

SC CWP WELCOME IN NC!  
NC Reciprocity with 14 States Started August 14...  
South Carolina was #15 August 25!

South Carolina Concealed Weapon Permit (CWP) holders may now legally carry concealed in North Carolina! We reported in the last issue that Grass Roots North Carolina (GRNC) had made great strides towards getting CWP reciprocity with other states. Since then, their Governor signed the bill into law and it took effect August 14, 2003.

South Carolina did not make the NC reciprocity list until August 25, 2003. The delay was because SLED had not figured out whether or not to let people with North Carolina CWP's carry in South Carolina due to the "equal to or greater" standard for reciprocity in our CWP law. SLED was using a standard for reciprocity that required virtual legal identity of law. Without recognition of *their*

permits, North Carolina would not recognize *our* permits. We do not have reciprocity with Florida for similar reasons.

The turning point came after Rep. William E. Sandifer, (Dist. 2, Oconee and Pickens counties) who had been contacted by many citizens wanting to carry in North Carolina, requested an opinion on the issue from SC Attorney General Henry McMaster. The AG's opinion showed that the NC and SC carry laws were substantially



States which  
have CWP agreements  
with North Carolina:

- Arkansas
- Alabama
- Georgia
- Florida
- Idaho
- Kentucky
- Michigan
- Montana
- Oklahoma
- Pennsylvania
- South Carolina
- South Dakota
- Tennessee
- Utah
- Virginia



And see...  
South Carolina  
is on the list!

similar and concluded that:

"South Carolina's concealable weapons statute, §§ 23-31 -215(N), requires that in order to grant a reciprocal permit to an out-of-state concealed weapons permit holder, the State must be satisfied that the permit holder's state imposes standards for licensure "equal to or greater" than those of South Carolina. This does not mean, however, that the out-of-state permit law must be identical to or impose identical standards to South Carolina. In our opinion, a court would conclude that such standards must be substantially similar, or reasonably equivalent to one another."

SLED decided to abide by the analysis in the AG's opinion, and signed a reciprocity agreement with NC at 1:08 PM on August 25, 2003. Additionally, the AG's opinion is the basis to allow SLED to reevaluate their prior denials of reciprocity with other states. Probably the first state that SLED will reevaluate is Florida. SLED intends to reevaluate states on the priority basis of who is closest to SC.

According to the official website of the North Carolina Attorney General: "As of August 14, 2003, North Carolina law allows residents of other states who have a Concealed Handgun Permit issued by their state to carry concealed handguns in North Carolina if the person's state also grants the same privilege to North Carolinians. ... [I]f you have a concealed carry permit from one of the [reciprocal] states ..., you will be able to possess a concealed handgun while you visit North Carolina. However, while you are in North Carolina you will be subject to all of

Training, Training  
and More Training

by R.K. Campbell  
Contributing Writer

*A very experienced trainer told me the parable of the finger and the moon. He said, "Point at the Moon... Do you see the moon or the finger?" The object of our interest is the moon. By the same token, the weapons we use are simple tools. Our mind is the real weapon. If we concentrate too much on weapons, and not on martial arts, we have already lost the battle. When we fight, we enter into an interpersonal contract with the adversary. The fight is about him and us, not the weapons we use. We have to understand that or we will not survive.*

Still looking at the finger?

When we consider police and civilian handgun training, we have to consider what is involved. Training should be appropriate to the likely mission. When the mission is viewed in zero gauge, the demands of training are clear and real. Peace officers must

have a varied training. They may be called upon to address a felon at fairly long range, or multiple assailants at short range. The shopkeeper or home defender is free to concentrate on his or her likely problems. In my experience this means a short range incident. Placing a good hit quickly at short range under stress is no easy task but good guys and girls do so every year on a regular basis. This gives our protein fed ex-con criminal class a shock that is well deserved. They tend to pick a feeble or complacent target – and often choose wrong.

Going to the range and overextending the ability of the weapon can lead to disappointment. Extending practice with the snubnose .38 to twenty five yards can be daunting. If your scenario calls for shots at this range, or you need an all around farm and ranch gun, then use one. If your shop gun is a .38 snub, then practice realistically.

The main shortcoming that most of us notice in students is

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GrassRoots South Carolina, Inc.  
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# NC Reciprocity and NRA Law Suit

by Neal Knox

On Thursday, the North Carolina Attorney General listed the first states to honor the states concealed handgun licenses, whose citizens will also be eligible to carry concealed in North Carolina. (See [www.jus.state.nc.us/cleframe.htm](http://www.jus.state.nc.us/cleframe.htm)).

They are Arkansas, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, Idaho, Kentucky, Michigan, Montana, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah and Virginia.

The states broad new law, similar to one drafted by Grass Roots North Carolina and pushed through the two previous sessions of the General Assembly, was barely saved after their original bill, SB 33, was gutted by ILA-backed amendments.

GRNC President Paul Valone told me last spring that NRA-ILA liaison Jennifer Palmer and ILA's hired in-state lobbyists had met with the attorney general's representative the night before the Senate Judiciary Committee was to consider the bill. They had agreed to a bill which the committee adopted as a substitute allowing the attorney general to arbitrarily reject, without review, any reciprocity agreement with any other state.

It also would have required other states to conduct mental health checks, something not required in North Carolina or any other state making the reciprocity bill meaningless.

GRNC blocked the Senate bill in the assembly, and sent a clean bill, H.B. 131, back to the Senate. Eventually, an assembly subcommittee and the AG drafted a clean bill with input from GRNC, which became the excellent new law.

In late May Paul Valone sent an email report to key GRNC members on a supposedly private Email network. In it he apparently fumed about ILA's actions and passed on a scurrilous rumor about Ms. Palmer, who is ILA State & Local Manager, under Director Randy Kozuch.

I have not seen that Email, but this week I saw NRA's report to Directors, which quoted what Paul had said.

I don't blame her for being angry. It was stupid of Paul to have made such a comment even if he was also angry.

That suit, filed against both Valone and GRNC in Federal Court by an NRA lawyer, demanding \$75,000 in damages, was also stupid. By suing GRNC it looks like the purpose of the suit is to bankrupt an all-volunteer group of grass-roots activists.

NRA is not a plaintiff, nor could it be, but this is as much NRA's suit as NRA's suit against the DC gun law. They're not a formal party in that suit either.

I'm informed that Paul has offered a formal apology to Ms. Palmer and has asked for a meeting of officers of both organizations to improve future relations. Good. I hope she accepts it. Let's get this squabble behind us.

### About Neal Knox

In an October 26, 1993 profile, The Wall Street Journal said Neal Knox "is likely to have a greater impact on the rapidly escalating firefight over gun control than any other individual in America." The events of the intervening years have borne out the Journal's prediction.

He has testified before Congressional committees dozens of times since 1966 when he appeared before the House Subcommittee on Crime against what eventually became the Gun Control Act of 1968. He was the founding editor of Gun Week, editor and publisher of Handloader and Rifle magazines, and Executive Director of NRA-ILA following a members' rights revolt at the 1977 NRA convention in Cincinnati. Since 1984 he has worked as a writer and lobbyist supported by people who believe as he does, that the Second Amendment is about the fundamental human right to defend self, family, home, and country. You can sign up to receive his Email alerts at: [www.NealKnox.com](http://www.NealKnox.com)

You can receive his Hard Corps Report by mail by sending a donation (price of a box of ammo) to:  
**Neal Knox Associates**  
**PO Box 3313**  
**Manassas, VA 20108**



## Email from NRA-ILA regarding the lawsuit:

"Thank you contacting NRA-ILA. NRA has not filed suit against Grass Roots North Carolina. An NRA employee, Jennifer Palmer, has filed suit against Paul Valone, President of Grass Roots North Carolina, and Grass Roots North Carolina as an organization for defamation of character.

Mr. Valone sent an email to numerous people falsely claiming that Mrs. Palmer was committing adultery. This false statement clearly defamed Mrs. Palmer's moral character and integrity. Despite several opportunities to do so, Mr. Valone refused to apologize for making the false statement and refused to retract the false statement. As a result, Mrs. Palmer filed suit against Mr. Valone.

Mrs. Palmer's lawsuit has nothing to do with legislative or political activities. It is solely based on Mr. Valone's defamation of Mrs. Palmer's moral character.

As the issue is currently in litigation, no further comment would be appropriate at this time."

[Editor: The above is what the NRA-ILA put out. We publish it for your information, not to endorse in any way what they said.]

When it was decided that the historical model for settling these political matters was the Aaron Burr - Alexander Hamilton duel, it suddenly dawned on Al that maybe it WASN'T such a great idea to require all guns to have trigger locks.



## GrassRoots South Carolina, Inc. PO Box 6383 Columbia, SC 29260 www.scfirearms.org

GrassRoots South Carolina, Inc. is a South Carolina 501(c)4 nonprofit 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. members contact their elected representatives to promote or oppose legislation concerning all gun owners and issues surrounding the Right to Keep and Bear Arms in South Carolina.

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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 proceeding month. Submissions can be sent by mail to Editor, c/o GrassRoots South Carolina, PO Box 6383, Columbia, SC 29260, or electronically to newspaper@firearms.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. Changes of address and questions regarding membership status should be sent to Debbie Price at the above PO Box or email address. Copyright ©2003 Grass Roots South Carolina, Inc.



# President’s Message

## Getting the word out... effectively

Communication with our members is a vital part of GrassRoots. This newspaper is our basic means of communication, but it’s not our most effective or efficient method. Electronic communication via Email is the quickest and most efficient way for us to get the word out to our members. But many of our members still don’t have computers. If you’re thinking of getting a computer, please do! Then sign up for our GrassRoots Email Action alerts and ENewsletter and join the Email discussion groups where people’s firearms related questions are answered, often with lively discussion. See the article on Page 7 *GrassRoots Electronic Communication*.

We’ve given quite a bit of thought to when The Defender newspaper should be published, and what it should contain. Here’s what each edition of The Defender should do. They should be in the mail to you the first week of the issue month.

The **February Issue** will introduce and analyze legislation (bills) affecting your gun rights in the South Carolina legislature and list steps you can take to deal with them. The edition will usually include postcards for you to mail. We’ll have special articles about **Carry Guns and Ammo**.

The **May Issue** will give a status report and update on gun rights legislative issues, again with postcards and action steps. This issue will include special articles on **Holsters, Belts and Concealment Clothing**.

The **August Issue** will give a Legislative wrap up and report on what happened, but no postcards. This will be our **Practice, Training and Shooting Range issue**.

The **November Issue** will have reports on how elected officials have, or have not, supported your gun rights. We’ll have reports and pictures from any Fall Gathering or Seminar. There will be articles to get people primed and ready for next year. It will be our **Safe storage, firearms cleaning and Gifts for Gun Owners** issue.

Unfortunately, we missed our target for this years February issue — it didn’t get out till April. That hurt us a lot. To even things out and get us back on track we delayed the May issue to till June and the August issue (this one you’re reading) till September. With the November issue of The Defender we should be back on our quarterly schedule. Submissions and photos from our

members are welcomed and given priority for inclusion in the newspaper – there are some good ones in this edition.

There’s been good news recently (*Gun Control Tide is Turning* Page 11) with Alaska passing “Vermont Carry”, i.e., no carry permit required, and Wisconsin progressing some to recognize that people can at least carry in their own homes. Then there’s

the **very** good news about reciprocity with North Carolina. GRNC got NC law changed to allow people with CWP’s from other states to carry. South Carolina citizens eager to carry in NC called their legislators and the Governor clamoring for carry in NC. SC Rep. Bill

Sandifer asked the SC Attorney General Henry McMaster to issue an opinion to help– and he did. AG McMaster did a right smart piece of work, and put his own John Hancock on it. It’s been a hectic few days reworking this paper, so you all would be among the first to hear the good news.

But all this good news is tempered by the shocking NRA lawsuit against Grass Roots North Carolina (*NRA SUES GRASS ROOTS NORTH CAROLINA*, Page 9). We’re not excusing or dismissing GRNC President Paul Valone’s actions. If he’s done wrong, he should apologize.

The thing that is most disturbing to me is that the NRA stepped in to

what should have remained a personal matter. They chose to, why? Their claim they’re protecting an NRA employee is fishy. If I were slandered, would I ask, or expect GrassRoots to file suit for me? No! If you were a salesmen for a company, and someone said you lied and cheated, directly affecting your ability to do your job, even **then** would you expect your employer to file a lawsuit for you? Get real! Of course not.

Neal Knox pointed out that the NRA rarely defends an NRA member against firearms charges, and here the issue is **not** gun related. Paul Valone, right or wrong, isn’t the issue. It’s the NRA using what appears to be a flimsy excuse as a pretext to take action that is the problem. Are we next?

Right now the parties are in litigation and not much solid information is forth coming. Paul Valone’s actions may have been wrong. We’ll know when we see the documents. But the NRA suing a pro-gun group seems wrong to me also. I guess any family of strong willed individuals will have their squabbles. We’ll let them sort it out and hope it doesn’t spill over on to us.

*Ed Kelleher*

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# You Can Fight Renewal of the Gun Ban!

