

TRADITIONS

A PUBLICATION OF THE NRA FOUNDATION

WEATHERING THE STORMS

The Friends of NRA family comes together to overcome a historically brutal hurricane season

MARK "OZ" GEIST

The Benghazi veteran and American patriot joins The NRA Foundation for an interview and fundraising support with Friends of NRA

2018 CORPORATE SPONSORS

New and continuing industry supporters make Friends of NRA's nationwide fundraising efforts possible



Photo by Peter Fountain

2018

**INTRODUCING THE FRIENDS OF NRA
STANDARD MERCHANDISE PACKAGE**

Features



6

COVER STORY

One Vision: The Future of Freedom

Friends of NRA's 2018 Standard Package firearms and merchandise will inspire another year of fundraising for the shooting sports.

ON THE COVER



The 2018 *Friends of NRA* Gun of the Year Set perfectly pairs a Kimber Custom II pistol and Silver Stag knife with matching grips and a display case.

NATIONAL NEWS

4

SHOOTING STRAIGHT |
Veteran Mark "Oz" Geist

16

SPOTLIGHT | Friends
Weathering the Storms

12

DONOR PROFILE |
Badges of Honor

32

INDUSTRY CORNER | 2018
National Corporate Sponsors

REGION FOCUS

20

*The Latest Stories from Friends of NRA and
NRA Foundation Grant Recipients*

STAFF

Editorial Manager
Kristina Krawchuk

Editor & Designer
Christina Paladeau

Co-Designer
Tyler Proksa

BOARD OF TRUSTEES & OFFICERS

Mr. William H. Satterfield
President and Trustee

Mrs. Carolyn D. Meadows
Vice President and Trustee

Mr. Pete Brownell
ExOfficio

Mr. Wayne LaPierre
ExOfficio

Mr. William A. Bachenberg
Trustee

Mr. Richard R. Childress
Trustee

Mr. Joel Friedman
Trustee

Ms. Susan J. Hayes
Trustee

Mr. Steve Hornady
Trustee

Mr. George K. Kollitides, II
Trustee

Mrs. Susan Kriley
Trustee

Ms. Anne Lee
Trustee

Mr. Robert A. Nosler
Trustee

Ms. Barbara Rumpel
Trustee

Mr. Rob Unkovic
Trustee

Mr. H. Wayne Sheets
Executive Director

Mr. Wilson H. Phillips, Jr.
Treasurer

Mr. Skipp Galythly
Secretary

MISSION STATEMENT

Established in 1990, The NRA Foundation, Inc. ("NRA Foundation") is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization that raises tax-deductible contributions in support of a wide range of firearms-related public interest activities of the National Rifle Association of America and other organizations that defend and foster the Second Amendment rights of all law-abiding Americans. These activities are designed to promote firearms and hunting safety, to enhance marksmanship skills of those participating in the shooting sports, and to educate the general public about firearms in their historic, technological, and artistic context. Funds granted by The NRA Foundation benefit a variety of constituencies throughout the United States, including children, youth, women, individuals with physical disabilities, gun collectors, law enforcement officers, hunters, and competitive shooters.

Making a Difference

Creating one team, one voice, one vision for the future of freedom

**Pete
Brownell**

NRA President



Passion. Purpose. Persistence. Twenty-five years ago, a group of friends unknowingly used those three qualities to create an extraordinary movement in their quest to raise money for the shooting sports. I am honored to be here as NRA President to witness the silver anniversary of that movement, aptly named *Friends of NRA*. It was a milestone year to remember.

The strength of these initial values has served *Friends of NRA* programs and events exceptionally well over the years. In 2017, new committees, new field reps and a persistent energy from our volunteers and headquarters staff joined together to overcome adversity and achieve successes thanks to the same drive and dedication that started this program 25 years ago.

The result was astounding. At its close, the 2017 fundraising year was one of the program's best on record—raising more than \$31 million which will help fund over 180 NRA-supported programs. That is a 100 percent grassroots effort going 25 years strong, and we couldn't do it without your tireless energy.

Taking a look at the impact of *Friends of NRA* over the past two and a half decades is also remarkable: 21,000 events and 4.3 million attendees generating \$360 million and awards of 45,000 NRA Foundation grants.

As we look ahead to the next 25 years, I hope you'll join me as we continue to band together and invest in the next generation. Let's take that initial passion, purpose and persistence that got us started and keep building a more impactful and inspiring program as one team, one voice and one vision for the future of freedom.

SHOOTING STRAIGHT

Q. You come from a long lineage of real life heroes. Who would you say was the biggest mentor to you in your military career?

A. That's a tough one—we have a lot in my family. My grandfather was in the Army. He was a tank commander under Patton and has campaign medals from going across Germany. He was in the North African campaign and received medals from there too. He has the Belgian Fourragère, the French Fourragère, five Purple Hearts, a Silver Star and a Bronze Star. I had three uncles in the military: two in the Navy and one in the Marine Corps. The one in the Marines was probably the most instrumental in guiding me in the typical Marine way, telling me I couldn't do this or that. Well, one day in high school I was walking down the hall with my best friend, who remains my best friend to this very day. I asked him where he was going and he told me he was going to talk to a recruiter. When he told me you get out of class to for it, I followed him, signed up the next day and left 10 days after I graduated high school.

Q. You signed 1,200 copies of your book, “13 Hours: The Inside Account of What Really Happened in Benghazi” for our 2018 Friends of NRA events. Why did you decide to join our united front to Teach Freedom?

A. For me that's easy. I know that the grassroots movement for these events is where it starts. They have the greatest impact because of that one on one connection. I recently spoke at a Friends of NRA event in Redding, Calif., and saw how the kids in attendance are exposed to a group of people who love this country, love the Second Amendment and love what they were founded on. Sometimes you just have to take a stand—so signing books to raise money across the country at Friends of NRA events is pretty terrific.

Q. How do you feel we should induce a feeling of Patriotism in today's youth?

A. You have to start when they are young. Our children are our future, and we need to teach them what is important in this country: our founding fathers and the history behind it, the good and the bad. We need to teach them not only why we say the Pledge of Allegiance and why we stand and put our hand over our heart when the American flag goes by, but also what that pledge and that flag stand for. A lot of people just go through the words. But you are pledging your allegiance to this country; to me that is something very serious. If I'm going to raise my hand and swear to uphold the constitution or put my hand over my heart, I'm re-pledging to make this country better. It's not that we've always been perfect, but it's that we are striving to be better. We need to teach our kids that because it's easy to give up, it's easy to fall behind. John F. Kennedy said it best in one of his speeches: “If we forget the foundation of what this country was built on then we won't have a county at all.

Q. We understand you're a hunter. Who taught you how to shoot and what is your favorite game to hunt?

A. My father taught me how to shoot when I was around eight years old. His father taught him. They both took me out to hunt. It was a family thing. My father bought a .410 breech shotgun for me and my brother, who is two years older. We had to take turns; if you shot and missed, it was your brother's turn, so you didn't want to miss. Bird hunting is my favorite because it's a social thing, too. Every September when dove season kicked off, 10 to 15 families would get together and go hunting. We would gather up all the birds and have a dove fry on Labor Day weekend. It's those memories of bird shooting that I treasure the most.

Q. What was it like to be involved in a major motion picture and to have someone else play you on screen?

A. It's weird. We didn't know who the actors would be, and we didn't have a say in it. When it was announced that Max Martini would be playing “Tig,” my wife didn't like it. She told me, “That's not Tig, that's you.” Well, she had also always had a crush on him from when he was in the TV show The Unit, and my daughter told her, “You like him because he looks just like dad!” Anyway, it was a perfect fit. Both he and I have a lot of the same mannerisms. He did a wonderful job. I have a lot of respect for what they do for their profession and the work they put into developing the character. Max could have just asked a few questions about Benghazi, but he wanted to know about my childhood and growing up so he could know who I was in order to play the part. Anyone who knows me and saw the movie says he nailed it. Getting to be on the set was phenomenal. Michael Bay is a wonderful director, and he loves the military. When he first wanted to do the movie, his mom told him not to—it was too tough a subject with too many politics associated with it. But he told her to read the book. After she finished it she said, “Michael, you need to do the movie.” He approached it with a passion to get it right. He asked us for our input often—the first time he asked us about a scene, Tig and I just shook our heads and told him it was all wrong. You should have seen his jaw drop! Then we told him we were just messing with him. He had a few choice words for us. [Laughs]

Q. What quote or motto do you live by?

A. “Stay low and keep your feet moving.” Because life is a firefight and a moving target is harder to hit.

Q&A with Benghazi veteran and American patriot **Mark Geist**

Q. Tell us about the mission of **Shadow Warriors** and its impact on military families.

A. Shadow Warriors Project is a non-profit with one goal: help private security contractors by offering financial support to injured warriors and their families, whether it's short or long term. After my family went through everything, we really figured out what it's like to be a contractor. I was lucky because in Benghazi I was given Secretary of Defense Designee status that allowed me to get all my major medical done through the military. But contractors have a workers' comp insurance policy, and filling out all the paperwork to receive back pay is a lengthy process. The problem is they are out of work, and they start worrying about how they are going to cover their mortgage, bills, et cetera. So we wanted to find a way to help out. Changing laws takes too long, so we decided to do what we did in Benghazi—take care of our own. Through Shadow Warriors Project, if the spouse needs to become the bread winner, we want to be able to help with college grants if he or she has to go back to school. Ideally, we would like to open it up so any GRS contractors' family members could have access to apply for a grant. We want to honor these operatives and give them a voice for what they do in the shadows to protect this country.

& Tune in to NRABlog.com for the full interview!



The Future of Freedom

Friends of NRA's 2018 Standard Merchandise Package

By Christina Paladeau

Event Marketing & Communications Coordinator, National Rifle Association

Each year *Friends of NRA* assembles a new and unique merchandise package designed to support and inspire the blockbuster program's fundraising efforts. After celebrating the program's major milestone of its 25th Anniversary in 2017 with an especially large and commemorative collection of items, the team set out to create another outstanding package for 2018. This year's collection of 27 items encompasses a variety of exclusive and custom pieces as well as unique tributes to significant people, moments and traditions in American and shooting sports history.

The selection committee, comprising the six Regional Directors of Field Staff, chooses pieces based on quality, uniqueness, fundraising potential and compatibility with the ideals of The NRA Foundation and *Friends of NRA*. The desire to honor American craftsmanship also plays a major part in the selection process, and nearly two-thirds of the items in this year's collection are made in the USA.

The chosen firearms, merchandise, gear and framed décor reflect months and sometimes years of behind-the-scenes planning, preparation and production. Many represent the combined efforts of multiple contributors brought together in their support for *Friends of NRA*: manufacturers and embellishers, metal casters and woodworkers, marksmen, veterans, artists and framers, to name a few.

Both that collaborative method and American craftsmanship truly shine in the 2018 Gun of the Year Set, a perfect pairing of the Kimber NRA Custom II "Defending Freedom" .45 ACP and Silver Stag 1911 Sidekick Fighter knife. The full-size 1911 is ideal for both carry and home defense and embodies Kimber's commitment to crafting firearms of unequalled quality and depend-

ability. A specially engraved slide featuring the NRA logo, "2018 Gun of the Year" design and the words "Defending Freedom" make this handgun even more unique. The skillfully hand-crafted fixed-blade Silver Stag knife features VZ grips customized to match the Kimber's Tactical G-10 grips. Engraved *Friends of NRA* logos proudly adorn the knife, its leather sheath and the custom display from Eagle Mountain.

"Every year we work hard to select unique, desirable, high-quality, American-made products for our fundraising events," shares South Central Region Director Tom Ulik. "But it is not often that we can pair outstanding products from multiple companies in a set like this. Kimber and Silver Stag are perennial supporters of the *Friends* program and I know that this limited edition matched set will be in high demand."

Following the popularity of the 2017 Gun of the Year—a Daniel Defense M4 Carbine V7—the firearm selection in this package also addresses the continued demand for AR-style rifles. The Diamondback Firearms DB10 semi-automatic rifle, chambered in the hard hitting .308 Win. caliber, is an excellent choice for defense, hunting, and rec-



reational and competitive use, and this exclusive edition features engraved NRA seals and special NRA serialization.

