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TRADITIONS

Q2/2012



ON THE COVER:

The NRA Foundation had its most successful Annual Meeting events ever, raising over \$380k in St. Louis that will go towards furthering the shooting sports.

STAFF

Editor: Melissa Betts

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MISSION STATEMENT

Established in 1990, The NRA Foundation, Inc. ("NRA Foundation") is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization that raises tax-deductible contributions in support of a wide range of firearms-related public interest activities of the National Rifle Association of America and other organizations that defend and foster the Second Amendment rights of all law-abiding Americans. These activities are designed to promote firearms and hunting safety, to enhance marksmanship skills of those participating in the shooting sports, and to educate the general public about firearms in their historic, technological, and artistic context. Funds granted by The NRA Foundation benefit a variety of constituencies throughout the United States, including children, youth, women, individuals with physical disabilities, gun collectors, law enforcement officers, hunters, and competitive shooters.

COVER STORY



2012 NRA Annual Meetings

FEATURES



Friends of NRA Volunteers of the Year



Friends of NRA 20th Anniversary Banquet



Industry Corner: Shiloh Sharps Quigley Rifles



Program Profile: NRA Day

FRIENDS UPDATE



What's New & Exciting with Friends of NRA

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By TOMMY MILLNER
CEO, Cabela's

CABELA'S SUPPORT EARNS ITS PLACE IN THE NRA GOLDEN RING OF FREEDOM

A lot has changed at Cabela's since its humble beginnings at Dick and Mary Cabela's kitchen table back in 1961. But one thing has remained the same - our company's commitment to protecting American's Second Amendment rights. That half century of dedication is reflected in Cabela's steadfast support of the National Rifle Association.

As a member of the NRA Corporate Partners Program, Cabela's has worked closely with the NRA over the years and supports a number of the association's programs including the National Firearms Museum, Hunting and Wildlife Conservation, Disabled Shooting, Women's Programs, NRA Youth Hunter Education Challenge, and The NRA Foundation. Cabela's also participates in the NRA Add-a-Buck program, is a proud sponsor of the NRA Annual Meetings, and has been a significant supporter of the Friends of NRA program.

Cabela's financial support for the NRA recently surpassed more than one million dollars in cash donations. In recognition of the history of Cabela's contributions, I was proud to be honored as the newest member of the NRA Golden Ring of Freedom at the 2012 NRA Annual Meetings and Exhibits held in St. Louis, Missouri.

This honorable achievement of joining the NRA's Golden Ring of Freedom family is one that highlights Cabela's outstanding support of the National Rifle Association and proves our commitment of believing in the work they do to protect our country's important freedoms.

I had the privilege of being inducted in the Golden Ring of Freedom by NRA President David Keene, NRA CEO and Executive Vice President, Wayne LaPierre and Co-Chair of the Ring of Freedom National Advisory Council and Golden Ring of Freedom member, Joe Gregory. I will proudly wear the custom gold jacket made exclusively for members of the Golden Ring of Freedom to show off Cabela's unwavering support for the NRA and The NRA Foundation in the years to come.



By SARAH YOUNG
Event Services Coordinator, National Rifle Association

The National NRA Foundation Banquet and Auction started the 2012 NRA Convention off with a “bang.” Guests corralled at hitching posts outside the doors of Edward Jones Dome as they anxiously awaited the first event in St. Louis. Little did they know, they were about to enter a scene from a cowboy action shoot complete with barrels, ropes, fence posts, tumbleweeds and of course, firearms.

While guests anticipated the opening of the doors at 5 o'clock, the fun had already begun. Eager attendees swooned over ammunition boxes filled with event goodies offering chances to win eight firearms. And swoon they did - over 100 of these boxes were sold before the doors even opened. Some even chose to up the ante by purchasing a rose for their significant other, child, or friend. Turn down a rose that holds a chance to win a his and hers concealed carry set? No way!

In a sea of people carrying newly acquired ammo boxes and roses, a cheer rang out at 5 o'clock as the doors opened, and the crowd flooded onto the massive dome floor. Over 1,500 guests made their way towards the silent auction tables, bucket raffles, and game tables to find the items they could not live without. For many, the 100-plus guns had them committing, and for others, it was the multitude of merchandise and gear, ranging from home decor proudly proclaiming the owner's love of the second amendment to Sitka day packs and Boyt gun sleeves perfect for that hunting trip on live auction.

From the dollars raised to the crowd participation, it was obvious that this group came to buy, buy, buy for the future of the shooting sports. Combined with the generous support of event sponsors Leupold and Cabala's, this night was sure to be a hit.

RAFFLES

The bucket raffle, a *Friends of NRA* staple, was one of the largest raffles to date with close to 200 items available. The raffle featured 35 firearms, including a customized Franklin Armory XO-26, a Remington R1, a Centurion Sporter, and several firearms featuring NRA logos.

One lucky raffle participant even left with something too large for a shipping box - a Coleman Outfitter 700. The camouflaged utility vehicle came loaded with all the features needed for working in the fields or hitting the trails. Highlighted on an inclined set of low pines and large boulders, the Coleman Outfitter 700 inspired daydreams of outdoorsmen and women young and old. Thanks to the generosity of Coleman and Cabala's, the keys to this vehicle belonged to one lucky raffle holder.

The high quantity of items combined with the motivation of a UTV and the sales expertise of the Huntin' Buddies Raffle Team created a perfect scenario for breaking records as the monumental bucket raffle approached the \$100k income mark.

GAMES

The event also featured a select number of games paired with firearm premiums. Similar to local *Friends of NRA* events, these games offered a NRA collector's item for \$20 and included a chance to win a donated firearm. 2012 Banquet games included Gadsden flags, collector's medallions, flashlights, shot glasses, and more.

One new game exceeded all ex-



THE FRIENDS OF NRA AMMO BOX GAME PACK WAS ESPECIALLY POPULAR IN ST. LOUIS. EACH AMMO BOX HAD A CHANCE TO WIN UP TO 8 FIREARMS!

pectations. Underwritten by Renegade Targets, the game was based on the company's creative target designs and offered players quantities of tickets (chances) depending on the target drawn. The handful of people that selected the zombie turkey target received an astronomical amount of chances; however, this did not guarantee they would win the highly sought-after Keltec 12GA Shotgun. The KSG shotgun and the eye-catching targets were a match made in heaven, garnering \$5,800 net, a record high for an incentive-based game.

The traditional Table of Guns was kicked up a notch for the National banquet with an offer of not one, but two hard-to-get firearms: the Colt Mustang .380 PocketLite and the Kimber Solo 9mm. Participants had the opportunity to donate twice as much for the chance to get both firearms. They could also donate the minimum \$20 for their choice of the two. One fortunate table of attendees went home with two of the most sought-after guns on the market!

SILENT AUCTION

Each game may have only one winner, but the silent auction made winners out of many. With 200 pieces of merchandise, 28 firearms, and 11 world-

class trips up for auction, the back corner of the room was abuzz with commotion. Three separate auction rounds kept participants coming back for another opportunity, and "Buy it Now!" options gave people the choice to lock in their purchase immediately, eliminating the worry of being out-bid. "Buy it Now!" participants were also entered into an exclusive drawing for a Smith & Wesson M&P-15 Sport in 5.56NATO.

TABLE SPONSORS

For the first time in the National Banquet's history, eight individuals and companies entered the room with everything needed to start dropping tickets in buckets and signing names to bid sheets. After making their selections, they went to the front of the room to find their specially-reserved tables. In addition to reserved seating and premium items, the new Co-Host and Proud Supporter tables received prime billing throughout the event and a custom made W.R. Case knife with tin for each of their guests. These tables were great for convenience, marketing, and most importantly, fundraising. These eight companies and individuals set themselves apart as strong supporters of The NRA Foundation by purchasing Co-Host and Proud Supporter tables:

Brownells, Century International Arms, Nate Crain, NEMO Manufacturing, Taurus USA, Hornady (2), Crossbreed Holsters, and Pioneer Gun Club. Over \$25k net proceeds were raised due to their generosity.

Event coordinators are hopeful that next year's table sales will grow exponentially as *Friends of NRA* and NRA Foundation supporters step up to leave their legacy on the future of the shooting sports.

SPEAKERS

After two hours of carnival-like fun, guests took their seats for stage presentations which began with the recognition of those who work year-round to prolong the legacy of the shooting traditions - *Friends of NRA's* Volunteers of the Year. Their outstanding commitment has helped raise thousands of dollars for The NRA Foundation. Hailing from all 5 of the major regions throughout the

20 800 00 NET RAISED

United States, the following individuals were selected for their fervent support of the *Friends of NRA* program: Scott Hamann of the Western Region, Diane March of the Eastern Region, Brian Mrnak of the Central Region, Gail Bussell of the Mid-West Region, and Jeremie and Stephanie Wallace of the Southern Region. NRA Field Operations Managing Director, Kyle Weaver, awarded each recipient a framed certificate, a trip to the 2012 Annual Meetings, and a stylish jacket bearing the *Friends of NRA* Volunteer of the Year patch.

