



Gov. Hodges signs GrassRoots CWP and Gun Law Reforms Bill

By Ed Kelleher

President, GrassRoots GunRights

House bill H.3010, GrassRoots CWP Reform, was signed into law and became effective May 28, 2002. There was no ceremony and we thought that was that. We weren't disappointed. With all the last minute bullets we had dodged, we just breathed a sigh of relief that three years of hard work had a successful conclusion. We were looking forward to taking a little break. Well, we didn't get to rest long. Monday, June 10, Sen. Jake Knotts called and said the governor was going to have a ceremonial signing that Wednesday, in 2 days. Jake wanted us to fill up the State House. We were thinking, "What for?"

We'd won the battle! The GrassRoots CWP reforms are now law! But, then we realized the WAR against our gun rights wasn't over yet. There were more, even tougher battles to fight in the future. We'd worked hard, but one more thing was needed right now to help us follow through and pave the way for future victories! Just as "follow through" is important after you've let off a shot, this "ceremonial" signing was important also. Every major TV station in South Carolina was expected to have camera crews at the statehouse for the signing. We had more work to do.

The politicians knew GrassRoots couldn't be ignored. The politicians had this pounded into them by the thousands and thousands of postcards and calls and faxes you sent them during our battle to get reasonable CWP reforms passed and to kill the TAX ON SELF DEFENSE!



With the governor, from left to right, are GrassRoots President, Ed Kelleher, GrassRoots Communications Director, Larry Coble and son, Senator Andre Bauer, Senator Jake Knotts, and GrassRoots V.P. and Legislative Director, Rob Butler.

But, the media hadn't seen the post cards. The media didn't have much of an idea yet of what GrassRoots really was. The media think we are a FRINGE group! The media are market driven. Like politicians, they count the numbers. But they're not as smart as politicians. We, GrassRoots members and support-

ers, have to SHOW them which way the wind is blowing. We have to show the media that the tide has changed and is now rushing to honor liberty and the individual freedom to carry the necessary tools of self defense.

So, we sent out an email alert, which was all we had time to do, asking

everyone who possibly could to stop what they were doing and rush to the State House Wednesday.

Well, Wednesday rolled around and God bless 'em if we didn't have over 70 people from all over the state crowd into

See **BILL** Page 12

State Farm And Prudential Don't Like Guns

By Larry Pratt

Executive Director
Gun Owners of America

Gary Atkinson, a South Carolina businessman [and GrassRoots member - Ed] and Del Bruno, a Connecticut cop, have had a common problem. When their insurance companies found out that they were involved with guns, they had their insurance coverage canceled.

Del Bruno sought a homeowners policy for his new condo. Just after taking out his policy with Prudential, they wanted a list of his guns and their serial numbers upon learning that he owned

firearms. For whatever reason, they decided that the Mossberg 500 was a no-no, and they cancelled his policy.

Prudential was of the opinion that Bruno's shotgun was not a sporting weapon, the only kind they will insure.

Gary Atkinson had been with State Farm for 34 years. He wanted to be sure his homeowners policy was up to date, especially — as he told his agent's assistant — since he has a pool and a shooting range on an adjacent property. "A shooting range?" (Forget the fact that pools are more dangerous. The magic word is GUN.)

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GrassRoots GunRights - Staying in Touch With Our Members

By Larry Coble

GrassRoots has established several means of communication with its members so as to allow members to choose the amount of contact they wish to receive. Here are the main ways we try to stay in touch with our membership.

Newspaper: The minimum level of contact is provided to each member who chooses to simply receive his or her newspaper four times a year.

We are very aware of the fact that the majority of our members do not have Internet access or fax machines so we always try to include all pertinent information in our quarterly newspapers to keep our membership up-to-date with GrassRoots GunRights.

Currently our newspaper is published and distributed quarterly - February, May, August, November - to the membership of GrassRoots. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the preceding month.

Submissions can be sent by mail to Editor, c/o GrassRoots South Carolina, P.O. Box 6383, Columbia, SC 29260, via fax to 803-755-1201, or electronically to newsletter@scfirearms.org.

Special Mailings: From time to time we have a need to contact our

members at times other than at quarterly newspaper mailings. Several times during this last legislative session leadership needed you to send postcards, call, and fax your legislators to facilitate passage of our CWP reforms.

While these mailings are always sent to GrassRoots members to keep you informed, sometimes we also use other mail lists to generate additional support on issues. Unfortunately, due to the incompatibility of various mailing lists, you may receive more than one of a particular mailing. We acknowledge this is wasteful but it can not always be helped.

We ask you to use any additional mail pieces you may receive in instances like this by passing them on to a friend, neighbor, family member, fellow CWP holder, or anyone that may be interested in furthering their gun rights. Take lemons and make lemonade while recruiting a new member!

Web Page: Additionally, we maintain a web page 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for those who choose to make contact an option initiated from their end. The web site is constantly updated with monthly updates and notices, as they become available. The GrassRoots web page is located at: www.scfirearms.org

E-Mail: For those with e-mail access who wish monthly contact we have our E-mail Updates list. The E-mail

Updates list provides members with monthly GrassRoots updates delivered directly to their e-mail boxes. This list is also used to send Legislative Alerts out periodically throughout the legislative session and whenever immediate contact with our membership is necessary. We have approximately 4000 members and friends on this e-mail list.

We strongly encourage every member to sign up for our e-mail list. Never miss another gunshow, class offering, or special event by staying current via the GrassRoots Updates and Alerts E-Mail list. You can sign up for this list on our webpage or simply send me a note at:

webmaster@scfirearms.org.

Online Discussion Groups: For those members that just can't get enough of a good thing, we have the [scfirearms] e-mail discussion group which members and the public can join from our web page. The [scfirearms] e-mail discussion group is an active daily discussion of South Carolina firearm's issues. Expect to receive daily e-mail if you join this group (once a day delivery in a digest form is an option).

Another discussion group has been formed exclusively for GrassRoots members named (*grassroots_leadership*).

See *IN TOUCH* Page 14

Gun Shop Cards Available



Gun is not included

Do you visit gun shops often? Would you like to help GrassRoots grow? If so, we've got something for you! GrassRoots has 3x5 membership application cards and plastic table top holders to be put in gun shops. They're attractive and don't take up much counter space.

We'd like for some dedicated GrassRoots volunteers (You!) to talk with gun shop owners and convince them to put one of our card holders on their counter. You'd then periodically visit the store to make sure the holders are still there and have cards in them.

Points to make to the gun shop owner:

- They're small and don't take much space.
- The dealer won't have to fiddle with them because you (the volunteer) will visit periodically to make sure they have cards.
- GrassRoots will print a listing in our newspaper of gun shops that have our card holders.
- GrassRoots plans to double the number of CWP holders in the state by 2006. The more CWP holders there are, the more potential customers for the dealer.
- GrassRoots members are active, informed shooters, a good market for the dealer to advertise to.

If you have the skills to talk with the gun shop owners in your area and the dedication to periodically visit to replenish the cards and promote GrassRoots, please contact GrassRoots President Ed Kelleher - 803-796-8858 (Columbia) or Pres@scfirearms.org

1 IN 4

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AT LEAST IN SOUTH CAROLINA

**Grass Roots
of South Carolina, Inc.**
P.O. Box 6383
Columbia, SC 29260
Fax: 803-755-1201
www.scfirearms.org

GrassRoots South Carolina, is a South Carolina 501(c)4 non-profit corporation. Our mission is to educate and promote acceptance of responsible firearms ownership within the State of South Carolina and to protect the rights of law-abiding gun owners. Our objectives are to improve all aspects of lawful ownership and carrying of firearms in South Carolina.

GrassRoots South Carolina, Inc. is registered as a Lobbyist's Principal in South Carolina and lobbies to promote or oppose legislation concerning all gun owners and issues surrounding the Right to Keep and Bear Arms South Carolina.

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Note: The GrassRoots South Carolina Newspaper, The Defender, is distributed quarterly - February, May, August, November - to the membership of GrassRoots. The deadline for submissions is the 15th of the preceding month. Submissions can be sent by mail to Editor, c/o GrassRoots South Carolina, P.O. Box 6383, Columbia, SC 29260, via fax to 803-755-1201, or electronically to newsletter@scfirearms.org. Original material on local issues will be given highest priority, and since permission must be received to reprint previously published materials, items without an author and source will not be considered for publication. The Defender is published by SuccessTALK Communications, Inc. Changes of address and questions regarding membership status should be sent to Debbie Price at the above P.O. Box, e-mail address or fax 803-755-1201.

President's Message

Fellow GrassRoots Members, "Where do we go from here?" That's the question that naturally comes to us after emerging weary, but victorious, from three years of overcoming one obstacle after another. It was a tough fight, but we finally got significant CWP (Concealed Weapon Permit) reforms signed into law. Along the way we also managed to get good Shooting Range protection signed into law. There was the fight, brief but intense, to kill the TAX ON SELF DEFENSE that would have doubled CWP fees. We killed lots of other bad, liberty stealing legislation too. See Rob Butler's article on page 14 for a list of what we've done. GrassRoots members can be proud of what they have accomplished. We've won a major battle in the war to regain our rights. Now it's time to look around, regroup, refocus on our goal and start marching towards it again.

GrassRoots' goal hasn't changed. We want good people in South Carolina to be able to carry firearms wherever and whenever they choose. Some say that's an impossible goal. Maybe, but we're going to see how close we can come to it. In any case though, it's going to take time and a lot more work from all of us. The real question before us is, "What do we do next to help us achieve that goal?"

The thing that will most help GrassRoots achieve our goal is more members! More members means more political power. Politicians play a numbers game. They count the calls and

postcards. The greater the number they receive, the greater our power to pass, or kill, legislation. More members means more ability, savvy, skill, and collective wisdom in the GrassRoots organization. We're constantly looking for better ways to do things and sharp people to expand the organization of GrassRoots. More members means more people that will make the calls, write the letters and send the faxes that get things done.

Yes, and more members means more money too, a vital ingredient in organizing grassroots action! We use money primarily for communications — to get people's attention and focus their efforts to overcome specific obstacles in our way. Direct mail is necessary, powerful, and effective, but it's expensive. Strong financial support from our members was a critical element of our victories. The more members we have sharing the load, the better off we'll all be.

A lot then of what GrassRoots does is geared towards increasing our membership. This is essential if we are to achieve our ultimate goal. For example,

we've set a goal of doubling the number of CWP holders in 5 years. By October 2006 we want to see 70,000 CWP holders in South Carolina.

Why? Because we expect to see a lot of those new CWP holders become members of GrassRoots.

Another example is the Great GrassRoots Gathering this October 19th. (PLEASE PLAN ON COMING TO THIS!) It'll be fun. But it will also show members ways to reach out to the communities they

live in and get the message across that "We're the Good Guys!" To achieve our goals, people are going to have to know that CWP holders are "People like us".

And then there's direct mail. The summer is a relatively quiet time for GrassRoots. The legislature is not in session. This is the time GrassRoots works on boosting our membership rolls in the most effective way we've found — by direct mailings to gunowners.

What we tell people is that GrassRoots benefits its members by making their Concealed Weapon Permits more useful. That GrassRoots gets results. In our newspaper we like to show examples of GrassRoots members mak-

ing a difference by their actions. Regardless of why people join GrassRoots, once they're members we want them to stay involved and take an active part in grassroots activism. Many hands make light work! Sharing the load keeps others from being overloaded.

Most GrassRoots members have CWPs. That means you'll get these membership mailings too. We know that, and there are good reasons for it. When you, a current, paid-up, active, GrassRoots member in good standing get something from GrassRoots asking you to join, please don't be annoyed. Instead, just pass it on to someone you know who has an interest in protecting our God given Right to Keep and Bear Arms (RKBA) but for some reason doesn't have a Concealed Weapon Permit. If it's been awhile and you can spare a few dollars, send us a little financial help too. By doing these things, you'll be helping GrassRoots achieve our goal, "good citizens carrying firearms wherever and whenever they choose!"