Want to do more than just send postcards to your federal legislators and get form letters with empty words in return? Take the sample resolution (at the right) to your county Republican Party meeting, change the county and congressmen’s names, then get them to enact it. The letters from local GOP groups will multiply the effect of your postcards and let the politicians know, it’s more than just a few gun cranks writing.

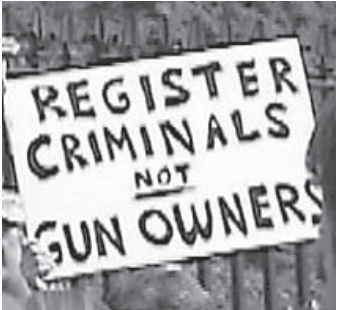
Then, after it passes, to get even **more** bang for your buck, call the news desk at your local paper and give them the word. Write letters to the editor announcing the resolution.

The below is an example of what’s been done by the Virginia Gun Owner Coalition, VGOC, Virginia’s equivalent to GrassRoots and members of the nationwide Coalition Against the Semi-auto Ban. They originated the idea, and it’s a good one!

## Local GOP is against gun ban

By Alexander Mackay-Smith IV

A resolution passed by the Warren County Republican Committee last week calls on the state’s elected representatives to oppose reauthorization of a 1994 law banning assault weapons. The law, which aims to ban the import or manufacture of military-type semiautomatic rifles for civilian use, has a “sunset clause,” and will expire in September 2004 unless it is reauthorized by Congress. President Bush and some leading congressional Republicans have announced their support for reauthorizing the ban. Local Republican activists are determined to prevent that, and are submitting their resolution, approved by a majority of the committee on July 17, to the White House and the state’s congressional delegation.



## SAMPLE

### A Resolution of the Lexington County Republican Party Regarding the Bill Clinton Gun Ban

July 4, 2003

**Whereas**, In 1994 former President Bill Clinton and the Democratic Congress enacted legislation banning certain semiautomatic firearms, and also ammunition magazines with a capacity greater than ten rounds; and

**Whereas**, According to Bill Clinton “the fight for the assault-weapons ban cost 20 [Democratic] members their seats in Congress”, thereby enabling the Republican takeover of the U.S. House; and

**Whereas**, The Bill Clinton gun ban contains a sunset provision, causing it to be automatically removed from federal law in September 2004 unless it is reauthorized; and

**Whereas**, White House spokesman Scott McClellan recently told a Knight-Ridder reporter: “The president supports the current law, and he supports reauthorization of the current law”; and

**Whereas**, The announcement of President Bush’s support for the Bill Clinton gun ban politically threatens Republican control of the Congress and Presidency in the 2004 elections, as pro-gun Democrats and independents from key states such as West Virginia, Florida, and Tennessee will have no incentive to vote Republican; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved**, That the Lexington County Republican Party emphatically urges President Bush to oppose the Bill Clinton gun ban of 1994, and to not betray gun owners who have been loyal to the Republican Party and his candidacy in 2000; and be it further

**Resolved**, That Representative Wilson and Senator Graham are implored to directly contact President Bush and urge him to drop his support for reauthorization of the Clinton gun ban; and be it finally

**Resolved**, That this resolution be transmitted by the Lexington County Republican Party to President Bush, Senator Graham and Representative Wilson.



# URGENT ACTION NEEDED!

## August 26 Neal Knox Update –

Thursday Sen. Dianne Feinstein had a press conference with embattled California Gov. Gray Davis to urge Congress to permanently ban the manufacture and sale of so-called assault weapons.

Given the timing, and the fact that they had a prop military-style rifle confiscated by police, I am more than ever convinced that she intends to offer a reenactment of the ban (which expires Sept. 13, 2004) as an amendment to the Commerce-Justice-State Appropriations bill.

That bill must be enacted by Sept. 30!

Call your congressman and tell him what you think about ANY renewal of the Clinton Semiauto and Magazine ban!

- Senator Lindsey Graham  
202-224-5972    Fax: 202-224-3808
- Senator Ernest Hollings  
202-224-6121    Fax: 202-224-4293
- Joe Wilson  
202-225-2452    Fax: 202-225-2455
- Jim DeMint  
202-225-6030    Fax: 202-226-1177
- Gresham Barrett  
202-225-5301    Fax: 202-225-3216
- Henry Brown  
202-225-3176    Fax: 202-225-3407
- James Clyburn  
202-225-3315    Fax: 202-225-2313
- John Spratt  
202-225-5501    Fax: 202-225-0464

## RECIPROCITY LAW

Continued from Page 1



Henry McMaster, SC Attorney General, wrote strong opinion in support of recognizing NC carry permits.



Rep. William E. (Bill) Sandifer, Dist. 2 Oconee and Pickens counties, asked for AG opinion after hearing from many wanting carry in NC.

our state’s laws governing the carrying of a concealed handgun ... .” Please read “What You Need to Know About CWP in NC” on Page 4.

GrassRoots had proposed a similar change in our CWP reciprocity law (i.e., to recognize other states permits if they recognized ours) in the CWP and gun law reforms we proposed in 2001. However, it got pulled in subcommittee and did not make it into the final changes we got passed and signed into law in 2002.

Our thanks to the thousands of GrassRoots members who make the calls and send the cards – they work! We will have more on the status of reciprocity with Florida and other states-in the next *Defender*, due out the first week in November. If you want to be notified more quickly than that, sign up for our Email Alerts.

See the article *GrassRoots Electronic Communication* on page 7 to learn how.

# Law Enforcement Liaison Report

by Bill Malinowski, GrassRoots Law Enforcement Liaison

As of 7-1-03, CWP Instructor permits have increased to \$100. Since the start of the CWP program in 1996, 38,288 CWP’s have been issued, and 1,633 are pending at this time.

There have been 227 permits revoked for the following reasons:

- When the 90 days in which SLED must issue the permit has passed, and there is no compelling reason SLED is aware of not to issue the CWP, the permit *must* be issued according to law. After it is issued SLED then receives the results of a criminal check which contains disqualifying information and the CWP must be revoked.
- A small handful of CWP holders were arrested after obtaining their permit. The SLED computer system checks *every night* against the daily arrest file to determine if any CWP holders have been arrested.
- Two or three were revoked for cause, such as a mental condition.

No breakdown was able to be obtained for the above, but at least we got some real figures, so I left being happy with that. Even using those figures shows that only .6 percent have been revoked. SLED has only one use of a weapon by a CWP

holder reported since 1996. It was an armed robbery at a fast food restaurant in Orangeburg. The CWP holder actually had to return to his vehicle to get his gun and then joined in the chase.

I asked if that was an accurate figure and was told, “No.” The reason is that there is *no requirement* for a CWP holder to report any incidents to SLED, positive or negative. Although if it were negative the police would be making a report of it and that person would show up in that daily arrest log mentioned earlier.

There is no mechanism in place to get such reporting done at this time. There is no box to check on police incident reports that a person had a CWP.

In talking with SLED, they felt it would at least be a good idea for all *instructors* to tell students that if they’re ever in a shooting incident to let the instructor know [and GrassRoots] and then the instructor can advise SLED. If the student can’t get in touch with the instructor then they should advise SLED of their CWP status in a positive incident. The above makes sense to me because if we don’t start keeping some record of the “good” things done by CWP holders then we have no additional “ammo” to back up our claims of how having a CWP thwarts crime, saves lives, public and private funds, etc.

Mal is GrassRoots member and is our Law Enforcement Liasion. Mal is Special Agent, FBI (ret) and former principal firearms instructor for the FBI's Columbia office. Mal is available to teach SCCJA-approved class (for credit!) to SC LEO agencies on SC CWP.

## What You Need to Know About CWP in NC

The following information was obtained from the NC General Statutes web site:

“§§ 14-415.11. Permit to carry concealed handgun; scope of permit.

- Any person who has a concealed handgun permit may carry a concealed handgun unless otherwise specifically prohibited by law. The person shall carry the permit together with valid identification whenever the person is carrying a concealed handgun, shall disclose to any law enforcement officer that the person holds a valid permit and is carrying a concealed handgun when approached or addressed by the officer, and shall display both the permit and the proper identification upon the request of a law enforcement officer.
- A permit does not authorize a person to carry a concealed handgun in the areas prohibited by G.S. 14-269.2, 14-269.3, 14-269.4, and 14-277.2, in an area prohibited by rule adopted under G.S. 120-32.1, in any area prohibited by 18 U.S.C. § 922 or any other federal law, in a law enforcement or correctional facility, in a building housing only State or federal offices, in an office of the State or federal government that is not located in a building exclusively occupied by the State or federal government, a financial institution, or on any other premises, except state-owned rest areas or state-owned rest stops along the highways, where notice that carrying a concealed handgun is prohibited by the posting of a conspicuous notice or statement by the person in legal possession or control of the premises. It shall be unlawful for a person, with or without a permit, to carry a

concealed handgun while consuming alcohol or at any time while the person has remaining in his body any alcohol or in his blood a controlled substance previously consumed, but a person does not violate this condition if a controlled substance in his blood was lawfully obtained and taken in therapeutically appropriate amounts.”

What the above means to you is that:

- You MUST carry identification in addition to your CWP.
- You MUST volunteer that you are a CWP holder and are carrying a sidearm if you are merely approached by a LEO. The LEO does not need to ask you for identification first (as in SC law).
- You CAN NOT drink any alcoholic beverages and carry concealed. It is illegal to carry a concealed handgun if there is ANY alcohol in your body. Remember, one beer means there is some alcohol in your body for at least a while. Prohibited CWP carry locations (special thanks to www.packing.org).
- Schools, public or private, all levels including universities. (§§ 14-269.2)
- Assemblies and establishments where admission was charged. (§§ 14-269.3)
- Assemblies and establishments where alcohol is both sold and consumed. (§§ 14-269.3)
- State Buildings: State Capitol Building, the Executive Mansion, the Western Residence

of the Governor, or on the grounds of any of these buildings, and any building housing any court of the General Court of Justice. (§§ 14-269.4)

- State office buildings or any portion of a building in which there are State offices. (§§ 14-415.11(c))
- Law Enforcement or Correctional Facilities. (§§ 14-415.11(c))
- Financial Institutions. (§§ 14-415.11(c))
- Events Occurring in Public: It shall be unlawful for any person participating in, affiliated with, or present as a spectator at any parade, funeral procession, picket line, or demonstration upon any private health care facility or upon any public place owned or under the control of the State or any of its political subdivisions to willfully or intentionally possess or have immediate access to any dangerous weapon. (§§ 14-277.2)
- Areas of emergencies or riots. (§§ 14-288.7)
- Where notice of carrying a concealed handgun is prohibited by the posting of a conspicuous notice or statement. (§§ 14-415.11(c))

The above information is provided as a service to our members. Because of the short notice, this information has not been verified as absolutely correct. There may be other sections of law that are pertinent, but we do not know of their existence at this time.

More information will be forthcoming in the next issue of *The Defender*.



# Are You Really Ready to Defend?

by Col. Donald C. Summers  
GrassRoots Instructor Member

There are over 38,000 Concealed Weapons Permits issued in our state, which means a lot of people are carrying a sidearm every day among the public. How many of those carrying a gun truly understand what will be required when that dreaded moment comes? Perhaps even more important is to ask, how many have the training and knowledge to actually perform the skills necessary in a life-threatening situation?

The illusion that carrying a gun automatically provides some protection is a fool's thought. Today's criminal elements are not threatened by the mere presence of a gun. Usually they see these as no more than occupational obstacles to be dealt with. If you feel safe carrying a gun because you believe simply exposing it will be sufficient to get you out of danger,



you are playing a fool's game that could easily cost you your life.

Another illusion is that an occasional trip to the range, is going to suffice in preparing you for any form of self-defense shooting. At best this kind of practice will make you an excellent marksman. Unfortunately, to the uneducated, the ability to put 100 rounds in a three-inch shot group at ten to fifteen yards provides the illusion you are prepared for the attacker. This is a mistake that can mean you're bluffing in a high-stakes game that can cost you your life.

When confronted with an actual life-threatening situation, all people have specific physiological and psychological changes, which occur instantly. These changes effect your physical abilities, your memory and ability to respond. One of the major considerations is that in such confrontations one of the first things that will go is your fine motor skills. In other words your ability to perform all of the seemingly simple skills that assures you can be proficient

enough to shoot their eyes out at ten yards like you do on the range.

Serious advocates of self-defense shooting must not simply be trained but practice continuously until their skills become instinctive, without thought and without hesitation. This usually involves more work than the average CWP holder really wants to put into preparing themselves. Fine motor skills are of little use in sudden situations. Only gross motor skills will be usable in an actual confrontation. With that understanding strive to make skills immediate and instinctive by "programming" them into the subconscious mind.

To accomplish this the first step is to come to an understanding inside your own mind with what it is you are preparing yourself to do. You have to let go of macho images, bravado ideas and comprehend what your actions will mean. You are preparing to take another life in defense of yourself or others in a life-threatening situation.

## You have to come to grips with three questions:

**What are you willing to die for?** Once you go for your gun, knife, or whatever other weapon you intend to defend yourself with you, in essence, place your opponent in a position where they too are in a fight for survival. That means there is always that reality that you may not win.

