



The Cumberland Magazine



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www.cumberlandriflemen.com

Club Rules

Member ID badges must be worn and visible. Guests must be signed in and out. Guest badges must be worn visible and returned when leaving.

Editor...Rob McKenzie

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Greetings from The President's Corner

By the time you read this, the 2023 shooting season at the range will be in full swing. The leagues include the High Power League, Pistol League, Bench Rest League, and Junior Program. Also, matches for rifle, pistol and black powder have begun. You can check on our website at www.cumberlandriflemen.org for a full listing of dates and times for leagues and matches. You are encouraged to take part in these, as it gives both the new shooter and seasoned shooter tips and direction on each shooting discipline. Both members and non-members can take advantage of the leagues and matches.

It is a good idea to check our website frequently, as well as our emails, for updates such as closures of the ranges, etc. If you are not receiving email blasts, I urge to first check your spam folder, and put the range in your contact list. Unfortunately we have no control over what specific email companies do once we send out the emails. Periodically, some companies limit the amount of email they send out, thus you may not receive them from time to time. This has happened to me. If you are a member, and are not receiving our email blasts, send me an email at mcgar61@aol.com and let me know. I will forward it to our email administrator to submit your email to our system.

We are hoping soon to have an additional pistol range open next to the practical range, to take the burden off of the plinking range. This new pistol range will be only for handguns and paper targets.

Due to personal reasons, Frank Hignutt has resigned from the Vice President position, which he held for many years. I have appointed Chris Belles to assume the remaining time left in this position until the next VP election. Chris is a welcome addition to the board and will do a fantastic job.

Since the death of our range steward, Bob Warzbok, we had been without a steward. However, we now have a new range steward/range officer, Bob Baker, who will be assuming the former duties of Bob Warzbok. He will be at the range, checking on the safety of our shooters as well as reporting any conditions that need attention.

We are continuing to enhance our camera and gate system, which should be completed any time now. The new cameras and systems will give us much better viewing, recording, and real time 24 hours a day view of activities on the ranges.

Have an enjoyable shooting season. Be safe and stay healthy!

Jim McGarry
President, CRI

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The Editor's Pen

When our CMP director, Joe Burkel, asked to interview a couple of us for his June Rifle Report, I accepted, and decided to expound a bit more on his request. I usually do write about my own opinions and experiences anyway, so I have some additional thoughts.

Cumberland Riflemen has become sort of a refuge these days. I have, for years, spent considerable time at the range, but anymore it seems to have taken on another dimension. It's always comforting to be around "the choir" as they say, but in this day and age of anger, rage, and ever increasingly divisive politics, it's even more comforting.

At the range, I can speak my mind without being called an extremist by folks like Lester Holt or Phil Murphy, and all others who claim to be the most fair and open minded folks on the planet. I can talk about biological males dominating some women's sports events, without being bombarded by vitriol on social media. Hint: one reason why I totally shun social media. Could the day come when the progressive Social Security Police could disqualify you based on your media posts? The online comments, that used to follow my local newspaper letters, were mild compared to the comments one can find today from folks who sit behind a computer in their underwear, probably in their parents' basement. (I wish I had made that one up!) It is so telling that all they can do is throw insults like missiles,

but cannot, or will not, engage in a thoughtful conversation, for they fail in the realm of ideas. I can be at the range and lament that freedom today is defined as the right to kill a fetus, without the fear of losing my job, or some other form of social punishment from the "woke" crowd.

As you can tell, my skin is not so thick that I don't get thoroughly worked up, sometimes personally, by the breakdown of our society. However, society is pretty intact when it comes to the many folks I have come to know on the range. Gives a whole new meaning to "home on the range", doesn't it? Mostly, however, we're not talking politics or society, but we're talking guns, calibers, favorite loads, or the cost of keeping supplied with ammo or reloading components. As I've said before, some of the most unselfish folks I've met are shooters, who, as a whole, are willing to share ideas, hardware, and advice to anyone on how to

become a better shooter.

The situations, locally and globally, are pretty discouraging, and honestly frightening. Taking part in the events and comradery at the range is certainly a way to build hope and trust, and escape the cares that surround us.

I trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, my wife, my family, and the folks at the range. That's how we get by.

Rob McKenzie
Editor

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Two winners at the Mike Berezin Memorial 600 yard match. Joe Fogg, center, presents the award to the winner of the prone with a sling, Rich Kussman, left. The winner of the F-Class, Keith Weil, right, set a new National Record for the Law Enforcement division, with a 600-47x. Folks, that x-ring at 600 yards is only 3" wide! Congratulations!

