



AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

# D.S.S.A. NEWS

DELAWARE STATE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION  
A PUBLICATION OF THE DELAWARE STATE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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## Delaware Gun Rights Rally at Legislative Hall June 30, 2019

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** On the afternoon of June 30, 2019, Delaware Gun Rights held a rally at Legislative Hall. Among those in attendance were many members of the Delaware State Sportsmen's Association, and we thank you for being there showing your support for our Right to Keep and Bear Arms here in the First State.

Among the speakers addressing the 400-plus Second Amendment patriots in attendance at DGR's rally was NRA Past President and former DSSA President John Sigler. Several DSSA members who heard Mr. Sigler's speech have asked for copies of his remarks and John has graciously allowed us to republish those remarks in our DSSA News. He has asked, however, that our readers be reminded that what you are about to read below is written as a speech, not as an article, and because it is a speech it will not read with the same crispness and grammar as a written article might read – we ask that you keep that in mind as you read this speech – and we ask that you imagine this speech being delivered to a live audience on the steps of Legislative Hall as the 150<sup>th</sup> Delaware General Assembly is meeting on the last night of the First Session. We hope that you will enjoy reading John's speech as much as those of us who heard it in person enjoyed it on that hot evening in Dover.



*Sigler Speech*  
*DGR Rally – Dover 6/30/19*

*Good Afternoon! Wow! What a crowd!*

*Thanks for being here – and a great big THANK YOU to Mitch Denham for organizing this event – thanks Mitch!*

*Now, before I begin, I have a question for you – IS THERE A PATRIOT IN THE HOUSE?*

*That's great! – lots of patriots – Exercising your First Amendment freedom of speech, the freedom to openly associate with those of like mind, and the freedom of assembly – all fundamental American freedoms.*

*But there are those who fear those rights – those who would curtail, even deny you those rights – and your freedom....and you must defend yourselves and your country from those who would attack you by attacking and denying those rights – your fundamental civil rights.*

*It's all about Freedom – your freedom – The Freedom that began on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1776 when the lower three counties of Pennsylvania broke away and declared their freedom and independence from Pennsylvania and from Great Britain – and by so doing became what we now call Delaware.*

*And then, just 19 days later on July 4<sup>th</sup>, Freedom's song was sung again when the other 12 states joined Delaware by declaring their freedom from the King's Tyranny thereby creating the greatest country to ever exist – a free country known simply as America!*

*Many of those patriotic heroes responsible for your freedom are buried right over there, just two blocks away in the Old Christ Church Churchyard.*

*And, just 3 blocks away, in that direction at the Golden Fleece Tavern is where Delaware once again ratified that freedom by becoming the first state to adopt the new Constitution creating our beloved Republic in 1787.*

*And today, you continue Freedom's traditions, helping to preserve the hard-won rights those patriots of yesteryear fought for, by exercising your sacred freedom to assemble, to speak out and to petition your government for redress of grievances – defending the Second Amendment.*

*It's all about freedom – so let the building behind us hear you – say the word FREEDOM – say it again – say FREEDOM!*

*One more time – say it again and make sure they can hear you – say - FREEDOM!*

*For the past 23 years it has been my privilege and pleasure to serve on the Board of Directors of America's oldest and largest civil rights organization, the National Rifle Association of America, serving two terms as NRA's 59<sup>th</sup> president.*

*As many of you know, NRA was founded 148 years ago by a group of Union Army officers at the direction of then-*

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President U.S. Grant. Grant told them to build a new, national organization to train America's civilians in the use of military arms so they could be prepared to defend America and her promise of freedom for all, should the need arise in time of national crisis.

NRA was founded on the concept of defending freedom – "One nation, under God, with liberty and justice for all" – defending the promise of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness for every American citizen from every state...of every race, every color, every age, every gender, every national origin, every religion, and every walk of life – rich & poor, alike –that's what we do. And that's what we've done since 1871.

Defending the right to live free—the right to enjoy the blessings of liberty, free from draconian governmental controls, and the right to pursue happiness without government interference—each in our own way, sometimes succeeding and sometimes failing, but always free to try.

But there are those who would stop us from defending our fundamental American freedom –those who would fundamentally transform America from the land of the free and the home of the brave to a totalitarian socialist state where government controls all, dictates your life, and empowers the chosen few to rule over the masses –to rule over you..

America – it's more than a place on a map. More than a land mass on a globe – its more than all of that. America is all about ideas, ideals, dreams and opportunities – it's about rugged individualism, self-determination, personal responsibility and self-reliance. And it is not about government dependence, government determination, or government interference, and it's certainly not about government control – no- that's fundamentally un-American.

But there are those who would fundamentally change America – those to whom power is everything – and to whom American ideals mean nothing. But to change America they must first take away your freedom – your freedom of speech, your freedom to assemble, and your freedom to keep and bear arms in defense of self, family, home and country.

And to succeed in their quest for unbridled power, they must first eliminate and destroy those people and those organizations who would stand in their way – those who will speak out against them and against their evil goals, and those who will rally other patriotic Americans to freedom's banner. And chief among those defenders of freedom currently under attack – the National Rifle Association of America and its 5 ½ million freedom-loving members – YOU –the united, outspoken and unabashed voices of American Freedom.

Think about it –

We all remember that horrible day not that long ago when everything that could go wrong, did go wrong –when a broken school system, a broken criminal justice system, and a broken mental health system combined with the cowardice and incompetence of a few local sheriffs to allow an obviously disturbed young man to murder innocent and defenseless

students and teachers at Parkland –a truly sad and horrible day.

The school wasn't prepared, the cops weren't prepared and the community as a whole wasn't prepared –but the enemies of freedom were certainly prepared – oh yes – they were prepared, because they had been waiting, plotting and planning – patiently anticipating just such an event. Literally within minutes of that horrible and preventable tragedy becoming known to the American public, they sprang into action –almost immediately they executed their well-financed and well-organized plan to blame and attack the NRA – and you –its law-abiding membership

You remember –

You remember the horrible lies they told about NRA and our members. You remember the false outcry blaming NRA and its members for the unforgivable failures of others. Even before those sad victims had been removed from that dreadful scene, and even before parents and loved ones were told of the terrible extent of that horrible tragedy, –billionaires and left-wing radicals nationwide were attacking you – America's innocent, law-abiding gun owners and calling for NRA to be silenced, punished and abolished.