**What are you willing to kill for?** Thankfully, despite the bravado claims of most, when that time for reality arrives taking a human life is not as easy for most people as you may believe. In a life threatening situation hesitation of any kind means you are more than likely the one who will die. You must resolve the moral dilimma of taking a life. You must know, truly know inside your own mind what precisely is so important to you that is worth dying for and killing for. Once this is resolved there will be no hesitation.

**What can you live with when it is over?** This isn't the movies, and this isn't an action that once started can be reversed. When the action is over and you are standing there safe and the winner, the truth is someone may be laying there dead. You will never forget what you do, nor will your family, your friends, or society. It is a permanent reality and reflection of you.

The second step is realistic training. Realistic defensive training leans as much to the psychological as it does the physical. Look for classes that teach such things as understanding the Rule of Three, OODA Loop, and the difference between response time and reaction time. Look to learn simple, direct techniques that involve simple gross motor skills rather than fancy "Rambo" type tactics. It has been my experience that the best realistic techniques are simple basics modified slightly to fit conditions and the individual.

The third step is practice. Practice does not require tons of ammo, hours on the range, and a fortune in targets. What is needed is hours of dry-fire exercises that engrain the technique into the memory making it muscle memory and part of your natural subconscious response. Live fire is nothing more than confirmation that your dry-fire exercises are being done properly and effectively.

In today's world, carrying a gun for defense is more than a right, it is approaching a necessity. But it is also a responsibility. Like driving a car, you must master the use of the gun as it applies to defense, not just the range. Prepare mentally as well as physically.

Col. Summers is an Instructor member of GrassRoots. He is Executive Director of The Ronin Group, LLC. His classes are highly recommended. [www.ronin-grp.com](http://www.ronin-grp.com)



## Seminar for GrassRoots Members Only!

### GrassRoots GunRights Activism Training

Saturday  
October 18, 2003  
9 am - 3 pm

Cost \$5  
(lunch included)

Send money to reserve seat

This seminar is required for leadership positions

On US #1 in W. Columbia near I-26 Exit 111-B

You can carry. Come armed.

See Page 11 for more details

## Use and Possession of Firearms in National Parks and Forests

Code of Federal Regulations  
Title 36 "Parks, Forests, Public Property"

provided by  
Paul Peters, GrassRoots Director

Firearms being transported through a Park must be rendered "inoperable": unloaded, cased, broken down (if possible) and out of sight. The ranger or gate attendant must be notified of the presence of firearms upon entering the Park.

Firearms and hunting are permitted in National Forests in accordance with state law. Firearms are prohibited in any National Forest designated a game refuge or wildlife preserve except where authorized by the Forest Service. Violation of state firearms laws is prohibited in all National Forests. Regulations concerning firearms in National parks and Forests may be found in Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

NOTE: The National Parks are administered by the US Department of the Interior. The National Forests are administered by the US Department of Agriculture. Generally, firearms are prohibited in National Parks but permitted in National Forests.



Where's  
your  
gun?

Have a good answer to the question!  
See Page 10



Training, and More Training Continued from Page 1

unfamiliarity with the weapon. They are hesitant in working the slide, safety, and controls of autoloaders or do not manage to grip the revolver correctly. In short range battle, manipulation and retention is everything. The ability to deploy the weapon and maintain control of the weapon counts for everything. If you hyper extend your arms toward a twenty five yard target in practice you will do so when the ball goes up for real. The bad guy can and will turn any weapon you deploy back upon

by no means an easy thing. Remember that shot placement is critical. The real difference in handgun effectiveness, given an adequate caliber, is putting the bullet in the right place. A bullet that is not delivered to critical mass is less than effective. Be prepared for what really happens in a gunfight. You will probably not see any effect of the bullet striking the target. Occasionally a correspondent will report seeing a pucker in the shirt or the raising of an

but we must progress to drawing the weapon and firing from concealed carry. A good standard is to draw the weapon and get a center hit on a target at seven yards in 1.5 seconds. It takes a great deal of practice to get much faster than that, but it can be done. Shooting the elbow to the rear, pushing the outer clothing aside, and then coming from under the gun and scooping the weapon from leather is what works for me and it should work for you. The outer clothing can be thrust aside quickly, but only with practice. However quickly we shoot, there are several components of marksmanship that can never be ignored. There are:

**The grip** - holding the firearms properly to present the sights to the eye and to control the weapon in recoil

**Sight alignment** - making positive the sights are properly lined with a portion of light between the rear sights and the front post on either side.

**Sight picture** - placing the sights on the target in the proper relation to insure a hit. (Avoid area aiming, aim for a specific point on the target.)

**Trigger compression** - pressing the trigger smoothly straight to the rear. Jerking the trigger is the most common cause of a miss.

Occasionally someone comes along who recommends “point shooting” or “hip shooting”, which is also called “instinctive shooting.” This means shooting without sights. I will not be the man to tell a judge, “I taught this man (or woman) not to use his sights.” That is no excuse when an innocent bystander or family member has been hit by unaimed fire. Even in the dark, we use aimed fire. Correct body positioning and lining

the sights up so that they break the plane between the eye and the target is aiming, whether or not the sights are clearly and perfectly seen. Instinctive shooting would be like instinctive driving and none of us wish to do that.

Be familiar with your survival gear, practice often, and practice proper techniques. The confidence you have will show, and you may avoid the fight. If you must fight, you will be prepared.



A rock-solid Weaver stance aids in controlling the .45 caliber Witness pistol.



(TOP) This shooter practices rapid manipulation of the handgun by performing a quick reloading drill. (BOTTOM) The magazine is quickly inserted and the gun is in action again.

you. The shooter must learn to quickly deploy the weapon and maintain a good firing grip. At this point, the mental component comes into play. If the adversary does not see “shoot” in your eyes he will not be intimidated.

If you are not willing to defend yourself you have no business with a deadly weapon. By the same token, a person armed with a deadly weapon but unable to defend himself well is in a precarious situation.

I recommend a training program that concentrates on short range fire. I draw the handgun and concentrate on center hits on a seven yard target. Hitting a seven yard target quickly is

family member. You cannot rely upon skills you cannot demonstrate. Head sized targets at ten yards should be struck on demand. Don’t attempt any shot that you have not mastered on the range, the results could be tragic.

Some say any practice is better than no practice but I don’t agree. Aimlessly firing at static targets simply makes brass. We should strive for our personal best and make the most of our training time. Of course it’s your hide and you are free to do as you please. Do not neglect to practice drawing the weapon from concealed carry. Most students practice on the range with the gun in the open. This is OK at first,

but we must progress to drawing the weapon and firing from concealed carry. A good standard is to draw the weapon and get a center hit on a target at seven yards in 1.5 seconds. It takes a great deal of practice to get much faster than that, but it can be done. Shooting the elbow to the rear, pushing the outer clothing aside, and then coming from under the gun and scooping the weapon from leather is what works for me and it should work for you. The outer clothing can be thrust aside quickly, but only with practice. However quickly we shoot, there are several components of marksmanship that can never be ignored. There are:

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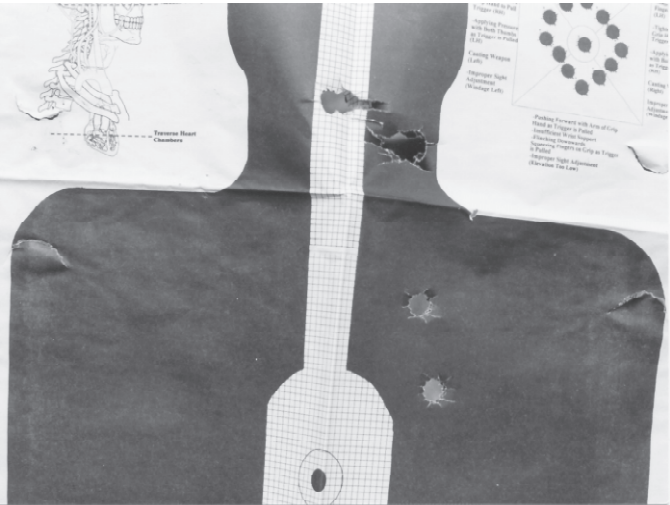
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Author’s practice target with Kimber .45 includes cranio ocular shots from 15 yards.



Nine Dog targets are a good training resource. Note effect of 12 gauge slug at 100 yards. (Rem. 870, Hastings Wadlock barrel)

RK Campbell is a professional gun writer whose work appears in many national gun publications. He lives in Spartanburg, South Carolina and we are glad to have him. He writes, “As I mentioned the Defender is very important. While the NRA and 2nd Amendment Foundation are important nationally, I am a firm believer that the states must begin and maintain the fight. “ He donated this article to GrassRoots and plans to do so in the future as his part in supporting our work. We appreciate his support.



This young shooter has little trouble keeping his 9mm FM pistol on target. Note the E.A.R. plugs in place and ejected 9mm case in mid air.



# Is an Armed Society Truly a Polite Society?

by Ben Davis, PhD - GrassRoots Member

It was just starting to get dark on a February evening. A light drizzle had been falling most of the day. It was a cold, wet miserable winter evening. I was driving down a mostly empty two-lane highway taking my normal shortcut home from work. I passed an abandoned truck with its emergency flashers on and 100 feet away was a man walking towards the gas station a good two miles away. In spite of the many admonishments of several family members, I decided I would pick this man up and get him to safety. He was not well dressed and he is not the type of fellow I would ever meet in my normal circles. The gentleman was not a hitchhiker, just a person with car troubles. One of the deciding factors in aiding this man was that I was armed, and in the unlikely event that he wasn't all that he appeared to be I would have some defense against him. As it turned out, he was leaving his wife and child (perhaps a year old) in the truck as he started off for help. I drove him and his young family home. He said he would come back with a friend to work on the vehicle in the morning. Had I not been armed, this poor soul and his family would probably have been in for a long, uncomfortable night.

Some time later, on a Friday evening in June, my wife and I had gone to a movie and decided to stop at the ATM on the way home. When we pulled up to the drive-through window at the local bank we noticed that the keys to the night depository were inserted in the lock. Anyone could have opened it and taken the deposits inside. I decided to be the good citizen. Not knowing who else to call (there were no emergency numbers on the depository), I dialed "911" on my cellular phone and told

the local police the situation. The dispatcher asked me to stay by the depository until a cruiser could be dispatched to the bank. We waited a long 15 minutes for the officer to arrive. While we were waiting, an SUV pulled into the parking lot to our right. The driver parked, turned off his lights and watched us for nearly five minutes. It was a very unnerving situation. Was this the bank official returning to get his keys? If so, why didn't he get out of the vehicle and come talk to us? I really didn't want to have a confrontation, especially with my wife in the car. My engine was running, it would have been an easy thing to drive on and let the person in the truck have access to the depository. Because the police were en route, and because I was armed, I decided to stand my ground at least long enough to find out if this individual was hostile. Eventually, the SUV drove away and the police arrived. Did I stop an opportunistic robbery before it happened? I simply don't know. But had I not had the option of defending myself, I wouldn't have guarded the bank long enough for the police to get there.

So, is the bromide true? Do we treat our fellow man better because we are armed? Do we act as more responsible citizens because we can readily defend ourselves? Perhaps people aren't just polite for fear of being shot (as originally suggested by Robert Heinlein), but perhaps CWP holders are better equipped to behave for the good of all. Maybe the old saw is even truer in more ways than we know.

[Editor's note: The phrase "An armed society is a polite society" comes from Robert Heinlein's novel *Beyond This Horizon*. In it, he writes of a future society where the government was very intrusive and most people went about their business armed.]

**We hear the adage all the but is it really true?**

## GrassRoots on the Radio

GrassRoots member Joe Lolli, has gotten Charleston's WTMA 1250am to agree to run pro-gun Public Service Announcements (PSA). You can hear samples of these announcements at this website:

<http://www.armedandsecure.org/radioads.shtml>.

If you have access to the decision makers at your local radio station, ask them if they would consider running these PSAs on their station. If they agree, contact Joe to hook them up with the folks at "Armed and Secure.org". Email him about "PSA Radio" at: [jlolli@msn.com](mailto:jlolli@msn.com) or phone (843) 723-6256 during office hours.

Also, if you're in the Columbia area on Saturdays from 10-11 am, listen to Talk Guns Radio, hosted by Charles Campbell and GrassRoots member Tom Lanham on WIS News Talk Radio 1320 AM.



## GrassRoots Electronic Communication



Our newspaper is our basic means of communication with our members, but it only comes out once a quarter. Direct mailing to our members is effective, but it still takes about two weeks to compose, print and mail – and costs us several thousand dollars a pop!

Electronic communication via Email is the timeliest and most efficient way for us to get the word out to our members. But many of our members still don't have computers. If you're thinking of getting a computer, please do! Then sign up for our GrassRoots Email Action alerts and ENewsletter and join the Email discussion groups where people's firearms related questions are answered, often with lively discussion.

