

### **Pathways** by Peter Crowell, General Manager

It's been six months since I stepped into the General Manager job and I have seen a lot, been confused a lot, and, most importantly, become very attached to our range and see in it so many great things and so much promise for a great future.

In talking to members both new and old, my greatest curiosity is about what they like to do at the range. Interests vary greatly from, "I need a place to zero my hunting rifle before the season" to some members who participate in almost open trap shoots and dive into a every discipline the range supports.

Contemplating this great diversity of interests across the membership got me thinking about pathways.

How can we create pathways for our members that will help them enjoy all of the aspects of the shooting sports?

Sunday, June 17th, we had another, very successful, wonderfully run, Women on Target (WOT) event. So far, there have been three conversions from the thirty attendees to active member participation. This is where the pathways come in. The gateway drug is the WOT program and the pathways are many.

A WOT participant can imme-

diately work with our training staff to become more accomplished in whatever discipline she favors. A participant is already working with one of our instructors to improve her skills using her newly acquired Glock 19, Gen 5.

Another plans to join the newly reconstituted Women's Shooting League to continue her skills progression. A third, may, with a little courage, stop by the trap field during our twice a week completely new activity in her life.

A young new member and recently retired veteran of our armed services who has some great skills already, sees Action Pistol as an opportunity to keep his skills refined. He is also very interested in the increasing number of high level defensive shooting courses that we are offering.

An older, new member, who is a long time hunter, had his interest piqued as our discussion drifted to the activities and possibilities of the Hi-Power program. I encouraged him to stop by on Saturday morning to meet some Hi-Power folks at the clinic on the 200 yard range. This clinic is intended to help folks prepare to

shoot on our relatively new 600 yard range, but it also provides an opportunity for a potential Hi-Power newbie to get to meet some of the shooters and to talk about the guns, complexities, and opportunities of Hi-Power shooting.

Another new member "likes to plink" with his collection of 22 LR rifles and pistols. When he heard about the 22 Sniper shoot and the 22 winter shoots, he perked up as he contemplated how that would add interest to his plinking and give him an opportunity to make some new, like minded friends.

There are even more pathways: the archery open shoots, the trap open shoots, the Action Pistol practices on Wednesday nights, Family Day, Live Free or Die day, the aforementioned Women on Target day and Women's Shooting League which is designed to provide a pathway from complete beginner to possible involvement in competitive shooting.

If you can think of other pathways, stop by the office and let's see what we can do with them to optimize every member's experience at our range.

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## **Jr Shooters Rifle Team**

~Larry Parker Sr.

Our best wishes go to Team Member Rachel Brown and her parents Sarah & Jack Commerford after the loss of nearly all of their personal property as a result of a terrible house fire on June 9th. If you're able to help them in any way, go to the CCSSEF web site and there is a page attached letting you know how.

2018 NRA Sectional match results are not yet available, but I have viewed a copy. Our 3 Position score was outstanding this year and placed looking to add a couple of air rifles in 2019. They have been generous sponsors of our equipment needs for over 12 years! They're not just about politics! We also received a great donation of shooting jackets from the Fall Mountain Regional JROTC Rifle Team. They compete in the 'Sporter Category' and can't use jackets.

Here's our 2017 sponsors: The NRA Foundation, Pinney Plumbing & Heating, Mia Capelli Hair Salon, Emerson's Towing, Keene Transmis-

us 5th in the Nation. Very commendable! Our 2018 3-Position Team was Ashley, Kyle, Natalie and Evie. Kyle's incredible score of 578 placed him 3rd in the nation. In 4– Position, we



had the exact same score as last year. Our overall 4-P ranking for this year is 11th. I was advised these would be on the NRA's web site by June 15. Maybe by early July. Try this site: http://competitions.nra.org/championship-results/nra-national-indoor-rifle-pistol-championships-results. aspx

Our Air Rifle Team has qualified for the CMP's National Air Rifle Championships June 25-26. Results will be posted to the CMP's Competition Tracker Program. We are looking to send 4 of our athletes to the CMP's National Rifle Matches in July. Our current roster has 17 active athletes in our rifle program.

We received a new air rifle for 2017 and two new rifles for 2018 plus a bunch of equipment thanks to the NRA Foundation. We will be sion, Matt Symonds Landscaping, JDJ Builders, Full Throttle Powersports, Wood 'N Nail Builders, Coll's Cleaning Service, Keene Door, Dave Swenson, Victor Lawrence, The Car Family, The Piazza Family and Scott McFarland. We've already received

2018 support from MIA CAPELLI, DAVE SW-ENSON and the CAR Family. PLEASE SUP-PORT 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 \$11,000.

