



March 2020 Volume II, Issue 3

## *View from the ...* GENERAL MANAGER'S DESK

### Shirtsleeves

**W**ITH A FEW DAYS where the temperature actually hit forty degrees, we are reminded that even though in our part of New England it never seems like winter will end, it actually will.

What are the ramifications?

First, make sure you have renewed your membership! Renewals have been coming in at a good pace, but there are those of you who, I suspect, have been waiting for some warmth. Well, we've seen the warmth, tis time to renew.

Second, get those reloading machines smokin'. (This is actually a reminder to me, I have frittered away the winter with nary a round created.) Next, make sure your gear is ready to go: clean, organized, and working properly (replace those ear protection batteries). Again, this applies mostly to folks like me who have not really challenged the cold weather much, if at all.

Third, plan your activities based on what you want to accomplish with your shooting this coming season. This can vary from finally getting trained on how to safely use that

pistol that you inherited all the way up to working on bumping up your marksmanship rating or getting to a much higher level with your tactical/self protection skillset.

Paper puncher or determined competitor, we can help. Call me in the office on M/W/F between 10 AM and 3 PM and I will help you get set up with the appropriate resources to achieve your goals.

Fourth, check the Range schedule. Here and there it is still in need of details, but there are a lot of events, classes, and regular range activities annotated with lots of detailed information already there. It's time to cross reference that information with your personal calendar so you won't miss anything where you would have wanted to participate.

I look forward to seeing you at the range soon.

### ON OTHER MATTERS...

The 2019 annual membership meeting version 2.0 (1.0 did not have a quorum) completed successfully on February 11th. The Board of Directors were affirmed, minor changes to the by-laws were approved, and

the go ahead was given to the Chairman of the Board to start with the planning process for an indoor, seven lane range.

Your fellow members are moving forward on many fronts to make your range the best in the region. Committees are active in finance, safety, training, social media, and event planning. As I have said before, many hands make light work is not just a silly aphorism.

Call me if you have an area where you feel you might help. Some of the areas needing attention are: event photography, marketing and branding/awareness, and facilities projects. Call me.

*Peter*

# MARCH - APRIL 2020 — EVENT CALENDAR

## Sunday March 1

Cowboy Long Range  
9 AM – 12 PM 200 Yard Range  
22LR Winter Shoot — Pistol  
8 AM – 1 PM Pistol Bay 1

## Monday, March 2

RSO Meeting 6:30 PM

## Tuesday, March 3

22LR Winter Indoor Shoot 6 – 8 PM  
ELMM Center, Winchester, NH  
Board of Director's meeting 6:30 PM

## Wednesday, March 4

Open Trap Noon open to the public.

## Saturday, March 7

RSO David Gaillardetz  
Membership Patrice Nesbitt  
Open Trap & 5 Stand  
10 AM practice open to the public

## Tuesday, March 10

22LR Winter Indoor Shoot 6 – 8 PM  
ELMM Center, Winchester, NH

## Wednesday, March 11

Open Trap Noon open to the public.

## Saturday, March 14

RSO Chris Sullivan  
Membership Ron Hitchings  
Open Trap & 5 Stand  
10 AM practice open to the public

## Sunday March 15

22LR Winter Shoot Rifle 8 AM – 1 PM

## Tuesday, March 17

22LR Winter Indoor Shoot 6 – 8 PM  
ELMM Center, Winchester, NH

## Wednesday, March 18

Open Trap Noon open to the public.

## Saturday, March 21

RSO Jenifer Marchesi  
Membership Patrice Nesbitt

Open Trap & 5 Stand  
10 AM practice open to the public  
Women's Intro to Defensive Handgun  
11 AM – 3 PM Pistol Bay 3

## Tuesday, March 24

22LR Winter Indoor Shoot 6 – 8 PM  
ELMM Center, Winchester, NH

## Wednesday, March 25

Open Trap, Noon open to the public.

## Saturday, March 28

RSO Ron Hitchings  
Membership Konrad Sypko  
Open Trap & 5 Stand  
10 AM practice open to the public  
9 AM High-Power Offhand Match 200 yds

## Wednesday, April 1

Open Trap Noon open to the public  
Action Pistol Practice 3:30 to 7 PM  
Gold/Silver Jr Team Practice 3 PM

## Friday, April 3

Hunter Safety Course 6 to 9 PM

## Saturday, April 4

RSO David Gaillardetz  
Membership Patrice Nesbitt  
Offhand match 20 rounds  
200 yards 9 AM

Jr Rifle Outdoor Practice  
8:30 AM TO 1 PM

Open Trap & 5 Stand  
10 AM practice open to the public  
Hunter Safety 3 to 6 PM

## Tuesday, April 7

Board of Director's meeting 6:30 PM

## Wednesday, April 8

Open Trap Noon open to the public  
Action Pistol Practice 3:30 to 7 PM  
Gold/Silver Jr Team Practice 3 PM

## Saturday, April 11

RSO Dave Webb  
Membership Marilyn Huston  
Functional Pistol Application 1

Runenation Training 9 AM TO 5 PM  
Carbine bay

Jr Rifle Outdoor Practice  
8:30 AM TO 1 PM

Open Trap & 5 Stand  
10 AM practice open to the public

## Wednesday, April 15

Law Enforcement Training  
8 AM TO 4 PM Carbine Bay  
Open Trap Noon open to the public  
Action Pistol Practice 3:30 to 7 PM  
Gold/Silver Jr Team Practice 3 PM

## Friday, April 17

Hunter Safety Course 6 to 9 PM

## Saturday, April 18

RSO Walt Lewandowski  
Membership Ron Hitchings  
Jr Rifle Outdoor Practice  
8:30 AM TO 1 PM

Functional Pistol Application 1  
Runenation Training 9 AM TO 5 PM  
Carbine bay

Open Trap & 5 Stand  
10 AM practice open to the public  
Hunter Safety Course 3 to 6 PM

## Sunday April 19

Hunter Safety Course 3 to 6 PM

## Monday, April 20

Crosshairs Training 8 AM TO 6 PM  
classroom training in the Clubhouse

## Tuesday, April 21

Crosshairs Training 8 AM TO 6 PM  
classroom training in the Clubhouse  
then 50/100 yard range

