

The Member Activist

Assignment 2010-III

By Christopher Lane
Grass Roots Coordinator

Dear member activists,
The 2010 legislative session is fully underway in Albany, and the main topic of discussion is the state's budget deficit. Anti-gun legislation has remained in the wings, and we were hopeful that it would stay out of sight, and buy us the time we need to rally our compatriots for the election this November. But the gun prohibitionists from the real seat of power (NYC) seem unable to focus on their true duty to the state, and once again have begun passing legislation set on chipping away at our natural right to keep and bear arms.

Your third assignment for 2010 is to focus your efforts on four bills. Two of these bills require your staunch opposition, and two need your strongest support. After familiarizing yourself with these bills by reading the text below, please call, fax, and/or write your representative and respectfully ask them to oppose or support these bills accordingly.

All member activists should **challenge** the following bills currently in the New York legislature:

A6468C/S6005A Micro-stamping for semiautomatic pistol sales using unproven technology.

NY Assembly Member Michelle Schimel, of Long Island, has unfortunately succeeded in passing her assembly bill mandating that all new semiautomatic pistols sold NYS be equipped with microstamping technology. This bill will now be routed to the state senate where Senator and Codes Committee Chairman Eric Schneiderman has a companion bill ready for consideration. In theory, pistols can be manufactured with a unique identifier stamped into either the firing pin or the chamber of the pistol such that when a round is discharged, the expended cartridge is engraved with traceable information useful to law enforcement's prosecution of gun

crimes. Because microstamping technology is not yet available, passage of this bill will result in a purchase freeze on all new pistols as of January 1st, 2012. Because semiautomatic pistol sales are a large portion of any firearm business, this bill will negatively impact both sellers and buyers. Help us oppose this attack on free enterprise in NY by calling and writing your representatives, and ask them to oppose this bill.

A801/S1598A 5-Year Pistol Permit renewal for permits issued until revoked for cause only.

Most states issue concealed carry permits to citizens of legal age excluding criminals or the mentally deficient. In contrast, simple possession of a handgun in New York is not granted without a valid permit. Currently, pistol permits issued outside of New York City are valid until revoked for sufficient cause. Legislation requiring renewal of permits every five years increases the cost and burden to citizens who choose to exercise their civil right to keep and bear arms. NY Assembly Member Amy Paulin, and Codes Committee Chairman Senator Eric Schneiderman, have companion bills in the state legislature seeking to mandate a 5-year pistol permit renewal scheme. This bill is favored by gun prohibitionists for two reasons; renewals are burdensome and act as a disincentive to the exercise of one's natural rights, and they are also a revenue generator for our state's budget deficit. Help us oppose this tax on freedom; call and write your representatives and ask them to oppose this bill.

All member activists should **support** the following bills currently in the New York Senate:

A828/S5459 Allows persons at least fourteen years of age, with no maximum age, to possess and use a pistol at a pistol range.

In NYS you may not legally handle a pistol unless you are **twenty-one** years of age and possess a valid NYS permit. However, there is an exception: NYPL265.20.7e allows per-

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Militia being
necessary to the
security of a
free state, the
right of the
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and bear arms
shall not be
infringed.

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SCOPE CHAPTER INFORMATION

CENTRAL NEW YORK
Onondaga-Cortland-Oswego-Madison
Michael Mastrogiovanni, Chair
(315) 652 4597
mmastro1@twcny.rr.com

Meetings will be held at the Clay Sportsmen's Club on Henry Clay Blvd. just north of Rte 31. The starting time will be 7:30 P.M. Call Michael Mastrogiovanni at (315) 652 4597 for date and directions.

DUTCHESS CHAPTER
David T. Warshaw, Chair
E-mail: dwards92711@aol.com
Phone/Fax-(845)849-1839

Dutchess chapter meets the third Wed. of each month 7:30 PM at Dutchess County Pistol Assoc St. Nicholas Rd., Wappingers Falls, NY.

ERIE COUNTY
Gerry Cumbo, Chair
gcumbo@ymail.com
Phone (716) 983-1629
Herb Berry, Treasurer
hscott45@yahoo.com
(716)825-4174
Shirey Snaza
(716)675-1402
snazzshirl@roadrunner.com

Erie County Chapter holds monthly meetings every third Thursday of the month. Meetings begin at 7:30 in the Community Room at the Southgate Plaza, Union Road West Seneca. We are in need of all Erie County members to update current email addresses. Updating your email address allows a timelier and less expensive means of keeping you informed. Please take a moment to send your current email address to scope.erieco.ny@gmail.com.

Please consider attending a chapter meeting. We have a great group of 2nd Amendment defenders who regularly attend but our meetings are missing you. Remember SCOPE is a volunteer organization, your opinions, time, and talents will make a difference. "The only thing necessary for evil to succeed is for good men to do nothing"

GENESEE COUNTY
Christopher Lane, Chairman
Jack Taylor, Vice Chairman
Patricia Lane, Secretary
Dave Kaufman, Treasurer
585.219.4296
Web <http://ScopeGC.com> Committee@ScopeGC.com
P.O. Box 1659
Batavia, NY 14021-1659
Meetings are open to the public SCOPE members from neighboring counties are encouraged to participate.

MONROE COUNTY
Ken Mathison - Chair
Phone (585) 967-1040
mailto:kenmatent@gmail.com

Monroe County meetings take place the Third Monday of the month 7pm at Jays Diner 2612 W Henrietta Rd, Rochester, NY 14623

Gun Show Raffle Winners First Prize Smith & Wesson MP15 Rifle, Heather Webb, Farmington

Second Prize Mossberg Tactical Shotgun, Dennis Thomas, Rochester

Third Prize Gamo Air Rifle, James Betts, West Winfield

Forth Prize Bushnell Trophy Scope, Andy Pinaire, Ontario

Fifth Prize Cold Steel Voyager Knife, David Bock, Averill Park

NIAGARA CHAPTER
Russell Petrie, County Chair
Phone: 585-733-5968
RussP@Rochester.RR.com

Niagara Chapter holds it's monthly meetings at the American Legion Post 410, 26 Niagara Street in Lockport, NY at 7:00pm on the third Wednesday of each month.

NEW YORK CITY COMMITTEE
Dave Forgione - Chair
(646) 319-0106
Davefargone@aol.com
Jim Lesczynski - Secretary
Michael Justice - Treasurer
NYC@SCOPEny.org

The NYC Chapter's Meeting is no longer being held at a Restaurant. Part of our Monthly Meeting is a visit to a gun store and/or a range. Normally we're doing this on a Tuesday evening, but that may

change depending on the hours of our target location of the month.

Contact Dave Forgione at (646) 319-0106 for meeting details or join our low-volume email list by sending a message to: scopenycsubscribe@yahoo.com

ONTARIO COUNTY
Scott Webb - Chairman
tech-1972@rochester.rr.com
(585) 329-0357
Gary Zielinski - Secretary
Hetman6183@aol.com
Kevin Issing - Treasurer
Kdissing@frontiernet.net

ORANGE COUNTY
Mike Kubow, Chair
(845) 496-1183
wilecc@frontiernet.net
Joe Eldred Secretary/ Treasurer

Meetings will be at 7:30 PM, the 3rd Saturday of each month. 21 Claremont Trail, Blooming Grove, NY. Call Mike at 496-1183 for information.