We send out Email Action alerts when immediate action is necessary. We might send several in one week, as when we successfully fought the doubling of CWP license fees. Or, we might go several months without an alert when things are quiet. Every GrassRoots member with a computer should be on this list. The ENewsletter is put out periodically with items of interest to gun owners. You can sign up for either, or both, by sending an email to:

**[ENewsletter@SCFirearms.org](mailto:ENewsletter@SCFirearms.org)**  
**Subject: Email Alert, ENewsletter Subscribe**

If you have questions relating to firearms, their usage, carry, purchase, sale or whatever, the best place to post your question is on the SCFirearms email discussion group. You'll get immediate, useful replies from knowledgeable (and not so knowledgeable) South Carolina gun owners. You may sign up to receive individual emails (usually 10 or so a day from various members) or you may receive 1 email with a "digest" of the previous days emails and replies. Each edition of The Defender newspaper often prints informative or provocative emails posted on this discussion group. Anyone may join by sending an email to:

**[SCFirearms-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:SCFirearms-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)**

GrassRoots has a special discussion group relating to the activities of GrassRoots. Only GrassRoots members may join by sending an email to:

**[Grassroots\\_Leadership-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:Grassroots_Leadership-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)**



## On-Time Delivery?

The Post Office says they deliver mail in a timely manner. But, if you are having problems with delivery of your GrassRoots material we recommend you go to your local Post Office and file a PS 4314, Consumer Service Card. This puts them on notice and usually produces good results. Please let us know.

## Help us get ready!

*To make donations to any of the following, Please mail a check to:*

**GrassRoots Shooting Range  
Legal Defense Fund**  
PO Box 6383  
Columbia, SC 29260

**GrassRoots Legal Defense Fund**  
PO Box 6383  
Columbia, SC 29260

**GunRights PAC**  
220 Isobel Court  
Lexington, SC 29072  
*Donations to the PAC are especially useful to us!*

**GrassRoots GunRights**  
PO Box 6383  
Columbia, SC 29260  
*But regular donations here are appreciated also!*



# Gun Shows and GrassRoots

Gun shows so far this year have been very good and thanks to our volunteers GrassRoots has done very well. John Clarke is the new GrassRoots coordinator for the Florence Shows. Mike Kent, GrassRoots supporter and promoter of Land of the Sky Gun Shows, says the Spartanburg Shows at the Waccamaw Expo Center are back starting Jan. 2004 -Watch for dates. Meanwhile.. He will have a Gun Show at Anderson Fairgrounds Oct. 18-19 2003. We need volunteers to man tables so please let us know if you can help. And Good News! Terry Hicks is up and around and doing better than ever after a successful kidney transplant. THX -Mike W.

With the support of our members GrassRoots plans to have a table at each of the 22 Gun Shows listed below in 2003. We are also looking into requests from other parts of SC to promote GrassRoots at similar events there. It is our volunteers who make it possible for these good things to happen. Keep checking our website [www.scfirearms.org](http://www.scfirearms.org) and future issues of “The Defender”, for announcements and updates.

More and more of our members are giving their time and talents by volunteering to work a shift at our GrassRoots tables at GunShows. Many of these folks find they enjoy the experience and sign up again and again, but there’s always room for new members to help. If you would like to volunteer for a shift just contact your area GrassRoots GunShow Organizer (see the list below), a week or so prior to the show date and ask to help. You will probably be paired with an experienced show worker for one of the half – day shifts, and you can see how you like it.

When you’re at one of these shows please tell the promoters “Thank You for giving GrassRoots a Table”, so we can promote SC GunRights, and stop by our table to tell the volunteers thanks too.

*Volunteers should read Gary Atkinson’s excellent set of tips on how to work a gun show. [www.scfirearms.org/Gary’s Show Tips.doc](http://www.scfirearms.org/Gary’s%20Show%20Tips.doc)*

## South Carolina Gun Shows Scheduled for 2003

<b>Greenville</b> Feb. 22-23	<b>Palmetto Expo Center</b> May 17-18      Sept. 13-14      Dec. 13-14
<b>Spartanburg</b> CANCELLED - Resuming in January 2004	<b>Waccamaw Expo Center</b>
<b>Columbia</b> Jan. 11-12	<b>Jamil Shrine Temple</b> Apr. 5-6      Aug. 2-3      Nov. 1-02
<b>Columbia</b> June 14-15	<b>State Fairgrounds</b> Dec. 20-21
<b>Florence</b> Mar. 22-23	<b>Florence Civic Center</b> July 26-27      Nov. 22-23
<b>Charleston</b> Jan. 18-19	<b>Exchange Park, Ladson</b> May 03-04      Sept. 20-21
<b>Anderson</b> Oct. 18-19	<b>Anderson Fairgrounds</b>

### Gun Show Table Organizers:

Call if you’d like to help at a Gun Show.

<b>Greenville / Spartanburg</b> Don Brady	(864) 269-8957	<a href="mailto:majorfool1@juno.com">majorfool1@juno.com</a>
<b>Charleston</b> John Borkowski III	(843) 849-7995	<a href="mailto:john@jcb3.com">john@jcb3.com</a>
<b>Florence</b> John Clark	(843) 332-4213 (h) (843) 667-9117 (w)	<a href="mailto:redvert@aol.com">redvert@aol.com</a>
<b>Columbia</b> Mike Walguarnery	(803) 781-1360	<a href="mailto:walgum123@netzero.net">walgum123@netzero.net</a>
<b>Gun Show Director</b> Terry Hicks	(803)781-1360	<a href="mailto:gunshows@scfirearms.org">gunshows@scfirearms.org</a>

## Second Amendment

“A well regulated Militia being necessary  
to the security of a free State,  
the right of the people to keep and bear Arms  
shall not be infringed.”

# Gun Shops Support GrassRoots

The following gun shops help GrassRoots by putting a GrassRoots Membership Flyer holder in a prominent location near their cash register or customer checkout.

<b>ATP Gun Shop</b> Helen Bone 843-824-0779 516 St. James Ave. Goose Creek, SC 29445	<b>Port Royal Gun and Pawn</b> 843-524-7043 2204 Mossy Oaks Road Port Royal, SC 29935
<b>Bullseye Trading Co.</b> Pam or Lowell Dorman 843-526-0046 307 S. Nichols St. Nichols, SC 29581	<b>Ricky's Gun Service &amp; Sales</b> 843-521-4866 75 Burton Hill Rd. Beaufort, SC 29906
<b>Grady's Great Outdoors</b> Tim Shirley 3440 Clemson Blvd Anderson, SC 29621	<b>Rooks' Sales</b> Jerry Rooks 239 N. Main St. Bishopville, SC 29010
<b>Greer Gun and Pawn Shop</b> Mark Roberts 1457 W. Wade Hampton Blvd. Greer, SC 29650	<b>Santee Pawn Shop</b> 803-854-2255 220 Santee Business Park Santee, SC 29142
<b>Island Outfitters</b> 843-522-9900 180 Sea Island Parkway Beaufort, SC 29902	<b>Top Dollar Pawn</b> 843-681-3400 7 Central Plaza, Mathens Dr. Hilton Head, SC 29926
<b>J&amp;S Gun Depot</b> Sharon Waldrep 864-859-9065 404 Sheriff Mill Rd. Easley, SC 29642	<b>Trader's Gun Shop</b> Larry or Richard 864-292-6544 3314 Wade Hampton Blvd Taylors, SC 29687
<b>Lexington Pawn and Gun</b> 4884 Sunset Blvd. Lexington, SC 803-957-4998	<b>The Gun Doctor</b> Bob Elam 1923 S. Live Oak Dr. Moncks Corner, SC 29416
<b>Low Country Outfitters</b> 843-837-6100 Moss Creek Village Hilton Head, SC 29926	<b>Ward’s Gun Rack</b> 843-238-1381 or 843-238-5072 640-H Leigh Plaza Hwy 17 South Surfside Beach, SC 29575
<b>Mike's Gun Shop</b> 803-482-7094 <a href="http://www.mikesgunshop.com">www.mikesgunshop.com</a> 435 Gunsite Rd Winnsboro, SC 29180	<b>Wateree Arms</b> 803-695-7056 9321 Garners Ferry Road Hopkins, SC 29061 <a href="http://www.watereearms.com">www.watereearms.com</a>
<b>Personal Security Supplies</b> Ernie Lawson 3390 Boiling Springs Hwy Boiling Springs, SC 29316	

# LAND OF THE SKY GUN & KNIFE SHOWS

8’ Tables - \$50  
Adults \$6  
Under 12 FREE  
  
Saturday 9-5  
Sunday 10-4



### 2003 SCHEDULE

<b>ASHEVILLE, NC</b> January 4-5 March 15-16 May 17-18 October 25-26 Asheville Civic Center	<b>FLORENCE, SC</b> March 22-23 July 26-27 November 22-23 Florence Civic Center
<b>COLUMBIA, SC</b> June 14-15 December 20-21 State Fairgrounds	<b>CHARLESTON, SC</b> January 18-19 May 3-4 September 20-21 Ladson Fairgrounds

For Reservations or Information:  
Mike Kent  
PO Box 336 • Grayson, GA 30017  
770-982-8221 • [mlkshows@yahoo.com](mailto:mlkshows@yahoo.com)  
Visit us on the web:  
[www.mikekentshows.com](http://www.mikekentshows.com)



# NRA Sues GrassRoots North Carolina

GrassRoots Email Action Alert - 8/6/03

We’ve received a very disturbing announcement from our friends at Grass Roots North Carolina (GRNC). GRNC and GRNC’s President are being sued for \$75,000 by the NRA’s General Counsel on behalf of the NRA’s lobbyist for NC. I’m an NRA member and I’m shocked at the NRA’s actions. You should be too!

As we reported in the last issue of The Defender, GRNC just waged a successful fight in their legislature to recognize other states’ Concealed Weapons Permits. The NC governor has since signed it into law. We are now waiting on SLED to approve reciprocity with NC.

Unfortunately, the NRA tried to sabotage the good work of GRNC. Fortunately, GRNC caught the NRA trying to replace GRNC’s good reciprocity bill with a horrible substitute bill. GRNC sent out action alerts just as GrassRoots GunRights does here. GRNC objected to the NRA betraying gun owners and exposed the NRA’s anti gun actions. In response to the GRNC alerts, the NRA backed off and let GRNC get a good bill passed into law instead of the horrible NRA bill. Now the NRA is suing GRNC. This is outrageous.

Adjacent is a copy of the court filings about the lawsuit.

The plaintiff is the NRA’s NC lobbyist, a paid employee of the NRA, and claims GRNC President Paul Valone defamed her in a private email. Technically, the NRA isn’t a plaintiff. But, the NRA’s General Counsel has filed the lawsuit, using NRA address, telephone number and resources. (to the right)

If the NRA did not want this lawsuit to be filed, it would not have been filed. Thus, for all practical purposes, the NRA is suing GRNC.

The NRA General Counsel is bringing suit on behalf of an NRA lobbyist against GRNC President Paul Valone personally for the alleged defamation, and against GRNC because they say Paul Valone speaks for GRNC. The NRA says this isn’t an NRA lawsuit. Well, who does the NRA General Counsel work and

speak for? The NRA office of the General Counsel claims to offer legal services to NRA members. It appears they will help their lobbyist bring what many say is a frivolous suit against a staunch gun rights group. But, the NRA would not lift a finger to help South Carolina NRA member and GOSC Board member Jack Stone when he was sued because of his shooting range after he put up signs in compliance with the law – a law the NRA tooted their horn long and loud about. GrassRoots set up a Legal Defense Fund for shooting range protection and has forwarded contributions to Jack Stone of \$1000 or so to date.

It is shameful that the NRA would use their resources to punish GRNC for fighting to protect the rights of gun owners. It is shameful that GRNC and Paul Valone are forced to use their limited resources to fight the NRA instead of for fighting to protect our gun rights. What a waste of time and resources! And, it is the NRA that is responsible for this travesty.

Is this the new strategy that the NRA is going to employ against grassroots gun rights organizations that expose the NRA’s betrayals of gun owners? Is the NRA going to start doing to smaller pro gun organizations what the anti gunners are doing to gun manufacturers – put them out of business through the use of frivolous law suits?

We’ll put out more as the story develops. Adjacent are excerpts from GRNC EMail Action Alert of 08-05-05. For more info, contact GRNC at the address listed. Also nearby is the NRA-ILA response to the GRNC Alert.(see Page 2)

Read them, draw your own conclusions and then take whatever action you think appropriate.

Regards,  
Ed Kelleher  
President  
GrassRoots GunRights  
South Carolina Inc.  
Pres@scfirearms.org

## GRNC ALERT 08-05-03: NRA Lawyer Sues Pro-Gun Activists Are NRA lawyers trying to silence GRNC? Is your group next?

[Analysis] Since 1994, state-level gun rights organization Grass Roots North Carolina has overseen the passage of a “shall-issue” concealed handgun law and a concealed handgun reciprocity bill. More importantly, the organization has killed more than a dozen gun control bills-some backed by national gun control groups-ranging from mandatory gun storage laws to gun show restrictions.

## Is NRA doing to GRNC what Cities did to Gun Makers?

In the past four months alone, GRNC has twice exposed NRA sellouts to gun owners: First, when NRA secretly gutted and rendered useless a concealed handgun reciprocity bill drafted by GRNC activists. Just weeks after that, GRNC opposed the “domestic violence” bill supported by the NRA.

