



September 2019

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## These are the Good Old Days

By Dave Holub

How many times have you heard someone say “Those were the good old days” while referring to days gone by? I have said it myself. With everything going on in the gun world today, it is easy to focus on the negative. Every news story seems to be about how the gun grabbers are going after our rights.

To be sure, that is a fact. It is, however, nothing new. Every year, anti-gun legislation is introduced. The new bills they are talking about are nothing new. They have been trying to get those things passed for decades. The terrible crimes that have recently been committed have given the gun-grabbers, and their enablers in the main-stream media, an excuse to push even harder to erode our rights. People on both sides of the debate have gotten very boisterous and belligerent. I can't speak for what's going on in Washington, but I have a feeling our friends at the NRA are being very vigilant and working with our friends in congress to protect our second amendment rights. At the state level, you can rest assured that the NRA and Wisconsin Firearms Owners is keeping a close eye on what's going on, and we will be in Madison for every committee hearing that may be held for any gun-related issues.

Don't fall for the hysteria being pumped up by supposedly gun-rights organizations that only want your donations. I received a mailing this last week from Wisconsin Gun Owners (not affiliated with us) screaming how the sky is falling, and I need to send them(him) money to fight the bad actors in Madison. That group is never at any committee hearings, and they do nothing to promote our cause. If anything, they make it worse by getting the opposition to dig their heels in even deeper. Everyone needs to click it down a few notches and look at things in a rational manner. No one is going to be convinced because someone is screaming at them.

Think about where we are today in this state compared to 15 years ago. We have made huge gains in our fight to restore our gun rights in Wisconsin. It wasn't accomplished by sending internet petitions to our legislators. It was done by a daily presence in Madison by the NRA and our organization. We have Bob Welch working for us as a lobbyist. He is a former state senator and has a working relationship with a very large number of the legislative members. When we have volunteer members and board members show up for committee hearings, and explain our positions and why we hold them, we make a tremendous impact. That is how we got our range protection bills passed. It is how we got concealed carry. It is how we got the waiting period for handgun purchases repealed. Youth hunting, gun case laws, and several other improvements came along with them. All around the state, new indoor shooting facilities are popping up, giving us more opportunities to exercise our freedoms-especially in the winter months. In many ways, we are in a far better position than we were in “The Good Old Days”.

That doesn't mean we can sit back and enjoy what we have gained. We need to constantly fight to maintain what we have and try to restore even more of our God-given and constitutionally protected rights. You can rest assured that our state organization will be at the forefront of any and all battles that are being waged to slide us backwards.

The best way to protect what we have, and to regain more of our rights, is to do it at the ballot box. Make sure you vote for legislators friendly to our cause and encourage friends and relatives to do the same.

Life is too long to constantly focus on the negative. While paying attention to what is going on in the world and remaining vigilant in the fight to retain our rights, go out and enjoy the freedoms we now have. It is almost mind boggling how many activities there are in which you can participate. Don't be afraid to get some friends together and join a league. On the shotgun side, there are trap, skeet, five stand, sporting clays, and some I'm sure I never heard of. There is bullseye pistol, practical pistol, steel challenge, pistol

silhouette, bowling pin shoots, and any number of different action pistol games out there. There is high power rifle, smallbore, air rifle, precision rifle, rifle silhouette, and long range. 3 gun competitions allow you to shoot all three, pistol, rifle, and shotgun. I'm probably missing your favorite. Don't forget to just go to the range with friends and family to enjoy a day of friendly competition, teaching, plinking, or just burning powder. There are more ranges available to us now than there ever has been. There is an excellent chance that somewhere near you there is a new range going up, or an existing club is making upgrades to their range to improve safety, usability, or accessibility. I didn't even mention the numerous gun shows held all across our state.

These things don't happen on their own. There are dedicated members of your local club that work tirelessly to make all of this possible. Offer to help where you can, and above all, join a club or two. Your dues money will not be wasted. It is a small price to pay to assure that we will have a place to shoot well into the future. Show up for club workdays and bring a friend or a kid along. There is something for everyone to do.

In my business, I deal with shooters from all over the world. From talking to them, I can assure you that we are living in a unique place, in a unique time in history. We are truly blessed with the freedoms and opportunities that we have. We must not squander what has been bequeathed to us by those that came before us. We must work to leave even more opportunities for those coming after us.

Don't dwell on the negative. Some day they will be talking about the present and say, "Those were the good old days".