ORLEANS COUNTY
E.L. (Tinker) Young - Chair
(585) 765-9122

Orleans County SCOPE meets the 2nd Monday of every month, 7PM, VFW on Platt St. in Albion.

WAYNE COUNTY
Dan Gilmore, Chair
Treasurer Deane Fisher
Secretary Keith Bourgeois

Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Marion American Legion Post, 4141 Witherden Rd., Marion NY at 7:00pm. All are welcome, for information call Dan Gilmore (315)597-4184.

YATES COUNTY
Bill Button, Chairman
585-554-6868
Leigh Williams, Vice Chair
Marlene Button, Treasurer & Secretary

Stop by the SCOPE website and check out the information, sign-up for e-mail alerts and much more

SCOPEny.org

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An Evening with Larry

Pratt Friends of GOA Dinner in Rochester

GOA Executive Director Larry Pratt will be the keynote speaker at a Friends of GOA Dinner in Rochester on Saturday, June 12. The event will take place at the Main Street Armory, 900 East Main Street in Rochester. There will be a reception (cash bar) from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. during which Larry Pratt will be available to sign his books. Dinner will begin at 6:30. Pratt will speak after dinner. A question and answer time will con-

clude the evening. Along with dinner there will be a Multi Gun Raffle, Bucket Raffles and 50/50 Raffle. Winning tickets will be announced after the keynote speech. Dinner \$35.00 and special Patriot Package \$60.00 which will include dinner, 5 Multi Gun and 20 Bucket Raffle Tickets. Dinner will include selections of beef, chicken, pasta, two salads, coffee, tea and soda with the meal. There are a limited number of tickets. For advanced tickets send checks to : GOA Dinner, PO Box 25542, Rochester, NY 14625.

For more information call (585) 244- 8832.



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www.SCOPEny.org

Up to date information on bills and proposed legislation. Our news section is updated daily to bring you the latest gun related stories.

Find phone numbers and E-mail addresses for your representatives, and contact information for SCOPE chapters, committees and representatives near you.

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SCOPE President's Report

Stephen Aldstadt
President of SCOPE

SCOPE has been very active so far in 2010. Many of you joined us in Albany on January 12th for the Sportsmen & Outdoor Recreation Legislative Awareness Day. Gun owners and sportsmen from all over the state came by car and bus load to make their voices heard by the anti-gun legislators in Albany. SCOPE was joined by other organizations; The New York State Rifle and Pistol Association, The New York State Conservation Council, The Conservation Alliance of New York, and The Safari Club just to name a few. Some have estimated that over twenty five hundred gun rights activists crowded the well of the Legislative Office Building (or LOB) to hear speakers, headlined by NRA CEO Wayne LaPierre, but also including SCOPE president Ken Mathison and NYSRA president Tom King. I cannot remember that many gun owners in the capitol for a single event. I'm sure it has been a long time since it has happened. Gun owners were certainly heard in Albany that day.

The SCOPE PAC has been very active this year. We have attended fund raising events for several legislators who are supporters of the rights of gun owners in New York, including Senator William Stachowski and Assemblyman Mark Schroeder, both of whom shared our

legislator of the year award in 2009. We also supported legislators who are active SCOPE members such as Assemblyman Jack Quinn and Senator Dale Volker and solid Second



Amendment supporters such as Assemblywoman Jane Corwin and Senator Michael Ransenhofer. The SCOPE Political Action Committee allows us to support the people who support the rights and interests of our members. SCOPE member dues cannot by law be used for these purposes, only donations to the SCOPE PAC. You can help support pro-gun legislators by donating to the SCOPE PAC. Send your donations to SCOPE PAC, PO Box PO Box 12711, Rochester NY 14612.

In addition to serving as the new president of SCOPE I have been working as the chairman of the Firearms and Ammunition Committee for the New York State Conservation Council (NYSCC). SCOPE has been an active contributing member of the council for a number of years now and NYSCC members and representatives look to SCOPE for leadership on gun related issues and legislation. The NYSCC committee meetings

were held at Herkimer Community College on March 13th. The meetings were primarily to review and consider positions for NYSCC resolutions. SCOPE Legislative Director William Gibson also serves on the committee.

The NYSCC committee business being completed I continued on to Albany and spent several days meeting with members of the New York State Senate. Our legislative director has produced a comprehensive document detailing SCOPE's position on most of the pending gun related legislation. These position papers were printed and mailed to every member of the New York State Senate. During my visit I reviewed our positions with influential members of the senate and provided their offices with complete packages that contained both printed and electronic copies of all of our official position papers. These position papers are available at the SCOPE web site; www.SCOPEny.org.

In April we were back in the capitol again to attend the 3rd annual Breakfast for the Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus. This event was sponsored in part by the National Wild Turkey Federation. Assemblywoman Ginny Fields is the Chairwoman of the caucus and under her leadership the caucus has been growing in membership and influence every year. This year's event was the largest and best attended yet. SCOPE was one of many sportsmen's organizations present but was credited by more of the speaking senators and assemblymen with raising their awareness, and keeping the gun owners interests at the forefront, than any other organization. SCOPE Chairman of the Board of Directors, Budd Schroeder was repeatedly recognized for his years of service to New York's gun owners and sportsmen.

In addition to attending the breakfast, we spent two days walking the halls of the capitol building and the legislative office building, visiting law makers to make sure SCOPE members interests are well understood and represented. We were joined in our efforts on Tuesday the fourteenth by advocates from the NYSCC. It was the NYSCC's annual March on Albany. By coordinating with other

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organizations we are able to increase our influence in Albany.

We were back in the capitol on April 26th. Myself, Legislative Director Bill Gibson, Erie County Chapter Chairman Gerry Cumbo, and Budd Schroeder met with the Assembly Minority Conference to brief them and prepare them to debate against the anti-gun bills we expect to see sent to the floor to be passed in the assembly. One of these bills has since passed. A6468C is the micro stamping bill. It is now in the senate codes committee as S6005A. Contact your senators and ask them to oppose this bill.

We remained in Albany overnight and were back at the capitol the next morning to meet with more legislators including Assemblyman Steve Hawley. I joined Steve for a taping of an interview on "Assembly Calendar". The show has been copied to YouTube and can be seen on

our SCOPE Facebook page. By the way if you haven't joined yet our Facebook page is a great way to keep up to date and network with other gun owners and SCOPE members.

May has also been a very busy month, another trip to Albany for more legislative visits and a full days training class for the Legislative Retrieval System, a computer access system that allows us to better track bills and proposed laws. After that it

PEny.org web page. Watch for a newer look and improved functionality coming soon. Another project we have been working on is an e-mail list for instant communication with our members. If we have a valid e-mail address for you then you should have gotten a message from us already. If you haven't and you want to get our e-mail news and alerts send an e-mail to scope.newyork@gmail.com. Include your full name, county, and e-mail address. This list is constantly being updated, however at the present time only about one third of our membership is signed up.