Aided and abetted by their cronies in the left-wing media and supported by their lackeys at the DNC, they called for boycotts of businesses that treated with NRA, and leading the way was New York's Governor Cuomo followed by others of his corrupt and cynical ilk.

In their effort to take the black art of oppressive government censorship to a level not seen in America since the British occupation of Boston, they weaponized the power of government to threaten, bully, coerce and punish companies, banks and insurance entities that did business with NRA and with you – its members. They told American gun owners there was no place for them in the State of New York—they threatened businesses that if they dealt with the NRA and with you, its members, the State of New York would bring its full weight and power to bear upon and punish them – even put them out of business.

But this wasn't really about guns, nor was it really about the Second Amendment – No – it was about their cynical, corrupt and self-serving quest for power – and it was about censoring, silencing, marginalizing, minimizing and even eliminating the only organization powerful enough – and brave enough – to speak out in opposition – and to thwart their evil scheme.

It's really about the First Amendment – the right of free speech and the right of free assembly – -the freedom to associate with those with whom you agree, and to voice one's opinion in opposition to those with whom we disagree.

But we – the NRA – and our 5 ½ million members are fighting back. Make no mistake – we will fight – and we WILL win!

We've filed suit against Cuomo in federal court to stop his totalitarian efforts to censor and silence NRA, –because

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weaponizing the power of government to silence political opposition simply cannot be tolerated in New York - or anywhere else. What Cuomo and his power-grabbing cronies are doing is – without a doubt - un-American.

NRA will always fight for freedom –First Amendment Freedom, Second Amendment Freedom, and all forms of fundamental American Freedom.

We will never bow to totalitarianism, tyranny, or despotism in any form –we will always put American values and American liberty first – always – and we will win!

Let there be no mistake –

There are only two types of economic systems – those that are market-driven, and those that are government directed – and government direction means only one thing – government control. Control over your First Amendment Freedoms, your Second Amendment Freedoms and all of the freedoms contained in our beloved Bill of Rights.

Think about it – the very name “Democratic Socialist” is a contradiction in terms. How can there be democratic principles in a socialist system that must - by its very nature - depend upon government direction for its very existence? A system that must weaponize the powers of government against those who disagree - just to survive?

Don't believe me? – Just look at Venezuela, Cuba, North Korea and Red-China.

So - What's next? A complete re-make of your United States Supreme Court in the image of the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit? A radical re-write of the first three Articles of our Constitution to remove the federalist foundation upon which our Republic was built? What are they planning?

We all know that power corrupts and those with power always want more.

What's next? More gun bans, registration, taxation, confiscation and more senseless regulations? More stupid ideas that only power-hungry fools, despots and would-be tyrants could embrace?

You're all very intelligent people – Watch the evening news, listen to the Senators and Congressmen and women now running for President, and answer those questions for yourselves.

Don't be fooled - the radical left's most recent Disarm America Plan is just one small part of their much larger, sinister scheme to fundamentally transform America –

And to rewrite our history, erase our culture, deny and ignore our heritage, fundamentally change our form of government, undermine our federalist system and ultimately to destroy our beloved Republic as we know it today.

Make no mistake.....Our Republic and our American Freedoms are under attack from within our own borders - It's true!

Delawareans— it is time to defend your way of life, your Constitution, and your country – It's time to defend freedom – do it the right way!

Join with NRA and fight against those who would strip you of your rights and turn America into another totalitarian socialist state like Venezuela, communist Cuba or the old Soviet Union.

Stand with us – stand with me – stand with the other 5 ½ million members of NRA and fight for freedom.

Organize, speak out, become involved. Work on campaigns, recruit candidates, run for public office!

You're all smart and capable people – educate your friends and family, tell them the truth about Freedom, tell them about our American ideals, our history, our culture, and our heritage -- tell them about our Constitution, our Bill of Rights and America's promise of Liberty and Justice for all.

Tell them the truth about our beloved Republic - do whatever you can, whenever you can, wherever you can – but join me, join the NRA and join with your freedom-loving friends and neighbors as we fight for freedom – your Freedom!

But most important of all – if you haven't already done so - register to vote! And get your friends to register too! And then vote! Vote for Freedom!

Delawareans – defend yourselves by defending freedom – today and every day!

Exercise your God-Given rights – organize, speak out and work for Freedom. Speak loudly, speak clearly, speak often – make your voices heard ---In the public square and at the ballot box

Cast your votes for the candidates that believe as you do – who believe in American Freedom, who love America and who love the American people.

Vote for those who will defend your Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms, and those who will protect your First Amendment rights to free speech, lawful association, and peaceful assembly.

Vote for those who will up-hold, protect and defend every part of our beloved Constitution. Defend yourself by defending Freedom – VOTE FREEDOM FIRST!

So, as I close, I ask you to do one more thing – Let's do it again – Let's say it one more time – loud enough so that they can hear you –say - FREEDOM!

TONIGHT WE STAND UNITED – TOGETHER WE FIGHT FOR FREEDOM – LET FREEDOM RING!

God Bless you all, God Bless the NRA, and May God Bless America!

Thank you!

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**S&W Model 19 Carry Comp Rides Again!**

**by Justin Opinion on June 6, 2019**

As published in Guns America Digest

**Editor's Note:** Justin Opinion actual name is David Crout. David is a prolific write and Board Member of DSSA.



The Model 19 Carry Comp is a way of paying homage to a classic, with all the new treats from the Performance Center. It's a predictable cycle. A popular product starts to lose its position in the marketplace and is eventually discontinued. Years later, renewed interest or nostalgia – or simple business research brings it back. This 'rising from the ashes' phenomenon has brought back a beautifully feathered Phoenix this time – the Smith & Wesson Model 19 .357 Magnum! Originally developed in the mid 1950's as the "if I could make me one, it would be like this" brainchild of Bill Jordan – and dubbed the Combat Magnum (before Smith started assigning model numbers), it was an instant success and was soon on the hip of many serious peace officers across the United States. In the classic version, the K-Frame platform fit more people's hands better than the larger L-Frame models and provided better trigger control. Better trigger control means better accuracy, and that means officers' lives saved. That classic model ceased production some 20 years ago in the blued variety – but as if 19 was an abbreviation for 2019, Smith is re-issuing the M19 in the Classic Series.