"This was a great opportunity to partner with our friends at Diamondback to offer a limited edition rifle to our local events nationwide," notes Southern Region Director Al Hammond. "Diamondback has supported The NRA Foundation in numerous ways with firearms, boats and airboats that they have so graciously built specifically for our fundraising to support the education and safety training mission of The NRA Foundation."

The AR Guitar signed by Ted Nugent and



[^]Nearly two-thirds of this year's items are made in the USA. Look for the carrot next to the item name that denotes American-made products!



* Not available in all 50 states



2018 GUN OF THE YEAR SET

Kimber Custom II "Defending Freedom" 1911 and the Silver Stag 1911 Sidekick Fighter knife with matching grips and *Friends of NRA* embellishment.*[^]

The 2018 Gun of the Year Set comes with a custom display case.[^]



the John Wayne Winchester Model 1892 Framed Casing Set also represent the involvement and coordination of multiple participants. "Continuing our series of limited edition signed instruments, this year we are excited to offer a one-of-a-kind guitar hand-signed by NRA Board Member and true American patriot Ted Nugent," says Central Region Director Chad Franklin. Thanks to the efforts of NRA Field Representative Craig Haggard and some great volunteers in Indiana, Ted Nugent signed the 1,200 guitars needed for the standard packages at every *Friends of NRA* banquet held in 2018—then he headed right back to his deer stand!

The John Wayne Winchester Model 1892 Framed Casing Set features a classic image portrayal of John Wayne holding the Model 92 large loop rifle. A .44-40 caliber bullet and casing fired from Winchester Model 1892 Large Loop Carbine rifle used by The Duke in *Rio Lobo* (1970), *Chisum* (1970), *The Shootist* (1976) and other films accompany the target.

"NRA headquarters staff was able to borrow the gun from the NRA National Firearm Museum's collection and shoot 1,200 rounds at the NRA Range one day this past August,"

says Southern Region Director Al Hammond. "We have the advantage of having historical firearms like this available to us, and we've created a truly unique piece that preserves and shares that history."

Other items inspired by the desire to preserve the past and honor American icons include two pieces signed by Mark "Oz" Geist, a 12-year Marine Corps veteran, member of the Annex Security Team that fought the Battle of Benghazi, and co-author of the book "13 Hours." *Friends of NRA* attendees will have the chance to own a signed copy of the bestselling book "13 Hours: The Inside Account of What Really Happened in Benghazi" as well as a wooden Gadsden flag designed in honor of the citizen soldiers who secured our nation's independence.

"Every year we are contacted by a lot of small businesses presenting the selection committee with new ideas and made-in-the-USA items," explains Merchandise Manager Kathy Purtell. "One of those businesses was *Flags of Valor*, which is not only a veteran-run business, but one that strives to employ combat veterans. They teamed up with Mark Geist, who signed the 1,200 wooden Gadsden flags for the 2018 package. It's an

honor to have a true American hero as part of our program."

Rounding out the package are more items designed to provide *Friends of NRA* attendees with an exclusive and state-of-the-art experience, including the high performance Engel Backpack Cooler—featuring a new Pym1 blackout camo pattern and cutting-edge insulation technology—and a custom growler. The 2-liter German-made growler features a vintage-style swing-top closure guaranteed to maintain 58psi inner pressure and an etched *Friends of NRA* logo that ensures you store and pour your beverages in Second Amendment style.

We are proud to share the 2018 Standard Merchandise Package, which brings together all of these elements in a representation of *Friends of NRA's* unified front—one team, one voice, one vision for the future of freedom. Attend a *Friends of NRA* event to invest in the next generation and preserve America's shooting sports traditions by bidding on these exclusive items!

Learn more about the Gun of the Year and all of the items in the 2018 Standard Merchandise Package online at friendsofnra.org/Merchandise.

FRIENDS OF NRA 2018

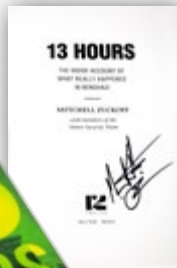
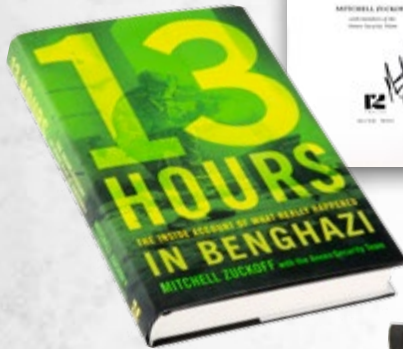


Diamondback .308 Win with Logo[^]



Growler

13 Hours Book
Signed by Mark Geist



Bench Bag with
Friends of NRA Logo



Weatherby Vanguard® Camilla™
7mm-08 Rem with Logo

John Wayne Winchester Model
1892 Framed Casing Set[^]



Mountain Edge
Fixed Blade Knife[^]



Concealed Carry Purse



Colt Cobra® Double Action .38 Spl
Revolver with Custom NRA Grips[^]

MERCHANDISE PACKAGE

* Not available in all 50 states ^ Made in the USA



Gadsden Flag Signed by Mark Geist^



Sig Sauer P320 RX 9mm with Logo^



AR Guitar Signed by Ted Nugent



Fixed Blade Skinner with Logo^



Bar Stools by NRA Originals^



Henry Lever Action .410 Shotgun with Logo^

Declaration of Independence^



Freedom Flyer Earrings^



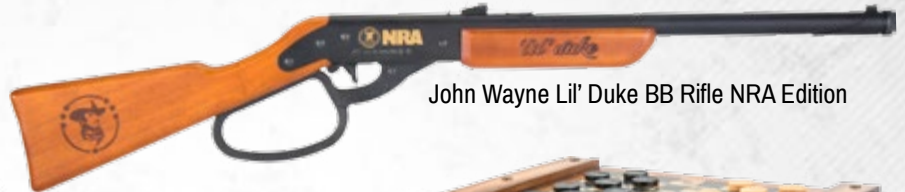
Backpack Cooler Bag with Logo

2018 MERCHANDISE

* Not available in all 50 states ^ Made in the USA



Rifle and Range Bag Set



John Wayne Lil' Duke BB Rifle NRA Edition

Checkerboard Storage Box with Logo^

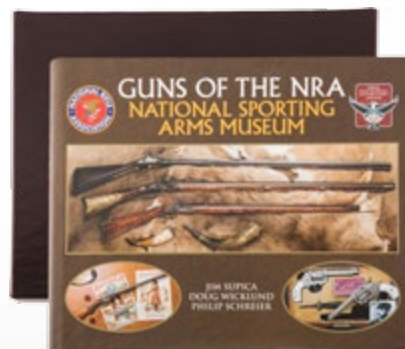


Crockett™ Precision Rifle .22LR^

Silver NRA Necklace^



Blanket^



Guns of the NRA National Sporting Arms Museum Book



Accent Table^

Learn more about the entire Standard Merchandise Package at www.FriendsofNRA.org/Merchandise.

FIND FRIENDS OF NRA ONLINE!

f @NRAFoundation

t @FriendsofNRA

YouTube @FriendsofNRA



WALL

OF

GUNS



A FUNDRAISER OF THE NRA FOUNDATION

Harrisburg, PA, Feb. 3-11 at the Great American Outdoor Show

WINNER'S
CHOICE OF
MORE THAN
50
FIREARMS!

\$10



PER TICKET

\$50



5 TICKETS & 1
WALL OF GUNS BINGO CARD

\$100



10 TICKETS
A T-SHIRT &
1 BINGO CARD

\$500



15 TICKETS
A T-SHIRT
1 BINGO CARD & A
RUGER 10/22 TAKEDOWN

\$1000



A T-SHIRT, 1 BINGO CARD
& YOUR CHOICE
FROM THE WALL OF GUNS



SPONSORED BY



ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT

THE **NRA** FOUNDATION
TEACH FREEDOM

THE SHOOTING SPORTS

Badges of Honor

By Marshall Lewin



Bob and Sharon Callan personify NRA's ties to law enforcement. A couple of years ago, the citizens of Tucson, Ariz., lost two outstanding allies to well-deserved retirement, and lawbreakers likely breathed a sigh of relief to no longer have the two serving on a day-to-day basis. After a combined 60 years of distinguished service, veteran police officers Bob and Sharon Callan, also had an RV waiting and miles of American highway to explore.



The Callans have served their fellow citizens well for most of their adult lives. Now it's time to have some fun.

Policing is not an easy task, and both Sharon and Bob have been good at their work, rising up through the ranks and serving as firearm instructors for a number of years. Bob, a SWAT team member for 22 years, also served as the unit's armorer and sniper. For him, guns were a 55-year love affair that began with a BB gun he started shooting as soon as he was big enough to handle it and expanded to include innumerable handguns, rifles and shotguns since.

As a youngster Sharon shot a few times with her father, but she really became hooked on shooting during her time at the police academy. "When I went through the academy, I noticed that the firearms instructors were having trouble teaching the young women candidates," Sharon said. "This was at a time when women were first gaining traction as police officers around the country, and most of the instructors were veterans who'd had little experience with training women. I decided then that I could do it better."

And so she did. Since both were teaching fellow officers how to shoot, it just seemed natural that they'd manage to meet at the firing range. Shortly thereafter, Bob asked Sharon out.



Photos credit Hannele Lahti

“Let’s go to a gun show in Phoenix,” was his initial pitch, and Sharon agreed that it sounded like fun. As it turned out, that “gun show” was an NRA Annual Meeting.

“That’s where I first became involved with the NRA, and I’ve been involved ever since,” Sharon recalls. For Bob, that association began when he was 14 years old. Shortly after the Phoenix Annual Meetings, he gained a life partner who was also a Second Amendment activist.

“All the NRA people I met were good-hearted, down to earth and dedicated to preserving our constitutionally protected rights,” Sharon said. “I knew immediately that I wanted to be a part of something like that.”



**“
I believe that, as a
group, the majority
of rank-and-file
police officers feel
strongly about
supporting the
Constitution. I
personally feel that
the nation will
fail without that
support.
”**

Throughout their marriage, the Callans supported various NRA and NRA Foundation programs. Both felt it was important to give back to the organization that worked so hard to train and support law enforcement.

“I’d been attending NRA training programs for years,” Bob said. “The best thing about NRA is that as the focus of law enforcement has changed, NRA participation and training have evolved to reflect those changes.”

The Callans agree that the majority of men and women engaged in law enforcement have an affinity for firearms. What a lot of people across the country don’t know, Sharon adds, is that a large percentage of police officers are staunch Second Amendment supporters.

Bob is also adamant that solid law enforcement and protecting the Constitution go hand-in-hand. “We need to support all the amendments in the Constitution, and not just a few,” the Tucson sharpshooter says.

Sharon and Bob caution that changes in American society necessitate both a stronger law enforcement presence as well as a citizenry more comfortable with guns and the ability to protect themselves. So these retired Tucson officers do what they can to help the people of their com-



munity learn about firearms, then gain confidence and skill with the guns they favor.

Several years ago, the Callans decided they'd organize and lead a women's firearm familiarization program in Tucson. They offered the course on an "as needed" basis, and as it turned out, the need was great. "We planned it as a course for women," Sharon said. "But we ended up about 50/50, half women, half men, with the ages ranging from teenagers to seniors in their 80s."

Demand was so great that the Callans enlisted Tucson Police Department instructors to help out with the swelling number of participants. "Two of our students were a husband and wife, and the wife had never fired a gun before," Bob recalled. "When the course was over, the man came over to thank me. He said, 'My wife is an entirely new woman due to this. For the first time since we've been married she has had the confidence to stand on her own and try new things, and we owe it all to you.'" That, Bob said, is the kind of self-esteem boost that, more often than not, goes

hand-in-hand with firearms training.

Sharon said she learned at NRA Women's Leadership Forum meetings that first-time gun owners often have a tough time deciding what style and model of handgun is right for them. "Our familiarization program allows folks to shoot a variety of makes and models under the guidance of skilled professionals," she said. "Through patience and experimentation, they are able to choose a firearm that provides the confidence and skill needed to achieve proficiency."