It is one of our primary objectives to improve communication with our members and keep them better informed. In the past at times we have not done such a good job of that and some of our members were left wondering what exactly SCOPE is doing for them. Better communication

will also improve our grassroots effectiveness and enable us to mobilize our membership to make us that much more effective. Keep informed. Get active and stay active. And the more members we sign up, the more effective we will be. Sign up your family, friends and neighbors. Until next time, keep your powder dry.

was down to Charlotte, North Carolina for the NRA convention. Somewhere in between all of this I've been trying to run a business. It certainly all keeps me very busy.

We are currently working on updating our SCO-



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sons aged 14 to 20 years to possess, load, and fire a pistol on an incorporated range (insured gun club) as long as the pistol owner and a duly authorized instructor are present, and the shooter is under direct supervision of the instructor. Incredibly, NY penal law does not allow adults over 20 to have this same range privilege. In NYS the age of 21 is considered a legal benchmark of maturity - except for use of a pistol on an incorporated range. Here the penal law is counterintuitive, capriciously arbitrary, and discriminatory; it even prevents unlicensed adults from fully participating in NRA approved pistol safety training classes. Help the NY legislature to correct this gross oversight by inform-

ing your representatives and ask them to please support this bill.

A6187/S3478 Pistol Permits in NYS shall be issued as carry concealed without regard to employment and without judicial discretion on whether proper cause exists.

In New York, the majority of counties issue pistol permits for personal protection. However, some counties such as Erie, Genesee, and others, are an exception. In these counties the licensing officer issues permits that restrict firearm use to sporting activities such as hunting, target shooting, or collecting, unless the applicant can show proper justification, such as employment, or a predisposition to targeted criminal activity. The result is a stratification of

rights; rewarding one class of citizen, while unfairly discriminating against another, based on either a supposed predisposition to victimhood, or solely on their county of issue. Judicial discretion in issuing pistol permits is essentially arbitrary and clearly violates equal protection under the law. This bill, introduced by Assemblyman Schimminger and senator Stachowski, would remove judicial discretion from NY Penal law and provide for a fair pistol permit policy that recognizes personal protection as proper cause to issue licenses in all NY counties except NYC. This bill and these representatives deserve our strongest support. Please call your representative and ask for a fair pistol permit law in NYS.

We Need a Second Amendment for New York State

By David DiPietro SCOPE Member
(Candidate for New York State Senate, 59th District)

These are exciting times for those who support the Second Amendment. The Supreme Court has now recognized what we always knew: the Second Amendment recognizes an individual's right to bear arms. Plain language and common sense and history finally prevailed over elite liberal opinion. It was a long, hard battle fought by scholars and activists who always maintained the proper view of the right to bear arms against those who would have given it a narrow interpretation that would have rendered it a nullity in these times.

The truth is, the right to bear arms is not an archaic relic of colonial times. Modern history shows what happens when certain governments systematically disarmed their populations. The result was often mass murder such as in Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union., Lenin famously called for the death penalty for gun possession.

But the Second Amendment movement cannot rest on its laurels. With the victory in *District of Columbia v. Heller* behind us, we must now continue the fight to extend this right to the states. And there is no need to wait for court action either. If I am elected to the New York State Senate, I will propose an amendment to the State Constitution to protect the right to bear arms. Right now, it is a mere statutory right which can be and is overridden by any legislation the opponents of the right to bears arms such as Sheldon Silver wish to enact.

Rest assured. The Second Amendment movement will have a friend in Albany if I am elected in November.

The Magnum Report

By Keith Kappel

This is my first attempt at writing a formal column and I sin-

cerely hope I'm able to gain and keep your attention as well as communicate matters of interest to everyone. The intent is not to focus on second amendment issues alone but to include information on the outdoors and shooting activities in general. And yes there will be a touch of politics sprinkled in here and there. As an active skeet shooter, I expect to tell you things about the leagues where I and others participate. In addition, I welcome input from you on events and activities that your club/organization is involved with or hosting and I'll do what I can to help promote the activities. Send those items to me at magnumreport@stny.rr.com.

The Yates County Chapter of SCOPE has been highly active with an excellent member retention rate. The Chapter is chaired by Bill Button of Rushville, NY and he has held this position going on eight years now. I am the Vice Chair. The 125 plus members are a dedicated, highly motivated and supportive group of people and that has been integral to the success of our events and activities. Those events and activities have generated funding for SCOPE in general, the NRA and several local initiatives as well good press and public relations. For example, SCOPE representatives work closely with members of the Yates County Federation on an annual kids fishing derby.

As a by product of this support and activity, our chapter commands the attention and respect of our local and state legislators. Again, I point all this out not to brag but to provide an insight to other chapters on how we have been able to attract members, build support and establish a presence in the community.

The first action we took was to work with the Sheriff's Department to integrate the Eddie Eagle Firearm Safety program with DARE for grades K through 4. All county schools were contacted requesting their support in administering this program and we were able to obtain the necessary classroom materials from the NRA. This took a little work because the school boards initially treated us with benign neglect. However, an editorial to all local newspapers and an appearance by Bill and me on a local radio station brought enough heat to bear that the schools acquiesced and the effort quickly came together. After all, it was for the

children. This demonstrated that we weren't out just to collect dues from people but that our intention was to do things and make a difference.

A second event that affected the community and rallied people to us occurred when New York first attempted to make pistol permits renewable statewide in the early 2000's. We took advantage of a discount offer and put a half page ad in the Penn Yan newspaper for an open house to discuss this and other anti gun laws before the legislature. Then State Senator Randy Kuhl and Assemblyman Jim Bacalles were invited to attend and explain the bills to the people as well as hear the people's feedback. Pizza and wings were provided as an incentive to boost attendance, press releases were sent to local newspapers and the event attracted around 80 people. Randy told me later that he was shocked and impressed when he entered the room and saw the number of people and heard their reactions - this clearly got his and Jim Bacalles' attention. A similar open house has been held annually since then.

In terms of annual events, we host a pig roast at the fireman's field in Penn Yan every August and arrange for local and national political candidates to attend, provide a set time for them to give brief speeches but more importantly mix with the people and talk with everyone one on one. The pig roast is supplemented with a host of raffles and a Chinese auction. Merchandise is provided by local store owners and members of the community. The event also features a raffle of a featured firearm and a five gun firearm ticket. The featured firearm has often been a Henry Golden Boy though this year will be a Remington R15 VTR. The pig roast ticket includes a chance to win an inline muzzle loader.

About five meetings a year are hosted plus an end of year Christmas party. Monthly meetings are well attended due principally to a variety of interesting speakers. Several political debates have been featured as well as a mini town hall meeting for candidates to come in for a Q and A session. Other guests include the local pistol licensing officer, the Yates County DA who spoke on castle doc-

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

By Budd Schroeder
SCOPE chairman of the board

I spent the weekend with a group I call the "last bastion of the patriots." This is my definition of NRA members and this was the Annual Meeting of Members held in Charlotte, NC. They came in droves, more than 70,000 strong to set an attendance record. All are patriots and willing to get involved in the fight for freedom. This was the theme of the inspirational and motivational speeches.