These are the Good Old Days—let's make it so it is even better in the future.

## Wisconsin Firearm Owners Upcoming Events and News

### Upcoming Events

Lodi

League Grand Finale

September 21, 2019

Eau Claire

4 Gun 600

September 28, 2019

Eau Claire

80 Shot NMC

September 29, 2019

Nicolet

100 shot 200 Chili

October 5, 2019

Racine

Navy Cup Birthday

October 5, 2019

Nicolet

M1 Garand Match

October 12, 2019

Eau Claire

Coyote Warmup Match

October 19, 2019

Racine

M1 Garand B Match

December 7, 2019

Check us out on our web site at:

<https://www.wisconsinfirearmowners.org>

Check us out on

Facebook @ Wisconsinforce

### Wisconsin State Mid-Range Championship



On August 24th and 25<sup>th</sup>, La Crosse Rifle Club hosted the Wisconsin State Mid-Range Championship.

Randy Gregory wins the WI 600yd championship!

Saturday 796-46x

Sunday 799-59x - total 1595-105x

Congratulations Randy and all of the other competitors!



Results from the 2019 WI State 600 Yard Mid-Range Prone Championships are posted at [www.lacrosserifleclub.com](http://www.lacrosserifleclub.com) on the Match Information Page.

## Wisconsin State Outdoor Bullseye Championship



On the weekend of August 24th & 25<sup>th</sup>, Beloit Rifle Club hosted the Wisconsin State Pistol Championships. Scott Soik is the Wisconsin State Outdoor Pistol champion 2 years in a row. A solid performance from the start with no sweat puddles.

**Congratulations Scott!**

Scott is also the Iowa State Champ! He has had a pretty great end of summer! **Congrats!**

**“Results Bulletin” WI State Champion: Scott Soik - 2549 – 72**

**Match Winner: John Kish - 2622 - 100**

**High WI Master: Jeff Vermilyea - 2541 - 81  
(High Master: Ralph Reid – 2565-101)**

**High WI Expert: Scott Soik - 2549 - 72  
(High Expert: John Kish – 2622-100)**

**High WI Sharpshooter: Paul Urbaniak - 2458 - 54**

**High WI Marksman: George Tibbetts - 2248 - 26  
(High Marksman: Bernard Melus – 2337-38)**

**High WI Woman: Victoria Labrosse - 2051 – 25**

Competitors, here are the results from the match this past weekend. We had beautiful weather both days and that part was good. Not a real good turnout with only 50 shooters participating. New food crew this year and they really hit it out of the park. This was Beloit’s 35 Wisconsin State Outdoor Championship. Congratulations to Scott Soik for his repeat of the Championship. I hope those of you who shot the match enjoyed it and your trip home was safe, comfortable and uneventful. Thank you once again for attending our match. Be safe and be well, Jon.

## Hope Rod & Gun Club

The Hope Rod and Gun Club has been around since 1962; when it was incorporated it was located near the Dane County landfill. Downs, who is president of the club, said when the land in McFarland was available to purchase the club chose to move and signed the deed to the 14-acre plot on June 14, 1964.

“It was just a group of guys after World War II and the Korean War and a lot of soldiers who formed a lot of these small clubs,” Downs said.

“They got together for camaraderie and fun and that type of things and they just kept it going. It kept growing and we’re still here.”

For more information on Hope Rod & Gun Club go to: <http://www.hopegunclub.com/index.html>





- **Wisconsin Firearm Owners** gives **you** a voice in Madison to protect your **Second Amendment Rights**.
- We are the **only NRA** State Chartered Association in Wisconsin.
- **WFO** and the **NRA** led the lobbying efforts for Right to Carry and The Shooting Ranges Protection Act.
- **WFO** provides Club and Range support for those looking to expand and improve their ranges.
- As your **NRA** and **CMP** State Association, **WFO** sanctions State Championships for multiple shooting disciplines.
- Our lobbying efforts have helped to clean up Wisconsin's handgun restrictions.
- Advancing hunter rights and mentored hunting in Wisconsin.

