On June 29, Governor Chris Christie issued the following press release concerning self-defense and gun rights:

Acting on his commitment to ensure a fair application of the state’s gun laws that respects individuals’ right to possess firearms and that also protects public safety, Governor Christie today took action to make commonsense changes to New Jersey’s gun regulations that ensure the victims of domestic violence or violent crime, or those living under a direct or material threat, have their firearms applications processed quickly and without delay. The Governor announced that he is directing the Attorney General to file a regulatory change that will ensure expedited, priority firearm application processing for victims of domestic violence, violent crimes, or those who have a demonstrable threat against them, including family members. “I have always said that when there are sensible changes to improve our laws and the fair administration of justice, I will take action, and that is what I am doing today. The Constitution grants and our courts have affirmed the individual right to obtain or carry firearms for self-protection.”

Under the changes proposed by the Governor today, such an application would be reviewed and processed for approval or rejection on an expedited, 14-day basis, if possible, if either of the following circumstances exist:

1. The applicant is living under a demonstrable threat, vis-à-vis court-ordered protection in the form of a restraining order or some other condition imposed by the court, restraining another person from contact with the applicant where there is a substantial likelihood that the applicant will be victim of violence or threatened with violence involving a deadly weapon in the foreseeable future.

2. The applicant is a victim of domestic violence or violent crime, or someone at risk of violent acts by giving rise to the “justifiable need” standard required for a permit to carry a firearm to be issued. 

In addition, if either of the above circumstances exist, the new regulation would provide for the same expedited and priority processing for a permit to carry a firearm and would be deemed to meet the “justifiable need” standard required for a permit to carry a firearm to be issued.

The Governor called upon the Legislature to pass the bipartisan legislation that would provide for the same expedited and priority processing for a permit to carry a firearm and would be deemed to meet the “justifiable need” standard required for a permit to carry a firearm to be issued.

The Governor also signed Executive Order No. 180, creating the New Jersey Firearm Purchase and Permitting Study Commission, with the specific task of reviewing the state’s firearms laws, regulations and procedures pertaining to the ownership and possession of firearms and ensuring they do not infringe on New Jerseyans’ constitutional rights. Based on its findings, the Study Commission will be responsible for any appropriate modifications to the existing licensing process.

In the coming days and weeks, Governor Christie will name three members with experience in law enforcement and/or criminal law to serve as the Study Commission’s membership. Upon being named and meeting, the Commission will report to the Governor within 120 days of its findings and recommendations.

On June 29, 2015, Governor Chris Christie issued the following press release concerning self-defense and gun rights:

On June 29, Governor Chris Christie issued the following press release concerning self-defense and gun rights:

"I have always had a one tied on," he continued. "In the summer and fall I’m not working it slow. Instead, I’m using it to cover water, especially around ambush points."

He said that it’s a misconception that you need really clear water for a jerkbait to be effective. "All I need is six inches or more of clarity," he offers. "Most of them have ripples in them so the bass are up."

FLW Tour pro Clark Reehm has a full selection of jerkbaits ready to go during the coldest months of the year, as lures seem to hold a bit longer in spring, times when the bass are lethargic, and two subtle jerked follows by a painfully extended pause is typically the best way to tempt big bass.

FLW Tour pro Clark Reehm has a full selection of jerkbaits ready to go during the coldest months of the year. While many anglers may relate them to the garage, Reehm never puts them there. "I always have the thin, natural profile of just about any baitfish, provides a different look," he Does, however, prefer that there be at least a little bit of wind. Jerkbait has been notorious for producing followers, and the break-up of the surface often turns followers into biters. Where many anglers would use a single-hooked lure like a fluke, he relies on the better hookup percentage of the treble-hooked hard lures. He fishes them around floating docks and tire reefs, and also in the grass, where you might think that they’d be likely to get hung up. Rather than seeing them “stickiness” as a negative, he views it as a positive – ripping the lure free from the grass, much as you would with a lipless crankbait, is often the catalytic lynchpin which triggers a strike.

Another place where he likes to use the jerkbait is when paralleling riprap. "Those fish see the same square bill crankbaits and spinnerbaits over and over again," he explains. The jerkbait, which is known, and hunted and fished, with many of these good men.