Wayne LaPierre, Executive Vice President of the NRA focused on the reality of the new Arizona law to get rid of illegal aliens. This is not a new law, but rather gives the state power to enforce a federal law regarding people who enter America illegally. It isn't racism or profiling. It just makes it easier for police agencies in the state to arrest those who don't belong here and arrange to have them sent back to their country of origin.

In a way it is like the cell phone laws of New York. A person has to be stopped for a reason before the subject of illegal use of the cell phone can be an issue. The police are not empowered to stop people because they have a dark skin or don't speak English. This could happen with some cops who have badges heavier than most, but this could cause problems to law enforcement officers and most rational people do not see this as something that will be used to abuse civil rights.

Federal law requires all legal aliens to carry ID, so this should not be a problem for legal residents. Showing ID is required for airline travel, checking into a motel, if stopped for any offense, and even to buy alcohol or tobacco. We need to show an ID if we want to cash a check in most places or apply for benefits with social services. We need to show an ID when we go to a hospital and have an insurance card. In other words, in many cases within the daily activities of our society, we have to prove we are really who we say we are. For legal resi-

dents, this is no big deal. For illegal aliens, this SHOULD BE A PROBLEM!

Those who don't belong in America are draining our resources with our generous benefit programs, medical treatment, and education. Also a large portion of our prison population contains illegal aliens. People decry the cost of deportation, but it is cheaper than supporting the illegal aliens. The figures do not factor in the cost of the crimes committed by those who don't belong within our borders and the figures are truly large.

EVP Wayne La Pierre used the incident of an Arizona rancher who was brutally murdered by someone who dug a hole under his border fence to enter illegally. The investigation showed tracks of the killer going back to Mexico and the murderer is still at large. Nobody expects the Mexican authorities to be concerned about the crime. The audience overwhelmingly showed sympathy and compassion for the family who attended the meeting. It is a crime that never should have been committed and many blamed the fact that the federal government is not upholding their obligation to enforce the current federal laws. No wonder the state of Arizona had to pass a law in order to protect their citizens.

Nobody condones vigilantism. But if people can't rely on laws being enforced, who can blame them if they decide to use all means available and

possible to protect themselves, their families and their property? NRA members believe in the lawful use of firearms and one of the basic laws of the land and of nature is the undeniable right of self-defense.

The second theme of the meeting was the absolute need to change the makeup of our government through the November elections. The speakers explained the necessity of getting out the vote in November in order to change the makeup of an administration that is leading the nation to fiscal disaster and opening wide the doors to socialism.

To protect our nation, we need legislators who will take their oath of office regarding the protection of our Constitution seriously. Those who don't should be replaced by those who do. The NRA will be making an all-out effort to educate their members regarding the best candidates and encourage them to help get out the vote to save the freedoms our forefathers provided in the Constitution and many brave men and women gave their lives to keep during wars.

Let us hope the plan works.



SCOPE Erie County Chapter Announcements:

We are asking chapter members to sign up to our Chapter E-mail List. Just send an e-mail to scope.erieco.ny@gmail.com.

Our Chapter Picnic is August 1st at the East Aurora Rod and Gun Club from Noon to?

We are looking for items to have a silent auction. If you have a gift you would like to donate bring to the picnic. We will also have use of the

ranges that day from Noon to 3pm. (Optional). If you want to shoot that day you certainly are welcome. We are also asking our members to bring a friend to join SCOPE. We will have the applications available at the site. There is a large covered pavilion and a cabin in case of rain and a playground for the kids.

To help us get a handle on the amount of food please e-mail: scope.erieco.ny@gmail.com with the number attending.

The November Gun/Cash Raffle is off to a great start.

If you want to sell or purchase tickets, contact a SCOPE member or e-mail: scope.erieco.ny@gmail.com.

Knowledge and Anti-Knowledge: Winning the Image Battle in Right to Keep and Bear Arms Advocacy

by Christopher Lane
2nd Vice President, Genesee County
Chairman

The invention of writing in the fourth millennium BC was an extraordinary intellectual and cultural achievement that fundamentally improved prospects for all humankind. The obvious limitations of transferring information to successive generations through instinctual heredity were surpassed by the development of language and the use of oral traditions. But oral traditions are inherently error prone because they are subject to misinterpretation and modification by each participant. It was only with the invention of writing that we began to accumulate *knowledge*. Humanity yearns for knowledge, and our desire to contemplate and comprehend the universe and our place within it is witnessed in nearly every culture.

Three systems have evolved overtime from which humankind has sought to acquire knowledge: Faith, Philosophy, and Science. Although overlaps between these systems are not uncommon, each has a specialized objective. Faith is concerned with the nourishment of the immortal soul, and its relationship to the creator; Philosophy is concerned with abstract concepts such as truth, justice, good, and happiness; and Science uses observation and experimentation to comprehend and exploit the material world. Our very history is comprised of their proper use and misuse. Indeed, humanity is incomplete without each of these knowledge systems, for they are the vary manifestation of our tripartite nature; the soul, the mind, and the body.

In stark contrast to these knowledge systems are two discarded offshoots, two kinds of anti-knowledge: superstition and propaganda. Superstition is often described as an excessive belief in fear or magic, and is inherently irrational. Superstition fails all

claims as knowledge because it is not falsifiable; that is, if a claim is false, it can be shown to be so. Because superstition is not knowledge, there is little real value within it. Propaganda begins with a nucleus of truth and constructs around it a fantasy for the purpose of manipulation and control.

Judicious use of the three *true* knowledge systems will aid any human endeavor, while embracing their alternatives, superstition and propaganda, will generally deter and harm much sought after goals. This also holds true for right to keep and bear arms advocacy.

As RKBA advocates we fight to sustain our liberties on two fronts. The primary battle is fought in the legislative arena where we work to defeat anti-gun legislation at the state and federal levels. The second front is fought simultaneously in the popular arena – our technologically advanced and sound-bite saturated popular culture. This front can be further divided into two battles: one field is offensive; winning converts to our philosophy, and the other field is defensive; preventing the gun prohibitionists from destroying our credibility, and thus our effectiveness. On this popular front, we must choose our tools carefully, use them effectively, and avoid friendly fire.

The current trend towards ever increasing socialism and stateism in our country has resulted in new levels of frustration for many conservative minded people. We have observed our government and popular media embrace and support dismantling the traditions that have built this greatest of nations.

Against our conservative nature, we have found our voice; we are rallying to oppose this leftward swing, and for the first time there seems to be some wind at our back, both in spirit and in the voting booth. But as our movement gains ground, ensure that we turn our frustration into action by using the tools best suited for victory. Let us be guided by knowledge and avoid the imposters of knowledge.

Do not succumb to the superstition of conspiracy, or the propaganda of militantism.

Right to keep and bear arms advocacy, if it is to be successful, must be credible. It must remain firmly rooted in the three knowledge systems of western culture; Faith, Philosophy, and Science, and we must throw off the irrational embodiment of our frustrations. Superstition and propaganda can only be turned against us, for they are the tools of our adversaries – those who seek to deconstruct that which we have struggled to build. And it must be said that chief among America's greatest intellectual achievements is our form of government. The form of democracy we have chosen, the representative republic, offers the best of both worlds: a strong central government of the people - designed to ensure our peace, tranquility, and prosperity while providing for our common defense - which is also sufficiently balanced to maximize the liberty of its composite states, and its citizens. We must not confound our frustration with particular elected officials (who sometimes seem blind to our liberty) with our chosen form of government. Our immediate goal is to work within the system by correcting deviations from the path of liberty; and our most powerful instrument is persuasion and education.

