

GrassRoots Member Charged with Murder

by Rob Butler and Ed Kelleher

Well, it finally happened. A South Carolina concealed weapon permit (CWP) holder shot and killed a person. Now, the CWP holder is being charged with **murder** even though he acted in self defense. We personally know the CWP holder being charged with murder. His name is Jason Dickey, and we strongly believe Jason is innocent of any wrong doing.

EVERY CWP holder in South Carolina needs to realize just how important this case really is. This case will be used to determine what rights you have in the use of lethal force. The court precedents set with this case will affect **your** rights, not just whether Jason goes to prison. If you think this case does **not** affect you, then you need to think again. If you

carry a gun for self defense, the court precedents set by this case will control you too.

EVERY CWP holder needs to know this case is one of “first impression” in South Carolina (according to Jason’s attorney). That means the SC courts have not yet dealt with a case involving a CWP holder killing someone, regardless of whether the killing was justified or not. That makes this case VERY IMPORTANT!

The issue EVERY CWP holder needs to keep in mind is that whatever rulings are made in this case will be used for **or against** ALL CWP holders in the future! We need to ensure that whatever rulings are made are not used to hurt ALL CWP hold-

ers in South Carolina.

There is only one way to ensure bad precedents are not set in this case. We MUST make sure Jason has the financial ability to properly defend himself! That’s because he’s not just defending himself - he’s defending our rights too! If Jason can not properly defend himself, then the bad precedents that will be set by his case WILL harm us too.

Jason is 30 years old and a disabled veteran. He saw active duty in Somalia, the Sinai, and Korea; but he left the military with a permanent, service related, physical disability. Jason served his country, but now walks with a permanent limp as a result.

Jason did not let his world end due to his disability - he went back to school. If he couldn’t serve in the military, he’d find another way to serve. Jason was going to graduate from college this year. He wanted to go to law school to help fight to protect our rights. Jason is a long time GrassRoots member and supporter. He is also a SLED certified CWP instructor. We both know Jason and agree: Jason is a good guy.

Jason does not have a lot of money. He was forced to work while going to school just to make ends meet. He worked as a security guard at the apartment he lived in to help pay expenses.

Jason was just like so many other security guards that are too old or disabled to provide real security, but who still can provide useful service and need the added income. Jason depended upon the reasonableness of most people, and a phone to call police if trouble developed. Unfortunately, Jason ran into an unreasonable person, and the police did not

get there in time to prevent an attack upon Jason.

We are informed that a drunk and disorderly person was disturbing the residents on multiple floors at the apartment building where Jason lived and worked. The drunken person was asked to leave the building. He refused. The police were called. The drunken person was asked to leave the building again. He refused again. The police were called a second time. This only served to infuriate the drunken person. The drunken person then left the building with another man. But, the drunken person and the other man returned and charged Jason as Jason waited for the police to arrive.

Jason was doing his job and as a consequence was forced to defend himself against a drunken, angry, vulgarity spewing attacker. It was not Jason’s decision to fight, it was the drunken person’s decision to fight. The drunken person could have stopped the fight, but he didn’t. So, Jason was forced to face the decision that none of us ever want to have to face in real life. What was Jason to do? Being physically disabled, Jason options were severely limited.

Jason did what he thought he had to do to protect himself. We would have done the same.

No one should have to suffer a beating and risk serious bodily harm or death at the hands of a wrongdoer. If a wrongdoer does not want to be shot, then his choice is simple – don’t physically attack innocent people. The risk of harm should be placed upon the wrongdoer who initiated the threat, not the innocent victim who is forced to respond to the threat.

Jason needs money – a lot of

Continued on Page 4



Jason’s girlfriend, Carmella, Maggie (Carmella’s seeing-eye dog), and Jason

GrassRoots is Growing! The Next Level

Thanks to a lot of liberty minded people like you in South Carolina, who like what they see and hear, GrassRoots GunRights has grown in just a few short years to be the largest and most effective gun rights group in South Carolina. We do a lot. We’re at gun shows all around the state. We hold classes to train new CWP instructors. GrassRoots members pack the mailboxes and GrassRoots Gorillas pack the lobbies at the State House to help get our laws changed. We publish this newspaper (18,000 copies printed of this edition alone) and distribute it around the state to over a hundred gun stores, gun clubs and CWP instructors. But as Rob Butler said in the last edition of this newspaper, “We Want More!” To get more done, and to tackle the **big** jobs in front of us we need even **more** members than we have now. And those members we have, need to be even more active. We’re working on this too!

We’ve been proud to say in the past that we’re all volunteers. But while Pawley’s Island might proudly claim to be “Arrogantly Shabby” – it keeps them small. That may be exactly what **they** want, but GrassRoots needs to grow. We’ll have to “shed our skin” so to speak and make some changes in order to grow some more.

Continued on Page 9

Inside

CWP Renewal	2
“One Gun” Law Repealed	2
President’s Message	3
GunRights PAC	4
H.3482 Passes	5
Thank You!	Pages 4,5
Gun Shops	6
Letters	7
Handgun Cartridges	8
Gun Shows	10
SC Republican Convention	11
Controlling Fear	12
Something Really Scary	12
FTAA Gun Grab	13
Big Brother	13
Fishing In Vermont	13
Election Considerations	14
“I Got The Bad Guy”	15
Membership Application	15
Award Winner	16

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PO Box 6383
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CWP Renewal and Address Change

I'm often asked at gun shows how to renew a CWP or get a change of address processed. I have had some CWP holders think they needed to take a class or a test or something in order to renew their CWP. That isn't necessary or required provided you get your renewal application in prior to expiration of current CWP.

Renewals require the following:

- 1) Completed CWP Renewal Application 1 page (same as original app., but with current info)
- 2) One (new) completed Fingerprint Card
- 3) One recent 1" by 1" color photo of yourself
- 4) A notarized copy of valid SC driver's license
- 5) A copy of the front of your current CWP
- 6) Check or money order payable to SLED for \$50.

Send in renewal package to SLED 30 days before expiration date on current CWP. The address and phone number is:

SLED Regulatory Services Unit
P.O. Box 21398
Columbia, SC 29221-1398
(803) 896-7014

For Change of Address (for the sake of completeness)

- 1) Get New Driver License that shows your new address
- 2) Photo copy new Drivers License and old CWP
- 3) Check or Money Order payable SLED for \$5 fee
- 4) Write note asking for address change and new CWP
- 5) Send # 2-4 to SLED at above address.

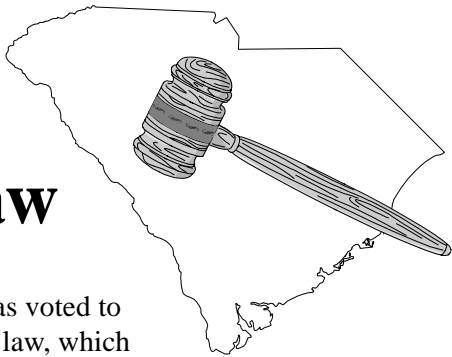
Your old CWP is good until new one arrives.

This info has all been published in the past, and I make a point to cover this information in the CWP classes I teach. However, I still get asked.

Mike Walguarnery
CWP Instructor and GrassRoots Gun Show Director

SC Close to Repealing "One Gun" Law

by Ed Kelleher



The South Carolina Legislature has voted to repeal the current "one-gun-a-month" law, which has limited the rights of law-abiding citizens by prohibiting firearm purchases and establishing a 30-day waiting period between handgun purchases. The bill, H.3442, is now headed to Governor Mark Sanford to be signed into law. We don't expect Gov. Sanford to veto or oppose the change.

H.3442 was a project of the NRA. GrassRoots was much in favor of this change and supported it with write-ups in our newspaper. GrassRoots VP and Legislative Director Rob Butler specifically went to the state house to speak in support of this bill when it first appeared in subcommittee. In fact, he was the only one there to speak in favor of it. But some have asked why GrassRoots didn't do *more*, like sending postcards to our members:

Question to GrassRoots: "If we don't have any problem with the text of the bill (H.3442) and truly support the repeal of the existing law, why not add our considerable weight to their effort? If we agree on something, why can't we all push the same wagon up the hill?"

GrassRoots Answer: If it's good for gun owners and gun rights in SC, GrassRoots will support it regardless of who initiated it. We've spoken in favor of this and other bills. We've listed it in our newspaper and legislative alerts. But we have things of more pressing necessity than pushing someone else's "wagon" when we have a wagon of our own that needs pushing. :-)

Sometime back, we had evaluated the 1 gun 30 restriction and polled our members about repealing it. While important, good, and desirable, it just wasn't that big a deal with many GrassRoots members. Most felt that carry in nice restaurants should be our highest priority. We decided that fixing the laws that could make most of us felons was very important also (H.3482) and would help us get ready to start pushing for carry in nice restaurants and other "criminal protection zones" such as public buildings and schools.

GrassRoots will support all good gun bills as best we can, when we can, but *not* at the expense of our other work. If it's something we initiated, we did so because we thought it more important than other things and naturally we'll expend more effort on it.

We'll write up good gun bills in our paper (having also spent a lot of time and money producing a high quality quarterly newspaper in the first place). We'll speak in favor of good bills when we have the opportunity and we'll oppose bad bills such as "Palmetto Exile" with vigor, regardless of where they come from.

We sent over 80,000 postcards to GrassRoots members to mail in to support H.3482, the GrassRoots sponsored legislation. There's not much room on a postcard, so we put the most important things on there first – our stuff.

Different groups work in different ways. For example, we think regular communication with our members, giving them the tools they need (info, post cards, legislative contact info, good examples of people working etc.) is important, that's why we do it.

Other groups have different priorities and if, for example, they don't want to send out postcards, I don't see that we need to do that for them.

"Wagons" was an interesting analogy. You might think of the wagons as delivering gun rights to the people. We think ours is bigger, loaded with better stuff – meat and potatoes instead of lettuce. We'll help others, lettuce is good, but not at the cost of having our wagon fall behind and not reach the goal.

[Editor's Note: Gov. Sanford signed the repeal into law effective 5/24/2004]

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President's Message

There are no Lost Causes



Ed Kelleher

When I first heard that GrassRoots Instructor member Jason Dickey had been involved in a self defense shooting, I was glad to hear he was unharmed. But that was quickly replaced by concern when I heard he had been arrested and I realized what lay in store for him. I've known Jason for some time as a member of both GrassRoots and the Mid-Carolina Rifle Club. He's been an active GrassRoots member from the beginning. I like and admire Jason because he's a person who accepts his responsibilities and doesn't shirk them.

I mean "responsibility" in the sense that when a person is presented an opportunity to do something that needs doing and he has the ability to do so, he incurs some responsibility to do what he can and not put it off on someone else. Jason served his country in the Army seeing active duty in Somalia, Korea and the Sinai. Jason is no quitter, another trait I admire. As a result of his military service he has a permanent disability – he walks with a limp, but he became certified as a CWP instructor. He ran for public office but realized he couldn't make it. Instead of giving up, he decided to go back to school, majoring in political science.

For these reasons, to me, Jason is pretty close to the ideal GrassRoots

member, and citizen. He's confident he did nothing wrong, and despite the bad media coverage, I'm sure the truth will out and Jason will be vindicated in court. But it won't be just Jason that wins, or loses. It will be *all* of us that carry a concealed weapon for self defense. What really will be on trial is public perception of the *right* of law abiding citizens to defend themselves. This perception has been lost in England. There, their courts consider armed citizens "a danger to burglars"! In England defending one's life is *not* a valid reason to possess a firearm. We must not let that perception prevail here.

Defending our right to self defense won't be cheap and it won't be easy. We may not be able to stand there with Jason, but we *can* help him, and ourselves, by contributing to his legal defense. Please make as generous a contribution as you can to the GrassRoots Legal Defense Fund (Page 4).

