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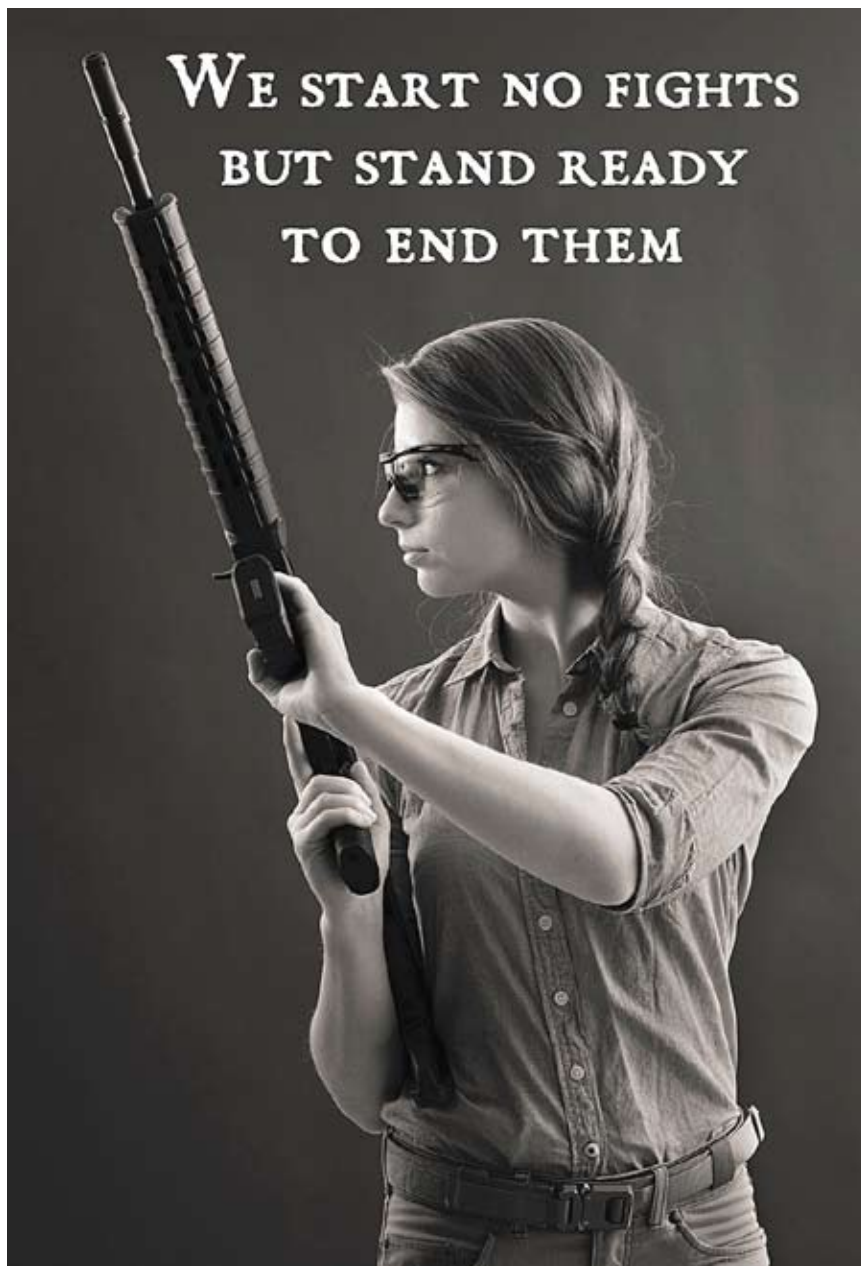
SECOND AMENDMENT NEWS

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2016: YEAR OF THE GUN

- Gun sales set all-time record and the year's not over!
- Millions of Americans buying their first gun
- Record support for gun ownership
- Good reason: Violent Crime at a 16-year high

(Guns Save Life) - America truly is entering into a renaissance of gun rights like the nation has never seen. Gun sales have smashed monthly records and made 2016 the biggest year for gun sales with a month left to go. More and more Americans are buying guns for the first time. In Illinois, gun owners have grown over 70% since Barack Obama took office.

support ownership of America's favorite rifle, the AR-15 and modern sporting rifles like it. Opposition to their ownership is at record lows. Look for the trend to grow as President-elect Donald Trump continues to use the presidency's "bully pulpit" to advocate for National Reciprocity so concealed carry licenses can be recognized with full faith and credit just like driver's licenses. Donald Trump knows that the only thing that stops a bad person with evil in their hearts is a good guy with a gun.

Increasing gun ownership has also led to reshaping of our nation's attitudes about guns. A record number of Americans now

For more, turn to page 23.

**New Location for January!
Champaign County GSL Meeting moving to
Knights of Columbus in Rantoul**

Any questions?

Photo by Oleg Volk.

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January 2017

Guns Save Life Meetings

- **Peoria:** First Thursday: January 5th
Childers Banquet & Catering, 3113 Dries Lane, Peoria, IL 61604
- **Sangamon County:** First Monday: January 2nd
Scheels, 3801 S. MacArthur, Springfield, IL
- **Pontiac:** First Tuesday: January 3rd
Pontiac VFW Post 886, 531 W Lincoln Ave, Pontiac, IL 61764
- **Champaign County:** Second Tuesday: Jan. 10th **NEW LOCATION!**
Knights of Columbus Hall, 1001 N Ohio Ave., Rantoul, IL 61866
- **Charleston:** Second Wednesday: January 11th
VFW, 1821 20th St, Charleston, IL 61920. *Dinner at 6:00pm*
- **Chicago:** Last Sunday: January 29, 2017
DA's Deli and Dining, 7260 West 159th Street, Orland Park, IL Chicago
Exhibits and conversation here at 4:00pm. Meeting at 5:30pm

Dinner, conversation, exhibits at 5:30pm Meetings at 7:00pm

Meetings are free and open to public.

Come on out and join us. Good food, good fun and good friends.

Dinner is optional.



The World Famous Bill Oglesby!

World-renowned exhibition shooter Bill Oglesby addressed the audience in Champaign with some valuable information about training and mindset. He also donated one of his custom single-action pistols to Guns Save Life! Thank you, Mr. Oglesby!



GSL & ISRA: Stronger Together

Guns Save Life President Steve Davis, left, and Executive Director John Boch, right, welcomed the Illinois State Rifle Association's Executive Director Richard Pearson to the Champaign County GSL meeting at Fluid Events in Champaign.



Scary guns - in Chicago! Upper left, one of our members brought in a STG-58 and a CETME, both Cold War era battlefield rifles to the GSL meeting. Our Chicago Regional Director Alfred Keith-Keller is pictured in the background. Unlike in Chicago proper, nobody was injured or killed by gunfire anywhere near our meeting. Upper right, Todd Vandermyde. Below, John Boch answering questions at the Chicagoland meeting.



Bill Martin discusses planning for emergencies with your family. Make sure your spouse knows not to grab onto you like this (Kris Martin), restricting your movement.



Tara Johnson won the Ruger 10/22 in Charleston. She's pictured here with Jeff Hudson. Congrats to Tara and thanks Jeff!



From left, in Champaign: Buck Hildreth won the 50/50, Champaign's regional director Alan Cermak and John Grubb won the S&W snubnosed revolver. Congrats gents!



GSL President Steve Davis, left, with Lynn Wahls, winner of a Remington Model 700 22-250 rifle at the Peoria meeting. Thanks to Terry Grawey our FFL for the gun!



Historical expert Kerwin Law, left, describes various features of the .30-40 Krag rifle as Tim Hortberg holds one for him.



Chicagoland Regional Director Alfreda Keith-Keller with Dan Collins, the winner of the Chicagoland gun! Congrats to him.



George Fryk brought a Browning High Power and some gun metal preservative.



From left, Patty and Doug Swartz. Doug won the Ruger LCP II pistol. GSL E.D. John Boch and Bill Martin our main speaker.



Marsha Brim won! Marsha won the monthly "gun" - this month a \$400 gift card at Scheels to buy whatever gun she wants. She's pictured here with SCGSL's retiring regional director Anthony Bellin.

Meeting Summaries

Chicago

Chicago Regional Director Alfreda Keith-Keller called the meeting of about 45 or so of the faithful to order. We began with the Pledge of Allegiance and then Alfreda recognized our veterans present.

She noted that as our December meeting date falls on Christmas Day, that we would not meet again until Sunday, January 29th. Have a Merry Christmas!

John Boch gave the Executive Director's notes and answered questions about his new role on the Trump administration's Second Amendment Coalition. John then introduced our main speaker **Todd Vandermyde**, the NRA-ILA's point man in Springfield.

Todd Vandermyde discussed the recent elections and their implications for gun owners when it comes to legislation and shopping. He thanked GSL for our close support. Todd noted that GSL's John Boch called it for Trump some time back, citing an enthusiasm gap. Everything Todd had heard prior to Election Day suggested Hillary would win handily and that Republicans worried about a bloodbath. In the end Hillary lost and so did Democrats nationally.

In Illinois, the Democrats lost their supermajority status in both the House and the Senate. The net effect in terms of pro-gun votes is nil. Practically speaking, with fewer moderates to counter-balance some pretty radical Chicago pols, the Democrats in Illinois have shifted further to the left on the whole.



George Fryk's Browning High Power.

We have, according to Todd, a very thin pro-gun majority in the Illinois General Assembly. He reminded us that Illinois is a deep blue state politically, and that he doesn't want a bad bill to land on Gov. Bruce Rauner's desk and then find out the governor isn't as pro-gun as we thought.

Todd discussed some of the nuances of working in Springfield, mentioning that John would be appearing with him at the Capitol more often in the coming months. Todd's optimistic the suppressor bill will pass and that the ammo serialization bill will go nowhere. He discussed the radical gun hater Senator Don Harmon.

Todd answered a lot of questions on a wide range of topics and the audience really loved getting a first-hand account from the leader of pro-gun forces in Illinois' capital city.

GSL's new President Steve Davis introduced himself and delivered his "State of GSL" report (see page 5).

For Tech Time, we had an anonymous member who brought two wonderful specimens: an **STG-58** and a **CETME**, both in 7.62x51 NATO. Both homeland defense rifles had been customized for high-precision work and had been wonderfully cared for and maintained. Sadly, both reside "be-

hind enemy lines" and have been banned by municipal ordinances.

George Fryk brought a Browning High Power 9mm pistol he bought decades ago. It had been imported from West Germany, he explained, and had been issued to a police officer there. Each day the officer would sign out his assigned pistol from the station armory, and when qualification days rolled around, they had other guns for the men to qualify with, meaning George's gun saw very, very little use before he got his paws on it. He stored it for a couple of decades for personal reasons, coated with Rig's Universal Gun Grease to prevent rust. He swears by Rigs and offered to share some of it with members for a nominal donation.



Rhonda Ezell, the plaintiff in *Ezell v. City of Chicago* was present at the Chicagoland GSL meeting. Her lawsuit challenging Chicago's ban on firing ranges, is still in the courts.

We held the drawing for the 50/50 and then drew for the gun. **Dan Collins won the gun**, a Diamondback DB380. Congrats to him. Thanks to our friends at **Almost Wholesale Guns** for providing the gun.

Peoria

The meeting began with Pledge of Allegiance led by **Steve Schnurbusch**, followed by recognition of veterans and first time attendees.

John Boch presented the Executive Director's report.

Main speaker John Boch filled in talking situational awareness. He filled in for our scheduled speaker who had a last minute conflict.



John Boch.

Tech Time: Kay

Davis demonstrated the use of an Up Lula magazine loader for those needing assistance in loading cartridges into semi-auto magazines. It's a real thumb-saver, especially for new shooters.

We drew for door prizes, then **Phil Jackson** won the 50/50 drawing, almost \$80. The winner of the raffle for a Remington 700 varsity gun with scope was **Lynn Wahls**.

Joe Miller, one of America's handful of Olympic-level shooting coaches, will serve as our main speaker.

Pontiac

John Boch took the helm of GSL's Pontiac meeting for **Regional Director Jackie Gragson**. We began with the Pledge of Allegiance, recognized our veterans present and did much the same with newcomers.

Mr. Boch gave his Executive Director's

GSL's Champaign County meeting moving to Rantoul! Starting in January, we'll be at the Knights of Columbus in Rantoul

Notes and answered questions. He then introduced our main speaker for the evening, **Bill Martin**.

Bill Martin delivered a great presentation on the importance of good training and pressure-testing your tactics and techniques to make sure what works under low-stress ideal conditions works when you're scared to death and just got hit upside the head. See page 9!

We had no formal tech time, but **Lonnie Wilcox** did talk up some of the features of the brand new Ruger LCP II pistol we would be awarding as our monthly gun.



The Ruger LCP II

We did drawings for door prizes including the Beck's microwave popcorn that everyone raves about, and the 50/50. The gun for the night was the new Ruger LCP II and **Doug Swartz** won it. "I've never won a gun before in my life!" he said. He can't say that any longer. Many thanks to the good folks at **Big R** for making it available to us.

Springfield

Anthony Bellin called the Sangamon County GSL meeting to order at the wonderful SCHEELS store in Springfield. Approximately 90+ attended and began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and recognition of newcomers.

GSL's Executive Director delivered his notes and **GSL's new President Steve Davis** introduced himself and delivered his "State of GSL" presentation.