As RKBA advocates and patriots, we are called upon to verbally defend the traditions of our nation and its liberties. This political year please continue to give your voice to our cause, and know that your participation is invaluable. Be cognizant of the manner in which you engage your listeners. Understand that the messenger is as important as the message.

But foremost, be confident that our message of liberty will stir even the most intractable of souls. Rely on our spiritual and intellectual heritage in debate: Faith in America as our divine providence; a Philosophy that holds all men are created equal and shall justly govern themselves; and respect for Science whose advancements ensure the physical security, health, and comfort of humankind.



SCOPE Offers Business Associate Membership

SCOPE is now offering businesses that want to show their support for our 2nd Amendment rights a Business Associate Membership. Business membership dues will be \$50 annually, or \$250 annually for a Sponsor level membership. Business members will receive a window sign to display, a listing on our website with basic details of their store

and contact information. We will also supply them with membership applications and a supply of each issue of the Firing Lines for their store. Sponsor level businesses will have their listing on our website highlighted and they will receive a wall plaque for display in their store.

Sign up Today!

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

PO 602, Tonawanda NY 14150 716-846-5448

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)

They are after our children (again!)

By Ralph Esposito

A-5272, Prohibits the attendance of children under eighteen years of age at gun shows or stores by classifying such attendance as unlawfully dealing with a child.

Do you remember your dad taking you to the local gun store? Gazing at the .22 rifle you were hoping to get next birthday or Christmas or listening to some of the guys swap hunting stories? Did you get to go to a gun show? Looking for hours at all the interesting guns, accessories, memorabilia and just cool stuff offered along those endless isles.

Well our nanny state knows what's best for your children. Guns are a bad influence and children should not be exposed to them.

I seriously doubt any underage gang members lost their moral compass because they hung out at gun stores before they joined a gang. Nor

do I believe that gun shows a gateway to gun violence. I have never been in a gun shop or gun show that did not require an adult to be with any underage child. We must ask why they really want to keep our children from being exposed to guns and the shooting sports.

This smacks of the anti-gunners push for re-education. Even as court cases are going against gun control the anti's show us that they will try to find a way to push their agenda. And what better way then keep or children away from guns. The more distance put between our children, guns and the shooting sports the less likely they will be to want to go hunting, target shooting and other shooting activities.

It's a short hop from no children at gun shops and gun shows to no children at gun clubs. A bit further hop to no guns in a home with a child. Sounds a bit silly? Let us not forget two items. First, several years ago there was a push to define what a gun show was, remember that? At the time some politicians favored a definition so loose that might well have been interpreted to include gun clubs.

Second, our own Mr. Andrew Cuomo's attempt to remove privately owned firearms in public housing and sue gun manufacturers for the cost of criminal violence. That was during the Clinton Administration, when Cuomo was Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The same Andrew Cuomo who will be running for Governor of New York this election. (interestingly at the same time the Clinton Administration supported lawsuits to stop public housing authorities from trying to evict criminals from public housing. Link to article <http://bradycenter.org/xshare/pdf/lap/articles/govsuegunman.pdf>)

In closing this is a dangerous bill that may well open up a new front on our gun rights.



SCOPE Member Clubs

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

ABATE of NY, Ontario County
Alabama Hunt Club
Alden Rod & Gun Club
Allied Sportsmen of WNY Inc
American Legion Riders Post 355
Attica Rod & Gun Club, Inc
B R & G Conservation Club
Bailey Mountain Fish &
Game Club, Inc.
Baldwinsville Rod & Gun Club, Inc.
Barre Sportsmen's Club
Barrington Rifle Club
Bergen Rod & Gun Club
Bison City Rod & Gun Club Inc
Black Rock Fish & Game Club Inc
Blasdell Rod & Gun Club
Bog Trotters Rifle & Pistol Club Inc
Bonded Collection Services
Boston Valley Conservation Society
Buffalo Revolver & Rifle Club Inc
Buffalo Rod & Gun Club Inc
Burlington Flats Fish &
Game Club, Inc.
Cal Shooting Club
Camillus Sportsmen's Club
Canaan Rifle Club, Inc.
Canandaigua Lake
Duck Hunters, Inc.
Canandaigua Sportsman's Club, Inc.
Canastota Conservation Club
Chautauqua County
Federation of Sportsmen
Chemung County Rod & Gun Club
Clarence Shooting Club
Clay Sportsman's Club
Clinton Fish & Game Club
Cloverbank Sportsman's Club Inc
Conesus Lake Sportsmen's Club, Inc.
Cooperstown Sportsmen's
Association, Inc.
Dansville Fish &
Game Protective Assoc.
Delchenego Rod & Gun Club
Depew Rod & Gun Club
Dunham's Bay Fish & Game Club
E Aurora Fish & Game Club Inc
Elbridge Rod & Gun Club
Elma Conservation Club
Erie County Conservation
Society Inc
Evans Rod & Gun Club
Five Point Rod & Gun Club
Four Point Rod & Gun Club, Inc.
Freeport Junior Club

George Washington Fishing &
Camping Club Inc
Glen-Coe Conservation Society Inc
Gorham Coon Hunters
Gowanda Rifle Club
Hamburg Rod & Gun Club Inc
Hartland Conservation Club
Hawkeye Bowman, Inc.
Hidden Valley Lodge
Hill Top Gun Club
Himrod Conservation Club
Holland Rod & Gun Club
Holley Rod & Gun Club
Honeoye Fish & Game Club
Hornell Sportsman Club
Hudson Valley
Sportsmen's Association
Iroquois Arms Collectors
Assoc of WNY
Lackawanna Conservation Inc
Lake Keuka Chapter,
Izaak Walton League
Lake Plains Waterfowl Assoc. Inc.
Lima Gun Club
Little Beard Club Inc
Livingston Co Federation
of Sportsmen's Clubs
Lloyd Rod and Gun Club Inc.
Long Lake Fish & Game Club
MacDougall Sportsman's &
Conservation Assoc
Mad River Club, Inc.
Mendon Conservation League
Mohawk Rifle & Pistol Club Inc
Monroe Chester Sportsmen Club Inc
Morgan Hill Game Association
Mt Morris Sportsmen's Club
Mumford Sportsmen's Club
Neighbors Gun Club, Inc.
New York Houndsmen
Conservation Association
New York State Muzzleloaders
Association, Inc
Newark Rod & Gun Club
Niagara County Sportsmen's Assn.
Niagara Frontier Pistol League
Niagara Frontiersmen Pistol Club
North Forest Rod & Gun Club
North Star Sportsman's Club, Inc.
Northern Dutchess Rod &
Gun Club, Inc.
NYS Sporterifle, Inc.
Oatka Fish & Game Club
Olean Rod & Gun Club Inc
Oswego County Federation
of Sportsman's Clubs
Outlet Rod & Gun Club
Pathfinder Fish and Game Club, Inc.
Phoenicia Fish & Game Association
Polaris Shooting Club
Ramapough Sportsmen
Association Inc.
Redfield Fish & Game Club
Richburg Rod & Gun Club