S&W also provides this synthetic grip, which completely transforms the personality of the gun.

But what I'm here to tell you about is even nicer news than that (in my ever-so-humble opinion)! Along with the reproduction of the Model 19 Classic comes the Performance Centers interpretation of the gun, dubbed the Model 19 Carry Comp. "Carry" because the barrel has been shortened to 3" and the pistol has been fitted with a nicely curved custom wood boot grip. It's amazing how versatile the K-Frame can be, growing or shrinking in size depending on the barrel and the stocks. The "Comp" comes from the compensated barrel design – which vents hot gasses directly upward when fired, helping to keep the muzzle rise to a minimum and reduce felt recoil. Smith & Wesson has dubbed it the "PowerPort", though try as I may I was unable to charge my phone with it. It is this single feature of the gun, I am convinced, that is the secret sauce to making this the best .357 Magnum I've ever shot.



## Model 19 Carry Comp

- Chambering: .357 Magnum
- Barrel: 3" Stainless Steel
- Weight: 34.1 oz.
- Grips: Wood & Synthetic boot grips
- Sights: Rear Adjustable; Front Tritium®
- Action: Single/Double Action Revolver
- Material & Finish: Blued Carbon Steel
- Capacity: 6
- MSRP: \$1,092.00



Bevels and rounded corners are not only pleasing to the eye, but make the gun more snag-free for carry.

The Performance Center at Smith and Wesson is well known for taking a basic model firearm and re-imagining it in terms of not just giving it a better trigger and a PC emblem, but really thinking about what can make the gun a better gun to use. In the case of the Model 19, this manifests as a 'less is more' type of package that includes the aforementioned PowerPort®, a Tritium® Night Sight set into the generous and

nicely serrated front sight blade, a trigger overtravel stop, and of course – the very nicely PC tuned action. The attention was paid to improving the performance of the revolver and not just at adding bling. In fact, aside from the gorgeous wood stocks and the Performance Center roll mark on the barrel and medallion on the frame, the gun is very ordinary looking at first glance.



The front sight is tall with anti-glare serrations and a Tritium dot.

But, as you look closer, you see that the folks at Smith have sculptured an elegant and highly functional revolver. All the edges and joints are soft. The cylinder has been beveled for a 'de-horned' look and feel, something that is very practical for a carry gun. The wood stocks fit the butt of the gun so well that at first, you will think it is one single piece of wood. But it is indeed two – fitted together with seamless perfection and held by a couple of internal guide pins and the traditional Smith single screw.

Remember what I said about the stocks transforming a revolver? The black synthetic grips make this blued 3" revolver look instantly more tactical and serious. It looks like an entirely different gun, and to some extent feels much different too. Another element that escapes most visual inspections is the barrel design. Smith and Wesson chose to use a two-piece barrel for the Model 19, with a stainless-steel barrel inserted into a carbon steel sleeve. They say this not only adds to the life of the barrel, and greatly reduces manufacturing complexity, but also adds to the accuracy of the gun.



The custom wood boot stocks on the M19 Carry Comp are not only beautiful but provide a very nice grasp on the handgun. But wait – there's more! The PC also includes a set of synthetic grips with the Carry Comp, should you prefer those.

### SHOOTING THE CARRY COMP



The author found himself drawn to the M19 Carry Comp like a moth to a ... well you know.

It may be a cardinal sin for a gun writer to say this, but I am not a big fan of the recoil from the .357 magnum round. In fact, in small guns I find it to be about as pleasant as having the when I picked up this K-Frame with a 3-inch barrel for the first time and dropped six rounds of SIG Sauer's Elite Performance .357 Mag V-Crown into the cylinder, I prepared myself to endure what one must endure when testing such a handgun. After the first pull of the trigger, my senses were a bit confused. After the second pull, I must have looked like the RCA Victor dog with his head cocked to one side. And after the third, the lip that I was expecting to start quivering was actually stretching into a smile. That smile stayed on my face the entire time I shot the Carry Comp – each and every time.



The PowerPort pushes out hot gasses to help keep the muzzle down and bleeds recoil energy. It's no gimmick – it makes a world of difference.

Yes, I knew that the Performance Center had ported the barrel in an effort to compensate the recoil, but I have to admit that I had no idea they'd done such a great job! Shooting full power .357 magnum loads such as SIG, Federal, and Hornady felt like – at most – .38 Special +P. I was also expecting the beautiful but quite firm and unyielding wood stocks to be uncomfortable to shoot, but here again, I was taught a lesson. The ergonomics of the custom boot grips are very good and combined with the round butt and gentle finger curves at the front, there is no slipping or jumping in the hand. They give one a confident grasp on the gun and provide excellent trigger reach.



Unlike most smaller .357's, the Carry Comp remains polite to the shooter even with full power loads.

And speaking of the trigger, that is the heart and soul of a Performance Center revolver. The double action rolls smoothly and evenly without stacking. There are no hesitation points in the action, and while you can learn to predict the travel and break, there is no discernable stage point that I could feel. The hammer just continues to move smoothly rearward until it

falls. This buttery smooth double action is what Smith and Wesson built its name on. The single action is, as one would expect, very light and very crisp, with absolutely no take-up or overtravel. The latter is ensured by the addition of an overtravel stop that is non-adjustable.



The trigger stop is not adjustable. It is a roll pin set by the Performance Center. On this copy, it is within just a few thousandths of an inch of contact.

