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Gun Range



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**JANUARY
2022**



FERRY BROOK RANGE

CHESHIRE COUNTY SHOOTING SPORTS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Securing the Future



Stay tuned for more information about the new indoor range opening soon!

Winter Adult Smallbore 4-Position Cheshire- Windham Rifle League

For the 2022 season, we have a couple of target rifles with scopes available to members. We will be using the new Indoor Range at CCSSEF.

Contact Larry Parker Sr.
or Neil Jeneral:

IRM@ccssef.org or
600yard@ccfandg.org

January Update

As I write this late, as usual, we are only five days away from 2022. What do we have to look forward to? Well, if we look at the national scene, not much. There is more to fear than cheer. Let's skip that and look locally—in particular, let's look at the Ferry Brook Range, home of the Cheshire County Shooting Sports Education Foundation.

The most exciting change for me will be opening the Indoor Range. You can become a member if you are a member of the outdoor range or shoot as a member of the public. Schedules are being developed and published as soon as possible, for public and member shooting. Many are working very hard to get the range operational. As you may know, we incurred delays acquiring materials which pushed us almost two months off schedule. Fingers crossed, there will be a “soft” opening in January. Stay tuned...

Next year will also bring a continuation of the new Steel Challenge competitions. Watch for emails with information on this great speed and accuracy competition. It is available to all ages and has many competition categories making it possible for you to compete with almost any gun in your safe.

The Cowboy Action crew is hoping to return this amazingly fun competition to our range finally. A special addition to the Archery Range location will enable this. We hope to begin a Bullseye group both in the Indoor range and outside. A precision rimfire group has been discussed. As with all our efforts, these efforts require active participation and direct help from the membership to be successful. Keep your eyes on your email, the website, and the Facebook page for the latest information. Also, we will continue our efforts to broadcast the latest information on the local radio stations.

All our regular activities will continue, including rifle, shotgun, pistol, and archery practices and competitions. Also, stay tuned for new education opportunities for both new, intermediate, and experienced shooters. There is plenty of fun and exciting stuff to look forward to; in the meantime, you better head to your favorite gun store and get your magnet pulled, hyper capacity, fully semi-automatic, clipazines before they are sold out.

Happy New Year!

Peter Crowell,
General Manager

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Beginner/New Owner Pistol Clinics and Skill Building Clinics:

Sunday

Jan 16

1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

**Pre-Registration
Required**

Please contact:
Jenifer Marchesi
jtmarchesi@gmail.com
508-259-6735

We have Limited Class
Size to provide 1:1
coaching for Beginners/
New Firearm Owners.

All attendees will begin
with classroom instruction
before going to the range.
The initial clinic is for .22
caliber only*.

Cost:**
\$40 per session
CCSSEF Members
\$50 per session
Non-Members

***Beginner Class Includes:**
Targets, hearing protection, use of eye
protection, .22 semi-automatic pistols,
50-round box of .22 ammunition, and
additional ammo for sale at cost.

**** All proceeds benefit CCSSEF and
offset materials cost**

North Branch Bowmen Club

Although we are currently shooting indoors at the Keene Recreation Center (with masks on, due to the reinstated Keene mask mandate) at least we are able to shoot.

North Branch Bowmen meets at the Rec Center most Sunday afternoons from 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm for open shooting and on Tuesday evenings immediately following our youth program (around 7:00 pm) through the end of March. If learning archery has been on your bucket list or you just want to get out of the house this winter come on down we have plenty of equipment for the new person to try it out.

The archery program has been going strong in the Recreation Center for more than 60 years. Every winter we get together to practice for tournaments, hunting, or just to better ourselves and hone our skills. It is great that we have the ability to move targets close for the novice or anyone that need to tune or sight in their equipment. If you have equipment questions or need help making adjustments we usually have someone there that can help with that, too.

For planning, we will not have any shooting the last week of February 2022 at the Rec Center.

For questions about the archery program or the open shooting hours and information contact Dan Deyo at barebowdan@yahoo.com or call/text 603-209-6721.

Follow and like North Branch Bowmen on Facebook to receive up-to-date information on more archery events and additional open shooting dates and times.

Hope to see you at the range,

Dan

Dan Deyo: barebowdan@yahoo.com
<https://www.facebook.com/nhbowmen.nhbowmen/>



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MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Wilson Farm Firearms, LLC

Located in Alstead at
356 Forest Rd.

