

# THE POWDER KEG

## Officers

Ken Gaby - President  
 Arthur Chaput - Vice President  
 Don Wyatt -Secretary/Treasure  
 Ken Gaby - Recording Secretary

## Membership

Jeff Howard – tgcmembership2@gmail.com

## Editors- Powder Keg

Dave Hamel - HAMEL484@live.com  
 Ethan Begely - chimeraofarezzo@gmail.com

## Board of Directors

Jason Armstrong 254-534-0739  
 Arthur Chaput 254-239-7321  
 Dick Dwinell 254-698-0085  
 Ken Gaby 254-780-2025  
 Stephen Hammonds 254-721-0534  
 Jeff Howard 208-741-0152  
 Erik Marshall 510-725-7499  
 Watt Taggart 254-760-4900  
 Don Wyatt 254-780-2664

## Temple Gun Club

P.O. Box 2027, Temple, TX 76503

TempleGunClub@gmail.com

www.TempleGunClub.com

**RANGE MAINTENANCE – June 26, 2021 --- The grass is growing.**

## From the President -Board Actions and Plans

**Dues Increase:** The Board of Directors has determined to raise the annual dues per member to \$150.00. The initiation fee has also been raised to \$50. These increases are effective July 1. The Board has heard input from the members and the majority who gave input favor an increase in dues. These funds will be used to make further safety improvements to the range and add some amenities such as additional parking areas. The Board appreciates the members response and suggestions.

The Board has considered several improvements for the range; some were not approved. The approved list is shown below. This list may change depending on priorities and available funds.

\$47,280	Add protective berms at 300 and 500 yd firing lines - \$47,280
\$15,000	Add parking areas for rifle firing line, front pistol bays, 200, 300, 500 yd firing lines - \$15,000
\$20,000	Install concrete or tire walls at east and west sides of new pistol bay where culverts are removed - \$ 20,000
\$3,000	Purchase conex for mower and other equipment - \$3,000
\$4,000	Add 3-ft concrete apron to pistol pavilion - \$4,000 Consider crushed granite instead \$1500
\$10,000	Provide metal dividers to pistol firing points - \$10,000
\$1,000	Walking path from covered rifle area to road, gravel in front of rifle targets. \$1,000
\$1,000	Walking path from east pistol pavilion to 100 yd target frames. \$1,000
\$6,000	Covered benches at 200, 300 and 500 yd firing lines \$6,000
\$10,000	Provide electricity to the tractor shed and other areas - \$10,000
\$10,750	Provide water to the tractor shed - \$10,705
\$200,000	Baffles for the pistol range - \$200,000
\$300,000	Eyebrows for impact berms - \$300,000
<b>\$628,030</b>	<b>Total</b>

Board member Jim Sanders has resigned. The Club appreciates Jim's contribution of new ideas and many suggested improvements.

At the election of Board members in February 2021., there was a candidate on the ballot, Erik Marshall, who was in a tie vote initially that required a second ballot. Erik was second on that ballot by one vote. Per the Bylaws, the Board appoints replacements for vacant positions to fill the unexpired term, which in this instance ends on February 2023. Erik Marshall indicated his willingness to serve on the Board and has been appointed to fill the unexpired term of Jim Sanders. Welcome Erik.

### **Governor Abbott Signs Second Amendment Legislation Into Law**

The press release on June 27, 2021, summarizes approved legislation. *"Politicians from the federal level to the local level have threatened to take guns from law-abiding citizens — but we will not let that happen in Texas,"* said Governor Abbott. *"Texas will always be the leader in defending the Second Amendment, which is why we built a barrier around gun rights this session. These seven laws will protect the rights of law-abiding citizens and ensure that Texas remains a bastion of freedom. Thank you to the Texas Legislature for getting these bills to my desk."*

Senate Bill 19 (Schwertner/Capriglione) prohibits any governmental entity from contracting with any business that discriminates against firearm and ammunition businesses or organizations.

Senate Bill 20 (Campbell/Hefner) allows guests to store firearms in their hotel rooms.

Senate Bill 550 (Springer/Spiller) removes the shoulder or belt holster requirements, allowing Texans to carry firearms in whatever kind of holster they choose.