Given GRNC’s nine year history of exposing NRA sellouts, the NRA has a strong interest in silencing what it regards as a thorn in its side. So imagine our surprise when, on July 16, NRA lawyer Dan Zavodil filed a “defamation of character” lawsuit against Grass Roots North Carolina based on alleged private comments about an NRA lobbyist (U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia, Alexandria Division, case #CA 03-906-A). Even more telling, although the NRA lawyer issued an arbitrary July 18, 2003 “deadline” by which GRNC’s president was supposed to comply with his demands, he filed the lawsuit on July 16, BEFORE HIS OWN “DEADLINE” HAD EXPIRED. Does this sound like someone interested in settling a lawsuit?

page 1

U.S. District Court

Eastern District of Virginia (Alexandria)

CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 03-CV-906

Palmer v. Valone, et al

Filed: 07/16/03

Assigned to: Judge Leonie M. Brinkema

Jury demand: Plaintiff

Demand: \$75,000

Nature of Suit: 320

Lead Docket: None

Jurisdiction: Diversity

Dkt# in other court: None

Cause: 28:1332 Diversity-Libel, Assault, Slander

JENNIFER PALMER  
plaintiff

Daniel Mark Zavadil  
[COR LD NTC]  
National Rifle Association of American  
11250 Waples Mill Road  
6th Floor  
Fairfax, VA 22030  
(703) 267-1250

v.

FRANCIS PAUL VALONE, II,  
Jointly and Severally  
defendant

GRNC/FFE, INC., Jointly and  
Severally  
dba  
Grass Roots North Carolina,  
Forum for Firearm Education  
defendant

page 2

DOCKETPROCEEDINGS

DATE	#	DOCKET	ENTRY
7/16/03	1	COMPLAINT	Filing Fee \$ 150.00 Receipt # 100165106; jury demand (kjon) [Entry date 07/17/03]
7/16/03	--	Jury Trial Flag	(kjon) [Entry date 07/17/03]
7/16/03	--	SUMMONS(ES)	(orig & 2) issued & given to atty for service by SPS for Francis Paul Valone II, GRNC/FFE, Inc. (kjon) [Entry date 07/17/03]
7/23/03	2	Summons returned unexecuted	as to Francis Paul Valone II (orig & 1) (kjon) [Entry date 07/28/03]
7/23/03	--	ALIAS SUMMONS	(orig & 1) issued & given to atty for service by SPS for Francis Paul Valone II (kjon) [Entry date 07/28/03]
7/28/03	3	SUMMONS Returned Executed	as to GRNC/FFE, Inc. 7/18/03 Answer due on 8/7/03 for GRNC/FFE, Inc. (kjon) [Entry date 07/30/03]

Case Flags:  
JURY

END OF DOCKET: 1:03cv906



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*If you carry a gun, the chance exists you might lose track of it, with the possibility of dire consequences.*

To prevent those consequences, we must either never lose track of it (impossible), or take steps to ensure our gun is *always* in a safe place. When carrying a gun becomes a familiar situation, the chance exists we can be distracted and lose track of it. Don't count on it never happening!

Ordinarily a distraction is an annoyance, and nothing more. But, when carrying a gun, just as when driving a car, distraction or lack of awareness can be deadly. A moment's inattention can bring a lifetime of regret – or worse. Now, I'm not talking situational awareness here - being aware of your surroundings and potential threats. That's another topic. I'm talking about that time when you slap your hip (or ankle, or navel, or where ever) and think, "Oh no! Where'd I leave my gun?". I want you to have a good *answer* to that question when you ask it, because ask it, you will! It's not reasonable to *count* on our always having 100% gun awareness such that we never lose track of our gun. So, we must take steps to ensure that when we do lose track of our gun, it's in a safe place, and no harm will be done.

# Where's your gun?

by Ed Kelleher

Maybe you've just started carrying and are thinking, "It'll never happen to me!". Well, you might be justified in thinking so, *if* you've never misplaced your wallet or keys or pocketbook, or forgotten to wear a belt, or a bra. But for most of us, it's just a matter of time and familiarity. When you first start to carry, you're very aware of your gun. But, after you've carried awhile, your gun becomes just another part of what you wear or carry. And, like a cherished pen, or pocket knife or a lipstick, it might be misplaced.

The bad news is, this is human nature and we can't change it. The good news is there is one certain, simple, positive step we can take that will prevent our human nature from producing a tragedy. Taking this step will make sure you always have a *good* answer to the question,

"Where's my gun?" That step is to *always put your gun in the same place!*

The problem of losing your gun only arises when you remove your gun from your person and place it somewhere else. Therefore, *that* is the time to deal with it – *when you take off your gun!* Deal with it right then, not a moment later.

Make it a rule: whenever you take off your gun, *always put it in the same place! Always!* Make it a habit. Never put the gun *anywhere* else, not even for a second!

Now, by the *same place* I mean a safe, secure place you have thought about and chosen *before hand*, when your head is clear and you're not distracted. You'll need one safe, secure place for your gun at each location you might have to take it off. Principally, these would be in your home, at work and in your vehicle.

When you take off your gun at home – if you keep it on top of the dresser, put it on top of the dresser. If you keep the gun in a lock box, put it in the lock box. Determine a safe, secure place for your gun and then *always* put it in that place!

For examples, *never* throw the gun on the bed as you're changing clothes, intending to put it up later. Maybe the phone will ring, or the kids

will start fighting, or the cat will knock over the fish bowl and you'll get distracted. Trust me, you do not want to have to phone your wife from the vets (getting the cat sewn up) and say, "Honey! I left my gun on the bed, get it before David does!".

Do not put your gun on top of the refrigerator, or microwave, or TV or clothes dryer, unless you have determined before hand that it's a secure location (unlikely). I'm not saying you can't have more than one safe location either. But, choose a safe, secure place when you *anticipate* you might need it, *not* when you actually do need it. For example, you're carrying outside, mowing the grass, and decide you'd like to jump in the pool. But, you have *not* chosen a safe, secure place outside to stow your gun. Don't stick your gun in your shoe, wrap it in your shirt, then put it on a pool chair with your towel over it and think it's ok. No!, go inside and put it up in it's usual location *before* taking that dip. Later, after you've gotten out of the pool, is the time to look around outside for a safe, secure location to use in the future.

Another thing – when you do decide to take off your gun, *first* go to your safe place, then take it off and put your gun up. Why?

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DATE	LOCATION	COURSE
July 20	Carolina Star	Urban Survival
July 27	Columbia	Glock/AR15 Armors
August 9	Carolina Star	Tactical Handgun
August 17	Carolina Star	Handgun/Shotgun CC
August 30	Carolina Star	Urban Survival
Sept 13	Carolina Star	Basic Handgun Advanced Revolver
Sept 17	Carolina Star	Tactical Handgun
Oct 4 & 5	Carolina Star	Handgun/Carbine CC
Oct 25	Carolina Star	Urban Survival
Nov 8	Carolina Star	Basic Handgun
Nov 22	Carolina Star	Tactical Handgun
Nov 30	Carolina Star	Handgun/Shotgun CC
Dec 7	Carolina Star	Urban Survival
Dec 17	Carolina Star	Advanced Revolver
Dec 18	Carolina Star	Tactical Handgun

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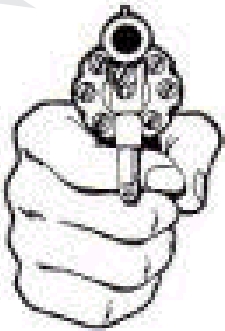
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## Pop Quiz

Imagine you just got home. It's hot, you're sweaty, and you take your gun off the moment you walk in the door. As you're carrying it back to the bedroom to put it up, the phone rings.



### What should you have done?

- A) Let phone ring, go put gun in safe place.
- B) Put gun back on as you normally carry it and answer phone.
- C) Answer phone, put gun on table, pickup pencil, go hunt for paper (oops!).
- D) None of the above.

Trick question, the answer is D - none of the above. It's *much* better to leave your gun on until you get to your safe place (answering the phone while still wearing gun if necessary) and then put the gun up. It doesn't matter how hot or uncomfortable you are. It comes with the territory. If you carry a gun, you carry the responsibility too! If you're going to take off your gun, go to your safe place *first*.

In your vehicle, again, choose a good, safe, secure and *legal* place to put your gun when you have to take it off and *always put it there*. Don't throw it on the seat, or on the floorboard. You'll just be begging for trouble as several SC CWP holders have found out. If it's not on your person, put it in a "closed glove compartment, closed console or closed trunk" (SC 16-23-20 [9]) until you satisfy yourself about what the law says.

Another place you might remove your gun is in the bathroom. If I'm going to be sitting, I take my gun and put it in my pocket (or that big hole in my pants where my butt goes depending on which gun I'm carrying) so I *can't* forget it. Trust me again, you don't want to have to call the office and say, "Mike, go to the bathroom and get my gun. I left it on top of the toilet tank cover." Folks, it's the voice of personal experience speaking here. I've made some dumb mistakes (including, but not limited to, those listed here). But, by the grace of God, I have wound up only being embarrassed and ashamed for neglecting my responsibility. This rule works for me. I only write about it, so you might learn from my mistakes and not wind up being embarrassed or ashamed – or even worse...

*The safest place for your gun is on you! But, remember, when you take it off, always put it in the same place! Always!*



# The Gun-Control Tide is Turning

by Scott McPherson

Advocates of the right to keep and bear arms have modest reason to celebrate these days. The state of Alaska recently became the second state, after Vermont, to allow citizens to carry concealed firearms without a permit or any of the restrictive measures, such as fingerprinting or background checks that often accompany the permit-application process.

And on July 15 the Wisconsin Supreme Court voted 6-1 that “a citizen’s desire to exercise the right to keep and bear arms for purposes of security is at its apex when undertaken to secure one’s home or privately owned business.” The decision came when the court heard the case of a Milwaukee store owner who was arrested for having a loaded gun in his pocket. The police were enforcing the state’s draconian concealed-carry law, which allows only “peace officers” to carry concealed weapons.

The Wisconsin court ruled, however – on the basis of a 1998 amendment to the state’s constitution that states that “people have the right to keep and bear arms for security, defense, hunting, recreation, or any other lawful purpose” – that protecting oneself while at home or one’s place of business is clearly consistent with that “other lawful purpose” standard.

These two events mark small but significant victories for America’s gun owners and all supporters of individual freedom.

Do they signal a sea change in the way most Americans are thinking about guns? Can we now expect widespread support for the repeal of our nation’s many unconstitutional gun-control laws? Unfortunately not.

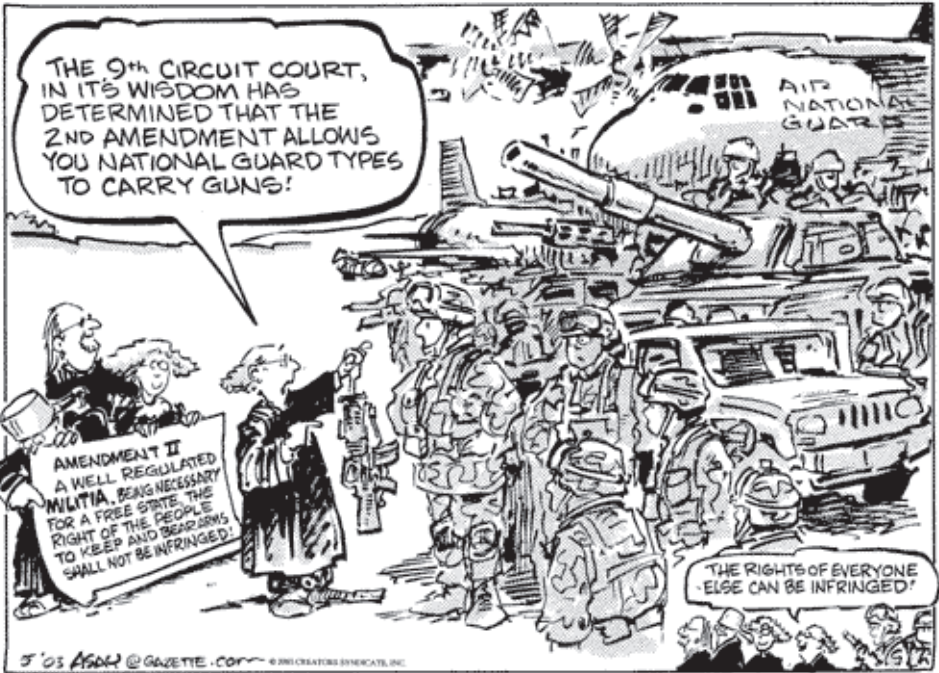
Still, what does seem to be

happening, at the very least, is that more and more Americans are rejecting the absurd, leftist, 20th-century invention of a “collective right” to own a gun (e.g., through a state agency such as the National Guard) in favor of an individualist interpretation of the Second Amendment more consistent with the intentions of the Framers. More important, a few state governments seem to be listening.