#### **CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

## Women on Target

Father's Day - It was Sunny and hot on Sunday, June 17, 2018, which was the date of the NRA Instructional Shooting Clinic held at CCSSEF/CCF&G. 30 women attended this 1/2 dayprogram to learn the basic skills of pistol, rifle, and shotgun in a safe, comfortable environment with a one-on-one volunteer whom provides additional education, instruction and support as needed. This progam is empowering as many women arrive having no prior or very limited experience handling a firearm and they are nervous & anxious, but by the time they leave, they are full of excitement, educated on the basic handling skills, and their enthiusiam shines through in their shooting stories.

Thank you to all the volunteers (especially those Dad's out there who dedicated their expertise and time to this clinic - you all really are remarkable!)

The next WOT clinic will be held on Sunday, October 14, 2018. Please check the website for the brochure and additional information or contact myself, Elaine Croteau at (603) 903-4070 or by email at chesterfieldelaine@yahoo.com.

Thank you to our local

~Elaine H. Croteau

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### Jr Shooters Rifle Team CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Notes on our active ALUM-NI (shooting, college & military)...Tobin completed his second year at the University of North Georgia shooting with the UNG Nighthawks. Andrew Solomonides moves on to his senior year at West Point on their Army Black Knights rifle team. Both Tobin and Andrew were again named to the 2018 Collegiate Rifle Coaches Association Scholastic All American List. Lt Joe Bogar is with the 4th Infantry at Ft Carson, CO. Tom Csenge has moved to Virginia to work for TEAM TURBO rifle manufacturing. A real US manufacturer in the competitive smallbore rifle market. http://www. turboaction.net/. Capt John Nikiforakis is in preparation of his upcoming promotion to Major. Greg Ganio

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### Shotgun Corner ~ Chuck Tatham

As most of you trap shooters probably know, the ATA shoots and state shoots are now going in full swing. If you want to be good and win some nice trophies and even some money there is only one way to do it. PRACTICE, PRACTICE and practice some more.

Our trap range is open every Wed at noon and Sat. at 10 AM. The range is open to the public and the cost is more

than reasonable. On Wednesday many of us bring our lunch and have a good time shooting



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more than just our trap guns! For you casual shotgun shooters who just want to shoot a few clay targets without waiting for the range to be officially open, don't forget we have a hand operated trap machine that can be used by anyone at anytime. You will have to provide your own ammo and targets.

This machine is located near the upper trap house.

If you see Mike Blaisdell be sure to congratulate him on winning Sub Veteran High Overall at the PA state shoot. Quite an accomplishment!

shoto by Al Patnode

## ~ Peter Crowell, General Manager

I found the picture above on my desk when I started in January. The notes on it indicate that it is George Trask. The note also references an Edward Dugay who was a YMCA shooting instructor in the mid twentieth century, so there is some confusion about who the fellow holding the rifle actually is. If you can confirm who is in the picture, let me know.

The note goes on to say that there was an entity called The Keene Rifle Club, Inc. that was created in 1941 (war related, most likely). This club was "merged" into the Cheshire County Fish and Game Club in January of 1976.

This all makes me think about how many great stories might surround what is now the Cheshire County Shooting Sports Education Foundation.

There is a great story about how many of our Junior shooters have achieved national prominence in the shooting sports. Another story about how many of these wonderful young shooters have gotten college scholarships because of their amazing talents.

There are stories about many of our shooters great achievements in many disciplines. When you are shooting trap or Hi Power you may be next to a nationally ranked shooter... but... don't get nervous, they will be happy to help you.

Look back or think of recent times, what are the stories? Let me know. It's a wonderfully way to connect to our history and to appreciate our current facility and membership.



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## Family Day & Swap Meet

~Elaine & Arnie Croteau and Jack Commerford

~ Saturday, July 21st ~ Bring a friend, your spouse, family, or grandchildren to the annual Family Day that will be held this year on Saturday, July 21st from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

During this open event, there will be *free* BB and archery for kids and adults to try, and for a minimal fee for young adults and adults, they can try other disciplines, including air rifle, pistol, black powder, .22 rifle, Carbine, Running Deer, Gong, and Trap. All equipment will be provided.

This is a great day out for

some shooting fun in a safe environment with trainers and range safety officers in charge at each site.

For those interested in volunteering on this day, email chesterfieldelaine@yahoo.com or call 603-903-4070.

Also, a great time to clean out your garage and basement for the annual Swap Meet to be held Saturday, July 21st from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event coincides with Family Day, and is a chance for people to sell their outdoor sporting equipment, fishing gear, canoe and motor boats, archery equipment, guns, and more.

Again, this year, we are welcoming non-members/businesses to join us. Members price for a spot at the Swap Meet (everyone brings their own tables) is \$15. Non-members will pay \$20. Included in the cost is one ticket for lunch that day. For more details or to reserve a spot (reservations with payment must be made by Saturday, July 14th), email chesterfieldelaine@yahoo. com or call 603-903-4070.