At one time Bob shot competitively, but now he takes pleasure in teaching others about the fine art of handling firearms. "There are so many kids out there who want to learn about guns the right way," he said, "and Sharon and I feel that it's our calling to help as many as we can."

Fortunately, the Callans say, The NRA Foundation emphasizes youth shooting participation and education. "Kids increasingly come from urban environments," Bob points out, "and don't learn about hunting and shooting the way our rural parents and grandparents did."

The Callans' commitment to the shooting sports was further demonstrated by their faithful annual giving to NRA Foundation programs that support and promote the shooting sports, but the couple was looking to do even more. After a thorough discussion, they applied and were approved for a charitable joint life insurance policy that will benefit The NRA Foundation. And if that isn't enough, Bob and Sharon have recently revised their estate plan to include The NRA Foundation General Endowment.

During their careers, the Callans defended the streets of Tucson, defended our constitutional liberties, and introduced scores of new shooters to the safe enjoyment of the shooting sports. Thanks to thoughtful estate planning, they will leave a lasting legacy of defending freedom and ensure that the shooting sports flourish in perpetuity.

What will be your legacy?" ■

For more information about the firearms training and education programs supported by The NRA Foundation, visit www.nrafoundation.org.

Weathering the Storms

By Christina Paladeau

Event Marketing & Communications Coordinator,
National Rifle Association

When last year's sixth-month hurricane season came to a close on November 30, it concluded a record-breaking series of storms. The 2017 Atlantic hurricane season marked the first time two Category 4 hurricanes—Harvey and Irma—made landfall in the continental U.S. in one season, resulting in a combined cost of more than \$265 billion in damage.

With the extensive impacts of wind, rain and flooding—and the resulting destruction of lives, homes and infrastructure—experienced in Texas, Louisiana, Florida and Georgia by tropical cyclones, *Friends of NRA's* 25th Anniversary year took on even greater significance. It became a celebration not only of a quarter century of program growth and fundraising success, but also of the invaluable bonds that have been built within the family of *Friends of NRA* volunteers, staff, donors and attendees. In the face of devastation and uncertainty, this community pulled together to support its own and to continue supporting the unceasing mission of The NRA Foundation.

The first storm to shake the community arrived in late August. NRA Senior Field Representative Liz Foley witnessed Harvey's impact on her area of South Texas and looks back now with a mixture of awe and pride.

"The five events most impacted by Harvey in South Texas—Lexington of Texas, Brazoria County, Mid-Coast, Southeast Texas and Corpus Christie Special—raised \$250,000 this year," notes Foley. "We focused on staying Texas Strong. No one gave up. What we raised from Lexington through the Corpus Special made a significant impact on our funding that will be available for 2018 grants. It was challenging but motivating—I hope we can keep the momentum going for 2018!"

The Lexington of Texas *Friends of NRA* event in Gonzales—held on Thursday, August 23, as Harvey approached the coast—saw reduced attendance as the local community was busy putting up cattle, preparing business and homes for the storm. Nonetheless, the committee hosted a successful event. In Brazoria County, co-chairs Sarah and Kenny Lamb were the driving force behind that event's resilience. In the week leading

up to its scheduled date of Saturday, August 26, Harvey built steam in the Gulf of Mexico.

The storm reached Category 3 status on August 24 and rapidly intensified to a Category 4 before making landfall on the scheduled day of the Brazoria County event—August 26. The problem then became Harvey's slow moving bulk. The huge cyclone sluggishly spun across the region, dropping more than 60 inches of rain and causing unprecedented flooding in the Houston area.

The decision was made by late Thursday to reschedule the Brazoria County event. While working to make new event arrangements and contact volunteers, attendees and others involved, the Lambs also had to address the growing threat of flooding.

"By Sunday, we knew that the Brazos would come out of its banks in our area and flood our property," Sarah explains. "So we started doing the prep that we thought would protect our belongings from river water. Many people in our area were attempting to do the same, but the river water was spreading at such a fast pace. As we stayed in touch with our friend Luke [Langford], we saw that he took the opportunity to gather his friends and start rescuing people and livestock from the most seriously flooded areas in southern Brazoria County. Watching and hearing about the commitment of that 'County Road 36 Crew' to the rescue efforts was so overwhelming as we tried to keep up with the rescheduling and planning of the banquet, especially since every one of them was in such deep mourning after [Luke's wife] Hannah's recent death."

Despite eventually losing their home to the flood waters, Sarah and Kenny continued to organize the rescheduled *Friends of NRA* event. Even though the new date was the opening night of the county fair—not to mention that many people were experiencing financial challenges after the hurricane and flooding damage—the Brazoria County event was a great success and even achieved the Lamb's longtime goal of reaching High Caliber Club level status.

Similarly, the Southeast Texas committee's rescheduled event—held in the Beaumont area

hit especially hard by flooding and facing a long recovery—still achieved High Caliber Club level status. Mid-Coast *Friends of NRA* also came back strong for its rescheduled event in October. Kevin and Patty Shoemake, committee chair and secretary, led the charge to sell additional tables and underwriting—as well as selling out a pre-event raffle—to take the Victoria, Texas, event to new heights. It's \$143,000 in fundraising became the top net amount in South Texas for 2017.

"The month of September, immediately after the storm, was tough," shares Foley. "The focus for most of the region was on recover, repair, rebuild. Many people were pulled away to support the rebuild efforts, so even events not directly impacted by the storm itself were impacted by volunteers taking time elsewhere. Our focus was always on safety and taking care of our friends and families—the same thing we do every day in *Friends of NRA*."

Foley emphasizes that regardless of all the obstacles, cancelling was not an option and communication was key to ensuring success. "It absolutely felt like we had to plan the same event twice," she explains. "We were redoing every aspect of the planning from venues and catering to coordinating merchandise. It was the first time in my career that I had to have someone cover an event for me, since I ended up with two events the same night after rescheduling."

Louisiana residents and *Friends of NRA* activities were also affected by the estimated 27 trillion gallons of water dumped by Harvey on the U.S. NRA Senior Field Representative Chad Bowen recalls the effect Harvey had on the Northshore committee's event, as Chairman George Petras' Coast Guard duties kept him from leading the preparations as usual. "George is in the Coast Guard and had just come back from active duty when he was activated again to support storm efforts," shares Bowen. "The absence of his strong and effective leadership and ticket sales skills had a big impact on the event, which was the most affected this year."

Southwest Louisiana committee Chair Frank Adams was also activated for storm support, working for three days straight as the committee

was planning its post-event sponsor banquet. “As law enforcement, we got the bug out call for high water rescue and security,” Adams explains. “You really don’t know when you’ll be released. Confidence was low that everything thing would get done for the event, but our core group of 10 officers and subcommittee powered through what seemed impossible to make it happen.”

Adams credits backup plans, flexibility and good communication with the event’s ultimate success. “I learned through training that you have to have a plan... several plans, even if it’s just the mindset that you may have make one up on the fly,” he notes. “Hurricane Harvey was one of those situations were just being a participant is a significant life experience and being able to stay in contact with your committee is so important. Things still get done; calls get made, and people understand. The real honor and satisfaction was being able to answer the call to help the people of west Calcasieu Parish and Southeast Texas. Your holistic view of life is put into new perspective when you see the I-10 highway as a levee where flood victims come for relief and aid, the on ramps become marinas for the Cajun Navy, overpasses become incident command posts, and airboats and helicopters have the right-of-way. What’s a few problems at a banquet really going do?”

Like these two cases, the story in much of the rest of Louisiana was one of support. “A lot of our volunteers joined the Cajun Navy, even people from up north, to help in Houston,” Bowen notes. “We got very fortunate, very lucky that the storms didn’t hit us like they could have and caused another Katrina-like situation. So Louisianans were ready and willing to do what they could to help those who were hit hard this time.”

On the heels of Harvey came another monster storm—Irma, the Category 4 hurricane that sustained winds at 185 mph for a record 37 hours and created widespread power outages in Florida and Georgia. Long before it made landfall, Floridians already felt the weight of the storm’s impending wrath as shifting models and path predictions showed it affecting all parts of the state. About 6.5 million people left to seek shelter from the storm elsewhere—the largest evacuation in the state’s history.

That uncertainty and anxiety was felt at the Bay Area *Friends of NRA* event held in Clearwater on Friday, September 9, just before Irma’s landfall on Sunday. “People were nervous,” remarks Tom Knight, NRA Senior Field Representative in South Florida. “In addition to the drop in attendance, we could see the caution in their spending. People were unsure of how much damage and repair would be facing them, how much money they would have to be spending on storm recovery.”

But that caution turned to a renewed dedication, both by *Friends of NRA* volunteers and attendees, once the storm passed. “Our event is always in the middle of hurricane season in Florida, but we have always escaped,” notes Space Coast *Friends of NRA* Chairman Mark Laderwarg. “By Tuesday, September 5, it looked like the storm was going to make landfall on the west coast of Florida and make it’s way up the state. I was still stubborn enough to think that we could still do it. But when the county sheriff alerted me that the county was going to order the mandatory evacuation of the barrier islands, I knew our event in Cape Canaveral was not going to happen.”

Although the rescheduling meant lots of email, phone calls, posting on social media, and even announcements on local radio shows—along with the work of re-planning the event logistics—it actually tuned out for the best. It gave Laderwarg and his committee of 20 other volunteers extra time to reach more people and make the 2017 event their most successful in over ten years, increasing fundraising by about 50 percent over 2016 and bringing in more than \$33,000.

Desoto County committee chairman Lenny Lempenau had four feet of water in his house, and a fallen tree split Treasurer Judi Ricci’s house nearly in half—but this *Friends of NRA* team also rallied to host a rescheduled event in November.

Southwest Florida *Friends of NRA* in Naples has shown the same unwavering commitment. Despite having every excuse to completely cancel its 2017 event and take time to regroup for 2018—including an event space that lost its top three floors to the storm—the committee still wanted to have its 2017 event.

“They were so insistent on making it happen,” Knight remarks. “As one of the original committees in Florida, they were so committed to hosting a 25th Anniversary banquet. They wouldn’t let me return the merchandise purchased for the event!” Not letting even the calendar stop it from achieving that goal, the committee will put on the rescheduled event in January 2018 before the regularly scheduled annual fall event.

Even with the absence of a Southwest Florida event and the impacts of Irma on his own home and that of many involved in *Friends of NRA* throughout Florida, Knight looks back on 2017 with positivity. “We still had our best year ever in South Florida,” he notes. “And I was so impressed by all the calls I got from other staff, from volunteers, from everyone checking in to see how we were doing through the storm and its aftermath. I know that my volunteers were all checking on each other, too. The genuine care and concern along with the support provided was so amazing.”

Like Florida, Georgia’s coast was gripped by uncertainty as Irma made her way north. The Mid Georgia *Friends of NRA* event held on the Thursday before landfall saw attendance greatly impacted by evacuation. But the post-storm dedication shone through at the rescheduled events. The August committee increased its fundraising by \$8,000, and the inaugural event of Coastal Georgia *Friends of NRA* in Savannah was a blockbuster success.

Although nearly a foot of water filled the home of Chairman David Aldridge, who was storing all of the merchandise for the Golden Isles *Friends of NRA* event, the committee still pulled off a great rescheduled event. “When the event was held on October 19, there was still debris everywhere,” remembers Neely Raper, NRA Field Representative in Georgia. “People were just getting back into their homes. But Georgians are resilient and their continued support was fantastic. We even still auctioned off the water-damaged items as pieces of hurricane history.”

In weathering the historical storms of the 2017 hurricane season, there has been a shared resilience among all of the impacted people, places and events in the *Friends of NRA* community. The hardships brought out a combination of fellowship and independence, humility and pride that speaks to the true American spirit. Even as people were forced to focus their time, energy and money on recovery and repairs, The NRA Foundation mission to invest in the things that keep that spirit alive and well was not abandoned. And being a part of something greater provided an undeniable comfort and joy to those who needed it most.