I extend my sincere thanks to all you hard working, faithful GrassRoots members who made our victories to date possible.

Ed Kelleher

Ed Kelleher, President
GrassRoots GunRights South Carolina



Ed Kelleher, President of GrassRoots



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Saturday 9 - 5
Sunday 10 - 4

E-Mail Discussion Groups

By Ed Kelleher

A GrassRoots member wrote the following concerning duplicate email he was receiving on our email discussion groups. This was when the SC Senate had voted to double the CWP fee and we were sending out many, many alerts in our efforts to kill this tax on self defense:

>Help....I'm getting two of each message

And our reply: Sorry, we know that and lots of people are getting 4 messages. We hate for that to happen but it's not easy to avoid.

We have 2 main lists on yahoogroups, scfirearms and grassroots_leadership. Scfirearms is a

general list, open to anyone to join, even those who think our RKBA is a privilege granted by the state and not a right. The latter list is for GrassRoots members only. For special and/or sensitive messages we ONLY want to go to GrassRoots members, we use the latter list.

But to reach everyone who has some interest in SC gun related events, we mail the scfirearms list. We know that many of the people on the Grassroots_leadership list are also on the scfirearms list, but there is no easy way for us to cull duplicates. So, we don't try to. When we want to reach ALL possible active gun people we'll send the alert to both scfirearms and grassroots_leadership lists.

See *E-MAIL* Page 15

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Great GrassRoots Gathering October 19, 2002

Plan Now! on attending The Great GrassRoots Gathering this fall. Come see what GrassRoots is all about. Meet GrassRoots volunteers from around the state. Learn what our goals are and how you can help reach them.

- ◆ **When:** Saturday October 19, 2002. The meeting will run from about 10AM to 5PM, giving people from around the state time to attend. Lunch will be served about 1PM.
- ◆ **Where:** The Sheraton Convention Center, Columbia, SC (I-20 at Bush River Road, next exit west of the I-26/I-20 intersection).
- ◆ **What:** There will be special guest speakers, exhibitors, seminars and door prizes. The Gathering is to be primarily an educational and motivational seminar, not a big fund raising party, though we would like to break even on our expenses and we'll try and have a little fun too. The goal of the Gathering is to get those that attend even **more** fired-up, active, encouraged, focused, prepared and organized than they already are.
- ◆ **Speakers:** Kenn Blanchard, author of "Black Man With a Gun", Dr. Suzanna Hupp, the Texas legislator responsible for their CWP law, whose parents were murdered at Luby's Cafeteria, and Dr. David Mustard whose research, with John Lott, formed the basis of "More Guns, Less Crime".
- ◆ **Who:** For GrassRoots members, friends and guests. We're planning on 750 people to attend.
- ◆ **Cost:** Cost: \$15 per person for GrassRoots members and spouses for lunch and afternoon seminars.
- ◆ **Leadership Dinner:** Special dinner at 6PM to meet the guest speakers and GrassRoots leadership. Limited to 100 people, cost will be \$40. We'll have rooms at special rates available at the Sheraton if you want to stay over.
- ◆ **Special Fun Shoot IDPA Style Match:** That Sunday, 10/20/02 at the nearby Mid Carolina Rifle club. Five fun stages (including "The Car") for GrassRoots members and guests only.

Sponsors, Exhibitors and Media: Please contact Ed Kelleher to make arrangements.

More details: We'll have some introductory comments from our speakers to set the tone of the meeting and build some enthusiasm and then have a buffet luncheon. Afterwards, we'll have our speakers address the group at large. There will be no Q&A at this point. Later, we'll break into smaller groups of 100 people or so on various topics. These seminars, in adjoining conference rooms will allow Q&A and will likely cover:

- 1) The benefits of concealed weapons for women and minorities
- 2) Organizing Gun Shows and how to promote GrassRoots
- 3) GrassRoots history and founding
- 4) GrassRoots GunRights Gorillas, our Legislative Action group
- 5) Confrontational Politics - Playing to Win!
- 6) "We're the Good Guys", the benefits of CWP for society at large
- 7) Setting up local meetings and getting people to work in your area
- 8) Christians and Firearms, may we use deadly force
- 9) How to become a CWP instructor and changes in the laws.

P.S. - Don't forget to sign up for the Great GrassRoots Gathering on October 19, 2002. Rep. Suzanna Hupp (TX), remembered most because she watched her parents get murdered in Luby's Cafeteria, will be our keynote speaker. We will have various seminars on how to make contacting your legislators and getting legislation passed easier to do. Even more importantly, you will have the chance to meet other GrassRoots GunRights members from around the state. It will be a lot of fun.

**Send a check now to reserve your seats at the
Gathering and Dinner.**

**(To GrassRoots,
PO Box 6383, Columbia, SC 29260)**

**For exhibit tables, advertising, door prize
donations, and sponsoring, please contact
Ed Kelleher, Pres@scfirearms.org,
803-796-8858 (voice/fax),
1730 Augusta Road,
West Columbia, SC 29169**

Great GrassRoots Gathering Guest Speakers



Representative Suzanna Gratia Hupp,
Texas District 54. [http://
www.house.state.tx.us/house/dist54/
dist54.htm](http://www.house.state.tx.us/house/dist54/dist54.htm)

Best known as having witnessed the murder of her parents at Luby's Cafeteria in Texas, she became a Texas Representative and pushed through the Texas CWP law. She is a practicing chiropractor and lives about 60 miles west of Waco, Texas.

BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Suzanna Gratia Hupp was raised in Friendswood, Texas with her

older brother Allan and younger sister, Erika. Suzanna attended the University of Texas at El Paso and Texas Chiropractic College, graduating with a Doctor of Chiropractic degree in 1985. Dr. Hupp moved to Central Texas in 1987, where she began practicing and still owns the Cove Physical Rehab clinic. Suzanna and her husband Greg also own a small Arabian horse breeding ranch at their home in Lampasas county.

Suzanna is recognized worldwide as one of the leading advocates for an individual's right to carry a concealed weapon.

In 1991, after leaving her gun in her car in order to comply with the law, Suzanna watched helplessly as both her parents, along with 21 others were gunned down in a mass shooting at a local restaurant. As a survivor of this tragedy, her impassioned calls for the right of citizens to self-defense have thrust her into the national debate on the right to keep and bear arms. Since the Killeen massacre, she has testified numerous times across the country for the restoration of the Second Amendment.

She has been quoted in US News and World Report, the Wall Street Journal, Time magazine, Texas Monthly, People, and many others. Suzanna's tireless efforts in this arena were recently recognized when she was awarded the Sybil Ludington Women's Freedom Award by the National Rifle Association.

GRASSROOTS POWER

In 1993, then Governor of Texas Anne Richards was asked to sign into law a bill allowing "QUALIFIED" Texas citizens to carry handguns for self defense, she refused.

In the 1994 Elections, Republican George W. Bush was asked if he would support the Concealed Handgun License, should he become governor. He said he would. The word got out. Anne Richards was defeated. George W. Bush became Governor of Texas.

In 1995, the Texas Concealed Carry bill was signed into law. There are approximately 220,000 licensed citizens in Texas today. But it all began with Suzanna Hupp.

MASSACRE IN KILLEEN

On October 16, 1991, Suzanna Hupp was having lunch with her parents at Luby's restaurant in Killeen, Texas. A deranged man drove a truck through the front window, running over diners at their tables. He pulled out a gun and began shooting. "I was mad as hell at my legislators," says Hupp, "because they had legislated me out of the right to protect myself and my family." Suzanna Hupp's parents were killed, along with 21 others, before the man killed himself.

On that day in Killeen, Hupp decided that Texas' gun laws needed changing, and she would work to change them. In Texas, if you take a 15-hour course about the law and about conflict resolution, and if you have a permit, you can carry a concealed firearm. There are similar laws in 28 other states. Suzanna Hupp is a state legislator now.

"Over the years that I have told this story, people here are shocked that Texas had one of the most restrictive gun laws

See **SPEAKERS** Page 10



David B. Mustard, Ph.D.

Since 1997 David B. Mustard has been an assistant professor of Economics in the Terry College of Business at the University of Georgia. He earned a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Chicago (August 1997), a M. Sc. in International and European Politics from the University of Edinburgh (Feb-

ruary 1992) and a B. A. in Economics and History from the University of Rochester (May 1990).

His research focuses on microeconomic policy-related questions, especially law and economics, crime, casino gaming, lotteries, gun control, sentencing, labor economics, education and merit-based aid.

He wrote "The Impact of Gun Control Laws on Police Deaths," (see abstract below) and, with John R. Lott, Jr., "Crime, Deterrence and the Right-to-Carry Concealed Handguns."

He has testified about his research before state legislatures and as an expert witness in the courtroom. In October 2000, he testified as an expert witness in a case that challenged the Ohio concealed carry laws as an infringement of the Ohio Constitution.

In October 1999, before the Maryland House of Delegates Judiciary Committee he testified about Maryland House Bill 736 that would allow citizens to carry concealed weapons.

He testified before the South Carolina Lottery Impact Commission in August 2000, discussing Georgia's lottery-funded merit-based aid programs as South Carolina considered adopting similar legislation.

His research has been featured in National Public Radio's Talk of the Nation, the Wall St. Journal, the New York Times, USA Today, Washington Post, The Economist, and many other national, regional and local media outlets.

He currently resides in Athens with his wife, Elizabeth, and son, David Andrew.

Here is a recent example of his research. It was published September 9, 2001, 2 days before 9/11:

ABSTRACT: THE IMPACT OF GUN LAWS ON POLICE DEATHS
DAVID B. MUSTARD,
University of Georgia

This paper uses state-level data from 1984-96 to examine how right-to-

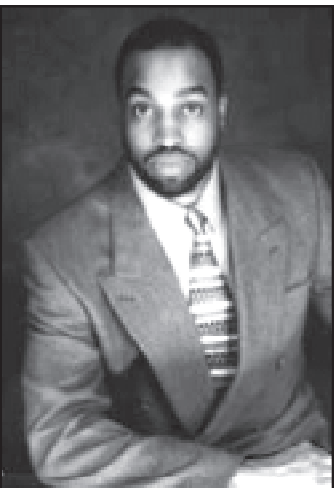
carry laws and waiting periods affect the numbers of police deaths. Many people oppose concealed weapons carry laws because they believe these laws jeopardize law enforcement officials, who risk their lives to protect the citizenry.

This paper strongly rejects this contention. States that allow law-abiding citizens to carry concealed weapons have a slightly higher likelihood of having a felonious police death and slightly higher police death rates prior to the law.

After enactment of the right-to-carry laws, states exhibit a reduced likelihood of having a felonious police death rate and slightly lower rates of police deaths.

States that implement waiting periods have slightly lower felonious police death rates both before and after the law.

Allowing law-abiding citizens to carry concealed weapons does not endanger the lives of officers and may help reduce their risk of being killed.



Kenneth V. F. Blanchard
www.blackmanwithagun.net

Kenneth V. F. Blanchard is a former federal police officer lieutenant, and security specialist with the US government. He has lobbied for the right to keep and bear arms and has success-

fully testified before the legislative bodies of Texas, Maryland, Virginia, Michigan and South Carolina. He has won awards for his community service and problem solving.

He is the executive director of the Tenth Cavalry Gun Club; a club dedicated to promoting the safe advocacy of firearms ownership in untraditional America. He is a board member of the Law Enforcement Alliance of America, an organization representing a combination of 50,000 law enforcement officers and citizens concerned in improving the safety and quality of life within the United States of America.

