



January 2020 Volume II, Issue 1

**W**ishing all of you, the members at Ferry Brook Range a wonderful and safe new year! As we begin a new decade, may we remember the people who have gone before us, who helped frame what this range is now and also the events and training that have contributed to making Ferry Brook Range a better place to shoot and train. Much has gone into making this Range the special place that it has become.

As one of the Membership Directors, it has been a real privilege getting to know new and renewing members—I get to learn more of what draws you to this

Range. I know I have my own personal reasons but getting to know the drives and ambitions of some of you is exciting to me. And I hope to be able to help direct you to the activities and training that you desire for your own personal improvement. In return, I ask that you also seek ways to get to know other members and ways to help this Range prosper in the years to come. With all of the talents, knowledge, training and skills that you bring to this Range, YOU are certainly a resource for others to learn from. The beautiful part of a volunteer organization such as this is that we share the load of the work and we all benefit as a result. I have learned from other organizations that when a person

has a stake in the outcome of an endeavor, whether it is helping to give direction or using your skills to accomplish some task, the end result is that much better and of greater value than if a staff of paid workers were to accomplish the work. Much of the work that needs to be done may be menial labor, it may not be noticed, or fully appreciated but if it isn't done, then the Range will deteriorate. So let me encourage or even challenge each of you to allocate some time to come and do something to improve the Range. We each share the responsibility for what goes on here.

All of the work has value, whether it is writing articles for the Newsletter, helping with distribution, selling advertising; *Continued on page 7*

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



**2020** Wow, look at that number, great symmetry. I have a feeling that that symmetry and the

calmness that it implies will not be indicative of what the year will bring!

Let's put the "big picture" stuff in that last sentence aside for now and look at what is in store at your range during the year of 2020.

The calendar is starting to take shape, although it still needs a great deal of work. I want to encourage anyone who

is on the calendar or who wants to be on the calendar with an event or series of events to get their information to me as soon as possible.

One of the efforts that I have been working on with modest success is to get more detailed information into the calendar so that it can be an ever more valuable resource for everyone. However, this is not something that I can do on my own. Why? Because I am not privy (a fun word as you look at the noun vs. adjective forms) to all of the details of all of the events.

Therefore, if you have or want a slot on our calendar, please make sure the dates you want are on the calendar

or get them to me. Then, after I post them, look at the details in the event description and send me an email with ANY changes that you desire, including links to additional information. Remember our goal is to help any of us looking at the calendar to see and understand all the great things that go on at our range and to be aware of any conflicts that might result in an unsatisfactory trip to the range, something that NO ONE wants.

So far, we are getting a great variety of training classes booked. We are also reaching out to other renowned trainers to include our facility in their planning. Before the annual meeting held in October, I did *Continued on page 4*

# JANUARY 2020 — EVENT CALENDAR

Wednesday, January 1

**NEW YEAR'S DAY CELEBRATION**

**FIRST SHOOT 2020**

Saturday, January 4

RSO Jenifer Marchesi

Membership Jeff Nesbitt

Open Trap & 5 Stand

10 AM practice open to the public

Monday, January 6

RSO meeting 6:30 PM

Tuesday, January 7

BOD meeting 6:30 PM

22LR Winter Indoor Shoot 6 – 8 PM

ELMM Center, Winchester, NH

Wednesday, January 8

Open Trap Noon open to the public.

Saturday, January 11

RSO Pete DeSantis

Membership Konrad Sytko

10 AM Open Trap & 5 Stand

Trap practice open to the public

Tuesday, January 13

22LR Winter Indoor Shoot 6 – 8 PM

ELMM Center, Winchester, NH

Wednesday, January 15

Open Trap Noon open to the public.

Saturday, January 18

RSO Ron Hitchings

Membership Bill Stearns

Open Trap & 5 Stand

10 AM open to the public.

Sunday, January 19

22LR Winter Shoot 9 am to 1 pm Pistol Bay 1 25 yds

Tuesday, January 21

22LR Winter Indoor Shoot 6 – 8 PM

ELMM Center, Winchester, NH

Wednesday, January 22

Open Trap Noon open to the public.

Saturday, January 25

RSO Konrad Sytko

Membership Ron Hitchings

Open Trap & 5 Stand 10 AM open

Sunday, January 26

Trap Winter League Event

10 AM open to the public.

Tuesday, January 27

22LR Winter Indoor Shoot 6 – 8 PM

ELMM Center, Winchester, NH

Wednesday, January 29

Open Trap Noon open to the public.