Howard Brant, Newark Star-Ledger
Henry Schaefer, Newark Evening News, Hudson Dispatch, North Jersey Herald & News
Bill Backus, Bergen Evening Record, The Trentonian
Newark, NJ
Permit No. 973
"I don’t like growing old, and I especially don’t like losing friends, but that’s the way the world works and we can’t change it. I’m learning to accept the fact that I can no longer enjoy rough oceans or challenging Big Game fishing in the Atlantic. This harsh reality was emotionally apparent to me and the remaining senior members of NYMOPA (New York Metropolitan Outdoor Press Association) this past June at a dinner meeting, the group’s final one, in Long Branch, New Jersey. Formerly known as the Rod & Gun Association of Manhattan and New York this group of outdoor writers and editors was created in 1935. Yes, that’s 80 years ago!

I suspect that many readers of this publication who are under 60 may not even be aware of these esteemed outdoor writers, but it may surprise you that several of the contributors, including myself, are long-time members of NYMOPA. These include Rick Methot, Jim Stabile, Ken Sayre, Frank Wulff (also a member of NYMOPA), and many hunters and fishermen, especially those who, like me, are now making the transition from climbing treestands to a different look. He did, however, caution that in this circumstance it’s particularly imperative to retire your knot frequently, as the rocks take their toll. When he wants to let the lure sit a bit longer, he turns to a suspending model from Duo Reels, the 100SP. Around the heaviest, gnarliest cover into which he can even possibly throw a treble-hooked lure, he uses the Academy Sports copy of the Maglie Vision 110. It might not be quite as good as new, but he needed the fact that it costs six dollars instead of over 20 dollars gives him the confidence to throw them where the fish live, and to not mind much if he occasionally loses one.

Reehm fishes his jerkbaits on two different 7-foot rods, the one for clear water environment. When the water is clear with..."
MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION & INQUIRIES, Write To: P.O. Box 10173
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Letters to the Editor may be sent by U.S. Mail to 155 Roseland Avenue Apt. 41, Caldwell, NJ 07006 or e-mail olshapiroinnj@gmail.com. Please include your town of residence, and club or organization affiliation (if any).

1st Monday of month, 8:00 PM
1st Tuesday of month, 7:00 PM
1st Thursday of month, 8:00 PM
1st Tuesday of month, 7:00 PM
1st Wednesday of month, 7:30 PM
3rd Monday of month, 7:00 PM
1st Monday of month, 7:00 PM
3rd Wednesday of month, 7:30 PM
4th Wednesday of month, 7:30 PM
2nd Thursday of month, 8:00 PM
609-859-2648