Attendees were then treated to appearances by NRA Executive Vice President, Wayne LaPierre, and NRA President, David Keene, who reminded attendees of the importance of active involvement in the protection of their Second Amendment right.

Leupold's Chief Executive Officer, Calvin Johnston, addressed the crowd regarding the strong dedication his company has to promoting the future of the shooting traditions through the work of The NRA Foun-



dation. The brief comments followed a short video highlighting the long-standing company.

Kayne Robinson, NRA Executive Director of General Operations, then stepped on stage to introduce Cabela's Chief Executive Officer, Tommy Millner. During the special introduction Millner was bestowed with an elite honor from the NRA - the gold jacket. Less than 20 individuals have been fitted with this custom-made gold jacket marking their induction into the NRA Golden Ring of Freedom. Membership in this exclusive group is reserved for those who have given gifts of cash or assets to the NRA totaling one million dollars or more. The NRA Foundation was honored that Millner requested his first appearance in the gold jacket be at the banquet Cabela's so proudly supports.

Just as the live auction was about to begin, Lance Kraemer, Product Manager of SoundGear by LaPierre, asked to make a special announcement. In recognition of the fledgling

company's support of The NRA Foundation, Kraemer announced that every firearm on live auction would come with a complete set of SoundGear ear protection. The Official NRA Licensed Product bears a \$600 price tag, and with over 25 guns on live auction, this generous donation was quite a gift!

LIVE AUCTION

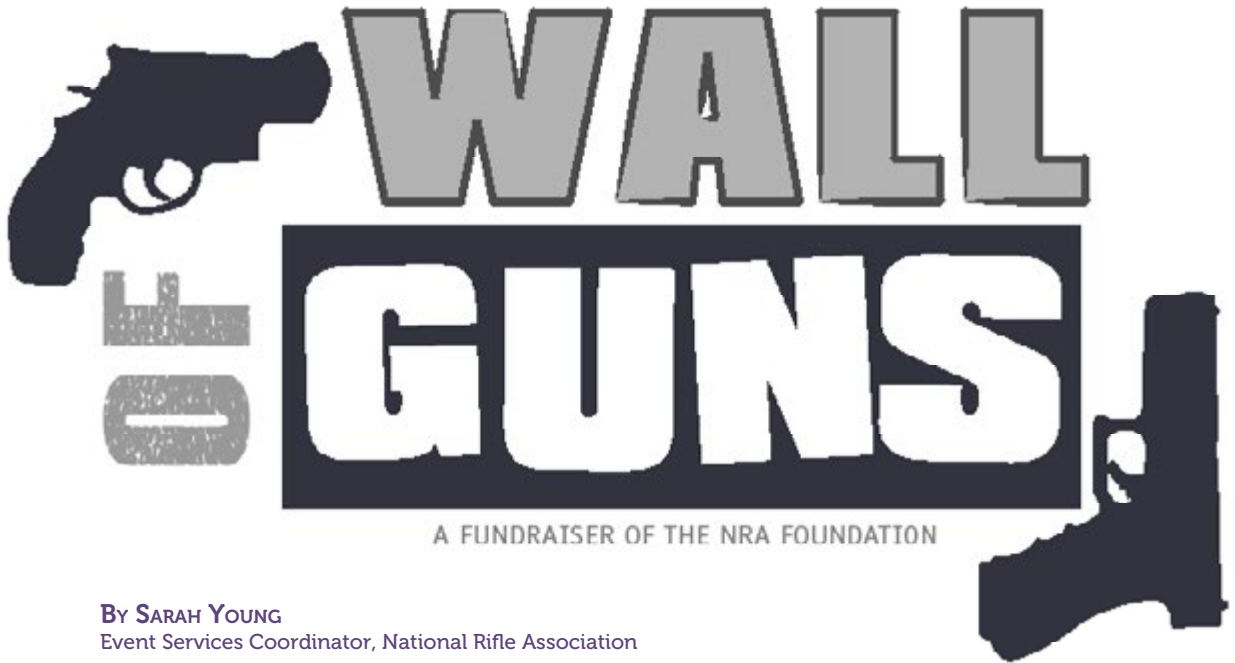
After a brief video from The NRA Foundation thanking attendees for their support, auctioneer Bill Elrod took the stage with emcee and Oklahoma NRA Sr. Field Rep Darren Delong to "bring in the money!" With 100% of the live auction items completely donated, this dynamic auction was all profit for the organization. Every penny raised will go to ensure the future of the shooting sports. Elrod and Delong made a great team keeping the audience interested and in their seats until the last item.

Most importantly, they were driving the bidding higher and higher. Each item went for more than the per item average of years past. There were many amazing pieces and packages made possible by some of the most respected names in the industry.

Generosity was a theme this year, weaving its way through the event from table sponsors to the ticket holders who played only one \$20 game, and every bit counted - because it all adds up to over \$280k net raised in support of The NRA Foundation. April 12th was a day for breaking records and having fun.

The National NRA Foundation Banquet and Auction continues to grow, and we have set expectations for Houston's 2013 event extremely high. How will you be a part of this exciting kick-off event for the 2013 NRA Annual Meetings? Make plans today to join the fundraising and the fun on May 2, 2013 in Houston. It promises to be an event you won't soon forget! ★





“COME ON DOWN TO THE WALL OF GUNS!”

The voice of Western Region Director, Brad Kruger, played on repeat in the heads of staff, volunteers, and avid participants - even while sleeping. The constant question was, “Brad, how are you still able to speak?” Brad’s response, “Lots of water and a goal of 100 flips.” The 2012 Wall of Guns came extraordinarily close to reaching Brad’s moon-high goal. Flipped a total of 89 times, this event was the most profitable Wall of Guns to date, with over \$102k net funds raised for The NRA Foundation.



264

FEET² OF WALL SPACE



70

FIREARMS TO CHOOSE FROM

Located just outside the main exhibit hall entrance, the 2012 Wall of Guns was directly under a ten foot tall replica of the iconic St. Louis arch and featured a stunning **264 foot²** stone backdrop with **70** different firearms. Each gun was lit with red and blue lighting for an eye-catching effect. With the flashing lights, the wall effortlessly caught the attention of all event-goers, keeping traffic steady and sales high.

Each round consisted of 100 \$20 raffle tickets. After 100 raffle tickets were sold, a winner was drawn, and a new raffle began with a different color ticket and 100 new chances to win. The lucky individual holding the winning ticket then had the opportunity to choose their prize(s): one gun from the blue side of the wall or two guns from the red side.

89 very happy winners were selected, averaging one winner every 15 to 20 minutes. Talk about fast-paced raffles!

Some people were drawn in by the fast pace, but most were lured by the sheer quantity of guns available for a \$20 chance with 1 in 100 odds. There were shotguns, bolt-action rifles, conceal carry pistols and revolvers, automatic ri-

fles, pink guns, camouflaged guns, guns with scopes, guns with laser grips...the list could go on and on. After three days of winners, the most popular picks were the Remington R1 1911, the Thompson 1927A-1 Deluxe, and the Kimber Ultra CDP II; all three were chosen more than ten times.

Although some say it was the location and the look of the wall that helped this year's Wall of Guns double the sales of last year, it truly was the outstanding commitment of the volunteers and staff that made this event a success. From day one, a strong group of individuals worked to sell, sell, sell - and sell they did! On Friday alone, the team surpassed the number of rounds sold during the entire event in 2011 at Pittsburg. Just like *Friends of NRA* banquets, this event would not have been a success without the dedication of selfless volunteers. With their help, **\$102k** will go directly to The NRA Foundation.

Plans are already in the works for next year's Wall of Guns, Texas-style. With the bar set high, the team will be shooting for the moon to exceed 2012's outstanding numbers. We will see you there and be ready to play! May 3-5, 2013 - mark your calendars today! ★



****A special thanks goes out to Brunton for their support at the Wall of Guns. Players that bought a "big dog" package (\$100 in tickets) walked away with their choice of Brunton Gear, from hats and t-shirts to hunting optics and gear.**



89

LUCKY WINNERS



102

THOUSAND DOLLARS RAISED

FRIENDS OF NRA



VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

BY NICOLE McMAHON

Senior Event Services Coordinator, National Rifle Association

Last year, the *Friends of NRA* program raised over \$45 million for The NRA Foundation. To make this all possible, a strong core of volunteers willing to exude guidance and leadership is needed to hold everything together. These are *Friends of NRA's* Volunteers of the Year (VOY).

Friends of NRA's volunteers give meaning to the phrase "Voluntarius Cum Honoris" or "To Volunteer With Honor." They are veterans, businessmen, housewives, teachers, police officers, and community leaders; and they run their volunteer lives like they do their professional and personal lives—with faith, integrity, and determination.