## Wednesday, April 22

Crosshairs Training 8 AM TO 6 PM  
200 yard range then night exercises  
until 9 PM  
Open Trap Noon open to the public  
Action Pistol Practice 3:30 to 7 PM  
Gold/Silver Jr Team Practice 3 PM

# MARCH - APRIL 2020 — EVENT CALENDAR

## Thursday, April 23

Crosshairs Training 8 AM TO 6 PM  
300 yard range until noon then 200 yard range

## Friday, April 24

Crosshairs Training 8 AM TO 6 PM  
200 yard Range

## Saturday, April 25

RSO

Membership Konrad Sypko  
Fundamentals of Defensive Handgun  
8 AM TO 5 PM Carbine bay

Action Pistol Match 8 AM TO 1 PM  
Pistol bays 1,3 and competition bays

Jr Rifle Outdoor Practice  
8:30 AM TO 1 PM

Open Trap & 5 Stand  
10 AM practice open to the public

## Sunday April 19

600-yd Mid-Range Prone Clinic  
9 AM to 4 PM RANGE CLOSED UNTIL 4

## Wednesday, April 29

Open Trap Noon open to the public  
Action Pistol Practice 3:30 to 7 PM  
Gold/Silver Jr Team Practice 3 PM

## Thursday, April 30

600 yard practice 8:30– noon; 4 PM to  
sundown

Range open noon to 4 PM

## Saturday, May 9

WOMEN ON TARGET  
10 am to 1 pm Clubhouse  
1 pm to 4 pm Pistol Bay 1 and Rimfire  
Range

## Cowboy Long Range

Sunday, March 1— 9 AM – 12 PM  
200 Yard Range  
Come and get your *Quigley Down Under*  
going...You may not have a beautiful  
Sharps Rifle like Mathew Quigley

had, but you can bring any number of  
different types of guns to this event,  
anything with an exposed hammer.  
The qualifying guns and rules of the  
match are [HERE](http://www.ccssef.org/cowboy-long-range/)> [www.ccssef.org/cowboy-long-range/](http://www.ccssef.org/cowboy-long-range/)

There are five categories in Cowboy  
long range or precision rifle competi-  
tion, plus one optional category:  
Lever action, revolver caliber; Lever  
action, rifle caliber; Single Shot  
Buffalo Single Shot; Optical

## 22LR WINTER SHOOTS

Sunday, March 1 — 8 AM – 1 PM Pistol  
Bay 1 Set up starts at 8 AM; event starts at  
9 AM. Some heat will be provided!

Sunday, March 15 — 8 AM – 1 PM Rifle  
Start with 8 rounds of 22LR, shoot at  
8 metal knock down targets in 15 sec.;  
4-station rotation; 25 yds for rifles; Some  
heat will be provided!

Sunday, March 29 — 8 AM – 1 PM Pistol  
Bay 1 Set up starts at 8 AM; event starts at  
9 AM. Some heat will be provided!

The format: Start with 8 rounds of 22LR,  
shoot at 8 metal knock down targets in 15  
sec.; 4 station rotation. Fee: \$10 Contact:  
Bryon Austin [baustin2@ne.rr.com](mailto:baustin2@ne.rr.com) (603)  
352-9487 leave message. 📞

## High Power Schedule 2020

March 28 Sat. Offhand match 20  
rounds @ 200 yards 9 AM

April 4 Sat. Offhand match 20 rounds  
@ 200 yards 9:00 AM

April 19 Sun. NHHP League Match #1  
8 AM

April 26 Sun. 600-yd Mid-Range Prone  
Clinic 9 AM to 4 PM

April 30 Thurs. 600-Yard Practice  
(Start)  
9 to 12 and 4 PM till dusk (every  
Thursday throughout the season).

Range is open to all shooters between  
12 and 4 PM

May 3 Sun. NHHP League Match #2 8 AM

May 17 Sun. 600 yard Mid-Range prone  
NRA Approved 3 x 20 rds.

May 24 Sun. NHHP League Match #3  
8 AM

May 31 Sun. 600-yd Mid-Range prone  
NRA Approved 3 x 20 rds. Mini-Palma  
tryout & Benefit

June 6 Sat. Garand Match Schedule “B”  
200 Yards 8 AM (or Service rifle clinic)

June 7 Sun. NHHP League Match #4 8 AM

June 21 Sun. 80 round NRA Approved  
(or Sniper Match)

June 28 Sun. 600 yard Mid-Range  
prone NRA approved Mini-Palma  
Benefit

July 12 Sun. 600 yard Wind Reading  
Clinic

July 19 Sun. NHHP League Match #5  
8 AM

July 25 Sat. Garand Match Schedule “B”  
200 Yards

August 2 Sun. 80 Round NRA Approved

August 9 Sun. 600 yard Mid-Range  
prone NRA Approved 3 x 20 rds.

August 23 Sun. NHHP League Match #6 8 AM

August 30 Sun. EIC Rifle leg match 8 AM

September 6 Sun. NHHP League Match  
#7 8 AM

September 19 Sat. Mini-Palma Match 9  
AM to 4 PM

September 20 Sun. 600 yd. Mid-Range  
State Championship 9 AM

September 27 Sun. Sniper/vintage service  
rifle match/midrange 300 & 600yds.

October 4 Sun. 600 yard Mid-Range  
prone NRA Approved 3 x 20 rds.

## NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

*Clubhouse*

*ATM Guns & Ammo, Keene*

*Good Fortune, Keene*

*Sam's Outfitters*

*Keene & Brattleboro*

*Monadnock Firearms, Fitzwilliam*

*YBA Muffler & Brake, Swanzey*

*Greater Keene*

*Chamber of Commerce*

*Davis Oil, Keene*

*Veteran's Halls*

*Swanzey P.D.*

*Keene P.D.*

*Trader John, Winchester*

*Angie's Pizza, Swanzey*

*Gomarlo's, Swanzey*

*Alstead Gun Shop, Alstead*

For want of a nail a shoe was lost,  
for want of a shoe a horse was lost,  
for want of a horse a rider was lost,  
for want of a rider an army was lost,  
for want of an army a battle was lost,  
for want of a battle the war was lost,  
for want of the war the kingdom was  
lost,  
and all for the want of a little horse-  
shoe nail.