When writing the Constitution and Bill of Rights, the Framers wanted to ensure that the citizenry at large would be armed to protect their respective states against foreign aggression or a tyrannical central government; this was the general militia (as compared with the “select” militia, which they greatly feared) early statesmen were talking about when they wrote the Second Amendment.

The Founders wanted to maintain a *constant* and *large* supply of gun owners who could defend liberty were it ever to be seriously threatened again. Remember, these men had lived through the early days of the American Revolution; they had seen the militia at work on April 19, 1775, when armed farmers swarmed like bees on an invading British army and sent it back to Boston in tatters. Whatever their misgivings about the militia replacing a conventional standing army, they knew first-hand that a countryside full of armed citizens was the greatest first line of defense.

Tench Coxe, a personal friend of James Madison (who with George Mason co-authored the Second Amendment), summed it up best when he wrote, “Their swords, and every other terrible implement of the



soldier, are the birth-right of an American.” Such men would be horrified to hear modern Americans claim that gun ownership was a right only of government employees. For these early Americans, one of the citizen’s first duties was to own a gun – and, if necessary, as a last resort for use against government employees.

At the same time, the right of an individual to own and use a gun to defend his home and property would have been accepted as a given, not even worthy of discussion or debate – which is precisely why it was never discussed, let alone debated, in either the Constitutional Convention or early congresses. People would own guns for the broad purpose of *security*, as the Wisconsin court has acknowledged. If someone wishes to argue that home, state, or national security should be assigned orders of importance, it doesn’t weaken the case for an individual right in the least.

Ever since the 2000 presidential election, many pundits have been

warning Democrats that gun control is a losing issue. Many believe that key Democratic states such as Tennessee and Arkansas, which should have been easy pickings for Al Gore, were nonetheless lost because of his anti-gun proposals.

In the same vein, these pro-gun victories in Alaska and Wisconsin suggest that a minor groundswell is taking place in our country. Even if most Americans are still (mistakenly) prepared to support “reasonable” gun control at the federal level, such as background checks, they are also (wisely) signaling that such measures should not be used to erode the general right to own guns.

We may be a long way from abolishing all of our failed, immoral, and unconstitutional gun-control laws, but this year’s actions taken by the Alaska legislature and the Wisconsin Supreme Court indicate that, however slowly, the tide is finally moving in that direction.


*Scott McPherson is a policy advisor at The Future of Freedom Foundation*

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Seminar for  
GrassRoots Members!

GrassRoots will be hosting a legislative tactics seminar this fall to teach members the why and how of what we do legislatively. It is a class on how to wage effective GrassRoots Activism. It will be a real eye opener for those who have not attended one in the past, or who think the “Good ‘Ol Boy” access based model of political activism is the only one.

The tactics necessary to win are not properly explained in thirty second sound bites or smart catchy phrases. The class will last for approximately six hours, including lunch time.

The seminar will be primarily conducted by the GrassRoots GunRights Legislative Director, Robert D. Butler, JD. Questions may be asked, and will be answered. However, arguments will be deferred.

We have set a tentative date for this training seminar as Saturday, October 18, 2003, from 9 am to 3 pm. Lunch will be provided.


Class is for GrassRoots members only. Fee (to pay for lunch and some handouts) will be \$5. We are asking that people pre-enroll so that we can provide a facility and food in the right amounts.

There should not be any conflicts on that day. Clemson is playing at NC, and the Gamecocks do not have anything scheduled then, though that might change. The State Fair (October 10-12) will be over. Daylight savings time ends the week after.

If anyone sees any huge problem with that date, please let us know. The seminar will most likely be held at the West Columbia Church of Christ, 1701 Augusta Road, West Columbia. The church is located on US #1 in West Columbia, two miles down from I-26 Exit 111B.

Depending upon how many people sign up, we might be forced to limit attendance at some point. So, let us know if you want to attend. To reserve a seat, send your name, address, contact info (email or telephone) and \$5 per person to PO Box 6383, Columbia, SC 29260.

Thanks to the GrassRoots GunRights gun law reforms passed last year, CWP holders do not have to disarm to attend this training seminar. The West Columbia Church of Christ gives permission for CWP holders to carry concealed at the church.



This seminar is  
necessary for those  
wanting to hold  
leadership positions  
in GrassRoots



# Lott Comments on NYC Mayor’s Response to City Hall Shooting



John R. Lott Jr., a resident scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, is the author of the newly-released “The Bias Against Guns.”

Bloomberg’s announced “gun-free-zone” approach to City Hall admittance was barely announced when *The New York Post* on July 28 published an op-ed commentary by John R. Lott, Jr. whose landmark research while at the University of Chicago became the book *More Guns, Less Crime*.

The text of Lott’s commentary, which was headlined “City Hall’s Gun Folly,” follows:

AFTER the shooting at city hall on Wednesday, banning citizens with guns from public areas seems more necessary than ever. Yet, many other city halls across the country take a radically different approach. In two neighboring states, Pennsylvania and Vermont, as well as states across the nation from Virginia to Washington, concealed handgun permit holders are allowed to take their guns with them when they attend city council meetings.

Gun-free zones may appear like the obvious solution to New Yorkers, but consider an analogy: Suppose a criminal is stalking you or your family. Would you feel safe putting a sign in front of your home saying, “This Home Is a Gun-Free Zone”? Law-abiding citizens might be pleased by such a sign, but to criminals it is an invitation.

In 1985, just eight states had right-to-carry laws - laws that automatical grant permits for concealed weapon once applicants pass a criminal background check, pay their fees and (when required) complete a training class. Today, 35 states do.

Examining all the multiple-victim public shootings from 1977 to 1999 shows that, on average, states that adopt right-to-carry laws experience a 60 percent drop in the rate at which the attacks occur, and a 78 percent drop in the rate at which people are killed or injured from such attacks.

To the extent that such attacks still occurred in right-to-carry states, they overwhelmingly took place in so-called “gun-free zones.” Interestingly, the five shootings that *Newsday* lists as having occurred in or near American city halls since 1950 have all taken place in “gun-free zones.”

The effect of right-to-carry laws is greater on multiple-victim public shootings than on other crimes, and for a simple reason: Increasing the probability that someone will be able to protect himself improves deterrence. Though it may be statistically unlikely that any person in particular in a crowd is carrying a concealed handgun, the probability that at least one person is armed is high.

For these attacks, the most important factor in determining the amount of harm is the length of time between the start of the attack and when someone with a gun can stop the attack. The longer the delay, the more people are harmed. By reducing the number harmed, right-to-carry laws take away much of the benefit these warped minds think they are achieving by their attack.

Othniel Boaz Askew’s crime at City Hall is somewhat different in that the attacker had only one target in mind, but the vast majority of academic research finds that concealed handguns reduce violent crime generally. Despite all the national studies that have been done, there is not a single refereed academic journal publication concluding the opposite. The experiences in states with right-to-carry laws indicates that permit holders are extremely responsible and extremely law-abiding. Accidental gun deaths simply have not increased after states adopt these laws, and permit holders lose their permits for

even the most trivial firearms-related violations at hundredths or thousandths of a percent.

Police are important in deterring crime, but they almost always arrive after the crime has been committed. In this case punishment after the fact is particularly useless, since Askew, who was apparently dying from AIDS, is reported to have apparently “made meticulous preparations for his own death.”

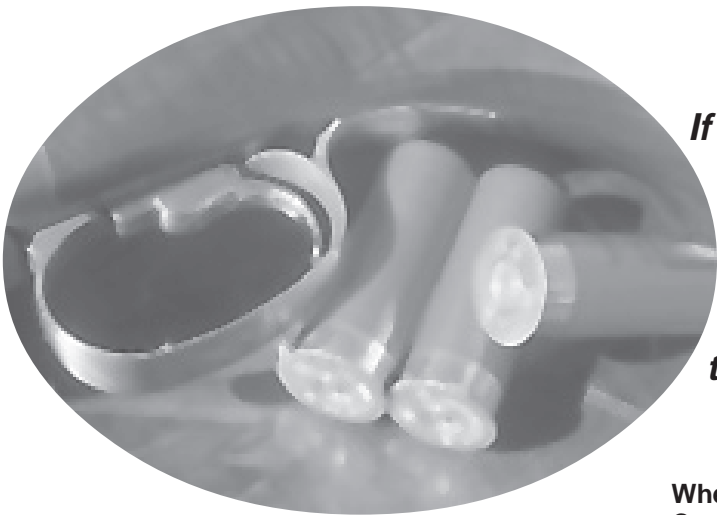
Annual surveys of crime victims in the United States by the Justice Department show that when confronted by a criminal, people are safest if they have a gun.

Good intentions do not necessarily make good laws. What counts is whether the laws ultimately save lives. The new rules that prohibit lawful gun-owners from carrying concealed guns at City Hall might actually wind up costing more lives, rather than saving them. The above article obtained from Gun Week magazine, issue of 8/10/03, [www.gunweek.com](http://www.gunweek.com).

## Ladies’ Day at the Shooting Range

Saturday, September 20th  
Mid-Carolina Rifle Club  
Columbia, South Carolina

— Ladies Only —  
Novices Welcomed!



**If you want to shoot,  
learn to shoot,  
watch some shooting,  
or just want to talk to women  
about shooting...  
this is the event for you!**

**Where:** On the General Purpose Bay at Mid-Carolina Rifle Club. For maps and directions, please go to [www.midcarolinarifleclub.com](http://www.midcarolinarifleclub.com). It's 5 miles from I-26 Exit 115, and I-77 Exit 1 on Fish Hatchery Road.

**Cost & Registration:** Free! But please let Julie know that you are coming, so she'll have adequate supplies.

**Time:** 9:30 am until we decide to stop (set up will be at 9:00, help is needed)

**What to Bring:** Eye protection (eyeglasses unless they are glass, sun glasses or shooting glasses), and hearing protection (ear muffs or plugs) if you have them, but both will be available.

**Also Suggested:** The range is sandy so sunscreen, closed shoes, and a ball cap or other type hat to keep the sun and flying hot cartridge brass might be nice to have.

Drinks and snacks will be provided. Moist towelettes would be good to bring.

For more info contact Julie Holling: [mrcsecretary@outdrs.net](mailto:mrcsecretary@outdrs.net) or 803-798-1543.

Experienced lady shooters and instructors, if you'd like to help and/or can bring some extra guns or ammo, please contact Julie, also.

*This is not a competition. It is just a time that women could go out and try out different types of firearms. We will be focusing on shotguns for this event, and will have a variety of them out there for you to try. We will have a clay pigeon thrower out there so you can try moving targets, too. It is an excellent opportunity for ladies that aren't familiar with guns to learn, and try out different things.*

*Experienced lady shooters and other instructors will be on hand to help and answer your questions. If you have a shotgun and don't know how to use it, bring it with you!*

*Thinking about getting a shotgun and aren't sure what you should get?*

*We should have a variety of shotguns available for you to try.*

*Just want to try shooting a shotgun? We'll have low recoil shotguns and ammo available for you to try.*



### Please use GrassRoots CWP Instructor members.

GrassRoots CWP Instructor  
Members are listed at:

[www.scfirearms.org/  
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CWPTrainerList.htm](http://www.scfirearms.org/TrainingCWPGrassRootsCWPTrainerList.htm)

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Walter Mitty's Second Amendment

by Jeff Snyder

Once upon a time, there was a people who inhabited a majestic land under an all-powerful government. Now this government had the resources to control practically every aspect of human existence; hundreds of thousands of “public servants” could access the most personal details of every citizen’s life because everyone was issued a number at birth with which the government would track him throughout his life. No one could even work in gainful employment without this number.

True, the government left certain domains of individual action largely free, particularly matters concerning speech and sex. These activities posed no real threat to the state. When not used to entertain and divert, the power of speech was used principally to clamor for more or better goods from the state, or for “reforms” to make the state work “better,” thereby entrenching the people’s dependency. And insofar as sex was concerned, well, the people’s behavior in this area also really had no effect on the scope of state power. In fact, the rulers noted that people’s preoccupation with matters of sexual morality — whether premarital, teenage pregnancy, adultery, divorce, homosexuality or general “who’s zooming who” — diverted the people’s attention from the fact that they were, for economic and all other intents and purposes, slaves.

Slaves, though, who labored under the illusion that they were free. The people were a simple lot, politically speaking, and readily mistook the ability to give free reign to their appetites as the essence of “personal freedom.”

In that fruitful land, the state took about 50 percent of everything the people earned through numerous forms of taxation, up from about 25 percent only a generation earlier. However, this boastful people, who believed themselves to be the freest on earth, retained the right to keep and bear arms. Tens of millions of them possessed firearms just in case their government became tyrannical and enslaved them.

In that land, an astronomical number of regulations, filling more than 96,000 pages in the government’s “code of regulations,” were promulgated by persons who were not elected by the people. The regulators often developed close relationships with the businesses they regulated, and work in “agencies” that had the power both to make law — and to enforce it.

The agencies were not established by the government’s constitution, and their existence violated that instrument’s principle of separation of powers. Yet the people retained the right to keep and bear arms. Just in case their government, some day, ceased to be a “government of the people.”