In 1993 he created African American Arms & Instruction, Inc. (A3i), a training and consulting firm dealing with cultural issues and firearm training. He has recently formed Blanchard Impresario Group, Inc. to encompass all ele-

ments of personal and private security training and consulting.

From Kenn Blanchard's Website:

Welcome to the site of the USA's most audacious gun rights advocate!

My name is Kenneth V. F. Blanchard, self proclaimed chief evangelist for the right to keep and bear arms. I am a security consultant, speaker and part time super hero.

Read the articles and submit yours that relate, subscribe to my free monthly newsletter and get an autographed copy my new book before you go!

The many sports of shooting are fun and require mental discipline that is not reliant upon your gender or genetics. Politicians and the rich have used the gun issue to stay in power for decades. Unless you learn these truths for yourself, you'll always be a victim. The

gun issue is larger than ammunition types, magazine capacities, and gun shows. The origins of gun control are racist. No matter where it is enforced it is used to control some group of people. It doesn't have to be you.

Thanks for visiting. If you had any apprehension about this site (because of the name or the opening photo) it is just proof of the conditioning we have all been subject to about guns. A black man with a gun is no different than any other ethnicity with one. Consider getting my free monthly magazine online. Buy a copy of Black Man With A Gun. Email this "brother" a note if you have any questions or if I can help you. Look for a good instructor and have some fun! Learn the truth about the gun issue and protect yourself.

"Every large tree in the forest was once just a nut that held its ground."

Legal Defense Fund Formed to Protect Jack Stone's Shooting Range - Your Help is Needed

Jack Stone has had a shooting range on his property since the late 1960's. Jack has allowed friends and neighbors to use his shooting range for free. Jack has used his shooting range to conduct CWP classes and gun safety classes.

When the Shooting Range Protection Act required shooting ranges to post signs, Jack erected the "Shooting Range - Noise Area" signs as required by law. Unfortunately, Jack's neighbors felt their property values were negatively effected by being inside the posted shooting range noise area. They wanted the signs taken down to protect their property values. The only way to get the signs down was to close the shooting range. So, Jack's neighbors filed a nuisance noise lawsuit to close Jack's shooting range.

Jack's case is important because the judge is directly questioning the meaning and intent of the "Shooting Range Protection Act of 2000." The plaintiffs argue, and the judge seemingly wants to agree, that an increase of shooting activity at Jack's range constitutes a substantial change in the use of a shooting range. If that interpretation is upheld, then the shooting sports and Jack's range will go the way of the dodo bird - extinction.

GrassRoots predicted that if any "expansion of activity" language was allowed to remain in the law, then the shooting sports and shooting ranges would be in jeopardy. GrassRoots testified at the Senate hearings as to why the "expansion of activity" language needed to be deleted from the definition of "substantial change in use" in the bill. The Senate removed the offending lan-

guage and the House concurred with the change.

GrassRoots Legislative Director, Rob Butler, submitted an affidavit to the court documenting the successful lobbying efforts of GrassRoots in getting the "expansion of activity" language deleted from the bill. This should have been all that was needed to decide the issue. But, the judge wanted to hear it from the General Assembly.

GrassRoots asked Rep. Jim Klauber, the primary sponsor of the "Shooting Range Protection Act of 2000", to submit an affidavit to the court regarding the legislative intent as to whether an "expansion of activity" was a substantial change in use of a shooting range. Rep. Jim Klauber provided a notarized affidavit to the court supporting Jack Stone and shooting ranges.

The judge should have thrown the case out of court at the very beginning. The judge should have ruled there was no merit to the plaintiff's claims after reading the affidavits submitted by Rep. Jim Klauber, Rob Butler, and witnesses for both the plaintiffs and defendant. Unfortunately, the judge failed to throw out the case. The judge is allowing the plaintiffs to use the court system as a bludgeon to beat poor Jack into submission.

The judge is allowing the plaintiffs to bleed Jack Stone to death with expensive attorney fees. Every deposition, every hearing, every motion made costs Jack money. Jack could lose his shooting range because Jack is almost out of money.

Jack needs financial help so that he can continue to fight to protect not only his shooting range, but to set a pre-

cedent to help protect all shooting ranges in South Carolina. Jack had wanted to be able to pay his own expenses, but the costs of fighting this lawsuit have about busted poor Jack.

Jack tried to get the NRA to help protect his shooting range, but to no avail. This was especially disappointing to Jack because Jack is on the Board of Directors of GOSC, the state NRA association. Jack has sent a lot of money to the NRA in years gone by, but now they will not even return his phone calls.

GrassRoots suggested starting a legal defense fund. Then, gun clubs, shooting ranges, and gun owners from all over South Carolina could step up and help Jack out. Remember, all shooting ranges could be helped if Jack wins.

The Mid Carolina Rifle Club voted to give \$1,000 to the Shooting Range Legal Defense Fund. The Mid Carolina Rifle Club challenges every shooting range and gun club in SC to send as generous a donation as possible to help Jack Stone protect his shooting range.

Please send contributions to:
**Shooting Range
Legal Defense Fund**
c/o GrassRoots
P.O. Box 6383
Columbia, SC 29260

Ask your gun club and shooting range to make a contribution, too. South Carolina gun owners can not afford to lose this case.

**For more information, please
contact Rob Butler at
LegislativeDir@scfirearms.org or
803.957.3959.**

Local Radio Talk Show goes National

Let's TALK Guns, the local talk show that could, is going national via the Internet in August. "It's the first step in getting the show syndicated," said Charles Campbell, talk show host. "We have been approached by a national news company with over 700 radio stations to carry our show on their satellite. They will promote Let's TALK Guns to their affiliates and expect us to be picked up by about 50 radio stations initially."

The talk show is currently broadcast on 50,000 watt Radio Station WCEO 840 AM every Saturday from 3 to 4 pm.

"We are not overjoyed by the signal but it is the most powerful AM station in the area," said John Burgess, co-host. "AM radio is affected by everything from sun spots to steel buildings. We want to reach as many people as we can because we have an important message to get out. We talk about guns and all that it implies. We want to show the general public that gun owners are responsible citizens and not wild eyed radical like we are portrayed in the liberal media."

Guests on the radio talk show include politicians, gun collectors, gun dealers, CWP instructors, hunters, shooters, and people who have interesting stories to share. Topics include, women and guns, 2nd Amendment news, gun of the week, news from GrassRoots and other gun related organizations, gunsmithing, how to shoot, how to choose the right weapon, where to shoot, how to get a CWP, just about any gun related subject you can name. Listeners get the chance to call in and talk to experts, politicians, and just plain gun people.

"Our show is dedicated to bringing the news, stories, and people our audience wants to hear," said Thomas Lanham, co-host. "We listen to our listeners and modify the show bring them what they want."

To hear Let's TALK Guns on the Internet go to:

<http://www.letstalkguns.com>. Check on the Website to find out if you can hear it on your local radio station. "If you would like to hear us in your area," said Campbell, "just tell your radio station and then send us an e-mail (or call) with the name and telephone number of your favorite station and we'll contact them direct. If there is anything or anyone you would like to hear, let us know. If you've got something to share with the public, let us know and you could be our next guest...live, on the air."

During the first five full years after the passage of the safe storage laws, the group of fifteen states that adopted these laws faced an annual average increase of over 300 more murders, 3,860 more rapes, 24,650 more robberies, and over 25,000 more aggravated assaults.

On average, the annual costs borne by victims averaged over \$2.6 billion as a result of lost productivity, out-of-pocket expenses, medical bills, and property losses

http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=228534

POLICE fear a terrifying new weapon is on the streets of Britain — a combined knife AND gun.

Only the British would consider this a terrifying weapon. It won't be long before the British police are going to be like the airport security screeners here in the U.S... "Hand over that nail file, mate. Can't have you

walking around with something as dangerous as that." They've taken guns away from their citizens and now with this little piece of steel they are going to probably over react and soon you won't be able to have a sharp knife to cut that piece of steak (that may or may not contain Mad Cow disease!).

FYI: The GRAD .22 has a toughened 6in blade — and the firing mechanism of a pistol hidden in its folding handle.

FIVE bullets can be fired in quick succession from the concealed barrel.

It is similar to weapons used by Russian and Chinese special forces for close-quarters fighting.

Two of the knife-guns have already been found on passengers at Gatwick and Stansted airports. The American-made weapon is on sale in Europe and could easily be smuggled into Britain by ferry passengers too.

A police source said: "We are extremely worried. We have not found any of these weapons on the mainland but the fact two have been seized at airports indicates they are here already."

Terry Gander, editor of Janes Infantry Weapons magazine, said: "The thought of a gangster being in possession of one of these things is very disturbing."

The new menace is revealed as gun crime reaches an all-time high on the streets of Britain. What did they expect when they disarmed the honest people and not the crooks? Take note America. It's happening here!

Safe Storage Gun Laws: Accidental Deaths, Suicides, and Crime

John R. Lott, Jr.
American Enterprise Institute (AEI)
General John E. Whitley
University of Adelaide

Abstract:

It is frequently assumed that safe storage gun laws reduce accidental gun deaths and total suicides, while the possible impact on crime rates are ignored. However, given existing work on the adverse impact of other safety laws, such as safety caps for storing medicine, even the very plausible assumption of reduced accidental gun deaths cannot be taken for granted.

Our paper analyzes both state and county data spanning nearly twenty years, and we find no support that safe storage laws reduce either juvenile accidental gun deaths or suicides. Instead, these storage requirements appear to impair peoples ability to use guns defensively.

Because accidental shooters also tend to be the ones most likely to violate the new law, safe storage laws increase violent and property crimes against low risk citizens with no observable offsetting benefit in terms of reduced accidents or suicides.

A Woman's Choice Letting her defend herself.

By John R. Lott Jr.

A year ago it would have been shocking news: a governor publicly telling women to get a concealed handgun permit so that they can defend themselves against a serial killer. Hardly politically correct advice. Yet, in this post-9/11 world, no overwhelming calls are being made for a retraction of the governor's statements. Contrast this with the typical recommendation that women behave passively or simply make sure that their doors are locked.

Louisiana's governor, Mike Foster, last week pointed to the undeniable: Police, while extremely important in fighting crime, simply can't be there all the time. People should "assist" the police in searching for the killer, but "you have a right to get a [concealed] gun permit. . . if you know how [to use a gun] and you have a situation with some fruitcake running around, like they've got right now, it sure can save you a lot of grief."

The governor's advice is excellent, yet seldom heard. Despite all the free suggestions offered in the media, the U.S. Department of Justice's National Crime Victimization Survey has shown for decades that resistance with a gun is by far the safest course of action when one is confronted by a criminal.

The probability of serious injury from a criminal confrontation is 2.5 times greater for women offering no resistance than resisting with a gun.

Men also benefit, but the benefit is smaller because there is, on average, a smaller difference in strength between violent criminals, who are almost always men, and male victims than for female victims. For men, passive behavior is 1.4 times more likely to result in serious injury than resisting with a gun.

In my own research, I examine county crime rates for the entire U.S. from 1977 to 1998. Murder rates decline when either sex carries a concealed handgun, but the effect is particularly pronounced for women. An additional woman carrying a concealed handgun reduces the murder rate for women by three to four times more than an additional armed man reduces the murder rate for men.

Cases where women use guns to save their lives and the lives of their families occur all the time, though they are

rarely given any news coverage.

Take a few cases just during the last week of July:

- - **Nashville, Tennessee.** A man broke into a woman's home at 3:15 A.M. on a Sunday morning. In what police described as "a violent home invasion" the woman stopped the attacker by shooting him in the leg.

- - **Reno, Nevada.** A maintenance man began punching and slapping a female nightclub owner after she complained about the quality of his repairs. She first tried unsuccessfully to defend herself with a knife. When the man continued his attack, the woman, a concealed-handgun permit holder, pulled a handgun from her purse and fired a warning shot. The man fled the scene.