Tributes to Mike Berezin

I have asked several Cumberland members to share some thoughts. We lost Mike a year ago. Two days before his tragic loss, he was so excited about me willing to teach him a few things about fly fishing. A man of many interests and talents.

Rob McKenzie

“Mike served on the executive board with me for many years as the High Power Rifle Chairman. During these years Mike was an integral part of the decision making, not just for the 600 yard range, but for the entire range and its operation. He was always willing to take on assignments that needed to be done, and if he could not do them, he would find someone who could. Mike and I talked frequently about

the range operation, exchanging ideas on how money could be spent and how things could be accomplished on the facility. Mike was a great help and always kept in mind that his decisions, and those of the board, were made to keep the range open and operational, as a safe place for our members to shoot.

Mike told me that he had informed the past President, Paul Adamowski, that he would resign as **Rifle Chairman** after Paul left his position. Many times Mike said how he was so impressed on how the future was heading, that he wanted to stay on

to continue the work that has been done at the range.

Every day I miss Mike and our discussions, whether they were related to the range or personal issues. I could tell that Mike had a special love for his family and friends and Cumberland Riflemen.“
God bless his soul.

Jim McGarry

“Mike Berezin had that special talent to brighten up your day. Once a match was over, and your score was not what you wanted, he would give you a pep talk, telling you about his first time experience and how bad he shot. We all had to start somewhere, he would say. “Don’t worry about your score it will improve. Work on your technique, and run your program.” His program included good sight alignment, trigger control, taking the shot, and follow the through. Once at a match, it was windy and everyone was complaining about it, but not Mike. He would say, “The wind is my friend.” We all started laughing. I believe he was psyching himself up, as he usually ended up with great score that day. Mike was always upbeat and positive when it came to the shooting sports. At matches he had to talk to everyone and give encouragement. Mike touched each of us, helping

Continued on page 4

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CRI President, Jim McGarry, addressing the attending crowd and Mike's family.



Shooters ready at the 600 yard line, that spot Mike loved so well.



Some of the 40 participants getting ready to kick off the Memorial Match.

Tributes to Mike Berezin

Continued from page 3

us in some way to do better. I sure do miss that icon at the shooting ranges. He is truly missed at every event.”

Andy Devecchis

“Mike’s contributions to the shooting sports in general, as well as to individual shooters, were very significant indeed. These contributions, no matter how they’re conveyed, can be easily recognized, supported, and authenticated. Quite the legacy.

Mike held, at times, the NJ State Championship in the Across the Course & Mid Range categories. He also secured numerous match wins over a 35 year period at Cumberland, New Holland, PA, and Bridgeton, DE Rifle & Pistol Clubs.”

Walt Schmidlin



Mike's immediate family attended the ceremony, and received some memorabilia.

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Range Steward Report

Greetings, Cumberland members. My name is Bob Baker, and I have recently accepted the position of CRI Range Steward, and, so far, it has been a mostly positive experience. I'd like to tell you about a few things I've seen and to explain why some of the rules we currently have are in place.

The simplest one is Empty Chamber Indicator (ECI) flags. I get it ... not every range uses them. We do. It's an added layer of safety and a quick, easy way to visually ensure a gun is safe. Please, use them every time you put your gun on the bench. Also ... what are you doing with the flags?? The range supplies a limited number of homemade flags. If you use one ... please put it back **OR** bring it back with you next time so you don't need to take another one. We are supplying more flags than we have members!!

Next, I'd like to talk about physically setting up and shooting be-

tween the targets and the firing line. There are signs posted stating not to do this, yet it's happening, pretty consistently. Once again, I get it. You wanted to shoot closer ... you wanted to sight in your pistol ... there was no one else there. The first two of those excuses can easily be solved on the plinking range, where you can move the "targets" and shoot any distance you want. Since we're talking about it, can anyone give me a good reason for shooting in front of the bench on the Plinking Range? That one just baffles me. Anyway ... addressing the last excuse should clear it up. "There was no one else here". So, there you are, shooter number one, in the middle of the range, with ammo and a firearm in your hands, and shooter number two pulls up. The options for this scenario are limited. You now need to face the incoming shooter to make your way back to the bench. If I'm shooter

number two, I am not happy, at all. You are walking towards me with a gun in your hand. Is it loaded? Is it unloaded? Are you going to trip and fall? We don't know the answer to any of these questions. What we do know is that the gun isn't on the bench and flagged the way it is supposed to be. **Please, please do not walk any of the ranges with a gun in your hand, for any reason.**

Another issue that may need clarification, with the recent NJ carry law, is your holstered pistol at the range. **No open carry** is allowed on the range. Your carry firearm **MUST** stay holstered and concealed at all times. You **CANNOT** unholster any carry firearm and shoot from **any firing line on any range**. You can only bring unloaded, cased firearms to the line to shoot. The only exception is the Holster/Practical Range. You need the "H" sticker on your ID badge to shoot on the Practical Range. If you have an "H", you have taken

Continued on page 6

Range Steward Report

Continued from page 5

the holster orientation and should know the rules for that range. I would like to make it clear that **NO** guests are allowed on the Practical Range under any circumstances. It is strictly members only.