Many are concerned by the media coverage that incessantly paints gun owners as second class citizens or quasi-criminals. They're concerned by "polls" that say our gun rights message is failing. Some even feel our cause is lost.

Well folks, I hear from a lot of you and I can assure you our message is *not* failing. Even more importantly, the greater message, that by God we have RIGHTS! Rights to Life, Liberty and Property, that NO ONE should take from us, is getting out to more and more people in this state and across the country. GrassRoots, and its members, are playing an im-

portant part in getting that message out.

Do not fall to the wiles and siren call of those who would enslave us with their false polls and twisted reporting. They're just trying to sap our strength and destroy our will. But, if you don't really want to win and you aren't willing to put out the effort to win, it's easy to find excuses to fail.

Our "cause" will never be lost. Here's something worth remembering:

"If we take the widest and wisest view of a Cause, there is no such thing as a Lost Cause because there is no such thing as a Gained Cause. We fight for lost causes because we know that our defeat and dismay may be the preface to our successors' victory, though that victory itself will be temporary; we fight rather to keep something alive than in the expectation that anything will triumph." - T. S. Eliot

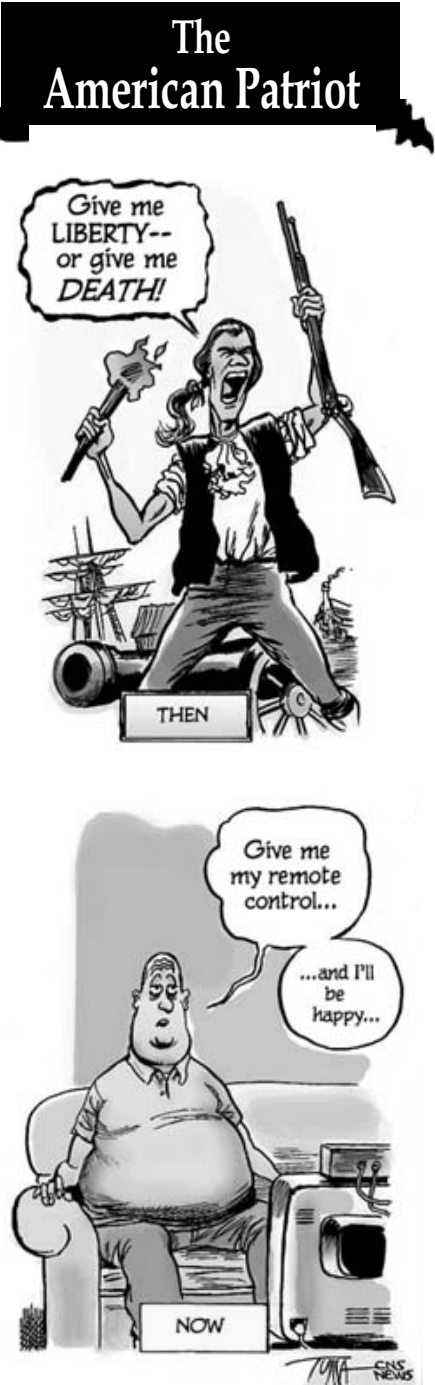
As I said, I hear from a lot of people. A lot of it's good, from people I'm humbled to know and be associated with. From others, all I hear is "baaaahhhh". Sometimes I try and entice these would be sheep from the front. Other times I kick them in the rear. It's a judgment call and being human my judgment isn't very hot some times.

Regardless of what others do and say, let us accept *our* responsibilities and not be dismayed and quit. Let us see what needs doing and then get on it.

I'm proud to know you all!

Ed Kelleher

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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 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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If you enjoy reading this paper...
If you get something from it...
Join GrassRoots NOW!
See page 15 for membership application.

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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@scfirearms.org. Original material on local issues will be given highest priority, and since permission must be received to reprint previously published materials, items without an author and source will not be considered for publication. Changes of address and questions regarding membership status should be sent to Debbie Price at the above PO Box or email address. Copyright © 2004 Grass Roots South Carolina, Inc.

Thank You, Andrew Johnson!



Johnson

Right after GrassRoots successfully stopped SLED’s attempt to raise CWP fees to \$100 in 2002, SLED started refusing to release the CWP list to GrassRoots. They did not tell us why, they just told us “no.”

In the fall of 2003, Andrew Johnson (attorney at law in Columbia, SC and GrassRoots member) stepped forward and said he would help GrassRoots get the CWP list from SLED. Thanks to Andrew, SLED was forced to either give GrassRoots the CWP list, or give us a valid reason for not doing so. SLED told Andrew that the Family Privacy Protection Act of 2002 (FPPA) prohibited them from releasing the CWP list.

Andrew Johnson and Rob Butler (GrassRoots VP and Legislative Director) studied the FPPA. While the FPPA does indeed prohibit the general release of the CWP list, the FPPA contains exceptions to the general prohibition against release of the CWP list. GrassRoots fits into one of those exceptions. But SLED could not know that GrassRoots fit into one of the listed exceptions because SLED never gave us a reason for saying “no” in the past. At least now, GrassRoots had an opportunity to prove that GrassRoots was entitled to the CWP list.

Andrew and Rob composed a letter detailing why GrassRoots was NOT prohibited from receiving the CWP list from SLED. After careful review, SLED acknowledged that GrassRoots did indeed fit into one of the listed exceptions. SLED finally released the CWP list to GrassRoots in the spring of 2004.

The CWP list is important to GrassRoots. Most members of GrassRoots are CWP holders. Most new GrassRoots members became GrassRoots members in response to our direct mail efforts using the CWP list. The growth of GrassRoots has been slowed due to SLED’s refusal to release the CWP list for almost two years. Now, GrassRoots will be able to resume our direct mail offerings and continue to grow.

Getting the CWP list from SLED was a necessary step towards growing the GrassRoots membership base large enough to get CWP carry into nice restaurants passed into law. Getting the CWP list was an important accomplishment.

Thank you, Andrew Johnson for helping GrassRoots. We need more people like you to step forward and help in restoring our rights. He can be reached at:

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2009 Lincoln Street
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 799 0900



GrassRoots Member Charged With Murder *Continued from Page 1*

money – to mount a proper defense. Expert witnesses and good attorneys cost a lot of money. The State of South Carolina will use our tax dollars to prosecute Jason. Jason must fund his own defense. But, it’s not just *his* defense, it’s *our’s* too! Jason is being forced to defend the right of ALL of us to defend ourselves against those who seek to harm us, or our loved ones. It’s not just his burden – it’s *our’s* too. We *must* help him!

When a poor man like Jason is prosecuted, the odds are stacked against him even if he is innocent because it takes a lot of money to mount a proper defense. Jason needs our help.

If Jason doesn’t get enough money to mount a proper defense, the prosecution will use Jason’s lack of money to force Jason to plead guilty to a lesser charge. They will tell Jason that only ten years in prison is a lot better than risking ruining the rest of his life. They will tell Jason that since he can not afford a good defense, they are doing him a favor. It’ll be either plead guilty to a crime he did not commit, or risk getting wrongly convicted of murder and going to prison for the

rest of his life. Both are poor choices, and Jason will be forced to decide between the lesser of two evils merely because he is too poor to pay for a proper defense.

These are not choices we would want to make just because we were forced to defend ourselves against a vicious attack by a drunk. How about you? If you don’t come to Jason’s aid now, you may well find yourself facing the same choice some day.

Please send whatever you can afford to the GrassRoots Legal Defense Fund. Contributions to the GrassRoots Legal Defense Fund will be used to help pay for Jason’s defense. Please, if you can afford to send \$1,000, please do it. If you can only afford to send \$10, please do it because even small contributions of \$10 each will add up if enough people send them in. If you can afford to contribute something more, or less, please do it. Whatever you can afford to contribute, please do so – now! We’ll keep contributors posted on the status of Jason’s case.

Contributions should be made to:
GrassRoots Legal Defense Fund
PO Box 6383
Columbia, SC 29260



GUNRIGHTS PAC

How to Make the MOST of Your Political Donations

Politicians need money to win elections. Politicians would love to keep track of and remember every donor, but the reality is that they get too many contributions to be able to remember them all. But, the politicians do keep track of and remember those people who contribute the larger donations of money.

South Carolina politicians will remember those people who donate \$500 and more. Anything less and the donor could easily be forgotten because there are so many smaller contributors. That may not be what we want, but it is reality.

Let’s assume there are 25 gun owners living in the same political district. Each one donates \$20 to the same politician. After the election, the politician does not remember a single one of the gun owners who contributed to his campaign because each donation was too small to really get the politician’s attention. The politician doesn’t know that gun owners made a difference in his election. Thus, all the donations made by gun owners did nothing to promote gun rights in SC.

Now, let’s assume that these same 25 gun owners made the same \$20 donations. But, this time the gun owners made their \$20 donations to the GunRights PAC instead of directly to the politician. GunRights PAC could then make a \$500 (25 x \$20 = \$500) donation to the same politician. After the election, the politician will remember that gun owners made a difference in his election because he will remember a \$500 donation.

It doesn’t matter that the politician got \$500 either way. The reality is that the politician will not remember 25 small donations, but he WILL REMEMBER one large donation.

If you want to make politicians take notice of how gun owners DO make a difference in their election campaigns, then send your donations to the GunRights PAC instead of directly to the politician. You can earmark your donation for a particular candidate,

or you can just let GunRights PAC decide which politicians are most deserving. Then, GunRights PAC will combine all of the donations sent in and earmarked for a particular candidate into one large contribution, and make the

larger donation on behalf of all gun owners. This will do much more for protecting our gun rights than simply giving the money directly to the politicians.

Please use your donations to get the most bang for your buck. Send the political donations you were going to send directly to the politicians to the GunRights PAC instead. Then, your donations will really make an impact. And, gun owner voices will be heard even better after the election!

Please send your donations, whether large (especially the large ones) or small, to:
GunRights PAC
220 Isobel Ct.
Lexington, SC 29072

(If you want your donation to only be sent to one particular politician, please be sure to write that on your check.)

The reality is that the politician will not remember 25 small donations, but he will remember one large donation.

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!



LATE BREAKING NEWS!

GrassRoots Legislation H.3482

PASSES! SIGNED INTO LAW!

On February 18, 2004, the SC House of Representatives passed H.3482, GrassRoots common sense gun law reforms, and sent it to the Senate. On the very same day, the Senate sent H.3482 to the Judiciary Committee. Things looked good.

Unfortunately, the rest of February, all of March and most of April passed with no further action being taken on H.3482. GrassRoots leaders called and visited and wrote Senate leaders and Rep. Kenny Bingham, the primary sponsor of H.3482. A Senate subcommittee was finally assigned to hear H.3482. But the Senate was then in full debate on the budget. The subcommittee meetings kept being delayed and pushed back. Finally, on Tuesday, May 11, 2004 the dam broke and the action on H.3482 got fast and furious. There was a subcommittee hearing at 10:30 am. H.3482 was debated, amended and passed favorably. Then, at 3 pm that same day, the full Judiciary Committee met and H.3482 was favorably passed on to the full Senate for further action. It took a lot get there though.

It is important to realize that H.3482 did not pass just because it was a good bill. It took GrassRoots members sending in postcards to let the politicians know lots of their voters *wanted* it. It took phone calls and faxes from GrassRoots members and leaders to remind the politicians of the post cards and let them know they weren't going away. And finally it took face to face discussions between GrassRoots leaders and crucial Senators – those who would normally kill a pro gun rights bill by attaching a minority report to it. A minority report is the kiss of death for most bills because it takes a *two thirds majority vote* of the Senate to even discuss a bill that has a minority report attached to it coming out of a committee. It was too late in the session, which ends June 3, to get the Special Order votes that would have been needed to over ride a minority report. GrassRoots leaders knew they *had* to avoid having a minority report attached to H.3482 if it was to pass this session. If H.3482 didn't pass, it would die at the end of the session and GrassRoots would have to start all over next year.

