

May 2023

Dear FSSA members,

It's a great time to be a Second Amendment Patriot in the great state of Florida. Despite continuing ammo shortages, high prices, and the challenges of finding affordable reloading components and shooting equipment, I hope that you have been able to get some "trigger time" and enjoy your opportunities to go shooting. My wife and I are both instructors and competitive shooters, and we are experiencing the same ammo and reloading challenges that FSSA members are facing. For you and me "trigger time" is a happy time. "Trigger time" is for many of us a necessary time. We need to practice to maintain and improve our shooting skills. I encourage you to look at all available opportunities to maintain your shooting skills despite the challenges. Dry fire more often. If you have a .22 caliber firearm and can purchase ammo, shoot that instead of more expensive ammo. Consider purchasing an air gun and practice with that. And there are more options available to maintain your skills. However, do not stop shooting.

Summer is just around the corner and with that, it's good to have a series of National Shooting Championships on the calendar for many to participate in.

The National Rifle Association's National Championships for High Power, Smallbore, and Precision Pistol will occur at Camp Atterbury, IN, beginning on July 8, 2023. Online registration is ongoing, and information can be found at <https://competitions.nra.org/competitions/nra-national-matches/>.

The CMP National Matches will be held at Camp Perry, OH. Registration is ongoing and information can be found at: <https://thecmp.org/cmp-national-matches/>.

The National Silhouette Lever Action Championships will be held at Ridgeway, PA, June 16-21.

The National Silhouette Smallbore and Highpower Championships will be held at Raton, NM, July 16-23.

The 2023 USAS Rifle & Pistol National Championships will be held at Fort Benning, GA, June 1-10.

Congratulations to FSSA Junior Martin Mitchell for being awarded the George Riquelme Memorial Trophy for his 2022 Junior Florida State Championship win in Smallbore Conventional Prone. Additionally, congratulations to Ankita Deokule, earning Silver in Air Pistol at the National Junior Olympic Championships at the Olympic Training Center, Colorado Springs, CO. Ankita will be traveling to Germany and South Korea this summer to compete...we wish you a great shooting experience. Florida had several other juniors compete in Junior Olympic Championships from April 21-27. Congratulations to all Florida Juniors for your dedication to the shooting sports. Thanks also to the parents and coaches of these fine juniors for your dedication and support to advancing their shooting dreams. Well Done!

In Florida Silhouette news, the Second Annual Hibiscus Cup was held at Seminole County Gun and Archery on April 8th and included Smallbore, Pistol Cartridge and Big Bore lever guns. Congrats to High Aggregate winner Joe Lipp. The Florida State Standard and Hunting Smallbore Silhouette Championships were held April 22nd and 23rd. Congrats to Standard Rifle and Hunting Rifle Florida State Champion Nathan Preston. Chuluota Sportsmen's Club wound up its annual Youth Rifle Program in April with 19 young people participating in various events, with the finale being a mock silhouette match.

Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club recently completed its annual Dixie Match, an NRA Regional Precision Pistol Championship, with other NRA and CMP events. We had 50 competitors from 11 states that attended the three-day event. Our air pistol events, and raffle brought in over \$600.00 that will be used to support FSSA's Junior program.

Florida continues to hold many other tournaments in various disciplines throughout the state. Many thanks to the clubs that provide the facilities and volunteers to run these fun events.

As you know, Florida recently passed permitless carry. If you are considering exercising your right to carry, I strongly encourage you to get training and know the laws. There are many firearms training opportunities being held around the state that can be used. Thank you to the dedicated certified instructors who offer a variety of training.

Florida continues to be a great state for firearms training, hunting, recreational shooting, and competitive shooting. Did you know the NRA offers a free hunter education course...go check it out at: <https://nra.yourlearningportal.com/Course/HuntersEdActivityInfoPage>.

The NRA's 2023 Annual Meetings and Exhibits were held April 14-16 in Indianapolis, IN. Over 75,000 patriots came to support the NRA, Defend the 2nd, and enjoy their American freedom. For NRA Life and 5-year members, Thank You for exercising your right to elect/reelect your Board of Directors. The FSSA Board endorsed Patricia Clark, Barbara Rumpel, Howard "Walt" Walter, and Ted Carter, and all were reelected.

Thank you for your membership in FSSA. We've got a lot of new members and a lot of renewing members. THANK YOU. Please continue to encourage others to renew or join. If you have some extra time, love the shooting sports, and want to make a positive impact within Florida, please consider a spot on FSSA's Board of Directors, or as FSSA's Webmaster. I invite you to contact me if you are interested in more information. To FSSA's affiliated clubs, thank you for your continued support. Please let us know what is happening at your club, so we can share your events with our members.

If you have any questions or comments, I look forward to hearing from you at president@flssa.org.

Please join with me in your own way and take time on Memorial Day to honor the courageous men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. Their bravery and dedication to our country deserve our eternal appreciation, and it is important that we remember and honor them, particularly during this weekend. Then on July 4th, let's celebrate Independence Day, and take a moment to give thanks for all God's blessings on our great country.

Be well, stay safe, have a great summer, and enjoy our(your) Second Amendment Freedoms.

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