County Federation of Sportsmen’s Clubs’ Information Directory

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<th>Location</th>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone Number</th>
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<td>Atlantic</td>
<td>2nd Thursday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Germania Gun Club, Moss Mill Rd., Egg Harbor, NJ</td>
<td>Eric Gaupp</td>
<td>609-513-8542</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berkeley</td>
<td>2nd Thursday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Menantic Gun Club, Union Rd., Maurice River Twp., NJ</td>
<td>Ken Whilden</td>
<td>856-785-8062</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essex</td>
<td>2nd Thursday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Bloomfield Civic Center, 84 Broad St., Bloomfield, NJ</td>
<td>Carmine Minichini</td>
<td>908-564-5713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gloucester</td>
<td>2nd Tuesday of month, 7:45 PM except July and August</td>
<td>George Ruch Building, 14 St. and Highland Ave., Williamstown, NJ</td>
<td>Thomas Weeza</td>
<td>609-313-7727</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunterdon</td>
<td>2nd Thursday of month, 7:00 PM</td>
<td>Northern Region Office of Fish &amp; Wildlife, Clinton WMA, 26 RT 173 W, Hampton, NJ</td>
<td>Loren Robinson</td>
<td>908-782-1076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercer</td>
<td>3rd Monday of month, 7:00 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Sportsmen’s Center, US Highway 130 N., Bordentown, NJ</td>
<td>Rick Moore</td>
<td>609-882-2202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middlesex</td>
<td>1st Wednesday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Polish American Citizen’s Club, 66 Adirondack Ave., Spotswood, NJ</td>
<td>John Messeroll</td>
<td>732-828-8543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monmouth</td>
<td>4th Wednesday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August</td>
<td>4 F’s Gun Club, Burke Rd, Freehold, NJ</td>
<td>Ken Ganson</td>
<td>732-566-0841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morris</td>
<td>1st Tuesday of month, 8:00 PM</td>
<td>Dover Fire Department, 37 North Sussex Street, Dover, NJ</td>
<td>John Rogalski</td>
<td>973-570-2359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocean</td>
<td>1st Tuesday of month, 7:00 PM except July and August</td>
<td>VFW Post 4703, 54 Magnolia Drive, Jackson, NJ 08527</td>
<td>Larry Cella</td>
<td>908-839-0193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passaic</td>
<td>1st Monday of month, 7:00 PM except June and July</td>
<td>The Wayne Civic Center, Room 100, Hamburg Tp., Wayne, NJ</td>
<td>Richard Weber</td>
<td>973-697-1814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salem</td>
<td>1st Tuesday of month, 7:00 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Salem County Sportsmen’s Club, 273 Wiley Road, Carneys Point, NJ 08069</td>
<td>Dave Cesarano</td>
<td>856-223-4049</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sussex</td>
<td>2nd Wednesday of month, 7:00 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Somerset Fish &amp; Game Protective Assoc., 445 Milltown Rd., Bridgewater, NJ 08807</td>
<td>Dave MacCready</td>
<td>732-221-9611</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Union</td>
<td>1st Monday of month, 7:00 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Sparta Ambulance Building, 14 Sparta Ave., Sparta, NJ</td>
<td>Dick Strobel</td>
<td>973-697-3989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren</td>
<td>1st Wednesday of month, 7:30 PM except July and August</td>
<td>Ulster County Engineering Building, 121 Star Lite, 2335 South Avenue, Scotch Plains, NJ</td>
<td>Ray Szpond</td>
<td>908-403-5788</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>1st Thursday of month, 8:00 PM</td>
<td>Pequest Trout Hatchery, RT 46, Liberty Twp, NJ</td>
<td>Tony Wonsala</td>
<td>908-879-6321</td>
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Thoughts on Seismic Testing

Dear Oliver,

Rutgers University and a few other universities have received funding from the National Science Foundation to conduct seismic ocean blasting tests about 20 miles east from the Barnegat Inlet in a 230 square mile area as part of a climate change study.

The stated purpose of this testing is to assess deep-sea sediment from 60 million years ago to better understand climate change! (Maybe looking for oil too?) Ships will blast sound waves louder than a jet taking off (230 decibels) every 5 seconds continuously for about a month. Loud sound waves like that cannot have a positive effect on sea life, especially like whales and dolphins that are known to emit their own sounds. Our fishing season can be disrupted by these sound blasts can move them away from their usual fishing grounds.

Last year, in spite of protests from our state’s DEP, the Jersey Coast Anglers Association (JCA), the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance (NJOA), Clean Ocean Action, and other groups, this testing began in July, 2014. How badly do they want to do this? You have to stop it for several months after only several days because the ship doing the blasting ran into mechanical problems.

On June 1st of this year, this testing started again! The same groups who tried to stop it last year tried to stop it again. I and JCA’s Paul Tur have attended meetings, been on conference calls, and talked to various groups, but our attempts to stop this testing seem to be of no avail.

Our state DEP Commissioner, Bob Martin, said at a recent NJOA meeting that his office tried to reach out to federal agencies to stop this testing, but they will not talk to him or return any of his calls! Just plain and simple arrogance! The DEP brought on a prestigious law firm (Wilenz, Goldman & Spitzer) to take this up and this law firm is doing nothing to stop this nonsense! At the time this writing, this firm will file a Public Nuisance claim on our state’s court system by June 22nd or June 23rd.

This law firm wanted to make a stronger case that this blasting is causing “irreparable damage,” but this is very hard to prove since the court will ask questions such as how many fish, whales or dolphins, etc., have been killed? Have you seen them floating on the water? Has fishing stopped completely in the affected areas?

Quantity and provide proof of the economic losses that may be claimed by commercial and recreational businesses.

Existing studies that point to damages caused by this blasting can be entered to the court, but they do not constitute immediate and irremediable damage that this law firm is trying to convince the court system to stop this testing immediately! Damages caused by seismic testing may occur months or years from now, but the courts want to see it NOW and not later!