A couple of months earlier, right after the House passed H.3482 in February, Dr. Robert Butler (GrassRoots VP and Legislative Director) talked with Sen. Robert Ford and asked Sen. Ford not to put a minority report on H.3482. Dr. Butler explained to Sen.

Ford how H.3482 was a bill that helped all the people in SC, not just gun owners. Dr. Butler also explained how H.3482 would help protect lower income people from discriminatory abuse due to legislative entrapment problems (i.e., laws so poorly written that it is virtually impossible to obey the law, or laws that discriminate against lower income people due to the realities of their lower incomes). Sen. Ford agreed *not* to attach a minority report to H.3482.

Anderson. They tried to talk with Sen. Maggie Glover, but she did not attend the Senate session that day.

Dr. Butler explained the benefits of H.3482 to Sen. Jackson. Sen. Jackson said he would *not* attach a minority report to H.3482. Mr. Kelleher talked twice with Sen. Anderson. Unfortunately, Sen. Anderson said he would attach a minority report to H.3482.

Later that afternoon, Dr. Butler and Mr. Kelleher talked with Sen.

When H.3482 did come up for its vote in the Judiciary Committee, Sen. Martin, head of the subcommittee which favorably reported on H.3482, introduced it as a simple technical correction bill. Sen. Anderson asked if SLED had approved the bill. Sen. Martin assured him SLED had. Sen. Anderson asked how Sen. Martin knew this, Sen. Martin again confidently and forcefully asserted that SLED indeed was well aware of the bill and if they had any objections SLED would certainly have been there to let them know. Sen. Anderson didn't seem convinced so Sen. Martin then said, "let's report this bill favorably out of committee and if SLED doesn't like the bill, I'll put my name on the bill myself!" A Senator "putting his name" on a bill is very similar to filing a minority report on a bill – it holds it up. This was a bold move and one that apparently satisfied Sen. Anderson. He said that he'd go along with that but wanted some more assurance the next day or he'd put *his* name on the bill. Sen. Martin agreed to get back to Sen. Anderson the next day, and he did. H.3482 was reported favorably out of the full Judiciary Committee *without* a minority report!

Two days later, on May 13, the Senate gave H.3482 a second reading, with a third reading scheduled for the next legislative day, which was Tuesday, May 18.

On May 18, the Senate amended H.3482 to include protection for motorcycle riders carrying a handgun, and to change the wording of Section 16-23-420. The motorcycle riders protection amendment was a needed improvement and had been a stand alone bill sponsored by Sen. Danny Verdin, who was also the primary sponsor of the Senate version of the GrassRoots proposed H.3482. The other amendment (a technical amendment) was made at the insistence of Sen. Brad Hutto and had been added to the motorcycle bill earlier.

H.3482 was sent back to the House for their concurrence. Dr. Butler sent a fax to Rep. Kenny Bingham, the primary sponsor of H.3482, asking Rep. Bingham to please get the House to concur with the Senate amendments and send the bill to the Governor for his signature.

The House *concurred* with the Senate amendments on May 20, and the bill went to Gov. Sanford for his signature. It took many, many GrassRoots members sending in their postcards, making the phone calls and faxes, and helping with their generous financial contributions to make this happen. GrassRoots plans to keep coming back with new legislative proposals. They're counting on their members help to ensure future successes like H.3482.



On May 10, Dr. Butler sent a fax to every member of the Judiciary Committee explaining H.3482, and asking them to pass it the next day.

On the morning of May 11, Ed Kelleher (GrassRoots Pres.) and Dr. Butler attended the Senate subcommittee hearing. Sen. Hutto had some concerns about the luggage compartment definition in H.3482. The bill was amended in subcommittee to resolve Sen. Hutto's concerns. Then, the subcommittee composed of Senators Larry Martin, Danny Verdin, Jake Knotts, and Brad Hutto passed H.3482.

Immediately after the subcommittee hearing, Mr. Kelleher and Dr. Butler walked the halls of the Gressette Building and talked with every Senator on the Judiciary Committee they could find. Dr. Butler talked with Sen. Ford again and reaffirmed that Sen. Ford would not attach a minority report to H.3482.

When the Senate went into session, Mr. Kelleher and Dr. Butler went to the Statehouse lobby to talk with more Senators. They talked with many Senators including Sen. Daryl Jackson and Sen. Ralph

Anderson in his private office. Once again, they explained the benefits of H.3482. Once again, Sen. Anderson said he would attach a minority report to H.3482. Dr. Butler and Mr. Kelleher pointed out that both Senators Ford and Jackson had agreed to NOT attach a minority report to H.3482. Sen. Anderson then agreed to talk with Senators Ford and Jackson before making a final decision.

Before H.3482 came up for a vote in the Judiciary Committee later that afternoon, Sen. Anderson was seen talking with Senators Ford and Jackson. Senators Ford and Jackson must have said something positive because Sen. Anderson did *not* attach a minority report to H.3482. Also, Sen. Glover, who had attached a minority report to the last GrassRoots proposed legislation in 2002, did *not* attach a minority report to this bill. It should be noted that Sen. Glover sits beside Sen. Ford in the Judiciary Committee and was seen talking with Sen. Ford prior to voting on H.3482.



THANKS

There's a lot GrassRoots does to get good changes made to our SC gun laws. We organize gun owners and see what they want – and are willing to work for. We study the laws in great detail to see how they have to be changed to do what we want. We get the word out to our members who send in postcards and call their legislators to get our changes made. But without legislators to originally introduce and sponsor our changes in the South Carolina legislature, we'd just be spinning our wheels.

Our thanks to these men for standing up and giving more than lip service to our right to keep and bear arms.



Rep. Bingham

Representative Kenny Bingham of HD89 in Lexington County sponsored H.3482. Rep. Bingham was very responsive to our phone calls and rode herd on

H.3482, both in the House and particularly in the Senate as H.3482 made its way through the legislative process.



Sen. Verdin

cycle riders store a handgun on their motorcycle just as automobile owners are able to do. H.3482 was amended to include S.1033. Sen. Verdin was always available to answer our questions and give valuable advice that was instrumental in getting H.3482 passed.

Senator Danny Verdin, of SD9 in Laurens and Greenville Counties introduced S.301, the Senate version of H.3482. Sen. Verdin also sponsored S.1033 a bill to let motor

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.

ATP Gun Shop
Helen Bone
843-824-0779
516 St. James Ave.
Goose Creek, SC 29445

Bear Creek Firearms
Lynn Waller
9388 Macedonia Church Rd.
Prosperity, SC 29127

Dick's Sporting Goods
803-749-0756
1110 Bower Pkwy.
Harbison
Columbia, SC

Grady's Great Outdoors
Tim Shirley
3440 Clemson Blvd
Anderson, SC 29621

Greer Gun & Pawn Shop
Mark Roberts
1457 W. Wade Hampton Blvd.
Greer, SC 29650

Hunter's HQ
560 Bypass 72 West
Greenwood, SC 29649
864-229-2034

Island Outfitters
843-522-9900
180 Sea Island Parkway
Beaufort, SC 29902

J&S Gun Depot
Sharon Waldrep
864-859-9065
404 Sheriff Mill Rd.
Easley, SC 29642

Lexington Pawn & Gun
4884 Sunset Blvd.
Lexington, SC
803-957-4998

Low Country Outfitters
843-837-6100
Moss Creek Village
Hilton Head, SC 29926

Mike's Gun Shop
803-482-7094
www.mikesgunshop.com
435 Gunsite Rd
Winnsboro, SC 29180

Pappy's Gun Shop
4955 Tinker Creek Road
Edgemoor, SC 29712
Clyde Baker
803-789-3028

Personal Security Supplies
Ernie Lawson
3390 Boiling Springs Hwy
Boiling Springs, SC 29316

Port Royal Gun & Pawn
843-524-7043
2204 Mossy Oaks Road
Port Royal, SC 29935

Ricky's Gun Service & Sales
843-521-4866
75 Burton Hill Rd.
Beaufort, SC 29906

Rooks' Sales
Jerry Rooks
239 N. Main St.
Bishopville, SC 29010

Santee Pawn Shop
803-854-2255
220 Santee Business Park
Santee, SC 29142

Tony's Guns & Police Supplies
4308 Broad Street Ext.
Sumter, SC 29154
803-494-4867
www.tonysguns.com

Top Dollar Pawn
843-681-3400
7 Central Plaza, Mathens Dr.
Hilton Head, SC 29926

Trader's Gun Shop
Larry or Richard
864-292-6544
3314 Wade Hampton Blvd
Taylors, SC 29687

The Gun Doctor
Bob Elam
1928 S. Live Oak Dr.
Moncks Corner, SC 29416

Wateree Arms
803-695-7056
9321 Garners Ferry Road
Hopkins, SC 29061
www.watereearms.com

**West Ashley Pawn
& Consignment Ltd.**
829 Savannah Highway
Charleston S.C. 29407
Randy Frisch
843-769-0194



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
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

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



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.

**Another
threat to
gun rights?
You decide!**

**See FTAA article
on page 13**



Statue of twisted gun in UN Plaza, New York City

Americans could lose control of their property, suffer taxation by anti-American socialist bureaucrats, and watch helplessly as standards of justice they had taken for granted, such as the Bill of Rights, are trampled.

TALK GUNS Radio

TALK GUNS Radio is on the air every Saturday at **9:30 am**

until 11:00 am on **WIS**
NEWS TALK RADIO

1320 AM, Columbia, South Carolina with the award winning journalist, syndicated columnist and radio talk show host

Charles Campbell

and co-host, resident gun expert and GrassRoots member

Thomas Lanham

of Wateree Arms.



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Dear GrassRoots:

You guys are doing a great job. Many thanks. I have mailed cards to all my Reps & Senators.

I'm 84 years old but I still shoot handguns, and carry. I have had to down-size, caliber wise. Although I still have an H&K USP Compact in .45 ACP, I mostly carry and shoot a Taurus Model 731, Ultra Lite (Titanium) in .32 H&R Magnum.

I know many will not agree with my choice of the .32, but this keeps my old, arthritic hands going. I use .32 SW Long for practice. They are gentle as a .22 rimfire. I use .32 H&R Mags for carry.

The mags give me 1,000 fps for a 100 gr HP. I am well aware of the minor difference in point of impact, at the distances I shoot. I feel entirely comfortable with this and would strongly recommend it to someone introducing his wife to a first gun. I have owned numerous .38 SP snub-nosed revolvers, and have never enjoyed shooting even a few cylinders from any of them. I have an FFL but am winding down.

The real purpose of this letter is to enclose my check in the amount of \$ 65.00. Use \$ 15.00 for my 2004 dues and the remainder as needed.

George T. Rich
Edisto Island

Dear GrassRoots:

I received the Defender 2/11.. postcards mailed 2/12.

Thanks for a great publication. This month's articles were especially informative, and as an avid motorcyclist, I was pleased to see some attention given to a very unique problem that us two-wheelers face.

One common denominator with a group of bikers getting together, in addition to enjoying the beautiful scenery we have in our area, is the fact that you always end up at some restaurant or watering hole. It's inevitable. Therein lays a huge problem with disarming.

My Road King has saddlebags that do not lock!! I have a duty as a responsible gun owner, to keep my handgun under my immediate control or stored in such a way that it is kept safe from unauthorized access. So, many times I choose to leave it safe at home because I can't lock it up if my riding partners decide to pull into an establishment that serves alcohol. That does me no good whatsoever, when I'm tooling around on back roads by myself on my way to and from a meeting point.

As stated in the Defender article, you can't just lock your door and roll up the window if someone approaches you will malicious intent. For this reason and others, we have to do something to change the restaurant carry laws as they now exist. I know..... it's coming in the future, and I'm not saying do it now. Just giving a viewpoint for future thought when talking to others about why this is important to us.