Saturday, February 1

RSO John Westover

Membership Jeff Nesbitt

Open Trap & 5 Stand 10 AM practice open

**General Manager**

**Peter Crowell**

**603-352-8563**

**gm@ccfandg.org**

**Hours**

**Monday, Wednesday, Friday**

**10 AM to 3 PM**

**Clubhouse Café**

**Saturdays 8 AM to 1 PM**

**Breakfast & Lunch.**

*Come on by and get to know fellow shooters.*

**Membership**

**Saturdays 9 AM to 1 PM**

**at the Clubhouse**

Sunday, February 2

22LR Winter Shoot — Pistol

9 AM Pistol Bay 1

Monday, February 3

RSO meeting 6:30 PM

Tuesday, February 4

22LR Winter Indoor Shoot 6 – 8 PM

ELMM Center, Winchester, NH

Wednesday, January 29

Open Trap Noon open to the public.

Saturday, February 8

RSO Patrice Nesbitt

Membership Konrad Sytko

Open Trap & 5 Stand

10 AM practice open to the public

Sunday, February 9

Muzzle Loader Poker Shoot

TBD (probably the 200 yd, 100 yd and Pistol Bay 3 plus the Archery range)

Contact: Jean Goodell

Tuesday, February 11

**MEMBERSHIP ANNUAL MEETING**

5:30 PM SOCIAL HOUR

6:30 PM MEETING

Saturday, February 15

RSO David Gaillardetz

Membership Bill Stearns

Open Trap & 5 Stand

10 AM practice open to the public

Sunday, February 16

22LR Winter Shoot — Rifle

8 AM TO 1 PM Pistol Bay 1

Tuesday, February 18

22LR Winter Indoor Shoot 6 – 8 PM

ELMM Center, Winchester, NH



Saturday, February 22

RSO Jeff Fifield

Membership Ron Hitchings

Open Trap & 5 Stand

10 AM practice open to the public

Tuesday, February 25

22LR Winter Indoor Shoot 6 PM

ELMM Center, Winchester, NH

Saturday, February 29

RSO Dan Shepardson

Membership Jeff Nesbitt

Open Trap & 5 Stand

10 AM practice open to the public

## NEW YEAR'S DAY CELEBRATION

### FIRST SHOOT 2020

Registration 9 AM FREE coffee and refreshments in the Clubhouse.

An open trap shoot and 22 LR pistol/ rifle competition start at 10 AM. Pistol Bay one (the enclosed Pistol Bay 1 will be heated). 22LR Event Coordinators, Bob Prudhomme and Ron Hitchings

This is a great opportunity to start the New Year and a New Decade for all—shoot, eat, enjoy good fellowship and renew your membership for 2020.

## 22LR WINTER SHOOT

Sunday, January 19, 2020 (see Calendar)

Sunday, February 2, 2020 (see Calendar)

Sunday, February 16, 2020 (Calendar)

Description: Event closes the bay for general use during this time. A modest amount of heat may be provided!

Format: Start with 8 rounds of 22LR, shoot at 8 metal knock-down targets in 15 sec 4-station rotation; 25 yds for rifles Fee: \$10

Contact: Bryon Austin baustin2@ne.rr.com (603) 352-9487 leave message.

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

February 11<sup>th</sup> at the Elks Lodge

81 Roxbury Street

Keene, New Hampshire.

The Social hour starts at 5:30 PM catered hors d'oeuvres.

Meeting starts at 6:30 PM

Proxy forms will be mailed to all of the membership at the end of January. Watch for it in your mail. Your presence at the meeting is very important but, if you absolutely cannot make the meeting, please find someone who will vote in your stead and give them a signed proxy form. 🍷

## NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

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### **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
- Ferry Brook Range group on Facebook

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

**Patrice Nesbitt, Editor**

603 499-3074

membership@ccsfandg.org

*Checks payable to CCSSEF*

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a study of the number of training hours that we will have delivered in 2019. Since my data is a bit soft, I erred always on the side of conservative numbers. Even with that conservative approach, I came up with 20,000 hours of training that we will have delivered in 2019, an exciting accomplishment for your Shooting Sports Education Foundation. Remember, we also host ten regional law enforcement organizations for all of their training needs.

As for events and I probably will forget some, please forgive me, Women on Target will have two sessions as it did this year. Live Free or Die will return. The range will run an Open House day (used to be family day) and we have an objective of working hard to get the word out to the region so as many folks as possible can come and visit our great facility.