Tim Hortberg introduced GSL member **Kerwin Law** as the main speaker. He brought two specimens of the 120ish-year-old **.30-40 Krag** to the meeting, along with one of the early Model 1903 Springfield rifles, the rifle that followed the **Krag-Jorgensen** in America's military arsenals.



Visitors looked over specimens brought to the meeting by Kerwin Law.

Kerwin gave a brief overview of the .30-40 Krag rifle and how it replaced America's first breech-loading military rifle, the Springfield

Trapdoor .45-70 rifle. The Krag-Jorgensen was a magazine fed, bolt-action rifle that fired the much hotter smokeless powder .30-40 Krag cartridge. At the time it was introduced in the late 1800s, it served as a big step up from the Trapdoor rifles in trajectory and the volume of fire they could produce.



It didn't stay in service for long before the **Springfield Model 1903** in .30-06 Government replaced it. (Well, initially, it was the .30-03 cartridge... until a German Spitzer-style bullet came along and the much hotter .30-06 cartridge came along.) The 1903 served America for decades, and the sniper variant served up through the Viet Nam war.

Kerwin had one of those to display as well. Given its low serial number, it's one of the Springfield 1903s that can be hazardous to shoot because of a heat treating process that may have left the receiver metal brittle. Hence, he keeps it as a display rifle and not a "shooter". "It's just not worth the risk," he said of the gun prior to the meeting.

Mr. Law closed on the story of Sgt. Schultz from *Hogan's Heroes*. The actor who played Schultz was a Jewish man who refused to carry a Nazi-issued rifle. So producers outfitted him with a .30-40 Krag. Most viewers never noticed the inappropriate rifle.



Tech Time: Anthony Bellin showed off his **Daytona Tactical AR receiver milling set up** to machine 80% lowers into completed lower receivers for the AR-15.

We had a mountain of door prizes donated by members and we took quite a while to work our way through them.

Marsha Brim won the monthly gun, which this month was a \$400 gift card to Scheels so she could buy whatever gun she wanted. Congrats Marsha!

This meeting also served as the last for Mr. Bellin as our regional director. **Jay Ater** will take over starting at the January 2017 meeting. We'll see you then!

Continued on page 7.



Board of Directors Minutes

October 25, 2016
GSL BOD Meeting Minutes

ATTENDEES: Allan Cermak; Joel Gain; John Boch, Executive Director; David Pike, Immediate Past President; Bob Holland; Larry Shurbet, Treasurer; Kay Davis; Steve Davis; Doug Logue; Peter Wheeler; Lou McClellan; John Olden; Ken Miller; Amber Miller; Adrienne Logue, Vice President; Eric St. Pierre, President; Ryan Sweeney; Ben Sweeney; Jim Sharp; Lois Morton, Secretary.

Bear called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. with a quorum present. Adrienne made a motion to accept the September 2016 meeting minutes; seconded by Kay; passed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: John reports that he has taken copies of the pre-election issue of *GunNews* to several locations in Northern Illinois and Indiana to facilitate distribution. He also reports that GSL will have a storage unit at Fluid Events for copies of *GunNews*, as well as the GSL merchandise which is sold at our monthly meetings.

PRESIDENT: Bear will hand over the GSL gavel to Steve Davis, our incoming President, at the close of this meeting.

VICE PRESIDENT: Adrienne reports several phone calls from members asking about listings of future gun shows. For reference, each issue of *GunNews* has a "Coming Events" page, which lists upcoming events in several counties. Lots of good info!

TREASURER: Larry reports that GSL has \$1500 available for October, November and December grants.

MEETINGS: We discussed each of the meeting locations events from the previous months.

GSL WEBSITE: John Olden has been updating the website

SIGN COMMITTEE: We have several signs that require maintenance; Steve Davis, our new

President, is planning to attend all meeting locations to encourage members towards "action" committees to assist with maintenance of our signs.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE: Ken and Amber Miller have done a great job as new coordinators; they report that all renewals have been completed.

Joel made a motion to give Don Bikileski a GSL membership in exchange for his monthly contributions to *GunNews* and other work; seconded by Allan; passed.

OLD BUSINESS: Larry made a motion to cancel the GSL banquet in part because the planned venue is unavailable; seconded by Kay; passed.

Regarding the Police Blue Line program, Steve suggested inviting speakers to each satellite meeting to give an overview of this program; David Pike will be the point person for all Blue Line information.

Ryan made a motion to cancel the bingo and pull tabs program; seconded by Allan; passed.

NEW BUSINESS: Steve Davis, our newly elected President, took the gavel. Steve reports that he is planning to visit all satellite meetings in the next couple of months

Adrienne made a motion to give CTO \$750; seconded by Jim Sharp; abstained by Larry; passed.

Ryan made a motion to give the Pontiac 4H Youth Shooting Program 2500 rounds of .22 rimfire for next year's events (up to \$250); seconded by Adrienne; passed.

Kay made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Jim; passed.

Special Note: Starting in December, GSL's Board Meetings will be held on the Fourth Thursday of the month at the Red Wheel Restaurant, 741 Broadmeadow, Rantoul, IL. Next meeting: Dec. 22 6pm.

President's Report



The Power of YOU

by Steve Davis
President, Guns Save Life

In 1980, Nancy Brinker of Peoria, Illinois, had the sad occasion to sit at the bedside of her only sister who was dying of cancer. One of her sister's last requests of Nancy was that she do everything she could to raise cancer awareness and promote cancer research. Following the death of her sister, Nancy created a charitable foundation in her sister's name and an organization to further cancer awareness and treatment. To date, The Susan G. Komen Foundation has raised almost two billion dollars for breast cancer research, education, and health services. Nancy Brinker has made a positive difference in the lives of many, many people.

One of the principal reasons that many people give for not "getting off the couch" and becoming more involved in their community and national affairs is their belief that one individual cannot really do much to influence events. At Appleseed weekends I frequently cite the story of Nancy Brinker to clearly indicate that one motivated individual can have a profound influence in the outcome of important events.

Another place where I hear the rationalization that the individual is powerless is when we encourage people to exercise their right to vote. I wish I had a dollar for every time I have heard someone say that their vote really does not matter. Yet, every election cycle demonstrates that an individual vote can make a huge difference. For example, in 2008, a Saturday Night Live comedian, Al Franken, won a U.S. Senate seat in Minnesota by 312 votes after a recount. Remember, this is out of millions of votes cast.

In almost every local election, there are contests decided by single digit difference or sometimes a tie vote and a coin flip. In those close elec-

tions, one vote is not only important, but possibly decisive.

If you belong to any organization, whether it relates to your church, your credit union, the YMCA, a service club, or Guns Save Life, you have undoubtedly noticed that a few active and motivated members have a disproportionate influence in how that organization is managed or operated. Their energy and/or leadership provides the momentum of action which others naturally follow. The issue in such an instance is not the ability to make a difference, but rather, the desire to do so. If an organization is important to you, the only thing holding you back from making a bigger difference is your own lack of confidence and commitment.

One final observation: people who sometimes make a profound positive difference in our world may not have thought it possible of themselves and may be far from "hero material". A man I consider a friend who I met him when I represented a party suing him has been arrested numerous times including eight DUIs. Yet on one occasion while he was driving illegally, this man stopped and dived into a burning vehicle and saved the lives of a mother and her two young children. His shirt was literally burned off. Before this incident, everyone, including my friend himself, would have considered him to be an unlikely hero but we should never underestimate our ability to make a difference. My friend certainly did.

The power of one is available to each of us if we are willing to get off the couch and dive into making a difference.

As my predecessor has said repeatedly, volunteering for Guns Save Life allows your voice to be amplified dramatically in terms of reaching people and educating them. Join us in reaching everyday Americans who haven't yet learned to embrace gun ownership. Make a difference, just as Nancy Brinker did.



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The gun haters aren't retreating!



by John Boch, GSL Executive Director

I spent time in Springfield in recent weeks, working as a team with Shannon Alford and Todd Vandermyde of NRA-ILA, Whitney O'Daniel of the NSSF and Rich Pearson from ISRA to put Illinois gun dealer licensing schemes and the ammo serialization proposals to bed, once and for all.

I'm still learning the ropes, but I've got a great teacher in Springfield veteran Todd Vandermyde. My happy, bouncing off the walls post-election demeanor ran smack into gun grabbers in Springfield who seem to think Hillary Clinton won the presidential race - and that Americans want gun control. They are wrong on both counts of course, but they continue to work relentlessly to wrangle votes for gun control schemes.

Colleen Daley, the Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence Executive Director, pledged to me personally - with a little smirk on her face - that she'll be back next legislative session with those bills - dealer licens-

ing and ammo serialization. Oh joy.

Of course, despite the highly regulated nature of suppressors, the gun haters still oppose those with every fiber of their being. It's obviously irrational as they were unable to provide even a single instance of the criminal misuse of a registered suppressor in Illinois - or even nationally.

Rational isn't part of their lexicon. They do want to ration your ability to buy guns. Or, better yet, they would like to remove your right to keep and bear arms. They completely ignore Supreme Court precedents and the temperament of Donald Trump's proposed nominees to SCOTUS. These radical gun grabbers like Don Harmon are serious about it, too. There's no reasoning with them any more than you can reason with the violent criminal actor pointing a gun at your kid while demanding your money and valuables.

Don't let your guard down. They aren't giving up. Not by a long shot.

ON THE STATE OF GSL

President Davis visited the regional GSL meetings in November and December and likes what he sees. GSL continues its steady growth in membership and our regional meetings have achieved critical mass.

"I'm impressed with the enthusiasm and attendance of our regional meeting sites," he says. "The regional directors are doing great as well and should be proud of themselves for what they have accomplished."

Our new jefe noted that he's the first GSL president to come from outside of Champaign County and that his election shows that GSL has matured. Davis hails from Galesburg in Western Illinois and is a semi-retired attorney. He and his wife are both Appleseed instructors, and NRA and USRA instructors who teach with GSL Defense Training. They are skilled shooters, experienced instructors and strong advocates for gun rights.

Steve says he recognizes the value of strong relationships with other groups. He's working hard to strengthen relationships between Guns Save Life and other shooting organizations including Appleseed, The Well Armed Woman and the National Wild Turkey Federation's Women in the Outdoors programs.

He also has been in communications with the Illinois State Rifle Association, work-



Steve Davis (r) and Frank Wright at the Charleston meeting.

ing to mend frayed relations between GSL & ISRA.

ISRA's Rich Pearson coming to Champaign County's GSL meeting in mid-December served as a concrete example of how Davis' efforts are paying off already!

Davis says some of his focus in the coming months will be maintenance on our signs, gun show participation and encouraging greater volunteerism.

Davis noted that with the election, there's a risk of complacency among gun owners that Bloomberg and his pals would love to exploit. We're not going to let that happen.

"There are people in the Illinois General Assembly that desperately don't want us to have guns," he noted. "The election results have the effect of creating a false security blanket, especially here in Illinois."

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DON BEKELESKI:

A different sort of BEDBUGS



by Don Bekeleski

Bedbugs seem to be a real problem now, but the NRA, GSL and ISRA and other defenders of the Second Amendment have had our own type of bedbugs around for a long time. Let me explain what I mean!



B-ystanders! who believe in the right the 2nd Amendment grants but do not own guns or target shoot. If it involved their right of free speech would they still not get involved? Freedom is not a spectator sport. That has been proven over and over through history. If you want to keep it, you had better be working to maintain it, or you'll lose it! Nothing in life is a gimme!

E—lite people! These are people with the attitude of "it doesn't really affect me". They are the hunters and target shooters who

say, "I only shoot shotguns". They believe legislation in Springfield doesn't affect "their" sport. **WRONG!**

One gun ban proposal included all semi-automatic shotguns. Others have included rimfire rifles. Some people thought Springfield legislators only wanted to ban "those military rifles".



D-dissenters! that once belonged to the NRA and then quit. Why? Maybe because they thought the NRA sent too much mail, or because they don't like Wayne LaPierre. How about, "Oh I don't really feel it's necessary to belong, they do alright without me!"

Did you quit the school because of someone you didn't like? You're a big boy so you stayed in despite those you don't like.

The same applies with gun rights groups. No one is perfect all of the time, including you. If the goals are right and the aim of the organization is right, a mature individual will stick with it!



B-eginning shooters! New shooters love shooting and can't get enough of it. This is great, but they have yet to learn of the many politicians who don't like their new recreational interest. Some bad-guy politicians want to take away your guns and ammo. Shooters and enthusiasts, new and old, must work to preserve our gun rights!

There is strength in numbers. Gun rights groups fight for the very sport new you and other new shooters have found so gratifying and enjoyable. Just because new people are getting into shooting doesn't mean Bloomberg and his friends have taken a break from working to pass new laws to make your new hobby more burdensome that it already is.

It also helps to know who to vote for. Just

another reason why you should be a member and follow the election endorsements!

U-nderground gun owners! "If I don't get involved, no one will know who I am." Duh? Do you have a FOID card? Ever bought a new gun at a store? Big Brother already knows all about you. So staying out of an organization that fights for you to be able to have a proud open profile really makes little sense doesn't it?

Membership in gun rights groups will help you stay informed about legislation and political candidates. Join the rest of us in fighting to defend your rights too.