The hammer spur is perhaps the one feature I might wish to change on the M19 Carry Comp. The PC version of the Model 19 has the more pointed spur that tends to hit me right in the inner part of my thumb's first joint and digs in. I generally prefer the more spade-style hammer spur that I believe is used on the Model 19 Classic version of the gun. That said, the hammer spur is nicely sized and very well knurled. The trigger face is smooth and the trigger shoe itself is decently radiused to provide a comfortable, smooth pull. My digital gauge concluded that the double action pulls at just under 11 lbs., and the single action at just shy of 6 lbs. I had a tough time buying those results and re-tested several times because those numbers belie the smooth and lighter feel.



As the business end of the Carry Comp attests, this baby is strictly business.

The rear sight is fully adjustable, and my copy of the Carry Comp was printing about a foot low inside 20 yards. The sight was set all the way down, so after some adjusting, I got the groups where I wanted them. This caused me to wonder if the sight is not deliberately set low to prevent damage to it in transit and handling. The front sight is high and the ramp is nicely serrated, like the steps of a Mayan temple. Inlaid at the altar of that temple is a small vial of Tritium® that provides a nice pinpoint sight in daylight or in total darkness.



The fit and finish of the M19 Carry Comp is everything you'd expect from the Performance Center.

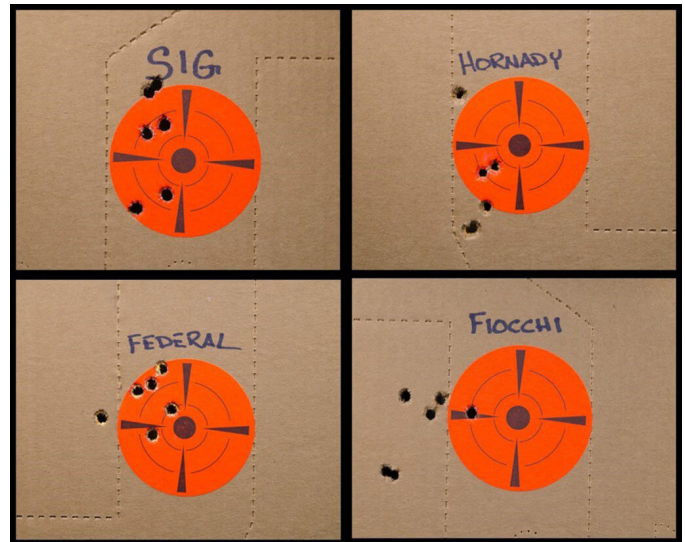
I find the Model 19 Carry Comp easy to shoot well. It's a natural pointer, has very nice sights and excellent ergonomics. This, combined with the ported barrel that not only tames recoil but reduces muzzle lift, allows you to get off several shots quickly while keeping the sights on target. Something nearly impossible to do with a traditional small .357 Mag. Of course, if you want to practice or just plink with lighter loads, you can shoot .38 Special too.



Six SIG V-Crowns, reporting for duty!

To test accuracy – let me rephrase that, to test my ability to shoot this gun accurately – I used three loads of .357

Magnum self-defense rated ammo and one load of Fiocchi .38 Special for comparison. I fired six rounds of each from 15 yards on a sandbag rest – all shots single action. Results were consistent among all four groups, with the best three shots from each being well under one inch.



Shooting results at 15 yards from sandbag rest. All loads were .357 mag except the Fiocchi, which was 38 Special.

15 Yard Results - Rested  
S&W Model 19 Carry Comp

Ammunition Brand	Ammunition Type	6-Shot Group (inches)	3-Shot Group (inches)
SIG Sauer Elite Performance	125 gr. V-Crown	2.498	0.794
Hornady Critical Defense	125 gr. FTX	2.975	0.688
Federal	158 gr. JSP	1.670	0.692
Fiocchi	125 gr. XTP JHP	2.125	0.733
Averages		2.317	0.727

### JUST MY OPINION

Wheel guns seem to be making a resurgence in popularity. Not long ago scoffed at as “ancient technology”, it seems that many shooters – and refreshingly many young shooters – are finding out that a good revolver is not just fun and reliable to shoot, but also a work of art in many cases. There is something to be enjoyed about an all steel handgun that's only motion is caused by the manipulation of the shooter. Revolvers can inherently handle more pressure than most semi-autos as well, which might be appealing to the new surge of popularity for heavy-hitting handgun calibers, with which .357 magnum still holds its head high. Whatever the reason, it is good to see fine revolvers in vogue – and they don't come much finer than from the Smith & Wesson Performance Center.



Unlike the polished and blued M19 Classic, the Carry Comp is first bead blasted to a satin surface and then blued, giving it a matte black finish.

The Model 19 Carry Comp is just small enough that it could realistically be considered for daily concealed carry, yet it's added weight and most of all, its ported barrel makes it a tame shooter, even when loaded for bear. That makes it a gun you'll enjoy shooting and practicing with. Many folks I know prefer to carry a bottom-fed semi-auto outside the home but rely on a stout revolver to protect home and hearth. This gun would be ideal for home defense duty. With the manageable recoil and smaller K-Frame, most members of the household who might need to, could handle it and deliver maximum stopping power to an immediate threat. One of the common drawbacks to a ported barrel, particularly for home defense, is the inherent muzzle flash. I watch closely for signs of excessive flash from this gun and saw none. Having a 3" barrel rather than a 2" or 1 1/2" barrel means that most of the powder is ignited before the bullet escapes the barrel, so the fire trail of burning powder that we see as 'muzzle flash' is much less. The other thing I love about the 3" barrel is the balance of the handgun. I find the Model 19 Carry Comp to be zero percent gimmick or fluff, and 100 percent serious business.



Although the PowerPort greatly reduces recoil and muzzle lift, it does not produce any vertical flash to impair the shooter's vision.



One element the new productions don't get is counter-bored cylinders. Most likely for the same reason the practice was discontinued in the past – it's expensive to do.

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**Jason Ouimet Takes the Reins at NRA-ILA**  
**John C. Sigler, Esq.**  
**NRA Past President**

Jason Ouimet has been named as the Interim Executive Director of NRA's Institute for Legislative Action (NRA-ILA). Jason replaces, on an interim basis, Chris Cox who resigned from his post at NRA-ILA in June.