Rochester Rifle Club
Sackets Harbor
Sportsmen's Club, Inc.
Safari Club Western &
Central NY Chapter
Saranac Lake Fish & Game Club
Seneca County Federation
of Sportsmen's Clubs
Seneca Gun Sports
Shawangunk Fish & Game Assn, Inc.
Sheridan Transit Rod & Gun Club
Sodus Bay Sportsman's Club
Somerset Conservation Club
Sons of the American Legion
Post 881
South Bristol Fish &
Game Association Inc.
South Shore Association of
Onedia Lake Inc.
Springville Field & Stream Inc
Springwater Rod & Gun Club, Inc.
Square Deal Sportsmen Inc.
Suburban Pistol League
Ten-X Shooting Club Inc
Three F Conservation Society, Inc.
Thruway Fish & Hunt Club
Tonawanda's Sportsmen's Club
Veterans of America Gun Club
Walden Sportsmen's Club
Walton's Service Center, Inc.
Walworth Sportsman's Club, Inc.
Waterloo Rifle & Pistol Club
Wayne County Federation
of Sportsmen's Clubs
Williamson Conservation &
Sporting Club
Wilson Conservation Club Inc
Wolcottsville Sportsmen Club
Wood & Brook Sportsman's Club
Wyoming County
Wildlife Federation
Yates Carlton Lakeshore
Sportsmen's Club
Yates County Federation
of Conservation Clubs
York Sportsman's Club, Inc.



Marketing S.C.O.P.E. Increasing the Membership

By Jim Nowotny

Marketing our organization by Word of Mouth and Word of Mouse

Take this simple test. Think of your favorite restaurant. How did you first find out about it? Did you see an ad? Read a review? Hear about it from a friend? How do you tell people about that restaurant?

When was the last time you recommended a website to a friend or forwarded an e-mail message that you found interesting? I bet it was recently.

Forwarding an e-mail or a web link can be thought of as "word of mouse" which is the same as good old-fashioned word of mouth, but with the ability to spread much faster because of the Internet, commonly referred to as "social media or new media."

Did your favorite restaurant have a tag line or motto? Probably not but it is still your favorite. All major brands seem to use taglines. "Sears has everything." "Tops never stops" or "Fair and Balanced" just to name a few. Through marketing, they become embedded in our minds as permanently as our own name. Just as important is to have an idea of what your brand

stands for and to allow the advocate of the brand to use his or her own words to express that idea; if that fits a "Tag Line" all the better.

Think of S.C.O.P.E. as a Brand

We have a name that is memorable and makes sense unlike some others; do you think the names Kodak or Xerox made any sense when they were first invented? But what is our "Tag Line". What is unique to SCOPE that says we are here because.

My Epiphany

While attending the General Membership Meeting I got to see Chris Lanes Presentation (Chris Lane is the
(Continued on page 12)

SCOPE Business Associate Members

The following are business members of SCOPE. If your business would like to become a SCOPE business member please fill out the application on page 9 or give Ken Mathison a call or E-mail.

Bonded Collection Services

4 Dorado Dr.
Fairport, NY 14450
Curtis J. Graham, Sr.
585-223-7357
Commercial & retail collection service

Branchport Automotive

3719 RT54A
Branchport, NY 14418
315-595-2263
Thomas Rutherford
bportauto@yahoo.com
Auto Repair & Service

Craig's Gold & Silver

3065 Delaware Ave.
Kenmore, NY 14217
D. Craig MacFarland
716-332-4444
Jewelry, gold, silver, coins
Save time and money

D & D Guns

1812 Culhane Rd
Penn Yan, NY 14527
Dick Culhane

315-536-3503
Retail gun sales, accessories, calls, ammo

Earth Energy Consultants, LLC

5743 Walden Drive
Lakeview, NY 14085
Phone 716-627-1149
info@earthenergyconsultants.com

Edge of Time Trading Post

P.O. Box 275
44 S. Main St. (State Rte 53)
Prattsburgh, NY 14873
607-522-7991
Steven Calderwood
edgeoftimetradingpost.com
eot_tradingpost@yahoo.com
Archery/Sporting goods

Red Sun Builders LLC

172 Gifford Rd
Greenville, NY 12083
518-966-4271
Ray & Patrick Kosorek
www.redsunbuilders.com
redsunbuilders@earthlink.net
Residential remodeling, power tools

Ron's Gun Repair

2861 Townline Rd.
Penn Yan, NY 14527
Ron Jones
315-536-4552
rjjones2@peoplepc.com
Gun shop, repairs and sales

S & S Auto Body , Inc.

321 Englewood Ave
Buffalo, NY 14223
716-834-0183
Steve Gajewski Owner
Luigi Rodo Office Manager
Auto Body Repair and Painting

Seneca Gun Sports

4705 Route 14
Rock Stream, NY 14878
(607) 243-7243
senecagunsports.com
Firearms Dealer serving your
Hunting, Target, Personal Protection
and Law Enforcement needs

Towlesville Craft & Shaft

7001 Snell Hill Rd.
Bath, NY 14810
607-776-4370
Ronald & Theresa Dyer
www.bowparts.com
bowparts@yahoo.com
Sporting goods, Archery Pro Shop
and range

Walton's Service Center, Inc.

1634 RT 54
Penn Yan, NY 14527
315-536-6928
Darwin Walton
Auto Repair & Service

Yorkshire Battery & Tire

Freedom NY 14065
Cattaraugus
Eric Blom
716-492-5585

(Magnum Report, Continued from page 6)
trine laws in NY, the County Sheriff, the Penn Yan Police Chief, members of the Single Action Shooting Society in full costume with examples of firearms, DEC officer, NRA political coordinator, radio commentator Bill Nojay and SCOPE President Ken Mathison. Christopher Lane's SCOPE presentation will be featured later this year.

The Christmas party is an opportunity to thank our members with a buffet dinner (at cost) where the Chapter recognizes a politician of the year and presents him or her with a recognition plaque. About \$300 of our treasury funds are used to buy door prizes and some are provided by local vendors and the NRA. No one leaves without winning something.

Other events hosted include a Refuse to be a Victim Seminar and a series of NRA Instructor training courses for rifle, pistol and shotgun.

Recently, Bill and I attended a committee meeting of the Yates County legislature where we presented a resolution opposing the array of anti gun laws passed last year by the New York Assembly. The legislature accepted and passed the resolution unanimously and SCOPE got good press for the effort. SCOPE also got good press for its participation in the Albany rallies last April and January.

For the past five years, I have been giving a pro second amendment presentation to the senior class at the Seneca Falls – Waterloo High School. Students are tasked to write a paper on a controversial topic which includes gun control and the teachers bring in outside people to

present both sides. The students then use the materials to choose a side, research it further and write a paper. Ken Mathison and Budd Schroeder have participated with me on this presentation. SCOPE's presence in the community provided us this opportunity.