House Bill 957 (Oliverson/Springer) repeals the criminal offense of possessing, manufacturing, transporting, or repairing a firearm silencer. It also ensures that any firearm suppressor manufactured in Texas, and that remains in Texas, will not be subject to federal law or federal regulation.

House Bill 1500 (Hefner/Creighton) prevents any government entity from prohibiting the sale or transportation of firearms or ammunition during a declared disaster or emergency.

House Bill 1927 (Schaefer/Schwertner) authorizes Constitutional Carry in Texas, meaning law-abiding Texans can legally carry a handgun without a license to carry. House Bill 2622 (Holland/Hall) makes Texas a Second Amendment Sanctuary State by protecting Texans from new federal gun control regulations.

**In the final days of May, the status of bills in the legislature were fluid and changed rapidly. Many of the firearm related bills were passed, including the constitutional carry bill, HB 1927. For the most up-to-date information, please review the GOA website.**

## **New Texas Suppressor Law A Tenth Amendment Test Case (HB 957)**

Constitutional Carry and Second Amendment Sanctuary weren't the only pro-2A bills signed into law by Gov. Greg Abbott this week. The Texas governor actually [signed seven bills](#) expanding or protecting the right to keep and bear arms on Thursday, including a measure that would allow Texans to purchase suppressors without having to register them under the National Firearms Act, as long as the suppressors are made in the Lone Star State. The bill also asserts that state and local governments cannot enforce federal laws around suppressors if they conflict with state law, and directs the state Attorney General to take the issue to federal court if necessary.

*Read the foregoing carefully, particularly the heading and last sentence. The editor's focus is on [potential] "test case" and "take the issue to federal court if necessary." Very large political animals will probably be pushing and shoving to establish the pecking order on this topic. These words of caution are illustrated by remembering the travails of the Colorado cake baker, Jack Phillips, in another high-profile matter.*

## **Vote Integrity – SB 7**

Another legislative hurdle facing Texans is the upcoming special session that deals with election integrity (SB 7). This bill was sidetracked in the last-minute maneuvers.

Given the training provided by GOA when lobbying in Austin, we are now in the extra innings of the legislative ball game and may want to direct energy into matter beyond the Second Amendment. One of our club members is very involved in the intense lobbying for passage of this legislation. If readers are interested in learning more, please contact the Powder Keg editor, so you can learn more about the lay of the land in Austin.

## **Monthly Range Rule Reminders**

*Please note the Board has **updated** the range rules, so the prevailing document is dated June 14, 2021.*

Temple Gun Club's Range Rules and Safety Rules are on the website: **Log-in**, then click the **Members Only** tab, and click **Range Rules**. The three-page document includes the rules and safety standards for the facility.

**Rule Reminder:** Members must display TGC membership card on their person while on the range. The targets may include paper, cardboard, and polymer material, but nothing else.

## **Interview Recreational Shooter- Meet "John" from Leon Springs**

Many thanks to Watt Taggert for introducing me to this member.

<>About how long have you been a member of TGC? Have been a member or any other gun clubs?

I have been a member for 3 or 4 years. We are also members of the Waco Skeet and Trap Club.

<>About how often do you go to the range and is it a particular day? (Watt said it was usually Sundays.)

My husband and I try to go ever couple of weeks. Whenever our sons and grandchildren are visiting, we usually make a family visit to the range on the weekend.

*<> You mentioned pistol and rifle ranges. Are there any particular calibers that you shoot and do you have a favorite?*

I shoot 9mm and a very special 223 AR15 that my son built for me. He also built me a very nice Glock 19, but I have to admit I am still very partial to my H&K Vp 9.

*<> Have you participated in any of the competitive events? Have you or your family participated in the 4-H shooting program?*

My husband and I went out for the rifle match demonstration and hope to compete when our long distance shooting improves. I also shot when they had the introduction session for the pistol sporting matches. That was a very good idea and I wish that the club would do it again.