RICOCHETS ~ Chuck Tatham

I was groped by Abe Lincoln. ~Hillary Clinton

If the Democrats thought the immigrants would vote Republican, you could see the fence from outer space. ~Unknown

I thought it would take longer to get this old. Unknown We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give. ~Winston Churchill.

If a man knows he is to be hanged in a fortnight, it concentrates the mind wonderfully. ~Spanish Proverb

A wise man never says, "I did not think of that." ~Spanish Proverb





### Action Pistol ~Walt Lewandowski

After dinner you decide to go for a walk in a nearby park. A thug appears, clearly agitated, pistol in hand intending to rob you. Luckily a passing car distracts him and you quickly take cover behind some trees. You retrieve your concealed pistol and prepare to defend yourself. A quick peek reveals he is behind a tree across the path from you, looking out from behind cover first from the left side, then the right, his gun pointed at the tree you are behind. As you prepare to engage, a jogger runs between the two of you. You pause....

When the runner has disappeared around the corner and from behind cover you anticipate the reappearance of the bad guy then you engage him ....Its over. Your firearm is still pointing at the tree - you take a deep breath.

You hear a voice behind you saying: IF DONE, unload and show clear.. IF CLEAR, slide forward, pull the trigger then holster .. RANGE IS CLEAR ..Whew! You have just finished running an Action Pistol stage. The scenario is contrived.

The bad guy is a swinging target. The jogger is a 'non threat' target on rails moving between the bad guy and you. The trees are plastic barrels. The skills involved are real. What's next?

So you own a pistol and have taken the time to learn the basics. Perhaps you have taken the NRA courses in the classroom and spent time on the range. You feel comfortable with your pistol, able to perforate stationary targets at 10 yards so now what?

Action Pistol will allow you to kick it up a notch. Here, not only will targets move but might take cover and hide! The shooter as well might be moving and made to take cover. You may be facing multiple targets and learn how to deal with these threats. Action Pistol will allow you to become more comfortable, proficient and safe with what you carry. You will learn to safely draw from a holster, perform mag changes and learn to use cover effectively. We do not strive to provide





hard tactical training but rather practical firearm skills. Safety is stressed, both yours and others around you.

Our practice every Wednesday night consists of warm-up drills often with a stage set up to demonstrate some new techniques. Strong hand and support hand shooting are some skills you will be practicing.

You will be learning at your own pace, not lumped in with others having more advanced skills.

We will show you ways to quickly acquire a good sight picture and perform accurate follow-up shots.

The atmosphere is friendly and non-competitive. If you just want to stop by and watch, you are more than welcome. We generally start at 4:00PM but if you cannot arrive until 4:30, 5:00 or later, that's fine.

We stay as long as the light or weather permits. Matches are on the third Saturday of each month. We start around 8:30AM so; if you are interested, please watch us. We generally have 6 stages set up, one of which is a Steel Challenge stage.

In July, the third Saturday is the Family Day and Swap meet at CCSSEF and we are planning on an abbreviated match that day to demonstrate what Action Pistol is all about. We hope to see you there.

## 2018 High Power Rifle Schedule

The High Power Rifle season is in full swing, and there is an event to suit everyone.

Like last year, the High Power committee has planned an ambitious season. We start with two warm up off hand fun matches at 200 yards, followed by the first of six New Hampshire High Power League matches. We will host four 600 yard NRA approved prone mid-range matches, and the NH State Mid-Range State Championship. Two M-1 Garand matches and a vintage sniper/service rifle match are scheduled. A 50 round and an 80 round National Match Course along with an Excellence In Competition "Rifle Leg Match" will be shot here.

Two Service Rifle clinics and a 600 yard wind reading/prone shooting technique clinic will be held. The 600 yard morning and afternoon prone practices start in May. Like last year, I plan on being available most Saturday mornings from 10:00 am till noon to get you sighted in to shoot at the 600 yard range. Several members qualified last summer and are having

last summer and are having f a blast at the Thursday practices. A few have tried their a luck at the matches and have f done remarkably well. If you shoot two NRA approved matches (120 rounds for record), you will receive a Mid-Range Classification Card which allows you to compete

We will also be hosting this year's "Mini-Palma" match. This is a one long range/mid-range match between teams from New England and the Canadian Maritime Provinces. This will be the 41st year of the competition and the first time it will shot on our range. This is my fourth year as the US team captain and several shooter from our club have been on the team.

at your skill level.

The dates for all of the high power rifle events are

also posted on the main calendar and listed on the High Power web page. Check out these matches. There is something for everyone. Contact the event organizers for details.

Contact me if you have any questions. See you on the range.