I have a manufacturer license for ammunition and can load most calibers including five pistol calibers. I'm delighted to say my ammunition has exceeded most factory ammunition and for a reasonable price.

I have been reloading for 45 years now and follow strict SAMMI specification requirements.

Hours:
Monday through Friday
5:00 pm–8:00 pm
Saturday
9:00 am–5:00 pm

I also do minor gun repair and have two certified gunsmiths that handle more in-depth repairs.

Reloading vs. Factory Ammunition

The cost of factory ammunition has doubled and tripled in the past 2 years. The question pondered or asked by many is: *can I reload ammunition cheaper than what factory ammunition costs?*

In all cases that I know of the answer is: *yes, with reservations*. Reservations being the investment associated with the equipment needed to make ammunition efficiently and accurately. I can tell you up front the equipment I use (RCBS brand) will cost around \$1,500 to get started.

My reloaded ammo is more accurate than all factory ammo I have shot. I have proven this many times with clients shooting what they consider the best factory ammo. The kicker is that I do this at 65% or less the factory ammo cost.

My first recommendation is to go to your local library and checkout a Reloading Manual. The first fifty pages will walk you through the step by step process to manufacture excellent ammunition.

If I haven't scared you off with the initial investment cost and reading a Reloading Manual you will enjoy saving money and building better ammunition.

I do mentor people at a cost using my equipment—if interested, give me a call at 603-762 3649.

There will be more articles on the subject of reloading in the February newsletter.

Gene E. Wilson

Wilson Farm Firearms, LLC
Gene Wilson 603 762 3649
gwilson356@comcast.net

How Gun Control Began – by Nate Lynch, www.walpolelaw.com

In 1776 Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence. His thoughts were not original. As far back as 1630 or 1640 Honest John Lilburne of England was discussing what he called his “freeborn rights” which were rights that we were born with as opposed to rights bestowed on us by a King or a government.

This late 17th and 18th century period was known as the enlightenment. Thomas Paine called this period the age of reason. Reason, science, liberty, and individualism was emphasized. Absolute monarchy was being challenged and the power of the Catholic

Church and other churches were being challenged. In short, there were a lot of well-educated free thinkers around the world that directly and indirectly led to the formation of the United States which in spite of its many blemishes, mistakes, and failures is still the best form of self-government ever devised by man.

Thomas Jefferson may not have been an original thinker, but his Declaration of independence is perhaps the definitive statement on what government is and from what source it derives its powers. No discussion on the origins of the 2nd Amendment makes any sense without re-reading Thomas Jefferson first.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness, that to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

References in the New Hampshire State Constitution, Bill of Rights

[Art.] 2. [Natural Rights.] All men have certain natural, essential, and inherent rights - among which are, the enjoying and defending life and liberty; acquiring, possessing, and protecting, property; and, in a word, of seeking and obtaining happiness. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by this state on account of race, creed, color, sex or national origin.

Gun Control was initially successful in 1875 and the intended purpose was to keep guns out of the hands of former slaves.

The 2nd Amendment suffered its first setback in 1875 in the case of *United States v. Cruikshank*, 92 U.S. 542 (1875). *Cruikshank* took place in Louisiana where the Republicans had just won a majority in the legislature and the Democrats were angry and armed. *Cruikshank* resulted in the Colfax Massacre when an armed militia of white Democrats killed 105 black people and 3 white people.

I expect the ruling in *Cruikshank* is a surprise to many that read this article. The Supreme Court of the United States ruled in the case that, *"The right to bear arms is not granted by the Constitution; neither is it in any manner dependent upon that instrument for its existence. The 2nd Amendment means no more than it shall not be infringed by Congress, and has no other effect than to restrict the powers of the National Government."* From that ruling and at that time our 2nd Amendment rights were very weak and the states were free to control guns in any manner they desired. This was a terrible day for gun owners.

The ruling in *Cruikshank* was a bad decision for the rights of gun owners and it was used by the Southern White Democrats and the Ku Klux Klan as a vehicle to deprive African Americans of the right to bear arms. What I am telling you is that we have had gun control in America since 1875. Today, many of our politicians are looking to take away our right to bear arms and we must be vigilant in asserting our rights or as we have seen many

DID YOU KNOW?

Numerous training opportunities exist at Ferry Brook Range—from beginners who have never handled a firearm to veteran shooters. Members of all abilities are welcome to pursue new shooting disciplines and further their education.

Visit our website for more information!