G-roaners! "I'm doing fine without the NRA." My response is, "You are doing fine because of the NRA and you don't even realize it!"

Yet you will moan and groan when asked to join. You will have all kinds of excuses. All I can say is you are in a very sad state as a gun owner.

S-ideliners! They think NRA is doing fine without them, and at the same time want to make damn sure it's doing something for them. If these guys had been around when the British came in 1775, I wonder which way the Revolution would have gone.

So the NRA and other gun rights groups have our share of BEDBUGS to deal with. But unlike real bedbugs, I don't want to get rid of them.

Instead, I welcome these folks to join us in protecting and defending that which we all enjoy and rely upon to protect our families. I welcome them with open arms!

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Meeting Summaries

Continued from page 3.

Champaign

Champaign County Regional Director Allan Cermak opened the December Champaign County GSL meeting for its final time at the now-former Fluid Events facility in Champaign. We welcomed the faithful with the Pledge of Allegiance and recognized veterans and newcomers.

Mr. Cermak reminded folks that the **Champaign GunNews distribution hub** is now located just north of the Fluid Events building in a storage container. *GunNews* will be in that container by December 21st for volunteers to pick up. There's a combination lock on that storage container. If you don't have the four-digit combination, contact Allan by calling or texting him at 217 381-2340. (Or John Boch at 217 649-3702). We gave out the number at the meeting.

We will be holding our meetings starting in January at the **Knights of Columbus facility in Rantoul** at 1001 N. Ohio Street. Many will remember we used to meet there a few years ago and have made some great memories there. The food has always been very good and expect it to run about \$11-15, depending on the meal.

GSL Executive Director John Boch delivered his report. GSL's new President Steve Davis introduced himself and gave his report on GSL as well. Davis proudly announced successes from meetings with the **Illinois State Rifle Association's leader Richard Pearson** to strengthen the relationship between our two organizations. Davis then introduces Mr. Rich Pearson as a very special guest.

Mr. Pearson thanked us for having him and congratulated John Boch on his appointment to the Trump administration's Second Amendment Coalition team. He asked if the "DT" in Boch's "GSL DT" license plate stood for "Donald Trump". (*"It does now!"*)



Richard Pearson, ISRA Executive Director.

Mr. Pearson reiterated some of Steve Davis' remarks about those who oppose our right to keep and bear arms have not gone away, but instead have redoubled their efforts at

civilian disarmament. It would be foolish to think that just because of Trump's election that we can let down our guard, Pearson told the audience. While good things may lie ahead, the other side won't be rolling over.

Pearson also sounded very optimistic about turning to a new page in the sometimes strained relationship between GSL and the ISRA. We welcomed that news!

World famous exhibition shooter Bill Oglesby came over from Springfield as our main speaker. He's looking pretty good and he's as good as ever at dazzling audiences.

Badlands Bill Oglesby is not only one of the last world-class exhibition shooters in the world, but he's also one of the most talented and innovative gunsmiths. His specialty? Ruger single action pistols. How good is he? He won the American Pistolsmiths Guild Pistolsmith of the Year in 2015.

His presentation on training proved educational and entertaining at the same time. "If you missed your target, that means your sights weren't lined up when you pressed the trigger. Why would you press the trigger if the sights aren't lined up?"

He shared some of his training from his younger days, including dry firing ("I started very close to the target spot because I never wanted to see my sights *not* lined up on the target") and live fire ("I shot thousands of rounds each day".) He has learned and refined muscle memory as few have done.

He chuckles about shooting a dot on a flying golf ball or shooting a golf ball out of a short length of pipe. "It's all about being patient and waiting for things to line up."

After his presentation, he announced that he would donate one of his custom modified Ruger Single Actions to Guns Save Life in 2017 for us to use as a fundraiser. Thank you Mr. Oglesby!

For Tech Time, **Ken Miller** brought some of his blow out kits and showed us some of the evolution of his first aid kits over the years. As an Appleseed firearms instructor, he's had an opportunity to use some of his medical training and skills now and then. He says the kits can be a lifesaver.

He showed some of the latest in trauma bandages and hemostatic dressings, along with some amazing products coming soon to help combat arterial bleeding. "Get training!" he says.

We drew for the 50/50 and **Buck Hildreth** won a stack of cash. **John Grubb** won the S&W snub-nosed revolver. Next month, we've got a **Delton AR-15** for some lucky winner. See you in Rantoul!

Charleston

Almost sixty of the faithful came out for the Charleston GSL meeting held at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1592 on Wednesday, December 14, 2016. Country Catering brought another good meal and our members and guests brought the great companionship.

Bill Harrison called the meeting to order and led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. A half-dozen first-time attendees got recognized, along with almost two dozen veterans.

GSL President Steve Davis gave an upbeat report and encouraged everyone to remain active. There are too many people who don't like it that we can own guns in this country for us to get complacent. More of his report is on page 5. **John Boch** delivered his Executive Director's report.

Arietta Ememecker gave a quick report on the "TacPack", a monthly subscription where they send you a box full of tactical stuff for a \$49.95 subscription. She showed off a bunch of stuff in last month's kit including a distraction device, a fancy ceramic-coated coffee cup, a bottle opener and a slew of other items valued at over \$120.

Main speaker **Frank Wright** presented a very knowledgeable and entertaining talk on the **Judicious Use of Deadly Force**.

He gave some reasons for not using deadly force in self-defense, noting rather bluntly about how nothing good happens after you use force in self-defense. Sleep disturbances, Mark of Cain, substance abuse, PTSD, fallout for family members, divorce, financial ruin and potential incarceration are all reasons not to shoot.

Situational awareness needs to be exercised by everyone at all times. Avoid being in denial of your surroundings. Some (potential jury members) consider all gun owners as being people just looking for trouble. If you can avoid or escape injury by employing the Nike Defense (running like Hell!), then do so. He reminded us that we never "Shoot to Kill", but instead we "Shoot to Live".

Deadly force is justified when faced with the Immediate and Otherwise Unavoidable Danger of Death or Grave Bodily Harm to the Innocent. Attorney Steve Davis added, *never* use deadly force to protect property!

Frank talked about Ability, Opportunity and Jeopardy and the role of Disparity of Force. He covered the Reasonable Man Doctrine and asking for an attorney after you've identified witnesses, evidence and told the officers that you'll cooperate the prosecution of the bad actor.

Tech Time: Frank Wright, Steve Davis and John Boch teamed up to show and explain differences between the several AR-15's they had brought. Some were primarily for urban self-defense while others were effective beyond 500 yards or more. All had some manner of optic.

Dr. Mark Ememecker won \$50 in the 50-50 drawing. **David & Tara Johnson** won the Ruger 10-22 obtained from **Hudson Agricultural Services**. Thanks to all!

Mike Brown, the renowned Deer Antler Carver from Teutopolis, IL, provided a number of door prizes from deer antlers.

Coming up: Our next meeting will be on January 11, 2017 at the Charleston VFW. We'll give away a **DPMS Oracle AR15**.

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SITUATIONAL AWARENESS:

Winning that Confrontation

[Editor's Note: This is a summary of John Boch's presentation on Situational Awareness from the Peoria GSL meeting.]

"How do you win a confrontation?" It's the classic question. Of course, we all know the answer is "Don't be there!"

Indeed. The best way to win the confrontation is not to have it - or be there. That gun on your hip or in your purse isn't the best tool to win any confrontation. The best tool is your own situational awareness (SA).

Situational Awareness.

Untrained people usually show poor SA. What's worse, today we have all manner of electronic devices contributing to task fixation, further rendering all of us less attentive to our surroundings.

Gas stations, for instance, present all manner of interrogation to customers. Credit or Debit? Rewards member? Car Wash? Additive? Enter your Zip Code please. Select Grade. Is it any wonder gas stations are one of the three locations the average person is most likely to become victimized?

Mr. Boch invited everyone to play a little game the next time they are at the mall, Walmart or other public place. It's the "Who would I victimize today?" game. Watch people pretend you're a criminal attacker. Pick out the most ideal candidates you would attack. Then ask yourself, "What physical characteristics are they exhibiting that make them an ideal candidate?"

At this point, do some introspection to see if you do any of these same things in your life. Ditto for any loved ones. If you - or they - exhibit these victim characteristics, have a heart-to-heart intervention. Tell them to change their behaviors so they take themselves out of the "Future Crime Victims Club of America".

There are four primary levels of SA.

Condition White is "oblivious". It used to be the college coed jogging with her ear phones on, after dark, in a desolate area. Today, they are called earbuds, not ear-phones. Smart phone fixation is everywhere, especially among young people.

Condition Yellow is "aware": You know where you are, who is around you and where the exits are. You're scanning for potential threats - including, but not limited to things and people who fall outside the baseline of normalcy for your environment.

Remember that "**baseline of normalcy**" concept. Burn it into your mind. It varies depending on the environment, but anyone or anything way outside that baseline bears further serious scrutiny. The quiet, angry-looking person in a crowd of happy, cheering people is a potential monster in the making. As is a shouting lunatic in a public library. The same goes for the guy in a trench coat with a heavy backpack at the mall on a hot summer day.

Condition Orange: You've seen something that doesn't look right - or your intuition is warning you something is wrong.

You scan for more information, and maybe add distance or obstacles (or exit), and you are formulating a plan if things go sideways.

You should trust your intuition too. Your subconscious processes information much faster than your conscious mind. If it senses a threat to your well-being, it alerts you with that feeling of danger. Two things to remember about your intuition before you even consider dismissing that "feeling":

1. Your intuition always has your best interests at heart.
2. Your intuition is seldom wrong.

If it doesn't "feel" right, it's not right. Leave the area or take other action.

Condition Red happens when things have gone sideways and you're (re-)acting: fight, flight or submit.

We all should "live" in Condition Yellow, even to some degree at home. If you practice awareness regularly, after a few weeks, it becomes second nature.

One big bad-guy behavior anyone can spot from a long way away: loitering or moving without a sense of purpose. That might as well be a big sandwich board hanging from their shoulders that reads "predator".

The OODA Loop and its role.

People good and bad process information in an OODA loop. We **observe** something, **orient** ourselves to what's happening, **decide** on a course of action, and then **act**.

If you breakout of a bad guy's OODA loop in victim selection anywhere along the continuum before he "Acts", you have won that confrontation. He looks for the next target. You walk away unmolested.

Example: Did you exhibit good situational awareness and carry yourself with confidence so the bad person looked right past you to the person wearing earbuds updating their social media status? You won.

Advanced situational awareness comes in handy in recognizing behaviors of bad guys who have moved past observe and orient in the loop to "Decide". They have identified you, decided on a plan to attack you and are moving to close the distance to "act".

Bad guys "leak" tell-tale signals and behaviors unconsciously as they "work". They can't help it for the most part. Here are some bad guy behaviors that should serve as huge red flags when you notice them. They will follow you, bracket (or flank) you, and they may communicate amongst fellow bad guys - either verbally or non-verbally. Sudden appearance and concealed hands are two more big tell-tale indicators of trouble. If they are dialed into you, it's time to take action.

The primary aggressor(s) will close on you in a classic straight-line approach. Once in conversational distance, the suspect(s) may engage you in conversation to test your submissiveness and/or as a ruse to continue closing into your personal space. If they get to within 6-9 feet of you, they

can strike with a blade or club before you can react. Even if they are unarmed, they can tie up your ability to draw your sidearm if you're foolish enough to go for that draw without creating distance (and the time it provides) to produce your pistola. If it's a really bad day, they may tie up your draw while poking you with their blade.



She knew he acted suspiciously, but let him talk his way close enough that he was able to tie up her draw while stabbing her. PS: How many of you carry your self-defense pistol with an empty chamber?

Respond to that "interview" with steadfast determination, a steel nerve and a very assertive voice. Put on your big boy (or girl) panties and tell them to "GET BACK!". Got a light? NO. GET BACK! Got the time? NO. GET BACK! Can you... I CAN'T

HELP YOU! GET BACK!

While you're telling them to "GET BACK", watch their hands. Make sure the hands are visible and empty. The hands will produce the weapons (or serve as weapons).

If they've gotten in close (as in 6' or less), there are a host of behaviors almost universally exhibited immediately prior to the actual attack. Things like grooming, rehearsing, target glancing, loading, blading and so forth. This stuff is getting well into the more advanced SA. Why mention it? If you see some of these behaviors, it's time to strike pre-emptively.

Serious fighters have an old expression they always deliver with a smile: No plan survives getting punched in the face.

Seriously, the first person to strike an effective blow is at a great advantage to "win" the conflict. If you see signs of a physical attack, you don't have to wait until Mongo the Magnificent pulls a blade before you act. Make that transition from passive to aggressive and strike first as appropriate.

In short, the best way to avoid street crime is to carry yourself with an air of confidence, with your head on a swivel maintaining good situational awareness. Use common sense about what you do and where you do it. If you look like a hard target, bad guys will look right past you towards a softer, more inviting target. Should they get close to you, take action to confront them, maintain your space and defend yourself.

In any event, stay aware of your surroundings and you'll stay much safer out there.

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BILL MARTIN: Tactics, Technique and Mindset

Train under pressure and have a plan

[From Bill Martin's presentation in Pontiac.]