- - **Albuquerque, New Mexico.** A woman in her 30s was

awakened at 1:30 A.M. on a Saturday "by a flashlight pointed toward her face and with a man straddling her . . . he threatened to kill her." She struggled and was able to get a hold of a gun, fatally shooting the attacker three times in the chest.

- - **Macon, Georgia.** A 67-year-old woman stopped two men from robbing her by pulling a shotgun on them. When they saw the gun the robbers ran out of the store.

Many women live in fear of crime, but as these stories indicate locking yourself in your home doesn't guarantee safety. In all these cases, there was simply not sufficient time to call the police and wait for them to arrive. How else could these women have handled men who were much stronger than they are?

Some people find it hard to believe that, as research shows, there are two million defensive-gun uses each year. After all, if these events were really happening, wouldn't we hear about them on the news? Gun crimes inundate the news, but when was the last time you saw a story on the national evening news (or even the local news) about a citizen using her gun to stop a crime?

Unfortunately, the advice offered by Governor Foster is rarely heard. Yet, in the wake of September 11, the usual "if you simply give attackers what they want everything will be O.K." attitude is being seriously questioned.

For some, that rethinking couldn't come soon enough.

John R. Lott Jr. is a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute and the author of *More Guns, Less Crime*



Cherry Gentry is a GrassRoots instructor member from the Upstate. See her announcement on page 13.

Secretary's Report

Tom Burkizer
GrassRoots Secretary

There have been some great improvements in our South Carolina Concealed Carry law since our last newsletter, and I was lucky enough to be able to attend the Governor's signing of H3010. I enjoyed seeing all the GrassRoots members and their families filling his office to overflowing.

The politicians certainly notice our GrassRoots organization when we can mobilize so many members to assemble at the State House on short notice. They also notice our attendance at the legislative committee meetings (by our GrassRoots GunRights Gorillas - Ed) that led up to the signing of the legislation.

Telephone calls, letters, faxes and postcards from our members made the difference in the passing of this legislation. You made the difference.

There has been a steady flow of membership renewals coming to our mailbox. We know that sometimes our letters get crossed in the mail with your

renewal checks. You may have already sent your renewal check in, and then you get another request to renew your membership because it has expired. Please be patient and we will make sure we get it right.

I have been getting a fair number of inquiries from members about getting non-resident CWP's from other states. I have sent out quite a number of applications for New Hampshire non-resident CWP's. If you want one, just send me a self addressed stamped envelope. If you are on the internet you can download an application directly from their web site.

<http://www.state.nh.us/nhsp/plupmon.pdf>

You can also call them at 603-271-3575 and ask for an application for a Non-Resident Pistol/Revolver Permit.

If you would like an application for a Florida permit, you can make an online request for an application (it's a thick packet so it can't be sent out in an SASE) directly from their web site.

<http://licgweb.dos.state.fl.us/license/forms.html>

If you are not on the internet, you can give them a call at 850-487-0482 and ask for an application for a "Concealed Weapon or Firearms License."



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Q. Why do people want to carry guns into where I shop and worship?
A. Find out on LET'S TALK GUNS Saturday 3 to 4 pm.

Q. Are there local gun clubs where I can go to teach my child about gun safety and how to shoot?
A. Find out on LET'S TALK GUNS Saturday 3 to 4 pm.

Q. Why are you guys talking about guns? What's the big deal?
A. Find out on LET'S TALK GUNS Saturday 3 to 4 pm.



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Merchant Issues Report for August, 2002

The passage of H3010 into law means some important changes in respect to how the Posted Merchants and Welcome Back! Lists are maintained:

Posted Merchant List

Per changes in the new law, any merchant or business that displays prohibitive signs not in compliance with state standards is not legally posted against CWP. Therefore, the Posted Merchant List has been wiped clean. Any merchant using the "old" signs need not be reported. We will still require complete information on a legally-posted merchant or business meaning physical address, name of owner/president/CEO, mailing address if applicable, phone number if available etc. Please do not send a report that does not contain complete information. Store postings are subject to verification by volunteers.

You are urged to review your recent mailing that describes in detail the standardized requirements for posting against CWP. The new Posted Merchant List will list those requirements in an easy-to-read format.

It is not Grassroots' responsibility to educate merchants that they need to use standardized signs to legally post against CWP. In regard to a merchant or business using non-compliant i.e. "old" signs you should remind yourself that while such businesses may not be legally posted, you need to make a conscience decision as to whether or not that merchant deserves your business. Since 1996, many of these merchants and businesses considered CWP holders to be a threat and a liability and ignored requests to remove their signs so now we segue to the...

Welcome Back! List

It's all about attitude, baby!

In order for a merchant to be listed as a "Welcome Back!" place of business they must remove any and all prohibitive signs regardless of whether the signs are "old" or "state standardized". Why? Grassroots holds merchants to a higher standard of conduct. Those old signs still say "Disarmed Victim Zone" to criminals. Those old signs speak volumes about a merchant's attitude about the right to self-defense.

Merchants that qualify to be placed on the "Welcome Back!" list shall be listed in two consecutive newsletters and for six months on the Grassroots web site. As always, businesses and merchants claiming to be no longer posted are subject to verification by volunteers.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who made the visits, wrote the letters, sent the postcards, faxes, and e-mails to our elected representatives in order to make H3010 a reality. Carry responsibly and enjoy your expanded ability to protect yourselves and loved ones.

John Ponti

Merchant Issues Chairman



Class firing while instructor watches.

GrassRoots in Action - NRA Instructors Class held July 27 - 28

A goal of GrassRoots is to double the number of South Carolina's Concealed Weapon Permit (CWP) holders within the next five years. One necessary item in achieving this goal is to increase the numbers of SLED Certified Instructors, who can teach CWP classes around our state. Most people need to obtain credentials as a "NRA Certified Firearms Instructor" first, as it's a SLED prerequisite.

GrassRoots just sponsored our second NRA Instructor's Training class. This past weekend, 14 of our members paid to take the needed 16 hour training course.

Norman Price and Mike Walguarnery were the host Instructors and assisted NRA Training Counselor Bill Powell with the class.

This was an extremely capable and experienced group of individuals. They

understand their responsibility and opportunity to promote gun rights, as outlined by GrassRoots Pres. Ed Kelleher who addressed the class Saturday morning. The students came together from all around our state and will become individual assets in their communities as they begin teaching firearms safety and skills to others.

This group of 14 new Instructors brings our total to 47 who have taken our GrassRoots sponsored classes in the last 8 months.

If you would like to attend the next class or need to get information, please contact Norm or Mike. If you're already an instructor but want to team up with others we can help there too.

Future Instructor Classes and Training Counselor (the people that train Instructors) classes will be announced by GrassRoots, so stay tuned.



Not For Sale!

Have you seen people wearing our GrassRoots lapel pin? Would you like one for yourself? It's easy to get one — just get more involved with GrassRoots. We don't sell those pins, they have to be earned. When you work at a gun show for us, or are a GrassRoots GunRights Gorilla at the State House, or pass out GrassRoots Membership cards to gun shops, or sign up a bunch of new members at your gun club, you'll get one of these pins in recognition of your effort.

We want people to get more involved and when people make a special effort to promote the cause of GrassRoots GunRights, we want everyone to recognize that you're a working, involved member of South Carolina's #1 Gun Rights group - GrassRoots.

For example, we gave out the round GrassRoots Snake lapel pins to those who made the effort to attend the GrassRoots CWP Reform Law signing in Gov. Hodges office.

When you see those round yellow pins with the GrassRoots GunRights "No Compromise, No Surrender" Snake on them, you'll know the person wearing it has made a special effort to support GrassRoots. We won't be selling those pins. They have to be earned.

Get yours today! Let us know what you're doing to help further the goals of GrassRoots and if you're worthy, we'll send you a pin.

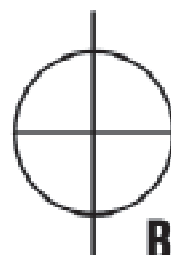
Welcome Back! (August 2002)

The following merchants have removed their signs prohibiting CWP:

Klig's Kites, Myrtle Beach (22 July 2002)

Christmas Travel & Tours, Myrtle Beach (27 June 2002)

There have been some changes made to the Welcome Back! List. Merchants removing all prohibiting signs (old "pre-H3010" or new standardized per state law) shall be listed in the newsletter for two consecutive issues. Grassroots South Carolina reserves the right to verify any merchant or business claiming to have removed signs prohibiting CWP. Send reports concerning merchants that have removed signs to: merchants@scfirearms.org



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Machine Guns and other “Class III” type things

By Tim Lancaster

There seems to be a lot of misinformation and confusion regarding class three possession in South Carolina. Last September, our legislature amended the possession laws to allow persons approved by the ATF to possess all class three items.

Machine guns, suppressors (silencers), short barreled rifles, short barreled shotguns and AOWs (Any Other Weapons) are regulated by the National Firearms Act of 1934(NFA). (AOWs are a “catch all” class but include some short shotguns, smooth bore pistols, pen guns, cane guns, and handguns designed to be fired with two hand grips.)

Most people assume that they are illegal to possess. This is not true, if you can legally buy a handgun then you can buy a class III item. They do have to be registered with the NFA branch of the ATF though.

These weapons are known usually by the “catch all” name of “class III” weapons. There are other names that you will hear them referred to as well: NFA and Title II are two of them.

Buying a machine gun or other class III weapon is a little more complicated than buying other guns (Title I weapons). You have to fill out an ATF form known as a “form 4” in duplicate, have two pictures attached, have two sets of fingerprints taken, and pay a one time transfer tax of \$200.00. For AOWs there is only a \$5.00 transfer tax.

You also have to have the Chief Law Enforcement Officer (CLEO) for your location (ie: sheriff, chief of po-

lice, State police chief) sign the “form 4”. The part that the CLEO must sign, reads as follows: “I certify that I am the chief law enforcement officer of the organization named below having jurisdiction in the area of residence of _____.

I have no information indicating that the transferee will use the firearm or device described on this application for other than lawful purposes. I have no information that the receipt or possession of the firearm or device described in item 4 would place the transferee in violation of State or local law.”

Then the CLEO has to sign and date it.

One question that was asked of me at a recent gun show was; “If I have a silencer, must it always stay with one particular gun?” The answer is no. A silencer such as a threaded .22LR can be used on any .22LR without violating any laws. You, of course, would need to use the silencer on a gun that was of the same caliber

manufactured and registered with the ATF prior to May, 1986.

This means that there is a limited supply with a steady demand. It also means that prices of machine guns are very high. Some guns can still be had at reasonable prices, such as MAC 10s. They come in 9mm, 45acp, and 380acp and can usually be had for around \$1,500, depending on condition and manufacturer.

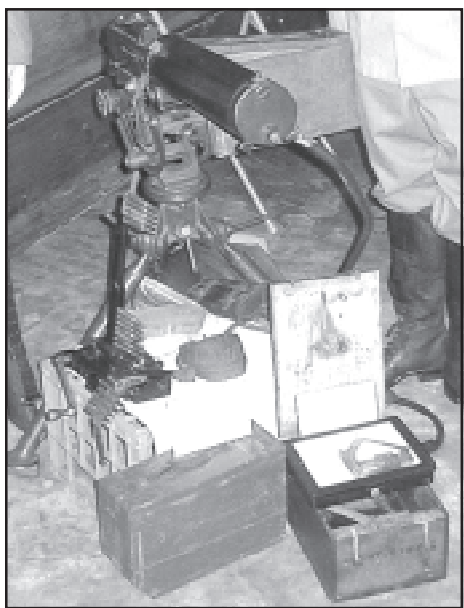
Other guns that people are usually interested in include Thompson Sub-Machine guns, M-16s, and HK MP5s. If you are willing to pay, some of these items can still be bought, new in the box. Some recent prices of such items, are Thompsons: anywhere from \$6,500 to \$25,000, M-16s: \$5,500 to \$11,000, and MP5s: \$7,500 to \$12,000.