“As a rep you can walk into a room and know if it is going to be a good night or a down night,” says Foley. “The rescheduled events, the ‘hurricane events,’ had the energy. It wasn’t just normal event excitement. It was also a return to normalcy, the happiness of getting back out into the community and sharing fellowship with their neighbors. It was tangible and contagious positivity.”

Beyond the fundraising and attendance numbers, *Friends of NRA* represents something bigger. It represents a community—a family—of people united by passion for freedom, value for tradition and responsibility to better this nation and the world. We are one team with one voice and one vision: the future of freedom. No storm can dampen that burning desire to leave a legacy of preserving the right to bear arms and promoting the shooting sports for the generations to come. ■

Find a Friends of NRA event near you at friendsofnra.org/Events. Tune in to NRABlog.com for more detailed stories about some of these amazing committees!

SNAP



Posing with winnings and wildlife at a Texas Friends of NRA event.



Eddie Eagle attends a Cabela's Day event and teaches children his message of firearms safety.



South Carolina Representative Jeff Duncan addresses the 2014 Youth Education Summit in D.C.



The Chambers Sports Club nearly \$4,000



Friends of NRA's family-friendly events are fun for all. Even young shooters find perfect prizes!



The Roy Rogers Commemorative Set was a hit as part of the 2014 Standard Merchandise Package



The National NRA Foundation Banquet drew nearly 1,500 supporters of the shooting sports to kick off the 2014 NRA Annual Meetings in Atlanta.

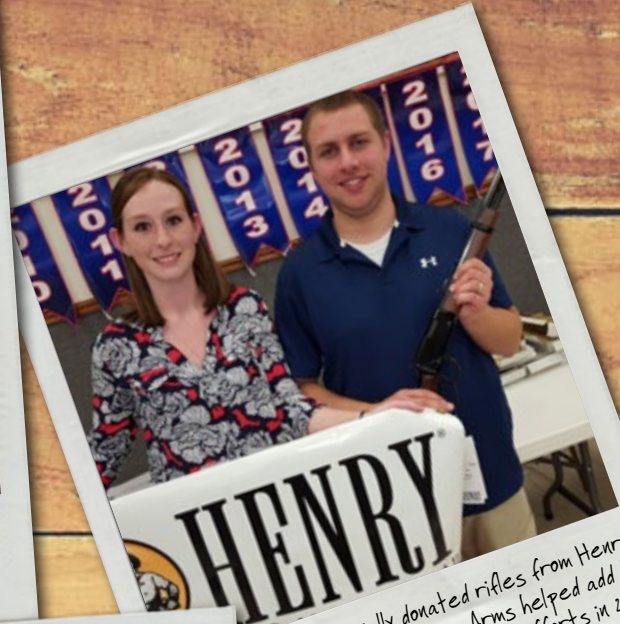
Many events honored veterans, presenting them with special auction items.



Arkansas Field Rep Erica Dunn and a volunteer pose for pictures with the 2014 Gun of the Year: the exclusive Daniel Defense DDM4 Carbine V9.



County 4-H Youth Shooting accepts a grant check of in support of their program.



Specially donated rifles from Henry Repeating Arms helped add to fundraising efforts in 2017



Young sportsmen and women accept an NRA Foundation grant



Students at the 2017 Virginia State Youth Education Summit visit the state capital building in Richmond.



California Field Rep Bob Anderson helps sell raffle tickets at an event



To begin the night, Friends of NRA event attendees pledge to the flag presented by the color guard.



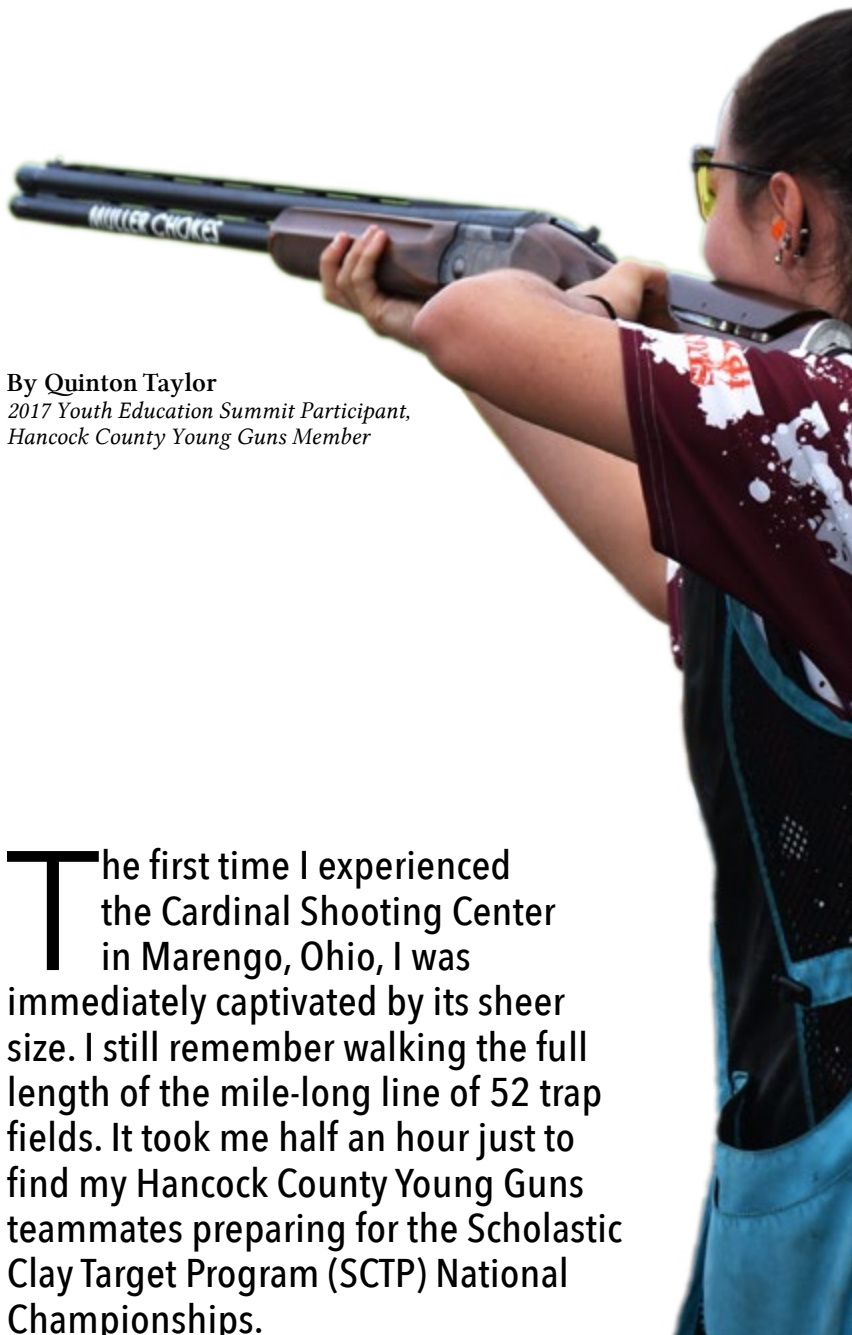
Tens of thousand of dollars were granted for range improvements projects in 2017, including this one awarded in Pennsylvania.



A LOOK BACK AT FRIENDS OF NRA ACTIVITIES IN 2017

Submit your Friends of NRA and NRA Foundation photos to friends@nrahq.org! Help us celebrate our 25th Anniversary with more memories and milestones.

SHOT



ALL OHIO LADY TRAP CAPTAIN EXCELS AT 2017 SCTP NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

By **Quinton Taylor**
*2017 Youth Education Summit Participant,
 Hancock County Young Guns Member*

The first time I experienced the Cardinal Shooting Center in Marengo, Ohio, I was immediately captivated by its sheer size. I still remember walking the full length of the mile-long line of 52 trap fields. It took me half an hour just to find my Hancock County Young Guns teammates preparing for the Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) National Championships.

At the numerous competitions it hosts throughout each year, the Cardinal Center welcomes trapshooters from all 50 states. The sprawling complex allows for 240 athletes to be shooting clay targets at one time. Along with its 52 trap fields, the center boasts a state of the art trap line with a Canterbury Voice Release system, 5-Stand, two sporting clays courses, 14 skeet fields, 4 rifle and pistol ranges, a large vending area with vendor buildings, and a 400 site campground to accommo-

date the athletes and their families.

For the last two years, the Cardinal Center has been home to the SCTP and Scholastic Action Shooting Program (SASP) National Championships. In July 2017, 2,687 youth competitors converged in central Ohio to test their skills in the SCTP-SASP's largest Nationals since the inception of the Scholastic Shooting Sports Foundation (SSSF). Over the course of the eight-day event, more than one million rounds were spent in compe-

tion.

Those numbers reflect exciting growth in the sport: participation in the SCTP increased 19.5 percent from 2013 to 2017. Included in that expansion is a trend impacting all of the shooting sports—female shooters as the fastest-growing demographic. They made up 18 percent of the National Championship competitors last year.

I have had the privilege of competing with one of these athletes. Three-time



Photos courtesy Hancock County Young Guns/Philip Gray

All-American trapshooting team member and All-Ohio Team Captain Summer Gobrecht was introduced to shooting at eight years old. At the age of 12, she found her calling in trap.

"I decided to ask my father if I could be in a shooting sport," recalls

Summer. "The following day he went to a local gun store and asked if there was a local youth shooting team." Lucky for her, and her future teammates, the Hancock County Young Guns was the answer.

"Once I was a part of the Hancock County Young Guns, I started shooting competitive trap," Summer continues. "In my first year I had an average of 66. During the off-season I worked very hard and in the next season I raised my average to a 90. My coaches were very proud of my achievement through the off-season, and they decided to make me a squad leader. I've now been a squad leader for five years."

Summer travels to numerous shooting complexes in Ohio, Michigan, Indiana and Illinois as she competes, but the SCTP nationals stand out. "Due to its size and multiple buildings on the grounds," Summer explains, "no other complexes can compare to the Cardinal Center."



Shooting, particularly at the Cardinal Center, has inspired Summer and her goals. "When you put your heart and mind into it you can achieve a lot in a sport," she says. "[I practice] using confidence to help me believe in myself to achieve the goals I have set through the years. [It's about] using calmness to not get frustrated about missing targets because you should always be proud of your effort no matter what score you finish with."

Summer says she sets goals for herself at the start of every year and has achieved a lot in her shooting career already. "I think one of my greatest achievements in youth shooting would be at the Ohio State youth shoot, where I was able to compete on the All-State team for Ohio," she notes. "Then going on to the SCTP Nationals at the Cardinal Center with my All-State Ohio team members and achieving first place with a

score of 985/1000. Since I do shoot a lot of trap outside of youth events, I believe my greatest achievement is being on the All-American trapshooting team and being the captain of the All-Ohio team for three years."

Having just graduated high school in 2017, Summer plans to continue shooting for years to come. She already has her sights on several Ohio events in the coming year with the goal of shooting on the All-Ohio Lady team for four years. "I am proud to be associated with the SCTP and be able to participate in the All-State team for Ohio at the SCTP Nationals," Summer concludes. She will no doubt continue to be a competitor to watch! ■

SCTP has received hundreds of thousands of dollars in NRA Foundation grant support. Help fund youth shooting programs like this in your area by applying for a grant at nrafoundation.org. Find a Friends of NRA event near you at friendsofnra.org/Events to invest in the grant program and our next generation of shooting sports enthusiasts.



Summer Gobrecht

Capital City's Fundraising Powerhouse

By Christina Paladeau

Event Marketing & Communications Coordinator,
National Rifle Association

Sometimes the biggest of impacts and greatest of influences come in the smallest of forms. There is no better example of that mighty combination than former NRA President Marion P. Hammer. The 4-foot 11-inch powerhouse of passion and tenacity has made a profound difference in the fight to preserve our Second Amendment freedoms as both a lobbyist and an advocate for The NRA Foundation's mission to Teach Freedom through firearms education, training and safety.