Lastly, I'd like to talk about uncasing your firearms. Place your "cased" gun on the table **in front of you**, oriented so the muzzle is pointed down range. Then uncase it, open it & flag it. **DO NOT** uncase your gun anywhere behind you so that you laser the entire line & parking lot to get it to the bench. Not from your car, not from your trunk ... not from a case sitting on the range seats. It should go without saying that you re-case the gun on the table and **NEVER** remove an uncased gun from the shooting

bench. Treat your uncased firearm as if there is a string tied from the muzzle of your gun to the berm. There is **NO** acceptable excuse to have your muzzle pointed in any other direction, no matter how brief. I have competed up and down the east coast & half way across the United States. Nowhere, not one place, were you allowed to uncase your firearm anywhere except the shooting bench/table. Why? Because that's the safe way to do it. Please don't do it any other way at our range.

One final thought (because it was just brought to my attention). We have targets at the ranges to shoot at, and on one range we have some clay targets & bowling pins. Can someone explain to me the reason-

ing behind shooting up the range signs and markers? Why? Should we chalk it up to poor marksmanship? I'm afraid I can't totally agree with that. For example, take a look at the 25-yard distance marker on the Plinking Range. Make note of its size, where it is located, and how many holes are in it. People, if you are hitting this sign accidentally, you need to take up a new sport. If it isn't an accident, why on earth are you destroying club property? You're only shooting up your own money. Your club dues will go to replace the same signs over and over again. It all makes no sense to me. How about you?

In the end, it is your responsibility to know the rules, most of which are posted at the various ranges. Additionally, more detailed rules can be found on the website. I'd like to continue shooting at our range for a long time, which can only happen if we all go above and beyond to be safe. It's also your responsibility to be sure that 100 percent of your shots impact the backing berm. It will only take one incident and we'd be shut down, ... **forever**. My Grandkids shoot here, both informally and competitively. I wouldn't tolerate unsafe practices from them, and they know it. I surely don't want anyone else mishandling their firearm around them or around anyone else on our range.

You don't have to wait for me to show up. You all have the right to a safe range. If you see something, say something.

OK, rant over. Please use our range safely !!

Bob Baker
CRI Range Steward



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The Pistol Report

The Cumberland Riflemen Bullseye Pistol League is in full swing, every Wednesday night starting 6:00 PM. The weather has been great and the shooters plentiful. We have our regulars back, last year's mid-season shooters, and even a new shooter already! Everyone is working out the cobwebs. Some are testing out new things they have learned. Some are testing new equipment. Others are working hard to make the basics pay off. We are looking forward to the best season ever.

Would you like to challenge your pistol skills? Don't be shy! We

have participants of all skill levels. Bring a friend ... the league matches are open to the public. Come out and watch ... see what all the water cooler chat is about. Do you have what it takes to put a piece of lead 50 yards down range into a 3-inch circle ... with one hand? If one handed scares you ... use them both until you feel comfortable. All you need is a dependable handgun, 100 rounds of ammo (no magnums), and eye/ear protection. A .22-caliber pistol is the easiest platform to learn with. Who knows, you might catch the bug. It happened to all of us! We charge a



Oh so steady, on the line at the Wednesday evening Bullseye League.



Wednesday evening competition is keen!



Score those targets! Great Wednesday turnout, but always room for more!

whopping \$2 per night fee. If you shoot at least 3 nights, you can join us for an end of the season pizza party that will be the talk of the town.

League night is Wednesday, with first shots downrange at 6 PM sharp. **SAFE FIREARM HANDLING WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED AT ALL TIMES.** Mishandling of firearms will not be tolerated in any way.

Four of our league regulars represented CRI in the Square Circle Sportsmen NRA Sectional 2023 team match this past February. Thank you to Kathy LoGuidice, Heather McNerry, Roland Morrison & Gabe DiTomasso. They shot an individual 900 22 cal. match, and a National Match Course team match. Bob Goldberg also shot the 900 match and for him, Kathy, & Roland it was their first sanctioned match ever. This is a great first match and place to start your journey to earning an NRA classification card, as it's an indoor .22 caliber match. Being an easy 900, it isn't a long day. There are multiple days and times you can choose to fit

Continued on page 9



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The Pistol Report

Continued from page 7

your match schedule. Let us know if you're interested in the next one, and we'll show you how and where to sign up. Kudos to our Bullseye shooters!