Action Pistol (weekly practices and monthly matches), the Women's League, Cowboy Long Range, Safari Shoot, Winter 22LR shoots, Winter Trap League, Junior Rifle and Shotgun programs (discussed in last months newsletter), Hunter Safety (two sessions, spring and early fall), a great variety of high-power activities, and the Warrior Connection fundraiser are all anticipated.

There are discussions about getting back into the Cowboy Action Shooting activities of past years. This is challenged by some facility limitations that are currently being discussed. There are some great ideas for more and different women's activities like an organized rifle activity.

We have many great Hi Power activities and maybe someone (that means you, new volunteer) could think about getting a Precision Rifle Shooting (PRS) group in 22LR (rimfire) started. This activity includes the great complexity of hi power shooting for a lot smaller financial commitment. Check this out:



*Shooting the Ruger Precision Rimfire Rifle*

All of the aforementioned takes a great deal of effort and assistance from willing members. This is an area where "many hands make light work" really applies. Imagine setting up a Cowboy Action Shooting match where a lot of steel targets are utilized with just a few folks. The "many hands" notion also has a great secondary benefit... each volunteer's time is lessened.

Interested in helping out but don't know how? Call me or connect with another member who also wants to do what you want to do and drop by on a Saturday morning and talk up your ideas or willingness and you will be connected to someone who can help get you pointed in the right direction.

We succeed together and fail alone. 🐾

*Happy New Year*

*Peter*



*More on Communications*

**I**N LAST MONTH'S NEWSLETTER I spoke a bit about communications in my "View from the General Manager's Desk" column.

I mentioned our website: [www.ferrybrookrange.com](http://www.ferrybrookrange.com), the FERRY BROOK RANGE NEWSLETTER, our

email "blasts"; our website and Newsletter calendars, and our Facebook "CCFandG" page and our more recent, "Ferry Brook Range" group. What I failed to think about, mostly because I am generationally challenged with this "social" stuff, is Instagram and YouTube and maybe some others that I don't even know about.

It has become really clear to me that the range needs someone much wiser than I to sort this all out. I will continue to do the best I can to make continuous improvement where I understand the medium at least a little bit, but it really seems like a much more "social media" aware person's thoughts are needed to get the best bang for our buck with this stuff.

Does this mean some young person? A millennial? A gen X'er? I don't think that is necessarily true. A good percentage of our members don't fit in those categories and they need to be represented and served with a good communications effort that also will help us reach more and more busy young folks. "In youth lies our hope for a great future", is not a meaningless bromide.

One of the most discouraging things I have heard in my now two-year stint as your General Manager, is that our range is the greatest resource that few know is here in *good ole* Keene, New Hampshire, in the county of Cheshire.

If communications is in your wheelhouse or even in your back yard storage shed, contact me or come on down to a monthly Board meeting (the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 PM) with your ideas. **Remember all members are welcome to any monthly meeting.** 🐾

*Peter*



# GUN REVIEWS

by Jack Zeller



Smith & Wesson



## M&P 9 and Glock 31 (357.Sig.) Runoff

The real reason for this blog post is that while LRDC is primarily a deer camp, and hunting blog, this time of year gets wearisome in it's repetitiveness. I gather roughly 3,500 pictures a week on my cameras, and almost all are of deer. They are repetitive and boring after the first 500, so I try to save only the exceptional ones. In the meantime, I fill in with such things as farm issues, and firearm issues, and have done quite a few gun reviews over the years. As a veteran L.E./SWAT/Instructor guy, I obviously have my favorites. We all do! In any case, if you follow this blog, you know that I dumped the 1911 platform for the striker fired platform after carrying both for long periods of time. In fact, our PD was one of the very first in the N.E. to issue the Glock pistol for duty. I was an instructor and armorer for some 27 years. To me, this pistol was the end all in handheld fighting weapons. Between competition, Academy instruction, and SWAT training, I put some 45,000 rounds through my issue Glock 17 before I had a single malfunction (the slide lock broke, and I replaced it in less than a minute). What could be better?

About two years ago, I was shooting on the local range (my duty model 31 Glock in 357 Sig) when a fellow asked me what I was shooting for rounds. I explained, and he wanted to try my 357. I said sure, and of course he offered me a full magazine of his gun, a 9 mm S&W M&P 9. I accepted. My life changed. In short, I shot his, immediately bought one, and have never looked back.

I love the Glocks, they are rugged, and utterly reliable. They are safe. They are

reasonably priced. They clean up easily, and once you learn their weaknesses, they are nearly flawless. They are reasonably accurate and fully combat accurate. There is nothing wrong with them. If you have and carry one, keep it.