Jason is a 14 year veteran employee of NRA-ILA most recently serving as the Director of Federal Affairs, a position he has held since January of 2015. Jason rose through the ranks after being hired as a federal lobbyist in 2005 and then being



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promoted to Deputy Director at NRA-ILA Federal Affairs five years later.

Jason has a strong legislative and campaign background. Prior to coming to NRA-ILA, Jason worked on Capitol Hill as a legislative assistant for Senator Saxby Chambliss (R-Georgia) where he was responsible for oversight of a wide range of significant issues like taxes, Homeland Security appropriations, transportation, small business, Social Security, welfare, science and technology, government affairs and appropriations for Commerce, Justice and State Departments and pensions. He also served as the Staff Director of the Life Insurance Caucus of which Senator Chambliss was a co-chair.

Prior to working on Senator Chambliss' personal staff, Jason held the position of Senior Research Analyst at the National Republican Senatorial Committee working on projects for key Senate races. Jason began his political career in 1999 as a Junior Analyst with the Republican National Committee where he conducted field research in Florida, Connecticut, Tennessee and Pennsylvania for President George W. Bush's 2000 presidential campaign.

Jason is a graduate of Kent State University where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science in 1999 and is an experienced government affairs professional and a highly skilled political strategist.

Jason is highly respected on Capitol Hill and within NRA Headquarters. I know Jason to be a very knowledgeable and likeable individual who brooks no foolishness and who loves the NRA. He is absolutely dedicated to preserving, protecting and defending our God-given right to self-defense and the fundamental right of law-abiding Americans to keep and bear arms for lawful purposes.

Jason knows Washington, D.C., he knows The Hill, he knows politics and he knows the NRA. I know Jason is up to the task set before him and that he will be very successful in his new post.

Jason has both my confidence and my support – please welcome my friend, Jason Ouimet, to his new position as Interim Executive Director of NRA-ILA.

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## **BRPC High Power Match Report**

**By Frank Nedza  
DSSA Board Member**

### **Across-The-Course (XTC)**

**Saturday April 13th** was cool and quite wet, but 10 folks decided to come out anyway in hopes of getting in the first XTC Match of the season at Bridgeville. Unfortunately, with only 10 potential competitors on hand, organized practice was the order of the day. We got through most of offhand before it got drizzly, but everyone just shot through the raindrops for offhand and seated rapid. It stopped raining (for the most part) by the time we moved back to 300 yards, and continued to be dry (or at least dry-ish) the rest of the day. Even though

it wasn't an official match, I think everyone had a good time, and there was a lot of good natured kidding going on behind the firing line. No matter what, a day spent on the range with friends under any circumstances sure beats any alternative I can think of. For those who are interested, scores for the practice can be found here:

<http://shooting.hexsystems.com.au/competition/view-in-club-by-date?clubId=329&day=13&month=4&year=2019>

**Saturday May 11th** FINALLY! It turned out to be a pretty nice day, and that attracted 17 folks to come out for the first official XTC Match of the season at Bridgeville. Ron Siliani started off with a nice 195-5X in offhand, and never looked back, posting a really nice 200-13X in seated rapid, a 199-6X in rapid prone, and finishing out clean at 600 yards with a 200-12X, and a total score of 794-36X. What can I say, the guy is a machine! Well done Ron! In the Master Class, Chad Hanson was the leader with a 775-30X. Nice shooting Chad! In Expert/Sharpshooter class, Anthony Yanka led the way with a 766-14X, including two nice rapid fire scores of 197-5X and 197-5X. Anthony, I don't think you are going to be an Expert for too much longer! Nicely done!

As always, the regular match scores can be found on the Bridgeville website;

<http://brpc-de.com/wp-content/Highpower/2019/May-11-2019.pdf>

For those who are interested, the electronic scores for the match, (including the target plots) can be found here:

<http://shooting.hexsystems.com.au/competition/view-in-club-by-date?clubId=329&day=11&month=5&year=2019>

**Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>** Because our Hexta targets were on loan to the Reade Range crew, this month's Across The Course match was conducted on more 'conventional' targets. We had 14 folks show up to shoot –two relays with scoring in the pits. Once again, Ron Siliani took the early lead with a 194-3X in offhand and didn't look back. A pair of 199's in the rapid fire stages followed by a 198-9X in slow prone and it was all over; 790-26X for the win. In the Master class, Jeremy Bogdany posted a nice 774-22X for the class win, including a seated-rapid clean score of 200-7X. Jacob Zdon led the way for the Expert class, posting a very nice 771-14X for the class win –I think Jacob will be 'movin' on up' pretty soon with scores like that one!

As always, the regular match scores can be found on the Bridgeville website;

<http://brpc-de.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/June2019.pdf>

### **Mid-Range Prone**

**Sunday April 14<sup>th</sup>** was once again better than Saturday weather wise. A total of 29 shooters (20 sling, and 9 F-Class) decided to come out and shoot with us. Included in those 29 shooters were 6 Midshipmen from the Naval Academy. As always, it is nice to see people without gray (or AWOL) hair on the firing line.

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In F-Open, Hugh Cropper fired a pair of cleans at 200-14X and 200-13X, and finished up at 598-36X, for the win (nice shooting Hugh!), followed closely by Steve Singleton with a 596-38X. In the Master/Expert class, Frank Lawrence posted a 573-14X. Over in F-T/R, Karl Tabb lead the way with a 594-29X, including a clean 200-10X in the first match. Iggy Ortega posted a 590-22X in Expert/Sharpshooter/Marksman class. Nice shooting guys!!

On the Sling Side, there were no double cleans this time, though Jeff Hague, Jon Howell, and Mike Berezin each posted single cleans. There sure were a lot of 'almost's' though, with a total of nine 199's posted. At the end of the day, Jeff Hague took the win with a nice 598-31X.

In the Master/Expert/Sharpshooter class, your author turned in a 591-22X (blind acorns can find a squirrel too!), with Jeff Browning following up with a nice 590-20X. In the Marksman class, Midshipman Madeleine Pasque fired a 569-13X for the win in her class. Nicely done Madeleine!!

