

# MCSA NEWS

PO Box 1122  
Shelton, WA 98584

521 W. Business Park Road  
Shelton, WA 98584



November 2020

**Happy**  
**Veteran's Day!**

*Honoring all who have served!*

## **Meet Wendy Sage...Nominations Committee**

**H**i, I'm MCSA member **Wendy Sage**, the new chair of the nominations committee. I have been a member since September 2019. I moved to Mason county in January of 2019 and began looking for a great place to shoot with other like-minded shooters. I was immediately attracted to the busy schedule of classes, sporting events and the Ladies of Caliber.

I haven't had much chance to meet other members due to my work schedule and the current restrictions leveled by the pandemic. I figured contacting members as part of the nominations committee would provide that opportunity. I would welcome a couple of volunteers to help me contact the over 300 members. Meantime, please email your nominations for Board of Directors and Trustees to [wjsage@gmail.com](mailto:wjsage@gmail.com) prior to November 19, 2020.

## Welcome to New Members!!



David Engman  
Martin and Bonnie Jubb

**T**here are no more class openings  
for the rest of this year...  
Stay tuned for next year's schedule.

## MCSA CALENDAR

<http://masoncountysa.com/calendar.html>

## Tips For Using Zoom


**B**efore COVID hit how many of you had heard of Zoom? COVID has changed life in so many ways and we are learning how to make the best of it. One way to "get together" is to use the amazing app, Zoom. I thought it might help to offer tips on using this cool app, should you decide to join or hold your own meeting.

To use Zoom, there is a free version and then, to get more features, there is a paid version. When invited to a meeting, the host will send a link to your email. Click and follow directions for the most part. Here are some tips to make it a little easier:


**Continued...Zoom**

**HINT #1** Remember to join AUDIO and VIDEO when joining the meeting. The host may have you muted to avoid disruption when someone is talking, but you will need to tap the "JOIN AUDIO" button to hear what is being said.

**HINT #2** Check your lighting. You might not think about that when you are using your smartphone, sitting in your car, in a parking lot, because you have such a low internet signal at home (speaking for a friend). Make sure you have enough lighting so that others can see your smiling face.

 **HINT #3** Mute your camera and microphone by default. That will make sure you are seen when you are ready to be seen and that your entrance to the meeting will not be distracting. The host may have you muted anyway, but changing that setting is a good idea. When you are connected, you can click the button to turn on video or leave it muted, your choice.

**HINT #4** You can use the Reactions button to give a thumbs up or raise your hand. You can also change your background, if you choose.

**HINT #5** Turn on the Gallery View...you can see everyone in the meeting at once. It doesn't work as well on the phone, but a people will show on the screen. Scrolling will move the rest of the people on the meeting. 

**HINT #6** It is a good practice to turn off notifications, close running apps, and mute your phone to eliminate distractions.

**HINT #7** I noticed, at the last meeting, that as people are speaking, their names highlight to make it easier to see who is speaking. Again, not the best on the phone, but it works.

I am new to Zoom myself, so I will be trying to remember my own tips when joining future meetings. Don't let the technology scare you, give it a try and join the fun! It is a helpful to get us all together!

**So, happy Zooming!!**

## About the Nominations...

**W**e need to fill **all** the Board of Director roles and **two** of the trustee roles. So far, as of November 4th, three people are considering running; one for VP and two for Trustee.

**Please email or call Wendy by November 19th if you would like to run for an office.**

We are working on sending out e-Ballots due to the inability to hold meetings for all members on site due to Covid 19.

All current BODs are available to answer questions about their roles if you are interested.

## REMINDER....

**The range is open for shooting!!**

Call or email Lynn to make your reservation, at least a day and a half ahead.

206-406-3562 or

[secretary@masoncountysa.com](mailto:secretary@masoncountysa.com).



## Getting the Copper Out

By Fred Nachbar

**M**ost shooters clean their firearms by using a powder solvent of their choice, a jag, a few patches and a nylon brush.

They run a patch saturated with their choice of powder solvent down the barrel, wait the recommended dwell time, run a brush back and forth a few times then run a couple of dry patches through and call it good. This might suffice for a few cleanings but what about copper fouling?

To get copper fouling out of the bore we're going to need a more aggressive approach. Preparations start with the right equipment. At a minimum we should have on hand the following:

Powder solvent such as Hoppe's #9 Benchrest or Elite.

Copper Solvent: Hoppe's Copper Terminator, Montana X-treme Copper Killer or Barnes CR10. There are others.

Spray Degreaser: Acetone, Brake degreaser, etc.