[A 13th century proverb, later attribut-  
ed to Benjamin Franklin]

## Classifieds

Ithaca Model 37 Featherlight 2 ¾  
Chamber \$400

Remington Speedmaster Model 241  
Speedmaster 22LR 1951 DOM  
\$600

Winchester Model 290 22L or 22LR  
\$150

Smith & Wesson Model 544 Texas  
Commemorative 44-40 Texas 150<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary \$800

AMT Backup 22LR \$150

Ruger Model 77 270Cal w/ Leupold  
scope \$500

Mossberg 500 12Ga Camo, 2 Barrels  
\$250

Mossberg 500 12Ga Pistol Grip 2  
Barrels \$190

Remington 50Cal Black Powder Rifle  
\$150

Call Jack Commerford 603-762-4707  
w/ offers or questions

**All transfers will be done by an FFL  
dealer!**



**Ryan M. Goodell**

**Voted Best Local Realtor®**

Quality - Experience - Excellence

Region's most successful  
marketing plan!

**603-313-7541**

RyanGoodell@masiello.com

603.352.5433 • 69A Island St, Suite 3 • Keene

**Better  
Homes  
and Gardens**  
REAL ESTATE

**THE  
MASIELLO  
GROUP**

Each office independently owned & operated.

### FERRY BROOK RANGE NEWSLETTER



About us  
Cheshire County Shooting  
Sports Education Foundation  
[CCSSEF]  
a 501(c)(3) organization

Published monthly

Distribution:

- Print 300 copies
- Clubhouse
- Local businesses
- Chamber of Commerce
- Events
- Ferry Brook Range (aka CCSSEF website)
- Mail subscriptions are available
- 1,100+ email
- Join us at the Ferry Brook Range group on Facebook

**Patrice Nesbitt, Editor**

603 499-3074

membership@ccfandg.org

Checks payable to CCSSEF

Ferry Brook Range Newsletter  
PO Box 233  
Keene, NH 03431

Article submissions and advertising due  
by the 24<sup>th</sup> each month. Contact me for  
advertising rates!

### General Manager

**Peter Crowell**

603-352-8563

gm@ccfandg.org

Join our discussions on Facebook's  
Ferry Brook Range Group  
facebook.com/  
groups/2270467373213241/

### **Hours**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
10 AM to 3 PM

### **Membership**

Saturdays 9 AM to 1 PM  
at the Clubhouse

### **Help Wanted!**

Clubhouse Café —if you would be  
interested in volunteering to prepare  
breakfast and lunches on Saturdays,  
please let us know.

# GUN REVIEWS

by Jack Zeller

## FNS PISTOL REVIEW

and a glimpse of M&P for comparison

FNS™-9



Available for commercial, law enforcement, and military.

**T**HE FNS™-9 OFFERS the simplicity of double-action striker-fired operation with the option of a manual safety. The slide stop lever and magazine release are all fully ambidextrous for ease of operation with either hand from any firing position. Both the slide and barrel are stainless steel, and the checkered polymer frame has two interchangeable back straps with lanyard eyelets. A MIL-STD-1913 mounting rail on the underside accepts tactical lights and lasers.

LE & Military pricing on request.

FNS™ Product Numbers

\*Product follows USA specifications

\*Military products available to U.S. sales only

Related Products

FNX™-9 Specs

- Caliber: 9mm
- Operation: Double-action
- Mag Capacity: 10 or 17 Rd.
- Weight: 25.2 oz.
- Barrel Length: 4.0"

- Overall Length: 7.25"
- Twist Rate: 1:10" RH
- Height: 5.5"
- Width: 1.35"
- Trigger Pull: 5.5 - 7.7 lb.
- Sight Radius: 5.9"

### PRIMARY FEATURES

Striker-fired autoloader

Double-action operation with manual safety

Available in standard and manual safety

Fixed 3-dot sights (standard)

Fixed 3-dot green tritium night sights available

### SLIDE

Stainless steel construction

External extractor with loaded chamber indicator

Front and rear cocking serrations

Matte black finish

MSRP \$699

Find it online for 500+ bucks.

While I will not be reviewing the M&P pictured below, as I have written extensively about it, I will be shooting it along side the FN for a reasonable comparison. The M&P C has a fifteen round capacity because it is a C. Other than



that, both are of the same family of battle pistols with four-inch barrels.

I have looked forward to reviewing an FN, either the FNS or the newer 509 for some time. FN has been building real battle tested weapons since 1889, and today corners the military machine gun market world wide. The FN FAL and a myriad of other time tested weapons attest to their expertise. In fact they just won a 116 million dollar contract to re-supply M-4's to the US military.

This FNS pictured above was generously donated for the review cause by a dedicated Ferry Brook Range member, who has never shot it. As a bit of background the FNS was developed to compete in the military pistol trials (Sig took the blue ribbon) and so is robustly built. There were some issues with the gun and they were recalled for repair. This particular specimen was sent back and completely gone over by the factory. It has no manual safety, has a hinged trigger which is superior to the safety depressed triggers of the Glocks, Remingtons etc, comes with three magazines, thank you, and two back straps. The back straps are not to adjust for hand size, but rather for arched or flat back strap preference. They are easily changed with a punch. I preferred and shot with the arched after trying both.

The pistol is rated for +P ammunition without it saying so in the manual. If it were not, they would say so. In addition it was built to endure sustained fire with NATO 9mm.

I tore down the pistol (typical striker fired take down) and found it dryer than the Mojave, but clean. I wet lubed it with Slip 2000, reassembled, and dry fired 100 times. I find the trigger smooth on take up, quite mushy on let

off, and decent on reset, distance and tactile wise. I then measured trigger pull 10 times and it averaged 7.75 lbs. which I find surprising. I'll recheck after 5-600 rounds.

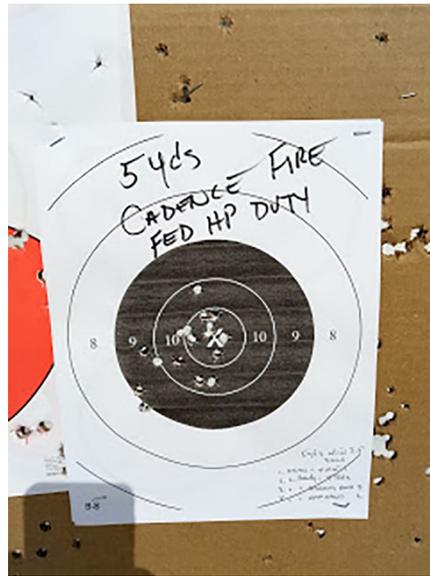
The magazines are steel, well marked for capacity (17) and quite easy to load by hand.