> Pete De Santis (603) 721-1985

### Jr. Team Rifle Sign Up for 2018

~ Larry Parker, Sr.

Junior Rifle Team SIGN-UP for the 2018-2019 season will be on Saturday September 8th at 8:30am at the 100 Yard Rimfire Range at CCF&G in Keene. The program is open to girls and boys between the ages of 10 and 19.

Details about the Junior Team can be found on the website at: http://www.ccssef. org/ferry-brook-rifle-team/

### When Your World Turns Upside Down

~ Peter Crowell, General Manger

By now, many of you know that two of our members, Jack and Sarah Commerford and their daughter, Rachel, recently suffered a loss that would devastate any of us. An accident with a gas BBQ grill, resulted in the complete destruction of their home and most of their possessions.

Jack is the Chief Range Safety Officer, Facilities Manager, and frequent Instructor at our club. Sarah is a shooter and is always volunteering for Saturday membership duty and any other instances where she can help.

There has been a very generous outpouring of aid for them and they are powerfully moved by those kindnesses. The loss is so great, however, that any possible aid anyone can give is still a great boon. There are many ways to help, but what is most useful now is probably cash.

There is a Go Fund Me page: https://www.gofundme.com/house-fire-recovery-for-commerfords where you can get more details.

You may also send demonstrations of your generosity to the club c/o of the General Manager, Peter Crowell and it will be immediately gotten to them.

As you move around town, you will also find contribution jars at locations like Highlander Arms in West Chesterfield.

Like many of us, Jack had LOTS of ammunition in the house that "cooked off". Most of his gun collection was protected by the fire resistant safes that they were stored in, good news. The truly precious things, think about what you have in your homes, like heirlooms and family mementoes are gone forever.

Some of us know the meaning of living paycheck to paycheck or paycheck to no check and can give, but not all at once. Well, there is time, there are opportunities, and there are three wonderful members of our community who are still in need.



## Winter Adult Smallbore 4-Position Rifle League ~ Larry Parker, Sr.

If you're interested in the adult 4-Position smallbore rifle league for this coming fall/winter, we have a couple of target rifles with scopes that can be signed out to members. This will start up in December. Contact Larry Parker Sr or Neil Jeneral for details about Smallbore rifle shooting. smallbore@ ccfandg.org or 600yard@ccfandg.org

# JIN-BOD'S N Please check for

### Saturday Lunch at Beccy-Bob's (Famous) Smokehouse Grille.

Come to the Clubhouse on any Saturday between 11 and 1 to have lunch at Beccy-Bob's Grille. Five bucks will buy you a tasty lunch. Lots of great folks to visit with... See ya on the range, Rebecca



Remember, when renewing your NRA membership or signing up a new member to the NRA, be sure to use our "Join NRA" link near the bottom of our home page on the web site. Your support of the NRA is important in the preservation of our 2nd Amendment Rights.

For further details, contact me at the Club at 352-8563 or by email at; gm@ccfandg.org.

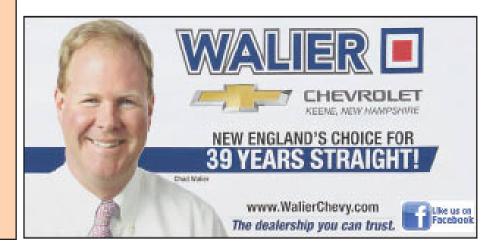
Thank you for your support of all Shooting Sports, General Manager





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Heavy Equipment Operator Welding Electrical or Plumbing Repair Carpentry

Remember it's volunteers that make our club great!

### Women's Shooting League

~ Sharon

### Calendar:

July 14, 2018 August 4, 2018 September 1, 2018 October TBD soon!

Level I meets at 8:30 - Is for beginner shooters. No experience is necessary.

Level II meets at 10:30 - Is for women who have taken level 1 or have prior experience.

\$15.00 for member/\$20.00 for non-member

To sign up or get more information please contact Sharon at sassandbrasstraining@gmail.com

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### 2018 COMING EVENTS Mark Your Calendar!

July 21 - Family Day & Swap Meet

August 5 - Cowboy Long Range Buffalo

September 15 - Live Free or Die Shoot

September 16 - Republican Shoot

October 14 - Women on Target

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3. Your business card is listed on the CCSSEF Website for everyone to see.

4. For those who purchase the largest ad offered, it will also go on the Wall of Sponsors in the clubhouse for members and vistors to view.

To learn more, call Lori Cook at 603-852-0119 or email advertising@ccfandg.org.

### Lost & Found

We have a small collection of items left on the range. If you're missing something, call or email the office with a description: 352-8563 or gm@ccfandg.org.

Cheshire County Fish & Game Club PO Box 233 Keene, NH 03431-0233