Cleaning Kit: Brass Rods, jags, brushes, patches (plenty of patches).

Small solvent proof containers (2-3).

Safety glasses, solvent proof gloves and good ventilation.

An added tool would be a box of plastic pipettes. These disposable little tubes can save you a lot of solvent as you can be precise with the amount of solvent you apply.

Also, a good supply of patience will be handy!

All set? Now let's get to cleaning.



\*Ensure the firearm is UNLOADED and NO ammunition is in the area.

\*No drinking, eating or smoking. The solvents are harsh, poisonous and flammable. Also, you're dealing with combustion by-products and lead.

## Continued.....Getting the Copper Out

\*Always clean from the breech end when possible.

**Step one:** Glove up and put on your eye protection. Pour a portion of powder solvent into a small container.

**Step two:** Saturate a patch with bore solvent that removes both powder and copper fouling (Hoppe's #9 Benchrest, etc.). Make a pass by using a jag to push the patch through from breech and out muzzle. Let the solvent dwell for about five minutes then repeat step two, depending on fouling, three or four more times. Leave bore wet with solvent after last pass.

**Step three:** Use a proper size bronze brush for the caliber of the firearm that you are cleaning. Soak it, using the pipette, with bore cleaner and run the brush all the way through the bore and pull back through. Do this a minimum 20 passes (back and forth), applying fresh solvent about every fourth pass. (Never dip your brush in the bottle as this will contaminate the rest of the solvent). After use clean the brush with spray degreasing solvent to remove contaminants and bore cleaner. This will also extend the life of the brush.

**Step four:** Run several dry patches through bore to remove used solvent. After, run a few patches soaked with a degreaser. The reason for this step is some of the bore cleaners and copper removing solvents do not mix well.

**Step five:** We are now going to get more aggressive! Switch to your choice of copper removing solvent (Read the label for precautions and dwell time). Run a couple of saturated patches through the bore. Let the copper remover sit for the dwell time of your particular product. Follow with another couple of tight-fitting saturated wet patches and let it dwell.

**\*NOTE:** It is permissible to use the next size smaller jag and double up on the patches. The tight fit is to force the solvent into the grooves of the rifling but not so tight as to force the copper solvent from the bore.



## Continued.....Getting the Copper Out



This photo shows the amount of copper dissolved on the first round of cleaning.



This photo is the amount copper dissolved on the second round of cleaning.



This photo is the third round. I did a fourth and fifth cleaning before the bore was clear of copper.

**Step six:** Run a dry patch through the bore. Don't be alarmed by a patch that is heavily colored with a blue/gray stain or a blue/green stain. This is dissolved copper!



Starting in upper left it shows the powder solvent. With use of a bore brush the upper right shows first round use of copper solvent without use of brush. Both of the lower lines of the picture shows using solvent and a bore brush. I did one more round of cleaning after photos were taken.

## Continued.....Getting the Copper Out

**Step seven:** Repeat steps five and six until the patches come out of the bore with no copper stain.

**NOTE:** If you desire, you can speed up the process by using a brush. Some shooters use nylon brushes but I don't think they are aggressive enough. Remember bronze brushes are copper based so using them with the copper solvent is going to accelerate the wear on them. Even using the spray degreasers on them after you are done, they are going to wear out in about 5-7 sessions. Treat them as consumables like patches, solvent or oil. Have several brushes on hand to replace worn ones.



Comparison of a new bore brush and one that has been used 4-5 times for copper removal.

**NOTE:** If you are using a brass jag it could give you false positives. The copper solvent can work on the jag and give the blue/green stain. A way around this is in the final stages of cleaning the bore is to use a plastic jag or a brass jag plated with nickel. These will eliminate the false positives. You can look online for extra brushes and for the plastic jags or the nickel-plated brass jags. Tipton Gun Cleaning Supplies Company has kits of nylon brushes of differing calibers as well as nickel plated brass jags of differing calibers.

**Step eight:** After you have a few patches come out clean use a patch saturated with a degreaser followed by a couple of dry patches.

**Step nine:** Ensure you clean any debris from the action. Also remove any solvent from the action and barrel. Refer to your owner's manual for instructions on preservation of the firearm's finish.



### Continued.....Getting the Copper Out

**Step ten:** Lightly apply gun oil to a patch and push it through the bore followed by a dry patch to give a thin protective film. Don't forget to remove this oil before you fire the gun again. Ensure you wash your hands before eating, drinking or touching anything away from the cleaning area.

This process is not hard but is tedious. Most of the time is spent on dwell time, anywhere from 5-15 minutes for each step and cycle.