Sights are tritium (small) but rugged. In fact, this entire pistol amazed me when I tore it down. The slide rails are long, thick and tough. They put the XD's to shame. The external ejector is big and looks quite rugged. Everything about this pistol says 'long lived'. The FNS has survived a 25,000 round torture test.

Let's see how it shoots. As I said, I will be shooting the M&P 9c 2.0 a bit just to have a good gun to compare the FNS too. At this point in time, the M&P's are tops in the field in my opinion, so I am always looking for something better! I am not so big on Belgium (being so wrapped up in Rwanda) but maybe this is it!

OK, so here we are at Ferry Brook. It is 22 degrees and the wind is whining like spoiled teenagers. I'll need a rock to place on the target stand. I am alone at the range, so it is peaceful at the covered pistol station. We will shoot the following rounds, and not in this order - Federal JHPs, the preferred carry of the pistol owner, Winchester 147 grain T-series, my duty and ED carry ammunition, Fiocchi 115 grain FMJ, Remington FMJ, Georgia Arms plated, Geco FMJ, and a tub of bulk unknown. Only a good idea when you are testing the strength of a pistol!. I have not shot this pistol so the first magazine through it is the Federal JHPs at five yards, cadence fire. This gives me the info I need to know where this pistol shoots, how I must grip it to obtain accuracy, familiarize myself to the trigger, and to adjust to it's particular recoil window. My first observations are that the pistol's controls operate effectively and easily EXCEPT, when attempting to rack the

slide with a full magazine in the gun. It is near impossible, and difficult enough that an inexperienced shooter would be dancing and pointing the muzzle all over the place. I could not discern the reason for this, and it did not lessen during the session. Oh, well, just make sure the slide is open when you insert mag, and use the slide release to chamber a round. Next I find the sights (tritium) small and slow. It is daylight, so I will use the generic front post as a whole to shoot with. Because of this, on all targets, the gun tends to shoot



low if not compensated for. Simply replace front sight with something decent and large, and Boom! You'll be right on. The target below is the first. I am not disappointed.

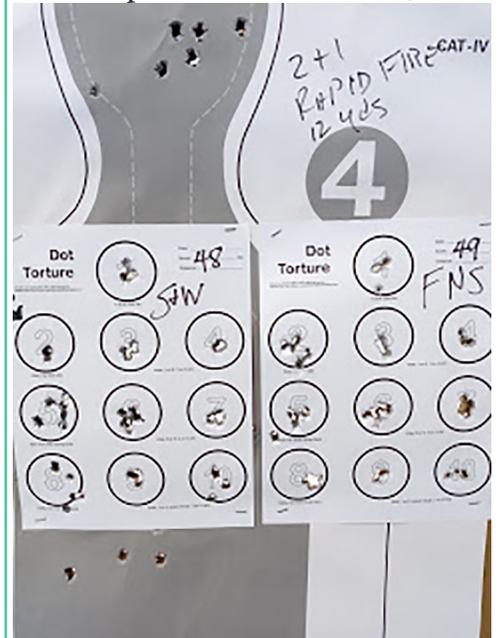
Next you have a humanoid target at 12 yards. This target exercise was a draw



from the holster and rapid fire an entire magazine as fast as I can shoot. Using just the front post, it is clear that the ergonomics of this pistol are acceptable as is the combat accuracy. The ammo was 115 grain FMJ.

Next is a serious exercise, the dot torture test at 3 yards. It is NOT a speed test, but a precision test for basics in accuracy. Required is good trigger work, drawing and firing, multiple targets, reloading, off hand and strong hand shooting etc. I scored a 49 on the right with the FNS. This speaks volumes for the pistol as it is the first time I have meditatively shot it. Good show, and the intrinsic accuracy is obvious.

The left target is with the S&W 9C which I have not shot in months, if not a year. (into 45 acp these days). While I scored a point less than the FNS, I com-



pleted the test in less than half the time with the Smith, thereby rushing and blowing two off. Check out the second circle. That one hole is five shots. But in any case, both these pistols are good enough, that if I were to shoot this exercise again, I would move out to five yards. Speaks well for the FNS.

No battle pistol is worth it's salt if it is not reliable or accurate with full duty ammunition. The FNS shot the owner's carry ammo fine, but my preference (and



duty ammo) is the Winchester T-Series, 147 grain JHP. I do not believe there is better. The face target below (a friend of mine?) was shot with the Win T at 15 yards, somewhere between cadence and rapid fire. I am learning this pistol. This



is showing to be an entirely adequate duty carry pistol.

Forgot to show the box as it comes from the factory. Good box, three magazines (why don't they ALL come with three?) and a concise operators manual. I might throw in here, that when field stripping this piece, while it is like all the rest, it does require a bit more force on the slide and the manual mentions this.

Check the massive slide rails and tons



of metal in this FNS. I can see why 25,000 rounds did not touch it.

Back to shooting. This target is shot at 12 yards from the draw. Two to the chest, one to the head as fast as I can accurately shoot. The boiler room shot group is a good six inches lower than it should be, but that is due to the inadequate front sight. Otherwise, a decent shooter with practice could feel very comfortable with this pistol as EDC. Or duty, which it would serve even better.

I failed to take a picture of 5 yard cadence shoot targets or the 5 yard 5x5 drills (the cold messed me up?) but did record the results. The cadence drills were satisfactory (five inch circle, five yards, rapid fire from low ready in less than 5 seconds. No problem. But, on the 5x5 drills, shot with both pistols, there is a discernible difference in the

shootability at speed. I shot the drill five times with each. The average time for the FNS was 4.67. The average for the Smith was 2.53. Sights made a difference here, but there are other reasons as well that I will touch on.

Next step several hours later into the shoot, we trudge up to the steel plates. I first shot the FNS at the steel man at 25 yards. Ping, ping, ping, boringly so. Then the 16? inch circle, ping pinging, the same. Six inch at 25, no problem. I was able to hit the 3 inch after about ten rounds. This FNS is accurate. Not fast accurate, but accurate.