For the past two years, that voice behind some of the most influential legislation in support of firearms freedoms has taken a leading role in *Friends of NRA's* non-political grassroots fundraising efforts. In 2016 Hammer and former Florida Lt. Governor Bobby Brantley became co-chairs of the Capital City committee in Tallahassee, Fla. The pair sought to bring new life to the event by tapping into their network of professionals in the legislative and political arena. "We wanted to see if we could motivate our supporters and peers," explains Hammer. "Because of their work with government, these connections and friends understand how important private funding is to bringing youngsters into our mission."

By ensuring that the community understood how a *Friends of NRA* event is a place to get great, unique merchandise while making a significant financial contribution to funding firearms education and youth programs—with the added bonus of a charitable tax deduction—Hammer and Brantley hope to create the perfect atmosphere for people to give generously to help protect the future. That tactic paid off. The Capital City event's attendance and fundraising skyrocket-

Photo credit NRA

eted from 87 people and \$7,000 in 2015 to more than 500 people and \$56,300 in 2016. And the incredible growth didn't stop there. The committee's 2017 event earned it the NRA Volunteer Fundraising award for highest net income growth, drawing more than 550 attendees and raising nearly \$111,000.

"The response in our community has been overwhelming," notes Hammer. "In 2016 we totally sold out two months before the event and set an attendance record, as well as a new record for net revenue for Capital City *Friends of NRA*. I was amazed and overjoyed! We learned a lot that first year and were able to make our 2017 event even better—we sold out sooner and set an awesome new state record by doubling our net revenue over 2016."

That success drives interest, but Hammer explains that the event has been and will continue to be limited in size. "I believe that helps create a desire and a demand to be a part of something great," she says. "Further, we sell only tables and use only quality merchandise—items that our attendees actually want, can use and will be proud to have."

The planning to sustain growth and success into 2018 began before last's year event even took place. Table reservation forms in every seat packet at the 2017 event resulted in requests for reservations for 28 more tables than available, selling out the 2018 event before the 2017 event ended.

Hammer knows the importance of staying informed and knowing your crowd. "Although it is a social and charity event, we are trying to run it like a business," she shares. "We track everything: who is spending money on games, on the silent auction, in the live auction; what merchandise is the most and least popular. We include a survey in our individual packets so guests can tell us what they like and don't like. It's working."

And that drive to generate growth for *Friends of NRA* extends far beyond her own committee. "My work in the legislative and political arenas is about competition, and I love competition," Hammer admits. "I'm trying to help motivate other committees to beat our record. Lt. Governor Bobby Brantley, Dawn Hoffman of DSH Firearms and



I have made an incredible team and we are working hard for 2018. We challenge other committees to find new ways to make 2018 the most incredible year the *Friends of NRA* program has ever had.”

Along with celebrating the recent achievements of the Capital City committee, Hammer also shares in the excitement of seeing the *Friends of NRA* program reach its 25th Anniversary as a thriving success. “As an NRA Board member who worked to help create The NRA Foundation and as NRA’s Second Vice President when the *Friends* program was created, I am proud of what we have accomplished,” she says. “Through my six years as a national officer of NRA, I traveled the country attending *Friends* events to promote attendance and support. To actually have been, and to still be, a part of the whole process is a true source of pride. I am most especially proud to have been Co-Chairman of the Capital City *Friends of NRA* committee in our 25th Anniversary year and to have been a part of setting a new Florida record for the most net income for a single event in my state. It is awesome and motivating.”

When the *Friends of NRA* program was first coming to life, Hammer didn’t hesitate to fully commit her support. “She’s been involved in this program for 25 years,” says NRA Southern Region Director Al Hammond, who recalls her speaking at a number of events when he started out as a Field Rep in the early years of the program. “And now she’s stepped up to be a chairman of an event. She’s bringing in people who have donated politically or are politically active, but bringing them on board to this completely different part of the NRA. She truly exemplifies what we’re trying to do—her focus has always been youth programs and getting

people out participating in the shooting sports. To have a successful committee that puts on successful events, you have to have the right people involved, and she’s it.”

There’s no question that Hammer’s heart, soul and experience are all fully engaged in her dedication to the cause. “My passion is securing the future of the Second Amend-

“**The future of our nation and our heritage of freedom lies in the hands of our children and grandchildren. What we do to help shape their lives will chart the course for generations to come.**”

ment and Freedom,” she emphasizes. “Our Founding Fathers fought to give us Freedom and the Second Amendment and our ancestors fought to keep it for us. My father gave his life in World War II fighting for Freedom. Now it’s our time to fight to protect it for future generations and I’m just trying to do my part.”

Fighting on the legislative and political fronts is just a part of that mission. The fight for the future requires us to prepare today’s young people to carry on those efforts. “We do that through our work to help fund The NRA Foundation so we can provide programs that teach our traditions,” stresses Hammer, who includes helping pass the nation’s first “shall issue” right-to-carry law in 1987 in Florida, serving as the NRA’s first female president and improving the Youth Hunter Education Challenge, along with helping start the Eddie Eagle GunSafe® program and Youth Education Summit, as her greatest moments in service to the right to keep and bear arms.

“The future of our nation and our heritage of freedom lies in the hands of our children and grandchildren,” she continues.



“What we do to help shape their lives will chart the course for generations to come. If we don’t teach youngsters about hunting, target shooting, collecting, firearms safety, responsible gun ownership, and conservation, they won’t have a vested interest in the Second Amendment. They won’t know that those rights are important to enjoyment of outdoor activities as well as self-defense and freedom. If they are not passionate about the Second Amendment, freedom and liberty, it could all be lost.”

Friends of NRA and The NRA Foundation strive to support and promote shooting sports programs that pass on those values and traditions. In expressing her hopes for her own legacy and that of America’s freedoms, Marion Hammer captures the core of our fundraising mission: “I want my legacy to be that I helped forge a path to the future by showing youngsters the way and that I helped raise the money to teach them to love Freedom, the Second Amendment and the outdoors. And further, to teach them to appreciate what the NRA and The NRA Foundation have generously done for America.” ■

Do you know of an organization that could benefit from an NRA Foundation grant? Apply at www.nrafoundation.org. To learn more about Friends of NRA in Florida go to www.friendsofnra.org/FL.





TEAMING UP WITH PASSION AND **PATRIOTS**

By: Tyler Proksa

Event Marketing & Communications Coordinator, National Rifle Association

With more than \$930,000 raised since its inception, Cape Area *Friends of NRA* sets the bar high not only for its state of Missouri but also for the rest of the country. Since 1994 the committee in Cape Girardeau, Mo., has been developing a successful fundraising method that now makes them the fourth highest grossing event in the state.

The only thing holding it back from continuing to skyrocket in size is a lack of space—the number of potential attendees far surpasses the occupancy limit of the best venue option in the area. The Cape Area *Friends of NRA* event sells out in advance every year, and the local enthusiasm for supporting the shooting sports is such that table buyers and individuals continue to sign up on waiting lists as the event approaches.

In 2017, 480 attendees packed into the Bavarian Halle, with hundreds more waiting and hoping to get in. Fitting the rest of these eager participants would require an expansion. But the only other place to go in town would be three to four times the size—at 10 times the cost. Balancing expenses with attendance and fundraising potential is the key to a successful event, and finding a way to continue achieving that balance while growing will no doubt help the Cape Area committee reach even greater heights.

History has proven that behind great successes is a great leader. For the Cape Area committee that leader is Gary Kamp. Kamp is a natural leader who has earned a trusted and respected place in his community. Combine that with his 19 years' experience on the *Friends of NRA* committee—15 of them as chairman—and it's no wonder that Cape Area achieves exemplary success.



Kamp exudes an amazing dedication to his volunteer efforts with *Friends of NRA*. Most of his free time goes toward organizing, setting up and promoting the annual event. That is a year-round job for Kamp, who talks on a KWKZ

C106.1 radio show once a month to share The NRA Foundation mission and Cape Area event details with its southern Illinois and Missouri listeners.

Taking advantage of marketing opportunities like the radio show helps the Cape Area committee effectively spread the word about *Friends of NRA* and The NRA Foundation grant program, playing a major role in its fundraising ability.

Yet Kamp insists it's not just him who fuels those accomplishments, citing the dedication of all the Cape Area volunteers he works with. "The entire committee does a great job," he explains.

This group has consistently outperformed larger events. And it not only puts on a great annual event but also donates time and money to various other projects throughout the year. One of those projects was the construction of the local Apple Creek Gun Range pavilion, which started with two trap machines and a \$10,000 grant from The NRA Foundation. Many Cape Area volunteers got hands on to help with the building, in addition to helping raise a total of \$60,000 for the pavilion.

When asked why the committee was so heavily involved, Kamp highlighted their motivation: "to benefit a lot of people, especially kids." The Apple Creek Gun Range is only one example of all the extraordinary things the Cape Area committee does with that motivation.

But this is not just a committee—this is a team. A team of people who dedicate their life to something they truly believe in. A team of people who want to share this passion with anyone willing to support the cause. This year, they got to share it with someone special at the local SEMO District Fair.

When the Cape Area committee learned that American icon Charlie Daniels would be performing at the annual fair in September, the team knew it would be a great opportunity to reach out to him. They coordinated with the Fair Board to set up a meeting with the country music legend.

"Mr. Daniels was just more than

tickled to meet with us," Kamp recalls. When Mr. Daniels met with the committee after his performance, he was eager to show his support by signing two rifles for Cape Area *Friends of NRA* fundraising. Those two special rifles will make their appearance at the committee's 2018 event on March 24—one as an auction item and the other a game

Mr. Daniels was just more than tickled to meet with us...



prize. In thanks for his support, Kamp and his fellow volunteers presented Mr. Daniels with the last of their *Friends of NRA* belt buckles as a token of their appreciation.

Cape Area *Friends of NRA* concluded its 2017 fundraising with a total net of more than \$80,000 for The NRA Foundation. The Foundation is able to support firearms education and training programs with grants throughout Missouri and the country because of committees like this one. The tireless efforts of the 12,000 dedicated *Friends of NRA* volunteers who compose those committees ensure that our Second Amendment freedoms and American traditions will remain strong for generations to come. ■

Do you know of an organization that could benefit from an NRA Foundation grant? Apply at www.nrafoundation.org. To learn more about Friends of NRA in Missouri go to www.friendsofnra.org/MO.

Roadkill

By Kristina Krawchuk
Event Marketing & Communications Manager,
National Rifle Association

Livens Things Up



You've probably never seen anything quite like her. She's a smooth operator—long and lean—grabbing attention wherever she goes. Best yet, she's an absolute animal when it comes to raising money. And talk about marketing!



“She’s a dead ringer,” says Arkansas Field Representative Erica Willard-Dunn. “There’s no doubt she is a show stopper, and we are happy to have her—as is—on our side.”

Say hello to Johnson County *Friends of NRA*’s newest committee member, STIHL-adillo. This committee is taking a fresh approach to fundraising—and killing it!

“We’re putting the fun in fundraising and shedding a whole new light on awareness with our friendly Arkansas critters,” claims Willard-Dunn.

This road waffle way of fundraising started several years ago with the Washington County committee and an opossum aptly named “Roadkill” who wraps up the live auction. The winning bidder picks his or her next target by loaning Roadkill to any business in the room.

The lucky recipient has the honor of showcasing the popular possum in the front entrance of their place of business for one year. During that year, the roaming rodent—in all its taxidermy glory—hangs out in a *Friends of NRA* display with information about the program and a call to action to get involved.

But then something funny happened in Arkansas, and Roadkill was no longer the only stuffed star of the show. Not too fast, Roadkill!

Johnson City brought in some stiff competition in the form of this lovely lady armadillo. After hearing about Roadkill, prime supporter STIHL SouthWest, Inc., donated “STIHL-adillo” to Johnson City *Friends of NRA*. This hot little taxidermy is now scurrying in Roadkill’s steps and making new strides of her own—fetching upwards of \$600 at events.

All in all, this roadkill rodeo is closing in on \$10,000 raised throughout the state of Arkansas—a direct boost to net proceeds since there is zero overhead cost. Plus, having these mascots draw attention at their rotating residences certainly rustles up more interest in the *Friends of NRA* cause they represent.