Prices usually depend on a lot of factors, such as historical value, and of course, demand. Belt fed guns and many others are available as well. The other NFA items can still be manufactured and sold new today.

People are usually interested in Silencers and Short barreled shotguns. Prices for these items are more reasonable. Silencers are in the price range of \$400 to \$1,200, and Short barreled shotguns are usually in the same price range. Don’t forget the transfer tax.

The “Shotgun News”, “Gun Lists” and the monthly magazine, “Small Arms Review” are good sources to find class III items for sale. There are also many places on the internet that list available items. If you find something out of state, it will first have to be transferred to an in-state Class III dealer and then to you. I am in the upstate of South Carolina in Laurens. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding class III or any other weapons.

Tim Lancaster is a lifetime member of the NRA and also a member of Grass Roots South Carolina. He is the owner of Lancaster Gun Works in Laurens, SC and is an FFL holder as well as a class III dealer. He can be reached at tim1996@backroads.net



30 cal. WWI Watercooled Browning Machine Gun

though.

Some high power rifle silencers (a better term would be suppressor, because high powered rifles can not be totally silenced, due to the sonic crack or the super-sonic projectile) can be used on different caliber guns. An example would be a .30 caliber silencer could be used on a .308 WIN, 30-06, or 300 WIN Magnum. As long as the diameter of the bullet was the same, it could be used.

Machine guns are usually the class III items that people are most interested in buying. They have an additional restriction placed on them that the other class III weapons do not have. For a civilian to possess them, they had to be

What rifle should I get? An AR-15 or M1A?

A GrassRoots member posed the following question on our email discussion group. He got several replies. His final conclusion is at the end.

Original Query: I am looking in about 2-3 months to buy a rifle for my son (big kid) and I to use in some friendly competition shooting. I have used an M-16A2 and an M-14 in the military but I can’t seem to come to a conclusion of which to buy: A Springfield M-1A (M-14 clone) or an AR-15 Bushmaster DCM. They cost about the same (maybe \$100-\$150 difference). I would like to hear from someone that has used both and could tell me which one felt better and had a better group. I can handle the recoil of a .308 Winchester with no problem and so can my son.

Reply #1: Trick question! It depends on your projected use. AR (early types mil M-16 and later AR-15) are fun to shoot and OK out to 200-300M. Ammo is light and relatively inexpensive. Groups “like a battle rifle”. Some are picky when it comes to ammunition. Magazines are cheap.

M14 (mil M14 and import M1A1) “reach out and touch someone” at 600M. Ammo is more expensive and lots heavier. Still has good stopping at longer range and CAN hit if the shooter can. Magazines are expensive good ones run \$40 to \$50.

Now everyone can yell at me! I do not doubt that I have offended all in some way. Sorry! My input is based on experience in RVN and after with the rifles as described. — Jim

Reply #2: A lot depends on what you are going to use the rifle for. If it’s DCM match shooting at short ranges (300 meters or less), the Bushmaster is an excellent choice: Low recoil, accurate, flat shooting, good ergonomics, but mostly quick recovery for rapid strings of fire (rapid fire). If you are going to shoot longer ranges or hunt with the rifle, I’d go with the .308. If you are going to want to do “action shooting” with a rifle— IPSC or IDPA type action shooting, urban tactical, etc., once again, the Bushmaster will be an overall better choice. The size and recoil of the M1-A are a handicap. Handling the .308 recoil is not the issue as much as the advantage of quicker recoil recovery of the .223. But, if you need the rifle for long yardage competition, the .308 has a definite advantage. Either can be reloaded— but the .223 is much more economical to shoot. As this is the current military caliber, there is plenty of cheap .223 around. My theory, all other things being equal, is to buy what I can afford to shoot the most. This magnifies both the fun and the proficiency/practice curves. Either way, you can’t go wrong, but I’d go with the .223. - Clay

Reply #3: Excellent summation. I’d concur with Clay, with info originally given (youth, general purpose), go with .223. On a more general note my 2 cents worth follows.

If you want to shoot rapidly, get the AR. This would imply shorter range targets and lots of cheap ammo available.

See AR-15 Page 13



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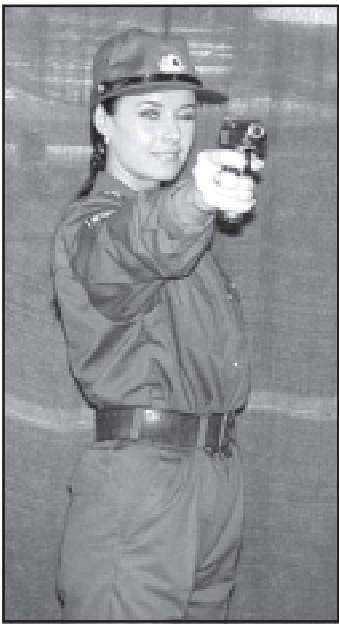
Wal-Mart Adopts Tougher Gun Sale Policy

Wal-Mart has ordered its stores to adopt a tougher policy on gun sales that goes beyond the requirements of the federal government. Under federal law, if authorities cannot complete a criminal background check on a gun buyer within three business days, retailers are allowed by Federal law to hand over the firearm. Wal-Mart has decided not to do that. If they don’t get a specific “Proceed”, they won’t.

The Wal-Mart memo lays out the policy: If a store receives a “delayed” response from federal or state authorities who conduct the background checks on potential buyers, “do NOT transfer the firearms until you receive a proceed. To restate, you MUST have a ‘proceed’ (no matter how long it takes) before any firearm is transferred to a Customer.”

<http://www.federalobserver.com/archive.php?aid=3075>

Miss Universe Packs Some Real Heat!



Newly crowned Miss Universe Oxana Fedorova, aims a pistol during a training in St. Petersburg, Russia in this April 18, 2001 file photo.

Fedorova is a police lieutenant and is studying law at the St. Petersburg Police Academy. Fedorova's victory - the first Miss Universe from Russia - led nationwide newscasts Thursday, May 30, 2002.

(AP Photo/Igor Akimov, Izvestia)

Why don't more people in South Carolina have a CWP?

Many states have higher percentages of CWP holders than South Carolina. For example, an article* in the Roanoke Times (Virginia) stated:

"In Virginia, 3.3 percent of more than 5 million people at least 21 years old have received the permits to carry hidden guns anywhere in the state since lawmakers loosened restrictions on the permits in 1995. In Craig County, more than 12 percent of the adult residents of the relatively crime-free locality have the licenses."

South Carolina with 3.5 million people, has about 35,000 CWP holders, or only 1%.

Why is that?

- Are people saying, "I don't need no stinking permit" and just carry without one?
- Do people think a gun in the glove box of their truck is good enough?
- Are they victims of propaganda and indoctrination from our public schools and the "news" media and think that "guns are bad" and we should just call 911 to take care of us?
- Can people not afford guns because of our racist "Saturday Night Special" law that prohibits less expensive handguns?
- Do people in South Carolina just not give a flip?
- Is South Carolina such a paradise that no concealed weapons are needed?
- Are people in South Carolina not smart enough to figure a CWP might do them some good?
- Do people not know how to get a CWP (no advertising)?
- Is it too expensive to get a CWP?
- Are there no instructors or classes available in their area?
- Do people think a CWP is worthless because it's too restricted?
- Are they afraid of making a mistake and going to jail?
- Do people not want to be on some "government list"?
- Is it too much hassle to get a CWP?
- Do people think the testing (written and shooting) is too hard and they can't pass it?

Can anyone add any more reasons to this list? I'm not looking for humor either.

What do you think the top 3 reasons are? Write or email me what you think and we'll publish the results.

These are serious questions. To reach our goal of doubling the number of CWP holders by 2006 we need to answer them. The answers will likely point out some areas for GrassRoots to work at in the future.

Ed Kelleher, President
GrassRoots GunRights South Carolina

* <http://www.roanoke.com/roatimes/news/story130723.html>

SPEAKERS from Page 5

in the entire country. They always pictured us as you imagine: We are all gun totin' kind of people."

CHATTING WITH SUZANNA HUPP

Suzanna Hupp contends that there are always going to be guns in America. The real issue is how you use guns, who should use guns and for what reasons.

Here are excerpts from when Rep. Suzanna Hupp appeared on *World News Tonight* as part of the broadcast's new "21st Century Lives" series, and then joined us online in a chat.

Rhonda from Texas

As a mother and concealed-weapon carrier, what can we do to show the uneducated anti-gunners that it is the criminals and NOT the guns that are the problem?

Suzanna Hupp

I would recommend finding stories such as mine on the Internet, and when you're talking to people, try to put them in the position I was in, with their little children behind them. Even if they choose not to have a gun, as the bad guy levels a weapon on their children, don't they hope the guy next to them has a gun and knows how to use it?

I believe people make their decisions at the gut level, and most people ignore statistical information. If you can personalize a story, you may make a difference.

World News Tonight Moderator

What kind of gun legislation do you think would be more effective in this country?

Suzanna Hupp

Let's keep it simple. When bad guys use guns illegally, they should be crucified for it. Beyond that, I'm not interested.

KMoore from proxy.aol.com

Would you agree, then, that if the teachers at these schools had been licensed to carry guns that these tragedies may have been prevented?

Suzanna Hupp

Absolutely. A perfect example of that is how the carnage in Pearl, Mississippi was halted by a vice-principal who had a firearm in his truck, illegally, on school premises, and held the gunman, after numerous murders, at gunpoint until the police arrived.

There are two factors. Number one, it acts as a deterrent effect, and number two, why are we treating our teachers like second-class citizens, when we allow other people to protect themselves in their work places?

Israel had numerous terrorist attacks perpetrated upon their schools. When they required their teachers to be armed, the terrorist attacks and the number of children that died dropped to zero.

Suzanna Hupp continues

If you're on the fence on this issue, just imagine yourself in a restaurant, on a bright, sunny day, as a madman begins to slaughter innocent people like fish in a barrel. And as he levels the gun at your child, don't you hope that either you or the guy next to you has a gun and knows how to use it?

The only thing the gun laws have done is prevent law-abiding people from protecting themselves and their families. I would much rather be in jail with a felony offense on my head, and have my parents alive to know their grandchildren. And I think that says it.

During the Middle Ages, probably one of the biggest mistakes was not putting on your armor because you were "just going down to the corner."

- Jack Handey

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An Open Letter to SC Concealed Weapons Permit Holders (CWP)

Dear Concealed Weapons Permit Holder,

I am a fellow CWP holder who has been a Grassroots GunRights member for several years. I ask now only for a few minutes of your time to read this letter and listen to the reasons I feel you should join us.

Before joining Grassroots I obtained my CWP and soon discovered that all the restrictions placed on where I could be safe made my complying with the law very difficult at best. I was disappointed and dissatisfied with the way the law is to say the least.

I wanted to do something about it, so I wrote letters to newspapers complaining. Some newspapers printed my letters. Others did not. I wrote to my elected officials, but at most received in return form letters saying they appreciated hearing from me, but never got any response showing they agreed with me or even read my letter.

The national gun-rights groups were too busy in Washington to get involved on the state level. I felt like one tiny voice hopelessly trying to shout and be heard over the roar of a raging hurricane. Furthermore, I had no understanding of how government worked, much less how to make it work for me.

I was a closet activist, one who wanted to make things right, but I felt powerless and insecure in my ability to convince those in power to do what I felt they should.

I, like many of you, also belonged (and still do) to several other national gun-rights organizations. Sometimes when I read numerous mailings I get from those other groups, I still feel their main interest is to solicit a donation.