As always, the regular match scores can be found on the Bridgeville website;

<http://brpc-de.com/wp-content/Highpower/2019/April-14-2019.pdf>

The Hexta electronic scores for this Mid-Range match may be found here:

<http://shooting.hexsystems.com.au/competition/view-in-club-by-date?clubId=329&day=14&month=4&year=2019>

**Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>** Well, it was bound to happen –we got rained out for the Mid-Range match this month... Let's hope for nicer weather for the June match.

**Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>** Because our Hexta targets were on loan to the Reade Range crew, this month's Mid-Range match was conducted on more 'conventional' targets. We had 6 sling shooters and 6 F-Class shooters in attendance. My favorite Marine, Tom Snodgrass took the win on the sling-side, pulling out double cleans (first and third matches) and posting a nice 596-29X for the day. Tim Moore was the high shooter in the Master/Expert class, posting a really nice 595-26X. Tim, I think that you will be moving up soon with performances like that! Well done!!

In F-Open, Hugh Cropper took the win with a pretty nice 591-26X, while in F-T/R Chris Fairbanks was the leader, posting a nice 592-31X.

As always, the regular match scores can be found on the Bridgeville website;

<http://brpc-de.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/June2019.pdf>

### Long-Range Prone

The first Long Range match of the season at Bridgeville was a two-day event held on April 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> attracting a total of 35 shooters, with 15 sling shooters and 20 F-Class shooters attending despite (or maybe because of) tough conditions. Saturday started out and stayed super-windy, with gusts at well over 20 mph! We even lost a tree in the middle

of the match! In F-Class, top scores were in the mid 190's for the F-Open guys and the mid-high 180's for the F/TR gang. On the sling side, mid 190's were the top scores for the High Masters. I told you it was windy (and changeable) didn't I!

Sunday's wind conditions were significantly less windy but still challenging and the scores reflected that, with scores edging up a bit over Saturday's results. Two cleans were shot on Sunday on the sling side –a 200-13X by Nate Guernsey and a 200-13X by Rich Kussman, both in the second match of the day, with Nate "Creedmooring" Rich for the individual match win.

As for the overall winners, in F-Open, Dave Kokoszka took the aggregate win with a score of 1155-36X, followed closely by Corey Woods with a score of 1152-27X. In F/TR, Keith Trapp was the overall winner at 1133-27X followed by Todd Strasavich at 1132-18X. On the sling side, Nate Guernsey posted a score of 1179-40X for the aggregate win, closely followed by Rich Kussman at 1175-46X. At the end of the weekend it was pretty well agreed that this weekend's match was tough, but fun (in a perverted sort of way). Congratulations to everyone who attended despite his or her better judgment about the wind!!

The Hexta electronic scores for the Long-Range match may be found here:

<http://shooting.hexsystems.com.au/competition/view-in-club-by-date?clubId=329&day=27&month=4&year=2019>

<http://shooting.hexsystems.com.au/competition/view-in-club-by-date?clubId=329&day=28&month=4&year=2019>

As always, the regular match scores can be found on the Bridgeville website too; <http://brpc-de.com/wp-content/Highpower/2019/April-27-28-2019.pdf>

**June 21<sup>st</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> Cabela's Long-Range Regional:** Always a popular match, this year's match attracted 72 competitors on Saturday and 68 on Sunday, which meant 5 nearly full relays on our 15 point range! We even had 9 folks come all the way from the Bayou Rifle club in Houston, Texas to shoot with us! Friday was team day, with Bridgeville fielding one Palma team, and one F-T/R team. I think a good time was had by all.

Conditions on Saturday and Sunday were switchy and I think a little disconcerting to most shooters, (I saw a lot of head scratching going on during the match) but some folks sure got down to business and turned in some pretty good scores on both days. Reade Range's own Dave Shellhammer certainly was on his game this weekend posting a very nice 983-30X (out of a possible 1000 points) for the Overall win and the Sling class win. Nicely done Dave!

Bill Bowers (Reade Range) was close on his heels, with a 981-44X for the weekend. In Palma class, Nate Guernsey took the win with a 976-36X for the weekend followed by Roman Podshivalov with a 962-25X.

In the Master and Expert class, our own Tom Snodgrass was the class winner at 939-18X. Nice shooting guys!

In F-Open, Andy Amber took the win, with a 977-32X, followed by Doug Skogman at 974-38X. Our own John Sigler was the class winner in the Master class with a 974-36X, followed by

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Hugh Cropper who posted a 967-20X. In F-T/R, Master class shooter Nick Abbott (Bayou Rifles) took the win with a 961-28X, followed by lone High Master Ray Weaver (Bayou Rifles) at 958-25X and Master Todd Strasavich at 955-20X.

In the Expert/Sharpshooter/Marksman class, Dave Pessall was the leader with a 946-24X followed by Josh Driessen at 941-14X. Congratulations to ALL of our shooters! Please remember to thank all of our sponsors, especially Cabela's, for helping us put this annual match on! It won't hurt you to do a little shopping with those folks either... ☺. We need to support those who support us, for sure.

The 'regular' match results can be found here; <http://brpc-de.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/June-22-23-2019-Regional.pdf>

The HEXTA electronic results, including plots, may be found here; <http://shooting.hexsystems.com.au/club/329> (Click on the calendar and June 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup> days to see daily results)

### 'Away' Matches

**Sinclair International Fullbore Match (May 18-24)** This year, there were several club members who were able to attend at this week-long match. The 'weather-word' for the week was HOT! While that might not sound like a good thing, it was better than last years' 'weather word' WET! The temperatures in North Carolina were pushing records all week, but most of us got through it OK. One of our fellow competitors did fall victim to the heat and had to withdraw for several of the match days. Please keep that in mind when you are out shooting matches and keep yourself properly hydrated. With the heat, a pretty heavy shooting schedule, and Butner's fishtailing winds, it was not only a shooting contest, but somewhat of an endurance contest as well. It sounds like fun to shoot every day for a week, but the reality of it is, it flat wears you out! (It still beats going to work hands-down though ☺).