We would also like to wish Tim Furey the best of luck. Tim is one of our top shooters and he's headed to Camp Perry, Ohio in July to compete in the historic CMP National Matches. He will be competing in an individual 3 gun, a 2700 match,

and in a team match as a member of the NJ State Pistol Team. For those of you that aren't aware, this is the real deal. Tim will be standing shoulder to shoulder with the best shots on the planet. For more than 100 years in what is considered the World Series of shooting, the nation's finest civilian and military marksmen have competed at Camp Perry. Make us proud, Tim.

Please note that our Pistol Range

is set up to shoot from behind the shooting bench (the firing line) at 25 and 50 yards. At no time should anyone be walking the range with a gun in their hand, or be shooting between the targets and the bench. The left side 25 yard targets are used strictly for leagues and matches.

Remember, **IT ISN'T A RIGHT IF SOMEONE CAN TAKE IT AWAY FROM YOU.**

Gabe DiTomasso
Pistol Chairman

High-Power Rifle Report



CMP/Rifle Chairman, Joe Burkel, hard at work making sure everyone has a suitable target downrange.

Nice weather is finally here, and the matches have started, although several were canceled due to rain. We held our first GSV match in April and just shot our first CMP across the course match on May 6th. In an effort to do something different, I decided to interview two of our clubs and state's best GSV and High-power rifle shooters, Tom

Foster and Rob McKenzie. I asked them to speak about how they got started shooting rifle competition, did they have a mentor, what is their fondest memory of a competition, what keeps you coming back to competitions, and what advice would you give someone interested in competing in Cumberland matches. The following is what

they had to say as written by each competitor.

Tom Foster

(High master, Distinguished Rifleman, Multiple State Championships, and range records)

Competitive High Power rifle shooting, especially "Across the Course," or XTC, is a great sport. You get to shoot from three different positions, standing, sitting, and prone, while ranging from 200 to 600 yards. In fact, competitive shooting is probably the oldest sport in America. Small towns across the colonies had shooting contests after Sunday church services. The prizes were anything from money or livestock, to food. Shooting has interested me since I was young, starting competitive shooting using black powder rifles in the early nineties. My local club was invited to Cumberland Riflemen for a Black Powder Match, run by Carl Leisinger, with Jack Rodgers assisting. After the match they both asked me if I also shot High Power. I had no clue at the time as to what that even was! I went home and read about it, and it sounded really interesting, so I bought Jim Owens' books on service rifle shooting and started practicing. I consider Jack Rodgers my biggest

Continued on page 10

High-Power Rifle Report

Continued from page 9

influence and mentor. He coached me with my positions, sight pictures, and wind/mirage reading. After winning my first CMP leg match in 2001 at Cumberland I was seriously hooked! The people involved in this sport are amazing, as you meet all kinds of folks from all over. Everyone has a common interest, and most are willing to help you. I've been shooting for over 20 years, and rarely have I met someone who wasn't willing to help another competitor. High Power is a unique sport where you get the opportunity to stand shoulder to shoulder and compete with some of the best shooters in the world. A trip to the **National Matches**, at Camp Perry in Ohio, is like going to the World Series, and competing with the world's best. In what other sport can you do that?

The key to success, like in any other sport, is good equipment and practice. The neat thing about shooting, is you can practice by yourself at the range or preserve your ammo by dry firing, which I highly recommend. I used to do it with just a dot on the wall at home, but you can now use different types of electronic devices. Competition is fun because it forces you to always try to do better. Even though you're shooting against other opponents, you are really just trying to outperform your last score. There are different levels of classifications based on these scores, so you are continually trying to level up. If you're interested in "Across the Course" shooting, you should definitely check out the matches at Cumberland. It's a fun, low-pressure place to start out with a great group of people to help you become a better shooter! I hope to see you on the range! And who knows...you could be our next NJ State Champion or Distinguished Rifleman!