“Let’s face it. If you walk into a business and see an opossum hanging up or an armadillo rolling around, wouldn’t you walk over to read the sign?” asks Willard-Dunn. “I bet you would!” ■

Find a Friends of NRA event near you at friendsofnra.org/Events to invest in the grant program and our next generation of shooting sports enthusiasts. Help fund firearms education and training programs in your area by applying for a grant at nrafoundation.org.



Photos courtesy Erica Willard-Dunn





FROM FRIENDS TO FAMILY

By: Stacy Alexander
Walla Walla Friends of NRA Chair, NRA Certified Instructor, NRA Certified Range Safety Officer and Founder of Savvy Shooters LLC

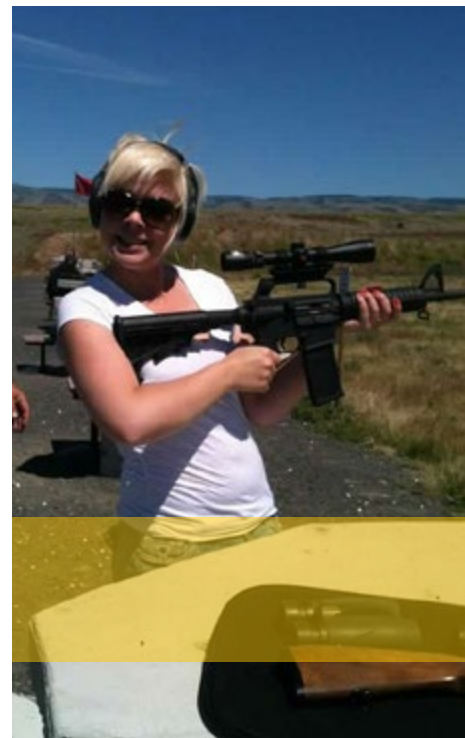
When I was growing up, my dad hunted, but I never really did any shooting. I tried once, but his shotgun's recoil knocked me on my backside. Still, my dad was always a huge believer in the Second Amendment and encouraged others to support it too.

Later on in life I attended a Women On Target® (WOT) event with my daughter and stepmother. It was funded by an NRA Foundation grant supported by *Friends of NRA*. After attending a few WOT events, it occurred to me that there really weren't many other opportunities available for women to continue learning to shoot or expanding their experience.

Based on the ever growing demand for firearms training, my husband and I became NRA certified instructors. I started a women's only shooting group and ultimately became the clinic director for our WOT program.

While we had attended *Friends of NRA* events in the past, we had never been a part of the planning side. I talked my friend of 23 years, Lachelle Johnson, into attending the local Walla Walla *Friends of NRA* committee meeting. It seems that, after all these years, when one of us signs up for something the other gets volunteered as well! Lachelle and I jumped on board with some ideas about changing and improving the event. We humbly took the lead and started implementing our concepts with the committee.

With our first banquet just a few weeks away, we called in the troops. My dad was one of the first people I called on for help. He dove into this mission head first, jokingly grumbling about



what I'd gotten him into. He became an integral part of our event, going after donations and sponsors—even challenging them to one up each other. With the advantage of roughly 40 years' experience as a local businessman in the community, he was a very successful salesman. He would sell raffle tickets and continue to help at all our different fundraisers throughout the year. The man could sell sand in the desert, and



did just that to bring in donations to help further the Second Amendment freedoms he was so passionate about.

When the night of the banquet arrived, he was busy bidding on auction items even while manning a game booth at the banquet. My stepmom and husband also head up games, and my daughter takes photos of the event. They all spend countless hours throughout the year working to improve upon the year before, turning our committee events around to become very successful. In 2016 the Walla Walla event grew by over 50 percent, raising more than \$15,000 dollars.

As treasurer and chairperson of the committee, Lachelle and I were thrilled to watch our growth and success continue in 2017. The February 11 event was truly one to remember—the first banquet we were there together as a whole family. My daughter took pictures. My son helped set up and break down. Dad ran his coin game like he did in years past. My husband ran the Wall of Guns. I ran around talking to anyone who would listen! It all paid off in another 75 percent increase in our fundraising as we raised more than \$27,000.

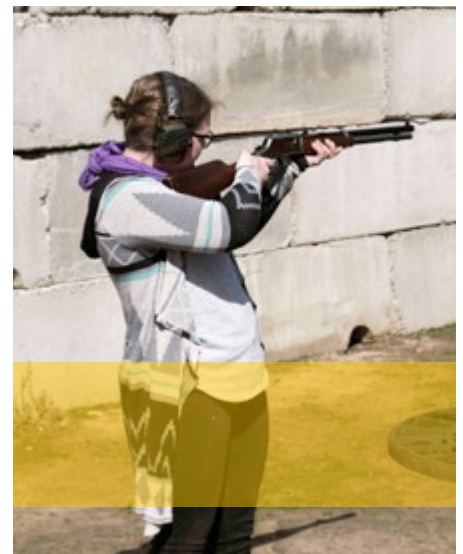
Unfortunately we lost dad on February 13, the Monday following our banquet. His passing has left a large part of my heart missing. As we gear up for

2018, my son—who has been out of the Marine Corp for a little over a year—has stepped into his grandpa's boots and is right there by my side like my dad would be, grumbling and all. His fiancé is also now a part of our *Friends of NRA* committee. My daughter will be attending the banquet as we plan to carry on what Dad believed so deeply about.

I feel like this was something special my dad and I shared, and I am grateful to be able to include my kids in that tradition as we move forward. Dad will always be a part of this as I hear him “grumbling” about what I had gotten him into all those years ago.

We've always been a very close family. But *Friends of NRA* has given us all something bigger to be a part of, an opportunity to make sure our children and grandchildren enjoy the sport of shooting. Life is busy for each of us, but this is something we do together—making a difference for the next generation. We hope that for years and years to come, not just the committee but shooting sports as a whole bring more families closer like *Friends of NRA* has for us. ■

Bring educational NRA programs like Women On Target® to your town. Go to www.nrafoundation.org to apply for a grant. Learn more about Washington Friends of NRA at friendsofnra.org/WA.



Taking the Challenge out of Paying for **Youth** Hunter Education

By Todd Burrows
Utah YHEC Co-Director



Now
in its

33rd year, the NRA's Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) is a fabulous program that takes the knowledge and training learned by youth ages eight to 18 years in their basic Hunter Education class to a whole new level.

Four shooting events provide the youth participants with opportunities to develop and test their marksmanship skills. Light Rifle utilizes small silhouette targets out to 75 yards, Hunting Muzzleloader has slightly larger knock down targets to 75 yards, the shotgun event uses a 5 Stand format with 30 targets, and the archery challenge features the popular 3D format with very realistic scenarios in the field.

To continue the "education challenge," four other events focus on responsibility. Orienteering is the most technically difficult; participants must find a given point in the field using only a distance and bearing. The Safety Trail is a situational awareness trial that assesses ethics and safe field practices. Wildlife I.D. tests young hunters' ability to identify various animals using examples of fur, feathers, scat and antlers.

A comprehensive written test rounds out the YHEC educational experience. Despite the time and study required to complete YHEC, the program provides a fun and engaging way for these youth to learn and develop their hunting skills. Have you even seen a teenager study a book, on their own, during the summer? These kids do!

It takes a great deal of time and commitment to prepare young people to participate in their State and National YHEC events. Utah YHEC, a 501(c)(3) organization, was started by parents and coaches in Utah to promote YHEC throughout our great state. Our mission is to recruit and train interested young people and provide the necessary training and equipment for coaches and parents of YHEC participants.

"The objective is to help the kids that participate in the state of Utah YHEC tour-

namment to have an opportunity to go to the National event," wrote Paul White, Director of Utah YHEC. "The more involved in YHEC that kids are, the more likely they are to turn into lifetime hunters as well as to support NRA programs. We simply want to get kids hooked on hunting and everything the NRA Foundation stands for."

One of the biggest challenges facing parents and coaches is funding a youth shooter. Having to provide a bow, shotgun, muzzleloader and rifle for each participant can be overwhelming—and many families have two or three kids at practice. Think about it: two rounds of 5 Stand shotgun practice each week at six dollars a box for ammunition, plus range fee, arrows, .22 cartridges by the case, muzzleloader powder and bullets. You can see how quickly the monetary commitment adds up.

We attend a State challenge early in the year and then those who qualify are eligible to participate in the National Youth Hunter Education Challenge Event held in July at the incredible NRA Whittington Center near Raton, N.M. Teams and individuals from all over the country meet and try their skills against their new friends. Registration fees for this event run about \$700 per shooter.

That's where *Friends of NRA* came to our rescue. We applied for and received our first NRA Foundation grant early in 2017. The grant of merchandise and funding totaling more than \$9,500 was designed and given to provide relief in two key areas. The largest portion was applied to the registrations of 10 of our top shooters and two coaches to attend the National event. Receiving a "scholarship" was just the ticket to get parents as excited and committed to attend as their kids. The remainder of the grant went to help us with another dilemma we face: finding the best firearms to fit young shooters' hands. The three rimfire .22 rifles, three

muzzleloaders and three youth compact 20 gauge shotguns provided by the grant became invaluable tools to our youth shooters' experiences and success.

"These kids would not have been able to compete in this competition without the help The NRA Foundation provided to help pay for their registration fees," White shared. "These kids will remember this experience for the rest of their lives and will forever be supporters. Words can't express our appreciation. Thank you for helping protect our future by giving kids opportunities to experience the shooting sports in the great outdoors!"

YHEC provides an opportunity for some of the finest young people in our country to improve their skills and knowledge. They are the future of our sport and our freedoms. ■

Support youth shooting sports programs like YHEC in your area! Apply for an NRA Foundation grant at www.nrafoundation.org. Learn more about Friends of NRA in Utah at www.friendsofnra.org/UT.



2018

NATIONAL CORPORATE SPONSOR PROGRAM

EXCLUSIVE GUARDIAN SPONSOR



DEFENDER LEVEL SPONSORS



PROTECTOR LEVEL SPONSORS



The grassroots fundraising efforts organized by *Friends of NRA's* countrywide network of Field Representatives, volunteers, attendees and donors who contribute to the local events would not be possible without the additional support of the program's generous and enthusiastic corporate sponsors. Backed by a group of new and continuing industry sponsors, *Friends of NRA* is primed to continue achieving greater success and reaching more shooting sports enthusiasts in 2018.

DANIEL DEFENSE has been a program sponsor since 2014 and now enters its fifth year at the highest level of industry support for *Friends of NRA*—the National Corporate Sponsor Program's exclusive Guardian level. After becoming involved with *Friends of NRA* by supplying rifles through the Vendor Direct program, the relationship between the program and the firearm and accessory manufacturer has grown stronger each year.

"Our commitment to *Friends of NRA* is the right thing to do," said Cindy Daniel, Executive Vice President of Daniel Defense. "The future of shooting sports is very personal to Marty and me, as well as our entire team. Not only are we the National Corporate Sponsor, we're also involved on a local level with Coastal Georgia *Friends of NRA*. I encourage everyone to find a way to get involved on some level to ensure the next generation has the same level of access to shooting sports."

Cindy and Marty Daniel are passionate about supporting shooting programs focused on education and training for youth and women in particular, an interest that perfectly connects with The NRA Foundation's goals to support educational programs that ensure the continuation of America's proud shooting and hunting heritage for generations to come. Even as they focused on constructing a vast new manufacturing facility in Black Creek, Ga.—which will house all Daniel Defense employees under one roof and accommodate the company's growing production and sales demands—the couple's dedication to and support for *Friends of NRA* activities and fundraising has remained a priority.

Their commitment to Second Amendment freedoms extends beyond the *Friends*

program as well. Among other sponsorships and NRA support, Daniel Defense was the presenting sponsor of the NRA America's Rifle Challenge (ARC) program in 2016 and 2017, along with supplying rifles for competitions like the World Shooting Championships ARC Match rounds.

"We want to thank Daniel Defense and its committed staff for all the support they provide The NRA Foundation as a sponsor and as an American company providing an American product for use at our local *Friends of NRA* events," says Director of Volunteer Fundraising Sarah Engeset. "That support is just part of the commitment that Daniel Defense makes to the NRA, The NRA Foundation and the mission to preserve freedom."