Four years ago, NRA staff developed a program that would recognize the outstanding volunteers who work so hard to inspire others while strengthening the *Friends of NRA* program. The result was the *Friends of NRA* VOY—a program that recognizes one outstanding volunteer in each area, and the cream of the crop in each region of the country.

Recommended directly by NRA Field Representatives who oversee the hard work of all 30,000 *Friends of NRA* volunteers, the Area VOY are held in high esteem. Senior NRA staff then select one volunteer out of each five regions to represent the best volunteers in the nation. After they are selected, Region VOY are flown to the NRA Annual Meetings where they are honored guests and recognized for their efforts at the National NRA Foundation Banquet.

This year, six volunteers, including one husband and

wife couple, were selected as Region VOY. Diane March of Wappinger Falls, N.Y., Brian Mrnak of Ashland, Wis., Gail Bussell of Oklahoma City, Okla., Jeremie and Stephanie Wallace of Valdosta, Ga., and Scott Hamann of Kenai, Ala. were respectively the Eastern, Central, Mid West, Southern, and Western Region VOY. Cumulatively in 2011, these six volunteers alone raised nearly \$300,000 for The NRA Foundation. Although raising money for the shooting sports was their primary focus, it wasn't just their fundraising efforts that earned them the prestigious Region VOY title.

Diane March assisted, attended, and helped train other *Friends of NRA* committees for banquets throughout New York as well as committees in New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Florida. She is a certified pistol instructor and was one of the first Refuse to be a Victim® instructors in New York. In addition, Diane has attended the NRA Annual Meetings for the past 17 years and for the last 10 of those years, she has volunteered to assist with Membership, the NRA Store, and the National NRA Foundation Banquet.

Brian Mrnak runs raffles year-round at any gun show within 50 miles, despite his hometown of Ashland, Wisconsin's isolated location on the shores of Lake Superior. Affectionately known as "The NRA Guy" in his community, Brian received his Range Technical Team Advisor (RTTA) training in 2009 and is the main contact for all gun clubs in his area. Brian also attends volunteer workshops and has hosted them at his business, Sports Hollow, which

includes multiple trap, skeet, pistol, and rifle ranges that he allows the public to shoot on for free.

Gail Bussell attended 14 of 26 banquets held in Oklahoma, working 10 of them, as well as soliciting donations for six committees. Gail led her committee in selling eight Blaser sponsorships for \$5,000 each while only 95 Blaser sponsorships were available in the entire country. She constantly reminds volunteers of the *Friends of NRA* mission and the big picture, representing NRA with integrity, enthusiasm, and a positive attitude.

Jeremie and Stephanie Wallace run the most successful banquet in Georgia and have done so for the last three years in a row by securing underwriting for the entire cost of the event prior to opening the doors. They have stepped up to lead their committee and educate other committees in Georgia on how to obtain underwriting and on how to run the event like a business. They are both extremely active within community organizations such as the 4H, Boy Scouts, and almost any local youth education program or event.

When Scott Hamann's Kenai *Friends of NRA* event was sold out at 150 seats at the biggest event center in the city, he simply said, "Let's do two nights." The committee did and generated over \$100,000 because of his leadership. He is chair of the State Fund Committee and attends and helps at no less than four other *Friends of NRA* events around the state. Scott uses his business, Metal Magic, as headquarters for Kenai/Soldotna *Friends of NRA* activities and even allows his staff time during work hours to conduct *Friends of NRA* activities.

It is because of volunteers like Diane, Brian, Gail, Jeremie and Stephanie, and Scott that *Friends of NRA* can accomplish its mission of raising money for the future of the shooting sports. *Friends of NRA* thanks its Region and Area VOY and all the volunteers across the country for being active participants in its program to ensure America's hard-earned rights and traditions are carried forth through future generations! ★



Friends of NRA needs your support! Volunteer for the organization that is supporting the shooting sports for future generations. Sign-up to Volunteer for a Friends of NRA event in your hometown by visiting www.friendsofnra.org/volunteer.



EASTERN REGION VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

DIANE MARCH

MID HUDSON FRIENDS OF NRA
19 YEARS OF SERVICE

"A visit to Diane's home prior to a Mid-Hudson banquet is an experience and an eye opener. It looks like Friends of NRA Merchandise Central with Standard Package items and lots of donations stacked high in each and every room. She is truly a unique and dedicated volunteer and worthy of our highest recognition."

- JAY RUSNOCK, SENIOR NRA FIELD REP, UPPER NEW YORK

CENTRAL REGION VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

BRIAN MRNAK

CHEQUAMEGON BAY AREA FRIENDS OF NRA
4 YEARS OF SERVICE

"Brian is a strong community leader with all local youth groups and in the shooting sports community. He owns and operates his own gun store which includes multiple trap, skeet, pistol, and rifle ranges, ALL free for public use! He has built such a respectful reputation, not only as the community leader, but also as a business man of honesty and integrity."

- SCOTT TAETSCH, SENIOR NRA FIELD REP, WISCONSIN

SOUTHERN REGION VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

JEREMIE & STEPHANIE WALLACE

VALDOSTA AREA FRIENDS OF NRA
5 YEARS OF SERVICE

"Jeremie and Stephanie embody the spirit of the Friends of NRA mission. They are truly working solely to raise funds for the future of the shooting sports. Their passion and determination is infectious and wonderful to be around. This team deserves our recognition and our sincere thanks, as they are the heart and soul of the Friends of NRA."

- BRAD WARD, NRA FIELD REP, GEORGIA

MID WEST REGION VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

GAIL BUSSELL

HEARTLAND FRIENDS OF NRA
8 YEARS OF SERVICE

"I can't imagine a better person based on her productivity to be selected volunteer of the year. Gail will go anywhere, anytime if needed, she is a great ambassador for NRA, and the most unselfish volunteer in my tenure with NRA. Without Gail, Oklahoma would not have had the year we had."

- DARREN DELONG, SENIOR NRA FIELD REP, OKLAHOMA

WESTERN REGION VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

SCOTT HAMANN

KENAI/SOLDOTNA FRIENDS OF NRA
5 YEARS OF SERVICE

"In March of 2011 Scott lost his brother Tracy suddenly at age 45. In August, the same thing happened to his father. Both deaths were unexpected and a shock. Scott not only held his family together through these hard times but also never lost focus on the Friends of NRA program. This speaks volumes about his commitment to the NRA and is what separates his nomination from others."

- MARC STEINKE, SENIOR NRA FIELD REP, ALASKA

EASTERN REGION

CT, MA, NY (LOWER) & **RI**: Peter Bernard, Bristol County

DE & **PA** (EASTERN): Robert Sproesser, Berks Area

ME, NH, & VT: Evan Hughes, Central Vermont

MD & **NJ**: Paul Sollitti, Central Jersey

NY (UPPER): Diane March, Mid Hudson

NC (EASTERN): Elvie Jackson, Greater Triangle

NC (WESTERN): Ricky Drye, Albemarle/Stanly Co. & Anson County

PA (WESTERN): Roy Fritz, Somerset County

VA (EASTERN): John Lee, Southside Sportsman

VA (WESTERN) & **WV**: Linda Pound, Alleghany Highlands

CENTRAL REGION

IL (NORTHERN): Robert Bjerke, Heart of Illinois

IL (SOUTHERN): Lyle Kruger, National Trail

IN: Andy Smith, Crawfordsville

KY: Darrell Brangers, Elizabethtown

MI: Cal & Rocky Kittinger, Multi-Lakes

MO: David Brooks, Southwest Missouri Springfield

OH (NORTHERN): Todd Figard, North East Ohio

OH (SOUTHERN): John & Lauren Rider, Butler County

TN: Tony Sanders, Chattanooga

WI: Brian Mrnak, Chequamegon Bay Area

MID WEST REGION

CO: Dan Martin, Colorado Springs

IA: Spencer Hill, KODA

MN: Rick Knoblock, North Country

MT: Mark & Sam Boyd, Billings Area

NE: Pete Attema, NE Nebraska

NM: Damian Lusch, Estancia Valley

ND & **SD**: Daniel Weber, Burleigh County

OK: Gail Bussell, Heartland

WY: Jason Wilson, Riverton

SOUTHERN REGION

AL & **MS**: Carl "Reece" Stewart, Northwest Alabama

AR: Jeff Eddy, Independence

FL (NORTHERN): Richard Brinkman, Central Florida

FL (SOUTHERN): Frank Kirlin, Greater Broward

GA: Jeremie & Stephanie Wallace, Valdosta Area

LA: Lori & Marcell Parker, Florida Parishes

SC: Larry Fox, Swamp Fox

TX (NORTHERN): Lindsey Lankford, Rusk

TX (SOUTHERN): Dr. Sue McCourt, Cradle of Texas

TX (WEST): Aubrey Sutphen, Texas Gold

WESTERN REGION

AK: Scott Hamann, Kenai/Soldotna

AZ: Kitti Winderweedle, Unit 1

CA (CENTRAL): David & Harold Morgan, Santa Maria

CA (NORTH EASTERN) & **NV** (WESTERN): John Madden, Modesto & Reno/Sparks

CA (NORTH WESTERN): Lila Biggs, Lake

CA (SOUTHERN) & **NV** (SOUTHERN): Frank McEnulty, Compton Hunting & Fishing Club

HI & **OR**: Don Leatherwood, Coos County

ID: Joe Allen, Silver Valley

NV (EASTERN) & **UT**: Debbie Giebel, Elko

WA: Allen Campbell, Southwest Washington



25 years ago, her father taught her to shoot.
Today, she teaches her daughter.
Donating to The NRA Foundation ensures
that one day, her daughter will be
able to teach her children.