In that land, the constitution contemplated that the people would be governed by two separate levels

of government — “national” and “local.” Matters that concerned the people most intimately — health, education, welfare, crime, and the environment — were to be left almost exclusively to the local level, so that those who made and enforced the laws lived close to the people who were subject to the laws, and felt their effects.

Different people who had different ideas about such things would not be subject to a “one size fits all” standard that would apply if the national government dealt with such matters. Competition among different localities for people, who could move freely from one place to another, would act as a reality check on the passage of unnecessary or unwise laws.

But in a time of great crisis called the Great Economic Downturn, the people and their leaders clamored for “national solutions to national

keep and bear arms. Just in case their government denied them due process by holding them liable for things that were not their fault. (The Majestic Court had long ago determined that “due process” did not prevent government from imposing liability on people who were not at fault. “Due process”, it turned out, meant little more than that a law had been passed in accordance with established procedures. You know, it was actually voted on, passed by a majority and signed by the president. If it met those standards, it didn’t much matter what the law actually did.)

Oh well, the people had little real cause to worry. After all, those laws hardly ever affected anyone that they knew. Certainly not the people who mattered most of all: the country’s favorite celebrities and sports teams, who so occupied the people’s attention. And how bad could it be if

In that bustling land, the choice of how to develop property was heavily regulated by local governments that often demanded fees or concessions for the privilege. That is, when the development was not prohibited outright by national “moistland” regulations that had no foundation in statutory or constitutional law.

Even home owners often required permission to simply build an addition to their homes, or to erect a tool shed on their so-called private property. And so it seemed that “private property” became, not a system protecting individual liberty, but a system which, while providing the illusion of ownership, actually just allocated and assigned government-mandated burdens and responsibilities.

Still, this mightily productive people believed themselves to live in the most capitalistic society on earth, a society dedicated to the protection of private property. And so they retained the right to keep and bear arms. Just in case their government ever sought to deprive them of their property without just compensation. Besides, the people had little cause for alarm. Far from worrying about government control of their property, the more immediate problem was: what to buy next?

The people were a simple lot, politically speaking, and readily mistook the ability to acquire an endless assortment of consumer goods as the essence of personal freedom.

The enlightened rulers of this great land did not seek to deprive the people of their right to bear arms. Unlike tyrants of the past, they had learned that it was not necessary to disarm the masses. The people proved time and time again that they were willing accomplices to the ever expanding authority of the government, enslaved by their own desire for safety, security and welfare.

The people could have their guns. What did the rulers care? They already possessed the complete obedience that they required.

In fact, in their more Machiavellian moments, the rulers could be heard to admit that permitting the people the right to keep and bear arms was a marvelous tool of social control, for it provided the people with the illusion of freedom.

The people, among the most highly regulated on earth, told themselves that they were free because they retained the means of revolt. Just in case things ever got really bad. No one, however, seemed to have too clear an idea what “really bad” really meant. The people accepted the fact that their government no longer even remotely resembled the plan set forth in their original constitution. And the people’s values no longer remotely resembled those of their Founding Forebears. The people, in their naiveté, really believed that the means of revolt were to be found in a piece of inanimate



problems,” and the constitution was “interpreted” by the Majestic Court to permit the national government to pass laws regulating practically everything that has been reserved for the localities.

Now the people had the pleasure of being governed by not one, but two beneficent governments with two sets of laws regulating the same things. Now the people could be prosecuted by not one, but two governments for the same activities and conduct. Still this fiercely independent people retained the right to keep and bear arms. Just in case their government, some day, no longer secured the blessings of liberty to themselves or their posterity.

In that fair land, property owners could be held liable under the nation’s environmental legislation for the cleanup costs associated with toxic chemicals, even if the owners had not caused the problem.

Another set of laws provided for asset forfeiture and permitted government agencies to confiscate property without first establishing guilt.

Yet the people retained the right to

it had not yet been the subject of a Movie of the Week, telling them what to think and how to feel about it? In that wide open land, the police often established roadblocks to check that the people’s papers were in order. The police — armed agents of the rulers — used these occasions to ask the occupants whether they were carrying weapons or drugs. Sometimes the police would ask to search the vehicles, and the occupants — not knowing whether they could say no and wanting to prove that they were good guys by cooperating — would permit it.

The Majestic Court had pronounced these roadblocks and searches lawful on the novel theory, unknown to the country’s Founding Forebears, that so long as the police were doing this to everyone equally, it didn’t violate anyone’s rights in particular.

The roadblocks sometimes caused annoying delays, but these lovers of the open road took it in stride. After all, they retained their right to keep and bear arms. Just in case their government, some day, engaged in unreasonable searches and seizures.



Walter Mitty

Continued from Page 13

metal! Really it was laughable... and pathetic.

No, the rulers knew that the people could safely be trusted with arms. The government educated their children, provided for their retirement in old age, bequeathed assistance if they lost their jobs, mandated that they receive health care, and even doled out food and shelter if they were poor.

The government was the very air the people breathed from childhood to the grave. Few could imagine, let alone desire, any other kind of world.

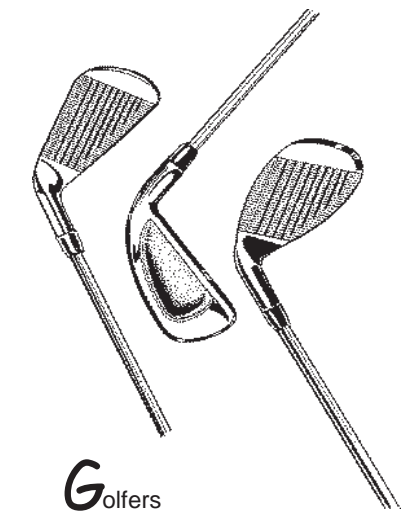
To the extent that the people paid any attention to their system of government, the great mass spent their days simply clamoring for more or better “programs”, more “rational” regulations, in short, more of the same. The only thing that really upset them was waste, fraud, or abuse of the existing programs. Such shenanigans brought forth vehement protests demanding that the government provide their services more efficiently, dammit! The nation’s stirring national anthem, adopted long ago by men who fought for their liberty, ended by posing a question, in hopes of keeping the spirit of liberty alive. Did the flag still fly, it asked, over the land of the free?

Unfortunately, few considered that the answer to that question might really be no, for they had long since lost an understanding of what freedom really is. No, in this land “freedom” had become something dark, frightening, and dangerous. The people lived in mortal terror that somewhere, sometime, some individual might make a decision or embark upon a course of action that was not first approved by some government official.

Security was far more preferable. How could anyone be truly free if he were not first safe and protected? Now we must say goodbye to this fair country whose government toiled tirelessly to create the safety, fairness and luxury that all demanded, and that everyone knew could be created by passing just the right laws. Through it all, the people vigorously safeguarded their tradition of firearms ownership. But they never knew – and never learned – that preserving a tradition and a way of life is not the same as preserving liberty. And they never knew – and never learned – that it’s not about guns.

# If Golf Were Like Shooting

by Charlie McMillion (with permission)



Golfers would constantly be attacked and vilified by the politically active, anti-golf crowd. These groups would stop at nothing, including radically distorting facts, to meet their ultimate goal: the prohibition of ownership of golf equipment by civilians in the US.

In some states, golfers would be limited to the purchase of one golf club a month. Who needs more than one club, anyway? Anyone possessing more than one club would be labeled a "golf-nut" who owned an "arsenal" of clubs.

The anti-golf crowd would scream for a ban on Big Bertha drivers, because they can hit a ball too far. At the same time, they would scream for a ban on lob wedges, because they are short and easily concealable.

New clubs would only be legally available through licensed dealers, with strict, federal oversight provided by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Golf Clubs.

Airlines would allow golfers to travel with their clubs, provided they were declared upon arrival and checked. Attempting to carry clubs on board an aircraft would be a federal crime. Golf balls would have to be secured in a separate, locked container, and no more than five pounds of golf balls could be checked.

Golf club manufacturers that wanted to sell their clubs in Maryland would have to hit three balls with each club, said balls to be provided to the Maryland State Police for high-tech "fingerprinting" and cataloging.

Manufacturers that wanted to sell in California would have to "drop test" their clubs. This would involve dropping every type of club to be sold, in every possible configuration of grip, shaft and head, onto concrete and ruining it.

Cutting the shaft of any golf club to a length of less than 18" would be a federal crime, as would the possession of such a "sawed- off club".

All clubs would have to be engraved by the manufacturer with a unique serial number.

Driving ranges would be subject to closure whenever homes are built within a mile.

Whenever there was a terrorist attack on the U.S., Kmart would halt sales of clubs and balls in an attempt to "insure the safety of the public". Golfers could then begin a boycott of Kmart, contributing to its demise and forcing it to file for bankruptcy protection.

In Massachusetts, golfers would have to have a license to buy balls.

In all states except Vermont, a citizen would have to have a permit to carry any golf club that was hidden from view but readily accessible. Some states would allow golfers to carry clubs in the open, but they would be subject to arrest for disturbing the peace.

All non-permit holders would have to be very careful when transporting clubs and balls. They would have to be in separate, locked containers and positioned in the vehicle so as to not be readily accessible. Anti-golf politicians, unable to realize their agenda through legislation, would resort to suing golf club manufacturers for creating a public nuisance.

*I am a competitive shooter. My friend Bill is an accomplished golfer. We have had numerous discussions about the similarities of our respective sports. Recently, the subject turned to the hassles involved in participating in our pastimes. Bill's major complaint was the hassle involved in flying with golf clubs and the risk of them being stolen. After I finished telling him about the incredible "hassle-factor" in the shooting sports he promised to never complain again. That discussion prompted me to ponder how the golfers of America would feel if golf were like shooting. I think they would be outraged, to the point of storming the Capitol, because:*

Hitting balls on your own property could be a crime.

In New York, allowing a caddy that is under the age of 18 to carry your clubs would be a crime, as would teaching anyone under 18 to handle a club.

A convicted felon, or anyone convicted of a violent misdemeanor, would be prohibited from possessing golf clubs for life.

A golfer would have to be 18 to buy a long club, but 21 to buy a short one. Likewise, a golfer could buy balls when they were 18, but would have to wait until they were 21 if they intended to hit them with a short club.

It would be illegal to buy a club for someone who could not legally purchase one.

If a golfer were forced to live in public housing, they might have to agree not to own clubs or balls. They could also be subject to club searches.



If a golfer that wanted to own a machineclub (a club capable of hitting more than one ball with a single swing) would have to go through an enormous amount of paperwork, be fingerprinted, have a background check by the FBI, and pay a \$200 federal transfer tax.

A golfer could ship a club to a clubsmith for repair, but short clubs would have to be sent by air.

The anti-golf groups would be calling for the development of "smart clubs". These futuristic, high-tech clubs would allow themselves to be swung only by their owners, as long as the batteries weren't dead.

Hypocritical, liberal talk show hostesses would call for a ban on civilian possession of golf clubs, while employing bodyguards who regularly engage in the game.

There would be a waiting period of up to 15 days in some states to take possession of legally-purchased clubs.

Children would be dragged from school in handcuffs for possessing tiny facsimiles of clubs and would be subject to suspension for drawing pictures of clubs or swinging objects as one would swing a club.

Ownership or possession of short clubs would be prohibited in Washington, DC – unless you worked for the government.

There would be no legally-owned clubs in Japan, but all adult males in Switzerland would be required to keep machineclubs.

Anti-club groups would focus attention on the criminal misuse of clubs, but would totally ignore the millions of times each year clubs are used legitimately.

Journalist Carl Rowan would decry the private ownership of clubs. Then he would use his own privately-owned club to hit balls at teenagers on his property.

Churches and civic groups would sponsor club buy-back and amnesty turn-ins. Clubs collected through these efforts would be melted down – or simply disappear from the police property room, likely into someone's private club collection.

There would be bans on production and ownership of "assault clubs". These clubs would be functionally no different than other clubs, they would just look like they could hit more balls.

The first act of fascist dictators would be to take the clubs away from the populace.

The anti-club crowd would try the backdoor strategy of having the EPA close down driving ranges because the core of a golf ball is toxic when consumed.

Hollywood liberals would condemn the private ownership of clubs, all the while making fortunes producing movies that glorify wanton golf club violence. These movies would contain egregious technical errors concerning clubs, such as showing a ball in flight while still in its box.

A British-owned club manufacturer would sign onto a traitorous deal with the US government in exchange for special consideration in federal club purchase contracts.

Pickup trucks would have golf club racks in the rear windows.

Anti-club groups would cook data and declare that home-owners are 43 times more likely to hit a friend or a family member with their club than to use it properly.

People would be relatively free to own and use clubs, and could even send them through the US mail, until the government passed the massive Golf Club Control Act.

Some employers would prohibit clubs in vehicles on their property. If golfers worked for such a company and wanted to go to the local range to hit balls during lunch, they would have to drive home, get their clubs, go to the range, and drive back home to drop the clubs off again before returning to work.