That said, I shot that M&P 9, and bought one that evening. THAT is what a difference in ergonomics meant to me. I was unfamiliar with the M&P line, so totally open to what it had to offer. Now, some 7,500 rounds into the M&P, I want to do an objective comparison with the Glock family. I took my duty Glock 31 and my M&P 9 to the range for a shoot off. By that, I mean a subjective comparison.



Both, by the way are two tiers superior to the 1911 platform. (I welcome hate mail!)

Above and below you can see the basic field stripped weapons. Twins. Now, the S&W touts that it is not necessary to pull the trigger to complete disassembly as is required of the Glock. BUT, you must use a tool on the M&P to lower the sear de-activation lever before disassembly or, you can simply pull the trigger as on a Glock (after double checking the empty chamber, thank you) and the weapons come apart like one another.

Below is a side-by-side comparison, Glock on right, M&P on the left. They



are nearly identical in thickness. (Glock 1 1/8<sup>th</sup> and M&P 1 1/4)



Not much in difference here although the grip angle WILL rise it's head...



Seemingly twins below...



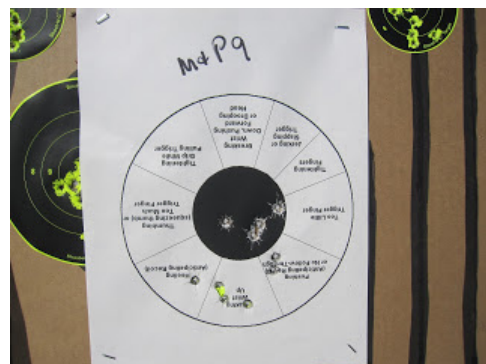


Fully loaded these beasts are almost identical in weight...Glock at 2 lbs. 2.6 oz. and M&P at 2 lbs. 4.6 ozs.



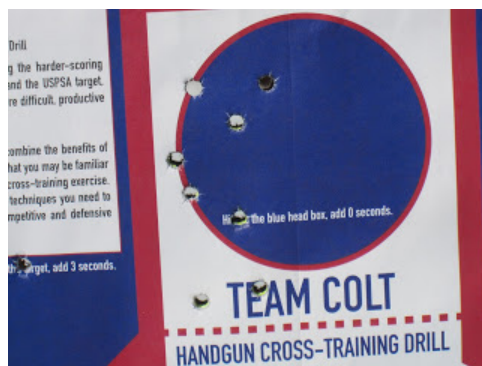
Below, we get to shooting these masterpieces. The first target is rapid fire from the Glock at 15 yards. Now, I have to admit I haven't fired this beast for three years, so the addition oomph did toss me a bit left. Perfectly correctable.

The rapid fire group from the M&P. I admit, I have fired a lot of rounds from this piece.



Rapid fire group from low ready, head shots at ten yards with the Glock. Very decent group. (Don't worry about the left sided group, that is correctible and easy!

Rapid fire group from the M&P and you see they are right in there. But then, I shoot this gun often...



A magazine each from both guns. 10 yards, as fast as I can fire and hold the sights. It is impossible to determine which gun hit where. But does it matter?



It does. Let me explain. First I have to say that the 9mm and .357 Sig rounds below have radically different recoil postures. Comparatively, the 9mm is easy to shoot. The .357 you hold onto, with meaning, if you want fast follow up shots. For general law enforcement work, I don't believe there is a better round than the .357 SIG. It is superior in every way to the 9, 40, and 45. (I love hate mail)



But. Here is my take. Forget the caliber issue. With modern bullets design and proper placement, both these calibers are generating stellar records in the field. As far as which gun is better, I choose (breaking my own heart) the S&W M&P. Both guns are twins in size. In any comparison they are virtually the same except in one. The grip angle. The Smith sports an 18-degree grip angle, and it makes all the difference. It is so much more instinctive than the Glock, that I was swayed the first 15 rounds I ever fired through it. Secondly, in every training session I have ever been in that required more than 200 rounds, I got a sore on my middle finger mid knuckle from the Glock, and also on the lower part of my trigger finger. (now, I realize that my duty Glock is a 3<sup>rd</sup> gen so has no grip adjustments).

But this M&P—it is flawless. It hasn't had a single malfunction in some 7,800 rounds, (nor, if I can recall, has my Glock 31 in about the same number) and it is as easy to shoot, and as fast back on target as any gun I have ever picked up. For me, a 30-year Glock/Amorer/SWAT/Dyed-in-the-wool-Glock-Dude to jump ship like this has got to mean something.

I don't own stock in S&W, but I should. Because of this experience, I bought a Shield. Same thing. Shootability I hadn't experienced before. They are Wow!