Will you join her?

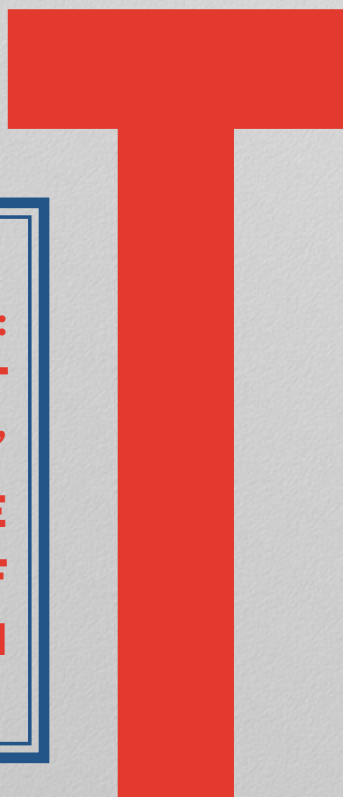
Visit www.friendsofnra.org/waystogive
to learn how to leave **your legacy.**



THE NEXT FIVE YEARS:

With plenty of lessons learned, the Friends of NRA program was developing into a thriving fundraising tool for The NRA Foundation. Building a brand that would be recognized by the shooting sports industry was the next major hurdle.

**1997-2001:
"THE SWEET
SPOT YEARS"
FOR THE
FRIENDS OF
NRA PROGRAM**



he late 90's was a time where new technologies were just starting to develop, so *Friends of NRA* worked to expose the program through traditional means of word-of-mouth and direct mail advertising.

"Word of mouth has always been the most effective tool to promote *Friends of NRA*," said NRA Mid-West Regional Director, Tom Ulik. Without the means of social media to turn to for quick and eye catching advertising, the program had to rely on building relationships to create a "buzz."

In February 1998, NRA Senior Field Representative of Indiana, John Crone, joined the Friends of NRA team. Describing his skills as "white knuckle fundraising," Crone elaborated on having to be more personable to get the message of the program across in those days. "*Friends of NRA* was still reaching a point of recognition to the public" and it was the NRA Field Staff's job to continue spreading the word about what the program was all about.

With a formula built for success, *Friends of NRA* events continued to steadily grow, creating additional growth back at NRA Headquarters. The HQ Field Operations Department added a supporting cast that could assist the field staff that was constantly growing. Five new NRA Reps were added, allowing more events to be developed,

and reaching more areas around the country.

Soon the program had 3 regions and 36 Field Reps covering the country from coast to coast, keeping the field staff constantly on the go. Working with a fast growing fundraising program “you eat, sleep and bleed NRA,” Crone and Ulik jointly share. The dedication and involvement that is needed in this program is ultimately reflected upon the outcome of the events.

Ulik came on board in the spring of 1999. In his previous volunteer days, he had the experience of forming a new *Friends of NRA* committee. Like many others that were hired to be the new NRA Field Reps during this time, it was his involvement as a volunteer that prepared him for the task of starting *Friends of NRA* events in the Northern California area.

To continue growing the program, it was imperative for the new NRA Field Staff to find new volunteers. “Finding volunteers across the spectrum was key to having a successful event,” said Crone. Exposing new people to the program, and finding new talented and hardworking volunteers was essential in the continued growth of *Friends of NRA*.

Friends of NRA banquets now feature firearms, merchandise, and gear selected to be part of a Standard Merchandise Package created each year. Realizing the benefits of a “standard” package and developing how to logistically ship and receive these packages for each event made the dysfunction of “region” packages a thing of the past.

“The idea of a standard package of merchandise for each event was intimidating and difficult, but the exclusivity and quality control of product has proven to be key in our merchandising success,” said NRA Managing Director of Field Operations, Kyle Weaver. Weaver was a Financial Coordinator for Field Operations during this time period and saw the impact a Standard Package had on building the brand.

When the program first started, the merchandise package involved a more diverse collection of items. After several years of data and analysis, the *Friends of NRA* team was able to better identify merchandise more desirable to the majority of its attendees. With simple adjustments, the program has grown each year featuring unique and sought after products that have something for everyone. Things change over time, but the Standard Merchandise Package continues to be an effective and enjoyable element of *Friends of NRA* banquets nationwide.

1997-2001 were “the sweet spot years” for the program. Collectively increasing 156% in net income during these five years, *Friends of NRA* continued to exceed expectations year-to-year and provide more funds that benefited NRA programs such as Eddie Eagle, YHEC, Boy Scouts, 4-H, Competitive Shooting, Law Enforcement, the National Firearms Museum and many more.

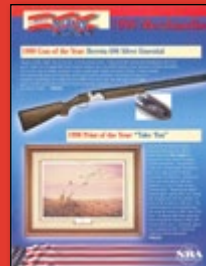
This five year period showed the effects a more organized group, from hard-working NRA Field Reps and volunteers, to HQ support staff, can have on the future of the shooting sports. ★

The “Gun of the Year” is a staple in each Standard Merchandise Package, highlighting an often custom firearm that gives *Friends of NRA* attendees something to look forward to each year. Taking a stroll down memory lane, *Friends of NRA* recognizes each “Gun of the Year,” in a time when the program was increasing in national exposure.



1997

Winchester
Model 70



1998

Beretta 686
Silver Essential



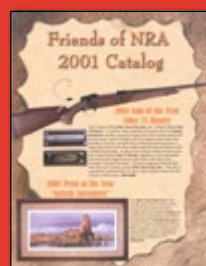
1999

Weatherby
Mark V Sporter



2000

Browning
Gold 12-gauge



2001

Sako
75 Hunter

25 YEARS

ago, the first Friends of NRA banquet took place in Columbia, MO, where CEO of MidwayUSA, Larry Potterfield, and his wife Brenda sparked the journey of a program that would eventually grow to raise millions of dollars for The NRA Foundation. To celebrate the anniversary of that monumental occasion, Friends of NRA returned to the founding state that kicked-off the program that has made a huge impact on the shooting sports.



To get the weekend festivities rolling, the Potterfield's hosted an invitational shoot at a nearby country club the day before the banquet. What better way to celebrate the fundraising success of a program that supports the shooting sports than getting in the outdoors and taking down some targets. Amongst others, participants included John Smith-Baker, President of Brunton, Kyle Weaver, NRA Managing Director of Field Operations, John DaSilva, NRA National Manager of Events & Marketing, and *Friends of NRA* television hosts Matt and Jessie.

Following the invitational shoot was an evening of celebration for The NRA Foundation and the *Friends of NRA* program. The banquet festivities opened with a silent auction, raffles and games, all leading up to the live auction. Voorheis Auction Service had been a part of Missouri banquets for the past 20-years and was thrilled to be included in the milestone banquet. Featured items that night included the 1994 Gun of the Year, a Winchester Model 12, a Springfield 1903 A4 Sniper Rifle, and several customs knives from local businesses in Missouri.

Although there were many in attendance, familiar faces could be spotted including the Potterfields, NRA Foundation Treasurer, Woody Phillips, and former Managing Director of Field Operations, John Smithbaker, now President of Brunton. Wayne Sheets, Executive Director of The NRA Foundation recalled a sense of "deja vu" reminiscing with old friends about the inaugural *Friends* event when the group worked so closely to develop a program that has flourished over the years.

As 1,100 guests found their seats, attendees were informed of the significance that *Friends of NRA* has had on the shooting sports. With a message in the event program from Larry Potterfield to guests, he emphasized "the vision" that he had of hosting "thousands of NRA fund-raising events across the nation." Potterfield further expressed his gratitude to those who have been involved along the 20-year journey. Bob Heidenreich, Don Martin and Jim Joy, who have been a part of the Missouri committee since the program's inception were presented with an honorary plaque recognizing their years of dedication.

During dinner, the audience had the pleasure of hearing Executive Director of General Operations, Kayne Robinson and NRA Executive Vice President, Wayne

LaPierre.

LaPierre brilliantly summed up the impact of the night by stating, "The outstanding turnout to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of *Friends of NRA* in Columbia, MO is the culmination of 20 years of dedication and commitment to the preservation of the shooting sports. History proves once again that every time freedom is at risk, it is fought for and preserved by the work, the wallets, and the will of NRA supporters, gun owners and patriots who always stand up in support of our great cause. For your 20-year record of selfless service, we are profoundly grateful!"