The format of the match alternated daily between a combined mid-range/long-range match which was pair-fired (two shooters per mound alternating shots) and a Palma course of fire which was string-fired (single shooter at a time). As an example, the opening day of the match was fired at 300, 500, 600, and 900 yards, (pair-fired). The second day of the match was the Palma course (800, 900, and 1000 yards) (string fired). For sling shooters, you are caliber restricted (.223 and .308 only), as well as bullet weight restricted (90 grain max in .223 and 156 grain max in .308). If you want to learn more about Fullbore competition, you can take a look here;

<http://rulebooks.nra.org/documents/pdf/compete/RuleBooks/Fullbore/fb-book.pdf>

There was also a team match, with two sling teams and one F-Open team fielded by BRPC. Team matches are a lot of fun, and something you should at least try once. At any rate, it is a popular match, attracting 38 sling shooters and 24 F-Class shooters.

On the sling side, the overall winner for the week was Kent Reeve, posting a really nice 2223-124X (out of 2250 possible points), followed by Jerry McDonough, a Master Class shooter (though not for too much longer given his performance) putting up a score of 2221-92X. In F/TR, The overall winner was Wade Fillingame, at 2183-79X followed by Fritz Braun with 2181-76X. Danny Biggs was the overall winner in F-Open posting a nice 2197-84X followed by Jose Prieto at 2195-84X. The folks at North State Shooting Club put on a great match, and it is one of my favorites to attend.

Those that are interested in all the scores should be able to find them here;

<http://www.northstateshootingclub.com/newindex.htm>

(scroll to bottom of page)

Summary results are here;

[http://www.northstateshootingclub.com/pdfs/2019/2019Sinclair\\_results.pdf](http://www.northstateshootingclub.com/pdfs/2019/2019Sinclair_results.pdf)

### **Reade Range Long-Range Regional (May 30<sup>th</sup>-June 2<sup>nd</sup>)**

The Reade Range, near Altoona, Pennsylvania hosted their usual Long Range Regional match. Several Bridgeville members were able to attend this match which attracted 40 sling shooters and 29 F-Class shooters. The range is especially neat, as it is located basically on top of a Pennsylvania mountain! What a spectacular view! This match is also popular with shooters because of the feast that comes during the day on Saturday –there is NO WAY you should leave hungry! Thanks Tammy!!

Friday May 30<sup>th</sup> was Team Match day, with Bridgeville fielding one Sling team and one F-Class team. We really would like to see YOU come out and shoot a team match! Trust me, they are a good time! Individual matches started on Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup> with decent conditions for shooting, and our own Jeff Hague took full advantage of that, posting a nice 597-29X for the Any-Rifle (and overall) match win. Nice shooting Jeff!

In the Palma class, Bob Steckmeyer took the win with 593-29X, while Christopher Williams led the way in Service Rifle class with a really nice 593-24X! In F-T/R, Brian Harder was the match winner, posting a 580-11X, followed by Todd Strasavich who put up a 575-11X. F-Open saw Ken Livengood lead the way with a 589-25X, followed by George VanWhy who posted a 589-23X. Unfortunately, the match was cut short by the untimely arrival of rain on Sunday morning, but you can bet that we will be there again next year.

For those that are interested, match results may be found here; <http://readerange.org/index.php/match-results/523-2019-long-range-regional-results>

As you can plainly see, the High Power season is now fully underway at Bridgeville, and I am hoping to see many more of you out on the line for future matches. Our next scheduled match is the Delaware State Mid-Range Championship, which will be held on July 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, followed by a Long-Range match scheduled for July 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. For those that are interested but maybe a little bit apprehensive, come on out

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and see what we are all about. I am sure we can convince you to take the plunge and join us on the firing line!

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## **ALERT: The Truth Is Better Than Fiction**

**By Marion Hammer**



*Marion P. Hammer is a past president of NRA and a member of the NRA Board of Directors.*

It never ceases to amaze me how quickly people believe distortions printed by the media -- particularly in their efforts to help the enemies of freedom and the Second Amendment and to try to destroy the NRA. Nor does it cease to amaze me how willing the media are to deliberately distort and mislead.

The Washington Post used legitimate expense reimbursements and recruiter payments to drive their narrative and pad their numbers to falsely cast aspersions on 18 board members and the NRA (the story can only be found behind the Post's paywall). It is a deliberate distortion and an orchestrated attempt to convey a false impression.

The numbers weren't extraordinary if one looks at it from a one-year perspective, so the Washington Post lumped three years of reports together to make the amounts look larger and more lucrative. That is the epitome of calculated treachery! Board members who are NRA recruiters get no special treatment. They, like all recruiters get the same commission that any recruiter receives. Yet the Washington Post makes it sound like they're stealing or have some sweetheart deal. Some of these board members use their businesses to recruit members and they disclose it. Yet the Washington Post attacks them for serving the NRA -- and for trying to get more people to sign up as NRA members.

Also included in the scurrilous attack are board-member reimbursements for travel at the NRA's request, for speaking engagements and appearances at events to which the NRA is requested to send a representative. Some board members make these trips and appearances at the NRA's request because the officers and staff can't do it all.

In addition to taking off from work and giving their time, perhaps the Post expects board members to pay for airline travel, lodging, meals and expenses out of their own pockets to travel for the NRA?

Another big fraud by the Washington Post suggests that when the NRA purchases materials, supplies and services from board members or their businesses, board members are

getting rich. Anyone alleging that Hornady or Brownells needs the paltry sums disclosed by the Washington Post clearly has no idea what they're talking about. What nonsense! Board members whose companies sell products to the NRA for discounted prices don't need to do business with the NRA, they have plenty of customers. It's the NRA that wants to do business with them -for better deals than we can get elsewhere.