As I always say, try both, and take your pick! I took mine! 🍌

*Jack Zeller*

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mowing the lawn, cleaning up brush or weeding; cleaning the Clubhouse; emptying rubbish from the Ranges; serving as an RSO; helping with Saturday meals; doing membership; helping with events, and the list could go on and on. We have WOMEN ON TARGET coming up on May 9<sup>th</sup> and we do need volunteers for that. WOT is a fabulous training event that the Range sponsors, and we need all sorts of volunteers to help ensure its success. Let me know if you are willing to do something to help. There are some gun clubs that require that every member contribute a certain amount of time volunteering each year for their clubs. We don't currently do that. We also want to keep membership dues down so, we don't have a large paid staff. Personally, I like the way Ferry Brook Range uses the voluntary efforts of its membership.

**ANNUAL MEETING.** The BOD held a meeting in October that didn't meet quorum. We are trying once again to meet this year's quorum by holding it earlier in the year. So, please mark your calendar's so that you can be at the meeting on February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020! The meeting will be held at the Elks Lodge, 81 Roxbury Street in Keene. The catered social starts at 5:30 and the meeting proper at 6:30 PM. Let's do it this time. We need you to vote on the members of the Board of Directors, make By Law changes and some major decisions regarding the future direction the Range is to take.

### A few bullet points on Safety!

- **Eyes and ears are required** on every active Range (in use). Foam plugs are available in the Clubhouse and while not the best, they do afford some protection.
- **Treat all guns as if they are always loaded.** An individual who properly inspects and shows a gun to be clear before further handling is seen as a responsible and knowledgeable participant at the range. Take the time to treat every firearm that you come in contact

with as though it COULD be loaded. Never assume that someone has handed you an unloaded gun. Take the time necessary to safely inspect the firearm yourself before moving on. Never accept into your possession a firearm that you are unfamiliar with, thinking that you can fiddle with it until you figure it out. You will never be wrong to ask for assistance and a demonstration of safe and correct usage of that firearm.

- **Never point the muzzle at anything that you are not willing to destroy.**

When on a range, the safe direction is down range. You are responsible to always keep a gun pointed in a safe direction. Before you go down range to check your target, make sure that you remove the source of ammunition (i.e. drop your mag.), put a chamber flag in your chamber and step away from the firearm. No one may touch a firearm when people are down range. Please make sure that everyone on the line is done shooting and has followed these steps **before** going down range.

- **Keep your finger off the trigger** until your sights are on the target and you have made the decision to shoot.

- **Be sure of your target and what is behind it.**

- Always secure your guns from unauthorized persons. A member may bring a guest to the Range but must ensure that the guest follows our rules, including not fiddling with a firearm when people are down range. Chamber flags ensure that there are no live rounds in the chamber.

- **Use BOTH FLAGS when going down-range on the 50/100/200 Rifle Ranges.** Make sure that all firing has ceased and all firearms are made safe BEFORE going downrange.

### Remember the Safety Rules!

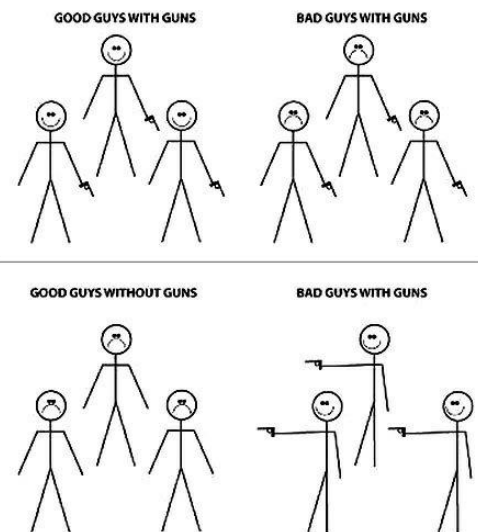
A few more rules to keep in mind: Know how to safely use the gun; be sure that the gun is SAFE to use; use only the correct ammo for the gun; no alcohol or drug use before or while you are shoot-

ing. Educate yourself on the rules for each particular Range you plan to shoot on. Each Range has its own Standards of Procedures (SOPs) for a reason. We want to do all that we can to ensure that Ferry Brook Range remains a safe and fun place to shoot for years to come.

*Happy New Year*

*Patrice*

## LET'S MAKE THIS SIMPLE



**DO YOU GET IT? OR ARE YOU STUPID OR SOMETHING?**

## Classifieds

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

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

Mossberg 500 12Ga Camo, 2 Barrels \$250

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General John Stark 31 July 1809



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