The success of the *Friends of NRA* program would not be what it is today without the great leadership of NRA volunteers and committee members. Sheets shared, "It is the NRA volunteers who have organized and conducted thousands of these events since the first in Columbia, MO."

Since its foundation, *Friends of NRA* has held over 14,000 events, reached over two million attendees, and raised over \$180 million for The NRA Foundation, resulting in over 28,000 grants to support the future of the shooting sports. By dividing half of the net proceeds to NRA State Fund Committees to fund programs and projects on the local and state level and the remaining half to support over 180 programs on a national scale, the *Friends of NRA* program and The NRA Foundation have created a legacy that goes well beyond expectations from a proposal made 20-years ago.

The *Friends of NRA* program has come a long way since early ideas of a fun, family-oriented gathering of like-minded souls, and it is driven to remain a top fundraising organization for the shooting sports nationwide. The weekend of March 17th will be remembered as a triumphant mark in *Friends of NRA* history. As the program continues to move forward, *Friends of NRA* is dedicated to remaining a fundraising power for furthering the mission of the NRA. ★



WOUNDED WARRIORS

HONORED BY SOUTHERN MARYLAND FRIENDS OF NRA



In the Mid-Atlantic region, across the Chesapeake Bay, is the Southern Maryland *Friends of NRA* Committee. Chairman, Perrin Lewis and Co-Chairman, Frank Fruh, passionately make it their mission to incorporate something new and exciting into each of their events. This left no exception in preparation for their banquet this past March.

After brainstorming a collection of ideas, Lewis and Fruh agreed upon involving the nearby naval hospital. Located in Bethesda, Maryland, the National Naval Medical Center is known to have a Wounded Warrior's Project that the gentlemen were familiar with and knew that this was the direction they wanted to feature in the upcoming event. The Wounded Warrior Project raises awareness of the needs of injured service men and women around the country. Aware of the importance of this program, both Lewis and Fruh knew they had a great objective to base the Southern Maryland *Friends of NRA* event around while also recognizing these brave individuals.

With the idea in place, the excitement of having the Wounded Warriors attend this year's event started to catch. Members of the committee reached out to the local Lyons Club, American Legions, VFW's and others, which sparked an assortment of generous donations from the surrounding community. In one specific encounter, Fruh recollected that a local businessman immediately wanted to know how he could be involved and without hesitation purchased two tables for the Wounded Warriors. From witnessing the enthusiasm he received from one individual, Fruh was encouraged to continue spreading the word more fervently throughout the community.

The event took place at the St. Charles Sportsman's Club in Waldorf, Md., and the group of sixteen warriors, spouses and chaperones who attended were happy to join in on the festivities of the Southern Maryland *Friends of NRA*. After the fun-filled day kicked off with a delicious luncheon donated by a neighbor-

ing Chick-fil-A, the Warriors were directed to the range for a 3-hour, uninterrupted shoot, worth about 2,500 rounds of ammunition. All firearms and ammunition were supplied by the St. Charles Sportsman's Club and the local businessman Fruh had previously encountered.

After an exhilarating afternoon at the range, the Warriors then returned to a large room full of guns and hunting items for the evening's raffle. Each Warrior received a handful of raffle tickets and *Friends of NRA* dollars to spend at the event. A special Warrior-only raffle also took place in which each received additional items ranging from buck knives to a dinner for two and even a Ruger rifle. To top the evening off, a table gun raffle was featured, and at the winning table sat four of the warrior attendees.

NRA Senior Field Representative, Brian Swartz, was also present at the event and able to interact with some of the Warriors. Swartz shares that "these young men and women have endured so much at such a young age; it was heart wrenching to hear some of their experiences. They are true heroes in every sense of the word and a true inspiration to everyone that comes in contact with them."

The night's end came and each attendee received a departing gift bag which contained a *Friends of NRA* ammunition case, hats, oil and other items. "Their overjoyed expressions and words of appreciation made this event all worthwhile," a committee member shared.

The Southern Maryland *Friends of NRA* Committee has hope of involving the Wounded Warriors in future events and to share the importance of recognizing and honoring these brave men and women who fight for our country. ★

Support
the Shooting
Sports!

Attend an upcoming
Friends of NRA event in
your hometown. Log-on
to www.friendsofnra.org/
events to check out all
the upcoming events
listed by state.

TRUST FUND....BABY!

What began with a \$3,500 grant from The NRA Foundation for startup equipment for the Bishop Dwenger Rifle Team quickly ballooned into a unique fundraising campaign featuring matching gifts from donors like MidwayUSA. The result is a trust fund with over \$132,000 for the team in its first year.

Glenn and Diane Rice raised their kids with a passion for the shooting sports, but when their oldest child had to shoot on the cross-town high school team because the local school didn't have a shooting program they decided to step up to the plate. After getting the school's administration on-board with the program, Gregg Rice focused on building a 12-member team. When an invitation went out to students in grades 5-8 they were shocked at the response.

"Thirty-six hours after the invitation went home to the students, the voicemail at the 4H office was filled to capacity and the class had a waiting list of 30 plus," said Diane Rice. "This was our first indication that our community desired something more."

With all of the unexpected interest they decided to provide both air rifle and small bore teams for the kids to compete. With many new shooting teams, equipment can often be scarce, and the Bishop Dwenger Rifle Team found themselves in that all too familiar scenario. Most of the equipment the team had available to them was borrowed, and practice was often held in Rice's friend's barn. Indoor ranges can be very expensive and especially hard to come by in the Fort Wayne area, making it difficult for team members to hone their skills.

"Our kids want to shoot; they love to shoot," Rice said.

And that love for shooting, coupled with improved skills can score students high dollar scholarships at colleges and universities with rifle teams. So the Rices set out on a mission to raise funds for the team.

By requesting and receiving grant funds from

The NRA Foundation for shooting equipment and rifles, the brand new Bishop Dwenger Rifle Team was off to a great start, but they soon learned of several additional opportunities that would help the team raise even more money.

With big dreams for the future and motivated team representatives they scoured additional ways of raising money. The Scholastic Shooting Trust Fund, created by MidwayUSA to raise money for high-school and college shooting teams all over America was one of those opportunities. The fund offered a generous grant-matching program this past December, and six schools in the state including the Bishop Dwenger Rifle Team took advantage. In addition, the Indiana Youth Shooting Sports Foundation matched funds the team collected as well. By combining the matching gifts with funds from additional local donors, they ended up with a trust fund containing over \$132,000 that will support the Bishop Dwenger Rifle Team for years to come.

Each year the team is able to use 5% of the trust balance to help fund the equipment needs of the team. While the team has made great progress there is still much to be accomplished. The dream is to have a rifle team that competes at the level of greatness Dwenger has come to expect.

"Our goal is to raise enough funds that we can have a permanent place for the team to practice several days a week and the equipment necessary for our students to be competitive on a national level."

Thanks to a grant from The NRA Foundation for shooting equipment and the hard work of the team to secure additional funds for a trust, the Bishop Dwenger Rifle Team is on their way. ★

GET SHOOTIN

Apply for an NRA Foundation Grant in your state by visiting www.nrafoundation.org. Or, if you would like to know more about the Bishop Dwenger Rifle Team please contact Gregg or Diane Rice by email at gricesmallbore22@yahoo.com or by phone at 260-437-3860.

THE FATHER OF FORENSIC BALLISTICS

By NICOLE McMAHON

Senior Event Services Coordinator, National Rifle Association

Americans love criminal investigative television. In the 2011-2012 series rankings for adults 18-49, NCIS, Criminal Minds, CSI, and several more were in the top 50 shows attracting tens of millions of viewers nationwide. We love solving an intricate crime alongside charming, good-looking detectives with complex personalities, but what is the basis for these shows? Forensics, and specifically in many cases, forensic ballistics.

The fired bullets and certificate of authenticity are beautifully displayed in these prints as a piece of forensic ballistic history.



A branch of the science of criminal law, forensic ballistics studies the use, including carrying, storage, manufacture, and sale of firearms and ammunition. This science was first developed in the early 1900s and perfected by Dr. Calvin Goddard, “The Father of Forensic Ballistics.”

Dr. Goddard didn’t start his career in forensics until he earned both a Bachelor of Arts degree and medical degree from Johns Hopkins University, ultimately graduating in 1915. After school, Goddard joined the United States Army and worked his way up to the rank of Colonel while also serving as a professor of political science at Northwestern University and editor of an encyclopedia and several scientific journals. It wasn’t until 1925 that Goddard established the Bureau of Forensic Ballistics in New York City, formed to provide firearms identification services throughout America.