Robert McKenzie

(Master Class Shooter, Distinguished Rifleman, National Grand Senior Vintage Rifle Champion, Multiple State Championships, and range records)

I am honored to be asked by CMP Chairman, Joe Burkel, to share some of my experiences in the two games we call Garand/Springfield/Vintage Military and High-Power Rifle. I first started, very informally, competing with a rifle on April 1, 2001. April Fools' Day, go figure. I was a member of a local 100-yard club, and I showed up to a CMP Match with a Springfield 1903-A3, no sling, surplus ammo, a Carhart work jacket, a piece of remnant rug to lie on, and **scared to death**. All my prior experience was shooting over a homemade sand bag, and now I have to shoot standing up, sitting, and prone?!?! I was so certain I would totally embarrass myself that I almost turned around and left. But a number of the 10 or 12 other shooters introduced themselves, got me settled down, gave me some pointers, and helped me navigate this totally new experience. I missed the target altogether once, and out of 50 rounds, I managed to hit the ten-ring 8 times, but I

scored 373 points of a possible 500, and was hooked. Most everyone was shooting either an AR-15 or a Garand, so shortly after that, I bought a used AR. Thus began my journey, at the young age of 52, into the world of rifle competition.

I joined Cumberland in the fall of 2002, and began experimenting with the shooting positions used in rifle competition. I started shooting some matches at another club, so I wouldn't embarrass myself at "home", but met another Cumberland member there. In August of 2003, Carl Leisinger, one of the best rifle shooters any of us have ever met, took me under his wing, spending an afternoon with me on the 200-yard line at Cumberland. In a matter of hours, I was schooled in the art of basics and natural point of aim, and was able to transfer those basics to the other positions and yard lines. That day built the

Continued on page 11

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High-Power Rifle Report

Continued from page 10

foundation for the rest of my shooting endeavors. I shot my first match at Cumberland, in October of 2003.

Practice, and match preparation now, is always built around maintaining the basics, ensuring that my shooting and positioning does not go off the rails. Refining a position is always an ongoing pursuit, knowing that any slight change can alter the impact point and group size downrange, hopefully for the better!! An improved foot position, sling adjustment, elbow placement, stock weld, different load recipe, and a myriad of other possible tweaks are all considered. I usually go to the range to answer a question that arises because of a tweak in one of those considerations. Answering one question leads to more, so you have to go back, again and again ! My wife still buys that excuse ! If you're not learning something every time you shoot, you're only, as they say, turning money into noise. Watching other shooters, engraining the basics, and mutually sharing points and ideas with others, is my key to success, and the knowledge that my emphasis every day is to improve upon myself, not to be better than the shooter next to me.

That being said, my fondest memories, other than FINALLY beating Joe's other interviewed shooter, are

really a collection of memories, built by the experience of seeing seasoned shooters take their time to impart knowledge and advice to any other shooter on the line, veteran, or novice. For years, Tom Foster, the other shooter in this interview, gave this old guy considerable advice and insight, and I closely watched his methods. Our CMP director, Joe Burkel, is heavily invested into making new and old shooters into better, more confident riflemen. So it is with this great family of riflemen.

I keep coming back, year after year, because I may not have many competitive years left, and I know I still have the ability to improve upon myself in that time. After years of going to the doctor to fix some kind of weekend warrior injury, I gave him the news that I took up shooting, so I had to learn to be still as long as possible. He was happy!! The whole process, from reloading, through the shooting basics, and the report of a round going off is addicting. The rifle will put the round exactly where it is pointing. My job is to take total control of where that point is.

By now, you may have guessed that previous experience is not a prerequisite to trying the riflemen's game. Whether you have an AR-15, a Garand, an M1-A, a 1903-A3, or

one of the many military bolt guns out there, you are ready to give it a try. All the help you need is available with, sort of like Planet Fitness, a **judgment free zone!!** Personally, I love the old bolt guns, with their history and allure, maybe because my dad brought home an 8 mm VZ-24 Mauser from Europe in 1944. Shooting them effectively is a great challenge, from my humble beginnings with a Springfield bolt gun, to the Nationals at Camp Perry.

Shooting a rifle accurately from three different positions, from 3 different distances, was almost a must during the tumultuous early years of our country's founding. Let's not let that die!! Hope to see many more of you on the firing lines, or just stopping by to check it out.

Some interesting insights into how these two Champions got started, and why they keep coming back. I hope their words will inspire some new shooters to come out and give our game a try, or better yet, come to our Tuesday night rifle league, where the environment is geared toward teaching new shooters the ropes. Over the past couple of years, the league had brought in several new shooters, some that have begun shooting matches! Hope to see you on the range.

Joe Burkel
Rifle Chairman

"If you put the federal government in charge of the Sahara Desert, in five years there would be a shortage of sand."