Barry Wyatt
Simpsonville



Dear GrassRoots:

Last night I asked primary candidate for Sumter County Sheriff Gary Metts what his position was on private citizen's having Concealed Weapons Permits. His reply was that it scared him as many permits were going to persons who should not have them as they were not qualified. I asked him if the sheriffs dept. had any problems with permit holders. He replied "no". It was not a venue to argue that illogic further as it was a Republican fund raiser and hand shake with others in line.

Sure made my decision for the June primary easy. Present Sheriff Mims stood up for us in '96 and I hate to take a step back.

Ralph Baker
Sumter

Dear GrassRoots:

Thanks for making my CWP more useful. So I am sending a little extra for you to use. I'm sending off for my Florida CWP application tomorrow. That's the one I want. I go to Alabama, Georgia and Florida a lot and if I get that I'll feel better on going to those states.

You see I was born in Alabama, raised in Georgia and Florida and live in South Carolina. I go home a lot. We are retired and we go, go, go before we can't anymore. Here's my check for \$100.

William Vickers
Clarks Hill

Dear GrassRoots:

I don't do the computer good enough for e-mail so thought I'd write. I've only been a member of GrassRoots for 9 months. I really enjoy The Defender and look forward to each issue. My wife and I are both SC CWP holders so it is very informative for us. I always mail my postcards in too. My membership expires 5/31/04 so enclosed is my renewal form.

I work in NC and have to be at work at 4:00 AM. I take a little cut through road to by-pass a slow red light. On February 13 (Friday), when I took my little cut through there were two police cars sitting in front of a business. Of course they stopped me (it was Fri. 13th). I rolled my windows down and as soon as I could see them I told them I was a SC CWP holder. I had my hands on the steering wheel. They asked for ID and told me to keep my hands on the wheel. I was so nervous my hands were shaking.

They were extremely nice and told me to calm down. They informed me they were having trouble with break-ins in that area. They gave my I.D. back and told me to have a nice day. They never asked for my CWP or my weapon (I carry a Kel-Tec P-32).

Thanks for your part in getting NC to honor SC CWP's. Keep up the good work. Now I don't have to worry when I cross state lines.

Edward Davis
Fort Mill

Handgun Cartridge Choice

(An overview of RK Campbell's conclusion's on cartridge selection. Excerpts have been published in Gun Digest, Guns Magazine, and SWAT Magazine and featured on the Armed M, a branch of the American Mensa Association.)

Take your
counsel
and what
you read
with a
grain of salt.
It is your hide!

STOPPING POWER. It is misleading and inaccurate. Wound potential is scientifically accurate as a description of what happens when a bullet strikes flesh and blood. Wound potential can be measured artificially to give a comparison of cartridges and loads. Science is one thing, practical experience another. When a peace officer tells you he ‘saw this happen’— what he really means is that he arrived just after the business was over. The person on the scene and a medical examiner often have radically different opinions of a gunshot wound. As an example some years ago a medical examiner showed a class I participated in a slide detailing the effects of a 9mm caliber hollow point in a human body. The autopsy revealed the bullet created a fair sized wound and actually clipped away a section of the lower heart – text book performance. He lauded the performance of this loading and by the evidence it looked good. At a later date, I had an opportunity to speak with the officer involved in this shooting. He told me that he backed away from the knife wielding assailant until finally the offender cut his jacket and the officer was forced to fire. The man stopped and backed away but did not lose his mobility or function. He asked the officer to call an ambulance. The man remained mobile and died in the hospital as a result of internal bleeding. A one shot stop? Sure, but had the felon been more motivated he could of kept fighting.

By far the most important single predictor of survival is prior training and preparation. A clear head and well polished skills mean everything. Just the same we wish to deploy an effective weapon. How do we measure effectiveness? Laboratory tests using gelatin clearly shows the difference in wound volume. Wound volume as specified by extensive government (FBI, ARMY) research is simply the total amount of tissue displaced by a bullet as it travels in tissue or in this case gelatin. In Europe special glue is used. The scientist presents his facts and lets you draw your own conclusion. The tests are repeatable by others and most of all verifiable. Results gleaned from ‘confidential’ sources are less reliable. Any report or information not verifiable or any test not repeatable should be subject to skepticism to say the least. Consider the validity of such information. As a long time peace officer I applied standard investigative techniques to much of what I read. I uncovered a great deal of bankrupt methodology. When it comes to reality I have never been afraid to buck the generally accepted line. We have seen good work from the popular press. I think that the works of Elmer Keith, Skeeter Skeleton, Tom Ferguson, Jeff

If you have read the comics concerning handgun stopping power, prepare for reality reporting. I do not like the term

Cooper and Chuck Taylor mirror reality and the assessment of these men is tempered by considerable field and shooting experience. But then we have others with different ideas. We have seen shot placement *discarded* by one writer who tells us the *power* of the load is more important, as we cannot control shot placement. This type of pat and foolish statement undermines the work of hundreds of dedicated firearms instructors. Shots that do not find critical areas are far less than effective. Accuracy can make up for power, the reverse is seldom true. Another trend I have seen in the popular press is the recommendation of .32 caliber handguns as defense weapons, especially for women. Many of the people who write these articles have no experience in interpersonal combat. When they render women second class citizens as a result of firearms choice, they reinforce a patronizing prejudice. The mental component of fire-



This is a .357 SIG, a good round but shot placement counts the most.

arms control is what matters. No caliber under .38 Special should be considered for personal defense. Any gun can be a deterrent but you shouldn't bet your life on hope. Most men are about as heavy as a large deer. Men are more susceptible to shock, but consider this – would you hunt deer with the .32 H and R Magnum? A .380 ACP? And a deer caught by surprise is much easier to kill than a startled, running deer isn't he? How about a large man with adrenaline and the startle reflex kicked in? Does that PPK still look good to you?

I don't shoot men often but I have shot a lot of animals. A cartridge that will not reliably anchor a 35 pound animal is not my first choice as a defensive firearm. Small calibers are effective against aggressors of low motivation and those armed with edged weapons simply because of the threat value. A person shooting at you must be stopped *right now!* But, we must realize handguns aren't very powerful. What power they have must be harnessed as efficiently as possible. When compared to a .223 rifle or a 12 gauge shotgun, the ‘weak’ .38 and ‘strong’ .45 are more alike than they differ, a sobering thought.

Let's take a look at the reality of cartridge selection. First, caliber: .38 Special, .357 Magnum, 9mm Luger

+P, .40 Smith and Wesson, 10mm auto, and the various .44s and .45s are acceptable choices with the big bores being much more formidable. Before we move on to ballistics, let's consider what the cartridge must do. It must go bang every time. Did you know that there is ammunition available that is not reliable? It may be OK for casual plinking but will not stand up to self defense needs. Any loads carried in the handgun should be tested for resistance to water, oil and solvent. Powder is usually killed before primers and this is a function of poor case mouth seal. Soak a round or two overnight in water. Soak a couple of others in Hoppe's or Birchwood Casey. Ammunition that fails this test is OK for general shooting but *not* for long term carry. In revolvers, be certain the gun load and spares fit the chamber correctly. Occasionally you find a too long cartridge. Having tested the wares of a dozen companies for police agencies,

occur. The ammunition must feature good quality and integrity, or it is worthless. For what it is worth, the major police agencies usually adopt the Federal Hydra Shock, Winchester SXT, or Remington Golden Saber. The Ohio State Patrol fired over 228, 000 rounds without an ammunition related failure during agency testing, using Winchester SXT and Speer Gold Dot ammunition. Our American companies have tremendous T and E and quality control behind them that no foreign firm can approach. That is precisely why Speer is so popular in Europe. Forget the exotics and erratic, over-rated ammunition.

A cartridge designed for self defense should use a bullet that is capable of penetrating ten to fourteen inches of gelatin and expanding to 1.5 times bullet diameter. This penetration is needed. After all, if a felon is shooting at you his arms will be outstretched holding a gun. Your bullet may have to penetrate the heavy bones of his arm and reach the vital organs. A heavy coat or down vest may intrude, as may light cover. Some have said the FBI was wrong in demanding so much penetration from handgun bullets. Eleven of the last thirteen shooting incidents I collected involved felons behind car glass or some type of cover. As far as service ammunition is concerned, the FBI is correct. I like to err on the side of caution. Modern ammunition has a good balance of penetration and expansion.

When it is all said and done, what counts the most is accurate shot placement. The loads listed here have given good results that greatly increase wound potential.

Recommended loads:

.38 Special +P
Winchester 158 grain lead semi wad cutter hollow point (LSWCHP) is good. In four inch barrel revolvers, the Speer Gold Dot 125 grain +P gives acceptable results. The .38 Special is a case of just enough – and no more.

9mm Luger
The 9mm runs the highest deviations in effectiveness of any cartridge. Sometimes it performs well but just as often it is dismal. +P or even better, +P+ loads are recommended. For best results, the +P loads from Black Hills and Cor Bon are recommended.

.357 Magnum

Continued on Page 9



When it comes to .38 Super, Cor Bon is the only game in town!



Winchester Silvertip is not a bad choice in all calibers, but a real standout in .44 Magnum.

Handgun Cartridge Choice *Continued from Page 8*

For those who can handle the flash, blast and recoil, this is a proven cartridge. I have seen the effect of the Magnum over my gun sights. It produces a severe wound and immediate effect in almost all cases. The .357 even takes out larger animals given good placement. The 110 grain JHPs are good general defense loads, fast and easy to control. Winchester, Remington and Federal produce top quality 125 grain loads that offer good effect at the expense of greater recoil. An overlooked load that offers a bit more penetration and bullet weight is the very accurate Winchester 145 grain Silvertip. Heavier bullets don't expand well from short barrels and should be avoided.

.38 Super

I am a big fan of this cartridge but there are virtually no shooting histories on file. It should be in low end of .357 territory. Cor Bon is the only game in town for high performance loads.

.357 SIG

This is a special round designed to mimic the .357 Magnum in a semi auto action. I did a test of vehicle penetration for Police Magazine and the 124 grain XTP Hornady load performed better than any other load or caliber. If you want a fast bullet and need penetration, the .357 SIG is a good performer, with much greater velocity than the 9mm. The .357 SIG is usually an accurate cartridge. My personal Glock, fitted with a Bar Sto barrel in .357 SIG, is the most accurate Glock in my experience.

.40 Smith and Wesson

This was the caliber to do all things for all people. The big bore fan has a cartridge larger than the 9mm and the rest of the people have a high capacity handgun the .40 can be had in any number of truly reliable compact handguns. The case is shorter than the .45 which allows a more compact weapon, but the .40 has far more wound potential than the 9mm. The .40 really is a fine compromise cartridge. We can go big and slow or light and fast with the

.40 and both seem to work. I favor the 155 grain loads due to accuracy and a good balance of expansion and penetration. The Winchester Silvertip is a good choice, always showing good expansion, feed reliability, and accuracy. For those favoring the heavyweight option the Winchester SXT, Federal Hydra Shock, and Speer Gold Dot offer good performance. The Remington 165 grain Golden Saber is a particularly good choice for lawmen, giving good accuracy and penetration. I have taken deer with the 155 grain Gold Dot with excellent results. When the bullet meets flesh and performs well, even if that flesh is animal flesh, we have something. The .40 is a winner.

10mm

There are a few die-hard fans of the 10mm and this round is well worth mentioning. Personally if I go to a large frame pistol I prefer the .45, but the 10mm does shoot flatter and faster if that matters. All that I said of the .40 is true of the 10mm but add 100-200 fps. Beware of bargain basement foreign produced loads – this is what first gave the 10mm a poor reputation.