Bill Martin is a training junkie. He served as an infantry officer in the US Army before getting his MBA from Columbia. Today he works for a Fortune 500 company. In his spare time, he's a fitness fanatic who loves CrossFit. He's also been involved in Martial Arts training for most of his adult life, and today holds classes in Krav Maga twice a week in Normal, IL.

Krav Maga means "contact combat" in Hebrew and serves as the official hand-to-hand combative of the Israeli armed forces. It's known for its efficiency and real-world applicability, as well as its fierce counterattacks upon aggressors.

Bill Martin has a 2nd degree blackbelt in Krav. His instructor certifications were earned in Israel from the Wingate Institute, which serves as the world headquarters of Krav Maga.

Bill talked about some mindset and training strategies to the Pontiac audience, a slight variation from some earlier presentations he's done in Peoria and Champaign GSL meetings.

He stressed the importance of situational awareness in keeping an individual safe. He says that's not enough. "You should have a plan," he said. Know where those exits are. Spot potential problems ahead of time.

Krav Maga, he explains, has three fundamentals: Tactics, Technique and Mindset. Of the three, the mindset (don't ever give up!) is the most important. Good tactics are next in importance and technique comes in last. Why? "Because your technique will degrade when you're under the stress of an attack."

The stress of a potential conflict does a lot to a person, both physically and mentally. This is why, he noted, that it's important to train under stressful conditions. In essence, you're pressure testing your tactics and techniques so you can perform when under attack. This is the great benefit of force-on-force training. It helps break the "freeze" everyone faces when attacked and allows them to function so much better in a fight.

Part of planning is teaching your family how to react to trouble. Martin stressed the importance of "training" them on what to do (and not to do) in a confrontation. He likened it to going to a haunted house and having your significant other or kids grab you when the scary clown pops out. "Make sure they don't grab on to you in a real-world encounter, limiting your ability to draw your gun or to fight," he said. "It's part of having a plan." His wife, Kristin, showed an example of how not to react to a confrontation, clutching at Bill's arm.

He pointed to the GSL Defense Training Force-on-Force class, and how that helps everyday people prepare for how to handle tough situations in a relatively safe environment. Martin teaches a Krav segment as part of that class to give the students options for aggressively countering an aggressor who has gotten close-in. His segment includes how to overcome grabs, chokes and attempted disarms as well as how to strike.

He says that Krav often induces stress in the participants to test their ability to perform under less-than-ideal conditions and to replicate the short, but incredibly high-intensity dump of energy that comes in a physical fight.

Krav practitioners also learn what they can and can't do physically, adapting various techniques to what works for them. He pointed to a class earlier in the spring where he and other Krav instructors helped a wheelchair-bound man adapt Krav techniques to his unique situation.

He came full circle in his talk towards the end, encouraging those present to train under pressure and to have a plan while practicing their situational awareness.



The audience in Pontiac loved Bill Martin's presentation.



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Media vs. Reality in Chicago.

Railyard gun thefts running rampant in Chicagoland

(CBS) — Chicago Ald. Pat Dowell was so concerned about railyard gun heists that last year she wanted to hold a public hearing to question railway representatives.

But she tells the 2 Investigators the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and railyard giant Norfolk Southern “strongly encouraged” her not to go public for fear she would expose serious security deficiencies.

Dowell held off. Now, it’s happened again.

In the latest incident, a half-dozen semi-automatic rifles and 27 handguns were reportedly stolen from a rail car near 77th and Avalon, the 2 Investigators have confirmed.

The most recent railyard theft occurred Sept. 18th. It was reported to Chicago Police 11 days later — for unknown reasons. No weapons have been recovered. The suspects remain at large.



CPD Use of Force Policy Proposal in Three Words:

SHOOT YOUR PARTNER

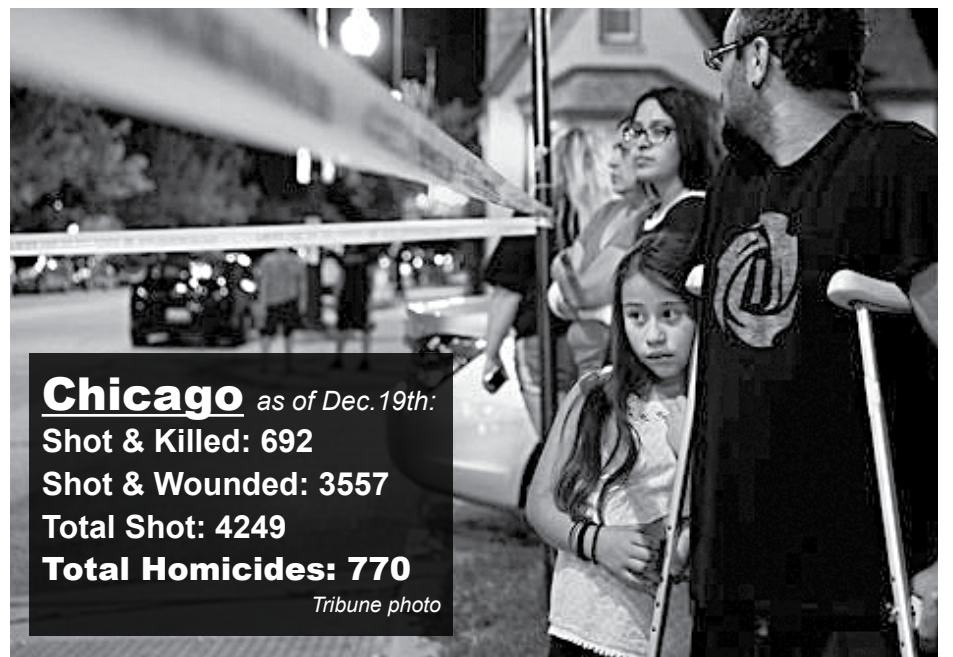
[Editor: Chicago has published a proposed Use of Force Policy for public review and comment. Second City Cop gave their take on the 41-page proposal.]

(Second City Cop) - So...if your partner is using, let's say, Deadly Force. And you, for whatever reason, decide that the use of Deadly Force is above and beyond what you would have used. You must intervene to stop the alleged misconduct. According to the Use of Force Model, Deadly Force is countered with.....Deadly Force.

So.....shoot your partner?

We've worked with a lot of cops over the years. A few great ones, some not so great, most just honest guys and gals trying to get through the day, get home, drink a beer, see the kids' school play, get some sleep, whatever.

We can't recall ever wanting to actually kill them, but according to the Wicked Witch of the West Coast, we'll be required to "intervene" when witnessing misconduct, *up to and including, shooting our partner to stop misconduct, disregarding the fact that two people can witness the same situation from different vantage points and come up with completely different interpretations of events.*



Chicago as of Dec. 19th:
Shot & Killed: 692
Shot & Wounded: 3557
Total Shot: 4249
Total Homicides: 770

Tribune photo

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JOIN US AT GSL CHICAGO!

Join us at Guns Save Life's Chicago Meeting on **Sunday, January 29th** at DA's Deli and Dining in Orland Park. We'll have an update on news and politics, a main speaker sharing an interesting topic, a tech time presentation on a particular gun or type of gun, great food and fellowship and you'll have a chance to win a gun! Stay abreast of current events in the gun rights struggle and make some great friends with fellow gun owners, too.

DA's Deli & Dining
 7260 West 159th Street
 Orland Park, IL

Dinner, exhibits and conversation start around 4pm.
 Meeting at 5:30pm.



NEW RANGE!

Eagle Sports Range in Oak Forest, IL

Oak Forest, IL (GSL) - the new Eagle Sports Range has opened for business - and business is brisk. Located in Cook County, on the same street a little over a mile from Guns Save Life's Chicagoland meeting location, the state-of-the-art facility serves gun owners and shooters in a vastly underserved market. Yes, anti-gun Cook County Illinois has gun shops and new firing ranges. Eagle Sports rents firearms, including scary guns that Cook County elected officials love to hate. What's more, these modern sporting rifles come with standard capacity magazines!

The range is open to the public and additional amenities, including the VIP room, are available to the VIP members. Prices are reasonable and the employees patient and friendly. They are open from 9am - 9pm everyday and offer a full range of services. Their address is 5900 W. 159th St. in Oak Forest, or about a mile and a half from Guns Save Life's Chicagoland meeting at DA's Deli and Diner at 7260 W. 159th St. in Orland Park.



The facility features a pair of 22-lane pistol ranges with shooting out to 25 meters. There's also a 6-lane rifle range out to 50 meters.



That wall of guns are just some of the rental guns available... in Cook County, IL!

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The TRUTH about GUN SAFES

by John Boch

Knowledge is power when it comes to procuring a gun safe - or a "residential security container" (RSC) as it's known in the industry. It's prudent to know as much as you can about this box where you will someday concentrate much of your portable wealth before making a purchase - and then installing it.

There's a lot to gun safes - and a lot has changed in the industry in the past decade or two. Materials have changed and there's a lot of marketing gimmicks.

First off, most gun safes aren't safes at all, but a less secure box known as a RSC. There's often a big difference between domestic-made units and imports. The imports often specialize in a lower price point for price-sensitive customers - especially those at the big box stores. Manufacturers get to that lower price by using less steel and cutting corners on construction. You get what you pay for. At the big box stores, the gun safes might look impressive, but may have 14-gauge (or thinner) steel walls - not even .08" of steel.

Consider a safe an investment as it will last for decades, providing security and peace of mind. Common sense dictates that you don't put \$50,000 or \$100,000 worth of valuables in a \$500 safe. A good rule of thumb is to not secure more than ten times the purchase price of a safe in protected contents.

Sure, the door looks thick, but everything inside the outermost panel is concealment for the locking mechanism. What's more, as the photo to the right shows, "composite" doors aren't solid steel. Steel is what stops intrusions and frankly, most skilled attacks against safes don't come at the doors.

Some things to look for, even on affordable safes: You want a continuous weld throughout the frame, with locking bolts on all four sides of the door and a reinforced frame for the door bolts to rest against.

There's no industry standard when it comes to fire protection. Compare the labels with not only time protection, but also the test temperature. A 2.5-hour test at 1200 degrees is about the same as a 1.5-hour test at 1680. Those living rurally will be better served with a (much) higher fire protection rating as fire service response times are usually longer and water less plentiful to fight a structure fire.

Interior lighting is highly recommended, as is some sort of protection from humidity. The "Golden Rod" heaters are good, as are active dehumidifiers like the Eva-Dry 1100 unit.

Electronic locks are quick to open, but they may be susceptible to electromagnetic pulse attacks. Old-fashioned dial locks take much longer to open, but they don't require batteries and will usually last forever. It's up to the consumer to consider the pros and cons of locking mechanisms for their own personal needs. Fort Knox has recently introduced a dual-lock system but it's a \$350 option.

One last thing when buying a safe, be aware that they shrink. Your spouse and kids will want to put things into the safe. You'll find additional things to secure, including backup hard drives, coin collections, mementoes, photographs, business records, jewelry, cash, bullion, electronics and more. Those items take up space, so buy the biggest possible safe you can while you have the chance. You'll thank yourself later.

A safe may make you eligible for discounts on your homeowners insurance. Ask your agent if you qualify. For one gent I know, he formerly carried nearly \$500 per year in extra insurance to cover firearms over and above his homeowners policy maximums. He discontinued that extra insurance since buying a big safe. His insurance savings has paid for his 2,000-pound safe and installation costs - along with the \$1000 to move and re-install it professionally at his new residence in the past decade. He asked me to pass along his hearty recommendation of Moscardelli Safe in Springfield, IL for outstanding professional service when it comes to moving the big, heavy RSCs.

In short, buy the absolute best you can afford when it comes to a gun safe, and anchor it down to the floor securely. You'll sleep better at night and it will thwart all but the most dedicated and professional thieves.



This \$1000 Winchester (imported) safe was defeated in just three minutes with this hammer thanks to spot-welded seams.

Four common attacks:

1. Bad guys will steal the whole safe. Bolt that sucker down.
2. They will try to pry the door apart / open. Again, bolt it down as prying at a safe that's standing doesn't allow for nearly as much leverage as attacking a safe laying on its back.
3. Cutting the safe body with a non-torch cutting tool. The body on most safes is one half to one third the metal as on the door.
4. Torches. It's rare, except for high end safes, but buying stainless steel inserts help defeat torch cutting.

Thwart thieves:

1. Bolt your safe down. No matter how big and heavy, bolt your safe down. You spent hundreds or thousands of dollars to safeguard your valuables, but you won't spend \$25-\$50 to secure the safe to the floor? C'mon. Why anchor your safe? So it can't be literally carried (or wheeled) out of your house. It makes them harder to pry open. It makes it more difficult to hammer, saw or hack (as in with an axe) them open.

2. Put your safe in a tight spot where possible. Putting your safe in a closet or smaller area inhibits break-in artists from attacking the sides and/or top of the safe. (Only if you've secured it to the floor!)

3. Communicate with your neighbors. Offer a \$500 cash reward if they call police should they ever see people, even in uniform, carting your safe out if you're not present.

4. Store your power tools and big hammers away from your safe.

Placement:

You got a safe, now where to put it? Closets are probably the best choices for sub-800-pound safes. Spare bedrooms make good locations as well.

