firearm for purposes of federal firearms laws. Specifically, it includes as a firearm any firearm kit from which a firearm may be readily assembled.

**HR1477 NONE - OPPOSE**

Undetectable Firearms Modernization Act. Modernize undetectable firearms act of 1988. Revises the federal statutory framework regulating the manufacture, possession, sale, import, shipment, delivery of firearms detectable by walk-through metal detectors after the removal of grips, stocks, and magazines.

**HR1567 NONE - SUPPORT**

Police Officers Protecting Children Act. Allow L E O's & retired L E O's to carry firearm in school zone. Specifies that certain active and retired law enforcement officers who are authorized to carry firearms are not subject to the federal prohibition on possessing (or discharging) a firearm in a school zone.

**HR6225 NONE - OPPOSE**

Federal Firearm Licensee Act. Adds significant bureaucratic security and reporting requirements to FFL's.

**HR3960 NONE - SUPPORT**

Brian A. Terry Memorial Eliminate the ATF Act. To eliminate the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and remove firearm restrictions on lawful gun owners and provide funds to surviving families of border patrol agents killed as a result of Operation Fast and Furious.

**NONE SB675 - OPPOSE**

Requires the Department of Justice to notify state and local law enforcement authorities following a firearms-related background check that results in a denial. Also requires reports on denials to Congress.

Note: Opens door to investigating all NICS denials even though 90%+ are later overturned.



## Lyons Rod & Gun Club



656 Leach Road, Lyons, NY

Lyons offers trapshooting of course, but did you also know we have an indoor pistol-rifle range? The range is heated and well lit. Open shooting on Sun. mornings 9:00 til Noon, small bore rifle only.

We also offer an outdoor range for rifle, high cal. pistol, or slug sighting. *Stop and check out all we have to offer the shooter and non-shooter!*

### Club Hours

Wednesday: 3:00-11:00

Thursday: 3:00-11:00

Friday: 4:00-11:00

Saturday: 12:00-11:00

Sunday: 10:00-9:00



## 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

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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.

## GOAL ALMOST ACCOMPLISHED

By Attilio Contini

On May 2<sup>nd</sup> someone leaked a draft of the Supreme Court's decision concerning the Roe vs. Wade case. The ramifications of this are serious and far reaching.

Benjamin Franklin told us, "We gave you a Republic if you can keep it". It appears we have lost it!

As Franklin pointed out, we are a Republic and not a Democracy. But the Democrat Party and the government educational system have told us, for almost a century, that we are a Democracy. Unfortunately, democratic forms of government have a history of degenerating into Mob Rule and Mobocracy. Now, we are degenerating into mob rule. Prominent office holders, Congressmen, Senators, and even the President incite their leftist, extremist friends to riot, and threaten anyone who disagrees with them, including our Supreme Court Justices. They hope that mob rule will influence the current decision concerning Roe v Wade.

We still have elections and elect people who we think will represent our interests. Unfortunately, they rarely do that. They usually promote their own interests and agenda. Our government has been infiltrated by criminal, corrupt, seditious, tyrannical, radical Marxist extremists, who are deliberately destroying our government and economic systems. They answer to no one and do the bidding of the international "Globalists".

FOXNEWS, MAXNEWS, and a few Conservative politicians complain about what is going on but nothing is done to stop it. Meanwhile, office holders - with the help of the news media and big tech - belittle, name call, intimidate, and silence anyone who stands up for Freedom, Liberty, and Our Constitutional Rights. To question their authority is considered - by them - unpatriotic and treasonous. Something is definitely wrong with this picture.

Thirty years ago, when I was a County Legislator, Republicans and Democrats worked together for the common good of all. Fiscal Conservatives and financial Liberals could compromise. Today people ask, "*why don't Democrats and Republicans compromise*". My answer is, how can there be compromise when the left has moved so far from traditional American values? We actually should be grateful there is so little compromise, because every time there is a deal, the Republicans are taken to the cleaners. The Democrats are masters of deceit and, even when they are wrong, they stick to their guns. Republicans? Right or wrong - not so much.

Speaking of guns, they want to take ours away from us, but they plan to and will use the government's guns against us, to force their views on us. Not very de-

mocratic of them! They espouse far left philosophy that is Anti-Constitutional, Anti-American, and downright Marxist. They refuse to tolerate objections to their agenda and label Republicans and Conservatives as extremist, unpatriotic and criminals. Is it possible for anyone who loves this country and cherishes our freedom to make a deal with the likes of them? Should we even consider compromising with people who are infringing on our constitutional rights and are governing like a totalitarian dictatorship?

How did we get to this point? These people are, in reality, enemies of our country and everything for which it stands. How did we reach the point where subversives are allowed to run for and hold public office? Are security checks conducted anymore? You would think someone in the FBI, DOJ, CIA, NSC, NIA, State Department or the Defense Department would take Security Clearances seriously. As former President Trump said, "*The Swamp needs to be drained*". It has become obvious to the casual observer that almost every agency of our Federal Government is so infested with seditious subversives that it is now impossible to clean house. Trump tried and he failed. Too many people, who he trusted, turned on him and undercut him! Don't get me wrong, Trump did a lot of good. Unfortunately, in a couple of days, Biden undid almost everything Trump accomplished.

What needs to be done? The first step is to rid Washington of politicians who would enlarge the Swamp. This would probably depopulate most of congress and the Executive Branch. And when we find a true American, we need to support them. And yes, we may still have to vote for some "lesser of two evils" but we also need to hold their feet-to-the-fire. Imagine a legislature where the majority put America first.



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 We defend the Constitution  
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**www.SCOPEny2a.org**

**Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

*Batavia Downs*

8315 Park Road, Batavia, NY 14020

Come join us for our 2022 Annual SCOPE Banquet at Batavia Downs.

- ⇒ 50/50 drawings
- ⇒ silent auction
- ⇒ 5 Gun raffle drawing

Doors open at 4:00 PM for a cash bar and hors d'oeuvres.

6:00 PM will be a sit down dinner of steak, pork or salmon.

This is your opportunity to meet and talk to other 2nd Amendment and Constitutional supporters; to meet with candidates and see where they stand on the issues that are most important to you and to our future generations.

*\*Speakers will be announced soon\**



**2022 SCOPE Banquet Ticket Order Form:**      *Tickets are \$55.00 Each*

Attendee Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* You Must Select One Option (per person) for your meal \*\***

- Steak       Salmon       Pork

Tickets Ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

2022



# Save The 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment S.C.O.P.E. 5 Gun Raffle

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[www.SCOPEny2a.org](http://www.SCOPEny2a.org)

5 winners chosen  
prizes given in order drawn  
cash option is \$250.00 on all prizes

Tickets are **\$10.00** each  
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①  Winchester Model - 70 'Super Grade' Walnut Stock with Scope, 7mm -08  
SCOPE: Sig Sauer 3-9 x 40

②  Browning X-Bolt – “Stalker” – Synthetic Stock –with Scope, 270 Cal.  
SCOPE: Sig Sauer 3-9 x 40

③  Bergara B-14 “Hunter” – Bolt action, Synthetic Stock with Scope, 6.5 Creedmore SCOPE:  
Bushnell Banner Scope 3-9 x 40

④  Henry 22 Mag, Blue, Lever Action

⑤  American Tactical Inc (ATI) 12 Ga. Over/Under with 5 Chokes, Turkish Walnut

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

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