JOIN US TODAY TO HELP PROTECT YOUR GUN RIGHTS. [www.wisconsinforce.org](http://www.wisconsinforce.org)

## WISCONSIN FIREARM OWNERS

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- \_\_\_ Life \$250
- \_\_\_ Junior Membership FREE (under 18)

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- \_\_\_ Regular Annual \$30
- \_\_\_ Patriot Annual \$250

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Payment: \_\_\_ Check \_\_\_ Paypal (Online Only) \_\_\_\_\_

#### Mail To: Wisconsin Firearm Owners

PO Box 130

Seymour, WI 54165

I certify that I am not now, and never have been, a member of any organization which has in any part of its program, the attempt to overthrow the government of the United States by force or violence, and that I have never been convicted of a felony, crime of violence, or misdemeanor domestic violence, and I am not otherwise prohibited from owning firearms. If admitted to membership in Wisconsin Firearm Owners, Ranges, Clubs & Educators Inc. I will fulfill the obligations of good sportsmanship, and I will uphold the Constitution of the United States of America and the Second Amendment thereto.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Donations to Wisconsin

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# Women Who Shoot High-Power Competitions

by Serena Juchnowski - Wednesday, October 3, 2018



Though some of the most recognized and popular figures in the shooting sports today are women, there are not as many girls involved in competitive shooting as there could be. If one visits the National Matches held annually at Camp Perry, Ohio, one will see firsthand the disparity between the number of female and male competitors. Anyone on the firing line will tell you that women seem to have a natural advantage as shooters. This leads us to the question: Why are there not as many females involved as males?

Sara Rozanski, now a member of Team CMP (Civilian Marksmanship Program) and an incredibly accomplished high-power shooter, noted that when she shot on the ORPA (Ohio Rifle and Pistol Association) Junior High Power Rifle Team, she was one of six girls on the team. While she acknowledged that “there’s definitely a lot more females shooting in general,” she agreed that the lack of scholarships is a significant factor in the lack of female participation in high power. Rozanski sums up the sport well, saying that “High power is...not a lucrative sport. You can’t get scholarships on it. You don’t win a lot of money on it. It’s more or less...about shooting the best for yourself and then the prestige of whatever match you’re shooting in...you’re more or less just shooting for yourself to see if you can shoot better than the time you did before. It’s kinda weird. Not many people, I think, go into a sport unless they’re kinda getting something out of it other than for themselves, they’re either getting money out of it or huge awards or huge notoriety, that’s not this sport at all.” In other words, if girls are going to pick a shooting sport, many will choose one that will help them in some other way. Adding scholarships, or finding ways to make the sport more financially rewarding could help attract participants, but it could also detract from the unique community formed by the self-improvement-seeking participants high power naturally attracts.

SSG Amanda Elsenboss (a graduate of the NRA Y.E.S. program) is the only woman on the United States Army Marksmanship Unit (AMU) service rifle team. She grew up shooting with the Connecticut junior team, learning shooting fundamentals through shooting smallbore, before attending a high power clinic. SSG Elsenboss “went to the clinic, instantly fell in love, and [she] was sold from that point forward.” Out of approximately 100 soldiers in the AMU, there are only eight women inside of the unit. SSG Elsenboss states, “When you look at the high-power sport, we don’t have as many women competing in it.” When asked why, SSG Elsenboss offered that perhaps some girls are discouraged from shooting by their families or friends, or they just did not get into it. She also observed that “there’s a lot of other sports that cater to women.”

Reilly Sutton, a junior shooter from Washington state, noted the differences between girls who shoot high power and girls who shoot other disciplines. (Sutton started out shooting smallbore before transitioning into high power). “The air rifle girls, they get to go hang out in an air-conditioned building with wifi, but we go out there rain or shine, and shoot and walk and get muddy and dirty, and it’s hard and we pull pits...it’s a little bit more physically challenging...than maybe air rifle. I really can’t say from experience because I’ve never shot air rifle before but from what I’ve seen there’s a huge difference between the two.” Though some may say that this is a harsh assessment, the truth is that there are challenges in every venture. Sutton is just one of many high power shooters who has

recognized cultural differences between indoor shooting sports like smallbore and air rifle, and outdoor shooting sports like high power. Just as there are those who prefer sailboats to motorboats, and those who like dark chocolate more than white chocolate, there are those who prefer a particular discipline over another. This is not to say that they never mix. Some competitors choose to shoot indoors in the winter as cross training for the summer high-power season. Sutton notes the importance of preference in her own family. "I have a younger brother, but he's not very interested in [shooting]. But that's fine because he's really good at art. We both have our own things and I think that's important." So there may be fewer women and girls involved in high power because they prefer other things. There is also the possibility of fear of association. Reilly reminds girls that they "don't have to act like a boy in order to do 'boy' stuff."