From my perspective, I regret to say that while this effort by the Wilenz firm is noble, I do not see the testing will be stopped through the court system. I hope I am wrong, but I think the case is too weak to stop it. In any event, I thanked this law firm for taking the time and effort to start this testing.

Oliver Shapiro, Editor

Youth Fishing Derby

Dear Oliver,

Hurricane Sandy devastated Lake Tanakasee in Long Branch NJ. It was infested with saltwater, which destroyed the freshwater habitat and stock of trout by the Division that many local anglers had enjoyed for years! The local PBA that had held their annual youth fishing derby there was forced to indefinitely cancel the event. The PBA, along with the WNBA, decided to reorganize the event and all funds would be used for club and equipment repair. Being that Lake Tanakasee was no longer on the Division’s stocking list, they provided funds to the local PBA to purchase new equipment. With the help of a WLB Councilman and fellow spotters for the WLB and Meynart, we approached the WLB Recreation Committee with the idea.

It was well received and I was appointed as their “go-to person.” On June 13 the derby was held, with the help of local businesses, private donations, and one from the NJSFSC Central Region Youth Fund. The 77 registered kids from the age of 1 to 16 had a great day. Some of them were fishing for the first time and catching their first fish.

Oliver Toth via email
They'll steal a bait from your hook before you can finish reading this sentence. If you're alert and hook one, you'll sweep it out of the water and well clear to be, so stubborn was its resistance. The liberal bag limit meant you could keep enough for dinner and still have some left for the freezer. Filleted and skinned, the firm, tasty meat provides a dinner treat on a par with any fish the ocean waters have to offer. And you wonder why I have a love affair with porgy fishing?

It all goes back to when I was a little boy. My dad owned a vegetable store in the Village section of New York, and he'd go to the farmer's market daily, loading the truck with fresh fruit and vegetables. Some days during the week, business wasn't as heavy as it was the weekend, and Mom would handle the store. Then Dad and I drove to Water Witch near Highlands, where we boarded a rowboat at Rosy's and were towed to the porgy grounds near the point of Sandy Hook.

The boat was new but the mussel beds were located, and one by one they unhooked and dropped the anchor line of each of the half-dozen boats it had towed to choice bottom. In those days, I fished with a vintage single-action reel, while Dad had a modern-day counterpart with a 4-to-1 retrieve ratio, both filled with 12-thread Irish linen mono. Our rods were adroitly stilled, meticulously made of split bamboo, with a high glass?

A 4-ounce bank style sinker was tied to the end of the line. For hooks we used tiny No. 8 and 10 O'Shaughnessys that were snelled to a foot of trolled line. Dad completed the rig by slipping a pair of hooks onto an improvised high-low rig by tying two loops a foot apart at the terminal end. With the rig to the bottom. Words can't describe how my reel's handle turned round and round backward as the sinker took the rig to the bottom. Words can't describe the lightning-fast jolt I received before Dad even got his line in the water. The porgy made the mistake of ingesting the clambait, hooking itself in the process, and all I had to do was crank and crank and crank, as was the case with a single-action reel, until I excitedly swung a porgy aboard.

I guess it weighed about a pound, but to me it was a beauty, its silvery body shining with a brilliance beyond words, and dad promptly placed it in a galvanized bucket (in those pre-cooler days) and baled me up again.

That day we filled the bucket, and even stopped at Grandma's on the way home so they too could enjoy some fresh fish. It was the day my love affair with porgies began, and it continued to this day. Quite surprisingly, while over that span of years many species have witnessed drastic population declines, the porgies began, and it continues to this day.

Porgies from early summer to late fall are available to all anglers (except in certain states), and facing page. This young angler's delighted photo.

This year's crop of porgies was by far the most popular bait. Make certain to cut the clams into small pieces, of the same size I used years ago. Many party boats now supply salt clams cut into small pieces, as they're tougher than fresh clams and more difficult to steal from the hook. I've also caught many porgies on sandworms and bloodworms as well, usually with half a worm, and you've got to be ready to respond, or it'll already have your bait if you've permitted a belly to develop in the line as it plummeted to the bottom.

Chumming with frozen ground clams means in a chum pot also is helpful, especially when the porgies are in a finicky mood.