Yates County SCOPE is a member club of our County NYSCC Federation and through this association has the opportunity to submit resolutions. Among those successfully submitted include youth hunter mentoring, shall issue pistol permits, use of crossbows as a hunting implement and one that ultimately resulted in Yates County being allowed use of rifles during the big game season. The one unsuccessful resolution submitted had to do with mandatory blaze orange. I still have a can of orange spray paint given me by Black Powder Bill along with a fiery statement of why that was not the thing to do - which is still smoldering.

Because of our presence in the community we have received support from the sportswriters in the Finger Lakes Times and Canandaigua Messenger. Often these papers will call Bill or me for input on gun control issues and they have published our pro gun editorials on a number of occasions. An email DL is maintained to provide members and other interested parties of general and firearms related news and legislative issues.

All in all, by spreading the work load and demonstrating to the community that SCOPE is here to help and get things done we have been successful in gaining and retaining members. With just a little effort and creativity the same can be accom-

(Marketing, Continued from page 11)
Grassroots Coordinator for SCOPE). Then it hit me. Sure, I belong to the NRA, I also participate in various Gun Rights Forums and discussion groups, but during Chris's presentation, I realized why I belong to SCOPE. Moreover, why I have to do what I can to increase membership and spread the word.

Chris points out that in New York, as well as seven other states, the right to Keep and Bear Arms is not constitutional but legislative.

There are no gun rights in New York State - only gun privileges.

That statement alone should

hit anyone who hears it like a bolt of lightning. Any gun owner, hunter, shooter, or concerned citizen should be alarmed by this disturbing fact. Since we are a country of laws, the citizens of New York's ability to own a firearm can be eliminated with the stroke of a pen in Albany. The Brady Groups are very aware of this, but how many others believe that we are protected by the second Amendment?

What is my Tag Line for SCOPE? Why am I a member? Why do I send them \$20.00 per year? What am I going to say to my friends to get them to join?

How about "because for New Yorkers, it's not constitutional but legislative," or "SCOPE because



Professional NRA Certified Instruction in Rifle, Shotgun and Handgun

We offer:

Private Ranges of up to 500, 200 and 25 Yards with Reactive Steel Plates

Video and photo diagnosis

Day and night hiking/orienteering

Camping on premises

Nestled in the NY Finger Lakes region, 50 miles from Rochester, NY. Come for a day course or weekend series including basic gun safety, long range shooting, personal defense, and more.

Call Bill at 585 413-6340

plished elsewhere. I encourage you to make the effort not just for yourself, your chapter or SCOPE, but for the foundation that can be created to ensure our kids and grandkids have a future in the shooting sports and outdoors. With the right attitude and Chapter officers, the time demands become very manageable.

Good luck – go get'em.

it's not constitutional but legislative." If this does not send chills through you then you do not understand the power of the State Legislature.

Get active in SCOPE. Recruit at least 5 new members. Visit the SCOPE on Face Book or the Discussion Group, keep up to date on the web site. Contact your Chapter to update your email address. Start marketing SCOPE by word of mouth and word of mouse.



The Truth About the Competitive Shooter

By Richard Eaton
NYS Sporterifle Director

Competitive shooting has been around as long as guns have. Muzzle loading shoots with Kentucky long guns are legendary in this country. Competition with firearms is a tradition that has carried through the times to today's Hi Power, Small Bore, Pistol and Trap and Skeet. I guess that it was only natural that the gun rights organizations felt that the competition shooter was the one that had the most to lose in the gun rights fight, so when it came to time to raise money, the competitive shooter was the place to go.

So what happened is the NRA, State Associations shooting Associations etc. decided that this was the place to raise money. First step, require membership in order to compete, benefits are three fold, increase your membership, and add to your income, costs the organization nothing.

The first to discover that what was happening was the NRA;

more and more matches were being conducted, but fewer and fewer were receiving sanction or being reported. In order to correct this the NRA dropped membership requirements a couple of years ago. Unfortunately State associations are slower to react, and continue to try to force membership requirements, until they wise up this will cost them dearly.

The average competitive shooter receives at least one or two pieces of junk mail a day, asking for contributions, or advocating early membership renewal, or asking to call your legislative Representative.

This has been going on for years, with the assumption that the competitive shooter has the most to lose with more laws against guns. Also due to match reporting and in some cases membership requirements, he or she was the easiest to contact.

The shooter has heard "WOLF" call so often that he no longer pays much attention to it. Every election is the pivotal election, every session of the legislature is the pivotal session, every supreme court filing needs financial support etc. Come on Mr. or Ms. Shooter, dig out your check book, get on the phone.

Membership needs your help

By Mike Mastrogiovanni, CNY

America has hit tough times, not only economically but the American gun owner will soon be assaulted on every front, federal, state and local. We need to join together and fight back. I am asking every member in SCOPE to sign up a friend, gun owner or not. If this friend does not have the money to join do it for him.

Signing up just one new

member will both double our membership numbers and resonate with the politicians that gun owners are paying attention. The best part of it is that it's only \$20.00.

This small amount will help Scope continue to fight the good fight, resisting the anti-gun politicians.

You are proud Second Amendment supporters - do not sit idle. The time to act is now before they pass their new gun control legislation (Membership application on page 16).

The NRA has caught on, God blesses them, the best way to get more shooters is to offer better product, more matches, more flexibility more competition. Yes, they make some money on it, but if the program makes enough to self support that is good and probably enough. Don't expect them to support your whole budget.

The best way to get the support and membership of the competitive shooter is to support and grow this aspect of shooting. Promote membership in your organization and show how you support the shooter.

Now a bit about Sporterifle, we are 50 years plus old, we have over 800 shooters that compete in a winter postal league. We require the use of .22 rim fire rifles of less than 7.5 lbs. We shoot in the standing position. We appeal to young and old, male and female. More information is available on our web site www.sporterifle.org, or by contacting us at director@sporterifle.org. I am sure that there are several 50 foot ranges that are underutilized that could benefit from participation in this program. If you want more activity in your club, consider Sporterifle as a low cost, safe, all age oriented shooting sport that is affordable to all without special equipment.

Check It Out
2ndamendment-
show.com
and
SCOPEny.org



ASSAULT RIFLE CONFISCATION RESISTED BY ARMED EXTREMISTS

BOSTON (AP)-National Guard units seeking to confiscate a cache of recently banned assault weapons were ambushed on April 19th by elements of a paramilitary extremist faction. Military and law enforcement officials estimate that 72 were killed and more than 200 injured before government forces were compelled to withdraw.

Speaking after the clash, Massachusetts Governor Thomas Gage declared that the extremist faction, which was made up of local citizens, had links to the radical right-wing tax protest movement.

Gage blamed the extremist for recent incidents of vandalism directed against internal revenue offices. The Governor, who described the group's organizers as "criminals," issued an executive order authorizing the summary arrest of any individual who has interfered with the government's efforts to secure law and order.

The military raid on the extremist arsenal followed widespread refusal by the local citizenry to turn over recently outlawed assault weapons. Gage issued a ban on military-style assault weapons and ammunition earlier this month between government and military leaders at which the Governor authorized the forcible confiscation of illegal arms.

One official speaking on condition of anonymity, pointed out that "none of these people would have been killed had the extremist obeyed the law and turned over their weapons voluntarily."