I also am disappointed in some of these groups' legislative strategy. They seem to be committed to a totally defensive strategy of delaying the anti-gun liberal agenda of enacting more laws that restrict further our God-given rights.

They call these stalling tactics of reducing the amount of rights we give up at each legislative session "COMPROMISE". I always thought compromise is each side giving up something and each side getting something in return, but I cannot recall the last time the anti-gun crowd ever gave up a thing, can you?

I always called giving up something and getting nothing in return "SURRENDER". It does not take a rocket scientist to figure out that, if the liberal scheme of chipping away at our freedom continues, they will eventually achieve their goal of banning private ownership of firearms.

Do not get me wrong. I realize the national pro-gun groups do serve a useful purpose and do provide many worthwhile services nationally and that it takes money to make these programs possible. I am still a member of these groups and plan to keep supporting them and urge you to do the same.

Then I joined Grassroots, a group unlike any other to which I belong. How

is Grassroots different? First Grassroots GunRights is a South Carolina organization concentrating all our efforts on protecting and restoring rights of law-abiding South Carolinians.

Our officers are ordinary citizens who have concealed weapons permits and carry on a daily basis like you and I do, so they understand the problems we must cope with daily. Rather than dictate to members, our officers actively solicit your opinions and advice, because they realize Grassroots' strength comes from our greatest resource, our members. Above all else, Grassroots understands how to get results in Columbia.

Grassroots leadership understands the legislative process, uses this understanding to plan effective strategies and then by providing the information, timing, tools and coordination they enable the collective voice of our members to influence lawmakers. Our officers have solid working relationships with many state legislators and their opinions are well respected by many in the Statehouse and SLED.

With help from our friends in the Statehouse, our officers keep their finger on the pulse of the Senate and House to try to keep the Statehouse from sweeping their dirty little secrets under the rug.

Did you know, for instance, that the last week in April the Senate Budget Committee decided to DOUBLE the fee for renewing and applying for a CWP?

Grassroots refuses to engage in a strategy of legislative compromise, hence our motto, "No Surrender - No Compromise". Grassroots officers understand the law and how seemingly unimportant words, phrases, lines and even entire bills might cause unforeseen problems for gun owners and CWP holders. Grassroots improved the Range Protection Act by protecting all ranges and making sure range membership limits did not become a requirement.

We eliminated junk from bills like a recent "homeland security" bill that would have made your military relics illegal if they were "capable of causing fear". Grassroots is even at the Statehouse when other pro-gun organizations fail to show, like at a legislative session to support elimination of the one handgun per thirty days rule.

Grassroots has recently gotten H.3010 passed through the Senate that will help you significantly if it passes the House. *(It passed - See front page.)*

Grassroots also provides other helpful services to members and the community at large. Grassroots maintains a Web-site (www.scfirearms.org) that contains listings of CWP instructors throughout the state. Also on the Web-site we maintain and publish a list of

businesses that do not welcome licensed CWP holders if they are carrying a concealed weapon. I find this useful, because I generally do not shop where a merchant requires me to be at the mercy of any criminal's whim.

How many times have you gone shopping while carrying your weapon, parked your car and walked up to a business's door only to find it posted against CWP? Grassroots also has a

Merchant Contact Program, the purpose of which is to help

members convince businesses to remove those pesky "No CWP" signs and to date we have gotten dozens of businesses to unpost. Grassroots provides many tools to inform members of breaking news and to coordinate members into one loud coherent unified voice that legislators not only hear, but also heed.

On the Web-site there are pre-written letters you can copy and mail yourself or use the automatic e-mailer to e-mail your Senators and Representatives without even having to be an elo-

quent writer. There you can also find a virtual wealth of other useful links and information.

Grassroots has in place an e-mail alert network used to inform, coordinate and mobilize our members. We also use conventional mailings to spread the word and to provide pre-written postcards for members to send their Senators and Representatives.

Why should you join Grassroots now? We need your help. We are now engaged in a legislative battle over H.3010. This bill that Grassroots sponsored and for which we fought hard has passed the Senate. If the House passes it and the Governor signs it into law, it will eliminate some of the ridiculous arbitrary restrictions that liberal lawmakers succeeded in placing in the 1996 South Carolina CWP law for the following activities:

- 1) Carrying a weapon concealed or even to possess a weapon in your car while you are in any of our crime ridden interstate highway rest stops
- 2) Entering a posted business while carrying a concealed weapon if the store's "No CWP" sign is hidden

See **OPEN LETTER** Page 15



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GrassRoots GunShows



Mike Walguarnery and Norman Price at the Land of the Sky guns & knife show at the State Fair Grounds

GrassRoots tries to have a table at all South Carolina gun shows. As a real grassroots organization, this is important to us because gun shows are where the people are. At the gun show we tell people about the work GrassRoots is doing and encourage them to join. Tables are manned by volunteers who work a morning or afternoon stint.

GrassRoots was at the Columbia Fair Grounds gun show in June and at the Columbia Jamil Temple gun show in July. The Jamil Temple show is put on by the SC Arms Collectors Association. GrassRoots experiences a great increase in membership by having a display at gun shows. Gun owners get the chance to talk with members and learn about the benefits of joining. Members also have the opportunity to buy GrassRoots merchandise.

Here's a comment we received from a GrassRoots member from Charleston, who went to the Columbia, Jamil Temple gun show: "Saw the table and you had great exposure. Saw lots of people stop by and chat. I do believe that with the people running the table the message was good and loud and clear. First time I ever went to Columbia for a gun show and it was great. Got to leave Charleston more often. Heck after being there, Charleston does not even know what a gun show is. — ccfromsc"

The June 22 & 23 Gunshow at the Cola Fairgrounds was great! Land of the Sky Gun /Knife Shows and promoter Mike Kent, is new to SC show circuit, but is well known in the surrounding states. I had heard many good things, from various people, about Mike's group. I'm happy to report that those praises are well deserved.

Following this show, Mr. Kent sent us a very complimentary email, and is

looking forward to GrassRoots GunRights SC participation in all future shows in our state, and we are too. We are grateful someone stepped up to fill a void in SC that would have cut our gunshow calendar in Cola and around the state in half. Next time remember to say "Thanks!" to the Gun Show organizers around your area.

So what makes a GunShow a success? Lots of things. It's good gun dealer's with a diverse inventory, that have something of interest to collector's, hunter's, target shooter's and the self defense crowd. It's all the folks that come to the show to share information, ask questions, trade stories, find some hard to get item, and generally have a big time with others who share common interests. At our GrassRoots table it's all the above and more. More because we can show people what can be done when we focus our collective efforts to promote and reclaim our gunrights right here in our home state. To greet and thank people for their help.

To make sure each person knows that they are the true strength and power of GrassRoots. Our leadership and all their "good ideas and goals" wouldn't gain us a thing without the strong support of the GrassRoots membership.

For two years we've been asking for your help on our legislative bill to make our gunrights in SC better, even though "the experts" were telling us we didn't stand "a snowball's" chance of getting it done. With your help, our bill passed and was signed into law May 28, 2002 by the Gov. Hodges. It was your cards, letters and communications to our legislators that made all the difference, and silenced the "nay sayers".

Among the new changes, is CWP applicants, no longer need to be SC residents for 12 months before they can

GUNS From Page 1

Atkinson got a call from his agent the next day telling him he had seven days to find a new policy. Then State Farm was going to cancel him. Atkinson brought the agent to the adjacent property to see his range. It is actually rather professional, since Atkinson has heavy equipment, which his company makes. He used the equipment to make berms in front of hills that were already on the property.

Gary got a million dollar liability policy through the NRA to cover the range and offered to sign a total waiver of responsibility for State Farm on any firearm related claims. All of this was to no avail.

After some research, Atkinson learned that State Farm has canceled other people in other parts of the country. It seems they have — for the agents — a permissive policy. If the agent wants to cancel a gun owner, they can do so at their own discretion.

Atkinson was told by his agent that no company would insure someone like him. That is when Atkinson found out about Lockton Risk Services in Kansas City, MO (phone: 913-676-9150). They referred him to three insurance companies — Farm Bureau, Nationwide and American National Property and Casualty.

Gary ended up switching all of his insurance to American National and saving money from what he had been paying State Farm.

One of his last conversations with his State Farm agent involved his discovery that she had the discretion to cancel him, not the requirement to do

so. When he told her that he would tell others what State Farm had done to him, she retorted: "What are you going to be able to do by yourself?"

When Gary told me that, I decided that others should know about this anti-self-defense policy at State Farm (and, of course, at Prudential).

Hopefully there is one more reason you may decide to cancel your State Farm Policy — they are anti-customer in general.

An investigative reporter for New Times found that State Farm has a national policy of underpaying claims. The policy even extends to dragging out lawsuits that any disappointed claimants might file against them in order to increase the cost of litigation to the point of forcing them to settle for less than the policy is worth.

You can go to the web page of Grass Roots South Carolina (www.scfirearms.org) and see the whole story with a very nice piece of artwork to represent Snake Farm Insurance Company.

After you have canceled your Snake Farm insurance policy, you might want to let them know why. Mr. Edward Rust is the president of State Farm Fire and Casualty Company in Bloomington, IL. The phone there is 309-766-2311.

And don't forget to let Prudential know why you have cancelled them if you have a policy with them. Their phone number at their Newark, NJ headquarters is: 1-800-562-8838.

See the archives at <http://www.gunowners.org/radio.htm> to listen to my interview on Live Fire with Gary Atkinson.

BILL from Page 1

Gov. Hodge's office at the State House Wednesday afternoon. There were ten or so from the Upstate, ten or so from the Low Country and ten to twenty from points considerably east or west of Columbia in the Piedmont. All made the trip, putting out one more extra effort, at the call of GrassRoots.

It was great! About a dozen kids were sitting on the floor in front of Gov. Hodge's desk as he signed the law. It was a mad house, with the South Carolina State Troopers on protective detail nervously eyeing all the visitors milling around in the Governor's office waiting for him to arrive.

It was short notice, the call was sent out only by email, and it was the middle of the afternoon of a hot, working day, but we're glad for the respect-

able turnout. This is just another instance where people being electronically connected with email were of great value. We encourage you, if at all possible, to please get on-line. Here's another reason: Pictures have been posted on the GrassRoots Internet website at: <http://www.scfirearms.org/h3010long.htm>

At the State House, we gave out the round GrassRoots "No Compromise, No Surrender" Snake lapel pins to those who were able to make the effort to attend.

When you see those 1" round, yellow, "No Compromise, No Surrender" lapel pins, you'll know the person wearing it has made a special effort to support GrassRoots. We won't be selling those pins. They have to be earned.

Afterwards, we had a nice get together at the Clarion Hotel for a little "Victory Celebration".

Congratulations & Thank You!

Our thanks to the gun show promoters who donate the table space, and to the volunteers who are out there telling the world that "We're GrassRoots and we're sticking to our guns!"

If you'd like to help at a gun show near you, please contact our gun show directors, Terry Hicks (803-414-7794, gunshows@scfirearms.org) or Mike Walgunery (803-781-1360 walgum123@netzero.net).

Oh, by the way, volunteers get in the gun show for free! and get to wear the cool GrassRoots shooting shirt.

- Mike Walguarnery

No rational arguments against arming pilots

By F. Paul Valone

President, Grass Roots North Carolina
Executive Director,
RightsWatch International pres@gnc.org

Have you noticed how a debate sheds all rationality once you introduce the word "gun"? Consider, for example, the absurd arguments against arming airline pilots.

Current proposals would deter terrorism by deputizing volunteer pilots who undergo stringent background checks and training as "Federal flight deck officers." Carrying approved firearms and ammunition, their sole law enforcement duty would be defending the cockpit from unauthorized intrusion.