Basements see a lot of gun safes, but you must combat humidity, either through a full-basement dehumidifier, or an active dehumidifier inside your safe (the Eva-Dry 1100 unit is a great choice). Floods and post-fire damage (water flooding from fire-fighting) are two big risks with basement safe placement. And post-fire, you might not be able to access the safe right away. Worst-case, it might be sitting with water inside for a few days.

Garages or other concrete-pad locations are sometimes the only feasible places for extra-heavy safes, but keep cutting tools stored elsewhere and make sure it's well-secured to the floor. Don't forget about humidity, particularly in the summer months.

Put a moisture barrier between a concrete floor and your safe (thick plastic sheeting works well) to protect against rust. Don't worry about piercing the plastic to secure the safe to the floor.



Weight limits:

Keep the fully-loaded weight of your safe under 1000 pounds in well-made wood-frame construction floors. It might be prudent to keep that under 800 pounds in modern construction.

Yes, you can go heavier and not risk it falling through the floor, but you may damage the floor permanently (sagging) and/or the walls (and windows) on the floor below in as little as a few months by overloading floors. Ditto for ammunition storage.

This goes double if you have any insect damage, or if holes have been cut into rafters for electrical or plumbing lines.

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Levi's Hates You and Thinks You Have a Short Memory

by John Boch

(*Guns Save Life*) - Levi's wants to make less money. No, really. Levi Strauss CEO Chip Bergh told *Fortune Magazine* that his company doesn't want your guns (and, by extension, your money) in their stores. What's more, Mr. Bergh's utterly unconcerned about a boycott as "most boycott threats around this topic ultimately blow over." Mr. Bergh thinks gun owners are stupid, with short memories and no doubt other stubby attributes.

Mr. Bergh dove head-first into a very shallow pond of liberal politics following the recent election. Most smart folks would think it wise for an iconic American brand to avoid divisive politics, but not Mr. Bergh. He told *Fortune*, "You don't need a gun to try on a pair of jeans."

The prudent man isn't worried about needing a gun to try on a pair of jeans. The prudent man knows that you never know where a bad guy will choose to prey on an innocent – maybe even a Levi's store.

The denim company's head honcho went on to further demonstrate just how out-of-touch his beliefs remain by tying the gun prohibition to high profile terror attacks - as though Islamic terror is a "gun violence" issue and not a terror issue.

Clearly strict Euro-style gun control worked so well to save lives across the pond, right Mr. Bergh? Florida's blanket prohibition on licensed good guys carrying in establishments that serve liquor – even if they remain sober – saved dozens at The Pulse nightclub, right Chip?

Arm yourself with Gun Facts

> Children's deaths few and far between



MYTH: 13 children are killed each day by guns

Fact: Adults included – This "statistic" includes "children" up to age 19 or 24, depending on the source. Since most violent crime is committed by males ages 16-24, the "13 children" number includes adult gang members dying during criminal activity. The proper definition of 'child' is a person between birth and puberty (typically 13 -14 years old) and in 2013 only 1 child was killed on an average day nationwide. **Fact:** 411 children (age 14 and under) died from gunfire in all of 2012 or slightly more than one per day. This includes homicides, accidents, and suicides *combined*.

> Dealers don't sell to criminals

Myth: Corrupt dealers sell almost 60 percent of crime guns

Fact: Only 0.5% of the reported traces were for original purchase three years of less before the trace was conducted. Thus, 99.5% of retailer sales had left their control long before the gun was traced (and many traces are not for crime guns).

Fact: The average "time to crime," the time between the retail sale of a firearm and its use in a crime, was 10.48 years in 2015 nationally, and 11.81 years for IL dealers.

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The
Armed American

True stories of firearms used by law-abiding Americans to save innocent life.



From left: Stephon Kinchen, Neil Thomas, Anthony Simpkins-McDonald.

Three Chicago Stooges meet Illinois CCW holder

Chicago (Guns Save Life) - Three armed robbers (above) stormed into a store in the 7400 block of North Western Street in Chicago. One employee, with a valid Illinois concealed carry license, drew his equalizer and dispensed some ballistic deterrence toward the offending trio. Two of the three bad guys sprung leaks. All of the offenders made a hasty retreat, leaving a trail of blood that came in handy for police to follow.

Chicago PD nabbed all three. Two of the three perps have been charged with armed robbery with bail set at \$900,000. Bail for the third, Simpkin-McDonald, is \$250,000. Not only did the three pick the wrong shop, they picked the wrong judge for arraignment. No electronic home monitoring for these creeps... they'll be cooling their heels in the Cook County lockup. Talk about bad luck for the bad guys.

"I'd shoot him again!"

Springfield, MO (KSPR) - A man shot while trying to break in to a home in northwest Springfield died at a hospital. The resident of the home who shot him talked about it on Wednesday morning.



The shooter tells KSPR's Sheena Elzie this whole thing happened because of a jealous ex-boyfriend. He says his friend's ex came here where kicking and banging on the windows until he got through this one and that's when shots were fired.

"There's the bullet hole, I was way over there when I shot him," said Mark Glidewell.

He is not ashamed that he shot and killed a man with his deer rifle. "If it happened again I'd shoot him again," said Glidewell.

The man he shot, Charlie Ingram, a man with a long criminal history, who Glidewell says came here yelling, breaking windows, and broke in, in a rage over his ex, all while his ex and Glidewell were inside.

Dimwits from Decatur, IL bring 2x4 to gunfight, get nailed

Decatur, IL (Herald & Review) - A resident who shot three men on Saturday night did so in self-defense, police said Monday.

Decatur police Sgt. Chris Copeland said the incident occurred at about 6:40 p.m. Saturday in the 2200 block of North Woodford St. When police arrived at the nearby intersection of Garfield Avenue and Charles Street, they found the three men, aged 18, 23 and 28, all suffering from non-life threatening gunshot wounds.

The three males went to the 32-year-old shooter's residence after one of them was in an altercation with him a short time earlier, Copeland said. They were armed with a two-by-four piece of lumber.

One of the trio made a motion toward his waistband, apparently to imply that he had a firearm. The resident opened fire, striking all three of them.

He was arrested on a charge of possession of a firearm without a valid Firearm Owners ID card. The shooter was issued a notice to appear in court on that charge.

Should have been an Armed American story



Corrections officer assassinated in NYC

Brooklyn (Pix11) - An off-duty city correction officer was fatally shot while sitting in her car in Brooklyn Sunday night. Off-duty city correction officer Alastasia Bryan, 25, was fatally shot while sitting in her car in Brooklyn on Dec. 4, 2016.

The shooting happened around 9:15 p.m., near Avenue L and E. 73rd Street in the Flatlands section of the borough.

Alastasia Bryan, 25, was sitting in her car when a dark colored Honda pulled up and fired, police said.



Did you know...

In 1968, the U.K. passed laws that reduced the number of licensed firearm owners, and thus reduced firearm availability. **U.K. homicide rates have steadily risen** since then. Ironically, firearm use in crimes has **doubled** in the decade after the U.K. banned handguns.

-GunFacts

Reminder: Come hungry!

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Reaching for the Stars



by John Boch

America has a new President. Donald J. Trump has yet to be inaugurated and Americans are already winning. Great jobs, great nominees, strong markets and other good news has rained down on us after a long drought of a Jimmy Carter-like national malaise.

Of course, the Left's radicals are melting down along with a few establishment Republicans. They find fault in every move by Trump. They've driven America into the ditch for nearly three decades with their "expertise" and yet they think we should still value their insight?

Democrats have the fewest seats in the U.S. House in generations - since 1938 to be exact. In the Senate, the Republicans have a narrow majority, but the Democrats under Harry Reid abandoned precedent and greatly diminished the minority party's power. Now that the Republicans have the majority, the Democrats have few tools with which to hinder the Trump juggernaut and its mandate to "Make America Great Again".

Which brings us to guns.

President-Elect Trump has formed a Second Amendment Coalition and expressed full-throated support for gun rights. He's one of us. It's time for us to seize the moment.

Extremism in defense of liberty is no vice. Moderation in pursuit of justice is no virtue.

Radical gun haters like Illinois State Senator Don Harmon want us to "compromise" with him on restricting gun rights. Senator, we can compromise on how long mandated minimum sentences should be for violent armed criminals. Compromise on fundamental Constitutional rights? *Go to hell, sir.*

People died to defend our God-given rights. We're not going to trade them away for your empty pledge of security as part of yet another risky gun control scheme doomed to failure.

National reciprocity is just a starting point. Let's press for national Constitutional Carry and see where we go. Take suppressors out of the National Firearms Act? Why not take everything else out as well? At the same time, let's pack the Supreme Court with Scalia-like justices who recognize and appreciate the original intent in the Second Amendment - and the rest of the founding document.

Our opponents are going to launch their shrill, Chicken Little "the sky is falling" caterwauling no matter what we do. We're dealing with zealots like Tricia Bishop, who wrote in *The Baltimore Sun*, "I'm less afraid of the criminals wielding guns in Baltimore than I am by those permitted gun owners." Well, honey, clearly you aren't thinking rationally. She also wrote:

I don't know that we owe President-elect Donald Trump an "open mind," as Hillary Clinton suggested in her speech to supporters Wednesday. He's shown himself to be a thin-skinned, tax-dodging, deal-renegeing, racist, xenophobic, anti-Semitic, misogynistic bully with very little self control...

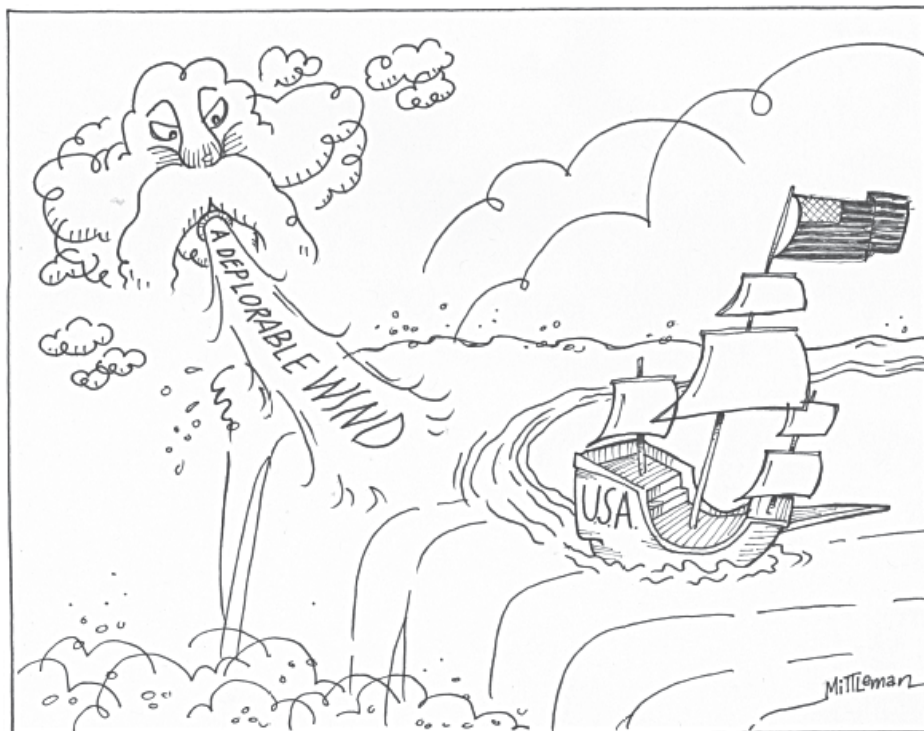
Bless her heart. Tricia Bishop doesn't have an open bone in her body to offer. If asked for substance to back up her baseless name-calling she would probably just get red-faced angry, sputter and stutter gibberish, then run sobbing to the nearest "safe space" with crayons, therapy dogs and marijuana brownies. The only position she supports when it comes to guns is confiscation. She relies on *ad hominem* attacks as she can't argue her case on the facts or logic.

Why should we moderate our mandate for radical extremists like Tricia Bishop, Don Harmon or others of their ilk?

It's time we quit acting like battered wives and stand up for ourselves. Our empowerment is at our hands. Let's aim for the stars in terms of freedom and maybe settle for the moon. For now, at least.

Over and Under It

by GSL's Monty Mittleman



A gun in hand or 911 on the phone?



WHY NOT BOTH?



Our thanks goes out to Oleg Volk for his continued permission to use his creative works in our gun rights advocacy work. You can see more of them at his website:

a-human-right.com

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Letters, including complaints or commendations, to the Editor are welcome. Please, limit your letter to 200 words. We reserve the right to edit or refuse publication of any submission. Anonymous letters are discouraged. Guest columns of 400 words are also welcome on timely issues, particularly those related to firearms, self-defense or similar topics. Letters and guest columns may be sent electronically to: hortberg@att.net.

Or you can mail your letter to:
Guns Save Life, Post Office Box 51,
Savoy, Illinois 61874

Fear & Loathing from the Left

by Johannes Paulsen

Given the way that Hillary supporters and their fellow travellers have comported themselves since election day, the concerns or doubts I've had about the wisdom of voting for President-Elect Trump have been steadily slipping away.

The past month hasn't been all sunshine and bunny rabbits, though. If there's one thing that's been shoved in our faces and illuminated with blinding klieg lights, it's that the constellation of political groups on the left really hate anyone who they suspect isn't on their side, and nowadays going to church is apparently a sin equivalent to being Steve Bannon in their eyes.