"They who can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

-Benjamin Franklin,
Memoirs of the life &
writings of Benjamin
Franklin

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

times the U.S. Government and State Governments will stomp all over your rights. The good news for gun owners is that Cruikshank is no longer good law.

The 2nd Amendment, understood in the light most favorable to gun owners, developed as a result of the 14th Amendment to the United States Constitution. The 14th Amendment was passed on January 13, 1866 with the unanimous support by the Republican Party and in spite of an intense opposition by the Democrats it was ratified on July 9, 1868. Essentially, the Republicans wanted the former slaves to have the vote because they were solidly in the Republican camp after the civil war.

Contrary to what we were taught in school Abraham Lincoln did not free the slaves. The 13th Amendment to the United States of America is what outlawed slavery and the 14th Amendment gave the slaves their citizenship and the Amendment also had the Privileges and Immunities Clause, and the Equal Protection Clause. Incidentally, New Hampshire was the second state to ratify the 14th Amendment which I believe is consistent with our motto of "Live Free or Die". The 14th Amendment overruled the Dred Scott Decision that said blacks were not citizens. (they used the word negro at that time)

Does it seem that I am digressing from a historical background of the 2nd Amendment? Perhaps it does, but in fact I am not. Before I continue I will outline where this is going.

1. Initially it was ruled the 2nd Amendment only applied to the Federal Government.
2. The Slaughterhouse Cases confirmed that the Bill of Rights only applied to the Federal Government.
3. The Cruikshank case applied the rule from the Slaughterhouse Cases.
4. Then through the doctrine of Selective Incorporation the Bill of Rights was extended or applied to the States so you as a citizen of a State now are entitled to your 2nd Amendment Rights and thus no state can take away your right to bear arms except under certain situations.
5. Constitutional Amendments are extremely difficult, but constitutional interpretation as we all know changes from time to time.

A quick summary of the Slaughterhouse Cases, (1872)

The City of New Orleans smelled terrible because of the slaughterhouses and stock landing were placed inside the city. The city smelled of blood and guts and dead carcasses. The situation got worse when the Mississippi River flooded and rotting animal parts were dumped along the streets and fields to further decompose and smell. The City of New Orleans decided they would relocate the slaughterhouses outside of the city. The city of New Orleans got the state legislature to pass "an act to protect the health of the city of New Orleans, to locate the stock-landings and slaughterhouses, and to incorporate the Crescent City Live-Stock Landing and Slaughterhouse Company." In short, they wanted one big monopoly style slaughterhouse to do all the slaughtering and they wanted it to be placed outside of town so the city would smell better.

The case is long, confusing to read and most constitutional scholars believe the ruling was

just wrong. To paraphrase the Court it said the Privileges and Immunities Clause only prohibits states from interfering with such Privileges and Immunities possessed by virtue of national citizenship and there really aren't very many of those. Thus, this clause lay dormant for over 100 years. Is this an insane decision? We passed the 14th Amendment, but it really doesn't mean anything!

Selective Incorporation

Then in the 1920's there was a series of cases where it was decided the states needed to follow the Bill of Rights and they are said to be "incorporated" One example is *Gitlow v. New York*, 268 U.S. 654, (1925) where New York was required to guarantee free speech. Most of us know it is difficult amending the Constitution so instead we just change our mind as to what we think the Constitution means. In other words, we make this stuff up as we go along.

A new and stronger understanding of the 2nd Amendment emerged after the doctrine of Selective Incorporation was developed. Finally we are back to actually discussing the 2nd Amendment and thank you for your patience.

A more modern and more favorable 2nd Amendment case for gun owners is *District of Columbia v. Dick Anthony Heller*, 128 S. Ct. 2783 (2008). Dick Heller was a special police officer and he worked at the Federal Judicial Center. He was authorized to carry a gun while at work, but he was not authorized to have a hand gun at home for his own personal protection. Does this make any sense to anybody?

Dick Heller asserted his 2nd Amendment rights and he won. Dick Heller now runs or is part of the Heller Foundation that supports 2nd Amendment rights. We have Dick Heller to thank because his case gave us a very strong 2nd Amendment, but this could all change with a new cast of characters on the Supreme Court.

Dick Heller decided to assert his 2nd Amendment rights and he took DC to Court. The District Court dismissed Dick Heller's suit and the Court of Appeals reversed. The Court of Appeals directed the District Court enter a Summary Judgment for the Dick Heller.