Plates are next, and shoot from 10 yards, I shot the six plates 10 times with each pistol. The average speed to put all down with the FNS was 6.03 seconds. In the averages are a miss or two with each pistol. The average with the Smith was substantially lower at 5.37.

So, here are my observations, and as I always try to remind fellow shooters, our opinions are subjective. Period.

The FNS is a tough rugged pistol, up for the nastiest handling you can give it. It definitely leans far to the military side of things to include lanyard rings in the grips. It is utterly reliable. I shot it from every position imaginable trying to make it malfunction. It doesn't. I even held it with two fingers while I depressed the trigger mechanically, giving me next to zero grip. It recycled flawlessly and never once failed to lock back. I rate this pistol equal to the Smiths, Glocks, Sigs etc. for reliability. It shot all kinds of ammo, and all to the same point of aim.

It is accurate. Face shots at 25 yards, no problem. Six inch metal at 25, no problem. Combat accuracy on paper targets is good. But it's accuracy comes at a cost, and that cost is time. It is legions slower at 'speed' than many pistols I have reviewed.

The sights are partially responsible for this and can be corrected. But the recoil impulse also seemed much heavier than the M&P. Not sure I understand why, because it is relatively heavy, and seems to have a low bore axis. The trigger doesn't help. So, my take? This is a full time duty pistol built to be on a duty rig belt. The trigger while smoothed out, stays at 7 3/4 lbs., far too heavy for my taste and speed. The slide is decidedly harder to retract than most, and as stated above, if you insert a full mag into this pistol while in battery, good luck racking in a round.... The pistol, while not ergonomically distressing in the least, feels large and a bit blocky in the hand. There is nothing fine about it. I tried both the flat and arched back straps and while neither held a shooting advantage, I preferred the arched. A choice in back strap sizing might have helped ergonomically, thereby speed, but we will never know. This pistol now has between 700/1000 rounds through

it. As I broke it down to clean and check it after our range session I did note that there are rather heavy wear marks on the rails and barrel hood and rest. Not a concern, but MUCH more pronounced than most modern pistols at this stage. Interesting.

#### CONCLUSION

Nice pistol, but I wouldn't bother. 🍀

*Jack Zeller*

PAN Design

*Engraving & Awards*

(603) 499-3074

patrice@panawards.com

Engraving ♦ Awards ♦ Trophies  
Signs ♦ Gifts ♦ Personalization



## American Trike & Motorsports

**THE ATM FOR FUN**

223 Winchester Street Keene, New Hampshire 03431

(603) 354-7740

9 AM to 6 PM Monday through Saturday

QUALITY SERVICE • PROFESSIONALISM • TRUSTWORTHINESS • RELIABILITY & NOW...

ATM BIKES & BULLETS

BECAUSE FUN MATTERS!! IN TAX FREE KEENE, NH

**GUNS & AMMO**

# SCREAMS IN THE NIGHT



by James (aka Jim-Bob) W. Flanders

**I**N THE SPRING OF 1946, we left East Concord for Canterbury, New Hampshire. My mother had been laid off from the Concord Cable, along with the rest of the women that had worked there during the war. My mother wanted her own business. She wanted to take in summer boarders, winter boarders, state foster children, and older folks that needed a place to live. She needed a big place and then some. She found just what she needed in the not-too-distant town of Canterbury.

One afternoon, my mother asked me if I wanted to see the new house where we were going to live. I could hardly contain myself—yes! My mother had a flatbed Ford with sides and, after she loaded a few boxes, blankets and pillows, just the two of us headed for Canterbury.

The late spring sun felt warm through the windshield as we came into the village and, then, turned abruptly onto a narrow dirt road with trees crowding in close on both sides. I saw no houses until my mother drove up a huge circular dirt driveway. My initial excitement began to ebb. When we stopped, my mother helped me down, and I stood staring up at the biggest house I ever had seen. The paint was peeling and flaking, and one shutter hung by its corner. Some of the shingles had blown off in spots. The lawns were at least a foot high and out of control. Bushes brushed up against the house. A couple of cracked windows high on the house stood out in the now-late sunshine. A half-open shed door creaked in the breeze.

“I don’t like this house, Mom. I want to go home now,” I said.

“You are home, Jimmy. You’ll like it. You’ll have a lot of fun here. You’ll see,” said Mom.

“No, I won’t,” my five-year-old self replied. “I hate it.” She unlocked the side kitchen door, and we went in. The smell of a long-vacant house was thick in the air. My mother started opening windows in all the rooms into which we passed—those that would open, that is.

It was a four-story house with 21 rooms. It had a double kitchen—summer kitchen and winter kitchen. An ell ran around half the house with rooms on one side. At the end of the ell were two doors hiding a three-holer and a two-holer. This was on the second floor. A flush toilet on the same floor was for guests only. Floors three and four contained more guest rooms. Off the kitchen, a huge woodshed connected with the first barn. The other barn was farther away. The place came with 188 acres—woods, fields, and orchards. A great place to grow up! My mother named it Mount Sunset Farm.

After going through all the rooms, we unloaded the few things my mother brought with us for this trip. She chose a room in the ell on the second floor, set up our bed, and made it. The windows looked over the big side lawn. Then, we went down to the kitchen, and Mom placed a picnic basket on the woodstove and unwrapped the

sandwiches, cookies, and milk she had packed. We took them outside and walked around the circular driveway, peering up at the huge maple trees that encircled the lawn and lined the driveway. Mom had a big notebook that she quickly was filling up with notes. I thought the exploring was great but, soon, it was turning to dusk, and the bugs came out in force. We went in and got the house ready for the night and ourselves ready for the first sleep in our new house. I was feeling better now about the new place after walking around, but it wasn’t to last.

Mom got the flashlight, and up we went to the bedroom in the ell room. I snuggled in next to my mother and felt warm, content, and safe. The beautiful call of the whippoorwill in that all-encompassing silence soon put me to sleep. That call in the years to come has been a part of me forever.

I don’t know how long I was asleep but, suddenly, the demons of hell broke loose. The first scream seemed to be right in the room. The second scream came seconds later and, then, the third unearthly scream seemed louder, closer, and longer. I could see Mom sitting straight up with her hands bracing her up. I could not move. I was frozen. Finally, I whispered, “Mom, what is that?”