Government troops initially succeeded in confiscating a large supply of outlawed weapons and ammunition. However troops attempting to seize arms and am-

munition in Lexington met with resistance from heavily-armed extremists who had been tipped - off regarding the government's plan.

During the tense standoff in Lexington's town park, National Guard Colonel Francis Smith, commander of the government operation, ordered the armed group to surrender and return to their homes. The impasse was broken by a single shot, which was reportedly fired by one of the extremists.

Eight civilians were killed in the ensuing exchange. Ironically, the local citizenry blamed government forces rather than the extremist for the civilian deaths. Before order could be restored, armed citizens from surrounding areas had descended upon the guard units. Colonel Smith, finding his forces over-matched by the armed mob, ordered a retreat.

Governor Gage has called upon citizens to support the state/national joint task force in its effort to restore law and order. The governor has also demanded the surrender of those responsible for planning and leading the attack against the government forces. Samuel Adams, Paul Revere, and John Hancock, who have been identified as "ringleaders" of the extremist faction, remain at large. (The day and month you know, but the year was 1775 from Boston's Gun Bible by Boston T. Party (common Law Copyright 1997-2002, Javelin Press. www.javelinpress.com).

My reasons for submitting this excellent reprint from "Boston's Gun Bible" are simple. Those who refuse to learn from history are doomed to repeat it. It seems to me that government control over the course of our country's history and in my lifetime was a slow and steady creep. Government it seemed was content to take our freedoms away in small increments. So small in fact that although it may have irritated some, it rarely brought the outrage that would produce a backlash to the "Big Brother" mentality being fostered upon us.

It now seems that for government, "change" cannot happen fast enough. Our current government has been taking steps to reign in and control the Internet in the name of security (see bills S773 & S778). Our government rapidly took control of, and still owns 61% of General Motors. Does anyone believe that the government will not exert their influence on what G.M. offers to the public in terms choices in the future? What about government's takeover of the banking and Health Care industries?

Could anyone have predicted this much change so quickly? Remember President Obama's Chief of Staff, Rahm Emanuel's statement that "You never want a serious crisis to go to waste. And what I mean by that is an opportunity to do things you think you could not do before."

There has been major gun control legislation signed into law in 1934, 1968, and 1994. Does anyone see a trend here? Does anyone believe that as soon as the liberals see an opportunity that is politically expedient that they will not again attempt to place severe limits on your rights to keep and bear arms?

The key to the last paragraph is that we cannot allow the political atmosphere to become politically expedient again. The only way to prevent this type of legislation is to make our collective voices heard. The best way to do that is to join groups like the NRA and SCOPE.

The fact that you are reading this probably means that you have taken at least that first step in protecting your Second Amendment Rights. Will you now consider taking a few more steps to defend freedom? Are you willing to sponsor someone with a \$20 investment for a SCOPE membership? Perhaps you have a friend or acquaintance that is having financial difficulty. More likely, you know someone who is a gun owner, possibly a hunting partner or plinker who is not aware that this struggle is never ending. This

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

is someone who needs you to show them the way. SCOPE memberships are a perfect gift for someone who is in need of enlightenment regarding the need to be a defender of freedom.

If every one of us sponsors one person, at less than the cost of a box of ammunition, we could double our membership and double our political influence. I was a benefactor of one of these initial gift memberships to the NRA. I was a new gun owner but thought that the NRA was too radical of an organization for me to consider joining. Once I was exposed to all the work that the NRA does and the constant jeopardy to liberty and our 2nd Amendment rights, I saw the need to join SCOPE, and the necessity to work to protect these rights in New York State.

SCOPE leadership has been working tirelessly in Albany to prevent bills like renewable pistol permits, microstamping and the expansion of the failed COBIS system. SCOPE is ever vigilant in this fight but we have missed seeing most of you at a meeting and could use your help. We do not even know how many of your firearms owning friends would benefit from being a SCOPE member, and more importantly, we do not yet know how these individuals could benefit SCOPE.

"The only thing necessary for evil to succeed is for good men to do nothing" Sir Edmund Burke

Gerry Cumbo SCOPE, Erie County Chairman

SCOPE PAC Needs Your Help

We rarely ask our members for money other than their dues or the occasional raffle, and when we do ask for money, you our members, have been most generous.

SCOPE PAC was formed to collect contributions of money to be distributed to qualified candidates for state offices. These candidates must have the highest regard for the Second Amendment or if they are an incumbent must have a record of unwavering support for the rights to citizens to keep and bear arms.

We are now in the beginning of probably the most important and dangerous periods for the rights of gun owners in the history of New York. The State government is now held by the Democrat Party. Gun restrictions will surely become law at the whim of the Democratic Party.

One party control of our entire state government is not a good thing for your gun rights or for the state in general. We are asking you, our members, to donate to SCOPE PAC. Donate as much as you can afford, any amount will be greatly appreciated and put to good use.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

SCOPE-PAC

Announcing **SCOPE-PAC**, a political committee affiliated with SCOPE, Inc. but a separate organization conforming with New York State Election Laws and applicable federal laws.

SCOPE-PAC is raising funds specifically for the support of candidates for state offices that support your right to keep and bear arms. Now you can participate in the political process with more than just your vote; you can donate to **SCOPE-PAC** and be assured your contribution will go to those candidates that will fight for your rights.

Donate today!

Yes! I will help protect my Second Amendment rights
Here is my donation of: \$20 \$50 \$100 Other

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE EMAIL

Make checks payable to:
SCOPE-PAC, PO Box 12711, Rochester, NY 14612

Donations to SCOPE-PAC are not tax deductible
and are subject to all applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations.



www.SCOPEny.org

Up to date information on bills and proposed legislation. Our news section is updated daily to bring you the latest gun related stories.

Find phone numbers and E-mail addresses for your representatives, and contact information for SCOPE chapters, committees and representatives near you.

Visit SCOPEny.org today!

Also check out

www.2ndamendmentshow.com

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

SCOPE THE RIGHT INSURANCE!

SO DON'T DELAY SIGN UP TODAY!



The Second Amendment Radio Show

1590 AM, 1310 AM

10:00-11:30 am every Thursday and 7:00-8:30 pm every Saturday and Sunday also on the Internet

7/24 at:

2ndamendmentshow.com

or

SCOPEny.org

or

restoringamericanetwork.net

Hear Monroe County SCOPE Chair Ken Mathison each week.

The Western NY Sportsman Show follows at 11:30 AM

DEFEND YOUR RIGHTS - SIGN UP / RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP - TODAY!

Membership Dues: Annual - \$20 3 Year Annual -- \$ 55 SCOPE Patch - \$ 4.00

Sponsor - \$40 3 Year Sponsor - \$ 110

Endowment ----- \$ 800 Benefactor - \$1000

Check Appropriate Life - \$ 600 New Member Renewal

Mail To: Shooters Committee on Political Education (SCOPE), P.O. Box 602, Tonawanda, NY, 14151-0602

Make checks payable to: **SCOPE DO NOT SEND CASH** SCOPE also accepts PayPal

Please Print

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ County _____

E-Mail Address _____

Please check all that apply:

Are you an NRA member? Life Annual **Will you serve on Committees?** Yes No

Are you registered to Vote? Yes No

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.

SNL