— Milton Friedman



New Jersey Handgun Carry Status

In a previous issue of the newsletter, I said that the makeup of the current Supreme Court would probably deliver favorable pro-freedom decisions. In June of 2022, the United States Supreme Court (SCOTUS) ruled on the case *New York State Rifle Association vs. Bruen*. The case challenged New York's restrictive **may issue** laws governing concealed carrying of handguns outside the home for self-defense. The court struck down the **justifiable need** requirement. The ruling affected any other state with similar **may issue** concealed weapons laws, including New Jersey. NJ Attorneys General and Governor Murphy held a press conference announcing their disagreement with the ruling. The Attorney General stated that, while the justifiable need requirement would be dropped, all other rules would still need to be followed. NJ initially followed the ruling, but Governor Murphy vowed to seek every possible avenue to curtail lawful citizens from carrying firearms. Very few people prior to the Bruen decision had been granted concealed carry permits, and the people who had permits never caused a problem and carried strictly for self-defense. Finally now, all law abiding NJ residents could apply and receive concealed weapons permits to protect themselves and their families from danger outside the home.

Governor Murphy and the Democrat controlled legislature immediately started crafting legislation to block legal concealed carry. NJ sought to use the term "sensitive places", a term used in the ruling that allowed for the prohibition of carried arms in certain places. On December 22, 2022 Governor Murphy signed the "Carry Killer Bill", as it had become to be called, into law, turning virtually the entire state a "sensitive place". The new

law also changed requirements for permit holders to follow. Liability insurance, enhanced fees and training were included. Assemblyman Danielson, District 17, was one of the main crafters of the legislation. Danielson was asked, prior to passage of the new law, where might a concealed permit holder legally carry if the new legislation became law. Danielson stated that it wasn't his job to figure that out, but that the new law would be thoroughly constitutional.

The NJ Association of Rifle and Pistol Clubs, NJ's arm of the NRA, NJ2AS, and several other pro-gun organizations and individuals, filed two separate law suits the same day, challenging the new law and asking for temporary restraining orders. The suits actually ended up in two different federal courts. Justice Renee Bumb, the Chief Justice of the United States District Court of New Jersey, got the NJ2AS case *Koons vs. Reynolds*. The other case was *Siegel vs. Platkin*.

On January 10th, Judge Bumb placed a temporary restraining order (TRO) on parts of the new law, and issued a 60-page opinion explaining her reasoning. Judge Bumb said the plaintiffs hold valid concealed carry permits and were being deprived of their Second

Amendment rights, which "constitutes irreparable injury", and neither the State nor the public has an interest in enforcing unconstitutional laws. The other case, *Siegel vs. Platkin*, which had not been heard yet, was consolidated into this case due to Judge Bumb's earlier decision and her clear knowledge of the challenge. On January 30th Judge Bumb, now having both cases in her court, expanded the TRO to include more places carry holders could carry legally.

Oral arguments were heard on March 17th, to change the TRO to a Preliminary Injunction. Both sides presented their arguments for and against. As of this writing, we still await a decision on the preliminary injunction. I urge the readers to do an internet search and read Judge Bumb's 60 page opinion. The

Continued on page 13



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New Jersey Handgun Carry Statust

Continued from page 12

state appears to be on the verge of losing its challenge and has already stated it would appeal Judge Bumb's future decision. Judge Bumb's decision is eagerly awaited by both sides.

Darrin Montagna

Update: May 16, 2023 From Association of NJ Rifle and Pistol Clubs:

"Today, the judge in ANJRPC's lawsuit to overturn the carry-killer law imposed a preliminary injunction continuing and expanding its prior restraining order blocking key aspects of New Jersey's defiant "carry-killer" law. The decision also for the first time now blocks the

liability insurance mandate which was supposed to take effect starting in July. The move represents another huge win for New Jersey gun owners, and means that much of the carry-killer law will continue to be suspended for the duration of the case. Gun owners did not prevail on every one of the many issues in the case, but it is clear that gun owners have succeeded in blocking the most significant aspects of the law for the duration of the case."

Additional Comments

Cumberland Riflemen will *not* be fielding questions about the NJ Carry Law, nor will it dispense any advice. My personal interpretation of the statue and what I have been

told is this, and changes may be made:

1. The NJ State Police have until the end of June to formulate an official course of instruction that all applicants must take.
2. The NJSP will designate where the course will be held and who the instructors will be.
3. Any persons, who were already issued the permits, will have 90 days to comply with the rules above or their permits will be invalid.
4. **For any further information, one should contact the NJ State Police or an attorney.**

Jim McGarry
President

"A society of sheep must, in time, beget a government of wolves."

— Bertrand de Jouvenel



Range Safety Officer

This is my second request, asking for volunteer members of Cumberland Riflemen to step up and become **Range Safety Officers** while they are visiting the range, and also utilizing our ranges for shooting purposes.