“It’s all right, Jimmy. It’s just an animal. I think he’s gone now. Nothing is going to hurt you. Everything is okay,” she said in a soft voice. She put one arm around me and held me close. After a few minutes, she got the flashlight

off the floor and shined it out the window. The night was like a black velvet curtain—no moon or stars. So quiet... so utterly silent. My mother came back to bed, held me, and assured me that it was gone. I wasn't so certain. I don't believe either one of us went back to sleep that night.

Words cannot accurately describe the sound of that scream. It was terrifying... a primal sound. A woman screaming? A high-pitched baby screaming? A human or animal being tortured? A death cry? Later, people told us it was a bobcat or, maybe, a lynx. I don't know what it was. I think it was, or might have been, a bobcat. Or what...?

The next morning, we were up early, with a beautiful day in store. The view from the farm was breathtaking on this crystal-clear morning. We had a muffin each, and my mother promised to take me to breakfast when we returned to Concord. Mom took an hour or so writing in her notebook and, then, put a few things back in the truck, locked the door of the house, and started us down the driveway. I looked back and asked, "Mom, do we really have to live there?"

"Yes, Jimmy, we do. I know you're still thinking about last night, but it was just an animal like any other animal. They don't hurt anybody. They just make a scary sound sometimes. I don't think you'll ever hear it again." I never did.

"I think you're going to like it there when it's all fixed up, with lots of people around and kids with whom you can play. We'll have lots of animals and a lot of fun, too." Within a year and a half, the place was well on its way to being a showcase. Mom hired three full-time farmhands. The house was painted, and the lawns became beautiful. Flowers were planted and orchards pruned. Another bathroom was installed. New shingles for house

and barns. Huge vegetable gardens. Animals were brought in—milk cows, two teams of workhorses, pigs, chickens, turkeys, ducks, and on and on. Farm equipment was purchased, and milk was sold in 40-quart cans to Concord Dairy. Our hay was stored in the barns. Summer boarders came from New York City, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Canada, and all over. Some, we picked up in our 1936 Packard at the Concord railroad station or bus stop. Winter boarders usually stayed year round. New Hampshire foster children came to live with us, too. We had plenty of help, with some living with us.

As a little kid growing up, I could not have asked for more. Mom was right. I came to love Mount Sunset Farm. I could write a book about what we all experienced in the years to come. The adventures, the good and bad times, the love, the tragedies, the hope and sorrow. Life in a rural place...

Every once in a while, I'll drive up to see the old place. It's still there but has been turned into apartments. But, that's okay—I remember. I also remember my very first night there and the screams in the night. 🐾

*Jim-Bob*



The ATA has announced the 2020 NH AIM All Star Team Members

Andrew Cavanagh has been named Captain of the 2020 Team with a 88.45%  
Hailey Riley has been named to the team with a 87.95%

In order to be selected to this team you must participate in at least:

- 1 monthly State /provincial event (MSE)
- Attend Your States AIM state Championship
- Attend AIM Zone Championship
- Obtained 500 registered single targets.

With the start of the new season in effect AIM4NH Team is looking forward to earning their monthly MSE at local registered ATA matches. We look forward to joining you on a squad and busting some clays.

Sincerely AIM4NH Athletes



STATE	NAME	SCORE	PERCENT	STATUS	STATUS	STATUS	STATUS	STATUS
G	DYLAN BRENNAN	HAER JONES	NE	94.78%	X	X	X	
G			NE	93.03%	X	X	X	
J	JOHN NATHAN	DEFord SCHULTE	NE	97.05%	X	X	X	NEBRASKA
J	LANE ZABOKRTSKY	KILE	NE	96.84%	X	X	X	
J	SEAN		NE	95.81%	X	X	X	
S	DAYLON HEATER		NE	93.55%	X	X	X	
S	LEI ANDERSEN		NE	90.80%	X	X	X	
S	JENNA MIUNTZ		NE	87.07%	X	X	X	
S	LEVI BILBINS		NE	78.36%	X	X	X	
S	BRADEN SWANSON		NH	89.83%	X	X	X	NEW HAMPSHIRE
J	HAILEY RILEY		NH	87.95%	X	X	X	
J	RYAN PADOVANI		NJ	95.25%	X	X	X	NEW JERSEY
J	NICHOLAS PADOVANI		NJ	90.64%	X	X	X	
S	ZACHARY CUCUMATO		NI	77.50%	X	X	X	NEW MEXICO
J	LANE KLOHN		NM	93.86%	X	X	X	
J	TRESTIN DUJE		NM	93.32%	X	X	X	
J	JLSTIN WARREN		NM	92.87%	X	X	X	
J	VANESSA TRIMMER ENRIOLIEZ		NM	91.81%	X	X	X	
S	CASEN CALKINS		NM	91.05%	X	X	X	
S	RYON HOWELL		NM	86.59%	X	X	X	
S	LOBBE FOSTER		NM	85.52%	X	X	X	
S	BROOKLYN SHAW		NM	85.39%	X	X	X	
S	RYAN CRAWLEY		NY	91.82%	X	X	X	NEW YORK
J	KRISTOPHER BAIDO		NY	92.25%	X	X	X	
J	AMY CRAWLEY		NY	88.73%	X	X	X	
J	DOMINIC DELANO		NY	85.31%	X	X	X	
J	ANTHONY SANTUCCI		NY	79.23%	X	X	X	
S	SALVATORE DELANEVE		NY	90.31%	X	X	X	
S	CHARLOTTE WAGNER		NY	83.79%	X	X	X	
S	SHAUN BARCOCK		NY	83.50%	X	X	X	
S	AIDAN KAVATHAS		NY	77.00%	X	X	X	

# FERRY BROOK JUNIOR SHOOTERS

by Larry Parker

**W**e have competed in our 2020 NRA Junior Sectional 4-Position Match at Blue Trail Range in Connecticut and 3-Position Match in Northfield, Vermont. We had a decent 3-Position Match that will keep us in the top 25%. Our Air Rifle Match will be in Hudson New Hampshire at the end of February. We have 12 athletes registered for this event so we'll have 3 Teams. 2019 NRA Sectional match results are still available at the NRA web site.