The newly discovered forensic science was first used during the Sacco and Vanzetti case in 1927 involving two anarchists who were arrested for the murder of a secu-

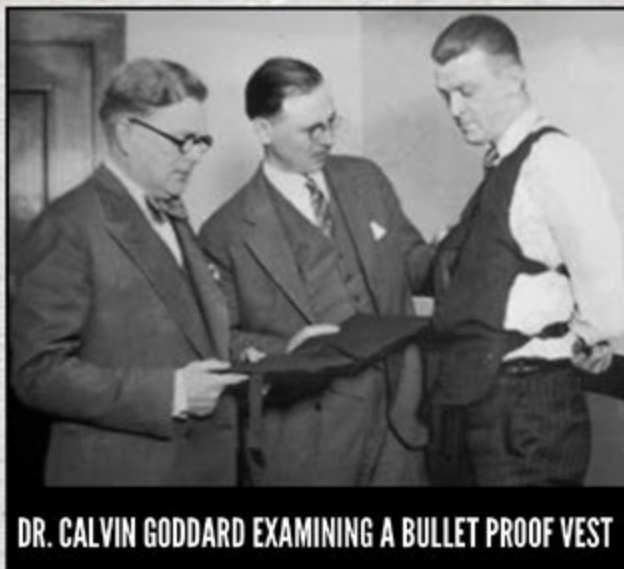
city guard and robbery. Goddard and his colleague Philip Gravelle used a comparison microscope to identify the unique striae left on the bullet or cartridge case from the barrel, breach block, extractor, or firing pin in the gun, as well as a helixometer, a hollow, lighted magnifier probe used to inspect guns. Through extensive study, they found that Sacco's .32 Colt revolver had shot the .32 spent casing recovered at the scene, which led to the conviction of Sacco and Vanzetti.

Goddard's work in the high-profile case earned him national attention and prompted a special Chicago grand jury to invite him to work on one of the most infamous crime cases in history: The St. Valentine's Day Massacre. Two business owners in Chicago solicited Goddard's help using their own funds, Bert Massey, vice-president of Colgate-Palmolive-Peet, and Walter Olson, president of the Olson Rug Company. Since police officers were accused of killing seven North Side Gang members and collaborators, Goddard created a Scientific Crime Detection Laboratory at nearby Northwestern University.

The St. Valentine's Day Massacre, which took place on February 14, 1929 inside a garage in the Lincoln Park neighborhood of Chicago's North Side, is said to have been a result of a plan devised by members of Al Capone's South Side Italian gang to eliminate George "Bugs" Moran, leader of the North Side Irish gang. Four men, two dressed in police uniform, opened fire on the North Side gang members with two Thompson submachine guns, one containing a 20-round box magazine and the other a 50-round drum. Proving the incident was not done by police officers, but by South Side gang members, was crucial in maintaining public confidence in the police force at a time when confidence was at its lowest.

Using slugs taken from the victims including 70 fired bullets of .45 automatic pistol caliber, Goddard established that two .45-caliber Thompson submachine guns were used. Police officers at the time carried Thompson submachine guns, so to rule them out, Goddard obtained and test-fired all the Thompsons belonging to police departments in Chicago and its suburbs and found none of them had been used in the massacre. Although proving Chicago's finest did not commit the killings was a significant break in the case, the murder weapons had not been found and the two men charged with the crime, Capone gunmen John Scalise and Albert Anselmi, were murdered by Capone himself in May of 1929.

A chance encounter in Berrien County, Michigan on December 14, 1929, finally led police to the murder weapons. Frederick Dane, the alias of Fred "Killer" Burke, was drinking that night, rear-ended another vehicle and drove away. A patrolman pursued and forced Burke off the road, but after leaving his vehicle, Burke shot him three times and the patrolman died later that night. When the Berrien County's Sheriff Department raided Burke's home, they found two Thompson submachine guns along with thousands of rounds of ammunition, hundreds of thousands of dollars in bonds, and other firearms and accessories.



The 1921 Thompson submachine guns, serial numbers 2347 and 7580, were sent to Goddard in Chicago where he subsequently proved they were both used in the St. Valentine's Day Massacre. Goddard made the identification from the irregular firing pin of the 2347 and the ejector piece of the 7580.

Thompsons 2347 and 7580 are still in the custody of the Berrien County Sheriff's Department today where Lt. Michael Kline is the guard, caretaker, and historian of the firearms. Through NRA Central Region Director Phil Gray's connection with the Ohio Gun Collector's Association, he contacted Kline to get permission to use the firearms for what is now known as the "Dr. Calvin Goddard: The Father of Forensic Ballistics" print, a tribute to Goddard and his legendary work.

This past November, the Berrien County Sheriff's Department teamed up with Michigan NRA Field Rep Al Herman, along with *Friends of NRA* volunteers, and shot 550 rounds through each Thompson. The fired bullet and bullet casing, Berrien County Sheriff's Department patch, a picture of Dr. Calvin Goddard, and a certificate of authenticity is featured in a limited-edition framed print signed by Lt. Michael Kline himself. Each *Friends of NRA* region received a portion of these prints in addition to 10 that were sent to the Berrien County Sheriff's Department.

At *Friends of NRA* banquets across the country, these exclusive Goddard prints are averaging \$700 in live auctions with one going for over \$2,500. An invaluable part of forensic ballistic history, these prints are truly made for those that want to capture the essence of one of our nation's most tumultuous periods and bring to reality the basis of our most beloved criminal investigative shows. ★

Get your hands on a piece of history. To find out if an upcoming Friends of NRA banquet in your hometown will be featuring the Calvin Goddard print contact your local NRA Field Rep.

Grants Available

A black fountain pen is positioned diagonally, with its nib resting on a clear, spherical glass paperweight. The paperweight sits on a highly reflective surface, creating a clear reflection of the pen and the paperweight. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light gray.

Apply for a grant from The NRA Foundation

Fill out the Online Grant Application today at www.nrafoundation.org!





When you think of Texas, phrases like “Don’t Mess with Texas” and “everything’s bigger in Texas” no doubt come to mind. However, dig deep into Texas history and you will find legends taking risks for a greater good, to sustain a better way of life for themselves, their families and their communities. The same holds true today. South Texas consistently steps up when it comes to supporting the shooting sports through the *Friends of NRA* program, each year building on the success of the previous year. By taking on new ideas, parents, youth, and communities “deep in the heart of Texas” show they are willing to embark into new fundraising territories.

Deep in the heart of Texas, an exciting new fundraising idea is creating a buzz as seven *Friends of NRA* committees participate in the MasterPiece puzzle program. In true Texas spirit the committed volunteers, parents, and youths of local Friends groups in Seguin, Medina Area, San Antonio, Comal County, Lake Jackson, Brownsville and Laredo will be bringing the community together to raise funds one piece at a time. The project is being used as a partnership between the *Friends of NRA* committees and local groups to raise additional funds for their respective programs. At the core of the project are the three key elements of the *Friends of NRA* program- fun, fellowship and fundraising.

Each group jumps right into having fun by kicking off their project with a puzzle painting pizza party. Members of the *Friends of NRA* committee and the partnering organization get together to paint the pieces, sharing and mixing colors, laughing at each other in painters aprons, and admiring the hidden talents of our friends and neighbors. And c’mon...it’s pizza...how can you not have fun when 24 plus youth, parents, and siblings get together to paint at a committee members house in the great state of Texas!

Fellowship is represented by the simple Texas state motto, “friendship.” The MasterPiece project builds friendships between like-minded individuals whose paths may or may not have crossed otherwise, but are intertwined in a common mission to protect the Second Amendment and secure the ability for future generations to build friendships through the shooting sports. Businesses interested in underwriting or sponsoring the puzzle, parents and youth painters and the local community all come together for a common goal of raising as much money as possible for the program.

That energy the MasterPiece creates is vital to fundraising. It can be spontaneous and contagious, especially watching the pieces of the puzzle all come together prior to auctioning it off. Literally painting a picture of how each individual, through his or her own contributions, is part of a cause bigger than any one person.



It’s truly inspiring and spectacular acts of donation have been known to occur- like in Seguin, where an attendee at the Guadalupe Gunslingers banquet donated back a gun they just won in the live auction because the buyer “gets what we are doing” and wants to give back.

South Texas will continue to take part in the MasterPiece puzzle fundraiser now and into the future because of the spirit of Texas volunteers and organizations. Former Senator Phil Gramm said it best, “I love Texas because Texas is future-oriented, and Texans think anything is possible.”

So what piece of the *Friends of NRA* puzzle will you be? ★

We want you to “Mess with Texas!” Join the fundraising bandwagon and attend an upcoming *Friends of NRA* banquet in South Texas! Contact NRA Field Representative Liz Foley at efoley@nrahq.org or visit www.friendsofnra.org/TX to order tickets online.