Kristin Schwartz "started wanting to shoot when [she] was about eight to 10 years old." Schwartz was taught respect for firearms, as "[Her] dad had guns and hunted and [she] would sneak the pellet rifle out and shoot snails on [her] garage wall." Schwartz remembers, "I didn't have pellets so I shot them with just air." Schwartz kept up her casual interest in shooting, occasionally joining some friends on their trips to the range. On one such trip she met a young man practicing high power who introduced her to the sport. Schwartz has been shooting high power since 1995, has earned her high master classification and her Distinguished Rifleman's Badge. As for the young man, he and Kristin wed five years after they met. She now coaches the Washington state junior team.

Schwartz struggled to find a concrete reason why there are so few women involved in high power as it appealed to her right away. She countered with the question, "Why don't you see more women in NASCAR or football?" She also toyed with the idea that the name "high power" sounds intimidating. While seeking out female shooters at the 2018 National Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio, I observed several different levels of involvement. Some women came to watch and to support their husbands and/or children. Some shot with their husbands/children, while others shot alone. In many cases, family was a key aspect to the involvement of women in the shooting sports.

Paula Kawal shoots alongside her daughter Chloe. Paula commented that she "often get[s] people coming up to [her] commenting on how they've never seen a mother/daughter combo competitive shooting before." Kawal and her daughter started shooting in December of last year and journeyed to Camp Perry for the first time this summer. As a wife and mother of three, Paula Kawal recognizes how hard it is for women to find free time. She proposed that a possible explanation for the small number of females involved in high power is that "women are busy with other things... it often doesn't occur to them that this is something they would enjoy doing so they fill their time with other things." Kawal also took her observations outside of the home into the modern political climate. She realized that "many states are making it more difficult to own and handle the rifles used in high-power shooting. Someone unfamiliar with the shooting sports is likely to be overwhelmed by all the hoops you have to jump through to get started." Kawal hopes to one day teach a women's only high-power class to help introduce more women to the sport, as well as to correct misconceptions and lessen fear of military-style rifles.

Omayra Linse, originally from Puerto Rico, started shooting high power when her son Zevin joined the Washington Warriors Junior Team. When asked why there are fewer women than men in high power, Linse partially attributed it to the fact that it is "expensive and really time consuming...as a mother [she] wouldn't be able to do it if [her] son wasn't involved due to the time it takes you away from home." Not only this, but the fact that high power is an outdoor, rain or shine, sun or snow, sport, can deter some women. Linse describes her experience as a female shooter in Washington state as "incredible." Everyone is very supportive and encouraging of Linse's endeavors. She does, however, note that there are some people, as in anything, that will not respond so positively. Linse recounted, "I have encountered some males that think we don't belong with them and do not take [it] well when we are better shooters than they are...Not many [feel this way] but enough..."

SSG Eisenboss has great advice for those girls hesitant to start shooting, "Don't let the boys scare you, don't let them intimidate you, don't let them try to get the better of you, we're all humans, we all make mistakes, and we're all capable of overcoming those mistakes. So, the biggest thing is to come out and do what you know what you know how to do or learn how to be better every single day."



## Wisconsin Firearm Owners (WFO)

### Mission

To promote and support the purpose and objectives of the National Rifle Association, while protecting and defending the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Wisconsin.

### Securing Our Rights

The assaults on the rights of today's firearms owner have never been stronger. These attacks on our civil rights come from anti-hunting, anti-gun, and anti-civil rights organizations. We must stand together to preserve the rights guaranteed to all free citizens under the Second Amendment, the U.S. Constitution, and the Wisconsin Right to Keep and Bear Arms. WFO has a constant presence in Madison helping to ensure your voice is heard. Whether it is the right to self-defense, micro stamping or hunting regulations, we are involved. Combine your voice with that of thousands like you in Wisconsin; our united voice cannot be ignored.

### Club and Range Support

We are the experts in the State advising the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, clubs, and businesses in upgrading, improving, and the design of ranges.

### Competitions

Matches and events are listed on our calendar. Match Directors can also utilize our on-line registration. NRA discipline championships are authorized and promoted by WFO. **Please join us today!**



## Wisconsin Firearm Owners Junior Service Rifle Supporters



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Collectors Association**  
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CHANGING THE FUTURE OF  
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