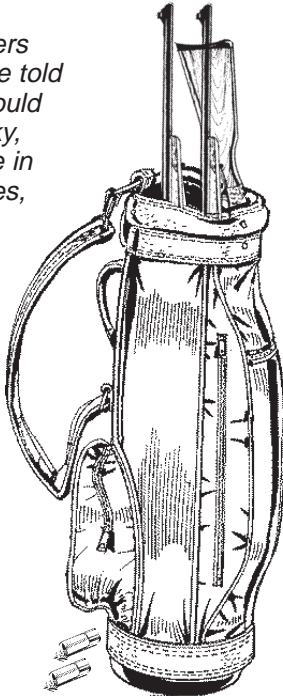
The United Nations would sponsor massive club collections and would run the clubs over with tanks. They would condemn the US for not participating in global small-clubs control.

Nitwitted anti-club politicians would carelessly swing clubs over the heads of reporters during press conferences while espousing the dangers of club ownership. When questioned about their handling of the clubs, they would respond "I knew the club was empty. The State Police would never hand me a loaded club".

Senator McCain would introduce legislation to close a non-existent club show loophole.

School golf teams and tournaments would be a thing of the past. Old-timers would fondly remember the days when students would actually take their clubs to school for practice, but the thought of using them to hurt someone was the farthest things from their minds.

*Yet, golfers would be told they should feel lucky, because in many countries, there is a complete ban on golf club ownership.*





Letters

Letters



To [Pres@SCFirearms.org](mailto:Pres@SCFirearms.org)

re: ETV Supporting Gun Control

The Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) is partially funded by the taxpayers and also partially funded by contributions. It has a leftist political agenda and also an anti Second Amendment agenda which it pushes through such people as Bill Moyers. Moyers first came to notice as a hatchet man for Lyndon Johnson’s political campaigns. He had an ad featuring a little girl plucking daisy petals to decide whether or not Barry Goldwater was going to blow up the world. Now he has the PBS program **Now** which he uses to pitch his anti-gun message. The program has a web site ([www.pbs.org/now/classroom/gun.html](http://www.pbs.org/now/classroom/gun.html)) with a lesson plan which teachers use to instruct students about the Second Amendment. The title of the lesson plan is Gun Control and Terrorism: Laws or Loopholes. The obvious object of this plan is to teach the students that there is no individual right to bear arms and that our freedom to own guns is providing terrorists the opportunity to arm themselves. Moyers uses PBS to push the anti-gun programs of Senator Schumer of New York, Senator Kennedy of Massachusetts, and others of that caliber.

PBS comes to most of us through South Carolina ETV. They are always begging for donations and we should let them know that as long as the carry Moyers and his Anti-Gun agenda they wont get one cent from us. Also, we should contact our Congressmen about ending their taxpayer funding if they are not going to be fair to us. We should also write Letters to the Editor explaining our problems with South Carolina ETV.

They do have some very good programs that I like a lot and I would be happy to contribute to them if they could get rid of their political agenda and Moyers.

Jim Miller  
GrassRoots member  
Mountville, SC

To: GrassRoots Leadership:

re: Vote Republican?

Just a few short weeks ago President Bush seemed so unbeatable the Democrats couldn’t find a major party figure to run against him. Today, even our own State Paper reports “Mounting woes begin to catch up with Bush”.

([www.thestate.com/mld/thestate/news/nation/6321136.htm](http://www.thestate.com/mld/thestate/news/nation/6321136.htm))

Many of us believe voting for a Republican, any Republican, even a Republican who betrays us on firearms issues, is better than voting for a Democrat. We pledge our votes without getting anything in return. And, not surprisingly, what we get in return is...nothing.

President Bush and his Republican pals are attempting a shift to the “center”, which means a shift away from core Republican constituencies. They believe they will gain more from the left than they will lose from the right, because they believe those on the right have no place else to turn. Whether Mr. Bush is truly vulnerable doesn’t matter. What matters is that they think he is. We must play to that perception, and convince them that a shift to the center will cost more votes than it will gain. And, if we can force Bush to the right, his opponents will also shift to the right, which further helps our cause.

We must show the Republicans that they are wrong. We must show them that if they turn their backs on us, we will turn our backs on them. We must show them that theirs’ is a risky strategy, a strategy that may well cost the election not only to Bush, but to Wilson, Graham, and anyone else who does what Bush says rather than doing what is right.

So, we can tell them today that they have our votes, no matter what they do. Or we can tell them that, if they don’t do what we want now, we will turn them out of office in November. And if their replacements don’t do what we want, we will turn the replacements out of office. And the same for the replacements for the replacements.

What will you do? Will you commit your vote without a commitment in return? Or will you make our leaders earn your support by listening to your views and doing what you want them to do?

It’s your choice. Don’t blow it.

John Warsaw  
GrassRoots member  
Lexington, SC

JOIN GRASSROOTS NOW!

Help us do more!

Complete and mail with check to:  
GrassRoots, PO Box 6383, Columbia, SC 29260

- ☐ One-year Membership (New)  
\$15.00  
*Includes newspapers and mailings, email alerts and updates  
Additional contributions are welcomed (see below) and are used to further the goals of GrassRoots right here in South Carolina.*
- ☐ One-year GrassRoots Firearms Instructor Membership (New)  
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*Instructor Member benefits include Free copies of GrassRoots newspapers to hand out to your students, Advertising on our web page, publication of your special class offerings, and articles in the GrassRoots newspaper (on a space-available basis), referral of inquiries to GrassRoots for CWP classes. GrassRoots wants instructors to succeed and we’ll help!*
- ☐ Renewal  
\$15.00 for Membership - \$25.00 for Firearms Instructor  
*Please check here if you are renewing Regular or Instructor membership so we can avoid duplicates.*
- ☐ Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ GrassRoots bumper stickers  
\$1.00 when included with dues.
- ☐ Thanks for making my CWP more useful. Here is 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.  
Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks payable to GRASSROOTS**  
News 0903

Visit us on the web:  
[www.scfirearms.org](http://www.scfirearms.org)



[postcard received]

Firearms Owners Support Rev. Rick Houston

Republican Primary July 29

Houston has pledged to support our Second Amendment Rights. He will vote against all additional restrictions on our firearms. He will support bills to enhance our Second Amendment Rights such as making Pickens County user friendly to ranges and the shooting sports. The County has placed new unwarranted restriction on shooting ranges. The county even managed to violate the State Range Protection Act. He supports additional range protection, the Firearms Owners Self Protection Act and protection against lawsuits for firearms owners.

Weldon H. Clark Jr. past NRA Board Member  
100 Heathwood Dr. Liberty, SC 29657



Don’t make the NRA mistake shown here! Re-read John Warsaw’s letter.



# GRASSROOTS LARRY COBLE ACTIVIST AWARD

## Donald A. Brady – True American, Outstanding GrassRoots Member

It's a warm spring day, year 2003, lunchtime, in Clinton, South Carolina and a group of a dozen or so concerned citizens have assembled at a local restaurant to learn more about the South Carolina State Guard, a division of the State of South Carolina Military Department. Staff Sergeant Brady, Donald A., looking all business in heavily starched BDU's, black chrome-like jump boots and military police insignia, stands at ease as the group prepares to enter the building. It's a peaceful day in this South Carolina town but half a world away war rages in Iraq... and people are dying. Not unnoticed, and walking directly from her car, a petite 30's-something lady approaches SSGT Brady, reaches to hug the six-footer's neck and plants a kiss smartly on his cheek.

"Thank you so much for protecting our country," she says and quickly enters the restaurant. "You're welcome, Ma'am," SSGT Brady says with an assuring smile.

Meet Donald A. "Don" Brady, South Carolina State Guard member, Viet Nam veteran, military policeman, devoted husband, patriot, CWP instructor, true American, and outstanding GrassRoots member. But, be assured, *this* Brady has no one named "Sarah" on his family tree! Don is the upstate gun show coordinator for GrassRoots and has likely signed up more new GrassRoots members than all but a handful of GrassRoots members throughout the state. There are few people more supportive of the Second Amendment than this longtime Easley, South Carolina resident.

According to wife, Lynn, "Don is the ultimate volunteer and patriot. If you want to get his blood

pressure up, just tell him you don't vote. Better look out. You're in for trouble." Indeed, Don doesn't take well to slackers, having seen more than his share of sacrifice for the American way during two tours of duty in Viet Nam, Thailand, Cambodia and some other "unnamed" locations. Thirty-four years ago Don and his future wife met while he was stationed at Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter, SC. They have remained in South Carolina ever since, favoring the Upstate.

Don is described as a compassionate man, semi-retired and enjoying life. He and Lynn have been instrumental in church activities at Hope Baptist Church, in Easley, where both are members.

But compassion has its place. Don knows equally well the need for personal and community preparedness, especially in this post-9/11 era. That's one reason why he's a South Carolina CWP instructor and active in protecting the Second Amendment through GrassRoots. And, that's why Don continues to be actively involved with the protection of our state and country.

Captain Charles R. Campbell, Commander, Security Detachment, South Carolina State Guard explains, "SSGT Brady has been a major contributor to the development of a new security detachment of the South Carolina State Guard. His never-ending commitment, and hours of dedication set an example for other members of this unit. In this world of give and take, there are not enough men who are willing to give *what* it takes. Don can be counted upon every time. I am proud to be his commander."

And, according to Mike Walguarnery, GrassRoots' statewide gun show coordinator, Don Brady has led the

way with GrassRoots' gun show efforts. "It's amazing the number of new members Don and his associates have signed up at the Upstate gun shows. Not taking anything away from our other great volunteers, but Don has clearly set the pace. Whatever he does, we need to bottle it up and sprinkle it around," Mike explains. Don's enthusiasm for the collective work of GrassRoots is contagious, indeed.

“Indeed, Don doesn’t take well to slackers, having seen more than his share of sacrifice for the American way during two tours of duty in Viet Nam, Thailand, Cambodia some other “unnamed” locations.”

A few months have passed since that meeting in Clinton and SSGT Brady has signed on to assist the City of Pageland, SC's police department as a member of SC State Guard's Special Security Detachment (Military Police). On official orders, this all-volunteer State Guard contingent has devoted their weekend time, free of charge, to enhance the safety of thousands of participants at the city's annual Watermelon Festival. And, after a very full Day 1, the sharp looking uniformed MP's are quietly discussing the new day's schedule over a full breakfast at one of the city's restaurants. Serving SSGT Brady and the rest intently, the restaurant's husband and wife owner team introduce themselves.

"Thank you so much for being here and protecting our town," the lady says. "You're welcome, Ma'am," SSGT Brady says with an assuring smile. Donald A. Brady - True American, Outstanding GrassRoots member, Larry Coble Activist Award Winner... Patriot.

Don Brady  
Home: (864) 269-8957  
Mobile: (864) 444-4590  
[majorfool1@juno.com](mailto:majorfool1@juno.com)

Each issue of The Defender will include an article featuring an active Grassroots member who is directly involved in advancing the cause of fully restoring our Constitutional and God-given rights to self-defense and the protection of those around us. This quarterly feature is named for founding GrassRoots member and activist, Mr. Larry Coble.

South Carolina State Guard  
Special Security Detachment members: (1 to r)  
CPT Ken Scarlett, SSGT Don Brady, SGT Gordon Mayfield, CPT Charles Campbell (Company Commander), 1SGT Terry Baughn, SP4 Joe Wleklinski, and SGT Chuck Spivey.



## GrassRoots Merchant Report

At our last report, there were *NO* businesses in South Carolina that legally prohibit concealed weapons in compliance with the GrassRoots CWP Law Reforms that were signed into law May 2002.

That's changed. We've confirmed that the IHOP (International House of Pancakes) located at Kings Hwy 17 at 13th South in Myrtle Beach has posted signs in conformance to SC law to prohibit good citizen's with CWP from carrying their concealed weapon.

Also, the Grainger Industrial supply stores in Spartanburg and Charleston have been reported as being posted in conformance with state law.

According to SLED, if a business does not post prohibitory signs in compliance with the new law, then they are *not* posted as far as CWP holders are concerned.

If you are a GrassRoots member and aren't familiar with the new sign requirements, you can contact our very able office assistant, Debbie Price at POB 6383, Columbia, SC 29260, or at

Pricedlp@aol.com, and she will send you a copy of the new sign requirements.

Please note that it is *not* our job, or *your* job, to tell merchants what the proper sign requirements are! Let them find out for themselves if they want to.

GrassRoots does *not* list businesses that have non-compliant signs.

We figure why give them free advertising. However, you might want to think twice about patronizing a business that has old, non-compliant signs, prohibiting your legally carried concealed weapon. While of no effect on you, they might mistakenly give criminals the idea that the store is a "gun free" victim zone and you could be at higher risk of having to use your firearm at such a place.

To report a posted location, please send us a picture of the offending sign, and note if ALL the entrance doors to the store are posted with similar signs, or not. It's important that you also send us a mailing address, contact name and a phone number

so we can contact the merchant.

GrassRoots policy is to contact merchants that post to try and have them remove the signs, or post alternative signs, which we'll provide for free.

GrassRoots needs a person to coordinate and oversee our Merchant Program. You'll receive notices of postings from GrassRoots members, confirm them, contact the merchants and offer alternative signs. Email ability is a requirement.

If you're interested in this position, please send an email to: [Merchants@SCFirearms.org](mailto:Merchants@SCFirearms.org).