More than that, they're afraid of people who prioritize such right wing notions as the right to keep and bear arms.

We've always known that there were some people who aver that they are "less afraid of the criminals wielding guns . . . than I am by those permitted gun owners," as Tricia Bishop put it in the *Baltimore Sun*. In my misbegotten youth, I believed this was a simple matter of ignorance, one that could be cleared up through a liberal application of sunlight. There are none so blind, however, as those who refuse to see.

When I see the left throwing around slurs like "racist", "sexist", "homophobe" and "Islamophobe" at the President-elect and his supporters while Donald Trump is, literally, giving speeches where he "condemns bigotry in all of its forms and envisions an inclusive America premised on our own American dream," I see a lot of people who prefer the certitude of blindness to the occasional doubt induced by sight.

This is evidenced when you see things like George Takei placing the blame for an Islamic terrorist's car and knife attack at Ohio State on the NRA. You also see it in the sudden increase in assassination revenge fantasies directed at Donald Trump. You even see it in the quilting blog of a community college instructor that veers into unvarnished hate for her fellow citizens.

Last year, I wrote an article expressing concern that the NRA was going far afield of its mission when it offered the estimable Dana Loesch a platform for conservative views whose relationship to the right to keep and

bear arms was questionable. While I continue to believe that the NRA shouldn't fritter away its resources and political capital by searching for other dragons to slay, as gun owners we need to be cognizant of the fact that we are in the middle of a culture war. The other side views gun owners as deplorable, incorrigible cretins, unworthy to talk back to their "betters."

There are non-gun issues that impact us as firearm owners in this culture war. In the past, others have pointed out how the powers that be in the Democratic Party are counting on unregulated immigration to serve as cheap labor in the service of a technocratic elite, as well as a way to improve their election chances by increasing the number of voters who are beholden to them. California is, of course, the model for both, and the right to keep and bear arms does not fare well there.

For my part, I'm finding those arguments more and more persuasive — which is somewhat incredible when I reflect on my dearly departed grandmother who came to this country illegally after being orphaned in a flood in Mexico. She came here to be an American, and raised a daughter who cried real tears every July 4th. And December 7th. Perhaps the road less-travelled really does make all the difference.

For those reasons, I'm quite willing to be forgiving toward the President-elect. If I occasionally feel that some of Mr. Trump's off-the-cuff remarks on things such as flag burning are a bit off-putting, it's a small thing when compared to what I feel about people who are, right now, actively pushing — and passing — substantive laws to undermine the Bill of Rights. Especially when it looks like comments such as his are less indicative of an actual legislative agenda, and more a tool to smoke out the hate-filled groups who are arrayed against him — and us.

No, this isn't the Libertarian moment I'd hoped 2016 would bring. I cannot say, however, that the path we're currently on is leading us astray. I may be too optimistic (words rarely uttered in a firearms-related publication,) but the path we're on might actually lead to a brighter future. For that reason, I'm willing to give the President-elect the benefit of the doubt.

Reprinted from The Truth About Guns.



The end of one era, and the beginning of another.



ISRA's Executive Director's Message

Gen. Mad Dog Mattis and Armed Forces Training Camp coming to IL next year

by Richard Pearson

Illinois State Rifle Association

For the past eight years, the United States has suffered from the "lead from behind" strategy of the Obama Administration. Our soldiers have been handcuffed with stupid rules of engagement that have caused American soldiers to be killed and wounded unnecessarily. I believe this will come to an abrupt end on the 20th of January, or shortly thereafter. No one wants war, but if war does come, our military must be properly equipped, staffed, trained and given rules of engagement governed by rules of war, not politics. I believe the appointment of General James Mattis will change all of that for the better. It is important that we make sure General Mattis is appointed, despite the whining of the "cupcakes."

General Mattis has a couple of nicknames such as "Mad Dog" and the "Warrior Monk," both of which are descriptive of his demeanor. General Mattis is among the best generals the United States has ever had. He has been found talking to on-duty troops at 2 and 3am, and has personally served as Officer of the Day to relieve a married officer so he could be with his family. If General Mattis decided to attack the bowels of Hell, not only would his troops follow him, they would fight to be at the front of the line. General Mattis is that type of leader.

I feel that the mindset of the United States Military is about to change for the better. As the attitude toward our military improves and we start rebuilding our military, the number of recruits will increase dramatically. Many of those new military recruits have never touched a firearm; therefore, will need proper marksmanship training. They should know the fundamentals of shooting before ever joining the Armed Forces. The Illinois State Rifle Association was built off the idea of properly training civilians in marksmanship skills before joining the U.S. Military, back in 1903. We have trained thousands of marksmen since then.

There is a program to introduce new recruits to basic marksmanship before they report for duty. It is known as the Armed Forces Training Camp, which has proven highly beneficial in improving recruits' marksmanship scores when they get to basic training. I have worked on this program for several years and have been preparing to launch this program. Now is the time. The ISRA will activate this program on February 18, 2017. At that time, instructor orientation will begin. If you are interested, please contact me. The first instructor class will be limited to 30 people. The prerequisite will be a familiarity with the AR15 and instructor experience is preferred. Let me know.



Join the Guns Save Life family.
Membership form can be found on the back cover.



Heard

*"You have a cultural problem.
You have a spiritual problem.
You have an economic problem.
That's what you have, period.
And people who want to pretend that it's something that can be legislated, that some more government rules are going to fix this, is delusional."*

-- Kentucky's new Governor Matt Bevin on spike in murders in Louisville, KY



Miss Sloane:
Hollywood's latest anti-gun hit piece set to bomb
(Guns Save Life) - Hollywood is set to dump another political-themed turkey on Americans just in time for Christmas in *Miss Sloane*.

The politically tone-deaf movie features Hillary boot-licker Jessica Chastain as a powerful lobbyist who decides to ignore the evil NRA - a group with a higher approval rating than Congress and Hillary Clinton combined - and instead lobby for gun control.

The *Air America* crowd will no doubt love the movie. The rest of America? Probably not so much. Save your money. It'll be on a Big Lots clearance rack before Easter.



OMG! Americans! Naming Their Children After Guns!
(GSL) - *The UK Daily Mirror* published a piece sounding the alarm at the rapidly increasing popularity of gun-themed baby names in America. Of course, the piece launches with the number of people who perish from gunshot wounds each day. And fails to mention the millions of defensive gun uses occurring each year.

"In fact, a worryingly significant minority of parents are showing their devotion to the Second Amendment by naming their children after weapons," Ruth Halkon wrote, as though naming your kid with gun-themed names is a bad thing.

Sorry if Americans are built of sturdier stuff than the average brown-toothed Brit, who's been conditioned to soil their shorts at anything firearm-related.

"Violent parents are also embracing medieval weapons like Mace, Blade, Saber, Saw, and Dagger for boys as well as Sabre for girls," she wrote.



Carry your gun!
Obama Somali refugee launches terror attack

(Guns Save Life) - An 18-year-old Muslim Somali refugee, brought into the United States by Barack Obama in 2014, launched a terror attack on his fellow Ohio State University students on Monday, November 28th. Mirroring Islamic terror attacks in Israel, the man plowed his car into a group standing outside a class building after someone pulled a fire alarm. He then got out and began slashing and stabbing anyone he could catch.

About two minutes after the rampage began, the terrorist ran into a police officer. The cop issued commands to drop the knife, but the terrorist instead charged. The police officer put the monster down like a rabid dog.



MO Gov.-elect's wife robbed at gunpoint

St. Louis (GSL) - Violent crime is rampant in parts of St. Louis, just as it has grown out of control in many urban centers across America during the last eight years. In fact, according to Gallup, crime has risen to a 16-year-high. It affects everyone, too, including the wife of Missouri's Governor-Elect Eric Greitens. Fortunately her husband reports that she's safe after being held up by three young males in a St. Louis parking lot in the city's Central West End neighborhood.

She had just left a restaurant and had settled into task fixation checking her phone when one of her attackers opened her car door and stuck a gun in her face. She surrendered her phone and laptop and the trio ran off.

Police caught up with them a short time later in a stolen car and a pursuit commenced. The young thugs crashed and fled on foot, only to be nabbed by fleet-footed officers. The three violent predators, ages 14, 15 and 19 now face a host of charges. Authorities indicated the suspects might well be responsible for a series of break-ins and robberies.

That's just the imported stuff...

Americans Bought 17,850 Tons of Imported Ammo in Last 12 Months


How much ammo is 17,850 tons? That's a 2.68 mile long freight train with 255 freight cars plus locomotives.



(Breitbart) - As gun sales have skyrocketed over the past 19 months, ammunition sales have also surged, with "17,850 tons" of imported ammunition being sold in the past 12 months. That is nearly 18,000 tons of ammo in a year's time and approximately "2,865 tons of bullets" that were imported in November alone.

CNN Money pointed to figures from research firm Panjiva, which show ammunition imports for last month were up 200% over where they were a year ago. Panjiva's Chris Rogers said, "It's very unusual in an import industry like this to see such a big move. It tells you that there's a customer demand that's not being met by U.S. manufacturers."

Panjiva identifies the top foreign importer as "Poongsan Corp." of South Korea. "Fiocchi Munizioni of Italy and Prvi Partizan of Serbia" are next in line, as far as foreign ammunition importers go.



Champaign

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Product Review:

Taurus Model 85

A good gun. An even better value.



one out. What's more, I have it on good authority that when God shoots recreationally, He brings His revolver.

The .38 Special is a versatile round. It's an effective man-stopper in the old FBI load, the 158-grain semi-wad cutter hollow-point in +P. The recoil adverse can shoot standard-pressure loads with lighter bullets down to a 95-grain, .380-style projectile. In fact, you can load up paraffin "bullets" or foam earplugs into primed cases

and practice shooting indoors if you're truly hard-core.

The Taurus Model 85 is comfortable to hold and looks good. The cylinder release is a little more difficult to engage than I'm accustomed to with tuned S&W Model 64s and 65s. The cylinder doesn't swing out perfectly smoothly, but it doesn't hang up or bind up either.

The ejection rod felt as though it had been lubricated with extra-fine sand, but a big drop of oil smoothed it right out. That was the extent of the pre-shooting lubrication/maintenance I employed.

First Shots

The lighting at the C.I. Shooting Sports range where I test fired the gun was a long way from bright sunshine, and made the gray front sight kind of fuzz out against the same stainless steel gray of the rear notch. At least it did for my almost 50-year-old eyeballs. So I used my handy Sharpie to color the top half of the front sight blade red. I could have used a match and sooted the front sight blade, too, but sometimes ranges get a little hinky about open flames.

The trigger pulled smoothly, although it stacks at the end. Like most guns, it could probably be tuned into something better by a skilled 'smith. As you'd expect in a revolver, it's a fairly long pull, and my trigger finger tends to bump into my support hand when fired in my favored two-handed grip when striving for high precision. Ladies (or guys with girly-sized hands) may not have that problem.

The revolver weighs in at 22+ ounces empty, twice the weight of a loaded Kel-Tec P3AT. That's a few ounces lighter than a Ruger SP-101, so it's not a complete boat anchor...more like a partial boat anchor, but that heft helps tame the recoil. As a long-time instructor, I've shot more than a few ultra-light snubnosed .38s. Some of the exotic featherweight guns feature recoil akin to corporal punishment of the hands.

By the time I'd shot through nearly two boxes of factory Remington 130gr. FMJ

ammo, my trigger finger ached. Granted, I had test-fired a few cylinders of the old FBI 158gr. .38 Special +P loads too. Those were extra lively, but manageable. By the time I finished shooting the +Ps and some more miscellaneous practice ammo, my trigger finger begged me to go home.

I encountered zero malfunctions, which was exactly what I expected. I had a handful of shell cases hang-up a bit when lackadaisically plunging the ejector rod, but that's a user-caused problem - I'll take the blame there. Given how it's not a full-length ejector rod (as on K-framed Smith & Wessons), that's not unexpected. The primer strikes looked robust, too, as they should.

If you have a problem with the gun, Taurus offers lifetime warranty on their modern production guns. While I needed no service with this little pistol, my sole experience with Taurus warranty service sucked like a shop vac, so hopefully your experience - if needed - will be better. Let's hope that recent rumors of improvement in that area are true. Or -- better yet -- you won't need to find out.

The Whole Package

For the money, this old-school snubby offers good value and should provide a lifetime of service unless you're working it heavily. It's a very affordable pocket gun that does what it's supposed to do and does it well.



Two five-round strings from 5 yards.

Aesthetics: ****

I think it looks pretty, but then again, I think Mila Kunis is hot, so take that for what it's worth. Everything fits together nicely and it looks professionally manufactured. It's certainly old-school and lacks some of the sexiness and features (cough, tactical rail) of some of the newer self-defense pistols.

Accuracy: ***

The average end user is never going to use this wheelgun to poke holes at Olympic shooting competitions. For minute-of-bad guy, this gun gets it done. I suspect it will shoot tighter groups than I was able to achieve. Given the limited sight radius, long trigger pull, and a front sight blade that disappeared in the mediocre lighting where I test fired it, the Model 85 gives plenty of minute of bad guy deterrence you want in a snubby.