SUMMIT COUNTY SHOOTING RANGE

RECEIVES NRA FOUNDATION GRANTS

Settled in the mountainous terrain of the Colorado Rocky Mountains, between Dillon and Keystone, sits the Summit County Shooting Range. As a six acre, public range for the past thirty years, it has allowed groups of 4-H shooters and others the space to practice and hone their marksmanship skills, but recently has been in need of overdue repairs.

Luckily, nearby is a powerhouse fundraising team, the Central Rockies *Friends of NRA*. This past May, the committee supported two NRA Foundation grants for The Board of County Commissioners and members of the Summit County 4-H to progress the Summit County range facilities and further their eager mission of educating surrounding communities in a safe environment. The awarded NRA Foundation grants totalled \$16,500 and are to be used for improving the range for public use while providing support for 4-H shooting and archery programs.

The Summit County range is sixty miles west of Denver and located in an ideal portion of the state, where

way to keep it open. With grants from The NRA Foundation, the Summit County Shooting Range continues to work on improving the public range, building shelters and advancing backstops for the pistol and long gun ranges. Using funding that had been awarded the previous year, the range had already developed an up-to-date drainage system and created accessible walkways. Additionally, the local 4-H is preparing to spend their new funding on shooting supplies, firearms, ammunition, targets, archery gear and other needed supplies.

NRA Field Representative, Gwen Chermack of Colorado was present when the grants were awarded to the Summit County Shooting Range. "We are always happy to award grant money to ranges and 4-H shooting programs. 4-H is an excellent program, and it is extremely effective at getting our next generation involved in the shooting sports."

The funding that the Summit County Shooting Range received not only provided desperate aid for a range that was nearly closed, it also helped to improve a place

"We are always happy to award grant money to ranges and 4-H shooting programs. 4-H is an excellent program, and it is extremely effective at getting our next generation involved in the shooting sports."

thousands of shooters are estimated each year to use the facility. "With a limited number of ranges in the area, many require private membership, while the Summit County range has continued to have a steady flow of public shooters pass through," shared Central Rockies Chair, Peggy Long.

On the verge of being shut down by Summit County Commissioners due to unsafe conditions, the Summit County Sheriff John Minor urged the district to apply for an NRA Foundation grant to avoid the potential closure. A task force collectively made of twenty members from the community joined together to assist with designing improvements at the range that would make it safer for visitors.

For over thirty years, the Summit County public range has been a staple in the area, and the community did not want to let a public range be shut down if there was a

where people with a similar interest can gather and take part in something they love, the shooting sports. Public ranges like Summit County, allow a community to grow and prosper, and the local residents could not be happier that the range is open and active.

Without support from organizations like *Friends of NRA* and The NRA Foundation, clubs, ranges, and other associations in need of assistance would be forced to closed due to lack of funding. But thanks to grants from The NRA Foundation, the Summit County Public Range and many like it, now have a steady source of support for years to come. ★

Save your range or provide support for your local 4-H shooting team! Apply for an NRA Foundation grant by contacting your NRA Field Rep or visiting www.friendsofnra.org/grants/!

MONTEREY BAY BOY SCOUTS

receive largest central california grant ever

For the residents of Central California, June 21, 2008 will be a day remembered as an overwhelming act of nature. A combination of lightning, dry thunderstorms, and fierce wildfires swarmed its way through what was known as an abundant plant community in the region. Now known as the third largest fire in California's history, the Basin Complex fire burned through 162,818 acres in a week's time and left behind devastation to all surrounding cities. Directly in the fire's path was the Monterey Bay Area Boy Scout Council's Pico Blanco Scout Reservation. Surrounded by the Los Padres National Forest and the Ventana Wilderness, the camp's vicinity was a targeted area for the fire siege.

Since its inception in 1954, the Scout Camp has offered a variety of activities for scouts in the entire Central California region. Ranging from shooting sports to nature studies and even aquatics, this camp has provided activities for thousands of Boy Scouts to earn their Shooting and Shotgun Merit Badges over the years.

Although fire crews were able to protect the majority of the camp, the outcome of the damage left behind was still significant. Several buildings at the camp including the range facility were affected as well as its surrounding environment. The intensity of the fire also damaged many of the trees enclosing the area of the range. Many succumbed to the harm of the fire and eventually began to fall on the range facility causing further damage.

Cliff Williams, Chairman of the King City *Friends of NRA* since 2006, attended the grant awards meeting and made a startling discovery that no grant applications had been submitted from the Central Coast area. To rectify the situation at hand, Williams was on a mission to locate a group that encouraged youth shooting activities in the area.

Williams, a former scout leader and committee member of a local scout troop, initiated his search through members of the local Scout Council. King City area Scoutmaster, John Cumming knew that the Pico Blanco Scout Camp shooting range was still in very poor condition from the Basin Complex Fire and suggested they apply for an NRA Foundation grant to improve the facility.

Williams was thrilled with the suggested applicant. "After all these years, I finally had the chance to pres-

ent this opportunity to someone to apply for a grant," Williams shared.

Scoutmaster Cumming joined numerous other scout leaders and local business officials to develop a committee that would take on the project of rebuilding the Pico Blanco Scout Camp Range.

By the summer of 2011, the newly formed committee reached a pivotal point with developing plans to repair and upgrade the range at the camp. Realizing the project was an ambitious one, the group divided the project into separate phases over a 3-4 year span. With monetary figures in hand, the group took initiative and applied for an NRA Foundation grant with fingers crossed.

At the 2012 Grant Application Meeting in Visalia, Cliff Williams was finally able to speak about the grant application. After the presentation, one of the committee members remarked that thousands of scouts would be using the range over the span of the project and immediately moved to award the Scout Council \$55,000 toward the project. The motion passed unanimously.

A check in the amount of \$55,000 was presented to the Monterey Bay Area Scout Council at a 2012 King City *Friends of NRA* banquet for repairs and upgrades to the Pico Blanco Scout Camp shooting range. NRA Senior Field Representative of Central California, Jason Quick, informed the group, "this grant was the largest grant ever awarded to any group in the Central California area."

During a recent visit to the Scout Office, Williams noted that the large presentation check is prominently displayed in the lobby for all to see. ★



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: JASON QUICK, NRA FIELD REP, ROYCE CUMMING, SCOUT TROOP 101, JUSTIN HALEY, SCOUT TROOP 101, JOHN CUMMING, SCOUTMASTER, CLIFF WILLIAMS, KING COUNTY FRIENDS OF NRA, ALBERT GALLEGOS, MONTEREY BAY AREA COUNCIL SCOUT EXECUTIVE, JOE STURGILL, ASSISTANT SCOUTMASTER

FUNDRAISING DOWN UNDER: THE QUIGLEY LEGACY

BY SARAH YOUNG
Event Services Coordinator, National Rifle Association

In 2010, National Manager of Events and Marketing, John DaSilva and Shiloh Rifle Manufacturing President, Kirk Bryan had a seed of an idea that grew into a money tree. After years developing a relationship with Shiloh's executive family, DaSilva began discussions for a project combining the appeal of actor and NRA Board Member Tom Selleck with the fundraising potential of an iconic firearm. Today, two years after discussions began with Shiloh for a custom run of 50 Quigley rifles, the project has raised over \$470k for Friends of NRA.

"Matthew Quigley 900 yards"

This four word job application sent character Matthew Quigley to the land down under and actor Tom Selleck onto the big screens of American filmgoers. The film also brought another entity to national acclaim: Shiloh Rifle Manufacturing of Big Timber, Montana. The family-owned business created the 1874 Sharps Buffalo Rifle that rarely left Quigley's side during the film. The heavy octagon barrel, the color cased receiver, and the long range capability of this 1874 model were so well-recognized and sought-after that the company named it the "Quigley" model.

Although the company and the rifle were made famous by a movie about Australia, Shiloh is a distinctly, American company. Their entire line of rifle models is not only 100% American made - it is made exclusively by Shiloh.

"Our family is extremely proud to be able to own and operate a business that produces rifles that are truly 100% American made," said Bryan. The company even opened their own foundry to ensure all elements of the rifle are manufactured to their high standards, right down to the screws.

Once a stock is selected, a serial number is assigned and the

long process begins. Each employee has a specific element of the rifle to complete, and each has a long history with the company specializing in that task. The few machines used in the process have stood the test of time, like the barrel drill from 1939 that was originally used to produce World War II military barrels. From hand-sanding to hand-engraving, each rifle is made to order.

The Shiloh website boldly states, "When you purchase a Shiloh Sharps, you not only purchase a legendary rifle, you support the principals of a way of life Americans have fought and died for over generations - self-reliance, pride and our freedom." This passionate statement affirmed DaSilva's ideas in 2010 - Shiloh would make an excellent partner with *Friends of NRA* in a new endeavor to raise funds for the future of those very principals.