*<> Do you remember your first firearm? If so, do you still own it?*

My first firearm was a 16 gauge Ithaca model 37 that my father gave me to shoot dove when I was 14. My husband gave me a 20 gauge Miroku over and under when we were first married to shoot competition skeet. He just reminded me that he gave me a .22 pistol for our first anniversary. I still have all of them. Guns seem to find permanent places at our house.

*<> What is the condition of the range when you go to the property?*

The range is usually in very nice shape when we go out. occasionally there are a lot of cigarette butts on the 200 yard range and some people are not pulling down their targets, but it's a very nice place to go shoot.

*<> Do you have any suggestions for how the property is managed or groomed for club members?*

It would be nice if we could have some practice sessions on the 300 to 500 ranges. Where we could put up paper targets and sight in our guns and verify our hold overs and ballistics. I know that they are working on getting the ranges opened soon, but some supervised sessions prior to then would be appreciated. We are extremely fortunate to have such a nice club and we all need to work to keep it that way.

*<> Do you affiliate with any of the gun or firearm lobbying groups? [GOA, NRA, etc.]. If so, has your group kept you up to speed on the happenings in Austin and DC?*

My husband and I belong to NRA and GOA. GOA has been doing a great job keeping us informed on what's going on in the legislature, and what we need to do and more importantly, how to do it.

*<><> I am seriously curious about "I am John [from Leon Springs], but I am a lady John." Since I moved here from the "red" section of California, I had to pause and think about that lady John.*

I was a WWII baby, father off flying for Uncle Sam. He had decided that I would be a junior so when I was born my mother, with her wild sense of humor, called and informed him that he had his "John", only it was a daughter instead of a son. Thank goodness she left off the junior. I've had some interesting times with it as my only name.

*<> If there is another topic or angle you would like to chat about, please let me know.*

I have met several other ladies who shoot at the range. I think that we have all felt welcomed and enjoy our times at the range. I wish that there was some way that we could get some of the numerous new female gun owners to come out for some training and practice.

### **Obituary: Chip McCormick**

[https://www.shootingillustrated.com/articles/2021/6/7/obituary-chip-mccormick-legendary-gunsmith-and-innovator/?utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=insider&utm\\_campaign=0621#](https://www.shootingillustrated.com/articles/2021/6/7/obituary-chip-mccormick-legendary-gunsmith-and-innovator/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=insider&utm_campaign=0621#)

Innovator, inventor, brand – Chip McCormack Custom (CMC) – AR-15 trigger “drop in”, “1911 spec”

# Constitutional Carry Considerations

Thanks to editor, Ethan, for the thoughtful words in this article.

Well folks, if Abbot picks up his pen and signs the dotted line, it looks like we might get Constitutional Carry as soon as September 2021. With this article, I want to take the opportunity to share some information with you that might help you decide how to proceed in these changing times.

## **Current Laws & Regulations**

- Texas allows open carry of long arms without a permit or licensing system. Any adult legally allowed to possess a long gun may carry it in public.
- Texas requires a License to Carry for handguns, carried openly or concealed. The classroom requirements are between 4-6 hours and a live fire range qualification with 50 rounds must be passed in order to receive an LTC.
- Any Texan of legal age may carry a handgun on private property (with permission of the owner) and on their way to & from a vehicle, as well as while inside the vehicle. If you possessed a holstered firearm as you walked to your car, you are not violating any laws. If you were to stop walking to the car to chat with the neighbor, you would be violating the law. Immunity is granted on private property or while directly transiting to or from private property; therefore, current law only protects you in limited circumstances.
- Possessing a valid LTC grants the holder immunity from prosecution for carrying a handgun, as long as the holder is not in violation of the law or carrying in a forbidden zone. There are certain off-limit areas, such as hospitals or correctional facilities. Only licensed peace officers are allowed to carry in such locations.

## **Proposed Laws & Regulations**

- If the bill passes and is signed into law, any law-abiding Texan of legal age, who is allowed to possess a firearm would no longer need to possess an LTC to carry a handgun openly or concealed. The 2nd amendment of the constitution states the following, "*A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.*" Constitutional carry removes the unconstitutional burden of a licensing system, while maintaining the standard background check laws already in place that prevent criminals from purchasing firearms. The 2nd amendment states "***shall not be infringed***", current law implies "well maybe just a little infringement." What everyone needs to understand is that a little infringement is a slippery slope that ends with severe infringement, gun bans, and even confiscation.