Ergonomics-Handling: ****

The rubber grip provides a comfortably solid hold on the handgun. It points naturally. It's got some heft, but it's not like the anchor my Ruger SP-101. The long trigger pull trigger pull is smooth but stacks at the end. Large-handed shooters will have to adapt or get bigger grips.

Ergonomics-Firing: ****

Better than average for a snubby revolver. Its heft and the grips help attenuate perceived recoil. Your trigger finger will take the bulk of any punishment the 85 doles out. You won't want to take it to a class where you're shooting 250 rounds over a weekend, but for a 50-round trip to the range, the little Taurus handles about as tolerably as a revolver of this type can.

Customization: ***

There's no rail. There's no adjustable grip panels, although you could probably swap out the grips (although I think you'd be a fool to do so unless you've got unique needs). The trigger could benefit from a fluff and buff by a gunsmith. Holsters, speed loaders, and gear are relatively easy to acquire as it's pretty much the same size as the millions of S&W J-frames out there. Night sights might be tricky, but who puts \$100 night sights on a \$250 gun?

Overall: ****

The Taurus Model 85 provides great value for its sub-\$300 street price. For those on a budget needing a purse or pocket revolver (and who don't mind the exposed hammer) it's very viable option. You can spend (a lot) more on a Smith or Ruger, but if you have limited resources, or want to keep a few more dollars in your pocket, you can rely on the Taurus Model 85 to do what you need a pocket gun to do. When mated up with 158gr. SWC-HP +P ammo, you'll have a formidable personal defense piece at your side.

by John Boch

Taurus doesn't like me because a couple of years ago I nicknamed their novelty self-defense gun without sights "The Taurus Turd". That incident came after I endured a horrific \$100 learning experience with their poor customer service. I've put all of that under the bridge to evaluate a Taurus product. The Taurus Model 85 specimen I reviewed is a good little gun and an even better value.

I won this Model 85 at a Guns Save Life monthly meeting and I recently took it out to give it a test drive. Taurus didn't give it to me to review (and keep), so I don't owe them anything. As I mentioned above, I don't have a lot of love for Taurus USA today, but I've still got fond memories of the first Taurus 85 I bought as a gift to fiancée #1. That one left with her twenty-plus years ago. While I'm okay with that breakup, I've always missed that little 85. That hole in my heart has been restored.

First Looks

This old-school snub-nosed revolver is made of not-so-old-school stainless with a matte finish. The manufacturing looks well done, with parts fitting together well and little to no tool marks. It's a five-shot revolver, chambered in .38 Special and rated for +P loads.

One of its biggest selling points is its price. The model 85 carries a \$371 MSRP, but can be easily found on sale for low \$200s. That's darn affordable for a brand-new gun for those on a limited budget.

Why a 5-shot revolver over some of the newer, small-framed .380 Autos or even similar 9mm products? Revolvers can be fired from inside a pocket or purse without malfunctioning, giving a bad guy or gal the surprise of a lifetime. Revolvers also operate using the original point and click interface. Malfunctions in wheel-guns are typically much fewer and farther between than with semi-autos.

Another plus: They're easy and simple to load and unload for novices -- anyone who's ever watched a western can figure

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Concealed Carry "Insurance"

by John Boch

So, you took the plunge and got your concealed carry license. Good for you. You're one of almost a quarter million Illinoisans who have chosen to take proactive action to help keep themselves safe.

While some of us carry everyday, others only carry occasionally.

Either way, prudent people will do two things to further their personal and family safety:

1. They will seek knowledge and training on how to avoid and de-escalate a conflict, and if necessary how to effectively use their gun to dissuade a violent criminal predator.

2. They will give serious thought to buying some "concealed carry insurance" - particularly in this time of politics entering decisions on whether or not to prosecute good guys who ventilate bad guys.

First off, it's not really insurance, per se. Insurance covers accidents and Acts of God. Your homeowner's policy doesn't typically cover intentional acts. Punching Mongo the Mauler's ticket with your handy S&W .44 Magnum is very much a deliberate and intentional act.

How it works

Most of the CCW "insurance" options out there will pay a retainer up front to an attorney of your choice, typically \$5,000 - \$20,000 depending on the coverage. The balance is paid in reimbursing you for your costs over that amount up to the policy limit. Limits can vary wildly, as can policy fees. Most companies also cover civil suits in addition to criminal defense.

What you need

What do you need in the way of coverage? It depends(tm). Do you patronize the Dewdrop Inn looking for recreational pharmaceuticals and companionship at late hours? Do you drink while carrying? Do you have a hot temper? Do you do stupid things, in stupid places with stupid or not-so-stupid people? Are you practiced in the art of the single-digit salute? If you do one or more of the above, you might look for a policy with larger coverage. Or multiple policies.

For most of us who carry prudently and live responsibly and soberly, we probably



won't need a whole lot of coverage. In fact, if you act to the standard by which you will be judged (and if you've been to a GSL Defense Training class where legal segments are taught by real lawyers, you've heard that before) then most of the time modest coverage is more than enough.

In fact, if it's a righteous shoot (or stabbing - yes, they typically cover all manner of weapons used in self-defense), a \$5,000 or \$10,000 retainer will usually get you back home to your family within a day or two at most.

It's those George Zimmerman-style cases that make everyone's sphincters tighten up. You know - the righteous shoot that gets prosecuted to placate mobs of the prosecutor's constituents who are threatening to burn their community down in "peaceful protests" if the good guy doesn't get charged.

Attorney Referrals.

Want another reason to sign up for some CCW insurance? What happens when you are on vacation or business halfway across country. Some wiseacre tries to perform thoracic surgery on you with his Buck knife, but you rapidly and promiscuously light him up instead. What then?

Reputable CCW insurance companies will have a referral list of the best attorneys from every state to call upon for skilled criminal defense services. Even in Montgomery, Alabama where I personally almost smoked a would-be armed robber. I cleared my shirt and put my hand on

Mr. Glock. I non-verbally explained what was going to happen next if he continued his course of action. Thankfully, he found Jesus and chose wisely from there.

Educational Materials.

Another bonus of membership in the more reputable companies are the educational materials they provide. It's in their best interest to make you a more informed customer - especially for folks who haven't gotten any formal training in legal considerations to using deadly force.

Videos and written materials may be sent to you, depending on the company, once you've enrolled in coverage. More materials will likely be available online.

Armed Citizens Defense Network, for instance, sends their customers a series of DVDs and a host of other educational materials. Some of the DVDs are better than others, but a couple by Massad Ayoob are top shelf. I paid \$800 to watch them twenty years ago as part of my Lethal Force Institute training, and you're getting copies to keep and re-watch for a \$135 annual membership. That's pretty sweet.

My advice is to steer clear of any legal defense insurance company that doesn't offer educational materials and an attorney referral list.

My favorites.

I have looked into six or eight of these companies and two stand out in my mind.

I'm a member of the Armed Citizens Legal Defense Network. They offer a \$10,000 automatic retainer to an attorney of my choice following a deadly force encounter (if charged with a felony), and they can refer an attorney to me if I'm outside of central Illinois.

They will write additional checks for attorneys fees and/or expert witnesses, IF their panel of experts including Massad Ayoob, John Farnam, Dennis Tueller, Marty Hayes and others deem your case a righteous use of force.

The Armed Citizens Legal Defense Network pays coverage, up to their limits (currently about \$400,000!), before the verdict is announced if they believe it's a righteous use of force in self-defense. They are the only company that does this. All of the others I'm aware of reimburse you after a not-guilty verdict and any appeals are exhausted for all monies over the initial retainer.

If you're like me, you don't have \$50,000 sitting (rotting away?) in the bank just waiting to keep financing your legal defense team from Dewey, Cheatham, and Howe to keep your butt from getting found guilty.

My other favorite is the US Concealed Carry Association. Like the ACLDN, they have a tremendous bevy of educational materials and are the nicest people you'll ever meet. They have attorneys they can refer you to, along with expert witnesses. Their *Concealed Carry* magazine is slick, full-color and very professionally done. I subscribe to it and I don't even have their insurance.

Unlike ACLDN, they pay all but the retainer *after* you're acquitted. That may be months or years after the incident.

Fair warning: USCCA will blizzard your e-mail account with tons of marketing stuff. They are relentless. That problem is easily solved with a throwaway email address, but most people don't know about the aggressive marketing until it's too late.

The others?

I have less of a working knowledge of some of the other companies. They vary in coverage and cost. Some are multi-level marketing (sort of like Amway), others are more like traditional insurance. In any event, investigate as you will, but if you're like me, you'll probably find ACLDN or USCCA as among the best products out there.

WANT TO SAVE \$25?

The **Armed Citizens Legal Defense Network** people recently offered me a coupon code for our GSL family.

Use Coupon Code to save \$25
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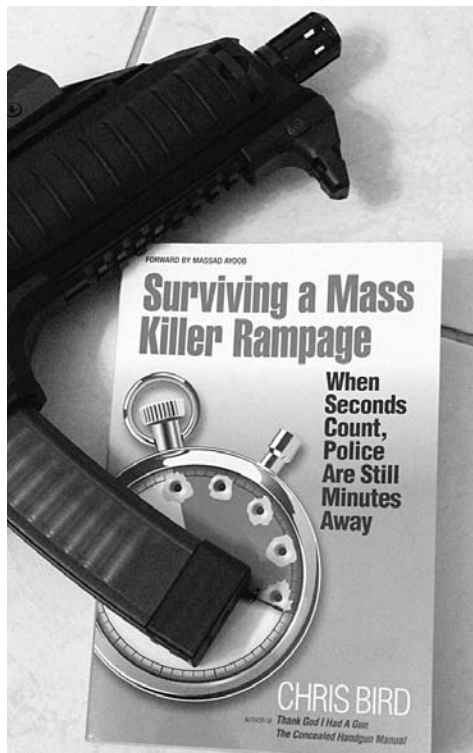
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Book Review

Surviving a Mass Killer Rampage: When Second Count, Police are Still Minutes Away.



by John Boch

Chris Bird should be no stranger to gun owners.

If you like “Armed Citizen” stories in the NRA publications (or similar stories in *GunNews*), Bird’s book, “*Thank God I Had A Gun: True Accounts of Self-Defense*” belongs on your bookshelf. He has gone out and interviewed the players and retells their accounts in dramatic fashion. He puts you in the shoes of the good guys. He also covers the aftermath as well, educating readers on things done well - and not so well. His research is outstanding.

For the casual concealed carry licensee, especially in states that don’t require training to carry, his book “*The Concealed Handgun Manual: How to Choose, Carry, and Shoot a Gun in Self Defense*” is a comprehensive manual that proves easy to read. It seems almost trite to say “it could save your life”, but it could.

Now, he’s released his latest: *Surviving A Mass Killer Rampage: When Second Count, Police are Still Minutes Away*. When I sat down with it, I noticed a host of topics covering the gamut. He covers mass killings in a host of environments, from schools to churches to malls and everywhere else. He relates information he’s learned from some of the best names in training gleaned from their courses - information that’s proven to save lives and stop bad people with true evil in their hearts. Even if you don’t (or more likely, can’t) carry, there’s tips for unarmed folks in event they find themselves at a location that makes headlines tomorrow.

Honestly, I didn’t want to read it. Time is precious and spare time is non-existent in my world, but sampling turned into hours of reading. Damn Chris Bird.

Yes, he jumps around a little bit but the information is good. I teach much of this same stuff in GSL Defense Training courses

for adults and teens, but I still picked up some new ways of looking at things. Bird hits all the basics and then some. His understanding and learning is rock-solid as he shares it with readers.

Some of the stuff is a little dry, but there’s plenty of tales interweaved to make you proud of your fellow Americans and gun owners. You never know when you’ve got a genuine hero next door who can and will step up to save lives while risking his or her own. As with this “Thank God I Had a Gun” book, he interviews the players and puts you in their shoes through painstaking research and interviews. Those provide entertaining reading.

There are other heroes in the book too. Specifically, the people who are leading the charge to arm teachers, church members and their work to change policies on civilians carrying guns. Bird rides along training programs to empower teachers to carry guns to protect their schools. Ditto for church pastors and members doing the same for their houses of worship.

There are bad guys in the book as well. Plenty of them. Both killers and politicians who enable them. You’ll get enough of both to make your blood boil.

The book strives to educate you on how to avoid become a victim of the next lunatic, social misfit or terrorist killer. It makes your guts churn reading about how politicians (and more than a few Americans) can’t fathom how “gun free zones” are nothing more than a dinner bell for would-be killers.



Misguided people (imbeciles?) continue to maintain the fiction that a “no guns” sign stops evil like a magical talisman. Chris shows us over and over that only thing that makes sacred places safe is people like us who carry the attitudes and abilities with which to stop evil.

The book is a mixture of political advocacy and personal self-defense strategies. I can tell those interviews Bird has completed with real people have hardened his beliefs and his passion to try to help save lives.

As with his other books, his research is outstanding. He didn’t just talk with experts, he went and took or audited their classes. He got his feet wet and hands dirty. He’s serious about this stuff.

Go out and get this book. It’s available at Amazon and maybe even your local bookstore. If you hustle, it can be on your doorstep before Christmas if you’re looking for that Christmas gift for someone you love. Or yourself.