I like Dick Heller because he is the kind of guy that sticks up for his rights and hold his Government accountable. James Madison, the father of the Constitution said "The Constitution preserves the advantage of being armed which Americans possess over the other people of almost every other nation where governments are afraid to trust the people with arms". (James Madison). Madison wrote the Constitution so I know he knew the meaning of what he wrote! Our founding fathers trusted us with guns and it was an expectation we would keep guns to prevent the State and Federal Governments from becoming a tyranny.

(con't)

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

When we analyze the 2nd amendment there are two basic camps:

1. Camp one believes the 2nd Amendment is a personal right of each citizen to bear arms. Many people in camp one believe this right is absolute and cannot be infringed in any manner. Others in camp one accept some governmental controls. I am firmly in camp one and I personally believe some governmental control is acceptable such as keeping guns away from mentally unstable people or criminals.
2. Camp two doesn't really believe in the 2nd Amendment. People in camp two mostly believe the right to bear arms must be related to some connection to a well-regulated militia. Now remember, the Heller case was a 5-4 decision so camp two is very strong and there are a lot of people that would like to take away your guns.

The Heller opinion is well written and it states the 2nd Amendment is broken down into:

1. A prefatory clause.
2. And an operative clause.

In paraphrasing Heller, the majority opinion told us that the prefatory clause is an announcement that they were about to tell us something important. "A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a Free State"

The operative clause was the important message. "The right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be abridged. " Prior to further Amendments to the United States Constitution or the Bill of Rights the words "the right of the people" was only used two other times in the 1st Amendment and the 4th Amendment. Therefore, the right of the people to "keep and bear Arms" is a personal right!

People in camp two believe that a well-regulated Militia refers either to a standing Army or the National Guard. While it's true we had Militias in America as far back as 1607, our founding fathers were terrified of standing armies and our current National Guard was not founded until 1903. In fact, the Anti-Federalists did not even want the Federal Government to have a standing army, but they were not the majority and both the Federalists and Anti-Federalists believed that an armed citizenry would keep a standing Army in check. The founding Fathers would look to our well-trained and well-equipped National Guard and they would perceive the National Guard to be a standing army.

I like the wording of Article 2-a of the New Hampshire Constitution. (The Bearing of Arms) All persons have the right to keep and bear arms in defense of themselves, their families, their property and the State. The Massachusetts Declaration of Rights states "The people have the right to keep and bear Arms for their common defense". Please note Article 2-a was only adopted in 1982. In *State v. Smith*, 571 A 2d 279 (1990). Smith was a convicted felon that was charged with NH RSA 159:3 felon in possession of a firearm. Smith made a great argument that article 2-a conferred all persons the right to bear arms. Smith lost by a unanimous decision. The Honorable John P. Arnold was the Attorney

General at the time. New Hampshire Supreme Court Justice James E. Duggan was for the defense.

Article 10 of the New Hampshire Constitution was written June 2, 1784 and it shows how fearful our founders were of excessive governmental power.

[Art.] 10. [Right of Revolution.] Government being instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security, of the whole community, and not for the private interest or emolument of any one man, family, or class of men; therefore, whenever the ends of government are perverted, and public liberty manifestly endangered, and all other means of redress are ineffectual, the people may, and of right ought to reform the old, or establish a new government. The doctrine of nonresistance against arbitrary power, and oppression, is absurd, slavish, and destructive of the good and happiness of mankind. In closing, gun control is nothing new. We need to remain ever vigilant and preserve our right to keep and bear arms.





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2022**



FERRY BROOK RANGE

CHESHIRE COUNTY SHOOTING SPORTS EDUCATION FOUNDATION

MONTHLY CALENDAR

Jan 16 Sunday

Every Tuesday:

Every Wednesday:

Every Thursday:

Every Saturday:
Every Saturday:

SPECIAL EVENTS & COURSES

Beginner / New Owner Pistol Clinics & Skill Building Clinics. Info in the newsletter.

REOCCURRING EVENTS – OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Northbranch Bowman Open Archery–<https://www.facebook.com/nhbowmen.nhbowmen/>
Will start in spring 2022.

Open Trap starts at Noon (fee applies)

Action Pistol–3:00 pm to 7:00 pm (fee applies). Will start in spring 2022.

600 Yard Practice–9:00 am to 12:00 pm, 4:00 pm until dusk (fee applies).

Will start in spring 2022.

5 Stand Sporting Clays & Open Trap–Starts at 10:00 am (fee applies)
Apply for a range Membership! 10:00 am–1:00 pm



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Check out our
online calendar for
latest updates!

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

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