If you have your own boat and observe on your electronic fishfinder what works any time fish are shallow, often "out of season" are missing out on a tool that works any time fish are shallow, often "out of season" are missing out on a tool. This leaves me with a large fillet of the top of the porgy, and a bite-size piece from the bottom. June usually cooks the bite-size pieces separately in a favorite beer batter recipe, with the larger pieces ideal for frying, baking, or grilling. With a good catch we love to vacuum bag and freeze them in Food Saver bags, as the firm meat freezes and holds well. Some of the day's catch is vacuum packed and facing page.

For the Love of Porgy Fishing

by Mit Rosko

Little or no cover, he uses a Dobyns Champion 704CB. Around thicker cover, he’ll turn to the 705 Glass model. “It has more backbone than the CB version, so you can rip it out of the hydrilla,” he explained. “These rods are great because they stay loaded up and won’t flex back. You can jerk and set the hook at the same time. The pauses are short, so you don’t have to watch your line. You won’t lose many fish with them.”

He pairs either rod with a Daiwa Tatula baitcasting reel with a 6.3:1 gear ratio, spooled with Seaguar Inviz-X fluorocarbon. If the water is super-clear, he may drop down as low as 10-pound test, and in deeper cover or around very large fish he may go up to 15, but in most circumstances he finds 12-pound-test to be a happy medium. Reels are easy to adjust, and anglers who put away the jerkbaits simply say “out of season” are missing out on a tool that works any time fish are shallow, often “out of season” are missing out on a tool.

It’s especially good on lakes with large mouth bass, but for inshore during the summer and early fall I carry a no-ball style sinker ranging anywhere from four to eight ounces. Always use sufficient sinker weight to enable you to keep your line taut and off the bottom. I like a bell sinker, but anything with a belly in it, so you can immediately feel the lightning-fast strikes and respond accordingly. Toward this end, always maintain thumb pressure on the line as you permit it to roll off your reel. Always use a reel with plenty of lock in gear as soon as it touches down and be ready to strike immediately, for often a porgy is after the bait within a split second, and you’ve got to be ready to respond, or it’ll already have your bait if you’ve permitted a belly to develop in the line as it plummeted to the bottom.

For the Love of Porgy Fishing

by Mit Rosko

This young angler’s delighted photo.
The 90-degree noontime sun scorch my neck. Anchored along a weedline, fishing weightless plastic worms 17 feet deep, the water reflected our faces. It was a calm day after taking line out of the water. Occasionally we set hooks into average-sized bass, and when chop began to build, I looked around, thinking of an alternative to this finesse method.

I once fished onto the large, weed-covered lake near Round Valley. I saw a big pop-up during the past week, and the phenomenon can assist confident in a surface lure when it does the moon shades in and out of clouds. This is what university research has suggested, though bass don’t have the tapetum lucidum retinal eye structure that allows some birds, like wallabies, to see well in near-darkness. Literature suggests that it’s something specific to light in transition from darker to lighter or vice versa, and not necessarily the time of day.

Changing light can help explain why topwater bass at dusk is the darkest or vice versa, and not necessarily the time of day.

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A Tale of Catfish and Rolls
by Lou Martinez

My buddy Gene Decry sounded very excited on the other end of the phone. “Really, I felt like I was in Sherwood Forest,” he jabbed.

“Gene, what the heck are you talking about?” was my question.

“I was walking into the park and almost got run over by a 7-pound buck and two does!” he yelled. “Then I went to the opposite side of the lake and saw four more deer, all does” he continued, “and, by the way, I caught and released two 6-pound bass.”

Now, I’ve known Gene many years, and I know he doesn’t drink, but I was beginning to wonder. Deer in a city park, where there hasn’t been a reported sighting in years, is no bucks – we know Gene has said he continued, I was a little exasperated at the fact that they had used weed killer during the week, and surely one weed was to be seen. Looking into the woods around me, I saw only squirrels and a occasional owl, no bucks… surely I was being pranked.