CMP

Civilian Marksmanship Program

Abe Lincoln Gun Club Junior CMP Shooting Program

6360 PEC Road, Springfield, IL | abelincolngunclub.com

On the third Sunday of every month (except April and June), the Abe Lincoln Gun Club will be hosting an open shooting event from 4 to 6pm for 10 through 20 year-old youth. Basic firearm safety will be stressed, and developing/improving marksmanship skills will be the focus of these two hour sessions.

ALGC will furnish age-appropriate .22 rifles, ammunition, targets, eye and ear protection, and all other equipment needed to learn and develop safe shooting fundamentals. These events are in affiliation with the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP), a national organization dedicated to shooting competition, safety, and training. **ALGC is a not-for-profit club that sponsors this program at no cost to participants.** Club membership is not required. NRA trained instructors and experienced coaches will be on hand.

All cold weather and inclement weather sessions will be held in our heated indoor 25 yard range. All remaining sessions will be outdoors on our 50 and 100 yard range through the month of October. Come to one session or come to several throughout the year. A signed liability waiver will be required of all our guests on Club property for the first time. No personal firearms please. No FOID is required.

2017 SCHEDULE

**January 15, February 19, March 18, April 23, May 21,
June 25, July 16, August 20, September 17, October 15**

An excellent opportunity for familiarization, training, and friendly competition with other kids in a controlled and safe environment. We also have a lot of fun...

For more information, Contact Steve Rowoldt (217) 787-8493 smr_spi@yahoo.com or Dan Croll (217) 836-7663

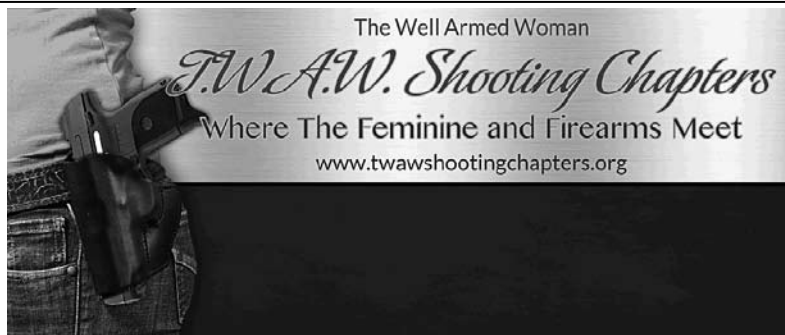
WANTED



We want pictures of you and your friends safely enjoying your firearms. *GunNews* wants to feature our readers throughout the publication, including the front page for great photos of people having fun

Send your submissions to gunnewseditor@gunssavelife.com

Coming Events



3rd Wednesday
6:00pm - 8:00pm
Christian County
Locked and Loaded, Pana, IL

3rd Sunday
1:00pm - 3:00pm
Ogle County
Tri County Gun Club, Polo, IL

4th Friday
6:00pm - 8:00pm
Greater Peoria Area
Chillicothe Sportsmen's Club, Chillicothe, IL

3rd Tuesday &
3rd Thursday 6:00pm - 8:00pm
SangChris
Siddens Gun Range, Buckhart, IL

4th Wednesday 6:30pm
Springfield, IL
Springfield Shooting Center, Springfield, IL

1st Thursday 6:30pm, 7:30pm Shooting
Bloomington-Normal, IL
CI Shooting & Sports, Normal, IL

1st Wednesday 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Champaign County
High Caliber Training Center, Urbana, IL

Monday nights 7:00pm
Chicago Western Suburbs
Range at 355, Bolingbrook, IL

Monday nights 7:00pm
Cook County O'Hare
Maxon Shooters Supply & Indoor Range
Des Plaines, IL

3rd Monday 6:30pm - 8:30pm
Kane County
GAT Guns, East Dundee, IL

Generally Tuesday 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Lake County
Bass Pro Shops, Gurnee, IL.

Generally Tuesday 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Macon County
The Bullet Trap, Macon, IL
Email twaw.naconco1@yahoo.com

Last Sunday 3:00pm - 5:00pm
Metro East (St. Louis area)
Town and Country Gun Club, Maryville, IL

First Tuesday 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Metro Peoria / River City
Allegiant Firearms, Peoria, IL

2nd Thursday
4th Monday 6:30pm - 8:00pm
Sangamon-Menard
MTM Arms, Athens, IL

3rd Friday 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Sauk Valley
Sinnissippi Rod and Gun Club Sterling, IL

2nd Tuesday 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Vermilion County
Quick Draw Gun Range, Danville, IL

2nd Thursday 5:30pm - 7:30pm
Coles / Cumberland
County Line Shooting Center, Teutopolis

3rd Thursday 6:00pm - 8:00pm
Pocahontas
Rampart Range, Pocahontas, IL

Ranges / Gun Shows

Appleseed Rifle Marksmanship & Heritage Clinics
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Danville Rifle and Pistol Club
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DeWitt County Sportsman's Club
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DewittCountySC.com

Foosland Sportsmens Club
2nd and 4th Tuesdays: Tuesday Night Trap-
shoots 6pm
Splatterboard - Breakfast 6am, Splatterboard
8am. January 1, February 12, March 12, April 9
2nd Sunday: Annie Shoot 10am for sign up
\$5 Lunch available
fooslandsportsmensclub.com

Leroy Rifle and Pistol Club
Every Thursday 4-9p: 50 Bird Trap Derby
Dick Miller, 309-962-8102
rcmillerir2001@yahoo.com

Westville Sportsmans Club
Trapshooting Practice open to the public
Every Wednesday 6p-10p
Trapshooting Games open to the public
Every Saturday 6p-10p
Kitchen open both nights. For more information,
email nuthinbutdust@yahoo.com

Darnall's GunWorks and Ranges
Bloomington, IL
Tactical Pistol League Wednesday evenings
(indoors)
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CI Shooting Sports
Normal, IL
Events almost daily. Check our calendar.
CIShootingSports.com

St. Joseph Sportsman's Club
Trap and skeet shooting, open to the public
Wednesdays 5p-10p, Saturdays Noon-4p
217-469-2768 Memberships Available
stjosephsportsmanclub@gmail.com

ISRA Range
Bonfield, IL
First Sunday: Black Powder League, 9a-2p
Tom Fahrenbach 630-327-3820 or tef1@att.net
First Sunday 8:30 - Noon: Combat Pistol League
& 3-Gun
John Newman 815-954-8389
or combatpistolleague@gmail.com
For information about events,
see www.isra.org, or call 815-635-3198

Gun Shows
Jan. 14 & 15 - **Belleville Gun Show**, Belle Clair
Fairgrounds, Belleville, IL.
Jan. 14 & 15 - **Kankakee Gun & Sportsman
Expo**, Kankakee Co. Fairgrounds, Kankakee, IL.
Jan. 21 & 22 - **Shellstruck Gun Show**, American
Legion, Galesburg, IL.
Jan. 21 & 22 - **Highland Gun Show**, Lindendale
Park, Highland, IL. Jan. 28 & 29 - **Gun Show at
the Grotto**, Gao Grotto, Danville, IL.
Jan. 28 & 29 - **Springfield Gun Show**, Illinois
State Fairgrounds, Springfield, IL.

Friends of NRA
Jan. 28 - **Southern Illinois Regional Event**
Friends of NRA, Keller Convention Center,
Effingham, IL. Tracey Warren, 252-281-3090;
Email: cloversidefarms@gmail.com.



GSL MEETINGS!

January 29: Chicagoland
DA's Deli and Dining
7260 West 159th Street, Orland Park, IL
Dinner 4:00pm Meeting 5:30pm
Alfreda Keith-Keller 708-800-5263
fredaka9@comcast.net

January 5: Peoria
Childers Banquet & Catering
3113 Dries Lane, Peoria, IL
Dinner 5:00pm Meeting 7:00pm
Steve Schnurbusch 573-768-2450
steve_schnurbusch@hotmail.com

January 2: Sangamon County
Scheels
3801 S MacArthur, Springfield, IL
Jay Ater 217-473-7450
datinmanjay@hotmail.com

January 3: Pontiac
VFW Post 886
531 W Lincoln, Pontiac, IL
Jackie Gragson 815-257-8706
gragsonj@gunssavelife.com

January 10: Champaign Co.
Knights of Columbus
1001 N. Ohio, Rantoul, IL 61866
Allan Cermak 217-381-2340
cermak.allan.j@gmail.com

January 11: Charleston
Charleston VFW
1821 20th Street, Charleston, IL
Bill Harrison 217-345-2556
mrbil1@juno.com

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Holiday Gun Sales Soar

Proving Once Again That Pundits Are Not Having a Very Good Year at All

(Independent Journal-Review) - From Sandy Hook Elementary, to the church in Charleston, to the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, President Obama and the Democrats have jumped on virtually every mass shooting in America over the last 8 years to call for additional gun control legislation.

But millions of Americans aren't buying it. What they are buying are guns. At a record clip.

As reported by The Boston Globe, 2016 gun sales have already set an all-time record, based on the number of gun transaction-related criminal background checks conducted.

The reason is simple — as explained by an industry analyst, following the Sandy Hook shooting: "When people think they won't be able to buy guns, they buy guns."

So as Obama has dutifully followed Rahm Emanuel's famous admonition—"never let a good crisis go to waste"—his dogged efforts have unintentionally and ironically turned him into the "top gun salesman" in America.

The Globe reports that more than 24.7 million criminal background checks for

gun purchases were processed through the end of November; 1.6 million more than in all of 2015, which was also a record year, dating back to the late 1990s.

Background checks have set record numbers for 19 consecutive months.

Black Friday this year set a new record for the highest number of checks in a single day. According to the Globe, 185,713 checks were processed, edging out the 185,345 checks processed on Black Friday, last year.

The final count for 2016 will likely increase significantly after this month's numbers are included. In 2015, a record 3.3 million checks were processed in December.

During a town hall on PBS in June, Obama was asked why he wants to restrict the rights of law-abiding citizens, which he denied. The questioner used Obama's hometown of Chicago as an example of why many people believe restrictive gun laws aid criminals.

"There have been more guns sold since I've been president than just about any time in U.S. history," he used as an example. Apparently he's never realized why it's true.



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Champaign Co.'s GSL Moving to Rantoul!

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*Dinner and conversation at 5pm.
Meeting business at 7pm.*





Join us at family-friendly meetings

There's something for young and old alike at Guns Save Life meetings. Here Ryan Sweeney holds his youngest son Jeremy at the Champaign County GSL meeting at Fluid Events in Champaign.

Reminder: Come hungry!

**Champaign Co.'s GSL
Moving to Rantoul!**

**Knights of Columbus
1001 N. Ohio St.
Rantoul, IL**

**Dinner and conversation at 5pm.
Meeting business at 7pm.**



The Radical Left's plans to Disrupt Inauguration Day

(GunFreeZone Blog) - Michael Moore went on Chris Hayes' show to say how the Left has to stop the Trump inauguration at all costs, including violence. This aligns with the DisruptJ20 protest/day of violence [set for Inauguration Day], that is being staged as well.

What we are seeing is a bunch of Liberal and Social Justice elites doing their damndest to overturn the will of knuckle-dragging, cousin-humping, dirt-under-the-fingernails, red-neck, unwashed masses, aka, working class middle America. They will use protests and even violence to get their way.

If celebrity videos and harassment sway the electoral college, or if rioters shut down the inauguration; I don't think the Left knows what it is in for. Forget Obama's status as gun salesman of the year. Let Mr. Bowling-for-Columbine keep demanding that butthurt Left-ists try to shut down a Trump presidency.

I don't think they realize it, but this is a declaration of war. Maybe they do realize it, and they think they will win.

They are wrong.

GunNews Magazine - 24 - January 2017

What are friends for?

Sign up a friend for only \$20 more!

Renew or sign up for a new one-year membership in Guns Save Life, and you can sign up a second individual for an annual membership for \$20 more.

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It's just \$30 each year and that allows us to continue our work at the local and state level defending your right to defend yourself. Membership has its privileges:

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- **Discounts at some gun shops.**
- **Guns save Life is a CMP-eligible club.**
Visit the cmp.org to see how you can order an M1 Garand rifle for \$495 to \$695.
- **Members Only website content.**
Exclusive reviews, articles, training information, downloadable targets and videos.
- **Discounted products and services from the club and its members.**
Members get it cheaper.
- **Pride of ownership in our famous highway signs.**
Yes, you may call them "your own" when telling friends about them.
- **Members only Legal Defense Fund.**
Legal support for those who are victims of inappropriate or unjust firearm or self-defense related arrests as well as justifiable use of force, self-defense incidents.

Sign up here!

Clip this application and mail it along with your check to
GunsSaveLife.com, PO Box 51, Savoy, IL 61874.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City State Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

(for urgent alerts only)

We need your email address to allow you access to Members Only content on the gunssavelifelife.com website.

Membership:

- \$30 - Annual membership / Renewal
- \$20 - Sign up a friend (with a regular annual membership)
- \$90 - Three-year membership
- \$60 - Sign up three friends
- \$50 - Family membership
- \$150 - Family membership Three-year
- \$50 - Business membership
- \$1000 - Life membership
- \$500 - Life membership over 65

\$ _____ Total Enclosed Is this a gift? from whom? _____

Mail this form and payment (checks payable to: Guns Save Life) to:

GunsSaveLife.com

P.O. Box 51

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Contributions or gifts to Guns Save Life are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.