## **Constitutional Carry Advice**

- The most important piece of advice for carrying a firearm is to carry it safely. This is accomplished with a quality holster made for your specific firearm.
- Train with your carry weapon, practice dry fire drills, especially those involving drawing from concealment or weapon retention. When ammo is available to you, take those skills you have practiced and put them to the test.
- Know the applicable laws in your area of operations, remember that every action you take in a split second will be carefully scrutinized for hours on end, often by individuals who have never had the misfortune of experiencing a deadly force encounter. They are all too happy to prosecute the law-abiding citizen.
- Consider carrying a stock, vanilla weapon. A skilled attorney in a court of law would be happy to try and convince the jury that your match grade 3lb trigger pull was a liability and posed a danger to the public. Keeping a carry gun mostly stock allows you to avoid having to explain to

a jury why you made “dangerous” modifications to your firearms. Unfortunately, any and everything can be used to demean your character and to raise doubt about your justifications.

- When free time and budget permit, sign up for quality instruction from a competent instructor. Often times we can be overconfident in our abilities, professional instruction can help us grow our skills to the next level.
- Carry a stop the bleed kit in your vehicle, even consider on the body carry. The reality is that whether through a self-defense encounter, or a momentary lapse in judgment while handling a firearm, the worst-case scenario can catch you by surprise. Having the proper equipment and the knowledge to apply it can save a life, it may even be your own life that is rescued.
- Study the ample supply of videos online consisting of real-world defensive encounters. We should seek to learn from the successes and even more importantly the failures from past lessons offered by the advent of technology. Consider following the “Active Self Protection” YouTube channel, which offers analysis and breakdown of self-defense encounters as they play out on screen.
- Know your rights and be a responsible citizen. We only retain our rights by choosing to exercise them and being willing to defend them.

### Interview with Doc in Harker Heights:

Sadly, this interview is with a fellow who is about to relocate to another state.

- Names used... **Doc in Harker Heights**
- How long have you been reloading ammunition? **started reloading .357 Mag in about 1968**
- Do you specialize in any particular caliber, if so why? **I load for a variety of rifle and pistol calibers but sold my shotgun stuff long ago since trap/skeet it too expensive for me.**
- Since I have seen the wooden case you brought to the range, I am curious if you made it. What are the special features? **The wooden case you saw at the range is a homemade pre-1980 Bulleye shooters range box. I got it when I bought a worn-out Colt Mod 1911 in about 1977 for \$75. With a little work the pistol has been resurrected, re-parkerized and is my favorite shooter ... it is a true 1911, having left the Colt factory in 1918. For those of you who don't know, Bulleye shooting is a strict accuracy shooting discipline with outdoor targets for slow fire at 50 yds and timed/rapid fire at 25 yds ... one hand only. In the Navy I achieved Distinguished Pistol Shot status with an accurized 1911 and Distinguished Marksman while shooting an accurized M-1 and M-14. I won a gold medal with the pistol and was named to the President's 100 in the Pistol Excellence in Competition Match at the National Championships in about 1982.**
- What is your favorite weapon? **Colt Mod 1911 .45 ACP**
- How long have you been a member of TGC? Were you a member of any other gun clubs, if so generally where? **I have been a TGC member since about 2018.**
- For reloading, where do you generally look when sourcing your components? Do you buy online or purchase locally? **I buy powder at JT Sports on Business 190 in**

**Copperas Cove, just east of the Big Meg burger restaurant. I buy or trade for primers when I can find'em. I spend a fair amount of time casting bullets for my rifles and pistols ... once you have the lead pot, mold and bullet sizer you are ready to start saving a lot of money and at the same time enjoy a lot more shooting. Hope this helps. Doc**

## Programs

Temple Gun Club Thursday Night Steel Match is 3 stages of family fun held from May until mid August at Temple Gun Club Range 3924 FM 438 Loop, Temple, TX 76501. The minimum round count for the match is 75 rounds, but always bring more in case you miss. Please make sure you arrive early for check in. If you have any questions, please email us at [tgc.practiscore@gmail.com](mailto:tgc.practiscore@gmail.com). Jason Armstrong, Match Director.