Getting the copper out is well worth the time as it maintains the accuracy of your firearm.

*This article is a condensing of an article in "American Rifleman" by Bryce M. Towsley (November 2019)*

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### New Member Orientation

Due to the COVID protocols in place, a **reservation** is required.

Currently, January is being scheduled and there is a **waiting list**.

If you are interested, please call or email Secretary Lynn Ludeman at 206-406-3562 or [secretary@masoncountysa.com](mailto:secretary@masoncountysa.com), to get on the list. If there is cancellation, you might get in sooner.

If you have **articles, stories, pictures, classified ads, or ideas** for the newsletter, please send them to **Suzy Sands....**  
Email [suzysands@gmail.com](mailto:suzysands@gmail.com) or leave a message at my cell phone, **530-262-1893**.

## My View of the S&W M&P Shield

By Suzy Sands

**W**hen deciding what gun to carry I did some research, reading about different options, and talked to people about the handguns they liked. But the biggest help was a visit to Nevada, spending a day with family, shooting holes into the hillside.

It isn't difficult to find a perfect shooting place in the Nevada desert. We had a few 8-foot tables FILLED with all types of firearms and seemingly endless boxes of ammo. It made for excellent hands-on research and lots of fun! I wasn't sure what gun I wanted to own at the end of that day, but I had a better idea of what features are important to look for.

Two guns I liked shooting was the Ruger LC9 and Walther P99. Of the two, I preferred the Walther and thought I would end up with either of the two. It was a salesman at Cabela's that introduced me to the Shield. He preferred the M&P Shield over the Ruger and explained some of the differences to me. Really, what got my attention was the feel of the gun in my hand; I liked it very much. Considering the number of guns I was introduced to on family day, I was surprised that the Shield did not have a spot on the table.

Cabela's did not have a Walther that day or this article may have had a different message. I bought the Smith & Wesson M&P Shield 9mm.

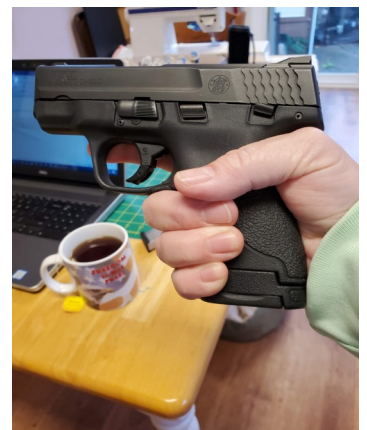
The M & P Shield is a striker-fired, semi-automatic, sub-compact pistol. It isn't tiny, but it is small enough, and being a single stack, it is not difficult to conceal. Because of its size, it is easy for smaller hands to grip it.

### Pros:

- ♦ It is slim and easy to hold in my hand. I can grip the gun and feel like I can control it.
- ♦ Compact pistols, like, the Ruger LCP, are smaller than I like. They let my pinkie finger dangle, feeling like I didn't have a good enough grip. The Shield comes with two magazines, an extended 8-round that makes my pinkie feel at home, and a flush sitting, 7-round magazine. The shorter mag is not as good, but my little finger finds enough room. I prefer the extended magazine.



Grip with the 7-Round magazine.



Grip with 8-Round extended magazine.

**continued...S&W M&P Shield**

- ♦ The gun is easy to take apart and clean.
- ♦ It shoots well and has been reliable.

**Cons:**

Really, there is only one thing to report, but it is a big deal...the slide. The slide is very hard to rack and lock open, feeling at times, like it will take a woman and a boy to get it done. I have developed a way to do it and it has become easier, but when my hands are tired or sore it is still a challenge.

It may be the only feature that makes my Cons list, but it is pretty important. A friend of mine was not able to pull the slide at all. His arthritis made it impossible. So, that is a consideration when looking at the Shield. I read that the newer M&P 2.0 EZ has an easier slide...I am intrigued.

Overall, I am happy with the M&P Shield. I enjoy shooting it and have become familiar enough to rely on it. I may have to trade it in for something with an easier slide, but for now, I make it work. It is a good option for a carry gun and it is fun to shoot!



<https://www.lovethepic.com/image/search?query=veterans%20day&page=3>



## Mason County Sportsman's Association

### MASON COUNTY SPORTSMAN'S ASSOCIATION

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

info@masoncountysa.com

President:	Arne Anderson	360-877-9081
Vice President:	OPEN	
Treasurer:	Marv Voskuhl	360-426-6461
Secretary:	Lynn Ludeman	206-406-3562
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