I did have three people respond to my first request and will be contacting those individuals within the next few weeks with details. We have a new Range Steward, Bob Baker, who has assumed the main duties as **Range Steward**, as well as handling safety infractions

as he sees them. As you are aware, we have a number of ranges at Cumberland Riflemen and for one person to police the whole complex is a difficult task. Safety is our main concern at Cumberland Riflemen, and we need trained individuals to keep an eye on our facilities, to coordinate your efforts with Bob Baker, our Range Steward, and myself, John Patten, serving as **Executive Officer** for Cumberland Riflemen.

I ask that you please consider this call for help and get involved in Range Safety at your club, Cumber-

land Riflemen. Training will take place by Chris Belles, who is our new Vice President, as well as our Chief Instructor. Safety equipment will be provided to Range Safety Officers to distinguish their positions.

Please contact me at:

John Patten
Cumberland Riflemen
Executive Officer
114 Cedar Ave., Clayton, NJ 08312
Cell: 609-970-1546
Email: songmangler52@gmail.com

Range Safety, Etiquette and Work Parties

Whether you are a new gun owner or new to our range, proper range etiquette is one of the most important parts of range safety. An exciting day of target practice can easily be ruined by someone who is unaware or just inconsiderate of good range manners. Make sure your trip to the range is fun, safe and effective.

What Should You Never Do When Going to the Range?

Any experienced shooter or range member will tell you the most important rule of range etiquette is firearm safety. That means any behavior that endangers you or others is unacceptable. Unfortunately, many shooters seem to forget or ignore the importance of safety at a gun range because they believe the rules don't apply to them or maybe the "I paid for my

right to shoot here" theory takes over. But accidents can happen anywhere, and the range is no exception. Please be aware that the rules are in place for a reason and will be strictly enforced. Nobody is above the rules and regulations set forth by the board.

A common mistake new shooters tend to make is not paying attention to where they're pointing their firearms. The adrenaline rush that comes after pulling the trigger can take a while to get used to, and when you've just shot a gun for the first time, you can easily get lost in the excitement. So, make sure you always follow basic gun safety rules and always keep your firearms pointed in a safe direction. Proper stance, grip and sight are a big part of shooting and will help extremely when learning.

First-Time shooters at our Range

Here are a few tips for first-time shooters, guests, and gun owners that can really help you get the most out of our range and have an enjoyable yet safe experience.

- **Let people know you're new.** They'll help you get started. Our range has very knowledgeable people with all different type of firearms.
- **Ask questions.** Clearing your confusions increases your safety.
- **Clean up after yourself.** This is common courtesy!

Planning Your Trip

Proper range etiquette starts before you even get to the range. If you're a first-time shooter or simply want to make sure you're practicing good range manners, here are some things you should consider when planning your trip.

Dress Appropriately. You don't have to dress up all tactical or dress down like it's a beach day, but you want to make sure you're covering sensitive areas for safety reasons. Appropriate range attire includes:

- Higher necklines
- Close-toed shoes (NEVER wear open toed shoes)
- Pants (not shorts) shorts are acceptable, but it does not hurt to be extra cautious.
- Hats (optional, but helpful when outdoors)

Make sure your range bag includes:

- Gun and gun case



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Continued on page 15

Range Safety, Etiquette and Work Parties

Continued from page 14

- Correct ammo for your firearm
- Approved targets
- Eye and ear protection
- Staple gun or thumb tacks to hang targets.
- Empty chamber indicators (must be used prior to going down range)

Gun Range Etiquette

Once you've arrived at the range, there are some common courtesy practices that show you respect the range and the other shooters around you:

1. Always uncase your firearms on the benches provided. Make sure the firearm is unloaded and the safety is on.
2. Read and follow the range safety rules and follow them exactly. They exist for a reason and are strictly enforced. It is each member's responsibility to know these rules.
3. Listen carefully for the people around you that may need a cease fire or go down range for target change, repair, etc. Especially pay attention to a **Range Safety Officer** when present, who will be wearing their ID as well as a Red Ball Cap.
4. Stay in your lane. It's rude (and unsafe) to intrude on other shooters' space.
5. NEVER aim a firearm anywhere other than downrange, and only shoot at your own targets.
6. When you're ready to leave, clean up after yourself. Don't leave any trash or gear behind. If you brought it, then it leaves with you. Leave the range clean-

er than you found it.

7. If you're a regular shooter, do not assume that another shooter wants you to become a personal coach. If he or she wants/needs your help, hopefully they will ask. This does not pertain to someone shooting unsafe. Every member is a "safety officer", to make sure everyone on the range is shooting safely.