Our plan for 2020 Summer activities will be the CMP National Matches at Camp Perry in July. We expect to send several athletes to the CMP Smallbore/Air Rifle Camp and also a few athletes attending the National Smallbore Championships. We're looking forward to it! It's been our Summer vacation spot since 1984!

Our indoor roster is down to 14 active athletes in our rifle program. One of the negative aspects of NOT having our own indoor range is when we transition from Saturdays and from Keene we lose several athletes! We are so fortunate to have the Peterborough Sportsmen's Club to provide us with an indoor range to conduct practice and matches. They take very good care of us. I was encouraged to see CCSSEF decide at the Members Meeting to move forward on building an indoor range.

We did qualify for the CMP 3 Position Air Rifle Regional Championships, but have chosen to use our travel resources for the National Matches in July. Natalie Davidson qualified for a 1<sup>st</sup> round invitation and will be attending the US Junior Olympic Rifle Matches in Colorado Springs in April.

Here's our 2019 sponsors: **Mia Capelli Hair Salon, the CAR Family and Freedom Hill Gear.** Our 2019 Sponsors also included; Dave Polonsky, Matt Morgan, Bill

Strumski, Keene Door, Kevin Wheeler (Keene Transmission), Lee Sprague, Jay & Allison Davidson and Eversource's match to the Davidson's donation. We appreciate the support of all our sponsors. PLEASE SUPPORT our local businesses that generously donate to our youth program. These donations help us send our shooters to Regional/National Championships and Camps. Please consider donating to the Junior Rifle Team! With travel, equipment, awards, range & entry fees and ammunition, our annual budget is over \$10,000.

Notes on our active ALUMNI (shooting, college & military)...Tobin is in his Senior year at the University of North Georgia shooting with the UNG Night-hawks. Andrew Solomonides graduated last spring from the West Point Army Black Knights Rifle Team.

## WINTER ADULT SMALLBORE 4-POSITION RIFLE LEAGUE

The Friday night adult 4-Position smallbore rifle league for this winter is nearly at an end. If anyone should be interested for the 2021 season, we have a couple of target rifles with scopes that can be signed out to members. Contact Larry Parker Sr or Neil Jeneral for details about Smallbore rifle shooting. [smallbore@ccfandg.org](mailto:smallbore@ccfandg.org) or [600yard@ccfandg.org](mailto:600yard@ccfandg.org)

## WINCHESTER RIFLE RANGE OPEN SHOOTING FOR CCSSEF MEMBERS

For 2020, we have Range Safety Officers at the ELMM Community Center Rifle Range on Tuesday evenings for OPEN .22 Rifle and Pistol shooting. We generally have a week night open for members to shoot indoors at no cost. Just bring your .22 firearms, ammunition and targets. 🦋

*Larry Parker*



**A**IM4NH is gearing up for the 2020 shooting season. While some of our athletes have been keeping their shooting 'on target' through the winter by participating in winter leagues, others have endured a hiatus from being on the line. Results aren't in for winter leagues, but we will share those when available.

AIM4NH is expecting some younger shooters this year. It turns out that younger siblings of current team members think it looks like fun! While we welcome all youth who can safely handle their shotguns, these youth are creating a need we haven't anticipated. We need youth guns! Current shooters are using adult guns.

We would appreciate it if you check way in the back of your cabinets and gun safes to see if there might be one or two youth shotguns lurking in the shadows. We are a non-profit and would be happy to issue a donation letter to cover the donation's value. We take cash, too!

Heads up for our Spring Shoot for AIM.

*Edie Allyn-Page*

**GOOD FORTUNE  
JEWELRY & PAWN**

New, Pre-Owned & Estate Jewelry  
Jewelry Repairs & Ring Sizing  
Firearm Transfers & Loans  
Gold & Silver Coins  
Tools, Instruments & Electronics

110 Main Street, Downtown Keene  
803-357-7500 • [www.goodfortunejewelry.com](http://www.goodfortunejewelry.com)

# ACTION PISTOL

BY WALT LEWANDOWSKI



**O**UR SECOND AMENDMENT rights are under attack at a level never seen before. It shows no signs of letting up either. Arguments against gun ownership range from misinterpreting the Constitution to the flawed belief that criminals will obey the law and turn in their firearms.

There is a thread of truth in one of their claims however. One cited has been the many accidental discharges in the home or worse yet, a child finds a loaded firearm with tragic results. These are so easily preventable.

Obtaining a gun and taking 20 shots at a paper target does not make you proficient. Neither does pumping 1000 rounds or 5000 rounds for that matter. Additional training is necessary.

Sure, knowing how to take down and clean a gun is important but unless you instinctively safety check the firearm first, something bad can happen.

Keeping the gun pointed in a safe direction must be second nature. ALWAYS keeping your finger off the trigger must be drilled into your muscle memory. Yeah, this sounds a lot like the 4 rules of gun safety and it is.

The gun must always be stored, unloaded, in a safe place, away from children or anyone not properly trained. You all know the drill. Sounds a lot like common sense, but alas, it's not always so common.

So, enough about the gun. What about the person? Have you ever thought about what you'd do if a bad guy actually busted down your door? What if your kids are in the room with you? What about someone charging you with a knife? Are you skilled enough to draw and protect yourself? Do you even draw? What about retreat? What if you shoot and are sued in court? Are there others around me that can be accidentally hit?

Do you have an escape plan? A safe place to hide? A phone? What do you say to convince the intruder that you have a gun and not afraid to use it? What is behind that wall if I need to protect myself and miss? What do you do if the police arrive and you're there holding a gun? What do you say to the police if you did shoot the intruder?

There is sure a lot to think about. These are things that you must consider in your training and they cannot be learned by punching holes in targets.

I'm speaking about furthering your education in the classroom. Many good programs exist from the NRA personal protection and CCW courses to others like Refuse to be a Victim or rifle safety/defense/handling classes if a long gun is your home protection choice.

Many courses focusing on personal protection inside/outside the home will expose you to some legal aspects you may not have thought about. You will often speak to a LEO or lawyer or someone who has actually been in the fight.

Sure, these courses are not free but compared to the cost of not being prepared — well, you can decide.

I've taken (and retaken over the years) many of these. Then, as now, you will walk out knowing one important fact... that using a gun is NEVER the best option. Sure, it may be the only one.