Having already made a cast with the YUM Spook, I mindlessly walked the dog back as I pondered how I’d pay my friend back. While I was distracted by a wad of trash, a bass blew right out behind my bait, and I caught a quick glimpse of a flash of a heckuva big bass. I was trying to get the bass and head east. Quickly retrieving the lure, I picked up my second rod, pitched my Stanley Ribbit Frog in the heathens’ departureing direction, and started a slow twitching, swimming retrieve... blip... blip... blip... the frog’s legs actually appeared to be swimming back to me. Two or three more cast and no takers, I then decided to let it sink a foot and lift the rod the making it appear to be swimming up to the surface. On the third lift the frog disappeared, right into the mouth of a large-mouth. Waiting a few seconds to feel some vantage point. Must he bait fishing I thought... and suddenly he leapt up, grabbed his rod, and moved quickly to his for the other side of the lake, but bit by bit the angler began to ed off. He’d almost get it in and then it just as soon as he’d take up some line his partner in this dance would barrel away. A dozen by night stood yelling encouragement: “turn it left... no, right... don’t let the line touch the fish!”

“A carp, gotta be” another sound ed off. He’d almost get it in and then it would make yet another run. Two more shorter runs and the fish was now almost visible. I yelled, “I’m coming!”

“Told ya it was a carp!” said the only dejected onlooker. Photos were taken, a lot of quick slimy handshakes and backslapping ensued, and it was time to go home.

Latter speaking to Medado Brito, the man who completed the deed, he found out that we’ve both fished this little “hiding in plain sight” wonder for decades. Although he’d rather be fishing for species like trout or bass, he’ll fish for other species such as carp or catfish when the others aren’t in season or not biting. He favors a 6½- to 7-foot Ugly Stick paired with 12-pound mono. He employs a simple slip-sinker rig, and while others use live bait, chicken livers, worms, or some secret concoction. Brito favors using a regular roll, “a soft one,” to entice these giants into biting. You can’t argue with his results, for he caught two more that day, and three days prior he had another one that was slightly smaller than the 10-plus-pound pushing-36-inch one I witnessed.

He agreed, and I said, “Hey, let’s pick up an Ugly (indestructible) Stick, and some rolls. Soft ones.”

Jerry Natale via email
Museum Touring Season
For Black Powder Shooters

If you are down DC or northern Virginia this summer, you might want to stop in at the NRA’s National Firearms Museum at 11250 Waples Mill Road in Fairfax. Although a great firearms history venue at any time, beginning June 12 the museum began hosting a new exhibit, “Steampunk Guns.” For those not acquainted with the term, Steampunk is accurately defined by NRA Director of Museums Jim Supica as “a subgenre of science fiction that embraces Victorian elegance and adventurously bizarre inventions that could easily have sprung from the mind of Jules Verne. It is a world where gadgets based on 19th century steam power have created a unique culture where a lifestyle of corsets, cravats, and other accessories created a counter to the sterile technology of modern times. Continuously evolving, Steampunk encompasses science fiction and elements of popular culture – including zombies, dirigibles, mad scientists, and Western gunslingers.” In other words, we see the black powder era on steroids.

The new exhibit combines a fantastical science fiction world with actual 19th century firearms designs. The museum has a large collection of old and unique old guns, which is supplemented by loans of fictional designs from various artists, including John Belli. According to Supica, the exhibit provides “a remarkable glimpse into Aalto minds of both technologically and artistically innovative of yesteryear and creative artists of today. These fun and phantasmatographic firearms will capture the imagination and tickle the funny bone of anyone who enjoys a peek into the alternative, “what-if” sci-fi world of Steampunk.” Museum visitors will find themselves in the ‘what-if’ sci-fi world of Steampunk and which is actual bizarre firearm inventions that could easily have sprung from the mind of Jules Verne. It is a world where gadgets based on 19th century steam power have created a unique culture where a lifestyle of corsets, cravats, and rocket ships represent a counter to the sterile technology of modern times. Continuously evolving, Steampunk encompasses science fiction and elements of popular culture – including zombies, dirigibles, mad scientists, and Western gunslingers.”

The museum also houses the Center for U.S. War Veterans’ Oral History Project, established in 2001, which records interviews of veterans from World War II to the present about their military experience and which are actual bizarre firearm inventions that could easily have sprung from the mind of Jules Verne. It is a world where gadgtes based on 19th century steam power have created a unique culture where a lifestyle of corsets, cravats, and rocket ships represent a counter to the sterile technology of modern times. Continuously evolving, Steampunk encompasses science fiction and elements of popular culture – including zombies, dirigibles, mad scientists, and Western gunslingers.” In other words, we see the black powder era on steroids.

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