DaSilva began discussing the development of a special run of Quigley rifles in 2010. This project involved the production of 50 Quigley Rifles chambered in .45-110, all with the same specifications but made unique through the handmade nature of the process. The rifles would be striking with tiger-striped color cased parts and the initials "NRA" engraved and encircled with a gold oval inlay. The original idea included a copy of both the DVD and sound-

NRA EDITION

SHILOH SHARPS QUIGLEY

.45-110 CALIBER

STANDARD GRADE WOOD

MILITARY BUTTSTOCK

COLOR CASE FINISH

PATCH BOX

DOUBLE SET TRIGGERS

TANG SIGHT WITH WINDAGE

NRA GOLD OVAL INLAY

SEMI BUCKHORN REAR SIGHT

PEWTER TIP

34" HEAVY OCTAGON BARREL

SHILOH GLOBE APERTURE FRONT SIGHT

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY SIGNED BY TOM SELLECK AND SHILOH RIFLE MFG. PRESIDENT, KIRK J. BRYAN

"QUIGLEY DOWN UNDER" DVD AND SOUNDTRACK



track from the 1990 film, "Quigley Down Under," but DaSilva had something even bigger in mind.

Thanks to Selleck's passion for NRA's mission, he agreed to sign Certificates of Authenticity for all 50 firearms, taking the Quigley's from outstanding rifles to one of a kind collectibles.

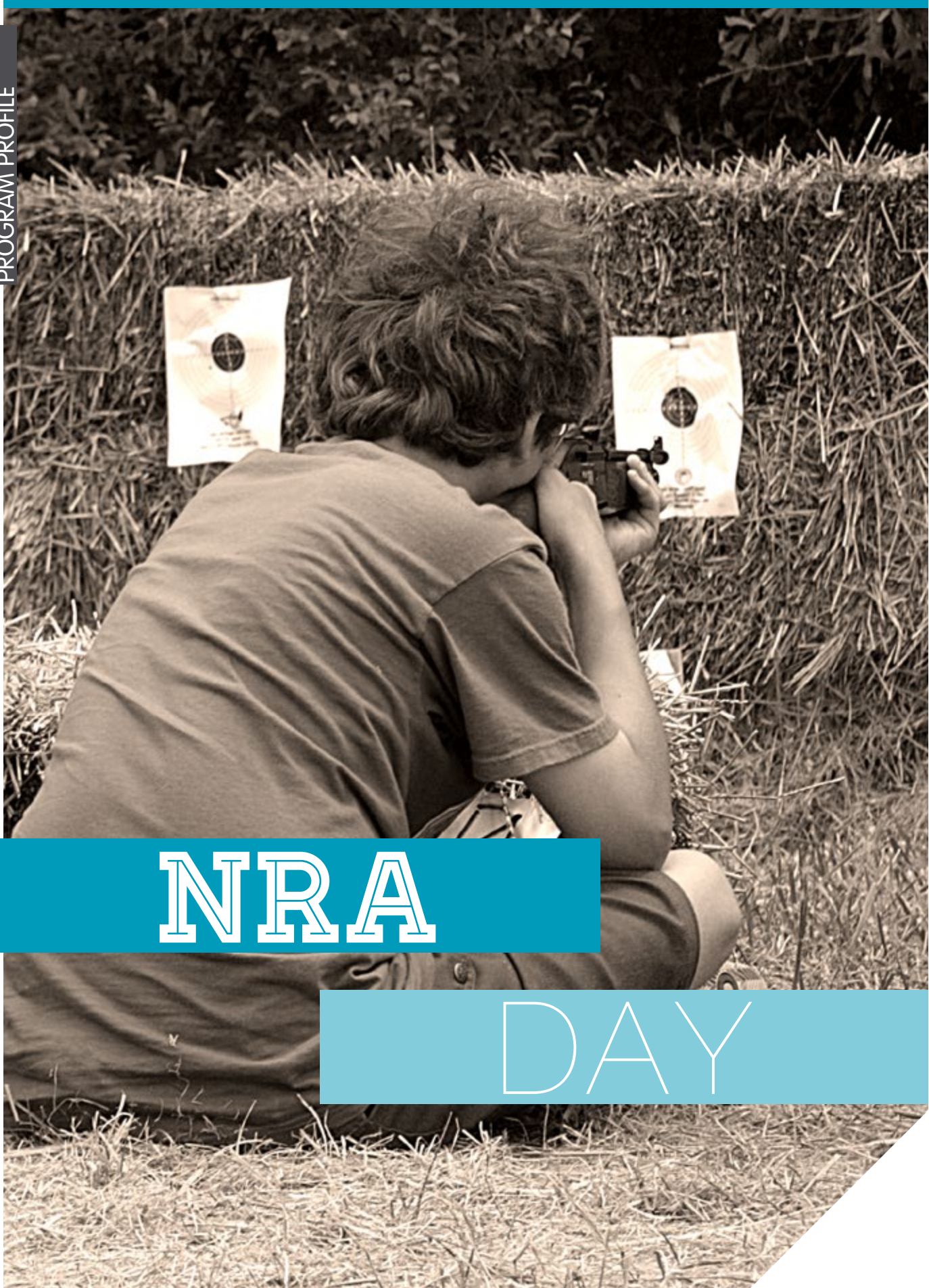
Once all the parts were in place, the rifles spent just under a year in production at Shiloh's Big Timber plant. After each rifle was inspected, the time for shipment to *Friends of NRA's* distribution center had arrived. For Kirk Bryan and his sister and business partner, Lucinda Klostermeier, the standard shipment was not enough. They travelled over 12k miles and through a blizzard to hand-deliver the rifles to the center.

On December 1, 2011, the elite rifles were unveiled to NRA Field Representatives at the annual Merchandise Preview. Each rifle was to be sold to \$10k sponsors. What happened after this moment was unprecedented. Within two weeks, two of these high-dollar sponsorships were sold, and before the close of January, 12 more were claimed. Just 60 days after the announcement, over half of the short run of rifles was gone. Oklahoma committees under the leadership of Oklahoma Field Representative, Darren Delong, exceeded expectations by selling the largest number of sponsorships, by far. In addition to securing the first sponsorship, they have also maintained a consistent lead in sales.

The quality of the rifle with the signature package from Tom Selleck truly "hit the mark." Over \$470k has been raised in gross at this point, and the dollars are still rolling in. Although these are sponsorship items, a few generous donors have donated their rifles back to the organization for auction. This serves to increase the outstanding legacy this project and its participants will have on the future of the shooting sports.

"Shiloh Rifle is extremely proud to be involved with the *Friends of NRA* program and believe in The NRA Foundation's cause," said Bryan. "It is imperative that we do everything possible to get the next generation involved and educated in all aspects of shooting and firearms safety."

Six months after their reveal, only a couple of these exclusive rifles remain. If you're interested in purchasing a Quigley legacy, please contact your Field Representative today to inquire about the availability. Once these two are gone, no more will be created. ★



NRA

DAY

The National Rifle Association (NRA) offers 178 different programs aimed at increasing education and participation in the shooting sports. With the continuing growth and interest in shooting sports, the NRA wanted to create a pathway for individuals to become more involved with the numerous programs it has to offer.

In an effort to increase participation in one of the 178 programs offered, the NRA changed the name of its Shooting Sports Camps in 2007 to NRA Day. The NRA Day program permits people of all ages and skill levels to exercise their right to the Second Amendment in a fun, supervised, and educational environment. Each year, thousands of people across the country participate in NRA Day events, exposing them to the benefits of the shooting sports industry.

NRA Day was designed to provide adults, youth, families, competitors, and hunters with the opportunity to experience, share, and enjoy the overall atmosphere of shooting sports. Comprised of basic goals such as providing a safe and structured hands-on learning environment under the supervision of instructors, coaches, and trained volunteers; promoting the shooting sports as a fun and positive activity to be enjoyed by everyone; and providing an avenue to introduce people to the shooting sports and presenting future opportunities to retain new shooters, this program continues to maintain its reputable standing of excellence.

While NRA Day events are designed for everyone, many local shooting clubs choose to hold a special interest NRA Day event for a specific demographic. These themes are often based on the interests of the targeted audience at hand and can vary on a variety of topics. Specific events that have been hosted in the past include youth organizations (Boy Scouts, 4-H Clubs, etc.) senior citizens, people with disabilities, women's groups, community organizations, concealed carry permit holders and many others.

So why should you get involved with an NRA Day event in your hometown?

Hundreds of clubs and ranges across the country choose to host NRA Day events each year for an assortment of reasons from promoting the benefits of NRA programs to getting new and experienced shooters more involved with the NRA. The benefits of NRA Day events are unlimited.

Capable of being specifically tailored to a local community's needs, the NRA Day program provides activities and themes such as Safety and Firearm Education, Youth SportsFest, Hunting, Competition, Shotgun, and Basic Shooting events. Many clubs also hold several NRA Day events throughout the year to fulfill all needs of their community.

Staff at NRA Headquarters is dedicated to helping you find out more about upcoming NRA Day events in your hometown. To learn more about NRA Day, contact the NRA Day Program Coordinator at (703) 267-1591 or youth_programs@nrahq.org. ★



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