.44 Special

My data base shows poor results with this caliber and factory ammunition. Sure, it is a big bore but in three to four inch barrel defense handgun most loads exit at perhaps 750 fps. This is not acceptable. I have loaded my personal Charter 2000 Bull dog to well over 1,000 fps with a Keith style 250 grain SWC, but that is handloading. The only load that shows promise is the special order Cor Bon 165 grain JHP. Accurate and not too difficult to control in double action pairs, I like this load very much.

.44 Magnum

Here is a grand cartridge. I saw the aftermath of this cartridge's performance several times. I have also dropped Russian Boar in the 300 pound class with one shot. I have also seen a case in my jurisdiction in which the Magnum over pen-

etrated a target to cripple an innocent person. For those dedicated to the Dirty Harry gun, and who can handle it, the Winchester Silvertip, a reduced recoil load, is an acceptable choice. The Cor Bon 165 JHP is among the few purpose designed defense loads in this caliber.

.45 Colt

A number of very good revolvers have been introduced for this caliber by Taurus, breathing new life into our oldest service cartridge. The Cor Bon 200 grain JHP gives defensive hand gunners a very good choice. But make no mistake; the older 255 grain conical loading as offered by Winchester and Remington is effective. The original .45 Colt was designed to drop not only men but Indian war ponies. No one need apologize for carrying this cartridge.

45 ACP

This is the best choice for self defense on any terms. The .45 does not produce the wounds the Magnums will, but the .45 is controllable by anyone of normal strength and stature. The Winchester SXT, the Remington Golden Saber, Black hills 230 gr. JHP, the Speer gold Dot, and the Federal Hydra Shock work well in this caliber. If you need a bit more penetration, the Hornady 230 grain XTP +P is a good choice, with the 200 grain XTP +P proven on game. Like the .44 Magnum the .45 relies on frontal area and bullet diameter to get the job done. Expansion is simply a bonus. When traveling in rural areas, my load of choice in the Kimber is often a Hornady 230 grain flat point. I would feel far from helpless with a .45 loaded with hardball – it has saved the bacon of countless GIs. Still, we would be unwise not to use available technology.

In the end, the man or woman behind the gun will count for the most. But some guns, and cartridges, are better than others to stand behind.



It is wise indeed to keep a long gun handy for emergency and excursion. But most of the time the handgun is what we have on hand. The author's presentation holster carries a Rock Island .38 Super. It is good enough for who it is for.

GrassRoots Is Growing

Continued from Page 1

Therefore, we've decided we need a dedicated, pretty much full time Executive Officer to take GrassRoots to the next level where our membership exceeds 10,000 active, liberty minded South Carolinians.

For some time we've had a part-time bookkeeper, Debbie Price who does a great job. She works for our treasurer and CPA, Bob Holliday. She processes new member applications and renewals. She handles routine requests from our members for things like gun show schedules, "Guns Save Lives" bumper stickers and passes on other things to the appropriate people for them to handle. But some things just don't get handled because they're so many things to do. Debbie just showed me the renewal letter she sends out. It hasn't been updated for several years. We need someone to rewrite it. We need someone to put together more frequent alerts and newsletters for our members. We need someone to write thank you letters to our members who encourage us by writing to tell of what they've been doing. We need someone to organize the efforts of the countless volunteers we have around the state. We need someone to handle our Membership Drives, etc. etc.

We have volunteers that try to get these things done but they have lives and jobs and families too and often, too often, a good work just doesn't get done. Folks, we're in a fight, a serious fight to restore our liberties. What we're doing is good – but it's not enough. We can't afford to lose. The stakes are too high. We know what has to be done and we shouldn't let a lack of volunteers hold us back. But it's not really a lack of volunteers that's the hold-up. It's the lack of someone with the time to oversee and **organize** the volunteers that we have. Folks, that's a FULL-TIME JOB!

So, we've decided to hire and support a person who believes as we do and is as dedicated to the fight to restore our liberties as we are. It's sort of like hiring a minister for a church. You don't pay him to preach, you pay him so he CAN preach.

The person has to be sharp, a quick learner, able to make decisions and see them through. They have to be organized and meticulous treating all contact with GrassRoots members as being very important. They have to have the ability to write and communicate with our members. They have to have the ability to speak as we see them being registered as a Lobbyist and talking with State legislators.

But above all they have to believe that "We're the Good Guys", that good people who choose to carry firearms aren't a problem, but the solution to many of today's ills.

It will be a tough, but exciting job. We'll teach the person the ins and outs of GrassRoots Gorilla political warfare. They'll be part of a team that's playing to WIN!

If you think you have what it takes, please send your resume directly to me at the below address.

Ed Kelleher
1730 Augusta Road
West Columbia, SC 29169



Gun Shows and GrassRoots

With the support of our members GrassRoots plans to have a table at each of the 20 Gun Shows listed below in 2004. 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 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 (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 2004

<u>Greenville</u>	Palmetto Expo Center		
Feb. 28-29	May 22-23	Oct. 9-10	Dec. 18-19
<u>Spartanburg</u>	Spartanburg Expo Center (formerly Waccamaw)		
Jan. 24-25	April 24-25	July 17-18	Oct. 23-24
<u>Columbia</u>	Jamil Shrine Temple		
Jan. 10-11	May 1-2	July 31- Aug. 1	Nov. 13-14
<u>Columbia</u>	State Fairgrounds		
June 19-20	Dec. 11-12		
<u>Florence</u>	Florence Civic Center		
Mar. 6-7	July 24-25	Nov. 6-7	
<u>Charleston</u>	Exchange Park, Ladson		
Jan. 17-18	June 5-6	Sept. 18-19	

Gun Show Table Organizers:
Call if you'd like to help at a Gun Show.

Greenville / Spartanburg
Ronnie Rutledge(864) 576-6035 RRTech@bellsouth.net

Charleston
Tom Glaab(843) 769-0659 gunshow@clutter.com
Howard Jones, III(843) 538-5668 hpj3@lightningpro.net

Florence
Dr. John Clarke(843) 332-4213 redvert@aol.com

Columbia
Mike Walguarnery(803) 781-1360 walgum123@netzero.net

Gun Show Director
Mike Walguarnery(803) 781-1360 walgum123@netzero.net

Robert E. Temple True American Outstanding GrassRoots Member (see page 16)



Waiting for the timer, Bob has good cover and concealment and displays good form with his finger out of the trigger guard while ignoring the photographer's comments about not shooting the hood latch off his Jeep.

Please use GrassRoots CWP Instructor members...

GrassRoots CWP Instructor Members are listed at:
[www.scfirearms.org/
TrainingCWPGrassRootsCWPTraînerList.htm](http://www.scfirearms.org/TrainingCWPGrassRootsCWPTraînerList.htm)

If you know someone needing a CWP class, please check the above internet location to find an instructor near you... or write us, and we will send you a list of instructors in your area.

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**2004
SCHEDULE**

Florence, SC
March 6-7
July 24-25
Nov. 6-7
Florence Civic Ctr.

Columbia, SC
June 19-20
Dec. 11-13
State Fairgrounds

Asheville, NC
Jan. 3-4
March 13-14
May 15-16
Sept. 11-12
Nov. 27-28
Asheville Civic Ctr.

Charleston, SC
Jan. 17-18
June 5-6
Sept. 18-19
Ladson Fairgrounds

Spartanburg, SC
Jan. 24-25
April 24-25
July 17-18
Oct. 23-24
Spartanburg Expo. Ctr.
(Formerly Waccamaw)

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**Saturday
9-5**
**Sunday
10-4**

The Assault Weapons Ban Resolution and the SC Republican Convention

by Paul Peters

The political process is simultaneously fascinating and frustrating. Getting something accomplished in party politics can be a long, slow process. The process of pushing a resolution to oppose re-enactment of the Clinton Assault Weapons Ban of 1994 is a case in point.

The South Carolina Republican Party Convention at the Carolina Coliseum was off to its usual start. The Republican competition for the soon-to-be-vacated seat of Senator Fritz Hollings is a real horse race in the homestretch down to the June 8 finish line, and the field is crowded with six. Each Republican contender had an opportunity to address the convention delegates from around the state. As picked up my delegate credentials and headed for the convention floor, I could feel the rhetoric pulsing from the PA system.

I made my way to the Lexington County seats directly in front of the podium. I spotted GrassRoots member Pat Nolan in the Richland County section. We talked briefly. He mentioned that GrassRoots member Joe Lolli was in the Charleston section, but I didn't see him. I was both glad that we had some devout pro-gun delegates at the convention and disappointed that we didn't have more.

The process of getting to the March 27 convention had started months earlier. The first step delegates take is to attend their local precinct meetings. Precinct meetings take place in schools, churches, and, in some cases, individuals' homes. Attendees are folks from the neighborhood who have an interest in issues and the political process.

Since I had recently moved, I attended the meeting in a precinct that was new to me. One of the tasks of a precinct meeting is to vote on resolutions presented by attendees. I submitted a resolution calling for Republicans in Congress to allow the Assault Weapons Ban to sunset in September of this year. It passed unanimously.

I followed that resolution to the county convention. I addressed the delegates, urging them to pass the resolution. It passed. From there, it was the convention secretary's job to send it on to the resolutions committee for the state convention. So, on this day at the state convention, I was looking forward to having that resolution pass and be sent to the 2004 Republican National Convention in New York City.

I sat down and opened my packet. I found the page that listed the resolutions that had been reported out of the resolutions committee. My resolution wasn't there. I talked with several leaders of our county party, and no one knew why the resolution wasn't there. With the help of Tom McLean, our county's state executive committeeman, I found the chairman of the state resolutions committee. She informed me

that her committee hadn't received any of the several resolutions from Lexington County.

Miffed, I complained to our county leaders. They were honestly perplexed. There were several resolutions passed at the county convention, and all of them should have gone to the state resolutions committee. No one had an answer, but they promised to find out what happened.

The only way to get the resolution in front of the convention now would be to introduce it from the floor when it came time to vote on the resolutions.

The hard folding chairs on the convention floor make it necessary to get up and stretch the legs periodically. At the back of the hall, I found myself engaged in friendly conversations with various people. On one such occasion, former Attorney General Charles Condon decided to stand in the space next to mine. Earlier, he had addressed the convention, hoping to inspire support for his campaign for the US Senate. This was too good an opportunity to pass up, so I asked him what he thought of the debate over re-enacting the so-called Assault Weapons Ban. He asked, "What's that?"

I explained to Mr. Condon that the Assault Weapons Ban was passed under the Clinton Administration in 1994 and that the Democrats and anti-gun groups were doing everything they could to get it re-enacted before it sunsets in September of this year. I told him that it banned some semi-automatic firearms and all magazines that hold eleven or more rounds. I pointed out that recently when the US Senate was debating a bill to eliminate frivolous lawsuits against firearms manufacturers, anti-gun senators had attached an amendment to re-enact the Assault Weapons Ban. As a result the senate ended up debating the amendment all day on CSPAN and ultimately killed the bill and the amendment with it.

Making a theoretical leap into the future, I said, "When you're in the senate, you will have to address this very issue because Senator Diane Feinstein vowed that as long as she has breath she will continually bring this issue back to the floor."

Mr. Condon asked, "Where does the NRA stand on this?"

It struck me as odd that hearing that Feinstein was committed to the Assault Weapon Ban wasn't enough to convince him that it was bad law, but nonetheless I informed him that the NRA was definitely opposed to the ban and advocated letting it sunset. Hearing that, Mr. Condon assured me that he usually supported the NRA's position on gun issues.

Then Mr. Condon reminded me of the strong stand he had taken on the right of individuals to defend themselves against home invaders. I told him that I remembered his "open season on home invaders" statements and that I appreciated the stand he had taken at the time.

We talked for about twenty minutes about gun issues. At the end Mr. Condon asked me, "How do you know so much about these things?"

That presented another opportunity I couldn't resist. I just happened to have in my hand a copy of last June's issue of *The Defender* bearing the headline: "Clinton Gun Ban Must Sunset." I handed it to him and said, "I read this." He took it.