GASTON J. GLOCK STYLE LP, an international manufacturer of traditional hunting and shooting apparel and accessories, has been involved with *Friends of NRA* since 2012 when it began underwriting fundraising activities in Georgia, the home state of GASTON's U.S. headquarters in Smyrna. In 2014 GASTON took its support to a national scale and now enters its fifth year as a National Corporate Sponsor.

"We are always looking to support NRA and NRA Foundation efforts to provide opportunities for all kinds of firearms training," says CEO of GASTON USA Beate Arnold. She emphasizes the GASTON™ brand and *Friends of NRA's* shared interest in preserving the shooting sports lifestyle, a goal which focuses on preserving quality of life and traditions. In the last four years, GASTON has invested more than \$200,000 in sponsorship support of *Friends of NRA*, including continued involvement with the Georgia program and its focus on youth participation in the shooting sports in that state.

"Like The NRA Foundation, GASTON seeks to preserve the resources that support outdoor lifestyles and shooting traditions," notes Arnold. In 2018 the Protector level sponsor will make and donate Coolmax® sports shirts with the NRA Foundation logo and 'Wall of Guns' text to the NRA Foundation events at the Great American Outdoor Show and NRA Annual Meeting for the fourth year.

HENRY REPEATING ARMS' has provided two decades of steadfast support for

Friends of NRA and The NRA Foundation, beginning with their participation as a reliable vendor for the fundraising program. In 2015 the manufacturer of classic rifles “Made in America, or not made at all” expanded on that commitment as a National Corporate Sponsor. As a 2016 and 2017 sponsor of *Friends of NRA*, it donated tens of thousands more dollars in monetary support and firearms to the program, including 1,150 Frontier Model lever action rifles to be used at *Friends of NRA* events across the country.

Henry Repeating Arms continues to be a vital partner as a 2018 Defender level sponsor, a firearms supplier for the *Friends of NRA* Standard Package and Vendor Direct program, and a donor to national events. It has also contributed a great deal to other NRA programs through roles including organizer of the Henry 1,000 Man Shoot in November 2016—from which some of the Golden Boy Silver rifles donated to *Friends of NRA*'s fundraising efforts.

“It is an honor and privilege to work with The NRA Foundation and *Friends of NRA* towards our similar goals,” says Anthony Imperato, president of Henry Repeating Arms. “We all strive to protect our Second Amendment rights and promote youth shooting sports and firearms safety. It is a significant part of our overall support of the NRA and the Second Amendment, and I look forward to the future of our partnership.”

In 2018 Henry will sponsor the Wall of Guns at both the Great American Outdoor Show (GAOS) and NRA Annual Meeting—as well as the National NRA Foundation Banquet at Annual Meeting—for the fourth year. It will once again add to its involvement with the national banquet by recognizing Americans with inspiring stories of service and bravery by presenting them with special Henry Tribute Rifles at the event.

“We are grateful for the endless generosity, steadfast support and enthusiastic involvement from Henry and the impact it has had on *Friends of NRA* fundraising,” says NRA Director of Corporate Development John da Silva. “It is an honor to work alongside Anthony and share his passion for ensuring our shooting sports freedoms and traditions for the next generation.”

IBAMBA SAFARIS, a newcomer to the national level of NRA Foundation grassroots fundraising efforts, has already proven to be a valuable partner in promoting the shooting sports. The South African outfitter has supported *Friends of NRA* fundraising on the local level in Oklahoma for the past decade. Owners Johan and Zelda Pretorius pride themselves on providing a personal experience for their hunters—“arrive as clients, leave as family” is something of a motto for the company—and on supporting firearms freedoms. “I’ve been in the hunting industry for years, both as a guide and as a hunter,” shares Darren DeLong, NRA Senior Field Rep for Oklahoma, “and I know not to take trustworthiness and dedication for granted. But Johan really cares about his business, he’s honest, and he does his absolute best to give everyone the best experience possible.”

The passion for family and freedom shared by Johan and Zelda, and *Friends of NRA* and its attendees, drove the couple to seek out a way to do something bigger and broader. As a result, Ibamba Safaris will be a Protector level sponsor of the program in 2018, donating 100 hunts to be used at local events across the country as well as at the National NRA Foundation Banquet at NRA Annual Meeting. “We are delighted to receive their contribution and support, and we look forward to having their hunts at our banquets nationwide in 2018,” says Engeset.

“We are extremely excited to be on board as a Protector level sponsor for 2018,” stated Johan Pretorius. “We truly hope to continue this sponsorship well into the future. We believe it will not only raise significant funds for *Friends of NRA* but also contribute to the sport of hunting in the U.S. as well as in Africa by providing job creation, income and food for the local communities.”

I.O. INCORPORATED (Inter Ordnance Inc.) is also new as a National Corporate Sponsor for *Friends of NRA*, though it has supported the program on a local level over the years with donations to the event near its former manufacturing plant in Monroe, N.C. The newly-relocated company sought to get to know the grassroots firearms enthusiasts and community in its new home on Florida’s space coast and to

have more involvement with The NRA Foundation on a national scale. As a Protector level sponsor in 2018, it will achieve that.

I.O. Inc. has donated 100 of its American-made rifles to The NRA Foundation, and those AKM247 and M215-KM15 firearms will be available at select *Friends of NRA* banquets in 2018.

“After we moved down here and set up our new production line, I reached out to see what we could do to share our products with people in Florida and around the country,” said I.O. Inc. CEO and President Uli Wiegand. “We want to help young shooters develop their hobby and have the products for it. Growing up in Germany, I joined the shooting clubs there and was a competition shooter for many years. When I came to the U.S. I made that hobby into a business, and now I want to give young kids the opportunity to shoot and be the next generation of marksmen and women.”

O.F. MOSSBERG & SONS, INC., has long supported the NRA with donations to national events, sponsorship of the National NRA Foundation Banquet and television shows, and more. In 2015 it became a National Corporate Sponsor of *Friends of NRA* and sponsored games at the NRA Foundation Banquets at GAOS and NRA Annual Meetings. It continued that dedication as a 2016 and 2017 Defender level sponsor of the program and as a game sponsor at the 2016 National NRA Foundation Banquet, and it will carry that support into 2018 with its fourth year as a Defender level corporate sponsor.

“For nearly 100 years, our family has worked to build a successful business in the firearms industry,” stated Iver Mossberg, CEO, O.F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc. “For Mossberg, it is a simple choice. Supporting *Friends of NRA* is an investment with a return that can be easily measured. We measure it by the number of places our customers have to shoot and compete, the quality of firearm safety and educational materials available to them, the number of hunters in the field and the number of Americans that not only understand what it means to be a gun owner, but also share a deep respect for the rights endowed by the Second Amendment.”

NUMZAAN SAFARIS also became a National Corporate Sponsor in 2015 by donating 50 hunts to be used over two years at local events across the country as well as at the National NRA Foundation Banquet at NRA Annual Meeting. They are now making the same commitment and continuing to supply 25 hunts per year as a Protector level sponsor in 2017 and 2018. Previously, the South African outfitter and Booking Agents Ed and Linda Stevens had already supported *Friends of NRA* fundraising on the local level for several years, and that established relationship has helped to make their national sponsorship a fulfilling experience for all involved. As of mid-December, Numzaan hunts had raised more than \$1.4 million at *Friends of NRA* events since 2012—including nearly \$450,000 in 2017 alone.

“All of us here at Numzaan Safaris are extremely proud to continue with our corporate sponsorship of *Friends of NRA*,” says Ed Stevens. “Looking at 2018 we’re moving forward full speed ahead. We plan on attending as many events or more than last year—which was about 90—and we already have multiple commitments to attend banquets in the spring. We’re always trying to change things up a little to increase the fundraising. In 2018 we will now be referring all returning hunters who purchased hunts from *Friends of NRA* in the past back to the banquets if they want to return to Africa and hunt with us. We want them to purchase their next hunt through *Friends of NRA*, too, and keep the fundraising going for The NRA Foundation. That money raised to support the future of the shooting sports through the grant program is one of the best avenues to ensure our freedom for generations to come.”

SAFARI SPECIALTY IMPORTERS, INC., (SSI) is another new member of *Friends of NRA*’s National Corporate Sponsor program. Owners Robert and Rosella Quartarone started SSI as a means to be an advocate on behalf of the hunter, and over the years it has become the hunting industry’s leading expert for importing and exporting hunted species worldwide. Much like the awareness and training that The NRA Foundation centers around, SSI raises awareness through educating the hunter and all involved in the service chain in

its business. With their years of experience and personal enthusiasm for the cause, the Quartarones are dedicated to supporting hunting organizations with their time and funds.

SSI now lends that support to *Friends of NRA* as a Protector level sponsor by providing discounts for the export of hunting trophies in conjunction with hunts donated by Ibamba Safaris. Their services make hunting abroad a stress-free experience by providing each hunter with a Personal Importer who manages the entire process of getting trophies safely home. SSI coordinates all aspects of exporting and importing a hunter’s trophies, including filing U.S. customs paperwork and securing permits before the hunt, applying for import permits, and paying all dipping, packing and shipping charges on the hunter’s behalf.

“With the NRA at the forefront to save hunting from extinction, it is our calling—as both a hunter and a successful business dedicated solely to hunting—to support The NRA Foundation,” explain Robert and Rosella Quartarone. “It is an honor and the highlight of our company mission to join with *Friends of NRA* to raise money for the continued training and education of our youth about conservation and protecting our Second Amendment right.”

SECUREIT TACTICAL, INC., continues its sponsorship of *Friends of NRA* for the fourth year in 2018. The company has donated some of its unique firearm storage solutions to The NRA Foundation and NRA’s Law Enforcement Division: Falcon FAST Box gun safes in 2015, RAPID 6 retrofit modular gun safe conversion kits in 2016, and RAPID 2 kits in 2017. Those items were available at select *Friends of NRA* banquets, generating funds to support local and national shooting sports programs and bringing the SecureIt weapons storage platform to event attendees throughout the U.S. Now the Protector level sponsor has donated 150 Model 47 FAST Boxes to *Friends of NRA* for 2018.

“We stand by our commitment to promote gun safety and to educate gun owners on methods of storing firearms throughout the home that are safe, secure, and provide peace of mind,” Owner and President Tom Kubiniec says. “We are excited to continue our support of The NRA Foundation

and are proud to be a continued sponsor of *Friends of NRA*. The partnership we have had with The NRA Foundation has allowed us to better communicate the message of gun storage safety and security to the firearms owners of America, and we look forward to a continued working relationship.”

SMITH & WESSON, a leading name in the firearms industry, has also become a brand closely associated with the NRA after decades of involvement and support for all aspects of the organization and its mission. It has made a profound impact in support of the Second Amendment. “They have filled just about every sponsorship or industry support role at some point,” notes da Silva.

Participating in the National Corporate Sponsor Program as a Defender level sponsor for its second year in a row, Smith & Wesson has a long history of involvement with the *Friends of NRA* program. It has provided product for local *Friends of NRA* events since the 1990s, continually provided firearms for The NRA Foundation’s national events, and in 2014 through 2016 it also sponsored games at The NRA Foundation national banquets at both the Great American Outdoor Show and NRA Annual Meetings.

Corporate Sponsors directly impact millions of firearm and outdoor enthusiasts through their relationships with *Friends of NRA* and their contributions of money, services and auction items to the program. Each one is an investment in the next generation and another piece of the one team, one voice, one vision that the program has built for the future of freedom.

“Our sponsors provide invaluable support to *Friends of NRA* and The NRA Foundation, helping us raise millions of dollars to fund firearms education and training opportunities to Second Amendment enthusiasts around the nation,” says Director of Volunteer Fundraising Sarah Engeset. “Their generosity is a testament to their dedicated advocacy for the future of shooting sports in this country.” ■

Visit friendsofnra.org/Corporate-Sponsors.aspx or contact the NRA Corporate Development Team at 703-267-1356 to learn about becoming a National Corporate Sponsor.