Range Safety Rules

The most important rule of the gun range is firearm safety. Our club has range rules posted on our website as well as a sign of the basic rules at each range. Again, it is the member's responsibility to know and follow the rules. Most rules are based on safety, so make sure you're well-versed in these if you're a first-time shooter or a frequent range-goer, as each range will have its own unique set of rules and procedures. Also, we require all guns to be unloaded and in a case when not at the firing lane, as an added safety measure. Again, you should review the range rules before going each time you visit as some change at times.

Range Safety Terms

- **Cold Range:** A range command meaning there's no live fire and guns should be unloaded and/or unaimed. Also called a "Closed Range" or a "Cease Firing" command.
- **Clear:** This means the range is physically clear of any potential safety issues and no one is downrange. Do NOT resume shooting until the Range Safety Officer tells you.

- **Downrange:** The end of a gun range where targets are hung or placed. The Range Safety Officer will command shooters to cease firing when someone is walking or standing downrange.
- **Firing Lane:** The designated area in which shooters are allowed to aim and fire. Typically includes a shooting bench and/or booth and a target post. Ranges have multiple lanes running parallel to one another, and you're expected to stay in your own lane.
- **Firing Line:** The line where you position yourself to get ready to shoot. These lines are either visibly marked on the ground or clarified as a specific location by the Range Safety Officer. In firing lanes, this line is usually just the shooting bench. Only shooters are allowed on the firing line.
- **Hot Range:** A range command meaning shooters are allowed to start firing and moving loaded firearms to or from the firing line. Also called an "Open Range" or a "Commence Firing" command.
- **Range Safety Officer (RSO):** The range staff member responsible for supervising shooters, enforcing the range's rules and procedures, and handling any problems that occur. They often yell out range commands, especially at outdoor ranges. Also called the "Range Master."
- **Misfire:** When a bullet cartridge fails to eject when firing the gun. If unresolved, this problem can lead to an accidental discharge, which can be deadly.

Continued on page 16

Range Safety, Etiquette and Work Parties

Continued from page 15

TAKE PRIDE IN OUR RANGE, IT IS OURS, KEEP IT CLEAN

As the new Vice President, starting this year, I will be taking over the work parties conducted at our range. Please make every attempt to attend these details. We need to take care of the basic maintenance of our property, as it keeps our expenses down. This helps in many ways including wildfire risks, safe equipment from which to shoot, basic repair of target stands etc. Without our members showing up to lend a hand, ranges could be closed for longer periods of time or

even permanently. I know everyone has a busy schedule; however we have 1,200 members who signed up to be just that, a member. Even if you can make it for an hour it helps. **Many hands make light work.** In the future, if these work details are ignored, it will become part of our yearly membership renewal process and enforced during dues time. Let's take pride in what we have and keep it strong.

Stay Safe,

Chris Belles
Vice President/Chief Instructor
Cumberland Riflemen Inc.

Black Powder Cartridge Report

We have had a slow start to our 200/300/600 yard Black Powder Target Rifle Mid-range matches thus far this year.

Our first match of the 2023 season fell on Easter Saturday and we had only four (4) shooters. On a windy and cool day, the match winner was Glenn Davis with a 254-5X. The second match of the 2023 season, scheduled for Saturday, May 13, and was canceled due to rain.

Hopefully, we will fare better for our next match, scheduled for June 10!!

Glenn Davis
Black Powder Chairman



Range Dues Notice — Please Read!

This article will serve as the **SOLE** notice regarding the payment of Range Dues, which are due by September 30, 2023, for the 2024 year. Upon receiving your check for \$150.00, and a copy of your NRA Magazine or NRA Card, I will immediately turn it around and send you back your new green sticker dated "Sept. 30, 2024", and a receipt for your payment.

As a reminder, please do not expect a quick turn around on your check, to the bank and back to you. I have to wait until I have a group of checks to send them to our treasurer, and he deposits them into our bank account. I cannot send individual checks to our treasurer as the cost is almost \$10.00 to send Priority Mail. I cannot begin to tell you the number of people who sent me a check on Monday, I received it on Wednesday or Thursday, I sent it Priority Mail to our treasurer and then he would deposit it within a few days. Members are chewing

my butt out because they expect us to turn around the check within 24 hours! Folks, it doesn't work that way!

Remember, you will not be receiving a dues invoice sent by me separately from the Newsletter and multiple E-Mail Blasts!

Please go on our website and print out your dues invoice and send it to me with your check and NRA Membership. My address is:

John Patten
Cumberland Riflemen Executive Officer
and Membership Chair.
114 Cedar Ave.
Clayton, NJ. 08312
(Cell Phone): 609-970-1546
(E-Mail Address): songmangler52@gmail.com