Has this conversation persuaded me to vote for Mr. Condon? Frankly, what I want is a committed, pro-gun candidate who *already* is informed about gun issues, and especially this issue, which was hotly debated in the US Senate recently. I don't think that this is too much to ask. In fairness to Mr. Condon, I must confess that I didn't have a chance to talk with the five other candidates, but I will be scouring all the candidates' web sites for information.

Toward the end of the day-long convention, a motion was made to accept all the resolutions that had been presented by the resolutions committee. By that time, people are tired and anxious to go home. Most delegates don't want to sit through monotonous debates about each issue in the resolutions, so someone always moves to pass them *en masse*. The motion passed. Next, someone at one of the microphones tried to introduce another resolution. The matter of whether to consider any additional resolutions was debated, but it was clear that the delegates didn't want to take up another resolution. A motion to adjourn was made and quickly passed. The convention ended. The Assault Weapons Ban resolution never had a chance.

In a last-ditch effort, I sent a copy of the resolution to the state party's executive committee. They can pass it and send it to the national convention in New York, if they will, but it seems likely that the ban will sunset in September regardless. Still, Senator Feinstein could bring it up again on another day. Stay vigilant.

Remodel or Renovate?

Some Thoughts on the Upcoming Presidential Election from SCFirearms Email Discussion List:

I voted for Edwards during the primaries to help Kerry use up more campaign funds while he fights off Edwards. Between the two, I hope like hell that Bush wins and when all is said and done, I think he will. I won't be voting for him though. I want a conservative candidate and Bush simply isn't. – Mark

I agree with what you say, but, the Libertarian Party is not going to win, so it goes back to the "lesser of two evils", and I would rather have Bush than Kerry. Just my opinion. – Bruce

And a reply from GrassRoots President, Ed Kelleher:

Say you lived in an old house, and wanted to stay there the rest of your days. But you knew it could be better and you wanted to improve it. You have a choice to make: remodel or renovate?

Remodeling would be quick, not very inconvenient, and not too expensive. Some paint would make things a little more cheery. You could put up some wall paper to cover those holes in the wall. New carpet would cover the stained floors. Maybe you'd get a new fridge and stove for the kitchen. It would be different, and better, and it would help you ignore the other problems. But you couldn't add a dish washer because there wasn't room. You couldn't add a disposal because the kitchen sink kept getting stopped up. And you couldn't replace the tub because the one bathroom was too small. But, by rearranging furniture you could fit a large screen TV in the smallish living room that was next to the cavernous formal dining room you don't use very often. Yes, things would be better and you wouldn't be out too much money or time and you wouldn't miss too many episodes of your favorite TV shows. You could be sitting on the couch, watching your big screen TV in little time, with little effort.

But, the place would still be drafty and poorly lit, with fuses that popped (getting harder to find them) occasionally, and your light bill would be out of sight. But, it would keep the rain off - most of the time - and winters aren't usually too cold in SC.

Or, you could renovate. Tear everything out and strip things down to parade rest. New walls, floors, ceilings and windows, new bathrooms, new closets, new insulation, new wiring – the works!

Things would be really bad for awhile. You'd spend months at the Motel 6. You'd learn the hard way how to pick the cleanest washers at the laundromat. You wouldn't have time to go shooting, but it wouldn't matter much because you couldn't remember where you packed your ammo anyway. You'd have to put off getting the new truck, boat and gun for some time.

Some years down the road though, when your children and grand children are visiting, which house would you rather be living in?

Do you all want to remodel, or renovate?

Do you want to repaint Bush and the Republicans, or remake them?

We need to spend the time, and money, now, to make our future more secure. – Ed Kelleher

Controlling

FEAR

Making

Sound Decisions

Under Stress

by Tom Givens

When a responsible person first begins going armed, he is usually haunted by two recurring questions, or self-doubts:

1. If I'm really attacked, and my life is at stake, will I be able to handle it?
2. What if I screw up and kill an innocent person?

This is a normal reaction, and to a degree it is healthy. We do, however, need to address these issues and resolve them, before a conflict, so that they will not raise their ugly heads when we should be concentrating on winning the fight. Remember, if an unavoidable fight is thrust upon us, we **MUST WIN!** The alternative can be death, or crippling injury.

The first issue to face is that of FEAR. Fear is a normal reaction to physical violence for most people. In addition, since most of us no longer have military experience and live in "civilized" surroundings, we may not have ever actually engaged in a true fight before our moment of truth in a criminal attack. This fear of the unknown is, for many, worse than the fear of being hurt or killed.

First, let me say this. Unless you are an exceptional person, a nutcase, or a liar, and you have actually been involved in armed conflict, you have tasted fear. I'm not ashamed to say I have been scared several times, and I fully expect to be scared again before my life is over. What you must learn to do is **control** your fear, and do what you must to win.

Fear can be controlled and overcome, even in life threatening circumstances. This is obviously true, and it is proven every day by hundreds of ordinary people all over the country. Here are some steps you can take to make this process easier:

1. Admit to yourself you are afraid, then move on. Concentrate your mental energies on the task at hand, not on your fear of death, injury, or loss of ego.
2. Avoid dwelling on the chance of failure. Concentrate on finding a way to win.
3. Take control of yourself. Autogenic breathing is the very best and most efficient way to do this. (Details later.)
4. Focus on getting the job done.
5. Have a Plan B. Always, always, always, expect Plan A to fail. Expect your gun to malfunction. Expect the suspect to stay up after being hit sol-

idly. Expect to be injured. If any of these things occur, have a pre-planned option to continue (Plan B).

6. Turn anger into a motivator. Who does this clown think he is?!? What makes him think he has the right to (rob/rape/kill/ pick one) me?!?
7. Accept an element of fate in every situation. You can get hurt by accident after doing everything right. Control everything you CAN control (selection of equipment, getting adequate training and practice, being alert, thinking tactically) so there are fewer things you CAN NOT control.

Courage under fire is not a matter of being without fear. It is a matter of being able to control fear and accomplish your mission, which is to stay alive. Only fools are fearless.

The other nagging self-doubt concerns over-reacting and shooting someone under unjustifiable circumstances. If you are reading this, that will not happen. Citizens who are responsible enough to obtain carry permits, seek expensive training, make time for practice sessions, etc. are simply too honest, caring, and self disciplined to shoot people without just cause. In my own state, there have been eight fatal shootings by permit holders in the past three years. Every single one was judged to be justifiable and lawful by the Attorney General's office. Not one of these permit holders was charged with any crime nor were they sued for anything. Why? Because every single case was clear-cut, obvious, and morally, legally, and ethically justified. Private citizens have a great reluctance to shoot, even when it is necessary. In fact, for many the problem they will face is the exact opposite of being "trigger happy". Believe it or not, every day, people who are armed and know how to use their weapons, and who have an opportunity to use their weapons to save their lives, fail to do so and die as a result. This happens to both private citizens and police officers alike.

You ask, "Why on earth would someone who is armed stand there and literally watch a thug kill him?" There are a number of reasons, and they stem from the socialization process that the normal person goes through from birth (but that the criminal does not). These reasons most often include:

1. Moral repugnance to taking a life: You have been taught all of your life that human life is sacred, that to kill is wrong, and that only bad people hurt others.

2. Failure to be mentally prepared: An astonishing number of people who go armed have never given any thought whatsoever to the fact that they may have to shoot someone. To many, the gun is a talisman, and wearing it is thought to ward off evil spirits. In fact, it is a tool, one used for introducing ballistic apertures into the subcutaneous environment of socio-paths who cannot be stopped by other means.
3. Failure to understand the dynamics of armed confrontations: Many people armed with firearms are killed by thugs armed with edged weapons because they fail to take the "lesser" weapon seriously; they don't understand that deadly force is deadly force, whether applied by gun or knife; and they don't realize how quickly someone at ten feet can appear at one foot.
4. Inhibition by community pressure and fear of lawsuits: These are trivial matters compared to being killed, raped, or permanently crippled. Get your priorities straight! Unless you are alive, these don't matter, anyway.
5. Uncertainty about when deadly force is justified: This is a training issue. Be certain that you understand the laws of your state as they apply to self-defense and the use of deadly force. Once you have internalized this information, it is simple and easy to see when the circumstances fit the law. There is nothing subtle about someone actually trying to kill you! It will be obvious to you, to any witnesses, and to the police. (See chapter on The Use of Force)

only
FOOLS
are
fearless

learn to
CONTROL
your
fear

The best way to be fully mentally prepared to actually press that trigger if you have to, is to develop a well thought out and plainly stated set of rules of engagement, long before you are faced with a crisis. This is referred to as a "pre-made decision", thought out, verbalized, and firmly planted in your mind in advance.

I suggest the rules of engagement set out by fellow trainer Gabriel Suarez, a decorated veteran of several police gunfights and a world-class firearms instructor. Gabe uses the acronym IDOL, which stands for "Immediate Defense of Life". Make a commitment that you will only fire as a desperate measure to terminate a threat to your own life, or the life of an innocent third party. If you pose an imminent and otherwise unavoidable threat to my life, or that of an associate (wife, partner, etc.) I will act swiftly and decisively to put you down and out. I will reach for my gun for no other reason, period.

your
mission:
STAY
ALIVE

Many people think about this incorrectly. They ask themselves, "If he does —, can I shoot him?" That is a recipe for disaster! Your question should ALWAYS be, "Do I have to shoot him?" Ask yourself, "If I don't shoot this man, right here, right now, will I be killed or crippled?" If the answer is Yes, shoot him! If the answer is No, try something else.

As with most things, this is a matter of training. Proper training ingrains the proper responses. Repetition is the mother of all skill. With skill comes confidence. With confidence comes the ability to think under pressure and make sound tactical decisions.

To be of value to you, training must meet the test of the Three R's. Training must be **RELEVANT REALISTIC RECENT**. Relevant training refers to exercises and skill drills pertinent to the task of self-defense. Bullseye shooting training, for instance, is not particularly relevant.

Realistic training is conducted on humanoid targets, from the holster, with a carry type gun and full powered ammunition, in varied lighting conditions, and under time pressure.

Recent training assures retention of motor skills, which degrade quickly. The skills involved in rapidly firing a full-power weapon with precision are perishable, and are lost completely without frequent practice. I suggest two or three sessions of dry practice at home each week, with at least one range session per month to maintain competency. Practice builds skill; skill builds confidence. Having a well developed skill set, and the confidence that well developed skill engenders, can help you keep your head and stay in control during highly stressful conflicts. "An amateur practices until he gets it right. A professional practices until he can't get it wrong."

Something Really Scary!

by Ed Kelleher

The upstate Times Examiner newspaper recently reported that a full time SLED agent and a part-time state prosecutor have been dedicated to enforcing South Carolina laws against dog fighting. They had a picture showing Chief Stewart of SLED and SC Attorney General Robert McMaster at the press release. They said drug dealers like dog fighting. A South Carolina "animal humanitarian activist" had raised \$44,000 and given it to SLED for the effort. They expected to raise more so they could get a full-time prosecutor also.

What's so scary about that? What if the anti-gunners did it? Drug dealers like guns don't they? What if multi-billionaire anti gun George Soros gave \$100,000 to South Carolina to enforce the gun laws we have on the books. A SLED agent dedicated full-time to prosecuting gun laws would get creative. He, and his bosses, would want some results. Therefore, he'd likely go after the biggest and easiest targets.

Like, for example, pistol matches at the Mid Carolina Rifle Club, and other gun clubs that have non-club members participating. This would include Cowboy Action, IDPA, IPSC, 2700 and silhouette matches. Present South Carolina law allows regularly enrolled members of gun clubs to shoot pistols at the gun clubs – BUT MAKES NO PROVISION FOR GUESTS OR VISITORS!