2018

THE NATIONAL NRA FOUNDATION BANQUET

Thursday, May 3
5:00PM | Dallas, TX

FOR TICKETS VISIT:
www.nraam.org

SUPPORT OUR MISSION TO TEACH FREEDOM

Celebrate American values and support the future of the shooting sports at the NRA Foundation Banquet. Join us for a family-friendly evening of fellowship, firearms and fundraising with chances to win custom firearms, unique merchandise and one-of-a kind hunts.

THE **NRA** FOUNDATION
TEACH FREEDOM

BANQUET SPONSORED BY:



**CENTURY
ARMS**



HENRY
Made in America, Or Not Made At All

Kimber

NRA
DALLAS • 18

Contact: Megan McConnell | Special Projects Manager | NRAEvents@nrahq.org

Rusnock

FRIENDS OF NRA

from 1993 - 2018

2018 Retiree Edition

you get with NRA?

port Team volunteer for sey NRA Field Rep, I was *Friends of NRA* in Dutchess 1993 when the program was involvement in the community, and gathered everyone together meeting. Amazingly enough, after are still with us today as volunteers, Boyd, Dave Warshaw and the Emslie Hudson committee, which became a ing team in New York state. In its best ber two in the nation for highest net under became the NRA Field Rep for upstate New establish the program all across the state. steady fundraising growth and successes In 2017 we reached our highest levels over \$50,000 net each—Tug Hill, Put-Great job!

plans?

going to the range, taking classes, and finally doing had to keep on hold for more active role with the which is proudly cele-volunteer service to big and having lots



Bob Anderson

CALIFORNIA FRIENDS OF NRA

Field Rep from 2011 - 2018

How did you get involved with *Friends of NRA*?

I talked to a few people at a table outside a gun show when we moved away from the Bay Area to California's Central Valley. And the rest is history: 13 years as a volunteer and the opportunity to help grow the *Friends of NRA* program as a Field Rep came along.

Favorite firearm and why...

The .50 caliber machine gun. I had the privilege of shooting one in Colorado several years ago. It's such an accurate and easy shooter, a great design and a kick to shoot. Of the guns I own, my favorite is a .45 ACP revolver. I did a trigger job on this already-great gun and it is so smooth.

Name five things you can't live without...

God, my family, guns, NRA Field Operations support staff and a camera.

What are your retirement plans?

My wife, Fran, and I will be moving to Nebraska where we were raised. I will be resuming my photography passion and doing some hunting. I have a long list of projects to focus on as well.



NRA FOUNDATION DONORS

GIFTS OF \$100K-\$1M

Mr. Gary F. Fette

Florida

Mr. Randle Goetze

Maryland

Cabela's Outdoor Fund

Nebraska

Ms. Barbara Sowinski

Pennsylvania

GIFTS OF \$25K-\$100K

Mr. Edward L. Brant

Virginia

Anonymous

Pennsylvania

Mr. Frank Gavitt

Texas

Mr. Gene F. Holloway

Texas

David F. and Margaret T. Grohne Family Foundation

Illinois

Ms. Carol A. Adams

Texas

Dallas Safari Club Foundation

Texas

Mr. Allan D. Cors

Virginia

Mr. and Mrs. John A. Kamps

California

Mr. Anthony P. Bucciero

Pennsylvania

Mr. Bruce R. Keller

Wyoming

Mr. David M. Katz

New York

Mr. Steve Rice

California

Mr. Walter F. McLallen, IV

Tennessee

Mrs. Jennifer E. Grable

Virginia

Mr. William Carter

Texas

GIFTS OF \$5K-\$25K

Anonymous

Connecticut

Mr. Mark A. Caldwell

Tennessee

Ms. Carol L. Massey

Missouri

Natchez Shooters Supply

Tennessee

R. & C. Sibert

Texas

Pell Industrial LLC

Washington

Mr. Joe Mertens

Texas

Mr. Mike Reynolds

Texas

John & Pamela Sloop

California

Shad R. Ketcher

Minnesota

Mr. Charles Sloop

California

AmazonSmile Foundation

Mr. Eric von Steiner

Virginia

The Hampe Family Foundation

Wisconsin

Anonymous

Anonymous

Campfire Conservation Fund Inc.

New York

Mr. Jay G. Henthorne Jr.

Ohio

Mr. Robert K. Eddy

Minnesota

The Immanuel Charitable Foundation

Arizona

GIFTS OF \$1K-\$5K

F&D Defense LLC

Oklahoma

Mr. Thomas Deming

Illinois

Graf & Sons Inc.

Missouri

Ohio Gun Collectors Association

Ohio

Buds Gun Shop

Kentucky

John S. Bainbridge Jr.

Maryland

Mr. Walter Powell

Texas

Ms. Anne Lee

Nevada

Mr. Barry W. Partlo

North Carolina

Mr. Thomas Butler

Utah

Sloan Family Foundation

North Carolina

Mrs. Jean C. Myers

California

Mrs. Darlene C. Fritz

North Dakota

Daniel Defense

Georgia

Dillon Precision Products Corp. Inc.

Arizona

Mr. W. B. Staub

West Virginia

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph S. Cunningham

Texas

Ultimate Training Munitions Inc

New Jersey

Numrich Gun Parts Corporation

New York

Mr. Floyd P. Tilley

Virginia

Victor L. Sanko Fund

New York

James & Stephanie Steele

Pennsylvania

Bruce & Nancy Dirks

California

Mr. William Langdon

Texas

Mr. Robert Johnson

Arizona

Mr. Alan Russell

Texas

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon J. Lundy

Maryland

Mr. Edward S. Martin

Pennsylvania

Mr. Eric Rebitzer

Washington

Mr. Frank W. Clyma

Florida

Mr. R. P. Reid

Vermont

Mr. Raymond C. Roy

North Carolina

Mr. Rickey L. Harbin

Virginia

Mrs. Sandra S. Elkin

Minnesota

GIFTS OF \$250-\$1K

Mr. Michael Salazar

Indiana

Mr. Robert C. D'Antonio

New Jersey

Challenge Targets LLC

Kentucky

Maj. Gen. Gary L. Harrell, USA (Ret.)

Tennessee

Mr. Brian W. Clements

Pennsylvania

Mr. and Mrs. Michael T. Walczyk

Tennessee

Mr. Jay DuBois

Illinois

Mr. Brett Wagner

Pennsylvania

Gregory V. Smith Charitable Fund

Massachusetts

Anonymous

Colorado

Anonymous

Missouri

Colt Collectors Association Inc.

North Carolina

Harbor Pipe & Steel Inc.

California

Mr. and Mrs. Brent Schwarz

California

Mr. and Mrs. Dudley J. Stuber

North Dakota

Mr. Burgess Thomasson Jr.

Alabama

Mr. Dennis E. Welch

Virginia
Mr. Frank Baio
New York
Mr. James M. Valentic
Ohio
Mr. Jeffrey Norvell
Kansas
Mr. John W. Schwentker
Indiana
Mr. Paul A. Surette
Massachusetts
Ms. Francis B. Schneider
Michigan
Mr. William Stivers
Washington
Virginia Gun Collectors Association
Virginia
Ms. Jennifer L. Craig-Brewster
Pennsylvania
J & G Sales Ltd.
Arizona
Mr. Eric Huebner
Wisconsin
Mr. Charles B. Coffman
Arizona
Mr. Robert L. Silva
California
Mr. Paul Forbes
Georgia
Mrs. Joan Hendricks
Michigan
The Linda & Bill Murray Charitable Fund
Tennessee
Mr. Daniel O. Maldonado
Texas
Mr. Douglas C. Spencer
California
Mr. Scott C. Long
Texas
Mr. William J. Proefrock
New York
Ms. Linn C. Flohr
Tennessee
Network For Good
District of Columbia
Aimpoint Inc.
Virginia
Mr. Randolph C. Cook
California
DonateWell
Florida
Anonymous
Pennsylvania
Mr. Michael Maslow
California
Mr. and Mrs. M. Paul Nestor
Florida
Mr. Daniel Ditzhazy
California
Mr. Harris S. Warner Jr.
Pennsylvania
Mr. John Pastusek
Texas

Mr. Karl A. Hritz
New York
Mr. Melvin M. Marvel
California
Ms. Deborah D. Todd
Louisiana
Senior Investigator Joseph P. Debergalis Jr.
Virginia

IN HONOR OF GIFTS

John Adnot
Ms. JoAnn H. Means
Mary Kate Chlada
Mr. Charles J. Warsh
Rebecca Fain
Mr. Brian J. Lunsford
Randy Gee
Mr. William F. Bruce
Carson Henline
Sloan Family Foundation
Clifford H. Henline
Sloan Family Foundation
Gil A. Herlich
Mr. Steven A. Herlich
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Johanson
Mr. Alan Russell
Tom Kipfer
Mr. Steve Saladin
Catherine Marshall
Mr. William Lorson

IN MEMORY OF GIFTS

William F. Ballway
Mrs. Ann Schmucker
Daniel L. Bechtel
Mr. Jon Pastusek
Erwin Borleske
Ms. Cynthia M. DeGroot
James A. Brannon
Ms. Azele E. Gillespie
Mr. and Mrs. David B. Lloyd
Steven Byrd
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Bodker
Frank H. Cole
Mr. and Mrs. Don J. Scott
Joseph Deuth
Mr. William A. Sikorski
David A. Folker
Mrs. Kendra A. Folker
Alex Frantz
Mr. and Mrs. Brian D. Farleigh
Rocky A. Fritz
Arman Agency Inc.
Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Doppler
Mrs. Darlene C. Fritz
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Gerbig
Mr. and Mrs. Loren Headrick
Mr. and Mrs. Larry W. Schaff
Mr. and Mrs. Dudley J. Stuber
Mr. and Mrs. Allan T. Thompson
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Weishaar
Jimmie Goatcher
Mr. Douglas J. Spittler

Peg Gordon
Mr. Joel R. Bernatz
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Fellows
Mr. Terry Long
John Hendricks
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Durfee
Mr. and Mrs. Brett J. Hallihan
Mrs. Joan Hendricks
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Nugent
Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Steffensen
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald R. Wood
Jason F. Henthorne
Mr. Jay G. Henthorne Jr.
Robert L. Hernandez
Mr. Edward F. Torres
Donald J. Johnsen
Mr. Todd Morrow
Ted Johnson
Ms. Tori Klingerman
Carl F. Kuehn
Mr. Ron P. Kiser
Rosbarrie S. Langdon
Mr. William Langdon
William A. Langdon
Mr. William Langdon
Matthew J. Lysaght
Mr. Paul Kutschman
Walter C. Powell
Mr. Walter Powell
Bob Seeno
Mr. James M. Valentic
David S. Slocum
Mr. Kevin S. Patt
John A. Szeffcyk
Mr. Herbert E. Nichols Jr.
Robert C. Triple
Mr. and Mrs. Kenan L. Schultheis

ESTATES

Estate of Monte C. Markeseth
South Dakota
Estate of Harry W. Nicholson
Maryland
Estate of Helmuth P. Herchert
Estate of W. Harvey Dancy
North Carolina
Estate of James H. Cannon
Mississippi
Estate of Lloyd Hubbard
Alaska
Estate of Ben Lee Crow
Texas
Estate of Charles S. Rose
Maryland
Estate of Thomas G. Wallace
Indiana

Listed contributions do not necessarily reflect total giving for the year. We make every effort to ensure accuracy of donor names. If you notice any errors or omissions, please contact us at 800-423-6894 or nraf@nrahq.org.

THE NRA FOUNDATION
11250 WAPLES MILL ROAD
FAIRFAX, VA 22030

THE **NRA** FOUNDATION
TEACH FREEDOM

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
THE NRA
FOUNDATION

WALL OF GUNS

A FUNDRAISER OF THE NRA FOUNDATION

TREASURE HUNT BINGO AT THE GREAT AMERICAN OUTDOOR SHOW

PURCHASE
a ticket package of \$50 or more
and receive your bingo card

SQUARES
feature vendors exhibiting at the show

VISIT VENDORS
at their booths to earn stamps

FILL A ROW
and turn your card in to be entered to win...

**YOUR CHANCE TO WIN A
HENRY REPEATING ARMS
SECOND AMENDMENT RIFLE
OR \$1000 CASH!**

Another chance to
win at the Wall of Guns!