Have you been paying attention to the New York governor's attempt to maliciously stop companies from doing business with the NRA? Since the NRA is under attack -by what has all the earmarking's of a coordinated attack- would you believe that some businesses want to charge the NRA more just to do business with them? Because of this orchestrated attack, some businesses refuse to do any business at all with the NRA. Yet, the Washington Post wants you to believe that board members somehow have sweetheart deals and try to paint them as engaging in some illegal activity. What bull! The NRA has the sweetheart deal! The NRA and our members benefit from the good deals NRA gets when we use board members. Heck, the Washington Post even used a deceased board member and friend, R. Lee Ermey, to pad its false narrative. For crying out loud, the Washington Post even disparaged a dead man -who has been gone since last April- to pad its numbers! That is as bad as Joe Biden claiming he just talked to Margaret Thatcher when she actually died three years earlier. Board members' legitimate expenses are being made to look sneaky by a publication that has no love for the Second Amendment, or the NRA. Are you going to fall for it? Or are you going to open your eyes and your mind?

Payments to board members are disclosed, in writing, at every NRA Annual Meeting. Stacks of disclosure reports are put on a table along with other financial reports at the Annual Meeting of members and are available to members and the media. These reports are where they got the information they are distorting.

And, yes -I am on that list. I am proud of my work on behalf of the NRA and the Second Amendment. I have spent my entire professional life in this arena. For over 40 years I have been standing on the front line fighting for Right-to-Carry, Castle Doctrine, preemption and the list of pro-Second Amendment legislation goes on. The list of anti-gun, freedom crippling legislation is even longer. In fact, I was lobbying for the NRA long before I was elected to the Board and long before I was elected NRA president. There aren't many states in which I haven't helped fight for the Second Amendment.

Isn't it interesting that in this article, the Washington Post points out that there are other non-profit organizations that require their board members to make financial donations to these organizations in order to get on their boards? In other words, some other non-profit organizations require people to "buy" their seats on their boards. I guess the Washington Post thinks that's OK. But the NRA's democratically elected board is demonized?

For the past few months, the media have trained their guns on the NRA and those of us within our movement. They

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are happily doing the bidding of Mike Bloomberg, Andrew Cuomo, Nancy Pelosi and Chuck Schumer.

The simple fact is that Second Amendment rights are the only means that citizens have to protect their ability to protect freedom from the enemies of America. Give up that right and you are no longer free.

If you think the NRA is the only organization they are turning their guns on, just wait -we may be the first but we won't be the last. Make no mistake; we are the first, because we are the most effective. This is the price the NRA is paying for getting Donald Trump elected and for securing the Supreme Court for a couple of generations.

I believe with all my heart that the freedom we enjoy today depends on the NRA standing guard to protect Second Amendment rights from the enemies of freedom and our Constitution. I want that freedom and those rights for my grandchildren and for yours.

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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

DSSA did it. The 2019 Legislative session is over and we, and I do mean we, were able to have common sense prevail. Back in April when the "Trifecta" of badly conceived "gun control" bills were introduced in the Senate, it was looking pretty grim. The 2018 elections were not kind to us, seeing losses in the House and Senate of legislators that were amenable to cogent thought.

However, we did not give up! Not by any stretch. DSSA began energizing our members, friends and like minded groups to get the message out that the proposed legislation was nothing more than "feel good" rhetoric that would accomplish nothing. We pulled out all the stops.

We organized a rally, in one week's time in Newark that saw over 1000 people gather to speak as one voice and tell lawmakers to leave our rights alone. The message was clear. Bans and permits were not the answer. Give us meaningful solutions and we will help.

When it came time for the Senate hearing on the proposed legislation, it was clear that it was stacked against us. But we were ready none the less. We had expert witnesses, attorneys, law enforcement officers and others ready to testify that what was being proposed was not only ill founded, but unconstitutional on at least the State level, and probably on Federal grounds as well. However, in the end I was the only DSSA representative that was afforded the opportunity to testify on the record.

The basic premise of my statement was we were willing to work with anyone, any group that would consider meaningful solutions to violent crime. I stated that the term "gun violence" is incorrect. The gun does not commit the violent act, the person with the weapon does. Attributing the act to an inanimate object is nothing but sensationalism.

I mentioned the report that was commissioned by the City of Wilmington a couple of years ago from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) that researched the violent crime

problem in the city. The report identified about 22 recommendations. The surprise, none of them mentioned more "gun control". Do you know what happened to that report? It is gathering dust on some shelf in an office.

Neither the City of Wilmington or the General Assembly ever took action. No funds or efforts were ever expended to implement any of the recommendations. Why not?

Well the hearing ended abruptly after two hours and with over 100 supporters left standing in the wings and not allowed to voice their opposition to the legislation.

A short time later we learned that there were insufficient members of the Executive Committee willing to sign the backer of the bills to allow them to be released for possible consideration by the full Senate.

The bills were stopped!!! The President Pro Tempore of the Senate, David McBride, stated that the support was not present in the Democratic caucus to bring the bills forward. They would remain in committee. That decision essentially meant the bills were "dead" in legislative terms.

However, that does not mean they could not be resurrected at a later date. In fact, Sen. Sturgeon, one of the lead sponsors, stated she would bring them back next year.

So, where are we? Essentially in a holding pattern until June 30<sup>th</sup> of 2020. At that time all legislation expires that is still pending. Rest assured, DSSA will be ever vigilant in the coming months.

A direct result of the failure of the three really bad bills to advance for a vote, the Governor's office and the leadership of the House and Senate made a decision not to advance any bills that had the work firearm in them. Therefore, the Governor did not get his "ghost gun" or "3-D gun" prohibition. However, that decision resulted in other legislation that DSSA wanted being blocked. One example is the needed change in the definition of "firearm". Delaware is out of line with the rest of the country in not imitating the Federal definition.

One piece of legislation did pass. We were able to strengthen the standard of proof necessary before a judge can issue an order for the temporary relinquishment of firearms by a person that is in crisis.

Thanks to everyone that helped out this past 6 months. It has been a wild ride.

Jeff Hague, President DSSA

## Call for Articles

Would you like to be published in the DSSA Newsletter? Publicize your Club's activities or special events. Found a great article that you want to share with Delaware Sportsmen?

**Please send your article or special event to:**

**Roger T. Boyce**

**Vice President**

**DSSA**

[Roger.boyce@dssa.us](mailto:Roger.boyce@dssa.us)