GrassRoots has a fix for this, and other similar problems in South Carolina gun laws in bill H.3482 in the SC Legislature. We need H.3482 now more than ever. We need YOU!

If you are a competitive pistol shooter and are NOT a member of GrassRoots, WHY AREN'T YOU? Membership costs less than the cost of 1 practice session!

Hunters, and land owners, that goes for you too! Land owners can shoot pistols on their property but the law MAKES NO PROVISION FOR GUESTS OR VISITORS!

We may have succeeded in getting H.3482 passed, but the anti-gunners won't give up. They'll be back. GrassRoots is dedicated to fighting them. It will be too late for you to help once they shut down your sport or or take away all your guns and throw you in jail.

Join GrassRoots now, before it's too late! Get your friends and neighbors to join too!

Many hands make light work. An application is on Page 15 of this paper.

How will FTAA affect your gun rights?

by Joe Baumie, GrassRoots member

What is FTAA you ask? Is it another government agency? Well yes, and no. It stands for the Free Trade Area of the Americas. It IS another grab by the United Nations to end the sovereignty of the United States and your freedoms.

It should be called the ‘Fraud Trade Act’ because it has little to do with free trade and everything to do with transferring control of trade in the Western Hemisphere to internationally controlled agencies of the UN. It would entangle the 34 nations of the Americas (except Cuba) in an open borders, sovereignty-destroying arrangement like the European Union.

In meetings of the Organization of American States and the World Affairs Council President George Bush has repeatedly stated his support for this agreement. In fact under ‘fast-track’ trade negotiation authority given to him by Congress, President Bush may call for a non-negotiable up or down vote on the agreement as early as this coming January. If it is passed by Congress, they will transfer sovereignty to this organization of the Americas and nail down another strategically important plank in the globalist structure known as the “new world order.” The current agreement calls for implementation by the end of year 2005. The clock is ticking.

Former Secretary of State, Henry Kissinger, praised NAFTA and urged congress to approve it, calling it, “...the most creative step toward a *new world order* taken by any group of countries since the end of the Cold War, and the first step toward the even larger vision of a free-trade zone of the entire Western Hemisphere.” (Emphasis added.) He and other advocates of globalism now describe the FTAA as a broadening and deepening of NAFTA.

The NAFTA/FTAA plan calls for an entire hemispheric regime of regulations to “harmonize” business,

industry, labor, agriculture, transportation, immigration, education, taxation, environment, health, trade, defense, criminal justice, and other matters... from Alaska to Tierra del Fuego. These “matters” will be administered by an unelected, unaccountable foreign bureaucracy.

Thus, despite the innocuous and often fine sounding language of the FTAA agreement, (which can be



found on the official website of the organization: www.ftaa-alca.org/FTAADraft03), those who sign this legally binding agreement will be, “...recognizing the (U.N.’s) International Labor Organization as the competent body for all fundamental labor laws and regulations.” This is just one example of many in the current proposed wording of the FTAA that brings those who sign it under the control of the various international governance schemes directed by the U.N.

Now as for how this will affect your right to own firearms, we only have to look to their U.N. Charter to know that you will have only the rights which they choose to give you and that gun ownership will be controlled by them. When the U.N. is sovereign, there will be no more Con-

stitution or Bill of Rights only the U.N. Charter. We have only to look at the statue in front of the U.N. building in New York to know that they do not believe in gun ownership for the individual... only for U.N. “peacekeepers”. For an alarmingly clear discussion of where the U.N. stands on our right to keep and bear arms, please read their “Program of Action” which can be found on the UN’s website: <http://disarmament.un.org:8080/cab/poa.html>.

One need only read their description of “illicit small arms” to know that any gun using center fired cartridges can be included. Also, these paragraphs (below) from the ‘program’ would authorize the registration and owner databases we have all fought against for so long.

9. *To ensure that comprehensive and accurate records are kept for as long as possible on the manufacture, holding and transfer of small arms and light weapons under their jurisdiction. These records should be organized and maintained in such a way as to ensure that accurate information can be promptly retrieved and collated by competent national authorities.*

10. *To ensure responsibility for all small arms and light weapons held and issued by the State and effective measures for tracing such weapons.*

This drive to have the United States submit to the FTAA must be blocked if the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution are to be preserved. Any measure calling for U.S. involvement in the Free Trade Area of the Americas must be defeated. Call, write, fax or e-mail your representative and both senators to let each know that you want them to vote against U.S. entry into the FTAA. (For more information on the FTAA you can visit: <http://www.stoptheftaa.org>.)

Big Brother is Watching!

With South Carolina repealing the one handgun every 30 days limitation you might want to be careful. Something comes into effect that we haven’t been concerned with before – federal firearms registration.

Whenever you purchase a firearm you fill out a yellow ATF 4473 form. This form stays with the dealer you purchased the firearm from until he goes out of business. Only then is it turned over to the government.

However, if you purchase more than 1 handgun in 5 business days from a dealer he must immediately send a report to the ATF on form 3310.4 that includes the following information:

Make, model and serial number of the handgun, and full personal information on the purchaser: <http://www.atf.gov/forms/pdfs/f33104.pdf>

GrassRoots is opposed to firearms registration in any form because it leads to eventual firearms confiscation.

Handgun sales in South Carolina will still be registered with SLED.

This is due, in part, to the fact we still have the “Melting Point” test for handguns. GrassRoots feels this “Melting Point” test discriminates against people of lesser income who can’t afford the more expensive handguns this law requires be sold in South Carolina.

Due to the current budget crunch, SLED is years behind on processing retail handgun purchase registration forms. GrassRoots would like to ease the workload on SLED by eliminating registration of handgun purchases altogether.

ST. ALBANS BAY, Vt. The hunter’s prey darted into the shadows, just out of reach of Henry Demar’s gun.

“Come on, stand up and be counted,” Mr. Demar whispered excitedly. “There was a ripple that came out of the weeds. There’s something out there.”

Dressed in camouflage, gripping his .357 Magnum, Mr. Demar was primed to shoot. But this time, no such luck. With a flick of its tail, his quarry a slick silvery fish was gone.

Fish shooting is a sport in Vermont, and every spring, hunters break out their artillery: high-caliber pistols, shotguns, even AK-47’s and head to the marshes to exercise their right to bear arms against fish.

It is a controversial pastime, and Vermont’s fish and wildlife regulators have repeatedly tried to ban it. They call it unsportsmanlike and dangerous, warning that a bullet striking water can ricochet across the water like a skipping stone.

But fish shooting has survived, a cherished tradition for some Vermont families and a novelty to some teenagers and twenty-somethings. Fixated fish hunters climb into trees overhanging the water (some even build “fish blinds” to sit in), sail in small skiffs or perch on the banks of

How to Catch Fish in Vermont: No Bait, No Tackle, Just Bullets

marshes that lace Lake Champlain, on Vermont’s northwest border.

“They call us crazy, I guess, to go sit in a tree and wait for fish to come out,” said Dean Paquette, 66, as he struggled to describe the fish-shooting rush. “It’s something that once you’ve done it . . .”

Mr. Paquette, a retired locomotive engineer, has passed fish shooting on to his children and grandchildren, including his daughter, Nicki, a nurse.

“You have to be a good shot,” said Ms. Paquette, 31, who started shooting at age 6. “It’s a challenge. I think that’s why people do it.”

Her 87-year-old great-uncle, Earl Picard, is so enthusiastic that, against the better judgment of his relatives, he frequently drives 75 miles from his home in Newport to Lake Champlain. Mr. Picard still climbs trees, although “most of the trees that I used to climb in are gone,” he said. “You can sit up there in the sun and the birds will come and perch on your hat and look you in the eye.”

There is art, or at least science, to shooting fish, aficionados say, and it has nothing to do with a barrel. Most fish hunters do not want to shoot the actual fish, because then “you can’t really eat them,” Ms. Paquette said. “They just kind of shatter.”

Instead, said Mr. Demar, “you try to shoot just in front of the fish’s nose or head.” The bullet torpedoes to the bottom and creates “enough concussion that it breaks the fish’s air bladder and it floats to the surface.”

Often the target is a female fish come to spawn in shallow water, accompanied by several male acolytes who might also be killed, or stunned, by the concussion.

“If you shoot a high-powered rifle, you can get a big mare and six or seven little bucks,” Mr. Paquette said.

Permitted from March 25 to May 25, only on Lake Champlain, fish shooting has probably existed for a century. It also used to be legal in

New York, which borders the huge apostrophe-shaped lake.

Virginia used to have several fish-shooting areas, said Alan Weaver, a fish biologist with Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. Now, Mr. Weaver said, the only place is the Clinch River in remote Scott County, where, six weeks a year, people can shoot bottom-feeders like “quill-back suckers and red-horse suckers.” Virginia is the only other state where fish shooting is still legal, Vermont officials said.

In 1969, fish and wildlife officials in New York and Vermont banned fish shooting. But Vermonters were loath to sever the primal link between fish and firearm, so in 1970, the Legislature not only reinstated the sport, it also added fish like carp and shad to the target list, bringing the number to 10.

Since then, there have been several efforts to halt fish shooting. But they have been stopped by noisy objections from a small but dedicated bunch.

The Elections: *All Things Considered*

It seems that School Board and Sheriff races are often among the most overlooked. Too many times we just rubber-stamp the ninnies already in office because we don't find a reason to do otherwise.

If the Sheriff was caught stealing watermelons or beating an elderly woman with a stick we *might* replace him on Election Day, if not we just punch that old familiar chad and go about our business. This practice must stop.

One reason we do this is not so much our fault as much as it is the fault of the media. Here in Spartanburg County the media is strangely silent on the race for Sheriff. The second reason is our fault. We don't dig deeply enough into the issues that effect us. When we step into that voting booth and pull the curtain we elect the highest law enforcement officer in our county. Name recognition is no way to make this decision. As gun owners and conscientious supporters of the Second Amendment we should pay heed to all the candidates' stands and how they may affect our right to keep and bear arms.

As an example, in the June 8 Republican Primary Spartanburg County has two possible candidates vying for Sheriff. We have an incumbent with sixteen years in office facing a challenger with seventeen years experience on the street as a deputy. The Sheriff is Bill Coffey, and the challenger is Chuck Wright. Bill Norris (R) and Jack Owens (D) will also be running for this office but I honestly don't consider either of them viable, but you make your own choice. The Current Sheriff of Spartanburg County will not sign off on Class III licenses or allow his Deputies to teach CWP classes. I have confirmed this through GrassRoots leadership, and two former deputies. I personally don't care to own Class III weapons at this point, but the Second Amendment isn't just about me. It

is about every individual American. When we considered that the race for Sheriff is so overlooked and the gun rights of Spartanburg County residents are being infringed, those of us attending the Upstate meeting of GrassRoots members decided to have the challenger Chuck Wright visit us and speak to our group.

Chuck Wright spoke to us for about fifteen minutes on ways he would improve efficiency and morale in an office that has long been deprived of both. He also discussed the problems of DUI deaths, Spartanburg's high rate of violent crime, and trained officers leaving the county for city police and other law enforcement jobs. He then answered every question put to him. When first asked to attend, Chuck admitted he was not familiar with GrassRoots, but upon arriving at our meeting proved he had researched our organization. He spoke highly of the practice of concealed carry by law-abiding citizens, and believes that our right to carry should be expanded to decrease victim disarmament zones. He also promised us that his policy on Class III licenses would be better than the current Sheriff. Chuck has not promised to sign every application on his desk, but he stated that after speaking with applicants, he was certain that there would be approvals, and the "big brush" policy of the current Sheriff would be no more. Of course this was a less than perfect answer, but it impressed me nonetheless.