I hope I never have to find out how I would react in a real situation but I've taken steps to help insure I remain aware. Aware of my surroundings. Aware of those around me. Aware of places of cover or concealment. I never walk around in condition WHITE — you can look up Jeff Cooper's awareness color codes — and adjust these as necessary.

So, *yeah*. There is an element of truth in what some gun-grabbers say but this one

is fixable. Owning a firearm is a huge responsibility. It is your duty to handle and store it responsibly even if you never plan to carry one. There are many of you who only plan to shoot recreationally or competitively. The requirements are the same and the goal is safety.

CCSSEF has many activities to cater to all of your interests. From archery to rifle to shotgun to handgun, it's all here.

*Shameless plug for Action Pistol follows.*

So, if handguns or pistol caliber carbines interest you and you'd like to advance beyond hitting targets that just stand there, then Action Pistol is for you.

Action Pistol practice will start in April. I hope to see some new faces this year since I've been asked about the program and they expressed interest.

So, why Action Pistol?

If you are interested in competition, the program will introduce you to IDPA style shooting. You will understand how a match is run, know the range commands and be shown just how important safety is.

If you are not interested in competition, you will learn practical gun handling skills, become comfortable with what you carry and again, safety is emphasized.

Standing in a box and shooting at a stationary target can teach you just so much. We kick it up a notch by allowing you to move and shoot, use cover and concealment and engage a target that is not standing still or may be only briefly visible.

There are many videos on YouTube that cover Action Pistol and show competitors running an actual stage. Take a look. Stop by and watch if you like. Better yet, holster up and join us. 🌱

*Walt*

# 2020 HIGH POWER RIFLE SEASON



**I CAN'T WAIT UNTIL THE SNOW IS GONE AND SPRING GETS STARTED** — cabin fever setting in I guess.

An exciting new addition to our 600 yard range is planned. “Shot-Marker” electronic targets are going to be purchased and with any luck, up and running early in the season.

This will allow us to complete our matches more quickly and open the range sooner. No pit changes will be required since no staffing in the pits will be needed. We will also be able to get more shooting in during our practice sessions as well. I'll keep you posted about our progress.

We are building on a very successful 2019 High Power Rifle season, continuing with several new successful events added last year. These included a registered 80 round across the course match, a CMP Excellence In Competition Match, and the Mid-Range Any Rifle & Mini-Palma Team tryouts. The Mini-Palma Team Match and the Mid-Range Prone State Championship are returning to Ferry Brook Range on September 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>. Our complete schedule for 2020 is posted on the High Power Page. You can get to the High Power page from a link below the calendar on the home page or from “Shooting Activities” in the drop down menu.

Our regular events are continuing to grow. Attendance is increasing at our Thursday morning and afternoon 600 yard practices. The morning session is nearing our range limit and we may

have to add another relay. If you would like to give the 600 yard range a try, Ron Avery or I will be available on Saturday mornings from 10 AM till noon (weather permitting) at the 200-yard line to get you qualified. If you can shoot 100 yards, you can shoot 600 yards.

We are planning two rifle clinics this season. A 600 yard clinic geared to the new shooter and those wanting to improve their prone shooting skills will be held on April 26<sup>th</sup>. I hope to get you qualified for the 600-yard range with your equipment prior to the clinic, or if not I have a couple of loaner rifles available. A modest fee will be charged to cover clinic costs.

July 14<sup>th</sup> is the date of this year's wind reading clinic. I hope to incorporate F Class shooting technique with the help of some high-level F Class shooters. Again a small fee to cover printing and range cost will be charged.

While no official Service Rifle clinic is scheduled, instruction on the fundamentals of across the course shooting including operation of the service rifles and shooting positions is available. Contact Al Giles to set up an instruction session.

Please take advantage of these clinics. We have several talented and very experienced shooters eager to get you started. See details on the High Power page.

We will kick the season off with a couple of fun OFF-Hand Matches at 200 yards (with fleeting bragging rights going to the winner) on March 28<sup>th</sup> and

April 4<sup>th</sup>. Seven New Hampshire High Power League matches begin on April 19<sup>th</sup>. M1 Garand and vintage rifle / sniper matches are scheduled. As usual we planned something for everyone.

The Mini-Palma Team Match which is an international competition between the New England States and the Canadian Maritime Provinces will return to the U.S. this year at our facility. I will be holding a team tryout on May 31<sup>st</sup>. A second team ( a “Good Will Team” ) selection is also planned so an additional ten U.S. can participate in the event. The tryout match is open to everyone. You don't have to be trying to make the team to shoot. It will be an NRA approved match.

Programs describing the High Power Rifle events will be posted soon on the High Power Schedule. Take a look.

I hope to see you on the firing line. If you have any questions about High Power Rifle, give one of us a call.

Pete De Santis 603 721-1985  
americandesignhomes@gmail.com

Neil Jeneral 603 398-3238  
njeneral@ne.rr.com

Al Giles 603 499-0494  
angus77@myfairpoint.net

Ron Avery 603 835-8056  
ravery30@comcast.net

*Pete De Santis*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Mike Hagan**, *Chairman*  
president@ccfandg.org

**Neil Jeneral**, *Vice-Chair*  
njeneral@ne.rr.com

**Chris Wheeler**, *Treasurer*

**Rebecca Stearns**, *Secretary*

**Patrice Nesbitt**, *Membership*  
membership@ccfandg.org

**Jack Commerford**, *CRSO*  
hammerhead3006@comcast.net

**Ian Strimbeck**, *CRTO*  
runenationllc@gmail.com

**Ron Coburn**

**Pete De Santis**, *HP Rifle, 600 yd Matches*  
americandesignhomes@gmail.com

**Scott Dunn**, *Cowboy Rifle Shooting*

**Al Giles**, *High Power Rifle*  
angus77@myfairpoint.net.

**Bill Arnott**  
williamarnott3@gmail.com

**Gary LaFreniere**, *Cowboy Action*

**Dan Madden**, *Land Stewart, Shotgun*

**Chris Reynolds**  
csreynolds@outlook.com

**Mike Wright**, *Archery*

**David Gaillardetz**, *Law Enforcement Liaison*  
dgaillardetz@ccssef.org

Ferry Brook Range  
PO Box 233  
Keene, NH 03431