The Aviation and Transportation Security Act allows—but doesn't require—creating standards for pilots to carry firearms. Although 75 percent of the public wants pilots armed, Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta and former security undersecretary John Magaw disagreed. Refusing to autho-



June 13, 1985: Terrorists hijack
TWA Flight 847

rize firearms in the cockpit, the best tactic Magaw offered hijacked pilots was "maneuvering [the airplane] so it knocks people off balance."

Judge Magaw's and Mineta's credibility for yourself: Magaw directed the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, an agency so inept and politicized it was nearly folded into the FBI. Mineta incurred wrath from Congress by wasting money on inadequate numbers of million-dollar, truck-sized bomb scanners which, remarked one FAA special agent, "...can't tell the difference between a



Plenty of places to hide a pistol on the deck of this Boeing 777

bomb and a bowel movement."

Anticipating the obstructionism, Congressmen John Mica and Don Young introduced HR 4635, the "Arming Pilots Against Terrorism Act." Says Mica, "I can't believe they haven't instantaneously allowed pilots to defend themselves, given gaps in the current system." Although the bill passed through the House, it faces a tough battle in the Senate.

Opponents include bureaucrats whose fiefdoms are threatened, airline liability lawyers and gun control advocates. Each brings to the debate an agenda quite unrelated to protecting you from terrorism. Their objections would be laughable...were they not taken seriously by people who should know better.

Apparently inspired by the movie "Goldfinger," they claim gunshots in pressurized cabins will cause passengers to be sucked out of a dime-sized holes. In truth, airliner fuselages already have lots of holes, and a gunshot would have little effect on pressurization.

Describing gunshot risks as "minuscule," Boeing aircraft safety director Ron Hinderberger notes: "Commercial airplane structure is designed with sufficient strength, redundancy and damage tolerance that single or even mul-

tiple handgun bullet holes would not result in loss of the aircraft."

While opponents favor issuing stun guns, former FAA security chief Billy Vincent says we should stop "studying the issue to death" and arm pilots. Calling stun guns "inadequate," he says: "If you can reach them, they can reach you...Stun guns are not adequate weapons in dealing with someone who is armed with a cutting edge or a handgun."

Stun guns, including Tasers, are arms-length weapons designed to temporarily incapacitate single, untrained, unarmed opponents. Firearms are stand-off weapons, allowing one pilot to deny cockpit access to multiple attackers while the other lands the airplane.

We presently have only a couple of thousand air marshals to protect 35,000 daily flights. One pundit describes them as "trained sharpshooters [using] special ammunition that can't penetrate the aircraft's hull."

As a captain for a major airline who's flown between the LaGuardia and Washington National airports since 9/11, I've worked with marshals. Most come from federal agencies such as U.S. Customs and carry standard service ammu-

See **ARMED PILOT** Page 14

Upstate Fourth Monday

Upstate GrassRoots members, come join us for Upstate Fourth Monday at Dennys in *Spartanburg*.

We'll discuss ways we can make a difference here in the upstate. Ed Kelleher, President of GrassRoots will be our guest speaker.

The purpose of our meeting is to organize Upstate members so they may take a more active part in GrassRoots. We want to work on projects like organizing CWP training classes, boosting GrassRoots membership, participating in Gun Shows, writing letters to the editor, collecting news for the GrassRoots newspaper, and talking to the media and local clubs. We want your ideas and participation to help us accomplish GrassRoots goals.

If you would like to be more involved, or you just want to meet local Grassroots members and learn more about what is going on we would love to have you. Come eat with us at 6PM. The regular meeting will start at 7PM. Upstate GrassRoots meets the fourth Monday of every month. Our next two meetings will be August 26th, and September 23rd. The restaurant is at the intersection of I-26, Exit 22, and Reidville Road in Spartanburg.

For more info please e-mail Cherry Gentry at:

CGentry@mothersarms.org or John Brown at johnbrown1@aol.com. Dennys Restaurant, (864) 587-6466 Reidville Rd, Spartanburg

THE IMPACT OF GUN LAWS ON POLICE DEATHS

By David B. Mustard

Many people oppose concealed weapons carry laws because they believe these laws jeopardize law enforcement officials, who risk their lives to protect the citizenry. This paper uses state-level data from 1984-1996 to examine how right-to-carry laws and waiting periods affect the numbers of police deaths. It strongly rejects this contention. Check out this report in the Internet. (*Requires Acrobat Reader*)

<http://www.terry.uga.edu/~dmustard/police.pdf>

Dr. Mustard will be one of the guest speakers at the Great GrassRoots Gathering.

AR15 from Page 9

If you want to hit deliberately, at longer range targets, get a bolt gun. If you want to put a lot of rounds down range, get a military bolt gun like a scoped Mauser in .308 or .30-06. A good .30 cal semi-auto alternative to the M1A would be the FAL. Accurate, good trigger, easier to clean, good ergonomics and a plethora of cheap magazines (20rds are \$10 new) available. For all but the finest match work the FAL iron sights (its biggest negative when compared with M1A) are fine.

When I think of trying to combine close in rapid fire, with longer range deliberate fire in semi-auto .30 cal battle

rifles like FAL and M1A, I'm reminded of a similar compromise: The Chevy El Camino — half sedan, half pickup truck. I guess some people will swear by it, but it just didn't seem a good compromise to me. — Ed

CONCLUSION:

Thanks for all the input. I think I will go with the AR-15.

NOTICE

The Defender newspaper and Masthead was designed, typeset and produced by Publisher Dr. Charles Campbell, President of SuccessTALK Communications, Inc., (STC) for GrassRoots South Carolina, Inc.

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Rob Butler, his two daughters, Susan and Michelle, and GrassRoots supporters at the signing of the GrassRoots CWP and Gun Law Reform Bill.

The Two Year Legislative Session in Review

By Rob Butler, J.D.
Legislative Director & V.P.

GrassRoots GunRights led gun owners through a very successful 2001-2002 legislative session. GrassRoots members can be proud of what we accomplished this last legislative session. GrassRoots activists were able to kill every anti gun rights bill introduced. But, even more importantly, we pushed the GrassRoots GunRights CWP and gun law reforms into law!

GrassRoots was the ONLY organization able to pass any gun rights laws this legislative session. No other gun rights organization (either pro or anti) was able to pass any laws effecting our gun rights. GrassRoots is the winning team. We could have won more except for the lost opportunity costs we suffered. We'll explain a little later.

In the heat of the battle, we sometimes forget all that we have done. Below you will find a summary of the GrassRoots GunRights legislative accomplishments this past legislative session. Please take the time to read and appreciate all that GrassRoots has accomplished. Then, pat yourself on the back for a job well done. We couldn't have done it without you!

Legislation Actively Pushed by GrassRoots:

S. 261 led the way for H. 3010 - the GrassRoots CWP and gun law reforms. H. 3010 was signed into law by Gov. Hodges on May 28, 2002. The following changes were made and are now the law:

1. CWP holders can now carry into rest areas and the buildings at rest areas.
2. Anyone can now possess a firearm in their vehicle at rest areas and parking lots of publicly owned buildings and nice restaurants. And contrary to the

claims made by those jealous of GrassRoots' effectiveness, this change was needed. The State newspaper reported a few weeks ago on a man who was arrested and taken to jail for possessing a firearm in the parking lot of a restaurant that served alcoholic beverages for on premises consumption.

3. CWP holders can now carry into public parks, but only if they do not enter any publicly owned buildings (e.g., rest rooms).

4. CWP holders can now carry onto the premises, and into the facilities and buildings, of state parks under the control of the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism.

5. Businesses prohibiting CWP holders from entering the premises must post a standard sign at a standard location.

6. A CWP holder is only required to inform a law enforcement officer that they are a CWP holder and produce their CWP if the CWP holder is carrying a concealable weapon.

7. Only one photograph (anywhere from a 1"x1" to a 3"x5" in size) is now required to be submitted with CWP applications and renewals.

8. The unconstitutional one year residency requirement has been deleted.

Changes other than proposed by GrassRoots were added to the GrassRoots proposed reforms. These changes that are now law do the following:

1. Allows a person who has a medical problem that prevents a full set of fingerprints from being obtained to still qualify for a CWP.

See **Review** Page 16

IN TOUCH from Page 2

This "members only" discussion group is more focused on the issues which face GrassRoots, leadership responses to issues, and ongoing projects. You may join us in either or both of these discussion groups by signing up on our web page.

Meeting With Your Leadership:

Face to face contact with GrassRoots leadership and staff is available monthly at our informal monthly meetings. Currently we meet on the third Monday of each month at Shoney's on Bush River Road in Columbia at 7:00PM. These meetings are working meetings for our officers and staff however membership input is appreciated. We typically arrive early to enjoy supper and fellowship prior to our meeting.

Fax: We also ask our members for fax numbers where they can receive alerts. During the legislative session issues change day to day, leading to the need for immediate action.

While we have found that e-mail is the fastest and cheapest means of contacting our membership, sometimes we need to contact as many members as possible within a specific legislative district.

For example, when our CWP reform bill came to the SC House Floor for a vote, we had a need for our members in a particular House District to contact their representative. One way we alerted our members was to fax all GrassRoots members in that district with a legislative alert and instructions on how they could help. The GrassRoots fax number is 803-755-1201 - send us yours!

Telephone: Your GrassRoots leadership places their telephone numbers in each newspaper you receive. When calling, please try to call the leader who most likely can answer your question.

These telephone numbers are usually home numbers so please try to use discretion when calling. Calls late at night or very early strain our leadership's volunteer spirit as well as their family's understanding.

The Great GrassRoots Gathering: This Fall GrassRoots will host the Great GrassRoots Gathering. (See page 4 & 5) Representative Suzanna Hupp (TX), remembered most because she watched her parents get murdered in Luby's Cafeteria, will be our keynote speaker.

We will have various seminars on how to make contacting your legislators and getting legislation passed easier to do. Even more importantly, you will have the chance to meet other GrassRoots GunRights members from around the state. It will be a lot of fun.

Your Privacy: GrassRoots has developed the policy to NOT distribute our members' personal information. Your personal information is held in strict confidence.

If you would like assistance joining any of the communication mediums we employ we would be glad to assist you in staying in touch with us.

Larry Coble is the Communications Officer for GrassRoots. He can be contacted at: webmaster@scfirearms.org or at our postal address:

GrassRoots South Carolina
P.O. Box 6383
Columbia, SC 29260

ARMED PILOT from Page 13

eration. *USA Today* recently found that twenty-five percent have not met marksmanship standards.

While some fear hijackers might gain control of a pilot's firearm, multiple attackers—even if unarmed—can eventually overcome marshals. If marshals lose control of a hijacked aircraft, would you rather have firearms accessible to hijackers, or locked behind the cockpit door?

Others argue that a pilot using a firearm would be "distracted" from controlling the airplane. But since firearms would be used only against hijackers who've already broken into the cockpit, distraction becomes moot. Is it more "distracting" to shoot an intruder or to have one's throat cut? Moreover, under this logic we should remove fire extinguishers from cockpits because, after all, we wouldn't want pilots "distracted" by having to fight an inflight fire.

But most foolish is the columnist who, recalling an EgyptAir crash from apparent pilot suicide, frets: "And we want men like this to carry guns?" Ignoring the insult to professionals who dedicate themselves to the safety of millions, let me suggest the obvious: In the exceedingly unlikely event a pilot ever decides to sabotage his own airplane, *he doesn't need a weapon.*

El Al and two major European airlines reportedly arm pilots now. Polls reveal between 73 and 83 percent of airline pilots want firearms. And Gen-

eral Ralph Eberhart, commander of the North American Aerospace Defense Command, calls the downing of a commercial airliner by our own military a "possibility."

Airline terminal evacuations, cockpit break-ins and repeated failures in security screening remind us no screening process is airtight, and no door can be hardened enough. As Congressman John Hostettler remarked, "Doesn't it seem reasonable to insert one more preventative step before an F-16 launches a missile against a passenger plane?"