Here he was in front of all those so called "gun nuts" giving many of us an answer that was not exactly what we wanted. Though his answer on that subject was a little disappointing to me, his honesty and candor were not. His less than perfect answer led me and others in attendance to believe that he was being honest and not just telling us what we wanted to hear – a good quality in



any elected official. I believe he will approve licenses for most; perhaps all who apply, but I can certainly understand anyone

especially a candidate for office being hesitant (since at this time all situations are hypothetical) if he knew something that just wasn't right with the applicant. Do I agree with that position? No. I'm a purist on the Second Amendment, I believe "shall not be infringed" means shall *not* be infringed. I believe we have the right to own automatic weapons if we so choose without getting permission from anyone in government. I don't expect we will ever have a viable candidate with such a position run for Sheriff in Spartanburg, but if we do I'm sure he will garner my vote.

Until then, whether it is by a change of heart by the current Sheriff, or election of a new one I hope we take every opportunity for progress.

When collectors, competitive shooters and Second Amendment activists own fully automatic weapons, law enforcement and the public will begin to realize that we don't go around killing people just because the liberals say we will. When ownership of fully automatic weapons goes up and the murder rate with these weapons does not, progress will be made for everyone just like the progress with concealed carry.

Whatever your values, I urge you to test the candidates on those issues. Don't just waste gas driving to the polling place on June 8; use your vote to make both a statement and a difference. I encourage you not to overlook the race for Sheriff, especially in Spartanburg County.

John Brown
GrassRoots Member
Moore, SC 29369

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And in other news...

Gun owner: I, not cops, got bad guy

Chicago Sun-Times January 22, 2004

Three days after Christmas, someone broke into the DeMar family home in Wilmette, a Chicago suburb, through a dog door, stealing a television, an SUV and the keys to the home.

The next night, Hale DeMar was prepared for a return visit. With his children upstairs, DeMar, 54, shot burglar Morio Billings, 31, in the shoulder and calf, police said.

Billings was caught at a nearby hospital and charged with felony residential burglary and possession of a stolen car, authorities said.

And, in a move that has drawn criticism, DeMar was cited with breaking Wilmette's ban on handguns and with failing to update his firearm owner's identification card.

The misdemeanors are unlikely to bring jail time. Wilmette Police Chief George Carpenter did not criticize DeMar for protecting his family but said homes are safer without handguns.

DeMar, in a letter sent to the Chicago Sun-Times, is now speaking out:

Village Trustees ... Stick to Parade Schedules & Planting our Parks

Many of us have experienced a sense of violation upon returning to our homes, only to find that someone else has been there. Someone else has trespassed in our bedrooms, looting and stealing that which is readily replaced. Many of us, still haunted by that violation, will never again have a sense of security in our own homes. Few, however, have awakened to realize that they had been violated as they slept in their beds, doors locked, as family dogs patrolled their homes. For me, the seconds until I found my children still safely tucked in their beds were horrifying. The thought that a young child may have been hurt or abducted was incomprehensible.

The police were called and in routine fashion they came, took the report and with little concern left, promising to increase surveillance. Little comfort, since the invader now had keys to our home and our automobiles. The police informed me that this was not an uncommon event in east Wilmette and offered their condolences.

What is one to do when a criminal proceeds, undeterred by a 90-pound German shepherd, an alarm system and a property ... lit up like an outdoor stadium? And now, he had my house keys and an inventory of things he'd like to call his own. Would the police patrol my dead-end street as effectively the second time as they had the first? Would my small children be unharmed the next time? Would the career criminal be satisfied with another automobile, another television or would he feel the need, once again, to climb the staircase up to the bedrooms, perhaps for a watch or a ring or a wallet, again risking little?

Would my children wake to find a masked figure, clad in black, in their bedroom doorway, a vision that might haunt them for years? Would the police come again and fill out yet another report, and at what point should I feel comfortable that the 'bad guy' got everything he wanted and wouldn't return again, a third time?

I went to the safe where my licensed and registered gun was kept, loaded it for the very first time and tucked it under the mattress of my bed. I assured my frightened children "that daddy would deal with the bad guy ... if he ever returned." Little did I imagine that this brazen animal was waiting in the backyard bushes as I tucked my children into bed.

Fifteen minutes after bedtime, the alarm went off. Three minutes after the alarm was triggered, the alarm company alerted the police to the situation and 10 minutes later the first police car pulled up to my home, but only after another call was made to 911, by a trembling, half-naked father. I suppose some would have grabbed their children and cowered in their bedroom for 13 minutes, praying that the police would get there in time to stop the criminal from climbing the stairs and confronting the family in their bedroom, dreading the sound of a bedroom door being kicked in. That's not the fear I wanted my children to experience, nor is it the cowardly act that I want my children to remember me by.

Until you are shocked by a piercing alarm in the middle of the night and met in your kitchen by a masked invader as your children shudder in their beds, until you confront that very real nightmare, please don't suggest that some village trustee knows better and he/she can effectively task the police to protect your family from the miscreants that this society has produced.

This career criminal had been arrested thirty times. He was wanted in Georgia and for parole violations in Minnesota. How many family homes had he violated, how many innocent lives were affected, how many police reports went into some back office file cabinet, only to become some abstract statistic? How is it that rabid animals like this are free to roam the streets, violating our homes and threatening the safety of our children?

If my actions have spared only one family from the distress and trauma that this habitual criminal has caused hundreds of others, then I have served my civic duty and taken one evil creature off of our streets, something that our impotent criminal justice system had failed to do, despite some thirty odd arrests, plea bargains and suspended sentences.

Hale DeMar - Wilmette, Illinois

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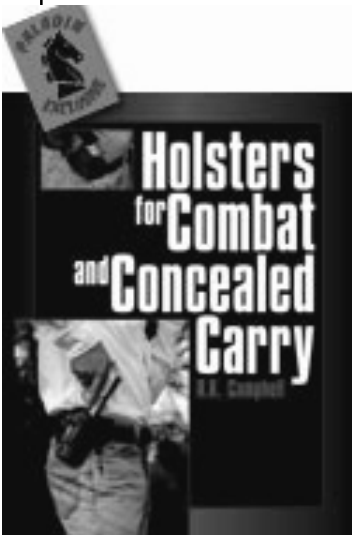
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GrassRoots member and professional gun-writer R.K. Campbell has contributed many articles to this newspaper. He has a new book being published, **Holsters for Combat and Concealment**. Paladin Press is publishing the book. However, you can get a signed copy, with a personal note from the author by sending \$22 plus \$3.95 for S&H to:

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GRASSROOTS LARRY COBLE ACTIVIST AWARD

Robert E. Temple True American Outstanding GrassRoots Member

Summerville, SC – GrassRoots South Carolina counts among its members some of the United States’ most interesting, dedicated and patriotic citizens. And when it comes to all the above, Robert E. “Bob” Temple fits the bill in every respect. Retired from the US Navy after 21 years of active service, Mr. Temple settled in Summerville, just a few miles from his last duty station in Charleston, SC. During 19 of those years Mr. Temple served as a US Navy diver, one of the most dangerous assignments available.

“Have you seen the movie, *Men of Honor*?” Bob asks. “That’s the kind of stuff we did. During one assignment I worked with Carl Brashear, the Navy’s first black diver, featured in the movie. I’d heard Carl only had one leg but didn’t believe it because he did everything the rest of us did, flawlessly. And, I figured there was no way the Navy would allow a diver with one leg on active duty. But, one night, aboard USS Recovery, I saw him jump out of his bunk and there he stood... on one leg. His arms were bigger than my legs. Man, was he tough!”

But, when it comes to tough, let’s just figure Bob Temple can hold his own. Two Viet Nam tours behind him, the US Navy diver specialized in emergency submarine escape and explosive ordinance disposal; certainly not endeavors for the faint of heart. Settling down to civilian life, Bob gets his thrills these days as a regular at IDPA and GSSF matches around the Southeast, shooting Glock model 17, 23 and 27 pistols. Bob’s wife, Pat, even gets into the action, shooting her 9mm G19 in Glock Sport Shooting Foundation (GSSF) matches. (Pat’s mid-sized Glock was a Christmas present from Bob. Our kind of guy, for sure!)



Bob Temple and his wife of 28 years, Pat



Bob practices double taps with his wife, Pat, holding the shot timer.

“I met Pat the old fashioned way,” Bob explains. “I was trying to get her best friend and we ended up together, instead. I figure I got a better deal.” Pat looks on with a grin. Married for 28 years, Bob and Pat have two grown children; their daughter, a commercial artist, and son, now six years with US Army 1st Armored Division, currently stationed in Baghdad.

Also an entrepreneur, Bob Temple spends his weekdays as owner of Cracker-jack Locksmith Shop, located in Summerville. Well thought of by his industry peers, Bob was recently named “Locksmith of the Year” by the South Carolina Locksmith’s Association. Bob provides 24-hour service and gets into some pretty tough neighborhoods, sometimes during the wrong time of day.

“As a business owner I was able to obtain a South Carolina concealed weapons permit a few years before the current law was passed in 1996. For me, concealed carry was much better under the old law, but I’m committed to working with GrassRoots to improve the present law. At least now we have ‘shall issue’ and that’s a big step forward for all the citizens of South Carolina.”

Asked about GrassRoots South Carolina, Bob states, “That first fifteen bucks was the best money I ever spent. No other outfit is going to keep South Carolina CWP holders up to date on changes in the law and many other aspects of concealed carry like GrassRoots does. I received my first newsletter several years ago during GrassRoots’ first general mailing and I’ve been a member ever since. Over the years, I’ve purchased several GrassRoots memberships as gifts for my friends, too. If you are a South Carolina gun owner you need to be a GrassRoots member, especially if you are a CWP holder.”

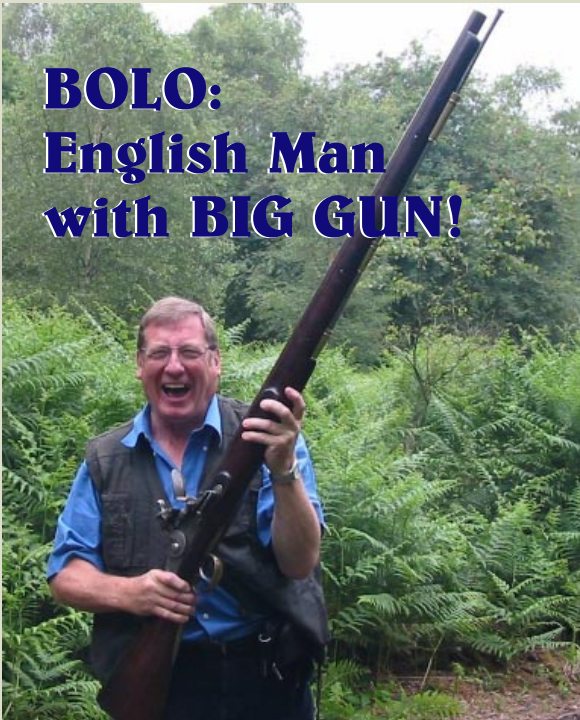
And, when it comes to recruiting new GrassRoots members, Bob Temple certainly does his share, manning the GrassRoots tables at open house and blood drive events at ATP Gun Shop in Goose Creek, SC. “I’ve referred locksmith calls to other companies while working the GrassRoots tables. These events are fun and I’m committed to GrassRoots’ growth.”

Fellow IDPA shooter, Sam Caldwell of Charleston, has this to add. “Bob is an IDPA safety officer and provides the safety briefings before each of our matches at Palmetto Gun Club in Summerville. Bob pays particular attention to new shooters and makes them feel at home. He’s clearly committed to making our matches as successful as possible, just as he is in growing GrassRoots membership.”

Robert E. “Bob” Temple, true American patriot, military veteran, real life man of honor, outstanding GrassRoots member, Larry Coble Activist Award winner.

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robert_e_temple@yahoo.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.



BOLO (Be On The Lookout)

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is like
blamin’
misspelled
words
on my
pencil !
”
~ Larry The Cable Guy

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