**Tigertown 4-H Club** provides a Shooting Sports activity for the youth from 3<sup>rd</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades. The club's activities and venues are as follows:



- **Archery** practices alternating Saturdays at 10:00 a.m. at the CWUWCD in Belton;
- **Rifle** practices alternating Sundays at 2:00 p.m., and the opposite Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. at the Temple Gun Club;
- **Shotgun** practices Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m. at Webers in Troy; and
- **Muzzle loading** practices usually precede the Sunday rifle practices, weather permitting.

The activities are posted on FaceBook < <https://www.facebook.com/tigertown4h/> > and on Bell County's FaceBook page < <https://www.facebook.com/BellCounty4H/> > Barbara Wood can provide more detailed information ([woodbtwice@gmail.com](mailto:woodbtwice@gmail.com) or text at 254-624-6507) *Barbara has a day job, so the return call may be in the evening.*

## Membership

Membership is recorded annually starting with the month you join. Your membership will start the month you join and will be effective for 12 months. Renewal notices will be generated automatically 30 days prior to the expiration date of your membership. Renewal may be online via credit or debit card, by mail, or hand delivered at a meeting.

## The Next Club Meeting – July 12th

The guest speaker in July will be **State Representative Hugh Shine**.

The August meeting will have a representative from **Texas Law Shield**.

The next club meeting will be July 12th, at the Harris Community Center, 401 N Alexander St, Belton. Club meeting begins at 7 pm. Prospective new members need to be there by 6:00 pm. No applications accepted after 6:30.

**NOTICE:** The club mails a small number of hard copies of the Powder Keg to members without emails. Please notify the President or Powder Keg editor, if you would like to continue this accommodation. The list will be updated in October 2021.

## TGC Range Maintenance Posting – Pick Something and Do it

### Trim weeds

- Around all concrete
- On all sides of the berms within the reach of the trimmer
- Around all buildings and shelters
- Around all ground mounted signs, be careful of the wood posts
- In the ditches along the roads, culverts, and range entry.

### Other tasks

- Replace/Repair target backers, as needed

The above tasks can also be accomplished before the 8 am, shoot start and after the official sunset, shoot stop.

\*This posting is in addition to the normal range maintenance day which is the last Saturday of the month.

Please do not interrupt others shooting to perform any of these tasks.

## Thumbnail- Texas Firearm History

**Ammoland** – posted by Dean Weingarten on 2021-May-02

### ***How Texans Lost the Right to Bear Handguns***

Quoting from the article- “This history lesson arose during the debate on HB 1927 , in the Texas Senate Special Committee on Constitutional Issues, Senator Eddie Lucio (D) made a startling assertion. He stated Texans could not have the right to bear arms restored because the right to bear arms has not been infringed.”

In the case of Texas, we know precisely when the right to bear arms was taken away. It was on 5 July 1869, when the Texas Constitution of 1869 was ratified. The right to bear long guns was restored on 15 February 1876. The right to bear handguns was never restored.

The article provides the key facts beginning with the Texas constitution in 1836, the updated constitution in 1845, the Texas Supreme Court ruling in 1859 (Cockrum v. State (Tex. 1859), the Constitution in 1866, and the Constitution after Reconstruction.

*“Every citizen shall have the right to keep and bear arms in the lawful defence of himself or the State; but the Legislature shall have power by law to regulate the wearing of arms, with a view to prevent crime.”* –source: *Texas Constitution in 1876*

The right to bear all arms had been taken away in 1869. It was only partly restored on 15 February 1876, with the ratification of the Texas Constitution of 1876. The right to bear “**wearable arms**” such as pistols and knives, remained lost. Democrats would control Texas for over a century. [emphasis added]

If you would like to refresh your memory on this bit of history, one of these three links will take you to the article.

<https://www.ammoland.com/2021/05/how-texans-lost-the-right-to-bear-handguns/#axzz6ul5gaxMO>

<http://archive.today/kSYVh> also linked at <https://tinyurl.com/vvc36b2s>