Help make 'Safer Skies'

After firing Magaw as head of the Transportation Security Administration, the Bush administration appears to be grudgingly moving toward arming pilots. But Senator Ernest Hollings (D-SC), chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, remains a powerful opponent of armed pilot legislation.

Immediately contact Sen. Hollings and politely remind him that:

- (1) There are simply no rational arguments against arming pilots; and
- (2) That fact has become abundantly clear even to anti-gun legislators such as Sen. Barbara Boxer.

Let him know you expect his support on the issue. Contact Sen. Hollings at: (202) 224-6121 or <http://hollings.senate.gov/email.html>. For more information, check the RightsWatch "Safer Skies" project at www.rightswatch.org.

OPEN LETTER from Page 11

from plain sight or not visible from all entrances

3) carrying a concealed weapon while you are enjoying the natural beauty inside any South Carolina State Park

4) using the parking lot of a nice restaurants or public building if your weapon is stored in your vehicle

This bill will also eliminate the one-year residency requirement for new CWP applicants as well as reduce the three 1"x1" photos required for renewals and applications down to one reasonable size photo.

We need you to join us, because there is strength in numbers. A newly sprouted single blade of grass is weak and vulnerable. It takes little effort to pluck it out of the ground or step on it and destroy it.

If that one solitary grass blade joins with another, soon their roots start intertwining and they become stronger. When they join with even more blades and their roots mingle even more, a transformation eventually happens. This bunch of solitary individual blades, by virtue of each one's associations with their neighbors, turns into a hardy patch of sod that is so strong it cannot be uprooted nor can a trampling of feet harm it.

There is a name for this multiplying effect. It is called synergism, which in other words means that when some things get together they become much stronger than the sum of all their individual strength.

One of the things that this phenomenon applies to is people, especially in regards to making government listen and act. There are almost 40,000 people in South Carolina with Concealed Weapons Permits. Out of those 40,000 only 4400 are Grassroots members.

I have told you what our 4400

members have accomplished. If Grassroots were 10,000 or 20,000 or even 30,000 strong, can you imagine what we can accomplish? We need your help NOW for the House battle for H3010. After we win this battle, we still have a long way to go to restore the rights, upon which the liberals in government have infringed.

Grassroots GunRights has enabled me to come out of the closet and become a full fledge activist, one that has seen the fruits of my efforts. The fact that you have gone through the trouble to get a CWP tells me you are not the kind of person that is satisfied with allowing others to shape your destiny and control your fate.

Accept my invitation to let us help you become an activist. Join Grassroots and you will shortly find you can make a difference, too. It is not that hard to do and the rewards are great. Keeping informed, writing letters, talking to public officials and other members, making phone calls, sending faxes, using automatic e-mailers isn't too much to do for the possible benefits is it?

Does it bother you that our CWP laws are such a tangle of blatant of infringements to our Constitutional right to bear arms that it is hard at best for a good citizen to stay both safe and legal? It bothers me. Do you feel like I do, that laws ought to be easy to obey; that the criminals ought to be the ones forced to jump through hoops instead of good folks like yourself? Years from now I want to look my grandchildren and great-grandchildren in the eyes and be able to truthfully say, "I took a stand for our beliefs, our Constitution, our country and our state and I made a difference." If you do too, then join us today!

Sincerely,
Richard Stephens, Pamplico, SC
(H.3010 passed - See front page)

E-MAIL from Page 4

That's where the duplication comes in. Sure, our webmaster could spend 4-6 hours merging the lists and culling duplicates but I've told him NOT to.

He's too valuable and works too hard on all the other things we need done,

I'm not going to help burn him out more quickly doing something we can live with.

So, it's my call, blame me if you care too. But I do ask you just grin and bear it as a small thing you can live with for the cause.

Thanks for understanding the necessity of what we do and that it's not done out of sheer laziness or insensitivity.

AIRPORT SECURITY

Almost 150 years ago, President Lincoln found it necessary to hire a private investigator Alan Pinkerton - for protection. That was the beginning of the Secret Service. Since that time federal police authority has grown to a large number of multi-letter agencies - FBI, CIA, INS, IRS, DEA, BATF, etc.

Well, now with Senator Fritz Hollings full support, comes the "Federal Air Transportation Airport Security Service."

I can see them now, these highly trained men and women in their black outfits with their initials in large white letters across their backs: "FATASS" I feel safer already.

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REVIEW from Page 14

2. Provides that a CWP is void if a CWP holder moves from South Carolina, and requires that the CWP be surrendered to SLED.

3. Clarifies that churches may grant people the right to carry in the church.

Legislation Amended Due to GrassRoots Input:

S. 87 - a bill to prohibit hunting from roads. GrassRoots spoke at the subcommittee hearing and proposed amendments to protect innocent gun owners from being entrapped by the poorly written bill. The GrassRoots proposed amendments were adopted and the bill became law.

S. 857 led the way for H. 4416 - the Homeland Security bills. GrassRoots spoke at the public hearing to protect innocent gun owners, and provided written position statements to both the Senate and the House with proposed amendments. Original versions of these bills would have allowed for registration and confiscation of any firearms, and could have made felons out of law abiding citizens who taught others how to shoot. The GrassRoots proposed amendments to protect innocent gun owners were adopted by both the House and the Senate. H. 4416 is now law.

Legislation Actively Opposed by GrassRoots:

S. 78 - a trigger lock bill. GrassRoots submitted a written position statement opposing the bill. The bill was killed in subcommittee even though the subcommittee chair was the primary sponsor of the bill.

S. 86 - a bill to allow retired law enforcement officers from anywhere to carry anywhere in SC. GrassRoots spoke against the bill in subcommittee, as did the S.C. Sheriff's Association. The bill was killed in subcommittee even though the subcommittee chair was a co-sponsor of the bill.

S. 96 - the Senate version of Palmetto Exile. GrassRoots provided writ-

ten position statements opposing the bill to Senators. The bill was killed on the Senate floor and returned to the Judiciary Committee.

S. 1041 - a CWP reform bill proposed to get only some of what H. 3010 was trying to get. GrassRoots opposed this bill and it was killed in subcommittee.

H. 3113 - a lock up your safety bill. GrassRoots provided a written position statement opposing the bill. The bill was killed in subcommittee.

H. 3165 - a bill to create a firearms disability for misdemeanors and allegations of domestic abuse. GrassRoots provided a written position statement opposing the bill and showed up at the subcommittee hearing to speak against the bill. It was killed in subcommittee.

H. 3167 - the House version of Palmetto Exile. When GrassRoots showed up at the House subcommittee hearing to oppose the bill, the bill was suddenly yanked from the agenda. The bill was later snuck through the House without ever getting a public hearing. GrassRoots then opposed the bill in the Senate after it was suddenly pulled from the Judiciary Committee without having a public hearing there either. The GrassRoots blitz of opposition killed the bill.

The budget bill with a 100% tax increase on CWP holders. GrassRoots sent out 36,000 postcards to GrassRoots members to send to the Senate and House leaders asking them to oppose the proposed 100% tax increase on CWP holders. The GrassRoots postcard blitz was successful and the tax increase was killed in a conference committee.

Legislation Favored, but not pushed, by GrassRoots:

S. 488 - a bill to allow the people of SC to possess machine guns. The sponsors asked that everyone just remain quiet on this bill and let it sneak into law. GrassRoots did as we were asked and it is now the law.

S. 489 - a bill to prohibit shooting into occupied vehicles. It is now the law.

S. 534 - a bill to repeal the one handgun per month law. This bill died in subcommittee for lack of support.

S. 631 - a bill to make shooting

range noise area signs optional. GrassRoots spoke in favor of the bill where it passed favorably from the subcommittee, but it died on the Senate floor for lack of support. This bill would have saved the Jack Stone shooting range.

S. 800 - a bill to create a 2nd Amendment license plate. It died in subcommittee for lack of support.

H. 3295 - the Citizen's Self-Defense Act. It died in subcommittee for lack of support.

H. 3405 - a bill to repeal the one handgun per month law. Rob Butler of GrassRoots was the only person to speak in favor of the bill at the House subcommittee hearing. It passed the House, but died in a Senate subcommittee for lack of support.

H. 3939 - a bill to allow counties to alter the shooting range noise area sign requirements. This bill died in a Senate subcommittee for lack of support.

H. 4425 - a bill to create a 2nd Amendment license plate. It died in subcommittee for lack of support.

Lost Opportunity Cost:

Lost opportunity cost is a concept understood in the business world. Gun owners need to understand this concept, too. Lost opportunity cost is the difference between what you got and what you could have gotten if you had only done something different with your resources. The concept is easy to understand, but harder to use.

Imagine you have a million dollars to invest. You take the money down to your bank and put it into a savings account paying 3% interest. You are \$30,000 richer at the end of the year.

Your neighbor also has a million dollars to invest. He takes his money and buys quality bonds paying 7% interest. He is \$70,000 richer at the end of the year.

The concept of lost opportunity cost would tell you that you made a big mistake. Your lost opportunity cost is \$40,000, the difference between what you did get (\$30,000) and what you could have gotten (\$70,000) if you had only done something different.

Think of all the extra time, money, and effort GrassRoots had to spend to fight the NRA leadership to get the GrassRoots CWP and gun law reforms

passed. GrassRoots was not able to spend those resources on getting other pro gun rights legislation passed. This was a lost opportunity cost for GrassRoots.

GrassRoots would have gotten even more accomplished if the NRA leadership had not opposed the GrassRoots pro gun rights legislation. We would have gotten even more accomplished if the NRA leadership had not supported the anti gun rights Palmetto Exile legislation. We would have gotten even more accomplished if the NRA leadership had supported other pro gun rights legislation like repeal of the one handgun per thirty days law.

Think of all the extra time, money, and effort NRA leadership wasted to fight the pro gun rights GrassRoots CWP and gun law reforms. NRA leadership was not able to spend those resources on getting other pro gun rights legislation passed. This was a lost opportunity cost for all pro gun rights supporters who give money to the NRA, and to all pro gun rights supporters in general.

NRA leadership's opposition to the GrassRoots CWP and gun law reforms created lost opportunity costs for both GrassRoots and all pro gun rights supporters. The pro gun rights movement took a double hit on lost opportunity costs because of the NRA leadership's anti gun rights actions.

Every one of the bills listed in the "Legislation Favored by GrassRoots" section above could have benefitted if they had gotten the lost opportunity costs wasted by the NRA. Some of those bills could have passed. This is shameful because only the anti gun rights movement gains when we waste our resources on lost opportunity costs.

The next time a so-called pro gun rights organization starts to waste resources on lost opportunity costs, let them know you will not support such wasteful actions. Tell them your money will only go to real pro gun organizations that do not waste resources.

Now, take a moment to pat yourself on the back for a job well done! Then, get ready for the next legislative session starting in January 2003. Lets hope we can avoid lost opportunity costs and instead spend all of our resources on getting pro gun rights laws passed.

Join GrassRoots Now! Help Us Do More!

Complete and mail with check to: GrassRoots, P.O. Box 6383, Columbia, SC 29260

- ☐ **1-year new membership or renewal: \$15.00. Includes newspapers and mailings, e-mail alerts & updates. Additional contributions are welcome (see below) and are used to further the goals of GrassRoots right here in South Carolina.**
- ☐ **1-year GrassRoots Firearms Instructor membership: \$25.00 (many extra benefits, see next page)**
- ☐ **Renewal, please check here if you are renewing individual or Instructor membership so we can avoid duplicates**
- ☐ **Please send me _____ GrassRoots Bumper Stickers @ \$1 when included with dues, example on next page.**
- ☐ **Thanks for making my CWP more useful. Here's an extra contribution to help in the work. Please continue to do all you can to protect and promote my rights as a South Carolina gun owner and CWP holder.**

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